Lower Beardy Water Information Sheet

TARONGA MINES PTY LTD

How the Taronga Project Manages and Protects Local Water

What are we proposing?

To collect all potentially mine-affected runoff.

Why are we proposing?

To protect downstream water resources, water users and the environment.

How are we proposing?

All mine-affected runoff would be collected in purpose-built dams designed and constructed by experienced engineers.

These dams would be operated in accordance with various requirements, as stated by either:

- the individual dam design criteria which may include specific guidance from the Australian National Council on Large Dams or Global Industry Standards;
- Dam Safety NSW; or
- Enforceable conditions of consent.

What will we do with the water and why?

Mine-affected runoff would be preferentially used to supply mining and processing operations.

By prioritising use of mine-affected runoff, the Project reduces demand on external water sources and the risk of discharge to the downstream environment.

Can we do this?

All aspects of the Project's proposed water management system and supply strategy, including the collection of clean runoff and licensed groundwater extraction are fully permissible and compliant with the requirements of the NSW Water Management Act (2000), Water Management (General) Regulation (2025) and Aquifer Interference Policy (2012).

What does it mean for downstream water users?

The mine-affected catchments are situated in minor headwaters of Little Plant and Vegetable Creeks that represent just 0.3% of the entire Beardy River catchment.

Collection of mine-affected runoff from these catchments may reduce runoff contributions to downstream areas by a similar amount (0.3%).

Runoff collection and licensed groundwater extraction would reduce streamflow by just 0.2ML/day.

We are confident that streamflow contributions to downstream irrigators would be maintained.

How do we know this?

Our assessment is based on actual Beardy River streamflow records collected by WaterNSW at the Haystacks gauge, approximately 33km downstream of the Project.

This assessment used an Australian Water Balance Model that was calibrated to 34 years of continuous Haystacks streamflow data (July 1988 to August 2022) to ensure it accurately reflected actual conditions.

This model:

- recorded a 0.01% difference in modelled streamflow to the actual gauge data; and
- returned similar runoff yields to the regional estimates of other independent studies.

Conclusion

We are confident the Project will not affect downstream water users' access to water.

We believe that the Project is of great benefit to the region and will complement, not compete with agricultural activities.

We maintain an open door policy and remain committed to working with communities in keeping informed on the Project's development, operations and environmental performance.

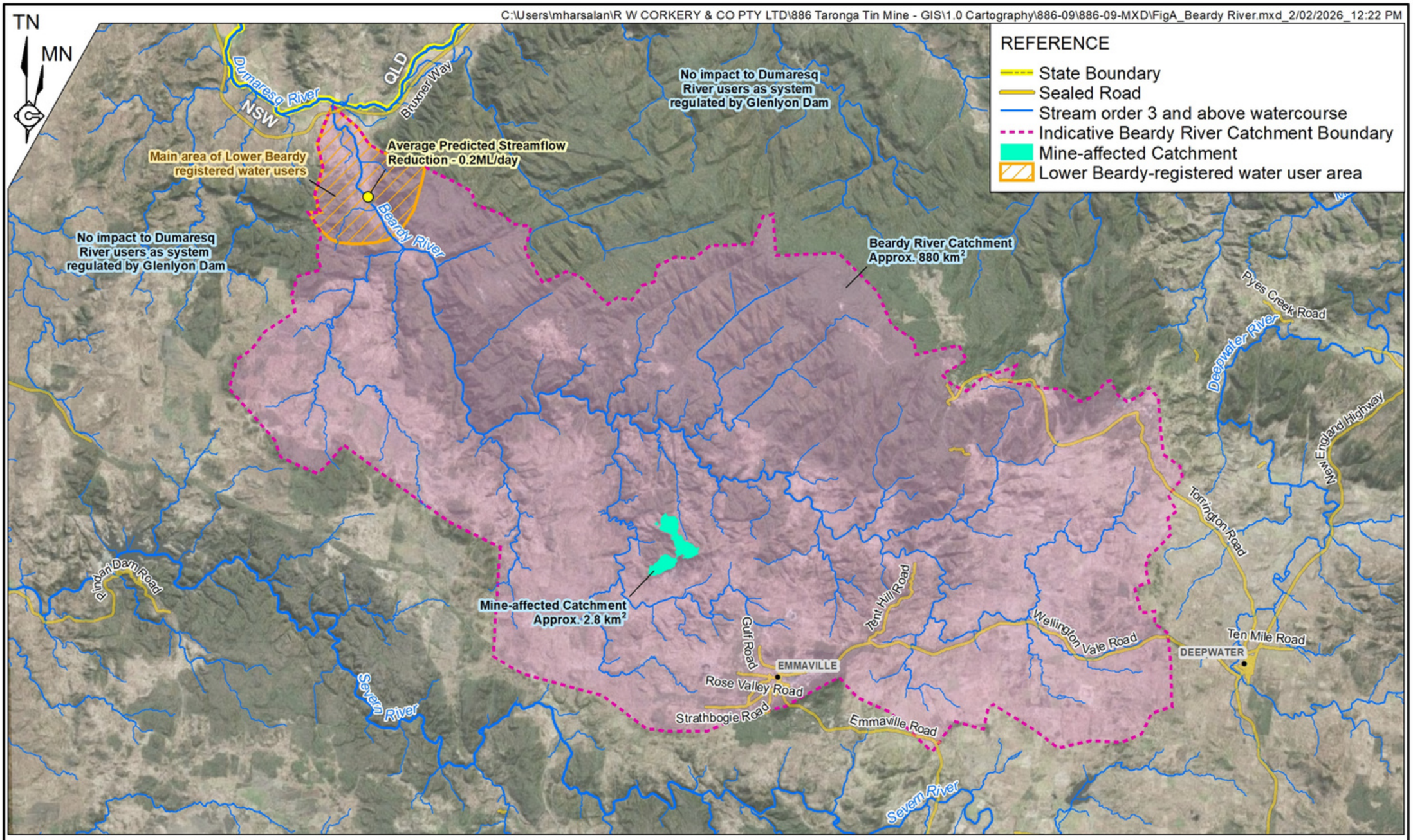

Figure A
BEARDY RIVER, PROJECT SETTING AND STREAMFLOW