Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act) – Section 42

Draft terms of reference for an environmental impact statement (EIS)

Proposed Walton Coal Project

Walton Coal Pty Ltd proposes to develop a greenfield open cut coal mine and associated project infrastructure, which would involve the extraction of between 1.9 – 2.2 million tonnes per annum of metallurgical coal for processing and sale to the export market over a life of approximately 8 years. The project is predominantly located on Mineral Development Licence 505 and will involve application for one or more Mining Leases. The proposed project would be located approximately 170 kilometres (km) west of Rockhampton and approximately 100km east of Emerald in Central Queensland.

On 24 November 2017, the Department of the Environment and Energy determined the proposed project to be a controlled action (EPBC 2017/8077) under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. The controlling provisions are sections 18 and 18A (listed threatened species and communities) and 24D and 24E (a water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development). The project will be assessed under the bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland using the EIS prepared under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act).

The former Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) approved an application for Walton Coal Pty Ltd to voluntarily prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project under the EP Act on 13 July 2017.

Walton Coal Pty Ltd has prepared and submitted the draft terms of reference (TOR) for an EIS for the proposal to the Department of Environment and Science (formerly EHP).

A copy of the draft TOR may be viewed at:

- Department of Environment and Science
  Brisbane CBD Business Centre
  Floor 3, 400 George Street
  BRISBANE QLD 4000
- Department of Environment and Science
  99 Hospital Road
  EMERALD QLD 4720
- Department of Environment and Science
  Level 2, 209 Bolsover Street
  ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700
- Central Highlands Regional Council Library
  Normanby Street
  DINGO QLD 4703
- Central Highlands Regional Council Library
  Community Centre Wey Street
  BLACKWATER QLD 4717
- Central Highlands Regional Council Library
  Elizabeth Street
  DUARINGA QLD 4712

This public notice, the draft TOR and a description of the project is available at **www.ehp.qld.gov.au**, by contacting the proponent on **(07) 3229 5630**, or emailing **info@waltoncoal.com.au**

Written submissions

The Department of Environment and Science chief executive invites written comments from any person in relation to the draft TOR, within the comment period from **15 January 2018 to 26 February 2018**. Please address written comments to:

The Chief Executive
Department of Environment and Science
Attention: The EIS Coordinator (Walton Coal Project)
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

or by email to **eis@ehp.qld.gov.au**

Please note that it is a statutory requirement that all submitted comments will be forwarded to the proponent for consideration and their provision of a response to the Department of Environment and Science.

When the EIS is released, public submissions will be invited. For further information about the EIS process for this proposal, contact the EIS Coordinator on 13QGOV (13 74 68) or email eis@ehp.qld.gov.au.

BLZ132499

Queensland Government