

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

Proposal Title: Irwin Hills Nickel Project Grade Control Drilling

Proposal Location: Shire of Menzies, northern Goldfields region of Western Australia

Case Number: CMS 17988

Date referral received: 20-04-2021 **Date more information received:** 3-06-2021

Referrer: Minara Resources Pty Ltd **Proponent:** Minara Resources Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on Flora and Vegetation from the clearing of 312 ha of native vegetation, Terrestrial Fauna from the clearing of potential habitat, Social Surroundings from clearing and drilling activities.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	0
Assess: a) Referral information	0
b) Environmental review - no public review	0
c) Public environmental review	2
<i>Total submissions:</i>	2

Decision: s. 39A – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act – Dealt with Under Part V Division 2 of the EP Act (Clearing).

Explanation of decision:

The EPA considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposal are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment for the following reasons: no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities or Environmentally Sensitive Areas will be impacted; no Threatened or Priority Flora will be cleared; management and mitigation of potential impacts to fauna habitat via a clearing permit, the remote location of the proposal with the closest sensitive receptors 9.5 km away; the life of the proposal is relatively short estimated at 3.5 years.

The EPA is of the view that the potential impacts of the proposal can be adequately managed through the implementation of the proposal in accordance with the referral documentation and the proponent's management and mitigation measures.

The EPA notes there are other statutory processes relevant to this proposal including the clearing of native vegetation and potential impacts to terrestrial fauna in accordance with a permit required under Part V Division 2 (Clearing) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Professor Mathew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 22 July 2021