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ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOCUMENT APPENDICES

LAKE MACLEOD SOLAR SALT EXPANSION PROJECT

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APPENDIX 1: LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1.1.1 PART IV OF THE *ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986*

Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) makes provisions for the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to undertake Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of significant proposals, strategic proposals and land use planning schemes. The Proposal (Lake MacLeod Expansion Project) was not originally referred to the EPA by Lake MacLeod Pty Ltd (LMPL) as the Proposal was considered unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts which would warrant assessment by the EPA, and the potential impacts were able to be managed under Part V of the EP Act.

On 5 January 2026 LMPL was notified that the Proposal had been referred by a third party and the EPA requested additional information from LMPL to determine whether the Proposal required formal assessment.

The EPA uses environmental principles, factors and associated objectives as the basis for assessing whether a proposal or land use planning scheme's impact on the environment is acceptable. The environmental principles, factors and objectives, therefore, underpin the EIA process.

1.1.2 SECTION 87 OF THE *ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999*

The Proposal was not referred under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water as the Proposal was considered unlikely to have a significant impact on any Matters of National Environmental Significance.

1.2 OTHER APPROVALS AND REGULATION

1.2.1 LAND TENURE

All Proposal aspects lie within the mineral lease ML 245SA, of which LMPL is the tenement holder. The mineral lease has been approved under the *Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967*.

1.2.2 OTHER DECISION MAKING AUTHORITIES, APPROVALS AND REGULATION

Implementation of the Proposal is subject to other approvals in addition to Part IV of the EP Act. Table 1 and Table 2 identifies other approvals and associated legislation that will apply to the Proposal. The relevant decision-making authorities (DMA) have also been identified for each approval or legislation.



1.3 EXISTING APPROVALS FOR LAKE MACLEOD

The existing Lake Macleod Project has a number of current approvals including:

- A State Agreement under *Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967*;
 - Including a 2024 Deed of Covenant;
- Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) (CPS 5310/3);
- A Licence for solar salt manufacturing, bulk material loading or unloading and Class II or III putrescible landfill (L7178/1997/11); and
- Groundwater Licence to abstract up to 3,350,000 kL per annum (GWL56934).



Table 1: 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)
Vegetation clearing	Part V of the EP Act NVCP – required for the clearing of native vegetation if the Proposal is not assessed under Part IV of the EP Act.	No relevant limitations	The NVCP has the ability to apply conditions to avoid and minimise impacts to vegetation, flora and fauna. Offset requirements can also be included in the conditions.	An NVCP has been submitted and will be published for public comment. If the NVCP is approved there will also be an appeal period. The NVCP will include conditions which LMPL will have to comply with.	Public review period
	Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967 – Deed of Covenant (2024) Condition 4 of the Deed of Covenant requires preparation of a Mine Closure Plan (MCP). MCP Required for any mining-related disturbance within tenements (i.e., all works apart from road intersection works)	Not considered suitable to mitigate impacts associated with the loss of vegetation. This is expected to require assessment via a NVCP under Part V of the EP Act to ensure that the EPA's objectives can be met.	A MCP has been developed for the operation which includes auditable closure and rehabilitation outcomes and criteria that ensure that cleared areas are rehabilitated to an acceptable level. In the context of vegetation clearing this will include an auditable outcome that the rehabilitated areas will meet specific closure criteria designed to ensure flora, vegetation and fauna values are reinstated. The implementation of the MCP under the <i>Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967</i> is considered suitable to mitigate rehabilitation and impacts during clearing.	LMPL is required to comply with the MCP.	No public review period. LMPL will be required to engage with the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification (DEED) regarding the MCP.
Introduction and spread of weeds		No relevant limitations	The MCP defines outcomes to ensure that the EPA's Objectives are met for the Proposal. MCP outcomes will be defined and reviewed by DEED with input from other DMAs to ensure that impacts associated with weeds are mitigated to an acceptable level. This will include		



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)
			<p>an auditable outcome to prevent the introduction or spread of any new weed species or populations during construction, operation, or closure.</p> <p>By meeting these outcomes, the MCP will ensure that the EPA's objective for flora and vegetation is met. Therefore, further regulation for the impact of the introduction and spread of weeds is not required to be regulated under Part IV of the EP Act.</p>		
Alteration to the post mining land use		No relevant limitations	<p>The MCP will align with the Factors defined in Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) Environmental Objectives. The DMPE Factor: Rehabilitation and Mine Closure, is relevant to this impact. DMPE's objective for this factor is:</p> <p><i>Mining activities are rehabilitated and closed in a manner to make them physically safe to humans and animals, geo-technically stable, geo-chemically non-polluting/non-contaminating, and capable of sustaining an agreed post-mining land use, and without unacceptable liability to the State.</i></p> <p>By meeting the objective of DMPE's Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Factor, the Proposal will also meet the EPA's objectives that are relevant to this impact. Additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act is therefore unlikely to be required for this potential impact.</p>		



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)
Changes to the stability of the landscape		No relevant limitations	<p>A MCP has been developed for the operation which includes auditable outcomes for flora vegetation and fauna, inland waters, terrestrial environmental quality and rehabilitation and mine closure. These outcomes are defined to ensure that the impacts are mitigated to an acceptable level. In the context of landscape stability this will include an auditable outcome that the landscape will be safe and stable during mining to prevent slumps or collapsed walls which could have environmental impacts.</p> <p>The implementation of the MCP under the <i>Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967</i> is considered suitable to mitigate rehabilitation and impacts during clearing.</p>		
Groundwater seepage from ponds	Part V of the EP Act Licence Amendment – required for solar salt manufacturing.	No relevant limitations	The design and operation of the crystalliser ponds will be assessed under Part V of the EP Act to ensure seepage impacts are minimised and maintained in line with predictions presented in the Environmental Review Document.	<p>A Licence Amendment application has been submitted and was published for public comment.</p> <p>The Licence Amendment will include conditions which LMPL will have to comply with.</p>	Public review period
Dust emissions		No relevant limitations	While not expected to be significant, construction activities have the potential to result in dust emissions. The design of the Proposal will be assessed under Part V of the EP Act to ensure dust emissions are minimised		



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)
			and do not result in significant impacts to any sensitive receptors. In addition to regulation under Part V of the EP Act, dust emissions from all aspects of the site are not expected to be significant. These emissions are unlikely to require additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act in order to meet the objective for this factor.		
Noise emissions		No relevant limitations	While not expected to be significant, the primary sources of noise emissions from the Proposal will during construction and pump stations during operations. Approvals under Part V of the EP Act will ensure noise emissions are minimised and do not result in significant impacts to any sensitive receptors. Noise emissions from other aspects of the site are not expected to be significant and are unlikely to require additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act in order to meet the objective for this factor.		
Disturbance of Aboriginal Heritage Sites	Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AH Act) (WA) Application for a permit under the AH Act. Required for consent to impact any Aboriginal Heritage sites (if not able to be avoided)	The AH Act does not account for disturbance or indirect impacts to areas or artefacts of Aboriginal cultural value.	If required, an application for a permit under Section 18 of the AH Act will assess the significance of the proposed disturbance and determine what mitigation measures are required to obtain consent for any disturbance to an Aboriginal Heritage Site. This consultation and assessment process will meet the EPA's objective for Social Surroundings by protecting registered	LMPL will be required to comply with conditions outlined in the permit.	LMPL are required to consult with the affected Groups prior to submission of the application.



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)
			Aboriginal Heritage sites from significant harm.		



Table 2: Other approvals and regulations

DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
Minister for Environment DMPE	EP Act Part V	NVCP – required for the clearing of native vegetation if the Proposal is not assessed under Part IV of the EP Act	Vegetation clearing	<p>Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p> <p>Terrestrial Fauna EPA's objective: <i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i></p> <p>Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i></p>	<p>Yes, relevant to vegetation clearing components of the Proposal.</p> <p>The NVCP has the ability to apply conditions to avoid and minimise impacts to vegetation, flora and fauna. Offset requirements can also be included in the conditions.</p>
Minister for the Environment Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)		Licence Amendment – required for solar salt manufacturing.	Groundwater seepage from ponds	<p>Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p> <p>Terrestrial Fauna EPA's objective: <i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i></p> <p>Inland Waters EPA's objective: <i>To maintain the hydrological regimes and quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values are protected</i></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The design and operation of the crystalliser ponds will be assessed under Part V of the EP Act to ensure seepage impacts are minimised and maintained in line with predictions presented in the Environmental Review Document.</p>
			Dust emissions	<p>Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and</i></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>While not expected to be significant, construction activities</p>



DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
				<p><i>vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i></p> <p>Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i></p>	<p>have the potential to result in dust emissions. The design of the Proposal will be assessed under Part V of the EP Act to ensure dust emissions are minimised and do not result in significant impacts to any sensitive receptors.</p> <p>In addition to regulation under Part V of the EP Act, dust emissions from all aspects of the site are regulated under the Mining Act (refer below) and are not expected to be significant. These emissions are unlikely to require additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act in order to meet the objective for this factor.</p>
			Noise emissions	<p>Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>While not expected to be significant, the primary sources of noise emissions from the Proposal will during construction and pump stations during operations. Approvals under Part V of the EP Act will ensure noise emissions are minimised and do not result in significant impacts to any sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Noise emissions from other aspects of the site are not expected to be significant and are unlikely to require additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act in order to meet the objective for this factor.</p>
Minister for State Development DEED	<i>Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967 – Deed of Covenant 2024</i>	MCP - Required for any mining-related disturbance within tenements (i.e., all works apart from road intersection works)	Changes to the stability of the landscape	<p>Terrestrial Environmental Quality EPA's objective: <i>To maintain the quality of land and soils so that environmental values are protected</i></p> <p>Inland Waters EPA's objective: <i>To maintain the hydrological regimes and quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values are protected.</i></p> <p>Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity</i></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A MCP has been developed for the operation which includes auditable outcomes for flora vegetation and fauna, inland waters, terrestrial environmental quality and rehabilitation and mine closure. These outcomes are defined to ensure that the impacts are mitigated to an acceptable level. In the context of landscape stability this will include an auditable outcome that the landscape will be safe and stable during mining to prevent slumps or collapsed walls which could have environmental impacts.</p> <p>The implementation of the MCP under the <i>Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967</i> is considered suitable to mitigate rehabilitation and impacts during clearing.</p>



DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
				<p><i>and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p> <p>Terrestrial Fauna</p> <p><i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i></p>	
			Clearing of native vegetation	<p>Flora and Vegetation</p> <p>EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p> <p>Terrestrial Fauna</p> <p><i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i></p>	<p>Partially.</p> <p>A MCP has been developed for the operation which includes auditable closure and rehabilitation outcomes and criteria that ensure that cleared areas are rehabilitated to an acceptable level. In the context of vegetation clearing this will include an auditable outcome that the rehabilitated areas will meet specific closure criteria designed to ensure flora, vegetation and fauna values are reinstated.</p> <p>The implementation of the MCP under the <i>Evaporites (Lake MacLeod) Agreement Act 1967</i> is considered suitable to mitigate rehabilitation and impacts during clearing however it is not considered suitable to mitigate impacts associated with the loss of vegetation. This is expected to require assessment via a NVCP under Part V of the EP Act to ensure that the EPA's objectives can be met.</p>
			Introduction and spread of weeds	<p>Flora and Vegetation</p> <p>EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The MCP defines outcomes to ensure that the EPA's Objectives are met for the Proposal.</p> <p>MCP outcomes will be defined and approved by DEED with input from other DMAs to ensure that impacts associated with weeds are mitigated to an acceptable level. This will include an auditable outcome to prevent the introduction or spread of any new weed species or populations during construction, operation, or closure.</p> <p>By meeting these outcomes, the MCP will ensure that the EPA's objective for flora and vegetation is met. Therefore, further regulation for the impact of the introduction and spread of weeds is not required to be regulated under</p>



DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
					Part IV of the EP Act.
			Alteration to the post mining land use	<p>Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i></p> <p>Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i></p>	<p>Yes. The MCP will align with the Factors defined in DMPE's Environmental. The DMPE Factor: Rehabilitation and Mine Closure, is relevant to this impact. DMPE's objective for this factor is: <i>Mining activities are rehabilitated and closed in a manner to make them physically safe to humans and animals, geo-technically stable, geo-chemically non-polluting/non-contaminating, and capable of sustaining an agreed post-mining land use, and without unacceptable liability to the State.</i></p> <p>By meeting the objective of DMPE's Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Factor, the Proposal will also meet the EPA's objectives that are relevant to this impact. Additional regulation under Part IV of the EP Act is therefore unlikely to be required for this potential impact.</p>
		<p>Mine Safety Management System Required for the construction and operation of the Proposal</p>	N/A – this approval is predominantly related to safety and therefore not expected to regulate impacts to the environment		
Minister for Mines and Petroleum Chief Dangerous Goods (DG) Officer (DMPE)	<i>Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004 (WA)</i>	N/A – a DG Licence is not required as this Proposal does not include storage of dangerous goods (existing facilities will be used)			
Minister for Lands Minister for Planning	<i>Local Government Act 1995 (WA)</i> <i>Planning and</i>	N/A – a Development Application is not required as this Proposal will be approved under the Mining Act			



DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
Chief Executive Officer	<i>Development Act 2006 (WA)</i>				
Chief Executive Officer (DWER) Minister for Water	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (WA)</i> (RIWI Act)	26D licence Required for the construction of a bore to abstract groundwater 5C licence Required for the abstraction of groundwater	N/A – RIWI Act Licences are not required as this Proposal does not additional abstraction of groundwater (existing Licences will be used)		
		Bed and Banks Permit	N/A – not required as this Proposal does not include any diversions or blockages of surface water drainage line systems		
Commissioner for Main Roads WA	<i>Main Roads Act 1930 (WA)</i>	Application to 'Undertake Works within Road Reserve'	N/A – this approval is safety and planning based and therefore not expected to regulate impacts to the environment		
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	AH Act	Application for a permit under the AH Act. Required for consent to impact any Aboriginal Heritage sites (if not able to be avoided)	Disturbance of Aboriginal Heritage Sites	Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i>	Yes. If required, an application for a permit under Section 18 of the AH Act will assess the significance of the proposed disturbance and determine what mitigation measures are required to obtain consent for any disturbance to an Aboriginal Heritage Site. This consultation and assessment process will meet the EPA's objective for Social Surroundings by protecting registered Aboriginal Heritage sites from significant harm.
			Disturbance or indirect impacts to areas or artefacts of Aboriginal	Social Surroundings EPA's objective: <i>To protect social surroundings from significant harm.</i>	No (if avoidance is not possible). If disturbance or indirect impacts within these areas cannot be avoided, then agreements with the Traditional Owners will be required. If impacts are deemed to be significant then assessment and potential regulation under



DMA and department (if relevant)	Legislation or agreement regulating the activity	Approval required and relevant proposal element	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment?		
			Relevant Impact	Relevant Key Environmental Factor and Objective	Can the DMA mitigate impacts and how will the EPA's factor be met?
			cultural value		Part IV of the EP Act may be required.
Minister for the Environment (Commonwealth)	EPBC Act	s.133 Approval – required for the assessment of the Proposal's impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance	Direct impacts to Threatened Fauna (Vehicle Strike)	Terrestrial Fauna EPA's objective: <i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i>	No. While there is likely to be significant overlap in regulation, the EPBC Act is a Commonwealth Act and as such cannot be relied upon to regulate impacts under WA legislation.
			Clearing of potential Threatened Flora or Fauna habitat	Flora and Vegetation EPA's objective: <i>To protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained</i> Terrestrial Fauna EPA's objective: <i>To protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.</i>	



1.4 OBJECT AND PRINCIPLES OF THE EP ACT

The EP Act identifies a series of principles for environmental management (Section 4a, EP Act, as amended). LMPL has considered these principles in relation to the development and implementation of the Proposal. Table 3 outlines how the principles relate to the Proposal.

Table 3: EP Act principles

Principle	How it will be addressed by the Proposal
<p>1. The precautionary principle</p> <p>Where there are threats of serious irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation.</p> <p>In the application of the precautionary principle, decisions should be guided by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. careful evaluation to avoid, where practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment; and b. an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options. 	<p>LMPL has commissioned numerous environmental and heritage studies in order to inform the design of the Proposal.</p> <p>Examples where a precautionary approach has been taken by LMPL include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the expansion lies adjacent to existing operations to contain the extent of cumulative impacts; and • Locating the ponds and flood levee on the unvegetated portion of the lake surface.
<p>2. The principle of intergenerational equity</p> <p>The present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations.</p>	<p>The Proposal will ensure the health of the environmental values, maintaining ecological functions for future generations, whilst minimising any impacts on the environment.</p> <p>The Proposal has been designed to address the EPA's objectives for the key environmental factors, with mitigation measures to reduce residual environmental impacts and offsets proposed for any significant residual impacts.</p> <p>The Proposal can be implemented without unacceptable impacts on the health, diversity or productivity of the environment.</p>
<p>3. The principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity</p> <p>Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integration should be a fundamental consideration.</p>	<p>Survey work has been used to confirm the range and status of environmental values within the vicinity of the Proposal.</p> <p>LMPL will mitigate potential impacts from the Proposal according to the mitigation hierarchy; avoid, minimise and rehabilitate. Where impacts cannot be avoided or reduced to enable Lake MacLeod to achieve its objectives, offsets will be acquired.</p>
<p>4. Principles relating to improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Environmental factors should be included in the valuation of assets and services. 2) The polluter pays principle – those who generate pollution and waste should bear the cost of containment, avoidance or abatement. 3) The users of goods and services should pay prices based on the full life cycle costs of providing goods and services, including the use of natural resources and assets and the ultimate disposal of any waste. 4) Environmental goals, having been established, should be pursued in the most cost-effective way, by establishing incentive structures, 	<p>The Proposal has been designed to increase the production rate (and therefore the financial return) of the Lake MacLeod Project with only minor increases in project footprint and associated impacts. This increases the overall efficiency of the Lake MacLeod Project, improving its viability and ability to address environmental concerns.</p>



Principle	How it will be addressed by the Proposal
including market mechanisms, which benefit and/or minimise costs to develop their own solutions and responses to environmental problems.	
5. The principle of waste minimisation All reasonable and practicable measures should be taken to minimise the generation of waste and its discharge into the environment	Waste will be minimised by adopting the hierarchy of waste controls; avoid, minimise, re-use, recycle and safe disposal.



APPENDIX 2: PROPOSAL CONTENT DOCUMENT



Lake MacLeod Solar Salt Project Expansion

Proposal Content Document

Table 1: General proposal content description

Proposal title	Lake MacLeod Solar Salt Expansion
Proponent name	Lake MacLeod Pty Ltd
Short description	<p>Lake MacLeod Pty Ltd (Lake MacLeod) is planning to expand the existing Lake MacLeod Project. The expansion will involve the construction of additional salt crystalliser ponds and will require clearing of up to 381.7 ha. The annual saturated brine abstraction associated with the proposal will nominally double from recent production levels however will be in line with production levels previously achieved by the operation.</p> <p>Lake MacLeod is also seeking to relocate the existing northern flood levee further to the north. This will protect the newly constructed crystalliser cells from flood events as well as future proofing any further expansions of the crystalliser field that may be required in the years to come.</p>

Table 2: Proposal content elements

Proposal element	Location / description	Maximum extent, capacity or range
Physical elements		
Salt crystallisers, flood levees and borrow pits	Figure 1	Disturbance of up to 381.7 ha within a 653 ha Development Envelope, of which 43.0 is native vegetation (remainder is on the lake surface)
Construction elements		
N/A		
Operational elements		
N/A		
Proposal elements with greenhouse gas emissions		
Construction elements:		
Scope 1	3,900 tCO ₂ -e	
Scope 2	N/A	
Scope 3	Negligible.	

Operation elements:		
Scope 1	9,100 tCO ₂ -e per annum	
Scope 2	2,365 tCO ₂ -e per annum	
Scope 3	18,200 tCO ₂ -e per annum	
Rehabilitation		
<p>Progressive rehabilitation will take place where areas are not required for ongoing operations, such as laydown and stockpiling areas used during construction, exhausted borrow pits or tracks.</p> <p>Above-ground infrastructure will be removed at closure and flood levees and pond embankments breached or removed to reinstate surface water flows and flooding regimes. Some modified landforms may be retained post-closure where compatible with rehabilitation.</p>		
Commissioning		
No specific commissioning activities.		
Decommissioning		
<p>Construction disturbance that is not required for operations to be rehabilitated after construction.</p> <p>Proposal infrastructure to be removed within five years of closure.</p>		
Other elements which affect extent of effects on the environment		
Proposal time*	Maximum project life	64 years
	Construction phase	1 year
	Operations phase	60 years
	Decommissioning phase	5 years

* Proponents should only provide realistic timeframes to avoid unnecessary change to proposal applications at referral (section 38C), assessment (section 43A) or post assessment (section 45C).

753000E

756000E

759000E

7305000N

7305000N

7302000N

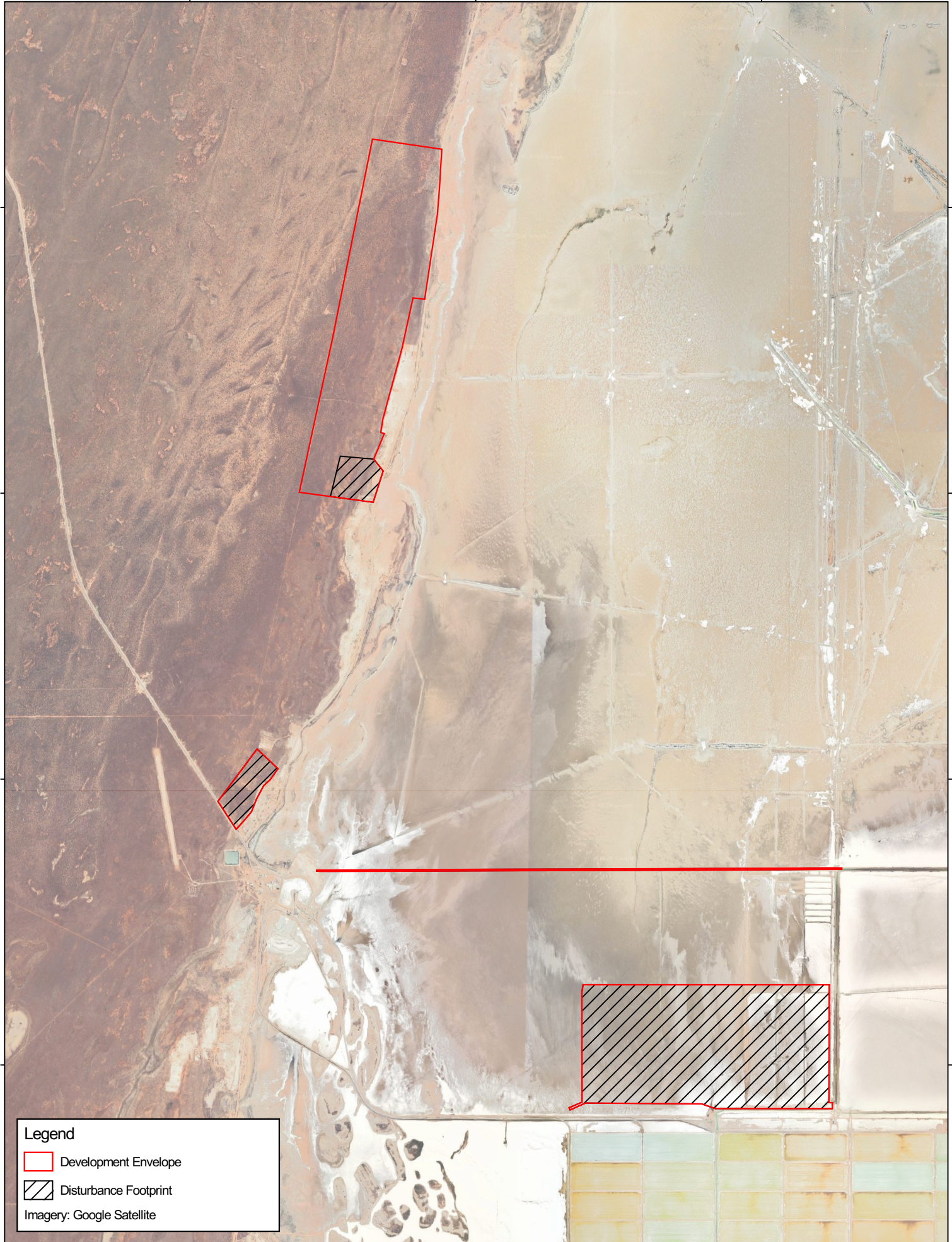
7302000N

7299000N


7299000N

7296000N

7296000N



Legend

 Development Envelope

 Disturbance Footprint

Imagery: Google Satellite

753000E

756000E

759000E

0 0.8 1.6 km

GDA2020 / MGA zone 49

1:50,000



Project: 0659_LMS_018
Date: 20/02/2026
Size: A4
Author: ASmithers



Figure 1: Development Envelope and Disturbance footprint

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APPENDIX 3: OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS OR MATTERS

The Proposal will not require any works within marine environments and therefore the following factors are not relevant to the Proposal:

- Benthic Communities and Habitat;
- Coastal Processes;
- Marine Environmental Quality; and
- Marine Fauna.

Landforms, Air Quality, Subterranean Fauna, Greenhouse Gas and Human Health were identified as having a low likelihood of significant impacts, a summary of these assessments is provided in Table 4.

Table 4: Other Environmental Factors

Environmental Factor	Why this has not be considered for this Proposal
Landforms	The Proposal does not contain any significant landforms and therefore the Landforms factor is not considered relevant to the Proposal.
Subterranean Fauna	No significant excavations or changes to groundwater abstraction are part of the Proposal. Impacts to subterranean fauna habitat are therefore unlikely. Based on the above, the potential impacts resulting from the Proposal are unlikely to have a significant impact on subterranean fauna communities.
Air Quality	During the construction phase there will be large-scale civil earthworks within the disturbance areas. This will require suitable dust control via moisture addition and other surface treatments. Dust will be minimal in the project operation phase due to limited machine movements and wet pond conditions. As a result, this factor is unlikely to be a Key Environmental Factor for the Proposal.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions:	The anticipated worse-case annual steady-state Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from activities subject to the Proposal are estimated at 11,465 tCO ₂ -e per year, based on a combination of electricity use (power generation not part of this Proposal) and diesel use in vehicles and pumps. The GHG emissions intensity for the Proposal is predicted to be reduced due to the greater efficiency provided by the Proposal. There are increasing expectations that projects will recognise the undesirability of GHG emissions and will adopt directions which limit GHG in the short term and identify reductions for future years as targets become tighter and improved technologies arise. LMPL is striving to achieve a net zero-carbon footprint in the future. The most probable path to further reduce Proposal GHG emissions is increased renewables generation. LMPL is investigating options to electrify the fleet on site.
Human Health	The Proposal does not pose any foreseeable risks to Human Health.
Terrestrial Environmental Quality	There are no proposed impacts to Terrestrial Environmental Quality however, some minor unintentional impacts have the potential to occur such as hydrocarbon or chemical spills, or erosion. Apart from when in use, chemicals and hydrocarbons will be stored in existing facilities on site, and these potential impacts are currently managed under industry-standard measures such that they are unlikely to be significant. A field survey was conducted by Galt Environmental (Galt) for the Proposal (Galt Environmental, 2025; Appendix 5.7). The purpose of the survey was



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	<p>to assess material from the proposed crystalliser ponds and stormwater levee development for a range of contaminants of potential concern (COPC) and other analytes. The survey did not identify any exceedances of any of the soil analytes.</p>
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APPENDIX 4: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION REGISTER



Date	Engagement Title	Organisation Name	Details
17/03/2025	DWER Expansion Scoping Meeting	DWER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licence Amendment will be the correct avenue for this approval. The Flood Levee is not considered a pollution control and does not include any other discharge points so would be unlikely to be conditioned within the licence. Potential impacts to flood/storm water as a result of flood levee.
12/05/2025	Lake MacLeod Expansion/Licence Amendment	Quobba Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Briefing No objections and was supportive of the plan.
30/05/2025	Licence Amendment Application Submitted	DWER	The Licence Amendment Application to support construction of the new crystalliser field was submitted to DWER
13/06/2025	Lake MacLeod NTGAC Board Presentation	NTGAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Briefing Opportunities for Indigenous Engagement.
24/07/2025	Licence Amendment Application Validation RFI	DWER	Lake MacLeod received a request for further information (RFI) from DWER regarding the Licence Amendment Application.
21/08/2025	Licence Amendment Application Validation RFI - Lake MacLeod response	DWER	Lake MacLeod provided its response to the RFI received on 24/07/2025
9/09/2025	Licence Amendment Application Validation RFI - Information Sufficient	DWER	DWER provided confirmation to Lake MacLeod that they had sufficient information to progress with assessing the licence amendment application
25/09/2025	Licence Amendment to be advertised for public comment	DWER	DWER advised that the licence amendment application was going to be put out for public comment.
6/11/2025	Meeting with DWER/EPA to Discuss Public Comments on Licence Amendment Application	DWER, EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on public comments DWER confirmed that any member of the public can refer the Proposal A summary of the comments was requested.
6/11/2025	Heritage survey	NTGAC/YMAC	A heritage survey was conducted at Lake MacLeod on proposed ground disturbance areas. The survey ran for a period of 5 days and was a successful survey.
17/11/2025	New NVCP Scoping Meeting	DMPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NVCP application structure Assessment timeframes Potential for applications to be fast tracked based on their level of state significance
19/11/2025	Licence Amendment Application Public Comment RFI	DWER	Lake MacLeod received a request for further information (RFI) from DWER regarding public comments on the Licence Amendment Application.

27/11/2025	NTGAC Meeting - Operation and Project Update	NTGAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on expansion and new crystallisers including recent heritage surveys for borrow material • Discussion on the culturally sensitive northern ponds and the expansion not impacting these due to not being proximate and existing studies/data support • Discussed opportunities for Baiyungu people both during operations and also the expansion (employment, contracting, capacity building etc)
2/12/2025	New NVCP Lodgement	DMPE	Lodgement of NVCP Application
12/12/2025	Licence Amendment Application Public Comment RFI - Lake MacLeod Response	DWER	Lake MacLeod provided its response to the public comment RFI received on 19/11/2025
18/12/2025	Licence Amendment - Status Update	DWER	Public comment response
23/12/2025	Third Party Referral to EPA	DWER, EPA	The EPA received a third party referral of the Lake MacLeod Solar Salt project expansion.
5/01/2026	DWER Public Comment Response Follow Up	DWER	Update on the Licence Amendment requested
7/01/2026	EPA Referral	DWER, EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email to coordinate meeting to discuss the process and timing of third party referral
19/01/2026	Licence Amendment Application Public Comment RFI - Information Sufficient	DWER	Lake MacLeod received notification from DWER that the public comment RFI response information was sufficient for them to continue their assessment
20/01/2026	EPA Referral Request for Further Information	EPA	The EPA sent Lake MacLeod a request for further information to enable them to decide if the proposal requires formal assessment or can be regulated by DWER Part V.
22/01/2026	EPA Referral RFI - Clarification on Content & Structure	EPA	Meeting with EPA to discuss RFI
22/01/2026	NTGAC Meeting - Operation and Project Update	NTGAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on expansion and approval process for the License Amendment • Opportunities at Lake MacLeod including Baiyungu artwork for signage at entrance, welcome to country ceremony at Lake MacLeod, representation on community grant panel, and contracting opportunities
23/01/2026	NTGAC - Lake MacLeod Site Tour	NTGAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General tour of the site including Pump Station 3, crystallisers, wash plant, admin, gypsum mining and Cape Cuvier • Inspected the location of new expansion crystallisers and provided an update on timing and approvals • Drove by the borrow pit location where recent surveys were conducted

APPENDIX 5: RELEVANT TECHNICAL SURVEYS



APPENDIX 5.1: RECONNAISSANCE FLORA & VEGETATION SURVEY/BASIC FAUNA SURVEY (ONSHORE ENVIRONMENTAL, 2025)



APPENDIX 5.2: SHORT-RANGE ENDEMIC (SRE) INVERTEBRATE DESKTOP ASSESSMENT (BENNELONGIA, 2025)



APPENDIX 5.3: AQUATIC ASSESSMENT OF LAKE MACLEOD 2011 (OUTBACK ECOLOGY, 2011)



APPENDIX 5.4: EXTRACT OF PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY (GRM, 2014)



APPENDIX 5.5: LAKE MACLEOD CLOSURE PLAN (LEICHHARDT, 2025)



***CONFIDENTIAL* APPENDIX 5.6: ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WORK AREA CLEARANCE ASSESSMENT (BIG
ISLAND RESEARCH, 2025)**



**APPENDIX 5.7: FACTUAL REPORT ON
ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING OF MATERIALS LAKE
MACLEOD (GALT ENVIRONMENTAL, 2025)**



GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
AH Act	<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i>
DG	Dangerous Goods
DMA	Decision-making authorities
DMPE	Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
GHG	Greenhouse gas
ha	Hectare
km	Kilometre
LMPL	Lake MacLeod Pty Ltd
MDCP	Mine Development and Closure Proposals
Mining Act	<i>Mining Act 1978</i>
NVCP	Native Vegetation Clearing Permit
Proposal	Lake MacLeod Solar Salt Expansion Project
RIWI Act	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i>
t CO ₂ -e	Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent



