



# 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

Product name Spodumene Concentrate BLEND

**Synonyms** Aluminosilicates in a mixture with other naturally occurring minerals. Mineral

Concentrate.

Intended use Mining Industry. Concentrated lithium aluminosilicate ore (i.e. spodumene) for

refining process.

CAS-No. Not applicable.

Supplier PILBARA MINERALS LIMITED

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SDS Date 15 April 2021

### 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

## Classification of Substance according to GHS, 8th revised edition [Refer Section 15].

NOT CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS NOT CLASSIFIED AS DANGEROUS GOOD

Pilbara Minerals spodumene concentrate blend is a blend of the Pilbara Minerals coarse spodumene concentrate and the Pilbara Minerals spodumene concentrate fines. Based on the composition information for the fines and coarse concentrate, and a respirable crystalline silica analysis undertaken on the spodumene concentrate blend, the spodumene concentrate blend is not classified as hazardous to human health. The mixture rules in the GHS have been applied when considering the hazard classification of the product. Concentrations of constituents which could potentially drive a hazard classification were below the designated cut-off concentrations (9, 19, 20).

#### **Hazard Classes and Categories**

None applicable

## Labelling according to GHS, 8th revised edition:

Substance: Spodumene concentrate blend

Hazard Pictograms None applicable

Signal Word: Not applicable

Hazard Statements: Not applicable

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#### **Precautionary Statements:**

P260 Do not breathe dust.

P273 Avoid release to the environment.

P280 Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection.

**Not classified as Dangerous Good** according to the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (8) for road/rail transport and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (3). Refer Section 14.

## 3. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Recommended use: Industrial applications.

**Appearance:** Blend of fine and coarse sand-coloured particulate material. It is an amorphous solid ore concentrate consisting predominantly of lithium aluminosilicate (i.e. spodumene, [LiAl(Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>)], quartz, and other minerals and trace metals found in soil/rock that are not readily separable into the individual components. The mineralogy of the blended concentrate, along with elemental analysis of the coarse and fine products are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 – Typical Composition of Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend

Component	CAS Number	Concentration % wt/wt
Spodumene [LiAl(Si <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> )]	12068-40-5	50-60%
Quartz (SiO <sub>2</sub> )*	14808-60-7	5-10%
Albite (NaAlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> )	12244-10-9	<5%
Muscovite [KAl <sub>2</sub> (AlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>10</sub> )(F,OH) <sub>2</sub> ]	1318-94-1	<5%
Other aluminosilicates (e.g. microcline, clinochlore, and amorphous material)	Various	20-30%
Moisture (H <sub>2</sub> O)	7732-18-5	<5%
Trace Minerals (total)	Not Available	<1%

Mineralogical composition approximated from semi-quantitative XRD analysis undertaken on <20µm material (23). Elemental analysis on the coarse and fine products indicated a typical concentration of 70% (fines) or 75% (coarse) Si; 23.4% (fines) or 16% (coarse) Al; 3.9% (fines) or 4.5% (coarse) Li; 0.8% (fines) or 0.4% (coarse) Ca; 0.7% (fines) or 0.4% (coarse) Fe; 0.6% (fines) or 0.2% (coarse) Mn; 0.3% (fines) or 0.2% (coarse) P; 0.1% (fines) or 1% (coarse) K; and 0.1% (fines) or 0.007% (coarse) S (5, 21). The elemental composition of the **Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend** falls somewhere in between these ranges.

#### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

**Ingestion:** Not a normal route of exposure due to product form. Ingestion of large amounts may

cause irritability of the digestive system. If swallowed, rinse mouth with water. Give plenty of water to drink. Do not make a semi-conscious or unconscious person vomit. If vomiting occurs give further water. If signs or symptoms develop, seek medical advice.

In Australia Phone 13 11 26.

**Eye contact:** If irritation or discomfort exists, irrigate eyes gently with copious quantities of water for

15 minutes. In all cases of eye contamination, it is a sensible precaution to seek medical

advice, especially if irritation persists.

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<sup>\*</sup> Crystalline silica (when crushed) may produce hazardous respirable dust. Based on respirable crystalline silica analysis of the concentrate blend by X-ray diffraction, **Pilbara Spodumene Concentrate Blend** contains <0.1% respirable crystalline silica (19).



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**Skin contact:** If skin contact occurs wash affected skin thoroughly with soap and water, if severe

contact occurs remove contaminated clothing and wash affected areas with soap and

water.

**Inhalation:** Do not breathe dust. If excess dust is inhaled or irritation or discomfort exists, remove to

fresh air. Blow nose to clear breathing passages and rinse mouth with water. Recovery should be rapid after removal from exposure. If other than minor symptoms are displayed, seek medical advice. *In Australia Phone 13 11 26.* May aggravate pre-

existing respiratory conditions such as bronchitis or asthma due to nuisance dust nature.

**Notes to physician:** Treat symptomatically.

**First Aid Facilities:** Eye wash facilities and safety shower should be available close to the work area.

# 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

Specific hazards: Non-combustible solid, based on known properties of both constituents which make up

the product (i.e. fines and coarse concentrate). Will not evolve toxic or flammable gases on contact with water. It is unknown if it may evolve toxic gases when heated to decomposition (likely to be >500 °C, but unknown). In such an event, evacuate area and contact emergency services. *In Australia* 000. Remain upwind and notify persons

downwind of hazard.

Extinguishing Media: Use waterfog, foam, carbon dioxide or dry agent to cool intact containers and nearby

storage areas and/or fight fire. Suppress dust. Self-contained Breathing Apparatus

(SCBA) and full protective gear should be used when combating fire.

Fire fighting further advice: Non-combustible solid. Fire fighters should wear approved, positive pressure,

self-contained breathing apparatus and full protective clothing when appropriate.

Australian Hazchem Code: 2Z

Self-Heating Test: Not classified as a Class 4.2 or 4.3 Dangerous Good (9, 20).

## **6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

Clear area of unprotected personnel; wear gloves, dust proof goggles, a particulate respirator, coveralls and boots when cleaning spills. Recover using mechanical means. Avoid generating dust (e.g. spray lightly with water). Collect and contain recoverable material for recycling or disposal. Do not allow contamination to drains, sewers or waterways.

#### 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

**Handling:** Carefully read the product label or other instructions prior to use. Safe work practices

should be employed to avoid eye or skin contact and inhalation. Observe good personal hygiene, including thoroughly washing hands before eating. All eating, drinking and

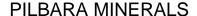
smoking should be prohibited in work areas.

Storage: Avoid generating dust. Consider dust suppression techniques to control dust. Store in a

cool, dry, well- ventilated area, and away from oxidising agents, acids and foodstuffs.

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## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

#### **National Workplace Exposure Standards (1):**

No value assigned for this specific material by Safe Work Australia. Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) for elemental components are as follows (1):

	CAS	WES in Air (mg/m³)		Biological Exposure Index (BEI)
	Number	TWA	STEL	
Aluminium (metal dust)	7429-90-5	10		-
Silica, Crystalline - Quartz (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	14808-60-7	0.05	-	-

**Engineering measures:** Do not breathe dust. Ensure ventilation is adequate and that air concentrations of components are controlled below quoted Exposure Standards.

**Personal Protection Equipment:** The selection of PPE is dependent on a detailed site-specific risk assessment. The risk assessment should consider the work situation, the physical form of the chemical (including the moisture & dustiness of the product), the handling methods, and environmental factors.

It is a good precaution to wear dust-proof goggles, coveralls, and gloves. Use with adequate ventilation. If product is dry and dust inhalation risk exists wear particulate respirator. For example, P2 (Particulate) filter respirator, meeting the requirements of AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716. Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storage or re-use. Do not take working clothes home.

Eye: Wear safety glasses to avoid eye contact.

**Skin Protection:** Wear appropriate work clothing or coveralls and gloves to avoid prolonged direct skin contact.







#### 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Form / Colour / Odour: Sand-coloured blend of fine and coarse particulate material with minimal or no odour.

Specific Gravity (t/m³) : N Av

Vapour Density: N AppBoiling Point: N AppVapour Pressure: N AppMelting Point: N av

Flash Point : N App Decomp. Temp : Likely >500°C

Flammability Limits : Non Flammable **Sublimation Point** : N App Autoignition Temp : N Av : N Av pΗ % Volatile by volume : N App Viscosity : N App : N App Solubility in water : Poorly soluble **Evaporation Rate** 

Moisture content : Typically <5% Corrosion : Not corrosive to metals

Self-heating : No

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Gravimetric particle size distribution : **Product is a blend of fine material** [9.6% <45μm, 22.3% 45-75 μm,

49% 75-150 µm, 8.4% 150-250 µm, 0.7% 250-355 µm, 2.2% 355-1000 µm, 7.8% >1000 µm] and coarse material [0.1% <45µm, 0% 45-75 µm, 0% 75-150 µm, 0.3% 150-250 µm, 0.8% 250-355 µm, 41.1% 355-

 $1000 \mu m$ ,  $57.6\% > 1000 \mu m$ ]

(Typical values only)

N Av = Not Available N App = Not Applicable

Solubility, based on transformation/dissolution testing results (5, 9, 20, 21). Flammability, self-heating and corrosivity, based on test results (6, 22).

Decomposition temperature based on literature values for similar minerals present in concentrate (10).

Gavimetric particle size distribution based on sieving results (5, 21).

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability Stable under normal conditions of use, storage, and transportation as shipped.

**Conditions to Avoid** Avoid extreme heat and ignition sources.

>500°C) (10).

Hazardous Polymerization Not expected to occur.

#### 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No toxicological studies have been undertaken with this spodumene concentrate. Experience with concentrates of this type has not resulted in reports of harmful effects to workers. The following statements are based on expert opinion considering the individual ingredients in the concentrate and the hazard classification of the whole product. Handle product in accordance with this Safety Data Sheet.

## Health hazard summary:

The product is a blend of fine and coarse spodumene concentrates. Therefore, it may contain small amounts of dust. Overexposure to dust may be irritating to eyes and skin. Use safe work practices to avoid dust inhalation and hand to mouth transfer. The concentrate contains very small amounts (<0.1%) of respirable crystalline silica (i.e. quartz). The quartz is only respirable if product is allowed to dry out or is crushed. Chronic overexposure to respirable crystalline silica can result in silicosis. Due to the product form (i.e. ~5% moisture) and the manner in which it is transported, the hazard is considered low.

#### Inhalation & eye contact:

Dust from the product (if present) may be a slight irritant. Contact with eyes may result in irritation, lacrimation, pain and redness. Over exposure to dust may result in physical irritation of the nose and throat. Chronic inhalation exposure to respirable crystalline silica may result in a debilitating lung disease called silicosis. However, due to the moisture of the product (~5%), dust propagation is considered unlikely to occur, therefore toxicity via inhalation is also considered unlikely.

#### Skin:

If dust is generated from the product, it may be irritating to skin if excessive contact occurs, especially in combination with sweating. This may result in irritation, redness and rash.

#### Ingestion:

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Low toxicity. Ingestion of large quantities of product may result in nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhoea. Ingestion of large quantities is considered unlikely if good occupational hygiene is adhered to.

## **Health Effects of Individual Ingredients**

**Spodumene:** The lithium in spodumene is tightly bound to the crystal structure of the mineral and therefore, it is anticipated to be of very low toxicity (16). Although no toxicological data for spodumene could be found, the toxicology of a variety of other silicates indicates they are of low toxicity (17). Although some studies of occupational exposures to aluminosilicate containing clays have reported development of a chronic lung disease in some workers, this has been tied to the levels of respirable crystalline silica (i.e. quartz) in these clays (see information for quartz below) (18). The Pilbara Minerals spodumene concentrate blend contains very small (<0.1%) amounts of respirable crystalline silica.

**Quartz Dust**: To date, there are no known adverse health effects associated with non-occupational exposure to quartz dust (13, 14). Silicosis is causally related to occupational respirable quartz exposure, and the dose-response assessments of the adverse health effects of quartz are based on epidemiological studies of occupational cohorts with silicosis. Although a causal association with respiratory cancer has been made from epidemiological studies of workers occupationally exposed to quartz the doses required to cause respiratory cancer are unclear (13, 14). The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) evaluation of crystalline silica concluded that it is a human carcinogen (Group 1) (11, 14). The Pilbara Minerals spodumene concentrate blend contains very small (<0.1%) amounts of respirable crystalline silica. Therefore, dust exposure to spodumene concentrate blend should be minimised.

#### 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The concentrate contains metals complexed in mineral form. It consists of a blend of spodumene concentrate fines and coarse spodumene concentrate. In 24-hour transformation/dissolution tests with the coarse and fine concentrates conducted for hazard classification purposes, the metals were *insufficiently* soluble in seawater to trigger a hazard classification as Environmentally Hazardous. For aquatic toxicity, it is the soluble metals which may be bioavailable and potentially cause toxicity.

#### **Ecotoxicity**

#### **General Product Information**

No ecotoxicity tests have been conducted with the concentrate blend, concentrate fines, or coarse spodumene concentrate. In 24-hour screening dissolution tests conducted with the two constituents that are blended together to form the **Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend** (i.e. concentrate fines and coarse concentrate), the metals in the concentrates were found to be insufficiently soluble in seawater for the purposes of aquatic toxicity classification according to the Globally Harmonised System for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (5, 9). The concentrate blend is therefore NOT classifiable as an Environmentally Hazardous Substance for transport purposes.

#### **Spodumene**

The lithium in the spodumene concentrate blend is tightly bound in mineral form and therefore not expected to be bioavailable to organisms in the environment. Lithium is not expected to bioaccumulate and its environmental toxicity is low (16).

#### 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### Spills:

Minor spills should be collected and placed in original transport containers. In the case of a major spill, contact Pilbara Minerals (Refer Section 1 of SDS). Ensure product is sprayed with water to prevent dust generation. Clear area of unprotected personnel. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (see Section 8).

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#### **Disposal Instructions:**

In the case of a major spill, return the material to Pilbara Minerals Limited. Reuse or recycle the material whenever possible. The material can be disposed of as non-hazardous waste.

#### 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

#### **NOT CLASSIFIED AS DANGEROUS GOOD**

Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend consists of a mixture of spodumene fines and coarse spodumene concentrate. Both of these products have been evaluated under the UN Model Regulations and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (9, 20), and are NOT classified as Dangerous Goods for marine or road/rail transport. Therefore the Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend is also NOT classified as a Dangerous Good for marine or road/rail transport.

#### Road & Rail Transport (2, 8):

UN-No: Not applicable

Proper shipping name: SPODUMENE Concentrate Blend

Class(es): Not applicable Packing group: Not applicable Hazard label(s): Not applicable

#### **Sea Transport:**

International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code (3):

UN-No: Not applicable

Proper shipping name: SPODUMENE Concentrate Blend

Class(es): Not applicable Packing group: Not applicable Hazard label(s): Not applicable

Revised International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex V (4):

NOT considered 'harmful to the marine environment' (9, 20).

International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code (7, 9, 12, 15, 20):

Proper shipping name: SPODUMENE (UPGRADED)

Class: Not applicable

Group: A

#### 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

NOT CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS according to the criteria of Safe Work Australia and the *Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals* (GHS).

**Poisons Schedule: Pilbara Minerals Spodumene Concentrate Blend** and lithium aluminosilicates are not scheduled poisons according to the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).

**AICS:** Individual metals and basic chemical compounds are listed on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS).

## **16. OTHER INFORMATION**

#### Literary references

(1) Safe Work AUS (2020). Hazardous Chemicals Information System. Safe Work Australia. <a href="http://hcis.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/">http://hcis.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/</a>.

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- (3) IMO (2018a). International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code, incorporating amendment 04-17 and supplement. International Maritime Organisation. Electronic edition. London.
- (4) IMO (2012). 2012 guidelines for the implementation of MARPOL Annex V. The Marine Environment Protection Committee, Annex 24, Resolution MEPC.219(63). Adopted on 2 March 2012. <a href="http://www.imo.org/OurWork/Environment/PollutionPrevention/Garbage/Documents/219%2863%29.pdf">http://www.imo.org/OurWork/Environment/PollutionPrevention/Garbage/Documents/219%2863%29.pdf</a>
- (5) SGS (2018). Study of Transformation/Dissolution of 24 hours in synthetic sea water for the Lithium Oxide (Fine) Concentrate sample from Pilbara Minerals Limited. SGS Report No. ENV 28376-A (SE179860). Dated 19/06/2018.
- (6) SGS (2018). Spodumene (Lithium Oxide) Concentrate. SGS Report No. ENV 28376 (SE 179860) (Fines). Dated 25/07/2018.
- (7) IMO (2013). Amendments to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code. The Maritime Safety Committee, Annex 6, Resolution MSC.354(92). Adopted on 21 June 2013.
- (8) NTC (2018). Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail. Edition 7.6, 2018. Effective from September, 2018. National Transport Commission.
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- (10) Becattini, V., Motmans, T., Zappone, A., Madonna, C., Haselbacher, A. and Steinfeld, A. (2017). Experimental investigation of the thermal and mechanical stability of rocks for high-temperature thermal-energy storage. Applied Energy. 203: 373-389.
- (11) IARC (1987). IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans Overall Evaluations of Carcinogenicity: An Updating of IARC Monographs Volumes 1 to 42. Supplement 7. World Health Organization. International Agency for Research on Cancer Lyon France.
- (12) IMO (2015). Amendments to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code (resolution MSC.393(95)). Adopted on 11 June 2015.
- (13) WHO (2000). Concise International Chemical Assessment Document No. 24 Crystalline Silica, Quartz. World Health Organisation.
- (14) IARC (1997) Silica, some silicates, coal dust and para aramid fibrils. Lyon, International Agency for Research on Cancer, pp 1-242 (IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risk to Humans, Vol 68).
- (15) IMO (2014b). Amendments to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code (resolution MSC.268(85)). Circular Letter No. 3488. 17 November 2014.
- (16) Aral H. and Vecchio-Sadus A. (2008). Toxicity of lithium to humans and the environment—A literature review. Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety 70(3): 349-356.
- (17) CIR (2003) Cosmetic Ingredient Review. Final Report on the Safety Assessment of Aluminum Silicate, Calcium Silicate, Magnesium Aluminum Silicate, Magnesium Silicate, Magnesium Trisilicate, Sodium Magnesium Silicate, Zirconium Silicate, Attapulgite, Bentonite, Fuller's Earth, Hectorite, Kaolin, Lithium Magnesium Silicate, Lithium Magnesium Sodium Silicate, Montmorillonite, Pyrophyllite, and Zeolite. Int J Toxicology, 22 (Suppl. 1): 37-102.
- (18) WHO (2005) Environmental Health Criteria 231 Bentonite, Kaolin and selected clay minerals. International Programme for Chemical Safety (WHO), World Health Organisation Geneva.
- (19) Microanalysis (2019). Respirable alpha-quartz concentration analysis by x-ray diffraction (XRD) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM) using the modified SWeRF method. Sample 19\_1106\_03. Dated 05/08/2019.
- (20) ToxConsult (2018). Dangerous Goods and Marine Transport Classification for Pilbara Minerals coarse spodumene concentrate. ToxConsult report ToxCR120718-TF2, dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- (21) SGS (2018). Study of Transformation/Dissolution of 24 hours in synthetic sea water for the Lithium Oxide Concentrate (Coarse) sample from Pilbara Minerals Limited. SGS Report No. ENV 28383-A (SE179900). Dated 19/06/2018.
- (22) SGS (2018). Spodumene (Lithium Oxide) Concentrate. SGS Report No. ENV 28383 (SE 179900) (Coarse). Dated 25/07/2018.
- (23) Microanalysis (2019). Semi-quantitative XRD analysis. Sample 19\_1106\_03. Dated 13/08/2019.

#### **Definitions:**

TWA - the Time-Weighted Average (TWA) airborne concentration over an eight-hour working day, for a five-day working week over an entire working life. According to current knowledge this concentration should neither impair the health of, nor cause undue discomfort to, nearly all workers.

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STEL - Short Term Exposure Limits (STELs) are averaged over a period of 15 minutes and provide guidelines for the control of short-term exposure. STELs are important supplements to the eight-hour TWA exposure standards. STELs are generally established to minimise the risk in nearly all workers of the occurrence of: intolerable irritation, chronic or irreversible tissue change, and narcosis to an extent that could precipitate industrial accidents, provided the TWA exposure standards are not exceeded.

BEI – Biological exposure indices (BEI) are guidance values for assessing biological monitoring results. BEIs generally represent the level of determinants that are most likely to be observed in specimens collected from healthy workers who have been exposed to chemicals to the same extent as workers with inhalation exposure at the Threshold Limit Value (TLV). The BEI generally indicates a concentration below which nearly all workers should not experience adverse health effects.

Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept to as low a level as is workable. These Exposure Standards should not be used as fine dividing lines between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

#### **Abbreviations**

IARC International Agency for Research on Cancer

mg/m³ Milligram per cubic metre
WES Workplace exposure standard.

TWA Time weighted average STEL Short term exposure limit

AS/NZS Australian Standard / New Zealand Standard

Reason for Issue: New SDS.

Safety Data Sheets are updated frequently. Please ensure that you have a current copy.

# This Safety Data Sheet is maintained by Pilbara Minerals Limited in consultation with SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd.

This SDS summarises at the date of issue our best knowledge of the health and safety hazard information of the product, and in particular how to safely handle and use the product in the workplace. Since Pilbara Minerals Limited cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which the product may be used, each user must, prior to usage, review this SDS in the context of how the user intends to handle and use the product in the workplace.

If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate assessment can be made, the user should contact Pilbara Minerals Limited. Our responsibility for products sold is subject to our standard terms and conditions, a copy of which is sent to our customers and is also available upon request.

\* \* \* End of SDS \* \* \*

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