

Environmental Protection Authority

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

Proposal title: Kemerton Power Station Increased Operations Hours – significant amendment to Kemerton Power Station (Assessment no. 1499)

Proposal location: 22 kilometres northeast of Bunbury in the Shire of Harvey

CMS number: APP-0000545

Date referral received: 13-03-2024

Date more information received: N/A

Referrer: RATCH-Australia Kemerton Pty Ltd

Proponent: RATCH-Australia Kemerton Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on greenhouse gas emissions from the power station.

Preliminary key environmental factors: Greenhouse gas emissions.

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 0

Total submissions: 0

Decision: s. 38G(1) – Assess

Level of assessment:

Referral Information with additional information (required under s. 40(2)(a) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*)

Explanation of decision:

The significant amendment to the approved proposal is over the threshold of greenhouse gas emissions which the EPA usually decides to assess. The EPA considers that the proponent has provided sufficient information in the draft greenhouse gas management plan to undertake the assessment on greenhouse gas emissions based on Referral Information with additional information. The EPA has taken into account other decision-making processes that can mitigate the other potential impacts of the proposal on the environment and decided these other impacts are not so significant to warrant EPA assessment. .

Public Advice:

The EPA acknowledges that there may be local interest regarding potential impacts from emissions associated with the proposal. The EPA notes that the information provided indicates that ground level concentrations of pollutants are predicted to represent a low risk to nearby residences, at less than five percent of the applicable national environmental protection measure for air quality.

The EPA notes that there are no changes to the storage of chemicals proposed, or the construction, commissioning or development of new equipment or infrastructure, and that the significant amendment is solely for the increase to hours of operation of the power station. The EPA advises that the proponent has an existing licence under Part V of the EP Act to manage potential impacts to air quality, inland waters and terrestrial environmental quality to standards that ensure the EPA's objectives for these environmental factors can be met and this licence can be further amended in the future. The EPA advises that the consistency of the proposal emissions with the the Commonwealth Safeguard Mechanism and other emissions reductions instruments (including any which apply to the Wholesale Electricity Market) will be considered during the assessment to ensure any recommended outcomes and conditions avoid unnecessary duplication. .

Appeals: Decision is not appealable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee McIntosh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lee McIntosh
Deputy Chair
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

9 May 2024