



Ass # 802

Bull # 718

State # 337

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**WATER CATCHMENT & DAM, MT HAMPTON
60 KMS SOUTH-WEST OF SOUTHERN CROSS (802)**

WATER AUTHORITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

1 Proponent Commitments

The proponent has made a number of environmental management commitments in order to protect the environment.

- 1-1 In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments (which are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement) made in the Consultative Environmental Review and in response to issues raised following public submissions. These commitments are consolidated in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 718 as Appendix 1. (A copy of the commitments is attached.)

2 Implementation

Changes to the proposal which are not substantial may be carried out with the approval of the Minister for the Environment.

- 2-1 Subject to these conditions, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposal shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposal. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

3 Decommissioning

The satisfactory decommissioning of the project, removal of the plant and installations and rehabilitation of the site and its environs is the responsibility of the proponent.

- 3-1 At least six months prior to decommissioning, the proponent shall prepare a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan.

- 3-2 The proponent shall implement the plan required by condition 3-1.

4 Proponent

These conditions legally apply to the nominated proponent.

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4-1 No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister for the Environment has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.

5 Time Limit on Approval

The environmental approval for the proposal is limited.

5-1 If the proponent has not substantially commenced the project within five years of the date of this statement, then the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment shall determine any question as to whether the project has been substantially commenced. Any application to extend the period of five years referred to in this condition shall be made before the expiration of that period, to the Minister for the Environment by way of a request for a change in the condition under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act. (On expiration of the five year period, further consideration of the proposal can only occur following a new referral to the Environmental Protection Authority.)

6 Compliance Auditing

In order to ensure that environmental conditions and commitments are met, an audit system is required.

6-1 The proponent shall prepare periodic "Progress and Compliance Reports", to help verify the environmental performance of this project, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Authority.

Procedure

1 The Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for verifying compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, with the exception of conditions stating that the proponent shall meet the requirements of either the Minister for the Environment or any other government agency.

2 If the Environmental Protection Authority, other government agency or proponent is in dispute concerning compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, that dispute will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

✓
Kevin Minson MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Management Commitments

**WATER CATCHMENT & DAM
MT HAMPTON, 60 KMS SOUTH-WEST OF
SOUTHERN CROSS (802)**

WATER AUTHORITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PROPONENT'S COMMITMENTS

The following commitments are made by the Water Authority with respect to the Mt Hampton project. These commitments take into account the concerns raised in the EPA's summary of submissions.

1 PRECONSTRUCTION

- 1.1 CALM will be notified prior to commencement of construction.
- 1.2 To ensure that declared weeds and dieback are not introduced to the reserve a botanist will be required to inspect the sources of construction materials, particularly gravel and clay. All imported clay and gravel will be obtained from Shire borrow pits that are not located in nature reserves and which have been declared dieback free.

2 DURING CONSTRUCTION

- 2.1 Vegetation clearing will be kept to a minimum. Clearing will be restricted to an area of approximately 1.6 ha (ultimately 2.2 ha (approximately 16.8 % of the existing *Allocasuarina* thicket)) which will allow for the construction and operation of the dam, silt pit and bitumen-lined channel.
- 2.2 Vegetation clearing will be conducted in consultation with CALM. No rare flora has been found during the two field visits, however if rare flora is found during construction then the feasibility of making modifications to the rock catchment and dam design would need to be considered.
- 2.3 The site supervisor will ensure that all activities are undertaken according to CALM dieback hygiene procedures to prevent the introduction of fungal diseases and weeds into the reserve. This will be done to the satisfaction of CALM.
- 2.4 If construction noise levels prove to be a problem on local properties, the Water Authority recognises its obligation to devise corrective action under the noise abatement statutes of Western Australia. This will be to the satisfaction of the EPA.
- 2.5 Local residents will be advised personally by mail or telephone should blasting be required.
- 2.6 The site supervisor will inform construction workers that any archaeological material encountered during ground disturbance must be reported as outlined under Section 15 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, 1972-80. This commitment will be carried out to the satisfaction of the site supervisor and the Department of Aboriginal Sites WA Museum.

- 2.7 The site supervisor will ensure the Aboriginal site at Mt Hampton will not be disturbed by the Water Authority or its contractors during construction.
- 2.8 Dust control measures will be undertaken as required or as directed by the EPA.
- 2.9 To minimise the aesthetic impact of the project, rock drain walls, fences and other materials will be coloured to blend in with the surrounding environment.
- 2.10 Concrete slabs will be used in the construction of the rock drains. No rocks will be used from Mt Hampton. Narrow gaps (600 mm) will be left in the rock drain walls, enabling the movement of frogs through the walls as well as up and down the sides of the rock. These frog passages will be constructed every 20 m along the walls and will be designed in consultation with CALM and the University of WA.
- 2.11 All construction debris, and soil and vegetation which cannot be used in on-site earthworks or for rehabilitation, will be removed and disposed of at the nearest Shire of Yilgarn landfill site. No soil will be deposited within the reserve outside the areas that will be cleared to allow construction activities to occur.
- 2.12 The car park facilities at Mt Hampton will be relocated to the east of the proposed dam in an area already clear of *Allocasuarina* thicket. The public car park will be formalised to prevent uncontrolled vehicle access to the reserve. This will be to the satisfaction of CALM.
- 2.13 The recreational values of Mt Hampton will not be significantly impacted. Only the silt pit and the dam will be fenced and off limits to the public.

3 POST CONSTRUCTION

- 3.1 All disturbed areas not required for the successful and safe operation of the water supply will be rehabilitated with local indigenous species in consultation with CALM and in accordance with CALM Policy Statement No 10 on Rehabilitation of Disturbed land (November 1986). Vegetation will be planted to screen the dam and silt pit from the access road and car park. A landscape architect will be employed to develop a landscape master plan of the construction area to reduce the impact of the project.
- 3.2 Ongoing maintenance of the water supply at Mt Hampton will be carried out by the Water Authority or local community, dependent on the outcome of negotiations between both parties regarding operation of the water supply. This maintenance will also include the removal of any dead trees in the unlikely event that they die to the nearest Shire of Yilgarn landfill site.

- 3.3 A vegetation monitoring programme will be developed in consultation with CALM and submitted to the EPA for their consideration and endorsement. Monitoring and reporting of the findings to CALM and the EPA will be conducted on an annual basis for the first three years with the timing of further monitoring determined following discussions with CALM.
- 3.4 Wherever possible the results of the monitoring programme will be used to reduce the impact of the project on vegetation. In this respect there is the potential to relocate sections of the rock drain and modify the bitumen channel if there is any significant impact on vegetation. Detailed design of the second stage of development could also be modified to suit the findings of the monitoring programme.
- 3.5 Any silt removed from the silt pit will be disposed of at the nearest Shire of Yilgarn landfill site.