



2024 Independent Environmental Audit Findings – Northparkes Response

Table 1: Action Plan to resolve the non-compliances:

Risk Category of Finding (Administrative, Low, Medium, High)	Description of finding (Requirement, Description, Evidence)	Recommendation	Northparkes Action	Due Date	Status	Audit Management Number
Development Consent 11_0060						
Low Non-compliance Schedule 3 Condition 7	Non-compliance: On Thursday 30 November, the E31S blast was recorded as being fired at 5.01.19 pm – 1 minute and 19 seconds outside of the permitted period defined in the Consent (DC 11_0060) (Schedule 3 Condition 7). Northparkes reported this non-compliance to the Department of Planning.	The incident has been investigated and appropriate action taken. No further action required.	No further action	n/a	Closed	818803
Mining Lease 1247						
Administrative Non-compliance Condition D4 C19	Non-compliance: The notification of contact person was outside of the initial 28-day period required by Condition D4 C19.	Ensure that submissions to the RR meet the timelines required by the Mining Lease Standard Conditions.	No further action	n/a	Closed	818803

Table 2: Action Plan in response to the observations (recommendations for improvement)

Risk Category of Finding (Administrative, Low, Medium, High)	Description of recommendation for improvement (Requirement, Description, Evidence)	Recommendation	Northparkes Action	Due Date	Status	Event Management Number
Development Consent 11_0060						
Recommendation Schedule 3 Condition 25	<p>The revegetation of the Limestone National Forest Off-set area is detailed in Limestone National Forest Offset Area Revegetation Plan. The offset area was transferred back to Forestry NSW (the former DPI) in 2009.</p> <p>The last monitoring was undertaken in 2021 by DnA Environmental in the Limestone National Forest Offset. DnA found that some of the performance indicators had not been met and concluded that the drought conditions experienced during most of the audit period has impacted revegetation.</p> <p>Northparkes are reviewing the findings of the DnA monitoring report and were considering what actions are necessary to take as this land is no longer under Northparkes Control.</p> <p>Observation: The Annual Reviews do not provide any information on the status / success of revegetation the Limestone National Forest Offset required under this condition.</p>	<p>Review the Limestone Management Plan to reflect the current status of the area and document NPO's responsibilities.</p> <p>Under the Biodiversity section of the Annual Reviews include a section on the monitoring and status of the revegetation of the Limestone National Forest Off-set area.</p>	<p>The Limestone Management Plans will be reviewed in consideration of the Recommendation.</p> <p>Future Annual Reviews will consider adding the monitoring and status of Limestone.</p>	June 2025	Open	818803 #1
Mining Lease Standard Conditions						
Recommendation Condition 10 (1)	Section 6 of the Rehabilitation Management Plan describes the rehabilitation methodology. The cross referencing in Table 3.1 (page 31) of the plan has errors.	Update Table 3.1 of the Rehabilitation Management Plan to replace cross referencing errors.	The Rehabilitation Management Plan will be updated and the reference error fixed	March 2025	Open	818803 #2



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<p>Recommendation Condition L1.1</p>	<p>During the audit period, significant rain events, exceeding the dam design criteria, occurred. Those events resulted in significant regional flooding. The existing surface water drainage and storage infrastructure operated as designed and no discharges from the site water retention pond storages occurred. Climate change is now impacting the frequency and intensity of rainfall events and it is reasonable to expect that some future rainfall events could significantly exceed the rainfall criteria used in the design of the mines drainage system, resulting in the discharge of waters from the site. It is therefore recommended that Northparkes consider applying for a variation to the EPL that permits the discharge of waters from the surface water drainage system when rainfall events exceed the duration / intensity criteria used in the design of elements of the surface water drainage system.</p>	<p>Northparkes apply for a variation to the EPL that permits the discharge of waters from the surface water drainage system when rainfall events exceed the duration /intensity criteria used in the design of elements of the surface water drainage system.</p>	<p>A variation will be submitted to the EPA requesting the recommended change to the EPL.</p>	<p>June 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>818803 #3</p>
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