

# CONSULTATION INFORMATION PACKAGE

## Application for authorisation under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (SA)

### Leigh Creek In-Situ Gasification Project

- Applicant:** Leigh Creek Energy Limited
- Application Type:** Authorisation under section 23 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (SA)
- Application Area:** The areas within Petroleum Retention Licence 247, Petroleum Production Licence 269 and Associated Activities Licence 292, as shown bounded in green in Attachment 1.
- Proposed Activities:** Gasification of underground coal deposits using in-situ gasification techniques; drilling of wells for exploration, production, monitoring and hydrogeological purposes; construction of borrow pits, roads, camps, buildings, rail and other infrastructure; geophysical surveys; installation of in-ground, underground and above-ground services; construction of processing and manufacturing facilities; the use of plant and equipment; and other activities as allowed under section 10 of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000* (SA).

*Figure 1 - View facing east showing evidence of historic open-cut coal mining within the Application Area - Image courtesy of Applicant*



## INTRODUCTION

The Premier of South Australia, who is responsible for the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (SA) (Act), has received an application for authorisation under section 23 of the Act from Leigh Creek Energy Limited (LCK) (Applicant). The Applicant has sought the authorisation to enable it to carry out regulated activities under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000* (SA) (PGE Act) within the Leigh Creek Coalfields, located north of Copley in the Flinders Ranges. Specifically, the Applicant proposes to develop a non-conventional coal project using in-situ gasification (ISG) techniques within specified areas inside Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) 650 as part of its Leigh Creek In-Situ Gasification Project (Project).

The authorisation is sought to cover the entirety of the areas within the licences listed below:

- Petroleum Retention Licence (PRL) 247
- Petroleum Production Licence (PPL) 269
- Associated Activities Licence (AAL) 292.

Together, the areas are referred to in this document as the ‘Application Area’, which is held and operated by Leigh Creek Operations Pty Ltd (LCO), a wholly-owned subsidiary of LCK. A map showing the Application Area bounded in green is at Attachment 1. A map showing the Application Area in relation to PEL 650 is at Attachment 2.

The Applicant, as current licence holder of PRL 247, PPL 269 and AAL 292, seeks authorisation under section 23 of the Act to damage, disturbance and/or interference with Aboriginal sites, objects and/or remains in case that may inadvertently occur as a result of the Project.

The Act makes it an offence to damage, disturb or interfere with Aboriginal sites, objects or remains without authorisation from the Premier. Prior to considering whether to grant an authorisation, section 13 of the Act requires the Premier to understand and consider the views of a range of interested Aboriginal parties. Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR) conducts this consultation on the Premier’s behalf, seeking the views of Traditional Owners, the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee (Committee), and other Aboriginal parties that may have an interest in the matter.

### **Application Area**

The Application Area is located in the Flinders Ranges, approximately 7.5 kilometres north-northeast of the township of Copley, and around 11.5 kilometres north of the Leigh Creek township. The Application Area is located within the now decommissioned Leigh Creek Coal Mine.

The Applicant advises that the area has been significantly disturbed by decades of open pit coal mining (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The historic coal mine, which includes the Application Area, is now closed and fenced for safety. The Applicant advises that proposed access to the Application Area for the Project will be via existing roads.

The Application Area intersects seven land parcels. Three of these are perpetual Crown Leases held by the Minister for Energy and Mining; two are reserves held by the Outback Communities Authority and the Minister for Environment and Water respectively; the remaining two are freehold titles owned by the Minister for Energy and Mining. The Applicant intends to serve notices of entry on the various land owners in December 2020.

*Figure 2 - View facing east showing evidence of historic open-cut coal mining within the Application Area - Image courtesy of Applicant*



The Project activities, which are described in detail below, will be conducted across the three licence areas:

- **PRL 247:** an area of approximately 5.39 square kilometres – granted by the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) on 5 June 2020. This is the area bounded in yellow in Attachment 1.
- **PPL 269:** an area of approximately 4.98 square kilometres – granted by DEM on 24 November 2020. PPL 269 lies within the boundary of PRL 247, excluding an area of land in the northeast corner of PRL 247. This is the area hatched in pink in Attachment 1.
- **AAL 292:** an area measuring approximately 3.91 square kilometers – granted by DEM on 24 November 2020. This is the area hatched in blue in Attachment 1. AAR understands that the majority of AAL 292 comprises a previously excavated coal mine pit and associated access tracks and water dams.

Diagrams showing the alignment of the three licences are at Figure 3 and Figure 4 below. In particular, Figure 4 shows two cross-sectional diagrams at different positions within the Application Area.

The Applicant advises that previous coal mining in the Application Area primarily focused on coal deposits referred to as the 'Upper Series Pit', 'Main Series Pit' and 'Lower Series Pit'. Evidence of this activity can be seen in Figures 1 and 2.

### **Information on relevant licences and their purpose under the PGE Act**

#### **PRL 247**

Under the PGE Act, a PRL can authorise the licence holder to carry out operations in the certain area to:

- establish the nature and extent of a discovery of a regulated resource
- establish the commercial feasibility of resource production techniques and other regulated activities specified in the licence.

### PPL 269

Under the PGE Act, a PPL can authorise the licence holder to conduct operations for the recovery of petroleum or other regulated substances from the ground, including:

- operations involving the injection of petroleum or another substance into a natural reservoir to assist with the recovery (or enhanced recovery) of petroleum or another regulated substance
- the extraction of petroleum or another regulated substance by artificial means such as in-situ gasification or the techniques used to recover coal seam methane.

The Applicant advises that the nature of on-ground activities allowed under a PRL and PPL are similar. The key difference is that a PPL provides for the licence holder to carry out production of a regulated resource on an ongoing commercial basis, whereas a PRL provides for the holder to carry out activities to determine its commercial potential.

### AAL 292

Under the PGE Act, an AAL can allow a licence holder to:

- establish and operate associated facilities on land outside the area of the primary licence (in this case, outside the areas comprising PRL 247 and PPL 269) but still within the AAL area
- carry out any type of associated regulated activity on land outside the area of the primary licence (in this case, outside the areas comprising PRL 247 and PPL 269) but still within the AAL.

The Applicant advises that an AAL may, for example, authorise a licence holder to drill a well from an area outside the area of the primary licence for obtaining access to geological formations within the area of a primary licence. An AAL may also authorise a licence holder to establish and operate facilities within the licence area, such as:

- pipelines
- processing plants
- camps, airports, buildings or other infrastructure
- commercial or recreational facilities for people involved in regulated activities.

Figure 3 – Diagram depicting AAL 292, PPL 269 and PRL 247 with cross-sections A-B and C-D (courtesy of Applicant)

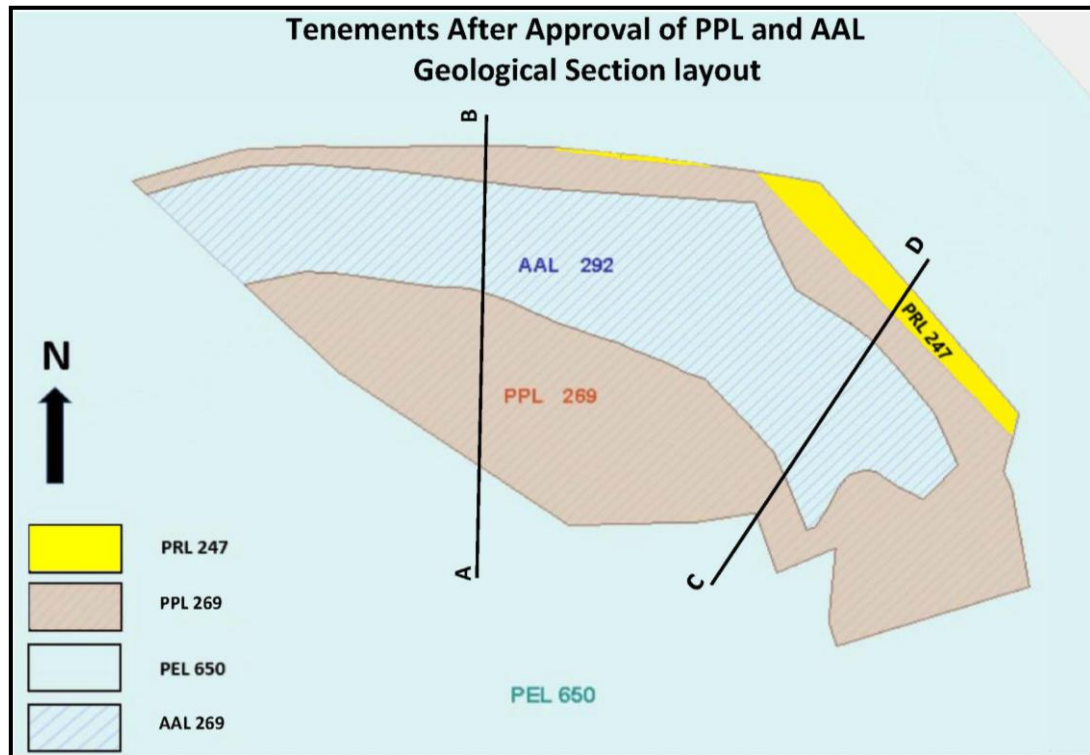
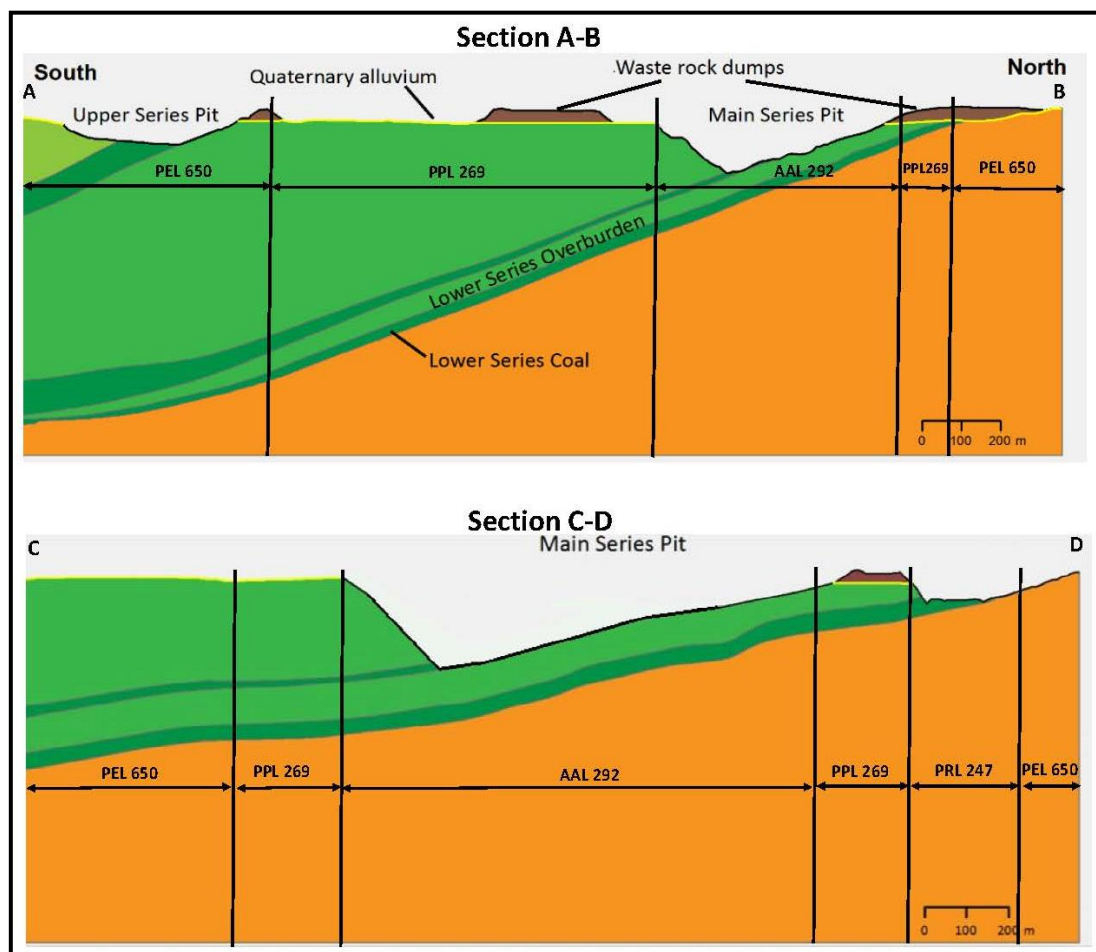


Figure 4 – Diagrams showing cross-sections A-B and C-D across Application Area. The dark green lines represent known coal seams, while the lighter green and orange areas represent non-coal material (courtesy of Applicant)



### **Aboriginal heritage within the Application Area**

The central archives, which include the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects (Register), are maintained by AAR on behalf of the Premier. The central archives contain no records for Aboriginal sites within the Application Area. However, the central archives are not a comprehensive record of all Aboriginal heritage sites in South Australia. The Leigh Creek Coalfields, including the Application Area, contain an asserted Aboriginal heritage site that holds specific cultural significance to Adnyamathanha people for its associations with the *Yurlu* (or *Yulu*) Kingfisher storyline.

#### **Yurlu Kingfisher Cultural Site**

The *Yurlu* Kingfisher story explains the creation of specific elements of the Flinders Ranges, including the coal located within the Leigh Creek Coalfields. AAR understands that this storyline site encompasses the entirety of the Application Area. Currently, there is no site card held on the central archives relating to the *Yurlu* Kingfisher Cultural Site. Nonetheless, the Adnyamathanha people's strong cultural and spiritual connection to the Leigh Creek Coalfields is long known and widely acknowledged, and is supported by existing anthropological reports.

#### **Information on the central archives relating to nearby Aboriginal heritage**

The central archives contain records for two Aboriginal sites, and one area containing Aboriginal objects, within four kilometres of the Application Area. The two reported sites are an engraving rock art site (Site 6536-2265) and an archaeological/engraving site (Site 6536-7314). The area containing Aboriginal objects (Objects 6537-7943) has been determined under section 12 the Act, and is therefore on the Register. See Attachment 2.

As the central archives are a non-exhaustive record of Aboriginal heritage across the state, the Application Area may also contain other Aboriginal sites, objects and remains for which records do not currently exist.

### **Aboriginal engagement to date**

The Application Area lies within the Adnyamathanha Native Title Determination area, which was determined on 30 March 2009. The Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) (ATLA) is the prescribed body corporate authorised to represent the rights and interests of the Adnyamathanha native title holders.

The Applicant recognises the Adnyamathanha people's heritage interests over the Application Area, and acknowledges previous information provided by ATLA regarding the heritage significance of the area covered by PEL 650.

The Applicant advises that, since the grant of PEL 650 in November 2014, it has consulted with ATLA about the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the Application Area. As part of this process, the Applicant engaged ATLA representatives to conduct 'Work Area Clearance' (WAC) surveys of areas within the PEL 650, including a southern portion of the Application Area.

The Applicant advises that since early 2015, its Aboriginal engagement has included various methods to consult on the Project, such as:

- delivering presentations to the ATLA Board
- conducting workshops with the ATLA Board

- undertaking community ‘open days’
- arranging meetings and providing regular status updates via correspondence.

The Applicant advises that it is open to further consultation and engagement with ATLA about the Project.

### **Scope of Authorisation**

The Applicant seeks a section 23 authorisation that extends to:

- LCK
- LCO
- permitted assigns: i.e. those persons to whom the Applicant transfers or assigns the whole or part of its interests in the relevant PGE Act licence authorities subject to the relevant licence terms and regulatory approvals
- staff; that is, the directors, employees, servants and agents of the Applicant, LCO or any permitted assigns from time to time
- contractors; that is, any contractor or subcontractor engaged by, or through, the Applicant, LCO or any permitted assigns from time to time,

where in each case those people or bodies are carrying out Project activities.

The Applicant has requested that the authorisation, if granted, extend to all regulated activities that the Applicant, LCO or any permitted assigns are entitled to undertake within the Application Area, subject to relevant licence terms and regulatory approvals.

The Applicant has sought the authorisation, if granted, to continue in force and effect for as long as the Applicant, LCO or any permitted assigns hold a valid PPL, PRL and/or AAL in respect of the Application Area.

### **BACKGROUND TO PROPOSAL**

The aim of the Project is to extract petroleum resources from underground coal seams using ISG techniques.

The Applicant advises that if the Project becomes commercially operational, it may potentially deliver up to 6,000 jobs during the construction phase, and around 4,000 jobs across the Project’s life.

The Applicant anticipates that the Project will commence commercial production by 2024, subject to all necessary approvals. Engineering and construction activities would commence prior to this. The Applicant also advises that production activities within PPL 269 are likely to continue for 25 years from the date production activities commence.

### **In-Situ Gasification (ISG)**

#### **Introduction to ISG**

The Applicant advises that ISG is a technique where underground coal is converted into a gaseous product in its original location. The commercial product resulting from ISG, known as ‘syngas’, is a combination of methane, carbon monoxide, hydrogen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen. Syngas can be used for a variety of purposes, including power generation and the creation of chemical products such as methanol, fertilisers, synthetic natural gas, ammonia and liquid fuels.

While ISG is also known as underground coal gasification, the term ISG has been used throughout this consultation information package for ease of reference.

### ISG Methods

Typically, ISG involves the drilling of two wells - an inlet well and an outlet well - into an underground coal seam. These wells often measure around 36 inches in diameter, but may be bigger or smaller as required. Inlet and outlet wells (together comprising the production wells) will most likely be drilled using directional drilling techniques. See Figure 5 for a diagram showing the design and components of inlet and outlet wells.

An oxidant, which is an air or oxygen compound mixed with water, is introduced through the inlet well. Gasification reactions are then initiated within the coal seam (Figure 6). The Applicant advises that the coal is consumed as a result of these reactions and is converted to syngas, which is then extracted through the outlet well. The void created in the coal seam as a result of this gasification is referred to as the 'gasifier chamber' or a 'gasifier' (Figure 7). The Applicant advises that the gasification reactions typically occur at temperatures of between 900°C and 1200°C, however, higher temperatures may also be reached. The gasifier chambers created through this process may measure up to 900,000 cubic meters.

The Applicant anticipates that the number of wells to be drilled during the Project will be in excess of 200, but this will ultimately depend on a range of factors. Typically, a combination of both horizontal and vertical wells are drilled to create a linked system. Each well is estimated to be between 200 metres and 900 metres in total depth, measured from ground level. Further, there may be between 20 to 40 gasifier chambers created over the entirety of the Application Area, depending on geological conditions and final Project designs.

See Figure 6 and Figure 7 for diagrams showing the arrangement of production wells in relation to the initiation point and the ISG gasifier chamber.

To ensure that water and chemicals do not impact the surrounding environment, the Applicant advises that it will keep the pressure within the gasifier chambers below that of the surrounding groundwater. The Applicant advises that the gasification process will be regulated by the pressure of oxidant that is compressed into the gasifier chamber.

The number of production wells will also necessitate the drilling of monitoring wells during the course of the Project, as required under the PGE Act. The purpose of monitoring wells is to monitor the safe operation of the gasifier within objective standards measured by DEM. The Applicant advises that the monitoring wells will measure up to 36 inches in diameter, and be between 12 metres and up to 1,400 metres in total length, depending on location and purpose. The number of monitoring wells will be subject to the requirements imposed on the Applicant by DEM, the Environment Protection Authority and the Department for Environment and Water.

Figure 5 - Diagram showing the components of ISG wells

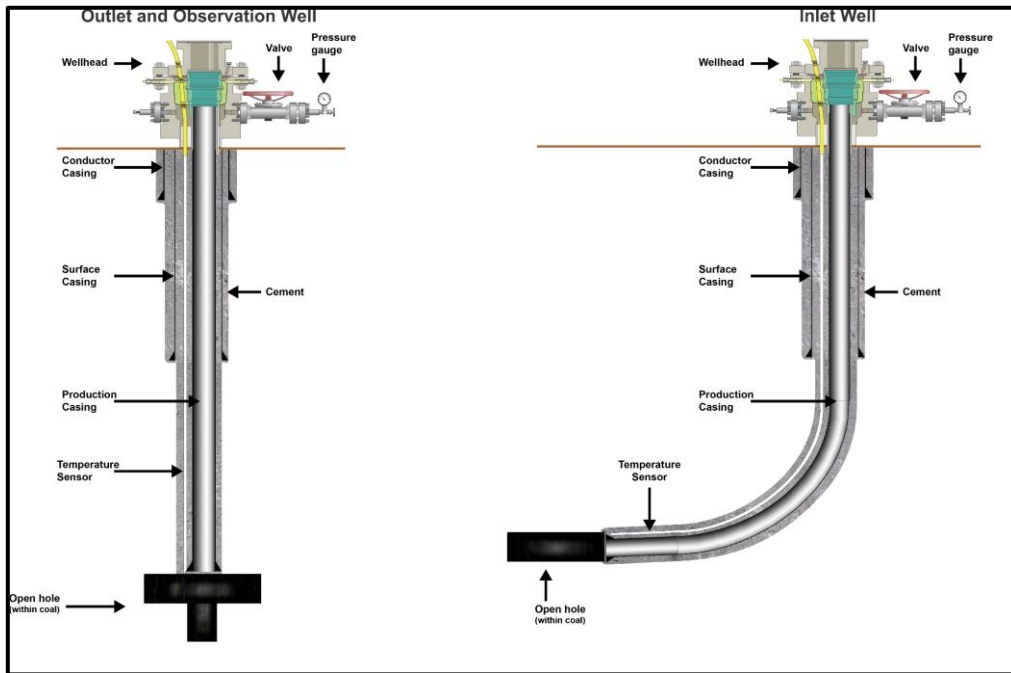


Figure 6 – Diagram showing the injection of oxidant via the inlet well into the coal initiation point (courtesy of Applicant)

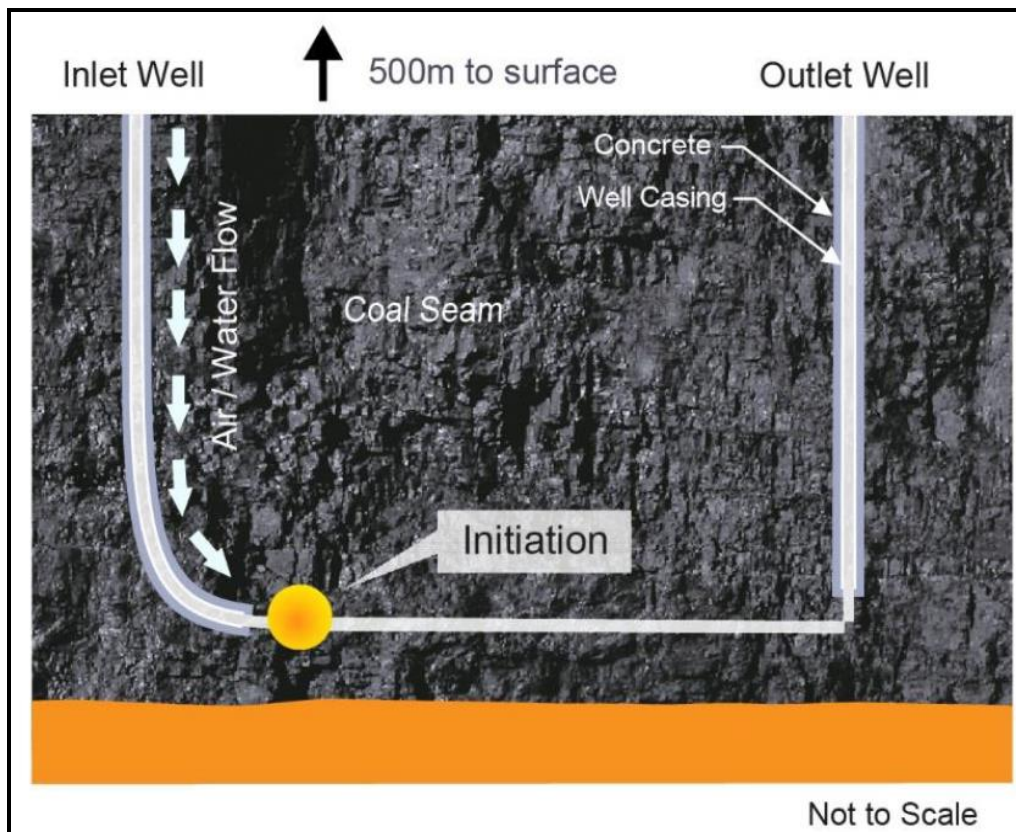
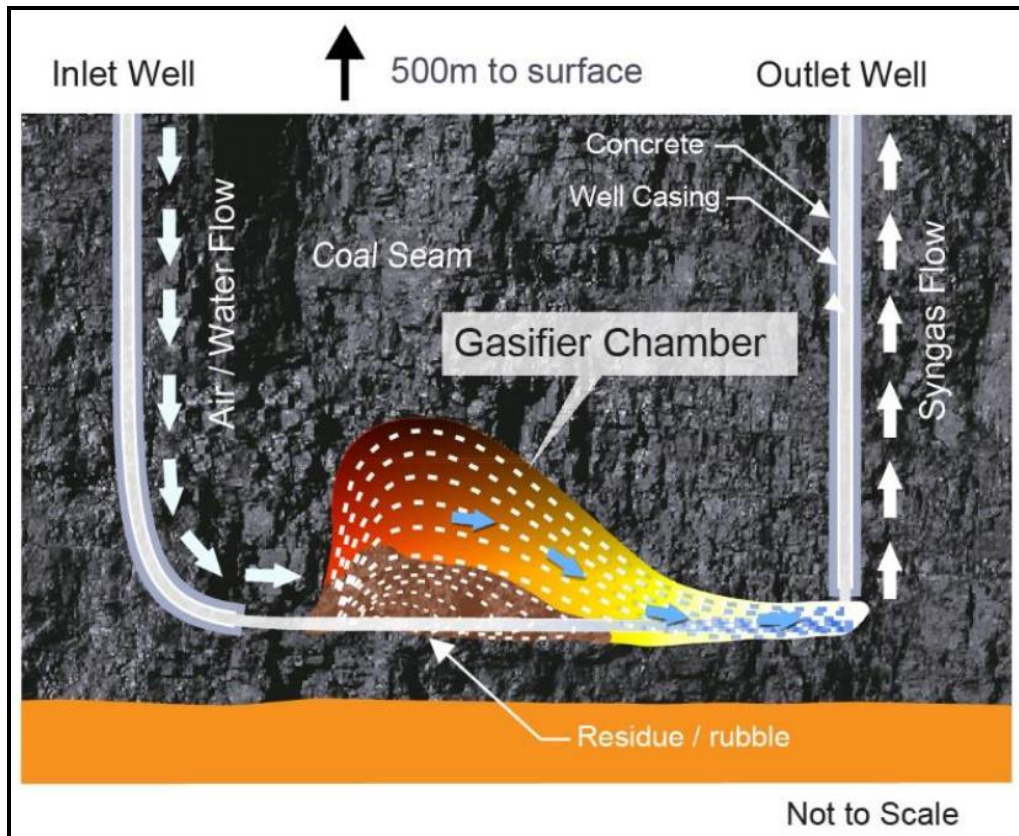


Figure 7 – Diagram showing the creation of a gasifier chamber and the flow of syngas via the outlet well (courtesy of Applicant)



#### **Prior ISG works undertaken within the Application Area by the Applicant**

AAR understands that in 2018 and 2019, the Applicant constructed and operated a Pre-Commercial Demonstration (PCD) plant within the southern part of the Application Area, which was authorised under the PGE Act. The purpose of the PCD plant was to ascertain whether the ISG techniques proposed by the Applicant would be suitable for syngas production, and whether the coal resource was of a sufficient quality to make further ISG production commercially viable.

The Applicant's PCD project involved the installation and operation of an underground gasifier at a depth of approximately 540 metres, and the installation of associated above-ground equipment. The PCD plant was decommissioned completely by 11 April 2019.

#### **PROPOSED ACTIVITIES**

The Project will involve a range of ground-disturbing works to be carried out over PRL 247, PPL 269 and AAL 269. These activities can be separated into two categories: **Production Activities**, which include all activities allowed under either a PRL or a PPL; and **Associated Activities**, which include all activities allowed under an AAL.

#### **Production Activities**

Section 10(1) of the PGE Act provides a list of defined 'regulated activities' that may be authorised under that Act. Further, section 10(3) of the PGE Act provides a list of specific activities that may be undertaken when conducting 'regulated activities'.

In accordance with sections 10(1) and 10(3) of the PGE Act and, where applicable, the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (PDI Act), Production Activities within the Application Area may include:

- a. physical, seismic and geophysical surveys of land
- b. hydrogeological, geotechnical and geological studies
- c. drilling programs for production, hydrogeological and/or monitoring purposes
- d. the injection of water or some other substance into a natural reservoir in order to enhance production of petroleum or another regulated substance
- e. processing of substances recovered from a well
- f. construction of borrow pits
- g. installation and operation of plant and equipment
- h. use of a natural reservoir to store a regulated substance
- i. water disposal
- j. construction of roads, camps, airports, buildings, rail and other infrastructure
- k. construction of water harvest, production, and treatment plants
- l. installation of all related underground services related to production and processing of substances recovered from a well and injected in the wells
- m. installation of in-ground, underground and above-ground services and conduits related to water production and power production, including transport requirements for both the water and power production and their related activities.
- n. manufacturing facilities for by-products related to substances recovered from wells, including in-ground, underground and above ground
- o. installation of storage facilities and all related in-ground, underground and above-ground activities
- p. construction of in-ground, underground and above-ground product loading facilities.

Please note that the list of activities above has been adapted from information provided by the Applicant. The Applicant advises that activities listed as 'k' through 'p' inclusive are also likely to require approval under the PDI Act.

### **Associated Activities**

Further to the Production Activities listed above, the Applicant proposes to undertake Associated Activities within AAL 292 that include:

- installation of all related underground services related to production and processing of substances recovered from the wells and injected in the wells
- installation of underground and above-ground services related to water producing and transport, power producing and transport
- construction of manufacturing facilities for by-products related to substances recovered from wells
- installation of storage facilities and related activities
- land access for conducting 2D and/or 3D seismic surveys
- drilling of lateral wells for the establishment of underground gasifiers in the Main Series coal seam within PRL 247 or PPL 269
- drilling of exploration and water investigation wells to better understand the geology and hydrology of the area adjacent to the gas reserves
- monitoring of water levels and water chemistry of the ground and surface water within the Main Series Pit, and any activities associated with gaining access to this area
- access and monitor existing groundwater monitoring wells drilled into the Lower Series coal seam
- drilling and establishing new groundwater monitoring wells for the Lower Series coal seam and underlying basement
- geotechnical monitoring of the Main Series pit walls to ensure that the pit walls do not become geotechnically unstable
- provide access roads to various infrastructure that support the production of petroleum products from the PPL.

Please note, the list of activities above has been adapted from information provided by the Applicant.

## **Upstream and Downstream Development**

The Applicant advises that its proposed Production Activities will be separated into two phases of work: 'Upstream Development' and 'Downstream Development'.

### **Upstream Development**

The Applicant advises that Upstream Development will involve the drilling of production wells to operate gasifiers, which will in-turn increase syngas production capacity. Monitoring wells and water production wells will also be drilled, and a small power station will be constructed within PPL 269. The power station will provide power to the Applicant's compressors and will alleviate pressure on the South Australian power network. Power sourced from this power station may be connected into the power grid through existing infrastructure.

As part of the Upstream Development, up to an estimated 200 new gasifier chambers will be created over a period of around 25 years. The Applicant also advises that, while the proposed power plant will be located mostly above-ground, it will also require construction of footings, as well as underground services and other infrastructure as required.

### **Downstream Development**

Once a number of gasifiers are operational and are producing syngas, the Applicant intends to construct a gas-processing plant, a power plant, as well as other facilities for the production and transport out of the Application Area (via rail or road) of fertiliser, urea, ammonia hydrogen and/or other related products. This will be undertaken subject to relevant feasibility studies.

The Applicant advises that this phase will include the construction of all facilities for the processing and transportation of syngas and its products; the installation of pipelines and services in and above-ground; water treatment facilities; and the construction of manufacturing and storage facilities.

The Applicant notes that some facilities associated with Downstream Development may be constructed outside of the Application Area; however, this is not yet confirmed. The Applicant advises that the construction of any of these facilities will likely be subject to approvals under the PDI Act. Any development outside of the Application Area will require further authorisation under the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

The Applicant also advises that while the proposed processing facilities will be located mostly above-ground, it will also involve the construction of footings, as well as the installation of underground services and other infrastructure as required.

## **STATEMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS**

The Applicant advises that potential environmental impacts as a result of the Project will be considered and managed through the requirements of a Statement of Environmental Objectives (SEO) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), as required under the PGE Act.

As of December 2020, there are currently two existing SEOs and EIRs that apply to the Project:

- 'PEL 650 Drilling Operations' – gazetted in March 2020
- 'Geophysical Operations in PEL 650' – gazetted in September 2020.

The Applicant advises that the activities approved under the current geophysical and drilling EIR/SEO may be conducted anywhere within the Application Area pursuant to either the PRL 247, PPL 269 or AAL 292 as applicable.

However, the Applicant advises that it intends to conduct these activities pursuant to PPL 269. The Applicant advises that all other future Production and Associated Activities (as detailed above) within PRL 247, PPL 269 and AAL 292 will require a new EIR/SEO.

Provisions for the management of Aboriginal heritage within the Applicant's existing SEOs, which are relevant only to the drilling of test wells and the conduct of seismic surveys, include:

- ensuring that any new land disturbance (for activities undertaken pursuant to PEL 650) is contained within areas 'cleared' by WAC surveys undertaken with ATLA, and otherwise undertaken in accordance with the Act
- the flagging/fencing off of areas of cultural heritage sensitivity
- training for personnel on Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness and their obligations under the Act
- the halting of work within the vicinity of the discovery in the event that potential Aboriginal heritage has been encountered
- where Aboriginal heritage is encountered, contacting ATLA to identify an appropriate course of action
- reporting discoveries of Aboriginal heritage to AAR
- where possible, using existing tracks, roads or seismic lines for access.

The Applicant advises that all Project activities will be undertaken in compliance with the Act. Further, the Applicant advises that the heritage management measures contained within the existing drilling and geophysical SEOs will likely be retained in the future SEO for Production and Associated Activities within PRL 247, PPL 269 and AAL 292.

The Applicant's current geophysical and drilling SEO/EIRs also contain provisions for minimising adverse effects on the environment, eliminating, as far as is practicable, the risk of significant long-term environmental damage, and ensuring that land adversely affected by regulated activities is rehabilitated.

However, as noted above, the Applicant's current geophysical and drilling SEO/EIRs relate only to the drilling of test wells and undertaking seismic surveys. Environmental management and rehabilitation measures associated with future Production and Associated Activities (as detailed above) within PRL 247, PPL 269 and AAL 292 will be the subject a new SEO/EIR.

While a SEO/EIR has not yet been developed for the remainder of Project (that is, for those works that go beyond the drilling of test wells and the conduct of seismic surveys), the Applicant advises that it intends to follow a similar environmental management and rehabilitation plan for the Application Area as that outlined in its 2018 PCD SEO. The Applicant's 2018 PCD SEO, among other things, outlined criteria for:

- avoiding damage to Aboriginal heritage where possible and obtaining authorisation under the Act where necessary
- managing ground water quality
- minimising contamination of soil
- preventing loss of gasification products onto the ground surface, or into sub-surface environments
- avoiding contamination of surface water resources
- minimising disturbance to native vegetation and fauna.

The Applicant's 2018 PCD SEO also provides for the rehabilitation of subsurface and surface areas, including the decommissioning of gasifiers, the removal of surface infrastructure, backfilling of excavated areas and the restoration of existing drainage patterns.

A copy of the Applicant's drilling and geophysical EIR/SEO's may be obtained by visiting [https://www.energymining.sa.gov.au/petroleum/legislation\\_and\\_compliance/environmental\\_register](https://www.energymining.sa.gov.au/petroleum/legislation_and_compliance/environmental_register).

### Additional heritage management measures proposed by the Applicant

In order to manage Aboriginal heritage during the Project, the Applicant has developed a Heritage Discovery Procedure. This procedure has been developed to prevent disturbance to newly discovered and existing Aboriginal sites, consistent with the requirements of the Applicant's existing geophysical and drilling EIR/SEOs. The procedure also outlines the need for authorisation under the Act prior to any disturbance to Aboriginal heritage.

In addition, the Applicant advises it will develop an overarching Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) to manage heritage risks specific to the Project. The CHMP will be developed to identify procedures to manage, mitigate and minimise potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage during the Project. The Applicant advises that it has made an offer to consult with ATLA, and seek its input, for the development of the CHMP. In the absence of feedback from ATLA, the Applicant's CHMP will be primarily based on its CHMP for its previous PCD operations, as updated for the specifics of the Project as necessary.

The Applicant acknowledges that if the authorisation sought is granted by the Premier, compliance with AAR's *Aboriginal Heritage Discovery Protocols* will likely be a condition of those authorisations. This condition would apply to activities undertaken by the Applicant, its staff and contractors, as well as any permitted assigns. AAR's *Aboriginal Heritage Discovery Protocols* (see Attachment 3) provide for the appropriate management of Aboriginal heritage where authorisation under section 23 has been granted for a project. Adherence with AAR's *Aboriginal Heritage Discovery Protocols* would supplement the Applicant's own Heritage Discovery Procedure.

## **SECTION 13 CONSULTATION**

Prior to considering whether to grant the section 23 authorisation sought by the Applicant, section 13 of the Act requires the Premier to take all reasonable steps to consult with the Committee, Traditional Owners and any other Aboriginal parties that he considers may have an interest in the matter.

### Invitation for submissions from interested Aboriginal parties

Verbal and written submissions are invited from all such interested Aboriginal parties. Consultees may make a submission to AAR by phone, letter or email. Anyone in receipt of this consultation information package is encouraged to share it with other Aboriginal parties who may also have an interest. Electronic copies are available online at: [dpc.sa.gov.au/heritage-applications](http://dpc.sa.gov.au/heritage-applications).

## **THE CONSULTATION PERIOD CLOSSES ON FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2021.**

In line with social distancing considerations, no public meeting is scheduled as part of this consultation process. However, AAR will endeavour to contact key Traditional Owners as well as Aboriginal people and organisations with a known interest in the Application Area prior to the closure of the consultation period. If you do not receive a telephone call, but wish to learn more about the Project and/or lodge a submission, please call AAR on (08) 8226 8900, or write to:

Mr Alex van Wessem  
Principal Project Officer (Heritage)  
Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet  
GPO Box 2343 ADELAIDE SA 5001  
Email: [DPC-AAR.CIR@sa.gov.au](mailto:DPC-AAR.CIR@sa.gov.au)

When making a submission, consultees should, as a minimum, consider, and provide feedback on the following key questions:

1. **Should the authorisation sought be granted to the Applicant? Why or why not?**
2. **If the authorisation is granted, what conditions, if any, should be imposed on it?**
3. **Are there any other matters that the Premier should be aware of when considering the application?**

Unless otherwise requested, consultee's submissions will be forwarded to the Applicant for comment. Any comments the Applicant makes in response will also be provided to the Committee and the Premier with consultee submissions.

Once the public consultation has closed, all feedback will be forwarded to the Committee for its review. The Committee's own views about the Project will also be sought. AAR will collate consultee and Committee feedback with its own recommendations, and provide these to the Premier within a single brief to assist him to make his final decision about the application.

AAR is happy to answer questions or provide further information about the Project at any time before the consultation period closes.

**ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AAR BY FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2021.**

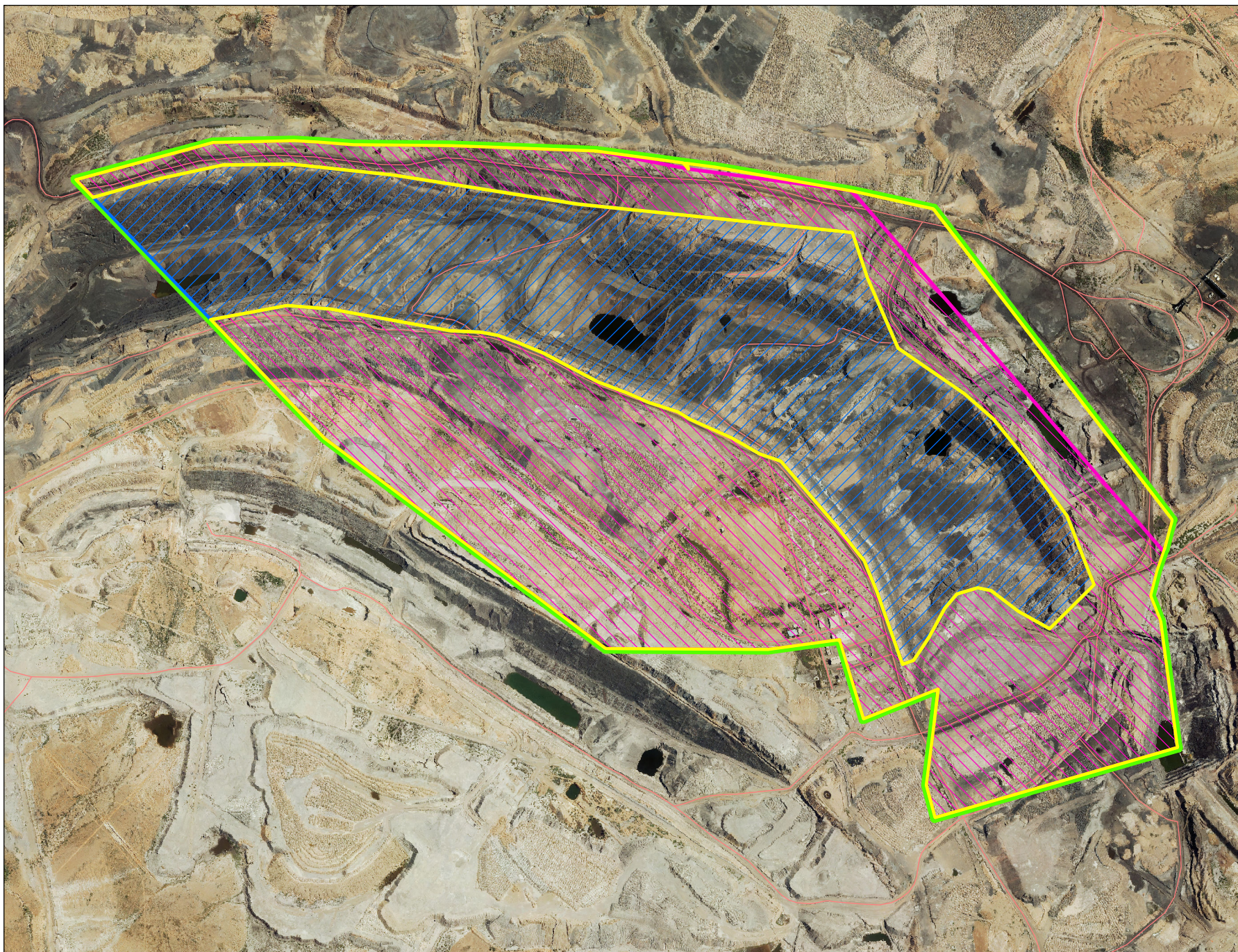
Thank you for taking the time to consider this consultation information package. If you are an interested Aboriginal party, AAR strongly encourages you to make a submission before the closing date.

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1: Map showing PRL 247, AAL 292, PPL 269 in relation to the Application Area

Attachment 2: Map showing PEL 650 and Aboriginal sites listed on the central archives in relation to the Application Area

Attachment 3: AAR's Aboriginal Heritage Discovery Protocols



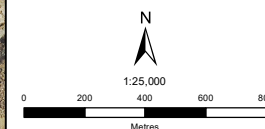
## LEIGH CREEK AREA

### Legend

- Application Area
- PRL 247
- AAL 292
- PPL 269

### Roads

- Highway
- Principal Road
- Secondary Road
- Minor Road

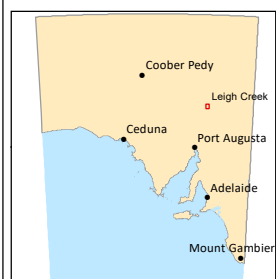
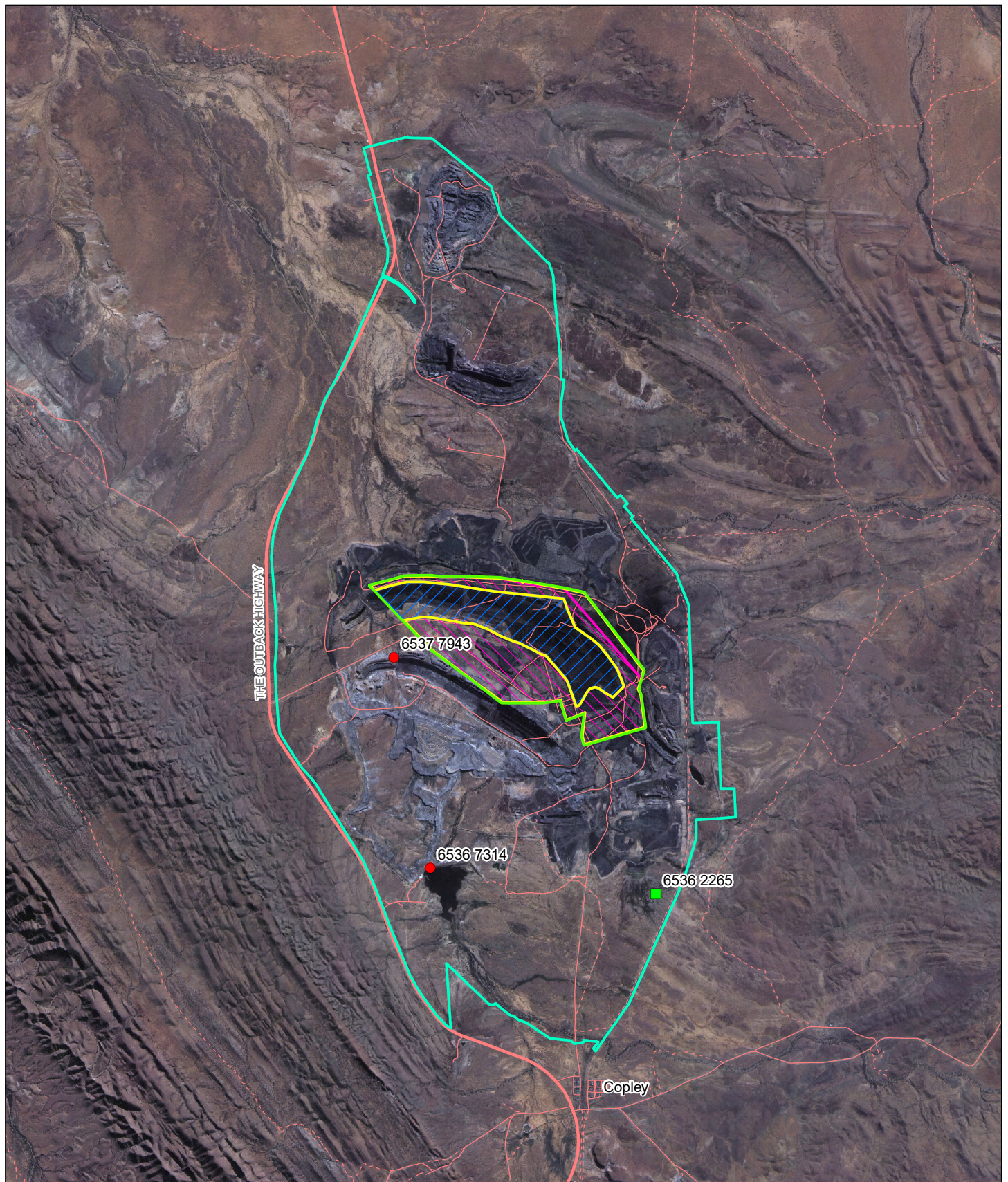


Produced by: Heritage Information Team  
Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR)

Data Source: Roads / Topographic / Parcel ID - LocSA  
Aerial Imagery - DEW  
Heritage Sites - AAR

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020  
Job No: 2020124\_1\_A4\_Imagery (b)  
Compiled: 1/10/2020

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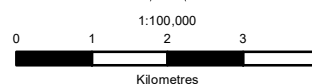


#### Legend

- Registered
- Reported
- Application Area
- PRL 247
- AAL 292
- PPL 269
- PEL 650

#### Roads

- Highway
- Principal Road
- Secondary Road
- Minor Road



#### LEIGH CREEK AREA

Produced by: Heritage Information Team  
Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR)

Data Source: Roads / Topographic / Parcel ID - LocSA  
Aerial Imagery - DEW  
Heritage Sites - AAR

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020  
Job No: 2020124\_2\_A4\_Imagery (b)  
Compiled: 1/1/2020

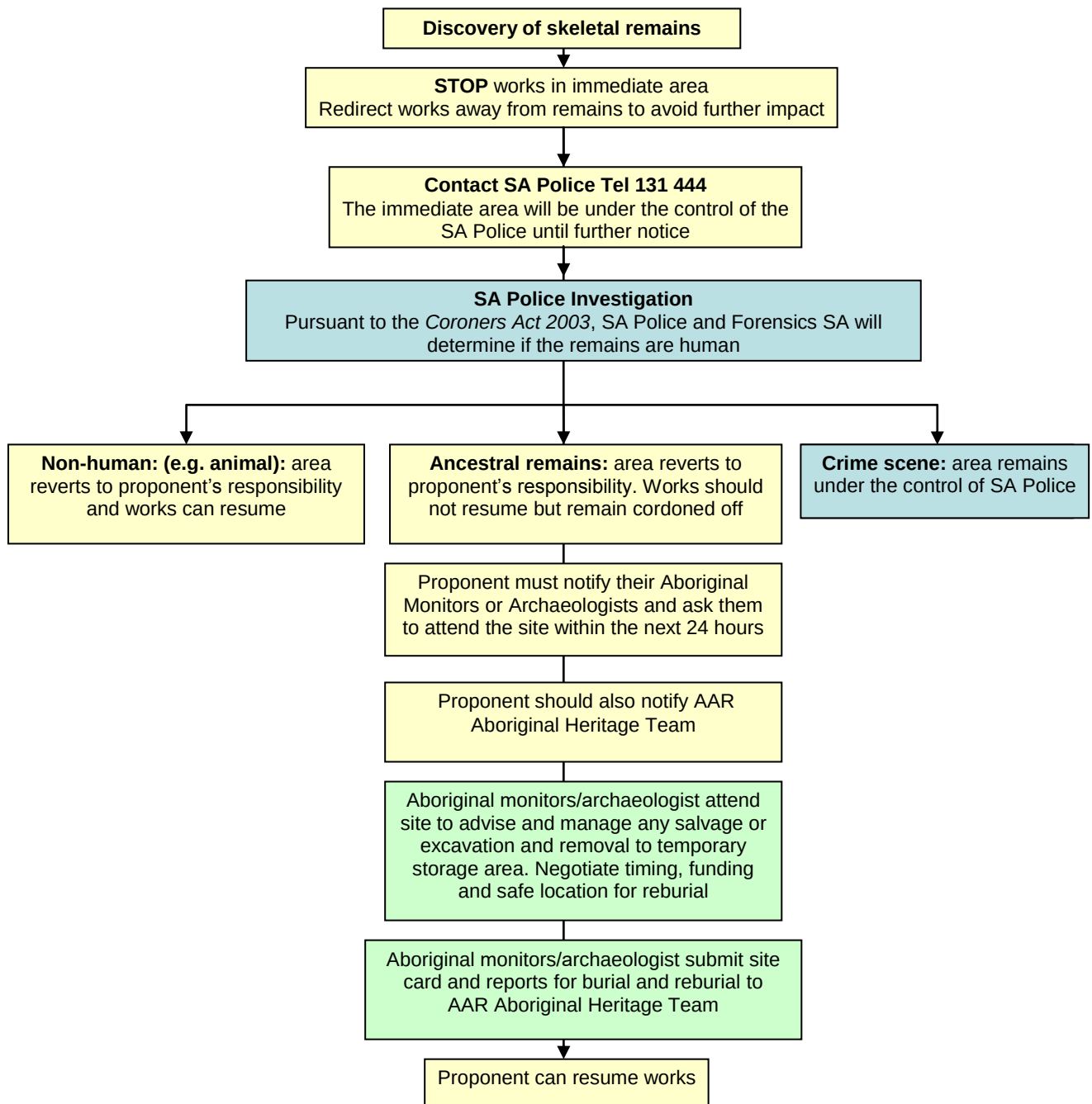
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**ABORIGINAL HERITAGE DISCOVERY PROTOCOL**  
*For proponents holding a section 23 Authorisation*

**Dealing with the discovery of skeletal remains**

It is recommended that prior to beginning work, proponents undertaking ground disturbing works in high risk areas negotiate with the Aboriginal groups and an archaeologist a plan for managing the discovery of skeletal remains.



**Key**

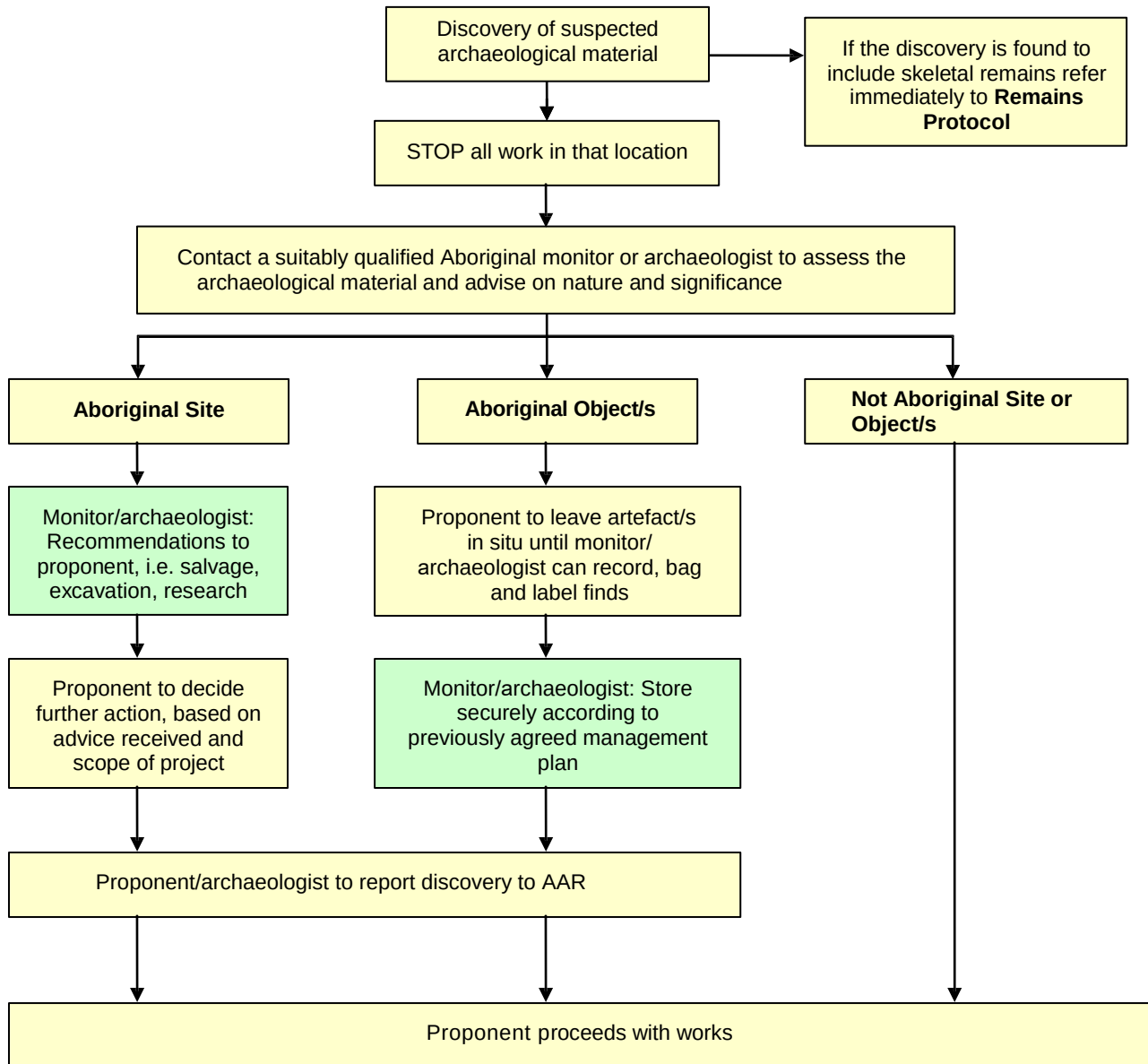
|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Proponent                         |
| SA Police                         |
| Aboriginal monitors/archaeologist |

As part of project planning, proponents may allocate a secure on-site storage area for the temporary securing of remains, pending reburial.

**ABORIGINAL HERITAGE DISCOVERY PROTOCOL**  
*For proponents holding a section 23 Authorisation*

**Dealing with the discovery of Aboriginal sites and objects**

It is recommended that prior to beginning works, proponents undertaking ground disturbing works in high risk areas negotiate with Aboriginal groups and an archaeologist a plan for managing the discovery of any Aboriginal sites and/or objects.



**Key**

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| Proponent             |
| Monitor/archaeologist |

As part of project planning, proponents may allocate a secure on-site storage area for the temporary securing of objects, pending repatriation.