

We will work with you to manage and reduce impacts on Roads, heritage and visual amenity

Wandoan Coal Project Fact Sheet



Xstrata Coal is committed to making a real and positive difference in the communities in which we operate. We take our responsibility for working with the community very seriously and will implement leading management plans to minimise any potential impacts from the proposed mine.

Reducing visual impacts

While the mine's pits and associated infrastructure will be large, they will not be highly visible from outside the mine site.

A natural ridge line between the mine area and Wandoan township will obscure the view of the mine from the town.

However, some rural homesteads and areas of the Leichhardt Highway adjacent to the mine will have views of the mining operations. While some of these views will be ongoing throughout the life of the mine, visual and landscape mitigation strategies such as vegetation screening will be implemented where necessary to reduce impacts both in the short and long term.

The Coordinator-General has recommended the Project achieve a specified level of revegetation of all elevated spoil areas that are visible from key viewpoints on the Leichhardt Highway, Nathan Road and the Jackson-Wandoan Road, within three years of completion of placement of spoil in those areas.

Protecting and preserving local heritage

The Project recognises the importance of local indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage and is committed to working with the local community to protect and preserve this important history.

A Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be developed to assist in surveying work areas to identify and protect cultural heritage prior to any activities taking place.



The natural ridge line will obscure the view of the mine from the town.

Through our work with the local community, the following initiatives have been identified and will be implemented as part of the Project:

- Undertaking, if feasible, a structural and architectural heritage assessment of the Booral homestead and an historic meat shed, located in the proposed mine area
- If structurally sound, the homestead and shed may be sympathetically reused or safely relocated.

Road relocations and closures

There will be some road closures and relocations once construction of the proposed mine commences and at different stages during the life of the proposed mine. It is proposed that roads currently running through the mining lease application area will be kept open for use by the public for as long as possible and will only be closed or relocated once it is necessary for the implementation of the mine plan.

A new mine access road will be built which will intersect the Leichhardt Highway approximately six kilometres to the north of the Wandoan township. The mine access road will provide safe traffic movement to and from the mine site and connect the accommodation facilities with the mine infrastructure area.

Two local bridges, at One Arm Man Creek and Woleebee Creek, will be upgraded and reconstructed. After extensive consultation with the community the proposed road closure timing is outlined in the table on the next page.



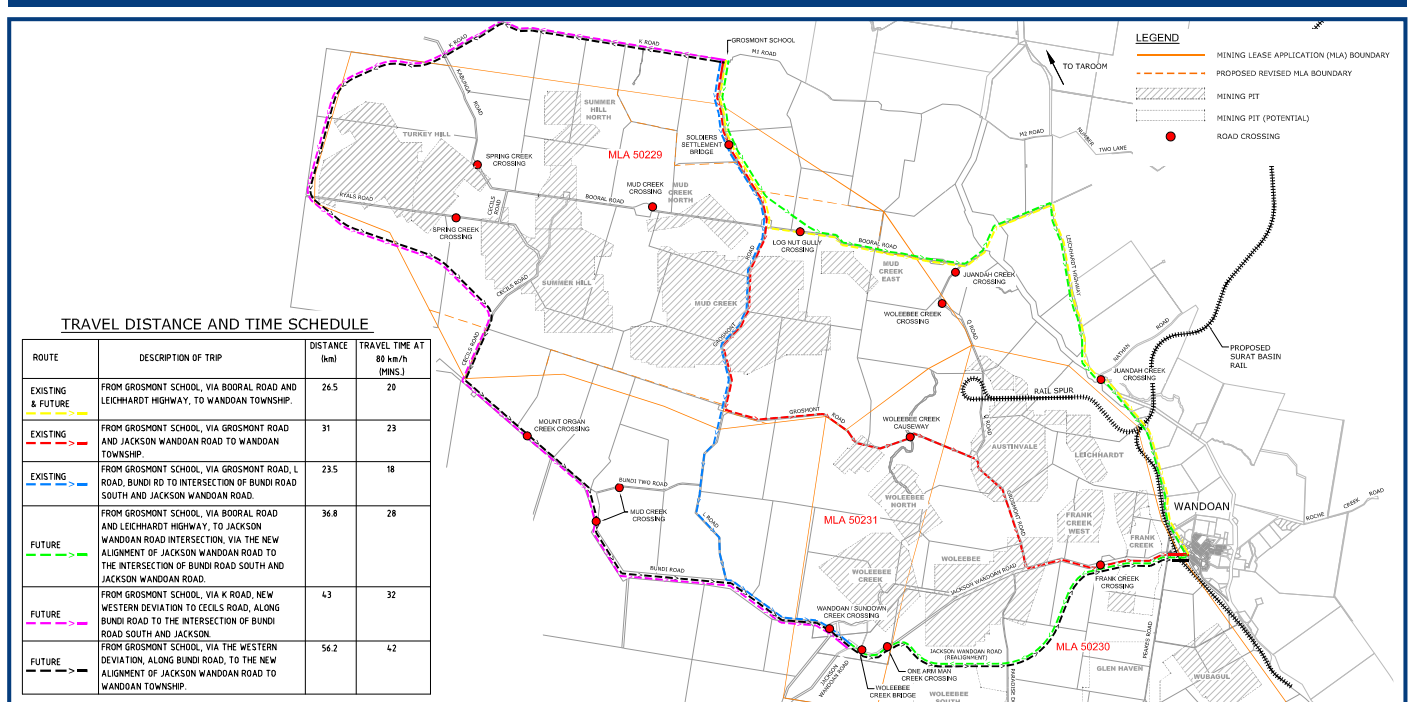
Predicted view of the proposed mine site from the Leichhardt Highway in year 30 of mine operations.

Road Impact Assessment and Management

As the Coordinator-General's report states, prior to the commencement of any significant construction work the Project will:

- Review and finalise the road impact assessment, undertaking two joint road asset condition assessments – prior to and at the completion of construction – to determine any additional maintenance required to restore road networks to the original condition
- Prepare a Road Use Management Plan for state-controlled and other roads detailing volumes, routes, dust control, road safety, and maintenance or upgrades to mitigate impacts, as well as management of workforce movements associated with the Project
- Enter into agreements with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and local councils to contribute to any necessary road maintenance and upgrades identified in the Road Use Management Plan
- Prepare detailed Traffic Management Plans for all construction and other activities on state-controlled and local roads
- Construct roads providing access to accommodation facilities to an all-weather access standard, with appropriate turning facilities from major roads.

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There will be some road closures and relocations once the construction of the mine begins and at different stages during the life of the mine .

Commercial vehicle activity during construction and operations

During the construction and operation of the mine there will be some increase in commercial and heavy vehicle activity on the regional road network*, but the increase is expected to be less than 5% of existing traffic levels.

As the Coordinator-General's Report states, the Project will develop a comprehensive Traffic Management Plan for the State controlled roads and the local road network affected by mine activity, in consultation with State, regional and local authorities. This plan will ensure the safety of the community, road users and our people. It will also help to minimise traffic disruption and will consider school bus routes.

Workforce vehicle activity during construction

During construction of the mine there will be a significant increase in workforce vehicle activity on the regional road network* of greater than 5% of existing traffic levels, but this will occur only at the change of shift, around every 10 days.

Construction workers will organise their own travel from their hometowns to the accommodation facilities at the change of shift, around every 10 days. This will create a significant increase in traffic along Leichhardt Highway between Warrego Highway and Capricorn Highway but this impact will not be a daily occurrence and should only be experienced on shift change days. These movements will be planned to occur at staggered times. As the Coordinator-General's report states, the Project will investigate providing fatigue and road safety training and awareness programs.

To minimise workforce vehicle activity during construction, by bus workers will be transported on a daily basis from the accommodation facilities at the north of the mine, along the mine access roads to the mine construction site and back again.

Workforce vehicle activity during operations

During mine operation there will be some increase in workforce vehicle activity on the regional road network*, but the increase is expected to be less than 5% of existing traffic levels.

To minimise workforce vehicle activity during operations, shuttle buses will be provided for employees travelling daily from the towns of Wandoan, Taroom and Miles.

The Project is considering both air and coach transport options for employees travelling from other major regional centres at the change of shift, around every seven days.

Pavement impact during construction and operations

During the construction and operation of the mine significant pavement impacts (in excess of 5%) are predicted along the Leichhardt Highway between its intersection with the Warrego Highway and the new mine access road.

As the Coordinator-General's Report states, the Project will undertake early consultation and negotiations with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Western Downs Regional Council to reach a suitable agreement to contribute to any necessary road maintenance and upgrades identified in the Road Use Management Plan.

*The EIS investigated the impact of the project's commercial vehicle activity during construction and operations on the regional road network including: Leichhardt Highway; Jackson-Wandoan Road; Warrego Highway; Dawson Highway; Roma-Taroom Road; Capricorn Highway; Fitzroy Developmental Road; and Dysart-Middlemount Road.

To find out more:

Talk to a member of our project team, call our free-call information line **1800 052 797**. The EIS and the Coordinator-General's Report are available online at www.wandoancoal.com.au and can be viewed at the Xstrata Coal Shopfront in Royd Street, Wandoan.

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