

Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority P-EA-100649511

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

Environmental authority number: P-EA-100649511

Environmental authority takes effect on 18 October 2024. This is the take effect date.

The first annual fee is payable within 20 business days of the take effect date.

The anniversary date of this environmental authority is the same day each year as the take effect date.
The payment of the annual fee will be due each year on this day.

Transfers of this environmental authority are not authorised.

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Cape Silica Holdings Pty Ltd	Unit 8, 55-61 Holdsworth Street Coorparoo QLD 4151

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Schedule 3 – 9: a mining activity involving drilling, costeaning, pitting or carrying out geological surveys causing significant disturbance	Exploration Permit Mineral (EPM) 17795

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).

Mobile and temporary activities

If you operate a mobile and temporary environmentally relevant activity (ERA), other than regulated waste transport, you are required to maintain a work diary. You must:

- use the approved form for a work diary (ESR/2015/1696);
- keep the work diary records for 2 years after the last entry;
- inform the administering authority within 7 days of the work diary being lost or stolen;
- record the information required in the work diary for each location within 1 day of leaving the location.

Contaminated land

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

- the presence of, or happening of an event involving, a hazardous contaminant on the land that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- if the land is contaminated land – a change in the condition of the land that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm (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 land (notice must be given within 20 business days).

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.

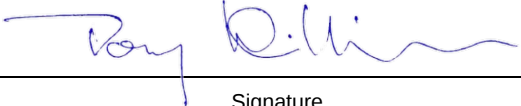
If this EA takes effect when the additional authorisation takes effect, you must provide the administering authority written notice within 5 business days of receiving notification of the related additional authorisation taking effect.

The anniversary day of this environmental authority is the same day each year as the effective date. The payment of the annual fee will be due each year on this day.

If you have incorrectly claimed that an additional authorisation is not required, carrying out the ERA

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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

18 October 2024

Date

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

Enquiries:
Minerals Business Centre
PO Box 7230
Cairns QLD 4870
Phone: 07 4222 5352
Email: ESCairns@des.qld.gov.au

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

Schedule A - General

- A1** 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)*.
- A2** The mining activity where carried out outside the sub-blocks identified in table A1 and on Schedule E – Figure E1 must not at any time cause more than 10 hectares of land to be disturbed.
- A3** The mining activity where carried out inside sub-blocks identified in table A1 and on Schedule E – Figure E1, must not at any time cause more than a total of 30 hectares of land to be disturbed.

Table A1 Areas of interest collectively within which the activity is authorised to cause up to a total of 30 hectares of disturbance.

Location	Sub-blocks
COOKTOWN 2535	W, X AND Y
COOKTOWN 2607	C, D, E, H, J, K, O, P and U
COOKTOWN 2608	A, B, C, F, G, H, J, L, M, Q, R and V

- A4** The mining activity must not be carried out in a category A environmentally sensitive area or a category B environmentally sensitive area.
- A5** 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.
- A6** 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.
- A7** Significant residual impacts to prescribed environmental matters are not authorised under this environmental authority or the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*.
- A8** 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.

A9 The environmental authority holder must ensure that an estimated rehabilitation cost decision is in effect for the activity prior to carrying out any activities on the mining tenement; 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.

A10 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

B1 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 build tracks and carry out up to 4 monitoring bores for geological surveys activities within 1000m and up to the boundary of the Category A Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), provided that no environmental harm occurs within the ESA.

B2 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 build tracks and carry out up to 4 monitoring bores for geological surveys activities within the 500m and up to the boundary of the Category B ESA, provided that no environmental harm occurs within the ESA.

B3 Exploration activities requiring vegetation clearing must be inspected (ecological inspection) prior to clearing by an appropriately qualified person to identify potential flora and fauna values within the target area and recommend management measures where appropriate to prevent or minimise environmental harm. The positioning of locations for exploration activities must consider the outcomes and recommendations of the ecological inspection and be located to avoid impacts to sensitive vegetation or significant fauna habitat.

B4 Records relating to the ecological inspection prior to clearing must be maintained until the environmental authority is cancelled or surrendered.

B5 All disturbed land created by the environmental authority holder located within a Category A and Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas buffer zone, must be rehabilitated in accordance with the rehabilitation requirements in the *Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects – Version 2 (ESR/2016/1985)*.

B6 Tracks must be:

a) less than 3.5 m wide; and

b) less than 2.5m wide for watercourse crossings and adjacent riparian habitat.

B7 All tracks to be retained in accordance with a Landholder Agreement must be assessed to be safe, stable and non-polluting by an appropriately qualified person, prior to ownership transfer.

B8 All areas must have field surveys conducted by an appropriately qualified person prior to any disturbance occurring in order to identify if the soils are Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) or Potential Acid Sulphate Soils (PASS) and if so, must be managed in accordance with **condition B9**.

- B9** An Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan must be developed prior to mining activities commencing in accordance with the latest edition of the Queensland Acid Sulphate Soil Technical Manual and implemented by the environmental authority holder to treat and manage PASS/ASS, to prevent the release of contaminants to water and land.
- B10** Driving along the beach is limited to 2 motor vehicles for 8 days in a month period. The environmental authority holder must maintain records for the life of the environmental authority.
- B11** Significant residual impacts to prescribed environmental matters are not authorised under this environmental authority or the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*.
- B12** 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

Schedule C – Waters

- C1** Contaminants that will or have the potential to cause environmental harm must not be released directly or indirectly to any waters as a result of the authorised mining activities.
- C2** Disturbance for creek access points must be minimised to the greatest extent possible to maintain connectivity of the riparian vegetation.
- C3** Rock armouring or appropriate stabilisation of any creek access points must occur to prevent or minimise erosion of disturbed areas both during mining operations and after rehabilitation is completed.
- C4** Watercourse crossings must not be used during times of flow.

Schedule D – Community

- D1** The environmental authority holder must record all environmental complaints received about the mining activities including:
- a) name, address and contact number for of the complainant;
 - b) time and date of complaint;
 - c) reasons for the complaint;
 - d) investigations undertaken;
 - e) conclusions formed;
 - f) actions taken to resolve the complaint;
 - g) any abatement measures implemented;
 - h) person responsible for resolving the complaint.

Schedule E – Maps

Figure E1 Sub-blocks within the tenure (EPM17795)

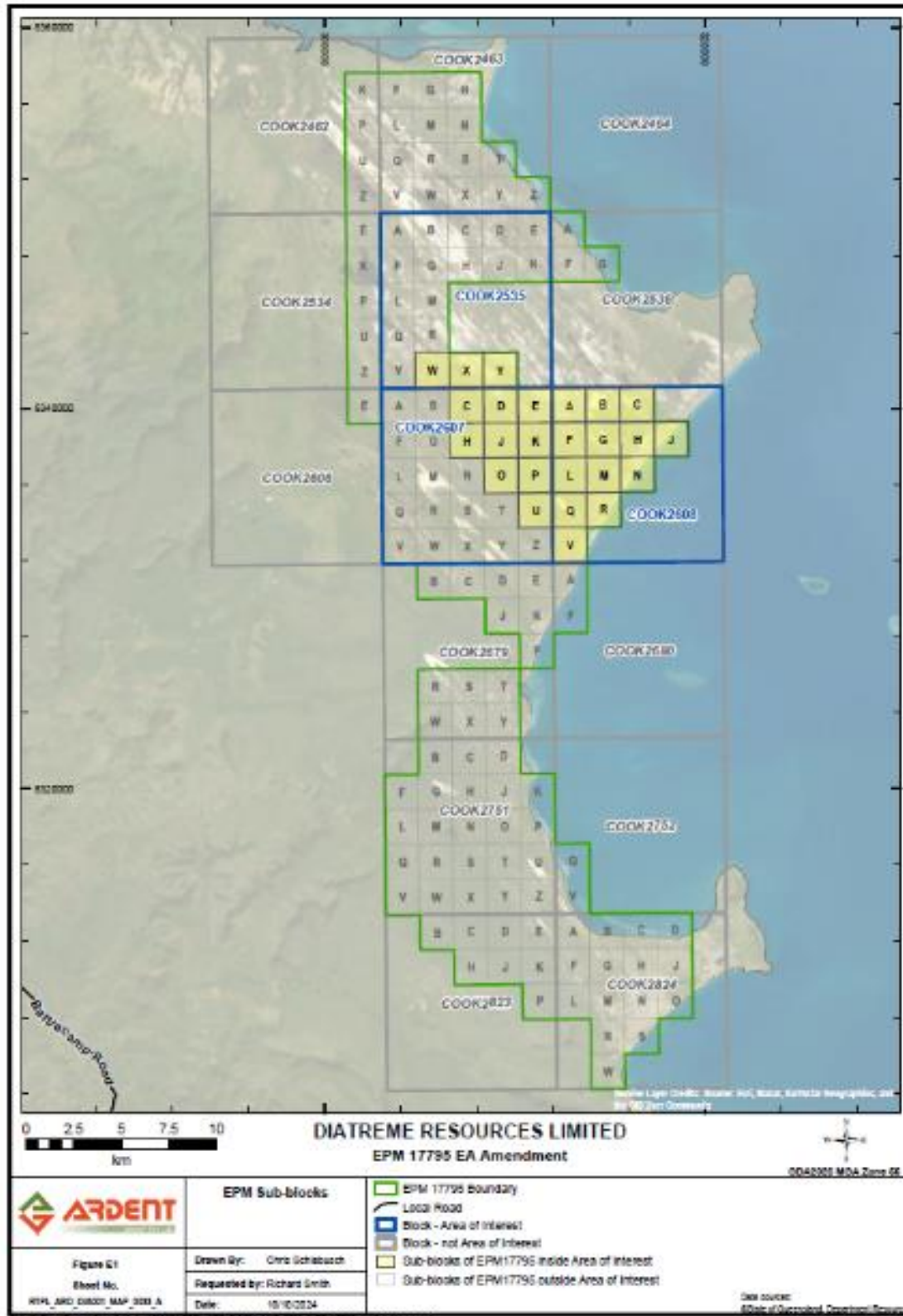
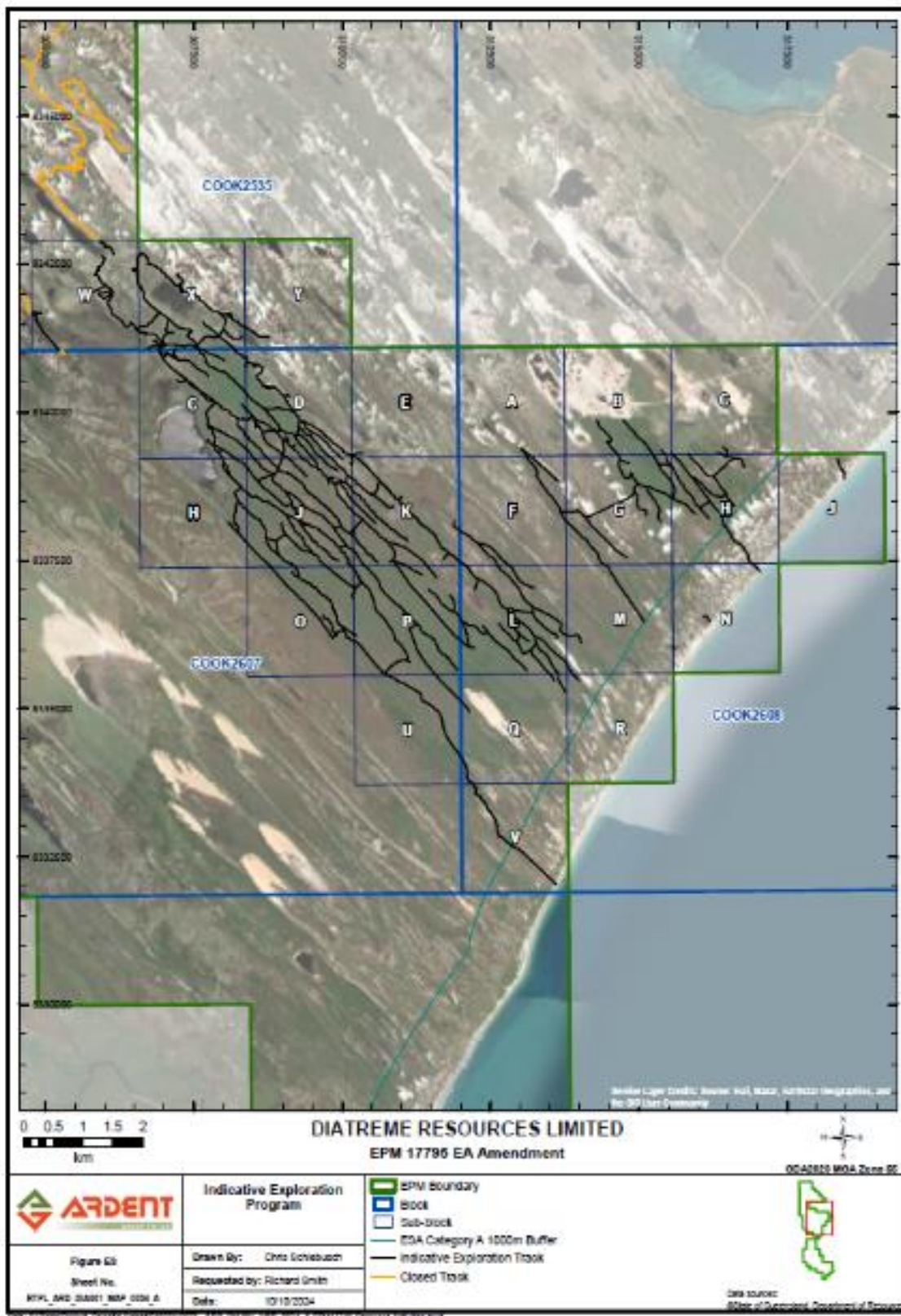


Figure 62: Map of the proposed rail corridor through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The map shows the coastline of Queensland, Australia, with the Great Barrier Reef to the north. The proposed rail corridor is shown as a yellow line running parallel to the coast. The map is divided into three sections: a top section showing the reef, a middle section showing the rail corridor, and a bottom section showing the coastline. The map includes a scale bar (0 to 1 km) and a north arrow. A legend identifies the following features: ESA Category A - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Area (blue hatched), ESA Category A - Marine Parks other than General Use Zones (green), ESA Category B - General Use Zones of Marine Parks (yellow), ESA Category A 1000m Buffer (orange), and ESA Category B 500m Buffer (red). The map also shows the proposed rail corridor (yellow line), groundwater monitoring bore locations (blue dots), and twin groundwater monitoring bore locations (red dots). The map is titled 'DIATREME RESOURCES LIMITED EPM 17795 EA Amendment'.

Figure E3 Proposed tracks location



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.

Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS)	means completely or partially oxidised soils, sediments and other material which have no remnant iron sulfides but contain measurable actual and/or retained acidity that has resulted from the oxidation of iron sulfides and/or unoxidised iron sulfides. These soils have 'sulfuric' or a mix of sulfuric and sulfidic material within the upper 1.5 m of the soil profile.
Administering authority	is the agency that administers the environmental authority provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Aggregate environmental score	for a prescribed ERA is the aggregate environmental score stated for the activity in the section under schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2019</i> applying to the activity. for a resource activity is the aggregate environmental score stated for the activity in the section under schedule 3 of the <i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2019</i> applying to the activity.
Appropriately qualified person (AQP)	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.
Authority	means environmental authority (mining activities) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Contaminant	The <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> 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.
Contaminated land	Schedule 4 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines contaminated land as land contaminated by a hazardous contaminant. (See below for a definition of hazardous contaminant.)
Costeaning	The digging of a trench or pit across the seam or ore body for exposing, sampling and mapping of the ore body.
Disturbance	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.

Environmental authority holder	means the holder of an environmental authority issued under section 195 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> that approves an environmentally relevant activity applied for in an application or any others works conducted by another entity on the approved leases.
Environmental offset	has the meaning in section 7 of the <i>Environmental Offsets Act 2014</i> .
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.
m	means metres.
Mining activities	means an activity that is an authorised activity for a mining tenement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act 1989</i> ; or another activity that is authorised under an approval under the <i>Mineral Resources Act 1989</i> that grants rights over land.
Potential Acid Sulfate Soils (PASS)	means unoxidised soils, sediments, peats and other material with significant amounts of iron sulfides. These soils have 'sulfidic' material within the upper 1.5 m of the soil profile and can be hypersulfidic and/or hyposulfidic, having the potential to produce acid if disturbed.
Prescribed environmental matters	has the meaning in section 10 of the <i>Environmental Offsets Act 2014</i> , limited to the matters of State environmental significant listed in schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014</i> .
Rehabilitation	the process of reshaping and revegetating land to restore it to a stable landform and in accordance with the acceptance criteria set out in this environmental authority and, where relevant, includes remediation of contaminated land.
Significant disturbance	Includes land a) if it is contaminated land; or b) it has been disturbed and human intervention is needed to rehabilitate it. i. to a state required under the relevant environmental authority; or ii. if the environmental authority does not require the land to be rehabilitated to a particular state – to its state immediately before the disturbance. Some examples of disturbed land include: - 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 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 activities have ceased; or
- areas where land has been contaminated and a suitability statement has not been issued.

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 EPA, areas previously significantly disturbed which have not achieved the rehabilitation objective(s) 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 EPA;
- disturbances that pre-existed the grant of the tenure unless those areas are disturbed during the term of the tenure.

Significant residual impact/s

has the meaning in section 8 *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*.

Stable

means geotechnical stability of the rehabilitated landform where instability related to the excessive settlement and subsidence caused by consolidation/settlement of the wastes deposited, and sliding/slumping instability has ceased.

Water

is defined under Schedule 4 of the *Water Act 2000*.

Watercourse

has the same meaning given in the *Water Act 2000*.

Waters

includes all or any part of a river, stream, lake, lagoon, pond, swamp, wetland, unconfined surface water, unconfined natural or artificial watercourse, bed and bank of any waters, dams, non-tidal or tidal waters (including the sea), storm water channel, storm water drain, groundwater and any part thereof.

Wet season

means the period commencing on 1 November each year and ending on 30 April of the following year.

END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY