APO0001739

Approval to undertake assessable prospecting operations

Tallebung

17 April 2024

Application summary

Detail	Application
Reference	APO0001739
Date of approval	17 April 2024
Title	EL 6699 (1992)
Contact	[redacted]
Project name	Tallebung
Project location	Tallebung Tin Mining Field, 70km NW of Condobolin
Activity type	Non-complying exploration activity

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Project

Project details

Application APO0001739 relates to the proposed Tallebung at Tallebung Tin Mining Field, 70km NW of Condobolin.

The application proposes the following characteristics.

Detail	Proposal
Activity description	The drill hole collars will be pegged at the planned site with some adjustment to avoid larger trees, old workings or rough ground where practicable. Access tracks will be planned to make use of naturally cleared areas as much as possible. The access and drill pad will be cleared with a wheeled loader using a raised blade where practicable to minimise disturbance to the surface layers, with vegetation pushed up in piles so that it can be used during rehabilitation of the site. The pads will be cleared and levelled where required to allow safe and efficient access, egress, and operation of the drill rig. The drilling equipment will comprise a truck or track mounted RC drill rig, rod truck, support truck and light vehicles. All the holes are proposed as RC percussion, but 1 or 2 may be changed to diamond drill holes. The level of disturbance is the same. Following completion of the hole the collar will be cut and buried, all materials and waste removed from site and disposed at appropriate facility. Rehabilitation of drill cuttings will involve emptying the green plastic bags and storing the cuttings in a temporary stockpile awaiting decision from the NSW EPA regarding final disposal. The green bags are disposed of at the Condobolin waste facility. Rehabilitation of sites and access will involve removal of all drill spoil, filling of drainage sumps, ripping of compacted surface as required, spreading of topsoil and vegetation. Erosion control bunds will be installed as required. Sites will be left to naturally revegetate.
Earthworks or vegetation clearing	Vegetation will be cleared for access to the drill pads and for the drill pad. Clearing will be, a much as practical, with a raised blade to leave the surface intact. Large trees will be avoided where possible. Some drill pads will require minor earthworks to make level for the drill rig. A small drainage sump will be excavated at each site to capture water

Detail	Proposal
	from the outside return pipe and cyclone overflow. Vegetation clearing will be kept to a minimum to allow safe and efficient access and egress and operation of the equipment. Cleared vegetation will be stockpiled for later use in rehabilitation. All cleared material and spoil will remain on the site. Earthworks will be managed to avoid impact on the NSW Wetland by installing appropriate control measures as outlined in the EMP. (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_Tallebungdrilling_Mar2024). Drill pads near drainage areas will have a bund constructed around the edge of the pad to ensure no water from the drill pad can directly access the NSW Wetland area. A previous access into the Central Lead open pit will need to be rehabilitated and repaired to enable access for the drill rig. The will involve some excavation and earthmoving. This area is outside the mapped area of the NSW Wetland.
Access to exploration activities	Access to the exploration area will be via existing tracks. Some track maintenance may be required to repair damage from erosion from previous wet weather. Access to drill pads will be via cleared lines with no track construction. Access to drill site will be restricted during wet conditions.
Ancillary activities	The drilling contractor will provide a mobile, self contained camp for their staff for the duration of the program.
Anticipated start date	15 May 2024
Expected duration (weeks)	3 weeks
Expected rehabilitation completion date	15 May 2025
Proposed hours of operation	Continuous work hours (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
On-site employee or contractor numbers	6

Exempted areas

The Tallebung has proposed prospecting in the following exempted area(s): undefined

State conservation areas

The Tallebung has not proposed prospecting in a State Conservation Area.

Site description and existing environment

The project comprises the following existing land uses:

The current land use is Crown Land over the historic Tallebung alluvial and underground tin mining field. The area has been extensively disturbed by the alluvial mining with tailings and numerous mullock dumps adjacent to the mined pits. There are numerous underground and open cut workings on the veins covering an area of 1600 x 500m. The veins contain tin, tungsten, minor base metals and are high in arsenic, resulting in a broad arsenic halo around the weathered veins and on the surface from the dumps. Parts of the Tallebung mining area have been declared a NSW Wetland. The proposed activity will not affect the existing land use.

The project is located near the following sensitive receptors:

The nearest residence is approximately 4km to the south of the area of proposed activity.

The project is located with the following soil types and properties:

The Land and Soil Capability Class is 7 indicating the land has extremely severe limitation for most land uses due to rock outcrop, poorly developed shallow and stoney soils which can be highly erodible. This

class of soil is not suitable for any type of cropping or grazing. The land System is Mineshaft and Yarambie both comprise rounded hills and foot slopes with vertically bedded Ordovician sediments. The soils are lithosols and red earths (Rudosols and Kandosols). The lithosols are generally shallow, stoney with rocky outcrops.

The project has the following existing surface water sources in the area that are likely to be affected by the activity:

There are no watercourses mapped on the 1:50,000 topographic map within the area of activity. Existing surface water sources in the area are in the historic alluvial mining pits, which are now part of a NSW Wetland. These will not be affected by the activity.

The project has the following existing groundwater sources that occur in the area that are likely to be affected by the activity:

There are no groundwater sources in the area that are likely to be affected by the activity.

The project is in an area with the following topography, vegetation cover type, density and condition:

The land System is Mineshaft and Yarambie both comprise rounded hills and foot slopes with much surface stone and outcrop and some linear ridges of vertically bedded Ordovician sediments. Relief to 50m with narrow incised drainages on lower slopes. The land system in the area of activity contains the following vegetation, white cypress pine, mallee gum, bimble box, scattered western golden wattle, woody shrubs, a variety of grasses and forbs. The SVTM plant communities in the activity area are Dwyers Red Gum-White Cypress Pine-Currawang low shrub-grass woodland and White Cypress pine-Poplar Box woodland of the Cobar Peneplain Bioregion. The vegetation cover within the activity area varies from cleared due to historic mining, fence construction and previous exploration to open mallee woodlands to thick woody scrub and thickets of cypress pine. All the vegetation has been highly disturbed by previous alluvial and vein mining with the majority of larger trees being regrowth.

The project will impact the following matters of national environmental significance:

A search of the Commonwealth government's Protected Matters Search Tool showed there were no matters of national environmental significance in the activity area. Refer to attached files.

The project is in an area with the following threatened species, ecological communities (or habitats):

The NSW BioNet flora Species Sighting Data on SEED show 9 sighting locations in the vicinity of the activity area. None of the sighting locations contain any threatened species. A search of the BioNet Flora Survey data of Endangered Ecological Communities in a 10 x10km area over the area of activity found 0 records for 5 communities that are known or predicted to occur within the search area. These communities are; • Grey Box Grassy Woodlands and Derived native grasslands of south eastern Australia. Endangered Commonwealth EPBC Act 1999 • Inland Grey Box Woodland. NSW EEC (Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016) • Myall Woodland. NSW EEC (Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016) • Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains. Endangered Commonwealth EPBC Act 1999 • Weeping Myall Woodlands. Endangered Commonwealth EPBC Act 1999 A EPBC Protected Matters search over the area of activity was conducted. The search identified 18 threatened species that may or are likely to occur in the area. There are 3 threatened ecological communities that may or are likely to occur in the area, but the NSW BioNet atlas does not record any occurrence of these in the area. The Biodiversity Values Map does not show any areas of Biodiversity Values. See reports attached to APO

The project is in an area with the following historic cultural or natural heritage items:

A search of the NSW State Heritage Inventory did not contain any records within or near the exploration area. A search of the National/Commonwealth Heritage Register did not yield any results within or near the exploration area

The project is in an area with the following critical habitat/area of outstanding biodiversity value:

There are no areas of Critical Habitat or outstanding biodiversity value in the area of the proposed activity. The entire area has been significantly disturbed by historic mining activity. None of the 5 known endangered ecological communities listed above are known to occur within the area.

The project is located in an area with the following location, type and distance to the nearest Aboriginal heritage sites:

A search of the AHIMS database over the area of activity did not identify any records of Aboriginal sites or places. See report attached to APO. The proposed activity is not within or near any of the features listed above.

Exploration activities

The following exploration activities have been approved.

Drill holes

Id/ Regulator no.	Type	Surface disturbance (m^2)	Veg. Clearing (m^2)	Excavations (m^3)	Produced water (ml)	Depth (m)	Block number	Unit letters
TB136 EDH0014901	RC drill hole	1,000	175	3		200	607	z
TB138 EDH0014903	RC drill hole	490	490	3		200	607	z
TB132 EDH0014897	RC drill hole	200		5		200	607	z
TB140 EDH0014905	RC drill hole	100		3		200	607	z
TB134 EDH0014899	RC drill hole	100	4	3		200	607	z
TB130 EDH0014895	RC drill hole	200	25	5		200	607	z
TB133 EDH0014898	RC drill hole	100		3		200	607	z
TB141 EDH0014906	RC drill hole	100		3		200	607	z
TB135 EDH0014900	RC drill hole	280	25	13		200	607	z
TB137 EDH0014902	RC drill hole	610	610	3		200	607	z
TB131 EDH0014896	RC drill hole	200	4	5		200	607	z

Id/ Regulator no.	Type	Surface disturbance (m^2)	Veg. Clearing (m^2)	Excavations (m^3)	Produced water (ml)	Depth (m)	Block number	Unit letters
TB139 EDH0014 904	RC drill hole	200	4	3		200	607	z

Other exploration activities

Id/ Regulator no.	Type	Surface disturbance (m^2)	Veg. Clearing (m^2)	Excavations (m^3)	Produced water (ml)	Block number	Unit letters

Impact management

The project includes the following measures to manage surface water impacts:

Should any significant water be produced during drilling activity, then measures will be taken to contain the water, including sediment control structures including above ground sumps, fences to ensure any potential sediment-laden water is contained. Drainage sumps will be excavated at each site to capture and contain water produced during drilling. All surface drainages within the area of exploration activity drain into the historic alluvial tin mining pits and does not leave the overall site. Drains or sediment fences will be used on sites where heavy rainfall may cause sediments to spread from any runoff. Sediment and erosion controls will be installed, if required, divert stormwater around the site or to prevent direct access of storm water or run off from the drill site entering the NSW Wetland See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).

The project includes the following measures to manage groundwater impacts:

Based on nearby previous drilling activity no significant groundwater is anticipated. Should any significant water be produced during drilling activity, then measures will be taken to contain the water, including sediment control structures, drainage sumps, fences to ensure any potential sediment-laden water is contained. If groundwater continues to flow after drilling has finished the hole will be plugged or grouted. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).

The project includes the following measures to manage waste and excess materials:

All RC drill samples will be captured in plastic bags. and following receipt of assays and no further use being determined the bags will be emptied and the cuttings stored in a temporary storage area adjacent to a historic processing facility and tailing dump. The storage area is bunded and drained into an old dam. Sky Metals is awaiting instructions from the NSW EPA regarding final disposal of the cuttings. The green plastic bags are disposed at the Condobolin waste facility. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring. All other waste will be removed from site and disposed of at an appropriate facility. The drill contractor is responsible for removal of all drilling waste including waste oils.

The project includes the following measures regarding the handling, use, storage and transportation of any chemicals and hydrocarbons:

Chemicals and hydrocarbons will be stored in appropriate/adequate containers and kept in a facility which is capable of containing at least 110% of the largest container capacity stored in the area. A hydrocarbon spill kit will be kept on site when the drilling rig is operating. Clean up spills as soon as is practicable to limit dispersion. Biodegradable drilling fluids will be used where possible. Management of chemical and hydrocarbons is outlined in the EMP, including measures to be taken to minimise potential impact on the NSW Wetland. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).

The project includes the following measures of how noise impacts will be managed to minimise impacts on nearby sensitive receptors:

Considering the sites remoteness from any sensitive receivers, noise impacts are not considered a high risk. The closest residence is approximately 4km away. The drill rig will only operate during daylight hours. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).

The project includes the following measures to manage air quality impacts:

Onboard drill rig dust suppression systems will be utilised. As this proposal is for diamond drilling, no dust will be generated during drilling operations. Minor road dust will be generated, but there are no residences or farming operations near the drilling operations. Exhaust emissions from the drill rig are managed using appropriate mufflers and routine maintenance. Dust suppression on the drill rig will be utilised to reduce the dust impact on the surrounding vegetation and potential impact on the NSW Wetland. Refer to attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details ((EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).

Sensitivity of the land to be disturbed

Question	Yes/no
Conservation areas	
Land reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*?	No
Land acquired by the Minister under Part 11 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*?	No
Land subject to a 'conservation agreement' under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and/or *the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*?	No
Land declared as an aquatic reserve under the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*?	No
Land declared as a marine park under the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*?	No
Land within State Forests set aside under the *Forestry Act 2012* for conservation values, including Flora Reserves or Special Management (and other) Zones?	No
Land reserved or dedicated under the *Crown Lands Act 1989/Crown Lands Management Act 2016* (as applicable) for the preservation of flora, fauna, geological formations or other environmental protection purposes?	No
Land identified as wilderness or declared a wilderness area under the *Wilderness Act 1987*?	No
Land subject to a Biobanking agreement (established under the now repealed *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*) or a Biodiversity Stewardship agreement established under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*?	No
Land subject to a Wildlife Refuge agreement under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*?	No
Land subject to existing conservation agreements on private land under repealed legislation that continue to have effect (e.g., trust agreements under *Native Conservation Trust Act 2001*, Property vegetation plans under *Native Vegetation Act 2003*, Registered property agreements under *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997*)?	No
Drinking water catchment protection areas	
Land declared to be a 'controlled area' or a 'special area' under the *Water NSW Act 2014*?	No
Land declared to be a 'special area' under the *Water Management Act 2000* or *Hunter Water Act 1991*?	No
Sensitive areas	
Land declared as area of outstanding biodiversity value under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or critical habitat under Part 7A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*?	No
Wetlands of international significance listed under the Ramsar Wetlands Convention?	No
Land designated as a nationally important wetland in the Directory of Important Wetlands?	No

Question	Yes/no
Coastal wetlands mapped under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021*?	No
Littoral rainforests mapped under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021*?	No
Coastal zone as defined in the *Coastal Management Act 2016*?	No
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument as being of biodiversity/conservation significance or zoned for environmental conservation, protection and/or management?	No
Waterfront land defined under the *Water Management Act 2000*?	No
Land with a slope greater than 18 degrees measured from the horizontal?	No
Land with potential for soil and water contamination	
Land mapped as Actual Acid Sulfate Soils (AASS) or Potential Acid Sulfate Soils (PASS) on the Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Maps for NSW?	No
Aboriginal protection areas	
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument (such as a State Environmental Planning Policy or Local Environment Plan) as being of Aboriginal cultural significance?	No
Land declared as an Aboriginal place under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*?	No
Historic or natural heritage protection areas	
Land listed on the World Heritage List, National Heritage List or Commonwealth Heritage List?	No
Land, places, buildings or structures listed on the NSW State Heritage Register?	No
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument (such as a State Environmental Planning Policy or Local Environment Plan) as being of heritage significance or a heritage conservation area?	No
Critical industry clusters	
Land identified as Critical Industry Cluster under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021*?	No
Community land	
Public land classified as community land under the *Local Government Act 1993*?	No
Other areas	
Land identified on the authority (e.g., exploration licence or assessment lease) as environmentally sensitive land?	No
Ecology	
Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened species or their habitats?	No
Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened ecological communities or their habitats?	No
Will vegetation be removed as part of access track upgrade works in waterfront land?	No
Aboriginal and European heritage	
Will the activity harm Aboriginal objects as defined under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*?	No
Will the activity damage any listed heritage items?	No

Attachment 1 – Statement of commitments

Item	Commitment
Activity type	Exploration activity comprising: • 0 diamond drill holes • 12 reverse circulation drill holes • 0 other drill holes • 0 cubic metres of bulk sampling • 0 square metres of new access tracks • 0 lines of seismic testing • 0 square metres of air core drilling • 0 square metres of other drilling
Activity location	Tallebung Tin Mining Field, 70km NW of Condobolin, within EL 6699 (1992).
Activity scope (including any ancillary activities)	The drill hole collars will be pegged at the planned site with some adjustment to avoid larger trees, old workings or rough ground where practicable. Access tracks will be planned to make use of naturally cleared areas as much as possible. The access and drill pad will be cleared with a wheeled loader using a raised blade where practicable to minimise disturbance to the surface layers, with vegetation pushed up in piles so that it can be used during rehabilitation of the site. The pads will be cleared and levelled where required to allow safe and efficient access, egress, and operation of the drill rig. The drilling equipment will comprise a truck or track mounted RC drill rig, rod truck, support truck and light vehicles. All the holes are proposed as RC percussion, but 1 or 2 may be changed to diamond drill holes. The level of disturbance is the same. Following completion of the hole the collar will be cut and buried, all materials and waste removed from site and disposed at appropriate facility. Rehabilitation of drill cuttings will involve emptying the green plastic bags and storing the cuttings in a temporary stockpile awaiting decision from the NSW EPA regarding final disposal. The green bags are disposed of at the Condobolin waste facility. Rehabilitation of sites and access will involve removal of all drill spoil, filling of drainage sumps, ripping of compacted surface as required, spreading of topsoil and vegetation. Erosion control bunds will be installed as required. Sites will be left to naturally revegetate. The drilling contractor will provide a mobile, self contained camp for their staff for the duration of the program.
Hours of operation	Continuous work hours (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
Expected duration (weeks)	3 weeks
Anticipated start date	15 May 2024
Expected rehabilitation completion date	Estimated 15 May 2025
Maximum area of disturbance	3,580 square metres
Agricultural impact	The activity will be undertaken in accordance with Not applicable.
Air quality	Onboard drill rig dust suppression systems will be utilised. As this proposal is for diamond drilling, no dust will be generated during drilling operations. Minor road dust will be generated, but there are no residences or farming operations near the drilling operations. Exhaust emissions from the drill rig are managed using appropriate mufflers and routine maintenance. Dust suppression on the drill rig will be utilised to reduce the dust impact on the surrounding vegetation and potential impact on the NSW Wetland. Refer to attached Environmental

Item	Commitment
	Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details ((EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).
Protection of water sources	Should any significant water be produced during drilling activity, then measures will be taken to contain the water, including sediment control structures including above ground sumps, fences to ensure any potential sediment-laden water is contained. Drainage sumps will be excavated at each site to capture and contain water produced during drilling. All surface drainages within the area of exploration activity drain into the historic alluvial tin mining pits and does not leave the overall site. Drains or sediment fences will be used on sites where heavy rainfall may cause sediments to spread from any runoff. Sediment and erosion controls will be installed, if required, divert stormwater around the site or to prevent direct access of storm water or run off from the drill site entering the NSW Wetland See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024). Based on nearby previous drilling activity no significant groundwater is anticipated. Should any significant water be produced during drilling activity, then measures will be taken to contain the water, including sediment control structures, drainage sumps, fences to ensure any potential sediment-laden water is contained. If groundwater continues to flow after drilling has finished the hole will be plugged or grouted. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).
Soil and land stability	Management controls include minimising vegetation clearing and surface disturbance, installation of sediment and erosion controls as appropriate and management in accordance with relevant codes/standards/guidelines. Utilise existing tracks where possible. Management controls outlined in EMP.
Noise and vibration	Considering the sites remoteness from any sensitive receivers, noise impacts are not considered a high risk. The closest residence is approximately 4km away. The drill rig will only operate during daylight hours. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).
Coastal processes and hazards	NA
Hazardous substances or chemicals	Chemicals and hydrocarbons will be stored in appropriate/adequate containers and kept in a facility which is capable of containing at least 110% of the largest container capacity stored in the area. A hydrocarbon spill kit will be kept on site when the drilling rig is operating. Clean up spills as soon as is practicable to limit dispersion. Biodegradable drilling fluids will be used where possible. Management of chemical and hydrocarbons is outlined in the EMP, including measures to be taken to minimise potential impact on the NSW Wetland. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring document for further details (EMP_DrillHoleMonitoring_TallebungdrillingMar2024).
Wastes and emissions	All RC drill samples will be captured in plastic bags. and following receipt of assays and no further use being determined the bags will be emptied and the cuttings stored in a temporary storage area adjacent to a historic processing facility and tailing dump. The storage area is bunded and drained into an old dam. Sky Metals is awaiting instructions from the NSW EPA regarding final disposal of the cuttings. The green plastic bags are disposed at the Condobolin waste facility. See attached Environmental Management Plan- Surface Disturbance, Rehabilitation & Monitoring. All other waste will be removed from site and disposed of at an appropriate facility. The drill contractor is responsible for removal of all drilling waste including waste oils.

Item	Commitment
Vegetation	Minimise extent of vegetation and access track clearing to as low as practicable. Install diversions and bunds to reduce runoff and erosion. Install bunds and diversions to prevent direct access of run off to drainage areas and the NSW Wetland. Limit removal of top soil. All disturbed areas to be rehabilitated in accordance with title conditions. Training of staff and contractors in construction of drill pads.
Threatened fauna and flora species	Minimise vegetation clearing, rehabilitate sites as soon as practicable following completion of activity
Areas of outstanding biodiversity value/critical habitat	
Endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community	There are no EEC's within or near the activity area
Habitat of a threatened species or ecological community	No Threatened species or Ecological Community has been identified within or near the activity area.
Key threatening processes	Mitigation measures will include minimising vegetation clearance, avoidance of larger trees, rehabilitation sites as soon as practicable. Biosecurity controls for vehicle entering the site.
Barriers to movement of fauna	Minimise disturbance to vegetation.
Ecological and biosecurity impacts	Minimise disturbance and clearing of vegetation, rehabilitation of sites as soon as practicable. Ensure machinery and vehicle are clean prior to entry to the area and avoidance of weed infested areas to reduce risk of spreading. Construct erosion control measure to prevent/reduce run off form disturbed areas. The drilling activity is short term and during daylight hours only. Protect hollow logs and other habitat on the ground where practicable and carefully remove logs to protect habitat. Appropriate supervision during vegetation clearing.
Community resources	NA
Natural resources	NA
Social impacts	NA
Economic impacts	Engage with local businesses and encourage purchasing goods locally where practicable.
Heritage impacts	NA
Aesthetic impacts	NA
Aboriginal cultural heritage	The proposed activity is in an area under Native Title claim. An access agreement has been negotiated and Ministers Consent received. A Cultural Heritage survey will be undertaken prior to commencement of activities. Staff will undergo cultural heritage training. Ensure native title boundaries are shown on maps and plans. Conduct cultural heritage due diligence assessment as part of APO process. Inductions and training for staff in Cultural Heritage procedure and what to do if find cultural heritage site or object.
Land use impacts	NA
Transportation impacts	Minimise use of gravel road when wet and follow local council directions regarding road closures and weight limits to minimise damage. Drive to conditions to minimise dust and damage to roads

Item	Commitment
Matters of national environmental significance	NA
Cumulative impacts	Management control include minimising vegetation clearing, rehabilitation of sites as soon as practicable following completion of activity
Rehabilitation commitments	The activity will be undertaken in accordance with the rehabilitation objectives and targets provided for this project.
Risk assessments	The titleholder must monitor the risks associated with activities and, if the risk associated with an activity changes, implement revised environmental management controls.
Incident management	The NSW Resources Regulator will be notified of all incidents in accordance with the requirements of EL 6699 (1992).
Reporting	Reporting to the NSW Resources Regulator and Mining, Exploration and Geoscience – Department of Regional NSW will be in accordance with the legislation and conditions of EL 6699 (1992).
Codes of Practice	Tallebung will be operated in accordance with: • Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation Exploration Code of Practice: Produced Water Management, Storage and Transfer
Other (as applicable)	1. No additional terms specified.

Attachment 2 – Definitions

To search for NSW legislation, visit www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. Commonwealth legislation can be found at www.legislation.gov.au.

Word	Definition
Aboriginal object	Has the same meaning as it has in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.*
Aboriginal place	Has the same meaning as it has in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.*
Acid Sulfate Soils	Sediments and soils containing iron sulfides which, when exposed to oxygen, generate sulfuric acid. Acid sulfate soils include actual acid sulfate soils (AASS) or potential acid sulfate soils (PASS).
Activity	Any activity carried out in connection with exploration, including: • the use of land • means of accessing land • the carrying out of a work.
Activity approval	An approval to carry out assessable prospecting operations granted under the *Mining Act 1992* / *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* – as relevant.
Actual Acid Sulfate Soils (AASS)	Sediments and soils containing highly acidic soil horizons or layers resulting from the aeration of sediments and soils that are rich in iron sulfides, primarily sulphide.
Applicant	In relation to an exploration activity, the person proposing to carry out the exploration activity.
Aquatic reserve	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014.*
Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs)	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Note: Areas of declared critical habitat under the now repealed *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* have become Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs) under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
Assessable prospecting operation	Any prospecting operation that is not exempt development within the meaning of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021.*
Clearing of vegetation	Any one or more of the following: • cutting down, felling, thinning, lopping, logging or removing vegetation, or • killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, uprooting or burning vegetation.
Complying exploration activities (CEA)	Exploration activities that are considered unlikely to significantly affect the environment as set out in *Exploration guideline: Application and assessment process for exploration activities*.
Critical habitat	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. Areas of declared critical habitat under the now repealed *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* have become Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs) under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.*
Drill hole	A hole made by drilling or boring, but excludes: • sampling and coring using handheld equipment, • petroleum wells.
Drilling	The perforation of the earth's surface crust by mechanical means to form a hole, whether the hole caused by the perforation is vertical, inclined or horizontal, and includes all operations for preventing collapse of the sides of

Word	Definition
	such hole or for preventing it from being filled with extraneous materials including water
Environment	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* – as relevant.
Environmentally sensitive area of State significance	Has the same meaning as it has in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021.*
Excavation	The removal of the surface layer to a depth greater than 500 mm from the natural surface level.
Exempt development	Has the same meaning as it has in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021*.
Exploration	Has the same meaning as it has in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021*.
Fauna	Has the same meaning as it has in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
Groundwater	Water that occurs beneath the ground surface in the saturated zone.
Habitat	Has the same meaning as it has in *the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (as relevant).
Harm	In relation to matters of national environmental significance, has the same meaning as 'significant impact' as provided by the 'Significant Impact Guidelines' used to determine whether assessment and approval is required under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. In relation to the environment, has the same meaning as it has in the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. In relation to threatened species or ecological communities, has the same meaning as: • 'harm an animal' in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* • 'pick a native plant' in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* • 'harm' in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. In relation to an aquifer or waterfront land, has the same meaning as it has in the *Water Management Act 2000*. In relation to Aboriginal places or Aboriginal objects has the same meaning as it has in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. In relation to items of heritage significance, has the same meaning as it has in the *Heritage Act 1977*. In relation to protected marine vegetation, has the same meaning as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.
Items of heritage significance	Means: • any heritage items listed in one or more of the following: — the Commonwealth Heritage List — the World Heritage List — the National Heritage List — the State Heritage Register — an Environmental Planning Instrument • any relic (being any deposit, object or material evidence which relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and which is 50 or more years old), or

Word	Definition
	• within State Conservation Areas: — items that are listed on the DECC Historic Heritage Information Management System, or — any deposit, object or material evidence relating to the settlement or occupation of New South Wales or a part of New South Wales (not being Aboriginal settlement or occupation) if the deposit, object or material evidence is more than 25 years old at the date of the interference or removal.
Land	Includes: • the sea or an arm of the sea • a bay, inlet, lagoon, lake or body of water, whether inland or not and whether tidal or non-tidal • a river, stream or watercourse, whether tidal or non-tidal, and • a building erected on the land
Marine vegetation	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.
Matters of national environmental significance	'Matters of national environmental significance' protected under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
Minister	The Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* – as relevant.
Native vegetation	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.
Potential acid sulphate soils (PASS)	Sediments and soils that contain iron sulfides or sulfidic material which have not been exposed to air and oxidised
Produced water	Any form of groundwater that is actively extracted from a borehole or excavation, excluding incidental groundwater mixed with drilling fluids.
Rehabilitation	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* – as relevant.
Seismic survey	The use of shock waves (generated in the ground using either small explosive charges detonated below the surface, hand-held mechanical hammers or vehicle-mounted hammers) and an array of geophones, which are connected to measuring instruments, to differentiate the geophysical properties of the subsurface of the earth.
Sensitive receiver	Includes: • dwellings • libraries • educational and research institutions (including schools, colleges and universities) • childcare centres • kindergartens • hospitals, surgeries and other medical institutions • places of worship • milking sheds and holding yards associated with dairies • animal boarding or training establishments • aquaculture

Word	Definition
	• intensive livestock agriculture
Site	The land on which an activity is located.
State Conservation Area	Has the same meaning as it has in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.*
Surface disturbance	Means: • disturbance or exposure of the soil or surface rock layer, or • degradation or deterioration in any manner of the physical surface of land.
Terms	In relation to activity approvals, the terms imposed by the decision-maker on the grant of an activity approval.
Threatened species or ecological communities	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (as relevant).
Title	An authority under the *Mining Act 1992* / a title under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* – as relevant.
Titleholder	A person or company to whom a title has been issued.
Track	All unsealed routes that will be traversed multiple times, but does not include single pass (ingress and egress) routes or seismic shot and receiver lines.
Waste	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.*
Water source	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Water Management Act 2000.*
Water land	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994.*
Waterfront land	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Water Management Act 2000.*
Wetlands	Has the same meaning as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.
Wilderness	Lands identified as wilderness under the *Wilderness Act 1987.*
Wilderness area	Lands (including subterranean lands) declared to be a wilderness area under the *Wilderness Act 1987* or the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.*

Attachment 3 – Review of environmental factors

Air impacts
Provide a brief description of likely impacts to air quality, including the distance to, and impacts on, nearby sensitive receivers.
Likely impacts to air quality include particulates and emissions from vehicle and plant exhausts, dust from vehicle travelling over tracks and dust generated during drilling process. Nil impact on sensitive receptors as closest is 4km to the south and separated by hills and vegetation.
What is the activity's likely impact due to generation of greenhouse gases emissions or release of chemicals which affect the ozone layer or produce photo-chemical smog?
Negligible
What is the likely level of any impacts?
Negligible
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
Activities will comply with title conditions. Dust generated from drilling operations limited to immediate vicinity of the drilling. Exhaust emissions limited to immediate area of drilling. Dust suppression to be used on drill rig. Speed restrictions on vehicles driving on tracks. Inductions for all staff and contractors. Pre start drill rig inspection to ensure fit for purpose and operating correctly. All disturbed areas to be rehabilitated as soon as practicable following completion of exploration activity Nil impact on sensitive receptors as closest is 4km to the south and separated by hills and vegetation.

Water impacts
Provide a brief description of the likely impacts to water quality and/quantity.
Surface runoff could be sediment laden. Generally minimal surface water use. Drill holes could intersect fracture controlled groundwater. The drilling is adjacent to a NSW wetland covering historic alluvial mining areas.
What is the activity's impact due to the storage of water?
Negligible
What is the activity's impact to natural water bodies, wetlands or runoff patterns?
Nil/Not applicable
What is the activity's impact due to aquifer interference, including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity?
Nil/Not applicable
What is the activity's impact due to changes to flooding or tidal regimes?
Nil/Not applicable
What are the impacts from any hydraulic fracturing (well stimulation), including through gas and fluid migration?
Nil/Not applicable
What is the activity's impact due to changes in surface or groundwater quality and quantity?
Nil/Not applicable
What is the likely level of any water impacts?
Negligible
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
The management control are outlined in the Environmental Management Plan. Drainage sumps to be excavated on drill pads to capture any water ejected from the drill hole during drilling. Where there is the potential for runoff to impact the Wetland, bunding will be used to divert runoff.

Soil and stability impacts

Provide a brief description of the likely impacts to soil quality or land stability.

Potential impacts to soil quality or land stability include soil erosion and sediment laden runoff and soil compaction or disturbance from activities.

What is the activity's impact on the degradation of soil quality including contamination, salinisation or acidification?

Negligible

What is the activity's impact on land with high agricultural capability?

Nil/Not applicable

What is the activity's impact due to loss of soil from wind or water erosion?

Negligible

What is the activity's impact due to the loss of structural integrity of the soil?

Nil/Not applicable

What is the activity's impact due to increased land instability with high risks from landslides or subsidence?

Nil/Not applicable

What is the activity's impact due to any induced seismicity or ground movements associated with fracture stimulation or injection or extraction of groundwater?

Nil/Not applicable

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Management controls include minimising vegetation clearing and surface disturbance, installation of sediment and erosion controls as appropriate and management in accordance with relevant codes/standards/guidelines. Utilise existing tracks where possible. Management controls outlined in EMP.

Noise and vibration impacts

Provide a brief description of the likely noise and/or vibration impacts.

There are no sensitive receivers within 1km of the exploration activity. Potential noise impacts are noise from drill rigs and vehicles

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Drilling unlikely to cause vibration impacts as nearest residence is 4km away.
Under certain weather conditions noise from the drilling operations may be heard at the nearest residence.

Coastal locations and processes

Provide a brief description of likely impacts on coastal environments, coastal processes and coastal hazards.

NA

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Nil/Not applicable

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

NA

Hazardous substances and chemicals

Provide a brief description of likely impacts associated with the use, generation, storage or transport of hazardous substances or chemicals.

Likely impacts include mobilization of hydrocarbons in soils due to spills, release of water expelled from drill hole and/or overflowing of drainage sumps.

What is the likely level of the impact associated with the use, generation, storage or transport of hazardous substances or chemicals?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Using non hazardous and biodegradable drilling fluids. Ensure all hydrocarbons and liquid chemicals are stored on bunded pallet. Ensure bulk fuel trailer in good condition and fully stocked spill kit available. Clean up oil, fuel and chemical spills immediately. Inductions for all staff and contractors. Regular inspections of equipment to ensure fit for purpose.

Wastes and emissions

Provide a brief description of likely impacts to the environment from the generation or disposal of gaseous, liquid or solid wastes or emissions.

Potential impacts to the environment include inappropriate disposal of drilling and general waste, overflowing of above ground sumps and hydrocarbon leaks or spills from drill rig or fuel supply

Provide a brief description of likely impacts on areas sensitive to this type of impact.

Nil. not in any of these areas

What is the likely level of the impacts?

Low adverse

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Solid waste generated from drilling includes drill chips and dust. Liquid waste would comprise ground water and drill cutting slurry emitted from the drill hole. The drill chips, dust and water are restricted to the drilling area.

Drill chips to be stored in plastic bags until completion of drill program and receipt of results. Drill chips will then be stockpiled on site in a temporary stockpile awaiting instructions from the NSW EPA regarding permanent storage/disposal. Waste classification analysis to be conducted as required on representative samples to determine their waste classification and method of disposal.

Water and drill cutting emitted from the hole will be captured in a small sump and when dry disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Inductions for all staff and contractors including responsibilities in managing waste. Regular inspections of drill sites.

Vegetation

Provide a brief description of any vegetation clearing or modification and the likely impacts to the environment.

Areas cleared for exploration activities, access tracks etc not available for flora habitat. Removal of habitat such as hollow logs and fallen timber.

What is the likely level of the impacts?

Low adverse

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Minimise extent of vegetation and access track clearing to as low as practicable. Install diversions and bunds to reduce runoff and erosion. Install bunds and diversions to prevent direct access of run off to drainage areas and the NSW Wetland.

Limit removal of top soil. All disturbed areas to be rehabilitated in accordance with title conditions.

Vegetation
Training of staff and contractors in construction of drill pads.

Threatened species
Provide a brief description of any likely impacts to threatened fauna and flora species.
No threatened flora or fauna have been identified in the area
What is the likely level of the impacts?
Negligible
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
Minimise vegetation clearing, rehabilitate sites as soon as practicable following completion of activity

Area of outstanding biodiversity value (AOBV) / Critical habitat
Provide a brief description of any likely impacts to AOBV/critical habitat.
No areas of critical habitat identified within activity area.
What is the likely level of the impacts?
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community
Is the activity likely to have an adverse effect on an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community? Select as relevant:
N/A
Provide a brief description of any impacts.
There are no EEC's within or near the activity area
What is the likely level of the impacts?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
There are no EEC's within or near the activity area

Habitat of a threatened species or ecological community
Is the activity likely to have an adverse effect on the habitat of a threatened species or ecological community (including protected aquatic species)? Select as relevant:
N/A
Describe the impacts.
No Threatened species or Ecological Community has been identified within or near the activity area.
What is the likely level of the impacts?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
No Threatened species or Ecological Community has been identified within or near the activity area.

Key threatening process

Provide a brief description of whether the activity will constitute, or form part of, a key threatening process - or is likely to increase the impact of a key threatening process.

The activity may form part of a key threatening process as native vegetation will be cleared but is unlikely to increase the impact of the process. The area already contains exotic pest plant species.

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Mitigation measures will include minimising vegetation clearance, avoidance of larger trees, rehabilitation sites as soon as practicable. Biosecurity controls for vehicle entering the site.

Barriers to movement of fauna

Provide a brief description regarding the potential of the activity to endanger, displace or disturb fauna or create a barrier to their movement.

Due to the patchy nature of any vegetation clearance it is unlikely to cause any barriers to fauna movement. The duration of the activity is short term and during day light hours only. Any barriers would be temporary and once drill hole is finished wildlife could access the drill pad.

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Minimise disturbance to vegetation.

Ecological and biosecurity impacts

Is the activity likely to have any adverse ecological or biosecurity impacts? Select as relevant:

N/A

Provide a brief description of any impacts.

Impacts may include spread of weeds in disturbed areas, soil erosion or sediment laden run off from disturbed areas, areas used for exploration activities, access tracks, etc not available for flora/fauna habitat. Vegetation clearing may remove habitat for ground dwelling fauna.

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Minimise disturbance and clearing of vegetation, rehabilitation of sites as soon as practicable. Ensure machinery and vehicle are clean prior to entry to the area and avoidance of weed infested areas to reduce risk of spreading. Construct erosion control measure to prevent/reduce run off form disturbed areas. The drilling activity is short term and during daylight hours only. Protect hollow logs and other habitat on the ground where practicable and carefully remove logs to protect habitat. Appropriate supervision during vegetation clearing.

Community resources

Describe whether the activity is likely to degrade or significantly increase the demand for services and infrastructure resources.

No Impact

Describe whether the activity is likely to result in any diversion of resources to the detriment of other communities or natural systems.

No Impact

Community resources
What is the likely level of the impact?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
NA

Natural resources
Describe any likely impacts that would disrupt, deplete or destroy natural resources.
No impact on Natural resources within the activity area
Describe whether the activity is likely to disrupt existing activities which rely upon natural resources, including forestry, farming or extractive industries (or will reduce options for future activities).
No impact on Natural resources within the activity area
Describe whether the activity is likely to result in the degradation of any area reserved for conservation purposes.
No impact on Natural resources within the activity area
What is the likely level of the impact?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
NA

Social impacts
Describe whether the activity is likely to result in a change to the demographic structure of the community, including changes to the workforce or industry structure of the area/region.
No Impact
Describe whether the activity is likely to have an environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community, including loss of facilities, reduced links to other communities or loss of community identity.
No Impact
Describe whether the activity is likely to result in some individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged, including a change in the level of demand for community resources (e.g. community facilities / services, and labour force).
No Impact
Describe whether the activity likely to result in any impacts on the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities because of factors such as pollution, odour, noise, vibration, lighting, visual impacts, etc.
No Impact
Describe if the activity is likely to have any effect on a locality, place or building having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific or social significance or other special value for present or future generations.
No Impact
What is the likely level of any social impacts?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
NA

Economic impacts
Provide a brief description of any likely economic impacts.
Minor positive impacts on local economy due to purchasing of supplies and materials.
What is the likely level of any impacts?
Positive
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
Engage with local businesses and encourage purchasing goods locally where practicable.

Heritage impacts
Describe whether the activity is likely to cause impacts on localities, places, landscapes, buildings or archaeological relics of heritage significance.
No impact
What is the likely level of the impact?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
NA

Aesthetic impacts
Describe whether the activity is likely to cause impacts on the visual or scenic landscape, including any lighting, venting or flaring of gas.
No impact
What is the likely level of any impacts?
Nil/Not applicable
Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.
NA

Cultural impacts
Describe the likely impacts associated with any disturbance of the ground surface or any culturally modified trees.
Disturbance of the ground during preparation and conduct of drilling operations. No impact as the ground and historic vegetation has been extensively disturbed by historic mining activity.
Describe whether the activity will affect known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places.
No known site or places from AHIMs search
Describe whether the activity is located in areas where landscape features indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects.
Not located near any of these areas
Describe whether the activity will affect areas where native title exists or land subject to native title claims, indigenous land use agreements or joint management agreements.
The area of proposed activity is under Native Title Claim

Cultural impacts

What is the likely level of any cultural impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

The proposed activity is in an area under Native Title claim. An access agreement has been negotiated and Ministers Consent received. A Cultural Heritage survey will be undertaken prior to commencement of activities. Staff will undergo cultural heritage training.
Ensure native title boundaries are shown on maps and plans. Conduct cultural heritage due diligence assessment as part of APO process. Inductions and training for staff in Cultural Heritage procedure and what to do if find cultural heritage site or object.

Land use impacts

Provide a brief description of any impacts on land use including any major changes to land use and/or curtailment of other beneficial land uses.

No impact on land use

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Nil/Not applicable

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

NA

Transportation impacts

Provide a brief description of any significant impacts on transportation.

No significant impacts on transportation

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Minimise use of gravel road when wet and follow local council directions regarding road closures and weight limits to minimise damage. Drive to conditions to minimise dust and damage to roads

Consistency with applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans

Provide a brief description of any relevant local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans and whether the proposed activity is consistent with these.

The activity area falls within the area covered by the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041. The activity area is within the Cobar Shire and the LSEP supports the development of mining activities. The closest town, Condobolin, is in the Lachlan Shire and one of the aims of the LEP is to encourage development and provision of employment opportunities and sustainable growth.

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Positive

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Liaise with local Councils and update on progress of our activities.

Matters of national environmental significance

Is the activity likely to impact on any of the following matters of national environmental significance under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*? Select as relevant:

N/A

Provide further details relating to any impacts on matters of national environmental significance.

No impacts

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Nil/Not applicable

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

NA

Cumulative impacts

Is the activity likely to result in cumulative environmental effects with other existing or likely future activities?

Yes

Describe the impact.

The environment has been significantly altered over time due to historic open cut alluvial mining and hard rock reef mining activities. The proposed activity is anticipated to cause only minor additional impact on the already highly disturbed environment. The impacts will be vegetation clearing for drill pads and access.

What is the likely level of any impacts?

Negligible

Outline any proposed management controls and/or mitigation measures.

Management control include minimising vegetation clearing, rehabilitation of sites as soon as practicable following completion of activity

Environmental assessment conclusions

Having regard to the potential significance of the individual impacts of the proposed activity (as well as the aggregation of all the impacts of the activity) determine whether (select as relevant):

the activity is not likely to significantly affect the environment, including threatened species or ecological communities (or their habitats), or declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value/critical habitat.

Provide any further details as relevant.

The environment is already stressed and the impacts of the proposed activity will not add significantly to further degradation of the environment.

Attachment 4 – List of supporting documents

- Activity details notes APO0001739.docx
- APO0001739_Location and Site plan.zip
- APO0001739_Site plans.zip
- APO0001739_Submission Report_28 Mar 2024 3:57pm.pdf
- Critical Habitat.zip
- EL6699 - AHIMS Search_ Ministers consent for NT condition.zip
- Heritage search.zip
- Protected Matters Search.zip
- SKY_drill hole site photos_EMP_Ministers Consent.zip
- Threatened Species.zip