



Yaloginda Project

Works Approval Application - Attachment 1C, 2, 3B, 5, 6A, 7, 8

23 April 2026

Company	Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd (100% owned by Westgold Resources Ltd) ACN 090 642 809
Mining Tenements	L51/104, L51/107, M51/427, M51/823, M51/982
Mining Area	Meekatharra Gold Operations
Company Contact Details	Registered office: Level 13, 200 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000 Postal: PO Box 7068, Cloisters Square WA 6850 [REDACTED]

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Licence History	1
1.2	Location, Tenure and Site Layout Plans	1
1.3	Authority to Act	2
2.	Prescribed Premises Activities	4
2.1	Category 6 – Mine Dewatering	4
3.	Other Approvals	8
3.1	Mining Act 1978.....	8
3.2	Environment Protection Act 1986 (Part V) – Clearing	8
3.3	Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914	8
3.4	Local Government and Pastoral	8
4.	Stakeholder Engagement	8
5.	Sensitive Receptors	8
6.	Existing Environment	11
6.1	Climate.....	11
6.2	Hydrology.....	11
6.3	Hydrogeology	13
6.4	Pit Water Quality	13
6.5	Flora and Vegetation.....	15
6.6	Fauna	15
7.	Environmental Impacts and Management	15
7.1	Dust and Noise.....	17
7.2	Discharge of Mine Water to Land.....	17
8.	Risk Assessment	21
10.	References.....	25

FIGURES

Figure 1: Albury Heath Discharge WAB Locality.....	3
Figure 2: Dewatering Discharge Point Albury Heath.....	6
Figure 3: Albury Heath Discharge Point Footprint	7
Figure 4: Proposed WAB Sensitive Receptors.....	10
Figure 5: Meekatharra (Station No. 007045) Temperature Data.....	11
Figure 6: Albury Heath Drainage Lines and Surface Water	12
Figure 7: Environmental Values Albury Heath.....	16
Figure 8: Dewatering Discharge Monitoring Point	20

TABLES

Table 2: Details of Mining Tenure Proposed as the WAB.....	1
Table 3: Proposed Works Approval Prescribed Premises Category.....	4
Table 4: Albury Heath Calculated Dewatering Flows (Rockwater, 2026)	5
Table 5: Nearby Sensitive Receptors and Proximity to the WAB.....	9
Table 6: Albury Heath Water Quality	14
Table 7: Proposed Albury Heath Pit and Albury Heath Pit North Discharge Monitoring	19
Table 8: Likelihood Categories	21
Table 9: Risk Assessment Matrix	21
Table 10: Risk Register	22

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Impacts of Water Discharge from Euro and Albury Heath Pits (Rockwater, 2021)

Appendix B: Hydrogeology of Euro and Albury Heath Gold Deposits (Rockwater, 2026)

Appendix C: Surface Water Assessment, Euro & Albury Heath Gold Deposits, Meekatharra (Rockwater, 2020)

Appendix D: MGO Stakeholder Engagement Register

1. INTRODUCTION

Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd (BBGO), a wholly owned subsidiary of Westgold Resources Limited (Westgold), owns and operates the Meekatharra Gold Operations (MGO) located approximately 600 kilometres (km) north of Perth along the Great Northern Highway. MGO consists of the Nannine, Paddy’s Flat and Yaloginda mining areas.

BBGO submits this application for a Works Approval for Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) assessment under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) for the discharge of 190,000 tonnes per annual period of mine dewatering from the Albury Heath Pit and Albury Heath North Pit.

The Works Approval Boundary (WAB) covers M51/982. It is planned that this tenement and conjoining tenements are included in the L4496/1988/11 prescribed premises boundary (PPB) following the Works Approval process.

All correspondence should be forwarded by post or email to the contact details in Table 1.

1.1 Licence History

No prescribed premises activities are currently approved within the works approval boundary (WAB). It is the intent that this Works approval application integrates into L4496/1998/11 upon completion and commissioning of the Albury Heath dewatering infrastructure. Licence L4496/1988/11 (L4996) applies to the MGO, located south of Meekatharra in Western Australia. The licence covers a large group of mining tenements across the Bluebird, Paddy’s Flat, Nannine and Yaloginda.

L4496 authorises a broad suite of prescribed premises activities under Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987, supporting the ongoing operation of a multi-pit gold mining and processing operation.

1.2 Location, Tenure and Site Layout Plans


MGO is situated 760 kilometres (km) northeast of Perth, within the Shire of Meekatharra. An overview of the WAB is provided in Figure 1 and tenure details are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Details of Mining Tenure Proposed as the WAB

Tenement	Area (ha)	Holder	Granted	Expiry
M51/892	527.88	Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd	05/03/2021	04/03/2042

1.3 Authority to Act

BBGO authority to act is included below as Plate 1.



20 January 2026

To: Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)
Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE)

To Whom it May Concern,

AUTHORITY TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY – WESTGOLD RESOURCES LIMITED

Westgold Resources Limited (Westgold), as the parent company of Karora (Beta Hunt) Pty Ltd, Karora (Higginsville) Pty Ltd, Polar Metals Pty Ltd, Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd and Aragon Resources Pty Ltd, hereby authorises the following individuals to act as Authorised Representatives for Westgold and its subsidiaries:

NAME	ROLE
	Chief Safety & Sustainability Officer
	Group Manager – Environment & Sustainability
	Principal Environmental Approvals
	Principal Environmental Systems
	Environmental Manager (Southern Gold Operations)
	General Manager (Southern Gold Operations)
	Environmental Superintendent (Cue Gold Operations)
	General Manager (Cue Gold Operations)
	Environmental Manager (Meekatharra Gold Operations)
	General Manager (Meekatharra Gold Operations)
	Senior Environmental Advisor (Fortnum Gold Operations)
	General Manager (Fortnum Gold Operations)

The individuals are authorised to act on behalf of Westgold in respect of all:

- Mining Proposals, Mining Development and Closure Proposals & Mine Closure Plans;
- Native Vegetation Clearing Permits;
- Premises Licences and Works Approvals;
- Licence to Take Water;
- Mine Rehabilitation Fund; and
- Annual Environmental Reporting.

The individuals are authorised to sign both new and renewal applications. This authority does not extend to making changes to authorised representatives.

Westgold Resources Limited ABN 60 009 260 300 ASX TSX: WGX	westgold.com.au +61 8 9462 3400 perth.reception@westgold.com.au	Level 13, 200 St Georges Terrace Perth WA 6000 PO Box 7066, Cloisters Square WA 6850
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Plate 1: BBGO Authority to Act

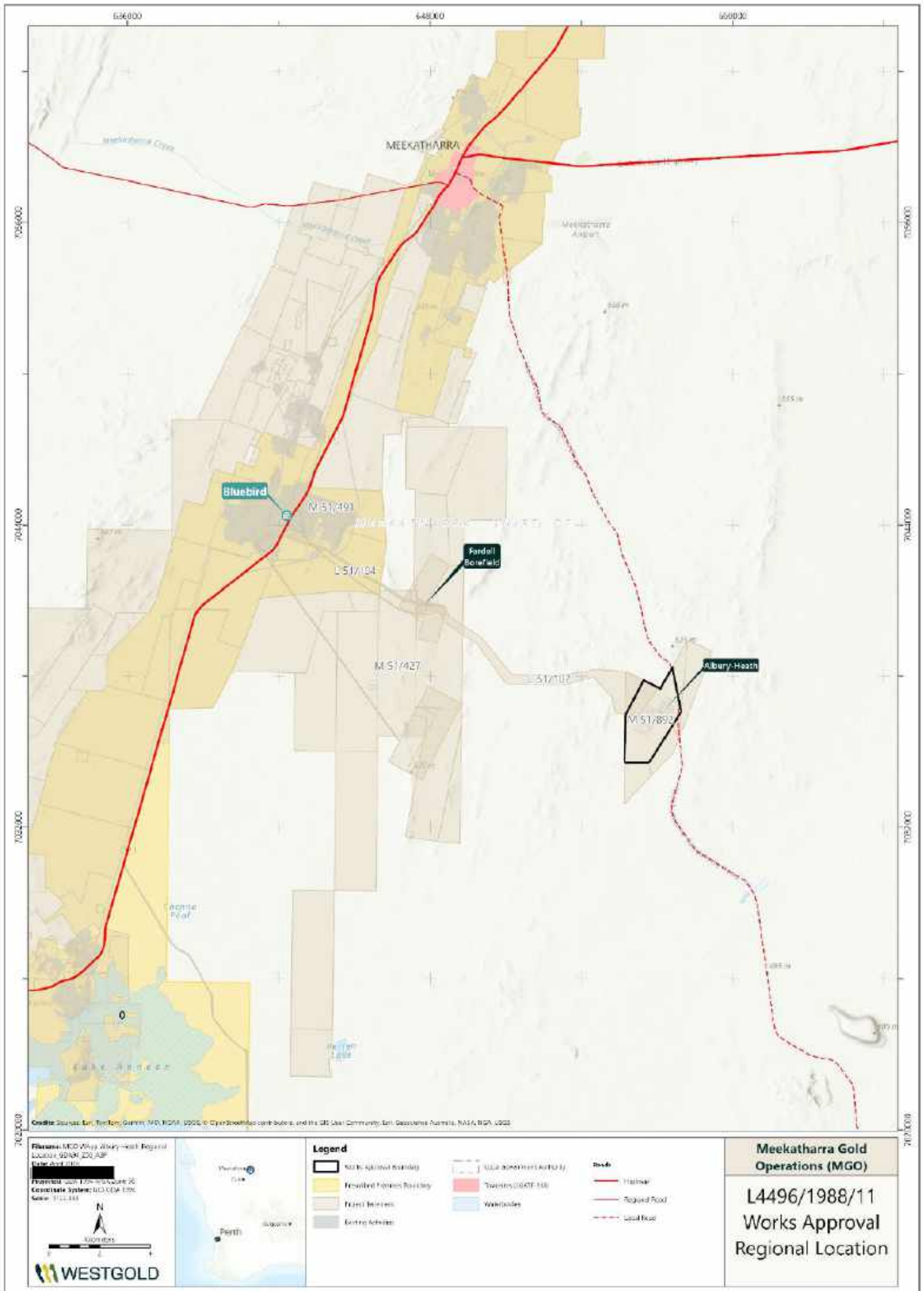


Figure 1: Albury Heath Discharge WAB Locality

2. PRESCRIBED PREMISES ACTIVITIES

The proposed works approval category production or design capacity for this works approval application is listed in Table 3. BBGO requests approval to undertake Category 6 (Mine Dewatering) with a maximum design capacity of 190,000 tonnes per annual period.

Table 3: Proposed Works Approval Prescribed Premises Category

Category Number	Category Description	Approved Premises Production or Design Capacity	Proposed Works Approval Premises Production or Design Capacity
6	Mine dewatering: premises on which water is extracted and discharged into the environment to allow mining of ore	Not currently approved	190,000 tonnes per annual period

2.1 Category 6 – Mine Dewatering

Water will be pumped from pit dewatering bores into water tanks, placed at the Albury Heath mining area. In the first instance, water will be pumped from the water tank into a water cart and utilised for dust suppression. Any excess water will be pumped along a 110 - 200 mm HDPE pipeline to a designated discharge location at the south-west as depicted in Figure 2 and Figure 3. Dewatering is expected to occur for a period of approximately eight months at the Albury Heath mining area.

A total of approximately 171,550 kilolitres (kL) at an average of 430 kL/d (approximately 5 L/s) of water per annum is expected to be abstracted from Albury Heath Pit (Rockwater, 2026). BBGO has applied for 190,000 tonnes per annual period of dewatering under this Works Approval. An approximate 20 % contingency has been added to account for higher discharge rates and to cater for the any unplanned intersection of an undefined liner fractured aquifer. BBGO has applied to discharge the entire abstracted volume as a contingency in the event that no water is required for dust suppression.

The discharge pipeline will be capped and a series of holes will be made in the pipe immediately prior to the discharge point to diffuse the discharge flow. The flow will be managed to minimise scouring and erosion. The pipelines will be constructed within a 'v drain' to capture any spills.

The outlet will be armoured with rock to reduce scour and erosion, with the pipeline outlet to be baffled to reduce discharge velocity and enable a more even distribution of water to surface. These modifications will enable addition soak times and reduce alluvial erosion as per the example depicted in Plate 2.



Plate 2: Example of Discharge Pipeline Baffling

2.1.1 Albury Heath Discharge Point

The Albury Heath discharge point will be situated approximately 250 m west of the Albury Heath Pit and 1200 m south-west of the Albury Heath North Pit, in an ephemeral drainage line (Figure 2). Water discharged at this location will follow the natural drainage line south-west until it disperses into a flood plain. Assuming the drainage is initially dry and flow velocities are very slow (<0.1 m/s), the discharge is expected to have a width of about 6.6 m and a depth of approximately 0.02 m within the drainage line (Appendix A). No rock armouring is required to protect the soil surface downstream, other than at the immediate point of discharge as described above.

Albury Heath Pit has been modelled at an expected average discharge flow of ~ 3.7 L/s (317.3 kL/d) across the life of mine as seen below in Table 4 (Appendix B) with a maximum of 5 L/s (430 kL/d) applied for in this Works Approval. For a discharge flow of 4.1 L/s (347 kL/d), the required surface area coverage by water, exposed to evaporation / infiltration, is ~ 0.9 ha (Appendix A). BBGO assesses the additional flow of 0.9 L/s (at 5 L/s) is not expected to cause a material impact to water dispersion surface area coverage downstream as the expected peak discharge flow during Month 5 will not be prolonged. This is taken to be the “discharge footprint”, the equilibrium at the maximum extent of surface water inundation (Figure 3).

2.1.2 Predicted Dewatering Requirements

A modelling assessment of estimated and maximum possible dewatering requirements for Albury Heath Pit was conducted by Rockwater (Rockwater, 2026) (Appendix B) using the latest pit data, mining schedule and the current predicted water table/aquifer depths of 456 m AHD. Albury Heath North Pit is planned to be mined above the water table.

The approximate pumping rates calculated by the model that will be required to dewater the Albury Heath pit are shown in Table 4. The expected flows indicate that the water table will not be intersected until Month 4, then the dewatering flows will gradually increase to an average rate of about 373 kL/d in Month 5 before decreasing to about 286 kL/d in Month 6.

Table 4: Albury Heath Calculated Dewatering Flows (Rockwater, 2026)

Month	Min. Mining Level	Av. Dewatering Flows
	(m AHD)	(kL/d)
1	487	0
2	473	0
3	460	0
4	447	293
5	434	373
6	420	286

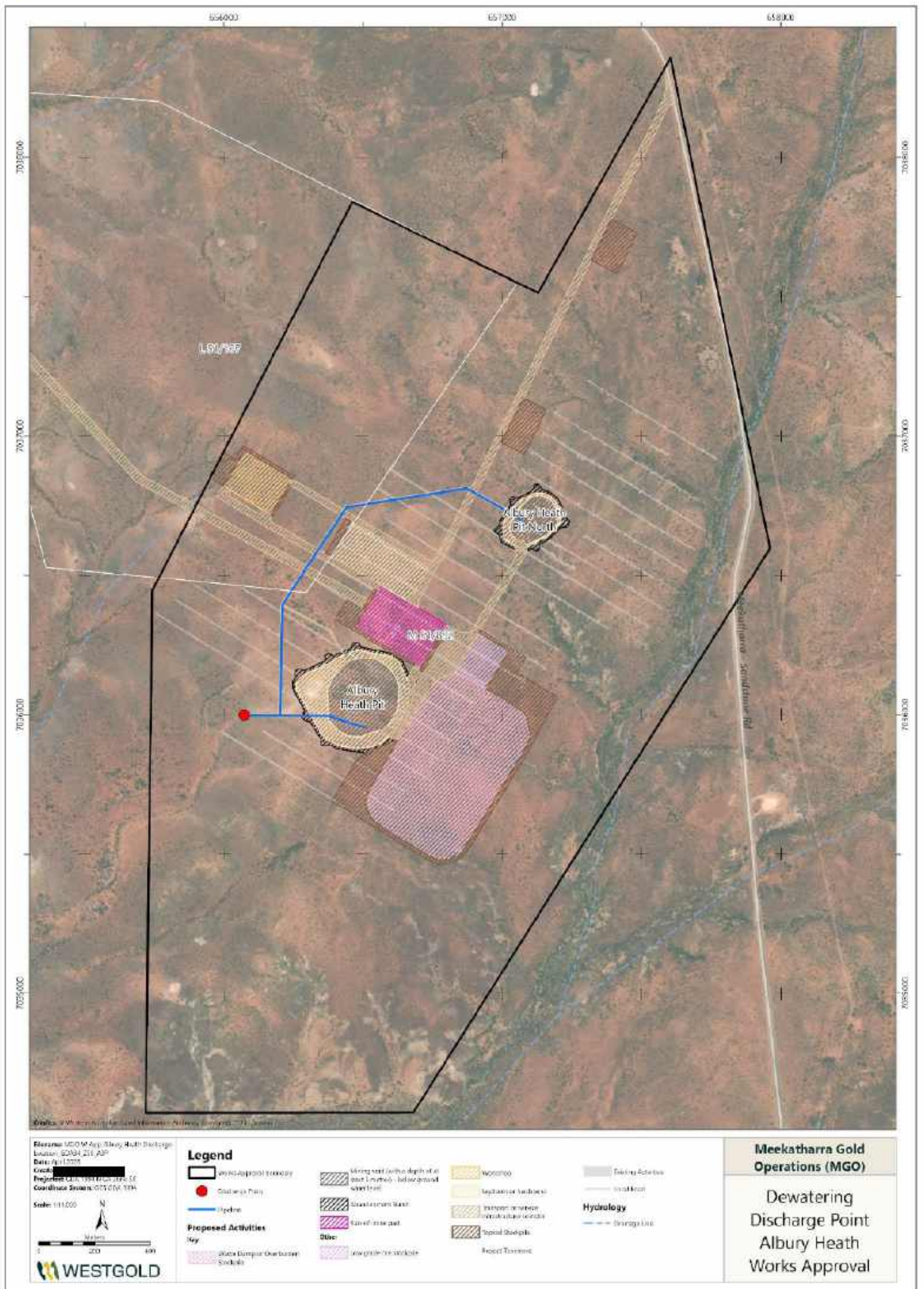


Figure 2: Dewatering Discharge Point Albury Heath

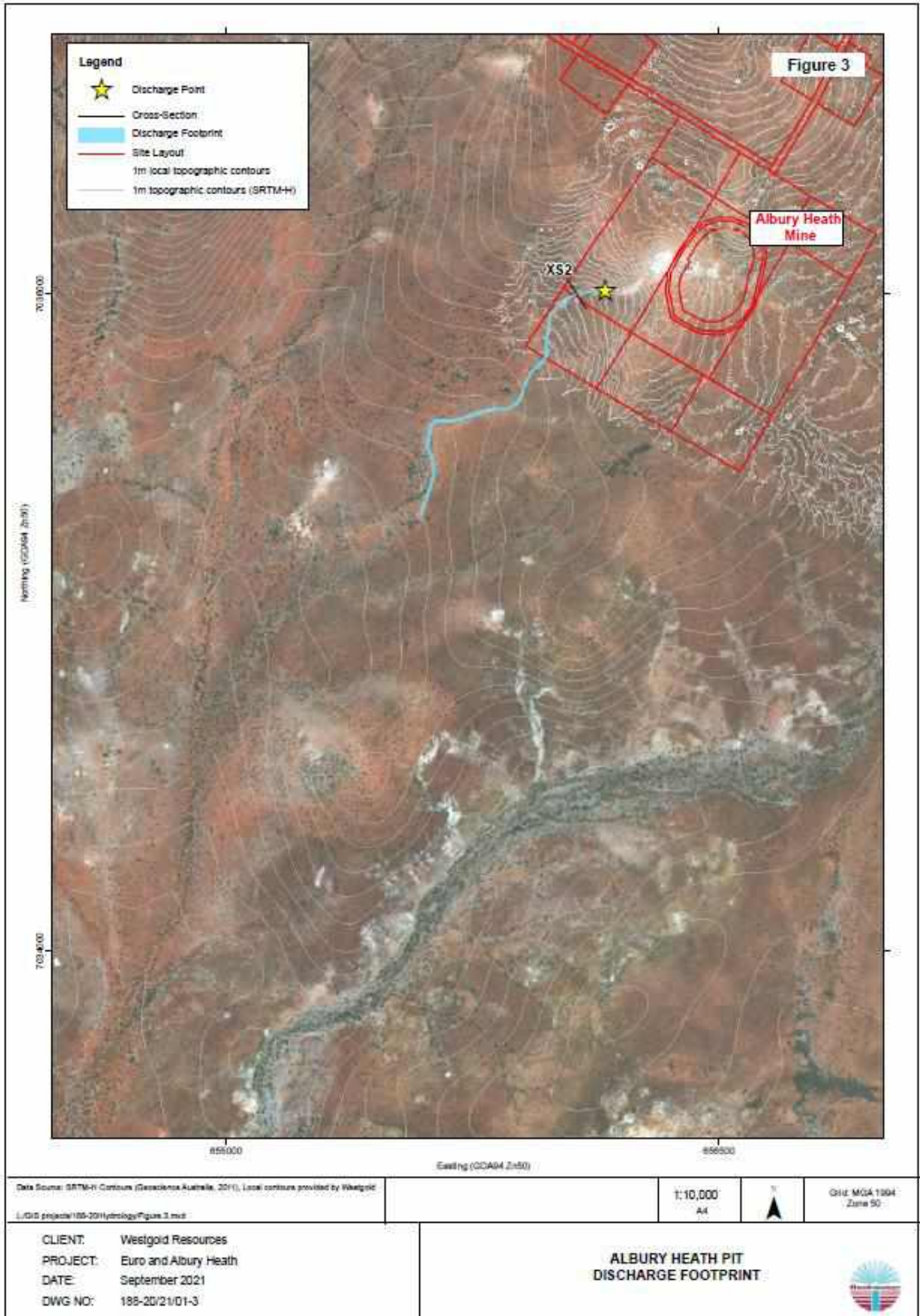


Figure 3: Albury Heath Discharge Point Footprint

3. OTHER APPROVALS

3.1 Mining Act 1978

BBGO has submitted the Yaloginda Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) (Reg ID 206315) on 2 February 2026 which is currently under assessment by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE). This MDCP requests to permit the mining of Albury Heath and Albury Heath North Pits with associated supporting infrastructure.

3.2 Environment Protection Act 1986 (Part V) – Clearing

Native vegetation clearing for the development of Albury Heath and Albury Heath North pits and associated infrastructure is authorised under Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) Purpose Permit 9390/1 which is valid until 27 October 2026. An application to renew CPS 9390/1 was submitted on 22 January 2026 and is currently under assessment by DMPE. The following condition of CPS 9390/1 is particularly relevant to dewatering and discharge activities:

- Vegetation management – watercourse
 - (a) where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation; and
 - (b) where a watercourse or wetland is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that surface flow is maintained, or is reinstated downstream into existing natural drainage lines.

BBGO will avoid the clearing of riparian vegetation where practicable and ensure that surface flows are maintained when undertaking discharge activities.

3.3 Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914

Currently there is no groundwater licence applicable over M51/892. BBGO holds *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act) Groundwater Licence GWL 208587(1) (Yaloginda) which allows the abstraction of up to 1,500,000 kL of water from pits and production bores on the adjacent tenure. BBGO has applied for GWL208587(1) on the 25/03/2026 to be amendment to include the groundwater abstraction requirements of the Albury Heath mine area.

3.4 Local Government and Pastoral

No approvals are required from the Shire of Meekatharra to undertake the proposed activities. The project is entirely located within a granted mining lease and will comply with all state and federal environmental and mining regulations. BBGO currently has an active land access agreement the Pollele station.

4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

A register of MGO's stakeholder engagement is presented in Appendix D.

5. SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

No negative social or environmental impacts are anticipated from the proposed dewatering and discharge activities. A map illustrating the location of nearby sensitive receptors within the WAB is provided in Figure 4 and Figure 7.

The primary sensitive receptor in the broader catchment is Lake Annean, a large ephemeral salt lake listed in the *Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (DIWA)*. All drainage from the Yalgar River sub-catchment ultimately flows toward Lake Annean. However, Rockwater (2021) assessed that the discharge from Albury Heath will not reach Lake Annean.

Table 5: Nearby Sensitive Receptors and Proximity to the WAB

Type / Classification	Description	Distance + Direction to WAB	Proposed Controls to Prevent or Mitigate Adverse Impacts (if applicable)
Environmentally Sensitive Areas ¹	Lake Annean	~ 20 km south-west of the discharge point. Albury Heath discharge is expected to reach a maximum of 1.3 km south-west downstream before dissipating	N/A: Lake Annean will not be impacted by dewatering and discharge activities due to the significant distance from the proposed activities.
Threatened Ecological Communities	Trillbar Land System (P3 PEC)	~ 4km north of the discharge point.	N/A: Trillbar Land System PEC will not be impacted by the dewatering and discharge activities as the discharge runs downstream to the south-west.
Threatened and/or priority fauna	Curlew Sandpiper (<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>) [CR] Night Parrot (<i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i>) [CR]	Recorded ~ 10 km south-west of the WAB Recorded ~ 6 km south-west of the WAB	N/A: No conservation significant fauna have been recorded in the WAB.
Threatened and/or priority flora	<i>Heliotropium mitchellii</i> (P1), <i>Calytrix verruculosa</i> (P3), <i>Grevillea inconspicua</i> (P4) and <i>Acacia speckii</i> (P4)	Intersects the WAB and recorded within a 1 km radius of WAB	N/A: CPS 9390/1 held by BBGO effectively manages the impacts to the potential priority flora species found within the WAB. Condition 4 CPS 9390/1 allows up to 1.2 ha in areas where significant species occur whilst Condition 5 restricts clearing in areas of high significance completely.
Aboriginal and other heritage sites ²	NORIE 5 - Artefact Scatter; Quarry (ID 11924)	~ 8 km south of the WAB boundary	N/A: NORIE 5 will not be impacted by dewatering and discharge activities due to the significant distance from the discharge point and expected flow of 1.3 km.
Public drinking water source areas ³	Meekatharra Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)	~ 20 km north of discharge location	N/A: The Meekatharra Public Drinking Water surface water aquifer will not be impacted by discharge activities as the discharge runs downstream to the south-west.
Rivers, lakes, oceans, and other bodies of surface water, etc.	Lake Annean	~ 20 km south-west of the discharge point. Albury Heath discharge is expected to reach a maximum of 1.3 km south-west downstream before dissipating	N/A: Lake Annean will not be impacted by dewatering and discharge activities due to the significant distance from the proposed activities.
Acid sulfate soils	N/A	N/A	No acid-sulphate soils sites are listed within the WAB
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A

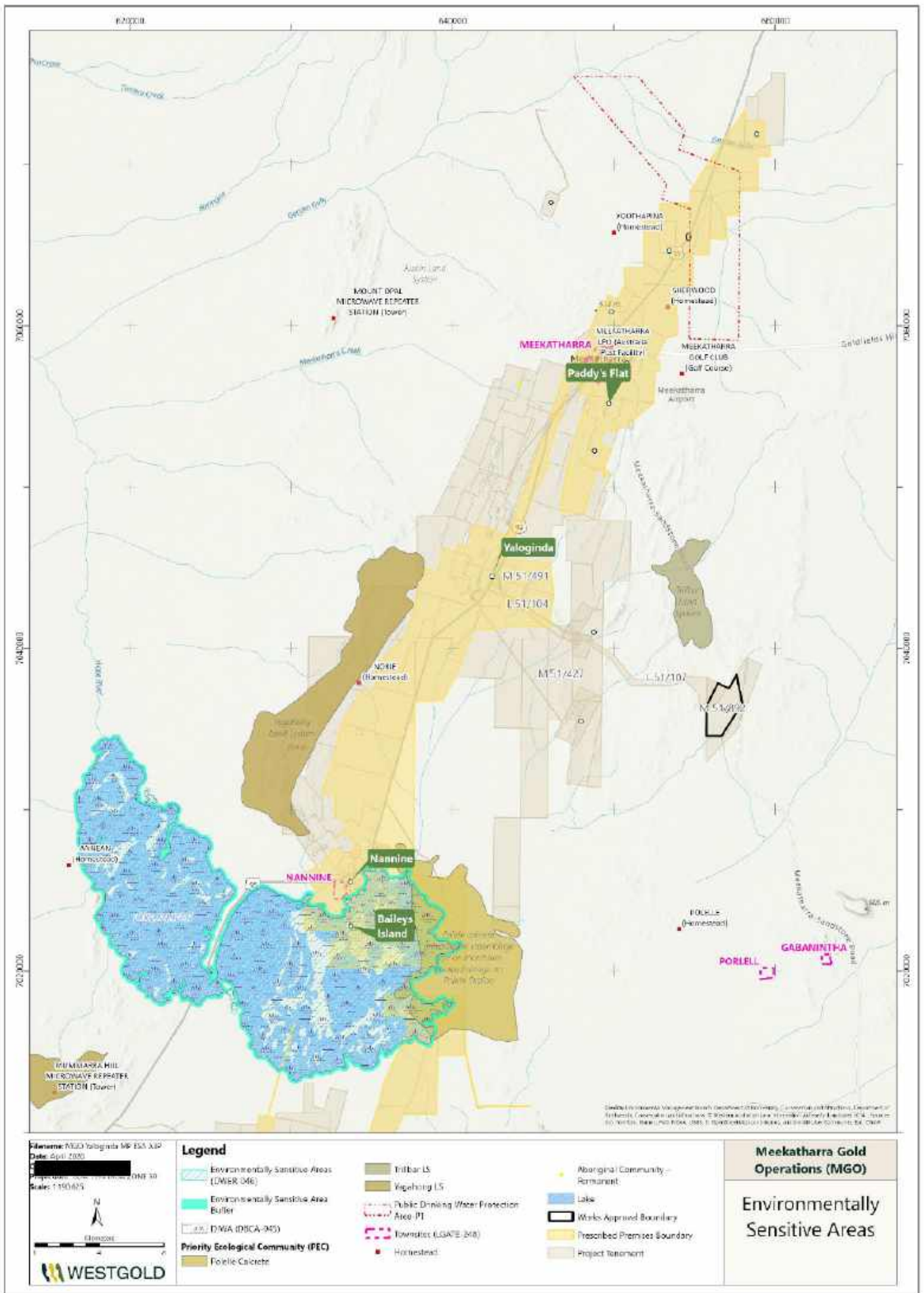


Figure 4: Proposed WAB Sensitive Receptors

6. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Climate

The nearest Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) weather station to the WAB is the Meekatharra Airport Weather Station (Station No.007045) situated approximately 30 km north of Albury Heath. Mean daily temperatures (BoM, 2025) range from 19.3°C in July to 38.4°C in January. Maximum summer temperatures generally exceed winter maximum temperatures by 10°C or more on average. Minimum temperature ranges are more extreme, with maximum minimum summer temperatures usually more than 12°C higher than average winter maximums.

Rainfall at Meekatharra averages 234 mm each year (BoM, 2025) , with most received between January and July. Rainfall can also exhibit a bimodal distribution with winter and summer peaks (BoM, 2025). Variability of rainfall is high, and drought years are common (BoM, 2025). The evaporation rate of 3750 mm exceeds the mean average rainfall in all months and is the dominant component of the hydraulic regime. The annual mean daily evaporation at Meekatharra Airport ranges from 3.2 mm (June) to 16 mm (January), the calculated annual evaporation rate of 3,500 mm which exceeds the mean average rainfall in all months.

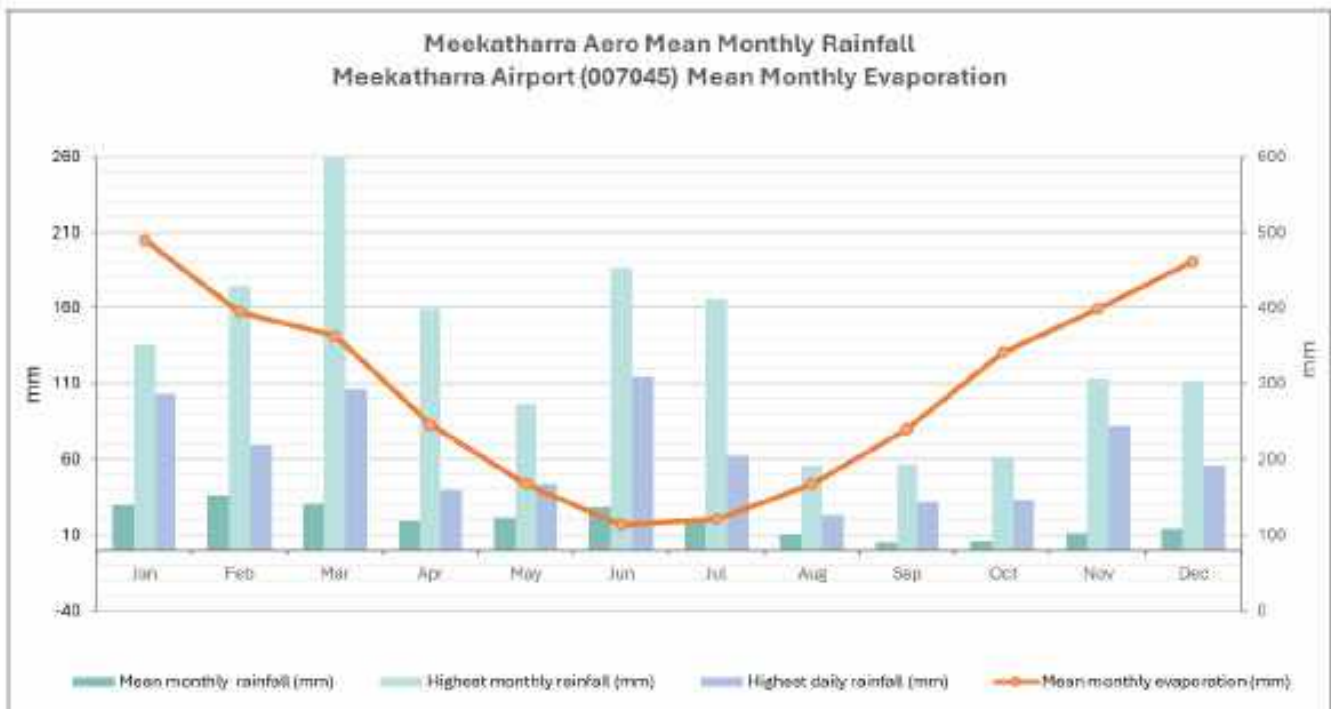


Figure 5: Meekatharra (Station No. 007045) Temperature Data

6.2 Hydrology

Surface drainage in the area is ephemeral and typically flows only after heavy rainfall, ultimately draining south toward Lake Annean. The proposed location of the Albury Heath Pit, ROM, and WRD are located on elevated ground above neighbouring drainage lines and are not expected to be at risk of flood flows during 1-in-100 year and PMF events (Rockwater, 2020).

Due to high regional evaporation rates and infiltration rates of alluvial soils, discharged water is expected to be lost to infiltration and evaporation and to accumulate locally, rather than produce sustained downstream flow that would alter broader catchment hydrology or reach sensitive receptors such as Lake Annean (Rockwater, 2021).

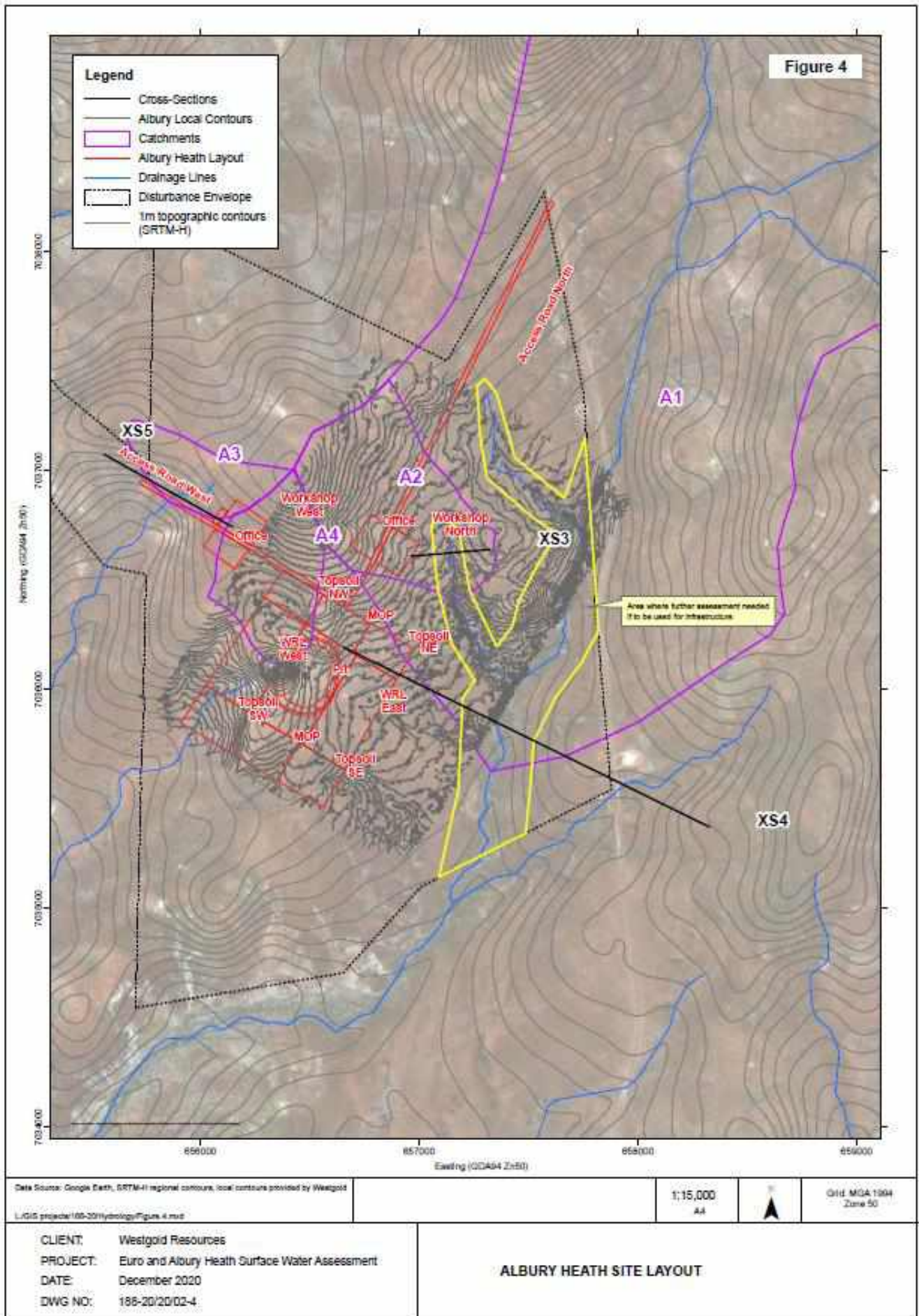


Figure 6: Albury Heath Drainage Lines and Surface Water

6.3 Hydrogeology

The Albury Heath deposit lies in an area of thin outcropping laterite and colluvium overlying banded iron formation (BIF), jaspilite and chert and an associated mafic rock, with mafic volcanoclastics and BIF to the west and schistose komatiitic basalt to the east (Rockwater, 2026).

The logs of drillholes in the deposit indicate there are between 6 m and 32 m (measured downhole at 60°) of clay and laterite with common thin quartz veins, overlying weathered basalt and locally high-Mg basalt with quartz veins to between 45 m and greater than 69 m depth; and then fresh basalt. The basalt is commonly vesicular with fuchsite alteration. The quartz veins are mostly thin but are up to 1 m thick and are also generally vesicular (Rockwater, 2026).

A single Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) is situated 25 km to the north, known as the Meekatharra Water Reserve (P1), well outside and dewatering or discharge influences from both the borefield or Albury heath operations.

6.4 Pit Water Quality

Water samples from drillholes at Albury Heath 20AHRC067 and AHP033 show to be brackish, alkaline water with total dissolved solids in the order of 2,500–3,400 mg/L and pH values between about 7.17 and 8.4 (Rockwater, 2021). Nitrate concentrations were low (5 mg/L), and chloride was elevated in one sample (1,300 mg/L) with bicarbonate (510 mg/L) and total alkalinity (440 mg/L) presenting high in sampled locations (Rockwater, 2021). Most metals were below reporting limits in the samples collected, with low detections of arsenic (0.005 mg/L) and nickel (0.002 mg/L) (Rockwater, 2021).

Table 6: Albury Heath Water Quality

Analyte	Units	Albury Heath		ANZECC Livestock Limit
		20AHRC067	AHP033	
		14/08/2020	16/09/2020	
pH	pH Units	8.4	7.17	-
Conductivity @ 25 C	µS/cm	6,000	4,050	-
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	3,400	2,500	5,000
Carbonate Alkalinity as CO ₃	mg/L	11	-	-
Bicarbonate Alkalinity as HCO ₃	mg/L	510	-	-
Tot. Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	440	-	-
Acidity to pH 8.3	mg CaCO ₃ /L	<5	0.5	-
Chloride, Cl	mg/L	1,300	0.01	-
Sulphate, SO ₄	mg/L	48	-	1,000
Fluoride by ISE	mg/L	0.3	-	2.0
Nitrite, NO ₂ as NO ₂	mg/L	<0.2	-	400
Nitrate, NO ₃ as NO ₃	mg/L	5	-	30
Calcium, Ca	mg/L	45	-	1,000
Magnesium, Mg	mg/L	130	-	-
Sodium, Na	mg/L	900	-	-
Potassium, K	mg/L	27	-	-
Silicon, Si	mg/L	4.6	-	-
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	630	-	-
Aluminium, Al	mg/L	0.048	-	5
Arsenic, As	mg/L	0.005	-	0.5
Cadmium, Cd	mg/L	<0.0001	-	0.01
Cobalt, Co	mg/L	<0.001	-	1.0
Chromium, Cr	mg/L	<0.001	-	1.0
Copper, Cu	mg/L	<0.001	-	0.5
Iron, Fe	mg/L	<0.005	-	-
Manganese, Mn	mg/L	0.042	-	0.1
Nickel, Ni	mg/L	0.002	-	1.0
Lead, Pb	mg/L	<0.001	-	0.1
Selenium, Se	mg/L	<0.001	-	0.02
Zinc, Zn	mg/L	<0.005	-	20
Anion-Cation Balance	%	6.6	-	-
Mercury	mg/L	<0.00005	-	0.002

6.5 Flora and Vegetation

No adverse impacts on nearby flora and vegetation communities are anticipated as a result of the proposed activities. No Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs), Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TECs/PECs), or lands managed by the DBCA (Spectrum Ecology, 2020) are located within the WAB as depicted by Figure 7.

The nearest significant conservation area is the Lake Annean ESA located 25 km to the southwest, which the proposed dewatering program is hydraulically connected. An assessment undertaken by (Rockwater, 2021) indicated that dewatering discharge is not expected to impact the Lake Annean ESA. The nearest other reserve is the Buttah Windee Common Reserve (Reserve 11672), located approximately 25 km northwest of the discharge location.

6.6 Fauna

There is no change to the existing environment that is expected to impact fauna. Discharge of water to the ephemeral creek line may lead to an artificial water source for fauna during discharge timeframes. However, as noted in Table 6; the pit water quality is expected to sit under the ANZECC 2000 Livestock Guidelines for Cattle. No additional clearing is requested in this Works Approval application. All clearing of vegetation risks to fauna have been assessed and are managed under NVCP CPS 9390/1.

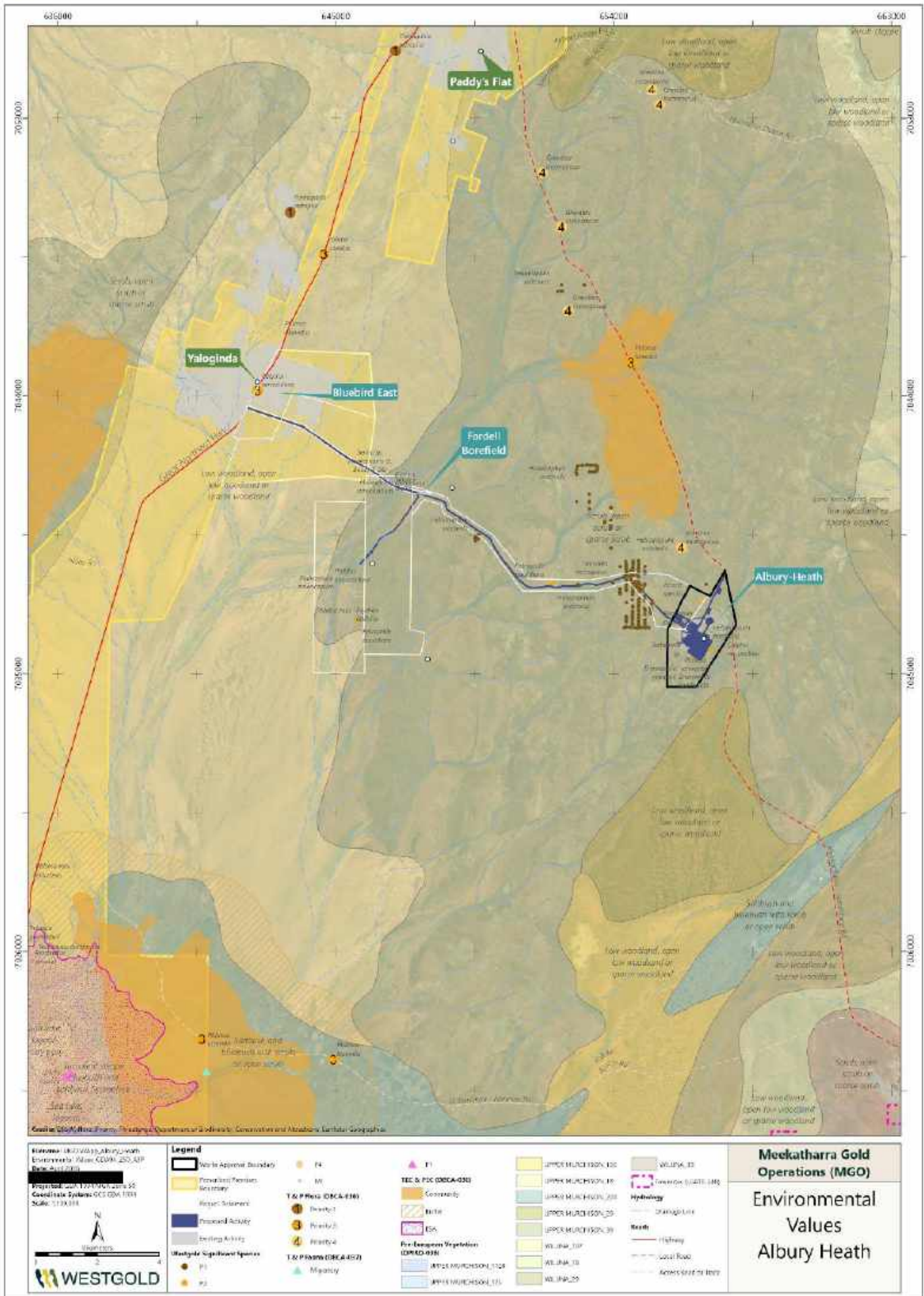


Figure 7: Environmental Values Albury Heath

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT

The potential environmental impacts and management are listed below for undertaking dewatering at the Albury Heath Project.

7.1 Dust and Noise

The Pollelle Station homestead, which is the nearest sensitive receptor, is located 17km south-west from the WAB and will remain unaffected by the proposed dewatering activities. Methods to reduce dust generation will be implemented during operations, including the use of a water cart during mining and haulage activities.

No adverse impacts from noise emissions are expected to occur to any sensitive receptors due to the proximity of the proposed activities.

7.2 Discharge of Mine Water to Land

7.2.1 Existing Approvals / Consultation

BBGO will obtain all relevant *Mining Act 1978*, *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* and *EP Act 1986* approvals prior to undertaking dewatering and discharge activities at Albury Heath. The proposed dewatering and discharge management strategies have been implemented at the nearby Yaloginda Project under *EP Act 1986* Licence L4496.

7.2.2 Design Features

The dewatering system will be constructed and operated to minimise off-site impacts, protect sensitive receptors and maintain channel stability.

The discharge pipeline will be engineered to prevent leaks, minimise flow velocity at the outlet, protect channel banks, placed within secondary containment such as V-drains, poly-welded to AS/NZS 4130:2018 standards and bunding to capture mine dewatering in the event of pipeline failure or unplanned operational interruption. The discharge location will be rock armoured and the outlet baffled, allowing the dissipation of energy, reducing scour and erosion.

7.2.3 Lake Annean Ecosystem

Lake Annean is an ephemeral lake that represents the terminal point of an internally draining basin in the Murchison River catchment, with surface and groundwater flows draining centrally into the lake. These flows are active only during rainfall, with the lake usually dry for lengthy periods.

The groundwater at Albury Heath is fresh to brackish and contains a concentration of metals which is not dissimilar to that within the local environment. The discharge footprint is only expected to reach approximately 1.3 km south-west before evaporating and dissipating. No downstream impacts to the ecosystem of Lake Annean are expected to occur from the dewatering and discharge activities.

7.2.4 Drainage Line Ecosystem

Excess water from dewatering will be recovered for reuse and any remaining water discharged to the local ephemeral drainage line via a controlled outlet with rock armouring to prevent local erosion. The drainage line comprises alluvial sediments and conveys flow only after heavy rainfall. High evaporation and infiltration will limit downstream travel to about 1.3 km at the design discharge rate (Rockwater, 2021). Routine checks of discharge volumes, armouring condition and water quality will be undertaken; if impacts are detected, discharge will be reduced, pulsed or stopped until resolved.

Further information on monitoring can be found in Section 7.2.8.

7.2.5 Other Sensitive Receptors

There are no additional sensitive receptors expected to be affected by dewatering at Albury Heath and Albury Heath North pits. The predicted discharge footprint is short, dissipating within roughly 1.3 km due to high evaporation and infiltration, and does not intersect any significant environmental features (Rockwater, 2021). The nearest pastoral bore/well recorded in the WIR database is 7 km to the southeast and so should not be impacted (Rockwater, 2026).

Vegetation along the drainage line is common and not considered sensitive, Lake Annean and its samphire communities lie far downstream and are not connected to the discharge pathway with the dewatering not expected to reach Lake Annean (Rockwater, 2021). No other ecological or hydrological receptors require consideration.

7.2.6 Description of Potential Impacts from the Emission

Discharge from the Albury Heath Pit and Albury Heath North Pit may result in short term, localised effects within the immediate surface water discharge area. The primary risks relate to short term changes in soil moisture that may influence vegetation condition within the discharge zone and the potential for localized surface water erosion.

These risks will be managed through a surface water discharge monitoring program, including daily discharge records, routine erosion inspections and monthly water quality assessments. Operation controls such as rock armoring and bunding will be maintained, with discharge rates reduced or the discharge location adjusted if monitoring identifies adverse surface water related impacts.

7.2.7 Operational Controls

Mitigation controls will consist of daily visual inspections of the pipeline, associated infrastructure and adjacent vegetation, with any defects or issues repaired immediately. The pipeline alignment and gradient will be set to keep any releases contained within the immediate corridor.

Controls to ensure the discharge does not change the existing hydrological behaviour includes the following.

- The Pipeline will be installed within sufficient secondary containment.
- Rock armoring at the discharge location to dissipate velocity.
- Metering and operational check to confirm discharge volumes.
- A monitoring and management plan (erosion checks and monthly water quality sampling).

The pipeline will be routed in a V-drain to the approved discharge point and fitted with a series of baffles to produce a diffuse, low-velocity release that minimises erosion potential. The final length of the pipeline will be placed on a rock bed and keyed into the channel banks, with rock armoring at the outlet to protect the channel.

7.2.8 Environmental Monitoring

Surface water levels and quality surrounding the discharge location will be closely monitored via the discharge outlet, in accordance with the parameters and frequencies outlined in the proposed discharge monitoring schedule, please refer to Table 7 and Figure 8.

Daily shift inspections will be conducted to monitor the following:

- A monitoring and management plan (erosion checks, monthly water quality sampling and vegetation monitoring).
- If monitoring indicates unexpected hydrological change, discharge can be reduced or relocated to maintain integrity and function of the ephemeral drainage system.

Table 7: Proposed Albury Heath Pit and Albury Heath Pit North Discharge Monitoring

Monitoring Locations	Parameter	Limit	Units	Averaging Period	Frequency
Albury Heath Dewatering Discharge Outlet	Volumetric Flow Rate	-	m ³ /s	Spot Sample	Continuous
	Cumulative volume of water from dewatering	-	kL		Monthly during discharge
	SWL	-	mbgl	Spot Sample	Monthly during discharge
	pH	-	pH		
	TDS	-	mg/L		
	TSS	-	mg/L		
	EC	-	mS/cm		
	Arsenic (As)	-	mg/L		
	Aluminium (Al)	-	mg/L		
	Cadmium (Cd)	-	mg/L		
	Chromium (Cr)	-	mg/L		
	Copper (Cu)	-	mg/L		
	Iron (Fe)	-	mg/L		
	Copper (Cu)	-	mg/L		
	Manganese (Mn)	-	mg/L		
	Nickel (Ni)	-	mg/L		
Zinc (Zn)	-	mg/L			

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk assessment register for this licence amendment is included in Table 10, in accordance with DWER's Part V risk assessment framework (Table 8 and Table 9).

Table 8: Likelihood Categories

Descriptor	Expected Frequency	Description	Probability
Rare	Once in 50 years	Highly unlikely, but the risk event may occur in exceptional circumstances, as may have occurred at comparable sites. Very few or no known occurrences across industry.	<5%
Unlikely	Once in 20 years	The risk event could occur in some uncommon circumstances, as this is known to occur at comparable sites. Some occurrences known across industry.	5-30%
Possible	Once in 10 years	The risk event might occur in some circumstances. Incidents known across industry	30-70%
Likely	Once in 5 years	The risk event is expected to occur in some common circumstances. Regular incidents known across industry.	70-90%
Almost certain	Once, or more per year	The risk event is expected to occur in most circumstances. High number of known incidents across industry.	>90%

Table 9: Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk Matrix		Most Credible Consequence Level				
		Slight	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Likelihood	Almost Certain	Medium	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Likely	Medium	Medium	High	High	Extreme
	Possible	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme
	Unlikely	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
	Rare	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High

Table 10: Risk Register

Risk Event					Controls	Consequence Rating	Likelihood Rating	Risk	Reasoning for Risk Rating
Sources/Activities	Potential Emissions	Potential Receptors	Potential Pathway	Potential Adverse Impacts					
Category 6: Mine Dewatering									
Mine Water Discharge Albury Heath Pit and Albury Heath North Pit									
Mobile equipment movements (e.g. light vehicles, heavy equipment, and diesel generator) during construction and installation of dewatering infrastructure.	Dust	Native vegetation Surface watercourses (ephemeral creeks) located at the site of proposed discharge points	Air/windborne	Dust deposition on native vegetation species can potentially lead to poor vegetation health Reduced ephemeral surface water quality	Limit activities to minimise dust generation on cleared areas. Delay activities if weather conditions are likely to produce excessive dust. Use water truck for dust suppression as required. Visual monitoring for dust during construction and maintenance activities.	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Sufficient controls are in place to minimise dust emissions.
Mine dewater utilised for onsite dust suppression	Brackish dewatered water from the pits	Native vegetation Soil	Overspray or runoff from ongoing use of mine dewatering effluent for dust suppression operations (e.g. action of spraying brackish water).	Sprayed surfaces may become dispersive, causing increased erosion/ sedimentation. Reduced vegetation health or vegetation death.	Minimise spray drift into vegetation alongside roads by use of dribble bars.	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Sufficient controls are in place to minimise overspray or runoff.
Pipeline or storage tank leak/rupture causing discharge to surrounding environment.	Brackish to saline water discharged to the environment	Native vegetation Surrounding ecosystem Local fauna Ephemeral creek lines	Direct discharge	Reduced vegetation health or vegetation death. Reduced local fauna health. Increased metal, salt, nutrient and solid loads into the environment. Increased erosion (sedimentation and scouring within ephemeral creek lines).	Pipeline infrastructure placed within a v-drain to limit movement and to capture any spills or releases. The v-drain will be constructed to allow any uncontrolled releases to flow to the discharge location. Pipeline will be monitored and inspected daily. Monitoring will include visual inspection of pipes, other infrastructure and the vegetation near to the proposed pipeline route once per 12-hour shift.	Minor	Unlikely	Medium	Management and monitoring commitments are proposed to limit the potential extent of discharge of an uncontrolled release into the surrounding environment

Risk Event						Consequence Rating	Likelihood Rating	Risk	Reasoning for Risk Rating
Sources/Activities	Potential Emissions	Potential Receptors	Potential Pathway	Potential Adverse Impacts	Controls				
Surplus dewater discharge direct to ephemeral drainage line.	Brackish dewatered water from the pits.	Native vegetation Local fauna. Ephemeral creek line.	Direct discharge.	Introduction of weeds. Reduced health of local fauna/livestock. Increased metal, salt, nutrient and suspended solid loads into the environment. Increased erosion, scouring, and sedimentation within the creek.	Placement of pipeline on rock bed/layer to limit velocity and erosion potential. Baffling at the pipeline discharge point to reduce outflow velocities. Daily visual inspection of outlet for scour or erosion. Monitoring of discharge volumes. Monthly monitoring at the Albury Heath dewatering outlet	Minor	Possible	Medium	Volumetric flow rate limit, energy diffusion at discharge point and a series of rock bunds (or similar infrastructure) to appropriately manage the volume and velocity of mine dewater being discharged to the ephemeral creek. Monitoring of water quality to assess and manage risk to ephemeral creek lines.

Risk Event						Consequence Rating	Likelihood Rating	Risk	Reasoning for Risk Rating
Sources/Activities	Potential Emissions	Potential Receptors	Potential Pathway	Potential Adverse Impacts	Controls				
<p>Mobile equipment (e.g. vehicles, heavy equipment, generators and dewatering pumps) maintenance and servicing activities.</p> <p>Storage and use of hydrocarbons and chemicals.</p>	Hydrocarbons and chemicals	<p>Surface water/ ephemeral creek lines.</p> <p>Vegetation</p>	<p>Spills or leaks to ground, overflow during filling, breach of containment, via infiltration through soil and/or runoff.</p>	<p>Reduced quality or contamination of soil, sediment, and surface water.</p> <p>Reduced vegetation health.</p>	<p>All chemical and hydrocarbons stored onsite will be banded.</p> <p>Chemicals and hydrocarbons stored onsite will be limited to basic project requirements.</p> <p>A temporary fuel facility may be positioned at the site. A self-contained tank and cowling system will be installed to contain any uncontrolled release.</p> <p>A temporary workshop may be positioned at the site.</p> <p>A pontoon-mounted diesel-powered pump and fuel pod will be used for in-pit and production bore dewatering. The diesel fuel line will be housed inside a system so that fuel is contained if a leak or spill occurs. The banded fuel line system will include a fuel collection pod at the pump unit on the pontoon. The collection pod will be fitted with an automatic shut-off valve that prevents pooling when a leak occurs.</p> <p>Hydrocarbon spill kits will be stored in close vicinity to all diesel-powered pumps and generators and refuelling areas.</p> <p>Pumps and other infrastructure will be regularly inspected each shift and undergo regular maintenance and servicing.</p> <p>Any spill event will be recorded within the site's incident reporting system.</p>	Minor	Possible	Medium	Management and monitoring commitments are proposed to limit the potential extent of discharge of an uncontrolled release into the surrounding environment

10. REFERENCES

- BoM. (2025). *Climate Statistics for Australian Locations, Monthly Climate Statistics*. Retrieved from Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/index.shtm>
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