

# Form

## Referral of a proposal under s. 38 of the EP Act

PART A: PROPONENT AND REFERRER INFORMATION AND PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION			
<b>Referrer information</b>			
Who is referring this proposal?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proponent <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making authority <input type="checkbox"/> Community member/third party	
Name Rebecca Wright		Signature	
Position	Manager Environmental Planning	Organisation	BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHPIO)
Email	rebecca.wright@bhp.com	Phone	9609 3333
Address	125	St Georges Tce	
	Perth	WA	6000
Date	15 December 2025		
Does the referrer request that the EPA treat any part of the proposal information in the referral as confidential? <i>Provide confidential information in a separate attachment.</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the referrer confirm that they consent to receive correspondence electronically?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Referral declaration for proponent and Authorised representative: I, Rebecca Wright declare that I am authorised to refer this proposal on behalf of BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.  Date: 15 December 2025			
<b>Proponent information</b>			
Name of the proponent/s <i>Include Trading Name if relevant</i>		BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd	
Australian Company Number(s) <input type="checkbox"/>		ABN: 46 008 700 981	
<b>OR</b>			
Australian Business Number(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Pre-referral discussions</b>			
Have you had pre-referral discussions with the EPA (including the EPA Services of DWER)?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No A pre referral meeting was held on the 19 November 2025 between BHP and EPAS and	

<p><i>If so, provide name, date, and overview of discussions.</i></p>	<p>DWER representatives (Gaynor Owen, Amanada Thomas, Jarrod Abrahams, Rory Hunter, Rory Neale, Jarod Abrahams). BHP presented the scope of the Proposal, the key environmental factors, potential impacts, mitigation hierarchy, environmental outcomes and management measures.</p>
<p><b>Proposal information</b></p>	
<p><b>Proposal name</b></p>	<p>Orebody 32 Below Water Table Creek Discharge (OB32 BWT Creek Discharge).</p>
<p><b>What is the proposal? (Include general description in the <a href="#">Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal</a>)</b></p>	<p>The Proposal includes the construction and operation of a creek discharge at Homestead Creek to manage up to 60 ML/d of surplus water from the OB32 Below Water Table mine (OB32 BWT).</p> <p>The Proposal includes the construction of a short offtake pipe from the OB32 BWT surplus water pipeline, and a discharge outlet to Homestead Creek. A series of aeration ponds will be constructed if required, to prevent the persistent formation of calcium carbonate precipitate in Homestead Creek.</p>
<p><b>Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps, and figures in the appropriate format?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>What type of proposal is being referred?</b></p> <p><i>For significant amendment or derived proposal, provide the associated existing Ministerial statement number/s</i></p> <p><i>For a proposal under an assessed planning scheme, provide the scheme number and name</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> significant proposal. <i>Choose which type of significant proposal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> new proposal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (conditions only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal and conditions)</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strategic proposal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> derived proposal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> proposals of a prescribed class</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> proposal under an assessed planning scheme</p>
<p><b>Proposal content:</b> Complete the corresponding template (Proposal Content Document) from the <a href="#">Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal</a> for the type of proposal identified above. The completed form <b>must be</b> submitted with the referral.</p>	

<b>Alternatives</b>	OB32 BWT has approval to discharge surplus water to Ophthalmia Dam. The Proposal provides an alternate surplus water management option to OB32 BWT for when Ophthalmia Dam is nearing capacity, or the surplus water pipeline is undergoing maintenance. Following water sampling and modelling, aeration ponds were included in the Proposal design to manage calcium carbonate precipitation.
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## PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### Environmental factors

What are the likely significant environmental factors for this proposal?	<input type="checkbox"/> Benthic Communities and Habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Processes <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Environmental Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Fauna <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flora and Vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> Landforms <input type="checkbox"/> Subterranean Fauna <input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Environmental Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Fauna <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inland Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Surroundings <input type="checkbox"/> Human Health
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*For each of the environmental factors identified above, complete the following table, or provide the information in a supplementary report*

### Potential environmental impacts – Inland Waters

1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 5.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 5.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 5.4
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Section 5.5
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Section 5.6
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Section 5.6

### Potential environmental impacts – Flora and Vegetation

1	EPA policy and guidance	Section 6.2
2	Receiving environment	Section 6.3
3	Likely environmental impacts	Section 6.4

4	<b>Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes</b>	Section 6.5
5	<b>Assessment and significance of residual impacts</b>	Section 6.6
6	<b>Likely environmental outcomes</b>	Section 6.6
<b>Potential environmental impacts – Social Surroundings</b>		
1	<b>EPA policy and guidance</b>	Section 7.2
2	<b>Receiving environment</b>	Section 7.3
3	<b>Likely environmental impacts</b>	Section 7.4
4	<b>Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes</b>	Section 7.5
5	<b>Assessment and significance of residual impacts</b>	Section 7.6
6	<b>Likely environmental outcomes</b>	Section 7.6
<b>Holistic impact assessment</b>		
BHP has undertaken a holistic impact assessment for the Proposal. Refer to Section 10 of the ERD.		
<b>Cumulative environmental impact assessment</b>		
BHP has undertaken a cumulative impact assessment for the Proposal. Refer to Section 11 of the ERD.		
<b>Consultation</b>		
BHP has undertaken consultation for the Proposal. Refer to Section 3 Stakeholder Engagement and Section 7.3 Traditional Owners, engagement and values of the ERD		
<b>Supporting documents</b>		
Provide a list of the supporting documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OB32 BWT Creek Discharge Derived Proposal Content Document</li> <li>• OB32 BWT Creek Discharge Derived Proposal Environmental Review Document and supporting appendices.</li> </ul>		
Has the referrer provided survey information according to the <a href="#">Instructions and Form: IBSA Data Packages</a> and/or the <a href="#">Instructions and form: IMSA Data Packages</a>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Conclusion</b>		
Do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment? No. BHP has undertaken an assessment of the potential significance of impacts in relation to key environmental factors. Please refer to the attached ERD.		

**PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENTS ONLY**

<b>Type of significant amendment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to the approved proposal <input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to the implementation conditions <input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment to both the proposal and the implementation conditions
<b>Information of the approved proposal</b>	
<b>Combined effects of the approved proposal and significant amendment</b>	
<b>Analysis of existing implementation conditions</b>	
<b>Previous changes to the Proposal and or implementation conditions</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	
<b>Environmental Performance</b>	
<b>Control of implementation of significant amendment</b>	

**PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR A PROPOSAL UNDER AN ASSESSED SCHEME ONLY**

What new environmental issues are raised by the proposal that were not assessed during the assessment of the planning scheme?	
How does the proposal not comply with the assessed scheme and/or the environmental conditions in the assessed planning scheme?	

**PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR DERIVED PROPOSALS ONLY**

Demonstrate how the proposal will meet the environmental outcomes defined through the assessment of the strategic proposal	<p>Refer to the following Sections of the ERD for discussion on how the Proposal meets the environmental outcomes defined through the assessment of BHP's strategic proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 5.6 Inland Waters Validation of impacts and environmental outcomes</li> <li>• Section 6.6 Flora and Vegetation Validation of impacts and environmental outcomes</li> <li>• Section 7.6 Social Surroundings Validation of impacts and environmental outcomes.</li> </ul>
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Provide an analysis of the existing implementation conditions of the related strategic proposal in relation to the derived proposal	<p>Refer to the following Sections of the ERD for discussion of the existing implementation conditions of BHP's strategic proposal in relation to the Proposal</p> <p>Section 5.7 Inland Waters Implementation Conditions</p> <p>Section 6.7 Flora and Vegetation Implementation Conditions</p> <p>Section 7.7 Social Surroundings Implementation Conditions.</p>
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## PART C: OTHER APPROVALS AND REGULATION

### Decision-making authorities and their approvals

Provide a table list of the decision-making authorities, associated legislation or agreement regulating the activity and the specific approval required. (Example table at the end of form)	BHP has considered other statutory decision-making authorities and processes. Refer to Section 2.2 Other approvals and regulation of the ERD.
Provide a summary of the statutory decision-making processes you consider can mitigate the potential impacts of the proposal on the environment. (Note: this should be a summary of the information provided in Part B section 2.4). (Example table at the end of form)	Refer to Section 2.2.2 Other approvals required for the Proposal and Section 7.5.4 Other statutory decision making processes of the Social Surroundings chapter of the ERD.

### Tenure and Local Government approvals

<p>Location of proposal:</p> <p>a) street address, lot number, suburb, and nearest road intersection; or</p> <p>b) if remote, the nearest town and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.</p>	The Proposal is located on Mineral Lease 244SA (ML244SA), approximately 2.5 km north east of Newman.
Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located.	Shire of East Pilbara.
<p>Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented?</p> <p>If yes, please provide details.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	Existing iron ore mining, please refer to the Proposal Content Document.
<p>Does the proponent have the legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal?</p> <p><i>If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.</i></p> <p><i>If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Commonwealth Government approvals	
Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> BHP is preparing a Decision Report for the Proposal in accordance with its EPBC Strategic Program.
Has the proposed action been referred? If yes, when was it referred and what is the reference number (EPBC No.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> Date: _____ EPBC No.: _____
If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action? If 'yes', check the appropriate box and provide the decision in an attachment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – controlled action <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – not a controlled action
If the proposal is determined to be a controlled action, do you request that this proposal be assessed under a Bilateral Agreement or as an accredited assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Bilateral <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Accredited
Is approval required from other Commonwealth Government/s for any part of the proposal? <i>If yes, describe.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> Approval:
Decision-making authority referrals <b>ONLY</b>	
What approval/s, under your authority, are required for this proposal? <i>Please provide details.</i>	

**Example Table:** Other approvals

Decision-making authority	Legislation or Agreement regulating the activity	Approval required (and specify which proposal element the approval is related to)

**Example table:** Other statutory decision-making process which can mitigate potential impacts on the environment

Environmental impact	How is the impact regulated by other decision-making process(es)?	Limit(s) of the decision-making process(es) to regulate the impact eg time limits, excluded operations	Likely environmental outcome of decision-making process(es), and consistency with EPA objective	Conditions, enforcement, and review process required by decision-making process(es)	Stakeholder engagement in decision-making process(es)