



Environmental Protection Authority

EPA REFERRAL
FORM
Proponent

Referral of a Proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority under Section 38(1) of the Environmental Protection Act. Referral by the Proponent

PURPOSE OF THIS FORM

Section 38(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* provides that where a development proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, a proponent may refer the proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for a decision on whether or not it requires assessment under the Act.

A referral to the EPA by a proponent under Section 38(1) must be made on this form. A request for consideration by the EPA of the likely environmental impacts of a proposal will not be treated as a referral until all information requested by this form has been provided.

Before completing this form, proponents are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the EPA's *General Guide for Referral of Proposals to the EPA under section 38(1) of the EP Act 1986* (accessed at the EPA's website at www.epa.wa.gov.au or by contacting the EPA on 6467 5419).

Proponents need to complete Parts A and B of the form by marking the appropriate boxes and providing explanatory or additional information where requested. Part B should be completed based on information known to the proponent. Only those sections of Part B that are pertinent to the proposal need to be completed. If space is insufficient, attach additional pages. Where information is contained in a report that is to be submitted with the referral form, the proponent may complete sections of the form by referring to the pertinent section of the report.

Proponents are encouraged to attach any other environmental information they consider may be relevant to the EPA for making a decision on whether or not to assess the proposal, and, if it is to be assessed, the level of assessment. In general, referrals should contain information on the potential environmental impacts of the proposal, the proposed management mechanisms to be implemented to minimise and mitigate for these impacts, and how the principles of the EP Act have been addressed by the proposal.

In addition to providing a hard copy of referral documentation, proponents are also requested to provide an electronic copy of the referral document, noting that section 39(2) of the EP Act provides for a proponent to request that matters of a confidential nature not be kept on the public record. If confidential matters are included in the referral, proponents are requested to identify the confidential information at this stage of the process, specifically request that it be treated as confidential, and submit the confidential information in a separate hard copy attachment to the referral document. The electronic copy of the referral should be identical to the hard copy of the referral document, excluding any confidential attachment.

You may need to contact government agencies or local authorities to obtain information required by this form. A list of key agencies and their contact details is provided in Attachment 1.

Where the EPA decides that a proposal will be assessed at the level of Public Environmental Review or Environmental Review and Management Programme, it will also require the proponent to prepare an Environmental Scoping Document (refer *Environmental Impact Assessment (Part IV Division 1) Administrative Procedures 2002*).

Proponents should also be aware of the need to determine their obligations under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The EPBC Act is separate legislation to the Environmental Protection Act and it identifies a number of matters of national environmental significance which are subject to assessment and approval by the Commonwealth. The matters identified as triggers for the Commonwealth assessment and approval regime are World Heritage properties, Ramsar wetlands, nationally threatened species and ecological communities, migratory species, Commonwealth marine areas, and nuclear actions (refer to the Department of Environment and Water Resources website at www.environment.gov.au). Questions in this referral form that may be relevant to matters of national environmental significance are marked with a #.

PART A - PROPONENT AND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

1. PROPONENT DETAILS, PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

1.1 Proponent information

- Proposal title
Roy Hill Infrastructure Railway

- Name of the Shire in which the proposal is located
Town of Port Hedland, Shire of East Pilbara and Shire of Ashburton

- Name of proponent (Person or entity proposing to implement the proposal)
Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd (RHI)

- Names of Joint Venture entities (if applicable)
n/a

- Address of proponent

*Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd (RHI)
PO Locked Bag No2
West Perth WA 6872*

- Key contact for the proposal

(Name address and phone/facsimile number and email address. The contact may be a consultant, if one is being used)

*Mr Tim Crossley, Executive General Manager Carbon Steel Materials and Coal
Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd
Tel +61 (8) 9429 8222 Fax +61 (8) 9429 8266
Email : tim_crossley@hancockexplorationhq.com.au*

- Does the proponent own the land on which the proposal is to be established? If not, what other arrangements have been established to access the land?

RHI has negotiated a State Agreement for the railway with the Government of Western Australia. The Railway (Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd) Agreement Bill was introduced to Parliament on 24 June 2010. The State Agreement is expected to be ratified by October 2010. The agreement will provide tenure and approvals to construct and operate the railway and associated facilities.

- Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented?
(please tick) Yes **If yes, please provide details.**
 No

- Is approval required from any Commonwealth or State Government agency or Local Authority for any part of the proposal?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes , complete the table below, naming all Agencies and Local Authorities from which any approval is required and identify the approval required.
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Agency/Authority	Approval required
<i>Environmental Protection Authority</i>	<i>Recommendation to the Minister for Environment to approve the implementation of the RHI Railway under Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
<i>Department of State Development</i>	<i>Tenure arrangements</i>
<i>Department of Indigenous Affairs</i>	<i>Consent to disturb heritage sites under section 18 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i>
<i>Commonwealth Department for the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts</i>	<i>Environmental approval under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
<i>Department of Water</i>	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 for 26D licenses to construct wells, 5C licenses to abstract water, S.17 licenses to disturb watercourse bed and banks</i>
<i>Department of Environment and Conservation</i>	<i>Works Approval and Licensing for various Project elements under Part V of the Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
<i>Main Roads WA</i>	<i>The RHI Railway will cross the Great Northern Highway</i>
<i>Local Government Authorities(LGAs)</i>	<i>Planning Approval and Building permits</i>

- If yes above, have you lodged any of the necessary applications or have you discussed the proposal with any person(s) at the Agency or Local Authority?

Yes No **If yes**, name all Agencies and Local Authorities for which applications have been submitted or with whom the proposal has been discussed.

- *Department of Water and Water Corporation have been consulted regarding water abstraction and water use for the project;*
- *Department of Environment and Conservation, Environmental Management Branch has been consulted regarding various environmental aspects in this referral;*
- *Main Roads WA has been consulted about the project;*
- *The Proponent has had meetings with the Office of the EPA regarding the project and the level of assessment expected;*
- *Department of Mines and Petroleum has been consulted about surface water design;*
- *Port Hedland Port Authority has been consulted to discuss the linkage of the railway to the project stockpile facilities at Port Hedland;*
- *Department of State Development developed the State Agreement and are assisting with the definition of the final railway alignment; and*
- *Native Title and heritage issues have been discussed with representatives of the Kariyarra, Palyku and Nyiyaparli people.*
- *Meetings with LGAs to discuss rail proposal.*

- What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?

Currently the route passes through the following land uses:

- Leasehold Land;
- Aboriginal Reserve;
- Road Reserve;
- Vacant Crown Land;
- Mining and exploration tenements;
- Special railway licence areas.

1.2 Location information

Location information, in accordance with the format and specifications set out below, is required information to accompany a referral. A request for consideration by the EPA of likely environmental impacts without appropriate spatial data is not considered to be a referral and will not be subject to environmental impact assessment until the referral is complete.

- Provide proposal location details in the following two ways:
 - a) Electronic spatial data
 - GIS or CAD on CD, depicting the proposal extent, geo-referenced and conforming to the following parameters:
 - datum: GDA94
 - projection: Geographic (latitude/longitude) or Map Grid of Australia (MGA)
 - format: Arcview shapefile, Arcinfo coverages, Microstation or AutoCAD.

AND

- b) Maps and/or directions
 - Any maps or diagrams of the proposal, together with the following directions:
 - for urban areas: street address, lot number, the suburb and nearest road intersection;
 - for remote localities: the nearest town, together with distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.

Please also attach the following map/plans, clearly showing the location of the development in its regional and local context.

❖ **Locality plan – Broad Scale**

Provide a locality plan (preferably superimposed on an aerial photograph) to identify:

- proposed development site and any associated infrastructure
- main roads
- urban centres
- wetlands and watercourses
- remnant native vegetation
- adjoining land uses (including recreation)
- sensitive marine areas

❖ **Site Plan – Proposal Details**

Provide a site plan to scale and indicate the location of:

- lot boundaries
- road frontages
- extent of the proposed development area
- extent of the proposed buffer area (if applicable)

❖ **Site Plan – Existing Environment**

Provide a site plan to scale (the same scale as above) and indicate the location of:

- lot boundaries
- road frontages
- any information required to be shown from Section 2 of this form
- extent of native vegetation of the site (the extent of overlap between the proposed development area and the area of native vegetation must be highlighted)
- extent of hydrological features on the site (this includes wetlands, watercourses, creek lines, seasonal creeks and artificial drainage lines)
- sensitive marine areas

1.3 Proposal Description *(Please attach extra pages where necessary)*

- Provide a description of the proposal.

The Roy Hill Iron Ore project will require dedicated mine, rail and port infrastructure.

The Roy Hill Iron Ore Mine received approval in two stages. Stage 1 is subject to the conditions stated in Ministerial Statement 824, that was published in December 2009. Stage 2 is subject to the conditions stated in Ministerial Statement 829, that was published in March 2010.

The RHI Railway is approximately 300km long and will be a standard gauge railway used to transport iron ore from the Roy Hill Iron Ore mine to the port infrastructure facilities in Port Hedland.

Port infrastructure includes a rail-car unloading facility, stockpiles and materials handling equipment. The ore will be conveyed from the stockpiles to berths located within South West Creek where a shiploader will load the ore into large bulk carriers for shipment to customers.

This referral is for RHI Railway only. RHI is seeking approval for a 2km wide corridor in which to locate the railway and associated infrastructure, borrow pits and camp areas.

The environmental approvals corridor for the proposed railway starts at the Port Hedland Port Authority tenure boundary at approximate rail chainage (Ch.) 11 and thence across the Great Northern Highway (GNH) in a south easterly direction to lie close to and parallel with The Pilbara Infrastructure Pty Ltd (TPI) Special Railway Licence (SRL) boundary.

The route then follows TPI closely to an approximate Ch. 115 at which point it then deviates in a southerly direction to lie close and parallel to the GNH from Ch. 150 to Ch. 162 on the eastern side of the road reserve. From this point the route heads due south-east to cross both the BHP Billiton (BHPB) and TPI railways via two rail-over-rail overbridges at approximate Ch. 165, and from here it again follows the TPI SRL closely but on the northern side of the SRL to Ch. 240 from which point it deviates in a south-easterly direction until it again meets the TPI SRL at about Ch. 270. From this point the route follows the TPI SRL until a suitable point of crossing in the form of a rail-over-rail overbridge at approximate Ch. 285. From this crossing point the remainder of the route follows the TPI SRL on the southern side until it reaches the TPI loadout loop at Christmas Creek and hence in an east-south-east deviation to the Roy Hill Iron Ore Mine western lease boundary.

The total length of railway from the PHPA tenure boundary to the Roy Hill Iron Ore Mine Lease boundary will be approximately 300km.

(See Figure 1-1 of the Environmental Referral Document).

- What is the proposed ultimate extent (area in hectares) of the activity?

Based on the present design and previous experience it is expected that up to 4,900ha (4,454ha +10% variation allowance) of land will be cleared during the construction of the RHI Railway, borrow pits, camps and associated construction infrastructure.

An area of up to 2,300ha (2,091ha + 5% variation allowance) is proposed to remain cleared during the operations phase, allowing for the railway corridor and maintenance road. The remaining approximately up to 2,600ha of land cleared during construction will be rehabilitated.

- Provide the timeframe in which the activity or development is proposed to occur. (Include start and finish dates where applicable)

Mechanical vegetation clearing and pre-construction camp establishment and land preparation is scheduled to commence during 1 March 2011.

Construction of the railway and associated electrical, communication and maintenance infrastructure is set to commence during 1 June 2011..

The project schedule is targeting late 2013 for the commencement of iron ore exports.

- Provide details of any staging of the proposal.

The Roy Hill Iron Ore project will consist of a mine at Roy Hill, rail transport of ore to Port Hedland and export from the Port:

- *Stage 1 of the mine development at Roy Hill is subject to the conditions in Ministerial Statement 824 published on 23 December 2009.*
- *Stage 2 of the mine development at Roy Hill is subject to the conditions in Ministerial Statement 829 published on 31 March 2010.*
- *A 300km railway (the RHI Railway) will connect the mine to the port infrastructure facilities. The railway is the subject of this referral.*
- *The development of the port infrastructure facilities (i.e. stockpiles, conveyors and wharfs) will be referred to the EPA in July 2010 for assessment, with a recommendation that the project be assessed at the ARI level of assessment.*
- *The dredging of the shipping berths and channel located in South West Creek, Port Hedland Inner Harbour for the Roy Hill Iron Ore project was referred to the EPA in March 2009. Since then the Port Hedland Port Authority has taken the responsibility of obtaining environmental approval for dredging in South West Creek on behalf of RHI, FMG and the NWIOA. Environmental documentation is in preparation and an ARI level of assessment is anticipated.*

- Indicate whether, and in what way, the proposal is related to other proposals in the region.

Existing information from other similar infrastructure developments in the region and nearby to the development (e.g. BHPBIO and TPI railways) has allowed potential environmental impacts to be well understood. Management and mitigation measures which have been used on previous developments in the area and the relative effectiveness of these measures are also well known.

The construction and operation of existing railways from mines in the Pilbara to Port Hedland have demonstrated that environmental impacts are able to be managed effectively. Previous

environmental and engineering studies that supported these existing railways are still relevant to the RHI project.

A review of the existing reports and information for the area has been completed and the gap analysis provided guidance for further biological survey work.

Otherwise the project stands alone and is not related to any other project or proposal in the region.

PART B - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITMENTS

2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Describe the impacts of the proposal on the following elements of the environment, through the questions below:

- (i) flora and vegetation #;
- (ii) fauna #;
- (iii) rivers, creeks, wetlands and estuaries;
- (iv) significant areas and/ or land features;
- (v) coastal zone areas;
- (vi) marine areas and biota;
- (vii) water supply and drainage catchments;
- (viii) pollution;
- (ix) greenhouse gas emissions;
- (x) contamination;
- (xi) social surroundings; and
- (xii) risk.

These features should be shown on the site plan, where appropriate)

For all information, please indicate:

- (a) the source of the information; and
- (b) the currency of the information.

2.1 Flora and Vegetation

- Do you propose to clear any native flora and vegetation as a part of this proposal?

(A proposal to clear native vegetation may require a clearing permit under Part V of the EP Act (*Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*). Please contact the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) for more information.

(please tick)

Yes

If yes, complete the rest of this section

No

If no, go to the next section

- How much vegetation are you proposing to clear (in hectares)?

Up to 4,900ha for construction with a maximum area of 2,300ha to remain cleared for during the operation of the RHI Railway.

- Have you submitted an application to clear native vegetation to the DEC (unless you are exempt from such a requirement)?
- Yes No **If yes**, on what date and to which office was the application submitted of the DEC?

Approval for clearing will be part of the Part IV environmental approval for implementing the RHI Railway.

A NVCP application was lodged in June 2010 for preliminary geotechnical, engineering and water supply investigations.

- Are you aware of any recent flora surveys carried out over the area to be disturbed by this proposal?
- Yes No **If yes**, please attach a copy of any related survey reports and provide the date and name of persons / companies involved in the survey/s. (If no, please do not arrange to have any biological surveys conducted prior to consulting with the DEC.)

Appendix A of the Environmental Referral Document provides a comparative study of the existing information available from other projects in the region and determined that the following studies provide relevant information for the project area.

Company	Purpose	Type of survey	Date of survey
<i>WorleyParsons & RHI</i>	<i>Railway construction pre-feasibility study</i>	<i>Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) constraints and route selection</i>	<i>August 2009</i>
<i>RHI (Animal Plant Mineral - APM)</i>	<i>Railway construction</i>	<i>Desktop, 3 day aerial survey</i>	<i>May 2009</i>
<i>BHPBIO RPG</i>	<i>23km railway diversion (Chichester Ranges)</i>	<i>Assessment on Referral Information (ARI)</i>	<i>October 2007, May 2008</i>
<i>FMG (Biota)</i>	<i>Railway construction</i>	<i>Public Environmental Review (PER) under Part IV of Western Australian Environmental Protection Act, 1986</i>	<i>March – April 2004</i>
<i>Hope Downs</i>	<i>Railway construction</i>	<i>Public Environmental Review (PER) under Part IV of Western Australian Environmental Protection Act, 1986</i>	<i>February 2001</i>

- Has a search of DEC records for known occurrences of rare or priority flora or threatened ecological communities been conducted for the site?
- Yes No If you are proposing to clear native vegetation for any part of your proposal, a search of DEC records of known occurrences of rare or priority flora and threatened ecological communities will be required. Please contact DEC for more information.
- Are there any known occurrences of rare or priority flora or threatened ecological communities on the site?
- Yes No **If yes**, please indicate which species or communities are involved and provide copies of any correspondence with DEC regarding these matters.

The RHI Railway environmental approval corridor is 2km wide and about 300km long.

A search of the DEC threatened flora database showed no Declared Rare Flora (DRF), Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) were identified within the 2km environmental approval corridor. However, the Fortescue Marsh (PEC 17) is, at its closest point, 2.5km from the southern boundary of the 2km environmental approval corridor.

A search of the DEC and Western Australian Herbarium databases revealed 23 species of various priority listing identified as occurring within the 2km environment approval corridor. However, it is unlikely that they will all be encountered within the 200m construction corridor.

During a workshop in November 2009, EPA, DEC and Pilbara experts determined that the potential impact from clearing would be moderate (a localized and limited short term (<2yr) effect) after management controls were applied.

- If located within the Perth Metropolitan Region, is the proposed development within or adjacent to a listed Bush Forever Site? (You will need to contact the Bush Forever Office, at the Department for Planning and Infrastructure)
- Yes No **If yes**, please indicate which Bush Forever site is affected (site number and name of site where appropriate).

The project is not located within the Perth Metropolitan Region.

- What is the condition of the vegetation at the site?

Refer to Section 8.8 Existing Environment – Flora and Vegetation of the Environmental Referral Document for an assessment of the vegetation condition for each land system the RHI Railway intersects.

2.2 Fauna

- Do you expect that any fauna or fauna habitat will be impacted by the proposal?
- (please tick) Yes **If yes, complete the rest of this section**
- No **If no, go to the next section**

- Describe the nature and extent of the expected impact.

A description of the conservation significant species that may be present within the 2km environmental approval corridor, the fauna impacts and management controls are provided in the Environmental Referral Document.

Fauna habitat along the proposed corridor is similar to that in the many hectares in adjacent areas, so it is likely that any species found in the 2km environmental approval corridor will be found in adjacent areas. The impacts of clearing will be localised when placed in a bioregional context.

The Fortescue Marsh will not be directly impacted by the RHI Railway. At its closest point, the RHI Railway is 2.5km from the boundary of the Marsh.

Abstracting groundwater for construction water supplies poses a low risk to subterranean fauna through physical loss of, or alteration to, habitat by lowering the water table. There are few areas within the proposed railway corridor that are suitable to support short rare endemics that are currently of conservation concern.

There is expected to be a low to moderate risk of impacts to fauna, based on the proposed environmental management actions and the limited area of land affected by the rail construction and operation.

- Are you aware of any recent fauna surveys carried out over the area to be disturbed by this proposal?

Yes

No

If yes, please attach a copy of any related survey reports and provide the date and name of persons / companies involved in the survey/s. (If no, please do not arrange to have any biological surveys conducted prior to consulting with the DEC.)

Company	Purpose	Type of survey	Date of survey
<i>WorleyParsons & RHI</i>	<i>Railway construction pre-feasibility study</i>	<i>Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) constraints and route selection</i>	<i>August 2009</i>
<i>RHI (Animal Plant Mineral - APM)</i>	<i>Railway line construction</i>	<i>Desktop, 3 day aerial survey</i>	<i>May 2009</i>
<i>BHPBIO RPG</i>	<i>23km railway diversion (Chichester Ranges)</i>	<i>Assessment on Referral Information (ARI)</i>	<i>April-May 2008</i>
<i>FMG (Biota)</i>	<i>Railway line construction</i>	<i>Public Environmental Review (PER) under Part IV of Western Australian Environmental Protection Act, 1986</i>	<i>March – April 2004</i>
<i>Hope Downs</i>	<i>Railway line construction</i>	<i>Public Environmental Review (PER) under Part IV of Western Australian Environmental Protection Act, 1986</i>	<i>February 2001</i>

- Has a search of DEC records for known occurrences of Specially Protected (Threatened) fauna been conducted for the site?
 Yes No (please tick)

- Are there any known occurrences of Specially Protected (Threatened) fauna on the site? #
 Yes No **If yes**, please indicate which species or communities are involved and provide copies of any correspondence with DEC regarding these matters.

A search of the NatureMap database using a localised rectangular search showed 21 priority species (not including marine species) potentially occur within 15km of the environmental approval corridor. These comprise species of eight birds, nine mammals (including three introduced species) and four reptiles.

The fauna species represent the greatest species richness of terrestrial vertebrate fauna that potentially occur in the 2km environmental approval corridor. Not all species would be present at any one time due to seasonal as well as natural and anthropogenic influences.

Little is documented regarding the vertebrate fauna ecology of the Fortescue Marsh and the associated hinterland. It is known that the marsh supports a large number of migratory wetland birds, particularly when it is full, but little is known of this avian fauna and how important the marsh is for the long-term persistence of species that are either Pilbara residents or visitors to the bioregion.

2.3 Rivers, Creeks, Wetlands and Estuaries

- Will the development occur within 200m of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?
 (please tick) Yes **If yes, complete the rest of this section**
 No **If no, go to the next section**

The RHI Railway crosses four surface water catchments: Port Hedland Area (Abydos Plain), Turner and Yule River Catchments, Chichester Plateau and Fortescue Valley. The route crosses 25 unnamed creeks and the following: Chinnamon Creek; Turner River; Yule River; Edgina Creek; Coonarrie Creek 2; Turner River East; Gillam Creek; Sandy Creek; Christmas Creek; and the Western Shaw River.

All drainage channels in the area are ephemeral. Bridges will be used for major river crossings and culverts will be used for all other drainage lines.

- Will the development result in the clearing of vegetation within the 200m zone?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

Minor clearing of riparian vegetation is required for the construction of the bridges.

- Will the development result in the filling or excavation of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

All major river crossings will have a bridge. All other drainages will have culverts. All excavations will be rehabilitated when construction is complete. No wetlands or estuaries will be filled or excavated.

- Will the development result in the impoundment of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

Will the development result in draining to a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

Are you aware if the proposal will impact on a river, creek, wetland or estuary (or its buffer) within one of the following categories? (please tick)

Conservation Category Wetland	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Environmental Protection (South West Agricultural Zone Wetlands) Policy 1998	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Perth's Bush Forever site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Environmental Protection (Swan & Canning Rivers) Policy 1998	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
The management area as defined in s4(1) of the Swan River Trust Act 1988	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Which is subject to an international agreement, because of the importance of the wetland for waterbirds and waterbird habitats (e.g. Ramsar, JAMBA, CAMBA) #	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure

2.4 **Significant Areas and/ or Land Features**

Is the proposed development located within or adjacent to an existing or proposed National Park or Nature Reserve?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

Are you aware of any Environmentally Sensitive Areas (as declared by the Minister under section 51B of the EP Act) that will be impacted by the proposed development?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

Are you aware of any significant natural land features (e.g. caves, ranges etc) that will be impacted by the proposed development?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

2.5 **Coastal Zone Areas (Coastal Dunes and Beaches)**

Will the development occur within 300m of a coastal area?

(please tick)

Yes

If yes, complete the rest of this section

No

If no, go to the next section

What is the expected setback of the development from the high tide level and from the primary dune?

- Will the development impact on coastal areas with significant landforms including beach ridge plain, cusped headland, coastal dunes or karst?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

- Is the development likely to impact on mangroves?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.6 Marine Areas and Biota

- Is the development likely to impact on an area of sensitive benthic communities, such as seagrasses, coral reefs or mangroves?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

- Is the development likely to impact on marine conservation reserves or areas recommended for reservation (as described in *A Representative Marine Reserve System for Western Australia*, CALM, 1994)?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

- Is the development likely to impact on marine areas used extensively for recreation or for commercial fishing activities?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact, and provide any written advice from relevant agencies (e.g. Fisheries WA).

2.7 Water Supply and Drainage Catchments

- Are you in a proclaimed or proposed groundwater or surface water protection area?
 (You may need to contact the Department of Water (DoW) for more information on the requirements for your location, including the requirement for licences for water abstraction. Also, refer to the DoW website)
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

The RHI Railway passes near but not inside the Turner River Water Reserve area which is gazetted under the Country Areas Water Supply Act (1947).

Discussion with the Department of Water and the Water Corporation has commenced and will continue. Strict management controls will be used to minimise impacts to water quality in this catchment.

- Are you in an existing or proposed Underground Water Supply and Pollution Control area?
 (You may need to contact the DoW for more information on the requirements for your location, including the requirement for licences for water abstraction. Also, refer to the DoW website)
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

- Are you in a Public Drinking Water Supply Area (PDWSA)?
 (You may need to contact the DoW for more information or refer to the DoW website. A proposal to clear vegetation within a PDWSA requires approval from DoW.)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

- Is there sufficient water available for the proposal?

(Please consult with the DoW as to whether approvals are required to source water as you propose. Where necessary, please provide a letter of intent from the DoW)

Yes No (please tick)

Construction water along the RHI Railway will be sourced from existing bores or new bores drilled specifically for construction water supply purposes. Discussions on securing an appropriate water supply for construction and operation of the rail have commenced with the Department of Water. Investigations to identify construction water bores are scheduled to the latter half of 2010.

- Will the proposal require drainage of the land?

Yes No **If yes**, how is the site to be drained and will the drainage be connected to an existing Local Authority or Water Corporation drainage system? Please provide details.

- Is there a water requirement for the construction and/ or operation of this proposal?

(please tick) Yes **If yes, complete the rest of this section**
 No **If no, go to the next section**

- What is the water requirement for the construction and operation of this proposal, in kl/year?

The RHI Railway will require approximately 5GL in total of water during construction, mainly for dust suppression and soil compaction underneath the railway. Water will be required for maintenance works and at the marshalling yard during project operation.

- What is the proposed source of water for the proposal? (e.g. dam, bore, surface water etc.)

Groundwater bores located along the RHI Railway will supply construction and operation water. Other alternatives of water supply will also be investigated.

2.8 Pollution

- Is there likely to be any discharge of pollutants from this development, such as noise, vibration, gaseous emissions, dust, liquid effluent, solid waste or other pollutants?

(please tick) Yes **If yes, complete the rest of this section**
 No **If no, go to the next section**

- Is the proposal a prescribed premise, under the Environmental Protection Regulations? (Refer to the EPA *General Guide for Referral of Proposals to the EPA under section 38(1) of the EP Act 1986* for more information)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of prescribed premise.

Category 35 Asphalt Manufacturing

Category 54 Sewage treatment facilities more than 20m³ and less than 100m³ per day excluding septic tanks

- Will the proposal result in gaseous emissions to air?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

Dust will be created during construction from vegetation clearing, vehicle and machinery movements and earthworks that require moving soil.

Dust will not be created from the contents of the open rail cars during operation because the iron ore product will be fully processed to remove the ultra-fine particles and will be loaded at above the dust extinction moisture level.

Small amounts of greenhouse gas emissions are anticipated from the use of diesel to fuel vehicles and machinery used during construction and for operating trains.

- Have you done any modelling or analysis to demonstrate that air quality standards will be met, including consideration of cumulative impacts from other emission sources?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

The greenhouse gas emissions for the whole of the Roy Hill Iron Ore Project (mine, rail and port) are being quantified as part of the Bankable Feasibility Study. The results of this study are expected at the end of 2010.

- Will the proposal result in liquid effluent discharge?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe the nature, concentrations and receiving environment.

Small quantities of domestic wastewater will be generated from the construction camps. The wastewater will be managed and controlled through packaged wastewater treatment plant at each camp location. Waste management will form part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan and Operations Environmental Management Plan.

- If there is likely to be discharges to a watercourse or marine environment, has any analysis been done to demonstrate that the State Water Quality Management Strategy or other appropriate standards will be able to be met?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

- Will the proposal produce or result in solid wastes?
 Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe the nature, concentrations and disposal location/ method.

Solid waste will be generated during construction and will be stored and disposed of in accordance with an approved Construction Environmental Management Plan. The plan will also address resource use to minimise any unnecessary demand for water, energy, materials or landfill facilities. Operational waste will be managed through the Operations Environmental Management Plan.

- Will the proposal result in significant off-site noise emissions?
 Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

There are no surrounding communities and only a few pastoral homesteads. Vehicle and machinery noise and vibration emissions may have a minor and temporary impact on fauna. Noise sensitive design will be used to minimise the operational impacts.

Noise management will form part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan and Operations Environmental Management Plan. Ongoing communication with Stakeholders form part of the noise management plan.

- Will the development be subject to the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations?
 Yes No **If yes**, has any analysis been carried out to demonstrate that the proposal will comply with the Regulations?
 Please attach the analysis.

- Does the proposal have the potential to generate off-site, air quality impacts, dust, odour or another pollutant that may affect the amenity of residents and other “sensitive premises” such as schools and hospitals (proposals in this category may include intensive agriculture, aquaculture, marinas, mines and quarries etc.)?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe and provide the distance to residences and other “sensitive premises”.

Dust impacts are expected to be minor. Dust will be managed as part of separate occupational health and safety requirements, thus limiting the possibility for major or widespread off-site impacts.

Dust management will form part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan and Operations Environmental Management Plan.

- If the proposal has a residential component or involves “sensitive premises”, is it located near a land use that may discharge a pollutant?
 Yes No Not Applicable **If yes**, please describe and provide the distance to the potential pollution source

2.9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Is this proposal likely to result in substantial greenhouse gas emissions (greater than 100 000 tonnes per annum of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions)?
- Yes No **If yes**, please provide an estimate of the annual gross emissions in absolute and in carbon dioxide equivalent figures.

The greenhouse gas emissions for the mine, rail and port components of the Roy Hill Iron Ore Project are being quantified for the Bankable Feasibility Study.

The quantity of emissions attributable to the RHI Railway project is unknown at this time. However, a management framework to address greenhouse gas emissions and ensure compliance with national reporting requirements has been developed.

- Further, if yes, please describe proposed measures to minimise emissions, and any sink enhancement actions proposed to offset emissions.

2.10 Contamination

- Has the property on which the proposal is to be located been used in the past for activities which may have caused soil or groundwater contamination?
- Yes No Unsure **If yes**, please describe.
- Has any assessment been done for soil or groundwater contamination on the site?
- Yes No **If yes**, please describe.
- Has the site been registered as a contaminated site under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003? (on finalisation of the CS Regulations and proclamation of the CS Act)
- Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

2.11 Social Surroundings

- Is the proposal on a property which contains or is near a site of Aboriginal ethnographic or archaeological significance that may be disturbed?
- Yes No Unsure **If yes**, please describe.

According to the data held on the Register of Aboriginal Sites (maintained by the Department of Indigenous Affairs under Section 38 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972) 24 Aboriginal heritage sites have been identified to date within the proposed 200m wide rail construction corridor.

All heritage sites registered with the Department of Indigenous Affairs will undergo archaeological and anthropological assessment and approval under Section 18 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 prior to any disturbance.

The proposed alignment lies within the Abydos\Woodstock Protected Area with the environmental approval corridor along the western boundary.

- Is the proposal on a property which contains or is near a site of high public interest (for example, a major recreation area or natural scenic feature)?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

- Will the proposal result in or require substantial transport of goods, which may affect the amenity of the local area?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

2.12 Risk

- Is the proposal located near a hazardous industrial plant or high-pressure gas pipeline?
 Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

The route will make a single crossing of the Epic Energy gas pipeline.

- Does the proposal have the potential to generate off-site risk?
 Yes No **If yes**, will the proposal be a major hazardous facility regulated under the *Explosives and Dangerous Goods Act*?

3. MANAGEMENT

3.1 Principles of Environmental Protection

- Have you considered how your project gives attention to the following Principles, as set out in section 4A of the EP Act? (For information on the Principles of Environmental Protection, please see EPA Position Statement No. 7, available on the EPA web.)

1. The precautionary principle.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. The principle of intergenerational equity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
3. The principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Principles relating to improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5. The principle of waste minimisation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

- Is the proposal consistent with the EPA's Position Statements (available on the EPA web)?
 Yes No

3.2 Management Commitments

- How has the proposal been developed to avoid, minimise and manage potential impacts? Please describe any specific commitments you make as the proponent to minimising the potential environmental impacts of this development.

RHI will oversee the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) for the project. The EMS will be consistent with the principles of ISO 14001, including provisions for monitoring and continuous improvement of environmental performance. The EMS forms a component of the broader project management system that addresses the occupational health and safety and community and heritage aspects of the rail project.

Section 9 of the Environmental Referral Document describes the predicted impacts from the RHI Railway to the existing environment. A series of environmental management frameworks have been prepared. The intention is to use these frameworks to develop the detailed construction and operation plans and procedures. Section 9 of the Environmental referral Document describes a series of strategies that will be implemented by RHI to minimise potential environmental impacts during design, construction and operation of the RHI Railway.

The Environmental Referral Document also contains draft management plans for the three key environmental aspects:

- Mulga, flora and other communities management plan;*
- Fauna management plan; and*
- Surface water management plan.*

Contractors will also be required to develop their own EMPs to address the requirements in the project EMS and environmental aspects that relate to their specific activities.

3.3 Consultation

- Has public consultation taken place (such as with other government agencies, community groups or neighbours), or is it intended that consultation shall take place?
- Yes No **If yes**, please list those consulted and attach comments or summarise response on a separate sheet.

RHI has commenced a consultation program with key stakeholders with an interest in the environmental aspects of the RHI Railway. Section 6 of the Environmental referral Document summarises the key consultation events to date.

RHI will maintain a register of all consultation with stakeholders and concerns raised by them. This register will form part of the Monthly Report to the Project Manager and the RHI Board.

The project schedule is targeting late 2013 for the commencement of iron ore export, giving ample opportunity to work with key stakeholders to address their concerns.

CHECKLIST AND DECLARATION

Before you submit this form, have you:	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Completed all the questions on this form?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you attached any extra information, such as:		
Site plans?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Detailed explanations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments obtained during consultation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you included any electronic information, such as:		
A CD of the referral and documentation, in PDF format, excluding any confidential information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A CD of the spatial data?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other relevant information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Following a review of the information presented in this form, please consider the following question. (Your response is Optional)

DO YOU CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL REQUIRES FORMAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT?
(Information on the levels of environmental impact assessment is available on the EPA website at www.epa.wa.gov.au)

YES NO NOT SURE

IF YES, WHAT LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT?

ASSESSMENT ON REFERRAL INFORMATION

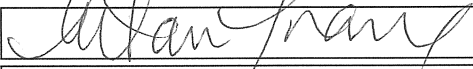
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STATEMENT

PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I, ...Ailan Tran..... (full name) declare that I have completed all of the questions in this form and attached the requested information and declare that the information contained in this form is, to my knowledge, true and not misleading.

Signature	
Name	Ailan Tran
Position	Environment Manager
Date	9 July 2010

Environmental Protection Authority

Level 8, The Atrium
168 St Georges Tce
PERTH WA 6000

Please mail completed referrals to:

Postal address:
Locked Bag 33
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850
Website: www.epa.wa.gov.au

EPA Service Unit

Level 8, The Atrium
168 St Georges Tce
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 6467 5000
Facsimile : (08) 6467 5562
Website: www.dec.wa.gov.au

Contact details for the head offices of the primary agencies involved in development proposals follow. You may need to contact your relevant district or regional office (details of all State Government agencies are available on the website of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, www.dpc.wa.gov.au). You will also need to contact your Local Government Authority in the first instance. For some proposals, consultation with or referral to Commonwealth agencies may be required.

Department of Environment and Conservation

The Atrium
168 St Georges Tce
Perth WA 6000

For Licensing and Clearing Permits under Part V -

Telephone: (08) 6467 5000
Website: www.dec.wa.gov.au

Department of Water

The Atrium
168 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 6364 7600
Website: www.water.wa.gov.au

Department of Industry & Resources

Mineral House
100 Plain St
East Perth WA 6004

Telephone: (08) 9327 5555
Website: www.doir.wa.gov.au

Department of Fisheries

3rd floor, SGIO Atrium
168 St George's Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9482 7333
Website: www.wa.gov.au/westfish

Department for Planning and Infrastructure (including Bush Forever Office)

Albert Facey House
469 Wellington Street
Perth WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9264 7777
Telephone: 1800 626 477 (Bush Forever Office)
Website: www.planning.wa.gov.au

Department of Indigenous Affairs

Level 1, 197 St George's Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9235 8000
Website: www.dia.wa.gov.au

Health Department of Western Australia

189 Royal St
EAST PERTH WA 6004

Telephone: (08) 9222 4222
Website

Attachments

Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd, Roy Hill Infrastructure Railway Environmental Referral Document

Volume 1 Environmental Referral Document

Volume 2 Technical Appendices