

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

Proposal title: Ridley Magnetite Project

Proposal location: 57 km east of Port Hedland in the Pilbara region of Western Australia

EO number: APP-0000162

Referrer: Atlas Iron Pty Ltd

Proponent: Atlas Iron Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on: **flora and vegetation** from the clearing of up to 7,406 hectares (ha); **terrestrial fauna** from the clearing of habitat, and fauna strikes; **subterranean fauna** from resource extraction and mine dewatering resulting in loss of habitat; **terrestrial environmental quality** from disturbance of soil structure and potential discharge resulting in changes to quality; **inland waters** from groundwater abstraction and the potential for alteration of hydrological regimes; **air quality** from excavation, crushing, screening and transport of bulk materials, including potential disturbance of asbestiform minerals; **greenhouse gas emissions** and the potential to exceed 100,000 tCO₂-e per annum; **social surroundings** from construction and operation noise, dust emissions and potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage values; **benthic communities and habitats, coastal processes, marine environmental quality, and marine fauna** from construction and changes in quality associated with implementation of the proposal in the marine environment.

Preliminary key environmental factors: benthic communities and habitat, coastal processes, marine environmental quality, marine fauna, flora and vegetation, subterranean fauna, terrestrial environmental quality, terrestrial fauna, inland waters, air quality, 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	2
c) Public environmental review	5
<i>Total submissions:</i>	7

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

Proponent-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

Public review period for Environmental Review Document (6 weeks)

Explanation of decision:

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex due to the scale and timeframe of the project. The factors may be reviewed during assessment due to the limited information provided with the referral. 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 stylized flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Matthew Tonts
CHAIR
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

31 May 2023