

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING DOCUMENT

PROPOSAL:	Yoongarillup Mineral Sands Mine (Assessment No. 1938)
LOCATION:	Approximately 17 kilometres south east of Busselton
LOCALITY:	Mining Leases M70/459 and M70/458
PROPONENT:	Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd
LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT:	Public Environmental Review with a 4 week public review period
EPBC REFERENCE:	2012/6521

This Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) is provided to define the requirements of the Public Environmental Review (PER) document to be prepared in accordance with the Western Australian *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The key environmental factors to be addressed are identified in Section 2. The generic guidelines for the format of an environmental review document are provided in Attachment 1.

The Public Environmental Review document must adequately address all elements of this scoping document prior to approval being given to commence the public review.

1. Introduction

The EP Act sets out that where a proposal is considered to have a significant environmental impact it will be subject to an assessment by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under section 38 of the EP Act. This proposal is being assessed by way of a PER because it raises significant environmental factors. The EPA will, at the conclusion of its assessment, prepare a report on the outcome of its assessment of the proposal and give the assessment report to the Minister for Environment. In accordance with the requirements of the EP Act, The Minister for Environment will then decide whether or not the proposal may be implemented, and, if the proposal may be implemented, the conditions and procedures that implementation of the proposal should be subject.

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The procedure for a PER is described in the Western Australian EP Act *Environmental Impact Assessment – Administrative Procedures 2010*. The proponent should have regard to the Administrative Procedures when preparing the PER.

Under the EPBC Act, a proposed action that has been determined to have a significant impact on one or more Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) protected under the EPBC Act will need to be assessed and approved before it can proceed. This proposal was determined as likely to have a significant impact on listed threatened species (EPBC 2012/6521), in particular three species of EPBC listed threatened Black Cockatoo species: *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Black Cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's Black Cockatoo), and the EPBC listed threatened flora *Daviesia elongate* subsp. *elongata* (Long-Leaved Daviesia). The potential hydrological and physico-chemical impact on the Vasse-Wonnerup System Ramsar wetland has also been identified as needing to be addressed.

This proposal is being assessed by way of an accredited process with the EPA under a bilateral agreement made under section 47 of the EPBC Act. The bilateral agreement allows the Australian Government Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities to rely on the PER process of the State Government of Western Australia in assessing this action under the EPBC Act.

The PER document should contain a separate section identifying MNES, discussing how these matters have been addressed within the document and discussing any offsets proposed to address MNES. Any potential Commonwealth offset must align with the Department for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC) offset policy principles. More information on the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy is available from: <http://environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/environmental-offsets-policy.html>

The assessment report on the proposed action prepared by the EPA and provided to the Western Australian Minister for Environment is forwarded to the Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities who will then make a decision as to whether or not the proposal should be approved under the EPBC Act. This is separate from any Western Australian approval that may be required.

As this proposal is subject to a PER, the proponent is required to produce a PER document in accordance with an approved ESD. The purpose of the ESD is to:

- develop proposal-specific guidelines to direct the proponent on the key environmental issues for the proposal, including MNES that should be addressed in preparing the PER document; and
- identify the necessary impact predictions required for an assessment of the proposal, and the information on the environmental setting required to carry out the assessment.

The EPA has determined that it will prepare and issue the ESD outlining the scope and content of the PER in relation to this proposal.

The EPA, in its formulation of the ESD, undertakes consultation with the proponent regarding the details of the proposal, its environmental setting, the environmental surveys and investigations required and expected outcomes. In addition the EPA will consult with the relevant government agencies, including decision making authorities. The Office of the EPA (OEPA) provides services and facilities for the EPA. In many cases the OEPA will act for the EPA.

ESDs prepared by the EPA are not subject to a public review period. The ESD will be available on the EPA website (www.epa.wa.gov.au) upon finalisation and will be included as an appendix in the PER document.

The proponent will then be required to prepare a PER document in accordance with the ESD. When the EPA is satisfied that the PER document has adequately addressed all of the environmental factors and studies identified in the ESD, the proponent will be required to release the document for a public review period of 4 weeks.

An important aspect of the environmental impact assessment process is the review by the public. The EPA requires public input into the possible environmental impacts of this proposal and its implementation. The EPA expects the proponent to fully consult with interested members of the public and relevant stakeholders, and to take due care in ensuring any other relevant environmental factors which may be of interest to the public and stakeholders are succinctly addressed. The PER should document the matters raised in consultation ideally in a table.

The EPA considers that adequate consultation can be demonstrated when:

- stakeholders are included in the consultation process and are able to make their concerns known;
- are kept informed about the potential and actual environmental impacts; and
- receive responses to the concerns raised including identifying how the proposal has been modified and/or identifying management measures that will be implemented to address the concerns raised.

To facilitate adequate public input, the PER should be made available as widely as possible and at a reasonable cost.

2. Specific Guidelines for the Preparation of the Public Environmental Review Document

2.1 The proposal

The EPA has prepared *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Defining the Key Characteristics of a Proposal* (May 2012) (EAG 1). EAG 1 describes how to define the Key Proposal Characteristics for the purposes of assessing the proposal and subsequent incorporation in the Ministerial approval statement. It is expected that the Key Proposal Characteristics will be informed by the outcome of the work required for the environmental factors that are relevant to the proposal specified below (section 2.2).

Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd propose to develop the Yoongarillup mineral sands mine approximately 17 kilometres (km) south east of Busselton on the Whicher Scarp (Figure 1). The mine has approximately three years of mine life and is proposed to be developed on cleared land and in State Forest. The mine will result in the disturbance of 65 hectares (ha) of pasture and the clearing of approximately 20 ha of native vegetation inside a State Forest managed area. The proposed mine envelope within the area of State Forest is shown in Figure 2. The likely orebody within the area of State Forest is also shown in Figure 2, however the final body is yet to be defined. The summary of the proposal description and key proposal characteristics are provided in Table 1.

This proposal will involve the excavation of several mine pits using dry mining techniques to a maximum of 10m below ground level. It is anticipated that dewatering of groundwater inflows into the mine pits will occur in some areas. Processing will involve ore being transferred by conveyor to a rock box, where it will slurred and passed through trommels where material greater than 4.5mm (maybe 3mm) will be removed. The underflow will be sent to the wet concentrator plant for processing. The underflow which comprises of sand, clay, heavy mineral (HM) and water will be pumped through a series of cyclones to remove clay fines, and then passed through a series of spirals to separate the HM from the sand component. The heavy mineral concentrate (HMC) will be then transported to the existing Picton processing plant. The thickened clay will be combined with the sand component and backfilled into mine voids using co-flocculation where possible.

Table 1 – Summary of the proposal

Proposal Title	Yoongarillup Mineral Sands Mine
Proponent Name	Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd
Short Description	<p>The proposal is to develop a mineral sands mine approximately 17 km south east of Busselton on the Whicher Scarp and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation by dry mining; • dewatering; • water extraction; • processing; • backfill; and • transport of HM concentrate by road.

Table 2 – Location and extent of physical and operational elements

Physical Element	Location	Proposed Extent Authorised
Disturbance and clearing	Figure 2	Disturbance of 65 ha of pasture and clearing of 20 ha of native vegetation within the State Forest estate.
Mine envelope	Figure 2	277 ha
Operational Element	Location	Proposed Extent Authorised
Dewatering	Not specified	To be determined
Water extraction	Water is proposed to be sourced from the Yarragadee aquifer. Pit dewater and rainfall catchment will supplement the bore water once infrastructure is established	Water use of 1.5 gigalitre (Gl) per annum
Backfill	All mine voids	Thickened clay and sand component will be combined and backfilled into all mine voids

2.2 Environmental factors and policy documents relevant to this proposal

The PER should give a detailed assessment of each of the environmental factors identified for this proposal. At this preliminary stage, the EPA has identified the relevant environmental factors, objectives and work required is as detailed below (see Table 3).

The EPA has identified a list of relevant policy documents (see Table 2) which set out how the EPA expects the environmental factors to be considered. The EPA expects that the treatment of environmental factors will be consistent with the approaches set out in these policy documents. The EPA also considers that the proponent should assess the proposal in a local and regional context and ensure that all cumulative impacts are addressed.

The proponent should demonstrate in the PER that best available technology would be implemented to prevent, control and abate emissions to an acceptable level or explain any deviations from best available technology.

The EPA considers that the following environmental factors are relevant to the proposal:

- Flora and Vegetation;
- Fauna;
- Hydrological Processes;
- Rehabilitation and mine closure; and
- Residual risk management.

Table 3: Key Environmental factors relevant to the proposal

Flora and Vegetation	
EPA objective	To maintain the conservation status, diversity, and productivity of flora and vegetation at species and ecosystem levels through the avoidance or management of adverse impacts and improvement in knowledge.
Potential Impacts	The proposal involves the clearing of up to 20 ha of native vegetation.
Work required	<p>Detailed description of clearing associated with the proposal, including from direct impacts, and the indirect impacts of hydrological drawdown;</p> <p>Figure showing the extent of clearing or loss of vegetation from direct and indirect impacts;</p> <p>Desktop study and discussion of flora and vegetation surveys conducted in areas that are likely to be directly or indirectly disturbed as a result of the proposal. Where previous survey information is not available, or is not of acceptable quality in accordance with Guidance Statement 51, surveys to be undertaken in accordance with Guidance Statement 51;</p> <p>Analysis of the extent of clearing and conservation status of vegetation and/or flora species to be cleared, including percentages of vegetation types and/or conservation significant species to be cleared to assist in the determination of the significance of impacts;</p> <p>Determine the conservation significance of the flora communities impacted by the proposal. Based on the outcome of flora investigations, examine the need for, and if necessary, conduct a floristic analysis of the floristic community types (FCT) of the proposal area, consistent with the methodology employed in the <i>A Floristic Survey of the Whicher Scarp</i> (Keighery BJ, Keighery GJ, Webb A, Longman VM and Griffin EA 2008);</p> <p>Discussion of potential direct impacts to Flora as a result of the proposal, with particular regard to EPBC Act MNES and provision of quantitative data on impacts of the proposal to species of conservation significance.</p> <p>Discussion of potential for indirect impacts to flora and vegetation (with particular regard to EPBC Act MNES), including impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation as a result of increased dewatering activities; and</p> <p>Discussion of proposed management, monitoring and mitigation methods to be implemented.</p>
Relevant policy/guidance documents	<p>Position Statement 2 Environmental Protection of Native Vegetation in Western Australia;</p> <p>Position Statement 3 Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Biodiversity Protection;</p> <p>Guidance Statement No. 51 Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia June 2004;</p> <p><i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999;</i></p> <p>Checklist for documents submitted for EIA on marine and terrestrial biodiversity; and</p> <p>Environmental Protection Bulletin No. 6 – The Natural Values of the Whicher Scarp.</p> <p><i>A Floristic Survey of the Whicher Scarp</i> http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/policies_guidelines/reports/Pages/AFloristicSurveyoftheWhicherScarp.aspx?pageID=12&url=policies_guidelines/reports</p>

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Fauna and Habitat	
EPA objective	To maintain the conservation status, diversity, and productivity of Fauna and its habitat at species and ecosystem levels through the avoidance or management of adverse impacts and improvement in knowledge.
Potential impacts	Clearing of vegetation would result in loss or fragmentation of fauna habitat and consequential displacement of fauna; and Death or injury of fauna may occur during clearing and construction.
Work required	Desktop study of information available to provide a comprehensive listing of fauna known or likely to occur in the habitat present, and identification of conservation significant fauna species likely to occur in the area; Where previous surveys are not available, or are not of acceptable quality in accordance with Guidance Statement 56, Level 1 survey and mapping of habitats within areas to be cleared should be conducted in accordance with Guidance Statement 56; Identification of important, rare or unusual habitat types; Analysis of the extent of clearing, including percentages of habitat types to be cleared, to assist in determination of significance of impacts to fauna; Where the desktop study and habitat analysis indicates that it is appropriate, conduct targeted Level 2 surveys for conservation significant species; Discussion of potential impacts to Fauna as a result of the proposal, with particular regard to EPBC Act MNES and provision of quantitative data on impacts of the proposal to species of conservation significance. Demonstrate the extent to which areas are used for foraging and/or nesting; and Discussion of proposed management, monitoring and mitigation methods to be implemented.
Relevant policy/guidance documents	Guidance Statement No. 56 Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia June 2004; Position Statement 3 Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Biodiversity Protection; <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> ; and Checklist for documents submitted for EIA on marine and terrestrial biodiversity.
Hydrological Processes	
EPA objective	To maintain the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that existing and potential uses, including ecosystem maintenance, are protected.
Potential impacts	Mining operations have the potential to intersect the superficial aquifer. The has the potential to impact any adjacent groundwater dependent vegetation, neighbouring pasture and other nearby bores in the Leederville formation. The abstraction of water from the deeper Yarragadee aquifer has the risk of interference with overlying aquifer zones (Leederville) access by neighbouring licenced users.
Work required	Discussion to demonstrate the likely availability of water for the proposal, water quality and discussion of impacts of both groundwater drawdown and any proposed discharges. This should include a water balance for the mining operations; Demonstration of the extent of groundwater drawdown impacts on and off-site; Identification of the location(s) and volume of any proposed discharges to the environment.;
Work required	Identify using maps and/or figures the extent of groundwater drawdown, and the locations of any proposed dewatering and/or discharges. This should indicate the above information in relation to the potential impacts on native vegetation, nearby agricultural

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	<p>land and other users;</p> <p>Identification of potential impacts from the Yarragadee aquifer extraction on overlying aquifers and neighbouring users;</p> <p>Discussion of proposed management, monitoring and mitigation methods to be implemented.</p>
Relevant policy/guidance documents	<p>Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC and ARMCANZ, 2000);</p> <p>Government of WA 2004, State Water Quality Management Strategy Document No. 6; <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act (1914)</i>;</p> <p><i>Country Areas Water Supply Act (1947)</i>; and</p> <p>Department of Water 2012 Western Australian Water in Mining Guideline: Draft for Public Comment.</p>
Rehabilitation and Mine Closure	
EPA objective	To ensure that a planning process is in place so that the mine can be closed, decommissioned and rehabilitated in an ecologically sustainable manner, consistent with agreed post-mining outcomes and land-uses, and without unacceptable liability to the State.
Potential impacts	<p>Poor rehabilitation and closure procedures, planning and management practices may result in a number of undesirable impacts to the receiving environment such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unauthorised vegetation disturbance; • Depletion of topsoil resources; • compacted soil layers with poor infiltration rates; and • the introduction of <i>Phytophthora Dieback</i> or weeds to rehabilitated areas.
Work required	<p>Desktop study of successful mine rehabilitation procedures;</p> <p>Identify and propose completion criteria; and</p> <p>Prepare a mine closure plan.</p>
Relevant policy/guidance documents	<p>Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans. June 2011. (Environmental Protection Authority and Department of Mines and Petroleum); and</p> <p>Guidance Statement No. 6: Rehabilitation of Terrestrial Ecosystems. June 2006.</p>
Residual Risk Management	
EPA objective	Where all efforts to avoid and minimise environmental impacts have been made and significant environmental impacts still remain (residual impacts), then offsets should be considered.
Potential impacts	Potential impacts on vegetation, flora and fauna species. Discussion of potential impacts to flora and fauna species and MNES.
Work required	<p>Examination of residual impacts and development of draft program of environmental offsets;</p> <p>Identification of residual impacts with regard to MNES; and</p> <p>Inclusion in the PER of completed Environmental Offsets Reporting Form and any offsets required and proposed.</p>
Relevant policy/guidance documents	<p>WA Environmental Offsets Policy, September 2011;</p> <p>Environmental Protection Bulletin No 19 – Environmental offsets – Biodiversity September 2008;</p>

	Position Statement 9 Environmental offsets; EPBC Environmental Offsets Policy; and Offsets reporting Form.
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These factors must be addressed within the environmental review document for the public to consider and make comment to the EPA. The EPA anticipates addressing these factors in its report to the Minister for Environment, which is forwarded to the Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. All technical reports, modelling and referenced documents (not currently in the public domain) used in the preparation of the PER should be included as appendices to the document.

2.3 Other Environmental Factors

The EPA expects the proponent to take due care in ensuring other relevant environmental factors which may be of interest to the public are addressed and that management is described in the PER.

The EPA has identified other environmental factors which it considers warrant attention as part of the environmental review of this proposal to the extent that the PER should show how these factors will be mitigated and the extent to which other statutory decision making processes can regulate potential impacts to meet the EPA's objectives. These include but are not limited to the following:

- *Water Resources*

It is indicated that water supplies for the Yoongarillup Mineral Sands mine operations will be drawn from the deeper Yarragadee aquifer. A groundwater licence (GWL) administered by the Department for Water (DoW) will be required. It is recommended that the proponent consult the DoW regarding the groundwater licence and specific requirements of the DoW to ensure that where practical, the groundwater abstraction licence is processed in parallel with the EPA's assessment.

- *Vasse-Wonnerup System Ramsar wetland*

The proponent shall demonstrate the extent of groundwater drawdown impacts on and off-site, and whether there is likely to be an impact on the Vasse-Wonnerup System Ramsar wetland. The proponent shall confirm the location(s) and volume of any proposed discharges to the environment. The proponent shall also provide a map that outlines the extent of groundwater drawdown, and the locations of any proposed dewatering and/or discharges. This map should indicate the above information in relation to the proposal and also with reference to the Vasse-Wonnerup System Ramsar wetland.

- Discussion of potential groundwater impacts (levels and increased risk of Acid Sulphate Soils) and subsequent mitigation strategies in order to maintain groundwater inflows to the Vasse-Wonnerup System.

- *Dieback mapping and management*

Mining activities such as vehicle movement and site disturbance associated with the proposal may result in the spread of dieback within and outside the project area. The proponent shall provide baseline mapping of dieback affected areas in any area likely to be directly or indirectly impacted by the

proposal, and propose management measures to address the potential risk of introducing or spreading dieback.

- *Dust*
The proponent should identify sources of dust and propose management measures.
- *Noise*
The proponent should provide details of an environmental noise study including:
 - A map showing the locations of all noise sensitive premises adjacent to the mining operations or likely to be affected by the proposal.
 - Environmental noise monitoring at representative noise-sensitive premises.
 - Noise predictions for proposed operations and proposed management measures.

This list is provided to assist with the preparation of the Public Environmental Review document. If during the course of the preparation of the document other factors are identified, these factors should be discussed with the OEPA to determine whether they are to be addressed in the PER.

2.4 Other Approvals

The EPA notes that a number of other approvals will be required for the proposal. Where possible, the EPA advises that these approvals should be processed in parallel with the PER. These include Water Licensing and other approvals required by the Department of Water, and the Mine Proposal and Mine Closure Plans required by the Department of Mines and Petroleum.

Inclusion of information relating to these approvals as appendices to the PER document prior to public review would be desirable and would eliminate some duplication of processes.

2.5 Agreed Assessment Milestones

EPA Environmental Assessment Guideline No. 6 "Timelines for EIA of Proposals" addresses the responsibilities proponents and EPA for achieving timely and effective assessment of proposals.

This timeline (Table 3) is agreed between the EPA and proponent. Proponents are expected to meet the agreed proposal assessment timeline, and in doing so, provide adequate, quality information to inform the assessment. Proponents will need to allocate sufficient time to undertake the necessary studies to the appropriate standard and incorporate the outcomes of the studies into the PER.

Where an agreed timeline is not being met by the proponent, or if adequate information is not submitted by the proponent, the timeline for subsequent steps will be re-established. Where the OEPA is unable to meet a date in the agreed timelines the proponent will be advised prior to the agreed delivery date and the timeline adjusted.

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The EPA will report to the Minister for Environment on whether the agreed proposal assessment timeline has been met. Where the timeline has not been met, the reasons for this will be identified in the report.

Table 4: Agreed Milestones for the proposal

Key Stage of Proposal	Agreed Milestone
EPA approval of ESD Document	January 2013
Proponent submits first adequate draft of PER Document	15th April 2013
OEPA provides comment on first draft PER Document	6 weeks 27 May 2013
Proponent submits adequate revised draft PER Document	4 weeks 24 June 2013
EPA authorises release of PER Document	2 weeks 15 July 2013
Proponent releases approved PER Document	1 Week 22 July 2013
Public Review of PER Document	4 weeks Ends: 19 August 2013
EPA provides Summary of Submissions	3 Weeks 9 September 2013
Proponent provides Response to Public Submissions	4 Weeks 7 October 2013
OEPA assesses proposal for consideration by EPA	7 weeks 25 November 2013
Preparation and finalisation of EPA Report (including 2 weeks consultation on draft conditions with proponent and key Government agencies)	5 weeks + 2 weeks (Xmas) 13 Jan 2014

2.6 Decision Making Authorities

At this preliminary stage, the EPA has identified the following decision making authorities (DMAs) (see Table 4). These DMAs are constrained from making any decision that could have the effect of causing or allowing the revised proposal to be implemented. Throughout the assessment process further DMAs may be identified.

Table 5: Nominated Decision Making Authorities

Decision Making Authority	Relevant Legislation
Department of Environment and Conservation	Part V of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
Minister for Water	<i>RiWI Act 1914</i>
Minister for Mines and Petroleum	<i>Mining Act 1978</i>
Department of Mines and Petroleum	<i>Mining Act 1978</i>
Minister for Indigenous Affairs	<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i>
Shire of Busselton	Planning approvals

DMAs are not prevented from parallel processing, up to the point of their decision, so that their views can inform the ministerial consultation process.

2.7 Preparation of the Public Environmental Review Document

The recommended format for the Public Environmental Review document is enclosed as Attachment 1.

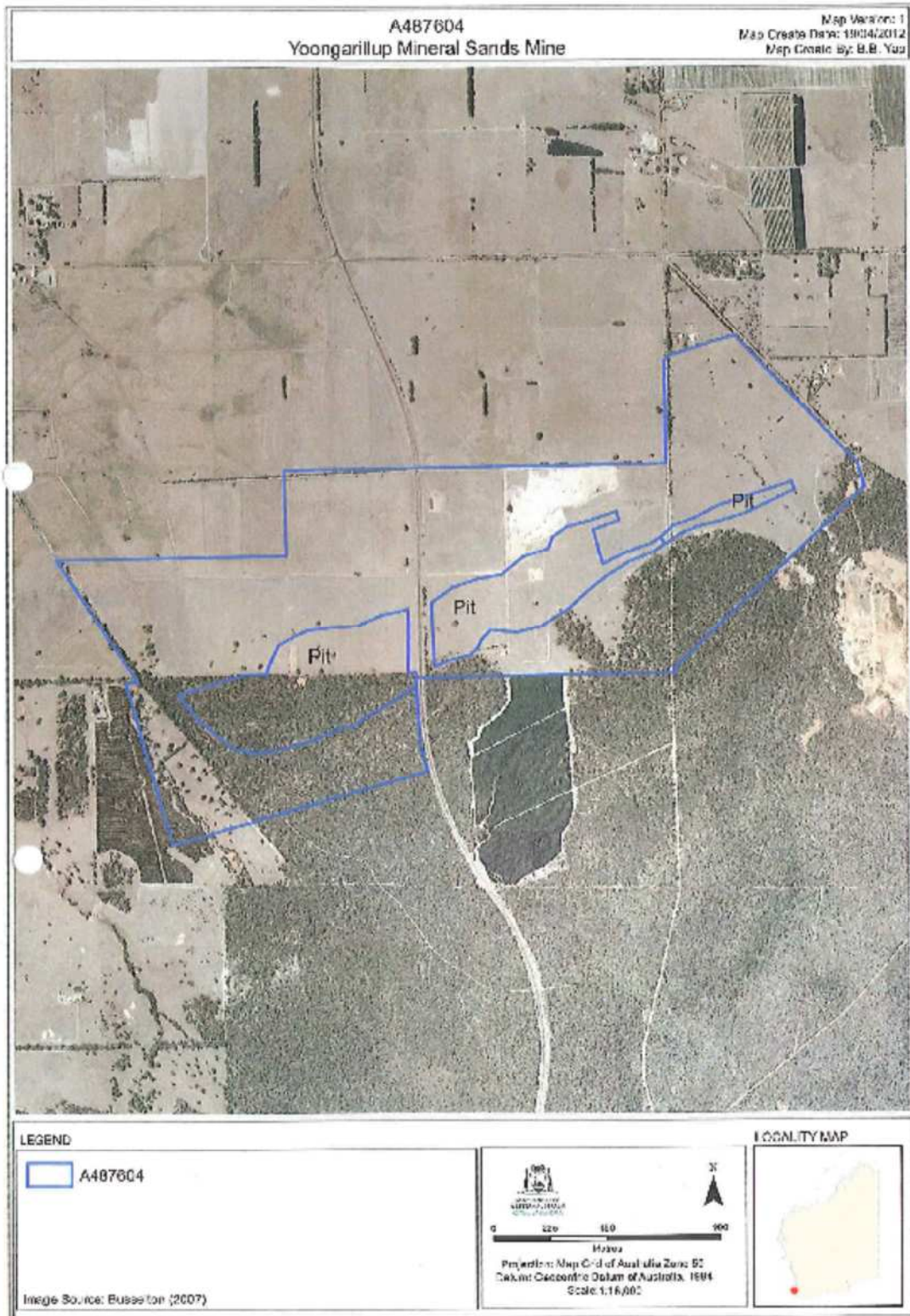
When the EPA and DSEWPaC are satisfied with the standard of the PER document (see EAG 6 Section 4.3) it will provide a written sign-off, giving approval to advertise the document for public review. The review document may not be advertised for release before written approval is received.

The proponent is responsible for advertising the release and availability of the PER in accordance with the guidelines which will be issued to the proponent by the OEPA. The EPA must be consulted on the timing and details for advertising the document.

Figure 1 - Location of Proposal



Figure 2 – Mine Envelope and likely orebody



Attachment 1

Generic Guidelines for Preparing a Public Environmental Review

(see www.epa.wa.gov.au)



Environmental Protection Authority

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RECEIVED
29 AUG 2012

BY:

Ms Rebecca Dix
Project Engineer
Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd
PO Box 9155
PICTON WA 6229

Our Ref A487604
Enquiries Mark Jefferies
Phone 6467 5403

Dear Ms Dix

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 39A(3) *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

PROPOSAL: Yoongarillup Mineral Sands Mine
LOCATION: approximately 17 km south east of Busselton
PROPONENT: Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd
DECISION: Public Environmental Review with a 4 week public review period (Assessment No. 1938)
PROCEDURE: EPA-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has determined that the likely environmental impacts of the above proposal are sufficient to warrant assessment of the proposal under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The EPA has determined further that:

- the level of assessment be set at Public Environmental Review with a 4 week public review period, and
- the EPA will prepare an environmental scoping document (ESD).

There is no right of appeal in relation to the EPA's decision to assess this proposal or its determination as to the level of assessment.

Please note that it is an offence under section 41A(1) of the EP Act for any person to do anything to implement this proposal now that the EPA has decided to assess it, unless the work is minor or preliminary and done with the prior written consent of the EPA. Authorisations under other legislation may also be required for minor and preliminary works and will need to be obtained before those works are undertaken.

Notice that the EPA will assess the above proposal has been provided to relevant decision-making authorities.

ADVICE

It is necessary for the Minister to nominate a company, agency or person responsible for the project. Accordingly, would you please advise by return mail the full name and title of the registered company, or if not a registered company, the full name and title of the agency or person responsible for the project. Should the nominated proponent cease to be responsible for the proposal, the nominated proponent is required to give written notice to the EPA of the person or entity to whom responsibility for the proposal has passed.

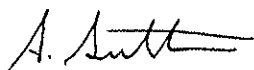
The next stage of the assessment process will be for the EPA to provide the proponent with an ESD which sets out in detail the form, content, timing and procedure of the environmental review that the proponent will be required to undertake and report thereon to the EPA in accordance with section 40(2)(b) of the EP Act. A target timeline for the review and assessment of the proposal will also be determined in consultation with you.

On completion of the environmental review and report to the EPA's satisfaction, the EPA will assess the proposal and prepare an assessment report and recommendations for the Minister for Environment in accordance with section 44 of the EP Act. The EPA's assessment report will be available on the EPA website, www.epa.wa.gov.au, and you will receive a copy of the report on its release.

Any person who disagrees with the content of, or recommendations in, the EPA's assessment report may lodge an appeal to the Minister for Environment. Following the determination of any appeals, the Minister will consult with any other Ministers who are also decision-making authorities in respect of this proposal, or if no Ministers, with other decision-making agencies in relation to making a decision as to whether or not the proposal should be implemented and, if so, the conditions of implementation.

Should you wish to seek further information please contact the assessment officer in the first instance. The Office of the EPA assessment officer for this proposal is Mark Jefferies whose direct telephone number is 6467 5403.

Yours sincerely



Anthony Sutton
Director
Assessment and Compliance Division

27 August 2012