



# TARWYN PARK FARM COMPLEX

KEPCO Bylong Australia (KEPCO) recognises the significance of historic heritage in the Bylong Valley, and is committed to minimising potential impacts of the Bylong Coal Project (the Project) to the cultural and historical values of the locality and the region. KEPCO has designed the Project to avoid and minimise direct impacts to local heritage wherever possible. The Tarwyn Park Farm Complex including homestead and horse stables will remain. A Draft Historic Heritage Management Plan and Draft Conservation Management Plan have been developed to guide the management of the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex (including the Iron Tank).

## TARWYN PARK FARM COMPLEX

The Tarwyn Park Farm Complex is located on Upper Bylong Road, and consists of a homestead constructed in 1926, stables and various farm buildings, and an adjoining property called 'Iron Tank'.

There are also locations within the Farm Complex where the previous owners practiced soil hydrology techniques called Natural Sequence Farming.

The Natural Sequence Farming areas are located within the flood plain of the Bylong River and will not be subject to mining.

A number of horses are known to be buried at the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex including two successful racehorses namely Rain Lover (Melbourne Cup winner in 1968 and 1969) and Eloisa.

The farm complex is partially located within the proposed mining area, and there will be direct mining impacts to approximately 11.6% of the total land within Tarwyn Park property including the horse burial locations at the gate, and potential vibration impacts to Tarwyn Park Homestead and Stables.

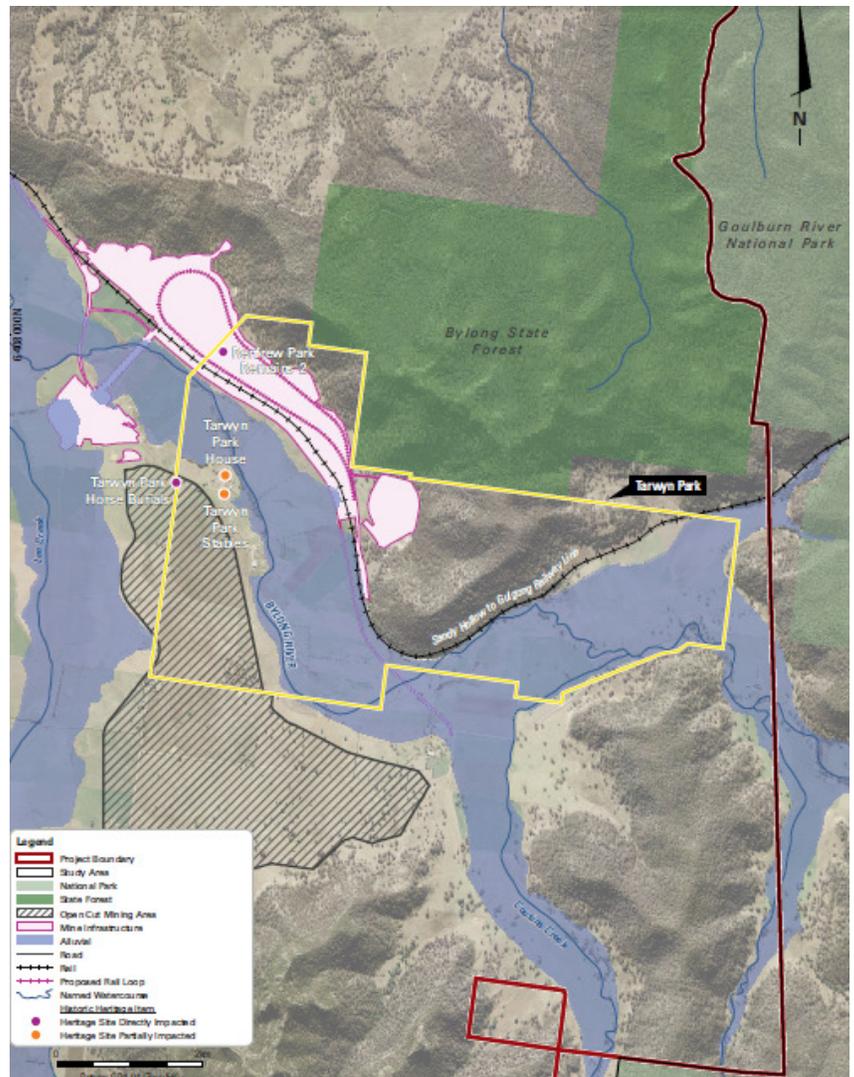


Figure (right) – Tarwyn Park Farm Complex



## HISTORIC HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A Historic Heritage Impact Assessment (HHIA) has been completed for the Project as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the conservation values of the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex and other sites potentially impacted by the Project.

The assessment concluded that the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex, including the Natural Sequence Farming area, is of local heritage significance. While Natural Sequence Farming, as an agricultural model, cannot be assessed in terms of heritage significance, nor can it be 'impacted' as such, the Tarwyn Park property is a physical manifestation of the adoption of this method. As such, application of the Heritage Division guidelines 'Assessing Heritage Significance' (NSW Heritage Office 2001) suggests that as an example of the use of this method, the property would have local heritage significance.

KEPCO met with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Mid-Western Regional Council throughout the EIS process and they both confirmed that the significance assessment for the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex was appropriate. This is evidenced within the Heritage Division of OEH's submission on the EIS which stated: *'The Heritage Division commends the proponent for their efforts in preparing significance assessments for historic sites that would be affected by the proposal, but are not currently protected through statutory heritage listing'* (The Heritage Division of the OEH, as delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, dated 11/11/2015).

Since the preparation of the EIS, further detailed assessments have identified the potential for the heritage values of Tarwyn Park Farm Complex to be of a higher level of significance than at a local level. The comprehensive conservation management regime which KEPCO has proposed for implementation throughout the life of the Project is considered appropriate for conserving the heritage values associated with the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex.

## CONSERVATION OF TARWYN PARK FARM COMPLEX

A **Draft Historic Heritage Management Plan** (Draft HHMP) has been prepared in accordance with the 'Principles of the Burra Charter' (the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013) to guide the management of all sites or items within the Project Boundary and in proximity to it.

As a component of the Draft HHMP, a **Draft Conservation Management Plan** has been prepared for the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex and Iron Tank to provide a management framework that details the ongoing conservation measures to be implemented so as to conserve the heritage values of Tarwyn Park and Iron Tank. The proposed conservation management regime outlined within this document is based upon the 'Principles of the Burra Charter' and 'Kerr's Conservation Plan' (Kerr, 2013).

Blasting management and mitigation measures have also been documented to assist in the control and reduction of adverse impacts on the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex. A **Blast Management Strategy for Tarwyn Park Complex and Iron Tank** has also been developed to appropriately identify and manage potential impacts associated with blasting activities. A baseline condition report (or Dilapidation Report) has been completed for the Tarwyn Park structures to confirm their current condition. Ongoing condition surveys during mining operations will provide information as to the in-situ condition of the features identified.

KEPCO is committed to implementing an industry-leading rehabilitation program. Accordingly, a **Draft Rehabilitation Management Plan** (Draft RMP) has been prepared for the Project. The rehabilitation strategy takes into consideration the cultural values of the identified sites or items and their landscapes, including views and vistas, with the aim of restoring the landscape to its current condition and land use capabilities once mining is complete.

Commencing in the third year of the Project, rehabilitation will see the development of a stable final landform which is compatible with the surrounding environment. Further, KEPCO aims to return the land directly disturbed by the Project to its pre-mining land capability and land use.

Available portions of Tarwyn Park will continue to be utilised for agricultural purposes. To this end, KEPCO has appointed an experienced and qualified Farm Manager to ensure sustainable agricultural practices are being developed and implemented in consultation with a regional agronomist and the relevant regulatory authorities.

Tarwyn Park will be included in an aggregation of KEPCO-owned properties that will provide opportunity for extension of the relevant principles of soil hydrology techniques to other properties within the aggregation, and an opportunity for a level of rotational grazing that could not be achieved on Tarwyn Park in isolation.

To assist in preserving the homestead, and maintain soil hydrology land uses on the property, KEPCO is also proposing to utilise parts of the Tarwyn Park Farm Complex as part of a **Collaborative Research and Education Centre** (or alternative beneficial use). This will also assist in enhancing the local and regional knowledge of the soil hydrology land uses undertaken on this property.

The remains of Rain Lover and other horses buried at Tarwyn Park will be excavated and relocated, a **Horse Burials Management Plan** has been prepared by an experienced archaeologist in consultation with relevant stakeholders.