



Report No: 1300
August 2008

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**JACK HILLS IRON ORE MINE PROJECT (MINISTERIAL STATEMENT 727) –
PROPOSED CHANGE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS UNDER S46 OF
THE EP ACT**

I refer to your letter of 16 November 2007 requesting the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to report to you on Crosslands Resources Ltd's (formerly Jack Hills Limited) proposed changes to the environmental conditions for the Jacks Hills Iron Ore Mine Project.

The following is my report to you pursuant to section 46(3) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act)*

Introduction

Statement 727 for the Jack Hills Iron Ore project was published on 6 September 2006. The original proponent was Murchison Metals Ltd. On 17 September 2007 nomination of Murchison Metals Ltd was revoked and Iron Jack Limited was nominated as the proponent by the EPA Chairman. On 4 October 2007 Iron Jack Limited registered a change of name to Crosslands Resources Ltd.

Statement 727 includes a condition to determine the extent of impact due to mining and associated transport operations on the radio quiet zone at the Radio Astronomy Park (RAP).

The request for the EPA to inquire into the environmental conditions under section 46 of the EP Act resulted from the change in location of the proposed Radio Astronomy Park, as announced by Government on 18 August 2007.

The proposed change to conditions is the deletion of Condition 12 which relates to avoidance of impacts on the Radio Astronomy Park.

Discussion

The Radio Astronomy Park was originally planned to be located at Mileura Station, south of Jack Hills. Due to the proximity of the Radio Astronomy Park to Jack Hills mine site, Condition 12 required that the proponent carry out a program to monitor the impacts of radio transmissions and other electromagnetic radiation emitted from the stage 1 mining and haulage vehicles used to transport ore through the radio quiet zone along the Cue Beringarra Road.

An announcement made by the Premier Alan Carpenter on 17 August 2007 confirmed that the location of the Radio Astronomy Park proposed for the Mileura station will be moved 90 kilometres west from Mileura station to Boolardy station. The Jack Hills Stage 1 mining and haulage operation now falls outside the radio quiet zone.

The proponent requested that condition 12 relating to electromagnetic radiation and radio transmissions be removed from ministerial statement 727 (Refer to Appendix 2) as it is no longer relevant.

The EPA has concluded that Condition 12 is no longer relevant and should be removed.

EPA Recommendation

The EPA submits the following recommendations to the Minister for the Environment.

1. That the Minister notes that the EPA has concluded that Condition 12, relating to electromagnetic radiation and radio transmissions, should be removed from Ministerial Statement 727 as it is no longer relevant.
2. That the Minister issues a statement, as recommended in Appendix 1, that deletes Condition 12 from Statement 727.



Dr Paul Vogel
CHAIRMAN

12 August 2008

RECOMMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Statement No.

**STATEMENT TO AMEND CONDITIONS APPLYING TO A PROPOSAL
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 46 OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**JACK HILLS IRON ORE PROJECT
SHIRE OF MEEKATHARRA, MURCHISON REGION**

Proposal: To develop and operate an open-cut iron ore mine at Jack Hills, approximately 100 kilometres west of Meekatharra. The proposal will consist of one open pit and a crushing plant and will produce approximately 40 million tonnes of ore and waste material. The proposal is further documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proponent: Crosslands Resources Limited

Proponent Address: 1 Ocean Street, Geraldton, WA, 6530

Assessment Number: 1715

Previous Assessment Number: 1637

Previous Statement Number: Statement No. 727 (published on 6 September 2006)

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Report 1300

Previous Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 1220

The implementation of the proposal to which the above reports of the Environmental Protection Authority relate is subject to the conditions and procedures contained in Ministerial Statement No. 727, as amended by the following:

Condition 12 (Electromagnetic Radiation and Radio Transmissions) of Statement No. 727 is deleted.

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