

APO0001748

## Approval to undertake assessable prospecting operations

Mee Mar

15 May 2024

## Application summary

Detail	Application
Reference	APO0001748
Date of approval	15 May 2024
Title	EL 8994 (1992)
Contact	[REDACTED]
Project name	Mee Mar
Project location	10km NW of Cootamundra
Activity type	Complying exploration activity

## Important note

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## Project

### Project details

Assessable prospecting activity APO0001748 relates to the Mee Mar at 10km NW of Cootamundra.

The project has the following approved characteristics.

Detail	Proposal
Activity description	<p>Stage 1: Access routes and drill sites pegged and photographed before works take place.</p> <p>Stage 2: Earthworks that involve the excavation of drill pads will be completed. Material removed during the clearing process stockpiled separately to be used in back-filling and rehabilitation work. Construction of drill pads would involve earthworks and surface disturbance to a maximum area of about 20m x 20m for each drill pad. Access to the drill sites will be via existing farm tracks, in consultation with landholders. No trees or bushes will be removed or cleared.</p> <p>Stage 3: Mobilisation - Drill rig and all equipment is brought onto site.</p> <p>Stage 4: Drilling – DD drilling to reach the target. Each drill hole will be collared within 200m of those planned, and drilled to a depth of ~500m – Duration up to ~20 days per hole for DD drilling (including set up and moving to the next hole). DD drilling will occur during day and night shift. DD will be collected in core trays. Legacy Minerals have land access agreements in place with the landholders to undertake exploration including drilling in this area.</p> <p>Stage 5: Rehabilitation of the drill sites will be undertaken in accordance with the Department's Exploration Code of Practice – Rehabilitation (NSW Department of Planning and Environment, July 2015). All equipment, drilling materials, sample bags and any rubbish will be removed from site. Drill collars will be cut off below cropping level, capped and back-filled after completion of down-hole geophysical surveys. Holes awaiting geophysical survey will be capped in the interim. At the completion of rehabilitation, the land will be left to naturally regenerate. If monitoring shows natural revegetation to be ineffective then seeding with pasture species and/or weed control</p>

Detail	Proposal
<b>Earthworks or vegetation clearing</b>	Construction of drill pads will be required at up to 8 drill sites, which may involve earthworks and surface disturbance to an area of about 20m x 20m for each drill pad. 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. Limited/if any trees or bushes will be removed or cleared and mostly pasture grass will be removed where leveling is required. No other earthworks or site preparation will be required to access the drill sites. Where applicable, any surface soils and any vegetative matter that is removed first, will be stockpiled separately and then soil will be replaced in reverse order to original stratigraphy order during rehabilitation. Discussions with farmers indicate that compaction of soil is not expected from vehicle movements, however if compaction does occur then those areas will be monitored and scarified/rotary hoed if required.
<b>Access to exploration activities</b>	The project area will be accessed using existing public roads and farm access gates / tracks and/or driving across farm paddocks for short distances, following the specific directions and in consultation with landholders.
<b>Ancillary activities</b>	Sucker trucks and waste disposal of captured fluids will be organised by Legacy Minerals or the drilling company, and will be removed from site and disposed of in accordance with environmental regulations.
<b>Anticipated start date</b>	6 May 2024
<b>Expected duration (weeks)</b>	26 weeks
<b>Expected rehabilitation completion date</b>	31 December 2024
<b>Proposed hours of operation</b>	Standard Business hours (7AM to 6PM weekdays, 8AM to 1PM Saturdays, no work Sundays and public holidays)
<b>On-site employee or contractor numbers</b>	6

## Exempted areas

The Mee Mar has not proposed prospecting in an exempted area.

## State conservation areas

The Mee Mar has not proposed prospecting in a State Conservation Area.

## Site description and existing environment

### The project comprises the following existing land uses:

The area is occasionally hunted targeting feral animals such as foxes and rabbits and sheep or cattle may occupy the paddocks. There are no proposed or foreseen changes to the current land use during the activity.

### The project is located near the following sensitive receptors:

Nearest potential drill-hole to a sensitive receptor is a homestead ~200m from a potential drill hole area. The closest potential drilling area is planned in open cropping or grazing country. The homestead sit in a slightly elevated location relative to the rest of the property.

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

Land and soil capability classed as 4 (moderate to severe limitations). No strategic agricultural land. No acid sulfate soils present. It is not considered that there is a significant risk of compaction or erosion over the proposed drilling area. Fresh rock outcrops in many areas and the land is gently undulating.

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

The nearest drainage is greater than 40m from planned DD area. No tree clearing is planned nor is there any planned interaction with the ephemeral drainage. No surface water is present in the area.

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

Ground water has been intersected by previous drilling in the area however no groundwater sources are likely to be affected by the drilling activity. There are no water bore holes within 1km of the proposed drilling. Historical exploration annual reports indicate previous testing of the groundwater encountered in historic RC drilling was suitable for stock consumption.

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

The area may be cropped to canola, wheat, barley or permanent pasture for cattle and sheep grazing. A small area of low density natives (primarily Yellow/White Box) line some of the fence lines and have been retained for stock shelter within paddocks. Some groundcover of exotic plants (thistles) and native grasses exists. Feral animals and exotic plant species have impacted all pasture and native timber areas.

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

None. There are no matters of national environmental significance under the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 that are likely to be impacted by the activity.

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

None. There are no threatened species or ecological communities, or their habitats, that are likely to be affected by the activity.

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

None. There are no historic cultural or natural heritage items that may be impacted by the activity.

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

None. There are no critical habitat/area of outstanding biodiversity value that is likely to be affected by the activity.

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

The proposed activity is not: - within 200 metres of waters - located within a sand dune system - located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland - located within 200 metres below or above a cliff face, or - within 20 metres of or in a cave, rock shelter, or a cave mouth and is on land that is not disturbed land. It is unlikely that Aboriginal cultural heritage (including Aboriginal objects and places) are likely to occur in the area affected by the proposed activity. The area has had a significant amount of ground disturbance including buildings, tracks, grazing and cropping activities, water diversion excavations and rock picking. No new tracks are proposed and only existing tracks will be utilised.

## Exploration activities

The following exploration activities have been approved.

## Drill holes

Id/ Regulator no.	Type	Surface disturbance (m <sup>2</sup> )	Veg. Clearing (m <sup>2</sup> )	Excavations (m <sup>3</sup> )	Produced water (ml)	Depth (m)	Block number	Unit letters
X24_MM0 0C EDH00150 80	DDH drill hole	400		4		150	CAN2208	t
X24_MM0 0E EDH00150 82	DDH drill hole	400		4		150	CAN2208	o
X24_MM0 0A EDH00150 78	DDH drill hole	400				150	CAN2208	t
X24_MM0 0J EDH00150 86	DDH drill hole	400				150	CAN2208	o
X24_MM0 0B EDH00150 79	DDH drill hole	400				150	CAN2208	t
X24_MM0 0D EDH00150 81	DDH drill hole	400		4		150	CAN2208	t
X24_MM0 0F EDH00150 83	DDH drill hole	400		4		150	CAN2208	o
X24_MM0 0H EDH00150 85	DDH drill hole	400		4		150	CAN2208	t

## Other exploration activities

Id/ Regulator no.	Type	Surface disturbance (m <sup>2</sup> )	Veg. Clearing (m <sup>2</sup> )	Excavations (m <sup>3</sup> )	Produced water (ml)	Block number	Unit letters
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## Impact management

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

All drillholes will be located more than 40m from any water source including watercourses and dams. The proposed drilling will not adversely impact any surface water sources and no ground water will be extracted for the drilling program. Water recycling will be optimised during diamond drilling. Any rain water will disperse quickly absorbed into the ground cover or moving as sheet wash into the local drainage.

**The project includes the following measures to manage groundwater impacts:**

It is not expected that significant ground water will be intercepted based on historical reports however any intercepted groundwater and liquid wastes would be managed in accordance with the Exploration Code of Practice: Produced Water Management, Storage and Transfer. If groundwater is produced during drilling, it will be contained at site in the aboveground containment tanks. Any additional flow of groundwater would be managed with the creation of small bunds to direct and contain any flows, these could include hay bales and temporary silt-stop fencing. 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. It is not anticipated that water will be produced during diamond drilling. A vanruth plug will be kept on site with cement to plug and grout the hole where appropriate

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

The proposed activities will produce minimal waste. All general waste will be contained and removed from site immediately following drill hole completion and disposed of at the local land-fill site. Large tarpaulins or plastic will be placed under drill equipment in order to catch any hydrocarbon or grease leakage. These, as well as any material from any hydrocarbon spill-kit used will be disposed off site in heavy-duty bags. Any contaminated soil will be shoveled into the bags for disposal at the local land-fill site. Reverse circulation drill cuttings will be collected in heavy-duty plastic sample bags. No hazardous or special wastes are produced. All drilling fluids are environmentally approved and biodegradable. No waste or equipment will be left on site.

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

The drilling will require hole conditioning fluids, including AMC Rod Grease, Super Foam Biodegradable Drilling Foam, Biodegradable Hammer Oil, AUS-GRIP (ECO) A and B Rigid Foam, Biodegradable lubricants and cutting oils. All these conditioning fluids are biodegradable. No dangerous chemicals will be present on site. An approved spill kit/oil matting will be on site for use with hydrocarbons such as diesel or oil spills. All chemicals and hydrocarbons will be stored and transported in sealed containers or storage boxes in the vehicles. The drilling contractor will have safety data sheets for all chemicals and hydrocarbons used on site, as well as work method statements as part of the contractor's WH&S policy for the use of these chemicals.

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

There is a single residence within the project area. Drilling may be undertaken within 200 meters of a dwelling and as such, noise controls may be required in consultation with the landholder. These may include hay bales, shipping containers or other noise cancelling/diverting barriers. Exploration Land Access Agreements are in place for all landholders. DD holes may be drilled 24hrs a day in consultation with the landholder, as it is not expected to adversely impact on the residence. One other sensitive receiver is ~250m to the project area and will be included in all consultation activities relating to the proposed drilling. Earplugs will be used at all times by the drillers, field staff and visitors to site to prevent hearing damage where appropriate as per the contractors Drilling Health and Safety Procedures.

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

Staff will have access to dust masks and appropriate PPE as necessary. Diamond drilling is not anticipated to produce any dust however if tracks were to become dusty then watering mitigation measures may be employed. It is not expected that the dust will have an impact on the environment nor will it impact surrounding landholders.

## Sensitivity of the land to be disturbed

Question	Yes/no
Conservation areas	

Question	Yes/no
Land reserved under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> ?	No
Land acquired by the Minister under Part 11 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> ?	No
Land subject to a 'conservation agreement' under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> and/or the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> ?	No
Land declared as an aquatic reserve under the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i> ?	No
Land declared as a marine park under the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i> ?	No
Land within State Forests set aside under the <i>Forestry Act 2012</i> for conservation values, including Flora Reserves or Special Management (and other) Zones?	No
Land reserved or dedicated under the <i>Crown Lands Act 1989</i> / <i>Crown Lands Management Act 2016</i> (as applicable) for the preservation of flora, fauna, geological formations or other environmental protection purposes?	No
Land identified as wilderness or declared a wilderness area under the <i>Wilderness Act 1987</i> ?	No
Land subject to a Biobanking agreement (established under the now repealed <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> ) or a Biodiversity Stewardship agreement established under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> ?	No
Land subject to a Wildlife Refuge agreement under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> ?	No
Land subject to existing conservation agreements on private land under repealed legislation that continue to have effect (e.g. trust agreements under <i>Native Conservation Trust Act 2001</i> , Property vegetation plans under <i>Native Vegetation Act 2003</i> , Registered property agreements under <i>Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997</i> )?	No
<b>Drinking water catchment protection areas</b>	
Land declared to be a 'controlled area' or a 'special area' under the <i>Water NSW Act 2014</i> ?	No
Land declared to be a 'special area' under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> or <i>Hunter Water Act 1991</i> ?	No
<b>Sensitive areas</b>	
Land declared as area of outstanding biodiversity value under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or critical habitat under Part 7A of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> ?	No
Wetlands of international significance listed under the Ramsar Wetlands Convention?	No
Land designated as a nationally important wetland in the Directory of Important Wetlands?	No
Coastal wetlands mapped under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> ?	No
Littoral rainforests mapped under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> ?	No
Coastal zone as defined in the <i>Coastal Management Act 2016</i> ?	No
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument as being of biodiversity/conservation significance or zoned for environmental conservation, protection and/or management?	No
Waterfront land defined under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> ?	No
Land with a slope greater than 18 degrees measured from the horizontal?	No
<b>Land with potential for soil and water contamination</b>	
Land mapped as Actual Acid Sulfate Soils (AASS) or Potential Acid Sulfate Soils (PASS) on the Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Maps for NSW?	No
<b>Aboriginal protection areas</b>	
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument (such as a State Environmental Planning Policy or Local Environment Plan) as being of Aboriginal cultural significance?	No
Land declared as an Aboriginal place under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> ?	No
<b>Historic or natural heritage protection areas</b>	

Question	Yes/no
Land listed on the World Heritage List, National Heritage List or Commonwealth Heritage List?	No
Land, places, buildings or structures listed on the NSW State Heritage Register?	No
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument (such as a State Environmental Planning Policy or Local Environment Plan) as being of heritage significance or a heritage conservation area?	No
<b>Critical industry clusters</b>	
Land identified as Critical Industry Cluster under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021</i> ?	No
<b>Community land</b>	
Public land classified as community land under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> ?	No
<b>Other areas</b>	
Land identified on the authority (e.g. exploration licence or assessment lease) as environmentally sensitive land?	No
<b>Ecology</b>	
Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened species or their habitats?	No
Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened ecological communities or their habitats?	No
Will vegetation be removed as part of access track upgrade works in waterfront land?	No
<b>Aboriginal and European heritage</b>	
Will the activity harm Aboriginal objects as defined under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> ?	No
Will the activity damage any listed heritage items?	No



## Attachment 1 – Statement of commitments

Item	Commitment
<b>Activity type</b>	<p>Exploration activity comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 diamond drill holes</li> <li>• 0 reverse circulation drill holes</li> <li>• 0 other drill holes</li> <li>• 0 cubic metres of bulk sampling</li> <li>• 0 square metres of new access tracks</li> <li>• 0 lines of seismic testing</li> <li>• 0 square metres of air core drilling</li> <li>• 0 square metres of other drilling</li> </ul>
<b>Activity location</b>	10km NW of Cootamundra, within EL 8994 (1992).
<b>Activity scope (including any ancillary activities)</b>	<p>Stage 1: Access routes and drill sites pegged and photographed before works take place. Stage 2: Earthworks that involve the excavation of drill pads will be completed. Material removed during the clearing process stockpiled separately to be used in back-filling and rehabilitation work. Construction of drill pads would involve earthworks and surface disturbance to a maximum area of about 20m x 20m for each drill pad. Access to the drill sites will be via existing farm tracks, in consultation with landholders. No trees or bushes will be removed or cleared. Stage 3: Mobilisation - Drill rig and all equipment is brought onto site. Stage 4: Drilling – DD drilling to reach the target. Each drill hole will be collared within 200m of those planned, and drilled to a depth of ~500m – Duration up to ~20 days per hole for DD drilling (including set up and moving to the next hole). DD drilling will occur during day and night shift. DD will be collected in core trays. Legacy Minerals have land access agreements in place with the landholders to undertake exploration including drilling in this area. Stage 5: Rehabilitation of the drill sites will be undertaken in accordance with the Department's Exploration Code of Practice – Rehabilitation (NSW Department of Planning and Environment, July 2015). All equipment, drilling materials, sample bags and any rubbish will be removed from site. Drill collars will be cut off below cropping level, capped and back-filled after completion of down-hole geophysical surveys. Holes awaiting geophysical survey will be capped in the interim. At the completion of rehabilitation, the land will be left to naturally regenerate. If monitoring shows natural revegetation to be ineffective then seeding with pasture species and/or weed control</p> <p>Sucker trucks and waste disposal of captured fluids will be organised by Legacy Minerals or the drilling company, and will be removed from site and disposed of in accordance with environmental regulations.</p>
<b>Hours of operation</b>	Standard Business hours (7AM to 6PM weekdays, 8AM to 1PM Saturdays, no work Sundays and public holidays)
<b>Expected duration (weeks)</b>	26 weeks
<b>Anticipated start date</b>	6 May 2024
<b>Expected rehabilitation completion date</b>	Estimated 31 December 2024
<b>Maximum area of disturbance</b>	3,200 square metres
<b>Air quality</b>	The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as practicable, pollution caused by dust and other air pollutants.

Item	Commitment
<b>Protection of water sources</b>	<p>The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as practicable, causing adverse impacts on water quality and quantity, including groundwater levels and pressure.</p> <p>Prior to the construction and use of any borehole, the holder of a coal prospecting title must prepare a Groundwater Monitoring and Modelling Plan in consultation with the Water Division of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.</p>
<b>Erosion, sediment and soil controls</b>	<p>The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as is practicable, causing any land degradation or pollution of land or water.</p> <p>The title holder must implement all practicable measures to prevent harm to the environment when disturbing land in areas of potential acid sulfate soils and actual acid sulfate soils.</p>
<b>Noise and vibration</b>	<p>The titleholder must implement all practicable noise management measures to ensure that noise levels meet acceptable noise criteria for sensitive receivers.</p> <p>Unless otherwise agreed with relevant landholders, the title holder must notify any potentially affected landholders at least 24 hours prior to detonating explosives.</p>
<b>Use of chemicals, fuels and lubricants</b>	<p>The titleholder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as is practicable, causing contamination of the environment by the release of chemicals, fuels, lubricants and other potential pollutants.</p> <p>The title holder must ensure that all chemicals, fuels and lubricants, excluding those contained within plant and equipment, are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. stored and handled in accordance with any relevant Safety Data Sheet and Australian Standards for the material, and</li> <li>b. stored in appropriate containers that are in good condition and labelled to clearly identify the stored product, and</li> <li>c. kept in a facility or area which is capable of containing at least 110% of the largest container capacity stored within that area.</li> </ol> <p>The title holder must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ensure that adequate spill prevention and absorbent materials required to manage spills and leaks for all potential pollutants which are on site are readily available at all times, and</li> <li>b. use appropriate equipment and materials to capture any drips and spills which occur during the transfer of potential pollutants, and when carrying out maintenance of hydrocarbon filled plant and equipment.</li> </ol>
<b>Waste</b>	<p>The titleholder must manage all waste in a manner which does not cause harm to the environment.</p>
<b>Vegetation clearing and surface disturbance</b>	<p>The title holder must minimise the extent of any vegetation clearing and surface disturbance to as low as practicable.</p> <p>The boundaries of any areas of vegetation clearing and surface disturbance must be demarcated.</p> <p>The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as practicable, adverse impacts to fauna caused by vegetation clearing or surface disturbance.</p> <p>The title holder must inspect trees and canopy branches for fauna prior to felling or branch removal, and clearly demarcate any hollows or active bird nests.</p> <p>The title holder must not proceed with tree felling or branch removal until any resident fauna have been relocated by an ecologist or other competent party.</p>
<b>Roads and tracks</b>	<p>The title holder must consult with relevant landholders prior to establishing any new roads or tracks.</p>

Item	Commitment
	<p>The title holder must plan, design, construct, maintain and use roads and tracks in a manner which minimises the area and duration of disturbance to the environment and landholders to as low as practicable.</p> <p>The title holder must construct any crossings of rivers, permanent and intermittent water lands and wetlands to prevent, so far as practicable, impacts on fish habitats.</p> <p>The title holder must refrain from using any unsealed road or track during wet conditions to prevent damage to that road or track, unless the road or track has been designed and constructed for use in wet conditions, or the landholder expressly consented to the use of that road or track in wet conditions.</p> <p>Unless otherwise agreed with the relevant landholder, the title holder must repair all damage to existing roads and tracks resulting from exploration activities.</p>
<b>Aboriginal and other cultural heritage</b>	The titleholder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as practicable, harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage and non-indigenous cultural heritage.
<b>Weeds, pest animals and diseases</b>	The titleholder must implement all practicable measures to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds, pest animals and animal and plant diseases.
<b>Livestock protection</b>	The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, so far as practicable, causing adverse impacts to livestock.
<b>Fire prevention</b>	The title holder must implement all measures to prevent, as far as practicable, the ignition and spread of fire.
<b>Rehabilitation commitments</b>	The activity will be undertaken in accordance with the rehabilitation objectives and targets provided for this project.
<b>Risk assessments</b>	The title holder must monitor the risks associated with activities and, if the risk associated with an activity changes, implement revised environmental management controls.
<b>Incident management</b>	The NSW Resources Regulator will be notified of all incidents in accordance with the requirements of EL 8994 (1992).
<b>Reporting</b>	Reporting to the NSW Resources Regulator and Mining, Exploration and Geoscience – Department of Regional NSW will be in accordance with the legislation and conditions of EL 8994 (1992).
<b>Codes of Practice</b>	<p>Mee Mar will be operated in accordance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management    Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation    Exploration Code of Practice: Produced Water Management, Storage and Transfer</li> </ul>
<b>Other (as applicable)</b>	1. No additional terms specified.

## Attachment 2 – Definitions

To search for NSW legislation, visit [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au). Commonwealth legislation can be found at [www.legislation.gov.au](http://www.legislation.gov.au).

Word	Definition
<b>Aboriginal object</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .
<b>Aboriginal place</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .
<b>Acid Sulfate Soils</b>	Sediments and soils containing iron sulfides which, when exposed to oxygen, generate sulfuric acid.  Acid sulfate soils include actual acid sulfate soils (AASS) or potential acid sulfate soils (PASS).
<b>Activity</b>	Any activity carried out in connection with exploration, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the use of land</li> <li>means of accessing land</li> <li>the carrying out of a work.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity approval</b>	An approval to carry out assessable prospecting operations granted under the <i>Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991</i> – as relevant.
<b>Actual Acid Sulfate Soils (AASS)</b>	Sediments and soils containing highly acidic soil horizons or layers resulting from the aeration of sediments and soils that are rich in iron sulfides, primarily sulphide.
<b>Applicant</b>	In relation to an exploration activity, the person proposing to carry out the exploration activity.
<b>Aquatic reserve</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i> .
<b>Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs)</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .  Note: Areas of declared critical habitat under the now repealed <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> have become Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs) under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
<b>Assessable prospecting operation</b>	Any prospecting operation that is not exempt development within the meaning of <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021</i> .
<b>Clearing of vegetation</b>	Any one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cutting down, felling, thinning, lopping, logging or removing vegetation, or</li> <li>killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, uprooting or burning vegetation.</li> </ul>
<b>Complying exploration activities (CEA)</b>	Exploration activities that are considered unlikely to significantly affect the environment as set out in <i>Exploration guideline: Application and assessment process for exploration activities</i> .
<b>Critical habitat</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> .  Areas of declared critical habitat under the now repealed <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> have become Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (AOBVs) under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
<b>Drill hole</b>	A hole made by drilling or boring, but excludes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sampling and coring using handheld equipment</li> <li>petroleum wells.</li> </ul>
<b>Drilling</b>	The perforation of the earth's surface crust by mechanical means to form a hole, whether the hole caused by the perforation is vertical, inclined or horizontal, and

Word	Definition
	includes all operations for preventing collapse of the sides of such hole or for preventing it from being filled with extraneous materials including water
<b>Environment</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991</i> – as relevant.
<b>Environmentally sensitive area of State significance</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021</i> .
<b>Excavation</b>	The removal of the surface layer to a depth greater than 500 mm from the natural surface level.
<b>Exempt development</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021</i> .
<b>Exploration</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021</i> .
<b>Fauna</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .
<b>Groundwater</b>	Water that occurs beneath the ground surface in the saturated zone.
<b>Habitat</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> (as relevant).
<b>Harm</b>	<p>In relation to matters of national environmental significance, has the same meaning as 'significant impact' as provided by the 'Significant Impact Guidelines' used to determine whether assessment and approval is required under the <i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>.</p> <p>In relation to the environment, has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>.</p> <p>In relation to threatened species or ecological communities, has the same meaning as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'harm an animal' in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i></li> <li>• 'pick a native plant' in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i></li> <li>• 'harm' in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>.</li> </ul> <p>In relation to an aquifer or waterfront land, has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>.</p> <p>In relation to Aboriginal places or Aboriginal objects has the same meaning as it has in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>.</p> <p>In relation to items of heritage significance, has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>.</p> <p>In relation to protected marine vegetation, has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>.</p>
<b>Items of heritage significance</b>	<p>Means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any heritage items listed in one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— the Commonwealth Heritage List</li> <li>— the World Heritage List</li> <li>— the National Heritage List</li> <li>— the State Heritage Register</li> <li>— an Environmental Planning Instrument</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Word	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any relic (being any deposit, object or material evidence which relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and which is 50 or more years old), or</li> <li>• within State Conservation Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— items that are listed on the DECC Historic Heritage Information Management System, or</li> <li>— any deposit, object or material evidence relating to the settlement or occupation of New South Wales or a part of New South Wales (not being Aboriginal settlement or occupation) if the deposit, object or material evidence is more than 25 years old at the date of the interference or removal.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Land</b>	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the sea or an arm of the sea</li> <li>• a bay, inlet, lagoon, lake or body of water, whether inland or not and whether tidal or non-tidal</li> <li>• a river, stream or watercourse, whether tidal or non-tidal, and</li> <li>• a building erected on the land</li> </ul>
<b>Marine vegetation</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> .
<b>Matters of national environmental significance</b>	'Matters of national environmental significance' protected under the <i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .
<b>Minister</b>	The Minister administering the <i>Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991</i> – as relevant.
<b>Native vegetation</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i> .
<b>Potential acid sulphate soils (PASS)</b>	Sediments and soils that contain iron sulfides or sulfidic material which have not been exposed to air and oxidised
<b>Produced water</b>	Any form of groundwater that is actively extracted from a borehole or excavation, excluding incidental groundwater mixed with drilling fluids.
<b>Rehabilitation</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Mining Act 1992 / Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991</i> – as relevant.
<b>Seismic survey</b>	The use of shock waves (generated in the ground using either small explosive charges detonated below the surface, hand-held mechanical hammers or vehicle-mounted hammers) and an array of geophones, which are connected to measuring instruments, to differentiate the geophysical properties of the subsurface of the earth.
<b>Sensitive receiver</b>	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dwellings</li> <li>• libraries</li> <li>• educational and research institutions (including schools, colleges and universities)</li> <li>• childcare centres</li> <li>• kindergartens</li> <li>• hospitals, surgeries and other medical institutions</li> <li>• places of worship</li> </ul>

Word	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• milking sheds and holding yards associated with dairies</li> <li>• animal boarding or training establishments</li> <li>• aquaculture</li> <li>• intensive livestock agriculture</li> </ul>
<b>Site</b>	The land on which an activity is located.
<b>State Conservation Area</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .
<b>Surface disturbance</b>	Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• disturbance or exposure of the soil or surface rock layer, or</li> <li>• degradation or deterioration in any manner of the physical surface of land.</li> </ul>
<b>Terms</b>	In relation to activity approvals, the terms imposed by the decision-maker on the grant of an activity approval.
<b>Threatened species or ecological communities</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> (as relevant).
<b>Title</b>	An authority under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> / a title under the <i>Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991</i> – as relevant.
<b>Titleholder</b>	A person or company to whom a title has been issued.
<b>Track</b>	All unsealed routes that will be traversed multiple times, but does not include single pass (ingress and egress) routes or seismic shot and receiver lines.
<b>Waste</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> .
<b>Water source</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> .
<b>Water land</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> .
<b>Waterfront land</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> .
<b>Wetlands</b>	Has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> .
<b>Wilderness</b>	Lands identified as wilderness under the <i>Wilderness Act 1987</i> .
<b>Wilderness area</b>	Lands (including subterranean lands) declared to be a wilderness area under the <i>Wilderness Act 1987</i> or the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .

## Attachment 3 – List of supporting documents

- 20240423\_Mee Mar.png
  - APO0001748\_Submission Report\_12 May 2024 6:06pm.pdf
  - APO0001748\_Submission Report\_13 May 2024 12:49pm.pdf
  - APO0001748\_Submission Report\_25 Apr 2024 8:19pm.pdf
  - APO0001748\_Submission Report\_9 May 2024 8:07pm.pdf
  - APO\_drillholes\_Pre-site.pdf
  - ExtensiveSearchReport (1).pdf
  - image005.png
  - LIT Full Map Full Legend Report Template.pdf
  - Protected Matters - MNES layers - April 23rd 2024.pdf
  - RE: APO0001748 | APO0001748 - Mee Mar - LEGACY MINERALS PTY LTD.eml
  - Threatened Species record search.zip

FORM: APO\_C\_Apvl v3.1