NSW GOVERNMENT

NSW Resources Regulator

ARR0001453

HILLGROVE MINES ANNUAL REHABILITATION REPORT

Thursday 8 February 2024 to Friday 7 February 2025

Summary table

DETAIL	
Mine	Hillgrove Mines
Reference	ARR0001453
Annual report period commencement date	Thursday 8 February 2024
Annual report period end date	Friday 7 February 2025
Forward program	FWP0001400
Mining leases	ML 1601 (1992), ML 205 (1973), MPL 919 (1906), PLL 804 (1924), MPL 146 (1973), PLL 416 (1924), ML 592 (1973), ML 391 (1973), ML 1602 (1992), ML 1026 (1973), ML 772 (1973), MPL 220 (1973), MPL 745 (1906), ML 961 (1973), ML 649 (1973), ML 1604 (1992), GL 5845 (1906), ML 5643 (1906), ML 1442 (1992), PLL 3827 (1906), GL 3980 (1906), ML 1020 (1973), ML 749 (1973), ML 1441 (1992), ML 219 (1973), ML 810 (1973), ML 1599 (1992), ML 945 (1973), ML 1332 (1992), PLL 1252 (1924), ML 714 (1973), ML 6282 (1906), ML 1598 (1992), ML 655 (1973), GL 3959 (1906), ML 972 (1973), ML 600 (1973), ML 392 (1973), ML 1603 (1992), ML 1100 (1973), ML 1101 (1973), ML 1440 (1992), ML 231 (1973), ML 1600 (1992), PLL 661 (1924), PLL 350 (1924), MPL 1427 (1906)
Lease holder(s)	Hillgrove Mines Pty Ltd
Contact	Katie Ann Bryant
Date of submission	Thursday 3 April 2025

Important

The department may make the information in your report and any supporting information available for inspection by members of the public, including by publication on its website or by displaying the information at any of its offices. If you consider any part of your report to be confidential, please communicate this to the department via the message function on this submission within the NSW Resources Regulator Portal.

Mine details

Project description

Hillgrove primarily operates under consent DA98/35 granted 18 Nov 1998, with four modifications in 2000, 2005, 2015 and 2018. Authorised development includes the underground Brackens Spur Mine, construction and operation of surface facilities, processing of mined minerals and construction of haulage roads for Bakers Creek Gorge, the Brackins Spur and Lower Cooney Mines. Other key consents are DA22/81 (mining in Metz/Sunlight Gorge) and DA95/26 (continuing use of pre-1979 ML's). Mining operations comprise care and maintenance of plant and infrastructure, and exploration across. Under the current consent, mining operations and processing ceased on 31 Dec 2023. Hillgrove Mines Pty Ltd are preparing applications for planning consents to support the recommencement of mining and processing.

Life of mine

1 years

Current development consents, leases and licences

Development consents granted under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

DA 98/35 (MOD4)

Authorisations covering the mining area granted under the *Mining Act 1992*

ML 1601 (1992), ML 205 (1973), MPL 919 (1906), PLL 804 (1924), MPL 146 (1973), PLL 416 (1924), ML 592 (1973), ML 391 (1973), ML 1602 (1992), ML 1026 (1973), ML 772 (1973), MPL 220 (1973), MPL 745 (1906), ML 961 (1973), ML 649 (1973), ML 1604 (1992), GL 5845 (1906), ML 5643 (1906), ML 1442 (1992), PLL 3827 (1906), GL 3980 (1906), ML 1020 (1973), ML 749 (1973), ML 1441 (1992), ML 219 (1973), ML 810 (1973), ML 1599 (1992), ML 945 (1973), ML 1332 (1992), PLL 1252 (1924), ML 714 (1973), ML 6282 (1906), ML 1598 (1992), ML 655 (1973), GL 3959 (1906), ML 972 (1973), ML 600 (1973), ML 392 (1973), ML 1603 (1992), ML 1100 (1973), ML 1101 (1973), ML 1440 (1992), ML 231 (1973), ML 1600 (1992), PLL 661 (1924), PLL 350 (1924), MPL 1427 (1906)

Any other approvals, licences, or authorities issued by government agencies that are relevant to the progress of mining operation and rehabilitation activities

EPA Environment Protection Licence Environment protection l	EPL 9218	May 2001	No expiry date	
DPI Water Access Licence WAL39495	12 Aug	2023	Continuing	Bakers Creek Water

Access Licence WAL3

Summary of the scope and/or purpose of the new applications or modifications to existing approvals (if applicable)

New planning consent applications are being assessed and prepared and an application to modify DA98/35 has been accepted by DPHI, with Technical Assessments in progress. The permitting strategy is Stage 1 consisting of Modification of DA98/35 and a new Council consent for construction at the Processing Plant, and Stage 2 which will be a new SSD and consolidation of existing consents. Assuming planned approvals, these will permit - Carrying out operations for up to 10 years - Increasing processing capacity to c.550 ktpa of ore and 250 ktpa of tailings re-treatment - Mining from Metz UG, Garibaldi OP and UG, Clarks Gully OP and UG and Brackins Spur UG - Installation of tailings filters to change tailings placement to a dry arrangement - Re-treatment of TSF1 and placement of tails in a Dry Tailings Landform - Increasing tailings capacity with Dry Tailings Landform at Hillgrove - Access and infrastructure corridor between Hillgrove and Clarks Gully It is anticipated that Stage 1 permitting applications will be finalised and submitted in the coming yearm with Stage 2 being submitted the following year.

Changes to land ownership and land use

Hillgrove Mines Pty Ltd was acquired out of Administration by ASX listed company Larvotto Resources Limited in December 2023. Hillgrove Mines is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Larvotto. There have been no changes to land use in the reporting year.

Surface disturbance and rehabilitation activities during the reporting period

Surface disturbance and rehabilitation activities that were conducted and an analysis of the progress against the rehabilitation schedule

No new surface disturbance activity was carried out during 2024, all APO applications were already on disturbed ground already listed in the rehab management plan. Rehabilitation works conducted were very limited Hillgrove Mines Pty Ltd Rehabilitation activity carried out was: - Rehabilitation of 21 exploration drilling sites – including earthworks, topsoiling, seeding, monitoring and weed removal. The progress for these sites has been excellent with many anticipated to be meeting rehab criteria in the coming year. - Monitoring of locations under rehabilitation – most are tracking well with the exception of the Bakers Creek Waste Dump. At Bakers Creek, the first round of rehabilitation which was seeded in Mar 2022 has not taken well due to instability of soil where the slope is steep, combined with water runoff and feral animals. With Hillgrove Mines now out of Administration, it is proposed in 2023 to review the plan at Bakers Creek and implement a second round of rehabilitation activity.

Rehabilitation planning activities that were conducted, including any specialist studies

No specialist rehabilitation studies were carried out during the reporting year.

Overview of subsidence repair and/or remediation works undertaken

Remediation works were carried out at the Bakers Creek Waste Dump, consisting of earthwork to modify drainage contours and improve sediment controls prior to runoff water entering Bakers Creek. This has caused a significant uptake in grass and soil retention. As well as commencement of Rehab works on the Clarks Gully APO and Hillview APO's

Overview of rehabilitation management and maintenance activities

There was a site Weeding program that took place over the reporting period. There was also clearing that had taken place around the dams and the TSF, the drains into the TSF1, as well as reestablishing the drains leading to the RWWS. This was on the advice of NSW Resource Regulator Rehabilitation unit. Feral animal control did not take place on site during the reporting period. There has been minimal rehab Maintenance that has occurred on site, from February to February. Base line rehab completed for Drill sites; monitoring has been undertaken during this period. Rehabilitation maintenance carried out was: - Weed management (spraying): a total of 40 m2 were sprayed total over site - Weed removal: from exploration drilling sites Rehabilitation management carried out consisted of monitoring:

- Quarterly inspections of rehabilitation sites, including exploration drilling sites - Annual rehabilitation inspection

Details of any rehabilitation actions taken as required by any letters, notices or directions issued by government agencies, including the NSW Resources Regulator

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure: an Independent Environmental Audit was completed against DA98/35. One non-compliance notice was raised for rehabilitation not being completed for TSF1 and Bakers Creek Waste Dump. This notice was issued on Thu 14 Mar 2024. The response plan is currently being developed and will be reported in next year's report. NSW Resource Regulator: Resolved with email and breach notification in Jan 2025

Details of any rehabilitation areas that have achieved the final land use

NIL

Key production milestones

MATERIAL	UNIT	FWP0001400 YEAR 1	THIS REPORT
Stripped topsoil (if applicable)	(m^3)	0	0
Rock/overburden	(m^3)	0	0
Ore	(Mt)	0	0
Reject material[1]	(Mt)	0	0
Product	(Mt)	0	0

[1] This includes coarse rejects, tailings and any other wastes resulting from beneficiation.

Disturbance and rehabilitation statistics

Current disturbance and rehabilitation progression

	ELEMENT	UNIT	THIS REPORT
A1	Total disturbance footprint – surface disturbance	(ha)	67.65
B	Total active disturbance	(ha)	57.35
C	Rehabilitation – land preparation	(ha)	0
D	Ecosystem and land use establishment	(ha)	1.22
E	Ecosystem and land use development	(ha)	9.08
F	Rehabilitation completion	(ha)	0

Rehabilitation key performance indicators (KPIs)

	ELEMENT	UNIT	THIS REPORT
G	New disturbance area	(ha)	0
H	New rehabilitation commenced during annual reporting period	(ha)	0
I	Established rehabilitation	(ha)	9.08
J	Annual rehabilitation to disturbance ratio	%	0
K	Rehabilitated land to total mine footprint	%	13.43

Progressive achievement of established rehabilitation

	ELEMENT	UNIT	THIS REPORT
L	**Established rehabilitation for agricultural final land uses**	%	0
M	**Established rehabilitation for native ecosystem final land uses**	%	83.91
N	**Established rehabilitation for other/non-vegetated final land uses**	%	16.09

Variation to the rehabilitation schedule

Identify the components of the most recent forward program that were not achieved

Little progress was made to implementing the rehabilitation schedule. The forward program for mining activities, including re-commencement of operations, has been progressed and will be finalised during the coming year as outputs from technical studies the consenting applications are completed.

Key factors that delayed progressive rehabilitation

The forward program for mining activities, including re-commencement of operations, has been progressed and will be finalised during the coming year as outputs from technical studies the consenting applications are completed.

Outline actions that will be included in the forward program and carried out to minimise disturbance and undertake progressive rehabilitation as far as reasonably practical

No new disturbance is proposed under the existing consents and any new disturbance will be in accordance with new/modified consents, which are expected to incorporate progressive rehabilitation in their planning

Rehabilitation monitoring and research findings

Rehabilitation monitoring

The rehabilitation monitoring carried out in the annual reporting period

Weed cover percentage is currently the only vegetation parameter preventing areas at HMR 5 and HMR 7 from meeting rehabilitation completion criteria. This population and any future occurrences should be managed appropriately to help protect biodiversity values. As identified in previous monitoring years, the exotic Juncus acutus (Sharp Rush) has been observed in high numbers around several of the tailing storage dams. This plant forms dense hemispherical tussocks that are hard to manage once established. Although this species is contributing to soil stabilisation, there are many native alternatives that can be planted as a replacement once this weed has been controlled. It is recommended that the monitoring requirements documented in the RMP are reviewed and updated to better address the new completion criteria that were adopted during the preparation of the RMP.

Status of performance against rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria

The monitoring program that has been implemented

An annual rehabilitation monitoring program is conducted by ELA with the objective to evaluate the rehabilitation progress and achieving the required ecological community and land use objectives in accordance with the completion criteria. Rehabilitation monitoring will include the following: Soil Analysis Flora Surveys Photo Monitoring Points Inspections Water samples Hillgrove Mines also undertake the general monitoring programs that are required by EPA.

Are all rehabilitation areas in Landform Establishment phase or higher represented in the monitoring program to assess performance against the rehabilitation objectives and approved or, if not yet approved rehabilitation completion criteria and final landform and rehabilitation plan?

Yes

Year rehabilitation areas will be included as part of the monitoring program

An appraisal of whether rehabilitation is moving towards achieving the proposed rehabilitation objectives, approved or, if not yet approved, rehabilitation completion criteria and final landform and rehabilitation plan as soon as reasonably practicable.

During the lasted Rehabilitation report done by Ecological there is a potential that three of the five areas that are monitored can move towards final landform. However, Hillgrove is still under care and Maintenance, so we are ensuring that the monitoring and Maintenance programs are continuing.

Appraisal description

There are performance issues preventing rehabilitation moving towards achieving the final land use as soon as reasonably practicable.

Rehabilitation monitoring program findings

HMPL is required to use environmental data derived from analogue sites to define completion criteria for the Rehabilitation Management Plan. Analogue sites were established in 2018 by ELA who were engaged to complete an Analogue Baseline Site study. This study identified analogue sites that are representative of the desired vegetation communities and land use in rehabilitation areas. These sites have been established in surrounding undisturbed areas and are monitored concurrently with rehabilitated areas to determine long term trends and to provide a comparison to assess the progression of rehabilitated areas.

Performance issues and their causes including identification of any knowledge gaps that must be addressed

Rubus anglocandicans (Blackberry), a weed listed as a regional priority within the Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022, was observed within the HMR7 monitoring plot. This population and any future occurrences should be managed appropriately to help protect biodiversity values. As identified in previous monitoring years, the exotic Juncus acutus (Sharp Rush) has been observed in high numbers around several of the tailing storage dams. This plant forms dense hemispherical tussocks that are hard to manage once established. Although this species is contributing to soil stabilisation, there are many native alternatives that can be planted as a replacement once this weed has been controlled.

Outcomes of rehabilitation research and trials

RRT NUMBER	PROJECT/TRIAL NAME	OBJECTIVE OF TRIAL/PROJECT	METHODOLOGY	EXPECTED DATE OF COMPLETION	STATUS	ON TRACK?
A RR0001453						

Outcomes of completed trials and research

N/A

Attachment 1 – Reporting Definitions

REPORTING CATEGORY		DEFINITION
A1	Total disturbance footprint – surface disturbance	All areas within a mining lease that either have at some point in time or continue to pose a rehabilitation liability due to surface disturbance activities. The total disturbance footprint is the sum of the total active disturbance, decommissioning, landform establishment, growth medium development, ecosystem and land use establishment, ecosystem and land use development and rehabilitation completion (see definitions below). Underground mining operations should not include the footprint of underground mining areas/subsidence management areas in the total disturbance footprint.
A2	Underground Mining Area	Underground mining operations areas/subsidence management areas.
B	Total active disturbance	Includes on-lease exploration areas, stripped areas ahead of mining, infrastructure areas, water management infrastructure, sewage treatment facilities, topsoil stockpile areas, access tracks and haul roads, active mining areas, waste rock emplacements (active/unshaped/in or out-of-pit), tailings dams (active/unshaped/uncapped) and temporary stabilised areas (e.g. areas sown with temporary cover crops for dust mitigation and temporary rehabilitation).
C	Rehabilitation – land preparation	Includes the sum of all disturbed land within a mining lease that have commenced any, or all, of the following phases of rehabilitation – decommissioning, landform establishment and growth medium development. Refer to the glossary of terms in this document for the definition of these phases of rehabilitation.

REPORTING CATEGORY		DEFINITION
D	Ecosystem and land use establishment	Includes the area which has been seeded/planted with the target vegetation species for the intended final land use. However, vegetation has not matured to a stage where it can be demonstrated that it will be sustainable for the long term and or require only a maintenance regime consistent with target reference/analogue sites. Typically, rehabilitation areas would be in this phase for at least two years (and usually more) before rehabilitation can be classified as being in the ecosystem and land use development phase. This phase does not apply to infrastructure areas that are being retained as part of final land use for the site.
E	Ecosystem and Land Use Development	Rehabilitation has matured to a level where target revegetation outcomes are on a trajectory towards meeting the final rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria (as verified by monitoring). This phase includes infrastructure areas that are to be retained for an approved post mining land use, following completion of all necessary measures to render the infrastructure fit for this purpose (for example structural integrity).
F	Rehabilitation Completion	The NSW Resources Regulator has determined in writing that the mining area has achieved the approved rehabilitation objectives and approved rehabilitation completion criteria and final landform and rehabilitation plan following the submission of *Form: ESF2 Rehabilitation completion and/or review of rehabilitation cost estimate and/or notification of mine or petroleum site closure.*
G	New active disturbance area	The area of any new active disturbance that has been created during the annual reporting period (definition A1 in Table 5).
H	New rehabilitation commenced during annual reporting period	The sum of any new rehabilitation commenced in the annual reporting period. These areas may be in the rehabilitation land preparation phase or the ecosystem & land use establishment phase (definitions C and D in Table 5).
I	Established rehabilitation (hectares)	The total area of land that is verified to be within either the ecosystem and land use development phase or the rehabilitation completion phase (definitions E & F in Table 5).

REPORTING CATEGORY		DEFINITION
J	Annual rehabilitation to disturbance ratio	The rehabilitation to disturbance ratio (H/G) indicates how many hectares of new rehabilitation are undertaken for each hectare of land disturbed during the year. A ratio of 1/1 indicates that the area of new rehabilitation and disturbance in that year are the same.
K	% Rehabilitated land to total mine footprint	The proportion of the total mine footprint (area of land that has been disturbed by past or present surface disturbance activities) that has established rehabilitation (I/A1 x 100). For open cut mining, the proportion of the total mine footprint verified to be “established rehabilitation” should substantially increase as an operation progresses towards mine closure.
L	Established rehabilitation for agricultural final land uses (hectares)	The percentage of total area of land that is verified to be within either the ecosystem and land use development phase or the rehabilitation completion phase (definitions E & F in Table 5) that have been returned to an agricultural final land use.
M	Established rehabilitation for native ecosystem final land uses (hectares)	The percentage of total area of land that is verified to be within either the ecosystem and land use development phase or rehabilitation completion phase (definitions E & F in Table 5) that have been returned to native ecosystem final land use.
N	Established rehabilitation for other/non-vegetated final land uses (hectares)	The percentage of total area of land that is verified to be within either the ecosystem and land use development phase or the rehabilitation completion phase (definitions E & F in Table 5) that have been returned to other/non-vegetated final land use.

Attachment 2 – Definitions

WORD	DEFINITION
Active	In the context of rehabilitation, land associated with mining domains is considered 'active' for the period following disturbance until the commencement of rehabilitation.
Active mining phase of rehabilitation	In the context of rehabilitation, the active mining phase of rehabilitation constitutes the rehabilitation activities undertaken during mining operations such as salvaging and managing soil resources, salvaging habitat resources, and native seed collection. This phase also includes management actions taken during operations to manage risks to rehabilitation and enhance rehabilitation outcomes such as selective handling of waste rock and management of tailings emplacements.
Analogue site	In the context of rehabilitation, an analogue site is a 'reference site' that represents an example of the defining characteristics (such as vegetation composition and structure or agricultural productivity) of the final land use. Characteristics of analogue sites can be assessed to develop the rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria for final land use domains.
Annual rehabilitation report and forward program	As described in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Annual reporting period	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Closure	A whole-of-mine-life process, which typically culminates in the relinquishment of the mining lease. It includes decommissioning and rehabilitation to achieve the approved final land use(s).
Decommissioning	The process of removing mining infrastructure and removing contaminants and hazardous materials.
Decommissioning Phase of Rehabilitation	Activities associated with the removal of mining infrastructure and removal and/or remediation of contaminants and hazardous materials. In the context of the rehabilitation management plan this phase of rehabilitation may also include studies and assessments associated with decommissioning and demolition of infrastructure or works carried out to make safe or 'fit for purpose' built infrastructure to be retained for future use(s) following lease relinquishment.

WORD	DEFINITION
Department	The Department of Regional NSW.
Disturbance	See Surface Disturbance.
Disturbance area	An area that has been disturbed and that requires rehabilitation. This may include areas such as on-licence exploration areas, stripped areas ahead of mining, infrastructure areas, water management infrastructure, sewage treatment facilities, topsoil stockpile areas, access tracks and haul roads, active mining areas, waste emplacements (active/unshaped/in or out-of-pit), tailings dams (active/unshaped/uncapped), and areas requiring rehabilitation that are temporarily stabilised (i.e. managed to minimise dust generation and/or erosion).
Domain	An area (or areas) of the land that has been disturbed by mining and has a specific operational use (mining domain) or specific final land use (final land use domain). Land within a domain typically has similar geochemical and/or geophysical characteristics and therefore requires specific rehabilitation activities to achieve the associated final land use.
Ecosystem and Land Use Development	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the activities to manage maturing rehabilitation areas on a trajectory to achieving the approved rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria. For vegetated land uses this phase may include processes to develop characteristics of functional self-sustaining ecosystems, such as nutrient recycling, vegetation flowering and reproduction, and increasing habitat complexity, and development of a productive, self-sustaining soil profile. This phase of rehabilitation may include specific vegetation management strategies and maintenance such as tree thinning, supplementary plantings and weed management.
Ecosystem and Land Use Establishment	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the processes to establish the approved final land use following construction of the final landform. For vegetated land uses this rehabilitation phase includes establishing the desired vegetation community and implementing land management activities such as weed control. This phase of rehabilitation may also include habitat augmentation such as installation of nest boxes.
Exploration	Has the same meaning as that term under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007.

WORD	DEFINITION
Final landform and rehabilitation plan	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Final land use	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Form and way	Means the form and way approved by the Secretary. Approved form and way documents are available on the Department's website.
Growth Medium Development	This phase of rehabilitation consists of activities required to establish the physical, chemical and biological components of the substrate required to establish the desired vegetation community (including short lived pioneer species. This phase may include spreading the prepared landform with topsoil and/or subsoil and/or soil substitutes, applying soil ameliorants to enhance the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the growth media, and actions to minimise loss of growth media due to erosion.
Habitat	Has the same meaning as that term under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (as relevant).
Indicator	An attribute of the biophysical environment (e.g. pH, topsoil depth, biomass) that can be used to approximate the progression of a biophysical process. It can be measured and audited to demonstrate (and track) the progress of an aspect of rehabilitation towards a desired completion criterion (i.e. defined end point). It may be aligned to an established protocol and used to evaluate changes in a system.
Land	As defined in the *Mining Act 1992.*
Landform Establishment	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the processes and activities required to construct the final landform. In addition to profiling the surface of rehabilitation areas to the approved final landform profile this phase may include works to construct surface water drainage features, encapsulate problematic materials such as tailings, and prepare a substrate with the desired physical and chemical characteristics (e.g. rock raking or ameliorating sodic materials).
Large mine	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Lease holder	The holder of a mining lease.

WORD	DEFINITION
Life of mine	The timeframe of how long a mine is approved to mine, from commencement to closure.
Mine rehabilitation portal	Means the NSW Resources Regulator's online portal that lease holders must use (via a registered account) to: ■ upload rehabilitation geographical information system (GIS) spatial data ■ develop rehabilitation GIS spatial data (using online tracing functions) ■ generate rehabilitation plans and rehabilitation statistics using the map viewer and Rehabilitation Key Performance Indicator functionalities. Data submitted to the mine rehabilitation portal is collated in a centralised geodatabase for use by the NSW Resources Regulator to regulate rehabilitation performance of lease holders.
Mining area	As defined in the *Mining Act 1992*.
Mining domain	A land management unit with a discrete operational function (e.g. overburden emplacement), and therefore similar geophysical characteristics, that will require specific rehabilitation treatments to achieve the final land use(s).
Mining land	As defined in the *Mining Act 1992.*
Native vegetation	Has the same meaning as that term under section 60B of the *Local Land Services Act 2013.*
Overburden	Material overlying coal or a mineral deposit.
Performance indicator	An attribute of the biophysical environment (for example pH, slope, topsoil depth, biomass) that can be used to demonstrate achievement of a rehabilitation objective. It can be measured and audited to demonstrate (and track) the progress of an aspect of rehabilitation towards a desired completion criterion, that is, a defined end point. It may be aligned to an established protocol and used to evaluate changes in a system.

WORD	DEFINITION
Phases of rehabilitation	The stages and sequences of actions required to rehabilitate disturbed land to achieve the final land use. The phases of rehabilitation are: ■ active mining ■ decommissioning ■ landform Establishment ■ growth medium development ■ ecosystem and land use establishment ■ ecosystem and land use development.
Progressive rehabilitation	The progress of rehabilitation towards achieving the approved rehabilitation completion criteria. This may be described in terms of domains, phases, performance indicators and rehabilitation completion criteria.
Rehabilitation Completion	The final phase of rehabilitation when a rehabilitation area has achieved the approved rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria for the final land use. Rehabilitation areas may be classified as complete when the NSW Resources Regulator has determined in writing that the relevant rehabilitation obligations have been fulfilled following submission of *Form ESF2 Rehabilitation completion and/or review of rehabilitation cost estimate* application by the lease holder.
Rehabilitation Completion criteria	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation cost estimate	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation management plan	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation objectives	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation risk assessment	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation schedule	The defined timeframes for progressive rehabilitation set out in the forward program.

WORD	DEFINITION
Relevant stakeholders	Means any persons or bodies who may be affected by the mining operations, including rehabilitation, carried out on the lease land, and includes: ■ the relevant development consent authority ■ the local council ■ the relevant landholder(s) ■ community consultative committee (if required under the development consent) or equivalent consultative group ■ affected land holder(s) ■ government agencies relevant to the final land use ■ affected infrastructure authorities (electricity, telecommunications, water, pipeline, road, rail authorities) ■ local Aboriginal communities, and ■ any other person or body determined by the Minister to be a relevant stakeholder in relation to a mining lease.
Risk	The effect of uncertainty on objectives. It is measured in terms of consequences and likelihood (AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009).
Secretary	The Secretary of the Department.
Security deposit	An amount that a mining lease holder is required to provide and maintain under a mining lease condition, to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under the lease (including obligations that may arise in the future).
Surface disturbance	Includes activities that disturb the surface of the mining area, including mining operations, ancillary mining activities and exploration.
Tailings	A combination of the fine-grained solid material remaining after the recoverable metals and minerals have been extracted from the mined ore, and any process water[2].
Waste	Has the same meaning as that term under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

[2] Commonwealth of Australia (DITR), 2007. *Tailings Management*.

Attachment 3 – Rehabilitation Complaints

DATE	COMPLAINANT	COMPLAINT DETAILS	RESPONSE DETAILS	STATUS OF RESPONSE	DATE RESPONSE COMPLETED (IF APPLICABLE)

Attachment 4 – Stakeholder consultation

DATE	STAKEHOLDER	CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES AND FORMS	MATTERS SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION	ACTIONS TAKEN
21 Dec 2024	Save our Macleay River	Attending meetings	The new ownership of Hillgrove Mines, the new agreements they have undertaken and the progress on the permitting for working	nil
18 Oct 2023	Department of Plaining, Housing and Infrastructure	Site Visit	Reginal inspections	Answer and Questions around the Independent Environmental Audit
23 Jan 2025	Community	Drop in day at Hillgrove community centre	What is happening at Hillgrove Mines and the planning projects	Nil
11 Nov 2024	Cooney Wild Sog Association	Baiting activities	Working with the association and landholders on how to deal with the wild dog population.	how will this affect the native wildlife.
11 Jan 2023	NSW Resource Regulator	Visit to site Inspection	Seepage discharge from the base of TSF1 Bakers Creek Rehabilitation	Letter in response was sent back as response was required by the 31/03/2023
22 Feb 2023	Independent Environmental Audit.	Independent Environmental Audit for the DA requirements of site	Undertake the Independent Environmental Audit for the DA requirements of site	Response was sent to the Department of Planning, housing and Infrastructure.
7 Mar 2022	Hillgrove Progress association	Attended Quartey meetings	Updated plans	Nil
27 Mar 2025	Hillgrove Progress Association Meetings	Attending Meetings	Progress within Larvotto with the planning and progression of planning	none have been raised
7 Mar 2022	Save Our Macleay River	A meeting with the Save Our Macleay River group .	Present and discuss the proposed activities prior to the start of work on the waste dump.	Nil

Attachment 5 – Plans

Hillgrove Mines Plan 1A 2024-25.pdf

Hillgrove Mines Plan 1B 2024-25.pdf