



## Application for Licence Amendment

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

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<b>Licence Number</b>	L8688/2012/1
<b>Licence Holder</b>	Hamersley HMS Pty Ltd
<b>ACN</b>	115 004 129
<b>File Number</b>	APP-0032767
<b>Premises</b>	Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine  Part of AM70/282, L47/399 and Part of L47/702 NEWMAN WA 6753  As defined by the Premises map in Schedule 1 and the coordinates in Schedule 2 of the Revised Licence
<b>Date of Report</b>	<b>16/03/2026 (FINAL)</b>
<b>Decision</b>	Revised licence granted

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## 1. Decision summary

Licence L8688/2012/1 is held by Hamersley HMS Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine (the Premises), located approximately 30 km north of Newman.

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 L8688/2012/1 has been granted.

## 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 2 December 2025, the Licence Holder submitted an application (Rio Tinto 2025a) to the department to amend Licence L8688/2012/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- Increase to the design capacity of Category 5 from 21 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) to 36 Mtpa;
- Inclusion of Category 57 for used tyre storage;
- Inclusion of Category 73 for bulk storage of chemicals; and
- Updates to Condition 9 (previous Condition 10), Table 8 to remove non-operational monitoring bores and replace these with operational monitoring bores.

On 5 February 2026, the Licence Holder requested (Rio Tinto 2026a) an increase in the design capacity of Category 64 from 1,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) to 4,000 tpa.

This amendment is limited only to changes to Category 5, 57, 64 and 73 activities. No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to Category 6, 12 and 54 have been requested by the Licence Holder.

Table 1 below outlines the existing and proposed changes to the existing Licence.

**Table 1: Existing and proposed design capacity changes**

Category	Current design capacity	Proposed design capacity	Description of proposed amendment
5	21,000,000 tonnes per annual period	36,000,000 tonnes per annual period	Increase of 15 Mtpa to incorporate the Build, Own and Operate (BOO) Crushing and Screening Plant (BOO Plant) constructed under works approval W6767/2022/1.  Refer to section 2.2.1.

Category	Current design capacity	Proposed design capacity	Description of proposed amendment
6	Regulated under Ministerial Statement 854 (23 gigalitres (GL) per year)	No change	N/A
12	10,000,000 tonnes per annual period	No change	N/A
54	372 cubic metres (m <sup>3</sup> ) per day	No change	N/A
57	N/A	5,000 tyres	To enable the storage of up to 5,000 used tyres outside of landfills until tyre recycling opportunities become available. Refer to section 2.2.2.
64	1,000 tonnes per annual period	4,000 tonnes per annual period	Increase by an additional 3,000 tonnes. Refer to section 2.2.3.
73	N/A	1,500 m <sup>3</sup> in aggregate	A recent audit of hydrocarbon storage on the premises indicates approaching Category 73 threshold. Refer to section 2.2.4.

### 2.2.1 Category 5 – BOO Plant

The BOO Plant was constructed under W6767/2022/1. The department received Environmental Compliance Reports (Rio Tinto 2025b and Rio Tinto 2025c) for this infrastructure on 21 March 2025 and 13 June 2025 respectively.

The BOO Plant and associated infrastructure include:

- Run of Mine (ROM) bin
- Primary Crusher
- Secondary Crushing System
- Screens
- Conveyors
- Rock breakers
- Weightometers
- Tramp metal detectors
- Sample stations
- Lump product conveyors

- Fines product stacker
- BOO ROM pad
- BOO Crushing and Screening Plant stockyard pad
- Hoppers
- Hydrocarbon storage areas and refuelling facilities
- Oily water separator
- Evaporation / Sediment ponds

Under W6767/2022/1, the BOO Plant was assessed at a production capacity of 6 Mtpa.

The Licence Holder has stated that the BOO Plant has been engineered and constructed with a nameplate capacity of 15 Mtpa. “*The proposed licence amendment seeks to capture the BOO plant’s nameplate capability. This ensures the licence accommodates the maximum throughput the plant is capable of processing, consistent with the licence framework, and avoids the need for future administrative amendments should throughput increase within the already designed and constructed infrastructure*” (Rio Tinto 2026b).

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment for the operation of the BOO Plant with a design capacity 15 Mtpa.

### 2.2.2 Category 57 – Used tyre storage

The Licence Holder is currently authorised to dispose of Inert Waste Type 2 (tyres) in the Waste Dump Landfill (under Category 64) at the Premises.

Category 57 under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) is triggered if more than 100 used tyres are stored at the Premises at any one time.

Tyre recycling represents a significant opportunity and sites across the Pilbara are exploring opportunities to store used tyres outside of landfills so that they are easily accessible (compared to recovering buried tyres from landfills which will be challenging) for tyre recycling opportunities as new tyre recycling technologies are becoming available.

The Licence Holder is seeking to include Category 57 to the Licence, to allow up to 5,000 used tyres to be stored outside of the Waste Dump Landfill until tyre recycling opportunities become available.

Tyres are to be stored in accordance with *Guidance Note: GN02 Bulk Storage of Rubber Tyres Including Shredded and Crumbed Tyres* (DFES 2020).

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment for the storage of used tyres.

### 2.2.3 Category 64 – Waste acceptance increase

The Licence Holder is currently authorised under the existing Licence to dispose of 1,000 tpa of Inert Waste Type 1, Inert Waste Type 2 and wooden pallets (Putrescible Waste) to the Waste Dump Landfill at the Premises.

The Licence Holder has requested that the Category 64 design capacity be increased from 1,000 tpa to 4,000 tpa. The increase in demand has been driven by the following factors:

- Construction and operation of the BOO Plant
- Additional administration buildings across the Premises
- Increased workforce requirements associated with operational demands

- Expansion of AUX fleet (including dozers, graders, loaders) and haul trucks.

The Licence Holder has advised that there will be no changes to the waste acceptance criteria or location and all current management measures will remain in place.

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment for the increase in disposal of waste.

### 2.2.4 Category 73 – Bulk storage of chemicals

A recent audit of hydrocarbon storage on the Premises indicates that the Licence Holder is approaching the regulatory threshold for Category 73.

The Licence Holder is requesting to add Category 73 to the Licence with a design capacity of 1,500 m<sup>3</sup> in aggregate.

The Licence Holder has stated that fuel on site will continue to be stored within 110 kilolitre (kL) vessels and will be used to service trucks, water carts, drill rigs, forklifts, elevating work platforms, graders, diggers, loaders and buses.

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment for the bulk storage of chemicals.

### 2.2.5 Other amendments

#### Groundwater monitoring requirements:

During recent reviews, it was identified that several bores listed under Condition 9 (previous Condition 10), Table 8 are either dry, damaged, or incorrectly named.

To address these issues, the Licence Holder is seeking to:

- Correct bore references to reflect the actual operational bores.
- Provide alternative bores for monitoring where existing bores are not viable due to physical condition or water availability.
- Include a footnote stating: “Note: No sample required if bore is dry”. This clarification will ensure compliance obligations are clear and achievable, reducing unnecessary risk of non-compliance.

The proposed amendments are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: WFSF groundwater monitoring and alternative bores**

Premises Infrastructure	Monitoring Bore Location	Bore Status	Alternative Bore / Additional Bores	Alternative Bore Coordinates (Easting, Northing)	Parameters (units)
Area 3 WFSF	MB20HD40001	Operational	N/A	N/A	Standing Water Level (mbgl)
	MB15HD4002	Non-operational (Dry)	WB21HD40003	759539.51 7438684.727	Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm) pH (pH units)
	MB20HD40003	Operational	N/A	N/A	Oxygen Dissolved (mg/L and %)
	MB17HD40006	Non-operational (Dry)	MB22HD40020	761161.517 7438893.954	N NO <sub>x</sub> Nitrogen (mg/L) Nitrogen Total (mg/L)
	MB18HD40008	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40011	759709.44 7439156.701	N Ammonium NH <sub>4</sub> -N (mg/L) TDS (mg/L)
	MB11HD4011	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40015	760277.449 7439187.875	NO <sub>3</sub> (mg/L) Major Ions: Na, K, Ca, Cl, F, Mg, SO <sub>4</sub> , Alkalinity CaCO <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)
		<u>Additional</u>	MB25HD40014	759986.558 7438387.408	Metal/metalloids: Al, As, Ba, B, Cu, Fe, Mn, As, Cd, Cr,

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Premises Infrastructure	Monitoring Bore Location	Bore Status	Alternative Bore / Additional Bores	Alternative Bore Coordinates (Easting, Northing)	Parameters (units)
		<u>Additional</u>	MB22HD40019	761311.06 7438441.332	Pb, Hg, Ni, Co, Se, Mo, Sb, Si, Sn (mg/L)
		<u>Additional</u>	MB25HD40012	760510.852 7438230.966	
WFSF	MB20HD40004	Non-operational (Broken)	MB10HD4005	765139.663 7438780.009	Standing Water Level (mbgl)
	MB13EA0002	Non-operational (Dry)	MB23HD40007	764434.514 7439786.832	Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)
	MB13EA0006	Operational	N/A	N/A	pH (pH units)
	MB13EA0004	Non-operational (Dry)	MB23HD40006	765176.718 7439992.194	Oxygen Dissolved (mg/L and %)
	MB15HD4036	Operational	N/A	N/A	N NO <sub>x</sub> Nitrogen (mg/L)
	RC14EA1026	Non-operational (Dry)	MB23HD40011	763865.982 7440148.681	Nitrogen Total (mg/L)
	MB12HD4007	Operational	N/A	N/A	N Ammonium NH4-N (mg/L)
	MB12HD4005	Operational	N/A	N/A	TDS (mg/L)
	MB12HD4009	Operational	N/A	N/A	NO <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)
	ERBORE1	Operational	N/A	N/A	Major Ions: Na, K, Ca, Cl, F, Mg, SO <sub>4</sub> , Alkalinity CaCO <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)
		<u>Additional</u>	MB23HD40001	766861.4 7439456.58	Metal/metalloids: Al, As, Ba, B, Cu, Fe, Mn, As, Cd, Cr, Pb, Hg, Ni, Co, Se, Mo, Sb, Si, Sn (mg/L)
DSP WFSF	WB14HD4011	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40003	MB25HD40003 7437627.521	Standing Water Level (mbgl)
	WB14HD4016	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40004	763396.031 7437630.985	Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)
	WB11HD4002	Operational	N/A	N/A	
	WB10HD40006	Incorrect Name	WB21HD40006	762923.556 7437960.6	pH (pH units)
	WB14HD4012	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40018	763197.373 7437424.766	Oxygen Dissolved (mg/L and %)
	WB14HD4011	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40003	762769.426 7437627.521	N NO <sub>x</sub> Nitrogen (mg/L)
	WB14HD4016	Non-operational (Dry)	MB25HD40004	763396.031 7437630.985	Nitrogen Total (mg/L)
		<u>Additional</u>	WB21HD40006	762923.556 7437960.6	N Ammonium NH4-N (mg/L)
		<u>Additional</u>	MB25HD40017	763312.05 7437817.675	TDS (mg/L)

The department has made the requested changes to Condition 9, Table 8.

No risk assessment has been undertaken for these amendments, as they are considered administrative updates.

## 2.3 Department of Energy and Economic Diversification

The Premises is subject to the *Iron Ore (Hope Downs) Agreement Act 1992*, regulated by the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification (DEED).

The application was referred to DEED who advised that they had reviewed the licence amendment and have no objections, noting that works will be subject to approval under the *Iron Ore (Hope Downs) Agreement Act 1992* prior to implementation.

## 2.4 Part IV of the EP Act

The Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Project was referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Section 38 of the EP Act in January 2010 and was assessed at the level of Public Environmental Review (PER). The EPA released its Report and Recommendations (EPA Report 1374) in December 2010. At that time, the EPA decided that the following key environmental factors were relevant to the proposal:

- Groundwater and surface water;
- Flora;
- Fauna; and
- Closure and rehabilitation.

The Minister approved implementation of the Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Project, subject to conditions of Ministerial Statement (MS) 854, on 31 January 2011. MS 854 includes conditions relevant to the management of:

- Groundwater drawdown;
- Dewater discharge;
- Water quality;
- Flora and vegetation;
- Fauna;
- Acid and Metalliferous Drainage;
- Rehabilitation; and
- Final closure and decommissioning.

## 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 3 below. Table 3 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

**Table 3: Licence Holder controls**

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
<b>Category 5 - BOO Plant and associated infrastructure (W6767/2022/1 Amendment Report granted 18 October 2024)</b>			
Dust	Screening, crushing, unloading, loading and storage of material	Air / windborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dust suppression nozzles at the ROM bin and at each conveyor loading section and discharge chute.</li> <li>Stacker conveyor chutes enclosed as far as practicable.</li> <li>Water truck maintained on site to manage dust emissions.</li> <li>Vehicle movements through restricted speeds.</li> </ul>
Sediment laden stormwater		Overland runoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential sediment laden stormwater managed on site via bunds and surface water diversions.</li> <li>Clean stormwater run-off and potentially sediment loaded run-off from the plant are separated to the extent achievable by applying Rio Tinto Standard specification SS-N102 Sediment Control and Separation.</li> <li>Drainage sumps to settle out sediments prior to discharge from the plant area.</li> <li>Potentially contaminated water directed to the sediment ponds via surface land contour management and stormwater diversion drains.</li> <li>Oily waster separators to separate out hydrocarbons from surface water.</li> </ul>
Spills / leaks of hydrocarbons / chemicals		Discharges to land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrocarbon storage areas and refuelling facilities have secondary containment to ensure spills are contained.</li> </ul>
Mine process water and sediment laden	Evaporation / Sediment ponds	Overtopping and seepage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A minimum operational freeboard of 0.5 m (Pond 1) and 0.68 m (Pond 2) maintained to ensure storage capacity is not exceeded.</li> </ul>

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
stormwater			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaporation / Sediment Ponds maintained with a 1.5 mm high density polyethylene (HDPE) liner with a permeability of <math>1 \times 10^{-9}</math> m/s or less.</li> <li>• Daily visual inspections to ensure freeboard capacity is available and that there is no embankment seepage.</li> <li>• Evaporation / Sediment Ponds regularly inspected and pumped out to remove excess sediment to prevent overflowing of contaminated stormwater.</li> <li>• Potentially contaminated water is directed to the Evaporation / Sediment Ponds via surface land contour management and stormwater diversion drains.</li> </ul>
<b>Category 57 - Used tyre storage</b>			
Smoke	Used tyre storage	Air / windborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tyres stored in accordance with Part 6 of the EP Regulations and the <i>Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004</i>.</li> <li>• Tyre storage areas located within the Prescribed Premises Boundary.</li> <li>• Not to be located in Environmentally Sensitive Areas.</li> <li>• Storage areas must be level, clear of vegetation, rubbish and other combustible material to mitigate the risk of fire.</li> <li>• A firebreak at least 3 m in width must be maintained around the boundary of tyre storage areas.</li> <li>• Tyre storage (number of tyres in stacks, area and height of stacks, separation distances between stacks) designed to limit the extent of spread of an established fire.</li> <li>• Firefighting resources and water supply must be available on the prescribed premises with capacity to extinguish an established fire in tyre storage areas.</li> <li>• Storage areas must include bunding and sumps sufficient to contain any water resulting from the fighting of tyre fires, and following the extinguishing of a fire, firewater must be contained to avoid discharges to the environment.</li> <li>• Used tyres must be stacked on their</li> </ul>
Contaminated fire water and burnt materials		Discharges to land	

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			side walls or if stored on their treads, area baled with a securing device made from a non-combustible material.
<b>Category 64: Waste disposal increase</b>			
Dust	Increase in waste disposal volumes to the Waste Dump Landfill	Air / windborne	Existing controls on licence relating to waste acceptance criteria, volumes and location.
Fire / smoke		Air / windborne	
<b>Category 73 - Bulk storage of chemicals</b>			
Contaminated stormwater runoff containing hydrocarbons	Bulk fuel storage	Discharges to land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New and existing hydrocarbon storage tanks comply with Australian Standard 1940:2017 – <i>The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids</i>.</li> <li>All tanks are double-skinned and installed on reinforced concrete / earthen pads.</li> <li>Refuelling occurs over concrete / earthen pads and all fuel transfer points, pipes and valves are contained within concrete / earthen bunds or pads to prevent spills.</li> <li>Tank levels are electronically monitored to avoid overfilling.</li> <li>All refuelling and servicing done with drip trays and spill kits (including matting) available to contain potential spills and drips.</li> <li>Any hydrocarbons spills are cleaned up and disposed of to an appropriate facility as soon as practicable.</li> </ul>
Hydrocarbons	Breach of containment	Discharges to land	

### 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 4, Figure 1 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 4: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity**

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Closest residential premises: Township of Newman	Approximately 30 km to the south of the prescribed Premises. <b>Screened out as receptor due to distance.</b>
Marillana Pastoral Lease (P072910)	Approximately 12 km to the north east of the prescribed Premises. <b>Screened out as receptor due to distance</b>
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i>	The Premises lies within the Proclaimed Pilbara Groundwater and Surface Water Areas.
Groundwater	Depth to groundwater ranges from 45 metres below ground level (mbgl) to 20 mbgl.
Priority flora	<p>Several Priority (P) flora species have been recorded within the prescribed premises boundary during previous vegetation and flora surveys of the project area including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One P2 species (<i>Isotropis parviflora</i>);</li> <li>• Eight P3 species; and</li> <li>• Three P4 species.</li> </ul> <p>None of the Priority flora species considered to be of elevated local conservation significance were recorded or are expected to occur within or near the BOO Crushing and Screening Plant.</p>
Priority Fauna	<p>Five species of elevated conservation significance have been recorded or are considered likely to occur within the Premises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (<i>Rhinoicteris aurantia</i>) (listed as 'Vulnerable' under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act (EPBC) and Biodiversity Conservation Act (BC Act),</li> <li>• Ghost Bat (<i>Macroderma gigas</i>) (listed as 'Vulnerable' under the EPBC and BC Act),</li> <li>• Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>) (listed as 'Vulnerable' under the BC Act);</li> <li>• Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) (listed as 'Other specially protected fauna' under the BC Act), and</li> <li>• Western Pebble-mound Mouse (<i>Pseudomys chapmani</i>) (Priority 4).</li> </ul> <p>None of the species of elevated conservation significance were recorded or are expected to occur within or near the BOO Crushing and Screening Plant.</p>

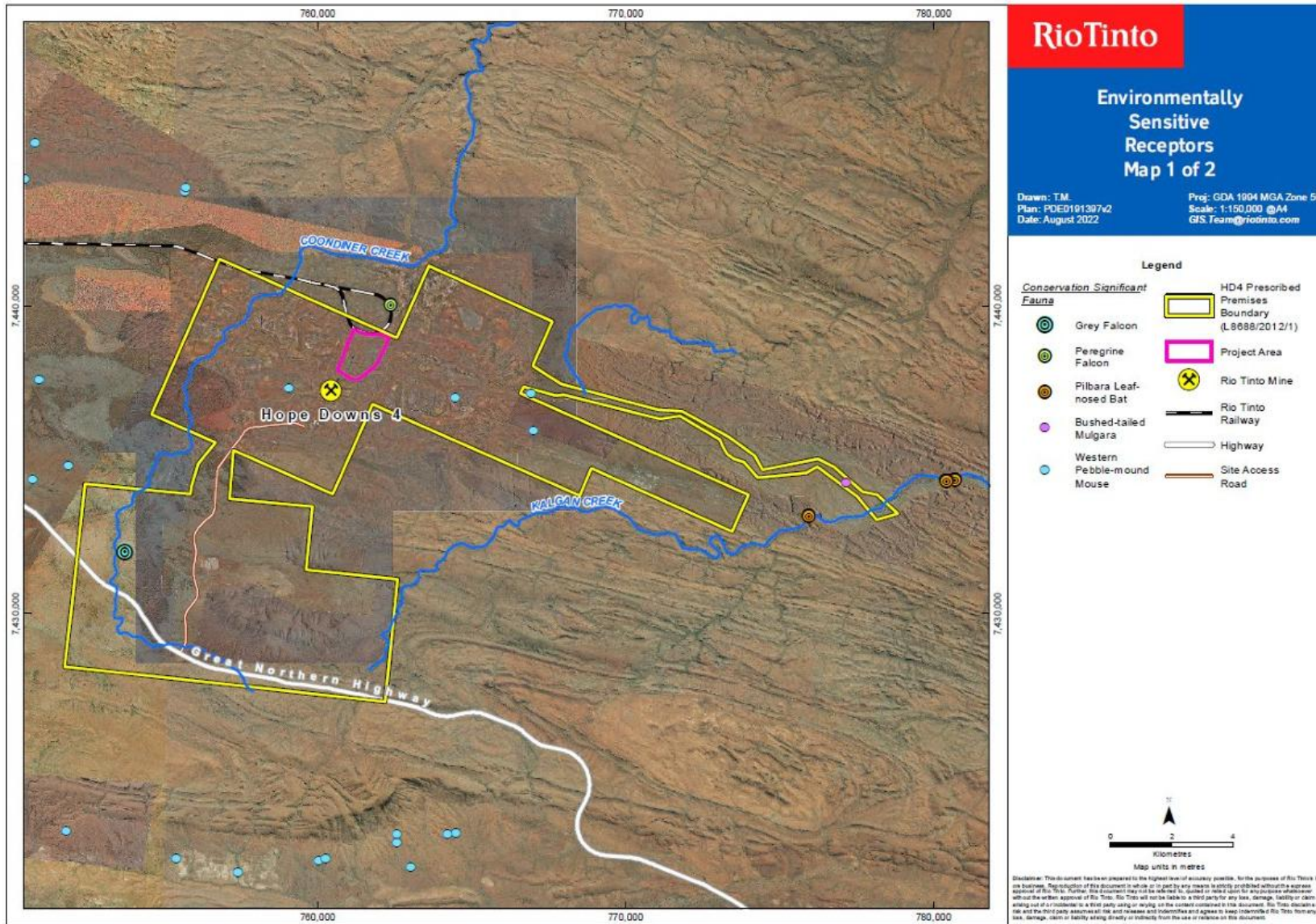


Figure 1: Distance to sensitive receptors (Conservation significant fauna)

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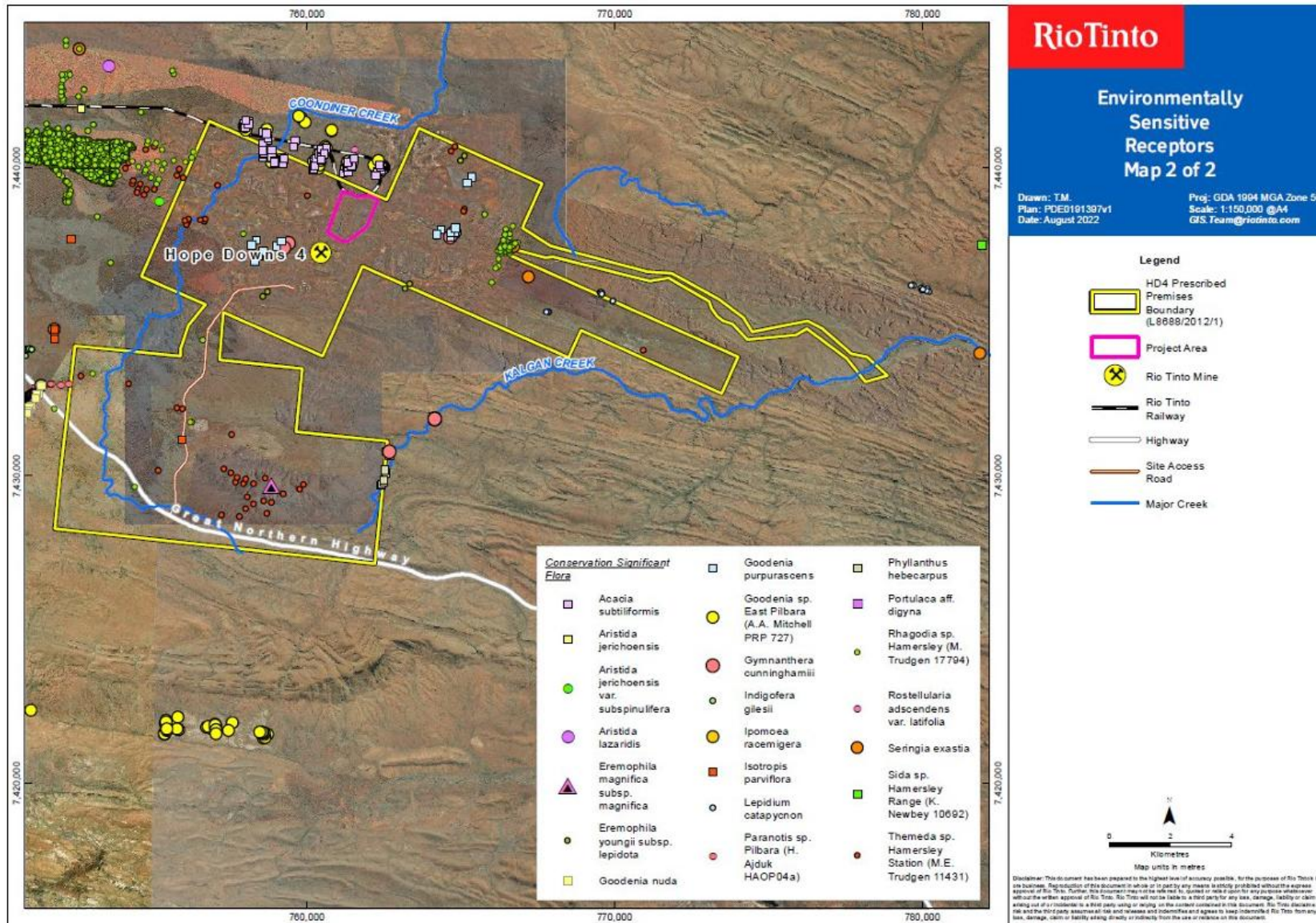


Figure 2: Distance to sensitive receptors (Conservation significant flora)

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## 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 5.

The Revised Licence L8688/2012/1 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 5. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during operation**

Risk Event					Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls				
<b>Operation</b>								
<b>Category 5</b>								
Screening, crushing, unloading, loading and storage of material Vehicle movements	Dust	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts vegetation	Vegetation communities	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 3 – Infrastructure and equipment operational requirements	Licence Holder's controls for dust management have been applied through Condition 3
	Sediment laden stormwater	Overland runoff potentially impacting soil, and vegetation	Soil Vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 3 – Infrastructure and equipment operational requirements	Licence Holder's controls for stormwater management have been applied through Condition 3
	Spills / leaks of hydrocarbons / chemicals	Discharges to land impacting soil and vegetation	Soil Vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	N/A	The general provisions of the EP Act and <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) 2004</i> applies
Evaporation / Sediment ponds	Mine process water and sediment laden stormwater	Overtopping of the ponds causing direct discharge and potential overland runoff causing impacts to soil and vegetation	Soil Vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 3 – Infrastructure and equipment operational requirements Condition 5 – Inspection of infrastructure	Licence Holder's controls for the Evaporation / Sediment Ponds have been applied through Conditions 3 and 5

Risk Event					Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls				
<b>Category 57</b>								
Used tyre storage	Smoke	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Vegetation communities	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Rare <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 2 – Management of waste	Licence Holder's controls for the storage of tyres has been applied through Condition 2
	Contaminated fire water and burnt material	Discharges to land impacting soil and vegetation	Soil Vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Rare <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 2 – Management of waste	Licence Holder's controls for the storage of tyres has been applied through Condition 2
<b>Category 64</b>								
Increase in inert waste disposal volumes to the Waste Dump Landfill	Dust	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts vegetation	Vegetation communities	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	<b>Condition 2</b> – Management of waste	During this amendment, a requirement for the waste to be covered when practicable and at final landform has been added
	Fires / smoke	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Vegetation communities	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Rare <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	<b>Condition 2</b> – Management of waste	During this amendment, a requirement for the waste to be covered when practicable and at final landform has been added

Risk Event					Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls				
<b>Category 73</b>								
Bulk fuel storage	Contaminated stormwater runoff containing hydrocarbons	Discharges to land impacting soil and vegetation	Soil Vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	N/A	The general provisions of the EP Act and <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) 2004</i> applies
Breach of containment	Hydrocarbons <sup>s</sup>			Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	N/A	

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 6 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

**Table 6: Consultation**

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
DEED advised of proposal on 7 January 2026	DEED responded on 22 January 2026 Refer to Section 2.3	Noted
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 16 February 2026	On 5 March 2026, the Licence Holder provided responses to the department's request for further information within the draft package	Documents updated accordingly to incorporate the Licence Holder's responses
	On 5 March 2026, the Licence Holder provided comments on the draft package Refer to Appendix 1	Refer to Appendix 1

## 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 7 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 7: Summary of licence amendments**

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Prescribed premises category description	Increase in Category 5 from 21 Mtpa to 36 Mtpa Inclusion of Category 57 Increase in Category 64 from 1,000 tpa to 4,000 tpa Inclusion of Category 73
Condition 1, Table 1	Increase in design capacity for Category 5 Inclusion of Category 73
Condition 2, Table 2 (previously Condition 8, Table 6)	Increase in capacity from 1,000 tpa to 4,000 tpa for waste disposed of to the Waste Dump Landfill Inclusion of a condition requiring waste to be covered when practicable and at final landform Inclusion of storage requirements for tyres (Inert Waste Type 2)

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Condition 3, Table 3 (previously Condition 2, Table 2)	Inclusion of operational requirements for the BOO Plant and Evaporation / Sediment Ponds Administrative updates
Condition 5, Table 4 (previously Condition 4, Table 3)	Inspection requirements for the Evaporation / Sediment Ponds included
Condition 9, Table 8 (previously Condition 10, Table 8)	Monitoring bores updated – refer to section 2.2.5
Condition 12	Updated in line with latest standardised conditions
Condition 13, Table 9	Updated in line with latest standardised conditions Administrative updates
Definitions	Updated as applicable
Figures	New Figure 1 Inclusion of Figure 3
Schedule 3	Inclusion of the BOO Plant and associated infrastructure Administrative updates

## References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) 2020, *Guidance Note: GN02 Bulk Storage of Rubber Tyres including Shredded and Crumbed Tyres*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. Rio Tinto 2025a, *Application for a Licence Amendment under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA) – L8688/2012 – Hope Downs 4*, dated 2 December 2025.
6. Rio Tinto 2025b, *Environmental Compliance Report Works Approval W6767/2022/1 Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine – BOO crushing and screening plant (RTIO-1103990)*, dated 21 March 2025 (APP-0028079).
7. Rio Tinto 2025c, *Environmental Compliance Report Works Approval W6767/2022/1 Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine – BOO crushing and screening plant (RTIO-1115426)*, dated 13 June 2025 (APP-0029487).
8. Rio Tinto 2026a, *APP-0032767: Application for an Amendment to Licence L8688/2012/1 – Additional Request*, dated 5 February 2026.
9. Rio Tinto 2026b, *Application for a Licence Amendment under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA) – L8688/2012 – Hope Downs*, dated 5 March 2026.

10. *W6767/2022/1 Amendment Report – granted 18 October 2024* available at [https://www.der.wa.gov.au/component/k2/itemlist/filter?fitem\\_all=W6767&moduleId=94&Itemid=175](https://www.der.wa.gov.au/component/k2/itemlist/filter?fitem_all=W6767&moduleId=94&Itemid=175).

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

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
Condition 3, Table 3 for the BOO Plant Infrastructure location	<p>Figure 3 depicts the general arrangement and layout of the BOO Plant. Whilst the figure represents the typical configuration, the BOO Plant may on occasion require the use of minor, temporary infrastructure to facilitate maintenance activities, repairs, and/or improvements in stacking efficiency.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Licence Holder requests that the wording be amended to the following:</p> <p>At the location shown in Schedule 1, Figure 1</p> <p>Layout is generally in accordance with Schedule 1, Figure 3</p>	<p>The department has made the requested change.</p> <p>The Licence Holder must ensure they are aware of and abide by section 53 of the EP Act relating to changes to prescribed premises.</p>
Condition 5, Table 4 for the Evaporation / Sediment Ponds frequency	<p>Condition 4(b) of the Licence includes flexibility allowing visual inspections of the pipelines to be undertaken at a compliance rate equal to, or greater than, 90% of daily inspections per month to account for operational or weather constraints.</p> <p>The Licence Holder proposes that similar flexibility be applied to Condition 5 relating to evaporation ponds.</p> <p>The Licence Holder is requesting that the requirement to undertake daily visual inspections to ensure adequate freeboard capacity and absence of embankment seepage be amended to allow compliance at a rate equal to, or greater than, 90% per month.</p> <p>This amendment is sought to ensure consistency across inspection requirements within the Licence whilst maintaining the intent of the condition.</p>	<p>The department has updated the frequency for the Evaporation / Sediment Ponds to state –</p> <p>Once every 24 hours at a compliance rate of equal to, or greater than 90% of daily inspections per month</p>
Figure 3	<p>The Licence Holder has requested that the Figure is renamed to:</p> <p>General layout of the BOO Plant and Associated Infrastructure.</p>	Updated as requested.