Thursday 16 May 2024

Assessable Prospecting Operation Application Decision Briefing and Review of Environmental Factors

Havilah | APO0001714

Decision Maker	Greg Kininmonth
Prepared by	Amy McKenzie
Title	EL 8936 (1992)
Authorised Representative	[redacted]
Project name	Havilah
Activity type	Non-Complying Exploration Activity

Issue

[redacted] has sought an activity approval in respect of Havilah, within EL 8936 (1992), at 36km south east of Mudgee.

Pursuant to section 2.8 of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021*, development for the purposes of exploration (i.e. prospecting) may be carried out without development consent.

An authority issued under the *Mining Act 1992* is subject to a condition that the authority holder must not carry out an assessable prospecting operation on land over which the authority is granted unless an activity approval has been obtained for the carrying out of the assessable prospecting operation.

As assessable prospecting operations require approval by the Minister under the *Mining Act 1992*, a duty is imposed on determining authorities under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to:

- examine and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environmental by reason of the proposed activity; and
- if the activity is likely to significantly affect the environment, examine and consider an environmental impact statement in respect of the activity.

The Minister is the determining authority for all exploration activities subject to environmental assessment under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The Decision Maker, under delegation from the Minister, is required to determine whether:

- the proposed activity is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and is not likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities (or their habitats) or impact biodiversity values and can be approved,
- the proposed activity is likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required,

- the proposed activity will be carried out in a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value and is likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats or impact biodiversity values, meaning a Species Impact Statement (SIS) and/or Biodiversity Development and Assessment Report (BDAR) is required, or
- there is insufficient information to make a decision.

Background

This exploration activity approval for the 2024 Havilah Drill Program is being sought by EXTRACT MINERALS PTY LTD under EL 8936 (1992) (granted 04/02/2020 & expiry 04/02/2028) to undertake assessable prospecting operations.

The current security deposit held for EL 8936 is $10,000. APO0001714 approved xx/xx/2024 increases the deposit to $63,000

Proposed exploration activity

The proposed exploration activity (including details of the site, the existing environment, impact thresholds and impact management) are described in *APPLICATION TO UNDERTAKE ASSESSABLE PROSPECTING OPERATIONS Havilah* report and the information provided in support of the application.

The objective of the proposed exploration activity is to carry out works on, or to remove samples from, land for the purpose of testing the resource quality and/or quantity of the land. This is consistent with the objects of the *Mining Act 1992*, including to facilitate the discovery and development of resources in NSW.

No alternatives options to the proposed activity were considered.

Security

The application triggered a review of the assessed deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations if Havilah is approved.

Refer to RCE Record RCE0001992

Assessment of Impacts (Non-complying exploration activity)

An assessment of the significance of environmental impacts associated with the proposed activity was undertaken in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's "*Guidelines for Division 5.1 assessments*". The results of this assessment are documented in the attached Review of Environmental Factors document.

The assessment has determined that 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.

The assessment has determined that the activity is likely to significantly affect the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be required.

Additional terms (if approved)

No additional terms are required.

Summary

Based on the information provided in the *APPLICATION TO UNDERTAKE ASSESSABLE PROSPECTING OPERATIONS Havilah* report, and the Review of Environmental Factors document, the proposed activity has been assessed as is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an EIS is not required.

The application has been assessed and the recommendation is to Approve the activity.

Certification

I, Amy McKenzie, certify that I have reviewed and endorsed the contents of the attached Review of Environmental Factors document and, to the best of my knowledge, it is in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979,* the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 and the Guidelines approved under clause 170 of the EP&A Regulation, and the information it contains is neither false nor misleading.

Recommendation

The Decision Maker, under delegation from the Minister:

- Assesses the environmental impact of Havilah and determines that the activity is is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an EIS is not required under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- Approve the activity pursuant to the *Mining Act 1992*.

Review of Environmental Factors document

Criteria	Air Impacts: Air quality impacts (including impacts on nearby sensitive receptors).		
Potential impacts	Small amount of localised dust during drilling. Exhaust fumes from the running of the drilling rig will be dispersed quickly. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact landholders.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicles will be driven at no more than 40 km/hr on local dirt roads and access tracks as a part of WHS. Minor dust is expected as a part of drilling process. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact surrounding landholders. If significant dust is generated by the drilling process the use of dust suppression equipment supplied by the drill contractor will be used. The drilling will not release any gasses and/or vapours. Staff will have access to dust masks and appropriate PPE as necessary. Visitors to the site will not be allowed within 25m of the rig.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	2,null		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Air Impacts: Greenhouse or ozone impacts.		
Potential impacts	Small amount of localised dust during drilling. Exhaust fumes from the running of the drilling rig will be dispersed quickly. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact landholders.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicles will be driven at no more than 40 km/hr on local dirt roads and access tracks as a part of WHS. Minor dust is expected as a part of drilling process. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact surrounding landholders. If significant dust is generated by the drilling process the use of dust suppression equipment supplied by the drill contractor will be used. The drilling will not release any gasses and/or vapours. Staff will have access to dust masks and appropriate PPE as necessary. Visitors to the site will not be allowed within 25m of the rig.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Air Impacts: Additional impacts on areas with degraded air quality.		
Potential impacts	Small amount of localised dust during drilling. Exhaust fumes from the running of the drilling rig will be dispersed quickly. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact landholders.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicles will be driven at no more than 40 km/hr on local dirt roads and access tracks as a part of WHS. Minor dust is expected as a part of drilling process. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact surrounding landholders. If significant dust is generated by the drilling process the use of dust suppression equipment supplied by the drill contractor will be used. The drilling will not release any gasses and/or vapours. Staff will have access to dust masks and appropriate PPE as necessary. Visitors to the site will not be allowed within 25m of the rig.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	2,null		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from the use of surface or groundwater.		

Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		
Proposed management controls	Drillholes will be located at least 10m away from the top bank of any water source including watercourses and dams. Any wetland, swamps or other potential habitat areas will also be avoided. No surface water or ground water will be extracted for the drilling program. If groundwater is intercepted during the drilling process and expelled it will be controlled by small bunds constructed from geo-fabric and/or straw bales. This drainage will be managed by the driller and drilling supervisor and will be maintained using hand held equipment to ensure minimal surface disturbance, yet providing effective control of any water that may be encountered. The drilling contractor has well established procedures to mitigate and resolve any issues if any water is intercepted. If the large, in-ground sump is constructed, it will be actively monitored, ensuring there is no contaminated water escaping. If there is leaking or seepage, the drillers are experienced in water management, and the appropriate steps will be taken to ensure minimal environmental impacts.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from storage of water		
Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	null,3		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes to natural water bodies, wetlands or runoff patterns.		
Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	2,null		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from aquifer interference, including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity.		
Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		

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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes to flooding or tidal regimes.		
Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	1,null		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Water Impacts: Impacts from changes in surface or groundwater quality and quantity.		

Potential impacts	Drilling is not close to any significant surface water bodies. The proposed drilling program will not adversely impact any watercourses or other surface water sources, including farm dams. The drilling program will not extract or use any surface water. Given the short duration of drilling the proposed drilling program will have negligible adverse impact on surface water in the project area. Should significant amounts of groundwater be intercepted, the drillers are certified and experienced to appropriately limit the flow. A centrally located in-ground sump is proposed. If constructed, surface water may drain in, given its low relief, but only during extreme rainfall. However, water will not overflow from this sump. Any rainwater will disperse quickly and absorb into the ground cover or move as sheet wash into the local drainage. Water for drilling will be carted to the site using the drillers water truck using water sourced off site. Water recycling will be optimized.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Degradation of soil quality (including contamination, salinisation or acidification).		
Potential impacts	Minor erosion on access tracks and drill pads. Most drillholes are not expected to require drill pads, however provisions are in place for eight planned holes to require vegetation clearing, if necessary. The proposed pad sizes are 15m x 20m, with a maximum vegetation clearing totaling 2400m, from pads. Equipment will sit on environmentally friendly oil matting which will contain any minor drips/ spills onto the ground. The environmental impacts associated with this drilling program are minimal and are only of a temporary nature.		
Proposed management controls	Drill pads would be rehabilitated by re-spreading the soil/grass sward/vegetation back over the levelled surface. In accordance with the specific requirements of landholders, all access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable / non-eroding and will be retained for continued use as farm tracks. Smaller pad tracks will be rehabilitated in conjunction with the pad itself. Any damage to existing access tracks will be repaired. Where access tracks cross steeper areas, the battered slopes on either side of the track may be stabilised with jute mesh and silt (Coir) logs may be used above the batters to control / slow-down surface water run-off. Silt -stop fences will be erected where necessary to help prevent movement of any sediment . Where excessive compaction of soil on paddocks occurs (from vehicle movements), the areas will be lightly scarified in consultation with the landholders. At the completion of rehabilitation, the land will be left to naturally regenerate. If monitoring (as per the Drilling Rehabilitation Objectives and Completion Criteria attached to this document) shows natural revegetation to be ineffective then seeding with local pasture species and/or weed control measures will be undertaken. Any minor drips or spills of hydrocarbons will be dealt with efficiently with a spill kit that is a requirement at all drill sites.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low

Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Impacts on land with high agricultural capability.		
Potential impacts	Minor erosion on access tracks and drill pads. Most drillholes are not expected to require drill pads, however provisions are in place for eight planned holes to require vegetation clearing, if necessary. The proposed pad sizes are 15m x 20m, with a maximum vegetation clearing totaling 2400m, from pads. Equipment will sit on environmentally friendly oil matting which will contain any minor drips/ spills onto the ground. The environmental impacts associated with this drilling program are minimal and are only of a temporary nature.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Loss of soil from wind or water erosion.		
Potential impacts	Minor erosion on access tracks and drill pads. Most drillholes are not expected to require drill pads, however provisions are in place for eight planned holes to require vegetation clearing, if necessary. The proposed pad sizes are 15m x 20m, with a maximum vegetation clearing totaling 2400m, from pads. Equipment will sit on environmentally friendly oil matting which will contain any minor drips/ spills onto the ground. The environmental impacts associated with this drilling program are minimal and are only of a temporary nature.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Loss of structural integrity of the soil.		
Potential impacts	Minor erosion on access tracks and drill pads. Most drillholes are not expected to require drill pads, however provisions are in place for eight planned holes to require vegetation clearing, if necessary. The proposed pad sizes are 15m x 20m, with a maximum vegetation clearing totaling 2400m, from pads. Equipment will sit on environmentally friendly oil matting which will contain any minor drips/ spills onto the ground. The environmental impacts associated with this drilling program are minimal and are only of a temporary nature.		
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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Soil & Stability Impacts: Increased land instability with high risks from land slides or subsidence.		
Potential impacts	Minor erosion on access tracks and drill pads. Most drillholes are not expected to require drill pads, however provisions are in place for eight planned holes to require vegetation clearing, if necessary. The proposed pad sizes are 15m x 20m, with a maximum vegetation clearing totaling 2400m, from pads. Equipment will sit on environmentally friendly oil matting which will contain any minor drips/ spills onto the ground. The environmental impacts associated with this drilling program are minimal and are only of a temporary nature.		

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Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Noise & Vibration Impacts: Results in increased noise or vibration.		
Potential impacts	Noise and vibration will be limited to the drill sites only and will not significantly impact surrounding landholders. There are no nearby sensitive receptors.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. Use of a silenced compressor will minimise any noise impacts from the drilling. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to the project area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Noise & Vibration Impacts: Affects sensitive receptors.		
Potential impacts	Noise and vibration will be limited to the drill sites only and will not significantly impact surrounding landholders. There are no nearby sensitive receptors.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. Use of a silenced compressor will minimise any noise impacts from the drilling. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to the project area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Coastal Location & Processes: Affects coastal processes and coastal hazards, including those under projected climate change conditions.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Hazardous substances or chemicals: Impacts associated with the use, generation, storage or transport of hazardous substances or chemicals.		
Potential impacts	Use of fuel and oil in drill rig and support vehicles may potentially result in localised impact if spillage occurs. All drilling consumables are non hazardous and non toxic. It is not expected that there will be overflow from drilling sumps, as it will be actively monitored and managed.		
Proposed management controls	Diesel stored only in truck tanks. All chemicals and hydrocarbons will be stored and transported in sealed containers or storage boxes in the vehicles. All chemicals used are biodegradable and approved for drilling. No dangerous chemicals will be used on site. Appropriate chemical spill kits / oil matting will be available on site for use with hydrocarbons such as diesel or oil spills and any waste will be disposed of in the nearest appropriate waste facility. The drilling contractor will have safety data sheets for all chemicals and hydrocarbons used on site, as well as safe work method statements as part of the contractor's WH&S policy for the use of these chemicals. The sump will be actively monitored, and appropriate measures will be taken if there is evidence of seepage or leakage from the sump.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts to the environment resulting from the generation or disposal of wastes.		
Potential impacts	If the large sump is constructed, it is anticipated all drilling fines will enter the sump, and will be allowed to dry out after drilling is complete, then removing the liner and burying once dry. The remaining material will be ripped and combined with the original excavated subsoil, compacted, then the remaining top soil will be spread on top and left to return to its natural state. The sump is not expected to overflow or adversely interfere with the environment. If the large sump is not constructed, drilling cuttings and waster water form the diamond drilling will be contained in above ground containment tanks, and will be disposed of appropriately. Fugitive emissions from diesel powered equipment will be negligible and of short duration.		

Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on drinking water catchments, wetlands, natural water bodies, riparian zones or flood prone areas.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on groundwater recharge areas or areas with high water table.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes and Emissions: Impacts on coastlines or dunes, alpine areas, karst features or other unique landforms.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on erosion prone areas, areas with slopes of greater than 18 degrees.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on subsidence or slip areas.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with acid sulphate, sodic or highly permeable soils.		
Potential impacts			
Proposed management controls			
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with salinity or potential salinity problems.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with degraded or contaminated land.		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		

Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Wastes & Emissions: Impacts on areas with degraded or contaminated water (ground or surface).		
Potential impacts	Some regions within the project area have a slope greater than 18°, however no drillholes will be on these slopes. The proposed in-ground sump is located near to the Oaky Creek, however it is mostly dry, but flows in intense rain events. This sump is not expected to adversely impact the creek.		
Proposed management controls	If the sump is constructed, ongoing consultation and conversations will be held with the landholder, ensuring they are satisfied with the management of wastes. Monitoring of the sump will be continuous, ensuring there are no adverse impacts on the environment. If above-ground containment tanks are utilised, excess drill cuttings will be removed from the site and responsibly disposed of off-site. Standard exhaust systems are required for all diesel powered equipment. All general waste will be contained in large heavy-duty bags and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Vegetation: Any clearing or modification of vegetation (including impacts on wildlife corridors, remnant vegetation & habitat for species of conservation significance).		
Potential impacts	It is expected that drillholes will not require pads, however provisions are in place for 8 of these to have pads, if necessary. Construction of drill pads entails surface disturbances to an area of about 15m X 20m for each drill pad (maximum 2400m2). Access to the drill sites will be mostly via existing farm tracks. Most of the drill sites will be located along existing tracks or a short distance away in open, cleared grazing land. No trees will be removed or cleared. The total length of new track required to access the drill sites is about 160m. Although compaction of soil is not expected from vehicle movements, if it does occur then those areas will be monitored and scarified if required.		
Proposed management controls	Any topsoil or vegetative material removed during the clearing process will be stockpiled for use during rehabilitation. Stockpiles will be located away from work areas so that they are not mistakenly driven over. Drill pads will be rehabilitated by re-spreading the soil / grass sward / cleared vegetation back over the levelled ground to form a stable surface. In accordance with the specific requirements of landholders, any damage to existing access tracks will be repaired. At the completion of exploration rehabilitation, the land will be left to naturally regenerate. If monitoring shows natural revegetation to be ineffective then seeding with local pasture species and/or weed control measures will be undertaken.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Low Adverse		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Threatened Fauna Species: Any adverse effect on the life cycle of any threatened species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		
Potential impacts	The proposed drilling program will not impact any potential habitat of vulnerable animal species that may use the area. The drilling program will not impact any water courses and will therefore not impact threatened aquatic species.		
Proposed management controls	Where possible, topsoil and grass sward / vegetation at each drill site will be replaced following drilling. All drill sites will be located more than 10m from any water course. The work program will be completed as soon as possible mitigating time of disturbance to any fauna in the area.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Threatened Flora Species: Any adverse effect on the life cycle of any threatened species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		
Potential impacts	The proposed drilling program will not impact any potential habitat of vulnerable animal species that may use the area. The drilling program will not impact any water courses and will therefore not impact threatened aquatic species.		
Proposed management controls	Where possible, topsoil and grass sward / vegetation at each drill site will be replaced following drilling. All drill sites will be located more than 10m from any water course. The work program will be completed as soon as possible mitigating time of disturbance to any fauna in the area.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Areas of outstanding biodiversity value/Critical habitat: This includes: a. declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 b. areas declared critical habitat under the Fisheries Management Act 1994.		
Potential impacts	The project area is not located in an area of any critical habitat or area of outstanding biodiversity value. The project area is included as an area of Terrestrial Biodiversity Sensitivity value, however, all drillholes are located over 100m from any Terrestrial Biodiversity.		
Proposed management controls			

Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community: Whether the activity: is likely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction, or is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Habitat of a threatened species or ecological community		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Habitat of protected aquatic species or those with conservation status.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Key Threatening Processes: As outlined in Schedule 4 of Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. Includes: a. alteration, removal, clearly or degradation of habitat and native vegetation b. loss of hollow bearing trees c. removal of dead wood and dead trees d. invasion and establishment of exotic species.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Barriers to movement of fauna: Any potential to endanger, displace or disturb fauna (including fauna of conservation significance) or create a barrier to their movement.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Any threat to the biological diversity or ecological integrity of an ecological community.		
Potential impacts	Very low risk of fire starting in grass.		
Proposed management controls			
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	null,3		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Creates a biosecurity risk or introduces genetically modified organisms into an area. Includes impacts from the introduction of: a. mobilisation of pollutants b. animal pests, c. plant pests and diseases, d. animal diseases, e. noxious weeds, or f. genetically modified organisms.		
Potential impacts	Very low risk of fire starting in grass.		
Proposed management controls			
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	null,3		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Ecological & Biosecurity Impacts: Likely to cause a significant bushfire risk.		
Potential impacts	Very low risk of fire starting in grass.		
Proposed management controls			
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	null,3		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Community Resources: Any degradation of infrastructure or significant increase in the demand for services and infrastructure resources.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls			
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Community Resources: Any diversion of resources to the detriment of other communities or natural systems.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		

Application ranking			
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any disruption, depletion or destruction of natural resources.		
Potential impacts	Construction of drill pads and grading of new access tracks will cause temporary minor disturbance of the ground surface.		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any disruption of existing activities which rely on natural resources, including forestry, farming or extractive industries (or reduction of options for future activities).		
Potential impacts	This drilling program is not expected to adversely impact the farming activities which occur in these paddocks. Extensive consultation with the landholders has been undertaken and is ongoing.		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Natural Resources: Any use which results in the degradation of any area reserved for conservation purposes.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		

Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on National parks and other areas reserved or dedicated or acquired under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Land subject to a 'conservation agreement' under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and/or the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. This includes: 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. b. Wildlife Refuge agreement established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. c. Existing conservation agreements that continue to have effect even where legislation has been repealed: Trust agreements under the now repealed Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001 Property vegetation plans made under the now-repealed Native Vegetation Act 2003 Registered property agreements under the repealed Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on aquatic reserves or marine parks declared under the Marine Estate Management Act 2014. Impacts on Coastal Zone as defined in the Coastal Management Act 2016.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Fishing grounds and commercial fish breeding or nursery areas.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on other sensitive lands including: a. Land within a state forest set aside under the Forestry Act 2012 for conservation values. This includes flora reserves and special management (and other) zones. b. Drinking water catchment protection areas - land declared to be a 'controlled area' or a 'special area' under the Water NSW Act 2014, or a 'special area' under the Water Management Act 2000 or Hunter Water Act 1991. c. Waterfront land as defined under the Water Management Act 2000.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land reserved or dedicated within the meaning of the Crown Lands Act 1989/Crown Lands Management Act 2016 for preservation of the environment or other environmental protection purposes.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		

What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land identified as wilderness or declared a wilderness area under the Wilderness Act 1987.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Lands: Impacts on wetlands of international significance designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and those designated as a nationally important wetland in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on land identified in an environmental planning instrument as being of biodiversity / conservation significance or zoned for environmental conservation, protection and/or management. Includes Coastal Wetlands and Littoral rainforests under State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on Aboriginal heritage protection areas: a. Aboriginal places and objects under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 b. Areas of Aboriginal cultural significance identified in an environmental planning instrument.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on heritage protection areas (historic or natural): a. Nationally and internationally recognised heritage sites or areas (World Heritage List, National Heritage List of Commonwealth Heritage List) b. Items listed on State Heritage c. Heritage items and conservation areas identified in an environmental planning instrument		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A
Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on community land classified under the Local Government Act 1993 (for which a plan of management has been prepared).		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	N/A		
Application ranking	N/A		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	N/A	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	N/A
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	N/A	**What is the level of public concern?**	
Can the impacts be reversed?	N/A	**Ranking of potential significance**	N/A

Can the impacts be mitigated?	N/A	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	N/A		
Criteria	Sensitive Land Impacts: Impacts on bushfire prone areas.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	At the completion of drilling, the drill pads will be rehabilitated to form a stable, non-eroding surface. The access tracks will be graded to ensure that they are stable and not prone to erosion. The ongoing communication with the landholder is ensuring we have as little impact on their farming activities as possible.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts which result in a change in the demographic structure of the community, including changes to workforce or industry structure of the area/region. Including change in demand for community resources (eg community facilities, community services and labour force).		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community (including loss of facilities or loss of community identity).		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts which result in some individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged (e.g. change to community facilities, services or labour force).		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Any impacts on the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities caused by factors such as pollution, odour, noise, vibration, lighting, visual impacts, etc).		
Potential impacts	Noise and vibration will be limited to the drill sites only and will not significantly impact surrounding landholders. There are no nearby sensitive receptors.		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: 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?		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Impacts on communities with strong sense of identity.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Social Impacts: Impacts on disadvantaged communities.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	Vehicle speeds will be limited to a maximum of 40km/hr. The times of operation will be discussed with the closest sensitive receptor to each area before operations commence. Hours of operation will be in strict accordance with landholder wishes.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts which may affect economic activity (positive or negative), including a decrease to net economic welfare.		
Potential impacts	Landholders will receive compensation payment in accordance with the land access agreements.		
Proposed management controls	Compensation will be paid in a timely manner to ensure a good relationship is maintained between explorer and landholders.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	6		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts that result in a decrease in the economic stability of the community.		
Potential impacts	Landholders will receive compensation payment in accordance with the land access agreements.		
Proposed management controls	Compensation will be paid in a timely manner to ensure a good relationship is maintained between explorer and landholders.		

Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	6		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Economic Impacts: Any impacts which result in a change to the public sector revenue or expenditure base.		
Potential impacts	Landholders will receive compensation payment in accordance with the land access agreements.		
Proposed management controls	Compensation will be paid in a timely manner to ensure a good relationship is maintained between explorer and landholders.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	6		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Heritage Impacts: Any impacts on a locality, place, landscape, building or archaeological relic of heritage significance.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Aesthetic Impacts: Any impacts on the visual or scenic landscape, including lighting, venting or flaring of gas.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low

Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Aesthetic Impacts: Areas or items of high aesthetic or scenic value.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Any disturbance of the ground surface or any culturally modified trees (e.g. a scar tree).		
Potential impacts	An Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (NSW Government, September 2010). No records were located within the project area. The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Any impacts on known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places.		
Potential impacts	No Aboriginal objects or places are within or near the project area.		
Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		

Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Affects areas where the landscape features indicate the likely presence of Aboriginal objects.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Affects areas subject to native title claims, indigenous land use agreements or joint management arrangements.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Impacts on Aboriginal communities or areas subject to land rights claims.		
Potential impacts	No Aboriginal objects or places are within or near the project area.		

Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cultural Impacts: Impacts on areas or items of high anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, heritage, historical, recreational or scientific value.		
Potential impacts	An Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (NSW Government, September 2010). No records were located within the project area. The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Proposed management controls	The following safeguards will be implemented to protect potential Aboriginal objects: • Should any Aboriginal objects or places be discovered during exploration, work must stop in that area and the area must be left untouched and access limited to avoid any disturbance. The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is to be notified. • If human remains are found, work must stop and the site must be secured (taped off with a 20m buffer zone) and the NSW Police and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are to be notified.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Land Use Impacts: Any major changes in land use, including curtailment of other beneficial land uses.		
Potential impacts	Temporary disturbance of land.		
Proposed management controls	Drilling program will be undertaken in strict accordance with landholder directions to minimise any impacts to the current use of the land.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No

How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Transportation Impacts: Substantial impacts on existing transportation systems (road, rail, pedestrian) which alter present patterns of circulation or movement.		
Potential impacts	Additional traffic will be on the local roads as site personnel will be travelling to and from the site each day.		
Proposed management controls	The amount of journeys and limited number of vehicles involved in the drilling program will not cause significant impact to the local transport system. Vehicle movements will be limited to only that necessary.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Transportation Impacts: Impacts associated with direct or indirect additional traffic.		
Potential impacts	Additional traffic will be on the local roads as site personnel will be travelling to and from the site each day.		
Proposed management controls	The amount of journeys and limited number of vehicles involved in the drilling program will not cause significant impact to the local transport system. Vehicle movements will be limited to only that necessary.		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Negligible		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Consistency with applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	

Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Matters of National Environmental Significance: Impacts on MNES under the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999:		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		
Criteria	Cumulative Impacts: Cumulative environmental effects with other existing or likely future activities.		
Potential impacts	N/A		
Proposed management controls	N/A		
Duration	24 weeks		
Application ranking	Positive		
What is the confidence in predicting impacts?	High	**Are further studies required on impacts or mitigation?**	No
How resilient is the environment to cope with impacts?	High Resilience	**What is the level of public concern?**	Low
Can the impacts be reversed?	Yes	**Ranking of potential significance**	Low
Can the impacts be mitigated?	Fully	**Justification for ranking**	
Do the operations comply with standards, plans, policies?	Yes		

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