

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Section 45C

**NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONSENT TO AMEND AN APPROVED PROPOSAL
AND IMPLEMENTATION CONDITIONS WITHOUT INQUIRY**

PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

Technology Metals Australia Limited

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES

Gabanintha Vanadium Project

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT and ANY APPROVED CHANGES

Ministerial Statement 1242, issued 10 January 2025

DECISION

Pursuant to s. 45C (1) (c), s. 45C (4) and s. 45C (5) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Chair acting as delegate for the Minister for the Environment gives approval to the following amendments of the approved proposal:

- Amend and replace the proposal description to allow supply of abstracted groundwater to other users outside of the development envelope.
- Amend and replace condition A1-1 to define total and annual groundwater abstraction rates for the proposal including the Water Supply Areas, and clarify the elements included in the project life and commencement date.
- Spatially define the amendment to the approved proposal in figure 2 and schedule 1.
- Administrative change to correct an unintentional error in the disturbance footprint in figure 2 and schedule 1 and include the revised disturbance footprint.
- Administrative change to amend the proponent address.
- Administrative change to correct an unintentional omission in condition A1-1.

The Attachment 1 to Ministerial Statement 1242 and Technology Metals Australia Limited's amended proposal content document are attached.

SUMMARY OF REASONS

- The change to proposal footprint will not exceed the conditioned maximum disturbance of 1,060 ha or alter the maximum clearing limit of 'Good' to 'Excellent' vegetation. Based on the available information no additional impacts to significant vegetation types or significant flora species are predicted.

- There will be no change to the conditioned abstraction rate of 2.7 gigalitres (GL) per annum. The total abstraction limit of 75.3 GL for the life of the project was discussed in Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Gabanintha Vanadium Project, Report 1755 (EPA Report 1755) and has been included. In addition, condition B2 of Ministerial Statement 1242 limits groundwater drawdown levels and extents. Given this, additional impacts to groundwater are not predicted.
- As the abstraction rates remain unchanged and the project life of 30 years includes supply of water to other users, predicted impacts to subterranean fauna are also unlikely to be effected.
- Portions of the proposed change to the disturbance footprint (a 2.83 ha pipeline corridor) are yet to undergo Aboriginal heritage surveys. Any areas of Aboriginal heritage located in the changed disturbance footprint can manage under MS 1242, condition B5. These conditions require the proponent to take reasonable steps to consult with the Yugunga-Nya people about measures to avoid and minimise impacts. If impacts to Aboriginal sites are unavoidable then they can be altered with consent of the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.
- An administrative change to figure 2 and schedule 1 corrects a clerical error which presented a different disturbance footprint than that assessed by the EPA Report 1755.
- The amendment to condition A1-1 correcting an omission in reference to location of the operational elements “groundwater abstraction” and “process waste disposal” is considered administrative as it is to correct a clerical error.
- There are no relevant environmental factors or new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments.
- The proposed amendments, to allow the supply of abstracted groundwater from the Water Supply Areas, to other users, will not result in a significant change in the extent or nature of the impact of the currently approved proposal.
- The effects of the amendments on their own, the effect of the amendments in the context of the existing referred proposal, cumulative impacts, and holistic impacts have been considered.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.

EFFECT OF THIS NOTICE:

1. The proposal as amended in accordance with this notice is taken to be able to be implemented under s. 45 of the EP Act.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL:

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



Mr Darren Walsh
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

17 December 2025

Attachment 1 - Attachment 1 of Ministerial Statement 1242
Attachment 2 - Amended proposal content document