

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

Proposal Title: Beatons Creek Fresh Rock Expansion

Proposal Location: East Pilbara

Case Number: CMS18164

Date referral received: 08-03-2022

Date more information received: NA

Referrer: Beatons Creek Gold Pty Ltd

Proponent: Beatons Creek Gold Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impact to Flora and Vegetation from the clearing of no more than 270 hectares (ha) of vegetation; Inland Waters from development and modifications of catchment and below the water table operations; and Terrestrial Environmental Quality from waste rock dumps.

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	1
<i>Total submissions:</i>	1

Decision: s. 38G(1) – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* – No advice given.

Explanation of decision:

The EPA considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposal are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment due to the limited flora and vegetation values in the area and the management and mitigation of potential impacts via a clearing permit. The proximity of the priority 1 (P1) water catchment is noted and the risks of proposal to and Inland Waters and Terrestrial Environmental Quality can be appropriately managed via existing water licences, mining proposal and mine closure planning processes. The activities proposed are not incompatible with a water reserve as per DWER Landuse compatibility for the public drinking water source area. The absence of ore processing and tailings storage on site further reduces potential for indirect impacts to the P1 area.

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 considers that the potential impacts of the proposal can be mitigated by the following statutory decision-making processes:

- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety- Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* – Division 3 – Clearing of Native Vegetation.
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation – *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* – 5C Groundwater Licence.
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety – *Mining Act 1978* – Mining Proposal and Mine Closure Plan.

Appeals:

This decision is appealable. Appeals close 01-08-2022. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Tonts', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Matthew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 6 July 2022