

Environmental Protection Authority

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Section 45C

NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONSENT TO AMEND AN APPROVED PROPOSAL AND IMPLEMENTATION CONDITIONS WITHOUT INQUIRY

PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

Hamersley HMS Pty Limited

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES

Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Project

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT and ANY APPROVED CHANGES

Ministerial Statement 854 issued on 1 February 2011.

Ministerial Statement 932 issued on 30 January 2013.

DECISION

Pursuant to s. 45C (1) (c) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Chair acting as delegate for the Minister for Environment, gives approval to the following amendments of the approved proposal and implementation conditions:

- Spatially define and amend the extent of the development envelope, as depicted in Figure 1 of Attachment 1.
- Remove the authorisation of the realignment of 2.5 kilometres of Coondiner Creek.
- Increase the clearing extent from 5,470 to 5,650 hectares (ha) to develop Texas East and Area 4 East ore deposits.
- Contemporise existing conditions to align with the current EPA approach to condition drafting.
- Remove conditions that have been completed.

A proposal content document, figures and an amended Ministerial Statement 854 and 932 are attached.

SUMMARY OF REASONS

- The proposed amendments will result in a decrease in the development envelope by 896 ha and the amalgamation of project areas, thereby providing greater clarity on the limitations and extent of disturbance than previously described in Statements 854 and 932.
- The proposed amendments will remove the authorisation to realign 2.5 km of Coondiner Creek, avoiding impacts to surface water features, local environmental,

social and Aboriginal cultural heritage values. It will however result in a small increase in impacts to 296.5 ha of 'Good' to 'Excellent' condition native vegetation, including priority 3 flora and locally significant vegetation communities. The additional incremental impact to native vegetation is not significant.

- The proposed amendment will result in a minor increase of 0.1 ha of breakaway/cliff habitat which is considered critical habitat for northern quoll and supporting habitat for ghost bat, Pilbara leaf-nosed bat and Pilbara olive python. The impact represents a <1% impact to breakaway/cliff habitat in the local area. The additional incremental impact to threatened fauna habitat is not significant.
- The Pilbara Environmental Offsets Fund (PEOF) is an established framework to counterbalance the significant residual impacts of proposals on biodiversity. Offsets through PEOF will ensure the EPA's environmental factor objectives for flora and vegetation and terrestrial fauna are met. The conditions have been amended to reflect the current offset framework and will counterbalance the significant impacts of the overall amended proposal.
- There are no relevant environmental factors or new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments.
- The proposed amendments to the development envelope will not result in a significant change in the extent or nature of the impacts of the currently approved proposal.
- The amended conditions will not result in a significant detrimental effect on the environment in addition to, or different from, the effect of the proposal's implementation under the existing implementation conditions.
- The effects of the amendments on their own, the effect of the amendments in the context of the existing referred proposal, cumulative impacts, and holistic impacts have been considered.
- The benefit of a contemporised Ministerial Statement is to provide clear contemporary limits and extents when assessing compliance with implementation of the proposal.
- The intent of the conditions set out in Ministerial Statement 854 and 932 as issued in February 2011 and January 2013 have been retained within the amended Ministerial Statement 854 and 932.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.

EFFECT OF THIS NOTICE:

1. The proposal and conditions as amended in accordance with this notice is taken to be able to be implemented under s. 45 of the EP Act.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL:

There are no rights of appeal under the EP Act in respect of this decision.



Mr Darren Walsh
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

01 October 2025

Att. 1 – Ministerial Statement 854 and 932 (as amended)

Att. 2 – Contemporising Ministerial Statement 854 and 932

Att. 3 – Ministerial Statement 854 and 932 – February 2011 and January 2013 –
Deleted and Replaced