

**Public record pursuant to s. 39 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986***

**Proposal title:** Dampier Seawater Desalination Plant

**Proposal location:** Parker Point, Dampier approximately 17 kilometres (km) north west of Karratha

**CMS number:** APP-0000083

**Date referral received:** 5/10/2022

**Date more information received:** 1/03/2023

**Referrer:** Rio Tinto on behalf of Hamersley Iron Pty Limited

**Proponent:** Hamersley Iron Pty Limited

**Potential significant effects:**

There are potential impacts on: social surroundings from construction on the Dampier Archipelago National Heritage Place (Murujuga) impacting 0.9 ha along existing pipelines, and marine environment quality from the discharge of 13 GL per annum of brine waste into the Dampier Port.

**Preliminary key environmental factors:** marine environmental quality and social surroundings.

**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>	2

**Decision:** s. 38G(1) – Not assess

**Explanation of decision:**

The EPA considers that the likely effect of the proposal which has been referred as a significant proposal is not so significant as to warrant assessment. 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, in particular the:

- Construction Environmental Management Plan
- Operation Environmental Management Plan
- Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

The EPA notes there are other statutory processes relevant to this proposal that can mitigate the potential impacts from the construction and operation of the facility including, but not limited to:

- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation – Part V Division 2 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (Clearing of Native Vegetation)

The proposed clearing of 13.5 ha of vegetation is mostly in poor or degraded condition, no threatened species or communities are present and none of the vegetation is identified as core or critical habitat for listed terrestrial fauna. The proponent is required to obtain a native vegetation clearing permit under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* to undertake the clearing.

- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation - Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (Works Approval and licence).

The proposal will trigger Part V Industry Regulation Section 53 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and the proponent will be required to apply for an amendment to an existing prescribed premises licence to enable assessment and management of brine discharge to the marine environment.

**Appeals:** This decision is appealable. Appeals close 02-05-2023. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.



**Prof. Matthew Tonts**

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

**Date:** 6 April 2023