



NEW HOPE  
GROUP



## From the General Manager

### DAVE O'DWYER REFLECTS ON A BUSY FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR.

I am delighted to report New Hope is one step closer to securing the necessary approvals required for New Acland Stage 3.

Last month's decision by the Department of Environment and Science to issue New Acland Stage 3 its Environmental Authority means there are only two outstanding approvals needed, Mining Leases and an Associated Water Licence.

I would like to thank the community for their continued support of the project. Your sustained backing has not gone unnoticed.

I also welcome the opportunity to set the record straight regarding our decision to invest \$2 million into a koala habitat corridor at New Acland.

More than 100 hectares of land will be planted with eucalyptus, paper bark and other refuge trees, designed to significantly boost the local koala population. Bottle Tree Hill, which is an existing environmentally significant area will also be protected in perpetuity.

The \$2 million dollar investment is by way of an Enforceable Undertaking (EU) that New Acland signed with the Department of Environment and Science relating to a dispute over the authorisation of mining in West Pit.

The West Pit mining activity was identified in mine plans of operation prior to the activity occurring, however, DES disputed this.

As a solution and to avoid another drawn-out legal fight, New Acland applied for an EU to resolve the matter, which is a great outcome for the environment and the local koala population.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the team at Acland Pastoral Company, who together with an Aerial Work Operator completed two aerial culls of feral pigs earlier this year. The result is there are 321 fewer feral pigs in the region who were causing all sorts of damage to the local environment.

**Dave O'Dwyer**  
New Acland Mine General Manager



# New Acland Stage 3

## DES ISSUES NEW ACLAND STAGE 3 ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Late last month, New Acland Stage 3 received another key approval with the Queensland Department of Environment and Science issuing New Acland Stage 3 its Environmental Authority.

The Environmental Authority includes the Coordinator General's stated conditions, which were detailed in the Change Report released in May 2022.

The landmark development follows six months of extensive consultation with New Hope Group and key stakeholders and means the Queensland Government can now finalise the remaining New Acland Stage 3 approvals.

Speaking to media, New Hope Group CEO, Rob Bishop said the Queensland Department of Environment and Science's decision to award New Acland Stage 3 Environmental Authority enables the project's Mining Leases and Associated Water Licence to be granted.

"The Land Court process, the Coordinator General's consultation process and now the Queensland Department of Environment and Science's process has allowed everyone, including the project's objectors, to have their say," Mr Bishop said.

"New Acland Stage 3 is the most reviewed, assessed and scrutinised resources project in Queensland's history.

"We're delighted the Queensland Department of Environment and Science agrees that New Acland Stage 3 stacks up environmentally.

"The historic development means New Acland Stage 3's Mining Leases and Associated Water Licence can now proceed to be granted.

"Groundwater, the subject of the Associated Water Licence application, has been subject to exhaustive reviews, comment and assessment by independent experts, peer reviewers, objectors, State regulators and Commonwealth agencies, in advance of, or during, the Associated Water Licence Application process.

"Groundwater is regulated by existing Water Act management area conditions and conditions established by the Coordinator General, the Department of Environment and Science and the Federal Minister for the Environment.

"It's also essential to understand that the New Acland mine does not rely on groundwater bores for any of its mining operations. The mine purchases all its water requirements from the Wetalla Wastewater Reclamation Facility under an existing long term supply contract with the Toowoomba Regional Council."

Once approved, local workers, contractors and local businesses will benefit to the tune of \$1billion over the life of the New Acland Stage 3 project.

At the peak of construction, there will be close to 600 local workers on site at New Acland Mine. Throughout the life of the project, the permanent workforce will be approximately 400 full-time roles, made up of Darling Downs locals.

## APC update

### HARVESTING UNDERWAY

The team at Acland Pastoral Company is very busy harvesting the summer crops of sorghum and mungbean. Despite some weather damage, they are achieving excellent sales prices.

With a full moisture profile, they have also started plating winter crops of wheat and barley.

Weaning will also commence next month with a percentage of calves sold straight away, with the remainder fattened onsite, before being sold into the local feedlot market.

Acland Pastoral Company is also planning to keep approximately 200 heifers to replenish the aging herd.



## Rehabilitation

### RAINFALL BOOST

More than 320mm of rain has fallen across the New Acland area since March 2022, further boosting New Hope's world leading rehabilitation practices.



## New Acland koala habitat corridor development

### MORE EVIDENCE OF NEW HOPE'S COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

In late June, New Acland Coal Pty Ltd announced it will invest \$2 million into an enhanced rehabilitation project to develop a native vegetation and fauna habitat corridor for koalas at New Acland Mine.

The project will increase rehabilitation outcomes from previously mined areas and reinforces New Hope's commitment to environmental sustainability and progressive rehabilitation practices.

Speaking to local media, New Acland Mine General Manager, Dave O'Dwyer said the native vegetation and fauna habitat corridor for koalas will promote greater biodiversity and vegetation.

"The project will connect and substantially expand existing koala habitats from Lagoon Creek to native vegetation north of Acland town," Mr O'Dwyer said.

"More than 100 hectares of land will be planted with eucalyptus, paper bark and other refuge trees, designed to significantly boost the local koala population. Bottle Tree Hill, which is an existing environmentally significant area will also be protected in perpetuity."

"New Acland Mine is already home to one of Australia's most ambitious and practical land management programs."

"Established more than 16 years ago, the progressive rehabilitation program returns mined land to agricultural and conservation uses while contributing to the region's agribusiness industry."

"To date, more than 740ha of land has been rehabilitated. Of this, 349ha has been formally ratified as progressively rehabilitated mined land by the Queensland Government."

The \$2 million dollar investment is by way of an Enforceable Undertaking (EU) that New Acland Coal Pty Ltd has signed with the Department of Environment and Science relating to a dispute over the authorisation of mining in West Pit.

"The mining activity was identified in mine plans of operation prior to the activity occurring," Mr O'Dwyer said.

"However, the Department of Environment and Science disputed this as an accepted form of authorisation."

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 an enforceable undertaking is an agreement that may be considered as an alternative to a dispute being determined by the Courts. New Acland Coal Pty Ltd has now applied for an Enforceable Undertaking to resolve this matter and the Department of Environment and Science has accepted that this agreement be entered into. The Enforceable Undertaking will secure an improved conservation outcome for previously mined land and enable better protection of the local koala population.



## Feral Pest Management

### FERAL PIG NUMBERS REDUCED

In partnership with Acland Pastoral Company, New Acland engaged a certified Aerial Work Operator to complete two aerial culls of feral pigs in May and June.

In total, more than 321 feral pigs, which can wreak havoc on the environment were culled.

We would like to thank our neighbours and the local community for their support and cooperation while the two aerial culls were conducted.

Acland Pastoral Company and New Acland will continue to monitor and reduce feral pig numbers across both sites via trapping, baiting and continued aerial culls.



## New Hope Group donation

### TEN BAITING STATIONS

To help control feral pig numbers throughout the region, New Hope Group has donated ten HOGGONE Feral Pig Baiting Stations to local landholders.

# Care and maintenance update

## STARK REMINDER

Val Gardiner's image of three 793 trucks undergoing maintenance is a reminder of the situation at New Acland.

For almost seven months, the site has been under care and maintenance, with New Hope Group waiting for the Queensland Government to finalise the remaining approvals needed for new Acland Stage 3.

The Department of Environment and Science's decision to issue New Acland Stage 3 its Environmental Authority last month means there are only two outstanding approvals, a Mining Lease which can be granted by Minister for Resources, Scott Stewart and an Associated Water Licence, which may be granted by Minister for Water, Glenn Butcher.



## Enquiries & complaints

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND OUR COMMUNITY OF SOME HELPFUL NEW ACLAND CONTACTS.

For general, non-urgent matters please call (07) 4691 3445.

For urgent safety, environmental or operations matters requiring immediate attention, please call our 24-hour community hotline on 1800 882 142.

You can also reach us by email: [community@newhopegroup.com.au](mailto:community@newhopegroup.com.au)

To find out more, please visit: <https://newhopegroup.com.au/>



## Behind the Scenes

### IN FOCUS

The team at New Acland recently took the opportunity to capture some fresh photos of the workers on site.

The images will be used on a re-vamped website, which will be launched later in the year.



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