

# Form

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

PART A: PROPONENT AND REFERRER INFORMATION AND PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION			
<b>Referrer information</b>			
<b>Who is referring this proposal?</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proponent <input type="checkbox"/> Decision-making authority <input type="checkbox"/> Community member/third party	
<b>Name (print)</b> Jaco Hugo <i>Name of the person or organisation referring</i>		<b>Signature</b>	
Position	Program Director	Organisation	Rio Tinto Winu Pty Limited
Email	<a href="mailto:Jaco.Hugo@riotinto.com">Jaco.Hugo@riotinto.com</a> Please cc into all correspondence: <a href="mailto:Glen.Doherty@riotinto.com">Glen.Doherty@riotinto.com</a>	Phone	+61 409 680 150
Address	Level 18, Central Park	152 -158 St Georges Terrace	
	Perth	WA	6000
Date	17 November 2023		
Does the referrer request that the EPA treat any part of the proposal information in the referral as confidential? <i>Provide confidential information in a separate attachment.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the referrer confirm that they consent to receive correspondence electronically?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Referral declaration for proponent and Authorised representative: I, ...Jaco Hugo..... declare that I am authorised to refer this proposal on behalf of Rio Tinto Winu Pty Limited and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.			
Date: 17.11.2023			
<b>Proponent information</b>			
<b>Name of the proponent/s</b> <i>Include Trading Name if relevant</i>		Rio Tinto Winu Pty Ltd	
Australian Company Number(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	128 066 777	
<b>OR</b>			
Australian Business Number(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Pre-referral discussions	
<p><b>Have you had pre-referral discussions with the EPA (including the EPA Services of DWER)?</b></p> <p><i>If so, provide name, date, and overview of discussions.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>5 October 2023</p> <p>Tracey Hassell, Elle Purdue, Lisa Coe, Gary Humphreys</p> <p>Pre-referral meeting held to brief EPA Services on the proposal, referral strategy and works completed to date.</p>
Proposal information	
<p><b>Proposal name</b></p>	<p>Winu Project</p>
<p><b>What is the proposal? (Include general description in the <a href="#">Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal</a>)</b></p>	<p>The Winu Project (the Proposal) is a copper-gold mine located approximately 300 km south of Broome and 320 km east of Port Hedland in the northern Pilbara region of Western Australia within both the Nyangumarta people's and the Martu people's Native Title Determination Areas (Figure 1-1).</p> <p>The Proposal includes, but is not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An open pit that extends below the watertable</li> <li>• Mineral waste management (Waste rock landforms [WRL] and Tailings Storage Facility [TSF])</li> <li>• Material stockpiles (ore and topsoil)</li> <li>• Groundwater abstraction for water supply and pit dewatering</li> <li>• Ore processing facilities (crushing, reclaiming, grinding, flotation, concentrate dewatering and handling, gold extraction, tailings thickening etc)</li> <li>• Water supply (mine dewatering, regional borefields, on-site dams)</li> <li>• Water management infrastructure (bores, pumps, pipelines, diversion channels, ponds/dams)</li> <li>• Surplus water management (controlled discharge of excess water to designated infiltration areas)</li> <li>• Support facilities (accommodation camp, power supply [including LNG-fired thermal generation, wind turbines, solar panels, and battery</li> </ul>

	<p>storage], aerodrome facilities including an airstrip, warehouse-workshops, explosives storage, laydown areas, hydrocarbon storage, offices, waste-water treatment plant(s), drill core processing and storage facilities, information and communications technology, laboratories, site roads, waste management, and site fire, emergency, medical facilities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linear infrastructure (heavy vehicle and light vehicle access roads, upgrades to existing access roads, pipelines, powerlines, fibre-optic cable, communications distribution networks)</li> </ul> <p>Concentrate will be transported by truck via the access road and Great Northern Highway to port by a third party for export. Doré (unrefined gold bar) is expected to be transported via the regular air charter.</p> <p>The Proposal is located within a 37,344 ha Development Envelope and will require the clearing of up to 4,868 ha of new native vegetation.</p>
<p><b>Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps, and figures in the appropriate format?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>What type of proposal is being referred?</b></p> <p><i>For significant amendment or derived proposal, provide the associated existing Ministerial statement number/s</i></p> <p><i>For a proposal under an assessed planning scheme, provide the scheme number and name</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant proposal. <i>Choose which type of significant proposal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> new proposal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (conditions only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> significant amendment (proposal and conditions)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> strategic proposal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> derived proposal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> proposals of a prescribed class</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> proposal under an assessed planning scheme</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proposal content:</b> Complete the corresponding template (Proposal Content Document) from the <a href="#">Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal</a> for the type of proposal identified above. The completed form <b>must be</b> submitted with the referral.</p>	

<p><b>Alternatives</b></p>	<p>The location of the economic mineral deposit defines the location of the Proposal. No alternative copper-gold deposits have been identified as suitable for the development. However, the Proposal design and scope have been optimised to minimise environmental and social impacts through various considerations such as design, layout and mitigation strategies. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-designing the Road Access Corridor (RAC) to avoid rocky outcrops that are known and potential Black-footed Rock Wallaby/Moororong habitats</li> <li>• Locating infrastructure within the Development Envelope to minimise impacts on environmental and cultural values</li> <li>• Relocating the location of the accommodation camp to avoid cultural heritage sites and undertaking a co-design process with the Nyangumarta people to incorporate culturally important tree strands</li> <li>• Locating the TSF to avoid known heritage sites</li> <li>• The use of infiltration areas to manage occasional surplus water following a review and rejection of the option to re-inject surplus water into the aquifer</li> </ul>
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## PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### Environmental factors

What are the likely significant environmental factors for this proposal?

- Benthic Communities and Habitat
- Coastal Processes
- Marine Environmental Quality
- Marine Fauna
- Flora and Vegetation
- Landforms
- Subterranean Fauna
- Terrestrial Environmental Quality
- Terrestrial Fauna
- Inland Waters
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Surroundings <input type="checkbox"/> Human Health
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For *each* of the environmental factors identified above, complete the following table, or provide the information in a supplementary report

**Potential environmental impacts – for each environmental factor**

1	<b>EPA policy and guidance</b>	Please refer to the Referral Supporting Document (C0007-0750-U-REP-00001) for the potential environmental impacts for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Surroundings (Section 7)</li> <li>• Inland Waters (Section 8)</li> <li>• Flora and Vegetation (Section 9)</li> <li>• Terrestrial Fauna (Section 10)</li> <li>• Terrestrial Environmental Quality (Section 11)</li> <li>• Landforms (Section 12.1)</li> <li>• Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Section 12.2)</li> <li>• Subterranean Fauna (Section 12.3).</li> </ul>
2	<b>Receiving environment</b>	
3	<b>Likely environmental impacts</b>	
4	<b>Application of the mitigation hierarchy</b>	
5	<b>Assessment and significance of residual impacts</b>	
6	<b>Likely environmental outcomes</b>	

**Holistic impact assessment**

Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

**Cumulative environmental impact assessment**

Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

**Consultation**

Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

**Supporting documents**

The following documents are included as appendices to the referral supporting document and this referral form:

- Proposal Content Document (Attachment 1)
- Referral Supporting Document (Attachment 2)

Has the referrer provided survey information according to the <a href="#">Instructions and Form: IBSA Data Packages</a> and/or the <a href="#">Instructions and form: IMSA Data Packages</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**Conclusion**

Do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment?

The Proposal has the potential to have a significant impact on the environment with respect to the EPA’s environmental factors listed above. The Proposal elements that may have an environmental effect are described in the Proposal Content Document (Attachment 1), with further detail provided in the Referral Supporting Document (Attachment 2).

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

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

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

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

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

Demonstrate how the proposal will meet the environmental outcomes defined through the assessment of the strategic proposal	
Provide an analysis of the existing implementation conditions of the related strategic proposal in relation to the derived proposal	

## PART C: OTHER APPROVALS AND REGULATION

### Decision-making authorities and their approvals

Provide a table list of the decision-making authorities, associated legislation or agreement regulating the activity and the specific approval required. (Example table at the end of form)

Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

Provide a summary of the statutory decision-making processes you consider can mitigate the potential impacts of the proposal on the environment. (Note: this should be a summary of the information provided in Part B section 2.4)

Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

### Tenure and Local Government approvals

Location of proposal:  
 a) street address, lot number, suburb, and nearest road intersection; or  
 b) if remote, the nearest town and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site

The Winu Project is located approximately 300 km south of Broome in the northern Pilbara region of Western Australia. The location of the Winu Project is shown in Figure 1-1 of the Referral Supporting Document.

Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located

Shire of East Pilbara  
 Shire of Broome

Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented?  
 If yes, please provide details

Yes  
 No

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

The proposed Mining Lease is located on Unallocated Crown Land while various Miscellaneous Licences are located on a combination of Unallocated Crown Land, Pastoral Lease, General Leases and Reserves.

Does the proponent have the legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal?  
*If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.*  
*If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?*

Yes  
 No  
 There are a number of granted and pending Miscellaneous Licences required to support the Project. An application to convert a portion of granted Exploration Licences E45/4833 and E45/5118 to Mining Lease (M45/1288) has been made.

### Commonwealth Government approvals

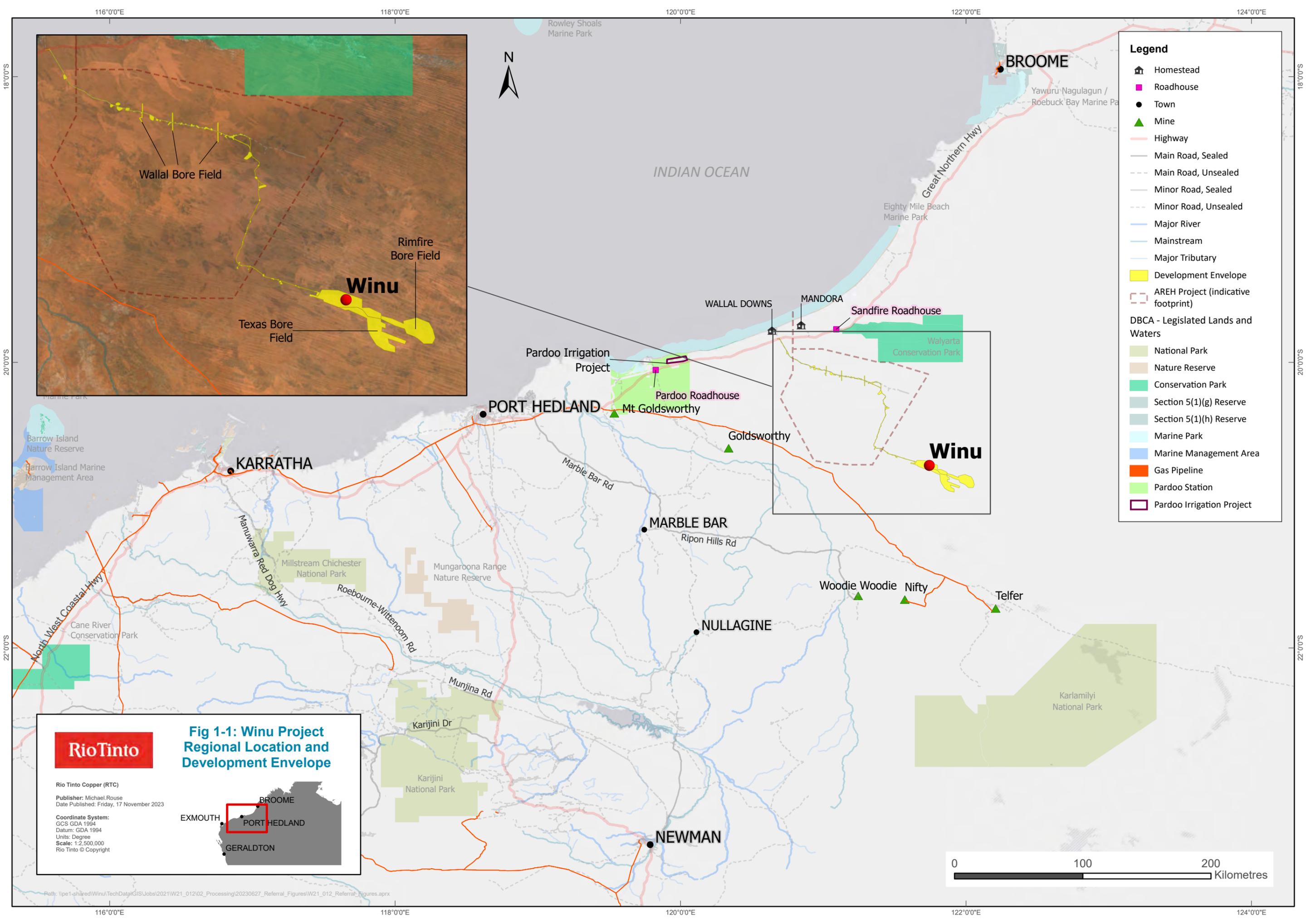
Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and*

Yes  No

<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	
Has the proposed action been referred? If yes, when was it referred and what is the reference number (EPBC No.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: ____ EPBC No.: ____
If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action? If 'yes', check the appropriate box and provide the decision in an attachment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – controlled action <input type="checkbox"/> Decision – not a controlled action
If the proposal is determined to be a controlled action, do you request that this proposal be assessed under a Bilateral Agreement or as an accredited assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Bilateral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Accredited
Is approval required from other Commonwealth Government/s for any part of the proposal? <i>If yes, describe</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Approval:
<b>Decision-making authority referrals <u>ONLY</u></b>	
What approval/s, under your authority, are required for this proposal? <i>Please provide details</i>	Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document for details.

**Example Table:** Other approvals

Decision-making authority	Legislation or Agreement regulating the activity	Approval required (and specify which proposal element the approval is related to)	Whether and how statutory decision-making process can mitigate impacts on the environment? (Yes/No and summary of reasons. Include a separate line item for each relevant impact, and discuss how the EPA's factor objective will be met)
Please refer to the accompanying Referral Supporting Document – Table 4-1 for details.			



**Legend**

- Homestead
- Roadhouse
- Town
- Mine
- Highway
- Main Road, Sealed
- Main Road, Unsealed
- Minor Road, Sealed
- Minor Road, Unsealed
- Major River
- Mainstream
- Major Tributary
- Development Envelope
- AREH Project (indicative footprint)

**DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters**

- National Park
- Nature Reserve
- Conservation Park
- Section 5(1)(g) Reserve
- Section 5(1)(h) Reserve
- Marine Park
- Marine Management Area
- Gas Pipeline
- Pardoo Station
- Pardoo Irrigation Project

**RioTinto**

**Fig 1-1: Winu Project Regional Location and Development Envelope**

Rio Tinto Copper (RTC)  
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Coordinate System:  
 GCS GDA 1994  
 Datum: GDA 1994  
 Units: Degree  
 Scale: 1:2,500,000  
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