

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

**Proposal title:** Rhodes Ridge Iron Ore Project

**Proposal location:** Approximately 40 kilometres north-west of Newman in the Pilbara

**Date referral received:** 24 January 2024    **Date more information received:** N/A

**Referrer:** Rhodes Ridge Management Services Pty Ltd    **Proponent:** Rhodes Ridge Management Services Pty Ltd

**Potential significant effects:**

There are potential impacts on: flora and vegetation from the clearing of 14,850 hectares; terrestrial fauna from the clearing of habitat; subterranean fauna from dewatering of the pit and loss of habitat; terrestrial environment quality due to permanent rearrangement of terrestrial materials; social surroundings from construction, operation, noise, dust and vibration; inland waters from groundwater abstraction (below water table mining), drawdown, surplus water management and potential indirect impacts to Weeli Wolli Creek, Coondiner Creek and Fortescue Marsh; landforms due to impacts on Giles Point and Ophthalmia Range, cave structures and banded iron formations; and greenhouse gas emissions from construction and operation.

**Preliminary key environmental factors:** flora and vegetation, landforms, subterranean fauna, terrestrial environment quality, terrestrial fauna, inland waters, greenhouse gas emissions, 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	9
<i>Total submissions:</i>	9

**Decision:** s. 38G(1) – Assess

**Level of assessment:**

Public Environmental Review, as required under s.40(2)(b) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

**Other details**

EPA-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

Public review period for Environmental Review Document (eight weeks)

**Explanation of decision:**

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex. Detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and whether the EPA environmental factor objectives can be met.

**Appeals:** Decision is not appealable.

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:** 27 February 2024