

Amendment Report

Application for Licence Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Licence Number L8359/2009/2

Licence Holder Shire of Coolgardie

ACN 883 388 617

File Number 2012/006539-1

Premises Coolgardie Wastewater Treatment Plant

> Lot 2144 on Plan 184160 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 2140 on Plan 91726 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 53 on Plan 91726 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 31 on Plan 91280 Crown 37045, and Lot 2123 on Plan 91095 Crown Reserve 34285, Bayley

Street COOLGARDIE WA 6429

Date of Report 17 June 2024

Decision Revised licence granted

GRACE HEYDON

A/MANAGER WASTE INDUSTRIES

an officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)

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1. Decision summary

Licence L8359/2009/2 is held by Shire of Coolgardie for the Coolgardie Wastewater Treatment Plant (the Premises), located at within Crown Reserve 37045 and 34285, COOLGARDIE 6429.

This Amendment Report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during the operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L8359/2009/2 has been granted.

The Revised Licence issued as a result of this amendment consolidates and supersedes the existing Licence previously granted in relation to the Premises. The Revised Licence has been granted in a new format with existing conditions being transferred, but not reassessed, to the new format.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Amendment Report, the department 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 Amendment summary

On 21 March 2024, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L8359/2009/2 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- the addition of Category 61: Liquid waste facility, to allow for the receipt of septage waste; and
- to update the Premises Map for a more accurate description of the emission point (L1).

The acceptance and treatment process for septage wastes received under Category 61 will be done in the same manner as currently in effect for the existing Category 54: Sewage Facility prescribed premises. An overview of the premises layout is provided in Figure 1.

The following information in relation to the receipt, storage and treatment of liquid waste has been summarised from the application:

- The Coolgardie Wastewater Treatment Ponds consist of four treatment ponds operated in duty/standby mode. Sewage inflows are diverted into either Train A or Train B, consisting of one primary and secondary pond;
- Wastewater from both trains flows into a balancing storage pond (Pond C) before being pumped to storage tanks at the Oval and Park;
- No additional infrastructure or modifications to existing infrastructure at the site will be required for the acceptance, storage and treatment of the liquid waste;
- The Licence Holder is not proposing to increase the design capacity of the prescribed premises and therefore intends to accept a combined limit of up to 1,000m³ of liquid wastes per day, in accordance with its existing licence waste acceptance limits; and
- Liquid wastes will be accepted into the primary pond within each treatment pond train (Ponds A1 and B1) by vacuum trucks depositing directly into the pond, in the same location where sewage inflow to the ponds occurs.

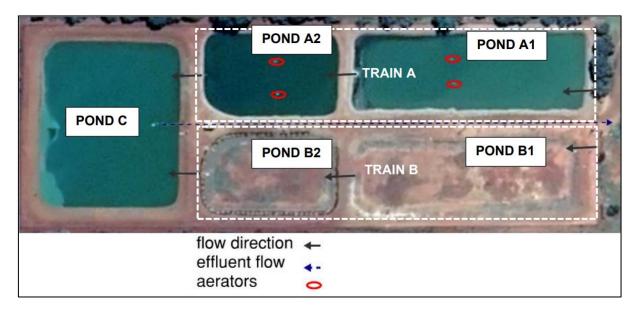


Figure 1: WWTP layout

2.3 Consolidation of Licence

As part of this amendment package the department has consolidated the licence by incorporating changes made under the Amendment Notice as summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Licences consolidated in this amendment

Instrument	Issued	Summary of approval	
L8359/2009/1	19/06/2009	Licence granted	
L8359/2009/2	29/05/2014	Licence re-issue	
L8359/2009/2	29/04/2016	Notice of Amendment of Licence Expiry Dates	

The obligations of the Licence Holder have not changed in consolidating the licence. No changes to existing, approved prescribed premises categories, throughput, infrastructure, wastes, emissions or discharge points are being proposed as part of this application.

The department has not undertaken any additional risk assessment of the Premises relating to current activities carried out on site.

In consolidating the licence, the CEO has:

- updated the format and appearance of the Licence;
- deleted the redundant AACR form set out in schedule 1 of the previous licence and advise the Licensee to obtain the form from the department's website;
- revised licence condition's numbers, and removed any redundant conditions and realigned condition numbers for numerical consistency; and
- corrected clerical mistakes and unintentional errors.

The full consolidation of licence conditions as they relate to this Revised Licence are detailed in Section 5.1. Previously issued Amendment Notices will remain on the department's website for future reference and will act as a record of the department's decision making.

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 Amendment Report are detailed in Table 2 below. Table 2 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 2: Licence Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Dust	Vehicle movements – discharge septage waste	Air/windborne pathway	Onsite speed limited to 10 km/h; Use of water cart for wetting down of roads when required.
Noise	Vehicle movements – discharge septage waste	Air/windborne pathway	All onsite machinery fitted with mufflers; Facility only to be operated between "day- time" hours (7am to 7pm, Mon – Friday, 7am -3pm Sat); Will adhere to the the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 2002.
Seepage	Storage of Septage (K210) waste and Sewage (K130)	Seepage to soils and groundwater	Pond constructed with compacted insitu clay soil to meet not less than 1 x 10 ⁻⁹ m/s permeability.
Odour	Acceptance, storage and treatment of septage waste (K210) and Sewage (K130)	Air/windborne pathway	Access chambers are fitted with aluminum grate covers to allow lightweight lifting for access if required (i.e., clear blockages); The covers are padlocked to prevent unauthorised access by the public or ingress materials that could block the pipework; Four floating aerators continuously operate in the functioning treatment train; Two wavemaker aerators are positioned in Pond A1 and two air injector aerators in Pond A2 (refer to Figure 1).
Treated effluent discharged to	Irrigation of treated effluent	Seepage to soil and	Storage tanks which are contained (closed).

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
spray field containing		groundwater	Specified waste acceptance criteria (K130 and K210 control waste)
excessive Nitrogen and			Dedicated irrigation area.
Phosphorous levels			Irrigated wastewater will be confined to the irrigation area;
			Treated Wastewater is evenly distributed over the irrigation area;
			Treated wastewater will not be discharged to the irrigation area during rainfall or onto flooded areas; and
			Quarterly monitoring and Annual reporting.

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors of the Licence Holder's 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 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 and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Residential Premises	The closest residential receptor is located approximately 179m to the east of the premises.
Caravan Park	located approximately 357m to the east of the premises.
Ford Bayley Village	Located approximately 220m to the south.
Kurrajong Village	Located approximately 250 metres to the south of the premises.
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Public Drinking Water Supply Area	The premises is not located within a Public Drinking Water Supply Area (PDWSA). Hypersaline groundwater. No beneficial uses of groundwater in the site vicinity.
Groundwater	Depth to groundwater encountered at approximately 6mbgl.

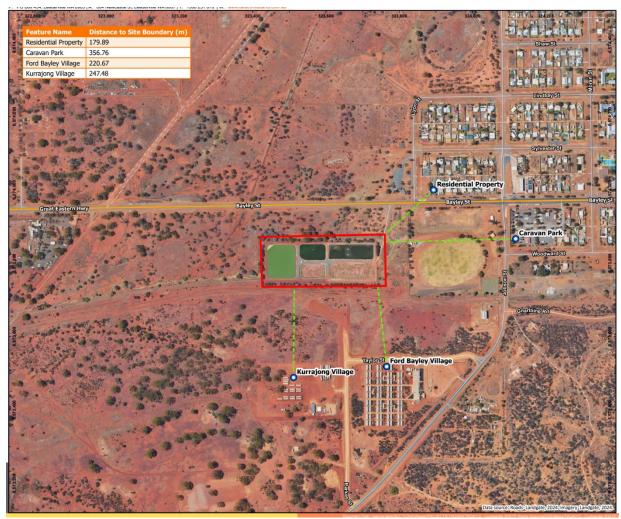


Figure 2: Distance to sensitive receptors

3.2 Risk ratings

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

Where the Licence Holder 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 Licence Holder'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 Licence Holder's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 4.

The Revised Licence L8359/2009/2 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises.

The conditions in the Revised Licence have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015)

Table 4. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises operation

Risk Event					Risk rating ¹	g ¹ Licence	Conditions ² of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/ Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?		
	Dust	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Closest residential property located approximately 180 Northeast and Mining accommodation villages located within 250m from the prescribed premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1, 9 and 11	N/A Dust emissions are also regulated under section 49 of the EP Act.
Operation of a Category 61 liquid waste facility Vehicle movements	Noise	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Closest residential property located approximately 180 Northeast and Mining accommodation villages located within 250m from the prescribed premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1, 9 and 11	N/A Noise emissions are also regulated under the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.
	Odour	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Closest residential property located approximately 180 Northeast and Mining accommodation villages located within 250m from the prescribed premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1, 4, 7 & 8	N/A Odour emissions are also regulated under s49 of the EP Act.

Risk Event	Risk Event					Licence		Justification for
Source/ Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of licence	additional regulatory controls
	Liquid waste	Seepage of liquid waste to land from ponds resulting in infiltration to groundwater	Groundwater – 6mbgl	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1, 2, 8 and 11	The Delegated Officer has noted a data gap within current monitoring conditions, where ammonium nitrogen is not currently within the monitoring schedule. Ammonium nitrogen is now included in standard monitoring suites as it is a common contaminant resulting from wastewater ponds. As such, the Delegated Officer has added this parameter to the monitoring schedule to ongoing concentrations are recorded within treated wastewater.
Treated Effluent Water re-use	Irrigation of treated effluent	Direct discharge and overland flow- Treated effluent discharged to spray field for irrigation containing excessive Nitrogen and Phosphorous levels causing impacts to underlying soils.	Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	Υ	Condition 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11	N/A Discharges to land can also be regulated under the Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004.

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

Note 2: Proposed Licence Holder's controls are depicted by standard text. Bold and underline 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 15/05/2024	None received.	N/A
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 10/06/2024	Premises boundary coordinates provided.	Coordinates have been incorporated into the revised Licence.

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Amendment Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that a Revised Licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 6 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Licence as part of the amendment process.

Table 6: Summary of licence amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
N/A Prescribed Premises Category table	Inclusion of Category 61 to the table. No change to production and design capacity.
Condition 1 Table 1	Table 1 amended to allow for the receipt and storage of septage waste (K210).
Condition 3	Reference to Figure 2 (irrigation areas) included in condition for clarity.
Condition 9 Table 3	Table 3 amended to allow for the monitoring of Ammonia Nitrogen concentration in treated effluent.
Condition 10	Standard licence condition added, revised to current licensing format – regarding maintaining accurate and auditable books relating to the calculation of fees, works to be conducted, monitoring programmes and any complaints.
Condition 11	Standard licence condition added, revised to current licensing format – regarding book specified in condition 10.
Condition 12	Standard licence condition added, revised to current licensing format – regarding recording of complaints.

Condition 13	Standard licence condition, revised to current licensing format – regarding carrying out compliance audit of the licence conditions.
N/A	New premises map included (Figure 1).
Schedule 1: Maps	Map of emission points renamed to map of irrigation areas (Figure 2) as emission points now included in Figure 1.

Table 7: Consolidation of licence conditions in this amendment

Existing condition	Condition summary	Revised licence condition	Conversion notes
N/A	Expiry Date: 18 June 2019	Expiry Date: 18 June 2033	In accordance with the Notice of Amendment of Licence Expiry Dates (29/04/2016)
N/A	Prescribed Premises Category table	N/A	Category 61 added to the table
N/A	Contents and preamble	N/A	Redundant text. Revised to current licensing format.
1.1.1 1.1.2	Interpretation and definitions	N/A Interpretation section, Definitions and Table 6	Redundant condition. Revised to current licensing format.
1.1.3	Australian or other standard	N/A Interpretation section, Definitions and Table 6	Redundant condition. Revised to current licensing format.
1.1.4	Reference to code of practice	N/A Interpretation section, Definitions and Table 6	Redundant condition. Revised to current licensing format.
1.2.1	Emissions	N/A	Redundant condition. Revised to current licensing format.
1.2.2	Pollution control and monitoring equipment	N/A	Redundant condition. Adequately covered by alternative existing conditions. Deleted from licence.
1.2.3	Storage of environmentally hazardous materials	N/A	Redundant condition. Adequately regulated by the Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004. Deleted from licence.
1.2.4	Recovery and removal of spills	N/A	Redundant condition. Adequately covered by EP (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004. Deleted from licence.
1.2.5	Prevention of contamination and containment of contaminated stormwater	N/A	Redundant condition. Adequately covered by alternative existing conditions and proposed new conditions. Deleted from licence.

Existing condition	Condition summary	Revised licence condition	Conversion notes
1.3.1	Record and investigate exceedances of limits or targets	N/A	Redundant condition. Deleted from licence.
1.3.2	Waste acceptance	Condition 1	Revised to current licensing format.
Table 1.3.1		Table 1	
1.3.3	Management of wastewater treatment ponds	Condition 2	New numbering
1.3.4	Management of the irrigation of the treated water	Condition 3	New numbering
1.3.5	Drying of sewage sludge	Condition 4	New numbering
2.1.1	Record and investigate exceedances of limits or targets	N/A	Redundant condition. Deleted from licence.
2.2 – 2.4	Point source emissions to air, surface water and groundwater	N/A	Deleted from licence.
	No specified conditions		
2.5.1 Table 2.5.1	Emission point to land	Condition 5 Table 2	New numbering
2.6.1	Fugitive emissions No specified conditions	N/A	Deleted from licence.
2.7.1	Odour emissions	6	New numbering
2.8.1	Noise emissions No specified conditions	N/A	Deleted from licence.
3.1.1	Collection and Preservation of water samples	Condition 7	New numbering
3.1.2	Monthly monitoring requirement	Condition 8	New numbering
3.5.1 Table 3.5.1	Monitoring of emissions to land	Condition 9 Table 3	New numbering
3.2 – 3.4	General monitoring conditions No specified conditions	N/A	Deleted from licence.
4	Improvements No specified conditions	N/A	Deleted from licence.

Existing condition	Condition summary	Revised licence condition	Conversion notes
5.1.1	Records	Conditions 10 and 11	New numbering. Condition wording revised to current standard condition wording.
5.1.2	Person in charge of premises	N/A	Redundant condition. Deleted from licence.
5.1.3	AACR	Condition 13	New numbering. Condition wording revised to current standard condition wording.
5.1.4	Complaints	Condition 12	New numbering. Condition wording revised to current standard condition wording.
5.2.1 Table 5.2.1	Annual reporting requirements	Condition 14 Table 4	New numbering.
5.3.1 Table 5.3.1	Notification requirements	Condition 15 Table 5	New numbering
Schedule 1: Maps	Premises map	Schedule 1: Maps	Updated premises plan as provided by licence holder includes details of labelled key infrastructure and location of all monitoring bores
Schedule 2 Reporting & notifications	Annual Audit Compliance Report	N/A	Redundant attachment. Deleted from Licence Forms accessed at www.dwer.wa.gov.au

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: Application validation summary

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY					
Application type					
Amandment to ligance	\boxtimes	Current licence number:			
Amendment to licence		Relevant works approval number:		N/A	
Date application received		21 March 2024			
Applicant and Premises details					
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)		Shire of Coolgardie			
Premises location		Lot 2144 on Plan 184160 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 2140 on plan 91726 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 53 on Plan 91726 Crown Reserve 37045, Lot 31 on Plan 91280 Crown Reserve and Lot 2123 on Plan 91095 Crown Reserve 34285, Bayley Street COOLGARDIE WA 6429			
Local Government Authority		Shire of Coolgardie			
Application documents					
HPCM file reference number:		2012/006539-1			
Key application documents (additional to application form):		Signed Application form. Attachments: Coolgardie WWTP Operations Manual 1A Occupier Status, Certificate of Title Attachment 2 Site locality Map			
		Attachment 3B Proposed Activities			
		Attachment 7 – Environmental Siting map			
Scope of application/assessme	ent				
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.		The Shire is seeking to accept additional liquid waste types at the Site, primarily septage wastes (K210), sourced from the resource sector.			
		The Shire is not proposing to increase the approved premises waste acceptance design capacity and intends to continue receiving up to 1,000m³ of waste per day, in accordance with its existing licence (L8359) condition.			
		The acceptance and treatment process for wastes received under this Prescribed Premises category (Cat 61) will be done in the same manner as for the existing Category 54: Sewage Facility Prescribed Premises classification. Liquid wastes will be accepted into the primary pond within each treatment pond train by vacuum trucks depositing directly into the pond, in the same location where sewage inflows occur. Controlled wastes will be accepted in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004.			

Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescrib and des	ped premises category cription	Proposed production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)
premises produced than	y 61: Liquid waste facility: s on which liquid waste d on other premises (other sewerage) is stored, ssed, treated or irrigated.	Combined limit of 1000 m ³ per day	Combined limit of 1000 m ³ per day
premises (a) on wh	y 54: Sewage facility s – hich sewage is treated ng septic tanks); or	No change	
	which treated sewage is ed onto land or into waters		

Legislative context and other approvals

Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Referral decision No: Managed under Part V ⊠ Assessed under Part IV □
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes □ No ⊠	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes □ No ⊠	Reference No:
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Certificate of title □ Assignment of lease ⊠ Expiry: 28 May 2025 Mining lease / tenement □ Expiry: Other evidence □ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠	Approval: Proof of consultation with CKB provided Expiry date: If N/A explain why?
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	CPS No: N/A No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A No clearing is proposed.

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Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A Licence / permit not required.
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: Perth Groundwater Area Type: Proclaimed Groundwater Area Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes □ No □ N/A ☒
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A Priority: N/A Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to WQPN 25)? Yes □ No □ N/A ☒
Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx)	Yes ⊠ No □	Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, EP Act, EP (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes □ No ⊠	
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes □ No ⊠	
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003?	Yes □ No ⊠	Classification: N/A