



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

Dear Ms Dix

**Decision on referral
Yoongarillup Mineral Sands Project, WA (EPBC 2012/6521)**

The proposed action, by Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd, to establish a sand mining operation at Yoongarillup road, Sabina River WA, has now been considered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

As a delegate of the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, I have decided that the proposed action is a controlled action and, as such, requires assessment and a decision on approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed.

It appears that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the following matter protected by the EPBC Act:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A);
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 & 17B).

For example, based on the information available in the referral, the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact because:

- it involves the clearing of up to 20.0 ha of good quality foraging, roosting and potential breeding habitat for Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) and Baudin's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*).
- the area to be cleared contains a population of Long-Leaved Daviesia (*Daviesia elongata* subsp. *elongata*).
- a substantial and measurable change in the hydrological regime and the physico-chemical status of the nearby Vasse-Wonnerup System Ramsar wetland is considered possible due to groundwater dewatering as a part of the mining process.

Please note that this decision only relates to the potential for significant impact on the specific matters protected by the Australian Government under Chapter 2 of the EPBC Act.

I have also decided that the project will need to be assessed through state/territory assessment under a bilateral agreement, applying the Western Australian Environmental Impact Assessment Administrative Procedures 2010 as made under the Western Australian *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Each assessment approach requires different levels of information and involves different steps. All levels of assessment will include a public consultation phase, *in which any third parties can comment on the proposed action.*

A copy of the document recording these decisions is enclosed.

I have also written to the Hon Martin Ferguson, Minister for Resources and Energy, and Mr Anthony Sutton of the WA Office of the Environmental Protection Authority, advising them of my decision.

If you have any questions about the referral process or this decision, please contact the project manager, Justin Williams, by email to justin.williams@environment.gov.au, or telephone 02 6275 9492 and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Barbara Jones', written in a cursive style.

Barbara Jones
Assistant Secretary
North, West & Offshore Assessment Branch

26 September 2012



**Notification of
REFERRAL DECISION AND DESIGNATED PROPONENT – controlled
action
DECISION ON ASSESSMENT APPROACH**

Yoongarillup Mineral Sands Project, WA (EPBC 2012/6521)

This decision is made under section 75 and section 87 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

proposed action The establishment of a sand mining operation at Yoongarillup Road, Sabina River WA [See EPBC Act referral 2012/6521].

decision on proposed action The proposed action is a controlled action.

The project will require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed.

relevant controlling provisions

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 & 17B)

designated proponent Doral Mineral Sands Pty Ltd

ABN 18 096 342 451

assessment approach The action will be assessed by public environment review under the bilateral agreement with the WA Government

Decision-maker

Name and position Barbara Jones
Assistant Secretary
North, West & Offshore Assessment Branch

Signature

date of decision 26 September 2012
