Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**

Banksia Road Landfill
Review of Licence L8904/2015/1
Non-Technical Summary

October 2021

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1. Summary

The Banksia Road Putrescible Landfill is located at 2 Banksia Road, Crooked Brook WA (Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 65861). Cleanaway Solid Waste Pty Ltd (Cleanaway) holds licence L8904/2015/1 granted under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, (EP Act) to operate the premises.

In December 2020, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) commenced a risk-based review of licence L8904/2015/1. The review was trigged as a result of compliance issues and complaints relating to the operations. The objective of the process was to undertake a comprehensive review of all activities taking place on the premises to assess their acceptability and to update regulatory controls on the licence if deemed necessary. DWER's assessment of a licence amendment application to allow the commencement of waste disposal in the newly constructed Cell 8 was incorporated into the assessment and decision-making process.

DWER has completed its assessment and determined that:

- The activities on the premises can be effectively controlled through amended and additional licence conditions to effectively mitigate risks to the environment and public health; and
- The risks associated with the use of Cell 8 are acceptable and therefore waste disposal in Cell 8 can commence.

In completing the review, DWER sought comment and input from the community, regulatory stakeholders and technical experts. The department would like to acknowledge the valuable input provided by these parties.

DWER's decision, including the amended licence is available at www.dwer.wa.gov.au. The normal appeal provisions of the EP Act apply to this decision.

DWER has developed this document to summarise:

- key findings of the licence review;
- data gaps identified; and
- any changes made to the licence in response to the key issues raised by stakeholders during the community consultation process.

2. Background

Part V of the EP Act is related to the regulation of emissions and discharges from prescribed premises to ensure the protection of the environment and public health.

The review considered all waste management activities taking place on the premises to the extent possible given DWER's remit under Part V of the EP Act.

A number of matters raised by community and stakeholder submissions were not considered in the review. These and the reasons for their exclusion from the scope of the review are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Exclusions from scope of licence review

Exclusion from licence review	Explanation
Off-site traffic impacts	DWER does not have statutory powers under Part V of the EP Act to assess these matters
Aesthetics and visual impacts	
Impacts on tourism and land values	
Radiation risks	These are regulated by the Radiological Council in line

Exclusion from licence review	Explanation
	with the *Radiation Safety Act 1975*
Extractive Industries operations undertaken by J&P Metals on part of Lot 2 on Plan 65861	These activities are not regulated under licence L8904/2015/1
Site staff, visitors and contractors	Occupational Safety and Health legislation protects these people from exposure risks and mandates prevention strategies
Future works approval or licence amendments, including the works approval received by DWER on 7 April 2021 for the construction of landfill cells 12A, 9 and 10	These applications will be subject to separate assessments by DWER

3. Key findings of the review

The following sections summarise the key findings of the licence review, data gaps and outcomes for issues that were of significant concern to stakeholders in their submissions (more than 8 respondents raised the issue).

3.1. Prescribed premises categories

The categories of prescribed premises are defined in Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations). DWER reviewed the activities taking place on the premises and considered the definitions of prescribed premises in the EP Regulations. This review determined that:

- Category 64: Class II or III putrescible landfill, remains the appropriate category for describing the landfilling operations on the premises.
- Category 61: Liquid waste facility, remains the appropriate category for describing activities associated with the acceptance and processing of drilling muds at the premises.
- Category 5(c): Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore: premises on which tailings or residue from metallic or non-metallic ore are discharged into a containment cell or dam, more appropriately describes the acceptance and disposal of titanium dioxide tailings at the premises. DWER considered the category descriptions being applied at other licensed premises across the state in making this determination.

3.2. Siting of the landfill

The siting of the landfill in its current location was approved though planning processes, initially by the State Administrative Tribunal. Further approvals have been granted by the Shire of Dardanup. While DWER's remit under Part V of the EP Act does not extend to land use planning decisions, DWER regulates premises to ensure emissions and discharges do not present an unacceptable risk to the environment or public health.

The siting of the premises in the environment, particularly in relation to geology, hydrogeology, meteorology and identified sensitive receptors was a key consideration in the risk assessment undertaken as part of the licence review. DWER considers that emissions and discharges from the premises in its environmental setting can be controlled though conditions of the licence to prevent unacceptable impacts to the environment and public health.

3.3. Seismic activity

DWER sought input and advice from Geoscience Australia, the national public sector geoscience specialists to determine the potential for seismic activity in the vicinity of the premises that could impact on landfill infrastructure and operations. The key findings relating to seismic activity are summarised below:

- The closest fault line, the Darling Fault, passes approximately 1,680 metres (m) to the east of the premises.
- There is no definitive evidence to suggest that the Darling fault (or related structures) are currently seismically active.
- Few earthquake epicentres, and no active faults are known in the immediate area.
- The earthquakes observed in the broader proximity to the premises have all occurred within the Yilgarn Craton, with some spatially associated with the Collie coal mine.
- The risk of permanent ground deformation relating to a surface-rupturing earthquake is considered to be very rare.
- Infrastructure at the premises is unlikely to be impacted by seismic activity.

3.4. Landfill phasing and capping

The licence review identified that while waste has been disposed of in landfill Cells 1-4, 4B, 5-7 and Cell 12, only limited sections of these landfill Cells have achieved final waste contours. The highest elevation in these Cells is 112m AHD compared to the approved maximum landfill elevation of 128m AHD.

Cleanway intends to move back into the elevated sections of these previously landfilled cells to bring them up to final waste contours. This is intended to occur when sufficient Cells have been filled to 112m AHD to provide a large enough platform for waste disposal and compaction vehicles to safely operate.

All landfill cells which have achieved the interim contours have been provided with 2m of final cover to minimise rainwater infiltration and leachate generation however no landfill Cells benefit from final capping. This means that leachate generation is not being mitigated to the extent that would be achieved had cells been filled to final levels and progressively capped.

The capping schedule put forward by Cleanaway covers an extended period and would result in some Cells to remain uncapped until 2028.

The licence review also identified that there is no existing licence requirement or proposal by Cleanaway to cap the titanium dioxide tailings Cells.

The revised Licence therefore includes conditions that:

- Require a Rehabilitation and Closure Plan for all landfill Cells to be submitted to DWER which proposes a filling schedule and timeframes to achieve final waste contours in all Cells. The Plan is required to prioritise the completion and capping of Cells where waste has previously been deposited over the construction and filling of new landfill Cells (unless a different approach can be justified). The submission is also required to set out the proposed capping specification for these Cells;
- Require all portions of landfill Cells which have achieved final waste contours to be capped within 18 months;
- Require a Rehabilitation and Closure Plan for all the Tailings Disposal Cells to be submitted to DWER which includes a proposed schedule and timeframe to achieve final waste contours in the Cells and a proposed schedule, timeframe and methodology to achieve a suitable platform for capping. The submission is also

required to set out the proposed capping specification for these Cells.

3.5. Groundwater impacts

3.5.1. Key findings

The superficial formation beneath the premises has been reported to have no significant shallow groundwater.

The Leederville Formation has been encountered between 35 and 40 metres below ground level (mbgl).

Groundwater aquifers in the Leederville Formation near the eastern boundary of the premises and to the east of the site receive direct recharge from infiltrating rainfall. Regionally, and in the western portion of the premises, the Leederville aquifer is under pressure and pushes upwards against a confining clay layer. This upwards flow/pressure reduces the likelihood of infiltrating surface water or any landfill leachate which may potentially be emitted from the premises from migrating into the Leederville aquifer.

There are a large number of groundwater abstraction boreholes in the vicinity of the premises. The installation depths of the abstraction bores indicate that the majority of the bores are abstracting groundwater from the Leederville aquifer.

DWER has calculated, using conservative assumptions, that groundwater beneath the premises would take approximately 250 years to reach the closest groundwater abstraction bore. By using a representative geological unit as observed during investigations at the premises, groundwater has been calculated to take approximately 12,500 years to reach the closest groundwater abstraction bore.

Groundwater monitoring has been undertaken at the premises since 2005. All groundwater monitoring data collected at the premises has been reviewed by DWER as part of the licence review. The data available indicates that activities on the premises are not impacting the environmental values of the superficial or Leederville aquifers.

3.5.2. Data gaps

The licence review identified a number of data gaps that are considered important in the context of validating DWER's assessment of the on-going risk to groundwater from the premises. These are summarised as follows:

- A lack of information on the potential significance of seasonally perched lenses in the superficial (shallow) aquifer. This is an important consideration, as seasonally perched groundwater lenses could provide a pathway for the transport of contaminants from the landfill site to receptors, such as deep-rooted vegetation.
- Although previous qualitative groundwater assessments have been undertaken, DWER identified that no quantitative assessment of the long-term impacts to groundwater has been undertaken at the premises. Such assessments can consider the progressive degradation of liner and leachate management systems during both the operational and post closure phases of the site and the ability of the environment to attenuate contaminants in leachate as these engineering systems degrade.
- There is currently no evaluation or reporting requirements for determining the levels of leachate sitting within the base of waste and tailings disposal cells. This is important because the amount of leachate sitting on the liner influences the rate at which seepage through the liner occurs.
- There is currently insufficient information, due to the uncertainties on the amounts of leachate sitting in each cell, to validate whether the existing leachate management and disposal capacity is adequate, or allow for the leachate balance assessment model that

has been developed to be validated.

- The previous licence did not require regular sampling of tailings, leachates generated by the landfill and Tailings Disposal cells. Without adequate sampling, there is uncertainty over whether the groundwater monitoring suite is adequate to identify contaminants of potential concern.

3.5.3. Outcomes

Additional conditions have been added to the licence to address the data gaps identified through the licence review, including:

- A requirement for the licence holder to develop a detailed quantitative hydrogeological risk assessment that:
    - considers the presence and significance of perched aquifers in the superficial formations
    - considers the relationship between the aquifers present beneath the premises
    - includes bore logs for any additional groundwater monitoring wells which are installed (if required) to accurately define the conceptual site model
    - assesses the potential concentration of contaminants at receptors over time, including both the operational and closure phases of the Premises
    - considers the degradation of engineering lining and management systems over time
    - Considers the ability of the environment to attenuate potential contaminants of concern.
- A requirement to undertake sampling of both landfill and tailings leachate on a regular basis to ensure the groundwater monitoring suite is appropriate to detect leachate emissions.
- A requirement to undertake investigations to determine the current levels of leachate within the landfill cells and propose leachate head management levels for each active and closed landfill and TDS cell based on the risk to environment.
- The provision of an action plan (if required) for achieving and maintaining leachate levels below leachate head management levels.
- The addition of waste acceptance reporting conditions.
- The addition of characterisation sampling of titanium dioxide tailings.
- The addition of timeframes for final capping of completed cells, including the TDS cells and the submission of information relating to the phytocap trial.

3.6. Dust and air quality

3.6.1. Key findings

The results of dust monitoring undertaken at the premises to date indicates that ambient particulate concentrations typically remained below the relevant screening criteria designed to protect human health and wellbeing. Dust concentrations recorded above the screening criteria may potentially be due to activities at the premises, or due to exposed ground surfaces outside of working hours under high wind speeds.

3.6.2. Data gaps

DWER's review identified that there has been no quantitative measure of dust composition

undertaken at the premises and that there is currently insufficient data available to comprehensively characterise the potential consequences associated with dust emissions or verify the source of ambient dust. In order to validate DWER's dust emission risk assessment, it is considered that analysis of the dust composition is an important consideration.

3.6.3. Outcome

Additional dust monitoring conditions have been added to the licence in relation to the control and characterisation of fugitive dust emissions including:

- A requirement to extend the bitumised southern haul route prior to it being used as an entry/exit for Cell 8.
- A requirement to develop a Sampling and Analysis Plan relevant to the identified sensitive receptors, undertake quantitative dust composition monitoring, and submit a report assessing the results against relevant assessment levels.
- Restricting vehicle speeds on the premises to below 20 kilometres (km) per hour.
- A requirement to keep all roads used by vehicles greater than 2.5 tonnes (and therefore more likely to generate dust) damp at all times during operational hours.
- A requirement to undertake targeted wetting down of dusty wastes during disposal and burial at the active tipping area.
- A requirement to apply dust suppressant material to non-vegetated landfill batters.

3.7. Fire/smoke

3.7.1. Key findings

Fires have the potential to damage the engineered liner and emissions control systems at the premises. DWER's review identified that landfill fires at the premises occurred on 12 January 2020, 27-28 January 2020 and 5 March 2020. Investigations undertaken following the landfill fires identified that the fires did not impact the integrity of the liner system. Monitoring can help provide information on whether there may be a sub-surface fire in the landfill.

3.7.2. Data gaps

DWER's review identified that landfill gas monitoring parameters were found to be unreliable and not a true indicator of a landfill fire occurring at the premises. A more accurate indicator of a fire within a landfill is the measurement of landfill gas temperature at the gas extraction wells.

3.7.3. Outcome

The amended licence includes revised landfill gas monitoring parameters and trigger levels which are considered appropriate to identify if there is an underground fire at the site.

Additional controls such as screening for and diversion of hot loads away from the active tipping face, timely compaction and covering of waste and site security requirements have been imposed to help prevent a fire occurring. Conditions have been imposed as controls in the event of a fire occurring, including the maintenance of a full and operational water cart and ensuring sufficient cover material is available at the tipping face to cover the active tipping area.

The licence holder is also subject to the requirements of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* which includes the maintenance of fire breaks.

3.8. Dardanup Conservation Park

3.8.1. Key findings

Risks to the Dardanup Conservation Park were considered in relation to a number of emissions.

The review determined that:

- The vegetation within the Conservation Park is considered to be in 'Very Good' to 'Excellent' condition as per the Keighery (1994) vegetation condition scale.
- There are some signs of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (dieback) presence along the southern landfill boundary.
- The intensified concentration of water drainage can exacerbate the impacts of dieback.
- Stormwater from the southern bund wall has been acting as a vehicle for dieback distribution along the boundary of the Conservation Park.
- Windblown debris/rubbish and the movement of bulkier rubbish by birds and potentially other animals into the Conservation Park continues to occur.
- The remnant vegetation along the eastern boundary of the Lot 2 is currently serving as a buffer absorbing the windblown and fauna transported rubbish.
- Cleanaway have a program in place to regularly collect rubbish from the Conservation Park, however it is a continuing problem.

3.8.2. Data gaps

DWER recently approved Cleanaway to undertake works to upgrade the stormwater controls on the southern boundary. DWER has not received information that demonstrates the works have been adequately constructed and are able to contain a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) rainfall event.

3.8.3. Outcome

Additional conditions have been added to the licence to manage impacts to the Dardanup Conservation Park including the requirements to:

- Submit an Environmental Compliance Report for the upgrades to the southern stormwater drain which includes an assessment of the effectiveness of the upgrades to contain stormwater within the premises (and therefore prevent the spread of dieback in the adjacent Dardanup Conservation Park).
- Undertake inspections and maintenance to ensure the on-going effectiveness and integrity of the southern stormwater drain and adjacent fire track and to require and report to DWER on measures taken to rectify any damage and ensure against reoccurrence.
- Install and maintain 500 m of 6 m high litter nets around the active landfill cell.
- Install fencing around the perimeter of the premises to limit any windblown waste leaving the premises and to minimise the ingress and egress of wildlife that can spread waste to areas outside the premises.
- Install and maintain a skirt/apron around the base of the southern and eastern premises boundary fence to prevent animals entering the facility from the Dardanup Conservation Park.
- Maintain entrance gates that prevent cats and foxes from entering the premises.
- Undertake appropriate eradication measures when required including baiting and

trapping.

- Inspect the premises monthly for the presence of weeds, record observations made and management measures undertaken.

3.9. Cleanaway as a Licence holder

Stakeholders raised concerns regarding the licence holder's integrity, compliance history and enforcement action taken by DWER and whether Cleanaway should continue to be licensed to operate the premises.

A review of Cleanaway's compliance history at the premises has been outlined within the licence review decision report (see section 4.3.3).

A particular issue at the premises has been waste acceptance procedures. Cleanaway has acknowledged the deficiencies in their waste acceptance procedures and have developed and implemented a new Waste Acceptance Program at the premises. DWER compliance inspections since November 2020 have confirmed the on-going implementation of the new Waste Acceptance Program. Inspections have not identified any non-conforming waste at the premises since the new Waste Acceptance Program has been implemented.

In addition, recent inspections have identified that compliance at the premises has improved with only one non-compliance identified by the most recent inspection in August 2021.

The EP Act has no specific fit and proper person test for licence holders. However, DWER can consider a licence holder's operating history in its risk assessment.

In line with DWER's *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessment*, DWER's review has considered Cleanaway's compliance and operational history in the risk assessment for the premises and also the improvements made by Cleanaway on the premises.

DWER has concluded that the activities on the premises can be effectively controlled through amended and additional licence conditions to effectively mitigate risks to the environment and public health.

DWER will continue to undertake periodic inspections at the premises to assess compliance with the reviewed licence and undertake compliance and enforcement action in line with our *Compliance and Enforcement Policy*.

4. Risk assessment outcomes

Table 2 provides a summary of the findings of the risk assessment undertaken as part of the Licence Review.

Further information relating to the Department's risk assessment approach and risk ratings can be found in Guideline: Risk assessments (December 2020).

Table 2: Risk assessment summary

Potential emissions	Consequence	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Summary
Stormwater	**Major**	**Possible**	**High**	DWER has determined that stormwater emissions may impact the Dardanup Conservation Park by spreading dieback. DWER notes that until the southern stormwater infrastructure has been completed, validated to have been adequately constructed, and demonstrated to be able to contain a 1% AEP rainfall event, the likelihood of stormwater emissions casing major impact to the Dardanup Conservation is considered to be possible. The overall rating for the risk associated with stormwater emissions was determined to be high and required to be subject to regulatory controls. Once the Environmental Compliance Report for the stormwater upgrades as required by the revised licence are received by DWER, this risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.
Leachates (landfill and tailings)	**Moderate**	**Possible**	**Medium**	The licence review identified data gaps in the site-specific hydrogeological interpretation for the premises, the levels of leachate within the cells and an assessment of the impacts contaminants in leachates may have on receptors over the long term. Based upon the applicant's controls, the groundwater monitoring results currently available and the current understanding of the hydrogeological setting (noting the data gaps identified), DWER determined that moderate impacts from leachate emissions on groundwater are possible and could occur at some time. The overall rating for the risk associated with leachate emissions was therefore determined to be medium and required to be subject to regulatory controls. Once the information on the leachate levels, hydrogeological interpretation and the Hydrogeological Assessment as required by the revised licence is received by DWER, this risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.
Dust	**Major**	**Unlikely**	**Medium**	DWER considers there a data gap on the characterisation of dust emissions from the activities on the premises. Therefore, until such time that further sampling and analysis is undertaken, the consequences of dust emissions during operations has been determined to be major. The results of the dust monitoring undertaken to date identified that particulate concentrations typically remained below the relevant screening criteria indicating that a major impact to residential receptors will probably not occur in most circumstances. The overall rating for the risk associated with dust emissions was determined to be medium and is required to be subject to regulatory controls. Once the additional monitoring to characterise the dust emissions from the premises required by the revised licence has been undertaken and submitted to DWER, this risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

Potential emissions	Consequence	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Summary
Asbestos fibres	**Severe**	**Rare**	**High**	Based upon the sensitivity of the most affected receptor (residential) the release of asbestos fibres may result in adverse health effects and has been deemed to be of severe consequence. The release of asbestos fibres from landfill operations causing a severe consequence would only occur in exceptional circumstances. DWER therefore considers the likelihood of a release of asbestos fibres causing a severe consequence to be rare. The overall rating for the risks associated with asbestos fibres was determined to be high and required to be subject to regulatory controls.
Noise	**Moderate**	**Possible**	**Medium**	DWER determined that the potential tonality of vehicle reversing alarms may result in mid-level impacts to the amenity on a local scale. The consequence of noise emissions from the premises was therefore determined to be moderate. Based upon sampling undertaken at the premises, noise emissions have been shown to comply with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 in most circumstances and therefore, the likelihood for noise emissions causing a moderate consequence is considered to be possible. The overall rating for the risk of noise emissions was determined to be medium and required to be subject to regulatory controls.
Odour	**Minor**	**Possible**	**Medium**	Based on investigations undertaken in the Dardanup area in relation to odour and the odour controls implemented by the licence holder, DWER considers that should odour emissions occur from the general landfilling operations, the impacts to amenity would be low level on a local scale. The consequence of odour emissions was therefore determined to be minor. The release of odour emissions during operations could occur at some time, therefore the likelihood is considered to be possible. Based on the consequence and likelihood rating described above, the overall rating for the risk of odour emissions is therefore deemed to be medium.
Light spill	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	DWER considers it unlikely that impacts from light spill will occur given the distance to receptors and the short periods that lighting is required at the premises during normal operations.
Landfill gas	**Slight**	**Unlikely**	**Low**	Taking into account the licence holder's controls, the review determined the consequence of landfill gas emission impacts to residents to be slight and due to the distance to receptors, DWER considers the likelihood to be unlikely. Based on the consequence and likelihood rating described above, the overall rating for the risks associated with landfill gas emissions was determined to low and the licence holders controls would be imposed as licence conditions.
Flaring of captured landfill gas	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	DWER considers that emissions from the flaring of landfill gas are likely to disperse and not impact receptors. This is based on the minimum distance of 3.2 km from the Premises boundary to residential receptors.

Potential emissions	Consequence	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Summary
Windblown waste	**Moderate**	**Possible**	**Medium**	Based on advice provided by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), the number of reports received by pollution watch and submissions received during the community consultation process, the impact of windblown waste was determined to be moderate. DWER considered that the release of windblown waste causing a moderate impact could occur at some time and therefore considers the likelihood to be possible. Based on the consequence and likelihood rating described above, the overall rating for the risks associated with windblown waste emissions was determined to be medium and required to be subject to regulatory controls.
Vermin/pests	**Moderate**	**Possible**	**Medium**	The review has determined the impact from vermin/pests and/or weeds to be a low-level impact to amenity on a local scale and the impact on native ecosystems to be low-level offsite impact at a local scale. Therefore, the consequence has been determined to be moderate. The review identified that until such time that the entire perimeter of the premises is fenced, and additional controls are required to implemented to mitigate access to vermin/pests, moderate consequences from vermin/pest could occur at some time. The likelihood of vermin/pests and/or weeds impacting public health and amenity has been deemed to be possible. The overall rating for the risk of vermin/pests and/or weeds was therefore determined to be medium and required to be subject to regulatory controls. As the additional vermin and pest control measures are implemented at the premises and verified by DWER, this risk assessment will be reviewed and updated as appropriate.
Landfill fire – smoke emissions	**Moderate**	**Unlikely**	**Medium**	The review has determined that the impact of smoke emissions could result in low level or occasional medical treatment as well as low-level impacts to amenity on a local scale. Therefore, the consequence of smoke emissions from a landfill fire is considered to be moderate. The review has determined that smoke emissions from a landfill fire will probably not occur in most circumstances and therefore the likelihood is considered to be unlikely. The overall rating for the risk of smoke emissions from a landfill fire at the premises is deemed to be medium and will be subject to regulatory controls.
Landfill fire – leachate emissions	**Major**	**Rare**	**Medium**	Should an unauthorised fire occur within the landfill that damages the integrity of the liner, DWER determined that the impacts to groundwater and surrounding ecosystems will be mid-level on a local scale. Therefore, the review determined the consequence of fire impacts to be major. The review determined that the likelihood of a fire occurring that would result in damage to the landfill liner and potential contamination of groundwater and associated ecosystems would only occur in exceptional circumstances. Therefore, the likelihood is deemed to be rare. The overall rating for the risk of damage to landfill liner integrity due to a fire in the landfill is deemed to be

Potential emissions	Consequence	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Summary
				medium and will be subject to regulatory controls.
Fire emissions	**Major**	**Unlikely**	**Medium**	Should fire emissions occur from the premises, the impact to surrounding conservation category flora and fauna has been determined as being mid-level on a local scale. The consequence of fire emissions to native flora and vegetation is therefore deemed to be major. Taking into account the Licence Holder's proposed controls the review determined the likelihood of fire spreading to surrounding native vegetation including flora and fauna in the Dardanup Conservation Park would only occur in exceptional circumstances and is therefore considered to be unlikely. The overall rating for the risk of fire emissions at the premises is deemed to be medium and will be subject to regulatory controls.

5. Next steps

DWER's decision on the licence review and application to commence waste disposal in Cell 8 is advertised on our website at Licences and works approvals available for public appeal - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (der.wa.gov.au).

In line with normal process, DWER's decision is subject to the appeal provisions in section 102 of the EP Act. Further information on appeals is available through the website link above and through the Appeals Convenor at www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au.

DWER undertakes proactive compliance inspections to ensure that activities do not pose unacceptable risks to water, the environment and public health. DWER's Compliance and Enforcement Policy can be found at https://www.wa.gov.au/service/environment/business-and-community-assistance/compliance-and-enforcement-policy.

DWER will continue to undertake regular inspections of the premises to assess compliance with the reviewed licence and will monitor compliance with key reporting dates within the licence.

As submissions required by the reviewed licence are provided to DWER, they will be assessed and the risk assessment for the premises updated as appropriate. Where necessary, further amendments will be made to the licence to ensure that emissions and discharges are effectively managed to mitigate unacceptable impacts on the environment and public health.