

Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority P-EA-100300302

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

Environmental authority number: P-EA-100300302

Environmental authority takes effect on the date that your related tenure is granted. This is the take effect date.

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Viking Hoard Pty Ltd	154 Viewers Drive SPEEWAH QLD 4881

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Non-Scheduled - Mining Activity - Mining Lease (ML)	ML100303

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.

The anniversary day of this environmental authority is the same day each year as the take effect date unless you apply to change the anniversary day. The payment of the annual fee will be due each year on this day. An annual return will be due each year on 01 April.

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

02 February 2024

Date

Tony Williams
Department of Environment, Science and Innovation
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Enquiries:
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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 to take extracts, or copies of the documents from the register. Documents that are required to be kept on the 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).

Conditions of environmental authority

General

V1 With the exception of any variations, the conditions of approval for this environmental authority are the standard conditions contained within the document Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for mining lease activities – Version 2.

V2 All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the activity complies with the eligibility criteria and standard conditions.

V3 Prior to carrying out mining activities in the category C environmentally sensitive area – Brooklyn Nature Refuge, the holder of the environmental authority must consult with the relevant administering authority. If it is determined that additional conditions are necessary to manage environmental impacts, the holder must apply to amend the environmental authority.

V4 Any new road or track disturbance must be minimised to avoid impact of environmental values on ML100303.

V5 The holder of this environmental authority must prevent the spread of weeds by ensuring all vehicles and machinery are cleaned prior to undertaking mining activities. The holder of the environmental authority must keep records of the cleaning history of vehicles, machinery and equipment and must be made available to the administering authority on request.

V6 Within active mine areas, the holder of this environmental authority must:

- a) carry out erosion management in a timely manner; and
- b) maintain roads and tracks in good condition; and
- c) carry out a targeted weed control program.

V7 The holder of this environmental authority must ensure an appropriately qualified person(s) undertakes a targeted survey prior to carrying out mining activities, to detect the presence, density, diversity or absence of:

- a) endangered or vulnerable plant species; and
- b) endangered or vulnerable wildlife species.

V8 The targeted survey required by condition V7 must occur in accordance with the latest version of the Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Survey Guidelines for Queensland, Ecological Sciences, Queensland Herbarium and the Flora Survey Guidelines – Protected Plants. Wildlife and Threatened Species Operations, Department of Environment and Science.

V9 Prior to undertaking any mining activities, the holder of this environmental authority must obtain an appropriately qualified person(s) to prepare a Management Plan for any threatened species identified during the survey required under V7, to mitigate or minimise potential impacts of mining activities. The holder of the environmental authority must:

- a) submit the Management Plan to the administering authority prior to undertaking any land disturbance; and
- b) have due regard for any comments received by the administering authority; and
- c) update the Management Plan accordingly and implement.

V10 Vegetation clearing of trees identified in the survey required by condition V7 as actual or potential habitat or nesting trees must not occur.

V11 Vegetation clearing must be minimised to the greatest extent possible to maintain landscape connectivity.

V12 Disturbance for creek access points must be minimised to the greatest extent possible to maintain connectivity of the riparian vegetation.

V13 Rock armouring or appropriate stabilisation of the any creek access points must occur to prevent or minimise erosion of disturbed areas both during mining operations and after rehabilitation is completed.

V14 The holder of this environmental authority must obtain an appropriately qualified person(s) to develop a Revegetation Plan. The holder of the environmental authority must:

- a) submit the Revegetation Plan to the administering authority prior to undertaking mining activities; and
- b) have due regard for any comments received by the administering authority; and
- c) update the Revegetation Plan accordingly and implement.

V15 Land that has been disturbed by mining activities must be rehabilitated in a manner such that:

- a) all disturbed land is reprofiled to match, as near as possible, the surrounding undisturbed areas; and
- b) revegetate disturbed areas with a suitable mix of locally endemic plant species with consideration of the Revegetation Plan required under condition V14; and
- c) erosion is minimised and controlled; and
- d) the vegetation community is self-sustaining.

V16 The holder of this environmental authority must obtain an appropriately qualified person(s) to verify rehabilitation meets condition V15 and provide with any application for surrender or progressive certification.

V17 Rehabilitation of land disturbed for mining activities must take place progressively as works are staged and prior to new mining areas being commenced.

Water

V18 Mining activities within the beds and banks of creeks are not authorised to occur when there is any flowing water within the proposed area to be mined.

Waste Management

V19 Notwithstanding condition B6, general waste cannot be buried within 100 m of a watercourse.

Definitions

Key terms and/or phrases used in Part 1 of this document are defined in this section and the Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for mining lease activities (ESR/2016/2241) - Version 2.00. 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.

'connectivity' includes both structural connectivity (the physical arrangements of disturbance and/or patches) and functional connectivity (the movement of individuals across contours of disturbance and/or among patches).

'disturbed' means land that has been impacted by mining activities and includes:

- a) compacting, removing, covering, exposing or stockpiling of earth
- b) removal or destruction of vegetation or topsoil or both to an extent where the land has been made susceptible to erosion
- c) carrying out mining within a watercourse, waterway, wetland or lake
- d) the submersion of areas by tailings or hazardous contaminant storage and dam/structure walls
- e) temporary infrastructure, including any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dam/structures, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc) which is to be removed after the mining activity has ceased
- f) releasing of contaminants into the soil, or underlying geological strata.

However, the following areas are not included when calculating areas of 'disturbance':

- i. areas off lease (e.g. roads or tracks which provide access to the mining lease)
- ii. areas previously disturbed which have achieved the rehabilitation outcomes
- iii. by agreement with the administering authority, areas previously disturbed which have not achieved the rehabilitation objective(s) due to circumstances beyond the control of the mine operator (such as climatic conditions) and disturbance that pre-existed the grant of the tenure.
- iv. areas under permanent infrastructure. Permanent infrastructure includes any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dam/structures, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc) which is to be left by agreement with the landowner
- v. disturbance that pre-existed the grant of the tenure.

'land' means land excluding waters and the atmosphere, that is, the term has a different meaning from the term as defined in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. For the purposes of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, it is expressly noted that the term 'land' in this environmental authority relates to physical land and not to interests in land.

'self-sustaining' means not requiring on-going intervention and maintenance to maintain functional riverine processes and characteristics.

'threatened' as defined in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY