



Ashton Coal Operations
Ravensworth Underground Mine
EPBC Approval 2022/09208
2025/2026 Annual Compliance
Report



DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCUMENT DETAILS	Title	RUMEx EPBC 2022/09208 Approval 2025/2026 Annual Compliance Report		
	Company	Ashton Coal Operations Pty Limited		
	Document Status	Final		
APPROVAL DATE	Revision	Revision Details	Prepared	Effective Date
N/A	1	Final	ACOL	23 Oct 2026

EPBC APPROVAL 2022/09208 – 2025/2026 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT	
Name of Operation/Project	Ashton Coal Operations Ravensworth Underground Mine
Approval Holder	Ashton Coal Operations Pty Limited
ACN of Approval Holder	078 556 500
Name of Holder of Development Consent	Nardell Coal Corporation Pty Ltd (Ashton Coal Operations Pty Limited operating under Development Consent)
Approved Action	To conduct underground longwall mining of coal seams at the Ravensworth Mine Complex, develop associated infrastructure and transfer coal, water and gas to the Ashton Coal Project, in Ravensworth, New South Wales (See EPBC Act referral 2022/09208).
Location of the Action	Singleton Local Government Area, NSW
Dates for the Reporting Period	24 September 2025 and 23 September 2026
Date of Preparation	23 October 2026
Environmental Risks	No new environmental risks identified
Declaration of accuracy In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.	
Signature	
Name of person accepting responsibility for the report	Phillip Brown
Position of person accepting responsibility for the report	Environment & Community Manager
Organisation	Ashton Coal Operations Pty Limited, ACN 078 556 500
Date	23 October 2026

In accordance with Condition 22 of EPBC Approval 2022/09208:

“The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each Annual Compliance Report period (ACR Period).”

The EPBC 2022/09208 approval decision (the Approval) was published on 24 September 2024. The following Annual Compliance Report addresses compliance with the conditions of EPBC Approval 2022/09208 between 24 September 2025 and 23 September 2026.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
Part A – Avoidance, mitigation and management conditions			
<i>Subsidence Impacts</i>			
1.	<i>The approval holder must comply with Conditions 1 to 3 of Schedule 3 of the NSW approval regarding subsidence performance measures and offsetting obligations, to the extent that they relate to protected matters.</i>	Compliant	ACOL confirms no non-compliances with the NSW approval conditions during the ACR period.
<i>Extraction Plan</i>			
2.	<i>The approval holder must not commence the Action, unless a version of the Extraction Plan required under Condition 6 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Approval, revised to incorporate the taking of the Action and prevent significant impacts to protected matters, has been approved by the NSW Planning Secretary. The revised Extraction Plan must include the following component plans, each also revised to incorporate the Action and prevent significant impacts to protected matters:</i> (a) <i>Subsidence Monitoring Program</i> (b) <i>Built Features Management Plan</i> (c) <i>Water Management Plan</i> (d) <i>Biodiversity Management Plan.</i>	Compliant	The Extraction Plan and component plans were approved by the NSW Government on 18 July 2025.
3.	<i>The revised Extraction Plan and each of the component plans must clearly specify what measures, triggers, limits, performance measures, criteria and other details are proposed in relation to the approved Action separately from the existing Ravensworth Mine Complex operation.</i>	Compliant	The Extraction Plan and each of the component plans clearly specify measures, triggers, limits, performance measures, criteria and other details proposed in relation to the approved Action.
4.	<i>The approval holder must, no later than the commencement of the Action, commence implementing the Extraction Plan, including the component plans referred to in condition 2, as approved by the NSW Planning Secretary and continue to implement the Extraction Plan and the specified component plans until the expiry date of this approval.</i>	Compliant	The Extraction Plan and component plans, as approved by the NSW Planning Secretary, have been implemented since the commencement of the Action.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
Water Management Plan			
5.	The approval holder must not commence the Action unless a version of the Water Management Plan required under Condition 23 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Approval revised to incorporate the Action and the prevention of significant impacts to protected matters , has been approved by the NSW Planning Secretary . The revised Water Management Plan must include a version of each of the following component plans, each also revised to incorporate the Action and the prevention of significant impacts to protected matters : (a) Site Water Balance (b) Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (c) Surface Water Management Plan (d) Groundwater Management Plan (e) Surface and Groundwater Response Plan.	Compliant	The Water Management Plan was approved by the NSW Government on 18 July 2025.
6.	The revised Water Management Plan and each of the component plans must clearly specify what measures, triggers, limits, criteria, performance measures, and other details are proposed in relation to the approved Action separately from the existing Ravensworth Mine Complex operation.	Compliant	The Water Management Plan and each of the component plans clearly specify measures, triggers, limits, criteria, performance measures, and other details proposed in relation to the approved Action.
7.	The approval holder must commence implementing the revised Water Management Plan and component plans referred to in condition 5, as approved by the NSW Planning Secretary no later than the commencement of the Action and must continue to implement these plans until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	The Water Management Plan and component plans, as approved by the NSW Planning Secretary, have been implemented since the commencement of the Action.
Rehabilitation			
8.	The approval holder must comply with Conditions 27 and 28 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Approval regarding rehabilitation of the Action area to the extent that they relate to protected matters .	Compliant	ACOL has complied with Conditions 27 and 28 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Approval. No disturbance or rehabilitation associated with the Action has been undertaken since the commencement of the Action.
Adaptive Management			
9.	The approval holder must comply with Schedule 4, Condition 1 of the NSW Approval relating to adaptive management, to the extent that it relates to protected matters .	Compliant	ACOL has complied with Schedule 4, Condition 1 of the NSW Approval.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
Part B – Administrative Conditions			
<i>Submission and Publication of Plans</i>			
10.	<i>Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date the plan is approved by the NSW Planning Secretary as required under a NSW Approval condition which must be complied with in accordance with these EPBC Act conditions.</i>	Compliant	ACOL advised previously that each plan was not published within 15 business days of the date that the plan was approved by the NSW Planning Secretary. The department was notified of this non-compliance in the 2024-2025 Compliance Report. ACOL has published all plans required by the approval conditions to the website.
11.	<i>The approval holder must keep all plans published on the website, in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, from the first date which that plan must be published and until the expiry date of this approval. This requirement applies to all current and superseded versions of plans relating to the Action.</i>	Compliant	ACOL will have all published plans required by the approval conditions available on the website until 1 October 2064.
12.	<i>The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive biodiversity data from any version of a plan before that plan is published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If sensitive biodiversity data is excluded or redacted from a plan, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.</i>	Compliant	No sensitive ecological data is published in the plans.
<i>Modifications to State or Territory Approval</i>			
13.	<i>The approval holder must notify the department in writing of any proposed change to the NSW Approval that may relate to protected matters within 2 business days of formally proposing such a change and within 5 business days of becoming aware of any proposed change.</i>	Compliant	No modification to the NSW Approval (Development Consent DA104/96) has been proposed during the ACR period.
14.	<i>The approval holder must notify the department in writing of any change to the NSW Approval conditions that may relate to protected matters, within 5 business days of such a change to conditions coming into effect. Such notification must include a copy of the changed NSW Approval conditions showing what changes have been made.</i>	Compliant	No modification to the NSW Approval (Development Consent DA104/96) has been made during the ACR period.
<i>Commencement of the Action</i>			
15.	<i>The approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of commencement of the Action, within 5 business days following commencement of the Action.</i>	Compliant	The Action was commenced on 17 November 2025. ACOL provided notification of the commencement of the Action to the department on 19 November 2025.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
16.	The approval holder must not commence the Action later than 5 years after the date of this approval decision.	Compliant	The Action was commenced within 5 years of the date of the NSW Approval (18 July 2025), as noted in response to Condition 15 above.
Compliance Records			
17.	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records and document the procedure for recording and storing compliance records .	Compliant	ACOL maintains accurate and complete compliance records.
18.	If the department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the department within the timeframe specified in the request. Note: Compliance records may be subject to audit by the department , or by an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act , and/or be used to verify compliance with the conditions. Summaries of the results of an audit may be published on the department's website or through the general media.	Not Applicable	Not triggered. The department has not made a request in writing for electronic copies of compliance records.
19.	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data , surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	Compliant	ACOL ensures that monitoring data, surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018</i> .
20.	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data , surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects, Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	Compliant	ACOL ensures that monitoring data, surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects, Commonwealth of Australia 2021</i> .
21.	The approval holder must submit all monitoring data , surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the department within 20 business days of the next anniversary of the date of this approval decision except where otherwise specified in a plan .	Compliant	ACOL has submitted all monitoring data, surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data to the department within 20 business days of the anniversary date of this approval.
Annual Compliance Reporting			
22.	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each Annual Compliance Report period (ACR period) .	Compliant	This Annual Compliance Report (i.e. this document) addresses this condition.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions	Status	ACOL Comment
23. The approval holder must ensure each compliance report includes: (a) accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with: i) each condition imposed under the NSW Approval, if a condition attached to this approval decision requires compliance with that NSW Approval condition, ii) each condition attached to this approval decision, and iii) all commitments made in each plan, (b) a schedule of all plans in effect in relation to these conditions during the ACR period, (c) accurate and complete details of how each plan was implemented during the ACR period, and (d) if any incident occurred, accurate and complete details of each incident.	Compliant	ACOL confirms no non-compliances with the NSW approval conditions during the ACR period. This Annual Compliance Report accurately represents the compliance status of each condition. ACOL ensures the following plans were in effect in relation to these conditions during the ACR period: (a) Extraction Plan (b) Subsidence Monitoring Program (c) Built Features Management Plan (d) Water Management Plan (e) Biodiversity Management Plan ACOL collects and reports on its monitoring data as part of Schedule 4, Condition 2 of NSW Development Application 104/96 as part of the Ashton Mining Complex Annual Review. The Annual Review addresses the implementation and commitments in each plan.
24. The approval holder must ensure each compliance report is completed to the satisfaction of the Minister and is consistent with the <i>Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2023</i>.	Compliant	The Annual Compliance Report (i.e. this document) follows the <i>Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2023</i>.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions	Status	ACOL Comment
25. The approval holder must, within 20 business days following the end of each ACR period, in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, publish on the website: (a) each compliance report, and (b) a shapefile showing all clearing of protected matters, and their habitat, undertaken within the ACR period.	Compliant	The 2025-26 Annual Compliance Report was published on the ACOL website within 20 business days following the end of the ACR period. ACOL notes that the 2024-25 Annual Compliance Report was not published on its website within 20 business days following the end of the ACR period. The department was notified of this non-compliance. No clearing associated with the Action has been undertaken during the ACR period.
26. The approval holder must: (a) Exclude or redact sensitive biodiversity data from each compliance report and shapefile published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. (b) If sensitive biodiversity data is excluded or redacted from a version of a compliance report published or otherwise provided to a member of the public, submit the full compliance report to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. (c) If sensitive biodiversity data is excluded or redacted from a version of a shapefile published or otherwise provided to a member of the public, submit the full shapefile to the department within 5 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public.	Compliant	No sensitive ecological data is published in the plans.
27. The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 5 business days of each date of publication that the compliance report has been published on the website. In this notification, the approval holder must provide the department with the web address for where the compliance report and related shapefile are published on the website.	Compliant	ACOL will notify the department within 5 business days of publication that the compliance report has been published on the website. ACOL notified the department of the publication of the 2024-25 Annual Compliance Report within 5 days of its publication.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
28.	The approval holder must keep each compliance report and related shapefile published on the website from the first date which that compliance report must be published and until the expiry date of this approval. Note: Compliance reports may be published on the department's website.	Compliant	Each compliance report and related shapefile will remain published on the website until the expiry date of this approval. ACOL will keep all compliance reports and related shapefiles published on the website.
Reporting Non-Compliance			
29.	The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any incident . The approval holder must specify in each notification: (a) any condition or commitment made in a plan which has not been, or may have not been, complied with, (b) a short description of the incident , and (c) the location (if applicable, including co-ordinates), date and time of the incident .	Compliant	There were no notifiable incidents during the ACR period. ACOL notes that the 2024-25 Annual Compliance Report was not published on the website within 20 business days following the end of the ACR period. The department was notified of this non-compliance.
30.	The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 12 business days of becoming aware of an incident , the details of that incident . The approval holder must specify: (a) all corrective measures and investigations which the approval holder has already taken in respect of the incident , (b) the potential impacts of the incident , (c) the method and timing of any corrective measures that the approval holder proposes to undertake to address the incident , and (d) any variation of these conditions or revision of a plan that will be to prevent recurrence of the incident and/or to address its consequences.	Compliant	There were no notifiable incidents during the ACR period. ACOL notes that the 2024-25 Annual Compliance Report was not published on the website within 20 business days following the end of the ACR period. The department was notified of this non-compliance.
Independent Audit			
31.	The approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions is conducted for every audit period .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
32.	The approval holder must submit details of the proposed independent auditor and their qualifications to the department within 10 business days following the end of each audit period .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
33.	The approval holder must ensure the scope of each independent audit is sufficient to determine the compliance status for each condition of approval, and each commitment made in each plan .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.

EPBC Approval 2022/09208 Conditions		Status	ACOL Comment
34.	The approval holder must ensure the criteria for each independent audit and the undertaking of each independent audit are consistent with the Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
35.	The approval holder must submit an audit report to the department for written agreement from the department within 3 months following the end of each audit period , or as otherwise directed by the Minister in writing.	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
36.	The approval holder must ensure each audit report is completed to the satisfaction of the Minister and is consistent with the Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
37.	The approval holder must publish each audit report on the website , in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, within 10 business days of the date the department agrees to that audit report in writing.	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
38.	The approval holder must notify the department within 5 business days of the date the audit report is published on the website . In this notification, the approval holder must provide the department with the web address for where the audit report is published on the website .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
39.	The approval holder must keep each audit report published on the website from the first date which that audit report must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It has not been three years since the commencement of the Action.
Completion of the Action			
40.	Within 20 business days after the completion of the Action , and, in any event, at least 20 business days before this approval expires, the approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of completion of the Action and provide completion data . The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises completion data as a shapefile .	Not Applicable	Not triggered. The Action has not yet been completed.
41.	The approval holder must notify the department electronically 60 business days prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire. Note: Section 145C of the EPBC Act entitles the approval holder to request an extension to the period of effect of this approval.	Not Applicable	Not triggered. It is more than 30 business days prior to the expiry date of the approval (1 October 2064).