

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

Proposal title: Ravensthorpe Lithium Project - Exploration

Proposal location: The proposal is within the Cocanarup Timber Reserve located to the west of the Ravensthorpe townsite.

CMS number: APP-0000250

Date referral received: 09/02/2023

Date more information received: 21/08/2023

Referrer: Conservation Council of WA Inc. **Proponent:** Bulletin Resources Limited

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on: flora and vegetation from the clearing of native vegetation in an environmentally sensitive area; terrestrial fauna from the clearing of habitat and from collision; and social surroundings from ground disturbance.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:

Assess: a) Do not assess	13
b) Referral information	2
c) Environmental review - no public review	4
d) Public environmental review	759

Total submissions: 778

Decision: s. 38G(1) – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act – Dealt with Under Part V Division 2 of the EP Act (Clearing).

Explanation of decision:

The EPA notes that the referral occurs in an area of important biodiversity values, has public interest, and is for a small scale and short term exploration program. The EPA has reviewed the potential impacts and considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposal relate mostly to impacts on flora and vegetation, and terrestrial fauna. The EPA notes that the proponent has reduced its impacts, both temporal and spatial, from its referral through an amendment under section 38C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The EPA advises that the potential impacts of the proposal, as amended, on flora and vegetation, and terrestrial fauna can be adequately considered through a clearing permit under Part V Division 2 (Clearing) of the EP Act.

Public Advice

The EPA advises that the clearing permit process is subject to public review, can apply avoidance and minimisation conditions, and require an offset that meets the principles of the State's Environmental Offsets Policy. The EPA notes that clearing permits are subject to public appeal, similar to an EPA report. The EPA understands that the proposal will be assessed on its merits through the clearing permit process and the assessment would involve determining the variance of the proposal against the clearing principles.

The EPA considers that this advice relates to this referral only as amended; any large scale exploration program or a proposal to mine would need to be referred separately and considered on its own merits.

Appeals: Decision 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

Date: 26 September 2023