



Application for Licence Amendment

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

Choose an item.	L9362/2022/1
Choose an item.	Norton Gold Fields Pty Limited
ACN	112 287 797
File Number	APP-0027117
Premises	<p>Binduli Operations</p> <p>Legal description -</p> <p>Part of mining tenements M26/115, M26/243, M26/387, M26/420, M26/430, M26/445, M26/446, M26/447, M26/474, M26/629 and M26/833.</p> <p>BINDULI WA 6430</p> <p>As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 2 of the Revised Licence.</p> <p>As defined by the Premises maps attached to the Revised Licence.</p>
Date of Report	20/05/2025
Decision	Revised licence granted

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1. Decision summary

Licence L9362/2022/1 is held by Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Binduli Operations (the Premises), located at part of mining tenements M26/115, M26/243, M26/387, M26/420, M26/430, M26/445, M26/446, M26/447, M26/474, M26/629 and M26/833 BINDULI WA 6430

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 L9362/2022/1 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 10 January 2025, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L9362/2022/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- to include an additional location to operate category 12 (Screening etc. of material) activities within the East Waste Rock Landform (WRL) footprint (Figure 1) and
- to correct the time period of Annual Environmental Report (AER) submission.

This amendment is limited only to changes to Category 12 to the existing licence. No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to Category 5, 6, 7 and 52 have been requested by the Licence Holder. Further to this, there will be no changes to the current mobile crushing and screening production capacity (800,000 tonnes per annum), nor the equipment and controls outlined under Table 1 in the Licence L9362/2022/1 conditions.

2.3 Category 12 activities

The proposed mobile crushing and screening plant location was approved under W6504/2021/1 (NGF, 2024) and the works to install the crushing and screening equipment (and associated infrastructure) was completed under works approval W6730/2022/1. Licence L9362/2022/1 was not amended to include the plant or location at the time as the mobile crushing and screening operations were not required after the time limited operations phase had ceased (NGF, 2024). The licence holder was provided with the compliance demonstrated letter for the time limited operations of the mobile crushing and screening plant that was issued on 23 September 2022 (NGF, 2024).

The existing mobile crushing and screening plant initially operated under W6730/2022/1, until L9362/2022/1 was amended to include the activities on 27 September 2024. Current approved plant equipment outlined in Table 1 of the licence L9362/2022/1 will be utilised within the two mobile crushing and screening boundaries labelled in Figure 1.

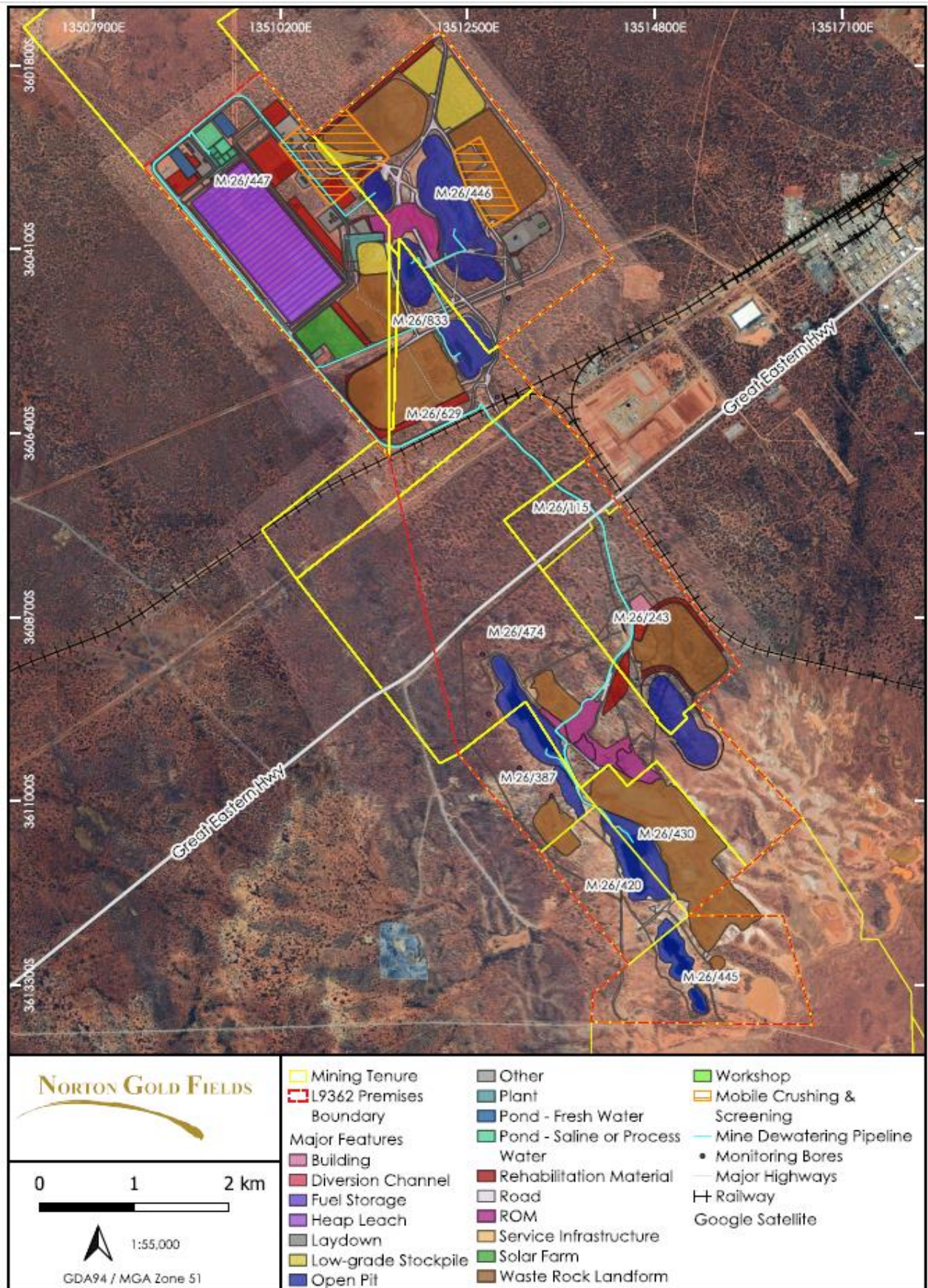


Figure 1: Prescribed premises with location of mobile crushing and screening

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 1 below.

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

Table 1: Licence Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls (DWER, 2024)
Dust	Crushing of material, vehicle movements, lift-off from stockpiles and/or stored product.	Air/windborne pathway	<p>Waste rock is heavily wetted by water cart prior to excavation and crushing;</p> <p>Daily dust observations recorded;</p> <p>Water sprays/carts will be utilised in the event high levels of dust are observed;</p> <p>Crushing equipment has in-built water sprays, and supplemented with external sprays where necessary;</p> <p>Material drop heights between loaders, trucks and stockpiles is kept to the minimum practical height;</p> <p>Complaints will be immediately investigated;</p> <p>Water carts are used onsite to ensure dust around stockpiles and roads areas are adequately controlled; and</p> <p>The mobile plant is positioned such that the waste rock dump provides shielding of operations from wind.</p>
Noise	Crushing and screening of material, vehicle movements		<p>Crushing and screening will only occur between the hours of 7am and 7pm;</p> <p>All mobile equipment will be maintained, with efficient mufflers and noise shielding;</p> <p>The location of the crushing and screening area has been designed to take advantage of the existing waste rock dump (WRD), which will provide a noise buffer for the nearest residence;</p> <p>Stockpiles of crushed and screened product will be positioned to provide noise suppression buffer to the nearest dwellings wherever practicable;</p> <p>All mobile equipment will be maintained, with</p>

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls (DWER, 2024)
			<p>efficient mufflers and noise shielding;</p> <p>Any complaints received regarding noise disturbance will be recorded and investigated immediately; and</p> <p>All operations will be carried out to comply with the assigned levels within the <i>Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997</i>.</p>
Sediment laden stormwater	Crushing and screening of material, waste rock stockpiles.	Overland runoff	<p>Plant infrastructure will operate on hardstand areas;</p> <p>Bunding is created from crushed material around the operation area to prevent the escape of stormwater;</p> <p>Crushing areas are located on previously disturbed areas where there are pre-existing toe or v drains to capture stormwater runoff; and</p> <p>Where crushed material stockpiles cannot be carted directly to the heap leach it will be stockpiled on the historic ROM pad.</p>
Spills or hydrocarbon leaks	<p>Operation of vehicles and mobile equipment.</p> <p>Leaks from damaged equipment and refueling.</p>	Overland runoff and infiltration to soil and groundwater	<p>Will be managed according to site management plans.</p> <p>No specific controls proposed.</p>

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 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 2: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Residential receptors – various locations southeast to southwest of the premises.	The closest receptors are about 1.78 km from the proposed location of the crushing and screening area.
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Groundwater	<p>Premises is located in RIWI Goldfields Groundwater Area.</p> <p>Standing Water Level currently between 7.67 mbgl (August 2023 in MBH08) to 28.68 mbgl (February 2023 in MBH05) (DWER, 2024).</p> <p>The only known groundwater users within 5 kms of the premises are for mining processing purposes only.</p>

	There are no other known groundwater users in the local area of the premises (DWER, 2024).
Regional Salt Lake basin	About 2km north-west of the project site.

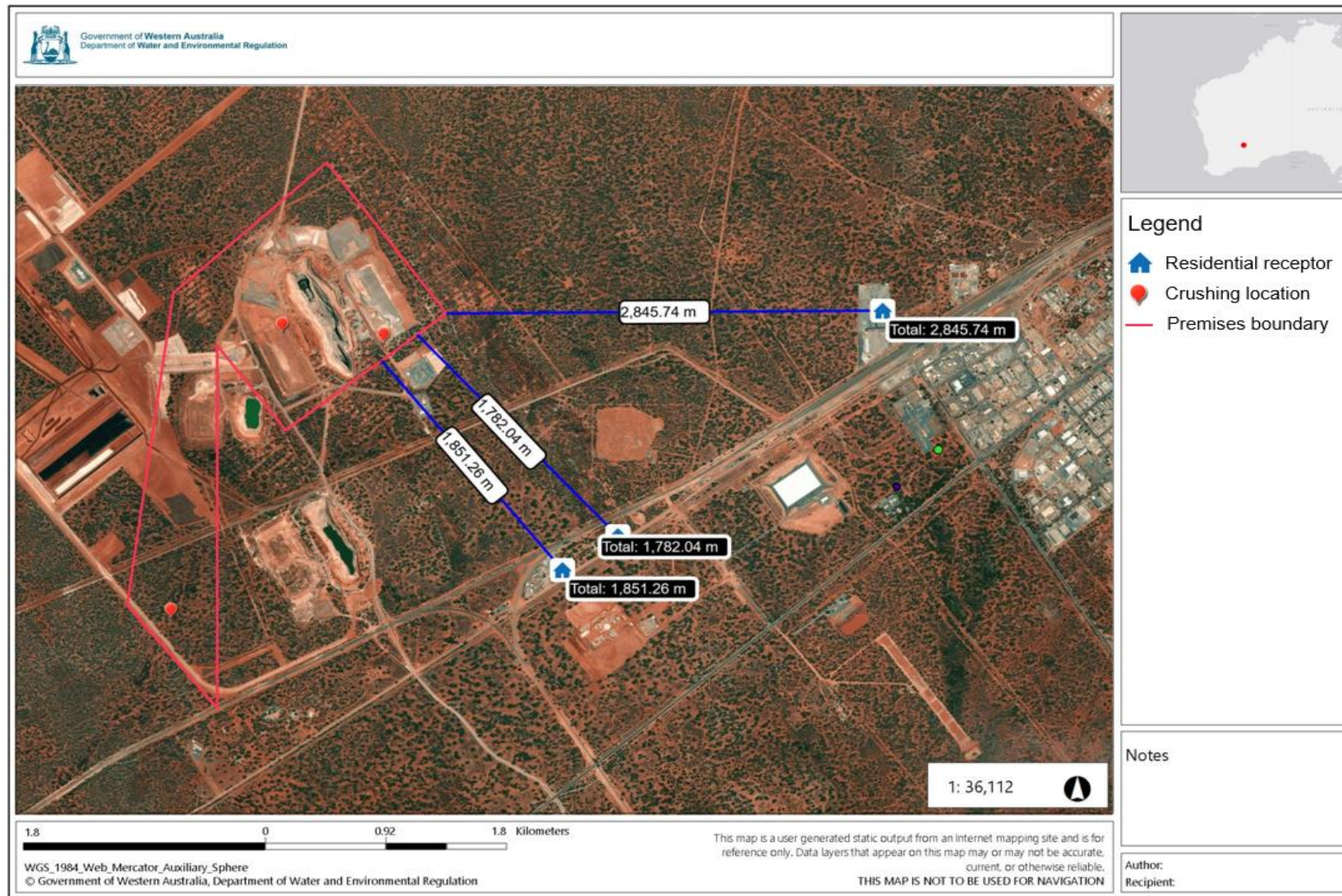


Figure 2: Distance to sensitive receptors (DWER, 2024)

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 3.

The Revised Licence L9362/2022/1 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises i.e. category 12 activities.

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

Table 3: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises operation

Risk Event					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls				
Operation								
Crushing of material, vehicle movements, lift-off from stockpiles and/or stored product.	Dust	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Health and amenity	Residences within 2 km of the premises boundary Surrounding vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1 (item 10) and condition 3	The licence holder's proposed controls to manage dust have been conditioned within the licence. The general provisions of the EP Act also apply.
Crushing and screening of material, vehicle movements	Noise		Residences within 2 km of the premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	N/A	Due to the location of the crushing and screening plant (WRD provide a noise buffer) and the distance to the nearest receptor, noise emissions are not expected to exceed to assigned levels outline in the <i>Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997</i> at the nearest receptor. The general provisions of the EP Act and the <i>Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997</i> apply.
Crushing and screening of material, waste rock stockpiles.	Sediment laden stormwater	Pathway: Overland runoff Impact: Ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Salt lakes ~2km north-west of the project site	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1 (item 7)	Existing condition 1 (item 7) is sufficient to manage this risk event. The general provisions of the EP Act and the <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised discharge) Regulations 2004</i> also apply.
Operation of vehicles and mobile equipment. Leaks from damaged equipment and refueling.	Spills or hydrocarbon leaks			Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y		

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

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 11 March 2025.	None received.	N/A
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 22 April 2025.	The Licence Holder responded on 23 April 2025 and waived the remaining consultation period.	N/A

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 5 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 5: Summary of amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
1 Table 1, item 5	The typo corrected from Barren Water Pond (BWP) to Barren Liquor Pond (BLP)
14	The time period of the AER submission adjusted from 30 days to 60 days.
Schedule 1, Figure 1	Updated the map.

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.
4. DWER 2024, *Amendment Report, L9362/2022/1*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. Norton Gold Fields (NGF) 2024, *Application for An Amendment to Licence L9362/2022/1 Under the Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Perth, Western Australia.