

Ravensthorpe Lithium Project

Application Number: **01609**Commencement Date: **26/12/2022**Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Ravensthorpe Lithium Project

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Exploration (mineral, oil and gas - non-marine)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

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1.1.4 Estimated start date *

2/10/2023

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

30/06/2024

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

Bulletin Resources Limited (Bulletin) is the tenement holder of Exploration Licence E74/655, located approximately 10 km west of Ravensthorpe, Western Australia. The tenement overlies the Cocanarup Timber Reserve 30795. Consent to explore the Timber Reserve was granted as part of tenement conditions and after consultation with the land holder, the Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage (DLPH).

The tenements overlie pegmatites that were first discovered in 1900 and Bulletin has recently found a number of pegmatites host lithium minerals at surface. In order to establish the potential viability of these pegmatites, and their extent, drilling from surface is required (the Proposed Action).

The Proposed Action will require up to 6 ha of vegetation to be disturbed (the Disturbance Footprint) within a 220 ha Project Area. The clearing will take place over WA *Mining Act* 1978 (Mining Act) tenure, exploration licence E74/655. Clearing will be conducted progressively, with the initial drill program (23 holes) requiring 3.8 ha of clearing, should drilling results confirm economic lithium deposits an additional 2.2 ha will be cleared to enable a further 20 holes.

The Proposed Action will consist of the following elements:

- Low-impact clearing including:
 - Raised blade clearing
 - Limited cut and fill will be required in certain locations to ensure the safety and stability of the drill pads
 - No stripping or direct removal of topsoil
 - All large trees (DBH >300 mm) will be avoided
- Clearing and drilling will be conducted during dry soil conditions, nominally during the drier months of October through April.

- The Phase 1 program is an initial test of the prospectivity of the lithium bearing pegmatites and comprises of 23 RC ~150 mm diameter holes. If Phase 2 drilling progresses, a further 20 RC ~150mm diameter holes is proposed.
- Clearing will be undertaken in two staged phases. Phase 1 will require the disturbance of up to 3.8 ha of vegetation. Should the results of Phase 1 provide positive results, Phase 2 drilling will commence. Phase 2 will disturb a further 2.2 ha of vegetation. Should Phase 1 drilling fail to provide sufficient economic encouragement, Phase 2 drilling will not proceed.
- Clearing works for the tracks and pads is expected to take 3 - 4 days. Drilling is estimated to take 14 days. In total, clearing and drilling for each stage, if undertaken, will take approximately 2 ½ weeks to complete.
- Drilling will be conducted using Reverse Circulation (RC) methods. RC drilling is a common drilling technique when exploring for minerals in WA. This drilling method uses compressed air to drive a hammer through rock formations.
- Some water may accompany the rock cuttings if drill depth below the water table is significant, and this water is collected and retained within a small sump at surface to prevent overflow into the surrounding environment.
- The disturbance footprint will be subject to rehabilitation measures as soon as drilling is complete, in accordance with Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) guidelines.

Drill site selection was based on geological considerations of anticipated pegmatite geometry and level ground conditions with minimal clearing requirements.

The proposed drill track path was modified during the flora and fauna survey, with the assistance of the suitably qualified scientists, to avoid impacts to known or potential habitat for Protected Matters. This included avoidance of all potential habitat trees (DBH > 300 mm) for Carnaby's Cockatoo and the three recorded inactive Malleefowl mounds.

A qualified environmental practitioner will supervise the implementation of the Proposed Action to ensure environmental mitigation measures are implemented and disturbance beyond the approved footprint is avoided.

Further information is provided in **Attch 1 - 202301_BNR MNES Report - Rev 1, Section 2, pages 4-5.**

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

The following State and Commonwealth legislation, and guidance and policy documents are relevant to the Proposed Action:

State (Western Australia)

Legislation

- **Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act):** Part V Division 2 of the EP Act regulates the clearing of native vegetation within WA. The Proposed Action currently has a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) under assessment by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS). Upon conclusion of the assessment, should the NVCP be granted, conditions relating the clearing and rehabilitation of native vegetation will be imposed on the Proposed Action.
- **Mining Act 1978 (Mining Act):** The Proposed Action is to be implemented on exploration tenure issued under the Mining Act. A Programme of Works is the primary authorisation under the Mining Act for all exploration activities on Mining Act tenure. Rehabilitation of the land post-exploration is a requirement of this process.

Policy and Guidelines

- **Programme of Work Guidance - To assist in the Preparation of Programmes of Work (DRAFT) (DMIRS, 2022a):** The intent of this guideline is to provide transparency on the information requirements of a programme of work (PoW) application under the Mining Act and to assist applicants in preparing PoW applications. It has been used to inform the level of detail required to inform DMIRS on the proposed action and its potential impacts to the environment.
- **Exploration and Prospecting Rehabilitation Guidance - For Programmes of Work approved under the Mining Act 1978 (DRAFT) (DMIRS, 2022b):** This guideline is to provide information to assist in environmental management and rehabilitation of mineral exploration and prospecting activities in Western Australia. The guidance has been used to inform the preparation of proposed rehabilitation actions to restore disturbed land to level acceptable to the regulatory body (DMIRS).
- **Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) Recovery Plan. (DPAW, 2013):** This guideline provides details on the key threatening processes that impact the species, and outlines specific recovery actions to ensure the long term survival of the species. This guideline has been considered to ensure the Proposed Action is not inconsistent with the described recovery actions.
- **Carnaby's Cockatoo in Environmental Impact Assessment in the Perth and Peel Region (EPA, 2019):** While specific to impacts on the Swan Coastal Plain, this guideline provides information on the subpopulations of the species (including the eastern subpopulation which is relevant to the Proposed Action), their habitat preferences, and roosting/breeding requirements. This guideline has assisted in informing the potential significance of impacts resulting from the Proposed Action.

Commonwealth

Legislation

- **Environment and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act):** The EPBC Act is the Australian Government's central environmental legislation. It provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna,

ecological communities and heritage places — defined in the EPBC Act as MNES. The Proposed Action may result in minor impacts to MNES protected under the EPBC Act.

Policy and Guidelines

- **Significant impact guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance (Significant Impact Guidelines) (DEWHA, 2013):** This guideline provides overarching guidance on determining whether an action is likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act. The potential impacts resulting from the Proposed Action have been assessed against the impact criteria defined in this guideline.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

Bulletin has undertaken extensive stakeholder consultation for a low-impact exploration project. Consultation has been undertaken with the following key stakeholders:

- Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Shire of Ravensthorpe

Refer to **Appendix B of Attch 1 - 202301_BNR MNES Report - Rev 1** for detailed description of consultation outcomes and actions.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

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Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice *

1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN

51621352609

Organisation name	Tetris Environmental Pty Ltd
Organisation address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154
Referring party details	
Name	James Hesford
Job title	Director
Phone	0488217275
Email	james@tetrisenviro.com.au
Address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

No

1.3.2.2 Is Person proposing to take the action an organisation or business? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details	
ABN/ACN	81144590858
Organisation name	BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Person proposing to take the action details	
Name	Mark Csar
Job title	Chief Executive Officer
Phone	+61 8 9230 3585
Email	mcsar@bulletinresources.com
Address	11/139 Newcastle Street, Perth, WA, 6000

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action’s history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

Bulletin has never been convicted of any environmental non-compliance under either State or Commonwealth legislation. Bulletin ensures that all relevant approvals, environmental and otherwise, are obtained prior to the development of any projects, and all environmental legislative requirements are complied with.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation’s environmental policy and planning framework

Bulletin does not have a written environment policy. Bulletin is committed to ensuring that:

- Environmental matters are considered at all stages of the planning and implementation of operations.
- That the principles of the *Mitigation Hierarchy* are adhered to and applied.
- All employees and contractors are educated on environmental matters and their responsibilities in undertaking their tasks
- Positive relationships with regulators and Traditional Owners are established and maintained to enhance understanding of the environment, its values and interconnections, and best means for management and protection of those values.
- Environmental incidents are prevented and appropriate response measures are in place for emergency situations.
- Environmental performance is consistently reviewed and adequate resources area provided to ensure that environmental requirements are met.

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details	
ABN/ACN	81144590858
Organisation name	BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Proposed designated proponent details	

Name	Mark Csar
Job title	Chief Executive Officer
Phone	+61 8 9230 3585
Email	mcsar@bulletinresources.com
Address	11/139 Newcastle Street, Perth, WA, 6000

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	51621352609
Organisation name	Tetris Environmental Pty Ltd
Organisation address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154
Representative's name	James Hesford
Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0488217275
Email	james@tetrisenviro.com.au
Address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154

✔ Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	81144590858
Organisation name	BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Representative's name	Mark Csar
Representative's job title	Chief Executive Officer
Phone	+61 8 9230 3585
Email	mcsar@bulletinresources.com
Address	11/139 Newcastle Street, Perth, WA, 6000

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

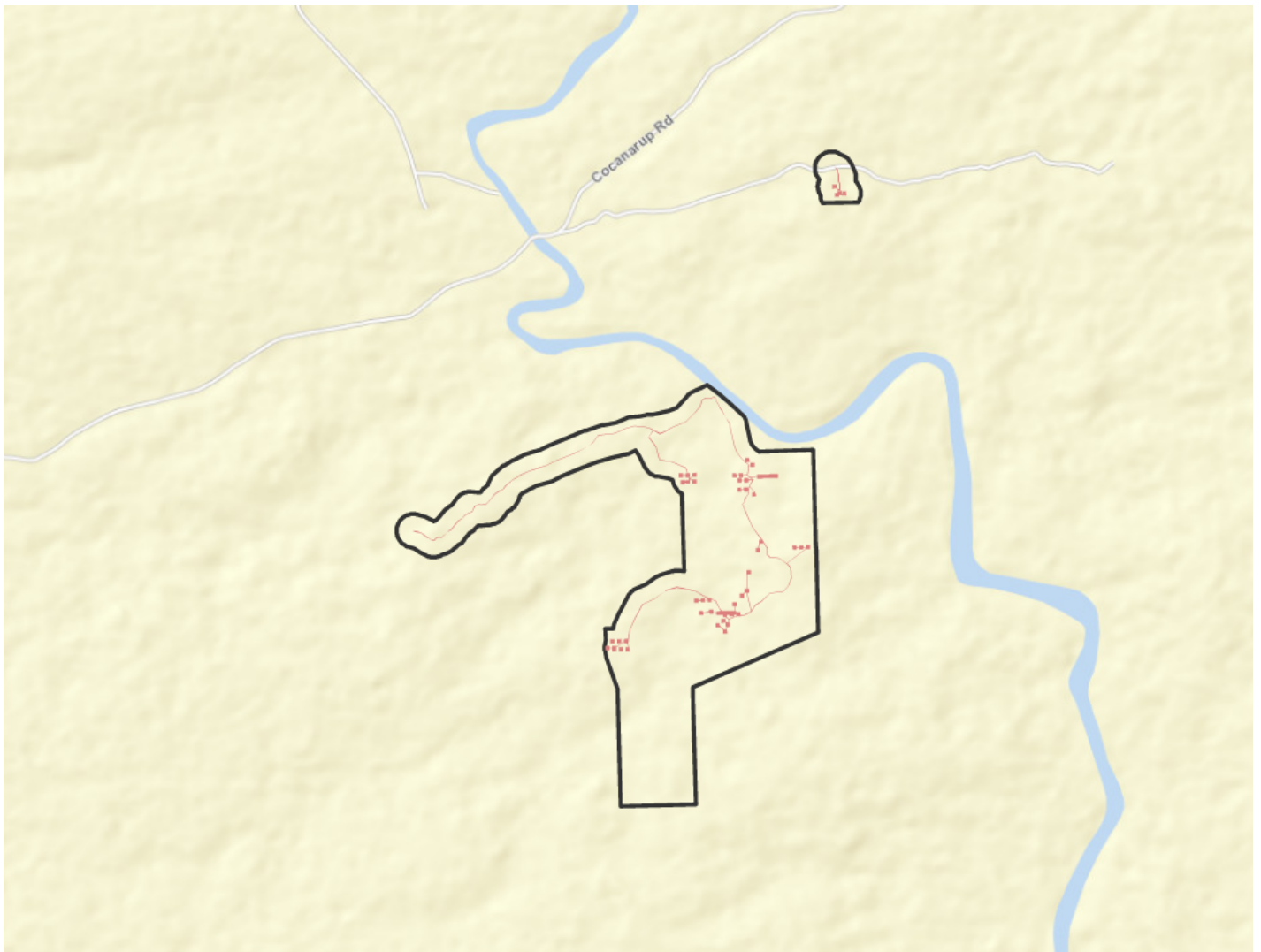
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

The Proposed Action is located off Cocanarup Road on Mining Act 1978 tenure (Exploration Lease E74/655). It is not identified on the map.

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Western Australia

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

The Project Area coincides with the the Cocanarup Timber Reserve 30795, which is vested with the Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage (DPLH). The Project Area is wholly within *Mining Act 1978* under exploration lease E74/655. The northern section of this reserve has been used historically for timber harvesting. The extent of the timber reserve has also had a number of exploration leases granted and has been subject to historical exploration. Bulletin, as part of tenement conditions, has received consent to explore the Timber Reserve after consultation with the land holder, DPLH.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.**Location**

The Proposed Action is located approximately 420 km south-east of Perth, within the Shire of Ravensthorpe. Locally it is situated 15 km south west of the Ravensthorpe townsite. The Project Area coincides with the Cocanarup Timber Reserve, which has an approximate area of 6,000 ha. This reserve is vested by the DPLH, and subject to management by the DBCA. There is no conservation estate immediately adjacent to the Project Area.

Known nature reserves within 20 km of the Project Area include:

- Koornong Nature Reserve (9.5 km west)
- Fitzgerald River National Park (15km south)
- Overshot Hill Nature Reserve (15 km north-east)
- Long Creek Nature Reserve (14.4 km North-west)

Access to the Project Area is available via unnamed access track that heads south from Cocanarup Road, an unsealed access track that is accessed off the South Coast Highway. The intersection of the unnamed track and Cocanarup Road is approximately 6 km east of the connection with South Coast Highway.

Zoning

The Project Area is fully contained within the Cocanarup Timber Reserve, zoned as 'Public Open Space' within the Shire of Ravensthorpe Local Planning Scheme No.6 and 'Other Reserve' under the Shire of Ravensthorpe Local Planning Strategy. There will be no changes the zoning for the Proposed Action. All land surrounding the project area is zoned as 'Public Open Space'.

More broadly, land zoned as 'Rural' immediately adjoins all boundaries of the Cocanarup Timber Reserve, with the exception of the Long-Creek Nature Reserve, zoned as 'Environmental Conservation, and located adjacent to the north-west corner of the Cocanarup Timber Reserve and located 14.4 km north-west of the Project Area.

Existing Environment

The Project Area is located within the Esperance Plains Bioregion and in the Fitzgerald subregion (at the transition between ESP01 and ESP02). The Fitzgerald subregion is broadly characterised by 'myrtaceous and proteaceous scrub and mallee heaths on sandplain overlying Eocene sediments; rich in endemics' with systems dominated by Eucalyptus. The sub-region is composed of 'variable relief, comprising subdued relief on sandplains of the coastal region, punctuated with metamorphosed granite and quartzite ranges both inland and on the coastal plain'

The condition of vegetation within the Project Area is in 'Excellent' condition with minimal disturbance and patchy occurrences of non-aggressive introduced flora taxa. Evidence of historical disturbance within the Project Area was observed in some locations. This disturbance is related to previous fence line and access track construction and historic exploration activities. Fire does not appear to have

had a significant impact on the Project Area as there is little evidence of historic fire scars evident from aerial photography.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Historically the northern portion of the Cocanarup Timber Reserve has been managed for timber cutting by the former Forests Department and subsequently by the former Department of Conservation and Land Management, now the DBCA. The existing land use of within the Project Area is public open space as per the local Town Planning Scheme.

Previous exploration of lithium has occurred adjacent to, and within the Project Area. Land use within the project area is proposed to be low-impact and temporary exploration drilling. Following drilling activities the disturbed areas will be subject to rehabilitation, subject to DMIRS requirements.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

The Project Area is contained within the Cocanarup Timber Reserve which is recognized for its overall high biodiversity and cultural values. The Cocanarup Timber Reserve is also recognized as one of the key breeding areas for Carnaby's Cockatoo within the State and forms part of the eastern breeding extent for the eastern subpopulation of the species. The Cocanarup Timber Reserve was listed on the Register of National Estate for its natural values. It is understood that the Register for National Estate was frozen in 1997 and that it has no current statutory basis.

As discussed previously, known nature reserves within 20 km of the Project Area include:

- Koornong Nature Reserve (9.5 km west)
- Fitzgerald River National Park (15km south)
- Overshot Hill Nature Reserve (15 km north-east)
- Long Creek Nature Reserve (14.4 km North-west)

Other notable features include the Philips River. The Philips River is an ephemeral waterbody, approximately 120 km in length, that originates near Mount Madden in the Shire of Lake Grace and discharges into the Culham Inlet near Hopetoun. The Philip River corridor is one of the four major linkages to the Fitzgerald River National Park. It links the Fitzgerald River National Park, to the Ravensthorpe Range and Mount Madden corridors.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The topography of the land with Project Area is undulating but generally slopes towards the Philip River. Elevations range from 204 m Australian Height Datum (AHD) to 110 m AHD.

Attch 1 - 202301_BNR EPBC Report - Rev 1, Figure 4, pg. 11 presents the contour elevations over the Project Area.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

Flora - Overview

Biologic (2022) undertook a targeted spring survey of the entire Project Area. A total of 129 vascular flora taxa (127 confirmed and two unconfirmed) from 33 families and 77 genera were recorded within the Project Area. Of the 129 taxa, 112 were native and 17 were introduced.

Flora - Significant taxa

No State or Commonwealth listed threatened flora taxa were recorded within the Project Area. Two Priority flora taxa and one taxon potential Priority flora taxa were recorded in the in the Project Area, these were:

- *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Chester (S. Kern et al. LCH 16596) (P1) – approximately 20 individuals from one point location;
- *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Short (S. Kern et al. LCH 17510) (P1) – approximately 30 individuals from one point location; and
- *Lepidosperma* ? sp. Mt Chester (S. Kern et al. LCH 16596) (P1) – approximately 10 individuals from one point location.

None of these taxa are Commonwealth listed and all recorded populations will be avoided. For further detail on the flora values of the Project Area, refer to **Attch 2-BNR LRP - Flora and Veg Report-V2, sections 3.2.1 to 3.2.4, pages 12-20**.

Fauna

General fauna assemblage

The Project Area is comprised of four fauna habitat types:

- Acacia shrubland;
- Allocasuarina woodland;
- Eucalypt woodland; and
- Melaleuca woodland.

The northern portion of the Project Area is comprised predominantly of regrowth, with the exception of large *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* (salmon gums) following rehabilitation of historical exploration activities and is considered to be in a mostly degraded condition. The larger southern portion of the Project Area contains all four habitat types is mostly in excellent condition,

Findings from the terrestrial fauna survey concluded that six fauna taxa listed under the EPBC Act have the potential to occur within the Project Area, of which only one (Carnaby's Cockatoo) was recorded. These taxa include:

- *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo)
- *Panantechinus apicalis* (Dibbler)
- *Dasyornis longirostris* (Western Bristlebird)
- *Pseudomys shortridgei* (Heath mouse)
- *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl)
- *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Chuditch)

In addition to the above species, it should be noted that historically, numbats (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*) were translocated into the Cocanarup Timber Reserve between 2006-2019. However, the last radio collar was recovered following predation and no recorded observations of the species within the region have been made since 2013. The species is not considered to occur within the Cocanarup Timber Reserve or the Project Area.

Carnaby's Cockatoo

Carnaby's Cockatoo migrate to the Cocanarup are between June/July for breeding. The Cocanarup Conservation Alliance states that the earliest confirmed nesting record is in the first week of August and the latest record of adults feeding young is in the first week of February. Following the breeding season, the birds migrate the 35-plus km to the south coast.

The broader Cocanarup Timber Reserve area is considered a regionally significant breeding location for the eastern sub-population of the species. In excess of 40 breeding attempts occur within the wider reserve each year. Breeding is considered to occur within the Project Area, with one female observed emerging from a hollow during the field surveys.

Attch 3-BNR LRP - Fauna Survey Report - Rev 0, Section 4.5 provides further discussion on the fauna assemblage within the project area.

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

Vegetation Types

As outlined previously, the Project Area is located within the Esperance Plains IBRA (Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia) Region (Commonwealth of Australia 2012), specifically within the ESP01 (Fitzgerald) Subregion. The Fitzgerald subregion has a high diversity of vegetation types, which are often cryptic and endemically localised in nature (Comer et al. 2001). Eucalypt species dominate most vegetation types, with a high diversity of Eucalypt species present in many types (Comer et al. 2001).

Biologic (2022) recorded and delineated 18 vegetation types within the Project Area. Detailed descriptions of the 18 vegetation types and representative site photos are presented in **Attch 2-BNR LRP - Flora and Veg Report-V2, Table 3.5, pages 25-30**

Significant Vegetation

Biologic (2022) determined that no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were known to, or expected to, occur within the Project Area. Based on field results, the vegetation present in the Project Area is not considered to represent a TEC or a PEC. The buffer for the State-classified PEC (P3) and Commonwealth listed TEC (Endangered) 'Proteaceae Dominated Kwongkan Shrublands of the Southeast Coastal Floristic Province of Western Australia' overlapped the Project Area, however, the review of the key diagnostic features indicated that the vegetation in the Project Area is not represented of the TEC. The key reasoning is the lack of proteaceous flora species that are a dominant and key feature of the TEC.

Vegetation Condition

Vegetation condition was assessed by Biologic (2022) and ranged from excellent to completely degraded, with the majority (91.2 %) considered to be in excellent condition (**refer to Attch 2-BNR LRP - Flora and Veg Report-V2, Table 3.4 and Figure 3.4**). Cleared areas with no vegetation (e.g., tracks) were mapped as "cleared". The main disturbances observed were associated with historically cleared areas and wetter locations (e.g., Phillips River) which supported higher covers and diversity of weeds. However, these disturbances were mainly restricted in their occurrences and location, with the remaining vegetation in excellent condition.

Soils

Regionally, the Esperance Plains region consists of a relatively flat and monotonous plain rising gently from near sea level at the coast to about 100 m, which is broken by quartzite ranges and granite domes. The plain is formed from Tertiary sediments from the Plantagenet Group, which are Eocene sands and siltstones. Soils are chiefly sandy neutral yellow-mottled soils containing variable amounts of ironstone gravel, alternating with leached sands that sometimes contain ironstone gravel and are underlain by a clay substrate. Valleys have hard alkaline and neutral yellow-mottled soils (Beard 1990).

Two soil systems intersect the Project Area:

- **Ravensthorpe System (244Ra)** - Undulating low hills on Archean greenstone of metasediments and ultramafics in the Ravensthorpe Zone, with alkaline red shallow loamy duplex, shallow gravel and self muching cracking clay, non-cracking clay and stony soil. Salmon gum, York.
- **Kybulup System (244Ky)** - Undulating low hills and rises on weathered granite and gneiss, in the Ravensthorpe Zone, with alkaline shallow loamy duplex (red and grey), grey shallow sandy duplex and non-cracking clay. Mallee scrub.

Geology

The geology in the vicinity of the Project Area is largely mapped as basaltic pyroclastics. There are also significant areas mapped as porphyritic metadacite, pegmatite sheets and dykes, medium to coarse grained metadolerite and metagabbro and metamorphosed basalt (Thom et al 1984).

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

There are no Commonwealth heritage places that apply to the Project Area. The Proposed Action will not impact on any known heritage place.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

The Project Area and its surrounds were subject to heritage survey in September 2022 by Brad Goode and Associates. The survey was undertaken with six representatives from the Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) group. No registered aboriginal heritage sites occur within the Project Area. Registered site ID 646 - Cocanarup Massacre Site, located approximately 1 km north-west of the Project Area.

The representatives from the Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) group, advised during the survey that they were not aware of any significant areas within the Project Area. Refer to **Attch 4-BNR LRP - AHS - Rev 0**.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Surface water

The Proposed Action is located within the Philips River catchment. This catchment covers an approximate area of 2307 km², within the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The Philips Rivers is the major surface water feature occurring adjacent to the Project Area, the Philips River is an ephemeral major river that is 120 km in length. A number of tributaries flow through the project area towards the Philips River.

These creeks will be subject to minor works to enable vehicle movements which will be rehabilitated to natural formation following completion of drilling. No works will be undertaken when there is flow in these creeks and discussion has been had with DWER officers in the South Coast Region.

Groundwater

The local groundwater is very saline with total dissolved solids (TDS) of 14,000 - 30,000 mg/L and depth to groundwater varying between 5 - 20 m (ref Newdegate 1:250,000 hydrogeological series map).

Drill holes are expected to be mainly dry. Previous drilling to a maximum depth of 90m approximately 200m south of the proposed drilling in the Deep Purple pegmatite area did not intersect groundwater (pers comms, Kingston Resources).

However, as drilling will be below the water table, sumps will be constructed as a precautionary measure to contain any groundwater brought to surface from drilling operations. This will ensure there is no interaction between groundwater and surrounding vegetation. Sumps will be constructed approximately 5m x 2m x 1m deep (volume ~10m³). Should water from drilling operations exceed this volume, drilling shall cease to ensure no groundwater overflows the sump into the surrounding environment.

A review of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Atlas identified a low likelihood of any GDE's occurring within the Project Area, and no GDE's were recorded during the field surveys.

Sumps shall be appropriately ramped to allow fauna egress.

No abstraction of groundwater is proposed or planned, and drilling will affect not the water table level, or quality.

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	No	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth heritage places overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not coincide with any World Heritage areas. There will be no direct or indirect impacts as a result.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not coincide with any listed National Heritage areas. There will be no direct or indirect impacts a result.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not coincide with any listed Ramsar Wetlands. There will be no direct or indirect impacts.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species
No	No	Acacia rhamphophylla
No	No	Anigozanthos bicolor subsp. minor
No	No	Botaurus poiciloptilus
No	No	Calidris ferruginea

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species
No	No	Dasyurus geoffroii
No	No	Daviesia megacalyx
No	No	Eremophila denticulata subsp. denticulata
No	No	Falco hypoleucos
Yes	No	Leipoa ocellata
No	No	Myrmecobius fasciatus
No	No	Numenius madagascariensis
No	No	Phascogale calura
No	No	Pseudomys shortridgei
No	No	Ricinocarpos trichophorus
No	No	Roycea pycnophylloides
No	No	Thelymitra psammophila
Yes	No	Zanda latirostris

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Proteaceae Dominated Kwongkan Shrublands of the Southeast Coastal Floristic Province of Western Australia

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

The Proposed Action may result in the following potential impacts on the identified protected matters below.

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*)

Foraging Habitat

The Proposed Action will require the removal of up to 5.3 ha of quality value foraging habitat for the species. The foraging habitat within the Project Area was described by Terrestrial Ecosystems (2022) (**Attch 3-BNR LRP - Fauna Survey Report - Rev 0**) to be comprised of Eucalypt woodland and assigned a foraging habitat score of 10, based on the scoring tool provided in the Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species.

The Proposed Action will result in the temporary disturbance of up to 5.3 ha of potential foraging habitat, all of which will be rehabilitated. Foraging habitat within the Disturbance Footprint was assessed using the foraging habitat scoring tool (DAWE, 2022), which determined a foraging quality of 10. However, the foraging habitat within the Disturbance Footprint is not unique to the local area, as the Project Area contains 188.3 ha of the same foraging habitat. In the context of the regional area, approximately 13,154 ha of native vegetation, the majority of which is assumed to represent potential foraging habitat, occurs within 6 km of the Proposed Action.

The temporary disturbance of 5.3 ha of potential foraging habitat represents a 2.8% reduction from within the Project Area, and a 0.04% reduction in potential habitat within 6 km. This small, temporary reduction in foraging habitat will not result in a long-term decrease in the population of the Carnaby's Cockatoo.

Breeding and Roosting Habitat

- One confirmed nesting tree was recorded approximately 56 m from the disturbance footprint. There will be no direct or indirect impacts to this tree as a result of the proposed action (**Figure 9, Section 6.1.3 of Attch 1 - 202301 BNR EPBC Report - Rev 1**)
- No potential breeding trees (DBH >300mm) will be impacted by the Proposed Action. All disturbance has been planned to avoid these values following field visits with fauna experts to identify all suitable DBH trees, and

- No roosting habitat was recorded within the Project Area. Disturbance associated with the Proposed Action will not result in the loss of any significant trees within the project area. The nearest known roosting site is located 30 km south-east of the Proposed Action
- A suitably qualified environmental officer will be onsite to monitor clearing works to ensure clearing is undertaken in accordance with proposed management actions.

Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*)

- The Proposed Action will result in the removal of up 6 ha of vegetation that may support the species
- Disturbing activities are temporary in nature, with clearing and drilling activities to be completed in 2.5 weeks
- No current resident population has been recorded in the area, and
- Three old Malleefowl mounds have been recorded. All mounds will be avoided.

Refer to **Attch 1 - 202301_BNR EPBC Report - Rev 1, section 7, Tables 9 and 10** for further details on the potential impacts of the Proposed Action.

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

No

4.1.4.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

The Proposed Action has been considered against the Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, and were relevant other Commonwealth and State guidance material. **Attch 1 - 202301_BNR MNES Report - Rev 1, section 6.2, tables 8.3 and 8.4** provides a detailed assessment of the Proposed Action against the Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 in the context of species identified as either recorded within the Project Area, or considered likely to occur. Following consideration of the nature, scale and duration of disturbing activities, the Proposed Action will not result in a significant impact to MNES. A summary of this assessment is provided:

- Proposed clearing will be low-impact, involving raised blade clearing that will not strip topsoil or result in the removal of large trees (DBH <300 mm)
- While cut and fill will be required in certain locations to ensure the safety of the Proposed Action, all significant trees in the vicinity of cut and fill areas will be protected by a 10 m buffer
- The Proposed Action will not result in any direct or indirect impact to Carnaby's Cockatoo breeding habitat.
- No roosting habitat occurs within the project area, no impacts to roosting habitat will occur
- Direct impacts to foraging habitat are small in scale and temporary, representing 0.04% of potential foraging habitat within 6 km of the Proposed Action.
- Foraging habitat within the regional area is in as good or better condition (habitat score of 8 or better), than that within the disturbance area.
- Fauna habitat within the disturbance area is not unique within the region and does not pose any higher value than the surrounding 6,000 ha of vegetation within the Cocanarup Timber Reserve, or the surrounding 13,154 ha within 6 km.
- With the exception of the Carnaby's Cockatoo, there were no direct observations or evidence of any other MNES species recorded during the survey. Inactive malleefowl mounds recorded within the project area will not be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Action.
- The temporary disturbance of 6 ha of vegetation, will not result in significant impacts to MNES fauna as:
 - The location of the disturbance does not result in fragmentation of habitat
 - No loss of breeding habitat or disruption to the breeding cycle of a species will occur
 - No resident populations, with the exception of Carnaby's Cockatoo, were recorded
 - No 'important' populations of vulnerable species, as defined by the EPBC Act were recorded
 - No individuals will be directly disturbed, and
 - Management and mitigation measures will ensure no long term loss of habitat or impact to species.

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.4.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

It is unlikely that the Proposed Action, which is for temporary and short duration low-impact exploration drilling, will result in a significant impact to MNES that would warrant a controlled action.

The following provides a summary of assessment outcomes provided in **Attch 1 - 202301_BNR EPBC Report - Rev 1, tables 9 and 10**. Refer to that attachment for detailed assessment outcomes.

Carnaby's Cockatoo

With regards to Carnaby's Cockatoo, the Proposed Action will require the removal of 5.3 ha of potential foraging habitat, representing 0.04% of total available foraging habitat within the regional area (6 km). Furthermore, all potential habitat trees (DBH >300mm) will be avoided and no breeding or roosting habitat will be impacted.

Indirect impacts from noise are expected to be minimal. The only known active breeding tree in proximity to the proposed disturbance is 56 m from proposed access tracks and 360 m from the nearest drill pad location. Noise from the drill rig at 50 m is 60 dB which is equivalent to the sound from a normal conversation between two people. This will not impact or disturb individuals of the species or likely breeding success.

Other MNES

Impacts to other identified MNES that may present are not considered to warrant a controlled action as:

- The removal of 6 ha of vegetation represents 3% of the available habitat within the Project area (220 ha). In the context of the regional area (6 km radius), approximately 13,154 ha of potential habitat occurs in a largely contiguous state. Clearing for the Proposed Action represents a temporary reduction in this regional extent by 0.04%
- With the exception of Malleefowl, no other individuals listed under the EPBC Act have been recorded within the project area. Historical records occur within the Fitzgerald River National Park and vegetation immediately adjoining it. Records also occur within the wider Cocanarup Timber Reserve, which is over 6,000 ha in size and continues to provide abundant suitable habitat.
- No active Malleefowl mounds were recorded within the project area. Three inactive mounds have been identified and these will be protected from disturbance as they may be utilised again in the future
- It is considered likely that species listed under the EPBC Act such as the Dibbler and Heath mouse are transient only and do not reside within the Project Area
- The loss of 6 ha of vegetation will not comprise recovery actions outlined in any recovery plans for MNES, in particular Malleefowl, and
- Impacts are short in duration with clearing and drilling activities completed within 2.5 weeks of commencement. Disturbed areas will then be subject to rehabilitation in accordance with DMIRS requirements. This will include rehabilitation through direct seeding with local species.

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Exploration activities will be conducted in accordance with an Exploration Environmental Management Plan and Dieback Management Plan (DMP) prepared prior to implementation of the Proposed Action. The Exploration EMP and DMP will include management actions to control the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action.

Refer to [Atch 1 - 202301 BNR EPBC Report - Rev 1, Section 8, pgs 45-46](#) for further details on the proposed management measures.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Due to the scale and duration of the potential impacts, no offsets are being proposed.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species
No	No	Actitis hypoleucos
No	No	Apus pacificus
No	No	Calidris acuminata
No	No	Calidris ferruginea
No	No	Calidris melanotos
No	No	Motacilla cinerea
No	No	Numenius madagascariensis

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.5.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

Due to the lack of suitable habitat present within the Project Area, the scale and duration of the potential impacts, and that migratory species are vagrants to the general area, it is very unlikely that that the Proposed Action will have a significant impact on Migratory Species. In consideration of the Significant Impact Guidelines, the Proposed Action will it will not:

- substantially modify (including by fragmenting, altering fire regimes, altering nutrient cycles or altering hydrological cycles),
- destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species
- result in an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species, or
- seriously disrupt the lifecycle (breeding, feeding, migration or resting behaviour) of an ecologically significant proportion of the population of a migratory species.

Please refer to [Attch 1 - 202301_BNR EPBC Report - Rev 0, Section 6.1.2, Table 7](#) for further consideration on the likelihood of occurrence for migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action is not a nuclear action, as detailed in section 22 of the EPBC Act.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action is a low impact terrestrial exploration project, located 34 km north of the WA coast. The Proposed Action will not directly or indirectly impact a Commonwealth Marine Area.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action is located in Western Australia. There will be no impacts to the Great Barrier Reef.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not involve coal mining or the abstraction of coal seam gas.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not occur within or adjacent to Commonwealth land. There will be no impacts to Commonwealth land.

4.1.11 Commonwealth heritage places overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action is located within Western Australia and will not impact any Commonwealth heritage places overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

None

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth heritage places overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Areas of disturbance associated with the Proposed Action are primarily defined by inferred extent of the pegmatites. Exploration is needed in these areas to understand the nature and viability of the resource extent. All efforts to avoid key identified environmental values have been undertaken.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

#1.	Attch 1 - 202301_BNR MNES Report - Rev 1	Document	Report outlining the scale and scope of the Propos...
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3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

#1.	Attch 2-BNR LRP - Flora and Veg Report-V2	Document	Targeted flora and vegetation assessment
#2.	Attch 3-BNR LRP - Fauna Survey Report - Rev 0	Document	Targeted fauna assessment

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

#1.	Attch 4-BNR LRP - AHS - Rev 0	Document	Aboriginal Heritage Survey Report
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5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	51621352609
Organisation name	Tetris Environmental Pty Ltd
Organisation address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154
Representative's name	James Hesford
Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0488217275
Email	james@tetrisenviro.com.au
Address	Suite 6E, 573 Canning Hwy, Alfred Cove WA 6154

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

By checking this box, I, **James Hesford of Tetris Environmental Pty Ltd**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	81144590858
Organisation name	BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Representative's name	Mark Csar
Representative's job title	Chief Executive Officer
Phone	+61 8 9230 3585
Email	mcsar@bulletinresources.com
Address	11/139 Newcastle Street, Perth, WA, 6000

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Mark Csar of BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Mark Csar of BULLETIN RESOURCES LIMITED**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

