

Attachment 12

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# Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Additional Assessment Information

**WILPINJONG COAL MINE -  
CENTRAL TABLELANDS OF NEW SOUTH WALES –  
EXTENSION PROJECT:  
ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT -  
ADDENDUM REPORT 18 NOVEMBER 2015**

**Prepared by:**

**Peter Kuskie,  
South East Archaeology Pty Ltd**

**18 November 2015**

***Introduction:***

The Wilpinjong Coal Mine is an existing open-cut coal mining operation situated approximately 40 kilometres north-east of Mudgee in the Central Tablelands of New South Wales. The Wilpinjong Coal Mine is owned and operated by Wilpinjong Coal Pty Limited (WCPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Peabody Energy Australia Pty Limited.

WCPL plans to seek approval from the Minister for Planning under Division 4.1 of Part 4 the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) for proposed extensions to the Wilpinjong Coal Mine mining operations and development of associated supporting infrastructure and facilities (referred to as the "Extension Project").

South East Archaeology Pty Ltd has prepared an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the proposed Wilpinjong Extension Project:

- ❑ Kuskie, P. 2015 *Wilpinjong Coal Mine, Central Tablelands of New South Wales – Extension Project: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment*.

Subsequent to finalisation of this report, a minor variation to the boundary of the heritage investigation area (for detailed assessment), which comprised Zones 1 and 2, has been identified (refer to Figure 1). The variation involves four spatially separate additional areas, totalling 3.7 hectares in area, in which impacts relating to water management may occur. These impact areas were initially assessed as Zone 3 (Other Ancillary Development) but would now comprise Zone 2 (General Ancillary Development and Infrastructure Extensions). They are located on the margins of 'Area B' and 'Area C' (refer to Kuskie 2015) and represent a 0.3% addition to the previous Zone 1 and 2 heritage investigation area for detailed assessment.

Assessment of these minor additional areas to the Extension Project is the subject of this addendum report. This report forms an addendum to and should be read in conjunction with the main Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report (Kuskie 2015).

### ***Assessment of Additional Areas:***

Consistent with Section 10.2.5 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report (Kuskie 2015), in which a similar minor variation to the investigation area occurred after completion of the heritage survey and draft report, this area can be assessed in relation to the extent of heritage survey coverage and nature of identified and potential heritage resources.

The additional areas lie on the margins of the areas subject to detailed heritage survey as part of the Extension Project (refer to Figure 1). These areas have not previously been subject to heritage survey (and consequently there are no identified Aboriginal heritage sites within these areas). Similar heritage resources may exist as within immediately adjacent areas of the same environmental contexts (for example, small rock shelters of low heritage significance).

If impacts are proposed, systematic heritage survey of the additional areas is warranted prior to any impacts occurring in accordance with the survey methodology for the Extension Project investigation. This would enable identification of and management of any heritage evidence in accordance with procedures specified in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP).

### ***Aboriginal Community Consultation:***

A draft of this report dated 24 September 2015 was provided to each of the Registered Aboriginal Parties for the Extension Project with an invitation to provide comment.

Responses were received from Murong Gialinga Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation (MGATSIC) and ND<sup>1</sup>-01 (refer to Appendix 1). MGATSIC indicated satisfaction with the draft addendum report, and ND-01 indicated satisfaction and requested that in terms of future surveys, these include a 20 metre buffer zone and copies of the draft report are sent within 21 days of completion to enable comment.

These comments are noted and acknowledged. A 20 metre buffer on the minor additional survey areas described in the addendum report would be incorporated into the survey methodology. Results of the surveys would be provided to the Registered Aboriginal Parties as required by the relevant Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

### ***Recommendations:***

In relation to these minor additional areas, consistent with Recommendations 1(a)(vi) and 1(i) in Section 11 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report (Kuskie 2015) the following should occur:

- 1(a)(vi): Archaeological survey of all potential impact areas that have not subject to systematic survey sampling, using the same methodology as for the present investigation; and
- 1(i): Provisions will be included to guide the management of any previously unrecorded Aboriginal heritage sites within the Extension Project area that may be identified during future investigations or works. Management provisions will vary in relation to the nature of any evidence identified, its significance and the nature of the proposed impacts, and may include temporary protection, further investigation, longer-term conservation or avoidance of impacts, mitigation, monitoring or unmitigated impact.

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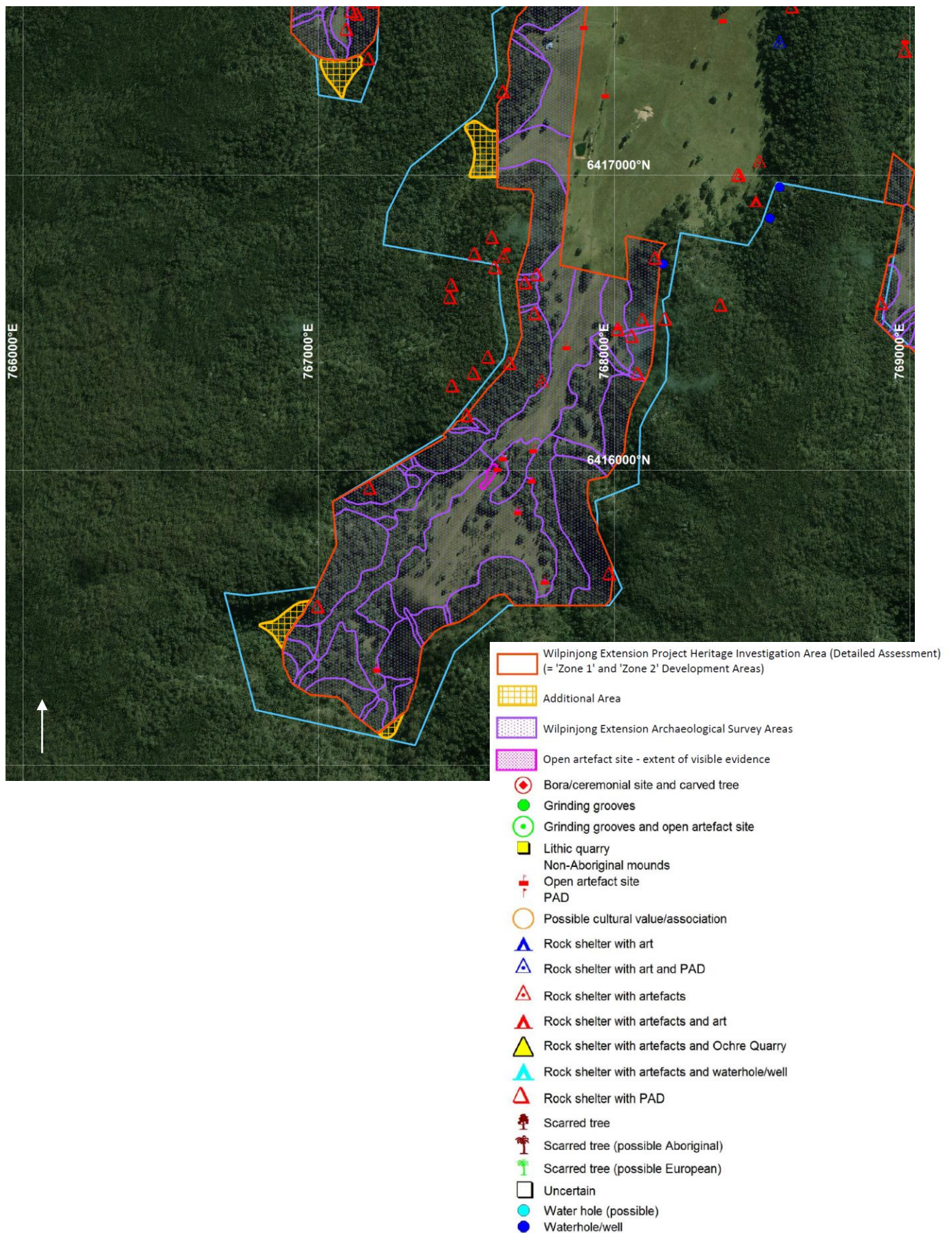
<sup>1</sup> Non-disclosure.

***References:***

Kuskie, P. 2015 *Wilpinjong Coal Mine, Central Tablelands of New South Wales – Extension Project: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment*. Unpublished report to Wilpinjong Coal Pty Limited.



**Figure 1:** Location of additional areas (one kilometre MGA grid).



## **Appendix 1:** Responses to draft addendum report from Registered Aboriginal Parties.

### *Murong Gialinga Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation*

**From:** Murong Gialinga <[muronggialinga@hotmail.com](mailto:muronggialinga@hotmail.com)>  
**Date:** 17 November 2015 9:56:49 pm AEST  
**To:** "Flood, Ian K." <[iflood@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:iflood@peabodyenergy.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wilpinjong Extension Project - ACHA Addendum Report

To Mr Ian Flood we at Murong Gialinga agree with the Wilpinjong Extension Project - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Addendum Report undertaken by South East Archaeology but there is further Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Surveys to be undertaken . Please contact Murong Gialinga if more information is required. Kind Regards  
Larry Foley Chairperson

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From: [IFlood@peabodyenergy.com](mailto:IFlood@peabodyenergy.com)  
To: [muronggialinga@hotmail.com](mailto:muronggialinga@hotmail.com); [dfoley2850@hotmail.com](mailto:dfoley2850@hotmail.com)  
Subject: Wilpinjong Extension Project - ACHA Addendum Report  
Date: Thu, 22 Oct 2015 05:58:56 +0000

Larry and Debbie,

Please find attached correspondence regarding an addendum report to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment for the Wilpinjong Extension Project.

Please note that a hard copy of the attached correspondence has been posted to you.

Please don't hesitate to call should you wish to discuss.

Regards,

**Ian Flood**

Manager Project Development & Approvals

**Wilpinjong Coal Mine  
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*ND-01*

Response withheld upon request.