

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

Proposal Title: EP371 Laurel Gas Exploration and Appraisal Program

Proposal Location: The EP371 Laurel Gas Exploration and Appraisal Program is located approximately 123 kilometres (km) south east of the town of Derby in the Shire of Derby-west Kimberley.

Case Number: CMS17847

Date referral received: 25-06-2020

Date more information received: 21-07-2020

Referrer: Bennett Resources Pty Ltd

Proponent: Bennett Resources Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

The proposal has the potential to impact Inland Waters through water abstraction and potential contamination from chemicals required for hydraulic fracture stimulation and spillage of flowback water, Flora and Vegetation from the clearing, Terrestrial Fauna from the clearing of habitat and from collision, Terrestrial Environmental Quality from soil contamination, Social Surroundings from construction and operation noise, dust, vibration and traffic and impacts to heritage sites, Human Health from flowback water, Air Quality from release of emissions and Greenhouse Gas from increased emissions.

Preliminary key environmental factors: Inland Waters, Flora and Vegetation, Terrestrial Fauna, Terrestrial Environmental Quality, Human Health, Air Quality, Social Surroundings and Greenhouse Gas.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	67
Assess: a) Referral information	40
b) Environmental review - no public review	12
c) Public environmental review	2576
<i>Total submissions:</i>	2695

Decision: s. 39A – Assess

Level of assessment:

Public Environmental Review

Other details

EPA-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

Public review period for EPA prepared Scoping Document (2 weeks)

Public review period for Environmental Review Document (6 weeks)

Explanation of decision:

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex. Further information and detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and how the environmental issues could be managed. High level of public interest.

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Dr Tom Hatton

CHAIRMAN

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 26 August 2020