

Public record pursuant to s39(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal Title: Munglinup Graphite Project

Proposal Location: The Munglinup Graphite Project is located in the South Coast region of Western Australia, approximately 105km west of Esperance, 85km east of Ravensthorpe and 4km north on Munglinup.

Case Number: CMS 17509

Date referral received: 12-11-2018

Date more information received: 28-March-2019

Referrer: MRC Graphite Pty Ltd

Proponent: MRC Graphite Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on:

- Flora and Vegetation from the clearing of 350 ha of native vegetation. The vegetation contains threatened and priority flora, a threatened ecological community, high biodiversity and forms an ecological linkage through a highly cleared landscape.
- Terrestrial Fauna from the clearing of habitat. The proposal is likely to remove habitat for threatened fauna, impact on short range endemic species and impact on the movement of fauna through the landscape.
- Inland water. The proposal has the potential to impact on the hydrology of the adjoining Munglinup River system, alter groundwater levels in the local area and act as a contaminant source.
- Social Surroundings. The proposal has the potential to impact on archaeological and ethnographic Aboriginal Heritage sites.

Preliminary key environmental factors: Flora and Vegetation, Terrestrial Fauna, Inland Waters and Social Surroundings.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess: 2

Assess:

- a) Referral information 0
- b) Environmental review - no public review 0
- c) Public environmental review 2

Total submissions: 4

Decision: s. 39A – Assess

Level of assessment:

Referral Information with additional information required under section 40(2)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (4 weeks public review).

The additional information that will be published on the EPA website for a four week public review is required for:

- The EPA's assessment of the potential impact on Inland water quality and groundwater supply;
- The EPA's assessment of the potential impact on flora and terrestrial fauna, including particular information on the impact to biological linkages within the local area; and

- A public review period is required in order for the assessment to align with the Commonwealth accredited process.

Other details

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Explanation of decision:

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex. Detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and how the environmental issues could be managed.

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Dr Tom Hatton

CHAIRMAN

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 14 May 2019