

Works approval number	W6788/2023/1
Works approval holder ACN	BHP Nickel West Pty Ltd 004 184 598
Registered business address	125 St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6000
DWER file number	APP-0029406
Duration	20/06/2023 to 19/06/2026
Date of amendment	16 June 2025
Premises details	BHP Nickel West Kwinana Nickel Refinery Baldivis facility
	Lot 100 on Deposited Plan 423540 and Lot 820 on Deposited Plan 77252 KWINANA BEACH WA 6167 Certificate of Title Volume 2958 Folio 292 As defined by the premises maps in Schedule 1

Prescribed premises category description	Assessed production
(Schedule 1, <i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i> )	capacity
Category 44: Metal smelting or refining: premises on which metal ore, metal ore concentrate or metal waste is smelted, fused, roasted, refined or processed.	90,000 tonnes per annum of Nickel Metal

This works approval is granted to the works approval holder, subject to the attached conditions, on 16 June 2025, by:

## Amine Fisher MANAGER, PROCESS INDUSTRIES

an officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)

# Interpretation

In this works approval:

- (a) the words 'including', 'includes' and 'include' in conditions mean "including but not limited to", and similar, as appropriate;
- (b) where any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning;
- (c) where tables are used in a condition, each row in a table constitutes a separate condition;
- (d) any reference to an Australian or other standard, guideline, or code of practice in this works approval:
  - (i) if dated, refers to that particular version; and
  - (ii) if not dated, refers to the latest version and therefore may be subject to change over time;
- (e) unless specified otherwise, any reference to a section of an Act refers to that section of the EP Act; and
- (f) unless specified otherwise, all definitions are in accordance with the EP Act.

**NOTE:** This works approval requires specific conditions to be met but does not provide any implied authorisation for other emissions, discharges, or activities not specified in this works approval.

## Works approval conditions

The works approval holder must ensure that the following conditions are complied with:

## **Construction phase**

#### Infrastructure and equipment

- **1.** The works approval holder must:
  - (a) construct and/or install the infrastructure and/or equipment;
  - (b) in accordance with the corresponding design and construction / installation requirements; and
  - (c) at the corresponding infrastructure location;

as set out in Table 1.

#### Table 1: Design and construction / installation requirements

Infrastructure	De	esign a	and construction / installation requirements	Infrastructure location
Chloride Brine Storage (CBS) Tanks (40ML	a)	Unde stone may	rlying surface must be cleared of vegetation, free of es, sharp objects and any other unsuitable material that cause damage to the liner;	As per Figure 3, 6 and 7 in Schedule 1
and 70ML	b)	Tank	s must be constructed on a compacted limestone pad;	
respectively)	c)	Tank tensio ring b	s to be constructed using tilt up concrete panels, post oning cables and supported by a continuous concrete beam;	
	d)	Tank detec 1);	s must be fitted with multi-layer liner system and leak tion system (as depicted in Figures 4 and 5 in Schedule	
	e)	The F	Floor lining system consists of:	
		(i)	A primary liner of 1mm fortified polyolefin alloy;	
		(ii)	Electrically conductive geotextile (to enable testing of fusion welded joints during installation);	
		(iii)	Geonet flow / drainage layer (for leak detection system);	
		(iv)	Secondary liner 1mm fortified polyolefin alloy;	
		(v)	Geosynthetic Clay Liner (GCL) underlying whole tank;	
	f)	Wall	lining system consists of:	
		(i)	A primary liner of 1mm fortified polyolefin alloy;	
		(ii)	Electrically conductive geotextile (to enable testing of fusion welded joints during installation);	
		(iii)	Secondary liner 1mm fortified polyolefin alloy; and	
		(iv)	Electrically conductive geotextile (to enable testing of fusion welded joints during installation & to protect secondary liner from abrasion against concrete walls); and	
	<ul> <li>f) Tank design freeboard of 655mm able to be monitored via the installation of level alarms.</li> </ul>			

Infrastructure	Design and construction / installation requirements	Infrastructure location
Leak detection system	<ul> <li>Each tank must have a designated leak detection inspection pit connected to the liner system;</li> </ul>	As per Figures 3, 6 and 7 in
	b) Level switch and remote alarm system must be installed; and	Schedule 1
	c) The detection pits must be equipped with a sump pump capable of automatic operation when liquid is detected.	
Access platform	An access platform must be constructed to allow inspection access of the tanks and the leak detection inspection pits.	
Baldivis One HDPE Pipeline	Installation of an approximately 900m long pipeline from evaporation ponds to existing break tank to allow for the required flows to drain the ponds.	
Refinery Two HDPE pipelines and 900mm	<ul> <li>a) Installation of pipelines, approximately 300m in length that connect the CBS tanks to the existing pipework from Baldivis evaporation cells;</li> </ul>	
wide cuivert	<ul> <li>A 100m culvert must be installed from tie in point to existing Baldivis pipelines to CBS tanks;</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Headwalls must be installed at both ends of each culvert; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Pipeline route from the refinery to the CBS tanks must be within a culvert or surface run.</li> </ul>	

2. The works approval holder must ensure all fortified polyolefin alloy liners comply with the properties listed in Table 2 and are constructed in accordance with the requirements specified in that table.

### Table 2: fortified polyolefin alloy liner requirements

ltem	Property/construction requirement
Liner Properties	Fortified polyolefin alloy liners must have the following properties:
	<ul> <li>Minimum Strength ≥1.0mm (Test ASTM D 5199 – 1 test per roll);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Strength at break ≥31N/mm (Test ASTM D 638 – 1 test per roll);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Elongation at beak ≥1000% (Test ASTM D 638 – 1 test per roll);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Trapezoidal Tear Resistance ≥400N (Test ASTM D 751 – 1 test per roll);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Puncture Resistance ≥298N (Test ASTM D 4833 – 1 test per roll);</li> </ul>
	- Axi-Symmetric Break Strain ≥50% (Test ASTM D 4833 – 1 test per roll);
	<ul> <li>Standard Oxidative Induction Time (S-OIT) ≥200 Min (Test ASTM D 3895 – 3 tests per batch);</li> </ul>
	- High Pressure OIT ≥2000 Min (Test ASTM D 5885 – 1 test per batch);
	<ul> <li>Oven Aging at 85<sup>o</sup>C Standard OIT ≥35% retained after 90 days (Test ASTM D 5721 – 1 test per roll); and</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>UV Resistance Standard OIT ≥90% retained after 40,000 hours (Test ASTM D 4329).</li> </ul>

**3.** The works approval holder must ensure that all GCL liners comply with the properties listed in Table 3 and are constructed in accordance with the requirements specified in that table.

ltem	Property/construction requirement
GCL material	GCL liners must have the following properties:
	<ul> <li>Hydraulic conductivity ≤2.8 x 10<sup>11</sup> m/s (Test ASTM D 5887 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Bentonite Particle Size ≥75% passing 75µm (Test dry screen – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Swell Index ≥24 mL/2 g (Test ASTM D 5890 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Fluid Loss ≤15mL (Test ASTM D 5891 – 1 test every 2 rolls);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Mass per unit area of non-woven cover geotextile ≥240 g/m<sup>2</sup> (Test AS 3706.1);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Bentonite Mass measure at 0% moisture content ≥4000 g/m<sup>2</sup> (Test ASTM D 5993 - 1 test every 2 rolls);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Mass per unit of woven carrier geotextile ≥110 g/m<sup>2</sup> (Test AS 3706.1);</li> </ul>
	- Mass per unit area of GCL ≥4350 g/m² (Test ASTM D 5993 - 1 test per 1000m²);
	<ul> <li>CBR Strength of GCL ≥1600N (Test AS3706.4 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>CBR Elongation of GCL ≥15% (Test AS3706.4 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Strip Tensile Strength ≥8kN/m (Test ASTM D 6768 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Peel Strength (min avg.) ≥360N/m (Test ASTM D 6496 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cation exchange capacity of Bentonite ≥70 Meq/100g (or cmol/kg) (Test Methylene Blue Method – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>); and</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Montmorillonite Content &gt;70% by weight (Test X-Ray diffraction or ASTM D 4373 – 1 test per 1000m<sup>2</sup>).</li> </ul>

#### **Table 3: GCL liner requirements**

**4.** The works approval holder must ensure that all geotextile materials comply with the properties listed in Table 4 and are constructed in accordance with the requirements specified in that table.

Table 4: Geotextile material requirements

Item	Property/construction requirement
Geotextile material	Geotextile materials must have the following properties:
	<ul> <li>Wide Strip Tensile Strength ≥13.0kN/m (MD), ≥15.2kN/m (CMD) (Test AS 3706.2 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Wide Strip Toughness ≥3.79kJ/m<sup>2</sup> (MD), ≥4.16kJ/m<sup>2</sup> (CMD) (Test AS 3706.2 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Grab Tensile Strength ≥888N (MD), ≥1105N (CMD) (Test AS 3706.2 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Trapezoidal Tear Strength ≥411N (MD), ≥407N (CMD) (Test AS 3706.3 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>CBR Burst Strength ≥2500N (Test AS 3706.4 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>);</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Pore Size ≤75µm (Test AS 3706.7 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>); and</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Water permeability ≥175I/(m<sup>2</sup>/s) (Test AS 3706.9 – 1 test for 1000m<sup>2</sup>).</li> </ul>

**5.** The works approval holder must ensure that all geonet drainage materials comply with the properties listed in Table 5, and are constructed in accordance with the requirements specified in that table.

Table 5: Geonet drainage material requirements

ltem	Property/construction requirement
Geonet drainage material	Geonet drainage materials must have the following properties:
	- Thickness (at 80kpa) ≥4.8 mm (Test AS 3706.1);
	- Density ≥0.94g.cm³ (Test ASTM D1505);
	<ul> <li>Compressive Strength ≥500kPa (Test ASTM D1621); and</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Flow rate per unit width at hydraulic gradient of 0.005, 80kPa confining pressure and inclusion of the proposed conductive geotextile in manufactures independent testing ≥0.007L/s/m (Test ASTM D4716).</li> </ul>

### **Compliance reporting**

- **6.** The works approval holder must within 60 calendar days of an item of infrastructure or equipment required by condition 1 being constructed and/or installed:
  - (a) undertake an audit of their compliance with the requirements of condition 1; and
  - (b) prepare and submit to the CEO an Environmental Compliance Report on that compliance.
- 7. The Environmental Compliance Report required by condition 6, must include as a minimum the following:
  - (a) certification by a suitably qualified engineer that the items of infrastructure or component(s) thereof, as specified in condition 1, have been constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements specified in condition 1;
  - (b) as constructed plans and a detailed site plan for each item of infrastructure or component of infrastructure specified in condition 1;
  - (c) a Quality Control / Quality Assurance Certificate from an independent geotechnical engineer or specialist which demonstrates that each item of infrastructure or component thereof, as specified in conditions 2, 3 4, and 5 been built and installed in accordance with the requirements specified in those conditions;
  - (d) records of any quality assurance/control testing undertaken to demonstrate the requirements of conditions 2, 3, 4 and 5 have been met, including the basis of any method specification adopted;
  - (e) A summary of performance of the infrastructure compared to expected performance in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications, including outcomes of liner system testing; and
  - (f) be signed by a person authorised to represent the works approval holder and contains the printed name and position of that person.

## Time limited operations phase

#### **Commencement and duration**

- 8. The works approval holder may only commence time limited operations for an item of infrastructure identified in condition 1 where the Environmental Compliance Report as required by condition 6 has been submitted by the works approval holder for that item of infrastructure.
- **9.** The works approval holder may conduct time limited operations for an item of infrastructure specified in condition 1 (as applicable):
  - (a) from the day the works approval holder meets the requirements of condition 6 for that item of infrastructure until the expiry date of the works approval; or
  - (b) until such time as a licence for that item of infrastructure is granted in accordance with Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, if one is granted before the end of the period specified in condition 9(a).

### Time limited operations requirements and emission limits

**10.** During time limited operations, the works approval holder must ensure that the premises infrastructure and equipment listed in Table 6 and located at the corresponding infrastructure location is maintained and operated in accordance with the corresponding operational requirement set out in Table 6.

Site infrastructure and equipment	Operational requirement	Infrastructure location
Chloride brine storage tanks including leak detection system and	<ul> <li>a) Freeboard must be maintained at, at le 655mm at all times via level indicators weekly field operator inspections;</li> </ul>	As per Figure 3 in and Schedule 1
associated pipeline infrastructure.	<ul> <li>b) Continuous level monitoring and control the site Distributed Control System;</li> </ul>	ol via
	<ul> <li>Weekly inspections of pipelines, listed under Condition 1, to ensure there are integrity issues;</li> </ul>	no
	<ul> <li>If seepage occurs into the leak detection pits, tanks contents must be returned be pumping back to the main CBS tank from which it originated; and</li> </ul>	אנ יע סm
	<ul> <li>e) The existing buried pipeline between the Baldivis Facility and the Kwinana Nicker Refinery to be monitored via continuous leak detection system.</li> </ul>	าe 3  ร

#### Table 6: Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations

#### **Compliance reporting**

**11.** The works approval holder must submit to the CEO a report on the time limited operations within 60 calendar days of the completion date of time limited operations or 30 calendar days before the expiration date of the works approval, whichever is the sooner.

- **12.** The works approval holder must ensure the report required by condition 11 includes the following:
  - (a) a summary of the time limited operations, including timeframes and amount of chloride brine transferred to the tanks;
  - (b) a summary of the environmental performance of all infrastructure as constructed or installed (as applicable);
  - (c) a review of performance and compliance against the conditions of the works approval; and
  - (d) where the manufacturer's design specifications and the conditions of this works approval have not been met, what measures will the works approval holder take to meet them, and what timeframes will be required to implement those measures.

### **Records and reporting**

- **13.** The works approval holder must record the following information in relation to complaints received by the works approval holder (whether received directly from a complainant or forwarded to them by the Department or another party) about any alleged emissions from the premises:
  - (a) the name and contact details of the complainant, (if provided);
  - (b) the time and date of the complaint;
  - (c) the complete details of the complaint and any other concerns or other issues raised; and
  - (d) the complete details and dates of any action taken by the works approval holder to investigate or respond to any complaint.
- **14.** The works approval holder must maintain accurate and auditable books including the following records, information, reports, and data required by this works approval:
  - (a) the works conducted in accordance with condition 1;
  - (b) any maintenance of infrastructure that is performed in the course of complying with condition 10;
  - (c) complaints received under condition 13.
- **15.** The books specified under condition 14 must:
  - (a) be legible;
  - (b) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original version(s) and any subsequent amendments remain legible and are capable of retrieval;
  - (c) be retained by the works approval holder for the duration of the works approval; and
  - (d) be available to be produced to an inspector or the CEO as required.

# **Definitions**

In this works approval, the terms in Table 7 have the meanings defined.

## Table 7: Definitions

Term	Definition	
AS 3706.1	means the Standard Geotextiles — Methods of test, Method 1: General requirements, sampling, conditioning, basic physical properties and statistical analysis	
AS 3706.2	means the Standard Geotextiles - Methods of test: Determination of tensile properties - Wide-strip method	
AS 3706.3	means the Standard Geotextiles - Methods of test: Determination of tearing strength - Trapezoidal method	
AS3706.4	means the Standard Geotextiles - Methods of test: Determination of burst strength - California bearing ratio (CBR) - Plunger method	
AS 3706.7	means the Standard Geotextiles - Methods of test: Determination of pore-size distribution - Dry-sieving method	
AS 3706.9	means the Standard Geotextiles - Methods of test: Determination of permittivity, permeability and flow rate	
ASTM D 638	means the Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics	
ASTM D 751	means the Standard Test Methods for Coated Fabrics	
ASTM D1505	means the Standard Test Method for Density of Plastics by the Density-Gradient Technique	
ASTM D1621	means the Standard Test Method for Compressive Properties of Rigid Cellular Plastics	
ASTM D 3895	means the Standard Test Method for Oxidative-Induction Time of Polyolefins by Differential Scanning Calorimetry	
ASTM D 4329	means the Standard Practice for Fluorescent Ultraviolet (UV) Lamp Apparatus Exposure of Plastics	
ASTM D 4373	means the Standard Test Method for Rapid Determination of Carbonate Content of Soils	
ASTM D 4716	means the Standard Test Method for Determining the (In-plane) Flow Rate per Unit Width and Hydraulic Transmissivity of a Geosynthetic Using a Constant Head	
ASTM D 4833	means the Standard Test Method for Index Puncture Resistance of Geomembranes and Related Products	
ASTM D 5199	means the Standard Test Method for Measuring the Nominal Thickness of Geosynthetics	

Term	Definition	
ASTM D 5721	means the Standard Practice for Air-Oven Aging of Polyolefin Geomembranes	
ASTM D 5885	means the Standard Test Method for Oxidative Induction Time of Polyolefin Geosynthetics by High-Pressure Differential Scanning Calorimetry	
ASTM D 5887	means the Standard Test Method for Measurement of Index Flux Through Saturated Geosynthetic Clay Liner Specimens Using a Flexible Wall Permeameter	
ASTM D 5891	means the Standard Test Method for Fluid Loss of Clay Component of Geosynthetic Clay Liners	
ASTM D 5890	means the Standard Test Method for Swell Index of Clay Mineral Component of Geosynthetic Clay Liners	
ASTM D 5993	means the Standard Test Method for Measuring Mass per Unit Area of Geosynthetic Clay Liners	
ASTM D 6496	means the Standard Test Method for Determining Average Bonding Peel Strength Between Top and Bottom Layers of Needle-Punched Geosynthetic Clay Liners	
ASTM D 6768	means the Standard Test Method for Tensile Strength of Geosynthetic Clay Liners	
books	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.	
CBS	means chloride brine storage.	
CEO	means Chief Executive Officer.	
	CEO for the purposes of notification means:	
	Director General Department administering the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> <i>1986</i> Locked Bag 10 Joondalup DC WA 6919	
	info@dwer.wa.gov.au	
CMD	means Cross Machine Direction	
Department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public</i> Sector Management Act 1994 and designated as responsible for the administration of Part V Division 3 of the EP Act.	
discharge	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.	
emission	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.	
Environmental Compliance Report	means a report to satisfy the CEO that the conditioned infrastructure and/or equipment has been constructed and/or installed in	

Term	Definition	
	accordance with the works approval.	
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA).	
EP Regulations	Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 (WA).	
geotechnical engineer	means a person who:	
	<ul> <li>a) holds a Bachelor of Engineering recognised by the Institute of Engineers; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>b) has a minimum of five years of experience working in a supervisory area of geotechnical engineering or construction quality assurance; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>c) is employed by an independent third party external to the Works Approval Holder's business;</li> </ul>	
HDPE	means high-density polyethylene.	
MD	means Machine Direction	
premises	the premises to which this licence applies, as specified at the front of this licence and as shown on the premises maps (Figure 1 and 2) in Schedule 1 to this works approval.	
prescribed premises	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.	
suitable qualified	means a person who:	
engineer	a) holds a tertiary academic qualification in civil engineering;	
	<ul> <li>b) has a minimum of five years' experience working in the area</li> <li>/ field of design engineering; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>c) is employed by an independent third party external to the works approval holder's business.</li> </ul>	
time limited operations	refers to the operation of the infrastructure and equipment identified under this works approval that is authorised for that purpose, subject to the relevant conditions.	
works approval	refers to this document, which evidences the grant of the works approval by the CEO under section 54 of the EP Act, subject to the conditions.	
works approval holder	refers to the occupier of the premises being the person to whom this works approval has been granted, as specified at the front of this works approval.	

#### **END OF CONDITIONS**

# Schedule 1: Maps

## **Premises map**

The boundary of the prescribed premises is shown in the map below (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the Kwinana Nickel Refinery (prescribed premises)

Jarre	et i met ita z mati	Beldivis Premisis: Lot 820/DP7725 Evaporation Cel 3 Evaporation Cel 1
N N N	Legend Baldivis site Other BHP Freehold	BHP BUP NW. Northern Operations Nickel West Nickel West Nickel West Nickel West Nickel West Nickel West Nickel West Baldivis, WA 6171

Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the Baldivis Facility



Figure 3: Map of the location of the chloride brine storage tanks (yellow circles)

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Figure 5: Indicative section of Chloride brine storage tank liner arrangement

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Figure 6: Chloride brine storage tank general arrangement

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Figure 7: Chloride brine storage tank and leak detection system general arrangement