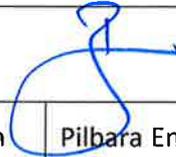




Environmental Protection Authority

EPA Referral Form

Form for the referral of a proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority under Section 38 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Referrer information			
Who is referring this proposal?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proponent <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making authority <input type="checkbox"/> Community member/third party	
Name Brett McGuire		Signature 	
Position	Group Manager - Environment	Organisation	Pilbara Energy Company Pty Ltd
Email	bmcguire@fmgl.com.au		
Address	Level 2, 87	Adelaide Terrace	
	East Perth	WA	6004
Date	26/11/18		
Does the referrer request that the EPA treat any part of the proposal information in the referral as confidential? <i>Provide confidential information in a separate attachment.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Referral declaration for organisations, proponents and decision-making authorities: I, <u>Brett Peter McGuire</u> , (full name) declare that I am authorised to refer this proposal on behalf of <u>Fortescue PEC</u> and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.			
Part A: Proponent and proposal description			
Proponent information			
Name of the proponent/s (including Trading Name if relevant)		Pilbara Energy Company Pty Ltd	
Australian Company Number(s) OR		<input type="checkbox"/> 64 624 732 878	

Australian Business Number(s) ✓	
Contact for the proposal <i>Please include: name, physical address, phone, and email.</i>	Sean McGunnigle Fortescue Metals Group Limited Level 2, 87 Adelaide Terrace East Perth, Western Australia 6004 P: +61 438 958 771 E: smcgunnigle@fmgl.com.au
Does the proponent have the legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal? <i>If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.</i> <i>If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Applications for Mining Act tenure are the subject of applications to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.
Proposal type	
What type of proposal is being referred? For a change to an approved proposal please state the Ministerial Statement number/s (MS No./s) of the approved proposal For a derived proposal please state the Ministerial Statement number (MS No.) of the associated strategic proposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant – new proposal <input type="checkbox"/> significant – change to approved proposal (MS No./s: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> proposal under an assessed planning scheme <input type="checkbox"/> strategic <input type="checkbox"/> derived (Strategic MS No.: _____)
For a significant proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Why do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment and warrant referral to the EPA?	The Proposal may require the clearing of up to 305 ha of native vegetation, that includes the following values: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority FloraConservation significant fauna habitats
For a proposal under an assessed planning scheme, provide the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scheme name and number For the Responsible Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none">What new environmental issues are raised by the proposal that were not assessed during the assessment of the planning scheme?How does the proposal not comply with the assessed scheme and/or the environmental conditions in the assessed planning scheme?	Not applicable.
Proposal description	
Title of the proposal	Pilbara Transmission Project.
Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located.	Shire of Ashburton, Shire of East Pilbara, Town of Port Headland.
Location: a) street address, lot number, suburb, and nearest road intersection; or	The Project corridor follows existing Fortescue Metals Group (Fortescue) rail alignments from Port Hedland to Fortescue's Chichester and Solomon mining hubs.

b) if remote the nearest town and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.	
Proposal description – including the key characteristics of the proposal <i>Provide as an attachment to the form</i>	See attachment 1.
Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps and figure in the appropriate format? <i>Refer to instructions at the front of the form</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	Land-use and tenure are described in the Referral Supporting Document.
Have you had pre-referral discussions with the EPA at DWER Services? If so, quote the reference number and/or the DWER contact.	Yes, a pre-referral meeting was held with Mr Peter Tapsell on 25 October 2018.

Part B: Environmental impacts

Environmental factors

What are the likely significant environmental factors for this proposal?

- Benthic Communities and Habitat
- Coastal Processes
- Marine Environmental Quality
- Marine Fauna
- Flora and Vegetation
- Landforms
- Subterranean Fauna
- Terrestrial Environmental Quality
- Terrestrial Fauna
- Inland Waters
- Air Quality
- Social Surroundings
- Human Health

For each of the environmental factors identified above, complete the following table, or provide the information in a supplementary report

Potential environmental impacts

1	EPA Factor	Flora and Vegetation
2	EPA policy and guidance - What have you considered and how have you applied them in relation to this factor?	The application of policy and guidance to this factor is discussed in the referral supporting document.

3	<p>Consultation – Outline the outcomes of consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts</p>	<p>A summary of consultation is provided in Section 2 of the Referral Supporting document.</p>
4	<p>Receiving environment – Describe the current condition of the receiving environment in relation to this factor.</p>	<p>The Proposal will be developed along-side existing disturbance associated with Fortescue’s rail infrastructure and use operational elements of that infrastructure such as the access road.</p> <p>The Proposal’s Development Envelope intersects, or is close to, several Priority Ecological Communities or their administrative buffers, which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four plant assemblages of the Wona Land System (‘Wona PEC’, P1 or P3, depending on subtype), identified as corresponding with the Hamersley Rail (Coffey Environments 2010) and Fortescue gas pipeline (Matiske 2013) • Freshwater claypans of the Fortescue Valley (P1), Cloudbreak area • Fortescue Marsh (Marsh Land System (P1), Cloudbreak area. <p>It is considered that some likely and potential GDE vegetation exists with-in the Development Envelope. No threatened flora taxa have been identified within the Development envelope by survey.</p> <p>The receiving environment is further described in Section 4 of the Referral Supporting Document.</p>
5	<p>Proposal activities – Describe the proposal activities that have the potential to impact the environment</p>	<p>Clearing will be undertaken by mechanical means to remove vegetation for construction and operation of the facilities. Each pole or tower structure will require a cleared pad, nominally a 10 x 10 m area, or as required for pole or tower structures used at individual locations. Access tracks will be cleared between the existing rail access road and the poles/towers as required to construct and operate the facilities. These tracks will generally be single lane. To ensure specified clearances between vegetation and powerlines are maintained, minor clearing and pruning may be undertaken within the powerline easement to a total width of 16 m, or as required by the Department of Mines, Industry and Regulation Special Inspector of Mines - Electrical.</p> <p>Poles and towers will be 30 – 40 m tall and set 6-8 m into the ground. Concrete footings may be required to ensure stability.</p> <p>Operations of the facilities will be remote, with infrequent inspection and maintenance.</p> <p>Further information is contained in Section 1 of the supporting document.</p>

6	<p>Mitigation – Describe the measures proposed to manage and mitigate the potential environmental impacts.</p>	<p>The Project will be designed and constructed to avoid, where ever practicable, Priority Flora and significant vegetation that occurs within the Development Envelope. A desktop review that includes review has identified Priority Flora and significant vegetation locations. Design criteria have been established to minimise disturbance to these.</p> <p>The disturbance footprint will be minimised by using the existing disturbance areas associated with Fortescue’s rail infrastructure.</p> <p>Prescribed controls specified in Fortescue environmental management documentation will apply to the Project. The PEC will review the results of flora and vegetation monitoring undertaken by Fortescue within the rail corridor, in the context of its operations.</p>
7	<p>Impacts – Assess the impacts of the proposal and review the residual impacts against the EPA objective.</p>	<p>Clearing of up to 305 ha is required to construct the Project. Disturbed areas that are not required for the ongoing operation of the facilities will be rehabilitated following construction.</p>
8	<p>Assumptions - Describe any assumptions critical to your assessment e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</p>	
1	<p>EPA Factor</p>	<p><i>Terrestrial Fauna</i></p>
2	<p>EPA policy and guidance - What have you considered and how have you applied them in relation to this factor?</p>	<p>The application of policy and guidance to this factor is discussed in the referral supporting document.</p>
3	<p>Consultation – Outline the outcomes of consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts</p>	<p>A summary of consultation is provided in the Referral Supporting document.</p>

4	Receiving environment – Describe the current condition of the receiving environment in relation to this factor.	Fourteen fauna habitat types have been mapped within the Development Envelope and a literature review has identified 10 mammals, 10 birds, 5 reptiles and one fish of conservation significance that may occur within the Development Envelope (to varying likelihoods). The receiving environment is further described in the Referral Supporting Document.
5	Proposal activities – Describe the proposal activities that have the potential to impact the environment	Clearing of 305 ha of fauna habitat, including conservation significant fauna habitat, is required to develop the Project. Conductors may pose a collision risk to avian fauna. Potential impacts of the Proposal are further described in the Referral Supporting Document
6	Mitigation – Describe the measures proposed to manage and mitigate the potential environmental impacts.	The Project will be designed and constructed to avoid where ever practicable conservation significant fauna habitat, such as creek lines and rocky outcropping, that occurs within the Development Envelope. The disturbance footprint will be minimised by using the existing disturbance areas associated with Fortescue’s rail infrastructure.
7	Impacts – Assess the impacts of the proposal and review the residual impacts against the EPA objective.	Clearing of up to 305 ha is required to construct the Project. Disturbed areas that are not required for the ongoing operation of the facilities will be rehabilitated following construction. The potential impacts of the Proposal are further described in the Referral Supporting Document.
8	Assumptions - Describe any assumptions critical to your assessment e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.	

Part C: Other approvals and regulation

State and Local Government approvals

Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details.

If this proposal has been referred by a decision-making authority, what approval(s) are required from you?

Please identify other approvals required for the proposal:

Proposal activities e.g. clearing, dewatering, mining, processing, dredging	Land tenure/access e.g. Crown land, Mining lease, specify legislation for access if relevant	Type of approval e.g. Native Vegetation Clearing Permit, licence, mining proposal,	Legislation regulating the activity e.g. EP Act 1986 – Part V, RiWI Act 1914, Mining Act 1979
Clearing	Miscellaneous Licenses (Pending)	Mining Proposal, Clearing Permit	Mining Act 1978, EP Act 1986 – Part V
Infrastructure construction and operation	Miscellaneous Licenses (Pending)	Mining Proposal	Mining Act 1978

Commonwealth Government approvals

Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)?

Yes

No

Has the proposed action been referred? If yes, when was it referred and what is the reference number (EPBC No.)?

Yes

No

Date: 30/11/18

EPBC No.: 2018/8349

If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action? If 'yes', check the appropriate box and provide the decision in an attachment.

Yes

No

Decision – controlled action

Decision – not a controlled action

If the proposal is determined to be a controlled action, do you request that this proposal be assessed under the bilateral agreement or as an accredited assessment?

Yes - Bilateral

No

Yes - Accredited

Is approval required from other Commonwealth Government/s for any part of the proposal?

Yes

No

If yes, describe.

Approval:

Attachment 1 – Proposal Description

Summary of the proposal

Proposal Title	Pilbara Transmission Project
Proponent Name	Pilbara Energy Company Pty Ltd
Short Description	The Proposal is to construct and operate a power transmission network, comprising approximately 375 km of transmission line, terminal and substation infrastructure, in the Pilbara bioregion of Western Australia.

Location and proposed extent of physical elements

Element	Location	Proposed Extent
Physical Elements		
Clearing of Native Vegetation	Within a linear corridor in the Shire of Ashburton, Shire of East Pilbara and Town of Port Hedland	Clearing of up to 305 ha of native vegetation within a 4780 ha Development Envelope.
Power transmission infrastructure including poles and wires, terminals and substations.	Within a linear corridor in the Shire of Ashburton, Shire of East Pilbara and Town of Port Hedland	Approximately 375 km in length.