

11<sup>th</sup> April 2013

Ben Waining  
Geologist  
Industrial Minerals, Geothermal and Petroleum  
Mineral Resources Tasmania  
PO Box 56  
Rosny Park TAS 7018

Attn: Mr Ben Waining

Dear Ben

**Re: Response to request for information regarding EL17/2010 Annual Report**

Further to your email dated 5 April 2013 regarding Exploration License EL17/2010, please find attached supplementary information to be appended to the annual return for the year ending 8 November 2012.

For ease of reference attachments are as follows:

- Attachment A:** Memorandum – Merrywood Coal Assessment of Resource Potential - Coffey Mining 20 July 2011 (Ken Morrison) - *provides direction for EL17 exploration activities.*
- Attachment B:** Dexon Aerial Survey - conducted
- Flight Path with Exclusion Zones & Wedge Tail Eagle Nests
  - Area Map provided by Forestry Tasmania
  - Area Map provided by CBM, Sustainable Development
- Attachment C:** HRCM Resource Overview (EL16/EL17) – 3 May 2012 – AI Maynard & Associates

Importantly, as part of the MLA submission made to MRT in November 2012 – HRCM included resource reference material - ***Geology & Coal Resources of the Fingal Tier Coal mine Project October 2012.*** This report required the formation of a geological model and in creating this model RWA included all available geological information on EL17.

Further, should you require reference to any of the contractors engaged in work relating to EL17 please advise and would be happy to make the connection.

We trust that the references and attached information resolves any clarification required by MRT.

Thank you for your guidance in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Craig Astill  
Managing Director & CEO

HEAD OFFICE

Postal Address: PO Box 3051, Prahran East  
Victoria Australia 3181

Office Address: 533 Little Lonsdale St  
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3000

P: +61 3 9211 6028 F: +61 3 9211 6033

LAUNCESTON OFFICE

8 Broadland Drive, Launceston  
Tasmania Australia 7250

P: +61 3 6332 6940 F: +61 3 6331 8300

ONLINE

info@hardrockcoal.com  
www.hardrockcoal.com

**ATTACHMENT A**

Memorandum – Coffey Mining 20 July 2011.

**Coffey Mining** ABN 52 065 481 209  
2 Melville Street, Hobart TAS 7000 Australia  
T (+61) (3) 6108 0100 F (+61) (3) 6108 0199  
coffey.com

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## Memorandum

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**Date:** 20 July 2011  
**Company:** Hardrock Coal Pty Ltd  
**Attention:** Craig Astill  
**Copy:** Luke Marshall  
**From:** Ken Morrison (for Coffey Mining)  
**Subject:** **Merrywood Coalfield Assessment of Resource Potential**

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Merrywood coalfield is located on the north side of the St Pauls River valley, near the small township of Royal George, and some 55 km by road from Fingal. Merrywood is considered to be a southern extension of the Fingal coalfield. The area is currently held by Hardrock Investments within EL 17/2010.

Small scale underground and open cut mining of a single 4 metre seam of good quality coal interbedded with several mudstone bands has occurred intermittently from 1945 up until as recently as 1998. It is not clear whether the Merrywood seam correlates with any of the 8 seams identified in the Fingal coal measures stratigraphy but a tentative correlation has been made with C-seam (Bacon, 1991). Much of the historic production from Merrywood was sold as raw coal to the Cornwall Coal Company and successfully blended with their run of mine product through the washery at Fingal. It is estimated from the area of the mine footprint that approximately 0.5 million tonnes of raw coal have been mined in total. Bacon (1991) estimates an "insitu reserve" of approximately 0.5 million tonnes remaining. Approximately half that amount was mined between 1991 and 1998 in the pit operated by the Merrywood Coal Company (formerly Avoca Transport), mainly by pre stripping and scavenging remnant pillars from the earlier shallow underground mine. The site has been roughly rehabilitated and vegetated so that no exposure of the coal seam remains.

There are no remaining economically viable reserves in the abandoned mine. Several rounds of exploration drilling have been conducted in the country adjacent to the mine since the 1970s and

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**Coffey Mining** ABN 52 065 481 209  
2 Melville Street, Hobart TAS 7000 Australia  
T (+61) (3) 6108 0100 F (+61) (3) 6108 0199  
coffey.com

this report evaluates the drilling results to determine the potential for discovering a new resource by extending the coalfield beneath the dolerite cover.

## **2 RESOURCE PROSPECTIVITY**

Geological Survey mapping of the Snow Hill sheet at 1:50,000 scale clearly shows that the Permo-Triassic stratigraphy is well exposed south of the abandoned mine and that the coal measures rocks have been truncated and eroded by the topography sloping south into the St Pauls River valley (Figure 1-geology map with drill holes in Table 1, footprint of mine). Drilling by the Merrywood Coal Company inferred a faulted boundary at the southern edge of the mine workings supporting the interpretation that the abandoned mine is the southern limit of the coalfield.

Table 1 shows the drilling in the Merrywood area considered close enough to the mine to realistically be testing extensions of the Merrywood coal seam to the north, east and west of the mine.

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Good quality Merrywood seam intersections were achieved at the northern edge of the mine workings (AT6 and 78RG4) but approximately 1 km north of these holes DOM18 and MF1 prove that the coal measures have been eroded by dolerite intrusion so the maximum potential north of the mine is 1 km. To the northeast and east, the Merrywood seam was intersected along the eastern gully of Merrywood Creek (AT1, AT2, AT5), where it is shallow and weathered but shows continuity from the mine. Further to the southeast AT10 shows that the topography has truncated the seam due to the land surface sloping down towards the St Pauls River valley. It is possible that the seam is preserved under thick dolerite cover south of the river, in the White Rock Bluff to Mt Henry area, but this area is some 7 km south of Merrywood and so needs to be considered as a separate exploration target.

3.5 km to the west of Merrywood, 78RG3 intersected a 1.0 m seam of decent coal and later holes AT8 and AT9 attempted to pick up the seam at shallower depth and closer to the mine. Neither hole hit coal but they did not drill deep enough to represent a convincing test so theoretically there remains untested potential to the west. It should be noted that a substantial fault along the northwestern dolerite high wall of the mine caused repeated ground failure during both open cut mining and rehabilitation earthworks so the weight of anecdotal evidence suggests a low probability for successful exploration west of the mine.

### 3 CONCLUSIONS

A combination of surface mapping and several drilling campaigns effectively closes the Merrywood coalfield, in terms of sufficient potential tonnages to support a new mine, to the south, southwest, southeast and north. Insufficient drilling exists to the west and northwest to make a confident call but the evidence available is pessimistic.

The AT series of drilling shows that the Merrywood seam continues towards the northeast, under dolerite towards Dickies Ridges. This area is the best prospect for discovering an extension of the Merrywood seam by exploration drilling. Risk carried by expenditure on drilling this proposed target should be weighed against investing an equivalent budget on drilling the area immediately east of the Duncan mine lease, where the probability of success is demonstrably much higher.

For and on behalf of Coffey Mining Pty Ltd



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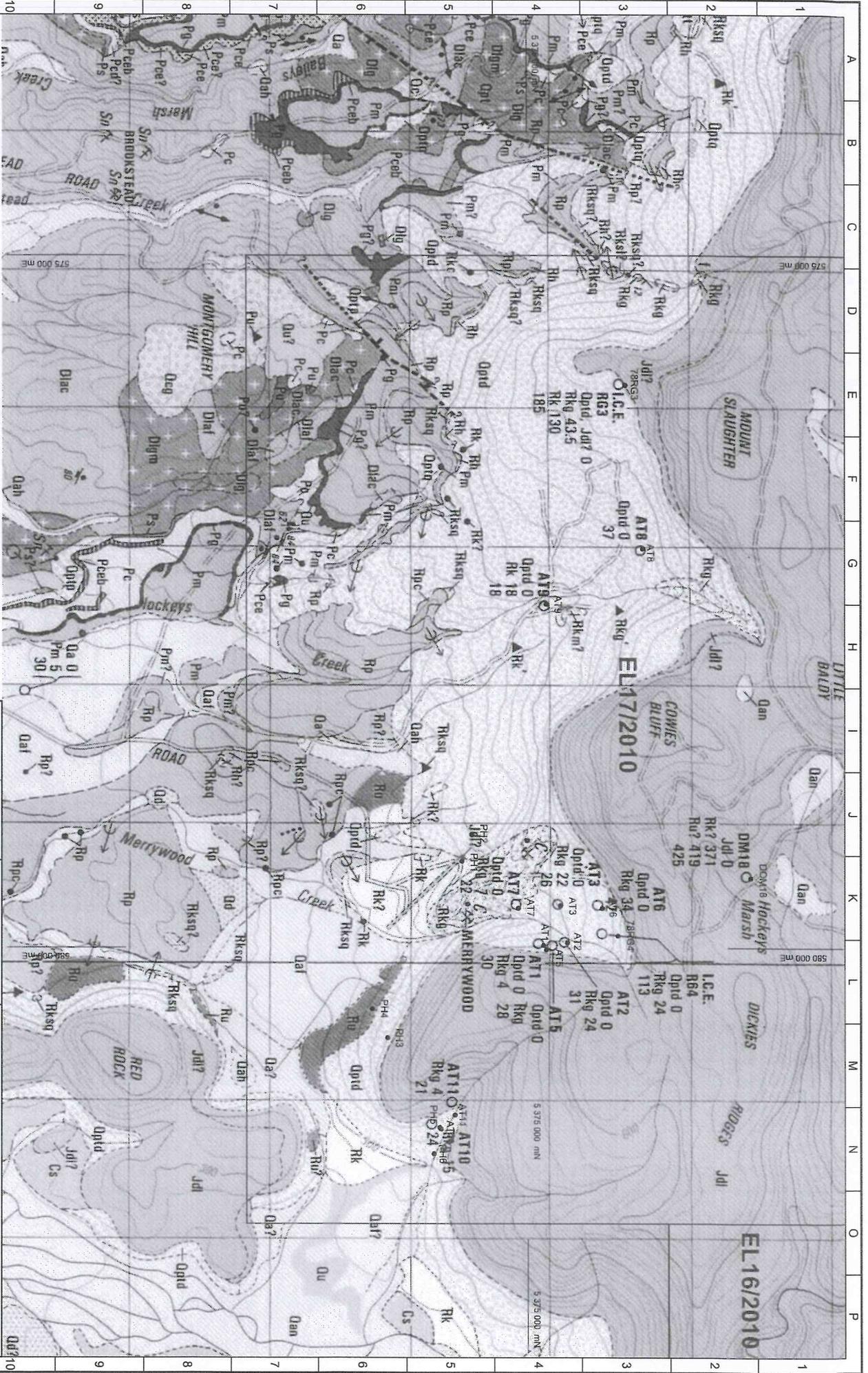
Ken Morrison (for Coffey Mining)  
Consultant Geologist

**Table 1 Merrywood Area Exploration Drilling Summary**  
 (\*AGD 1966 datum Scaled from AMG maps)

Hole ID	Year	Company	Eastings*	Northing*	EOH	Best Coal Intercept	Resource Potential Conclusions
DOM18	1974	Dept of Mines	579380	5376400	425m	No coal	Dolerite eroded coal measures to north
78RG3	1978	Investigator Coal	575820	5375520	184.5m	1.0m @ 27.2% ash from 66.8m	Thin good quality coal to west
78RG4	1978	Investigator Coal	579800	5375460	112.5m	Merrywood seam from 35.0m	Working section under dolerite talus to north
MF1	1984	Cornwall Coal	579000	5379000	255m	No coal	Dolerite eroded coal measures to north
AT1	1986	Avoca Transport	579870	5374930	29.6	Merrywood seam from 4.5m	Shallow weathered Merrywood seam to east
AT2	1986	Avoca Transport	579850	5375100	?	Merrywood seam from 23.5m	Shallow weathered Merrywood seam to east
AT3	1986	Avoca Transport	579580	5375050	?	Merrywood seam from 22.5m	Mined
AT4	1986	Avoca Transport	Not	Drilled			
AT5	1986	Avoca Transport	579900	5374950	27.7	Merrywood seam from 18.0m	Shallow weathered Merrywood seam to east
AT6	1986	Avoca Transport	579600	5375350	42.0	Merrywood seam from 34.0m	Working section under dolerite talus to north
AT7	1986	Avoca Transport	579600	5374750	22.0	Merrywood seam from 17.5m	Mined
AT8	1986	Avoca Transport	577000	5375640	37.0	No coal	Not drilled deep enough
AT9	1986	Avoca Transport	577400	5374950	17.5	No coal	Not drilled deep enough
AT10	1986	Avoca Transport	581200	5374200	24.0	No coal	Closes potential to east-southeast
AT11	1986	Avoca Transport	581100	5374300	21.3	Merrywood seam from 7.0m	Shallow weathered Merrywood seam to east
PH1	1992	Merrywood Coal	579260	5374350	51.0	No coal	Closes potential to south
PH2	1992	Merrywood Coal	579070	5374420	22.0	No coal	Closes potential to south
PH3	1992	Merrywood Coal	580540	5373820	29.6	No coal	Closes potential to east-southeast
PH4	1992	Merrywood Coal	580330	5373710	16.0	No coal	Closes potential to east-southeast
PH5	1992	Merrywood Coal	581190	5374190	40.0	No coal	Closes potential to east-southeast
PH6	1992	Merrywood Coal	581380	5374150	50.0	No coal	Closes potential to east-southeast

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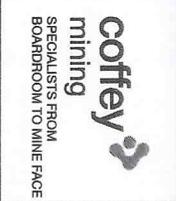
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PH1 DIAMOND DRILL HOLE

GEOLOGY BASE MAP MINERAL RESOURCES TASMANIA, SNOW HILL SHEET

Drawn:	RAJ
Approved:	
Date:	20 JULY 2011
Scale:	1:25000
Original size:	A3



Client:	HARDROCK COAL PTY LTD
Project:	FINGAL COAL PROJECT MERRYWOOD PROSPECT
Title:	GEOLOGY AND LOCATION PLAN
Project no.:	MINEHOBAD0347AA
Fig no.:	1
Rev.:	0

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P  
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## Important information about your **Coffey Mining Report**

These notes have been prepared by Coffey Mining to help you interpret and understand the limitations of your report. They are additional to any limitations noted within the report.

### **Your report is based on project specific criteria**

Your report has been developed on the basis of Coffey Mining's understanding of your unique, project-specific requirements, and applies only to the project investigated. Project criteria typically include the general nature of the project; its size and configuration; geology and rock mass conditions; the location of any infrastructure on the site; other site improvements; the presence of underground utilities; and the additional risk imposed by scope-of-service limitations imposed by the client. If there are any changes to the project subsequent to the date of the report, the report should not be used without first asking Coffey Mining to assess how the changes affect the report's recommendations. Coffey Mining cannot accept responsibility for problems that may occur due to changed factors if they are not consulted.

### **Conditions can change**

Subsurface conditions are created by natural processes and the activity of man. For example, water levels can vary with time or rock mass conditions may change as a result of mining or other activity in the area. Because a report is based on conditions which existed at the time of the study, decisions should not be based on a report that may have been rendered inadequate by the passage of time. Consult Coffey Mining to be advised how time may have impacted on the project.

### **Interpretation of factual data**

Rock mass assessment identifies actual subsurface conditions only at those points where samples are taken and only at the time of sampling. Data derived from literature and external data source reviews, sampling and subsequent laboratory testing are interpreted by geologists, engineers or scientists to provide an opinion about overall rock mass conditions, their likely impact on proposed developments and recommended actions. Actual conditions may differ from those inferred to exist,

because no professional, no matter how qualified, can reveal what is hidden by earth, rock and time. Nothing can be done to change the actual rock mass conditions which exist, but steps can be taken to reduce the impact of unexpected conditions. For this reason, owners should retain the services of Coffey Mining throughout development stages, to identify variances, conduct additional testing if required, and recommend solutions to problems encountered on site.

### **Your report will only give preliminary recommendations for proposed developments**

Your report is based on the assumption that the rock mass conditions as revealed through selective point sampling are indicative of actual conditions throughout an area. For proposed developments this assumption cannot be substantiated until project implementation has commenced and therefore your report recommendations can only be regarded as preliminary. Only Coffey Mining is fully familiar with the background information needed to assess whether or not the report's recommendations are valid and whether or not changes should be considered as the project develops. If another party undertakes the implementation of the recommendations of this report there is a risk that the report will be misinterpreted and Coffey Mining cannot be held responsible for such misinterpretation.

### **Your report is prepared for specific purposes and persons**

To avoid misuse of the information contained in your report it is recommended that you confer with Coffey Mining before passing your report on to another party who may not be familiar with the background and the purpose of the report. Your report should not be applied to any project other than that originally specified at the time the report was issued.

## Important information about your Coffey Mining Report

### **Interpretation by other design professionals**

Costly problems can occur when other design professionals develop their plans based on misinterpretations of a report. To help avoid misinterpretations, retain Coffey Mining to work with other project design professionals who are affected by the report. Have Coffey Mining explain the report implications to design professionals affected by them and then review plans and specifications produced to see how Coffey Mining's report findings have been incorporated.

### **Data should not be separated from the report\***

The report as a whole presents the findings of the site or project assessment and the report should not be copied in part or altered in any way. Logs, figures, drawings etc. are customarily included in our reports and are developed by scientists, engineers or geologists based on their interpretation of field data and laboratory evaluation of field samples. This information should not, under any circumstances, be redrawn for inclusion in other documents or separated from the report in any way.

### **Geoenvironmental concerns are not at issue**

Your report is not likely to relate any findings, conclusions, or recommendations about the potential for hazardous materials existing at the site unless specifically required to do so by the client. Specialist equipment, techniques and personnel are used to perform a geoenvironmental assessment. Contamination can create major health, safety and environmental risks. If you have no information about the potential for your site to be contaminated or create an environmental hazard, you are advised to contact Coffey Mining for information relating to geoenvironmental issues.

### **Rely on Coffey Mining for additional assistance**

Coffey Mining is familiar with a variety of techniques and approaches that can be used to help reduce risks for all parties involved with a project, from design through to development. It is common that not all approaches will necessarily be examined in your report due to concepts proposed at that time. If problems are encountered as the project progresses through design toward development, speaking with Coffey Mining about alternative approaches may be of genuine benefit both in terms of time and cost.

### **Third party and client data**

Coffey Mining may have used or relied upon information provided by the client or by third parties. Unless specifically included in Coffey Mining's scope of services, Coffey Mining has not checked or verified the accuracy of such information.

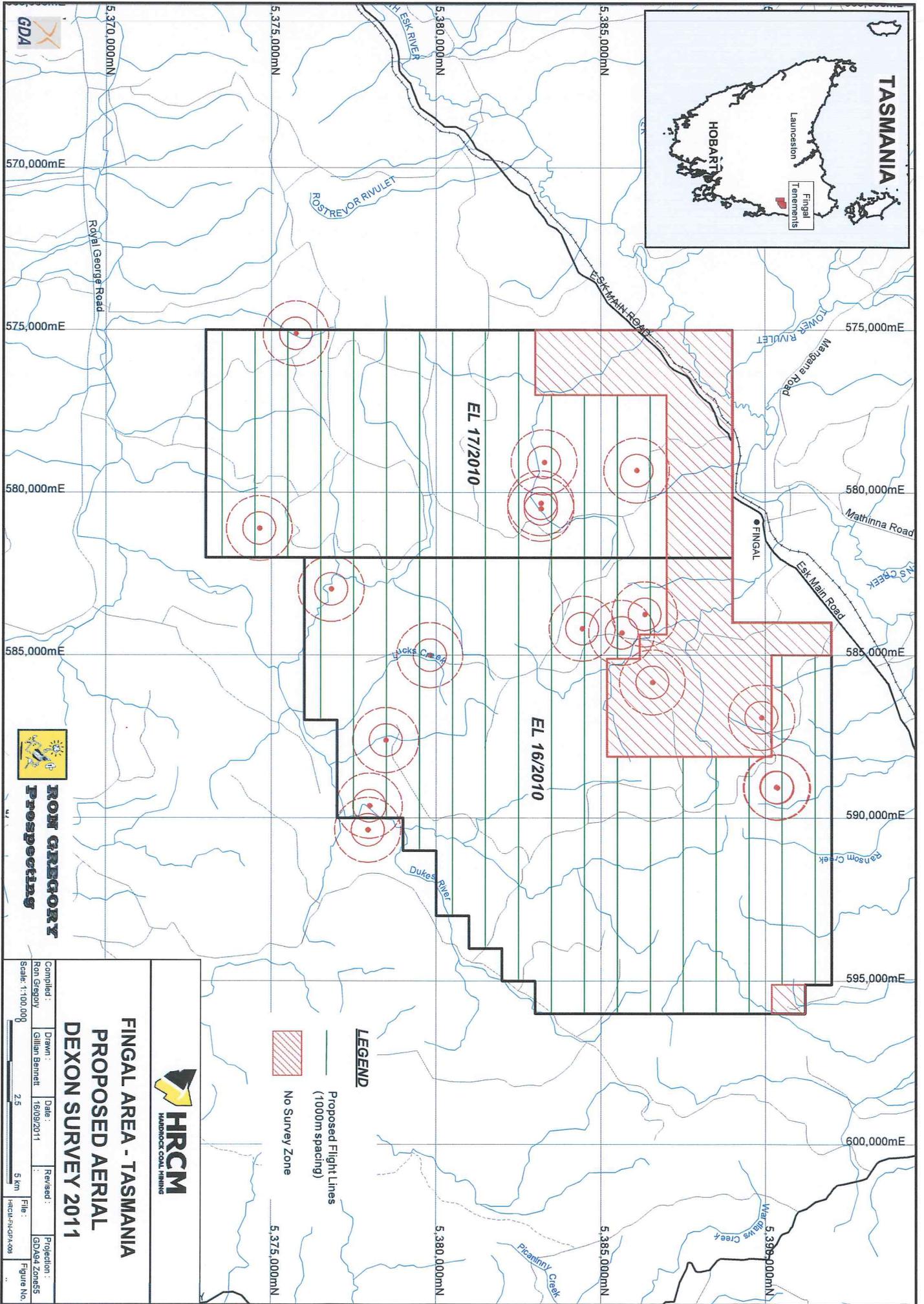
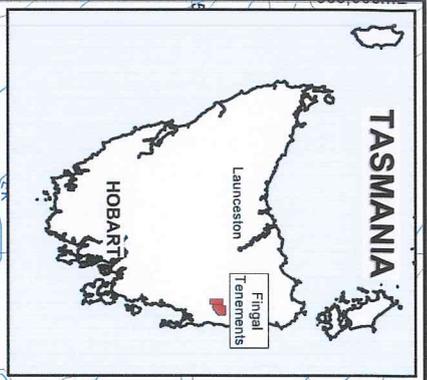
### **Responsibility**

Reporting relies on interpretation of factual information based on judgement and opinion, and has a level of uncertainty attached to it that makes it far less exact than the design disciplines. This has often resulted in unfounded claims being lodged against consultants. To help prevent this problem, a number of clauses have been developed for use in contracts, reports and other documents. Responsibility clauses do not transfer appropriate liabilities from Coffey Mining to other parties but are included to identify where Coffey Mining's responsibilities begin and end. Their use is intended to help all parties involved to recognise their individual responsibilities. Read all documents from Coffey Mining closely and do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have.

\* For further information on this aspect reference should be made to "Guidelines for the Provision of Geotechnical Information in Construction Contracts" published by the Institution of Engineers Australia, National Headquarters, Canberra, 1987.

**ATTACHMENT B**

Dexon Aerial Survey



Base data from theLST, © State of Tasmania



**RON GREGORY**  
Prospecting

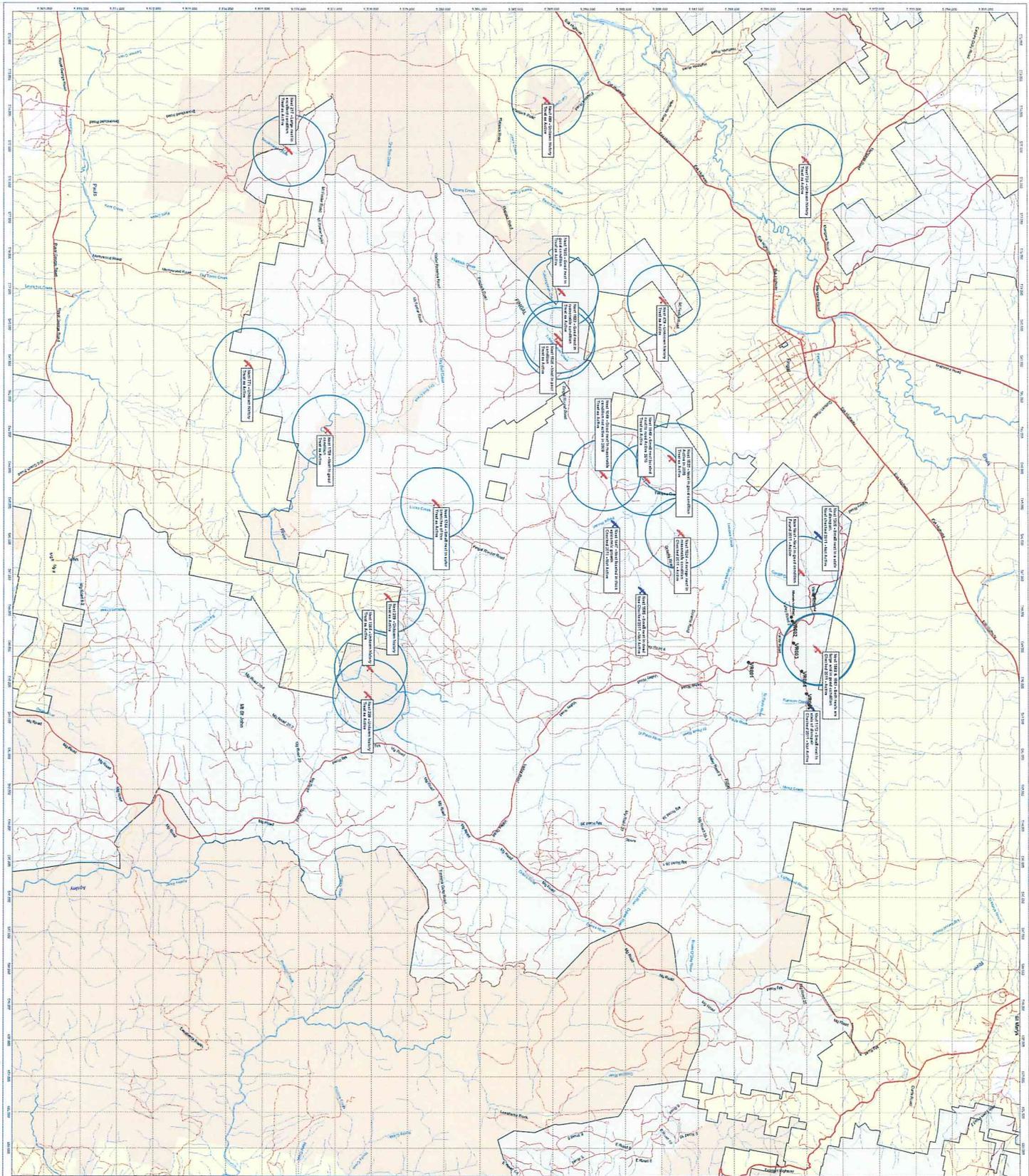


**FINGAL AREA - TASMANIA**  
**PROPOSED AERIAL**  
**DEXON SURVEY 2011**

**LEGEND**

-  Proposed Flight Lines (1000m spacing)
-  No Survey Zone

Compiled:	Drawn:	Date:	Revised:	Projection:
Ron Gregory	Gillian Bennett	16/09/2011		GDA94 Zone55
Scale: 1:100,000				File: hrcm4949r008
		2.5	5 Km	Figure No.:



**Attachment 5**  
**Zone 2 & 3 WTE Nodes**  
**& Exclusion Zones**

- Notes:**
- Active and Inactive
  - ACTIVE OR TO BE TREATED AS ACTIVE
  - NOT ACTIVE
  - Proposed Cell Nodes (Plans)
  - Cell Node
  - 2.5 km exclusion zone
  - 5 km exclusion zone
  - 10 km exclusion zone
  - 15 km exclusion zone
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  - 990 km exclusion zone
  - 1000 km exclusion zone



Date: Thursday, October 11, 2011  
 Prepared by: gpl  
 Prepared for:  
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**ATTACHMENT C**

HRCM Resource Overview EL 16 and EL 17, Al Maynard & Associates

