



**RPI25-002 ANGLO AMERICAN –  
PLANET DOWNS PROJECT  
(EXPLORATION DRILLING)**

RIDA Application:  
Supporting Information Report

**FINAL**

February 2025



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Supporting Information Report

**FINAL**

Prepared by  
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on behalf of  
**Anglo American Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd**

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### **Document Status**

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# 1.0 Introduction

This document provides information to support the Application for a Regional Interests Development Approval (RIDA) (application reference **RPI25/002**) for a small-scale exploration drilling program proposed by Anglo American Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd (Anglo) within the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area (SEA) for the Planet Downs Project (the Project).

This document has been prepared by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd (Umwelt) on behalf of Anglo, and provides supporting information in accordance with the requirements of the Assessment Application Form (RIDA Application Form) and the following legislation and guidelines:

- *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act)
- *Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014* (RPI Regulation)
- RPI Act Statutory Guideline 01/14 *How to make an assessment application for a regional interests development approval under the Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Guideline 1/14)
- RPI Act Statutory Guideline 05/14 *Carrying out resource activities and regulated activities in a Strategic Environmental Area* (RPI Guideline 5/14)
- RPI Act Statutory Guideline 06/14 *Public notification of assessment applications* (RPI Guideline 6/14)
- RPI Act Statutory Guideline 11/16 *Companion Guide* (RPI Guideline 11/16).

This document also considers the advice and recommendations provided by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP) at the RIDA pre-application meeting held on 14 January 2025. The pre-application meeting was attended by representatives of Anglo and Umwelt, as well as Darren Brewer, Daniela Walker and Alyssa van Butzelaar of DSDIP, Daniel Larsen and Maria Woodgate of the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers (DLGWV), and Indigo Spence and Hazel Hughes of the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI).

This document should be read in conjunction with the RIDA Application Form for RPI25/002.

## 1.1 The Applicant

The applicant is Anglo American Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd.

## 1.2 Project Overview

The Planet Downs Project (the Project) is located adjacent to the town of Gregory, and approximately 15 kilometres (km) to the south of Burketown and about 190 km north of Mt Isa in North-west Queensland (refer **Figure 1**). The Project site covers an area of approximately 649,780 hectares (ha), and comprises 20 granted Exploration Permits for Minerals (EPMs) (refer **Figure 2**). These EPMs are held by Anglo and are conditioned under Environmental Authority (EA) P-EA-100269946, which was granted on 24 October 2023. The EA is a Standard Conditions EA (i.e. the *Eligibility Criteria and Standard Conditions for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects – ESR/2016/1985 (Version 2.00)*) (refer **Appendix A**).

## 2.0 Proposed Activities

The proposed activities associated with this RIDA Application include exploration drilling, and associated ancillary activities including the construction of temporary access tracks, a temporary accommodation camp, and temporary laydown area.

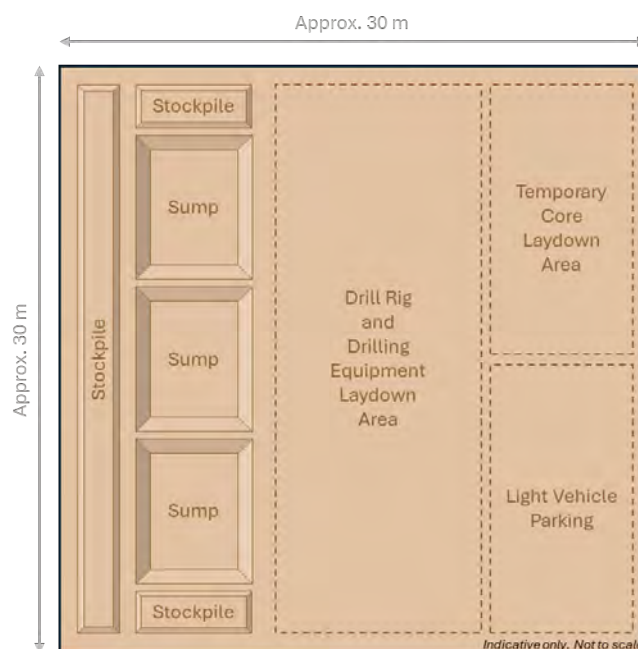
### 2.1 Exploration Drilling

Anglo is currently undertaking preliminary exploration geophysical and seismic survey activities for minerals in the SEA as a part of the Project. These activities comprise geophysical and seismic surveys, which are approved and conditioned under the Project's EA and RIDA RPI24/001. Initial findings from these preliminary activities have identified some areas of the site that warrant additional investigation to further understand the resource potential.

Anglo has identified three areas that they would like to target with exploration drilling, as shown on **Figure 2**. A total of approximately 10 exploration drill pads are anticipated to be constructed for the exploration program within these areas. The exact locations that will be chosen for drilling within these three areas will be determined following the completion of geophysical and seismic surveys that are currently being undertaken.

It should be noted that the exploration drilling proposed is for the purpose of obtaining geological core samples, and not to prepare or develop groundwater bores.

In accordance with the requirements of the EA, drill pads will be up to 0.1 ha in size (i.e., approximately 30 m x 30 m). Each pad will include a drill hole, sumps and temporary core laydown (refer to examples of drilling equipment and indicative drill pad layout in **Plate 2.1** and **Plate 2.2**). Any topsoils pushed from the construction of the drill pad as well as the material excavated from the construction of the sumps will also be stockpiled on the drill pad.



**Plate 2.1 Schematic of Indicative Drill Pad Layout**





**Plate 2.2** Example of Drill Rigs

Drilling will typically be to depths ranging from approximately 400 m to 900 m depending on the geology encountered. A diamond drill rig will be used (**Plate 2.2**) with mud rotary technique through the cover overburden, followed by diamond core drilling into the basement geology.

Drilling will only occur in the dry season, and is currently planned to commence in approximately July / August 2025 through to approximately October 2027. Each hole will take approximately one to four weeks to drill depending on depth and ground conditions.

One drill rig and three 4WD vehicles will be used for this drilling campaign. Some access tracks are required to be constructed for the drilling program (refer **Section 2.2.1**).

Drilling activities will be undertaken in accordance with the EA, and will include:

- Completion of environmental and heritage pre-clearance surveys.
- Pegging of the drill pad centre point and corners.
- If required, construction of access tracks to the drill pad location.
- Clearing of scrub / groundcover vegetation where necessary, and stockpiling of topsoils.
- Installation of sediment and erosion control structures as required.
- Construction of temporary sumps.
- Commencement of drilling activities.
- Geophysical logging of the drillholes and cores.
- Grouting and capping of drillholes.
- Removal of all machinery, equipment and wastes.
- Rehabilitation of the drill pad to return the site to its pre-disturbed state.

Biodegradable muds and fluids will be utilised, and all drilling muds and fluids will be collected and contained in shallow temporary sumps.

All fuels and oils will be stored in accordance with the EA and relevant Australian Standards (including AS1940) to minimise the risk of spills. Fully stocked spill kits will be readily available at each drill pad, and any spills will be cleaned up immediately. All refuse will be appropriately stored and removed from the drill pads at the completion of drilling for disposal at designated off-site facilities.

Water supply for drilling operations will be sourced from existing water sources with agreement from the landholder for the drill site locations. Water will be trucked to the drill pads via water carts, as required.

Indicative areas for the drilling program are provided in **Figure 2**. The final siting of the drill holes will take into consideration the following:

- Findings of the Phase 1 exploration works.
- Limitations to exploration activities as described in the EA, including:
  - No activities within 100 m of a Historical, Archaeological or Ethnographic site (Condition A14).
  - Drilling activities at least 100 m from riverine areas to avoid watercourses and drainage lines (Condition B22).
  - No activities within a Category A ESA (Condition A13).
  - No activities involving machinery within 1,000 m of a Category A ESA (Condition A13).
- Avoiding areas of Essential Habitat.
- Avoiding activities within the SEA Designated Precinct.
- Located at least 100 m from mapped drainage lines.
- Located at least 100 m from mapped wetlands.

The final locations of the drill sites within the indicative drilling areas will also factor in any additional conditions imposed in the RIDA.

A pre-clearance survey for each proposed drill pad will be undertaken prior to any land disturbance to identify any ecological or heritage values that may further constrain the siting of drilling, such as riparian vegetation, mature trees, heritage finds, drainage lines, waterbodies etc., and the drilling program will avoid disturbance to these features.

Erosion and sediment controls will be installed to ensure that any runoff from the drill pads is appropriately managed and contained. Controls will be designed to minimise soil erosion from wind, rain and runoff, and to allow stormwater to pass through or around the site in a controlled manner. Clearing of the drill pads will be undertaken as soon as practically possible prior to activities taking place to minimise the time that soil is left exposed to further limit erosion potential.

All exploration drillholes will be drilled and rehabilitated in accordance with the requirements of the EA and Great Artesian Basin and Other Regional Aquifers (GABORA) Water Plan to ensure there are no adverse

impacts on groundwater resources. A suitably licenced class 3 water bore driller will be consulted for the construction and sealing of drillholes.

Following the completion of drilling activities at each drill site, drillholes will be grouted with cement to the full depth of the drillhole, and capped to the relevant depth depending on the land type, in accordance with condition B16 of the EA; That is, drillholes on land to be used for cropping will be capped at least 1 m below the ground surface, drillholes on other land not used for cropping will be capped approximately 300 mm below the ground surface, and drillholes on rocky outcrops will be capped at surface level.

The temporary sumps will be backfilled with stockpiled soil. All materials and refuse from the drill pad area will be removed and disposed at designated off-site facilities. Any sediment and erosion control structures will be removed. Stripped topsoil will be re-spread on the decommissioned drill pad. Natural regeneration of vegetation will occur from the inherent seedstock in the topsoil. This rehabilitation method of natural regeneration is a widely accepted method of rehabilitating areas of disturbance as the topsoils contain a local seed source and nutrients conducive to revegetation.

A post clearance / rehabilitation survey will then be undertaken by an appropriately qualified person and a report prepared to confirm that the drill pads and any associated access tracks have been rehabilitated in accordance with the conditions of the EA and RIDA.

***The total estimated surface disturbance for the Exploration Drilling within the SEA is approximately 1.0 ha.***

## **2.2 Ancillary Activities**

### **2.2.1 Temporary Access Tracks**

The drilling program will primarily utilise the existing tracks wherever possible, however it is estimated that up to 8 km of temporary access tracks may be required to be constructed to support the drilling program. The tracks will be used to link the existing tracks to the drill pad, and will be located within the indicative areas for the drilling program that are shown on **Figure 2**. The tracks will have an approximate width of 3 m.

A grader, backhoe, front end loader or similar will be used to construct the tracks. A grader will typically be used in areas where there is minimal tree and shrub cover. In areas where there are trees or shrubs, the tracks will be cleared using a loader applying the “blade up” method to minimise disturbance to topsoil and the roots of trees and shrubs. Tracks will only be cleared as required, and all clearing activities will take place in the dry season. Any soils cleared during construction of the tracks will be stockpiled in windrows adjacent to the tracks. The crossing of waterways for new tracks will be minimised and avoided where possible. A temporary crossing point may be required to traverse Sandy Creek (an ephemeral stream order 5 waterway) (refer **Section 3.8.1**) to access the western side of the proposed southern drilling area (refer **Figure 2**), however no structures will be constructed within the creek bed and activities in this area will take place during dry season when the creek is dry and there are no flows.

The final siting of the access tracks will take into consideration the following:

- Confirmed locations of the drill pads (described in **Section 2.1**) following completion of Phase 1 exploration works.
- Limitations to exploration activities as described in the EA, including:

- No activities within 100 m of a Historical, Archaeological or Ethnographic site (Condition A14).
- No activities within a Category A ESA (Condition A13).
- No activities involving machinery within 1,000 m of a Category A ESA (Condition A13).
- No excavation in standing waters, wetlands or lakes, on the sloped banks of within 3 m of the top of the bank or 5 m of the toe of the bank, or within or on the levee banks of the normal flow channel (Condition B14).
- Avoiding areas of Essential Habitat.
- Avoiding activities within the SEA Designated Precinct.

The locations of the temporary access tracks will also factor in any additional conditions imposed in the RIDA, as well as any on-ground limitations or sensitive features observed on the proposed track alignment, such as avoiding riparian vegetation, mature trees and shrubs, areas with habitat features (such as burrows or nests), heritage finds, drainage lines, waterbodies etc.

The locations of any temporary waterway crossing points required will also be assessed during the preclearance survey to confirm that the chosen locations provide minimal disturbance to the drainage line and surrounding vegetation. Any waterway crossing points for the tracks will be selected to avoid areas with high and/or steep banks, as far as possible. Crossing locations will also be selected in areas where the waterway has a stable bed and banks, and there is no water flow, and no ponded water. Where necessary, temporary erosion protection will be provided in any bank cut areas in waterway crossing points. No temporary or permanent structures will be constructed within the bed of the waterway, other than appropriate sediment and erosion controls if required. Crossing points will only be utilised if the ground is considered sufficiently stable to allow the safe movement of the drilling equipment across the creek bed.

Any access tracks crossing floodplain areas will be inspected prior to construction and realigned to avoid any sensitive floodplain features such as mature trees or waterholes. Access track construction work will be conducted during the dry season to avoid any impacts on watercourse or floodplain flows, and will be constructed along the natural grades as far as possible to avoid any significant cutting and/or filling in floodplain areas.

As the temporary tracks will be constructed and utilised during the dry season, erosion and sediment controls are unlikely to be required. The requirement for any controls will be assessed by the project team at the time of construction, during use of the tracks, and prior to rehabilitation activities, to ensure compliance with the EA.

All access tracks will be constructed, maintained and rehabilitated in accordance with the relevant conditions in the EA. The alignment and construction of the access tracks will also factor in any additional conditions imposed in the RIDA.

At the completion of drilling and once the access track is no longer required, and prior to the commencement of the wet season, tracks no longer required will be rehabilitated in accordance with the conditions in the Project's EA, any conditions imposed by the RIDA, and to the satisfaction of the landowner. Rehabilitation will include the removal of any erosion and sediment controls, any stockpiled soils will be respread, and natural regeneration of vegetation will occur from the inherent seedstock in the topsoil. This

rehabilitation method of natural regeneration is a widely accepted method of rehabilitating areas of disturbance as the topsoils contain a local seed source and nutrients conducive to revegetation.

Anglo will also liaise with the landowner to confirm whether the ownership of any tracks cleared as a part of the proposed activities are to be transferred to the landowner. In this instance, the appropriate applications will be made through DETSI for the transfer of the access tracks.

***The total estimated surface disturbance for the proposed temporary access tracks is 2.4 ha.***

## **2.2.2 Temporary Camp Site**

Due to the remote location of the Project site, a temporary accommodation camp will be required to be constructed to house the exploration team for the drilling program. The camp is likely to house approximately 10 staff, and will likely comprise caravan-style accommodation. Power to the camp will be supplied through diesel generators. Temporary ablution and wash facilities will be also provided. Drinking water and food supplies will be obtained from landowners, or the township of Gregory, which is located approximately 30 km from the proposed camp site.

Three indicative locations for the camp have been identified (refer **Figure 2**). The exact location that will be chosen for the camp within these indicative locations will be determined following field and pre-clearance surveys. The camp site will be up to 0.5 ha in size, however it is unlikely that this whole area would need to be disturbed. The camp site will be established in the dry season. It will be located on flat topography, in an area that avoids vegetation clearing as far as practical, and not within 100 m of mapped drainage lines (in accordance with EA Condition B4). No creek crossings are required to be constructed for the camp.

At the completion of the exploration program, and prior to the commencement of the wet season, the temporary camp and any associated infrastructure will be removed from the site. All materials and refuse from the camp will be removed and disposed at designated off-site facilities. Any stockpiled soils will be respread, and natural regeneration of vegetation will occur from the inherent seedstock in the topsoil. This rehabilitation method of natural regeneration is a widely accepted method of rehabilitating areas of disturbance as the topsoils contain a local seed source and nutrients conducive to revegetation. The site will be rehabilitated in accordance with the conditions in the Project's EA, any conditions imposed by the RIDA, and to the satisfaction of the landowner.

***The total estimated surface disturbance for the construction of the temporary camp within the SEA is approximately 0.5 ha.***

## **2.2.3 Temporary Laydown Area**

A temporary laydown area will be required to support the exploration program. It will be co-located adjacent to the accommodation camp, and within the indicative camp locations shown on **Figure 2**.

The laydown area will comprise racking and benches to allow geological inspection and recording of the extracted drill cores from the drilling program. It will include temporary sun shelter facilities such as marquees or gazebo tents. Drilling equipment and consumables may also be stored here.

The laydown area will be up to 0.1 ha in size, however it is unlikely that this whole area would need to be disturbed. As with the camp, it will be established during the dry season, and located on flat topography, in an area that avoids vegetation clearing as far as practical, and not within 100 m of mapped drainage lines.

At the completion of the exploration program, and prior to the commencement of the wet season, all temporary infrastructure will be dismantled, and any refuse removed and disposed at designated off-site facilities. Any stockpiled soils will be respread, and natural regeneration of vegetation will occur from the inherent seedstock in the topsoil. This rehabilitation method of natural regeneration is a widely accepted method of rehabilitating areas of disturbance as the topsoils contain a local seed source and nutrients conducive to revegetation. The site will be rehabilitated in accordance with the conditions in the Project's EA, any conditions imposed by the RIDA, and to the satisfaction of the landowner.

***The total estimated surface disturbance for the construction of the temporary laydown area within the SEA is approximately 0.1 ha.***



## 3.0 Description of the Project Site

### 3.1 Strategic Environmental Area

The Project site covers an area of approximately 649,780 ha, and approximately 231,283 ha of the Gulf Rivers SEA overlaps the Project site (**Figure 2**). Of this, approximately 31,462 ha is SEA Designated Precinct. The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are proposed to take place within the SEA as well as within the SEA Designated Precinct (**Figure 2**).

### 3.2 Project Tenure

Ten of the Project's 20 EPMs overlap parts of the Gulf Rivers SEA, and the activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are proposed to take place on five of these ten EPMs (refer **Figure 2** and **Table 3.1**).

**Table 3.1 Planet Downs Project Tenure**

Tenure Number	Area (ha)	EPM Grant Date	EPM Expiry Date	Overlap with Gulf Rivers SEA	Tenure with Proposed Activities
EPM 28495	32,415	22 Jan 24	21 Jan 29	Yes	No
EPM 28496	32,429	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	YES	YES
EPM 28497	32,449	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	YES	YES
EPM 28498	32,487	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	YES	YES
EPM 28499	32,483	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	Yes	No
EPM 28500	32,479	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	No	No
EPM 28501	32,481	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	No	No
EPM 28502	32,485	21 May 24	20 May 29	No	No
EPM 28503	32,510	24 Oct 23	23 Oct 28	No	No
EPM 28504	32,510	24 May 24	23 May 29	No	No
EPM 28505	32,533	27 May 24	26 May 29	No	No
EPM 28506	32,562	24 May 24	23 May 29	No	No
EPM 28507	32,551	24 May 24	23 May 29	Yes	No
EPM 28508	32,572	24 May 24	23 May 29	No	No
EPM 28509	32,531	12 Nov 24	11 Nov 29	No	No
EPM 28510	32,574	24 May 24	23 May 29	Yes	No
EPM 28511	32,470	14 Oct 24	13 Oct 29	YES	YES
EPM 28512	32,458	14 Oct 24	13 Oct 29	YES	YES
EPM 28514	32,386	14 Oct 24	13 Oct 29	No	No
EPM 28515	32,415	14 Oct 24	13 Oct 29	Yes	No

### 3.3 Local Government Area

The Project site overlies portions of the Burke, Carpentaria and Mt Isa City local government areas (LGAs). The proposed activities are located within the Burke LGA (**Figure 2**).

### 3.4 Property Titles

There are 28 properties that overlie the Project site, with 14 of those properties overlying the SEA (refer **Table 3.2** and **Figure 3**). Activities relating to this RIDA Application are proposed to take place on three of these properties, namely 1/GY14, 2/CP907594 and 3/SP194668. Titles for these three properties are provided in **Appendix B**.

**Table 3.2 Land Ownership of Properties overlying the Project Site**

ID (refer Figure 3)	Lot/Plan	Land Tenure	Lessee / Trustee	Purpose	Overlap with Gulf Rivers SEA	Subject Property
1	3/SP181805	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Alister Robert McClymont, Joanne Therese McClymont	Pastoral	Yes	No
2	3/CP847166	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
3	2/SP181805	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Alister Robert McClymont, Joanne Therese McClymont	Pastoral	No	No
4	8/CP847165	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Telstra Corporation Ltd	Communication	No	No
5	5121/SP271812	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
6	21/BK34	Reserve	<b>Trustee:</b> The State of Queensland (represented by the Department of Police)	Police	No	No
7	1906/SP272843	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Ernest John Talbott Camp	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
8	1/SP155683	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Alister Robert McClymont, Joanne Therese McClymont	Commercial / Business	No	No
9	1/TW6	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Swiss Australian Farm Holding Pty Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
10	4/SP329452	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Stanbroke Pty Ltd	Pastoral; Profit a Prendre: Quarry Material and Forest Products	No	No
11	5/SP287784	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Stanbroke Pty Ltd	Pastoral; Profit a Prendre: Quarry Material and Forest Products	No	No
12	2948/SP271811	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	Yes	No
13	9/BK30	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	Yes	No
14	1/BK21	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	Grazing – Reserve, Road or Stock Route	Yes	No
15	3/SP194668	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
16	5/SP287783	Reserve	<b>Trustee:</b> Burke Shire Council	Camping and Water	Yes	No
17	1/SP287783	Freehold – Estate in fee simple	<b>Owner:</b> Burke Shire Council	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
18	11/BK27	Reserve	<b>Trustee:</b> Burke Shire Council	Showground, Recreation and Racecourse	No	No
19	24/SP265808	Freehold – Estate in fee simple	<b>Owner:</b> Gebeela Pty Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	Yes	No
20	13/CP855144	Freehold – Estate in fee simple	<b>Owner:</b> Bidunggu Aboriginal Land Trust (Trustee)	<i>Not defined</i>	Yes	No



ID (refer Figure 3)	Lot/Plan	Land Tenure	Lessee / Trustee	Purpose	Overlap with Gulf Rivers SEA	Subject Property
21	1/BK25	Reserve	<i>Trustee:</i> Burke Shire Council	Landing Ground for Aircraft	Yes	No
22	2/CP907594	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> James Cameron Brown, Elizabeth Veronica Brown	Grazing or agricultural	YES	YES
23	6/CP847161	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Telstra Corporation Ltd	Communication	Yes	No
24	5/SP111112	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Lawn Hill and Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company Pty Ltd	Pastoral	Yes	No
25	4/GY805051	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Lawn Hill and Riversleigh Pastoral Holding Company Pty Ltd	<i>Not defined</i>	Yes	No
26	1/GY14	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	Pastoral	YES	YES
27	2984/PH1906	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Alan James Webber	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No
28	5263/SP299159	Lands Lease	<i>Lessee:</i> Morella Pastoral Pty Ltd (Trustee)	<i>Not defined</i>	No	No

### 3.5 Easements

Four easements (namely FSP132945, GSP110463, HSP110453, KSP110446), relating to the Century Mine to Karumba slurry pipeline and associated public utility easement under the *Land Act 1994* (as described in Schedule 1 Part 2, and shown in Schedule 5, of the *Century Zinc Project Act 1997*), traverse part of the Project site. Two easements (namely ASP186727, BSP186727) likely related to a water pipeline are located in the vicinity of Gregory township. Easements are shown on **Figure 3**. The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are not located within these easements.

### 3.6 Land Use and Terrain

The land within the Project site is primarily used for pastoral and grazing activities. The nearest National Parks are the Finucane Island National Park located 18 km to the north of the Project site, and the Boodjamilla (Lawn Hill) National Park located 25 km to the west of the Project site (refer **Figure 1**).

The terrain of the Project site is characterised by sparsely vegetated, gently undulating open plains. The lowest areas of topography that typically range in elevation from 0 m to 50 m are found in the northern parts of the Project site nearest the coastline. These low lying areas are associated with the floodplains of the river systems that drain northward into the Gulf of Carpentaria. There are some hilly areas in the western and southern parts of the Project site, ranging in elevations up to approximately 240 m.

The land use within the three lots that are the subject of the application (refer **Section 3.4**) is cattle grazing:

- Lot 2/CP907594 is a part of Yeldham Pastoral Station, which is run by Brown and Sons.
- Lot 1/GY14 and Lot 3/SP194668 are a part of Gregory Downs Station which is run by Paraway Pastoral Company. The station covers 266,425 ha, and runs Brahman cattle as a part of a large-scale cattle breeding operation.

## 3.7 Climate

The nearest long-term weather stations to the Project Site are the Bureau of Meteorology's (BoM) Century Mine weather station (station number 029167) which is located approximately 17 km to the west of the Project Site, and the Burketown Airport weather station (station number 029077), which is located approximately 17 km to the north-west (**Figure 1**).

Data from these stations indicates that the region typically experiences hot, wet summers and mild, dry winters (refer **Table 3.3**). Temperatures range from recorded average maximums of up to 38.8°C in the summer months, to an average minimum of 12.9°C in winter. The annual average rainfall at Century Mine is 613.0 mm and 823.7 mm in Burketown, with highest average rainfall totals in the region typically recorded from December to March.

**Table 3.3 Climate Statistics for the Project Site**

Month	Century Mine (BoM Station Number 029167)				Burketown Airport (BoM Station Number 029077)			
	Average Max Temp (°C)	Average Min Temp (°C)	Average Rainfall (mm)	Highest Rainfall (mm)	Average Max Temp (°C)	Average Min Temp (°C)	Average Rainfall (mm)	Highest Rainfall (mm)
January	36.7	25.1	181.8	651.4	34.5	25.5	240.9	776.4
February	36.1	24.3	125.5	362.8	33.8	24.9	227.3	608.2
March	36.0	23.7	112.6	754.6	34.4	24.1	156.9	698.0
April	34.9	21.0	22.5	213.8	34.5	21.6	43.2	319.8
May	31.2	17.2	6.5	54.8	31.8	18.2	4.9	41.8
June	28.5	13.8	4.0	44.6	29.3	15.4	2.9	49.2
July	28.6	12.9	6.2	52.8	29.2	14.6	3.5	28.4
August	31.0	13.6	1.3	12.6	30.9	15.4	1.1	16.6
September	35.1	17.5	2.3	19.4	33.7	18.7	1.1	10.4
October	38.0	21.4	19.0	100.2	35.9	21.9	13.0	59.2
November	38.8	23.9	54.0	137.0	36.6	24.1	49.6	165.6
December	38.7	25.3	89.3	341.4	36.7	25.5	95.8	418.0
Annual	34.5	20.0	613.0	1,510.2	33.4	20.8	823.7	1,790.2

## 3.8 Hydrological Values

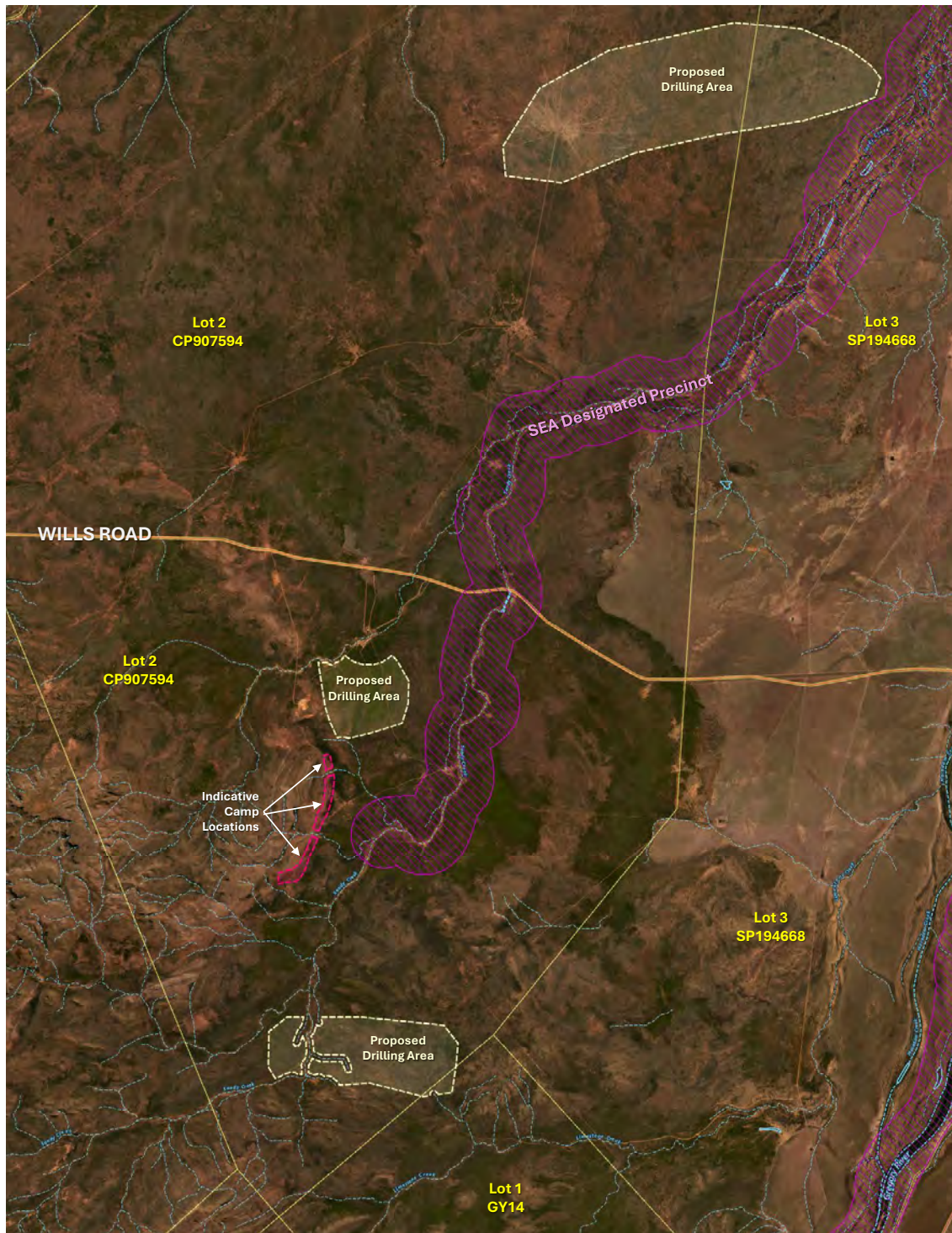
### 3.8.1 Catchment Setting

The Project site is located within the Nicholson, Leichardt and Morning Inlet catchments (**Figure 4**), and within the Gulf Water Plan Area. These catchments include perennial and ephemeral river systems which are susceptible to significant flooding following heavy rainfall events.

The key river system in the vicinity of the proposed activities is the Gregory River. The Gregory River is located in the Nicholson Catchment and flows through the western portion of the Project Site, draining northward into the Nicholson River. This river system is a perennial river of stream order 7, and comprises braided channels with numerous tributaries and broad open floodplains. There are various other unnamed tributaries of stream orders 1 to 6 that also traverse the Project site. The Gregory River is a prescribed watercourse under the *Water Plan (Gulf) 2007*.

The Gregory River, Leichardt River, and Beames Brook are the only water features declared under the *Water Act 2000* that traverse the Project site.

The waterways in the vicinity of the proposed activities are ephemeral minor drainage lines of stream order 1 to 5. The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application will be located at least 100 m from mapped waterways and will avoid the SEA Designated Precinct (**Plate 3.1**).



**Plate 3.1 Proposed Drilling Areas and Camp Locations in relation to Mapped Waterways and SEA Designated Precinct**

A temporary crossing point may be required to traverse Sandy Creek (stream order 5) to access the western side of the proposed southern drilling area (refer **Plate 3.1**), however no structures will be constructed in the creek and the activities in this area will take place during dry season when the creek is dry and there are no flows. The exact location of this crossing point will be determined in the field at the time of the surveys. The crossing point will be located such that clearing of vegetation, including any riparian vegetation is avoided as far as practicable. The crossing point will only be utilised if the ground is considered sufficiently stable to allow the safe movement of the drilling equipment across the creek bed. The waterway crossing point will not impact the functioning of the creek systems.

No permanent waterway crossings are proposing to be constructed, no structures will be constructed within the bed of any waterways, and the activities are not proposing to remove any riparian vegetation. Activities will be undertaken during the dry season. The proposed activities are temporary and the disturbed areas will be rehabilitated to leave the environment in the condition it was prior to the commencement of the program.

The activities proposed for this RIDA Application are unlikely to interfere with the natural hydrologic or geomorphic processes of the waterways in the area, nor of the SEA.

### 3.8.2 Flood Regime

Significant flooding can be experienced in the region following heavy rainfall events, and flows in the rivers and associated floodplains in the region can persist for extended periods. The floodplain areas within the Project site support both cattle grazing and ecological processes.

Mapping of the Flood Hazard Area Level 1 Queensland Floodplain Assessment Overlay, which provides an estimate of areas potentially at threat of inundation by flooding, indicates parts of the Project site lies within this flood hazard area. These areas are associated with the floodplain areas of the Gregory and Leichardt rivers and their tributaries.

The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are located within some parts of areas mapped on the Queensland Floodplain Assessment Overlay. It is unlikely that the proposed activities will interfere with the existing flood regime within the SEA. The activities will be undertaken in the dry season and during periods of no flow, and will therefore not impact flow regimes.

### 3.8.3 Wetlands and Springs

The Directory of Important Wetlands indicates that parts of the Gregory River are considered a nationally important wetland (**Figure 4**). There are some areas of mapped High Ecological Significance (HES) wetlands mapped within the Project site, relating to parts of the Gregory River and its tributaries, and various wetlands mapped under the VM Act are also present (**Figure 4**). The closest mapped wetlands to the proposed activities is over 7.5 km away.

There are no High Ecological Value (HEV) wetlands (as shown on the Map of Queensland Wetland Environmental Values), nor any Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar Wetlands) mapped within the Project site. There are no known springs (active or inactive) within the Project site. Some farm dams and cattle watering points are located within the Project site.



The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are not located in the vicinity of mapped wetlands (**Figure 4**), and are unlikely to impact flow regimes associated with waterholes, lakes or wetlands.

### 3.8.4 Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems

The BoM Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) Atlas indicates that there may be moderate potential and high potential terrestrial GDEs (**Figure 5**), and moderate potential aquatic GDEs that traverse portions of the Project site (**Figure 6**). There are no GDE springs or subterranean GDEs within the Project site.

Some of the activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are located in the vicinity of mapped moderate potential terrestrial GDEs (**Figure 5**). These GDEs may be associated with Eucalypt-dominated REs in the vicinity of drainage lines. The activities proposed will avoid the removal of large trees, and are not expected to impact the functioning of GDEs.

### 3.8.5 Groundwater

The Project site contains a large number of registered water bores held privately or by DLGWV (**Figure 7**). Parts of the Project site are located within the GABORA Water resource planning area, and within the Nicholson and Great Artesian Basin (GAB) groundwater management areas. The Project site is underlain by multiple aquifer systems, including the GAB. Shallow aquifers are likely to be recharged during rainfall events from creek flows and seepage into the ground.

The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are small-scale and temporary in nature. All drilling activities will be undertaken in accordance with the Project’s EA and any additional conditions imposed by the RIDA. Whilst it is acknowledged that the exploration drilling activities are proposing to drill up to 900 m in depth and may intersect aquifers, it is considered unlikely that the drilling activities will significantly impact groundwater resources in the region. It should be noted that the exploration drilling proposed is for the purpose of obtaining geological core samples, and not to prepare or develop groundwater bores.

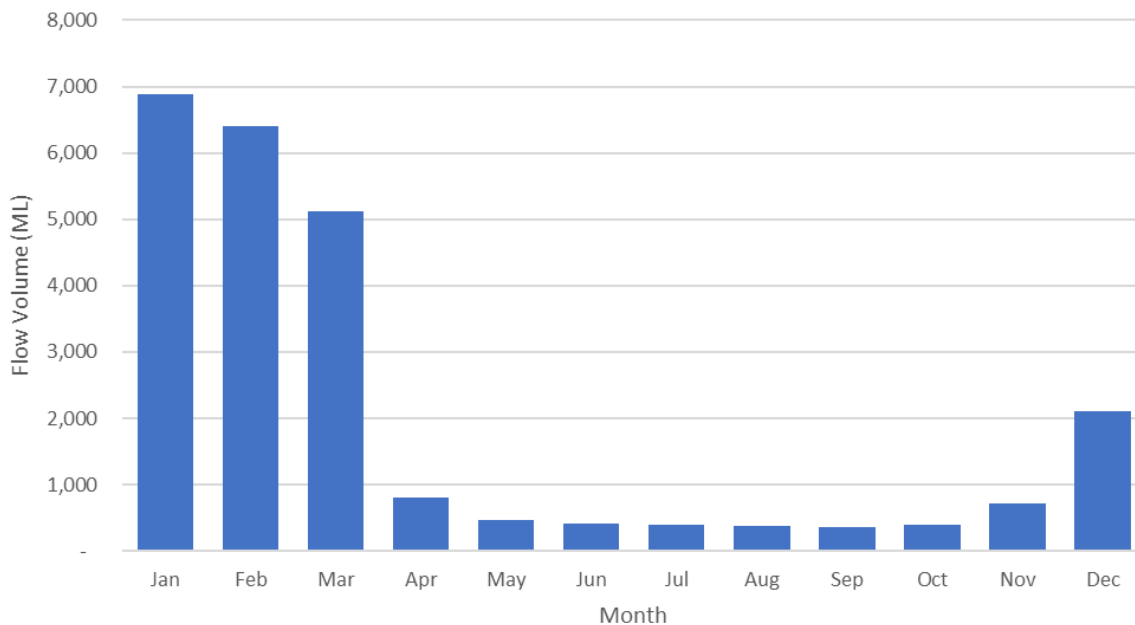
### 3.8.6 Water Quality

The nearest Queensland Government water quality gauging station to the Project site is Station 912105A – Gregory River at Riversleigh No. 2, which is located approximately 40 km upstream of the Project site, to the south-west (**Figure 4**). This station has been in operation since 1968. **Table 3.4** provides a summary of the key water quality parameters collected at this site.

**Table 3.4 Key Water Quality Parameters at Gregory River at Riversleigh No. 2 (912105A)**

Parameter	Data Count	Mean	Maximum
Electrical Conductivity ( $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ )	30	445.0	570.0
pH (pH units)	30	8.2	9.0
Turbidity (NTU)	30	17.3	33.6
Total Suspended Solids	98	53.5	1,280.0
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	30	99.6	115.7
Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	51	0.12	0.28
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	59	0.02	0.10

The quality of the surface waters at this site is fresh, and it can experience a high sediment load, which is not unexpected given the high flooding flows experienced during the wet season. The average daily flow volumes recorded at this site show that high flows are experienced from December to March (**Graph 3.1**), which corresponds with rainfall trends.



**Graph 3.1 Average Daily Flow Volumes at Gregory River at Riversleigh No. 2 (912105A)**

There is very limited data available on the groundwater quality in the Project site, however the bores in the region are considered to be of a quality suitable to support stock and domestic water use.

It is assumed that the alluvial groundwater in the Gulf Rivers SEA is recharged by surface water flows during rain events, and that groundwater quality is therefore likely to reflect the quality of surface waters in the area. Groundwater quality of deeper aquifers is likely to be highly variable.

The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application will be undertaken in the dry season, will avoid disturbance near surface water features, and will not release contaminants into the environment. Drilling muds will be contained in sumps, and erosion and sediment controls will be installed if required. The activities proposed are unlikely to impact surface water or groundwater quality.

## 3.9 Vegetation, Biodiversity and Soils

### 3.9.1 Bioregions and Regional Ecosystems

Parts of the Project site lie in either the Northwest Highlands or Gulf Plains bioregions. The Northwest Highlands Bioregion comprises predominantly low, open Eucalypt woodlands with a spinifex understorey, whilst the Gulf Plains Bioregion is primarily comprised of tussock grasslands. The majority of activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are located in the Gulf Plains Bioregion (**Figure 8**).

The vast majority of the Project Site comprises Least Concern (*Vegetation Management Act 1999* [VM Act] Status) remnant vegetation, with some areas comprising Of Concern vegetation associated with the river

systems. The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are located in areas of vegetation mapped as Least Concern (**Figure 8**).

The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application will limit the clearing of land and will avoid clearing vegetation wherever possible. No trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of greater than 20 cm will be disturbed, and the activities are not proposing to remove riparian vegetation.

### 3.9.2 Essential Habitat

Areas of Essential Habitat are present in the Project site (**Figure 8**), which may provide habitat for listed species including the estuarine crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), diamond head turtle (*Emydura subglobosa worrelli*), Gulf snapping turtle (*Elseya oneiros*), and Purple-crowned fairy-wren (*Malurus coronatus*). The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are not located within or in the vicinity of mapped Essential Habitat (**Figure 8**).

### 3.9.3 Protected Plants

There are no areas shown on the Protected Plants Trigger map within the Project site.

### 3.9.4 Biodiversity Corridors

The Project site is traversed by various Statewide biodiversity corridors, which are primarily associated with the riparian values of the main channel of the Gregory River, and its major tributaries. Some of the activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are located in the vicinity of a biodiversity corridor associated with Sandy Creek (Stream Order 5). However, the activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application will not clear any land within this mapped corridor (refer **Section 2.0** and **Figure 9**).

A temporary crossing point may be required to traverse Sandy Creek to access the western side of the proposed southern drilling area, however no structures will be constructed in the creek and the activities in this area will take place during dry season when the creek is dry and there are no flows. The exact location of this crossing point will be determined in the field at the time of the surveys. The crossing point will be located such that clearing of vegetation, including any riparian vegetation is avoided as far as practicable. The crossing point will only be utilised if the ground is considered sufficiently stable to allow the safe movement of the drilling equipment across the creek bed. This crossing point is not expected to impact the functioning of the creek system, nor the functioning of the biodiversity corridor.

### 3.9.5 Acid Sulfate Soils

Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) are typically found in low-lying coastal areas below 5 metres (m) Australian Height Datum (AHD). Based on the National Acid Sulfate Soils mapping (developed by CSIRO, refer <https://data.csiro.au/collection/csiro:6181v2>), there are some areas of potential acid sulfate soils present in the north-east of the Project site (**Figure 9**). The majority of the mapped potential ASS that overlies the Project site is rated by the CSIRO as “Probability code C: Extremely low probability of [ASS] occurrence (1-5%)”. The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are not located within or in the vicinity of mapped acid sulfate soils (**Figure 9**).

### 3.9.6 Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Government mapping indicates that the following ESAs occur within or in close proximity to the Project site (**Figure 10**):

- Category B ESAs:
  - Endangered (Biodiversity Status) Category B remnant vegetation (RE 1.3.7).
  - Seaward side of highest astronomical tide (an erosion prone area).
  - Marine plants.
- Category C ESAs:
  - Coastal management district.

The activities proposed as a part of this RIDA Application are not located within or in the vicinity of mapped ESAs (**Figure 10**).



## 4.0 Summary of Disturbance

A summary of the total proposed disturbance within the SEA is provided in **Table 4.1**. No disturbance is proposed in the SEA Designated Precinct.

**Table 4.1 Summary of Proposed Disturbance within the SEA**

Proposed Activity	Description of Activity	Estimated Timing	Proposed Disturbance in SEA
<b>Exploration Drilling</b>	<p><b>10x Drill Pad Sites</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drill pads will be located to avoid sensitive environmental or heritage values.</li> <li>- Vegetation on the drill pads will be cleared and topsoils stockpiled.</li> <li>- Drill pads will be approximately 30 m x 30 m, and include a drill hole, temporary core laydown area and sumps.</li> <li>- At the completion of the drilling, the drillhole will be grouted and capped, topsoil respread, and the drill pad rehabilitated in accordance with EA and RIDA conditions and to the satisfaction of the local landowners.</li> </ul>	June 2025 to October 2027	<b>1.0 ha</b>
<b>Temporary Access Tracks</b>	<p><b>8 km of Access Tracks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tracks will be cleared using a grader or loader or similar.</li> <li>- Up to 8 km temporary access tracks of 3 m wide may be required for the drilling program.</li> <li>- Clearing of vegetation will be avoided where possible.</li> <li>- No trees with DBH of greater than 20 cm will be disturbed.</li> <li>- Tracks will be realigned where sensitive environmental or heritage values are identified during preclearance surveys.</li> <li>- At the completion of the drilling, stockpiled topsoil will be respread on the tracks.</li> <li>- Tracks will be rehabilitated in accordance with EA and RIDA conditions and to the satisfaction of the local landowners.</li> </ul>	June 2025 to October 2027	<b>2.4 ha</b>
<b>Temporary Accommodation Camp</b>	<p><b>1x Accommodation Camp</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Camp site will be located on flat topography.</li> <li>- Vegetation and land clearing will be avoided where possible.</li> <li>- At the completion of the program, the camp area will be rehabilitated in accordance with EA and RIDA conditions and to the satisfaction of the local landowners.</li> </ul>	June 2025 to October 2027	<b>0.5 ha</b>
<b>Temporary Laydown Area</b>	<p><b>1x Laydown Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Located adjacent to the accommodation camp.</li> <li>- Vegetation and land clearing will be avoided where possible.</li> <li>- At the completion of the program, the laydown area will be rehabilitated in accordance with EA and RIDA conditions and to the satisfaction of the local landowners.</li> </ul>	June 2025 to October 2027	<b>0.1 ha</b>
<b>Total Proposed Disturbance within SEA</b>			<b>4.0 ha</b>

The ground disturbance associated with the proposed activities is temporary, and any areas disturbed will be rehabilitated to a stable landform similar to that of the surrounding undisturbed areas at the completion of exploration activities, in accordance with Condition B28 of the EA. Rehabilitation activities will occur following completion of relevant surveys, and prior to the commencement of the wet season.

Further, the Eligibility Criteria of the EA conditions disturbance to no more than 10 ha at any one time. At all times, Anglo will not exceed the maximum 10 ha disturbance limit as set by the EA, and will undertake progressive certification of rehabilitated disturbance areas through DETSI as required to maintain compliance to this disturbance limit.

## 5.0 SEA Assessment

### 5.1 Assessment Criteria

The RPI Regulations provide the following required outcome for activities within an SEA:

*The activity will not result in a widespread or irreversible impact on an environmental attribute of a strategic environmental area*

In accordance with Part 3, Section 9 of the RPI Regulation, the environmental attributes for the Gulf Rivers SEA are:

- (a) **the natural hydrologic processes of the area characterised by –**
  - (i) *natural, unrestricted flows in and along watercourse and estuaries; and*
  - (ii) *overflow from watercourses onto the flood plains of the area, or the other way; and*
  - (iii) *natural flow paths of water across flood plains connecting waterholes, lakes and wetlands in the area; and*
  - (iv) *natural flow in and from groundwater and springs;*
- (b) **the natural geomorphic processes of the area characterised by –**
  - (i) *natural erosion; and*
  - (ii) *the transport and deposit of sediment by water throughout the catchments and along the watercourse systems and estuaries*
- (c) **the functioning riparian processes of the area characterised by native riparian vegetation associated with watercourses, estuaries, lakes, floodplains and wetlands;**
- (d) **the functioning wildlife corridors of the area characterised by—**
  - (i) *natural habitat in the watercourse systems; and*
  - (ii) *permanent waterholes and springs;*
- (e) **the natural water quality in the watercourse channels and aquifers and on flood plains in the area characterised by physical, chemical and biological attributes that support and maintain natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.**

The RPI Regulations (Schedule 2, Part 5, Section 15) provides SEA Assessment Criteria to determine if the required outcome can be met through prescribed solutions.

### 5.2 Assessment of Compliance to Prescribed Solutions

An assessment of the project against the prescribed solutions has been undertaken to confirm if the project activities can meet the required outcome, and a summary of the results is provided in **Table 5.1**.

**Table 5.1 Compliance of Proposed Activities to Prescribed Solutions**

Prescribed Solution	Environmental Attribute	Evidence of Compliance
<p>The activity will not, and is not likely to, have a direct or indirect impact on an environmental attribute of the SEA</p>	<p><b>Hydrologic processes</b></p>	<p>The proposed activities will not directly or indirectly impact on hydrological, geomorphic or riparian processes, wildlife corridors, or water quality of watercourse channels, aquifers or floodplains as they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are temporary in nature.</li> <li>- will be undertaken in the dry season.</li> <li>- will limit clearing of land.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Geomorphic processes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will limit and avoid clearing vegetation, including riparian vegetation.</li> <li>- do not involve significant earthworks.</li> <li>- will use existing creek crossings where available.</li> <li>- will not construct or install any new permanent or temporary structures in waterways for access track crossings.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Riparian processes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will not impact regimes associated with in-channel or overbank flows.</li> <li>- will not impact flow regimes associated with watercourses, estuaries, floodplains, waterholes, lakes or wetlands.</li> <li>- will not impede the flow of floodwaters.</li> <li>- will not impact GDEs.</li> <li>- will be located at least 100 m from mapped drainage lines.</li> <li>- will limit disturbance near surface water features.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Wildlife corridors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will not impact the water quality of aquifers.</li> <li>- will not be conducted in areas of mapped essential habitat or mapped wetlands.</li> <li>- will limit disturbance in mapped biodiversity corridors.</li> <li>- will not impact the functionality of wildlife corridors.</li> <li>- will not impede fauna movement through wildlife corridors.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Natural water quality</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will not release contaminants to the environment.</li> <li>- will not disturb mapped acid sulfate soils.</li> <li>- will not create erosion or cause sedimentation.</li> <li>- will comply with the requirements of the EA and RIDA.</li> <li>- will rehabilitate all disturbance areas following completion of the surveys to leave the environment in the condition it was prior to the commencement of the works.</li> </ul>

Prescribed Solution	Evidence of Compliance
<p><b>OR</b></p>	
<p><b>(i) If the activity is being carried out in a designated precinct in the SEA—the activity is not an unacceptable use for the precinct.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>AND</b></p>	<p>The activity is not proposed to be undertaken in a designated precinct of the SEA. Further, the proposed activity does not include the unacceptable uses in a designated precinct as listed in the RPI Regulation. That is, the proposed activity does not include open cut mining, broadacre cropping or a water storage (dam).</p>

Prescribed Solution	Evidence of Compliance
<p><b>(ii) the construction and operation footprint of the activity on the environmental attribute is minimised to the greatest extent possible.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>AND</b></p>	<p>The footprint of the proposed activities will be minimised as far as possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Existing access tracks will be used where possible.</li> <li>- Tracks will be constructed to accommodate the largest design vehicle, requiring only 3 m widths.</li> <li>- Clearing of vegetation will be minimised and avoided where possible.</li> <li>- Areas of mapped essential habitat and mapped wetlands will not be disturbed</li> <li>- Any disturbance in Statewide biodiversity corridors will be minimised as far as practical.</li> <li>- Clearing for the proposed activities will adhere to clearing limits specified in the EA.</li> <li>- The proposed ground disturbance is minimal (4.0 ha), and will be rehabilitated to leave the environment in the condition it was prior to the commencement of the program.</li> </ul>
<p><b>(iii) the activity does not compromise the preservation of the environmental attribute within the SEA.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>AND</b></p>	<p>The activity does not compromise the preservation of the environmental attributes within the SEA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed activity will not significantly impact, nor compromise the preservation of any of the environmental attributes of the Gulf Rivers SEA (as previously outlined in the response to compliance with environmental attributes in the first response provided in this table).</li> <li>- All ground disturbance will be rehabilitated to leave the environment in the condition it was prior to the commencement of the program.</li> </ul>
<p><b>(iv) if the activity is to be carried out in a SEA identified in a regional plan—the activity will contribute to the regional outcomes, and be consistent with the regional policies, stated in the regional plan.</b></p>	<p>The activity is consistent with regional outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed activities are located within the Burke LGA.</li> <li>- The Gulf Regional Development Plan (2000) (GRDP) covers regional planning relating to the Burke LGA. The GRDP was prepared prior to the development of the RPI Act in 2014. This regional plan therefore does not reference strategic environmental areas. Despite this, the proposed activities are consistent with the regional outcomes and policies as stated in the GRDP, noting that the proposed activity is related to exploration for potential future mining activities, and mining is considered in the GRDP as an important industry in the development of the region.</li> <li>- The Burke Shire Planning Scheme (BSPS) was prepared in 2020, and includes strategic intent statements, including for land use, industries and safeguarding environment and heritage. The proposed activities are consistent with these strategic intents.</li> </ul>

## 6.0 Public Notification

Under section 34 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*, an assessment application is only notifiable if:

- it is prescribed by regulation as notifiable and exemption is not granted, or
- if the chief executive has given a notice requiring the applicant to notify the application.

Under section 13(1) of the RPI Regulation, an assessment application is notifiable if the area of regional interest in which the resource activity is proposed to be carried out is a priority living area (PLA).

Section 13(2) of the RPI Regulation also requires a notifiable application to be published in a newspaper circulating generally in the area of the land.

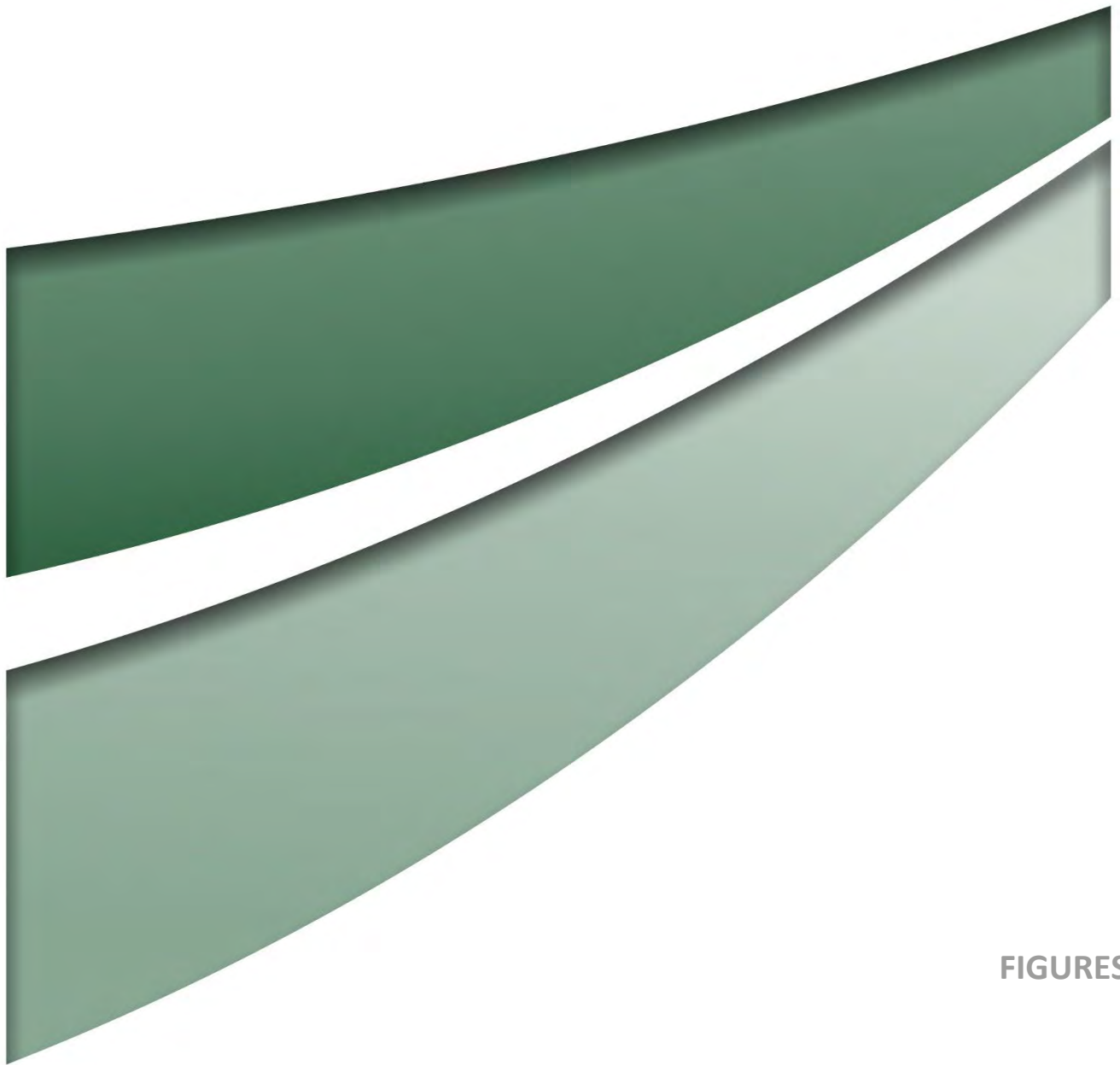
Given the area of regional interest in which the resource activity is being carried out is not a PLA, the application is not prescribed by regulation as notifiable.

Additionally, the proposed activity is low impact, and Anglo has existing relationships with property owners relevant to this RIDA application. Anglo is already liaising closely with these landowners to obtain the required consents to enter their properties to undertake the existing exploration program previously approved under RIDA RPI24/001.

For the above reasons, it is requested that public notification not be required for this RIDA application.

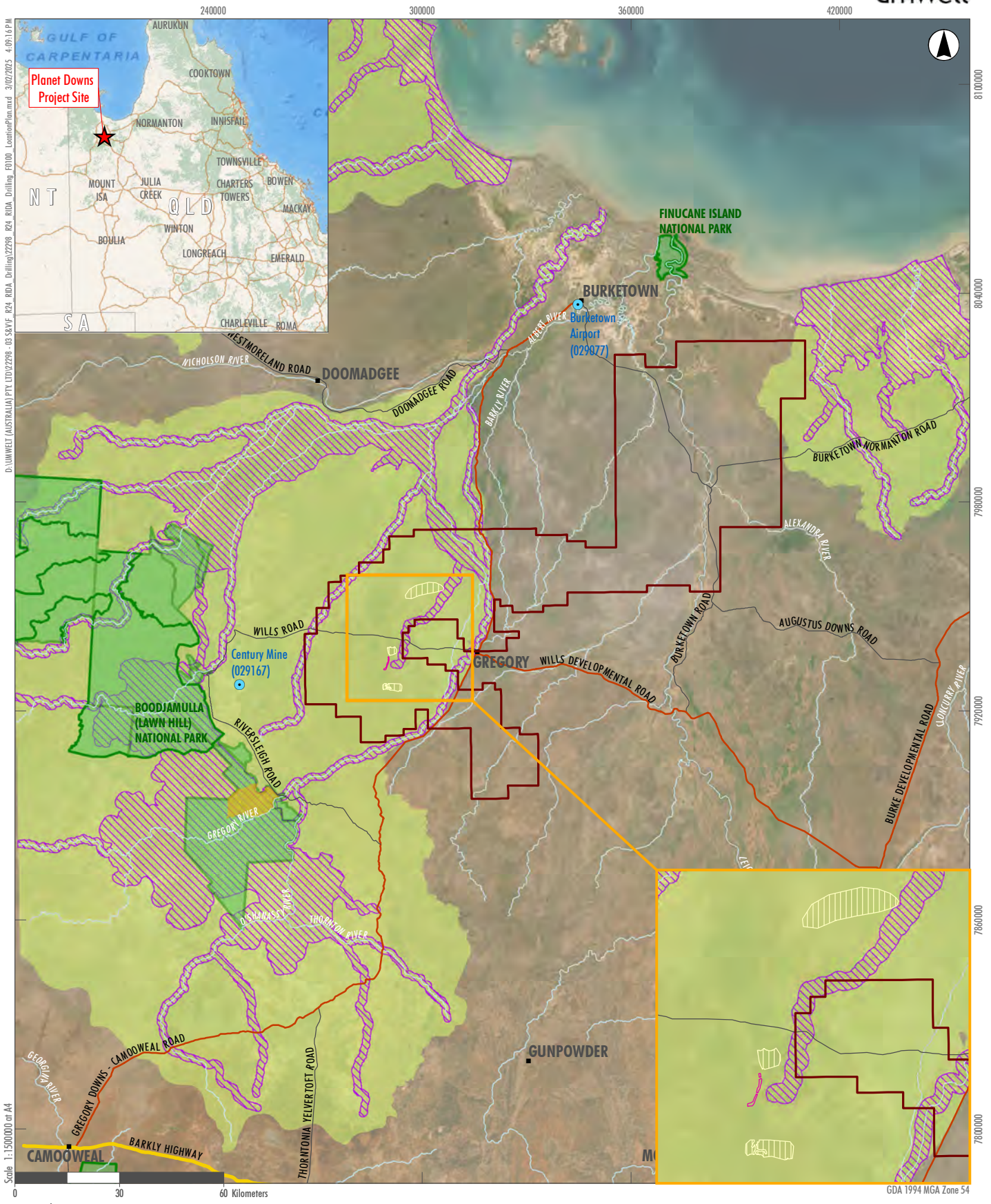
## 7.0 Conclusion

Based on the activities described in **Section 2.0**, and the assessment of compliance of the activities to the prescribed solutions provided in **Section 5.2**, the proposed activities for the Planet Downs Project within the SEA will be compliant with the required outcome for activities within the Gulf Rivers SEA. The disturbance associated with the proposed activities is temporary and minor (up to 4.0 ha), will not result in a widespread or irreversible impact on any environmental attributes of the Gulf Rivers SEA, and will not impact cattle grazing or ecological processes in the region.



FIGURES





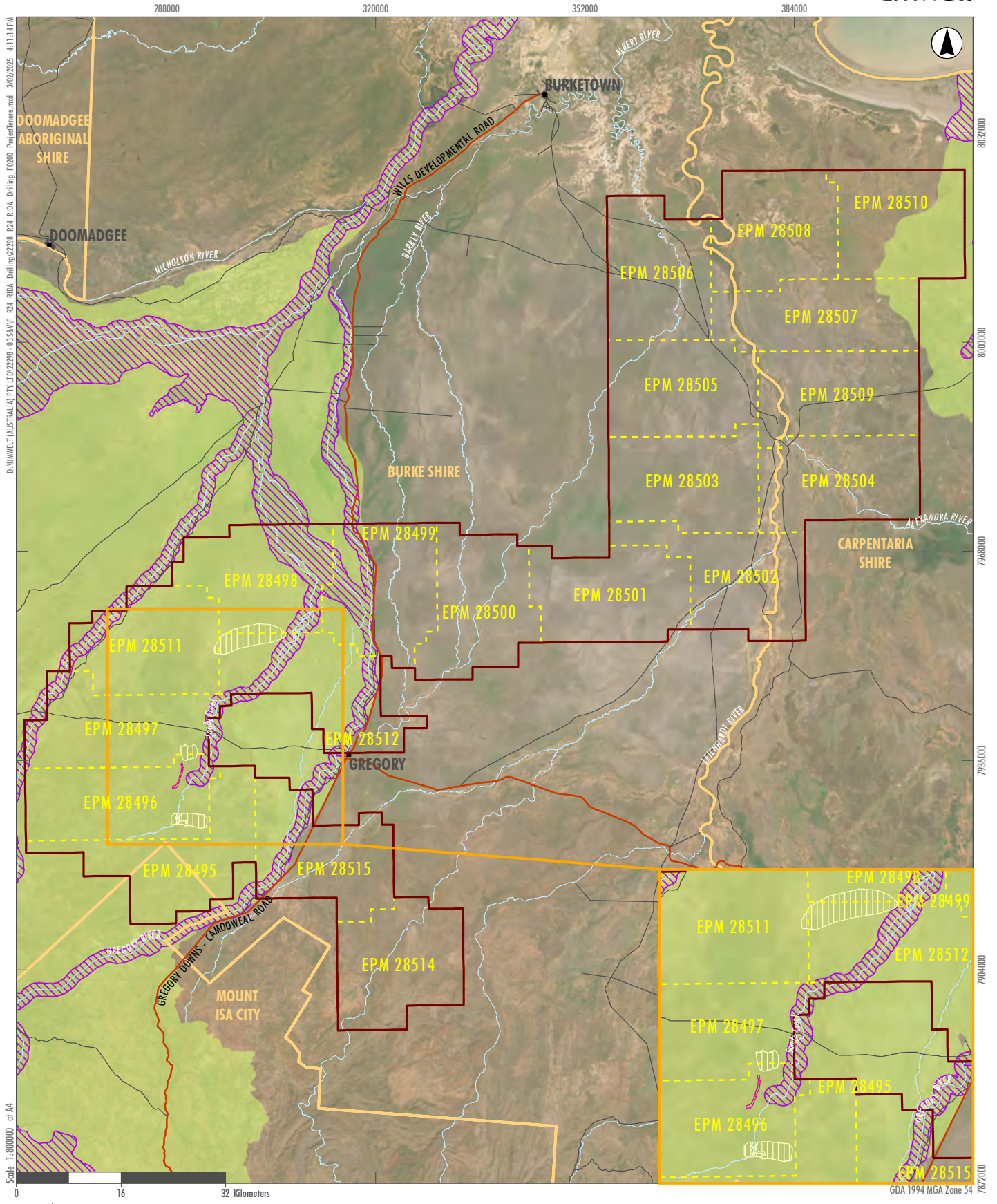
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**Legend**

- Planet Downs Project Site
- Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
- Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
- Highway
- Major Road
- Minor Roads & Track
- Drainage Line
- Bureau of Meteorology Weather Station
- Riversleigh Australian Fossil Mammal Site
- National Park
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct

**FIGURE 1**  
**Location Plan**



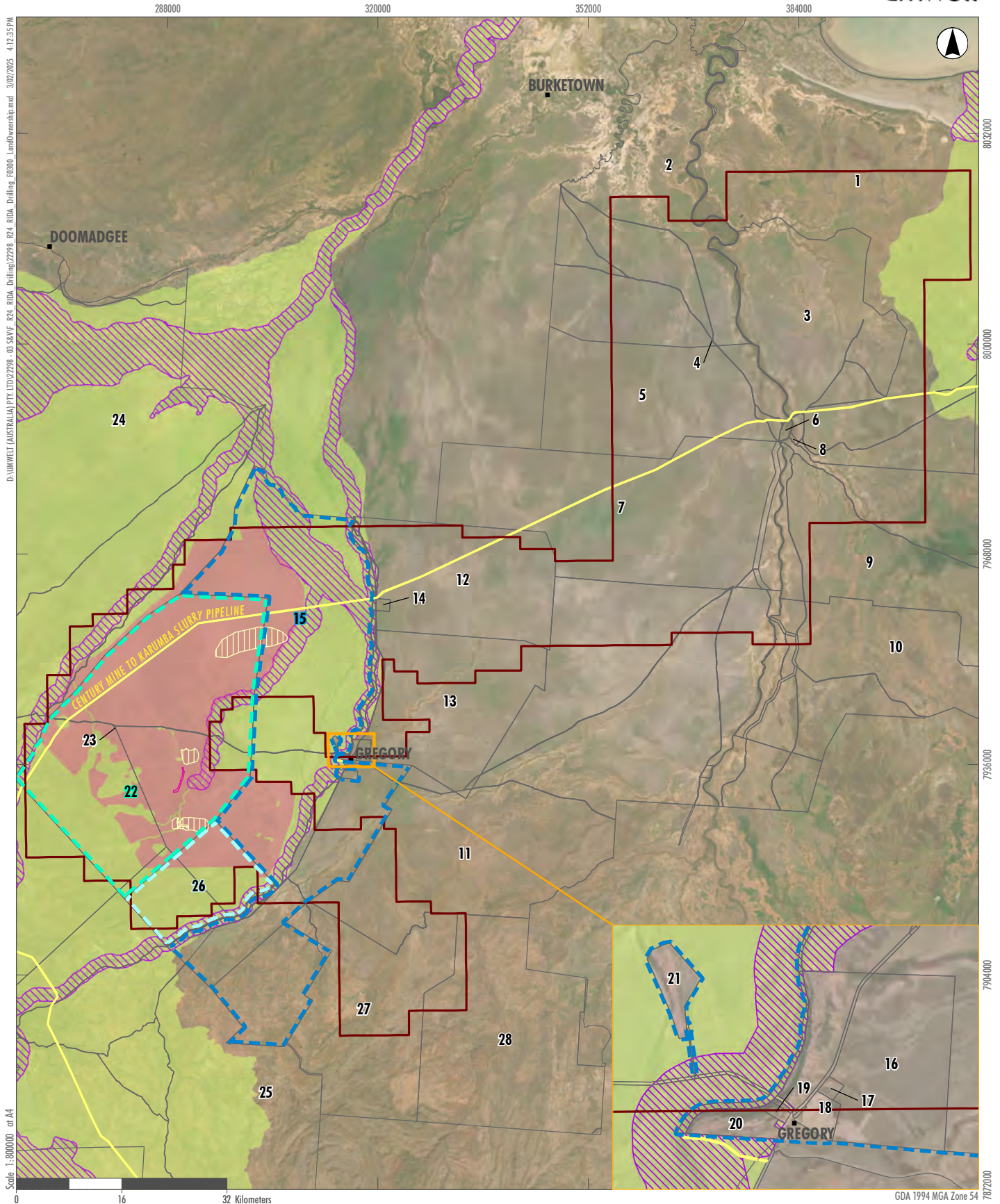


**Legend**

- Planet Downs Project Site
- Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
- Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
- Major Road
- Minor Roads & Tracks
- Drainage Lines
- Local Government Area
- Exploration Permits for Minerals
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct

**FIGURE 2**  
**Project Tenure**



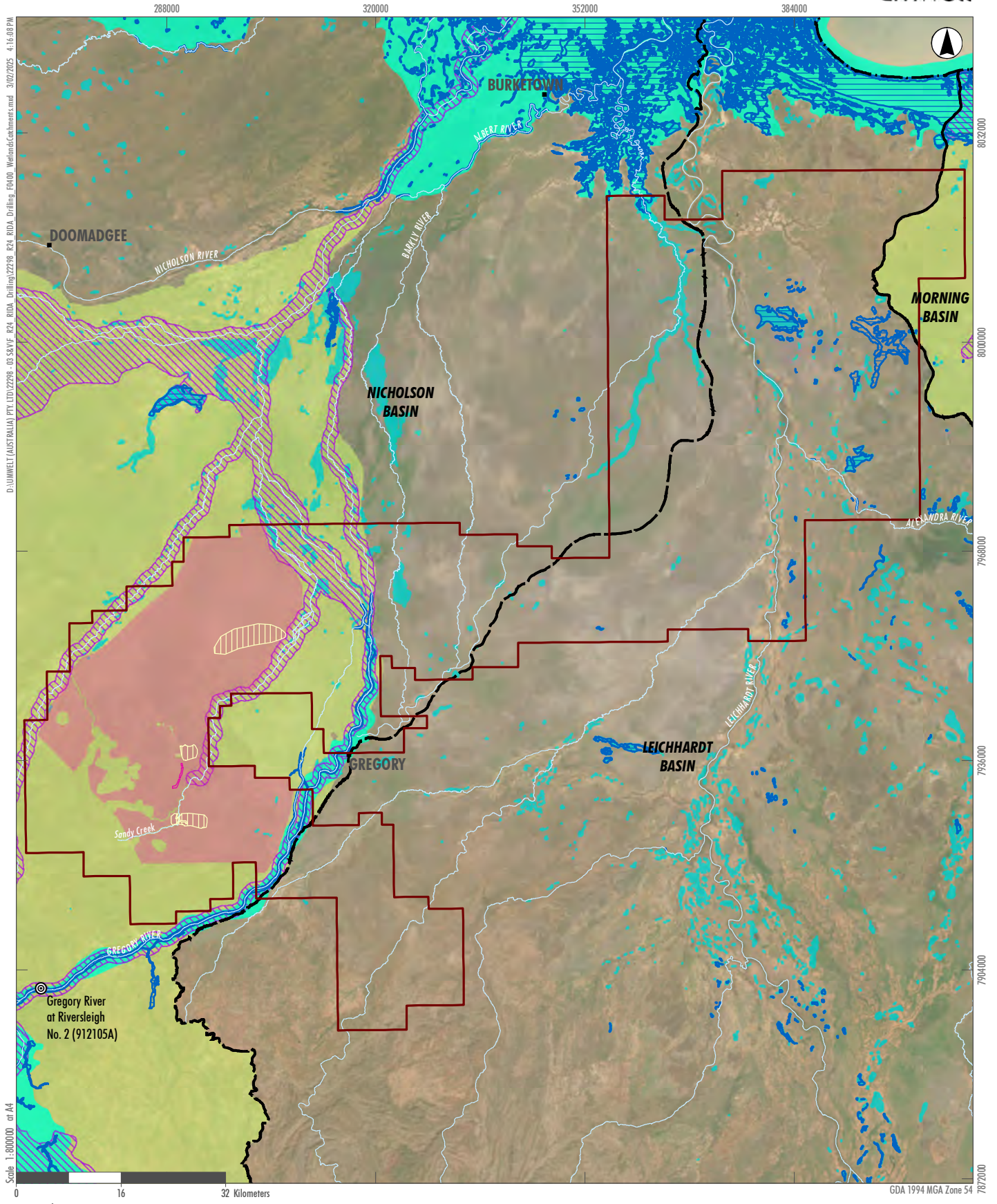


Legend

- Planet Downs Project Site
- Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
- Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
- Property Boundary
- Easement
- Property ID 22: 2CP907594
- Property ID 26: 1GY14
- Property ID 15: 3SP194668
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
- Seismic Survey Area (RP124/001)

FIGURE 3  
Land Ownership





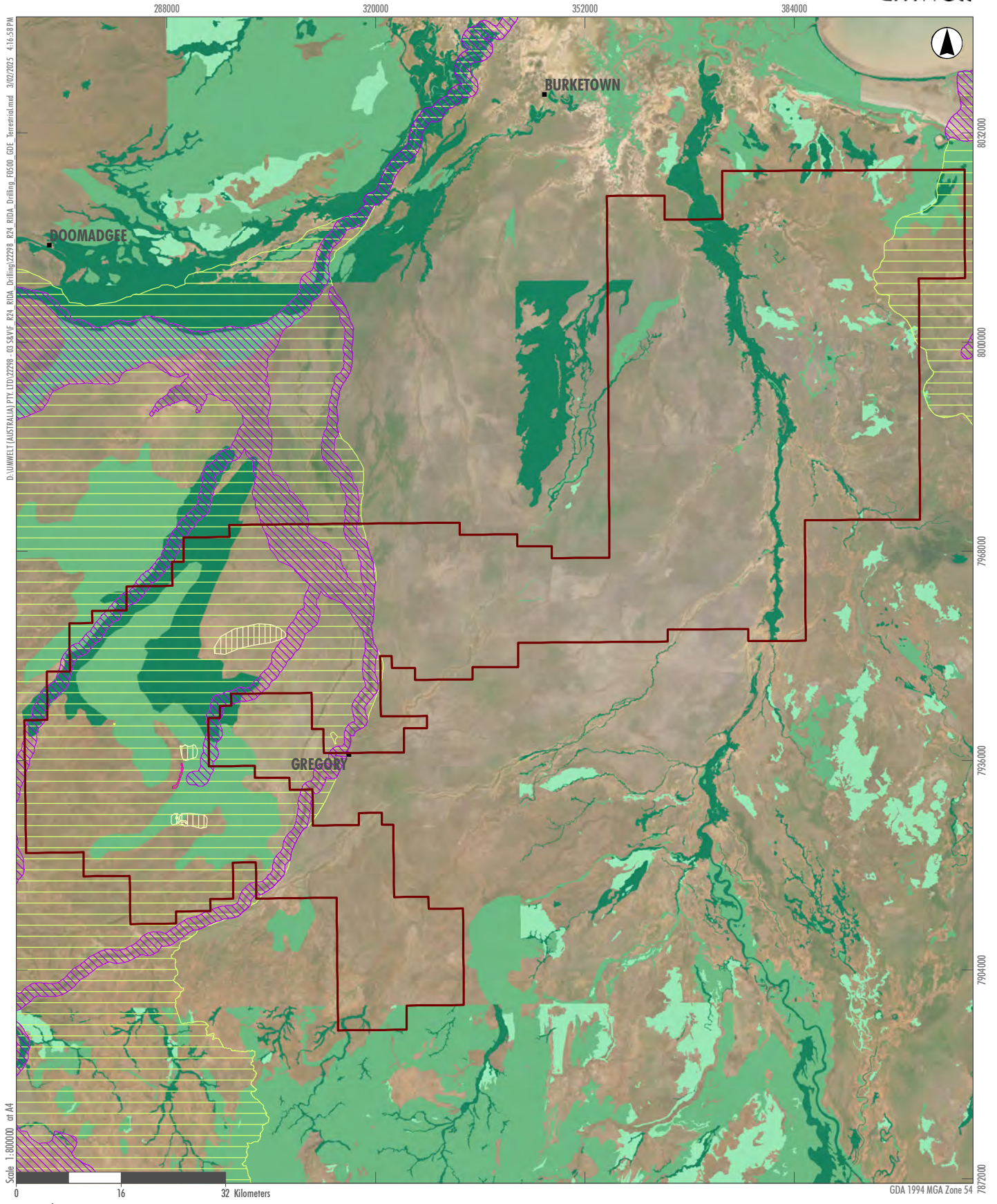
- Legend**
- Planet Downs Project Site
  - Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
  - Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
  - Drainage Lines
  - Gauging Station
  - Catchment Boundary
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
  - Seismic Survey Area (RP124/001)
  - Directory of Important Wetlands
  - High Ecological Significance Wetlands
  - VM Act Wetlands

FIGURE 4

Wetlands and Catchments

Image Source: ESRI Basemap (2021) Data source: QLD Spatial (2024)





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**Legend**

- Planet Downs Project Site
- Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
- Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct

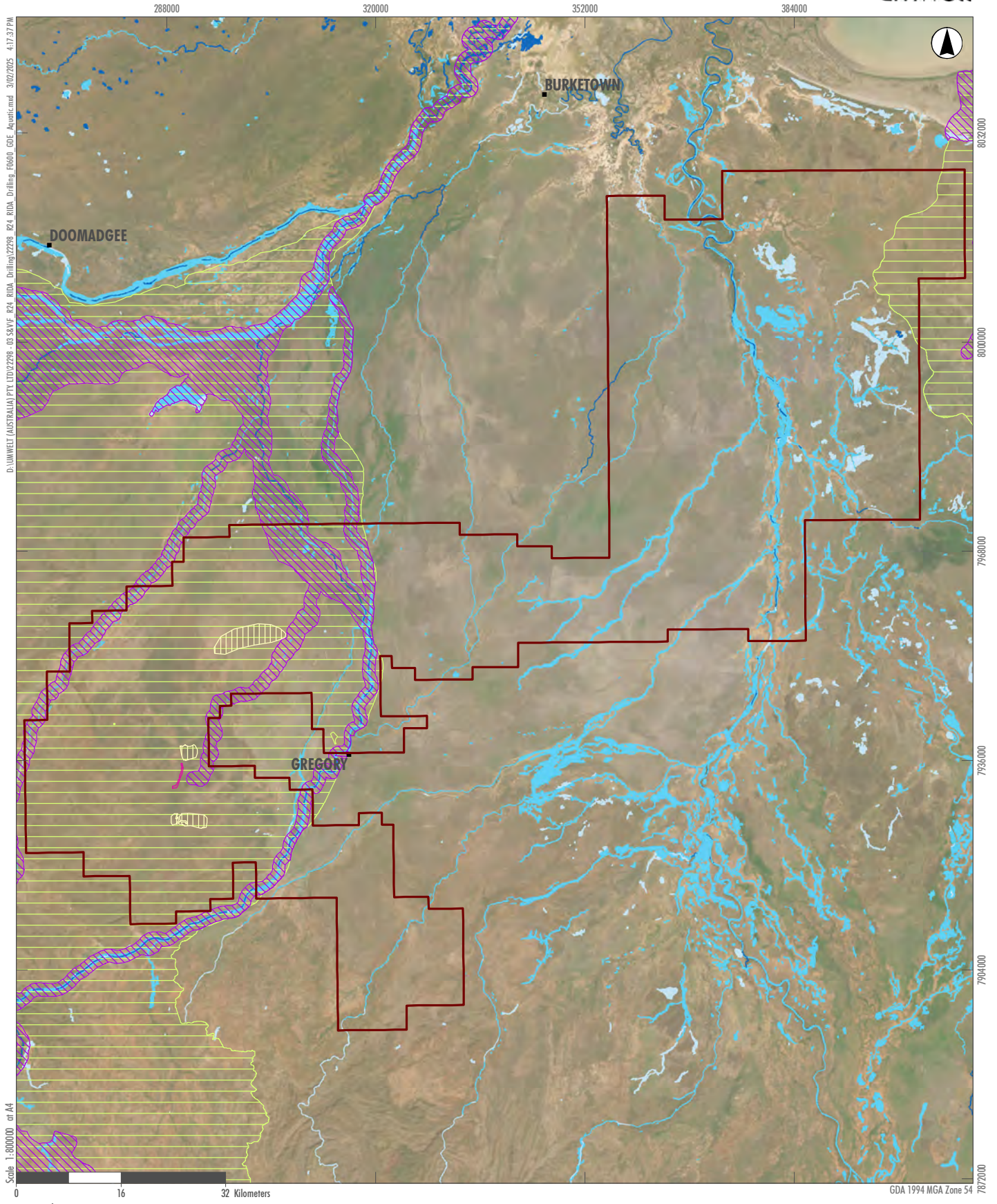
**Potential Terrestrial Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems**

- High potential GDE - from national assessment
- Moderate potential GDE - from national assessment
- Low potential GDE - from national assessment

**FIGURE 5**

**Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems – Terrestrial**





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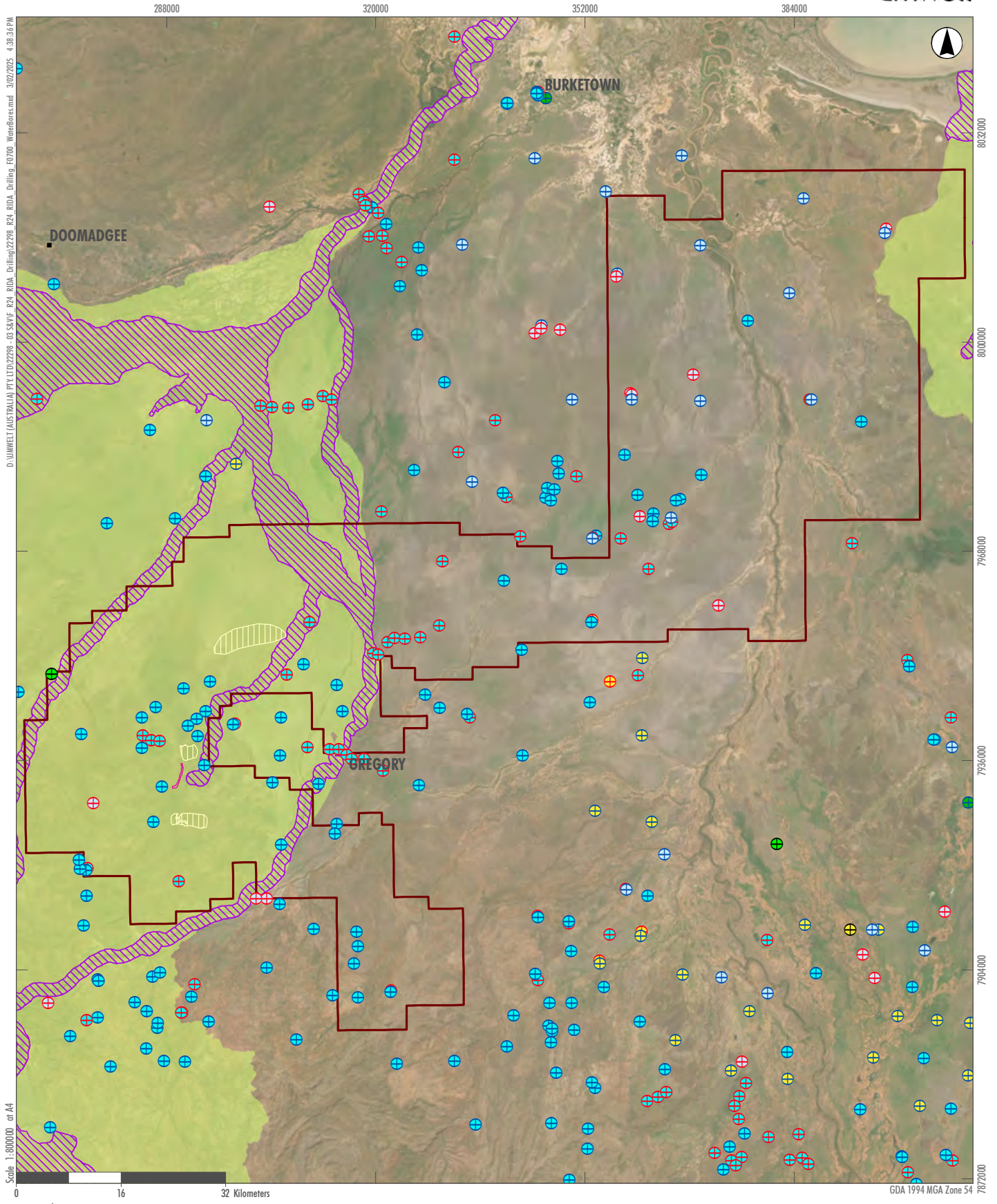
**Legend**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Planet Downs Project Site                                      | <b>Potential Aquatic Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems</b> |
| Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp             | High potential GDE - from national assessment             |
| Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling                  | Moderate potential GDE - from national assessment         |
| Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area                       | Low potential GDE - from national assessment              |
| Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area - Designated Precinct |   |

**FIGURE 6**

**Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems – Aquatic**



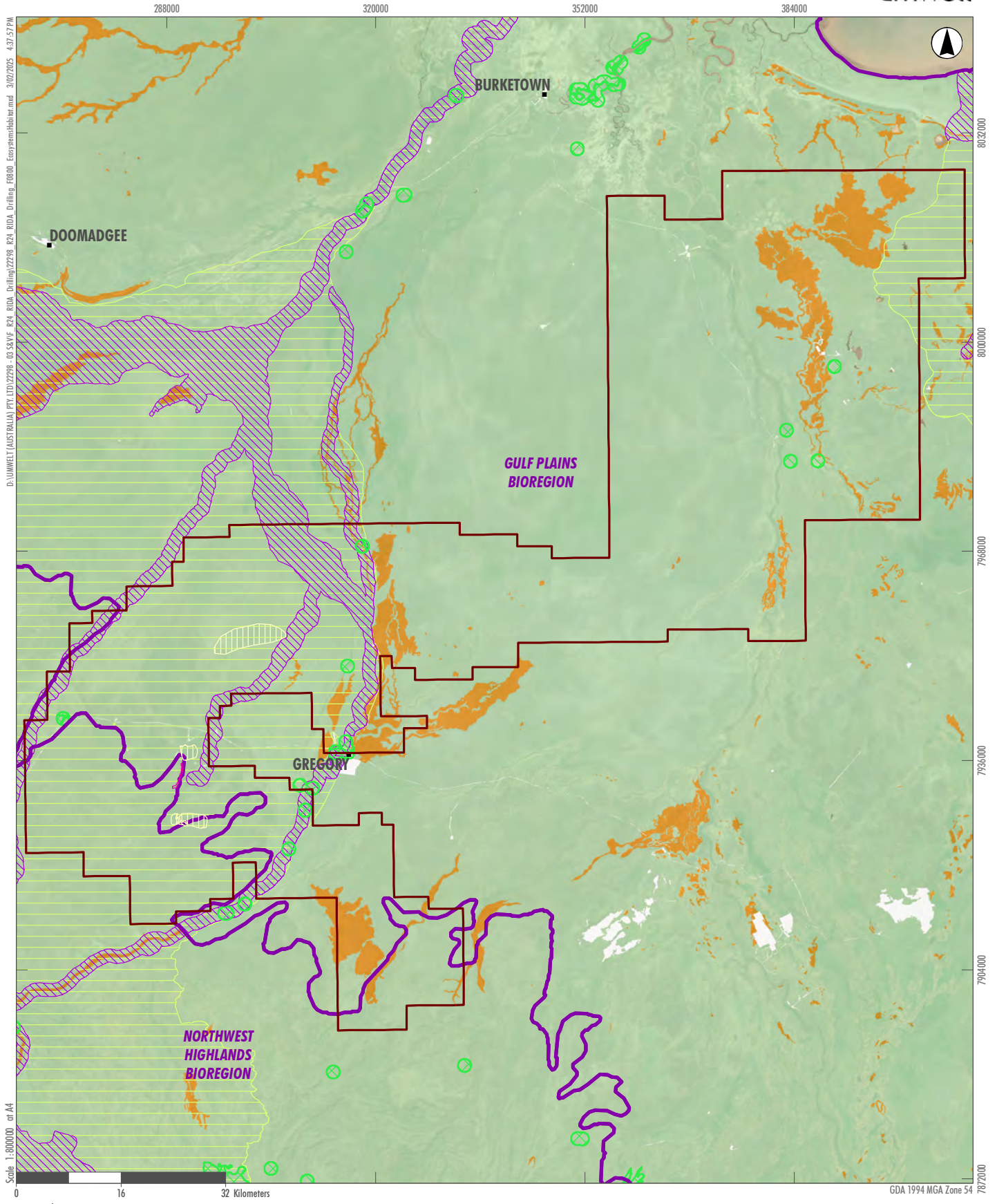


- Legend**
- Planet Downs Project Site
  - Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
  - Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
- Registered Water Bores (DRDMW & Private)**
- + Artesian Bore, Ceased to Flow, Abandoned and Destroyed
  - + Artesian Bore, Ceased to Flow, Abandoned but still useable

- + Artesian Bore, Ceased to Flow, Existing
- + Artesian Bore, Controlled Flow, Abandoned and Destroyed
- + Artesian Bore, Controlled Flow, Existing
- + Artesian Bore, Uncontrolled Flow, Abandoned and Destroyed
- + Artesian Bore, Uncontrolled Flow, Existing
- + Artesian Bore, Condition Unknown, Existing
- + Sub-artesian Facility, Abandoned and Destroyed
- + Sub-artesian Facility, Existing

**FIGURE 7**  
**Water Bores**





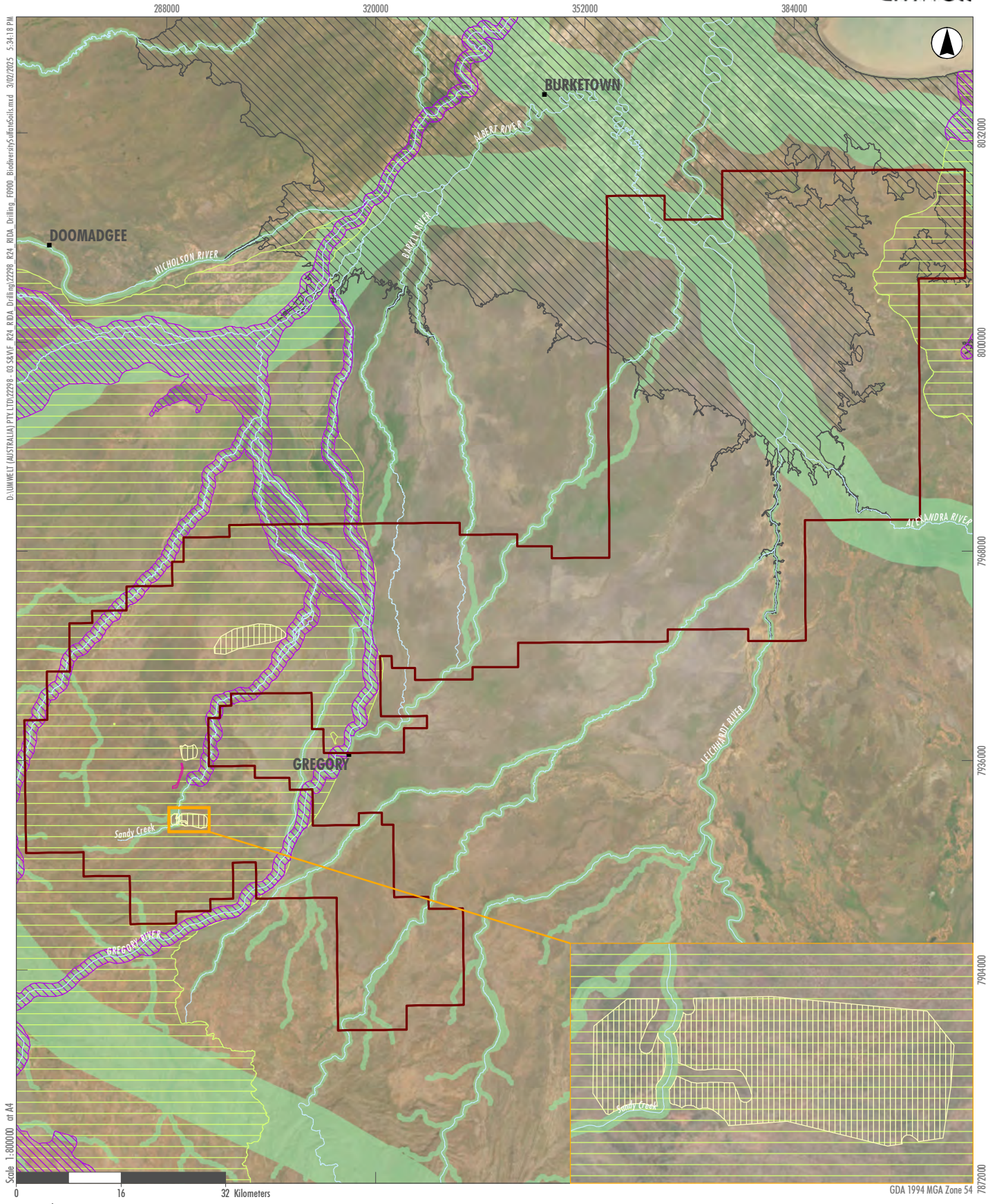
- Legend**
- Planet Downs Project Site
  - Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
  - Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
  - Bioregions
  - Essential Habitat

- VM Act Regional Ecosystems**
- Least Concern
  - Of Concern
  - Non-remnant

FIGURE 8

Regional Ecosystems and Essential Habitat





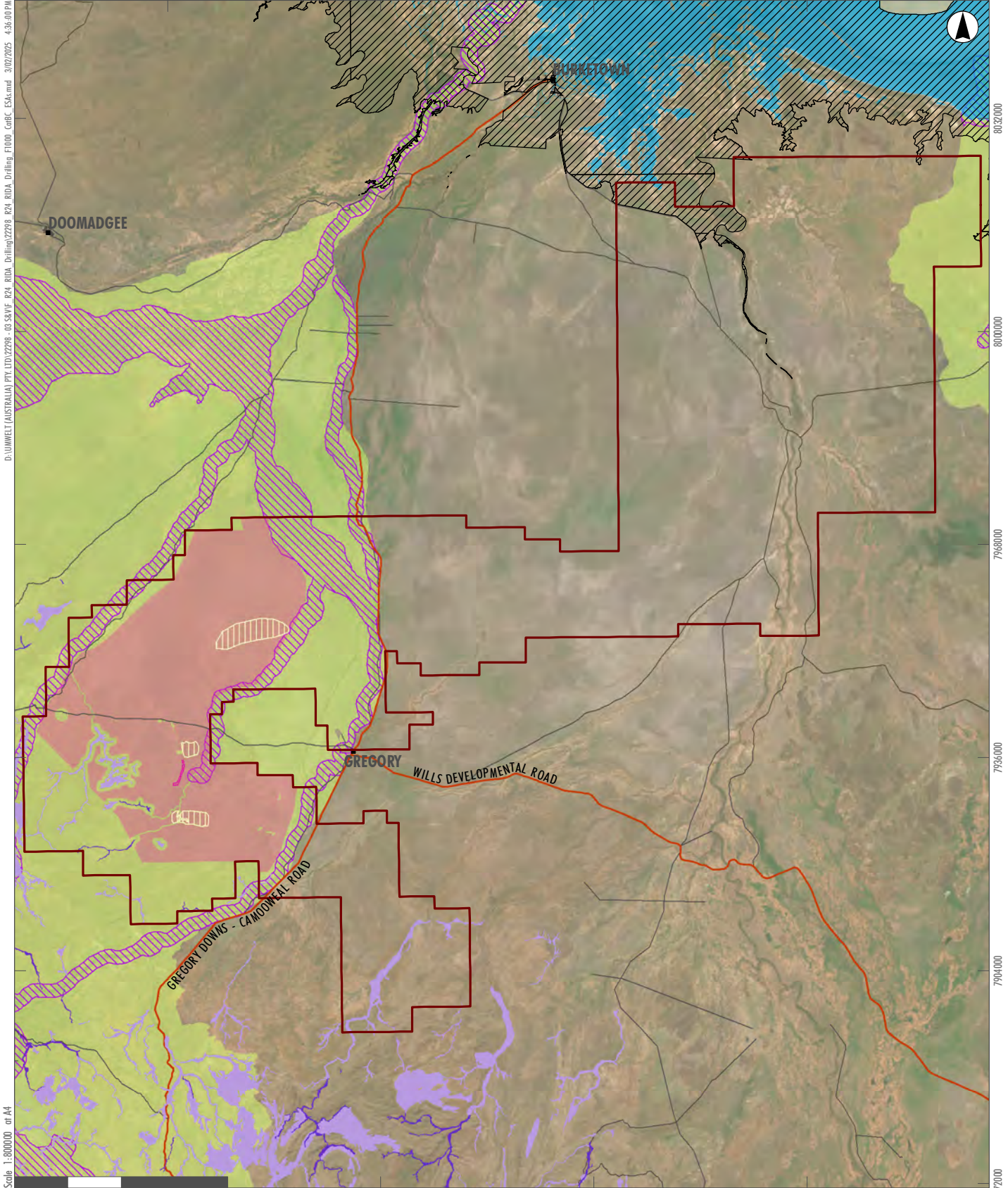
- Legend**
- Planet Downs Project Site
  - Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
  - Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
  - Drainage Lines
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
  - Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
  - Statewide Biodiversity Corridors
  - Acid Sulfate Soils

FIGURE 9

Biodiversity and Potential Acid Sulfate Soils



288000 320000 352000 384000



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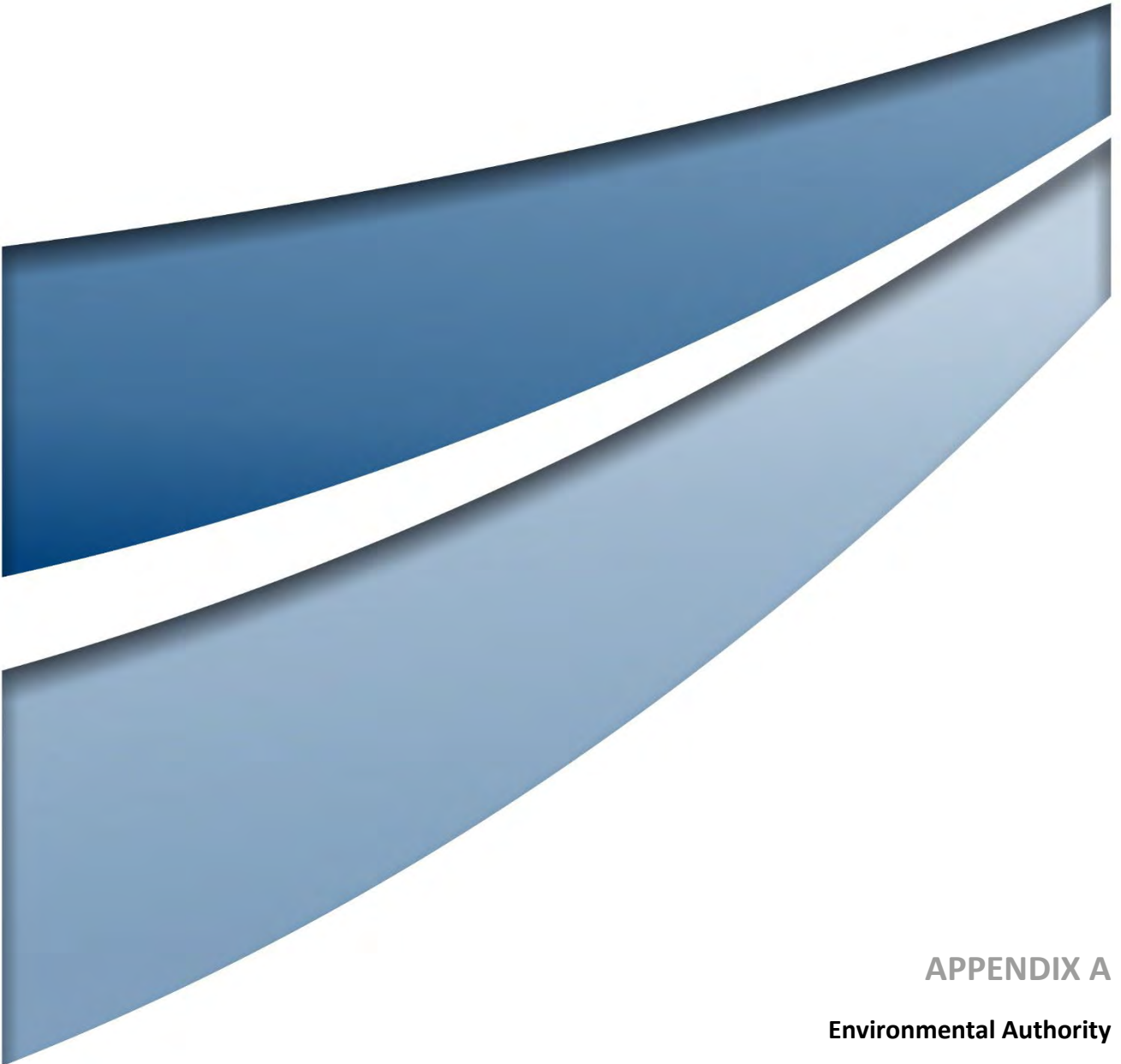
**Legend**

- Planet Downs Project Site
- Indicative Locations for Siting Accommodation Camp
- Indicative Locations for Exploration Drilling
- Major Road
- Minor Roads & Tracks
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area
- Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct
- Seismic Survey Area (RP124/001)
- Seaward Side of Highest Astronomical Tide
- Environmentally Sensitive Area (Category C)
- Coastal Management District
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Category B)
- Endangered - Dominant vegetation
- Endangered - Sub-dominant

**FIGURE 10**

**Category B and C Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

Image Source: ESRI Basemap (2021) Data source: QLD Spatial (2024)



**APPENDIX A**

**Environmental Authority**

# Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects—Version 2

This document provides eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development licence activities. Eligibility criteria are to be used for making a standard or variation application for an environmental authority. Standard conditions are to be used in an environmental authority (standard or variation application) or where necessary and desirable on an environmental authority (site specific application).

## Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria are constraints set to ensure environmental risks associated with the operation of the environmentally relevant activity (ERA) are able to be managed by the standard conditions. Eligibility criteria set out the circumstances in which a standard or variation application for an environmental authority can be made.

## Standard conditions

Standard conditions are the minimum operating requirements an environmental authority holder must comply with.

## Standard applications

If an applicant can meet all of the eligibility criteria, they can make a standard application for an environmental authority that is subject to all standard conditions. Applicants are required to complete a 'Standard application form'.

## Variation applications

If an applicant can meet all of the eligibility criteria but needs to vary one or more of the standard conditions to suit their operational needs, then they can make a variation application for an environmental authority. Applicants are required to complete a 'Variation application form'.

## Site specific applications

Applicants who cannot meet the eligibility criteria must make a site specific application for an environmental authority. Applicants are required to complete a 'Site specific application form'.

## Amendment applications

If the holder of an environmental authority needs to amend a standard condition in the issued environmental authority, then the holder must submit an 'Amendment application form'.

## Application forms

The relevant application forms can be downloaded from the Queensland Government's Business and Industry Portal at [www.business.qld.gov.au/ea](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/ea).

## Definitions

Some terms used in this document are defined in Appendix 2.

## References to other documents

References in this document to laws, regulations, standards, policies, programs, guidelines and similar documents and instruments are to the current version of those documents and instruments, as amended or replaced from time to time.

## Uranium mining

The Queensland Government has determined that mining activities associated with uranium do not meet the eligibility criteria for this code of environmental compliance. This determination is based on an environmental impact statement (EIS) being triggered for uranium mining activities as they are defined as the “introduction of novel or unproven resource extraction process, technology or activities”. A standard application for mining activities associated with uranium therefore cannot be made. As such a site specific application is required for all mining activities associated with uranium.

### Version history

Version	Effective date	Description of changes
2.00	31 March 2016	Minor amendments to remove outdated legislative requirements and references. Publication number changed from EM586 to ESR/2016/1985.

## Eligibility criteria

- a) The mining activity does not, or will not, at any one time, cause more than 10ha of land to be significantly disturbed;
- b) the mining activity is not, or will not be, carried out in a category A environmentally sensitive area or a category B environmentally sensitive area;
- c) the mining activity is not, or will not be, carried out under an environmental authority under which either of the following is, or is to be, authorised—
  - i. an environmentally relevant activity to which a section of schedule 2 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 applies and for which there is an aggregate environmental score;
  - ii. a resource activity, other than a mining activity, that is an ineligible ERA;
- d) the mining activity is not, or will not be, carried out in a strategic environmental area, unless—
  - i. the mining activity is authorised under an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to a mining claim, an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to an exploration permit or an environmental authority for a mining activity relating to a mineral development licence; or
  - ii. the mining activity involves alluvial mining and is, or will be, carried out at a place that is not in a designated precinct in a strategic environmental area; or
  - iii. the mining activity involves clay pit mining, dimension stone mining, hard rock mining, opal mining or shallow pit mining and is, or will be, carried out at a place that is not in a designated precinct in a strategic environmental area.
- e) the mining activity does not, or will not, at any one time, cause more than 5000m<sup>2</sup> of land to be disturbed at a camp site;
- f) no more than 20m<sup>3</sup> of any substance is, or will be, extracted from each kilometre of a riverine area affected by the mining activity in a year.



## Standard conditions

Schedule A – General conditions
<p><b>Financial Assurance</b></p> <p><b>A1:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must submit the required amount of financial assurance to the administering authority prior to carrying out any activities on the mining tenement. If the activities that are being carried out by the holder of the environmental authority are altered so as to cause a change in the category of total area of disturbance shown in Appendix 4 - Form 3: Schedule of Rehabilitation Costs, the holder of the environmental authority must submit an application to amend their financial assurance to the administering authority. If an application is lodged to transfer the environmental authority to another person or company, the proposed transferee must submit the required financial assurance prior to the transfer taking effect.</p> <p>Note 1 - Financial assurance must be calculated in accordance with Form 3: Schedule of Rehabilitation Costs in Appendix 4 of this environmental authority.</p> <p>Note 2 - Chapter 5, Part 12, Division 2 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> requires that the holder of the environmental authority gives the administering authority a financial assurance in a form acceptable to the administering authority. When necessary, the holder of the environmental authority must submit an application to amend their financial assurance under section 302 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>. The holder of the environmental authority must lodge a single financial assurance with the District Mining Registrar, Department of Natural Resources and Mines. The financial assurance will consist of two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) An amount to cover the potential costs to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection of rehabilitating areas disturbed by mining activities should the environmental authority holder failure to do so; and</li> <li>(ii) An amount to cover the potential costs to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines of restoring property improvements disturbed by mining activities and the failure of the tenure holder to pay rents and royalties.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Land disturbance</b></p> <p><b>A2:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation is minimised. Not more than 1000m<sup>2</sup> can be disturbed at any one location, excluding campsites.</p> <p>Note 3 – To minimise the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation the following measures or similar measures can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- avoid disturbing large and/or mature trees;</li> <li>- select specific trees to be cleared and avoid causing damage to surrounding vegetation;</li> <li>- where practical leave the rootstock intact to promote regeneration and regrowth.</li> </ul> <p>Note 4 – Before carrying out activities on the tenement refer to the Technical Guideline ‘Good Relations with Landowners’ and the Department of Mines and Energy Code of Conduct, ‘Procedure for Sound Landholder/Explorer Relations’.</p>

<b>Air quality</b>
<b>A3:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not cause an unreasonable release of dust.
<p>Note 5 - To prevent the unreasonable release of dust, the following measures or similar measures can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- altering work practices to avoid or minimise the generation of dust;</li> <li>- scheduling activities for times when they will have least impact;</li> <li>- spraying water on roads and tracks;</li> <li>- revegetating disturbed areas as soon as practicable;</li> <li>- leaving or creating wind breaks or screening; and</li> <li>- installing pollution control equipment (e.g. fitting bag filters or a cyclone to dust generating equipment).</li> </ul>
<b>Noise emissions</b>
<b>A4:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not cause unreasonable noise at a noise sensitive place.
<p>Note 6 - To prevent causing unreasonable noise at a noise sensitive place the following measures or similar measures can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- construct and maintain noise barriers and enclosures around noisy equipment or along the noise transmission path;</li> <li>- implement noise reduction measures at noise sensitive places;</li> <li>- provide and maintain low noise equipment;</li> <li>- carry out routine maintenance on fans to minimise bearing noise;</li> <li>- repair or replace defective mufflers of vehicles and plant with suitable effective mufflers; and</li> <li>- limit the hours of operation of the project to between the hours of 7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday.</li> </ul> <p>Note 7 - If aircraft are being used for mining activities operate them so as to minimise disturbance to livestock (e.g. helicopters).</p>
<b>Erosion and Sediment Control</b>
<b>A5:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must design, install and maintain adequate banks and/or diversion drains to minimise the potential for storm water runoff to enter disturbed areas.
<b>A6:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must design, install and maintain adequate erosion and sediment control structures wherever necessary to prevent or minimise erosion of disturbed areas and the sedimentation of any watercourse, waterway, wetland or lake.
<p>Note 8 - When designing and constructing sediment ponds refer to the “Engineering Guidelines for Queensland Construction Sites” Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.</p> <p>Note 9 – Regularly clean out sediment traps, ponds and drains and maintain them in effective working order, until erosion stability has been achieved in disturbed areas.</p> <p>Note 10 – The capacity of sediment traps, ponds, drains and banks should not be reduced below 70% of their design capacity.</p>



<p><b>Topsoils and overburden management</b></p>
<p><b>A7:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that topsoil is removed and stockpiled prior to carrying out any mining activity. Prevent or minimise the mixing and erosion of topsoil and overburden stockpiles.</p>
<p>Note 11 - To separate topsoil and overburden and to prevent or minimise the erosion of these stockpiles the following measures or similar measures can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify topsoil and overburden layers before stripping topsoil;</li> <li>- store topsoil and overburden in separate stockpiles;</li> <li>- install silt fences or bunding around the stockpiles;</li> <li>- where practical reuse topsoil stockpiles within 12 months;</li> <li>- establish and maintain a temporary cover crop on stockpiles; and</li> <li>- limit the height of topsoil stockpiles to 2 metres.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hazardous contaminants</b></p>
<p><b>A8:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must plan and conduct activities on site to prevent any potential or actual release of a hazardous contaminant.</p>
<p>Note 12 - Section 442 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> makes it an offence to release a prescribed contaminant. A prescribed contaminant is a contaminant prescribed by an Environmental Protection Policy.</p> <p>Note 13 - Section 443 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> makes it an offence to cause or allow a contaminant to be placed in a position where it could reasonably be expected to cause serious or material environmental harm or environmental nuisance.</p>
<p><b>A9:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that spills of hazardous contaminants are cleaned up as quickly as practicable. Such spillage must not be cleaned up by hosing, sweeping or otherwise releasing such contaminants to any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake.</p>
<p>Note 14 - If a mining lease becomes Significantly Disturbed Land because it is contaminated, it ceases to be significantly disturbed land if a Suitability Statement is issued for the land. Refer to Chapter 7, Part 8 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p> <p>Note 15 – A Site Management Plan approved under Chapter 7, Part 8 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> may be required by the administering authority for sites recorded on the Environmental Management Register or the Contaminated Land Register. Such sites may include acid producing waste rock stockpiles or tailings dams containing acid producing wastes.</p>
<p><b>A10:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must, where practical, separate acid producing waste rock from benign waste rock.</p>
<p><b>A11:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must dispose of acid producing waste rock in an excavation or pit and backfill as soon as practical. Backfill the excavation or pit containing acid producing waste rock with benign, low permeability material and seal the excavation or pit with a compacted capping layer at least 1m thick.</p>

<p>Note 16 – The owner or occupier of a mining lease must notify the administering authority if they become aware that a Notifiable Activity listed in Schedule 4 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>, is being carried out on the land within 30 days, by giving notice to the administering authority in the approved form. For example, an exploration or mineral development project that generates waste materials that contain hazardous contaminants must notify the administering authority that this activity is being carried out. Refer to section 371 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p> <p>Note 17 – For detailed information on the management of acid mine waste material refer to the “Technical Guidelines for the Environmental Management of Exploration and Mining in Queensland”, Part B, ‘Assessment and Management of Acid Drainage’ and the ‘Guidelines for Sampling and Analysis of Lowland Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) in Queensland’.</p>
<p><b>Nature conservation</b></p>
<p><b>A12:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must prevent the spread of Declared Plants by ensuring that all vehicles and machinery are adequately cleaned before taking the vehicles and machinery out of a Declared Plant Area.</p>
<p>Note 18 - Every precaution should be taken to ensure there is no dispersal of Parthenium weed or the seed of any other declared plant within the meaning of the <i>Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002</i> as a result of mining activities or as a result of access to the area of the mining tenement.</p> <p>Note 19 – The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries provided Pest Fact sheets for declared plants in Queensland as well as clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery working in declared plant areas. For advice on declared plant areas contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries or your Local Government.</p>
<p><b>A13:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not carry out activities in a category A or B environmentally sensitive area. Activities involving machinery must not be carried out within 1km of a category A environmentally sensitive area or within 500m of category B environmentally sensitive area. Prior to carrying out activities in a category C environmentally sensitive area, consult with the relevant administering authority and the Environmental Protection Agency. If it is determined through the consultation that additional conditions are necessary, the holder must comply with those conditions.</p>
<p>Note 20 – Refer to Appendix 3 - Environmentally sensitive areas.</p>
<p><b>A14:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not carry out activities within 100m of a Historical, Archaeological or Ethnographic site.</p>
<p>Note 21 – Refer to the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register</i> established under the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> and the <i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i>. Prior to carrying out any activities on the mining tenement, the holder of the environmental authority should consult with the administering authority if a site has the potential to be designated as a historical, archaeological or ethnographic site.</p>
<p><b>Prescribed environmentally relevant activities</b></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>A15:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not carry out the following prescribed environmentally relevant activities (ERA) on the mining tenement: ERA 61 Waste incineration and thermal treatment at threshold 1 - incinerating waste vegetation, clean paper or cardboard;</li> <li>2. ERA 52 Battery Recycling – operating a facility for receiving, and recycling or reprocessing, any type of battery; and</li> </ol>

3. ERA 59 Tyre Recycling – operating a facility on a commercial basis for receiving and recycling or receiving and reprocessing 1000 or more equivalent passenger units of tyres, or parts of tyres, in a year. (The relevant activity does not include retreading tyres).

**Schedule B – Activity based conditions**

**Roads and tracks**

**B1:** The holder of the environmental authority must consult with the landowner prior to establishing any new roads and tracks.

Note 22 - Refer to the Technical Guidelines in appendix 6 when planning and constructing all new roads and tracks.

Note 23 - Repair all damage to existing private roads and tracks resulting from mining activities, so that they are as trafficable as they were prior to any damage.

**B2:** When constructing new roads and tracks, the holder of the environmental authority must ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land, vegetation and watercourses is minimised.

Note 24 - When planning and constructing new roads and tracks the following measures or similar measures can be used to minimise the area and duration of disturbance of land, vegetation and watercourses:

- wherever possible use or upgrade existing roads and tracks;
- construct roads and tracks along natural grades;
- minimise the width of roads and tracks;
- minimise the number of crossings in riverine areas;
- construct crossings in riverine areas in a stable section of the bed;
- avoid constructing roads or tracks that run straight down the bank to the crossing;
- do not disadvantage other users of existing public roads & tracks;
- construct a bed level causeway, a culvert or a bridge where natural bed conditions within a watercourse will not carry the intended traffic load or where crossing of the bed will generate a significant increase in turbidity;
- minimise the number of cuts and fills in riverine areas;
- position cuts and fills in riverine areas to minimise risk of erosion from subsequent flood events;
- position crossings to prevent flow being directed towards the banks and provide erosion resistance to the bed and banks downstream of a crossing for a distance equal to the width of the normal flow channel;
- do not create any downstream or upstream drops at the lip of culverts or causeways;
- regularly clean out culverts, bridges and causeways to prevent flow being impeded or redirected; and
- construct in-stream crossings outside of main fish migration periods.

<p><b>Campsites</b></p>
<p><b>B3:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must consult with the landowner prior to establishing any campsites.</p>
<p><b>B4:</b> When establishing a campsite, the holder of the environmental authority must ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land, vegetation and watercourses is minimised.</p>
<p>Note 25 - When establishing and maintaining campsites the following measures or similar measures can be used to minimise the area and duration of disturbance to land, vegetation and watercourses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- locate campsites at least 100m from any riverine areas;</li> <li>- only disturb the minimum area necessary for the safe functioning of the campsite;</li> <li>- install an appropriate human waste disposal facility (e.g. portable self-contained toilets, pit toilets, septic tanks);</li> <li>- use absorption trenches, transpiration beds or spray irrigation to dispose of grey water; and</li> <li>- locate all disposal areas at least 100m distance from any watercourse, waterway, groundwater recharge area, wetland or lake.</li> </ul> <p>Note 26 – With regard to on site waste water management refer to the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2008.</p>
<p><b>Waste management</b></p>
<p><b>B5:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not directly or indirectly release waste from the project area to any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake.</p>
<p>Note 27 - When managing waste materials the following strategy should be adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- avoid creating excess waste;</li> <li>- reuse waste materials;</li> <li>- recycle waste;</li> <li>- create and utilise energy from waste;</li> <li>- treat waste; and</li> <li>- dispose of waste (e.g. provide rubbish containers on site).</li> </ul> <p>Note 28 - Where practicable take all General Waste to a Licensed General Waste Disposal Facility.</p>
<p><b>B6:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must not dispose of more than 50 tonnes of general waste on the mining tenement per year.</p>
<p>Note 29 -The holder of the environmental authority may bury up to 50 tonnes of general waste on the mining tenement per year. When burying general waste the following measures or similar measures should be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- locate the waste pit so as to ensure that the waste will not contaminate any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake;</li> <li>- divert stormwater runoff from entering the pit;</li> <li>- crush drums and other containers to reduce the volume of waste;</li> </ul>

- make the pit safe and protect it from scavengers;
- backfill the pit when the level of rubbish in the pit is not less than 1m below the surface; and
- sufficiently overfill the pit to allow for settlement.

Note 30 – The holder of the environmental authority may dispose of limited regulated waste to a licensed general waste disposal facility provided the annual volume of limited regulated waste does not exceed 10% of the annual volume of general waste (e.g. tyres).

**Service, Maintenance and Storage Areas**

**B7:** The holder of the environmental authority must not directly or indirectly release fuels, oils, lubricants or other contaminants to any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake.

Note 31 - To prevent the direct or indirect release of fuels, lubricants or other contaminants to any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake the following measures or similar measures can be used:

- maintain all refuelling equipment in good working order;
- use groundsheets or drip trays to capture spillage during maintenance of machinery and vehicles;
- locate all fuel storages within an impermeable bund;
- ensure all liquid containment, including fuel tank bunds and process water ponds, have a volume at least equal to the design volume plus an additional 10% of that volume; and
- where practical, undertake all refuelling and routine maintenance of vehicles within designated service areas.

**B10:** The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that all chemical, fuel and oil storage facilities less than 10 000L on a mining tenement, must be designed and operated in accordance with Australian Standard 1940 – ‘The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids’, Section 2, Minor Storage.

**B11:** The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that:

1. all chemical, fuel and oil storage facilities of more than 10 000L on a mining tenement, must be banded to contain at least one hundred percent of the volume of the largest container, plus twenty-five percent of the storage capacity of the largest container up to a maximum of 10,000L, together with ten percent of the storage capacity beyond 10,000L; and
2. the facility must be operated and maintained in accordance with the Australian Standard 1940 – “The Storage and Handling of flammable and combustible liquids”.

**Drilling, Excavating and Sampling**

**B12:** The holder of the environmental authority must ensure:

1. all marker pegs are marked with contrasting colour so as to be clearly visible;
2. all marker pegs are removed from the tenement at the completion of exploration activities;
3. all permanent markers (example, concrete plugs or steel plates) are installed at ground level and made safe.

**B13:** When drilling, excavating or sampling, the holder of the environmental authority must ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation is minimised.

Note 32 - When drilling, excavating or sampling the following measures or similar measures can be used to minimise the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation:

- consider seasonal influences, such as rainfall before excavating or establishing a drill site;
- construct drill pads no larger than necessary to safely accommodate the drilling rigs and ancillary equipment;
- use excavators or backhoes wherever possible in preference to bulldozers; and
- use drilling fluids and other process fluids which are non-toxic.

Note 33 - Prior to working in riverine areas refer to the “Technical Guidelines for the Environmental Management of Mining and Exploration in Queensland”, Part B, “Exploration and Mining in Watercourses”.

Note 34 - Install and maintain adequate warning signs, fences and rock bunds to exclude people, livestock and native animals from excavations and shafts.

Note 35 - Provide safe access to water for livestock and native animals by:

- providing hard surfaces around water storage areas; and
- fencing off any soft areas around the edge of water storage areas.

**B14:** The holder of the environmental authority must not drill, excavate or clear vegetation:

1. in standing waters, wetlands or lakes; or
2. on the sloped banks or within 3m of the top of the bank or 5m of the toe of the bank; or
3. within, or on the levee banks of the normal flow channel.

Note 36 - For representative diagrams that define the different landform elements that make up a watercourse refer to Figure 1 - Cross Section Through a Watercourse and Figure 2 – Plan View of a Watercourse.

**B15:** The holder of the environmental authority must not directly or indirectly release wastewater to any watercourse, waterway, groundwater, wetland or lake.

Note 37 - To prevent the direct or indirect release of waste water to any watercourse, waterway or groundwater, wetland or lake the following measures or similar measures can be used:

- where practical recycle all waste water (e.g. recycle waste water for drilling water);
- use waste water for dust suppression;
- discharge waste water onto benign overburden or waste rock heaps for absorption; and
- discharge wastewater to an evaporation pond.

Note 38 - With regard to the on site management of water refer to the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2008.

<p><b>Exploration drill holes</b></p>
<p><b>B16:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must decommission all non-artesian drill holes, apart from those still required for monitoring purposes as soon as practical, but no later than 6 months after the hole was drilled by undertaking the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. where practical dispose of all unused drill chips to the hole or to a sump pit and;</li> <li>2. cap the hole at a depth that is appropriate for the previous land use of the area (unless the land owner stipulates a future use which requires the cap to be placed deeper); and</li> <li>3. backfill the hole above the cap with soil or material similar to the surrounding soil or material.</li> </ol>
<p>Note 39 - The following depths are considered as appropriate for capping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- surface level in rock outcrops; and</li> <li>- at least 1m below the surface on land used for cropping; and</li> <li>- at least 300 mm below the surface on other land.</li> </ul>
<p><b>B17:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must isolate non-artesian aquifers where a drill hole intersects more than one water bearing strata by casing or plugging the hole as soon as practical after the hole is no longer required, but no later than 2 months after the hole was drilled, apart from those holes that are still required for monitoring purposes if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the flow difference between aquifers exceeds 500 L/hour; and</li> <li>2. the difference in electrical conductivity of water is greater than 10% of the lower value.</li> </ol>
<p><b>B18:</b> Conditions 16 and 17 do not apply to a non-artesian exploration drill hole if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the land owner and the explorer have agreed that it should be left for conversion to a water bore; and</li> <li>2. the landowner gives a written undertaking to accept responsibility for the hole; and</li> <li>3. the details of the agreement and the drill hole (such as its GPS location and the drill logs showing the water bearing strata and flow rates) are provided to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines within 30 days of the land owner giving the undertaking; and</li> <li>4. the hole is temporarily capped so as to prevent possible ingress of surface waters and associated sediments and pollutants.</li> </ol>
<p>Note 40 - Drill holes that are to be converted to a water bore must be done so by a licensed water bore driller.</p>
<p><b>B19:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that exploration drill holes that strike artesian flows of water that exceeds 500 L/hour for seven days must be either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. decommissioned as soon as practical, but no later than 1 month after the hole was drilled, apart from holes that are still required for monitoring or evaluation purposes. Refer to Report No. SW4 – “Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia”, (ARMCANZ 1997); or</li> <li>2. capped to allow for future conversion into a controlled artesian bore by a licensed water bore driller; or</li> <li>3. converted into a controlled artesian bore by a licensed water bore driller, provided that:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the land owner has undertaken in writing to accept responsibility for the drill hole; and</li> <li>(b) the explorer provides details of the agreement and the drill hole to the Department of Natural</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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Resources and Mines within 30 days of obtaining the landowner's agreement.
Note 41 - Provisions apply under the Water Act 2000 with respect to the utilisation of ground water from boreholes in Proclaimed Areas (which include all Artesian Basin areas) and the rehabilitation of boreholes.
<b>B20:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must ensure that exploration drill holes that are to be retained for future mineral resource evaluation purposes are cased and capped. Holes to be retained for more than three years must be capped with steel casing and appropriately identified.
<b>Gridlines and Geophysical Surveys</b>
<b>B21:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must plan and determine the final position of gridlines and geophysical lines in consultation with the landowner.
<b>B22:</b> When constructing gridlines and geophysical lines, the holder of the environmental authority must ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation is minimised.
Note 42 - When constructing gridlines and geophysical lines the following measures or similar measures can be used to ensure that the area and duration of disturbance to land and vegetation is minimised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- conduct surveying of gridlines on foot;</li><li>- use existing gates, tracks, roads and seismic lines;</li><li>- before deciding on the location of new seismic lines, record the location of all underground or surface pipelines, cables, power lines, etc. and avoid these areas;</li><li>- in planning for drilling and sampling activities, where possible, ensure the activities occur at least 100m from riverine areas;</li><li>- construct seismic lines that do not exceed the width necessary to safely undertake the survey;</li><li>- use Global Positioning Systems (GPS), or other techniques, to reduce the need for line of sight clearing;</li><li>- maintain buffer widths of at least 25m between all disturbed areas;</li><li>- minimise the use of bulldozers and excavators when cutting gridlines and/or seismic lines; and</li><li>- notify landowners at least 24 hours prior to detonating seismic explosives.</li></ul>
<b>Monitoring, reporting and emergency response procedures</b>
<b>B23:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must record and notify the administering authority of any emergency or incident which demonstrates non-compliance with the standard environmental conditions.
Note 43 - A notification of any emergency or incident which demonstrates non-compliance to the standard environmental conditions cannot be used in evidence in any further action taken by the administering authority as a result of the notification.
Note 44 - To demonstrate ongoing compliance with the standard environmental conditions, the holder complete Form 1, 'Monitoring and Record Keeping Summary' and establish programs to monitor project activities and maintain monitoring records for review by the administering authority.
Note 45 - To demonstrate compliance complete Form 2, 'Emergency Response Table'. Provide and maintain appropriate emergency response equipment and inform all operational personnel, contractors and visitors of emergency procedures



Note 46 - Observe the provisions and regulations under the <i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990</i> and the <i>Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999</i> .
<b>Rehabilitation</b>
<b>B24:</b> In Riverine Areas, the holder of the environmental authority must complete the Rehabilitation Processes on all areas disturbed by mining activities, apart from those areas currently being utilised for mining activities, as soon as practical and prior to the onset of the wet season.
Note 47 - <b>Condition B24</b> is to ensure that there is adequate erosion protection in riverine areas prior to the onset of the wet season. In Queensland the wet season is generally considered to be from November to April each year.
<b>B25:</b> For all other areas on the mining tenement, the holder of the environmental authority must complete the rehabilitation processes on all areas disturbed by mining activities, apart from those areas currently being utilised for mining activities, as soon as practical and at least within six months of the completion of works in those areas.
Note 48 – Where practical undertake progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas.
<b>B26:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must backfill all excavations, drill holes or sampling sites as soon as practical following the completion of exploration activities.
<b>B27: Condition B26</b> does not apply to any excavations, drill holes or sampling sites that are to remain after the completion of exploration activities, by agreement with the land owner.
<b>B28:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must rehabilitate areas disturbed by mining activities to a stable landform similar to that of surrounding undisturbed areas.
Note 49 - When rehabilitating disturbed areas refer to the “Technical Guidelines for the Environmental Management of Mining and Exploration in Queensland”, Part D, ‘Geo-technical Slope Stability’.
<b>B29:</b> The holder of the environmental authority must spread seeds or plant species that will promote vegetation of a similar species and density of cover to that of the surrounding undisturbed areas or vegetation that is appropriate for providing erosion control and stabilisation of the disturbed areas.
Note 50 - To revegetate disturbed areas the following measures or similar measures can be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for areas which have become compacted during the project, break up the soil surface to a depth</li> <li>- that is suitable for establishing vegetation; and</li> <li>- spread stockpiled topsoil over disturbed areas to a depth that is suitable as a rooting medium for</li> <li>- the revegetation process; and</li> <li>- provide suitable nutrient conditions for planting by using fertiliser if necessary; and</li> <li>- collect and store native seeds to be used in rehabilitation.</li> </ul>
Note 51 - When revegetating disturbed areas, the holder of the environmental authority should plant native species endemic to the area and location in the landscape (e.g. if clearing has occurred in a riverine area, revegetate the disturbed area using local riverine species).
Note 52 - Vegetation used to provide erosion protection and stabilise disturbed areas in the short term should be comprised of sterile, short-lived species (e.g. a cover crop). However, the long term aim of revegetating any

disturbed area is to establish a stable vegetation community that is similar to that of the surrounding undisturbed areas or endemic species.

Note 53 - The environmental authority holder is not liable for rehabilitating disturbed areas that existed prior to the grant of the tenure unless those areas are disturbed during the term of the tenure.

**B30:** For any Mine Infrastructure to remain after all mining activities have ceased, the holder of the environmental authority must obtain the written agreement of the land owner stating they will take over responsibility for that infrastructure.

**B31:** The holder of the environmental authority must complete rehabilitation of disturbed areas to the satisfaction of the administering authority.

Note 54 - **Condition B31** is a requirement of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The environmental authority holder must submit a Final Rehabilitation Report (FRR) and a compliance statement prior to the cancellation or expiry of the mining tenement. The surrender of the environmental authority will not be granted until the administering authority has accepted the FRR and the compliance statement.

## Appendix 1: General obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

### Responsibilities under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

Separate to the requirements of standard conditions, the holder of the environmental authority must also meet their obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, and the regulations made under that Act. For example, the holder must be aware of the following provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

#### General environmental duty

Section 319 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* states that we all have a general environmental duty. This means that we are all responsible for the actions we take that affect the environment. We must not carry out any activity that causes or is likely to cause environmental harm unless we take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise the harm. To decide what meets your general environmental duty, you need to think about these issues:

- the nature of the harm or potential harm
- the sensitivity of the receiving environment
- the current state of technical knowledge for the activity
- the likelihood of the successful application of the different measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm that might be taken
- the financial implications of the different measures as they would relate to the type of activity.

It is not an offence not to comply with the general environmental duty, however maintaining your general environmental duty is a defence against the following acts:

- (a) an act that causes serious or material environmental harm or an environmental nuisance
- (b) an act that contravenes a noise standard
- (c) a deposit of a contaminant, or release of stormwater run-off, mentioned in section 440ZG. More information is available on the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection website [www.ehp.qld.gov.au](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au).

#### Duty to notify

Section 320 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* explains the duty to notify. The duty to notify applies to all persons and requires a person or company to give notice where serious or material environmental harm is caused or threatened. Notice must be given of the event, its nature and the circumstances in which the event happened. Notification can be verbal, written or by public notice depending on who is notifying and being notified.

The duty to notify arises where:

- a person carries out activities or becomes aware of an act of another person arising from or connected to those activities which causes or threatens serious or material environmental harm
- while carrying out activities a person becomes aware of the happening of one or both of the following events:
  - the activity negatively affects (or is reasonably likely to negatively affect) the water quality of an aquifer
  - the activity has caused the unauthorised connection of 2 or more aquifers.

For more information on the duty to notify requirements refer to the department's *Guideline: Duty to notify of environmental harm (EM467)*.

#### Notifiable activities

It is a requirement under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* that if an owner or occupier of land becomes aware that a Notifiable Activity (as defined by Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*) is being carried out on the land or that the land has been affected by a hazardous contaminant, they must, within 22 business days after becoming so aware, give notice to the administering authority.

## **Some relevant offences under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994***

### **Non-compliance with a condition of an environmental authority (section 430)**

Section 430 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* requires that a person who is the holder of, or is acting under, an environmental authority must not wilfully contravene, or contravene a condition of the authority.

### **Environmental authority holder responsible for ensuring conditions complied with (section 431)**

Section 431 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* requires that the holder of an environmental authority must ensure everyone acting under the authority complies with the conditions of the authority. If another person acting under the authority commits an offence against section 430, the holder also commits an offence, namely, the offence of failing to ensure the other person complies with the conditions.

### **Causing serious or material environmental harm (sections 437–39)**

Material environmental harm is environmental harm that is not trivial or negligible in nature. It may be great in extent or context or it may cause actual or potential loss or damage to property. The difference between material and serious harm relates to the costs of damages or the costs required to either prevent or minimise the harm or to rehabilitate the environment. Serious environmental harm may have irreversible or widespread effects or it may be caused in an area of high conservation significance. Serious or material environmental harm excludes environmental nuisance.

### **Causing environmental nuisance (section 440)**

Environmental nuisance is unreasonable interference with an environmental value caused by aerosols, fumes, light, noise, odour, particles or smoke. It may also include an unhealthy, offensive or unsightly condition because of contamination.

### **Depositing a prescribed water contaminant in waters (section 440ZG)**

Prescribed contaminants include a wide variety of contaminants listed in Schedule 9 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

It is your responsibility to ensure that prescribed contaminants are not left in a place where they may or do enter a waterway, the ocean or a stormwater drain. This includes making sure that stormwater falling on or running across your site does not leave the site contaminated. Where stormwater contamination occurs you must ensure that it is treated to remove contaminants. You should also consider where and how you store material used in your processes onsite to reduce the chance of water contamination.

### **Placing a contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443)**

A person must not cause or allow a contaminant to be placed in a position where it could reasonably be expected to cause serious or material environmental harm or environmental nuisance.

## **Some relevant offences under the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011***

### **Littering (section 103)**

Litter is any domestic or commercial waste and any material a person might reasonably believe is refuse, debris or rubbish. Litter can be almost any material that is disposed of incorrectly. Litter includes cigarette butts and drink bottles dropped on the ground, fast food wrappers thrown out of the car window, poorly secured material from a trailer or grass clippings swept into the gutter. However, litter does not include any gas, dust, smoke or material emitted or produced during, or because of, the normal operations of a building, manufacturing, mining or primary industry.

### **Illegal dumping of waste (section 104)**

Illegal dumping is the dumping of large volumes of litter (200L or more) at a place. Illegal dumping can also include abandoned vehicles.

## Responsibilities under other legislation

An environmental authority pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* does not remove the need to obtain any additional approval for the activity that might be required by other State and/or Commonwealth legislation. Other legislation for which a permit may be required includes but is not limited to the:

- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
- contaminated land provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- *Fisheries Act 1994*
- *Forestry Act 1959*
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*
- *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 / Petroleum Act 1923*
- *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*
- *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*
- *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*
- *Water Act 2000*

Applicants are advised to check with all relevant statutory authorities and comply with all relevant legislation.

An environmental authority for petroleum activities is not an authority to negatively impact on water levels or pressure heads in groundwater aquifers in or surrounding formations. There are obligations to minimise or mitigate any such negative impact under other Queensland Government and Commonwealth Government legislation.

## Appendix 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
Administering authority	<p>Means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) for a matter, the administration and enforcement of which has been devolved to a local government under section 514 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>; or</li> <li>(b) for all other matters – the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection; or</li> <li>(c) another State Government Department, Authority, Storage Operator, Board or Trust, who's role is to administer provisions under other enacted legislation</li> </ul>
Annual exceedence probability (AEP)	For a given rainfall event the AEP is the probability that the event will be exceeded within a one year period. The AEP is usually expressed as a one in 'n' (years) or a percentage.
Approved form	Means a form approved by the administering authority.
Archaeological site	A site that has physical evidence of the past, which has the potential to increase our knowledge of earlier human occupation, activities and events.
Artesian drill hole	An exploration drill hole from which water freely flows at a rate of greater than 500 L/hour for at least 7 days after being drilled.
Banks	The feature which confines major flows within a watercourse. They are steeper than a terrace and are generally of a slope greater than 1:1 on outer bends. Refer to Figure 1 – Cross Section through a Watercourse.
Bund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An earth mound or similar structure (e.g. a concrete block wall), whether impervious or not, constructed to contain spilled material (e.g. petrol, diesel, oil etc.); or</li> <li>(b) a structure to prevent or reduce soil erosion.</li> </ul>
Campsite	The area encompassing any dwelling, amenities (e.g. toilet block, power generator), sewage or general waste disposal facility and includes the office area and vehicle parking areas associated with a temporary or permanent mining camp.
Contaminant	<p>The <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines, under Section 11, a contaminant as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a gas, liquid or solid; or</li> <li>(b) an odour; or</li> <li>(c) an organism (whether alive or dead), including a virus; or</li> <li>(d) energy, including noise, heat, radioactivity and electromagnetic radiation; or</li> <li>(e) a combination of contaminants.</li> </ul>
Contamination	Section 10 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines contamination of the environment is the release (whether by act or omission) of a contaminant into the environment.

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Contaminated land	Schedule 4 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines contaminated land as land contaminated by a hazardous contaminant. (See below for a definition of hazardous contaminant.)
Contaminated land register	Means the register kept by the administering authority under section 541 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Contour banks	Are mounds of earth constructed along the contours of the land to reduce the amount and velocity of run-off down the slope.
Costeaning	The digging of a trench or pit across the seam or ore body for exposing, sampling and mapping of the ore body.
Culvert	A covered channel or a pipe of large diameter conveying water below ground level. Also applies to a tunnel through which water is pumped or permitted to flow.
Declared plant area	Areas designated by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries or Local Government as areas infested with plants declared under <i>Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002</i> .
Declared plant -	A plant that has been declared under the <i>Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002</i> .
Density of cover	In reference to trees and/or shrubs, it means the number of trees or shrubs in a specified area (e.g. 50 trees per square kilometre). With reference to understorey plant species (e.g. grasses and forbs), it means the percentage of surface area covered by a particular species.
Designated service area	Is a nominated site, selected and managed to minimise contamination of land or water, where the majority of services or maintenance of machinery or plant is to be conducted.
Disturbed	Any area that has had its natural state altered by the action or interference of carrying out an activity associated with the exploration project.
Environment	Section 8 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines the environment as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and</li> <li>(b) all natural and physical resources; and</li> <li>(c) the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas, however large or small, that contribute to their biological diversity and integrity, intrinsic or attributed scientific value or interest, amenity, harmony and sense of community; and</li> <li>(d) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect, or are affected by, things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).</li> </ul>
Environmental authority	Means a licence or approval issued by the administering authority under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Environmental management register	Means the register kept by the administering authority under section 541 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .

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Environmental nuisance	<p>Section 15 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines environmental nuisance as “unreasonable interference or likely interference with an environmental value” caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) aerosols, fumes, light, noise, odour, particles or smoke ; or</li> <li>(b) an unhealthy, offensive or unsightly condition because of contamination; or</li> <li>(c) another way prescribed by regulation. (e.g. unreasonable noise or dust emissions)”</li> </ul>
Environmental protection policy	Means an environmental protection policy approved under chapter 2 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Environmental relevant activity	Means an activity prescribed by regulation as an environmental relevant activity.
Environmentally sensitive areas	Refers to locations, however large or small, that have environmental values that contribute to maintaining biological diversity and integrity, have intrinsic or attributed scientific, historical or cultural heritage value, or are important in providing amenity, harmony or sense of community. Refer to Appendix 3.
Environmental value	<p>Section 9 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines an environmental value as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a quality or physical characteristic of the environment that is conducive to ecological health or public amenity or safety; or</li> <li>(b) another quality of the environment identified and declared to be an environmental value under an environmental protection policy or regulation (e.g. water suitable for swimming in or drinking).</li> </ul>
Ethnographic site	An archaeological site of particular importance to the study of a cultural group.
Final rehabilitation report	Means a final rehabilitation report prepared under section 264 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> . The report assesses the extent to which the standard environmental conditions and any additional conditions of the environmental authority have been met.
Financial assurance	<p>Means a security deposit, either cash or a bank guarantee, that is held by the administrating authority to cover the potential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) costs to rehabilitate areas disturbed by mining activities; and</li> <li>(b) costs to restore property improvements disturbed by mining activities; and</li> <li>(c) failure of the tenure holder to pay rents and royalties.</li> </ul>
Flood flow channel	For a representative drawing of a flood flow channel refer to Figure 1– ‘Cross Section Through a Watercourse’ and Figure 2 – ‘Plan View of a Watercourse’.
General waste	Schedule 12 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 defines general waste as “means waste other than regulated waste”. Waste rock, overburden and the contents of tailings dams are not included in the definition of general waste for the purposes of these conditions.
Guidelines for livestock	Recommended water quality guidelines for livestock drinking water. Refer to the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water



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drinking water	Quality 1992.
Hazardous contaminant	<p>Schedule 4 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994 defines a hazardous contaminant as “a contaminant that, if improperly treated, stored, disposed of or otherwise managed, is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm because of:</p> <p>(a) its quantity, concentration, acute or chronic toxic effects, carcinogenicity, teratogenicity, mutagenicity, corrosiveness, explosiveness, radioactivity, flammability; or</p> <p>(b) its physical, chemical or infectious characteristics (e.g.: spills of mercury, cyanide, petrol, diesel or oil)”.</p>
Historical site	A site containing objects from the past that allows the study of the way people lived and worked at that place in the past.
Infrastructure	Project infrastructure includes roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, pipelines, powerlines, airstrips, helipads etc., which are constructed or installed specifically for the project.
Lake	A natural or artificial body of water, either permanent or intermittent.
Landowner	<p>Schedule 4 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines the owner of the land as –</p> <p>1. The “<b>owner</b>” of land is—</p> <p>(a) for freehold land—the person recorded in the freehold land register as the person entitled to the fee simple interest in the land; or</p> <p>(b) for land held under a lease, licence or permit under an Act—the person who holds the lease, licence or permit; or</p> <p>(c) for trust land under the <i>Land Act 1994</i>—the trustees of the land; or</p> <p>(d) for Aboriginal land under the <i>Aboriginal Land Act 1991</i>—the persons to whom the land has been transferred or granted; or</p> <p>(e) for Torres Strait Islander land under the <i>Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991</i>—the persons to whom the land has been transferred or granted; or</p> <p>(f) for land for which there is a native title holder under the <i>Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)</i> —each registered native title party in relation to the land.</p> <p>2. Also, a mortgagee of land is the owner of the land if—</p> <p>(a) the mortgagee is acting as a mortgagee in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land; or</p> <p>(b) the mortgagee, or a person appointed by the mortgagee, is in possession of the land and has the exclusive management and control of the land.</p>
Licensed general waste disposal facility	A site authorised by the administering authority to receive general waste or limited regulated waste (e.g. a rubbish dump).
Limited regulated waste	Schedule 12 of the <i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2008</i> , defines limited regulated waste. The only limited regulated wastes relevant to

	mining projects are asbestos and tyres.
Material environmental harm	<p>Section 16 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines material environmental harm as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. material environmental harm is environmental harm (other than environmental nuisance)-             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is not trivial or negligible in nature, extent or context; or</li> <li>(b) that causes actual or potential loss or damage to property of an amount of, or amounts totalling, more than the threshold amount but less than the maximum amount; or</li> <li>(c) that results in costs of more than the threshold amount but less than the maximum amount being incurred in taking appropriate action to -                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. prevent or minimise the harm; and</li> <li>ii. rehabilitate or restore the environment to its condition before the harm.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>In this section -</p> <p>“maximum amount” means the threshold amount for serious environmental harm.</p> <p>“threshold amount” means \$5 000 or, if a greater amount is prescribed by regulation, the greater amount.</p>
Mine	<p>Section 6A of the <i>Mineral Resources Act 1989</i>, defines mining as –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) “<b>Mine</b>” means to carry on an operation with a view to, or for the purpose of             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) winning mineral from a place where it occurs; or</li> <li>(b) extracting mineral from its natural state; or</li> <li>(c) disposing of mineral in connection with, or waste substances resulting from, the winning or extraction.</li> </ol> </li> <li>(2) For subsection (1), extracting includes the physical, chemical, electrical, magnetic or other way of separation of a mineral.</li> <li>(3) Extracting includes, for example, crushing, grinding, concentrating, screening, washing, jigging, tabling, electro winning, solvent extraction electro winning (SX-EW), heap leaching, flotation, fluidised bedding, carbon-in-leach (CIL) and carbon-in-pulp (CIP) processing.</li> <li>(4) However, extracting does not include             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a process in a smelter, refinery or anywhere else by which mineral is changed to another substance; or</li> <li>(b) testing or assaying small quantities of mineral in teaching institutions or laboratories, other than laboratories situated on a mining lease; or</li> <li>(c) an activity, prescribed under a regulation, that is not directly associated with winning mineral from a place where it occurs.</li> </ol> </li> <li>(5) For subsection (1), includes the disposal of tailings and waste rock.</li> </ol> <p>A regulation under subsection (4)(c) may prescribe an activity by reference to the quantities of minerals extracted or to any other specified circumstances.</p>

Native vegetation	Vegetation that occurs naturally in a certain area.
Noise sensitive place	Means any of the following places – (a) a dwelling; (b) a library, childcare centre, kindergarten, school, college, university or other educational institution; (c) a hospital, surgery or other medical institution; (d) a protected area or an area identified under a conservation plan as a critical habitat or an area of major interest, under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> ; (e) a marine park under the <i>Marine Parks Act 2004</i> ; and (f) a park or garden that is open to the public (whether or not on payment of money) for use other than for sport or organised entertainment).
Normal flow channel	For a representative drawing of a normal flood flow channel of a water course refer to Figure 1 – ‘Cross Section Through a Watercourse’ and Figure 2 - ‘Plan View of a Watercourse’.
Notifiable activity	Means an activity in schedule 3 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> .
Outer bends	For a representative drawing of an outer bend of a watercourse refer to Figure 1 – “Cross Section Through a Watercourse” and Figure 2 – “Plan View of a Watercourse”.
Overburden	Material overlying a mineral ore deposit, up to but not including the topsoil.
Referable dam	The <i>Water Resources Act 1989</i> defines referable dams as (a) works or proposed works that include or would include a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, divert or control water, which barrier (i) is more than 8 m in height and has a storage capacity of more than 500 ML; or (ii) is more than 8 m in height and has a storage capacity of more than 250 ML and a catchment area that is more than 3 times its maximum surface area or full supply level; (b) works (i) that consist of or include or would consist of or include a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, divert or control water or hazardous waste, other than a barrier defined in paragraph (a); (ii) other than a barrier whether permanent or temporary that does or could or would impound, contain, divert or control hazardous waste; declared by the chief executive by notification published in the gazette to be a referable dam by reason of the danger to life or property that could or would eventuate upon the collapse or failure of or the escape of hazardous waste from those works and includes the storage areas created by the works but does not include a tank constructed of steel or concrete or a combination of those materials.  The term does not include a weir, other than a weir that has a variable flow control structure on the crest of the weir.

Regulated waste	<p>Section 65 of the <i>Environmental Protection Regulation 2008</i>, defines mining as –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Regulated waste is waste that—             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) is commercial or industrial waste, whether or not it has been immobilised or treated; and</li> <li>(b) is of a type, or contains a constituent of a type, mentioned in schedule 7, part 1.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2) Waste prescribed under subsection (1) includes—             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) for an element—any chemical compound containing the element; and</li> <li>(b) anything that contains residues of the waste.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3) However, waste is not regulated waste if it is mentioned in schedule 7, part 2.</li> </ol>
Rehabilitation processes	<p>The measures and actions taken to achieve rehabilitation outcomes, including any or all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) removing all unwanted infrastructure;</li> <li>(b) backfilling mine excavations (e.g. pits) and capping drill holes;</li> <li>(c) reshaping the land surface to a stable landform similar to that of surrounding undisturbed areas;</li> <li>(d) spreading of topsoil;</li> <li>(e) spreading seed or planting seedlings to promote revegetation;</li> <li>(f) benching ridge cuts and removing any overhanging material.</li> </ol>
Riverine area	<p>Refers to the land adjoining and associated with watercourses, including the bed, banks, adjoining terraced land and riparian vegetation. Refer to Figure 1 – “Cross Section Through a Watercourse”.</p>
Sediment pond	<p>A bunded or excavated structure used to contain and settle waterborne sediment running off disturbed areas.</p>
Sediment trap	<p>A device used to filter waterborne sediment running off disturbed areas. May include silt fences, hay bales or grassed strips.</p>
Serious environmental harm	<p>Section 17 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines serious environmental harm as</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) serious environmental harm (other than environmental nuisance)             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is irreversible, of a high impact or widespread; or</li> <li>(b) caused to –                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) an area of high conservation value;</li> <li>(ii) an area of special significance, such as the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;</li> </ol> </li> <li>(c) that causes actual or potential loss or damage to property of an amount of, or amounts totalling, more than the threshold amount; or</li> <li>(d) that results in costs of more than the threshold amount being incurred in taking appropriate action to—</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>(i) prevent or minimise the harm; and</p> <p>(ii) rehabilitate or restore the environment to its condition before the harm.</p> <p>2) In this section - “<b>Threshold amount</b>” means \$50 000 or, if a greater amount is prescribed by regulation, the greater amount.</p>
Significantly disturbed land	<p>Land is significantly disturbed if –</p> <p>(a) it is contaminated land; or</p> <p>(b) it has been disturbed and human intervention is needed to rehabilitate it.</p> <p>Significantly disturbed land includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- areas where soil has been compacted, removed, covered, exposed or stockpiled;</li> <li>- areas where vegetation has been removed or destroyed to an extent where the land has been made susceptible to erosion; (vegetation &amp; topsoil)</li> <li>- areas where land use suitability or capability has been diminished;</li> <li>- areas within a watercourse, waterway, wetland or lake where mining project activities occur;</li> <li>- areas submerged by tailings or hazardous contaminant storage and dam walls in all cases;</li> <li>- areas under temporary infrastructure. Temporary infrastructure includes any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc.) which is to be removed after mining has ceased; or</li> <li>- areas where land has been contaminated.</li> </ul> <p>However, the following areas are <u>not</u> included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- areas off lease (e.g. roads or tracks which provide access to the mining lease);</li> <li>- areas previously significantly disturbed which have achieved the rehabilitation outcomes;</li> <li>- by agreement with the EPA, areas previously significantly disturbed which have not achieved the rehabilitation objectives due to circumstances beyond the control of the mine operator (such as climatic conditions);</li> <li>- areas under permanent infrastructure. Permanent infrastructure includes any infrastructure (roads, tracks, bridges, culverts, dams, bores, buildings, fixed machinery, hardstand areas, airstrips, helipads etc.) which is to be left by agreement with the landowner. The agreement to leave permanent infrastructure must be recorded in the Landowner Agreement and lodged with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection;</li> <li>- disturbances that pre-existed the grant of the tenure unless those areas are disturbed during the term of the tenure.</li> </ul>
Site management plan	<p>Means a site management plan approved under chapter 7, part 8 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p>

Standard criteria	<p>Are defined in schedule 4 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the following principles of environmental policy as set out in the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the precautionary principle;</li> <li>(ii) intergenerational equity;</li> <li>(iii) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) any applicable Commonwealth or State government plans, standards, agreements or requirements about environmental protection or ecologically sustainable development; and</li> <li>(c) any applicable environmental impact study, assessment or report; and</li> <li>(d) the character, resilience and values of the receiving environment; and</li> <li>(e) all submissions made by the applicant and submitters; and</li> <li>(f) best practice environmental management for activities under any relevant instrument, or proposed instrument, as follows—; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) an environmental authority;</li> <li>(ii) a transitional environmental program;</li> <li>(iii) an environmental protection order;</li> <li>(iv) a disposal permit;</li> <li>(v) a development approval; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(g) the financial implications of the requirements under an instrument, or proposed instrument, mentioned in paragraph (g) as they would relate to the type of activity or industry carried out, or proposed to be carried out, under the instrument; and</li> <li>(h) the public interest; and</li> <li>(i) any applicable site management plan; and</li> <li>(j) any relevant integrated environmental management system or proposed integrated environmental management system; and</li> <li>(k) any other matter prescribed under a regulation.</li> </ul>
Standard environmental conditions	<p>For an environmental authority, means the standard environmental conditions approved for the authority under Chapter 5A Part 1 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p>
Standard mining activity	<p>Means a mining activity decided to be a standard activity under section 151 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>.</p>
Suitability statement	<p>The <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> defines a suitability statement as: for land, means a statement about the uses and activities for which the land is suitable.</p>
Technical guidelines	<p>Guidelines that indicate best practice environmental management.</p>

## Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects

Topsoil	The surface layer of a soil profile, which is usually more fertile, darker in colour, better structured and supports greater biological activity than underlying layers. The surface layer may vary in depth depending on soil forming factors, including parent material, location and slope, but generally is not greater than about 300mm in depth from natural surface.
Unreasonable noise	<p>Section 18 of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 1997 defines unreasonable noise as noise that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) causes unlawful environmental harm; and</li> <li>(b) is unreasonable, having regard to the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) its characteristics;</li> <li>(ii) its intrusiveness;</li> <li>(iii) the time at which it is made;</li> <li>(iv) where it can be heard;</li> <li>(v) other noises ordinarily present at the place where it can be heard; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) is not declared to be reasonable in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 1997 'Reasonable Noise Levels'.</li> </ul>
Unreasonable release of a contaminant to the air environment	<p>means a release of odours, dust, smoke or other atmospheric contaminants, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) cause unlawful environmental harm; and</li> <li>(b) is unreasonable having regard to the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) its characteristic;</li> <li>(ii) its intrusiveness;</li> <li>(iii) other releases of contaminants at the place affected by the release;</li> <li>(iv) where the effect of the release of the contaminants can be noticed; or</li> <li>(v) the order in which the person releasing the contaminant started to carry out the activity from which the release is made and persons affected by the release started to carry out other activities that may be affected by the release of the contaminant.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Watercourse	Means a river, creek or stream in which water flows permanently or intermittently in a visibly defined channel (natural, artificial or artificially improved) with clear bed and banks and evidence of biological dependence.
Waterway	A naturally occurring feature where surface water runoff normally collects, such as a clearly defined swale or gully, but only flows in response to a local rainfall event.
Wetland	Are areas of permanent or periodic/intermittent inundation, whether natural or artificial, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed 6m. Wetlands typically include areas such as lakes, swamps, marshes, estuaries or mudflats.

## Appendix 3: Environmentally sensitive areas

### Category A Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Category A Environmentally sensitive areas are defined in Schedule 12, Part 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008* and reproduced below.

A **category A environmentally sensitive area** means any of the following—

- (a) any of the following under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*—
  - (i) a national park;
  - (ii) a national park (Aboriginal land);
  - (iii) a national park (Torres Strait Islander land);
  - (iv) a national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land);
  - (v) a regional park (general);
  - (vi) a forest reserve;
- (b) the wet tropics area under the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993*;
- (c) the Great Barrier Reef Region under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (Cwlth);
- (d) a marine park under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*, other than a part of the park that is a general use zone under that Act.

### Category B Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Category B Environmentally sensitive areas are defined in Schedule 12, Part 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2008* and reproduced below.

A **category B environmentally sensitive area** means any of the following—

- (a) any of the following areas under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*—
  - (i) a coordinated conservation area;
  - (ii) an area of critical habitat or major interest identified under a conservation plan;
  - (iii) an area subject to an interim conservation order;
- (b) an area subject to the following conventions to which Australia is a signatory—
  - (i) the 'Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals' (Bonn, 23 June 1979);
  - (ii) the 'Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat' (Ramsar, Iran, 2 February 1971);
  - (iii) the 'Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage' (Paris, 23 November 1972);
- (c) a zone of a marine park under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*;
- (d) an area to the seaward side of the highest astronomical tide;
- (e) the following under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*—
  - (i) a place of cultural heritage significance;
  - (ii) a Queensland heritage place, unless there is an exemption certificate issued under that Act;
- (f) an area recorded in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register established under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, section 46, other than the area known as the 'Stanbroke Pastoral Development Holding', leased under the *Land Act 1994* by lease number PH 13/5398;
- (g) a feature protection area, State forest park or scientific area under the *Forestry Act 1959*;
- (h) a declared fish habitat area under the *Fisheries Act 1994*;
- (i) a place in which a marine plant under the *Fisheries Act 1994* is situated;
- (j) an endangered regional ecosystem identified in the database known as the 'Regional ecosystem description database' kept by the department.



### Category C Environmentally Sensitive Areas

LAND AREA CLASSIFICATION	ADMINISTERING LEGISLATION	ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY
Nature Refuges; and Resource Reserves	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Declared Catchment Areas; Declared Irrigation and Irrigation Project Areas; and Water Reservoirs and Drainage Areas.	<i>Water Act 2000, various Water Board Acts</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines and/or Relevant Storage Operator or Board
River Improvement Areas	<i>River Improvement Trust Act 1940</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines and the Relevant River Trust
Designated Landscape Area (e.g. Stanbroke Pastoral Holding)	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Historic Mining Sites	Nil (Inter Departmental Notifications)	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines
State Forest or Timber Reserves	<i>Forestry Act 1959</i>	Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing
DPI Research Sites	Nil (Inter Departmental Agreement)	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Critical Areas and Public Purpose Reserves	<i>Land Act 1994</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines
Areas under Coastal Management Plans and Control Districts	<i>Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995</i>	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
An area subject to a State Planning Policy that the policy declares is in need of environmental protection.	<i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Erosion Prone Areas and Coastal Management Control Districts	<i>Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995</i>	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Areas of land occupied by the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations to conduct research	<i>Sugar Industry Act 1999</i>	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Nature Refuges; and Resource Reserves	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Declared Catchment Areas; Declared Irrigation and Irrigation Project Areas; and Water Reservoirs and Drainage Areas.	<i>Water Act 2000, various Water Board Acts</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines and/or Relevant Storage Operator or Board
River Improvement Areas	<i>River Improvement Trust Act 1940</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines and the Relevant River Trust

## Appendix 4: Forms

### Form 1: Monitoring and record keeping summary

<b>Environmental Authority No:</b>
<b>Project No:</b>
<b>Term of Plan (yrs):</b>
<b>Commencement Date</b>

Data and Information	Method of record keeping to be used				Frequency
	Site Plans	Journal	Photographs	Other	
Topsoil stripping and stockpiling (e.g. record topsoil stockpiles, location and age)					
Area disturbed and rehabilitation (e.g. map of the area of disturbance and photos of rehabilitation)					
Pre and post-mine landform (e.g. record photographs of the area prior to and following mining)					
Water discharge quality (e.g. note colour of discharge water from sediment dams)					
Dam maintenance (e.g. record of dam maintenance such as sediment removal)					
Record of complaints (e.g. air, noise, tracks etc.) (e.g. record in journal any complaints received by adjoining land owner, actions taken and the outcomes of the action)					
Site specific conditions (e.g. record of monitoring to demonstrate compliance with any site specific conditions)					
Remediation of contaminated land (e.g. record of current and remediated contaminated land)					
Waste Management (e.g. record of waste taken to a regulated waste collection depot)					
Rehabilitation quotes, estimates and actual costs					
Others – relevant to performance category					

**Form 2: Emergency response table**

Emergency situation	Who to contact in case of emergency situation occurring	Equipment required to be kept and maintained on site	Procedure to be followed in case of emergency situation occurring
Hydrocarbon spill causing serious or material environmental harm			
Chemical spill causing serious or material environmental harm			
Other			

**Form 3: Schedule of rehabilitation costs**

TOTAL AREA OF DISTURBANCE	REHABILITATION TYPES	
	LOW RISK Simple straightforward rehabilitation. Successful rehabilitation of analogous sites has previously been achieved	HIGH RISK Difficult rehabilitation (e.g. dispersive soils, steep topography, remoteness, sensitive areas, etc.)
<b>Category 1 — Less than 1 hectare</b>	\$2,500	\$5,000
<b>Category 2 — 1 to 4 hectares</b>	\$10,000	\$20,000
<b>Category 3 — 4 to 10 hectares</b>	\$20,000	\$40,000

**Notes:** The final assurance for each category are based on rehabilitating the maximum area in that category (e.g. financial assurance for 1 to 4 hectares is based on the cost of rehabilitating 4 hectares). The financial assurance for environmental authority with additional conditions attached allow that the operator to disturb more than 10ha, will be calculated using the above schedule with the additional area of disturbance calculated according to the relevant category. For example, the financial assurance for 18ha of low risk disturbance will be \$40,000 (i.e. \$20,000 for the first 10ha and another \$20,000 for the extra 8ha because it is also in category 3).

## Appendix 5: Watercourse figures

Figure 1: Cross section through a watercourse

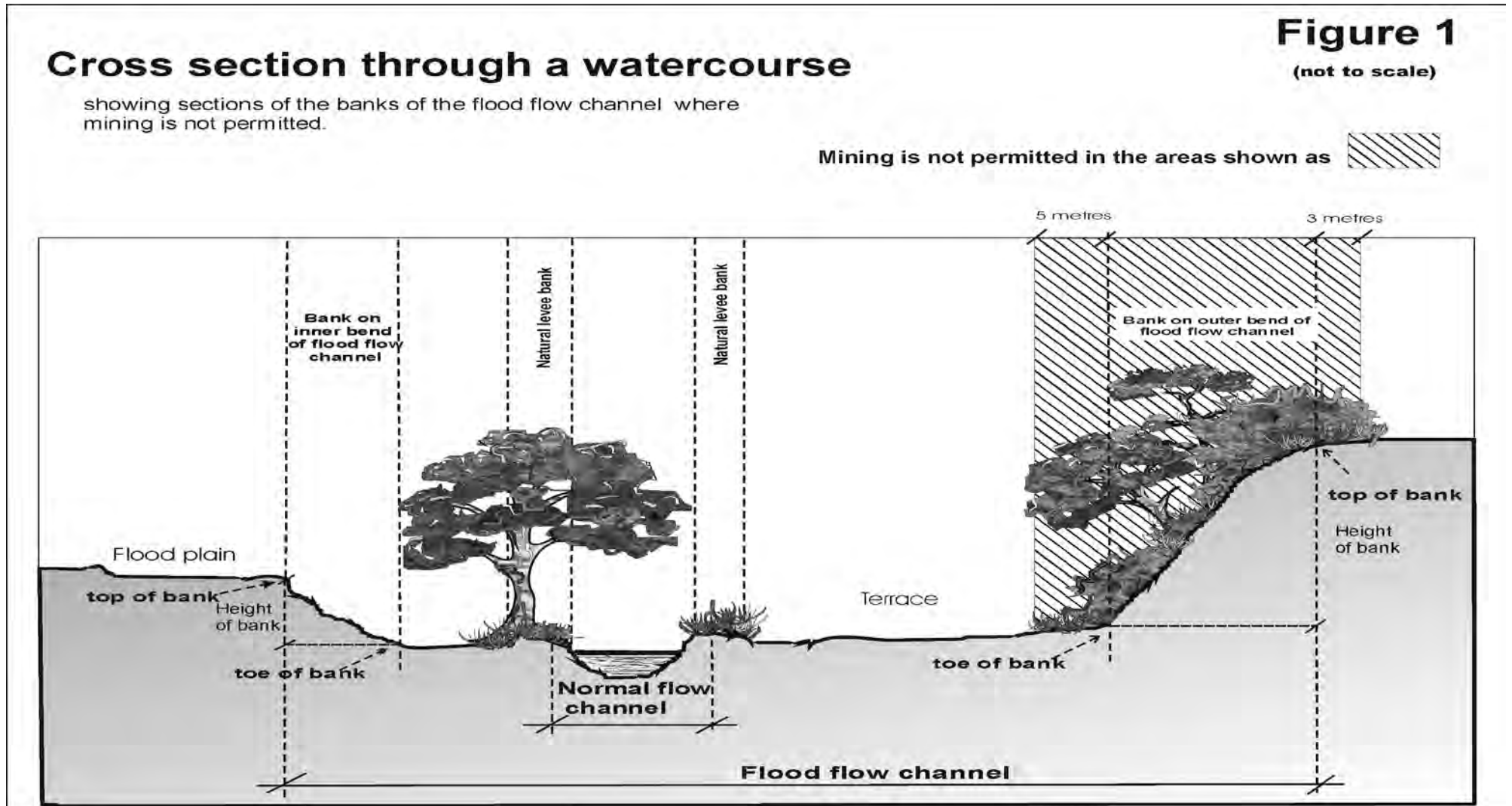
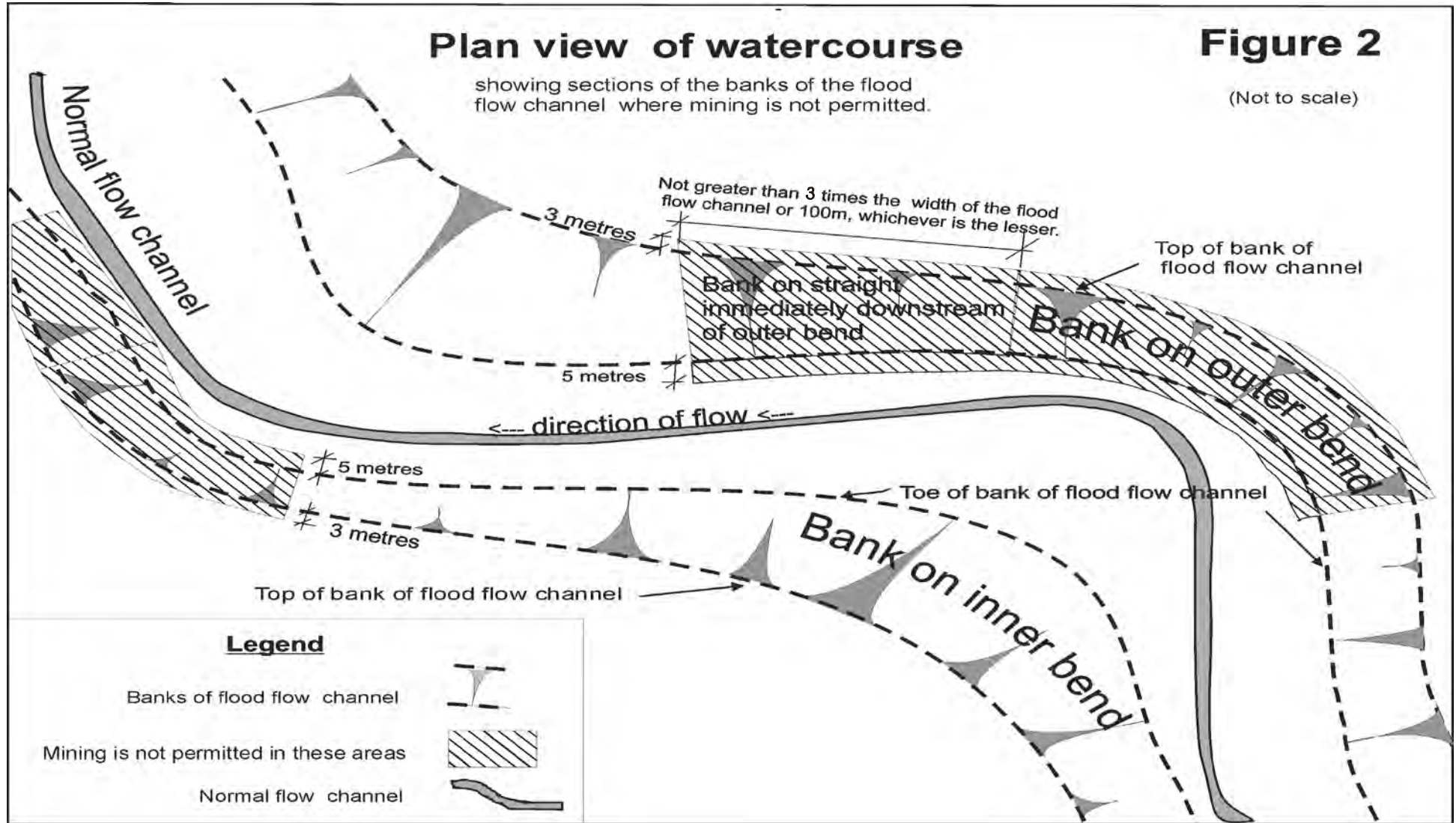


Figure 2: Plan of a watercourse



## Appendix 6: Technical guidelines

*Australian Standard 1940 - The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids*. Standards Australia (1993).

*Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality*, Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (1992).

*Commonwealth Best Practice Environmental Management in Mining Guidelines*, Environment Australia.

*Dredging, Extraction and Spoil Disposal, Fish Habitat Management Operational Policy: FHMOP 004*, Department of Primary Industries (1998).

*Farm Water Supplies Design Manual*, Department of Primary Industries, (1992).

*Guidelines for Sampling and Analysis of Lowland Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) in Queensland*, Department of Natural Resources (1998).

*Soil Erosion and Sediment Control - Engineering Guidelines for Queensland Construction Sites*, The Institution of Engineers, Australia, Queensland Division (1996).

*Technical Guidelines for Environmental Management of Exploration and Mining*, Department of Mines and Energy, Queensland, 1995.

*The Conservation Status of Queensland's Bioregional Ecosystems*, Environmental Protection Agency (1999).

Prepared by: Resources Sector Regulation and Support, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

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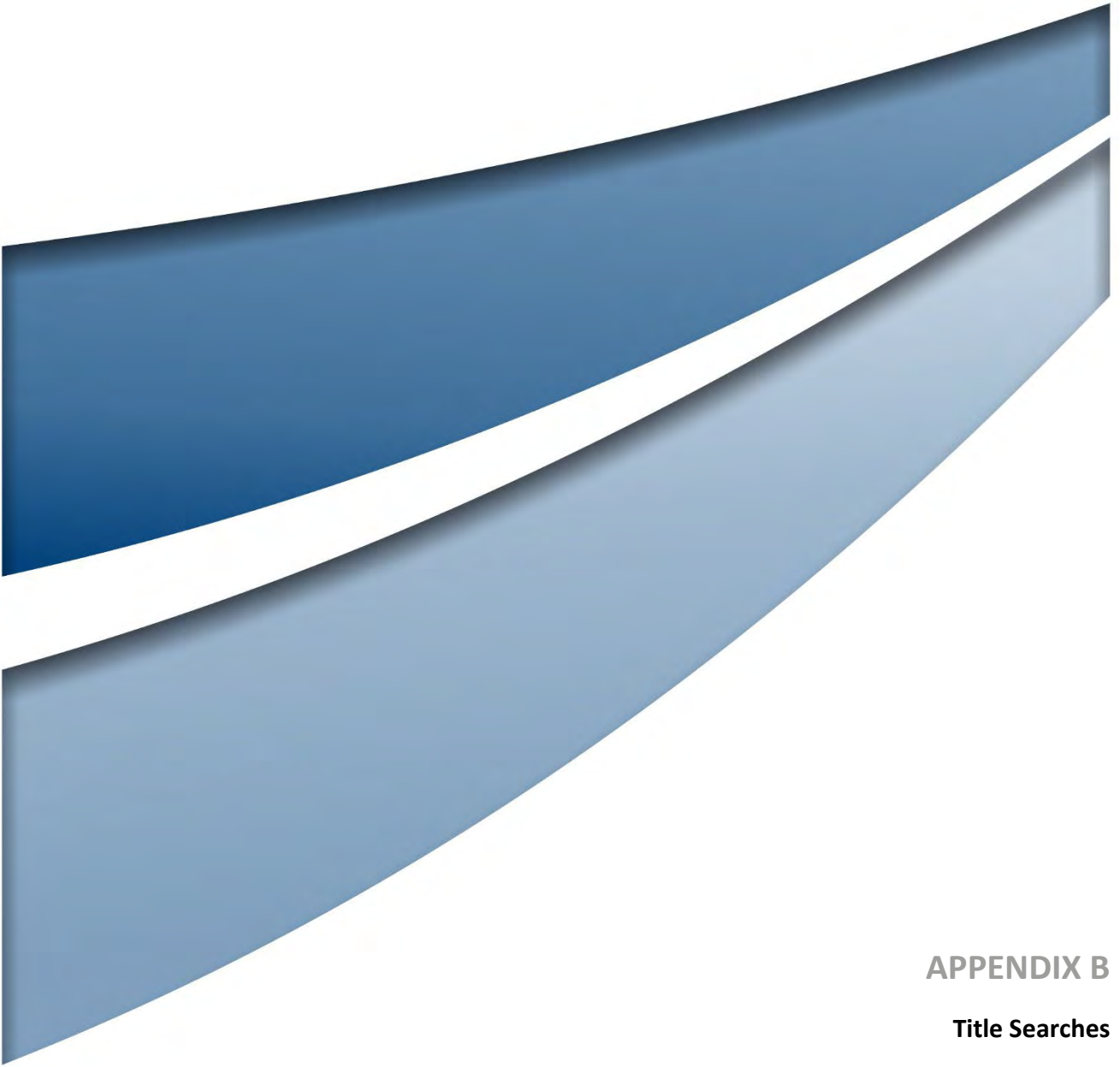
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March 2016



**APPENDIX B**

**Title Searches**



Activities relating to this RIDA Application are proposed to take place on three properties, as shown in **Table B.1**. Titles for these properties are provided on the following pages.

**Table B.1 Properties relating to the RIDA Application**

ID Number (refer Figure 3)	Lot/Plan	Land Tenure	Lessee	Postal Address
15	3/SP194668	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd	Paraway Pastoral Company Ltd, 70 McNamara Street, Orange NSW 2800
26	1/GY14			
22	2/CP907594	Lands Lease	<b>Lessee:</b> James Cameron Brown, Elizabeth Veronica Brown	Brown & Sons; E E&M G M Forshaw, Yeldham Station, Burketown QLD 4830

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
 ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b> 17664080	<b>Search Date:</b> 13/02/2025 12:55
<b>Date State Tenure Created:</b> 21/10/1995	<b>Request No:</b> 50877053
<b>Creating Dealing:</b>	

## DESCRIPTION OF LAND

Tenure Reference: PH 8/86  
 Lease Type: ROLLING TERM LEASE  
 LOT 3 SURVEY PLAN 194668  
 Local Government: BURKE  
 Local Government: MOUNT ISA  
 Area: 151000.000000 Ha. (ABOUT)  
 No Land Description  
 No Forestry Entitlement Area  
 Purpose for which granted:  
 NO PURPOSE DEFINED

## REGISTERED LESSEE

Dealing No: 712353898 21/04/2009  
 PARAWAY PASTORAL COMPANY LIMITED A.C.N. 122 572 641

## TERM OF LEASE

Term and day of beginning of lease  
 Term: 30 years commencing on 01/07/1979  
 Expiring on 30/06/2009  
 Extended to 30/06/2059

## CONDITIONS

A126 SPECIFIED CONDITIONS FOR: Term Lease  
 PURPOSE: Rolling term lease - Pastoral

-----  
 STATUTORY CONDITIONS:  
 -----

Statutory conditions are the general mandatory conditions of a lease and binds the lessee in accordance with Part 2 Division 1 of the Land Act.

1. Permitted Use: The lessee must use the land only for the purpose for which the tenure was issued under the Land Act 1994.
2. Duty of Care: The lessee has the responsibility for a duty of care, for the land under the Land Act 1994.
3. Rent/Instalment: The lessee must pay the annual rent/instalment in accordance with the Land Act 1994 and the Land Regulation 2009.  
 For further information on how annual rent is determined, refer to the department's website at [www.dnrm.qld.gov.au](http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au).
4. Noxious plants: The lessee must keep noxious plants on the land under control. If the lessee does not comply with this condition, the Minister may bring the noxious plants under control, the cost of which will be recovered from the lessee.
5. Information to Minister: The lessee must give the Minister administering the Land Act 1994, information the Minister asks

**CONDITIONS (Continued)**

for about the tenure.

6. Monies for Improvements: No money for improvements is payable by the State on the forfeiture, surrender or expiry of this lease but money may be payable if the State receives payment from an incoming lessee or buyer for the improvements on the land. However, the previous lessee may apply to the Minister to remove the improvements that belong to the lessee, within a period of 3 months from the date of the forfeiture, surrender, or expiry of this lease. The lessee may only undertake the removal of the improvements in the presence of an authorised representative of the department, if required by the Minister. The lessee may only remove those improvements if all monies due from the lessee to the department under this lease have been paid.

REGULATORY-CONDITIONS:-----  
-----

A regulatory condition relates to a lease , in accordance with the Land Regulation.

1. Indemnity: The lessee indemnifies and agrees to keep indemnified the Minister, and the State of Queensland and its Representatives, (the "Indemnified parties") against all liability, costs, loss and expenses including claims in negligence (including any claims, proceedings or demands brought by any third party, and any legal fees, costs and disbursements on a solicitor and client basis) ("Claim") arising from or incurred in connection with:
- a. the granting of this lease to the lessee;
  - b. the lessee 's use and occupation of the land; or
  - c. personal injury (including sickness and death) or property damage or loss in connection with the performance (or attempted purported performance or non-performance) of the lease or a breach of the lease by the lessee .

The lessee hereby releases and discharges to the full extent permitted by law, the Indemnified parties from all actions, claims, proceedings or demands and in respect of any loss, death, injury, illness or damage (whether personal or property and whether special, direct, indirect or consequential financial loss) arising out of the use and occupation of the lease. To the full extent permitted by law, the Minister, the State of Queensland and their Representatives will not be liable to the lessee for any special, indirect or consequential damages, including consequential financial loss arising out of the use and occupation of the lease.

2. Public Liability: The lessee must effect a public liability insurance policy with an insurer authorised under the Insurance Act 1973 (Commonwealth) or, if not so authorised then only with the Minister's approval, which can be given or withheld in the Minister's sole discretion, naming the lessee as the insured covering legal liability for any loss of, or damage to any property and for the injury (including death) to any person arising out of anything done or omitted on or about the land or any improvements thereon and against all claims, demands, proceedings, costs, charges, and expenses whatsoever (including claims in negligence) Such policy must:
- a. be for an amount of not less than \$20,000,000.00 and have no per event sublimit or such higher amounts as the Minister may reasonably require.
  - b. be effected on a "claims occurring" basis; and
  - c. be maintained at all times during the currency of the lease, and upon receipt of any notice of cancellation, the lessee must immediately effect another public insurance

**CONDITIONS (Continued)**

- policy in accordance with the terms of the lease .  
The lessee must, as soon as practicable, inform the Minister, in writing, of the occurrence of any event that the lessee considers is likely to give rise to a claim under the policy of insurance effected and must ensure that the Minister is kept fully informed of subsequent actions and developments concerning the claim. The lessee must renew such policy, at the lessee's expense, each year during the currency of this lease.  
The condition will be satisfied if the lessee is the State of Queensland or a statutory authority eligible for cover under the Queensland Government Insurance Fund and is insured and continues to be insured by the Queensland Government Insurance Fund. This condition will be satisfied if the lessee is the Commonwealth of Australia or a statutory authority eligible for cover under the Comcover Insurance Fund and is insured and continues to be insured by Comcover.
3. Access: The provision of access, further access or services to the land will not be the responsibility of the State.
  4. Survey Costs: If the land needs to be surveyed or re-surveyed the lessee must do this at their own cost under the Survey and Mapping Infrastructure Act 2003. This survey plan must be lodged in the land registry within the specified time.
  5. Extension: The lease is subject to the extensions of rolling term leases provision of the Land Act 1994 and the Minister must grant an extension of the term of a rolling term lease if the lessee makes an application in the approved form. The extension will be for the original term of the lease and may be given subject to condition changes.
  6. Jurisdiction: The lessee is subject to the Land Act 1994 and all other relevant Queensland and Commonwealth legislation.
  7. Compliance with Laws - the lessee must comply with all lawful requirements of the -
    - a. Local Government; and
    - b. any department within the Queensland or Commonwealth governments (including the department administering the Land Act 1994), local authority or statutory instrumentality having jurisdiction over the land, or the development, use and occupation of the land, in regard to its use, occupation and development of the land.

SPECIAL-CONDITIONS:-----  
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These conditions relate to this lease.

Improvements or development on or to the land

1. The lessee must during the term of the lease and, to the satisfaction of the relevant authorities, maintain all improvements on the land in a good and substantial state of repair.

Quarry material

1. The lessee must allow any person authorised under the Forestry Act 1959 access to the leased land for the purpose of cutting and removing timber or removing other forest products, or quarry material, or other material from the leased land.  
Except as hereinafter provided the lessee must not interfere with any forest products or remove any quarry material (including any stone, gravel, sand, earth, soil, rock, guano or clay which is not a mineral within the meaning of the Mineral Resources Act 1989) or other material upon the leased land without the permission of the Minister administering the Land Act 1994 except under the authority of and in compliance in every respect with the requirements or a permit, licence, agreement or contract

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
 ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b>	<b>17664080</b>
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**CONDITIONS (Continued)**

granted or made under the Forestry Act 1959.

**ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS**

1. Rights and interests reserved to the Crown by  
Lease No. 17664080
2. EASEMENT IN GROSS No 709345470 07/02/2006 at 12:16  
burdening the land  
THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND  
(REPRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT)  
over  
EASEMENT H ON SP110453
3. EASEMENT IN GROSS No 711900686 04/09/2008 at 11:08  
burdening the land  
BURKE SHIRE COUNCIL  
over  
EASEMENTS A AND B ON SP186727
4. AMENDMENT OF LEASE CONDITIONS No 716078336 16/10/2014 at 05:00  
THE CONDITIONS OF THE WITHIN TENURE ARE HEREBY AMENDED.
5. MORTGAGE No 717505930 09/09/2016 at 16:08  
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LIMITED A.C.N. 004 044 937

**ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES**

Dealing	Type	Lodgement Date	Status
716870192	ADMIN NOTING SEE DEALING FOR RELEVANT LEGISLATION	06/11/2015 11:57	CURRENT
718205111	NT DETERM NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH)	10/08/2017 14:21	CURRENT
718674903	ADMIN NOTING SEE DEALING FOR RELEVANT LEGISLATION	06/04/2018 10:05	CURRENT
719767646	EXEMPT CONS SEC 322AA LAND ACT 1994	02/12/2019 08:28	CURRENT
721905786	CON COM AGMT MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES (COMMON PROVISIONS) ACT 2014	16/08/2022 10:59	CURRENT

**UNREGISTERED DEALINGS**

NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

\*\* End of Current State Tenure Search \*\*

Information provided under section 34 Land Title Act (1994) or section 281 Land Act (1994)

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b> 40066142	<b>Search Date:</b> 13/02/2025 12:55
<b>Date State Tenure Created:</b> 20/03/2013	<b>Request No:</b> 50877053
<b>Previous Title:</b> 17664109	

**DESCRIPTION OF LAND**

Tenure Reference: TL 236563

Lease Type: ROLLING TERM LEASE

LOT 1 CROWN PLAN GY14

Local Government: BURKE

Local Government: MOUNT ISA

Area: 19400.000000 Ha. (ABOUT)

No Land Description

No Forestry Entitlement Area

Purpose for which granted:

PASTORAL

**REGISTERED LESSEE**

PARAWAY PASTORAL COMPANY LIMITED A.C.N. 122 572 641

**TERM OF LEASE**

Term and day of beginning of lease

Term: 40 years commencing on 21/02/2013

Expiring on 20/02/2053

**CONDITIONS**

- A78 (1) The lessee must use the leased land for pastoral purposes .
- (2) This lease may be forfeited if not used for the purpose stated above.
- (3) The annual rent must be paid in accordance with the Land Act 1994.
- (4) The Parties acknowledge that GST may be payable in respect of a supply made under this lease. Where GST becomes payable in respect of a supply made under this lease, the State (lessor) may recover the GST from the lessee by increasing the consideration payable by the lessee to the State by an amount equal to that which the State is obliged to remit to the Commonwealth as GST on the supply and that amount may be recovered from the lessee as part of the money payable to the State under this lease. The State will upon request by the lessee, issue to the lessee a valid GST tax invoice in respect of any taxable supply made under this lease. (NOTE: For the purposes of this condition "GST" means the goods and services tax which results from the enactment of A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 and the related Acts which constitute the Commonwealth taxation reform (as amended from time to time)).
- (5) The lessee must pay the cost of any required survey or re-survey of the leased land.
- (6) The lessee must control pest plants and animals, on the leased land, in accordance with the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and the Local Laws and requirements

**CONDITIONS (Continued)**

- of the Burke Shire Council and Mount Isa City Council.
- (7) The lessee has the responsibility for a duty of care, to take all reasonable and practicable measures to sustainably manage the leased land by conserving the physical, biological, productive and cultural values, either on the leased land or in areas affected by the management of the leased land.
  - (8) The lessee must ensure that the use and development of the leased land conforms to the Planning Scheme, Local Laws and requirements of the Mount Isa City Council and Burke Shire Council, binding on the lessee.
  - (9) The lessee must give the Minister administering the Land Act 1994, information about the lease, when requested.
  - (10) The lessee must not clear any vegetation on the leased land, unless in accordance with the Sustainable Planning Act 2009.
  - (11) No compensation for improvements or developmental work is payable by the State at the forfeiture, surrender or expiry of the lease, but the lessee has the right to remove moveable improvements within a period of three (3) months from the forfeiture, surrender or expiry of the lease, provided all money due by the lessee to the State on any account whatsoever has been paid, or be required to remove those improvements as specified in any further condition of lease.
  - (12) This lease is subject to the Land Act 1994 and all other relevant State and Commonwealth Acts.
- A89
- (1) The lessee must allow any person authorised under the Forestry Act 1959 access to the leased land for the purpose of cutting and removing timber or removing other forest products, or quarry material, or other material from the leased land.
  - (2) Except as hereinafter provided the lessee must not interfere with any forest products or remove any quarry material (including any stone, gravel, sand, earth, soil, rock, guano or clay which is not a mineral within the meaning of the Mineral Resources Act 1989) or other material upon the leased land without the permission of the Minister administering the Land Act 1994 except under the authority of and in compliance in every respect with the requirements or a permit, licence, agreement or contract granted or made under the Forestry Act 1959.
- C342
- The lessee must comply with any lawful requirements of the Burke Shire Council and Mount Isa City Council and must ensure that the use and development of the leased land conforms to the Planning Scheme, Local Laws and requirements of Council. The lessee must control pest plants and animals on the leased land, in accordance with the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and the local laws and requirements of Burke Shire Council and Mount Isa City Council.
- E17
- The lessee must manage the leased land in a manner that will protect the natural vegetation, as far as is consistent with the purpose of this lease .
- F46
- The lessee must when called upon to do do and to the satisfaction of the Minister administering the Land Act 1994, fence the boundaries of the lease wherein the land form and terrain allows to practically do so, with a good and substantial stock proof fence and thereafter maintain such fencing in good condition .

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
 ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b>	<b>40066142</b>
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**CONDITIONS (Continued)**

I66 The lessee indemnifies and agrees to keep indemnified the Minister administering the Land Act 1994, and the State of Queensland, (the "Indemnified parties") against all actions, suits, proceedings, claims, demands, costs, losses, damages and expenses ("Claim") arising out of or in any way connected to or resulting from the granting of this lease to the lessee or which is connected to or resulting from the lessees' use and occupation of the leased land (all of which are referred to as "the indemnified acts or omissions") save to the extent that the Claim arises as a result of any negligent act or omission of the Indemnified parties, however, any negligent act or omission of one of the Indemnified parties does not negate the indemnity to any of the other Indemnified party/ies. The lessee hereby releases and discharges the Indemnified parties from any Claim relating to the indemnified acts or omissions which may be made against the Indemnified parties.

**ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS**

1. Rights and interests reserved to the Crown by Lease No. 40066142
2. LAND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT No 715011529 03/04/2013 at 10:30 In accordance with the Land Act 1994
3. MORTGAGE No 717505930 09/09/2016 at 16:08 NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LIMITED A.C.N. 004 044 937

**ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES**

Dealing	Type	Lodgement Date	Status
718205111	NT DETERM NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH)	10/08/2017 14:21	CURRENT
719767646	EXEMPT CONS SEC 322AA LAND ACT 1994	02/12/2019 08:28	CURRENT

**UNREGISTERED DEALINGS**

NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

\*\* End of Current State Tenure Search \*\*

Information provided under section 34 Land Title Act (1994) or section 281 Land Act (1994)



Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b> 17657049	<b>Search Date:</b> 13/02/2025 12:55
<b>Date State Tenure Created:</b> 21/10/1995	<b>Request No:</b> 50877053
<b>Previous Title:</b> 17664109	

**DESCRIPTION OF LAND**

Tenure Reference: GHPL 8/51  
Lease Type: PERPETUAL  
LOT 2 CROWN PLAN 907594  
Local Government: BURKE  
Local Government: MOUNT ISA  
Area: 109000.000000 Ha. (ABOUT)  
No Land Description  
No Forestry Entitlement Area  
Purpose for which granted:  
GRAZING OR AGRICULTURAL

**REGISTERED LESSEE**

Dealing No: 709349196 08/02/2006  
JAMES CAMERON BROWN  
ELIZABETH VERONICA BROWN  
JOINT TENANTS

**TERM OF LEASE**

Day of beginning of lease  
Lease in perpetuity commencing on 01/10/1986

**CONDITIONS**

- M76 The Lessee shall, within three (3) years from the date of the commencement of the lease and to the satisfaction of the Minister, enclose the holding with a good and substantial fence and shall at all times thereafter during the term of the lease maintain the holding so enclosed.
- M76 The Lessee shall, within five (5) years from the date of the commencement of the lease and to the satisfaction of the Minister, equip the two bores known as Gun Bore and Mines Bore.
- M76 The Lessee shall, during the whole term of the lease, maintain all improvements on the holding existing at the commencement thereof, together with the improvements effected in compliance with conditions (1) and (2) hereof, in a good and substantial state of repair.

**ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS**

1. Rights and interests reserved to the Crown by Lease No. 17657049

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
 ABN 23 648 568 101

<b>Title Reference:</b>	<b>17657049</b>
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**ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS (Continued)**

2. EASEMENT IN GROSS No 709345470 07/02/2006 at 12:16  
 burdening the land  
 THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND  
 (REPRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT)  
 over  
 EASEMENT F ON SP132945 AND  
 EASEMENT G ON SP110463
3. MORTGAGE No 709349198 08/02/2006 at 11:57  
 NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LIMITED A.B.N. 12 004 044 937
4. AMENDMENT OF LEASE CONDITIONS No 712520014 21/06/2009 at 14:12  
 THE CONDITIONS OF THE WITHIN TENURE ARE HEREBY AMENDED.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES**

Dealing	Type	Lodgement Date	Status
715655267	ADMIN NOTING SEE DEALING FOR RELEVANT LEGISLATION	14/03/2014 09:13	CURRENT
715655281	ADMIN NOTING SEE DEALING FOR RELEVANT LEGISLATION	14/03/2014 09:13	CURRENT
716870207	ADMIN NOTING SEE DEALING FOR RELEVANT LEGISLATION	06/11/2015 11:58	CURRENT
719767646	EXEMPT CONS SEC 322AA LAND ACT 1994	02/12/2019 08:28	CURRENT
722530672	CON COM AGMT MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES (COMMON PROVISIONS) ACT 2014	09/06/2023 10:44	CURRENT

**UNREGISTERED DEALINGS**

NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

\*\* End of Current State Tenure Search \*\*

Information provided under section 34 Land Title Act (1994) or section 281 Land Act (1994)

