Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EA0002212

This environmental authority is issued by the administering authority under Chapter 5 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Environmental authority number: EA0002212

Environmental authority takes effect on 8 December 2022.

The anniversary date of this environmental authority is 26 March**.**

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Future Mines Pty Ltd	30 Kendall Ave CAPE WOOLAMAI VICTORIA 3925

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Non-Scheduled Mining Activity Exploration Permit Mineral (EPM)	EPM27259 EPM27278 EPM27300 EPM27298 EPM27407 EPM27917 EPM27761
Schedule 3 09: A mining activity involving drilling, costeaning, pitting or carrying out geological surveys causing significant disturbance	EPM26295 EPM26296 EPM26297 EPM26298 EPM26305 EPM26350 EPM26357

ABN 46 640 294 485

Queensland Government

Additional information for applicants

Environmentally relevant activities

The description of any environmentally relevant activity (ERA) for which an environmental authority (EA) is issued is a restatement of the ERA as defined by legislation at the time the EA is issued. Where there is any inconsistency between that description of an ERA and the conditions stated by an EA as to the scale, intensity or manner of carrying out an ERA, the conditions prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

An EA authorises the carrying out of an ERA and does not authorise any environmental harm unless a condition stated by the EA specifically authorises environmental harm.

A person carrying out an ERA must also be a registered suitable operator under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act).

Contaminated land

It is a requirement of the EP Act that an owner or occupier of contaminated land give written notice to the administering authority if they become aware of the following:

- the happening of an event involving a hazardous contaminant on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a change in the condition of the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a notifiable activity (as defined in Schedule 3) having been carried out, or is being carried out, on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 20 business days)

that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm.

For further information, including the form for giving written notice, refer to the Queensland Government website www.qld.gov.au, using the search term 'duty to notify'.

Take effect

Please note that, in accordance with section 200 of the EP Act, an EA has effect:

a) if the authority is for a prescribed ERA and it states that it takes effect on the day nominated by the holder of the authority in a written notice given to the administering authority - on the nominated day; or

b) if the authority states a day or an event for it to take effect-on the stated day or when the stated event happens; or

c) otherwise on the day the authority is issued.

However, if the EA is authorising an activity that requires an additional authorisation (a relevant tenure for a resource activity, a development permit under the *Planning Act 2016* or an SDA Approval under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*), this EA will not take effect until the additional authorisation has taken effect.

If this EA takes effect when the additional authorisation takes effect, you must provide the administering authority written notice within 5 business days of receiving notification of the related additional authorisation taking effect.

If you have incorrectly claimed that an additional authorisation is not required, carrying out the ERA without the additional authorisation is not legal and could result in your prosecution for providing false or misleading information or operating without a valid environmental authority.

Signature	Date
	8 December 2022

Rebecca McAuley
Department of Environment and Science
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Enquiries:
Minerals Business Centre
Department of Environment and Science
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Privacy statement

Pursuant to section 540 of the EP Act, the Department is required to maintain a register of certain documents and information authorised under the EP Act. A copy of this document will be kept on the public register. The register is available for inspection by members of the public who are able take extracts, or copies of the documents from the register. Documents that are required to be kept on th e register are published in their entirety unless alteration is required by the EP Act. There is no general discretion allowing the Department to withhold documents or information required to be kept on the public register. For more information on the Department's public register , search 'public register' at www.qld.gov.au. For queries about privacy matters please email privacy@des.qld.gov.au or telephone 13 74 68.

Obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

In addition to the requirements found in the conditions of this environmental authority, the holder must also meet their obligations under the EP Act, and the regulations made under the EP Act. For example, the holder must comply with the following provisions of the Act:

- general environmental duty (section 319)
- duty to notify environmental harm (section 320-320G)
- offence of causing serious or material environmental harm (sections 437-439)
- offence of causing environmental nuisance (section 440)
- offence of depositing prescribed water contaminants in waters and related matters (section 440ZG)
- offence to place contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443)

Other permits required

This permit only provides an approval under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. In order to lawfully operate you may also require permits / approvals from your local government authority, other business units within the department and other State Government agencies prior to commencing any activity at the site. For example, this may include permits / approvals with your local Council (for planning approval), the Department of Transport and Main Roads (to access state controlled roads), the Department of Resources (to clear vegetation), and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (to clear marine plants or to obtain a quarry material allocation).

Legislative Requirements and Conditions relevant to EPM26295, EPM26296, EPM2629, EPM26298, EPM26305, EPM26350 and EPM26357

Schedule A - General

G1 At the exclusion of any variation, the conditions contained in this environmental authority are the conditions contained within *the Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2* (ESR/2016/1985). All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the activity complies with the eligibility criteria and standard conditions.

G2 The exploration activity must not at any one time cause more than 10 hectares of land to be significantly disturbed.

G3 The mining activity must not be carried out in a category A environmentally sensitive area.

G4 The mining activity must not be carried out under an environmental authority under which either of the following is, or is to be, authorised—

i. an environmentally relevant activity to which a section of schedule 2 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019* applies and for which there is an aggregate environmental score;

ii. a resource activity, other than a mining activity, that is an ineligible ERA.

G5 The mining activity must not be carried out in a strategic environmental area, unless—

i. the mining activity is authorised under an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to a mining claim, an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to an exploration permit or an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to a mineral development licence; or

ii. the mining activity involves alluvial mining and is, or will be, carried out at a place that is not in a designated precinct in a strategic environmental area; or

iii. the mining activity involves clay pit mining, dimension stone mining, hard rock mining, opal mining or shallow pit mining and is, or will be, carried out at a place that is not in a designated precinct in a strategic environmental area.

G6 The mining activity must not at any one time cause more than 5000 square metres of land to be disturbed at a camp site.

G7 No more than twenty cubic metres of any substance can be extracted from each kilometre of a riverine area affected by the mining activity in a year.

G8 Significant residual impacts to prescribed environmental matters are not authorised under this environmental authority or the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014.*

G9 Records demonstrating that each impact to a prescribed environmental matter did not, or is not likely to, result in a significant residual impact to that matter must be:

a) completed by an appropriately qualified person; and

b) kept for the life of the environmental authority.

G10 The environmental authority holder must ensure that an estimated rehabilitation cost decision is in effect for the activity; and

a) a contribution has been paid to the scheme fund in the amount and form required; or

b) a surety has been given for the authority in the amount and form required.

G11 Where a change in activities will, or is likely to, increase the maximum amount of disturbance caused by the activity, or the estimated rehabilitation cost for the activity, the holder must re-apply for an estimated rehabilitation cost decision.

Schedule B – Land

L1 Notwithstanding condition A13 of the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2 (ESR/2016/1985),* the environmental authority holder is authorised to carry out mechanised exploration activities within the Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas and within five hundred metres of the Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area.

L2 Notwithstanding condition A13 of the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2 (ESR/2016/1985),* the environmental authority holder is authorised to carry out mechanised exploration activities causing no more than three hectares of significantly disturbed land within the Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

L3 Significant disturbance caused by the mining activity within the Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas must not exceed one thousand square metres at any one Work Location.

L4 Exploration activities requiring vegetation clearing within a Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area must be inspected prior to clearing by an appropriately qualified person (e.g. ecologist) to identify potential flora and fauna values within the target area. The final positioning of drilling and access track locations must consider the outcomes of the ecological inspection and be located to avoid impacts to sensitive vegetation or significant fauna habitat.

L5 Records relating to the ecological inspection prior to clearing within a Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area must be maintained for the life of the environmental authority.

L6 All significantly disturbed land created by the environmental authority holder located within a Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area and within five hundred meters of a Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area, must be rehabilitated within forty days after exploration activities within the prospect area have been completed.

L7 The environmental authority holder must not locate a campsite in or within five hundred metres of a Category B Environmentally Sensitive Area.

Schedule C – Waters

W1 Notwithstanding condition B14 of the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2* (ESR/2016/1985), the holder of the environmental authority is authorised to drill, excavate or clear vegetation in a wetland.

W2 All disturbance caused by the mining activity located on wetlands must be rehabilitated within forty days after exploration activities within the prospect area have been completed.

W3 Notwithstanding condition B14 of the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2 (ESR/2016/1985)*, the holder of the environmental authority is allowed to undertake excavation or clearing vegetation within 3m of the top of the bank, 5m of the toe of the bank or, within or on the levee banks of the normal flow channel, which must:

1. be a maximum width of 3 m; and

2. only clear grass and/or shrub species; and

3. be rehabilitated within forty days after exploration activities within the prospect area have been completed.

Schedule D – Definitions

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section. Where a term is not defined, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations or environmental protection policies must be used. If a word remains undefined it has its ordinary meaning.

Term	Definition
Administering authority	Means: (a) for a matter, the administration and enforcement of which has been devolved to a local government under section 514 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*; or (b) for all other matters – the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Science; or (c) another State Government Department, Authority, Storage Operator, Board or Trust, who's role is to administer provisions under other enacted legislation
Annual exceedance probability (AEP)	For a given rainfall event the AEP is the probability that the event will be exceeded within a one year period. The AEP is usually expressed as a one in 'n' (years) or a percentage.
Approved form	Means a form approved by the administrating authority.
Appropriately qualified person	Means a person who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis on performance relating to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.
Archaeological site	A site that has physical evidence of the past, which has the potential to increase our knowledge of earlier human occupation, activities and events.
Artesian drill hole	An exploration drill hole from which water freely flows at a rate of greater than 500 L/hour for at least 7 days after being drilled.
Banks	The feature which confines major flows within a watercourse. They are steeper than a terrace and are generally of a slope greater than 1:1 on outer bends. Refer to Figure 1 – Cross Section through a Watercourse of *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
Bund	(a) An earth mound or similar structure (e.g. a concrete block wall), whether impervious or not, constructed to contain spilled material (e.g. petrol, diesel, oil etc.); or (b) a structure to prevent or reduce soil erosion.
Campsite	The area encompassing any dwelling, amenities (e.g. toilet block, power generator), sewage or general waste disposal facility and includes the office

	area and vehicle parking areas associated with a temporary or permanent mining camp.
Contaminant	The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines, under Section 11, a contaminant as: (a) a gas, liquid or solid; or (b) an odour; or (c) an organism (whether alive or dead), including a virus; or (d) energy, including noise, heat, radioactivity and electromagnetic radiation; or (e) a combination of contaminants.
Contamination	Section 10 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines contamination of the environment as the release (whether by act or omission) of a contaminant into the environment.
Contaminated land	Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines contaminated land as land contaminated by a hazardous contaminant. (See below for a definition of hazardous contaminant.)
Contaminated land register	Means the register kept by the administrating authority under section 541 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Contour banks	Are mounds of earth constructed along the contours of the land to reduce the amount and velocity of run-off down the slope.
Costeaning	The digging of a trench or pit across the seam or ore body for exposing, sampling and mapping of the ore body.
Culvert	A covered channel or a pipe of large diameter conveying water below ground level. Also applies to a tunnel through which water is pumped or permitted to flow.
Declared plant area	Areas designated by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries or Local Government as areas infested with plants declared under *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*.
Declared plant	A plant that has been declared under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002.*
Density of cover	In reference to trees and/or shrubs, it means the number of trees or shrubs in a specified area (e.g. 50 trees per square kilometre). With reference to understorey plant species (e.g. grasses and forbs), it means the percentage of surface area covered by a particular species.
Designated service area	Is a nominated site, selected and managed to minimise contamination of land or water, where the majority of services or maintenance of machinery or plant is to be conducted.
Disturbed	Any area that has had its natural state altered by the action or interference of carrying out an activity associated with the exploration project.

Environment	Section 8 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines the environment as: (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and (b) all natural and physical resources; and (c) the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas, however large or small, that contribute to their biological diversity and integrity, intrinsic or attributed scientific value or interest, amenity, harmony and sense of community; and (d) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect, or are affected by, things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).
Environmental authority	Means a licence or approval issued by the administrating authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Environmental management register	Means the register kept by the administrating authority under section 541 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Environmental nuisance	Section 15 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines environmental nuisance as "unreasonable interference or likely interference with an environmental value" caused by: (a) aerosols, fumes, light, noise, odour, particles or smoke ; or (b) an unhealthy, offensive or unsightly condition because of contamination; or (c) another way prescribed by regulation. (e.g. unreasonable noise or dust emissions)"
Environmental protection policy	Means an environmental protection policy approved under chapter 2 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Environmental relevant activity	Means an activity prescribed by regulation as an environmental relevant activity.
Environmentally sensitive areas	Refers to locations, however large or small, that have environmental values that contribute to maintaining biological diversity and integrity, have intrinsic or attributed scientific, historical or cultural heritage value, or are important in providing amenity, harmony or sense of community. Refer to Appendix 3 of the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
Environmental value	Section 9 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines an environmental value as: (a) a quality or physical characteristic of the environment that is conducive to ecological health or public amenity or safety; or (b) another quality of the environment identified and declared to be an environmental value under an environmental protection policy or regulation (e.g. water suitable for swimming in or drinking).

Ethnographic site	An archaeological site of particular importance to the study of a cultural group.
Final rehabilitation report	Means a final rehabilitation report prepared under section 264 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The report assesses the extent to which the standard environmental conditions and any additional conditions of the environmental authority have been met.
Financial assurance	Means a security deposit, either cash or a bank guarantee, that is held by the administrating authority to cover the potential: (a) costs to rehabilitate areas disturbed by mining activities; and (b) costs to restore property improvements disturbed by mining activities; and (c) failure of the tenure holder to pay rents and royalties.
Flood flow channel	For a representative drawing of a flood flow channel refer to Figure 1¬ 'Cross Section Through a Watercourse' and Figure 2 – 'Plan View of a Watercourse' *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
General waste	Schedule 12 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008* defines general waste as "means waste other than regulated waste". Waste rock, overburden and the contents of tailings dams are not included in the definition of general waste for the purposes of these conditions.
Guidelines for livestock drinking water	Recommended water quality guidelines for livestock drinking water. Refer to the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality 1992.
Hazardous contaminant	Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines a hazardous contaminant as "a contaminant that, if improperly treated, stored, disposed of or otherwise managed, is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm because of: (a) its quantity, concentration, acute or chronic toxic effects, carcinogenicity, teratogenicity, mutagenicity, corrosiveness, explosiveness, radioactivity, flammability; or (b) its physical, chemical or infectious characteristics (e.g.: spills of mercury, cyanide, petrol, diesel or oil)".
Historical site	A site containing objects from the past that allows the study of the way people lived and worked at that place in the past.
Infrastructure	Project infrastructure includes roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, pipelines, powerlines, airstrips, helipads etc., which are constructed or installed specifically for the project.
Lake	A natural or artificial body of water, either permanent or intermittent.
Landowner	Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines the owner of the land as – 1. The "owner" of land is—

	(a) for freehold land—the person recorded in the freehold land register as the person entitled to the fee simple interest in the land; or (b) for land held under a lease, licence or permit under an Act—the person who holds the lease, licence or permit; or (c) for trust land under the Land Act 1994—the trustees of the land; or (d) for Aboriginal land under the Aboriginal Land Act 1991—the persons to whom the land has been transferred or granted; or (e) for Torres Strait Islander land under the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991—the persons to whom the land has been transferred or granted; or (f) for land for which there is a native title holder under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth) —each registered native title party in relation to the land. 2. Also, a mortgagee of land is the owner of the land if— (a) the mortgagee is acting as a mortgagee in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land; or (b) the mortgagee, or a person appointed by the mortgagee, is in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land.
Licensed general waste disposal facility	A site authorised by the administrating authority to receive general waste or limited regulated waste (e.g. a rubbish dump).
Limited regulated waste	Schedule 12 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008*, defines limited regulated waste. The only limited regulated wastes relevant to mining projects are asbestos and tyres.
Material environmental harm	Section 16 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines material environmental harm as: 1. material environmental harm is environmental harm (other than environmental nuisance): (a) that is not trivial or negligible in nature, extent or context; or (b) that causes actual or potential loss or damage to property of an amount of, or amounts totalling, more than the threshold amount but less than the maximum amount; or (c) that results in costs of more than the threshold amount but less than the maximum amount being incurred in taking appropriate action to: i. prevent or minimise the harm; and ii. rehabilitate or restore the environment to its condition before the harm. In this section:

	"maximum amount" means the threshold amount for serious environmental harm. "threshold amount" means $5 000 or, if a greater amount is prescribed by regulation, the greater amount.
Mine	Section 6A of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*, defines mining as – (1) "Mine" means to carry on an operation with a view to, or for the purpose of (a) winning mineral from a place where it occurs; or (b) extracting mineral from its natural state; or (c) disposing of mineral in connection with, or waste substances resulting from, the winning or extraction. (2) For subsection (1), extracting includes the physical, chemical, electrical, magnetic or other way of separation of a mineral. (3) Extracting includes, for example, crushing, grinding, concentrating, screening, washing, jigging, tabling, electro winning, solvent extraction electro winning (SX-EW), heap leaching, flotation, fluidised bedding, carbon-in-leach (CIL) and carbon-in-pulp (CIP) processing. (4) However, extracting does not include (a) a process in a smelter, refinery or anywhere else by which mineral is changed to another substance; or (b) testing or assaying small quantities of mineral in teaching institutions or laboratories, other than laboratories situated on a mining lease; or (c) an activity, prescribed under a regulation, that is not directly associated with winning mineral from a place where it occurs. (5) For subsection (1), includes the disposal of tailings and waste rock. A regulation under subsection (4)(c) may prescribe an activity by reference to the quantities of minerals extracted or to any other specified circumstances.
Native vegetation	Vegetation that occurs naturally in a certain area.
Noise sensitive place	Means any of the following places – (a) a dwelling; (b) a library, childcare centre, kindergarten, school, college, university or other educational institution; (c) a hospital, surgery or other medical institution; (d) a protected area or an area identified under a conservation plan as a critical habitat or an area of major interest, under the Nature Conservation Act 1992;

	(e) a marine park under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*; and (f) a park or garden that is open to the public (whether or not on payment of money) for use other than for sport or organised entertainment).
Normal flow channel	For a representative drawing of a normal flood flow channel of a water course refer to Figure 1 – 'Cross Section Through a Watercourse' and Figure 2 - 'Plan View of a Watercourse' in *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
Notifiable activity	Means an activity in schedule 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Prospect area	Contiguous area where exploration activities are undertaken to search for a specific suite of minerals.
Outer bends	For a representative drawing of an outer bend of a watercourse refer to Figure 1 – "Cross Section Through a Watercourse" and Figure 2 – "Plan View of a Watercourse" in *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
Overburden	Material overlying a mineral ore deposit, up to but not including the topsoil.
Prescribed environmental matters	Section 10 of the Environmental Offsets Act 2014 defines this as being limited to the Matters of State Environmental Significance listed in schedule 2 of the *Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014*.
Prospect area	Contiguous area where exploration activities are undertaken to search for a specific suite of minerals.
Referable dam	The *Water Resources Act 1989* defines referable dams as (a) works or proposed works that include or would include a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, divert or control water, which barrier (i) is more than 8 m in height and has a storage capacity of more than 500 ML; or (ii) is more than 8 m in height and has a storage capacity of more than 250 ML and a catchment area that is more than 3 times its maximum surface area or full supply level; (b) works (i) that consist of or include or would consist of or include a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, divert or control water or hazardous waste, other than a barrier defined in paragraph (a); (ii) other than a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, contain, divert or control hazardous waste; declared by the chief executive by notification published in the gazette to be a referable dam by reason of the danger to life or property that could or would eventuate upon the collapse or failure of or the escape of hazardous waste from those works and includes the storage areas

	created by the works but does not include a tank constructed of steel or concrete or a combination of those materials. The term does not include a weir, other than a weir that has a variable flow control structure on the crest of the weir.
Regulated waste	Section 65 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008*, defines mining as – 1) Regulated waste is waste that— (a) is commercial or industrial waste, whether or not it has been immobilised or treated; and (b) is of a type, or contains a constituent of a type, mentioned in schedule 7, part 1. 2) Waste prescribed under subsection (1) includes— (a) for an element—any chemical compound containing the element; and (b) anything that contains residues of the waste. 3) However, waste is not regulated waste if it is mentioned in schedule 7, part 2.
Rehabilitation processes	The measures and actions taken to achieve rehabilitation outcomes, including any or all of the following: (a) removing all unwanted infrastructure; (b) backfilling mine excavations (e.g. pits) and capping drill holes; (c) reshaping the land surface to a stable landform similar to that of surrounding undisturbed areas; (d) spreading of topsoil; (e) spreading seed or planting seedlings to promote revegetation; (f) benching ridge cuts and removing any overhanging material.
Riverine area	Refers to the land adjoining and associated with watercourses, including the bed, banks, adjoining terraced land and riparian vegetation. Refer to Figure 1 – "Cross Section Through a Watercourse" in *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.
Sediment pond	A bunded or excavated structure used to contain and settle waterborne sediment running off disturbed areas.
Sediment trap	A device used to filter waterborne sediment running off disturbed areas. May include silt fences, hay bales or grassed strips.

Serious environmental harm	Section 17 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines serious environmental harm as 1) serious environmental harm (other than environmental nuisance) (a) that is irreversible, of a high impact or widespread; or (b) caused to – (i) an area of high conservation value; (ii) an area of special significance, such as the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area; (c) that causes actual or potential loss or damage to property of an amount of, or amounts totalling, more than the threshold amount; or (d) that results in costs of more than the threshold amount being incurred in taking appropriate action to— (i) prevent or minimise the harm; and (ii) rehabilitate or restore the environment to its condition before the harm. 2) In this section - "**Threshold amount**" means $50,000 or, if a greater amount is prescribed by regulation, the greater amount.
Significant residual impact	Has meaning in section 8 of the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014.*
Significantly disturbed land	Land is significantly disturbed if – (a) it is contaminated land; or (b) it has been disturbed and human intervention is needed to rehabilitate it. Significantly disturbed land includes: • areas where soil has been compacted, removed, covered, exposed or stockpiled; • areas where vegetation has been removed or destroyed to an extent where the land has been made susceptible to erosion; (vegetation & topsoil) • areas where land use suitability or capability has been diminished; • areas within a watercourse, waterway, wetland or lake where mining project activities occur; • areas submerged by tailings or hazardous contaminant storage and dam walls in all cases; • areas under temporary infrastructure. Temporary infrastructure includes any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc.) which is to be removed after mining has ceased; or • areas where land has been contaminated.

	However, the following areas are not included: • areas off lease (e.g. roads or tracks which provide access to the mining lease); • areas previously significantly disturbed which have achieved the rehabilitation outcomes; • by agreement with the administering authority, areas previously significantly disturbed which have not achieved the rehabilitation objectives due to circumstances beyond the control of the mine operator (such as climatic conditions); • areas under permanent infrastructure. Permanent infrastructure includes any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc.) • which is to be left by agreement with the landowner. The agreement to leave permanent infrastructure must be recorded in the Landowner Agreement and lodged with the Department of Environment and Science; • disturbances that pre-existed the grant of the tenure unless those areas are disturbed during the term of the tenure.
Site management plan	Means a site management plan approved under chapter 7, part 8 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Standard criteria	As defined in schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*: (a) the following principles of environmental policy as set out in the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment— (i) the precautionary principle; (ii) intergenerational equity; (iii) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity; and (b) any applicable Commonwealth or State government plans, standards, agreements or requirements about environmental protection or ecologically sustainable development; and (c) any applicable environmental impact study, assessment or report; and (d) the character, resilience and values of the receiving environment; and (e) all submissions made by the applicant and submitters; and (f) best practice environmental management for activities under any relevant instrument, or proposed instrument, as follows—; (i) an environmental authority; (ii) a transitional environmental program;

	(iii) an environmental protection order; (iv) a disposal permit; (v) a development approval; and (g) the financial implications of the requirements under an instrument, or proposed instrument, mentioned in paragraph (g) as they would relate to the type of activity or industry carried out, or proposed to be carried out, under the instrument; and (h) the public interest; and (i) any applicable site management plan; and (j) any relevant integrated environmental management system or proposed integrated environmental management system; and (k) any other matter prescribed under a regulation.
Standard environmental conditions	For an environmental authority, means the standard environmental conditions approved for the authority under Chapter 5A Part 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
Standard mining activity	Means a mining activity decided to be a standard activity under section 151 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.
Suitability statement	The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* defines a suitability statement as: for land, means a statement about the uses and activities for which the land is suitable.
Technical guidelines	Guidelines that indicate best practice environmental management.
Topsoil	The surface layer of a soil profile, which is usually more fertile, darker in colour, better structured and supports greater biological activity than underlying layers. The surface layer may vary in depth depending on soil forming factors, including parent material, location and slope, but generally is not greater than about 300mm in depth from natural surface.
Unreasonable noise	Section 18 of the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 1997* defines unreasonable noise as noise that: (a) causes unlawful environmental harm; and (b) is unreasonable, having regard to the following matters: (i) its characteristics; (ii) its intrusiveness; (iii) the time at which it is made; (iv) where it can be heard; (v) other noises ordinarily present at the place where it can be heard; and (c) is not declared to be reasonable in Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 1997* 'Reasonable Noise Levels'.

Unreasonable release of a contaminant to the air environment	means a release of odours, dust, smoke or other atmospheric contaminants, that: (a) cause unlawful environmental harm; and (b) is unreasonable having regard to the following matters: (i) its characteristic; (ii) its intrusiveness; (iii) other releases of contaminants at the place affected by the release; (iv) where the effect of the release of the contaminants can be noticed; or (v) the order in which the person releasing the contaminant started to carry out the activity from which the release is made and persons affected by the release started to carry out other activities that may be affected by the release of the contaminant.
Watercourse	Means a river, creek or stream in which water flows permanently or intermittently in a visibly defined channel (natural, artificial or artificially improved) with clear bed and banks and evidence of biological dependence.
Waterway	A naturally occurring feature where surface water runoff normally collects, such as a clearly defined swale or gully, but only flows in response to a local rainfall event.
Wetland	Are areas of permanent or periodic/intermittent inundation, whether natural or artificial, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed 6m. Wetlands typically include areas such as lakes, swamps, marshes, estuaries or mudflats.
Work Location	Means a location that is used for an activity and includes the area of disturbed land that is directly associated with that activity. Examples include a drill hole location, camp site or auger drilling area.

Legislative Requirements and Conditions relevant to EPM27259, EPM27278, EPM27300, EPM27298, EPM27407, EPM27917 and EPM27761

General

G1 With the exception of any variations, the conditions of approval for this environmental authority include the standard conditions contained within the attached document(s) entitled: *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.

G2 Significant residual impacts to prescribed environmental matters are not authorised on EPM27917 under this environmental authority or the Environmental Offsets Act 2014.

G3 Records demonstrating that each impact to a prescribed environmental matter did not, or is not likely to, result in a significant residual impact to that matter must be:

(a) Completed by an appropriately qualified person; and

(b) Kept for the life of the environmental authority.

Definitions

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section. Where a term is not defined, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994,* its regulations or environmental protection policies must be used. If a word remains undefined it has its ordinary meaning.

'appropriately qualified person' – means a person who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis on performance relating to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.

'Significant residual impact' has the meaning in section 8 Environmental Offsets Act 2014. All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the activity complies with the eligibility criteria and standard conditions.

END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Attachment: *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2*.