



## Application for Licence

### Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

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<b>Licence Number</b>	L3185/2026/1
<b>Applicant</b>	Dampier (Plutonic) Pty Ltd
<b>ACN</b>	131 670 963
<b>File number</b>	APP-0031810 INS-0003185
<b>Premises</b>	Marymia Gold Project – K2 Project MEEKATHARRA WA 6642  Legal description Mining Tenements M52/183 and M52/233 As defined by the premises maps attached to Schedule 1 of the issued works approval
<b>Date of report</b>	20 April 2026 ( <b><u>FINAL</u></b> )
<b>Proposed Decision</b>	Licence granted

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## 1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from emissions and discharges during the operation of the premises. As a result of this assessment, licence L3185/2026/1 has been granted.

## 2. Scope of assessment

### 2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this decision report, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department; DWER) has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

### 2.2 Application summary and overview of premises

On 08 October 2025, Dampier (Plutonic) Pty Ltd (the applicant) submitted an application for a licence to the department under section 57 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The application is to seek a licence relating to operation of dewatering infrastructure at the premises. The premises is approximately 171 km south-east of Wiluna.

The premises relates to the category and assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in licence L3185/2026/1. The infrastructure and equipment relating to the premises category and any associated activities which the department has considered in line with *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) are outlined in licence L3185/2026/1.

#### 2.2.1 Overview of premises

The Project is located within the Shire of Meekatharra on the Marymia Pastoral Station, approximately 200 km northeast of Meekatharra and 185 km south of Newman in the Peak Hills Goldfields area of the Gascoyne Basin.

The K2 deposit is situated on mining tenements M52/233 and M52/183. Mining at Marymia commenced in 1993 by Resolute Resources. Ore will be transported offsite for processing at the Plutonic Gold Project (Licence L9414/2023/1) so no additional onsite infrastructure is proposed.

#### 2.2.2 History of works approval W6949/2024/1

Works Approval W6949/2024/1 was granted on 22 November 2024 to allow for construction and time-limited operation of dewatering infrastructure. The works approval authorised the dewatering of the K2 Pit and underground to allow mining of ore, with the K1 Pit receiving the discharge of dewater at a capacity of 500,000 tonnes per annum.

Two subsequent amendments to work approval were initiated by the Department as outlined in Table 1:

**Table 1: Works approval amendment log**

Date	Summary of changes
26/03/2025	Department initiated amendment to update terminology of 'v-notch earthen drains' and 'earthen bunded pipeline corridor' to 'v-notch earthen bunds' (use of consistent terminology).

Date	Summary of changes
01/10/2025	<p>Department initiated administrative amendment in line with the Ministers Decision to Appeal, Appeal Number <a href="#">059 of 2024</a>. The following amendments were made in relation to the appeal process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirements for calibration records to be maintained for environmental monitoring purposes</li> <li>• Requirement to report calibration records in the Time Limited Operations Report</li> </ul>

### 2.2.3 Compliance – works approval W6949/2024/1

An Environmental Compliance Report (ECR) was submitted to the Department on the 30 May 2025 (APP-0029334). The ECR confirmed compliance with the construction requirements listed under the works approval, with DWER confirming compliance in a letter to Dampier (Plutonic) Pty Ltd on 11 November 2025.

With the ECR the applicant stated that the K2 bore was a historic dewatering bore adjacent (~15m) to the edge of the pit. When installing the equipment, it was identified that the area was not geotechnically safe to install the bore, and therefore an alternative installation point in the K2 pit was utilised by placing a floating pump in-pit. During the time-limited operations phase, most of the pit has been dewatered.

## 2.3 Category 6 Mine Dewatering

The Applicant seeks authorisation to continue operating the dewatering infrastructure (Figure 1) which was constructed under Works Approval W6949/2024/1 and proposes a dewatering capacity of 500,000 kL per annum.

The proposed annual capacity allows flexibility to manage unforeseen events while maintaining safe and continuous operations. The dewatering pipeline is constructed from welded HDPE pipes and is contained within an earthen-bunded pipeline corridor. Dewatering rates are expected to range between 10–20 L/s, with an average rate of approximately 10 L/s. Although the installed infrastructure is designed to operate at up to 30 L/s, actual discharge volumes will be constrained by groundwater inflow rather than system capacity.

K1 Pit currently provides 1,640,000 kL of storage capacity (with a 5 m freeboard). At the completion of the project, approximately 839,090 kL of storage capacity is expected to remain. Dewatering (although minor) will continue in-pit and then progress to sumps underground once mining progresses below the depth of the pit.

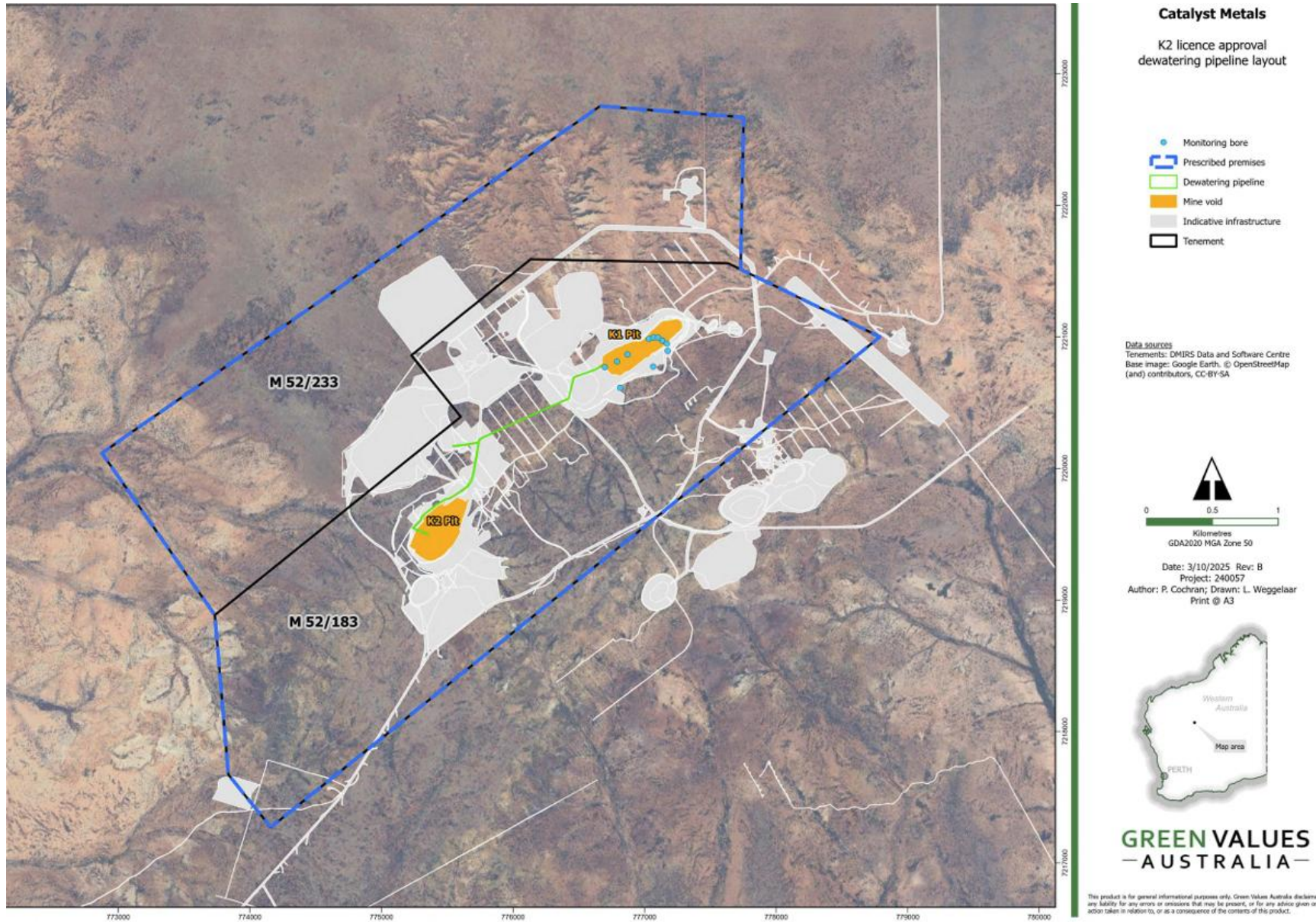


Figure 1: Dewatering pipeline layout

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### 2.3.1 Leak detection system

A Leak Detection System has been installed, including two flow meters, a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), a telemetry stand connected to each flow meter, an automatic shut-down system and a pipeline inside v-notch earthen bunds has been installed to the pump on the pipeline from K2 Pit to K1 Pit as a condition in the Works Approval W6949/2024/1.

The applicant has requested that the leak detection system from the works approval W6949/2024/1 not be transferred into the licence. The dewatering pipeline is proposed to function as a multi-directional water supply system, with water from K1 Pit, K2 Pit and the decline directed to dust suppression, fixed-plant water tanks, and to K1 for storage. These multiple off-take points on the pipeline manifold have resulted in frequent system trips and downtime, as manual gate-valve adjustments cause 2–5% instantaneous flow variances that trigger the leak detection system.

The existing leak detection system is not compatible with the multi-direction water system, as the PLC is designed for a single-input and cannot manage multiple variable outlets. Continued use of the system would result in repeated shutdowns, pump 'dead-head' scenarios where there is line blockage, but the pump is still operating, and increased mechanical strain, thereby elevating the risk of pump or pipeline failure.

To manage risk in the absence of the leak detection system, the applicant proposes the following alternative controls:

- Installation of multi-directional magflow meters at all inlet/outlet points and maintain a monthly water balance.
- Daily inspections of the pipeline when pumping is occurring.
- Continued containment of the pipeline within an earthen bund system to ensure any minor leaks can be contained.

### 3. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a risk event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

#### 3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

##### 3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises operation which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in **Error! Reference source not found.**2 below. Table 2 also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

**Table 2: Proposed applicant controls**

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
<b>Operation</b>			
Dust	Traffic along unsealed roads. General operation	Air / windborne pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All vehicles and machinery will be regularly maintained under manufacturers' specifications to ensure effective operation and not produce excessive noise or emissions.</li> <li>A water truck will be available on site for dust suppression.</li> <li>Regular dust suppression will be undertaken where required.</li> <li>Speed limits will be enforced, which will reduce dust generation.</li> </ul>
Hydrocarbon spills or leaks	Vehicles, generators and pumps		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will maintain equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.</li> <li>All generators and tanks are double-lined.</li> <li>Spills will be cleaned up promptly.</li> <li>Hydrocarbons will be managed on site in accordance with Australian Standard 1940- 2004: The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids.</li> <li>Soil or material contaminated by hydrocarbons will either be treated in situ or removed to an off-site approved disposal facility.</li> </ul>

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pumps and sumps will be visually inspected each time they are refueled.</li> <li>• On-site personnel will be trained on the correct procedure for cleanup and storage in the event of a spill or leak.</li> </ul>
Direct discharge of saline to hypersaline water to the K1 Pit	Discharge of excess dewatering water from the K2 to K1 Pit	Direct discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing quarterly monitoring of K1 pit for comparison and assessment of water quality impacts.</li> <li>• The water quality of the discharge is similar to the receiving environment.</li> <li>• Catalyst monitors discharge quality in the K1 pit annually.</li> <li>• Catalyst will use existing monitoring bores situated around the K1 pit to monitor quality.</li> <li>• Pit lake management in accordance with Mine Closure Plan regulated by DEMIRS.</li> <li>• No other users within the vicinity of the discharge influence area (assumed as less than 2km from discharge).</li> </ul>
Overtopping of K1 Pit			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will maintain a 5 m freeboard.</li> <li>• Will maintain in the pit, a safety and abandonment bund around the project footprint, which would retain any unlikely overflow prior to discharging to the environment.</li> <li>• Discharge point and freeboard to be inspected once per week if pumping is occurring.</li> </ul>
Sediment laden and high salinity mine water discharge from pipeline leaks/ruptures			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pipeline situated in an open v-notch drain to facilitate inspections and prevent the spread of spills should leaks occur.</li> <li>• The pipeline corridor between the K1 pit and K2 pit is to be inspected at least once per day when pumping is occurring.</li> <li>• Monthly water balance to occur using multi directional magflow meters at all inlet/outlet points for leak management and maintenance purposes.</li> </ul>

### 3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessment* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded the applicant's employees, visitors, and contractors from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 3 and Figure 2 below provides a summary of potential human and environmental receptors that may be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises (*Guideline: Environmental Siting* (DWER 2020)).

**Table 3: Sensitive human, environmental and cultural receptors and distance from prescribed activity**

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Marymia Station Homestead	45 km northeast <b>Screened out of risk assessment due to distance from activity.</b>
Three Rivers Station Homestead	56 km west <b>Screened out of risk assessment due to distance from activity.</b>
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Fauna	<p>Bamford Consulting Ecologists (Bamford) (2019) was commissioned to conduct a basic fauna assessment on four areas of the Marymia Gold Project, including the K2 Project area.</p> <p>Of the 248 species of vertebrate fauna that are expected to occur in the survey area, 20 are of conservation significance.</p> <p>The majority of conservation-significant species are expected to be irregular visitors or vagrants; one bird is considered to be a visitor, and one bird and three mammals are residents (Bamford, 2019).</p> <p>The field survey did not find any <i>Leiopoa ocellata</i> (Malleefowl) mounds, suggesting that it is not a breeding resident at Marymia; however, individual birds may visit (Bamford, 2019). <i>Dasyercus blythi</i> (Brush-tailed Mulgara) has been the subject of long-term monitoring at Marymia due to early surveys recording the species incorrectly as <i>Dasyercus cristicauda</i> (Crest-tailed Mulgara), which was a threatened species at the time. All burrows were found to be inactive, which is typical of the species, which can vary in abundance from year to year (Bamford, 2019).</p>
Flora	Onshore Environmental Consultants (Onshore) (2019) were commissioned to conduct a detailed two-season flora and vegetation survey covering nine areas of Marymia's tenements, including K2.

	<p>Field surveys were conducted between 16-20 November 2018; and 5-10 May 2019.</p> <p>A total of 209 plant taxa (including varieties and subspecies) from 35 families and 89 genera were recorded from the field survey areas within the Marymia Gold Project area. The following conclusions were drawn based on the survey results (Onshore, 2019):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two Priority species were recorded in the Project area and consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Sauropus sp. Woolgorong</i> (Priority 3).</li> <li>▪ <i>Thryptomene sp. Leinster</i> (Priority 3).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One species with a significant range extension was recorded within the Project Area <i>Hibiscus brachychlaenus</i></li> </ul>
Stygofauna	<p>Bennelongia Environmental Consultants were commissioned to undertake a desktop assessment in 2019 of the four deposits located at the Marymia Project area, including the K2 Project area. Four PECs near Marymia were found to be rich and unique stygal communities in calcrete aquifers.</p> <p>The Marymia Gold Project area occurs on the outer extent of the buffer zone of Three Rivers Plutonic PEC, which comprises a large calcrete deposit and is possibly connected to alluvium and colluvium deposits. These deposits are located approximately 17 km north of the K2 Project (Bennelongia, 2019).</p> <p>The desktop assessment Bennelongia (2019) conducted recorded at least 45 species of stygofauna within 100 km of the Marymia Gold Project area. It is highly unlikely that all the species present in the search area have been recorded due to the low intensity of historical surveys (Bennelongia, 2019).</p> <p>Pending hydrogeology reports, Bennelongia (2019) concluded that the prospect for stygofauna to be located within the Banded Iron Formation (BIF) and granite geologies of the greenstone belt of the Marymia area is expected to be low.</p>
Groundwater	<p>Pre-dewatering water samples were collected from the K2 decline and the K1 pit for analysis in April 2014. Results were generally within the ANZECC trigger values for Livestock Water Quality assessment criteria and indicate that water quality in the vicinity of the Project was generally brackish, slightly alkaline and bicarbonate rich with concentrations of TDS ranging between 1,000 and 1,200 milligrams per litre (mg/L), a pH range of 7.9 to 9.1, a hardness ranging between 480 and 500 mg/L calcium</p>

	<p>carbonate and low concentrations of dissolved metals.</p> <p>A summary of baseline sampling results from 2024 and 2025 was provided with the licence application, from samples taken during the commissioning and time-limited operations phase. Only results for three bores were provided: K1-3, K1-7 and K1-14. The works approval specified water quality monitoring for four bores, namely K1-3, K1-6, K1-9, and K1-14 – in response to this finding the applicant advised that these bores have been monitored since July 2025 and provided a summary of these results to support the licence application.</p> <p>Exceedances of the ANZECC trigger values for Livestock Water Quality were recorded for some parameters. The applicant advised elevated arsenic concentrations are common in the area due to the localised rock and minerals associated with the gold deposits (Rockwater, 2024). No further commentary was provided in relation to other screening criteria exceedances.</p> <p>The pH levels were between 7.4 and 8.1 in 2024 and 2025, indicating slightly alkaline conditions however, they were less alkaline compared to 2014, which had a pH level of 9.1.</p>
Surface waterbodies	<p>The minor creeks and drainage lines in the Project area are ephemeral.</p> <p>Runoff flows off-site in a north-westerly direction via a combination of sheet flow and shallow concentrated flow.</p>
<b>Cultural receptors</b>	<b>Distance from prescribed activity</b>
Aboriginal heritage site	<p>The Project is located within the Gingirana Native Title Claim, which is registered with the National Native Title Tribunal. Aboriginal heritage sites within proximity of the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marymia 1 (ACH-00000980) 1km southeast of the K1 Pit</li> <li>• Marymia 2 (ACH-00000981) – 1.5km southeast of the K1 Pit</li> <li>• MYTHOLOGICAL 'SHOWPLACE' (ACH-00006140) 1.1km east of the K1 Pit</li> </ul>

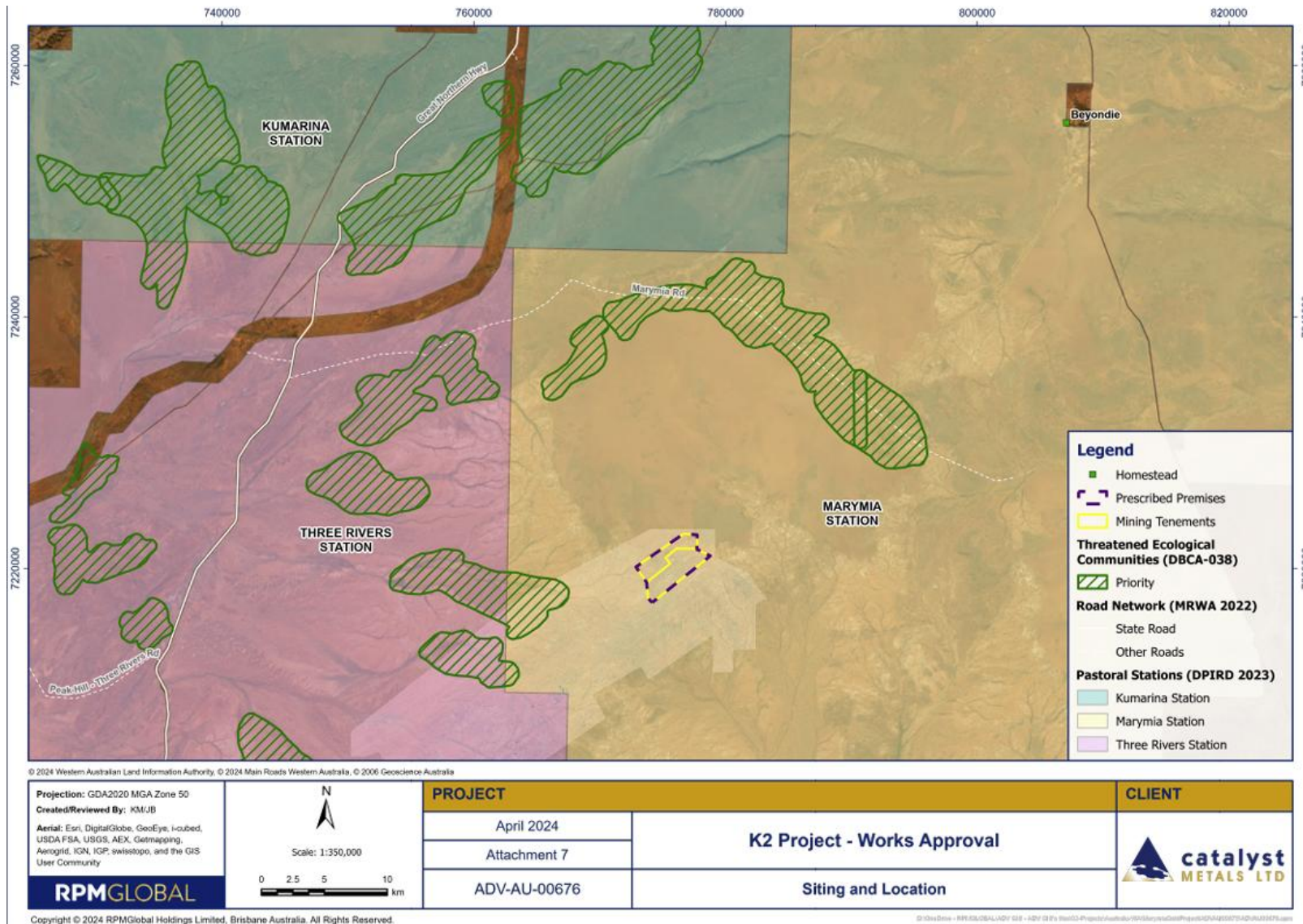
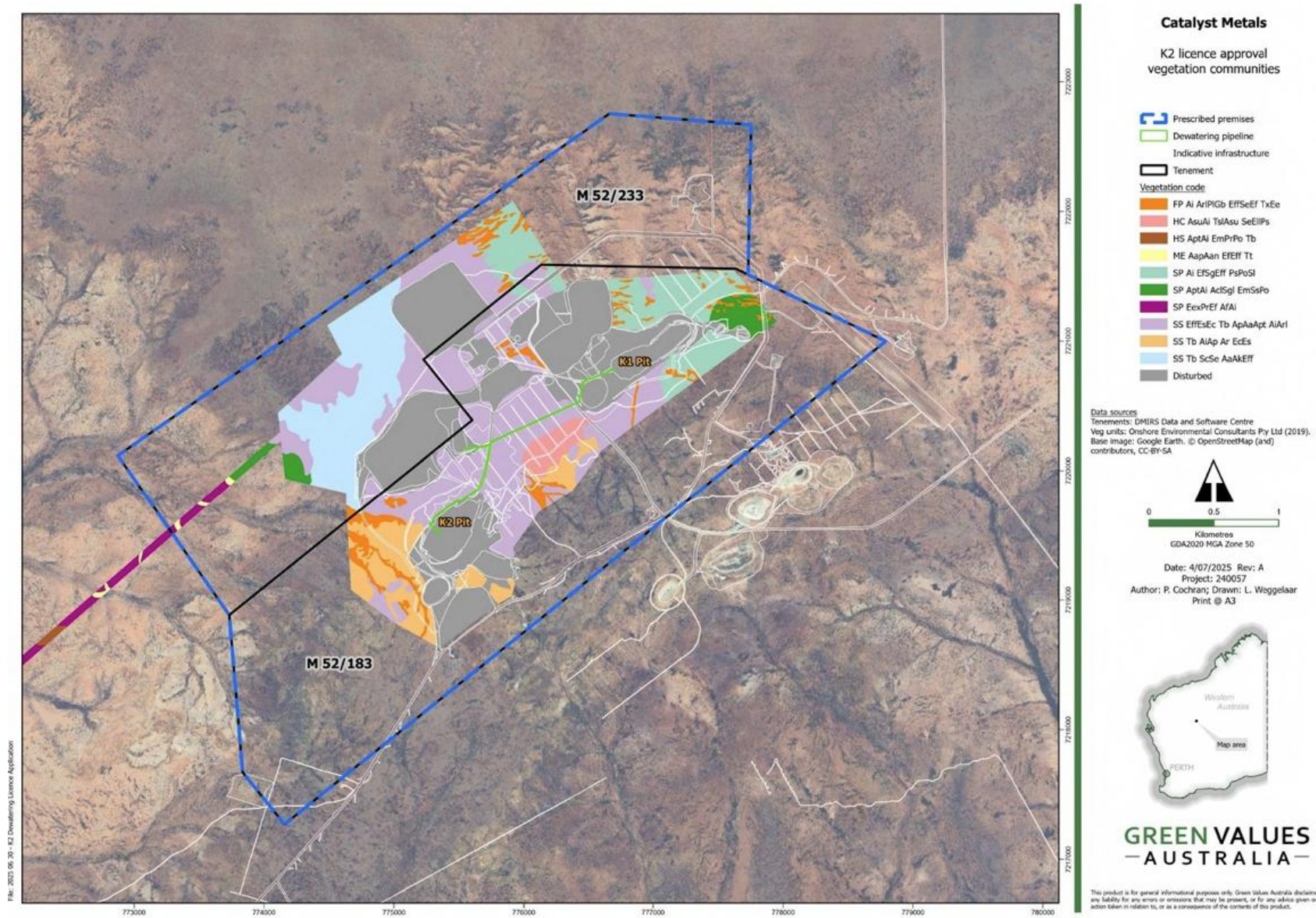


Figure 2: Distance to sensitive receptors

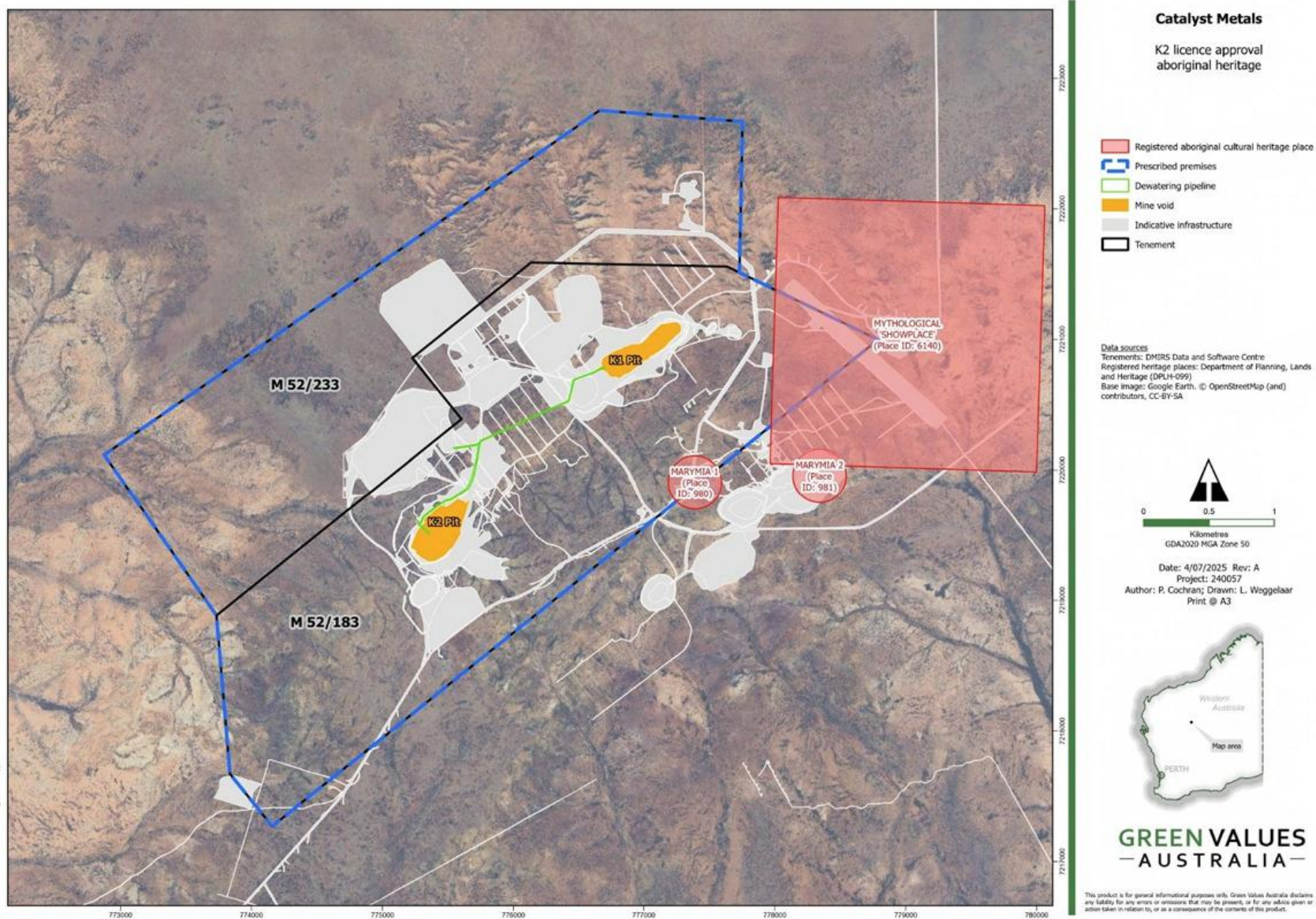
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**Figure 3: Vegetation Communities**

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**Figure 4: Aboriginal Heritage sites**

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## 3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for each identified emission source and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are in-complete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the applicant has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 3.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the delegated officer considers the applicant's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the licence as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the applicant's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 4.

Licence L3185/2026/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the premises i.e. Category 6 activities.

The conditions in the issued licence, as outlined in Table 4 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Table 4: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during operation

Risk events					Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of [works approval / licence]	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
<b>Operation</b>								
Conveyance of dewatering water from the K2 Pit to K1 Pit (Dewatering pipeline)	Sediment laden water discharge from pipeline leaks/ruptures	<b>Pathway:</b> direct discharge to land; seepage to ground and underlying groundwater; and/or run-off into ephemeral drainage lines <b>Impact:</b> localised erosion and/or adverse impacts to soils, surface water or groundwater quality,  <b>Impact:</b> to native vegetation from pooling of discharged water or from waterlogging of soils.	Soil  Underlying groundwater  Fauna and flora within and near the Project Area.	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1 – Operating requirements	The Delegated officer finds the proposed controls sufficient in managing the risk of spills or leaks from pipeline ruptures.
Discharge of excess dewatering water from the K2 Pit to K1 Pit (in-pit discharge)	Dewatering water (direct discharge)	<b>Pathway:</b> direct discharge to land (Pit); seepage to ground and seepage to surrounding groundwater (vertical and lateral migration). <b>Impact:</b> localised impacts to groundwater quality and potential groundwater mounding (potentially affecting	Soil  Underlying and surrounding groundwater Fauna and flora within and near the Project Area.	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1 – Operating requirements  Condition 7 & 8 – Monitoring of Groundwater	The Delegated officer finds the proposed controls sufficient in managing the risk of seepage from dewatering.  Monitoring of dewatering discharge to the K1 Pit has been conditioned within the licence to observe any potential impacts to groundwater

Risk events					Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of [works approval / licence]	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
		local vegetation).						
	Overtopping of K1 Pit (from discharged water)	<b>Pathway:</b> direct discharge to land; seepage to ground and underlying groundwater; and/or run-off into ephemeral drainage lines <b>Impact:</b> localised erosion and/or adverse impacts to soils, surface water or groundwater quality. <b>Impact:</b> to native vegetation from pooling of discharged water or from waterlogging of soils	Aboriginal Heritage Soil Underlying and surrounding groundwater Fauna and flora within and near the Project Area.	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1 – Operating requirements	The Delegated officer finds the proposed controls sufficient in managing the risk of seepage from dewatering. A freeboard has been conditioned within the licence to avoid overtopping
	Historic tailings within the K1 Pit mixing with discharged mine dewatering water	<b>Pathway:</b> seepage to surrounding groundwater (vertical and lateral migration) <b>Impact:</b> localised impacts to groundwater quality and potential groundwater mounding (potentially affecting local vegetation)	Soil Underlying groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1 – Operating requirements Condition 7 & 8 – Monitoring of Groundwater	The Delegated officer finds the proposed controls sufficient in managing the risk of seepage from dewatering. Monitoring of dewatering discharge to the K1 Pit has been conditioned within the licence to observe any potential impacts to groundwater Total CN and WAD-CN included in the monitoring schedule due to previous gold processing and tailings deposition onsite to regulate potential for elevations, particularly where dewater is added to K1 Pit that has previously had tailings deposition.

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed applicant controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underlined text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

## 4. Consultation

Table 5 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

**Table 5: Consultation**

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 19 January 2026	None received	N/A
Local Government Authority advised of proposal on 19 January 2026	None received	N/A
Marputu Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC advised of proposal on 19 January 2026	<p>The original due date for consultation responses was 9 February 2026 however; this was extended by request to 20 February 2026.</p> <p>On 20 February 2026, Marputu AC sought a further extension until 25 March 2026 (this was followed up again on 11 March 2026).</p> <p>On 12 March 2026, DWER advised Marputu AC that although it is appreciated that there was some difficulty with preparing a response to the application referral, the Department had already granted an extension to respond, and in procedural fairness to the applicant, no further extensions would be afforded.</p>	The Department has considered comments from previous submissions by MAC regarding the Marymia Gold Project in works approval W6949/2024/1 in the assessment of this application.
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 16 March 2026	The applicant responded on 7 April 2026. Please refer to the comments in Appendix 1	Please refer to the comments in Appendix 1

## 5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the delegated officer has determined that a licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

## References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.

## Appendix 1: Summary of applicant's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 7 and 8	The applicant has proposed the lowering of the frequency of monitoring for dewatering and monitoring of groundwater from quarterly to annually. The applicant states that due to little variation in the groundwater quality during the time-limited operations that quarterly monitoring is unnecessary.	The Delegated Officer finds the lowering of the frequency to be acceptable. However, annual monitoring is considered too infrequent, and biannual monitoring has therefore been conditioned to capture seasonal variations across an annual period (post-summer and post-winter).
Condition 13, Table 6, Item 4 (e) (f)	The applicant finds the required data presentation in comparison to the level of risk of the operations as excessive and proposes the condition be removed, especially with regard to presenting groundwater contour maps; <i>the development of contours etc can't really be done correctly, as the monitoring bores are directly around the discharge point and no bores further away to triangulate any variation or change.</i>	The Delegated Officer finds the removal of the condition 13, Item 4 (e) as acceptable due to the limitations of the bores. However, the applicant must still provide an interpretive assessment of monitoring results against guideline assessment levels and previous monitoring data.