



TRITTON RESOURCES PTY LTD

ABN 88 100 095 494

Part 2

**First Forward Program**

for

**ML1383 – North East  
Copper Mine**

1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026



*Prepared by:*

**RWCorkery&co**

**August 2023**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*R.W. Corkery & Co. acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands comprising NSW and Australia on which our projects are located. We appreciate the knowledge, advice and involvement of the Elders and extended Aboriginal community that contribute to our Projects and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.*





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## Part 2

# First Forward Program

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## ML1383

## 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026

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**Prepared for:**

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Ref No. 117/60

August 2023

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## SUMMARY TABLE

|   |                           |                           |                 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Name of Mine:</b>                      | North East Copper Mine    |                           |                 |
| <b>Forward Program Commencement Date:</b> | 1 July 2023               |                           |                 |
| <b>Forward Program Revision Dates:</b>    | <b>Version</b>            | <b>Approved by – Date</b> |                 |
|   | Version 1                 |                           |                 |
| <b>Mining Lease(s):</b>                   | ML1383                    | <b>Expiry Date(s):</b>    | 13 January 2038 |
| <b>Name of Lease holder(s):</b>           | Tritton Resources Pty Ltd |                           |                 |
| <b>Date of Submission:</b>                | 3 August 2023             |                           |                 |

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# Part 2 – Forward Program

## 2.1 Three Year Forecast – Surface Disturbance Activities

This document presents the first Forward Program for the North East Copper Mine (the “Mine”). It covers planned rehabilitation activities during the “Forward Program Period” which includes the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026. This period has been selected to align with rehabilitation reporting for the Mine. It is intended that the Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program will review rehabilitation progress for the previous 12 months, compare this to the Forward Program, and propose the Forward Program for the next three years.

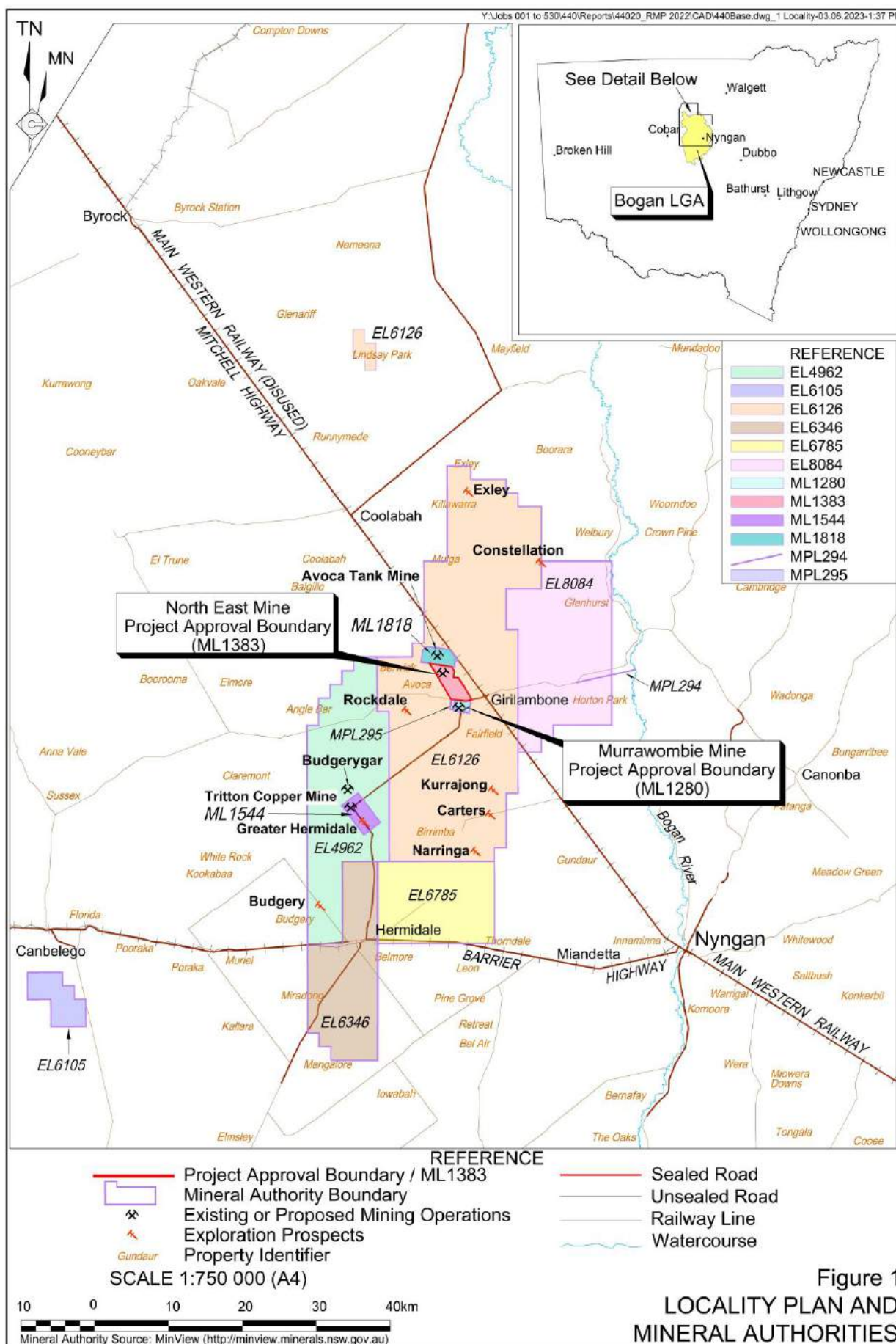
### 2.1.1 Project Description

The Mine is located approximately 6km northwest of the village of Girilambone within the Bogan Local Government Area (LGA) in central west NSW (**Figure 1**). The Mine is owned and operated by Tritton Resources Pty Ltd (the “Company”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Aeris Resources Limited. The Mine is approved under Development Application (DA) 6/95 and operates in accordance with the conditions provided in Mining Lease (ML) 1383 and Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 4501. DA 6/95 was issued by Bogan Shire Council in 1995 and does not contain an expiry date. ML1383 was issued by the former Department of Mineral Resources on 13 January 1996. For the purpose of this document, the area covered by ML1383 is referred to as the “Mine Site” (**Figure 2**).

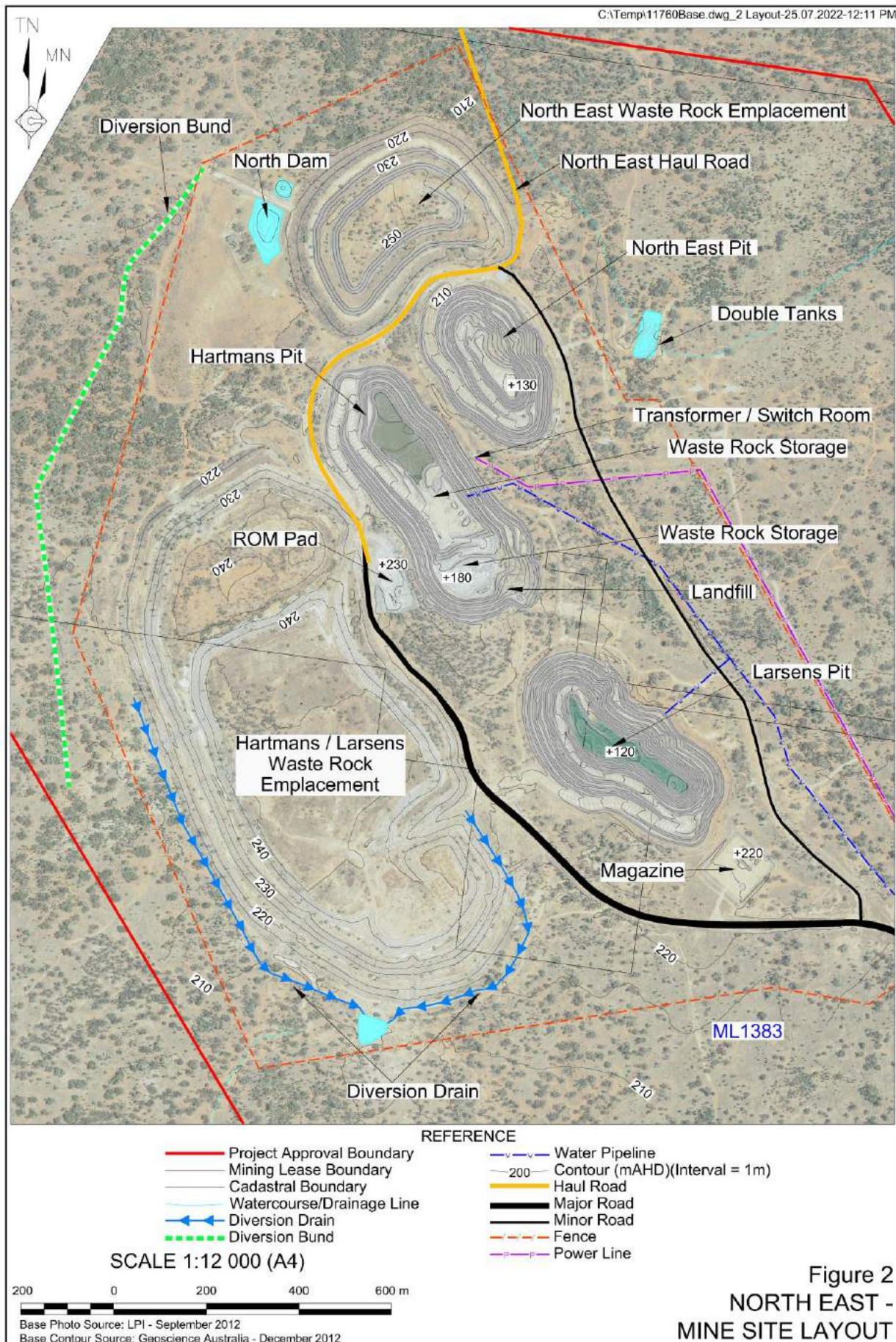
Open cut mining commenced in 1996 with three open cut pits developed (the North East Pit, Hartmans Pit and Larsens Pit). Associated with the open cut pits was the development of two waste rock emplacements (the North East Waste Rock Emplacement and the Hartmans/Larsens Waste Rock Emplacement). Open cut mining was completed by 2000 and from 2007, mining was recommenced using underground extraction methods with mined ore transported to the Tritton Copper Mine for processing. A portal was constructed in the floor of the Hartmans Pit for access to underground operations. This continued until August 2016, before operations were suspended and the Mine was placed on care and maintenance.

The Mine remains on care and maintenance, however the Hartman’s Open Cut and internal roads will be used for mining at the Avoca Tank Mine. The decline drive for the Avoca Tank Mine is being constructed from the existing portal and decline from Hartman’s to the Avoca Tank orebody. Waste rock from this process is currently stored in the floor of the Hartman’s Open Cut. Internal roads that connect the Hartman’s Open Cut to the Murrawombie Mine are being used for access to the operations.

In 2023 it is planned to re-commence mining at the Mine to initially remove a sample of ore material currently in stope pillars within the original underground mine workings. Should the removal and processing of this material prove favourable, further mining of remnant pillars would occur with the workings to be stabilised using modern methods such as paste fill. This Forward Program has been prepared based on the assumption that the Mine Site resumes operations within the Forward Program Period.









## 2.1.2 Description of Surface Disturbance Activities

### 2.1.2.1 Exploration Activities

No exploration activities are planned within ML1383 during the Forward Program Period.

### 2.1.2.2 Construction Activities

No construction activities are planned during the Forward Program Period.

### 2.1.2.3 Mining Schedule

#### Extraction Sequencing

This Forward Program has been prepared based on the assumption that the Mine Site resumes operations within the Forward Program Period. As such, **Table 1** presents the current forecast material production schedule for the Mine. It is noted that the Mine Site will be used to provide underground access to the approved Avoca Tank Mine during this time, however **Table 1** does not include material produced from within the Avoca Tank Mine.

**Table 1**  
**Material Production Schedule During the Next Three Years**

| Material                         | Unit           | Year 1  | Year 2 | Year 3 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Stripped topsoil (if applicable) | m <sup>3</sup> | 0       | 0      | 0      |
| Rock/overburden                  | t              | 23,700  | 0      | 14,800 |
| Ore                              | t              | 107,400 | 67,700 | 33,900 |
| Reject Material                  | t              | 0       | 0      | 0      |
| Product                          | t              | 1,300   | 850    | 450    |

#### Emplacements

The Mine contains two rehabilitated waste rock emplacements (the North East Waste Rock Emplacement and the Hartmans/Larsens Waste Rock Emplacement) (**Figure 2**). As the Mine is on care and maintenance, there will be no further waste rock generated at the Mine Site. However, waste rock generated from mining operations at the Avoca Tank Mine will be stored within the southern section of the Hartmans Pit. The waste rock emplaced in the southern section of the Hartmans Pit is also stabilising the failure of the southern wall of the pit. All waste rock extracted from Avoca Tank will be reported in the Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program for the Avoca Tank Mine.

#### Processing

No processing occurs within the Mine Site.

## Waste Disposal

The principal wastes that will be generated at the Mine Site will be non-production wastes as the Mine is on care and maintenance. Non-production wastes may include:

- greases, oils, filters, tyres and batteries from maintenance of vehicles and equipment;
- bulk scrap metal and plastics from discarded equipment;
- general office wastes e.g. paper;
- general waste generated by employees – e.g. food scraps, paper, cardboard, aluminium and steel cans; or
- wastewater from ablution facilities.

All hydrocarbon wastes will be stored in specified areas on site within a bunded area until collected by a licensed contractor. Worn tyres will be temporarily stored and removed from site regularly.

All general waste materials will be stored in covered bins or skip bins and collected regularly by a licenced contractor for disposal. Paper, cardboard, steel and aluminium will be stored separately from non-recyclable wastes.

All wastewater generated on the site will continue to be treated through the approved on-site septic tank system.

## 2.2 Three Year Rehabilitation Forecast

### 2.2.1 Rehabilitation Planning Schedule

#### 2.2.1.1 Stakeholder Consultation

The Company has undertaken consultation with relevant stakeholders during preparation of the *Rehabilitation Management Plan* for the Mine. The following government agencies and community stakeholders were contacted in November 2022.

- Bogan Shire Council
- Nyngan Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Crown Lands
- Environmental Protection Authority
- NSW Resources Regulator
- Department of Planning and Environment
- Department of Planning and Environment – Water
- Department of Regional NSW – Minerals, Exploration and Geoscience
- Heritage NSW
- Department of Planning and Environment - Biodiversity Conservation Division

Where a response has been received from the above stakeholders it has been to indicate that no comments would be provided (EPA and BCD). Feedback received from DPE Water identified priorities for post-closure water management. The DPE Water feedback will be addressed during the preparation of a Post-Closure Water Management Strategy (discussed in more detail in Section 2.2.4). The *Rehabilitation Management Plan* will be updated based on the feedback received during ongoing consultation.

No further stakeholder consultation is planned in relation to rehabilitation planning or scheduling over the Forward Program Period, excluding regular updates presented to the local community at meetings during the period.

### **2.2.1.2 Rehabilitation Assessment and Methodologies**

As part of the preparation of the *Rehabilitation Management Plan* for the Mine, the Company prepared a risk assessment to outline specific risks and controls associated with the rehabilitation of the Mine. This risk assessment is summarised in the *Rehabilitation Management Plan* and available on site or on request.

A Gap Analysis Report prepared by Okane Consultants has identified eight work programs associated with rehabilitation of the Mine Site (and the Company's other operations). This information and the outcomes of a rehabilitation risk assessment have identified a range of actions principally concerning studies and assessment required to inform the preparation of individual Closure Plans for high risk components of the Mine Site. For the North East Mine these include the waste rock emplacements and the three final voids. This information has been used to inform rehabilitation planning reflected in this Forward Program and within the *Rehabilitation Management Plan* for the Mine.

**Table 2** presents a schedule for rehabilitation planning activities to address knowledge gaps in rehabilitation planning over the Forward Program Period. Before active rehabilitation commences at the Mine Site, the Company is committed to completing the studies outlined in **Table 2** to ensure that rehabilitation outcomes are successful.

**Table 2**  
**North East Mine Rehabilitation Planning Schedule**

Page 1 of 2

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Studies</b>   |
|-------------|--|
| Year 1      | Detailed biennial rehabilitation monitoring campaign (completed Year 1)<br>Seed Balance and Procurement Strategy (completed Year 1)<br>Waste Rock Characterisation – geochemical analysis of emplaced waste rock for rehabilitation planning (completed Year 1)<br>Waste Rock Emplacement Revegetation Works – review of vegetation condition and additional or supplementary planting (ongoing)<br>Hydromulching Study – research program on hydromulching application on waste rock emplacements (completed Year 2)<br>Post Closure Water Management Strategy – site-wide water balance study (completed Year 3) |

**Table 2 (Cont'd)**  
**North East Mine Rehabilitation Planning Schedule**

Page 2 of 2

| Year   | Studies   |
|--------|---|
| Year 2 | <p>Landform Evolution Modelling - covering high risk landforms at all mine sites (completed Year 2)</p> <p>Hydromulching Study – research program on hydromulching application on waste rock emplacements (completed Year 2)</p> <p>Waste Rock Emplacement Revegetation Works – review of vegetation condition and additional or supplementary planting (ongoing)</p> <p>Post Closure Water Management Strategy – post-mining surface water management (completed Year 3)</p> |
| Year 3 | <p>Detailed biennial rehabilitation monitoring campaign (completed Year 3)</p> <p>Waste Rock Emplacement Revegetation Works – review of vegetation condition and additional or supplementary planting (ongoing)</p> <p>Post Closure Water Management Strategy – groundwater modelling (completed Year 3)</p>  |

In summary the following activities are planned during the Forward Program Period.

- Detailed rehabilitation monitoring will be commissioned every two years to inform rehabilitation planning and to measure the success of rehabilitation activities.
- The Company will review available seed stocks and initiate a seed collection program.
- Investigation of identified revegetation failure on portions of the Hartmans/Larsens Waste Rock Emplacement will commence in Year 1 to identify the cause of the failure and recommend remedial works, if needed. Any works identified in the investigation would commence in Year 1 with revegetation works on the Waste Rock Emplacement ongoing during the Forward Program Period.
- Landform Evolution Modelling will be undertaken to assess the stability of the completed WRE slopes and ensure adequate profiling of the final landform to limit erosion and support a self-sustaining native vegetation ecosystem. Any remedial works recommended by the modelling would be commenced in Year 3 and continue over the remaining operating period. Further landform evolution modelling would be completed for the final voids once the Avoca Tank operations have been completed.
- Preparation of a Post-Closure Water Management Strategy will commence in Year 1 through a water balance study across all the Company's mines in the region. The Post-Closure Water Management Strategy will ensure that surface water management at the Mine Site and final water quality conditions are acceptable. It is expected that additional assessments will be undertaken to inform the Post-Closure Water Management Strategy including groundwater and water balance modelling of the final voids. This work is expected to continue for the duration of the Forward Program Period.



As there are no tailings generated from mining operations, no decommissioning activities for tailings dams are required. The limited infrastructure that remains on the Mine Site will be used for the Avoca Tank operations during the Forward Program Period.

### **2.2.2 Rehabilitation Research and Trials**

The Company will undertake a Hydromulching Study on completed areas of the Waste Rock Emplacement that will examine the opportunities and limits of applying hydromulching in arid environments where topsoil availability is limited. The objectives of the study are to test the application of a hydromulching matrix to bind and fertilise the surface and promote plant growth.

The outcomes of the rehabilitation studies described in Section 2.2.1.2 may include recommendations for rehabilitation-specific trials for research programs.

### **2.2.3 Rehabilitation Maintenance and Corrective Actions**

As this is the first Forward Program for the Mine and an Annual Rehabilitation Report has not yet been prepared, no rehabilitation performance issues, or knowledge gaps identified in an Annual Rehabilitation Report are noted.

However, the Company is aware of maintenance and corrective actions identified previously which include the following.

- Apparent revegetation failures throughout the vegetation cover of the waste rock emplacements – investigations will commence in Year 1 with a plan for remedial action implemented from Year 1 for the duration of the Forward Program Period (as described in **Table 2**).
- There is evidence of failures of pit walls within the North East, Hartman's and Larsen's pits. These failures have been investigated and found to be stable in their current form. Further geotechnical work is proposed upon the completion of mining for the Avoca Tank Project.
- The need for minor earthworks to repair water management structures in the vicinity of the waste rock emplacements. A Post-Closure Water Management Strategy will inform long term planning for these structures, however in the short term each of the structures will be reviewed by personnel to ensure they are operating as intended.

### **2.2.4 Rehabilitation Schedule**

Rehabilitation in the next Forward Program Period will be focused on the completion of the research and studies described in **Table 2** and Section 2.2.2. As shown on **Plans 2A to 2C**, the whole Mine Site, excluding Hartman's pit and the access roads, will be prepared for rehabilitation with targeted actions occurring following the completion of the studies listed in **Table 2**. The Hartmans Pit and main internal roads would continue to be used until 2027 when the completion of mining at the Avoca Tank Project is expected.

The Waste Rock Emplacements at the Mine Site have been rehabilitated through reshaping, growth medium and seeding applied with ecosystem establishment commenced on these landforms. The Company has labelled these domains as Forecast Land Prepared for Rehabilitation on **Plans 2A to 2C** to outline that remedial works may be required and the appropriate studies are planned to take place.

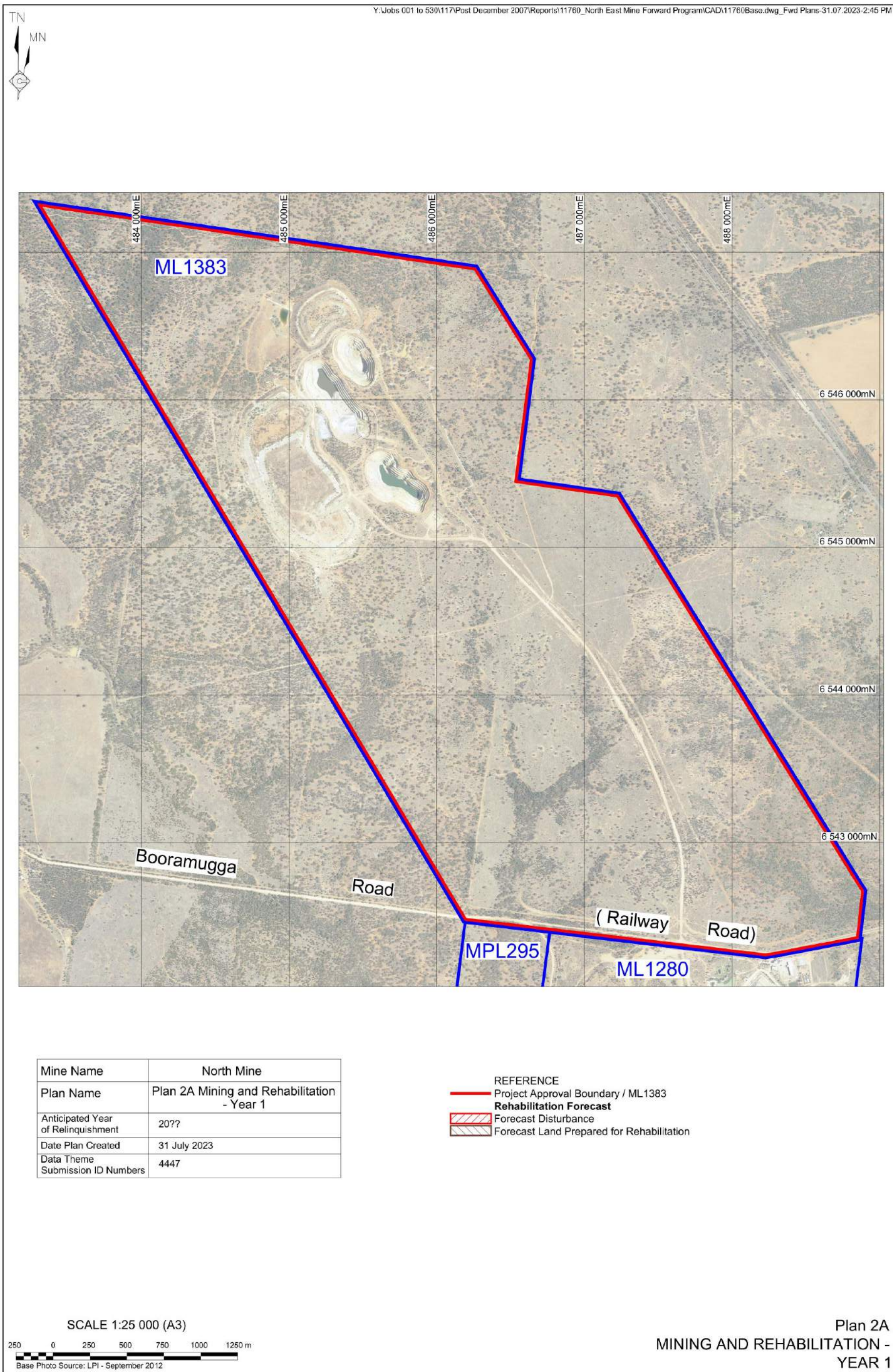
In addition to the above, the Company will progressively close unsealed tracks within the mining lease area that are no longer required for the operation. Access would be restricted within these areas and they would be ripped and seeded to commence rehabilitation.

### **2.2.5      Subsidence Remediation for Underground Operations**

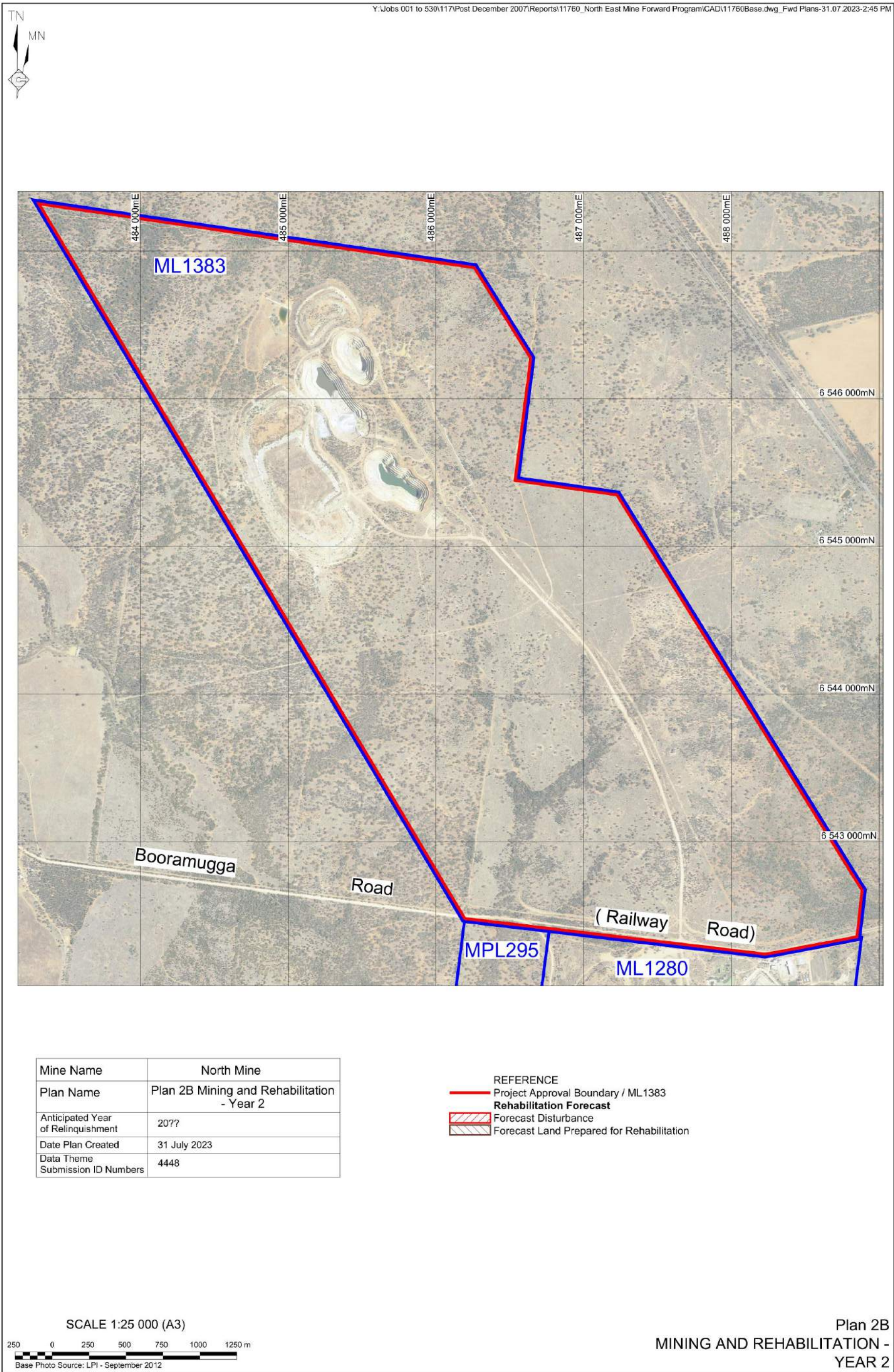
No subsidence monitoring is planned in the next Forward Program Period as no incidences of mine subsidence have been identified as occurring within the Mine Site or as a result of mining operations. Subsidence represents a low risk to rehabilitation at the Mine Site and as such, no specific subsidence-related management and maintenance programs are required at the Mine.

## **2.3          Plan 2 – Mining and Rehabilitation Three Year Forecast**

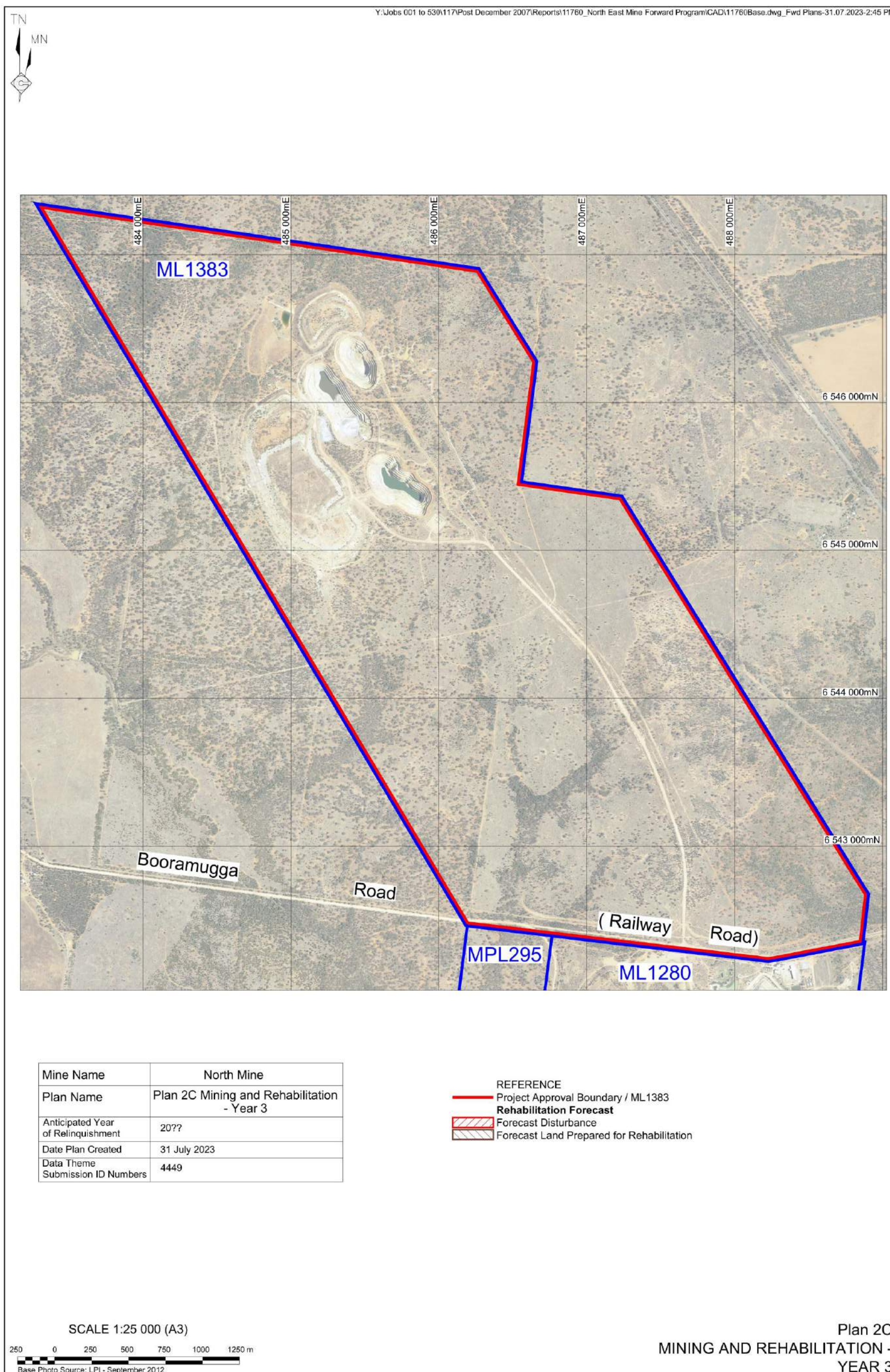














## 2.4 Progressive Mining and Rehabilitation Statistics

### 2.4.1 Three Yearly Forecast Cumulative Disturbance and Rehabilitation Progression

**Table 3** presents a summary of the forecast cumulative disturbance and rehabilitation progression during the Forward Program Period.

As noted in Section 2.1.3, no active mining disturbance is planned within ML1383 or associated with mining at the North East Mine. Active mining associated with the Avoca Tank Mine will occur during the Forward Program Period.

**Table 3**  
**Predicted Cumulative Disturbance and Rehabilitation Progression during the Forward Program Period**

|  | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| Total disturbance footprint – surface disturbance (ha) | 151.9  | 151.9  | 151.9  |
| Underground mining area (ha)                           | 21.7   | 21.7   | 21.7   |
| Total active disturbance (ha)                          | 27.0   | 27.0   | 27.0   |
| Rehabilitation – land preparation (ha)                 | 124.9  | 124.9  | 124.9  |
| Ecosystem and land use establishment (ha)              | 0      | 0      | 0      |

### 2.4.2 Rehabilitation Key Performance Indicators

**Table 4** presents a summary of the progressive rehabilitation key performance indicators for the Forward Program Period. It is not anticipated that the rehabilitation to disturbance ratio will change over the Forward Program Period.

**Table 4**  
**Progressive Rehabilitation Key Performance Indicators during the Forward Program Period**

|   | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| Total new active disturbance area during reporting period (ha)          | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Area of land proposed for active rehabilitation during reporting period | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Annual Rehabilitation to Disturbance Ratio                              | 0:0    | 0:0    | 0:0    |

## 2.5 Rehabilitation Cost Estimate

In accordance with the *Form and Way – Annual Rehabilitation Report and Forward Program for Large Mines*, an updated Rehabilitation Cost Estimate for the Mine prepared based on the “maximum disturbance within a term” method has been provided to the Resources Regulator separately.