

# Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

Final and Temporary Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments

2015 REPORT BY ASHTON COAL  
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**ASHTON COAL - Rehabilitation reporting principles 2015**

Principle	Reporting
<p><b>Principle 1 – Include rehabilitation planning in mine planning</b></p>	
<p>Planning for rehabilitation should be integrated into the mine planning process and should include allocating adequate and dedicated resources to achieve the planned rehabilitation outcomes.</p>	<p>There is no outstanding rehabilitation to complete at Ashton this reporting period. Rehabilitation monitoring is undertaken each year and maintenance activities planned and undertaken where required.</p>
<p><b>Principle 2 – Undertake progressive rehabilitation</b></p>	
<p>Companies should undertake rehabilitation progressively, with the objective of ensuring that rehabilitation is as close as possible to active mining</p>	<p>Progressive rehabilitation is undertaken at Ashton Coal. Since the cessation of open cut operations in October 2011, all available rehabilitation has been completed.</p>
<p><b>Principle 3 – Minimise time that disturbed areas are left without vegetation</b></p>	
<p>Companies should actively seek to minimise the time that land is left without cover during mining. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking steps to ensure that rehabilitation is commenced within 12 months of land becoming available for rehabilitation</li> <li>• Utilising methods of temporary rehabilitation, such as aerial seeding of over burden and other disturbed areas where permanent rehabilitation has not commenced.</li> </ul>	<p>Open Cut mining ceased in October 2011 and all available areas were rehabilitated by June 2012. All disturbed areas are now required for current operations and will be rehabilitated at mine closure.</p>
<p><b>Principle 4 – Prioritise areas of rehabilitation and temporary cover to reduce impacts</b></p>	
<p>Companies should prioritise rehabilitation and temporary cover in those areas where leaving land exposed will have the most impact. The following areas should be considered to have priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas that have the greatest impact on visual amenity, such as areas that face townships, residences, or the highway</li> <li>• Areas that have the potential to generate dust leaving the site</li> <li>• Areas that are important for biodiversity, such as rehabilitation adjoining or providing connectivity to remnant vegetation.</li> </ul>	<p>Underground mine subsidence occurs in areas that are important biodiversity areas. These areas are scheduled for remediation as soon as practicable after mining.</p>
<p><b>Principle 5 – Meet target for rehabilitation progress identified in the Mining Operations Plan</b></p>	

<p>Each company should meet the annual target for rehabilitation quantity (area) set in the Mining Operations Plans for each of its mines.</p>	<p>Ashton has met all targets outlined in its Mining Operation Plan during 2015.</p>
<p><b>Principle 6 – Set quality targets for rehabilitation in the Mining Operations Plan and implement a monitoring program to measure performance</b></p>	
<p>Each company should include quality targets for the various types of rehabilitation in the Mining Operations Plan for each of its mines. A monitoring program to measure the performance of rehabilitation areas against the quality targets should be implemented at each of its mines.</p>	<p>A rehabilitation monitoring program is established at Ashton Coal and is reported annually in the annual review.</p>