

**Decisions pursuant to s.39(1) under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986***

**Proposal Title:** Hotham Mining Extension and Refinery Production Increase (Revised Proposal)

**Proposal Location:** Approximately 8 km west-south-west of Boddington and approximately 15 km north-west of Collie, South-West Region

**Case Number:** CMS16260

**Date Received:** 24/04/2017

**Date More Information Received:** 16/05/17

**Referrer:** South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd (South32)

**Proponent:** South32

**Potential significant effects:**

The mining extension involves an increase of the mining footprint by approximately 1205 ha and includes clearing of up to 350 ha of native vegetation and fauna habitat. The proposal requires disturbance to the banks of the Hotham River for the development of two haul road crossings. The refinery production increase will result in an increase to mining and residue deposition rates, as well as a potential increase to air emissions. The proposed mining has the potential to impact on the preliminary key environmental factor of social surroundings.

**Preliminary key environmental factors:**

Flora and Vegetation, Terrestrial Fauna, Terrestrial Environmental Quality, Hydrological Processes, Inland Waters Environmental Quality, Air Quality, Social Surroundings.

**Public comments on referral information:**

Assess:	a) Referral information	0
	b) Environmental review (no public review)	0
	c) Public environmental review	8
	d) Other	0

*Total Submissions:* 8

**Decision:** s. 39A – Assess

**Level of assessment:** Environmental review – 6 week public review (s. 40(2)(b))

**Other details:** EPA-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

**Explanation of decision:**

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex, and the proposal involves several elements. Detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and identify if the impacts can be appropriately managed.

**Rights of Appeal:**

There are no rights of appeal under the EP Act in respect of this decision.



**Dr Tom Hatton**  
Chairman

14 June 2017