



Hon Mark McGowan MLA
Minister for the Environment;
Racing and Gaming

Statement No.

000723

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**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**COBURN MINERAL SAND PROJECT
84 KILOMETRES SOUTH-EAST OF DENHAM
SHIRE OF SHARK BAY**

Proposal: The development of the Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 kilometres south-east of Denham in the Shire of Shark Bay, including the excavation and processing of a low-grade heavy mineral sand deposit, as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proposal Area: The proposal area is all areas where disturbance will occur through the mining of Pits 1 to 9, placement of infrastructure, borrow pits, haul roads, access road and other facilities as described within Figure 2 of Schedule 1.

Proponent: Gunson Resources Limited

Proponent Address: Level 2, 33 Richardson Street, WEST PERTH WA 6005

Assessment Number: 1491

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 1211

The proposal referred to above may be implemented by the proponent subject to the following conditions and procedures:

1 Implementation

1-1 The proponent shall implement the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement subject to the conditions and procedures of this statement.

2 Proponent Commitments

2-1 The proponent shall implement the environmental management commitments documented in schedule 2 of this statement.

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22 MAY 2006

3 Proponent Nomination and Contact Details

- 3-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment under section 38(6) or (7) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* is responsible for the implementation of the proposal until such time as the Minister for the Environment has exercised the Minister's power under section 38(7) of the Act to revoke the nomination of that proponent and nominate another person as the proponent for the proposal.
- 3-2 If the proponent wishes to relinquish the nomination, the proponent shall apply for the transfer of proponent and provide a letter with a copy of this statement endorsed by the proposed replacement proponent that the proposal will be carried out in accordance with this statement. Contact details and appropriate documentation on the capability of the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the proposal shall also be provided.
- 3-3 The nominated proponent shall notify the Department of Environment of any change of contact name and address within 60 days of such change.

4 Commencement and Time Limit of Approval

- 4-1 The proponent shall substantially commence the proposal within five years of the date of this statement or the approval granted in this statement shall lapse and be void.

Note: The Minister for the Environment will determine any dispute as to whether the proposal has been substantially commenced.

- 4-2 The proponent shall make application for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposal beyond five years from the date of this statement to the Minister for the Environment, prior to the expiration of the five-year period referred to in condition 4-1.

The application shall demonstrate that:

1. the environmental factors of the proposal have not changed significantly;
2. new, significant, environmental issues have not arisen; and
3. all relevant government authorities have been consulted.

Note: The Minister for the Environment may consider the grant of an extension of the time limit of approval not exceeding five years for the substantial commencement of the proposal.

5 Compliance Audit and Performance Review

- 5-1 The proponent shall prepare an audit program and submit compliance reports to the Department of Environment which address:

1. the status of implementation of the proposal as defined in schedule 1 of this statement;
2. evidence of compliance with the conditions and commitments; and
3. the performance of the environmental management plans and programs.

Note: Under sections 48(1) and 47(2) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment is empowered to monitor the compliance of the proponent with the statement and should directly receive the compliance documentation, including environmental management plans, related to the conditions, procedures and commitments contained in this statement.

5-2 The proponent shall submit a performance review report every five years after the start of operations, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, which addresses:

1. the major environmental issues associated with implementing the project; the environmental objectives for those issues; the methodologies used to achieve these; and the key indicators of environmental performance measured against those objectives;
2. the level of progress in the achievement of sound environmental performance, including Australian industry benchmarking, and the use of best available technology where practicable;
3. significant improvements gained in environmental management, including the use of external peer reviews;
4. stakeholder and community consultation about environmental performance and the outcomes of that consultation, including a report of any on-going concerns being expressed; and
5. the proposed environmental objectives over the next five years, including improvements in technology and management processes.

5-3 The proponent may submit a report prepared by an independent auditor to the Chief Executive Office of the Department of Environment on each condition/commitment of this statement which requires the preparation of a management plan, programme, strategy or system, stating whether the requirements of each condition/commitment have been fulfilled within the timeframe stated within each condition/commitment.

5-4 Each year during the life of the proposal, the proponent shall prepare and submit to the Department of Environment an Annual Environmental Report.

The purpose of the Annual Environmental Report is to report on:

- implementation of the proponent's environmental management commitments as attached in Schedule 2; and

- outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of Management Plans required by this statement.

5-5 The proponent shall make the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 publicly available.

6 Project Buffer Areas adjacent to the Shark Bay World Heritage Property

6-1 The proponent shall delineate and maintain a 100-metre Protective Buffer between the project area and the boundary of the Shark Bay World Heritage Property.

6-2 The proponent's mining activities shall not adversely disturb or impact on vegetation within the 100-metre Protective Buffer required by condition 6-1, except in the circumstance that the disturbance is associated with the implementation of the Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1.

7 Groundwater

7-1 Prior to commencement of productive mining, the proponent shall prepare a Groundwater Mounding Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Water and Rivers Commission.

The objective of this Plan is to monitor and manage groundwater mounding to prevent the loss of vegetation as a result of this proposal, outside the proposal area.

7-2 The Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1 shall include:

1. identification of groundwater level 'threshold' and 'limit' criteria for groundwater levels in the Shark Bay World Heritage Property and in the 100 metre buffer between the proposal area and the Shark Bay World Heritage Property;
2. identification of management responses and timelines for their implementation in the event that 'threshold' and 'limit' criteria for groundwater levels are exceeded;
3. modelling of groundwater mounding, including rates of groundwater rise;
4. a monitoring programme, including schedule and reporting, to characterise groundwater mounding;
5. identification of 'threshold' and 'limit' criteria for health of vegetation and selected indicator species at risk due to mining activities;
6. identification of management responses and timelines for their implementation in the event that 'threshold' and 'limit' criteria for monitoring of vegetation health and selected indicator species are exceeded;
7. identification of the baseline health condition of vegetation at risk due to groundwater mounding, and the identification of appropriate reference sites near the proposal area;
8. a statistically rigorous monitoring programme, including schedule and reporting, to record any changes in the health of vegetation and selected deep-rooted indicator species subsequent to ground-disturbing activities;
9. strategies to maximise water use efficiency and recycling; and

10. identification of activities and infrastructure associated with implementing the plan.
- 7-3 The proponent shall implement the Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1.
- 7-4 The proponent shall make the Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1 publicly available.
- 7-5 The proponent shall review annually and revise as required the Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1.
- 7-6 In the event that the 'threshold' for groundwater levels and/or health monitoring of vegetation and selected indicator species arising from condition 7-2 is/are exceeded following the commencement of mining, but do not exceed 'limit' levels arising from condition 7-2, the proponent shall:
1. implement the management responses referred to in condition 7-2; and
 2. report the exceedance and the management responses implemented to the Department of Environment,
- but may continue mining.
- 7-7 In the event that the 'limit' criteria for groundwater levels arising from condition 7-2 are exceeded, the proponent shall immediately suspend all mining which is contributing to exceedance of the 'limit' criteria and report the exceedance to the Minister for the Environment.
- 7-8 The proponent shall not recommence mining which has been suspended in accordance with condition 7-7 until the proponent has received written advice from the Minister for the Environment that mining may recommence.
- 7-9 In the event that the 'limit' criteria for vegetation health and selected indicator species arising from condition 7-2 are exceeded, the proponent shall immediately suspend all mining which is contributing to exceedance of the 'limit' criteria and report the exceedance to the Minister for the Environment.
- 7-10 The proponent shall not recommence mining which has been suspended in accordance with condition 7-9 until the proponent has received written advice from the Minister for the Environment that mining may recommence.
- 7-11 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Groundwater Mounding Management Plan required by condition 7-1.

8 Flora and Vegetation

- 8-1 Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Flora and Vegetation Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

The objective of this Plan is to ensure the conservation of significant flora species and vegetation communities which occur in the vicinity of and within the proposal area as shown in Figure 2 of Schedule 1.

- 8-2 The Flora and Vegetation Management Plan required by condition 8-1 shall include:

1. appropriately timed searches for Declared Rare Flora and Priority Flora in the area to be disturbed prior to the development of each pit and associated infrastructure, including haul roads;
2. the management, monitoring and reporting of impacts on Declared Rare Flora and Priority Flora species within the proposal area;
3. any targeted surveys which are required prior to ground-disturbing activities to provide further information on the conservation status of each of the Declared Rare Flora species found; and
4. reporting procedures and schedule.

- 8-3 The proponent shall implement the Flora and Vegetation Management Plan required by condition 8-1.

- 8-4 The proponent shall make the Flora and Vegetation Management Plan required by condition 8-1 publicly available.

- 8-5 In the event that Declared Rare Flora and/or species listed as threatened under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, are identified in the project area, the proponent shall prepare a Declared Rare Flora Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

- 8-6 The Declared Rare Flora Management Plan required by condition 8-5 shall include:

1. the recorded location of Declared Rare Flora species;
2. a description of the habitat in which the Declared Rare Flora was found, and the extent of the contiguous area of the same habitat in the local area;
3. offsite surveys to determine the extent of rare flora species;
4. the degree of impact of the proposed works on the Declared Rare Flora or its identified contiguous habitat;
5. a management strategy for the protection of Declared Rare Flora species, in the event that approval to impact the declared rare or priority flora has not been provided pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, including:
 - a) identification of a protected buffer area around the Declared Rare Flora;
 - b) delineation of the location of the Declared Rare Flora buffer area to prevent accidental damage to the protected area;
 - c) consideration of relocating Declared Rare Flora species;

- d) education of workers as to the protection of the Declared Rare Flora location;
 - e) specific management measures for topsoil stripping within areas of the contiguous Declared Rare Flora habitat; and
 - f) specific management measures for site rehabilitation and topsoil replacement within areas previously included as contiguous Declared Rare Flora habitat.
6. post-activity monitoring plan for Declared Rare Flora and regeneration of vegetation within areas previously included as contiguous Declared Rare Flora habitat, including monitoring for Declared Rare Flora plants.
- 8-7 The proponent shall implement the Declared Rare Flora Management Plan required by condition 8-5.
- 8-8 The proponent shall make the Declared Rare Flora Management Plan required by condition 8-5 publicly available.
- 8-9 The proponent shall not disturb vegetation communities S5 and S10 identified within Figure 3 of Schedule 1, and shall leave an undisturbed buffer of at least 50 metres in width around the vegetation communities.
- 8-10 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Flora and Vegetation Management Plan required by condition 8-1 and the Declared Rare Flora Management Plan required by condition 8-5.

9 Fauna

- 9-1 Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Fauna Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.
- 9-2 The Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-1 shall include:
- 1. establishment of permanent fauna monitoring sites;
 - 2. additional fauna surveys ahead of mining to identify any significant or unknown species;
 - 3. a baseline survey of the distribution and abundance of the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) at, and in the immediate vicinity of, the proposal area;
 - 4. monitoring of Malleefowl populations both inside and outside the proposal area for comparison, and to show where populations may be declining, stable or increasing;
 - 5. predator baiting, particularly to control populations of cats and foxes, throughout the proposal area and appropriate buffers, developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Conservation and Land Management;
 - 6. investigate and implement best practice directional lighting and/or light shields to reduce impacts of light overspill on fauna;

7. feral animal control strategies, where native fauna is made more vulnerable due to activities associated with mining;
 8. fencing around water dams and open seepage interception trenches to prevent encroachment by large and medium sized animals;
 9. escape mechanisms such as mesh or 'self-rescue mats' to allow animals to exit water ponds and open seepage interception trenches;
 10. regular inspection of process water ponds or open seepage interception trenches for trapped animals; and
 11. reporting procedures and schedule.
- 9-3 The proponent shall implement the Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-1.
- 9-4 The proponent shall make the Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-1 publicly available.
- 9-5 In the event that Threatened Fauna, other than Malleefowl, and including those listed as "threatened" under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, are identified in the project area, the proponent shall prepare a Threatened Fauna Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.
- 9-6 The Threatened Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-5 shall include:
1. the recorded location of Threatened Fauna species;
 2. a description of the habitat in which the Threatened Fauna is found;
 3. the degree of impact of the proposed works on Threatened Fauna or its identified habitat;
 4. a management strategy for the protection of Threatened Fauna species, including relocation, or other action recommended by the Department of Conservation and Land Management; and
 5. post-activity monitoring plan for Threatened Fauna species.
- 9-7 The proponent shall implement the Threatened Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-5.
- 9-8 The proponent shall make the Threatened Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-5 publicly available.
- 9-9 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-1 and the Threatened Fauna Management Plan required by condition 9-5.

10 Progressive Rehabilitation Programme

- 10-1 Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Progressive Rehabilitation Programme for areas of native vegetation disturbed by activities related to the mining operation, to the requirements of the Minister for the

Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

The objective of this Programme is to ensure that all disturbed areas are rehabilitated with vegetation communities representative of the vegetation communities that existed prior to the implementation of the project. These representative communities shall contain dominant species of the overstorey and understorey of local provenance, and comparable vegetation structure.

10-2 The Progressive Rehabilitation Programme required by condition 10-1 shall include:

1. a framework to ensure that the site is left in an environmentally acceptable condition;
2. examination of available rehabilitation technologies and methods for mineral sand operations in Western Australia, where possible;
3. rehabilitation of all disturbed areas;
4. progressive development and refinement of completion criteria;
5. a rehabilitation schedule;
6. revegetation requirements;
7. management measures;
8. monitoring and maintenance of rehabilitated areas;
9. annual review; and
10. remedial actions.

10-3 The Progressive Rehabilitation Programme required by condition 10-1 shall relate to all areas of native vegetation disturbed during the mining operation, and shall consist of the following Management Plans:

1. a Soil Management Plan;
2. a Revegetation Management Plan, and
3. a Weed Management Plan.

10-4 The Soil Management Plan referred to in condition 10-3 shall include the following:

1. baseline evaluation of standard soil properties both, prior to and following mining, including chemical (pH, sodicity, electrical conductivity, organic carbon, cation exchange capacity, exchangeable cations, available nutrients (N, P, K) phosphorus retention capacity), physical (texture, structure, stability, water retention characteristics, clay mineralogy) and biological properties (root abundance, biological activity);
2. operational handling of soils during mining and rehabilitation;
3. a strategy for the characterisation and management of dispersive clays in the soil profile, including amelioration of any impact on the rehabilitated soil profile;
4. methods for minimising soil erosion following mining;
5. record-keeping of soil profile reconstruction information;
6. performance criteria, including completion criteria, for the soil profile reconstruction;
7. contingency actions to be carried out in the event that performance criteria are not being met;

8. a review mechanism which modifies work procedures based on the results of monitored outcomes.

Note: The preparation of this Plan shall include advice from the Department of Industry and Resources, the Department of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation.

10-5 The Revegetation Management Plan required by condition 10-3 shall include the following:

1. delineation of areas of vegetation proposed to be disturbed by the mining activity;
2. a baseline vegetation study identifying the appropriate techniques for regeneration or revegetation of the vegetation types affected by clearing;
3. development of performance criteria, including completion criteria, for revegetation (these shall include but not be limited to species richness, total cover and relevant cover of dominant species);
4. methods for revegetation of disturbed areas;
5. a monitoring program to determine revegetation success;
6. a recalcitrant species program; and
7. contingency actions to be carried out in the event that performance criteria are not being met.

10-6 The Weed Management Plan required by condition 10-3 shall have the following objectives:

- to manage or eradicate both noxious and environmental weeds;
- to maintain the abundance, species diversity and productivity of vegetation communities in undisturbed areas by controlling the diversity and density of weed species; and
- to prevent the introduction and spreading of new weed species within the proposal area.

and shall include:

1. baselines studies to provide information to the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Department of Agriculture regarding the extent and nature of weed species within and adjacent to the proposal area;
2. monitoring of existing weeds and management so as not to affect areas adjacent to the proposal area;
3. determination of weed monitoring control sites in the Shark Bay World Heritage Property, in consultation with the Department of Conservation and Land Management;
4. performance criteria for weed management; and
5. reporting procedures and schedule.

10-7 The proponent shall implement the Progressive Rehabilitation Programme required by condition 10-1 until such time as the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, that the proponent's rehabilitation responsibilities have been fulfilled.

10-8 In the event that the criteria listed below are not achieved within seven years following the commencement of commissioning, prior to further mining, the proponent shall review the Progressive Rehabilitation Programme required by condition 10-1 to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and shall demonstrate that these criteria can be met if mining continues:

1. the rehabilitation area shows no signs of major surface instability, with over 60% of the surface soil having developed a crust;
2. zone infiltration, zone stability and zone nutrients indexes rates are comparable to those found in reference sites;
3. projected foliage cover values of local provenance native species is greater than 20% of the foliage cover values of reference sites; and
4. average species diversity is greater than 20% of the average species diversity value of analogue sites (excluding weeds).

10-9 The proponent shall position pits (for extraction of calcrete to be used for the construction of roads) to avoid areas of high biodiversity value, and shall initiate rehabilitation of each pit within four weeks following cessation of its use.

10-10 The proponent shall subject all mining equipment and vehicles entering the site to appropriate hygiene measures to prevent the introduction of soil-borne plant diseases in consultation with the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

10-11 The proponent shall maintain an open area for drying of clay or slimes not exceeding 40 hectares at any one time.

10-12 Beyond the start-up process of the first six months of mining, except in exceptional circumstances, the proponent shall initiate rehabilitation on not less than 80% of the total area mined during each year of mining, excluding those areas of clay or slimes identified by condition 10-11 which have not dried out and are unsuitable for rehabilitation.

Note: 'Exceptional circumstances' may include instances where climatic conditions prevent the commencement of rehabilitation programmes (eg. excessive wind impacting on direct seeding; or inadequate rainfall to promote germination or growth of seed or tube stock within areas rehabilitated).

10-13 Beyond the start-up process of the first six months of mining, except in exceptional circumstances, the proponent shall return topsoil to mined-out areas within three months of its excavation.

Note: 'Exceptional circumstances' may include instances where inclement weather prevents the handling and/or transport of stored material.

10-14 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Progressive Rehabilitation Programme required by condition 10-1 and its associated Soil Management Plan, Revegetation Management Plan and Weed Management Plan required by condition 10-3.

11 Bush Fire Management

11-1 Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activity, the proponent shall prepare a Bush Fire Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority.

11-2 The Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 11-1 shall include:

1. bush fire prevention measures;
2. bush fire detection and reporting procedures;
3. fire brigade and the proponent's fire suppression equipment and preparedness measures; and
4. training of personnel for fighting fires.

11-3 The proponent shall implement the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 11-1.

11-4 The proponent shall make the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 11-1 publicly available.

Note: In the preparation of advice to the Minister for the Environment, the Environmental Protection Authority expects that the advice of the following agencies will be obtained:

- Department of Conservation and Land Management; and
- Fire and Emergency Services Authority.

11-5 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 11-1.

12 Dust

12-1 Prior to ground-disturbing activity, the proponent shall prepare a Dust Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority.

12-2 The Dust Management Plan required by condition 12-1 shall include:

1. baseline and ongoing monitoring;
2. prevention of visible dust in the Shark Bay World Heritage Property;
3. details of management and/or mitigation measures to minimise dust;
4. monitoring of the effects of dust and saline water used for dust suppression on vegetation;
5. preventative measures to minimise fugitive dust sources as part of daily operations;
6. monitoring of deposited dust levels at the boundary of the proposal area and at Hamelin Pool for the initial three years of the project to provide baseline data;

7. provision for continuous improvements in dust management; and
8. monitoring and reporting.

12-3 Prior to ground-disturbing activity, the proponent shall implement the Dust Management Plan required by condition 12-1.

12-4 The proponent shall make the Dust Management Plan required by condition 12-1 publicly available.

12-5 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Dust Management Plan required by condition 12-1.

13 Mine Closure

13-1 Prior to ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Preliminary Closure Plan which provides the framework to ensure that the site is left in an environmentally acceptable condition, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority.

13-2 The Preliminary Closure Plan required by condition 13-1 shall be prepared to be consistent with the Australian and New Zealand Minerals and Energy Council / Minerals Council of Australia (ANZMEC/MCA) *Strategic Framework for Mine Closure* and shall address:

1. outcomes of stakeholder consultation;
2. conceptual plans for the removal or, if appropriate, retention of plant and infrastructure;
3. long-term management of ground and surface water systems affected by mining operations;
4. management of noxious materials to avoid the creation of contaminated areas (including acid-generating materials);
5. reporting procedures and schedule; and
6. a contingency plan for the care and maintenance phase.

Note: In the preparation of advice to the Minister for the Environment, the Environmental Protection Authority expects that the advice of the following agencies will be obtained:

- Department of Conservation and Land Management;
- Department of Industry and Resources; and
- Water and Rivers Commission.

13-3 The proponent shall make the Preliminary Closure Plan required by condition 13-1 publicly available.

13-4 At least three years prior to the anticipated date of closure, or at a time agreed with the Environmental Protection Authority, the proponent shall prepare a Final Closure Plan which is consistent with the ANZMEC/MCA *Strategic Framework for Mine Closure*

and is designed to ensure that the site is left in an environmentally acceptable condition, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority.

13-5 The Final Closure Plan required by condition 13-4 shall address:

1. removal or, if appropriate, retention of plant and infrastructure in consultation with relevant stakeholders;
2. the final form of land forms and voids;
3. reconciliation of volumes of areas to be mined, the volumes of areas remaining to be filled with tailings and the final landform determined in 2. above to demonstrate that there is sufficient material remaining either to be mined or through management of the tailings to achieve the desired landform;
4. long-term management of ground and surface water systems affected by mining;
5. rehabilitation and revegetation of all disturbed areas to a standard suitable for the agreed new land use(s) and which aim to restore the original vegetation communities in accordance with agreed performance criteria defined within condition 10-8; and
6. identification of contaminated areas, including provision of evidence of notification and proposed management measures to relevant statutory authorities.

Note: In the preparation of advice to the Minister for the Environment, the Environmental Protection Authority expects that the advice of the following agencies will be obtained:

- Department of Conservation and Land Management;
- Department of Industry and Resources; and
- Water and Rivers Commission.

13-6 The proponent shall implement the Final Closure Plan required by condition 13-4 until such time as the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, that the proponent's closure responsibilities have been fulfilled.

13-7 The proponent shall make the Final Closure Plan required by condition 13-4 publicly available.

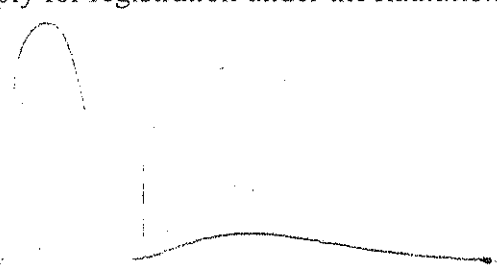
13-8 The proponent shall report within the Annual Environmental Reports required by condition 5-4 the outcomes of any monitoring programs and performance reviews associated with the implementation of the Preliminary Closure Plan required by condition 13-1 and the Final Closure Plan required by condition 13-4.

Procedures

- 1 Where a condition states "to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority", the Environmental Protection Authority will provide that advice to the Department of Environment for the preparation of written notice to the proponent.

- 2 The Environmental Protection Authority may seek advice from other agencies or organisations, as required, in order to provide its advice to the Department of Environment.
- 3 Where a condition lists advisory bodies, it is expected that the proponent will obtain the advice of those listed as part of its compliance reporting to the Department of Environment.

Notes

- 1 The Minister for the Environment will determine any dispute between the proponent and the Environmental Protection Authority or the Department of Environment over the fulfilment of the requirements of the conditions.
 - 2 The proponent is required to apply for a Works Approval and Licence for this project under the provisions of Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
 - 3 Within this statement, to "have in place" means to "prepare, document, implement and maintain for the duration of the proposal".
 - 4 The proponent is required to apply for registration under the *Radiation Safety Act 1975*.
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HON MARK MCGOWAN MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT;
RACING AND GAMING

22 MAY 2006

Schedule 1

The Proposal (Assessment No. 1491)

The proposal is to develop the Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 kilometres south-east of Denham in the Shire of Shark Bay. This involves the excavation and processing of a low-grade heavy mineral sand deposit which will be trucked 250 kilometres south to Geraldton for direct export.

The Key Proposal Characteristics are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Key Proposal Characteristics

Element	Description
Project Life	Approximately 12 Years.
Number of Pits	Nine pits.
Rate of Mining	Approximately 2,300 tph for the first two years, increasing to 4,600 tph in Year 3 (~15 million tpa for Years 1 and 2, and 30 million tpa for Years 3 to 12).
Mining Method	Bucket-wheel excavators and in-pit screening modules.
Estimated Footprint of Disturbance	Approximately 3,695 hectares.
Rate of Processing	Approximately 2,200 tph for the first two years increasing to 4,400 tph in Year 3 (~140,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate from Year 1 increasing to 280,000 tpa from Year 3).
Estimated Volume of Tailings	2,180 tph for each 2,200 tph concentrator.
Volume of Process Water	Up to 18 GL/annum at full production.
Estimated Total Volume of Refined Product	Ilmenite – 1,400 kt HiTi – 380 kt Zircon – 660 kt

Abbreviations:

tph – tonnes per hour
tpa – tonnes per annum
GL/annum – gigalitres per annum
kt – kilotonnes.

Figures (attached)

Figure 1 – Regional location

Figure 2 – Proposed layout of Amy Zone Operation.

Figure 3 - Location of vegetation communities S5 and S10 within the vicinity of the proposal area.

Note: The “proposal area” is defined as all areas where disturbance will occur through the mining of Pits 1 to 9, placement of infrastructure, borrow pits, haul roads, access road and other facilities as described within Figure 2 of Schedule 1.

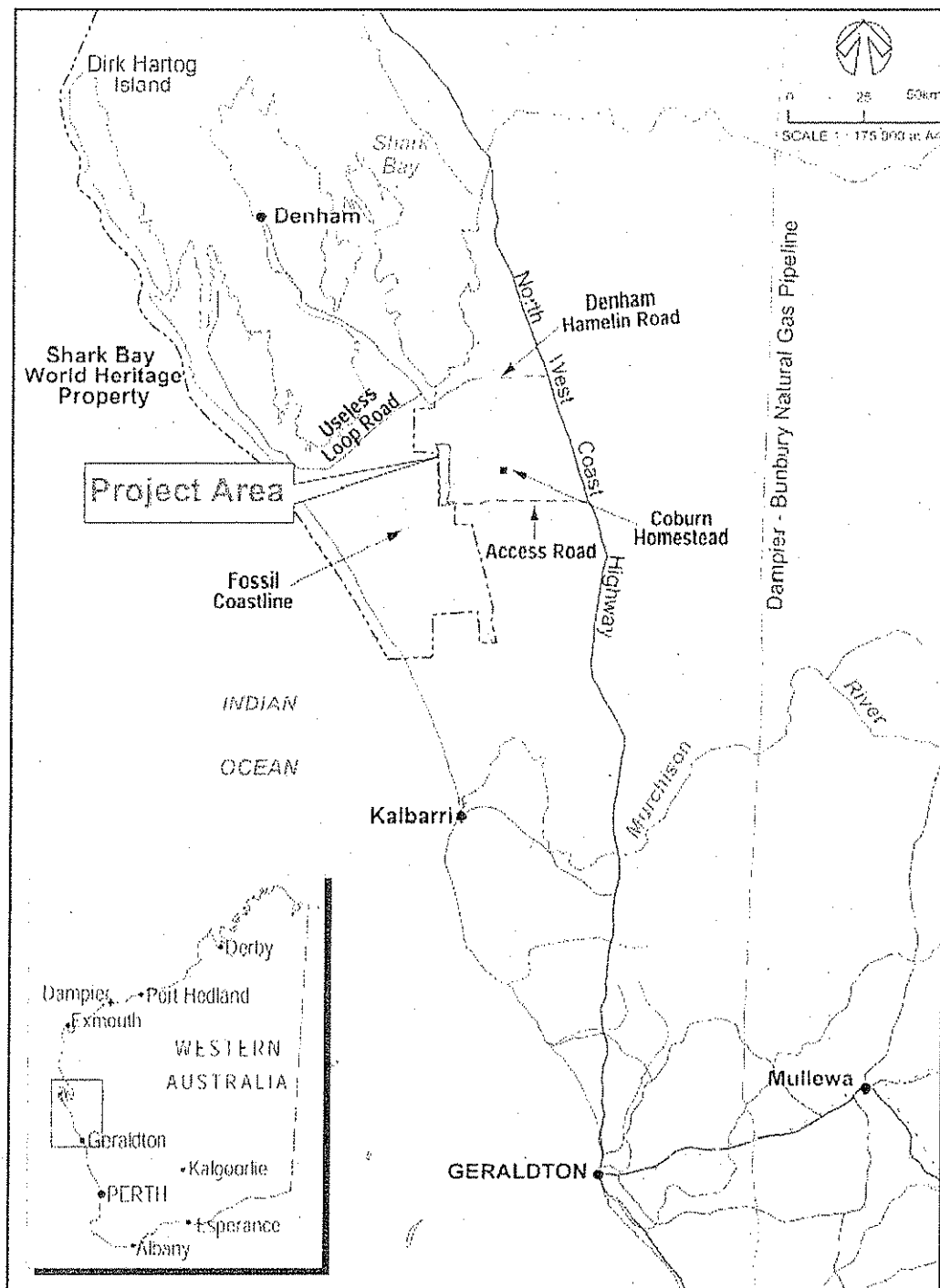


Figure 1. Regional location

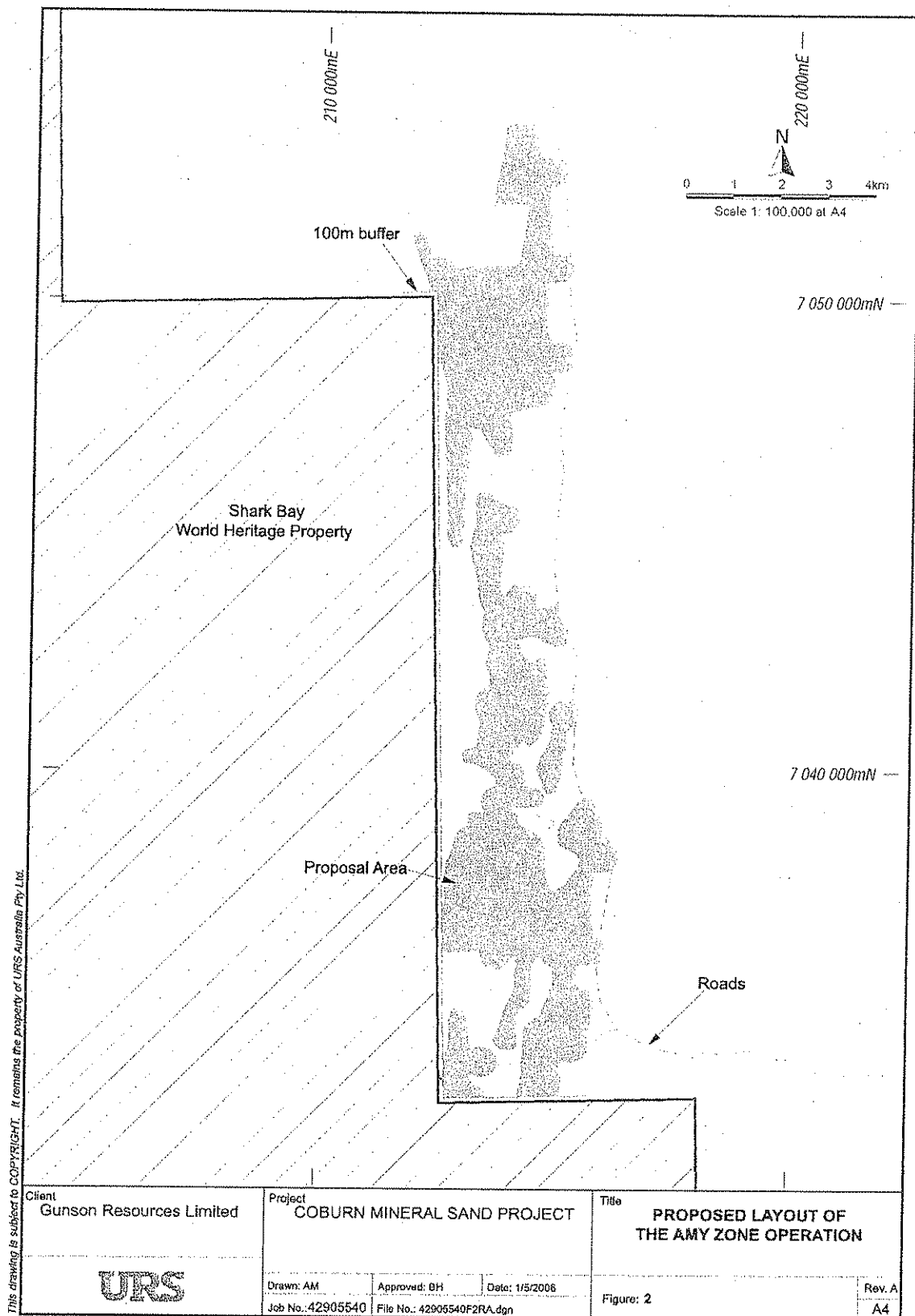


Figure 2. Proposed layout of the Amy Zone Operation.

Note: The proposal area is defined as all areas where disturbance will occur through the mining of Pits 1-9, placement of infrastructure, borrow pits, haul roads, access road and other facilities.

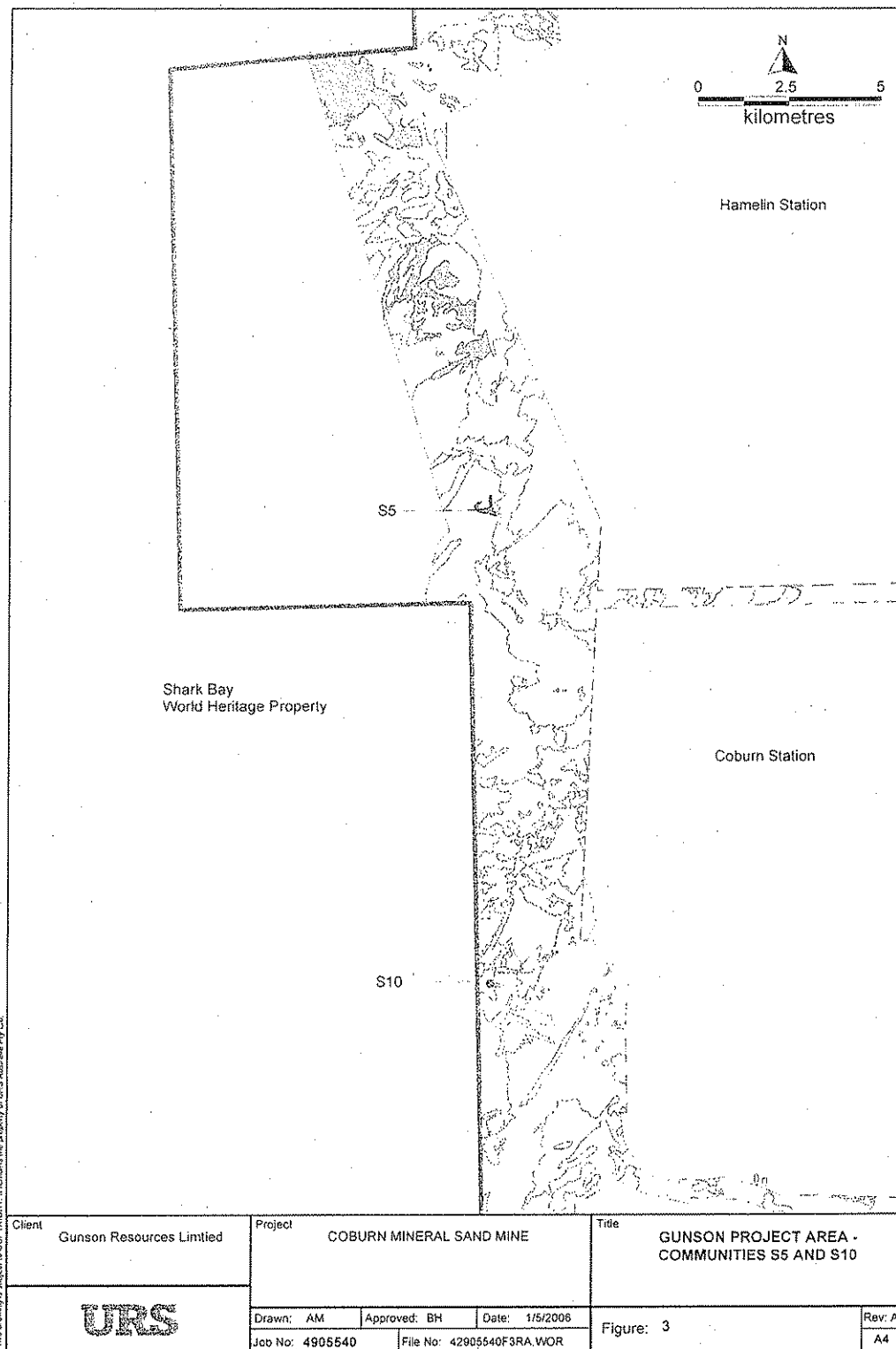


Figure 3. Location of vegetation communities S5 and S10 within the vicinity of the proposal area.

Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments

April 2005

**COBURN MINERAL SAND PROJECT
84 KILOMETRES SOUTH-EAST OF DENHAM
SHIRE OF SHARK BAY**

(Assessment No. 1491)

Gunson Resources Limited

Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments – April 2005

COBURN MINERAL SAND MINE (Assessment No. 1491)

Note: The term “commitment” as used in this schedule includes the entire row of the table and its six separate parts as follows:

- a commitment topic;
- the objective of the commitment;
- the ‘action’ to be undertaken by the proponent;
- the timing requirements of the commitment; and
- the body/agency to provide technical advice to the Department of Environment.

Topic	Objective	Actions	Timing	Advice
Priority Flora Management	Maintain the abundance, diversity and productivity of priority flora at species and ecosystem levels through the avoidance or management of adverse impacts and improvement in knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalise the draft Priority Flora Management Plan with consideration of comments received during the public review period of the Public Environmental Review document and in consultation with relevant stakeholders. 2. Implement the Priority Flora Management Plan. 	<p>Finalise prior to construction phase of the project.</p> <p>Implement during construction and operational phases of the project.</p>	CALM
Stygofauna	Maintain the abundance, diversity, geographical distribution and productivity of stygofauna at species and ecosystem levels through the avoidance or management of adverse impacts and improvement in knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Conduct a stygofauna survey in the southern portion of the Proposal area using existing bores. 4. Conduct re-sampling of the bores located in the northern portion of the proposal area. 5. If stygofauna are found in these areas, then sampling outside the proposal area will be conducted to demonstrate that these species occur outside the Proposal area. 	<p>Survey of southern portion prior to construction phase of the project</p> <p>Re-sampling of bores in the northern portion of the Proposal area before commencement of mining at Pit 9.</p>	CALM

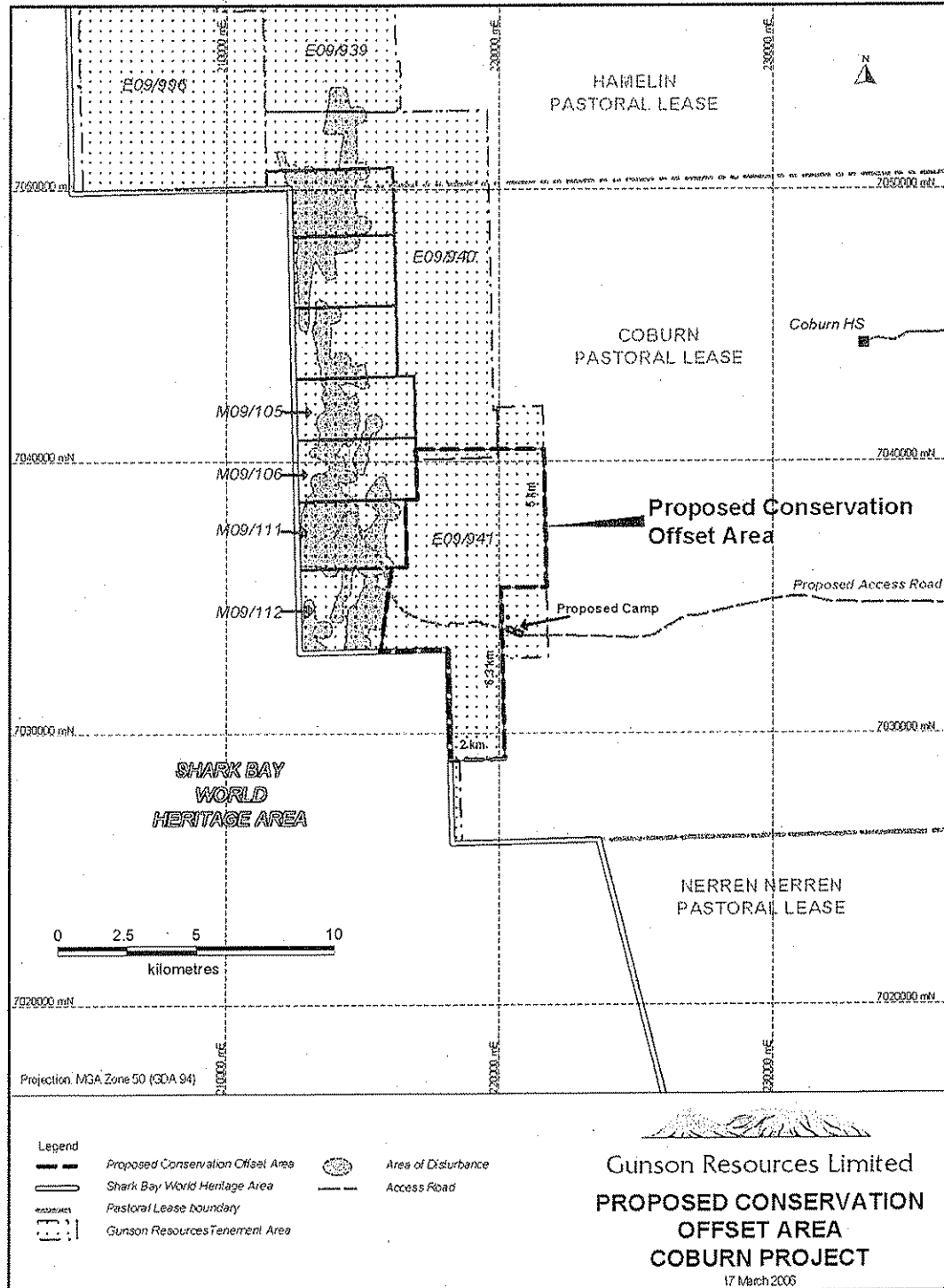
Solid and Liquid Waste Management	To minimise, re-use or recycle wastes where practicable and to ensure that any wastes requiring disposal are disposed of in an environmentally acceptable and approved manner.	6. Finalise the draft Solid and Liquid Waste Management Plan with consideration of comments received during the public review period of the PER and in consultation with relevant stakeholders. 7. Implement the Solid and Liquid Waste Management Plan.	Finalise prior to construction phase of the project. Implement during construction and operational phases of the project.	DoIR
Hydrocarbon Management	Ensure that hydrocarbons are handled, utilised, stored and disposed of in an environmentally acceptable and approved manner.	8. Finalise the draft Hydrocarbon Management Plan with consideration of comments received during the public review period of the PER and in consultation with relevant stakeholders. 9. Implement the Hydrocarbon Management Plan.	Finalise prior to construction phase of the project. Implement during construction and operational phases of the project.	DoIR
Radiation Management	To ensure all radiological impacts are in accordance with the ALARA Principle and comply with currently accepted standards and codes of practice.	10. Finalise the draft Radiation Management Plan with consideration of comments received during the public review period of the PER and in consultation with relevant stakeholders. 11. Implement the Radiation Management Plan.	Finalise prior to construction phase of the project. Implement during construction and operational phases of the project.	Radiological Council of WA DoIR
Aboriginal Heritage Management	To ensure that changes to the biophysical environment do not adversely affect historical and cultural associations and comply with relevant heritage legislation.	12. Finalise the draft Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan with consideration of comments received during the public review period of the PER and in consultation with relevant stakeholders. 13. Implement the Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan during the construction and operational phases of the Project.	Finalise prior to construction phase of the project. Implement during construction and operational phases of the project.	DIA
Research		14. Contribute funds and supporting scientific research into the ecology of the Shark Bay World Heritage Property.	Within three years of ground disturbing activities	CALM

Shark Bay World Heritage Property	Reduce and manage impacts on the world heritage values of the conservation estate associated with the Shark Bay World Heritage Property	15. Improve stock proof fencing between the project and the Shark Bay World Heritage Property.	Prior to re-stocking of the Coburn Pastoral lease.	CALM
Reducing pressures on biodiversity values within the Coburn Pastoral lease		16. De-stocking the Coburn Pastoral Lease for no less than 5 years to allow vegetation to recover and then re-stocking it at a rate well below its carrying capacity, as defined by the Pastoral Lands Board.	Ongoing throughout life of project	CALM Pastoral Lands Board
Education		17. Contribution of funds to the Shark Bay Interpretive Centre in Denham.	Within one year of commencement of construction.	Shire of Shark Bay
Conservation Offsets	Increase the area of conservation estate within the Shark Bay Region through securing "Conservation Offset Areas". The eventual objective for the offset area is for it to be incorporated into the adjacent Nature Reserve, which falls within the Shark Bay World Heritage Property, or managed for conservation under the terms of a conservation covenant or similar agreement.	18. Relinquish mineral and pastoral rights for an area of approximately 4200 hectares of remnant vegetation that is contiguous with the Zuytdorp Nature Reserve so that it can be managed for conservation purposes. Note: The Conservation Offset Area to which commitment 20 relates is described within Attachment 1 to the Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments.	During the lifetime of the project.	CALM
		19. Contribute funds to the Carnarvon Artesian Basin Rehabilitation Project.	During the life of the project.	DoW

Abbreviations

CALM Department of Conservation and Land Management
DIA Department of Indigenous Affairs
DoIR Department of Industry and Resources
DoW Department of Water

Attachment 1 to Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments - Conservation Offset Area - Coburn Project – April 2006



Attachment to Statement 723
Change to description of Proposal

Proposal: Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 Kilometres South-east of Denham, Shire of Shark Bay

Proponent: Gunson Resources Limited

Change: Change to the mining method and the locations of the mine infrastructure.

Features of currently approved Proposal:


Element	Quantities / Description
Mining Method	Bucket Wheel Excavators.
Access Road	Access Road connects the Project Area and the North West Coastal Highway at the southern end of the Project Area.
Accommodation Camp Location	Near the Access Road at the southern end of the Project Area.
Power Plant Location	Movable generators located adjacent to the concentrator.
Borrow Pits	Along the southern Access Road, details not specified.

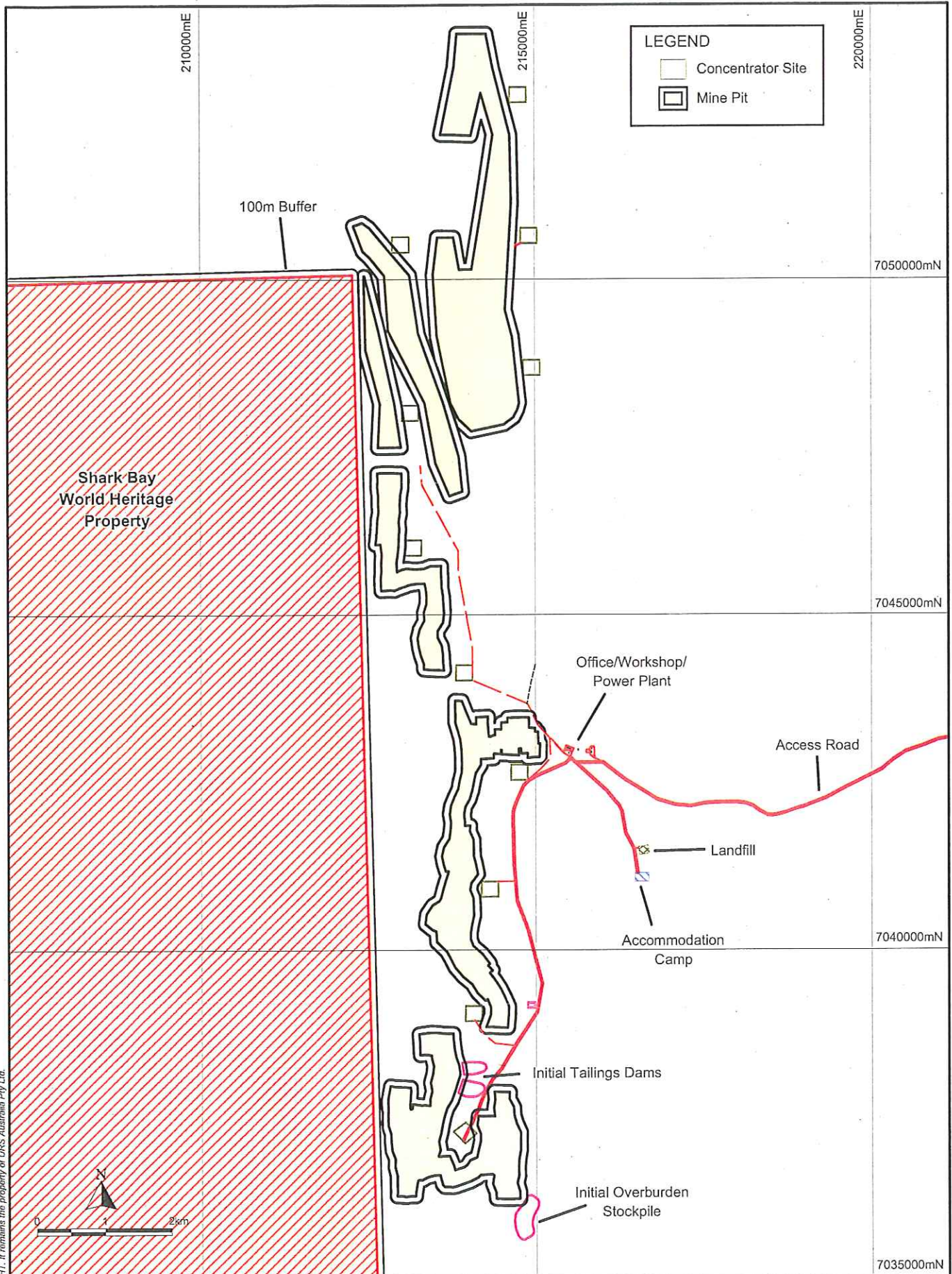
Features of approved change to Proposal:

Element	Quantities / Description
Mining Method	Bulldozers.
Access Road	Access Road connects the Project Area and the North West Coastal Highway midway along the Project Area. The new location is approximately 9 km north of the original road alignment (See Figure 1 of Attachment 1).
Accommodation Camp Location	Near the Access Road midway along the Project Area. The new location is approximately 10 km north-west of the original location.
Power Plant Location	Fixed power plant located adjacent to the Access Road (See Figure 2 of Attachment 1).
Borrow Pits	Located along the Access Road route for the construction activities.


Approved: 16/3/07



Client Gunson Resources Limited	Project COBURN MINERAL SAND PROJECT	Title REGIONAL SETTING		
	Drawn: AM Job No.: 42906196	Approved: GL File No.: Figure 1.dgn	Date: 7/2/2007	Figure: 1 Rev. A A4



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Client Gunson Resources Limited	Project COBURN MINERAL SAND PROJECT			Title MINE LAYOUT PLAN	
	Drawn: AM	Approved: GL	Date: 7/2/2007	Figure: 2	Rev: A
	Job No: 42906196	File No: 42906196MSF2RA.wor			A4

Attachment 2 to Ministerial Statement 723

Change to Proposal

Proposal: Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 km Southeast of Denham, Shire of Shark Bay

Proponent: Gunson Resources Limited

Change: Change to project life and location of disturbance footprint

Key Characteristics Table:

Element	Description of proposal	Description of approved change to proposal
Project Life	Approximately 12 years.	Not more than 18 years.
Number of Pits	Nine pits.	Removed as not environmentally relevant
Rate of Mining	Approximately 2,300 tph for the first two years, increasing to 4,600 tph in Year 3 (~15 million tpa for Years 1 and 2, and 30 million tpa for Years 3 to 12.	Approximately 2,300 tph for the first two years. Approximately 4,600 tph from Year 3 (~18 million tpa for Years 1 and 2, and not more than 36 million tpa from Year 3).
Mining Method	Bulldozers.	Removed as not environmentally relevant
Disturbance Footprint	Approximately 3,695 hectares.	Not more than 3,695 hectares.
Rate of Processing	Approximately 2,200 tph for the first two years increasing to 4,400 tph in Year 3 (~140,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate from Year 1 increasing to 280,000 tpa from Year 3).	Approximately 2,200 tph for the first two years. Approximately 4,400 tph from Year 3 (~145,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate from Year 1, and not more than 300,000 tpa from Year 3).
Estimated Volume of Tailings	2,180 tph for each 2,200 tph concentrator	Approximately 4,360 tph from Year 3.
Volume of Process Water	Up to 18 GL/annum at full production	Up to 18 GL/annum from Year 3.
Total Volume of Refined Product	Ilmenite – 1,400 kt HiTi – 380 kt Zircon – 660 kt	Removed as not environmentally relevant
Access Road	Access Road connects the Project Area and the North West Coast Highway midway along the Project Area. The new location is approximately 9 km north of the original location.	Removed as location is already included in the 'Disturbance Footprint'.
Accommodation Camp Location	Near the Access Road midway along the Project Area. The new location is approximately 10 km north-west of the original location.	Removed as location is already included in the 'Disturbance Footprint'.

Power Plant Location	Fixed power plant located adjacent to the Access Road (See Figure 2 of Attachment 1)	Removed as location is already included in 'Disturbance Footprint'.
Borrow Pits	Located along the Access Road route for the construction activities	Removed as location is already included in the 'Disturbance Footprint'.

Abbreviations:

tph – tonnes per hour

tpa – tonnes per annum

GL/annum – gigalitres per annum

List of Figures:

- Figure 2 – Revised proposal area disturbance footprint (URS 2011, Job No 42907635)

Note 1: The “proposal area” is defined as all areas where disturbance will occur through the mining of pits, placement of infrastructure, borrow pits, haul roads, access road, accommodation camp, power plant and other facilities.

Dr Chris Whitaker
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Environmental Protection Authority
under delegated authority

Approval date: 21 September 2011

Attachment 3 to Ministerial Statement 723

Change to proposal under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

This attachment replaces Schedule 1 and all previous attachments in Ministerial Statement 723

Proposal: Coburn Mineral Sand Project

Proponent: Gunson Resources Limited

The Proposal (Assessment No.1491)

Development of the Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 kilometres Southeast of Denham in the Shire of Shark Bay. This involves the excavation and processing of a low-grade heavy mineral sand deposit which will be trucked 250 kilometres south to Geraldton for direct export.

Changes:

To remove time restrictions on the:

- “Rate of Mining”, and the “Rate of Processing”; and
- “Estimated Volume of Tailings”.

Key Characteristics Table:

<u>Element</u>	<u>Description of proposal</u>	<u>Description of approved change to proposal</u>
Project Life	Not more than 18 years.	Not more than 18 years.
Rate of Mining	Approximately 2,300 tph for the first two years. Approximately 4,600 tph from year 3 (~18 million tpa for Years 1 and 2, and not more than 36 million tpa from year 3).	Approximately 4,600 tph (not more than 36 million tpa).
Disturbance Footprint	Not more than 3,695 hectares.	Not more than 3,695 hectares.
Rate of Processing	Approximately 2,200 tph for the first two years. Approximately 4,400 tph from year 3 (~145,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate from Year 1, and not more than 300,000 tpa from Year 3).	Approximately 4,400 tph (not more than 300,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate).

<u>Element</u>	<u>Description of proposal</u>	<u>Description of approved change to proposal</u>
Estimated Volume of Tailings	Approximately 4,360 tph from Year 3.	Approximately 4,360 tph.
Volume of Process Water	Up to 18 GL/annum from Year 3.	Up to 18 GL/annum from Year 3.

Note: Text in **bold** in the Key Characteristic Table, indicates change/s to the Proposal.

List of Figures: Figures 1 to 4 replace all Figures in Schedule 1.

Figures (attached)

Figure 1 – Regional location of Coburn Project

Figure 2 – Coburn Mineral Sand Project Mine Layout and Disturbance Footprint

Figure 3 – Location of Vegetation Communities S5 and S10 within the Project Area

Figure 4 – Proposed conservation offset area

Approved 10 April 2014

Dr Paul Vogel

CHAIRMAN

Environmental Protection Authority

Under delegated authority



Figure 1: Regional location of Coburn Project

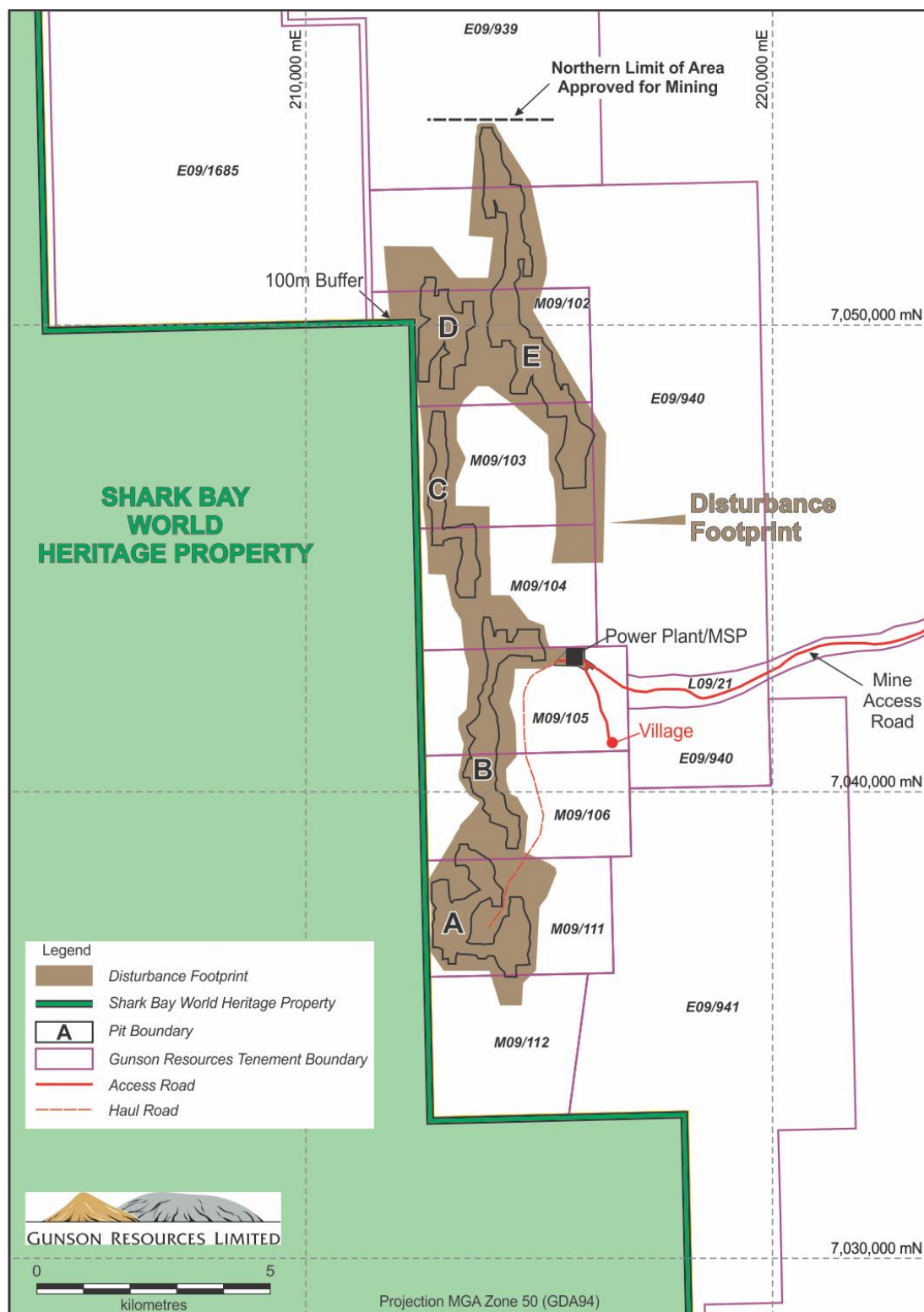


Figure 2: Coburn Mineral Sand Project Mine Layout and Disturbance Footprint

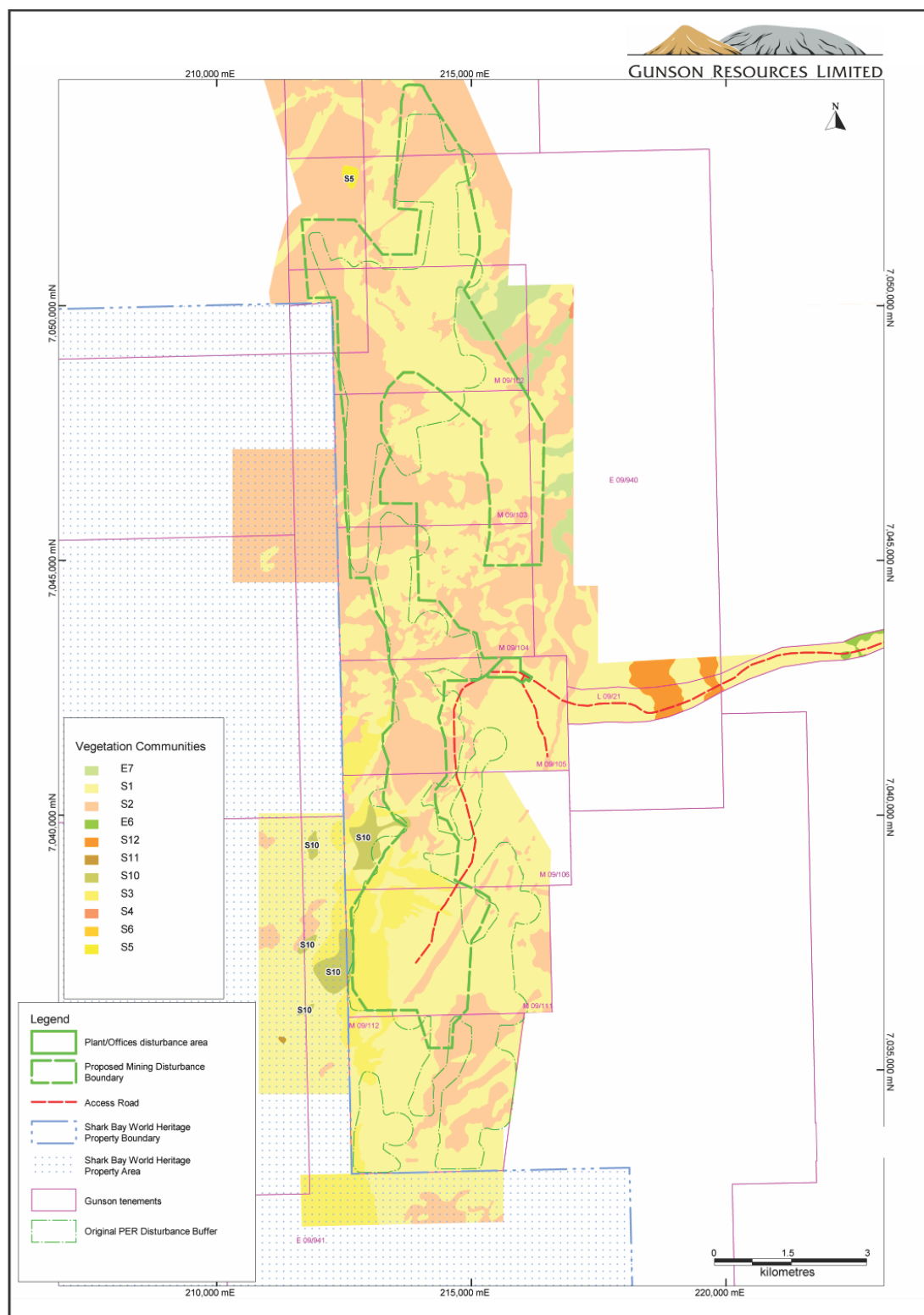


Figure 3: Location of Vegetation Communities S5 and S10 within the Project Area

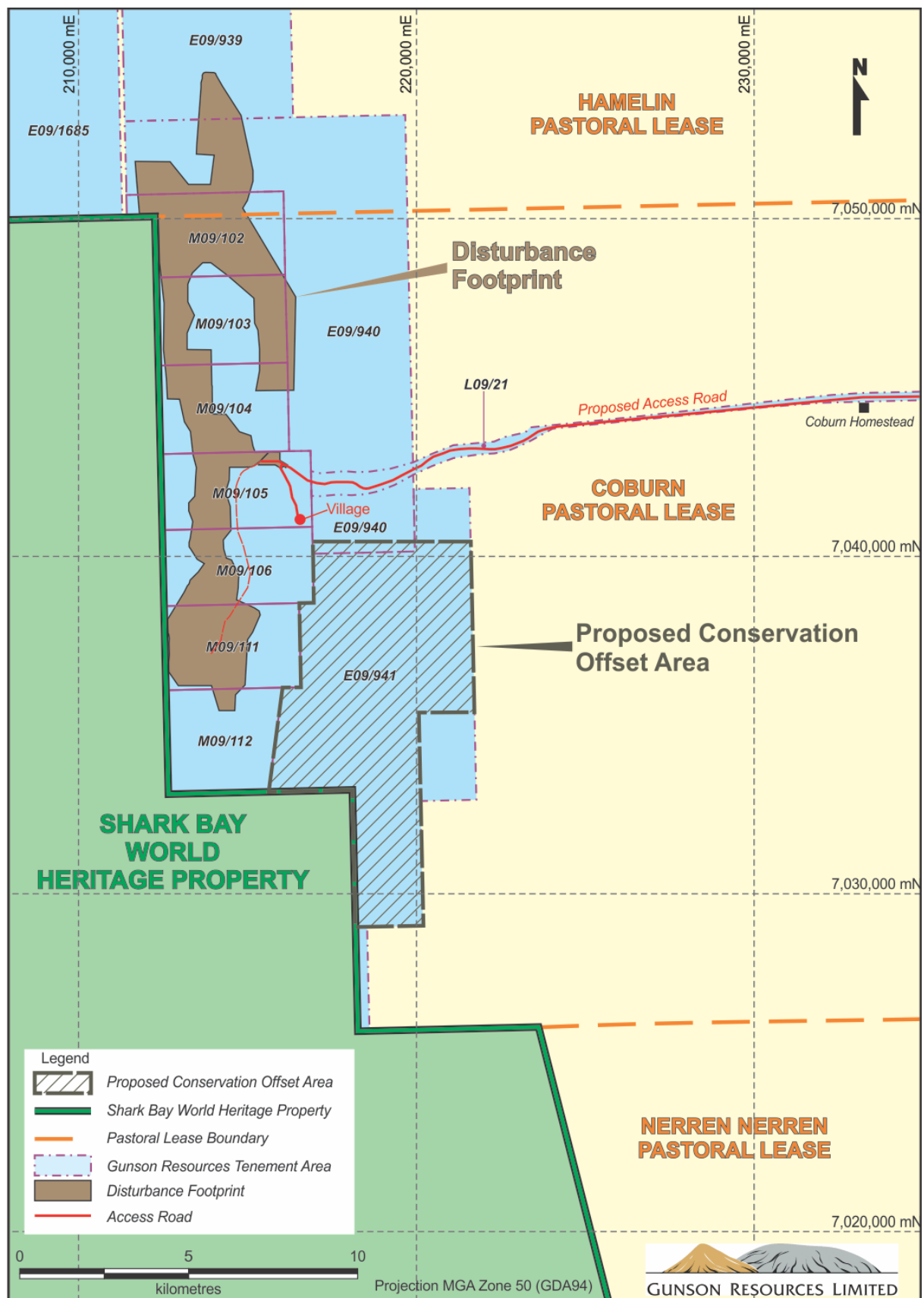


Figure 4: Proposed conservation offset area

Attachment 4 to Ministerial Statement 723

Change to proposal approved under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

This Attachment replaces Schedule 1 and Attachments 1, 2 and 3 of Ministerial Statement 723

Proposal: Coburn Mineral Sand Project

Proponent: Strandline Resources Limited

Changes:

Modification of the:

- disturbance footprint
- pit design
- mining schedule
- infrastructure relocations to align with the optimised pits
- access track realignments
- project life

Table 1: Summary of the Proposal

Proposal Title	Coburn Mineral Sand Project
Short Description	Development of the Coburn Mineral Sand Project, 84 kilometres Southeast of Denham in the Shire of Shark Bay. This involves the excavation and processing of a low-grade heavy mineral sand deposit which will be trucked 250 kilometres south to Geraldton for direct export.

Table 2: Location and authorised extent of physical and operational elements

Element	Location	Previously Authorised Extent	Authorised Extent
Project Life	N/A	Not more than 18 years.	Not more than 23 years.
Rate of Mining	N/A	Approximately 4,600 tph (not more than 36 million tpa).	Approximately 4,600 tph (not more than 36 million tpa).
Disturbance Footprint	Figure 2	Not more than 3,695 hectares.	Not more than 3,585.5 hectares.
Rate of Processing	N/A	Approximately 4,400 tph (not more than 300,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate).	Approximately 4,400 tph (not more than 300,000 tpa of Heavy Mineral Concentrate).

Element	Location	Previously Authorised Extent	Authorised Extent
Estimated Volume of Tailings	N/A	Approximately 4,360 tph.	Approximately 4,360 tph.
Volume of Process Water	N/A	Up to 18 GL/annum from Year 3.	Up to 18 GL/annum from Year 3.

Note: Text in **bold** in Table 2 indicates a change to the proposal.

Table 3: Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
GL	gigalitre
ha	hectare
km	kilometre
tph	tonnes per hour
N/A	not applicable

Figures (attached)

Figure 1: Regional location of Coburn Mineral Sand Project

Figure 2: Coburn Mineral Sand Project Mine Layout and Disturbance Footprint

Figure 3: Location of Vegetation Communities S5 and S10 within the Project Area

Figure 4: Proposed conservation offset area

Table 4: Development Envelope Coordinates

Coordinates defining the Coburn Mineral Sand Project Disturbance Footprint are held by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, document reference number DWERDT310141.

[Signed 23 September 2020]

Dr Tom Hatton

CHAIRMAN

Environmental Protection Authority
under delegated authority



Figure 1: Regional location of Coburn Mineral Sand Project

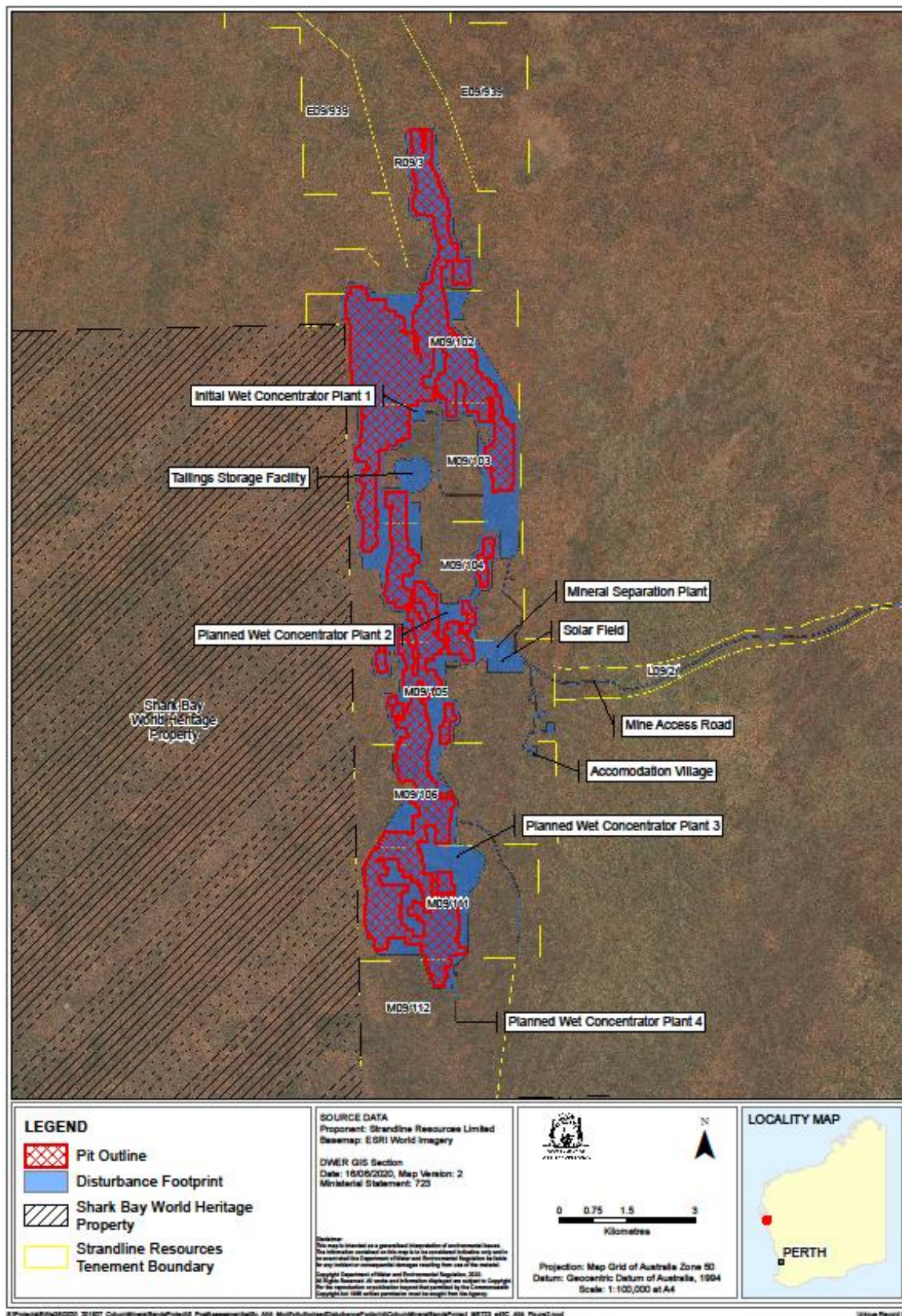


Figure 2: Coburn Mineral Sand Project Mine Layout and Disturbance Footprint

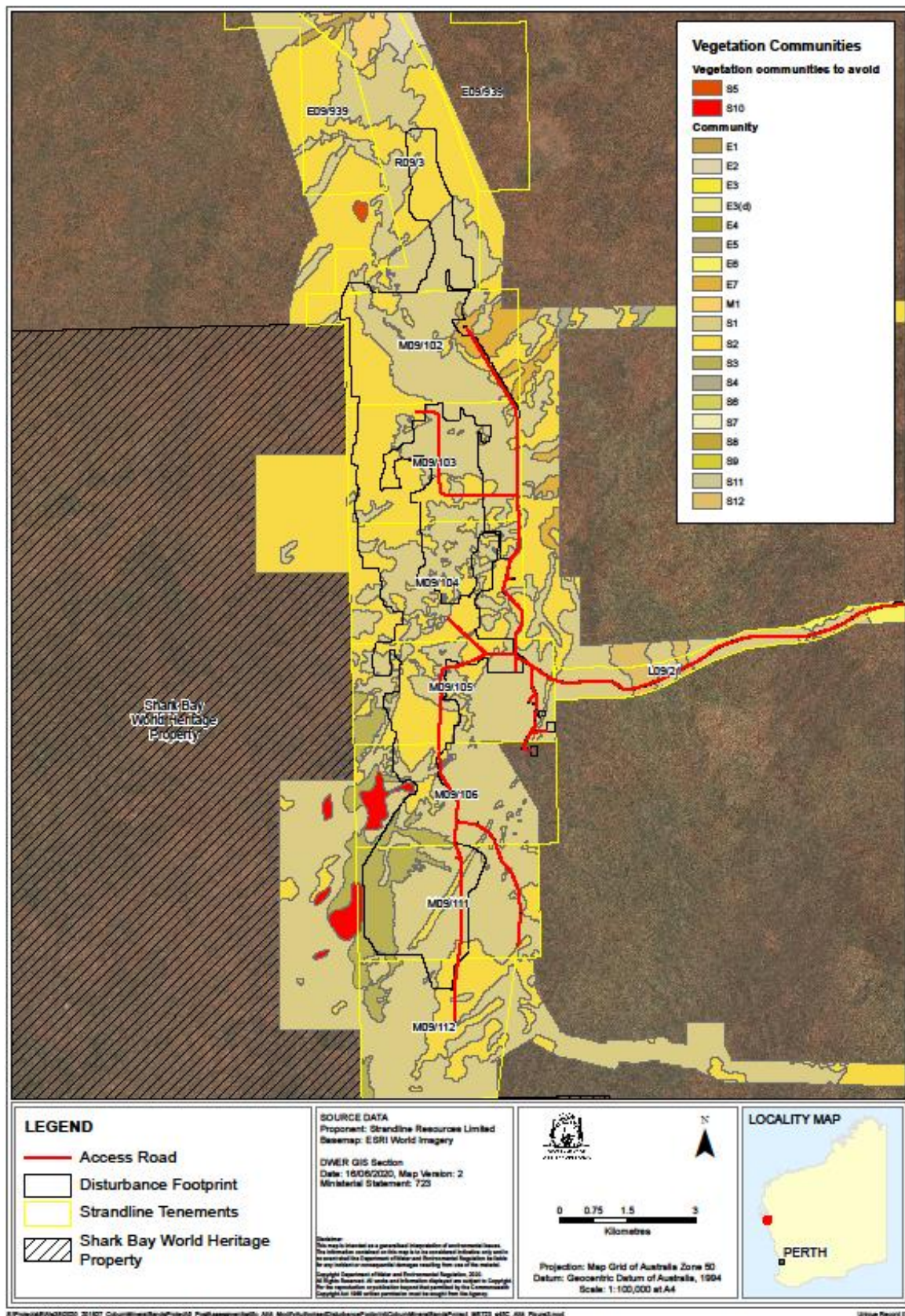


Figure 3: Location of Vegetation Communities S5 and S10 within the Project Area

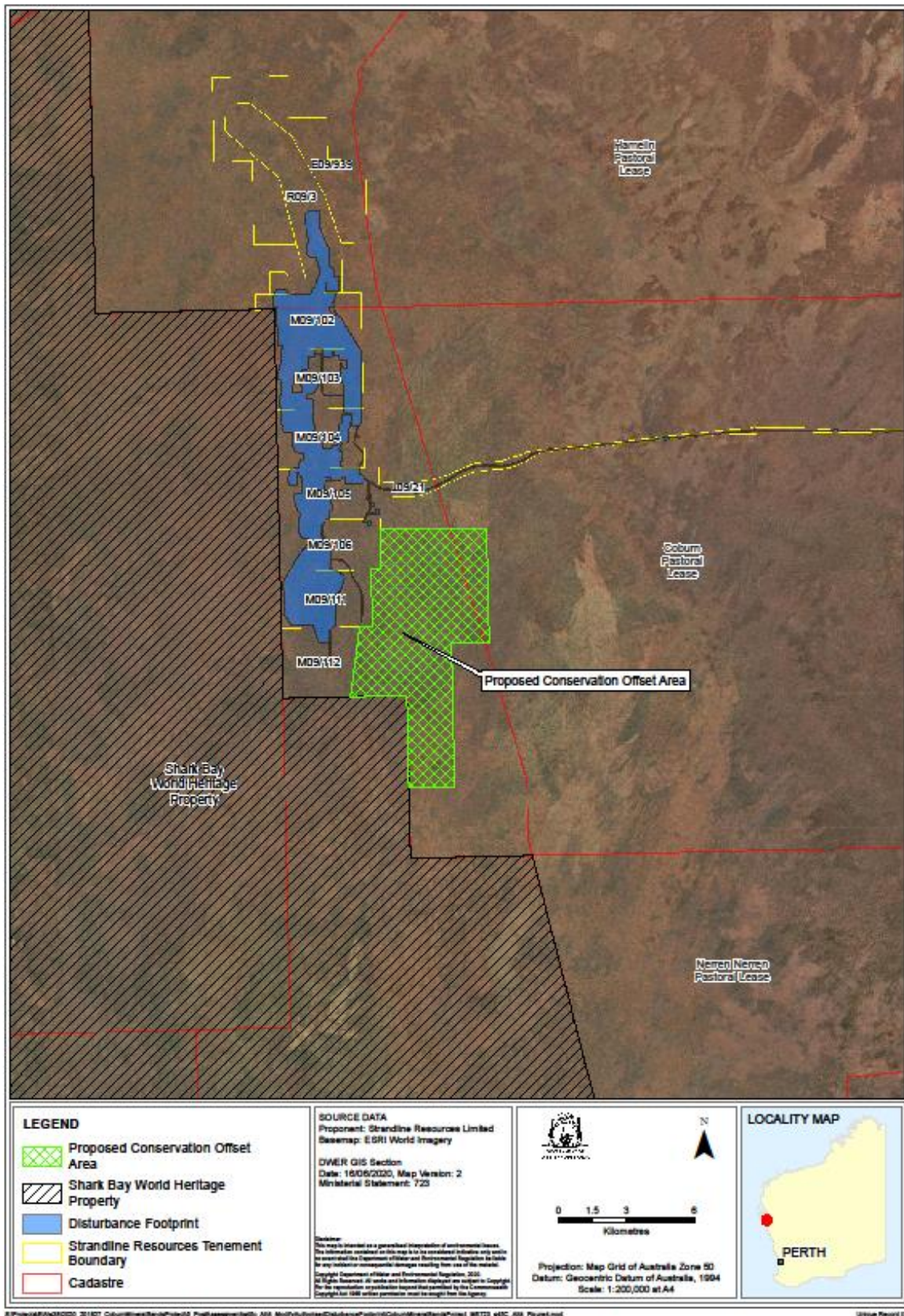


Figure 4: Proposed Conservation Offset Area