



Application to replace expiring licence

Division 3, Part V *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence number	L8665/2012/2
Licence holder	BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd
ABN	008 700 981
File number	2012/003877-1
Premises	Warrawandu Village Wastewater Treatment Plant Portion of mining lease ML244SA As defined by the coordinates in Appendix A of licence
Date of report	21/09/2021
Status of report	Final

1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the Delegated Officer's decision to grant licence L8665/2012/2 to BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (licence holder) for Warrawandu Village Wastewater Treatment Plant located at Portion of mining lease ML244SA (the premises) and defined by the coordinate as stipulated in the licence.

The Delegated Officer has determined the risks to human health and the environment from activities on the premises, and as previously assessed by the Department, have not materially changed. The delegated officer has therefore determined to grant the replacement licence without conducting any additional risk assessment. The format of the licence has been updated consistent with the current licence format.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Application summary and overview of the Premises

The Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is located approximately 4.5 km from Ophthalmia Dam. Other nearby land uses include pastoral activities and mineral exploration and production. The licence relates to the operation of a WWTP consisting of waste stabilisation ponds system, with the capacity to treat up to 700 m³ per day of wastewater. Disposal of up to 132m³ per day (annual average) of the treated wastewater is irrigated to 5ha native vegetation and 568m³ per day (annual average) of treated wastewater to an unlined evaporation / infiltration pond to evaporate or infiltrate.

2.2 Regulatory framework

In replacing licence L8665/2012/1, 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>.

3. Consultation

In accordance with section 54 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Shire of East Pilbara, was invited to comment on the licence replacement application. No comment was received.

The draft replacement licence and this decision report were provided to the licence holder on 14/09/2021 for comment. Only administrative changes were requested by the licence holder.

4. Decision

The Delegated Officer has granted licence L8665/2012/2 with administrative changes only and without conducting any additional risk assessment. In determining to grant this licence the Delegated Officer notes that no changes to the activities undertaken or the volumes of material produced at the premises have occurred. Therefore, the Delegated Officer determined the risk to public health and the environment from activities at the premises, as previously assessed by a Delegated Officer, have not materially changed and are deemed acceptable. The format of the licence and conditions have been updated to be consistent with the current licence format. The updates are administrative in nature and do not alter the risk profile of the premises.

The replacement licence has been issued for a period of 20 years. The Department proposes to conduct a review of the licence before the next expiry date to ensure that the previously assessed risk to public health and the environment, from activities on the premises, have not materially changed.

In replacing the expiring license, the Delegated Officer has also determined to:

- update the format and appearance of the licence;
- remove redundant conditions and include additional conditions considered necessary for the effective administration of the licence (i.e. record keeping and reporting requirements);

- revise licence condition numbers and realign condition numbers for numerical consistency;
- include the number of facultative ponds, the number of maturation treatment ponds, evaporation / infiltration pond, and irrigation sprayfield to Table 1 of the licence. Data sourced from Schedule 1 : Maps in licence; and
- transfer all existing regulatory controls and conditions to the replacement licence.

Summary of changes

The below table provides a summary of changes to the previous licence and will act as a record of implemented changes. All changes have been incorporated into the replacement licence.

Condition / table	Description
Cover page	Licence version updated. Issue and expiry dates updated.
Introduction	Previous 'introduction' section removed, consistent with current DWER licence template. This guidance is now available in DWER's <i>Guide to Licensing</i> (June 2019).
Interpretation	Updated, consistent with current DWER template.
General emission condition	Removed to be consistent with current DWER template.
Table 1	Included number of facultative, number of maturation treatment ponds, evaporation/infiltration pond, and irrigation sprayfield Incorporated disposal of treated wastewater from previous Table 2 of licence
Table 1 -7	Previous Tables 1 - 7 rearranged and incorporated into new format licence
Records and reporting	Updated format to be consistent with current DWER template.
Previous conditions 29 and 30	Removed these conditions to be consistent with current DWER template
Definitions	Definitions updated to be consistent with current DWER licence template: 'AACR', 'annual period', 'licence', 'licence holder', and 'premises' Definitions added: 'ACN', 'books', 'department', 'emission', 'EP Regulations', 'prescribed premises', and 'waste'. Definitions removed: 'Schedules 2 and 3'
Schedule 2	Relocated prescribed premises categories to cover page
Schedule 3	Removed 'Notification Form' to be consistent with current DWER template
Appendix A	Added coordinates as Appendix A

Jane Dalin
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
INDUSTRY REGULATION

Officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986