
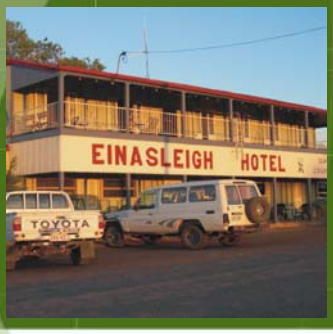


Einasleigh Copper Project (MLAs 30212 & 30214)

Initial Advice Statement

Prepared for:
Einasleigh Mining Pty Ltd, a 100% subsidiary of Copper Strike Limited

March 2007

aarc
AustralAsian Resource Consultants

Document History and Status

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AARC	AustralAsian Resource Consultants Pty Ltd
DNR&W	Department of Natural Resources & Water
EA	Environmental Authority

EIS	Environmental Impact Study
EM Plan	Environmental Management Plan
EPBC Act	Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act, 1994
ERA	Environmentally Relevant Activity
ha	hectares
IAS	Initial Advice Statement
ILUA	Indigenous Land Use Agreement
km	kilometres
kL	kilolitre
LP Act	Land Protection (Pest & Stock Route Management) Act 2002
MW	Megawatt
m	metre
m^3	cubic metre
MLA	Mining Lease Application
NC Act	Nature Conservation Act, 1992
NQLC	North Queensland Land Council
QEPA	Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
ROM	Run of Mine
t	tonne
TOR	Terms of Reference
tpa	tonnes per annum

1.0 INTRODUCTION

AustralAsian Resource Consultants Pty Ltd (AARC) was commissioned by Copper Strike Limited, on behalf of their 100% owned subsidiary company Einasleigh Mining Pty Ltd (Einasleigh Mining), to prepare this Initial Advice Statement (IAS) for the development of the Einasleigh Copper Project (the Project).

A pre-lodgement meeting was held with the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (QEPA) Coordinated Assessment Committee in Brisbane on 2 March 2007 to discuss the proposed Project and possible assessment pathway. The QEPA subsequently indicated that an EIS process would be appropriate for the Project.

Einasleigh Mining is applying to the Chief Executive under Sections 70 and 71 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) for approval to prepare a voluntary EIS. This IAS is provided as supporting information for this application.

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The proposed Project involves the redevelopment of the historic underground copper mine in Einasleigh[1], which operated spasmodically between 1867 and 1972. Redevelopment will involve reinstatement of access to the ore body and extraction of ore using underground mining methods.

The ore body is located approximately 150 to 250 meters (m) beneath the junction of the Copperfield and Einasleigh Rivers adjacent to the township of Einasleigh. The Einasleigh deposit consists of an Indicated and Inferred Resource at a 1.0% Cu cut-off grade of 825,000 tonnes at 3.0% Cu, 0.17 g/t Au, and 14 g/t Ag. Mine planning has identified approximately 360,000 tonnes within practical stoping boundaries at a grade of 4% Cu.

The Einasleigh deposit will be mined at the rate of between approximately 50,000 and 120,000 tonnes per annum (tpa), depending on the mining method selected, and processed on-site or trucked to a processing plant on an approved Mining Lease to produce copper concentrate.

Copper concentrate output will be approximately 10,000 to 15,000 tpa and would be trucked to Townsville for export.

The workforce will be sourced from the local region or other regional centres in North Queensland and accommodated at a purpose built facility in Einasleigh.

1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The township of Einasleigh is located in North Queensland approximately 60 kilometres (km) south-southeast of Georgetown, 210 km west of the City of Ingham and 300 km west-north-west of the City of Townsville. The regional location of Einasleigh is shown on Figure 1.

The old mine shaft on MLA 30212 is located on the northern edge of the Einasleigh Township adjacent to the eastern boundary of the airstrip (approximately 500 meters (m) north-north-east of the Einasleigh Hotel) at the junction of the Einasleigh and Copperfield Rivers.

[1] The historic underground copper mine in Einasleigh was initially known as the 'Lynd Copper Mine' and was renamed several times throughout its operating life (Gordon Grimwade and Associates, 2006). The old underground mine will be referred to as the 'old Einasleigh Copper Mine' hereafter.

Figure 1: Regional Location of the Project Site

Figure 2 shows the location of the MLA boundaries for the Project site, including MLA 30214 which is an option being considered for ore or concentrate haulage.

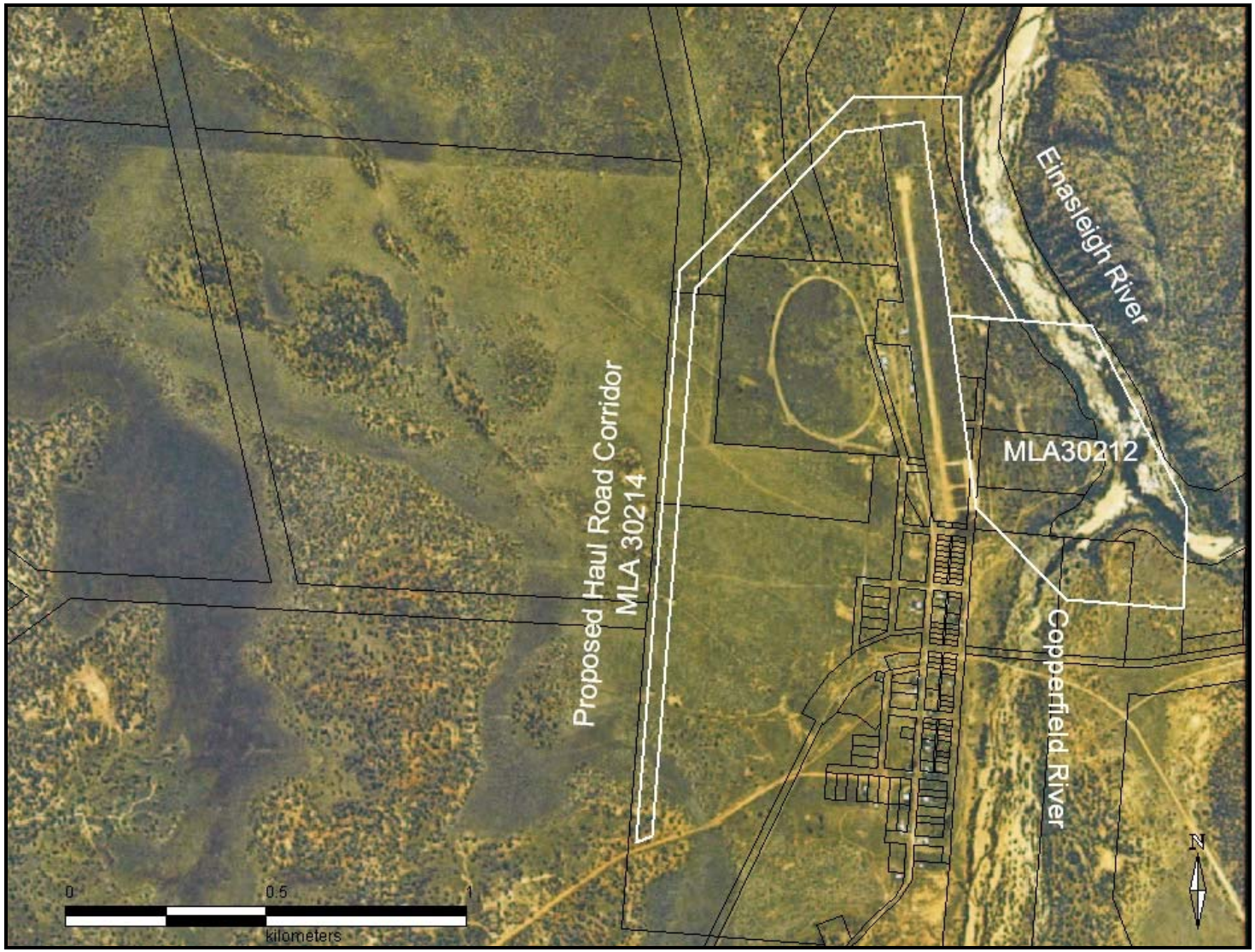

Figure 2: Local Location of the Project Site

1.3 PROJECT TENEMENTS & LAND OWNERSHIP

The Einasleigh deposit is a chalcopyrite resource located within the boundaries of Exploration Permit for Minerals (EPM) 13072. Figure 3 shows the location of the deposit within the EPM.

The 100 sub-block exploration permit was granted to Teck Australia Minerals Pty Ltd on 23 December 2002 (endorsed named change to Teck Cominco Australia Pty Ltd on 3 January 2003) for a term of 5 years with a specified 50% sub-block reduction condition applying to Years 3, 4 and 5. Approval to vary specified sub-block for Year 3 (2005) from 50 to 100 was given on 1 March 2005.

On 24 March 2005, Copper Strike Limited took control of EPM13072 and an application to maintain EPM13072 at 86 sub-blocks in Year 4 (2006) was approved by the Department of Natural Resources and Water (DNR&W) on the 6 July 2006.

The contact details for Copper Strike Limited (ASX Code: CSE) and Einasleigh Mining Pty Ltd are:

Office: Level 9, 356 Collins Street Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Telephone: +61 3 9640 0955

Facsimile: +61 3 9642 0698

Website: www.copperstrike.com.au

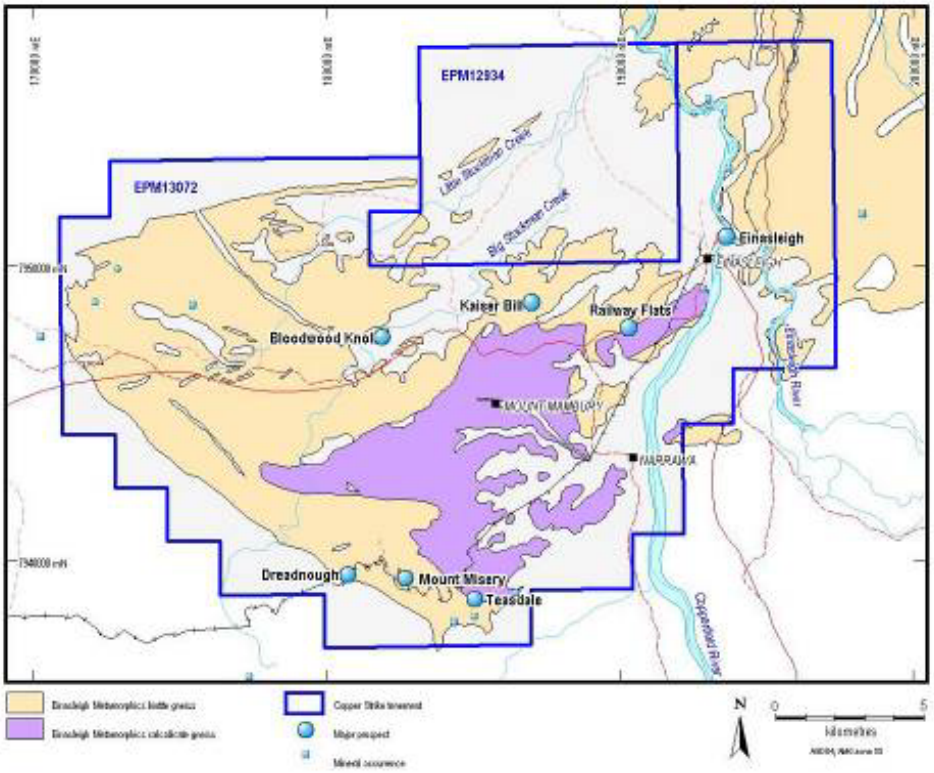

Figure 3: Location of the Einasleigh deposit within EPM13072

Tables 1 and 2 below show the real property descriptions of the land parcels within each MLA, along with the owners and their contact details. The location of each parcel within each MLA is shown on Figures 4 and 5.

Table 1: Real Property Description within MLA 30212

Real Property Description	Tenure Type	Owner	Contact Details
Lot 40 on GB97	Town Reserve	Etheridge Shire Council	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
Lot 39 on C157377	Water Reserve	Etheridge Shire Council	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
Daintree Street	Gazetted Road	Etheridge Shire Council	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
Lot 1 on MPH22957	Freehold	A. Clifford, and Leslie & Michael Mosch	"The Canyon" EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Lot 2 on MPH22957	Freehold	Patricia Kiro	Whitewater Station MOUNT SURPRISE QLD 4871
Lot 3 on E5082; Lot 168 on USL44; Lot 170 on USL44; Lot 1 on AP12184	Unallocated State Land	Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water	GPO Box 2454 BRISBANE QLD 4001
Einasleigh River; and Copperfield River	Watercourse	Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water	GPO Box 2454 BRISBANE QLD 4001

Table 2: Real Property Descriptions within MLA 30214

Real Property Description	Tenure Type	Owner	Contact Details
Lot 38 on GB22	Pasturage Reserve	Etheridge Shire Council	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
Road Reserve	Road Reserve	Etheridge Shire Council	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
Lot 1 PER 205688	Leasehold	Einasleigh Rodeo Association Inc	C/- The Secretary Einasleigh Post Office EINASLEIGH QLD 4871

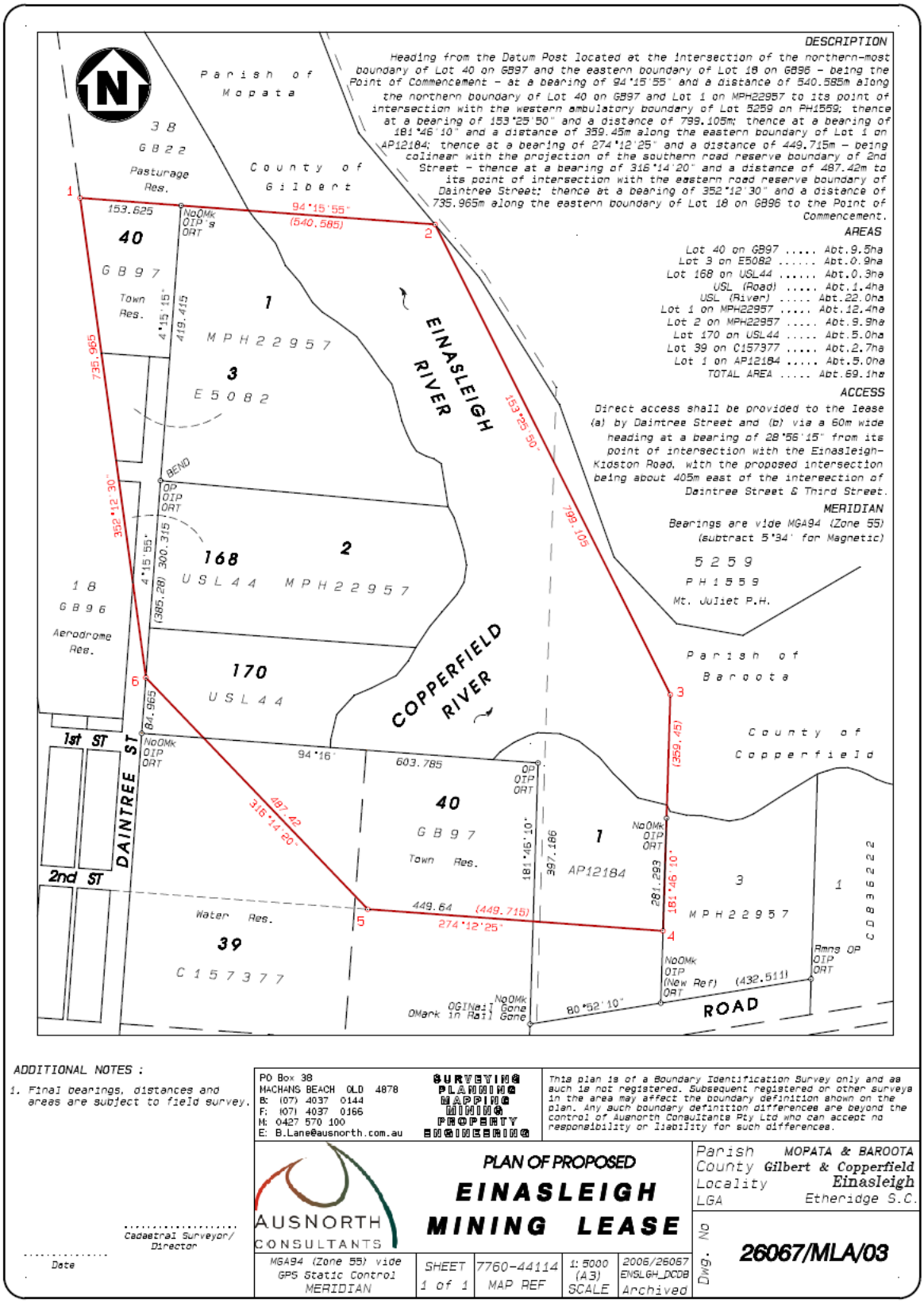

Figure 4: Land Parcels within MLA 30212

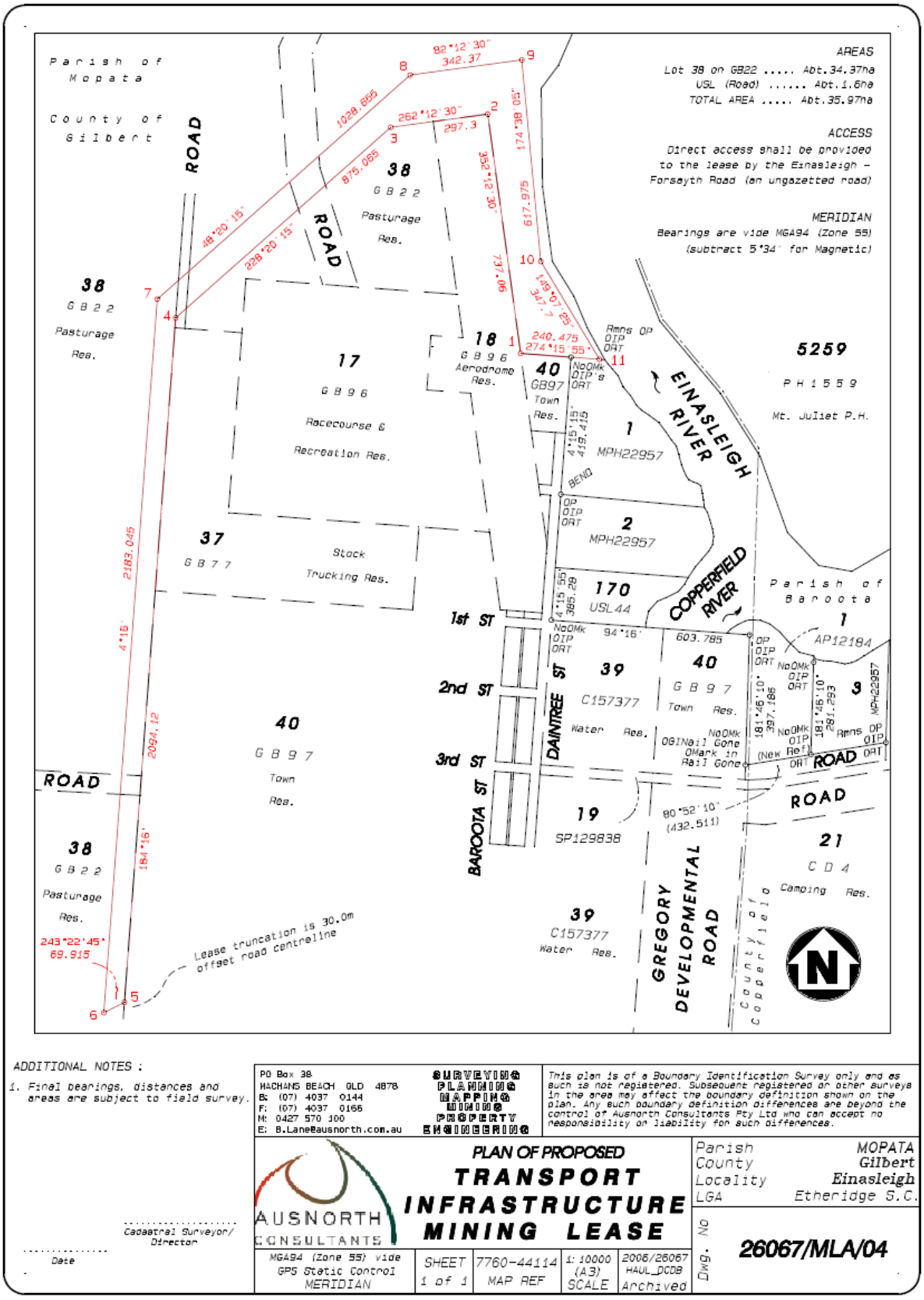

Figure 5: Land Parcels within MLA 30214

2.0 DECRIPTION OF THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

A number of environmental studies have been conducted at the Project site and more are planned prior to submission of the EIS. Environmental studies already completed or being undertaken are:

- Wet and dry season terrestrial flora and fauna survey;
- Wet and dry season creek ecology and stream sediment study;
- Soils and land suitability assessment;
- Conceptual groundwater modelling and groundwater assessment;
- European cultural heritage assessment of the old Einasleigh Copper Mine and Smelter site (now MLA 30212);
- Collection of background noise levels of the site and local region;
- Ongoing consultation with stakeholders; and
- Deployment of Dust Deposition Gauges to collect monthly dust fallout data at the site and local region.

Additional studies will be undertaken in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Project.

2.1 ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

A search of the EPA Ecomaps website (http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/ecoaccess/ecomaps) shows that a small area on MLA 30212 is a Registered Heritage Place on the Queensland Heritage Register. The listing encompasses certain features of the old Einasleigh Copper Mine and Smelter site that was established in the 1800's. The values of this site are discussed further in Section 2.12 of this IAS.

No other environmentally sensitive area is present on or around the Project site and the Project is not likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance. Therefore, the Project has not been referred to the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage under the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

2.2 REGIONAL CLIMATE

This climatic description of the Einasleigh region has been compiled using the closest available data collected from Australian Bureau of Meteorology's (http://www.bom.gov.au/) weather monitoring stations. Temperature and rainfall data is sourced from Mount Surprise and wind speed and direction is sourced from Georgetown.

The data indicates that mean annual rainfall for the region is approximately 788 millimetres (mm). Rainfall is typically highly seasonal, with the dry season peaking between July and September (average rainfall range of 4.6 – 6.9 mm) and the wet season peaking in January and February (average 205.7mm). The mean monthly rainfall is for the Einasleigh region measured at Mount Surprise is shown in Figure 6.

The coldest mean daily temperatures occur in June and July (26.6 and 26.4 degrees Celsius [°C] respectively), with eight of the remaining ten months having a mean daily temperature between 30

and 35°C. Figure 7 shows the mean monthly temperatures for the region measured at Mount Surprise.

Light winds of less than 10 km/h from the east and south-east are dominant in the region. Wind roses summarising annual wind speed and direction for the region as measured at Georgetown are shown below in Figure 8.

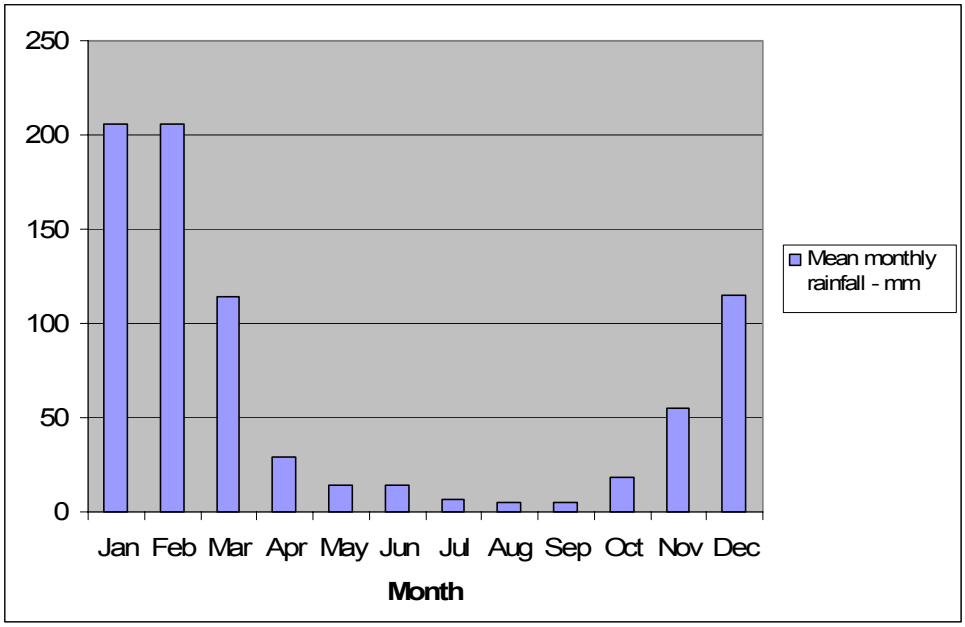

Figure 6: Mean Monthly Rainfall for the Einasleigh Region measured at Mount Surprise

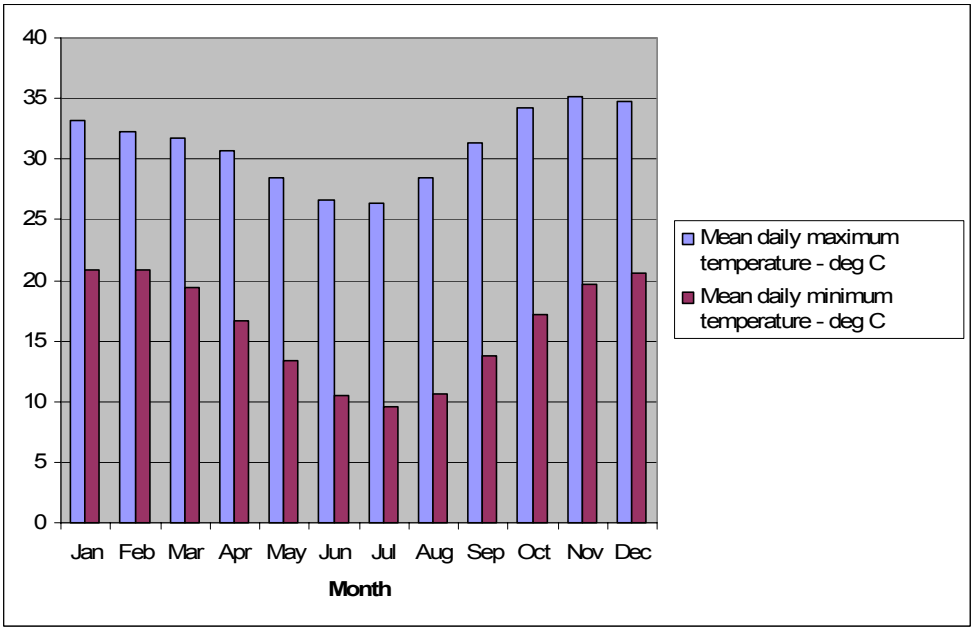

Figure 7: Mean Daily Maximum and Minimum Temperature for the Einasleigh Region measured at Mount Surprise

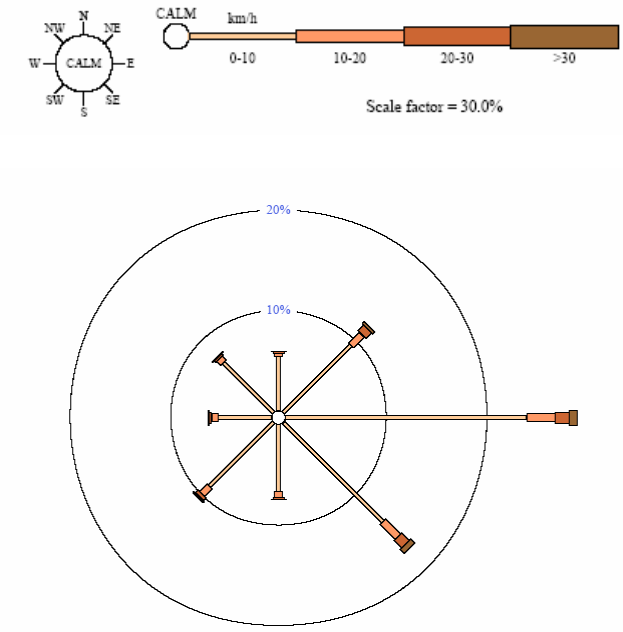

Figure 8: Annual Wind Roses for the Einasleigh Region measured at Georgetown

2.3 CURRENT LAND USE

The Project site is situated on the fringe of the Einasleigh Township and is currently used for mineral exploration and cattle grazing, or is vacant land.

The transport corridor MLA is located predominantly on Reserve Land managed by Etheridge Shire Council, with part of the land being leased from the Council by the Rodeo Association. The remaining land is currently used for low intensity cattle grazing.

2.4 GEOLOGY

The Einasleigh deposit occurs in the Einasleigh Metamorphics, a metamorphosed and deformed Proterozoic sequence in the Georgetown Inlier. The Einasleigh Metamorphic areas are generally of amphibolite facies but locally reach granulite facies. Dominant lithological units are calc-silicates and biotite gneisses. Due to the transposition of bedding and other structural discontinuities, the detailed stratigraphy of the Einasleigh Metamorphic cannot be established.

Several small strata bound semi-massive to massive sulphide deposits occur close to the contact with the biotite gneiss unit and calc-silicate gneiss.

Copper mineralisation at Einasleigh occurs as chalcopyrite associated with variable amounts of pyrrhotite and lesser pyrite within an altered quartz-sulphide vein breccia. Alteration mainly consists of pyroxene-amphibole-magnetite-quartz-garnet-chlorite-barite replacing the quartz-feldspar-biotite-gneiss host rock.

The mineralisation/alteration envelope appears to have the morphology of a synform with a gentle south-south-west plunging axis. The western limb of the mineralisation dips moderately (20 to 60

degrees) to the east and the eastern limb varies from steep westerly dipping to overturned steep easterly dipping.

The best copper grades appear to occur in the keel of the structure and in the lower parts of the eastern limb. Contacts between barren host rock and the significant mineralisation (>1% Cu) are generally very sharp on the eastern limb and more diffuse on the western limb.

Faults that appear to offset mineralisation by a few meters are shown on old plans. There is evidence of at least one similar fault within the area of the newly discovered mineralisation. Old mine plans show mineralised bodies 'pinched and swelled' over distances of a few meters and occasionally split into separate lodes.

2.5 HYDROGEOLOGY & GROUNDWATER

The Einasleigh deposit is located approximately 150 m to 250 m beneath the junction of the Copperfield and Einasleigh Rivers and is hosted in Proterozoic quartz-feldspar-biotite gneiss. Permo-Carboniferous intrusive porphyry rocks crop out in the riverbed and as a prominent hill adjacent the Einasleigh River on the eastern side, and are overlain by Pleistocene sediments to the west and Tertiary basalt to the south and west (Figure 9).

Extending west from the Einasleigh deposit is a plain that formed as a result of sedimentation from ancient drainage courses of the Copperfield River and its tributaries. These sediments are believed to form an alluvial aquifer, which is linked to sediments that overlie the Proterozoic rocks and underlie the basalt near the Copperfield Gorge. The extent and characteristics of this aquifer are not well documented but there are several private bores and resource definition bores in the area from which to gather some information about the aquifer.

Based on information sourced from drill logs, historical mining information and the bore at the Einasleigh Caravan Park, the standing groundwater level at the Project site is approximately 12 m below ground level. Groundwater flow tests undertaken when dewatering the old mine shaft as part of further studies will determine whether the underground mine water is linked to the alluvial aquifer to the west, or water contained in Copper Gorge. Based on records from the old Einasleigh Copper Mine, groundwater inflows in the order of 360 m^3/d have been recorded at the Einasleigh deposit. No studies have been undertaken concerning the source of the inflows.

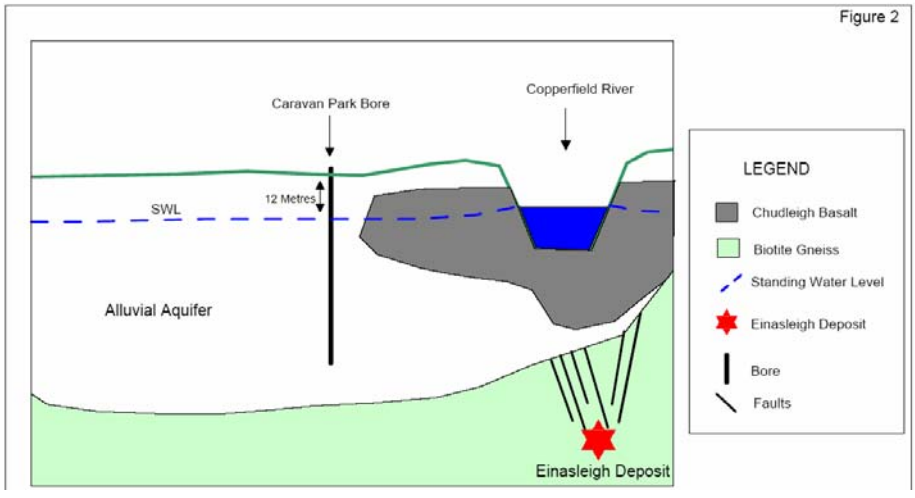

Figure 9: Conceptual Hydrogeological Model of the Einasleigh deposit

Historic records show that previous dewatering of the underground workings extracted about 180m^3/day. This amount of water is not substantial and might only represent groundwater that entered the mine via fractures in the Proterozoic rocks between the riverbed and the deposit. Depending on the relative position of the shaft, it is possible that the alluvial aquifer, above and to the west of the deposit, is not in contact with fractures linking the deposit. Further testing will determine whether there is a connection between the predicted alluvial aquifer to the west, the route of the decline and the deposit.

The impact of the mine dewatering on the water level in the Copperfield Gorge will also be considered as part of further groundwater studies.

2.6 SURFACE WATER AND DRAINAGE

The Einasleigh deposit is located underneath the confluence of the Einasleigh and Copperfield Rivers (refer to Figure 2). Flow in the Copperfield River is ephemeral, but some pools persist after flow ceases, particularly near the Einasleigh River. The Copperfield River at Einasleigh is formed as a basalt gorge that holds water on a permanent basis, known as the Copperfield Gorge. Flow in other parts of the river is generally ephemeral, with peak flows occurring in summer months and lowest flows occurring in winter.

Land to the west of Copperfield Gorge forms an alluvial plain extending westward from Einasleigh before changing to moderately undulating plains with gentle stony rises.

The DNR&W has collected water flow and quality data for the Einasleigh River at Einasleigh since the early 1980's. AARC has collected additional data on surface water quality, stream sediment, macroinvertebrates, and stream morphology during wet and dry seasons.

2.7 SOILS AND LAND SUITABILITY

AARC has prepared a Soil and Land Suitability Assessment Report for land on which the Project is proposed. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the pre-mining land suitability and topsoil stripping requirements.

Field work was undertaken by AARC in accordance with *Land Suitability Assessment Techniques* (Department of Minerals & Energy, 1995). In following the procedures outlined in this guideline, the objectives of the study were to:

- Compile a land resource inventory through classification, testing and mapping of soils, and description of the terrain;
- Determine and report on the pre-mining land suitability through the process of land resource evaluation; and
- Determine and report on topsoil stripping requirements to form part of any future environmental management plan.

Soils were assessed at approximately 25 locations within the Project area. The location of each site was recorded using a Global Positioning System with an accuracy of +/- 10 m. Sampling sites were selected based on the proposed areas of mining at the time of sampling. Sites were selected using

aerial photography to determine the different types of soil that were present in the proposed area and a representative number of samples were taken within each soil type.

Samples were taken using a 150 mm hand auger consisting of a 1 kg at depths of 0 - 10 cm, 10 - 20 cm, 40 - 50 cm and 90 - 100 cm. If a depth of 100 cm was unachievable, samples were taken from the greatest depth possible. Following extraction from the ground, samples were placed in zip-locked plastic bags and labelled with the appropriate sample name, depth and a unique identifier. Samples were then sent to Incitec Pivot's Nutrient Advantage Laboratory.

This study has determined that the Project area consists of grey clay on basaltic alluvial plains. These soils are grey to yellowish grey light to medium clay, over structured brown or grey medium clay. They are moderately alkaline, which increases with depth, non-saline, and non-sodic. The Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) is low at the surface but increases with depth and the soil has a moderate Cation Exchange Capacity. These soils are moderately to poorly drained and generally not trafficable when moist.

The study also determined this soil type is Land Suitability Class 3 for rain-fed broad-acre cropping. This means that the soil has moderate limitations and will require major inputs to ensure sustainability for rain-fed cropping. However, the major inputs may not be justified by the benefits to be obtained by using the land for broadacre cropping.

It was also found that the soil is Land Suitability Class 3 for beef cattle grazing. This means that the soil is moderately suitable and requires significant inputs to ensure sustainable use. It should be noted, however, that low intensity grazing is the current land use for this area and there are no obvious signs that it is unsustainable. The classifications determined from visual and laboratory assessment of the soils may under-rate the Project area for beef cattle grazing.

The sustainable use of the study area for beef cattle grazing is largely dependent on appropriate stocking rates being employed. These stocking rates need to take into account seasonal and annual variations in rainfall, availability and appropriate management of water resources, the availability of land of similar quality in the immediate vicinity, and implementation of appropriate management practices.

Using the information obtained on land suitability and topsoil characteristics, the report makes a number of recommendations on topsoil stripping and storage requirements. The report also provides recommendations on how to maximise the potential of the soil during rehabilitation of disturbed areas.

2.8 TERRESTRIAL FLORA AND FAUNA

To assess the environmental values of terrestrial flora and fauna communities on the Project site, AARC undertook the following scope of works:

- A literature and database review to identify species of conservation significance known from the region. This enabled those species to be targeted during the field survey component of the study;
- Wet and dry season field surveys employing standard methodologies to determine the composition of flora and fauna species inhabiting the Project site, particularly species of conservation significance; and
- The preparation of a report describing significant ecological features and outlining possible management strategies to reduce any foreseeable impacts associated with the proposed activities.

The first flora and fauna survey as part of this assessment was undertaken between 26 April and 5 May 2006 inclusive. This initial survey was undertaken during the wake of Cyclone Larry during wet and humid conditions and therefore constitutes a wet season survey. A subsequent site visit was undertaken in the dry season between 7 and 11 August 2006 to assess dry season ecological habitats and collect additional data. Fauna survey techniques employed during the second survey were similar to those used in the first survey, however, no trapping or ANABAT echolocation detection was undertaken. Additional information was collected during a further site visit in February 2007.

Site scoping of the Project site was conducted using aerial photography and site inspection on the first day of the surveys. Transects were located in areas representative of Regional Ecosystems and habitats. In addition, habitats potentially inhabited by species of conservation significance were targeted. Site scoping also allowed for the identification of boundaries of Regional Ecosystems, so that 1:25,000 mapping of the Regional Ecosystems could be produced.

In order to map vegetation communities, Quaternary plots were used along the boundaries of vegetation communities or to confirm the extent of the community. The quality of communities was assessed with regard to their likely value and viability as a representative vegetation type. Detailed species surveys were also undertaken.

Five fauna survey transects were established on and around the Project site during the surveys. Survey methods for fauna included pitfall trapping, Elliot trapping, bat call recording, habitat searching, bird census and spotlighting. Fauna records obtained from the monitoring transects were combined with incidental records from other areas to produce a fauna species list for the Project site and local area.

Survey results are summarised in Sections 2.7.1 and 2.7.2.

2.8.1 Fauna

- A total of 65 vertebrate fauna species have been identified on or around the Project site, comprising four amphibians, seven reptiles, 17 mammals and 37 birds. Four introduced species were identified, including the European Rabbit and Feral Pig which are listed as Class 2 pest under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route management) Act 2002* (LP Act);
- No amphibians of conservation significance were observed during the surveys, and none have been previously recorded within the region;
- A total of seven reptiles were observed on the Project site or in the local area over the course of the surveys. One species of conservation significance, *Ctenotus zebrilla* (a skink), was recorded in woodland over 8 km to the west of the Project site. This species is classified as Rare (*Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NCA 1992)) and is not listed under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Habitat for this species does not occur on the Project site, therefore the potential impact to this species is low;
- Thirty-seven bird species were observed in the local area over the course of the surveys. All species except for the Black-necked Stork (*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*) are considered common throughout the region. This species is listed as Rare under the NCA 1992 but is not listed under the EPBC Act. The individual was observed on the bank of the Einasleigh River near the Project site;
- Seventeen mammal species were recorded in the local area or on the Project site, comprising 14 native and 3 introduced species. Ten of the 14 native species are micro-chiropteran bats detected using an ANABAT II bat detector. Table 3 lists the species detected, their roost habitat and the sites at which they were detected. None of the species are listed as being of conservation

significance under State or Commonwealth legislation and no species of conservation significance are known from the region;

- The ANABAT II detector was set adjacent to the old Einasleigh mine shaft, but it is not assumed that the species detected at this location roost in the shaft. There were no observations of bats exiting the shaft at dusk and at least one cave exists in the adjacent Copperfield Gorge.
- No mammals of conservation significance were observed on the Project site during the survey period, and only one species, the Mareeba Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale mareeba*) has been previously recorded within the broader geographical region. This species is unlikely to occur on the Project site because its range is north of Mt Garnet.

Table 3: Bat species identified at the Project Site

Species	Roost Habitat	EN	KB T1	KB T2	KB T3
Chaerephon jobensis Northern freetail bat	Generally roost in tree hollows but may roost in caves	X	X	X	X
Mormopterus beccarii Beccari's freetail bat	Generally roost in tree hollows but roosts in caves in New Guinea	X	X		
Saccolaimus flaviventris Yellow-bellied sheathtail bat	Generally Tree hollows	X	X	X	
Taphozous troughtoni Troughton's sheathtail bat	Cave dwellers	X			
Chalinolobus gouldii Gould's wattled bat	Generally tree hollows	X			
Chalinolobus nigrogriseus Hoary wattled bat	Generally tree hollows	X	X	X	
Miniopterus australis Llittle bentwing bat	Cave dwellers	X	X	X	
Miniopterus schreibersii Common bentiwing bat	Cave dwellers	X	X	X	
Scoteanax rueppellii Greater broadnosed bat	Generally tree hollows	X	X	X	
Scotorepens sanborni Northern broadnosed bat	Generally tree hollows	X	X	X	

2.8.2 Flora

No flora species listed as being of State or National conservation significance were identified on the Project site, despite targeted surveys being undertaken in all habitat types.

One plant species declared under the LP Act was recorded during the survey. This species, *Prosopis pallida* (*P. pallida*) is listed as a Class 2 pest plant. Class 2 plants are those that are established in Queensland and have or could have an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Landowners and land managers are expected to take reasonable steps to keep land free from Class 2 pests.

Three vegetation communities were identified on the Project site during the AARC field survey. Two of these communities are classed as remnant vegetation. Associations within the communities reflect different vegetation structures and compositions, which occur on different geophysical locations.

The three vegetation communities are listed below and their distribution on the Project site is shown on Figure 10:

1. Community 1 – Reid River Box Woodland;
2. Community 2 – River Red Gum Riparian Woodland; and
3. Community 3 – Grassland (non-remnant).

The corresponding Regional Ecosystem classification for each remnant community, along with their conservation status is detailed in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Summary of the Conservation Significance of Regional Ecosystems

Vegetation Community	Regional ecosystem equivalents	VMA (1999) status	EPA Biodiversity status	EPBC status
Reid River Box Woodland	9.3.5	Not of Concern	Of Concern	Not Listed
River Red Gum Riparian Woodland	9.3.1	Not of Concern	Of Concern	Not listed

The two Regional Ecosystems found on the Project sites (9.3.5 – Reid River Box Woodland; and 9.3.1 - River Red Gum Riparian Woodland) are listed as being 'Of Concern' under the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency Biodiversity Status. If MLA 30214 is used as the haulage route for the Project, a small area of the Reid River Box Woodland need to be cleared. None of the River Red Gum Riparian Woodland is proposed for clearing as part of the Project.

2.9 VIBRATION

Blasting will be required for the mine development and mining of underground ore, with the frequency of blasting dependent on operational requirements. Blasting will be designed to meet all relevant standards and guidelines in relation to noise and vibration, and will be programmed so as to minimise disturbance to the local community.

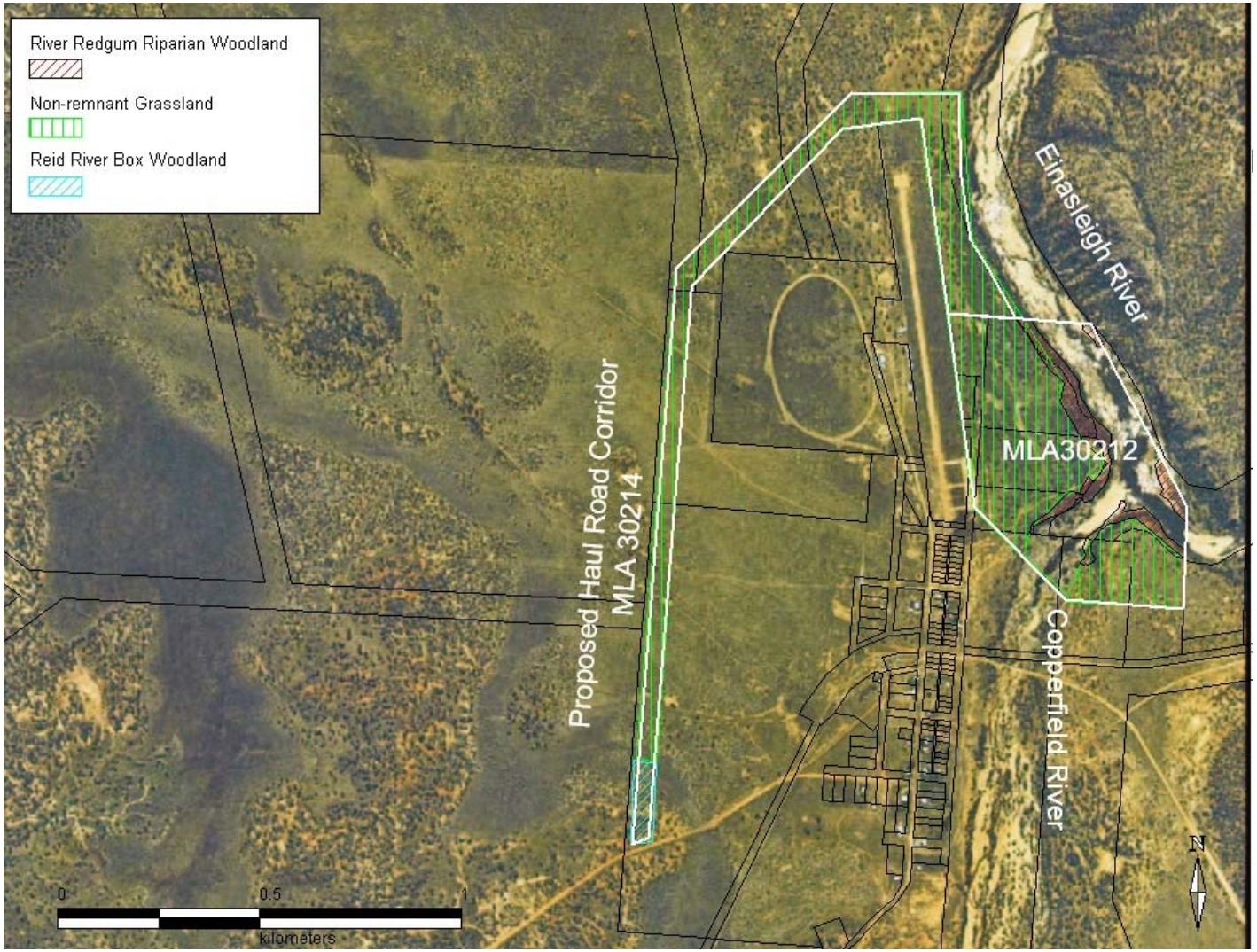

Figure 10: Distribution of Vegetation Communities on the Project Site

2.10 NOISE

Background noise loggers were deployed at four locations from 27 April to 2 May 2006. The purpose of collecting background noise data was to obtain noise levels representative of the region under typical circumstances. This information will be one of a number of criteria considered when assessing whether future Project related noise is acceptable.

Background noise levels are presented in Table 5. Figure 11 shows the location of noise loggers used to collect the data. N001 is located in a woodland area west of Einasleigh, N002 and N003 are located at representative noise sensitive locations in the Einasleigh Township and N004 is located at a rural homestead approximately 10km west of Einasleigh.

All data was collected in accordance with the Noise Measurement Manual (QEPA, Third Edition 1 March 2000).

Table 5: Background Noise Levels for the Einasleigh Region

	$L_{A90,LT}$			$L_{A10,LT}$			$L_{max,LT}$		
	7:00 - 18:00	**18:00 - 22:00**	**22:00 - 7:00**	**7:00 - 18:00**	**18:00 - 22:00**	**22:00 - 7:00**	**7:00 - 18:00**	**18:00 - 22:00**	**22:00 - 7:00**
N001 (#418) – Keiser Bill gate	35.8	38.2	34.6	44.2	43.7	41.5	61.0	54.4	54.6
N002 (#433) - Einasleigh Caravan Park	34.8	42.2	36.5	44.9	47.3	42.2	59.4	53.9	50.6
N003 (#422) - Copper Strike Red Shed	30.5	44.5	36.6	40.1	54.3	43.5	61.7	59.6	52.8
N004 (#425) - Stockman Creek cattle property	30.1	42.8	36.0	38.8	49.5	40.6	62.6	56.6	50.2

$L_{A90,LT}$ = The A weighted sound pressure level that was equaled or exceeded for 90% of the measurement period.
$L_{A10,LT}$ = The A weighted sound pressure level that was equaled or exceeded for 10% of the measurement period.
$L_{max,LT}$ = The highest momentary sound pressure level from a single noise event.

2.11 AIR

The primary environmental air quality issue associated with the Project is dust. Therefore, dust deposition gauges have been installed at four locations to obtain dust levels representative of the region under typical circumstances prior to mining. These locations are the same as those chosen for the background noise loggers, which represent sensitive receivers and background sites. This information will be one of a number of criteria considered when assessing whether future Project related dust generation is acceptable.

The location of dust deposition gauges is shown on Figure 11.

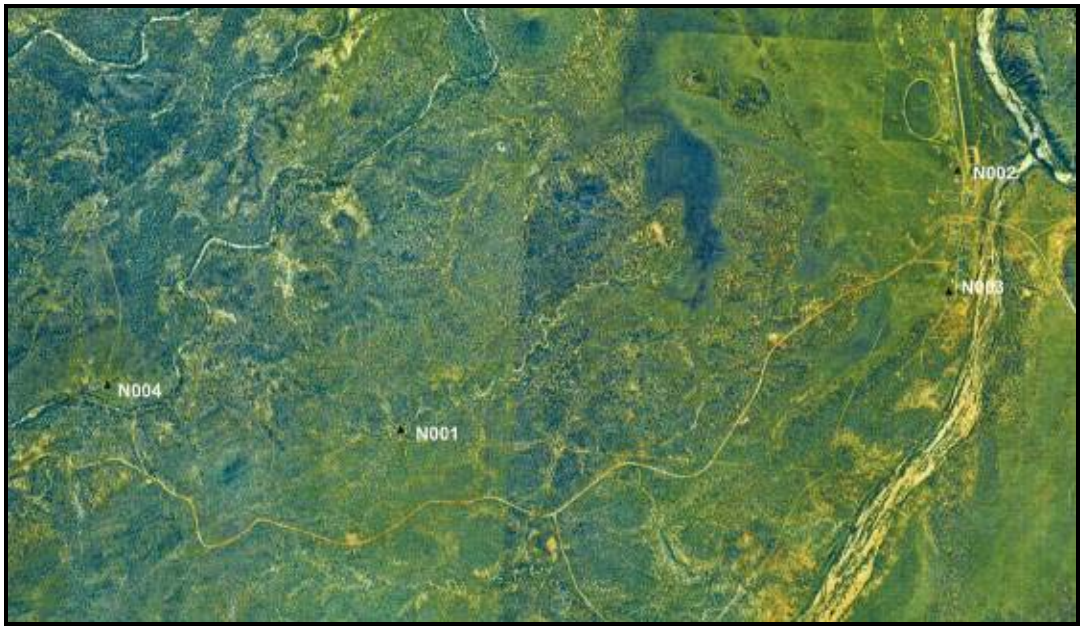

Figure 11: Location of Background Noise Loggers and Dust Deposition Gauges

2.12 CULTURAL HERITAGE

A European Cultural Heritage Assessment has been undertaken for the old Einasleigh Mine site. The Assessment was prepared by Gordon Grimwade and Associates, Heritage Consultants, Yungaburra, Queensland. The full report has previously been submitted to the QEPA.

An evaluation of impacts on European Cultural Heritage was required following nomination of the old Einasleigh Copper Mine and smelter site to the Queensland Heritage Register and the proposal to redevelop the Mine by Einasleigh Mining Pty Ltd.

The European Cultural Heritage Assessment specifically focused on the old Einasleigh Copper Mine located at approximately 18° 30.23'S and 144° 05.56'E, an area of some 4 ha. It is immediately west of the confluence of the Einasleigh and Copperfield Rivers and about 500 metres north of the Copperfield Gorge.

The study involved field visits by the Principal Researcher, Gordon Grimwade, from 25 to 27 April 2006 and 19 - 20 June 2006. Mr Grimwade undertook historical research with assistance from suitably qualified professionals. Historical research focused on a range of secondary and pictorial resources, including early twentieth century Geological Survey Reports.

Consultation undertaken as part of this assessment included community advisory meetings, an address by Mr T. Eadie, Copper Strike Managing Director, and discussion with the Etheridge Shire Council. The Project team, including the Heritage Consultant, also met with the owner of the study area. All parties consulted have indicated a desire to retain and interpret as much of the early fabric as possible.

The site, with which Mr Grimwade was already familiar, was systematically documented and GPS readings taken for all key elements. Due to lack of access it was not possible to undertake any underground inspections. Strategic planning discussions were undertaken with the senior development team leaders to develop a preliminary mine plan that would minimise impact on heritage elements.

The assessment found that the old Einasleigh Copper Mine site is a place of State Cultural Heritage that is significant for its historical and scientific significance and which satisfies one or more of the criteria specified in s.34 of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992.* In particular it satisfies criteria *a, b, c, d, g,* and *h.* It has historical importance, contains uncommon features, has the potential to yield technical and historical information, demonstrates the principal characteristics of copper processing, and has associations with several key figures in Queensland's exploration, mining industry and administration.

The European Cultural Heritage Assessment Report concluded that the proposed impacts on the heritage elements of the area would be minimal and primarily associated with the final exploration phases, and subsequently for ventilation, maintenance and emergency access during the mining operations.

The area nominated by the Etheridge Shire, with the support and input from Einasleigh Mining Pty Ltd, has now been placed on the Queensland Heritage Register. There would appear to be no reason to suggest that modern mining and the heritage listing could not co-exist to mutual advantage.

An Indigenous Cultural Heritage Assessment will also be undertaken for the Project Site in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*.

2.13 NATIVE TITLE

The Ewamian People have lodged Native Title claims (Q6018/01 and QG6009/99) over the Crown Land on the Project site, which includes MLA 30214. Native Title is extinguished on the Freehold Land within MLA 30212.

Copper Strike and the Ewamian People have an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) covering EPC 12934 and EPC 13072, which includes the relevant parts of the Project site.

The original ILUA was between the Ewamian People and Teck Cominco Australia Pty Ltd then known as Teck Australia Minerals Pty. Ltd. (ACN 091 271 911) is dated 11 March 2002 with the Deed of Assumption between Copper Strike Limited (ABN 16 108 398 938) and the Ewamian People dated 24 September 2004.

The Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation representatives inspected and reported on the Einasleigh Project site on 12 May 2005 for proposed exploration drilling.

The ILUA details the procedure required for the conversion of the EPM to one or more Mining Leases that is collectively referred to as the "Change of Scope Process". Copper Strike has verbally indicated to the North Queensland Land Council (NQLC) representative that the company intends to initiate the Change of Scope Process after a general or preliminary project discussion occurs with the Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation.

3.0 PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The following Sections 3.1 to 3.12 describe the mining, processing and rehabilitation activities that are proposed for the Project.

3.1 ENVIRONMENTALLY RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

Table 6 describes the activities proposed to be conducted on the Project site, which would otherwise be Environmentally Relevant Activities (ERAs) as per Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 1998*, if the Project were not a mining project.

The process of mining mineral ore (Mining Activities) is not covered by an ERA in Schedule 1 of the Regulation; it is covered separately by Schedule 6, Part 2 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 1998.*

Table 6: ERAs Associated with the Project

Item (ERA Schedule No.)	Level of Activity	Level	License Fee ($)
ERA 7(b) Chemical Storage	>1000 m^3 or more	1	1,740
ERA 11(a) Crude Oil or Petroleum Product Storing	<500,000 L	2	-
ERA 17 Fuel Burning*	Using fuel burning equipment capable of burning more than 500kg or more of fuel an hour.	1	3,000
ERA 42 (a) Mineral Processing	Concentrating of mineral ores to produce mineral concentrates in works having a design capacity to produce 1,000 > 100,000 tpa of concentrate.		3,140

***** Only applicable if diesel is used as the energy source.

3.2 EXPLORATION

Exploration and drilling activities will continue to be undertaken on the Project site to determine or prove further ore resources. Diamond drilling exploration will probably be undertaken from the existing underground openings. Where surface drill locations are required the drill pads will be suitably located and, where possible, existing roads and pads will be used.

3.3 LAND DISTURBANCE AND TOPSOIL STRIPPING

Figure 12 shows the location of Surface Area Numbers 1 and 2, which represent the areas in which all Project disturbances on MLA 30212 will be contained. The Surface Areas have been submitted with the MLA to the DNR&W to demonstrate that no disturbance below the upper banks of the Copperfield and Einasleigh Rivers will occur.

Some of the land within the nominated Surface Areas constitutes a Registered Heritage Place on the Queensland Heritage Register (refer to Section 2.12). Activities within the Heritage Place will be managed in accordance with the current or any future Cultural Heritage Management Plans prepared for the site.

Prior to the development of any infrastructure, vegetation and topsoil will be removed from the footprint area and stockpiled. Smaller vegetation and grasses will be removed with the topsoil and stockpiled in windrows no higher than two meters. Where necessary, stockpiles will be seeded to encourage water infiltration, microbial activity and prevent erosion. Topsoil will be respread on surfaces to be rehabilitated as soon as possible to benefit from the viability of the topsoil seed bank.

The approximate amount of land disturbance required for infrastructure on the Project site is shown in Table 7. All land disturbances will be within the nominated surface areas as shown on Figure 12.

Table 7: Estimated Land Disturbance Required on the Project Site

Disturbance Type	Area (ha)
Underground portal or shaft access	0.1
Tailings Dam	4
Topsoil storage	0.5
Roads/Tracks (if MLA 30214 used as haul route)	5
ROM Pad, Process Plant, Mine Workshop and associated buildings	1
Waste rock dump	2
Water storages	1
Exploration	0.1
Total (MLA 30212)	**8.7**
Total (MLA 30214)	**5.0**

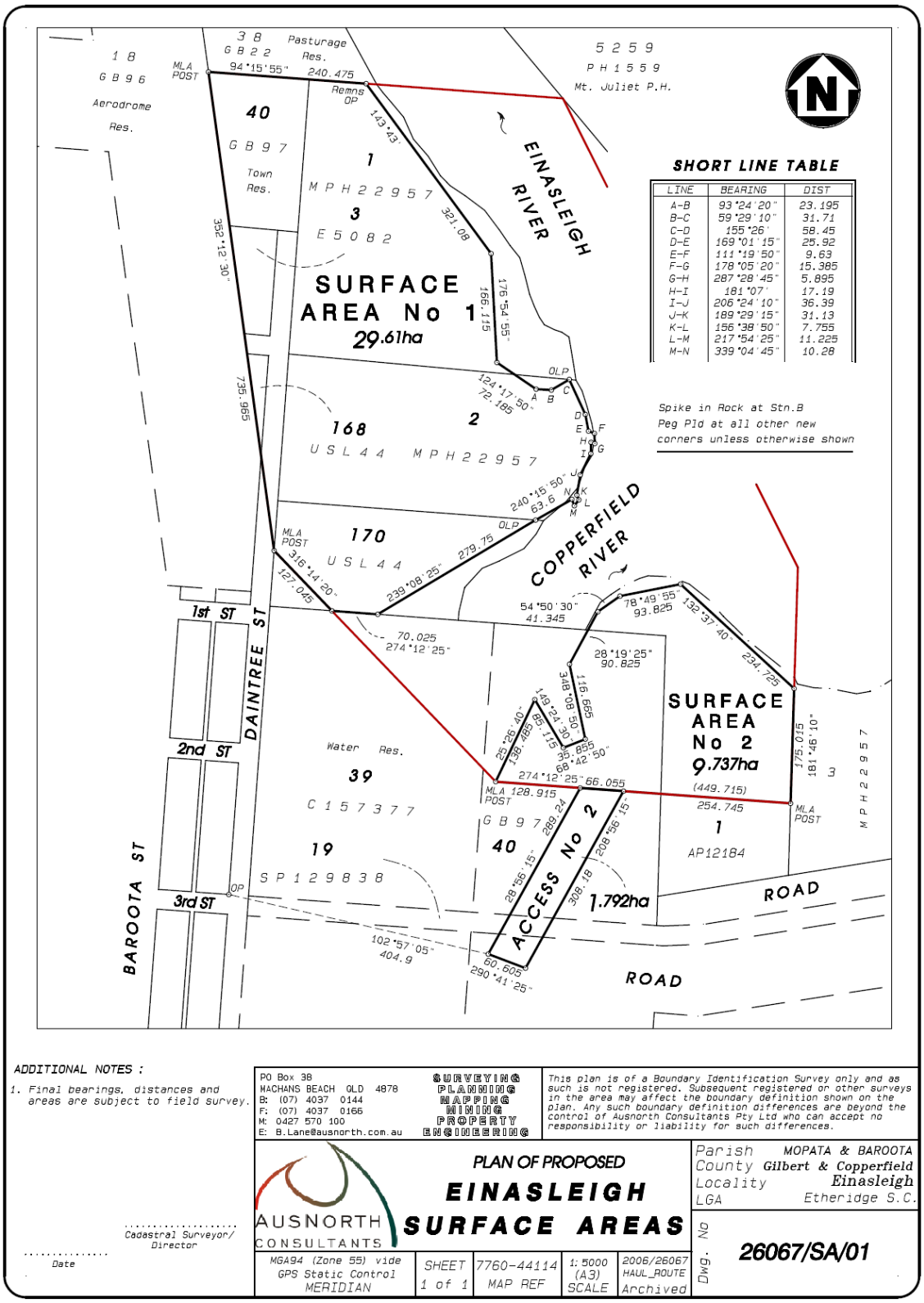

Figure 12: Boundaries of Disturbance within MLA 30212

3.4 MINING & HAULAGE OF THE DEPOSITS

The Einasleigh deposit on MLA 30212 is located 150 - 250 meters beneath the junction of the Einasleigh and Copperfield Rivers. The upper section of the deposit was originally mined using underground mining methods between 1867 and 1921 and again in the 1970's. The Indicated and Inferred Resource remaining in the Einasleigh deposit at a 1.0% Cu cut-off grade is 825,000 tonnes at 3.0% Cu, 0.17 g/t Au, 14 g/t Ag. Mine planning has identified approximately 360,000 tonnes within practical stoping boundaries at a grade of 4% Cu.

The ore will be mined using underground mining methods and accessed either via an incline access ramp from the surface, or using a hoist via the existing and/or a new shaft.

Mining studies have considered several mining rates and grade options. The mining rates vary between 50,000 and 150,000 tpa with head grade varying from approximately 3 to 4.5%. With the incline ramp option the old mine shaft will be converted to an exhaust ventilation shaft and equipped with a ladder to the surface as part of the secondary egress route.

Waste rock from the development of the underground portal will be used to construct internal roads and the haul road on MLA 30214, if this option is selected. Other waste rock created from the underground mine will be used for stope backfill.

With the shaft access and hoisting option, initial mine development would utilise the old mine shaft until a second mine shaft is established. Stope design will utilise both engineered cable dowel support and stope backfill to ensure long term stability. Mining studies for both options have assumed that the operation would occur 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Under all options considered, the ore will either be processed on MLA 30212 in a small purpose built processing plant, or trucked off-site for processing at a processing plant on an approved Mining Lease.

If processed off-site at a location to the west of Einasleigh, the route would be via MLA 30214. If trucked to a site in any other direction, the trucking route will be either through the Einasleigh township along Daintree St and across the Copperfield River, or via Access Route 2 as shown on Figure 12.

3.5 PROCESSING ACTIVITIES

Ore will either be processed on MLA 30212 in a small, purpose built processing plant or trucked off-site for processing at a processing plant on an approved Mining Lease.

The small processing plant on MLA 30212 would be approximately the same size as a concrete batching plant. The processing method is based on a conventional crush, grind, flotation and dewatering of concentrate circuit to produce approximately 10,000 tpa of copper concentrate, depending on the mining rate. Copper concentrate will be stored in a covered stockpile facility prior to removal from site by road trains.

Fines reject from the copper concentrating process will be pumped to a Tailings Dam for disposal (see Section 3.7). Scats (hard rejects) from the milling process will be either co-disposed in the Tailings Dam or returned to underground as backfill for the stope voids.

Water for the processing operations would be supplied from dewatering the underground mine and stored in dams on MLA 30212.

3.6 WASTE ROCK

Based on initial mine planning, the ramp option would produce approximately 100,000 to 150,000 tonnes of waste rock, while the shaft option will produce considerably less.

Where possible, non-acid forming waste will be crushed and used for site road construction and maintenance purposes. The remaining waste rock will be stored in a waste rock dump on ML 30212. The approximate area required for the disposal and storage of waste rock is up to two ha.

While the waste rock dump is being constructed, a bund wall will be in place around the toe of the dump to contain water runoff and sediments generated during storm events. These will be constructed to prevent sedimentation of surrounding areas.

The waste rock dump will be progressively rehabilitated as areas become available. Any waste material that is identified to be acid forming will be encapsulated within the waste dump to minimise oxidation and prevent seepage.

3.6.1 Waste Rock Characterisation

Waste rock samples will be collected to determine whether any of the waste is potentially acid forming. Waste rock samples representing the different waste rock types to be encountered will be analysed for the following parameters to determine their acid producing potential:

- pH(OX);
- Net Acid Generation (NAG) Capacity (kg H_2SO_4/tonne);
- % Total Sulphur;
- Acid Neutralising Capacity (ANC) (kg H_2SO_4/tonne);
- Net Acid Producing Potential (NAPP) (kg H_2SO_4/tonne); and
- Fizz Rating.

The design for waste rock handling and placement will be dependent on the results obtained from laboratory testing.

3.7 TAILINGS DAM

If off-site processing is chosen, the Tailings Dam at the approved facility will be utilised.

If processing occurs on MLA 30212, a Tailings Dam will be constructed on MLA 30212 covering approximately four ha.

The design of the tailings dam will accommodate the identified environmental impacts and will conform to relevant guidelines for Hazardous Dams. Upon cessation of mining, the tailings will be capped and rehabilitated to the pre-mining land use of low intensity grazing.

3.8 WATER REQUIREMENTS

Should off-site ore processing be selected there will surplus water from mine dewatering. If the water is of an appropriate quality for agriculture it will be stored in temporary storage dams and made available to local landowners for agricultural purposes. Some of the water will also be used for dust suppression and vehicle wash-down purposes.

If ore processing is undertaken on MLA 30212, the process water will be sourced from dewatering of the underground mine and water recycled from the tailings dam. The water supply needs for mining activities can only be determined after the mining and metallurgical studies have been finalised. Preliminary estimates are that approximately 1 Megalitre would be required to treat each ton of ore.

Potable water supply for workers will utilise current water supply facilities in Einasleigh.

3.9 POWER SUPPLY

Power will be required for underground mining activities and mineral processing, with the final demand being dependent on the activities undertaken at the site. The approximate peak running demand is not expected to exceed two Megawatts per year.

Energy supply options are currently being assessed, with the preferred option being the purchase of energy from the local energy supplier (Ergon Energy) utilising the electricity grid that supplies Einasleigh. An alternative would be to install a diesel powered generating plant located adjacent to the processing plant.

3.10 STAFFING AND ACCOMMODATION

The approximate number of staff is estimated to be between 25 and 30. As with similar operations in Queensland it is expected that operating and technical staff will be sourced from local residents, Townsville and other regional centres using a fly-in/fly-out roster.

A range of options exist to accommodate staff and these will be discussed with the Einasleigh community and Etheridge Shire Council as part of the EIS process.

3.11 GENERAL INFRASTRUCTURE

General infrastructure required on the Project site that has not been discussed previously in this document will include small fuel and chemical storage facilities and parking areas for small machinery.

3.12 REHABILITATION

3.12.1 Exploration

Exploration disturbances will be rehabilitated as per the following steps:

- Capping the drill hole;
- A drying out period to allow water to evaporate from the drilling muds in the sumps;
- Backfilling of drilling sumps;
- Scarifying the surface; and
- Should natural regeneration not be successful after the first year, seed from pasture species will be sown before the following wet season to enhance revegetation.

3.12.2 Waste Rock Dump

The final waste dump rehabilitation design will be detailed in the EIS and EM Plan for the Project. The conceptual planning has assumed that the wall of the waste rock dump will be between the angle of repose and 20 degrees depending on the competency of the rock material. Berms will be constructed on the outer faces and graded to slope back towards the dump to act as a water control structure for any stormwater flowing off the wall. Any acid forming waste rock will be encapsulated by clay or non-acid forming waste.

The slopes and top of the waste rock dumps will be topsoiled where possible and deep ripped to bind in the topsoil to the subsoil or waste. Revegetation will use species suitable for the final land use.

3.12.3 Tailings Dam

The Tailings Dam will be capped, topsoiled and revegetated in accordance with Section 3.12.7.

3.12.4 Shaft or Portal

The mine shaft/s or underground portal will be rehabilitated and made safe so as to prevent access by stock, native animals and people as described in *Technical Guidelines for the Environmental Management of Exploration and Mining in Queensland*.

3.12.5 Plant and Infrastructure

All process plants and associated buildings and equipment will be dismantled and removed upon the cessation of mining operations or on agreement, left for the land holder.

3.12.6 Access Roads

Access roads required by the landowner remain upon written agreement with the land owner. Roads that can be rehabilitated will be deep ripped, topsoiled and seeded with species suitable for the intended land use.

3.12.7 Revegetation Methods

Compacted areas will be topsoiled, ripped to a depth of 500 mm and fertilised with a nitrogen and phosphate based fertiliser, if required. The area will be seeded with plant species suitable for the intended land use. Ripping the soil surface will slow down surface water flows and minimise the potential for erosion.

4.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

4.1 INTERESTED PERSONS

The following definition of interested persons has been taken from the QEPA *Guideline 12 – The EIS Process for Non-standard Mining Projects.*

"Interested persons are defined as persons nominated by the proponent that have an interest in the Project. Interested persons may include a local community progress association, a local/state/national environmental action group, and affected land users other than land holders, any person who might have a substantial interest in the project or its impact."

Interested persons for the Project may include, but not be limited to, the following groups as stated in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Interested Persons

Name of Interested Person or Organisation	Relationship to Project	Contact Details
Department of Natural Resources and Water – Mareeba Regional Office	Administers of leases and natural resource planning	PO Box 156 MAREEBA QLD 4880
Department of Main Roads Townsville District Office	Managers of the roads potentially used for project related transport	PO Box 1089 TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
Ergon Energy	Potential supplier of energy for the Project	PO BOX 308 ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700
Einasleigh Race Club	Racecourse is within 1km to the west of MLA 30212	Colleen Jones C/- Post Office EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Rural Fire Brigade Einasleigh	Providers of emergency services to the local community	Alan Start Einasleigh Hotel EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Einasleigh Caravan Park	Accommodation provider in Einasleigh	C/- Einasleigh Post Office EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Einasleigh Sports Club	Recreational group in Einasleigh	Tracey Furber 'Soda Creek Stn' EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Einasleigh Hotel	Entertainment and hospitality provider in Einasleigh	Alan Start Einasleigh Hotel EINASLEIGH QLD 4871

4.2 AFFECTED PERSONS

The definition of an affected person is provided in QEPA Guideline 12 – The EIS Process for Non-standard Mining Projects and is shown below:

A person is an "affected person" for a project (s38) if the person is:

(1) any of the following under the Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth) for the operational land or for an area that includes any of the land:

- *a) a registered native title body corporate;*
- *b) a registered native title claimant;*
- *c) a representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander body; or*

(2) a relevant local government for the operational land; or

(3) a person mentioned below for the operational land or any land joining it:

- *a) a registered proprietor - for freehold land;*
- *b) a person recorded in the register as the registered holder of the interest - for land that is held from the State for an estate or interest less than fee simple and for which the interest is recorded in a register mentioned in the Land Act 1994 (Land Act), section 276;*
- *c) a holder of, or an applicant for, the tenement - for land subject to a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease;*
- *d) a holder of the authority; or a lessee under the lease; or a licensee under the licence - for land subject to an authority to prospect or a lease or licence under the Petroleum Act 1923;*
- *e) a trustee of the land - for land under the Land Act or the Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NCA) for which there are trustees;*
- *f) a grantee of the land - for Aboriginal land under the Aboriginal Land Act 1991 (ALA) that is taken to be a reserve because of section 87(2) or 87(4)(b) of that Act;*
- *g) a trustee for the land - for DOGIT land under the ALA or the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991;*
- *h) a relevant local government - for land held under a lease under the Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978, section 6;*
- *i) a grantee of the land - for Torres Strait Islander land under the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 that is taken to be a reserve because of section 84(2) or 84(4)(b) of that Act;*
- *j) a trustee of the land - for land under a lease from the State under the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (Land Holding) Act 1985 that has been excised from land granted in trust for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander purposes under the Land Act;*
- *k) the State - for land that is any of the following:*
  - *unallocated State land;*
  - *a reserve under the Land Act for which there is no trustee;*

- *a national park, national park (Aboriginal land), national park (scientific), national park (Torres Strait Islander land), national park (recovery) or forest reserve under the NCA;*
- *a conservation park under the NCA for which there are no trustees;*
- *a State forest or timber reserve under the Forestry Act 1959;*
- *a State-controlled road under the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994;*
- *a fish habitat area under the Fisheries Act 1994.*
- *another person prescribed under a regulation to the EP Act.*

Affected Persons for the Project are shown in Table 9 below.

Table 9: Affected Persons

Name of Affected Person or Company	Relationship to Project	Contact Details
Ewamian People	Native Title Claimants over Project area.	Ewamian Aboriginal Corporation 9a Hort St MAREEBA QLD 4880
North Queensland Land Council	Aboriginal Representative group over the Project area.	61 Anderson Street (PO Box 679 N), CAIRNS QLD 4870
Etheridge Shire Council	Local Government in jurisdiction over the Project area; and land manager within MLA's 30212 ad 30214.	PO Box 12 GEORGETOWN QLD 4871 (07) 4062 1233
A. Clifford, and Leslie & Michael Mosch	Property owner of Lot 1 on MPH22957	"The Canyon" EINASLEIGH QLD 4871
Patricia Kiro	Property owner of Lot 2 on MPH22957	Whitewater Station MOUNT SURPRISE QLD 4871
Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water	Unallocated State Land on the Project site: Lot 3 on E5082; Lot 168 on USL44; Lot 170 on USL44; and Lot 1 on AP12184	GPO Box 2454 BRISBANE QLD 4001
Einasleigh Rodeo Association Inc	Leaseholder of Lot 1 PER 205688	C/- The Secretary Einasleigh Post Office EINASLEIGH QLD 4871

4.3 CONSULTATION PROCESS

Affected and interested persons will be included in the community consultation program for the Project and will be provided with a copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) Notice and EIS for public comment. The community consultation program will include meetings with affected and interested persons as required. All correspondence with interested and affected persons will be recorded in the Consultation Report as a part of the EIS.

The draft TOR will be released for public comment, and to interested and affected persons, and advisory bodies for at least 30 business days. Anyone can make comments on the draft TOR to the QEPA. At the end of the comment period, copies of all comments received by the QEPA will be given to the proponent. Einasleigh Mining will then prepare the following:

- A written summary of the comments;
- A response to the comments; and
- Proposed amendments to the TOR as a result of the comments received.

The above information must be provided by Einasleigh Mining to the QEPA within 20 business days of receiving copies of the documents. However, a longer period of time can be agreed between Einasleigh Mining and the QEPA. The QEPA will then prepare and publish the final TOR based on the responses from Einasleigh Mining within 20 business days.

Einasleigh Mining will then undertake the necessary assessments, research and consultations to prepare the EIS, in accordance with the TOR. The EIS will support an application for Project approvals, in particular an Environmental Authority (EA).

Einasleigh Mining will submit the completed EIS to the QEPA. The QEPA will then assess the EIS and decide whether or not it adequately addresses the published TOR. If it does, Einasleigh Mining must then publish an EIS Notice and give a copy of the EIS Notice to each affected and interested person. The submission period for public comment will be set by the QEPA and must be at least 20 business days. Copies of the EIS will be made available to all interested and affected persons and Advisory Bodies. The QEPA will accept all properly-made submissions received during the period. The QEPA will provide Einasleigh Mining with a copy of all the submissions received on the EIS. Einasleigh Mining must then prepare a response to the submissions and make any necessary amendments to the submitted EIS.

The QEPA will prepare and give an EIS Assessment Report to Einasleigh Mining. This Assessment Report will consider the final TOR, the submitted EIS, all properly made submissions, Einasleigh Mining responses to submissions and the standard criteria in preparing the EIS Assessment Report. The Assessment Report will, among other things, recommend any relevant conditions that will be necessary for the Project to proceed.

5.0 EIS TRIGGER CRITERIA

Table 10 details an assessment of the Project against the QEPA's EIS Trigger Criteria as set out in *Guideline 4 – Deciding the Level of Impact Assessment for the Mining Industry*. It can be seen from this assessment that the Project triggers the criteria for an EIS in relation to the proximity of underground mining to the Township of Einasleigh.

Table 10: EIS Trigger Criteria

EIS TRIGGER CRITERIA	TRIGGERED	COMMENTS
1. Significant Impact on Category A or B environmentally sensitive areas	No	Appropriate mine planning will ensure there is no significant impact on the old Einasleigh Copper Mine (Registered on the QLD Heritage Register).
2. Involve any mining in a marine area	No	The Project is located approximately 210 km from the coast.
3. Involve any mining less than 500 m landward from the highest astronomical tide	No	The Project is located approximately 210 km from the coast.
4. Require the construction of more than 150 new dwelling units	No	The number of employees for the Project is approximately 25 persons.
5. Include any activity that would otherwise be a Level 1 ERA with an annual fee greater than $4000	No	See Table 6.
6. Involve the mining of more than 2 million tonnes of mineral or run of mine ore per annum	No	The mining rate for the Project will be up to approximately 150,000 tonnes of run of mine ore per annum.
7. Involve the abstraction of more than 2 million m^3 of water per annum from natural surfaces and/or groundwater sources	No	
8. Result in more than 25 ha remaining post mining in a non-beneficial land capability where an acceptable alternative may be feasible	No	
9. Involve any non-standard mining activity less than 2 km from a town	Yes	
10. Contain a dam that requires a dam failure assessment under the *Water Act 2000*	No	Hazardous dams only.
11. Include mining for uranium or asbestos	No	

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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