



Department initiated Amendment

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

Licence Number	L8759/2013/1
Licence Holder	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd
ACN	086 197 757
File Number	DWERVT16517
Premises	Wheatstone Waste Management Site Onslow Road TALANDJI WA 6710 Legal description – Part of Lot 1577 on Deposited Plan 72843 Certificate of Title Volume 2779 Folio 398 As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 2 of the Revised Licence
Date of Report	30 October 2025
Decision	Revised licence granted

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1. Decision summary

On 11 September 2025, the Minister for Environment; Community Services; and Homelessness (the Minister) made a determination on a third-party appeal (Appeal number 006 of 2025) against the grant of a Licence amendment dated 18 February 2025. The amended licence allows Chevron to accept liquid and solid wastes impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and increase the volume of liquid waste accepted for storage at the premises.

The Minister received one appeal objecting to the conditions within the amendment Licence. Broadly, the key concerns of the appellants were for the Licence to include additional controls to protect groundwater, surface waters, and marine waters; and apply strategies to protect human health from emissions from the premises in relation to the following matters:

- Works accommodation and recreation facility should be assessed;
- Potential groundwater impacts should be assessed, regardless of salt content, and considering the proximity of environmental receptors;
- Exposure pathways for explosive and PFAS wastes should be reviewed, including surface waters and spills from the elevated site;
- Conditions should protect groundwater, surface waters, marine waters and human health; and
- Previous compliance matters were not adequately considered.

Other matters which the appellant raised were that the amendment retrospectively addresses compliance matters by increasing the volume of waste that can be accepted. This includes the acceptance of PFAS contaminated waste. This is not appropriate and waste minimisation strategies should take precedence.

1.1 Minister recommended amendments

After careful consideration of the matters raised, the Minister has determined to dismiss the appeal. In reaching this decision the Minister has made recommendations to add new outcome-based conditions for the purpose of protecting groundwater quality and has directed that certain conditions be amended to reflect the Appeals Convenor's advice. These amendments are intended to strengthen the effectiveness of the conditions and ensure they remain appropriate to the issues identified. A summary of the Minister's Appeal Determination and required amendments is provided below:

1. Add a new outcome-based condition requiring emissions to land and water be prevented for the purpose of protecting groundwater quality and values;
2. Amend and clarify the conditions for accepting and managing liquid waste and PFAS contaminated materials at the premises by:
 - a) Adding a row to condition 1, Table 1 to specify the operational requirements for infrastructure and equipment areas that manage special waste type 3, including that the areas are impervious, chemically resistant, manage surface-water and are effectively maintained (consistent with specifications for other waste areas in Table 1, the specifications for special waste type 3 in condition 4, Table 3, and areas defined in Figure 2).
 - b) Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that:
 - i. The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or

- ii. The requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers.
- c) Amending condition 2 to:
 - i. Require all PFAS contaminated materials accepted at the premises are contained so that emissions cannot occur; and
 - ii. Ensure 'PFAS contaminated materials', or equivalent terms, are listed as an 'acceptance specification' to address liquid waste code M270.
- d) Amending condition 4, for solid waste 'special waste type 3' and PFAS contaminated liquid wastes:
 - i. To specify that all waste must be stored in impervious containers and the relevant 'designated' areas;
 - ii. For special waste type 3 item (c), delete reference to the 'Wheatstone green guide' and specify the relevant storage process limits and specifications (avoiding duplication with recommendation 2.a) and including any other relevant controls from the 'Wheatstone green guide'); and
 - iii. For special waste type 3 item (d), replace the acronym 'CAPL' with a requirement that waste streams removed from the premises must go to an 'appropriately authorised facility' or equivalent term.

Changes have been made to align Licence conditions with the Minister's determination in accordance with Section 110 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). These changes are summarised in Table 1.

As the amendment is given effect to an appeal decision, no further risk assessment to justify these changes is required/provided within this Amendment Report. Section 105 of the EP Act sets out that amendments made under s.59(1)(j) are matters that cannot be appealed.

2. Consultation

The Licence Holder was provided with the draft Amendment Report on 25 September 2025. Comments received from the Licence Holder have been considered with DWER providing responses as shown in Appendix 1.

3. Conclusion

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

3.1 Summary of amendments

Table 1 below provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Licence as part of the amendment process.

Table 1: Summary of Licence amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
1 Table 1	Table 1 amended. New row added to condition 1, Table 1 to specify the operational requirements for infrastructure and equipment areas that manage special waste type 3.

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
2 Table 2 Row 8	Acceptance specification requirement for Special waste Type 3 updated to ensure all PFAS contaminated materials accepted at the premises are contained so that emissions cannot occur.
2 Table 2 Row 9	New condition to ensure PFAS contaminated materials are listed as an acceptance specification to address liquid waste code M270.
4 Table 3	Updated all reference to designated bins and bunded areas to ensure the requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly defined.
4 Table 3 Row 8 Item a	Updated to specify that that all PFAS waste must be stored in designated bunded special waste type 3 storage area only.
4 Table 3 Row 8 Item b	Condition updated. The licence holder must ensure that filter cartridges stored in impervious containers are fitted with secure covers to prevent any emissions to land and water.
4 Table 3 Row 8 Item c	Deleted reference to the Wheatstone green guide for storage of special waste type 3 and updated the storage requirements for PFAS contaminated waste (special waste type 3).
4 Table 3 Row 8 Item c	Condition updated. Acronym CAPL replaced with a requirement that waste streams removed from the premises must be sent a licenced facility for disposal.
8	Condition incorporated requiring the implementation of all practical measures to prevent emissions to land and groundwater by the activities on the premises.
12 Item c and d	New numbering. Update cross-referencing licence conditions numbers to reflect current conditions accurately.
13	New numbering. Update cross-referencing licence conditions numbers to reflect current conditions accurately.
15 Table 5	New numbering. Update cross-referencing licence conditions numbers to reflect current conditions accurately.
17	New numbering. Update cross-referencing licence conditions numbers to reflect current conditions accurately.
Table 6	Definitions table updated.

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 Licence Holder's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Recommendation by the Minister	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
<u>Waste Acceptance</u> Condition 1: Table 1	Amend and clarify the conditions for accepting and managing liquid waste and PFAS contaminated materials at the premises by: Adding a row to condition 1, Table 1 to specify the operational requirements for infrastructure and equipment areas that manage special waste type 3, including that the areas are impervious, chemically resistant, manage surface-water and are effectively maintained (consistent with specifications for other waste areas in Table 1, the specifications for special waste type 3 in condition 4, Table 3, and areas defined in Figure 2).	Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: <i>Special Waste type 3 will be stored either within bunded areas as per Table 1 (infrastructure and equipment requirements) or within enclosed and secure containers that are:</i> <i>impervious and chemically resistant;</i> <i>protected from rainfall (where required);</i> <i>kept dry and clear of sediment, debris and water; and</i> <i>inspected regularly.</i> An updated map was provided by the licence holder A revised proposed storage location is indicated on a figure attached to this response.	Request not granted. The Ministers Determination requires that the area/s proposed for Special Waste type 3 storage must be impervious, chemically resistant, manage surface-water and are effectively maintained. The Determination does not allow for storage containers to fulfil these requirements. The Special Waste type 3 storage area is reflected in the revised map provided to DWER.
<u>Waste Acceptance</u> Condition 2: Table 8	Amend and clarify the conditions for accepting and managing liquid waste and PFAS contaminated materials at the premises by: Amending condition 2 to: i) Require all PFAS contaminated materials accepted at the premises are contained so that emissions cannot occur. ii) Ensure 'PFAS contaminated materials',	Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: <i>Special Waste Type 3</i> <i>Used filter cartridges</i> <i>Filter media</i> <i>Other PFAS contaminated solids.</i>	Request not granted. The acceptance of additional PFAS waste types is not within the scope of the Ministers Determination.

Condition	Recommendation by the Minister	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
	or equivalent terms, are listed as an 'acceptance specification' to address liquid waste code M270.		
<u>Waste Acceptance: Hazardous Waste</u> Condition 2: Table 8	Amending condition 2 to: i) Require all PFAS contaminated materials accepted at the premises are contained so that emissions cannot occur. ii) Ensure 'PFAS contaminated materials', or equivalent terms, are listed as an 'acceptance specification' to address liquid waste code M270	Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: Other PFAS contaminated liquids that meet liquid waste code M270 acceptance requirements. Also requested that the acceptance criteria not include a specific kind of container, to align with the other types of Hazardous Waste (liquid) acceptance criteria already in this section of the license.	Request partially adopted. The requirement to transport waste in specific containers has been removed.
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 1 Inert waste Type 1	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers.	Row 1. Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: The licence holder suggested that this proposal is out of scope of this licence amendment on the basis that the scope of the appeal was limited to special waste type 3. However, the licence holder proposed the following wording: a) Stored, sorted and compacted in bins that are constructed of impervious material, and maintained in good condition prior to transport offsite. b) Crushing and screening of Inert Waste Type 1 is not permitted.	The Ministers determination refers to 'conditions for accepting and managing liquid waste and PFAS contaminated materials' and 'solid waste 'special waste type 3 and PFAS contaminated liquid wastes'. On review, the terminology appears to refer to solid special waste type 3 only and not additional solid wastes. As such, the original condition wording will be retained in the licence.
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 2	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and	Row 2. Typographical changes requested. The licence holder suggested that this proposal is out of scope of this licence amendment on the basis that the scope of	

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Putrescible waste (solid)	equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and banded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers	the appeal was limited to special waste type 3. However, the licence holder proposed the following wording: a) Stored, sorted and compacted in bins that are constructed of impervious material and maintained in good condition prior to transport offsite. b) Food waste must be adequately managed to prevent fauna ingress.	
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 3 Inert waste Type 2	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and banded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and banded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers	Row 3. Typographical changes requested. The licence holder suggested that this proposal is out of scope of this licence amendment on the basis that the scope of the appeal was limited to special waste type 3. However, the licence holder proposed the following wording: (a) Maximum of 150 tyres (or 3 m ³ of shredded tyres) is to be stored on the premises at any one time. (b) Only to be stored and sorted in bins that are constructed of impervious material prior to transport offsite.	
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 5 Hazardous Waste (solid)	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and banded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and banded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered	Row 5. Typographical changes requested. The licence holder suggested that this proposal is out of scope of this licence amendment on the basis that the scope of the appeal was limited to special waste type 3. However, the licence holder proposed the following wording: (a) Stored in banded areas, as per Table 1 (infrastructure and equipment requirements).	

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	containers	(b) If not stored in accordance with (a), stored within enclosed and secure containers that are: - impervious and chemically resistant; - protected from rainfall (where required); - kept dry and clear of sediment, debris and water; and - inspected regularly.	
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 7 Special Waste Type 2	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers.	Row 7. Typographical changes requested. The licence holder suggested that this proposal is out of scope of this licence amendment on the basis that the scope of the appeal was limited to special waste type 3. However, the licence holder proposed the following wording: Special Waste Type 2 (a) Only to be collected and stored in locked bins prior to removal offsite.	
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 8 Special Waste Type 3	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers.	Row 8. Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: Special Waste Type 3 (M270) (a) PFAS contaminated solids be stored and sorted in containers that are constructed of impervious material and maintained in good condition prior to transport offsite; (b) Special Waste type 3 will be stored either within bunded areas as per Table 1 (infrastructure and equipment requirements) or within enclosed and secure containers	Request not granted. The Ministers Determination requires that the area/s proposed for Special Waste type 3 storage must be impervious, chemically resistant, manage surface-water and are effectively maintained. The Determination does not allow for storage containers to fulfil these requirements. The Special Waste type 3 storage area is reflected in the revised map provided to DWER.

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		(c) Waste streams sent off site for recycling, treatment or disposal must be sent to appropriately licensed facilities.	
Condition 4 Table 3: Row 9 Hazardous Waste (liquid)	Updating all references to 'designated' bins and bunded areas in condition 4, Table 3 by replacing or defining the terms so that: i) The relevant site infrastructure and equipment area specified in condition 1, Table 1 is referred to; or ii) The requirements of the bins and bunded areas are clearly specified, for example waste is stored in impervious and covered containers.	Row 9. Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: Hazardous Waste (Liquid) (a) Stored in bunded areas, as per Table 1 (infrastructure and equipment requirements). (b) If not stored in accordance with (a), stored within enclosed and secure containers that are: - impervious and chemically resistant; - protected from rainfall (where required); and - kept dry and clear of sediment, debris and water.	Request not granted. The Ministers Determination requires that the area/s proposed for Special Waste type 3 storage must be impervious, chemically resistant, manage surface-water and are effectively maintained. The Determination does not allow for storage containers to fulfil these requirements. The hazardous waste storage area, where PFAS contaminated liquid wastes will be stored, is reflected in the revised map provided to DWER.
Condition 8	Add a new outcome-based condition requiring emissions to land and water be prevented for the purpose of protecting groundwater quality and values.	Typographical changes requested. Proposed the following wording: The Licence Holder shall immediately recover or remove and dispose of spills of environmentally hazardous materials outside an engineered containment system consistent with an existing Licence for Cleanaway at the Karratha Gas Plant L8332/2009/3.	Request not granted. This condition does not reflect the intent of the Ministers Determination. Additionally, this condition is now considered to be adequately covered by the specifications of the <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004</i> and is not added to new licences.