
Media Statement

14 October 2019

EPA recommends approval for lithium project in the Shire of Yilgarn

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has recommended Covalent Lithium Pty Ltd's Earl Grey Lithium Project, 105 kilometres southeast of Southern Cross, to go ahead.

EPA Chair Dr Tom Hatton said the EPA found the Earl Grey proposal could be environmentally acceptable, if certain conditions were implemented to avoid and minimise potential impacts.

"This is the second largest lithium mining proposal, along with the Greenbushes mine expansion, the EPA has assessed this year," Dr Hatton said.

"If the proposal is to go ahead, the EPA is recommending the proponent prepares management plans for its impact to the surrounding environment, including habitat for malleefowl and chuditch, as well as develop an offsets strategy for threatened flora and fauna to counterbalance the proposal's significant residual impacts."

Dr Hatton noted that if implemented the proposal would result in the rehabilitation and use of many areas of the abandoned Mt Holland mine site that may otherwise not be readily rehabilitated.

The mine occurs in an area overlapping the abandoned Mt Holland gold mine.

The EPA's report to the Minister for Environment is now open for a two-week public appeal period, closing 28 October 2019. Appeals can be made at www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au.

The Minister for Environment will make the final decision.

EPA Report 1651 is available at [here](#).

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