

Amendment Report

Application for Works Approval Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Works Approval Number W6522/2021/1

Works Approval Holder Northern Star Resources Ltd

ACN 092832892

File Number APP-0029766

Premises Jundee Mining Operations

Mining tenements: G53/20, M53/191, M52/412, M53/413

and M53/414

As defined by the Premises map attached to the Revised

Works Approval

Date of Report 28 November 2025

Decision Revised works approval granted

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1. Decision summary

Works approval W6522/2021/1 is held by Northern Star Resources Ltd (works approval holder) for the Jundee Mining Operations (the premises) located within mining tenements G53/20, M53/191, M52/412, M53/413 and M53/414.

This amendment report documents changes made to works approval W6522/2021/1 pursuant to section 59 and 59(B) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The revised works approval issued following this amendment replaces the previous works approval granted for the premises. The original decision report, which details the rationale behind the initial works approval, will remain on the department's website as a record of the decision-making process.

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 Overview of the premises and its operations

Jundee Mining Operations is a gold mine located approximately 55 kilometres (km) from the township of Wiluna, on the Jundee, Lake Violet and Millrose pastoral leases. The premises operates under licence L6498/1995/11 and works approval W6522/2021/1.

The licence authorises:

- the processing of gold ore through a conventional carbon-in-leach process with tailings discharged onto three tailings storage facilities (TSFs)
- mine dewatering to allow dry mining of ore
- operations of an electric power station, a sewage facility, three landfills and
- bulk storage of chemicals.

Works approval W6522/2021/1, granted in September 2021, authorises the construction and time limited operations of TSF 3, a paddock style facility comprising of three cells (1-3). The works approval regulates the construction of the perimeter embankment in 3 stages, up to a height of 578 mRL.

Construction of cell 1 and cell 2 starter embankment (to 566 mRL) were completed in late 2022 and in June 2025 respectively. Compliance documents for cell 1 construction and cell 1-time limited operations were submitted and assessed by the department. Operations of cell 1 starter embankment were incorporated into the licence in 2023. Compliance documents for cell 2 have been submitted and are currently being assessed by the department. Construction of cell 3 perimeter embankment has not yet commenced.

Works approval W6522/2021/1 was issued for five years and is set to expire on 19 September 2026.

2.3 Application summary

On 4 July 2025, the works approval holder applied to amend works approval W6522/2021/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- extension of the works approval's expiry date
- amend the location of the groundwater monitoring bores
- amend the groundwater monitoring bore construction timeframe required under the works approval

Further details on the proposed amendments are outlined in the sections that follow.

2.3.1 Extension to the existing expiry date

The works approval holder proposes to extend the works approval by five years with a new expiry date of 13 September 2031. As of July 2025, the licence holder had completed construction of the starter embankment for cell 1 and 2 only. Construction of cell 3 is anticipated to commence in 2027. It is expected that the first raise for cell 1 and 2 will be undertaken between the time of writing this report and the commencement of cell 3 construction. The works approval holder provided an indicative construction schedule for the premises, shown in Table 1- noting that the timeline may be subject to change. H1 and H2 on the construction timeline indicate whether the construction will occur in the first or second half of the relevant year.

Table 1: Anticipated timeline for each stage of construction granted under the works approval

Stage of construction	TSF 3 Cell number	Lift type	Operating height (m RL)	Construction timeline
1	1	Starter embankment	566.0	Completed
	2	Starter embankment	566.0	Completed
2	1	Upstream raise (1)	569.0	H1 2026
	2	Upstream raise (1)	569.0	H2 2027
	3	Upstream raise (1)	569.0	H1 2029
3	1	Upstream raise (2)	572.0	H2 2028
	2	Upstream raise (2)	572.0	H2 2029
	3	Upstream raise (2)	572.0	H1 2031

2.3.2 Amendment to the groundwater monitoring requirements

Background

Condition 8 of the current works approval requires the works approval holder to construct 8 groundwater monitoring bores (NMB16- 23) at the locations shown in Figure 1 (indicated as proposed monitoring bore location). These bores are intended to monitor any changes to groundwater quality and depth following tailings deposition into each cell, given the potential seepage risk from the TSF.

The approved monitoring bores are positioned around TSF 3 to the north, west and south with four groundwater bores adjacent to cell 1, two to cell 2 and two to cell 3. Under the works approval these bores are to be constructed and operational 30 calendar days before the beginning of time limited operations.

Hydrological Assessment and Geophysical Survey

During the assessment of the works approval application a hydrological report (Saprolite Environmental, 2020) highlighted the need for additional investigation to better understand

seepage migration, including preferential paths for groundwater and tailings seepage around TSF 3. To address this knowledge gap and inform groundwater bore placement, the applicant committed to undertaking a geophysical survey (condition 4.2.4 of licence L6498/1995/11). The survey (Genterra Pty Ltd) was submitted at the end of 2024 and employed electromagnetic (EM) and electrical resistivity imaging (ERI) techniques to map subsurface electrical properties, identifying conductive and resistive zones respectively that influence groundwater movement.

However, as deposition had already commenced at cell 1 at the time of the survey, the results were inconclusive in pinpointing seepage prone areas. Despite this limitation, the study recommended the installation of seven new monitoring bores positioned further from the embankment surrounding Cells 1 and 2 (Figure 3), borehole logging and conductivity testing to validate survey data, and the repetition of surveys over time to track changes, with all raw and processed data archived for future reference.

Existing bore infrastructure at the premises

During the construction of Cell 1 in 2022, the works approval holder installed six groundwater bores, comprising both deep and shallow installations (Figure 2), which differed from the original works approval conditions. The department assessed the bore construction in 2022. In 2023 operations of cell 1 and monitoring of the constructed bores were transferred to the licence. Current licence conditions for groundwater monitoring include limits on the following:

- standing water level: 4 metres below ground level (mbgl)
- pH: 6-9
- total dissolved solids: below 14,000 mg / L
- weak acid dissociable cyanide: below 0.5 mg/L

The Delegated Officer notes some self-reported non-compliances associated with Cell 1 since tailings deposition began, including breaches of standing water level and TDS limits.

Details of the proposed amendment

• Replacement of groundwater monitoring infrastructure

The works approval holder proposes to install the additional bores recommended under the Geophysical Survey for Cells 1 and 2 replacing those originally listed in the works approval.

Until the monitoring bores are deemed fully operational, monitoring of the already constructed bores surrounding Cell 1 will continue. Furthermore, as deposition into Cell 2 is anticipated to commence in December 2025, it is proposed that monitoring of bore NMB08-D, located to the north of Cell 2, and previously removed from the monitoring requirements during a licence amendment in November 2024, is resumed.

The works approval holder has yet to determine whether or how the monitoring of groundwater will occur after the construction of cell 3.

• Change to bore construction timeframe

Furthermore, the application seeks to modify Condition 8 by allowing the construction of the new groundwater bores during time-limited operations, rather than within the previously approved timeframe. This request reflects the need to undertake formal consultation with the traditional owners as some of the new proposed bores will be located outside the heritage cleared area of TSF 3, Cell 2. A new heritage survey may also be required, which could extend the bore construction timeframe by up to six months.

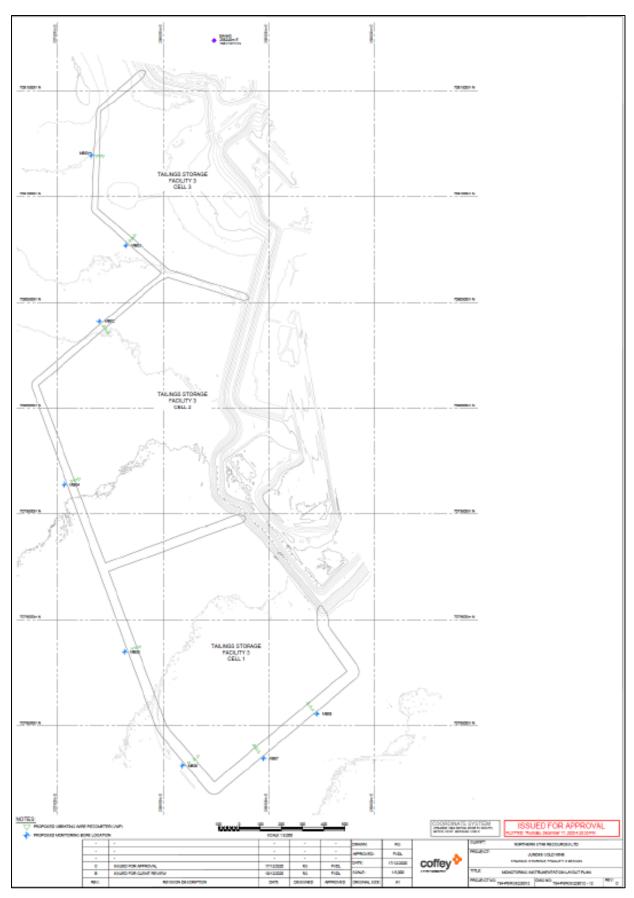


Figure 1:Location of the groundwater monitoring bores approved under the works approval



Figure 2: Installed groundwater monitoring bores around TSF 3 cell 1. $\it D$ and $\it S$ indicate a deep and shallow bore respectively.

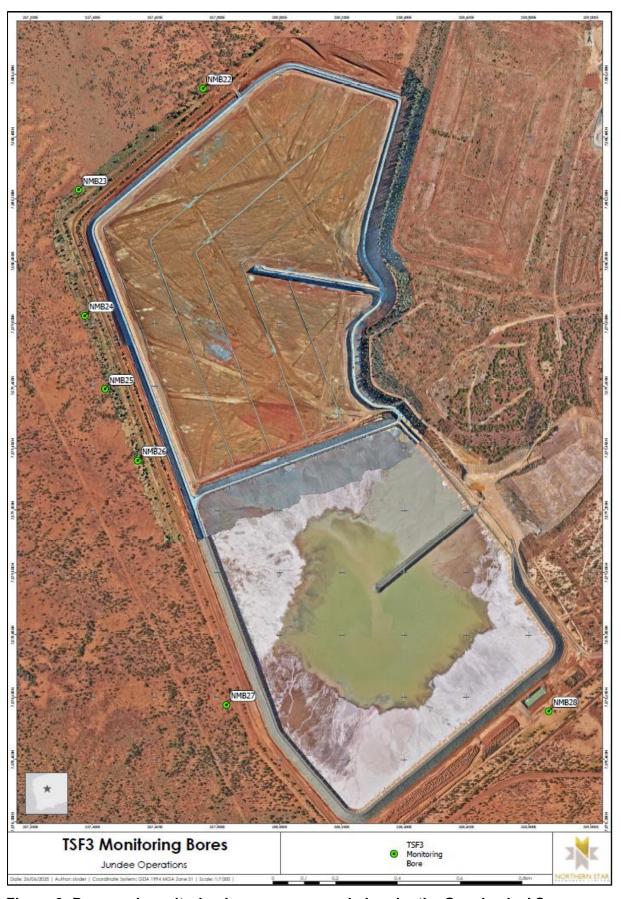


Figure 3: Proposed monitoring bores recommended under the Geophysical Survey (Genterra, 2024)

2.4 Department initiated administrative amendment

During the assessment of this application, it was identified that the works approval did not specify that the construction of TSF 3 would be staged and comprise of cells 1, 2, and 3. To provide clarity and to align with the original intent, the department has amended the works approval accordingly. This amendment does not affect the premises' risk profile, provided the approved activities, emissions, and receptors remain unchanged. Risks associated with the construction of the individual cells were previously assessed by the department (DWER, 2021) and remain available on the department's website.

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 exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to that receptor from its exposure.

3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway(s) during the time limited operation considered in this amendment report are detailed in Table 2. This table also details the proposed control measures the works approval holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 2: Emissions, potential pathways and works approval holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls				
Operations							
Tailings seepage causing groundwater mounding and groundwater contamination	TSF 3 (cell 1 and 2)	Seepage through the base and the sides of the embankment to groundwater	The works approval holder will re-instate groundwater bore NMB08-D, to the north of cell 2, and undertake a monitoring program consistent with that of TSF 3 cell 1 bores. The works approval holder will maintain the following existing controls, proposed during the original works approval application: • Decant system – deposition occurs in a manner that enables free supernatant water pond to pool near the centre of each cell. Return water is pumped back to the process water pond near the plant for re-use. • Underdrainage system – A central underdrainage pipe network connects to underdrainage discharge pipes. Underdrainage pipes are routed to the central decant facility to allow for water recovery via submersible pump (i.e. the decant facility collects water from both the underdrainage system and				

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Operations			
			supernatant pond inflow)
			Perimeter seepage recovery trenches intercept shallow seepage moving laterally. These trenches free drain towards several collection sumps fitted with pump and a pipe systems that can convey seepage to the process water dam
			The tailings slurry outflow rate, percentage of solids and return water are tracked and recorded. The data is used to maintain a probabilistic water balance, which ensures adequate capacity and freeboard is always maintained.
			The works approval holder will continue to comply with the following existing condition:
			Condition 14 - The works approval will conduct daily inspection of the TSF. The daily inspection will include:
			Outer perimeter area and embankments Condition of roads and ramps
			Tailings behaviour at deposition point
			Visual check on tailings and water levels embankment crest (freeboard)
			Offtake location
			Blockage or damage of discharge
			Monitoring instrumentation
			Underdrainage
			Toe-drains and
			Seepage trench

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, provided for under other state legislation.

Table 3 below provides a summary of potential human (if applicable) and environmental receptors that may be impacted from activities or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises (*Guideline: Environmental siting* (DWER 2020)).

Table 3: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Remnant native vegetation The 2020 Botanica Consulting Vegetation and Fauna Survey identified the native vegetation at the premises as being in good to very good condition. The TSF area is dominated by Acacia species, providing habitat considered suitable for the brush-tailed mulgara (Dasycercus blythi) listed as Priority Four under the Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018. However, no individuals were recorded during the survey.	Adjoining the western boundary of the TSF cells.
<u>Groundwater</u>	Underlying.
Proclaimed East Murchison Groundwater Area under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (RIWI Act).	
Groundwater use includes process water at the Jundee mining area, raw water at the Jundee Village and Jundee Plant. Stock bores are also operated by the neighboring Millrose Pastoral Station.	
Water quality at the premises varies from fresh to hypersaline (300 – 11,000 mg / L total dissolved solids).	
Groundwater flow has changed due to dewatering activities and is currently thought to be in an easterly direction towards the mining activities.	

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for emission sources proposed to change. The risk rating 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.

Mitigation measures proposed by the works approval holder (as detailed in section 3.1) have been taken into account when determining final risk ratings. Where these controls are deemed critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, they will be incorporated into the works approval as regulatory conditions. Additional regulatory controls may be imposed if the proposed measures are considered insufficient; any such requirements will be documented and justified in Table 4.

The revised works approval that accompanies this amendment report authorises construction and time-limited operations. The conditions in the revised works approval have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

A licence will be required following the time-limited operational phase to authorise emissions from the ongoing operation at the premises. A risk assessment for the operational phase has been included in this amendment report and the original decision report, however licence conditions will not be finalised until the department assesses the licence application.

Table 4. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during time limited operation

Risk Event	Risk Event					Works		
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Works approval holder's controls	Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	approval holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
Time limited Opera	ation							
Discharge of tailings slurry into Cell 2 of TSF 3	Tailings seepage	Pathway: vertical infiltration and horizontal migration Impact: groundwater mounding, groundwater contamination and potential ecological disturbance	Groundwater and native vegetation	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	N	Condition 1 Condition 8 Condition 13 Condition 14 Condition 15	The day-to-day operations for the discharge of tailings into Cells 1 and 2 of TSF 3 will not change from what was previously assessed. However, while risks associated with the discharge were reviewed during the initial assessment, they considered all applicant's proposed controls including the ongoing groundwater monitoring program. A groundwater monitoring program before and during operations allows the works approval holder to determine the extent of any potential impacts to groundwater and surrounding receptors. To ensure impacts can be quantified, groundwater monitoring is generally required to begin no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of discharge. This allows the works approval holder to establish a baseline of groundwater conditions (quality and depth before any potential impact from the discharge occurs. New groundwater bores (NMB22-28) In relation to the number, distribution and location of the new groundwater bores the Delegated Officer finds that they are acceptable for understanding the extent of any potential impacts from seepage. Amendment to the timeframe for construction of new groundwater monitoring bores

Risk Event	Risk Event					Works		
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Works approval holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	quence holder's controls	der's works ntrols approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
								(NMB22-28)
								Discharge into Cell 2 is scheduled to commence in December 2025 and the works approval holder has not committed to a specific timeframe for bore construction, as this is contingent upon receiving Aboriginal Cultural Heritage approval. The works approval holder has proposed to reinstate and monitor groundwater bore NMB08-D, located north of Cell 2. Monitoring of groundwater bores surrounding cell 1 will continue to occur as an obligation under the existing licence for the premises (L6498/1995/1).
								The Delegated Officer finds that the reinstatement and monitoring of bore NMB08-D, while construction of the other bores is underway, is acceptable. However, it is expected that a six-month timeframe will be sufficient to obtain the necessary approvals and complete the additional bores construction. Additionally, the Delegated Officer requires that monitoring of NMB08-D commences no later than one week prior to the start of deposition into Cell 2, and two monitoring events are undertaken for all parameters, to ensure a baseline is established.
								Considering the above and noting that monitoring of only one bore adjacent to Cell 2 will constitute a temporary measure, the Delegated Officer has maintained the risk rating as medium , based on a possible

Risk Event	sk Event				Risk rating ¹	Works		
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Works approval holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	approval holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
								likelihood and a moderate consequence.

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the Guideline: Risk assessments (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed works approval Holder's controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

4. Consultation

Table 5 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 5: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) was advised of proposal on 9 September 2025	A response was received on 2 October 2025. The DPLH noted that a review of the Register of Places and Objects, and the DPLH Aboriginal Heritage database did not show any known Aboriginal Places or registered sites. However, it was also noted that limited heritage surveys had been undertaken in the area subject of this licence amendment.	The comments have been noted.
The works approval holder was provided with a copy of the draft amendment report and draft works approval on 14 November 2025.	A response was received on 25 November 2025. Please refer to Appendix 1 for details.	Please refer to Appendix 1.

5. Conclusion

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

5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 6 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the revised works approval as part of the amendment process.

Table 6: Summary of works approval amendments

Condition no. / reference	Proposed amendments
Cover page	DWER file number amended in accordance with current departmental record keeping requirements
	Duration amended to 13/09/2031 in accordance with this amendment
	Date of issue and date the approval was granted updated as applicable.
Works approval history – Table	Updated to include this amendment.
1 – Table 1	First column (identifying the itemised list of infrastructure) named for accuracy
	Reference column added to identify the construction regulatory requirements of each cell within TSF 3 in accordance with the CEO initiated administrative

Condition no. / reference	Proposed amendments
	amendment within this amendment report. References for cell 1, cell 2 and cell 3 added, each with their relevant starter embankment construction requirements
	Tailings storage facility 3 on the infrastructure column renamed to Starter Embankment for accuracy
	Storage capacity and surface area within the <i>Design and construction / installation requirements</i> column amended to reflect the individual cell rather than overall structure, in accordance with the CEO initiated administrative amendment within this amendment report. Individual Storage capacity, Storage area and crest levels amended to reflect the decision report and supporting documents provided in the works approval application
	Infrastructure location amended to the relevant Figures (Figure 2 and 3) for clarity
	 Infrastructure location description for the starter embankment moved to the Design and construction / installation requirements column for accuracy. Amendment applied to cell 1, 2 and 3
	 N/A pertaining to Seepage control infrastructure location removed as the previous infrastructure location: As Shown in site layout map in Schedule 1 extends to this item of infrastructure for cell 1, 2 and 3
	Water reclamation infrastructure location reworded from: As shown in Water Recovery Layout map in Schedule 1 to: As shown in Figure 4 of Schedule 1. Description repeated for cell 1, 2 and 3.
2	Condition 2 reworded for accuracy
	Table 2 caption reworded for consistency
	Table 2 column headings reworded for consistency with condition 1
	Cell and structure column added for clarity
	Starter Embankment description under the Stages column (reworded to Construction Stage) moved to the relevant cell in the Cell and structure column.
Infrastructure and equipment heading	Typing error corrected.
3 – Table 3	Consistent with condition 1:
	 first column (identifying the itemised list of infrastructure) named for accuracy
	 Reference column added to identify the regulatory requirements of each item of infrastructure grouped by individual cell and construction stage
	o Individual regulatory requirements repeated for each Stage / cell
	 Added condition within each raise to state Constructed to the height stipulated in condition 2 for clarity.
8 – Table 4	Word well replaced with bore in accordance with Departmental standards.
	Groundwater bores NMB16-NMB21 removed, as already transferred to licence L6498/1995/11
	Groundwater monitoring bore NMB22 – NMB30 added in accordance with this amendment
	Reference to Figure 4 of Schedule 1 removed as not relevant on this column
	Added ASTM D5092/D5092M-16: Standard practice for design and installation of

Condition no. / reference	Proposed amendments
	groundwater monitoring bores and removed minimum construction requirements for Water Bores in accordance with departmental standards
	 Location of monitoring bores amended as applicable
	 Timeframes for groundwater bore NMB22 – NMB28 added in accordance with this amendment report.
13 – Table 5	Consistent with condition 1 and 3:
	 named first column (identifying the itemised list of infrastructure) and
	 Individual regulatory requirements repeated for each cell
	for accuracy
	Amended infrastructure location to the relevant Figures for clarity.
14 – Table 6	Site infrastructure and equipment naming amended from Tailings Storage Facility Cell 3 to Tailings Storage Facility 3, Cell 1, 2 and 3 for clarity
	 Where a frequency is applicable added the wording: - To begin when discharge of tailings commences at the respective cell for clarity.
15 – Table 7	Replaced NMB16-NMB23 withNMB22-NMB28, NMB29 and NMB08-D
	 Added note 2, applicable to NMB08-D in accordance with the risk assessment undertaken in Table 4 of this amendment report.
	Added note 3 for clarity.
17	Replaced within TSF tailings storage facility 3 with each cell of tailings storage facility 3 for added accuracy.
Definitions	Removed TSF definition as no longer required.
Schedule 1	Description of premises map removed as redundant
	Figure 1: caption reworded
	 Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5: replaced the word TSF with Tailings storage facility 3 and reworded captions
	Corrected typing error from General Arrangement – Starter embankment heading
	Figure 5 replaced with updated version.

References

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- 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, 2021. Decision Report, Perth, Western Australia.
- 5. Saprolite Environmental, 2020. *Jundee Tailings Storage Facility 3: Hydrogeological Assessment phase 1 Desktop Study*, Ellenbrook, Western Australia.

Appendix 1: Summary of works approval holder's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of works approval holder's comment	Department's response
Various – Construction and time limited operations	Please include Stage 4 (575.0 m RL) and Stage 5 (578.0 m RL) in the works approval, provided it does not require a full assessment of the information. Stage 4 and Stage 5 supporting information were provided in the initial submission for a works approval by the department, and it is unclear whether Norther Star or DWER determined that only Stages 1 – 3 should be considered on the works approval. This request is aimed at preventing a further administrative burden in the future.	The department acknowledges that the initial decision report for this works approval mentioned construction of stages 1-5 for TSF 3, however, since only stages 1-3 were conditioned on the works approval, stages 4 and 5 would require to be risk assessed before being incorporated into the conditions of the works approval. Given the late stage of the assessment process this cannot be undertaken and would result in further delay in granting this amendment. It is recommended that a new works approval or amendment to W6522/2021/1 application is submitted to approve the construction and time limited operations of stages 4-5.
Condition 8, Table 4 Condition 15, Table 7 Figure 5	The correct naming for the bores surrounding TSF 3 are as follows: Cell 1 (existing): NMB16 - NMB21 Cell 2 legacy bore (interim): NMB08-D Cell 2: NMB22 - NMB28 Cell 3: NMB29-30 As noted on the supporting documentation, location of monitoring bores for cell 3 are indicative only. Further hydrogeological scoping will be undertaken closer to the timeframe of construction of cell 3. A figure showing all monitoring bores surrounding the TSF has been provided.	The correct naming has been noted and the works approval revised accordingly.
Condition 8, Table 4	Remove NMB08-D from the construction requirements of Table 4. This bore was previously confirmed as operational. It is considered that the	Bore NMB08-D has been removed from table 4.

Condition	Summary of works approval holder's comment	Department's response
	inclusion of NM08 in Table 7 is sufficient to facilitate monitoring during time limited operations of Cell 2.	
	It is also noted that while monitoring bores NMB27-NMB28 are located beside cell 1, it is expected they will be indicative of the seepage occurring at cell 1 and cell 2. The placement considers the direction of the underdrainage towards the return water pond.	