

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Section 43A

**NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONSENT TO AMEND A REFERRED PROPOSAL
DURING ASSESSMENT**

PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

(a) Alcoa of Australia Limited (ABN: 93 004 879 298)
576 Marmion Street
BOORAGOON WA 6154

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:

Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Revised Proposal
Assessment No. 2253

DECISION

Pursuant to s. 43A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) gives approval to the assessment of the proposal being completed in respect of the proposal as amended in accordance with the proponent's request:

- Modification to the Myara North Development Envelope (DE) resulting in a net reduction of 7,300 hectares (ha) (see Figure 2). The resulting Myara North DE would total 15,403 ha within an overall 34,103 ha Mine Development Envelope. The reduction is composed of:
 - Net 3,701 ha reduction to the Mine Region. The amended Mine Region totals 13,748 ha.
 - Net 3,599 ha reduction to the Infrastructure Corridor. The amended Infrastructure Corridor totals 1,655 ha.
- Alter the Holyoake DE by moving a 519 ha extent of the Holyoake Infrastructure Corridor from the west of the Holyoake Mine Region to the east of the Holyoake Mine Region. The Holyoake Infrastructure Corridor will be split into two areas flanking the east and west of the Holyoake Mine Region (see Figures 1 and 3). No change to the total proposed extent of the Holyoake Infrastructure Corridor or to the Holyoake Mine Region. The Holyoake DE remains as 18,700 ha.
- Reduce proposed disturbance within the overall Mine Development Envelope by 950 ha to total 8,323 ha.
- Removal of the supply of 2.5 Mtpa of bauxite for export from the proposal scope.

The amended proposal content document and figures are attached.

SUMMARY OF REASONS

- The reduction to the proposed disturbance and net reduction to the development envelope will decrease/avoid impacts to flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, inland waters and social surroundings.
- There are no new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments, and no additional EPA functions need to be performed to assess the amended proposal.
- The environmental review document to be released for public comment will be based on the proposal as amended by this decision.
- The amendment would not, if the proposal were already approved, be a significant amendment. In considering this, the effects of the amendment on its own, the effect of the amendment in the context of the existing referred proposal, cumulative and holistic impacts have been considered.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.

EFFECT OF THIS NOTICE:

1. The assessment of the proposal is to be completed in respect of the proposal as amended in accordance with the decision set out in this notice.
2. The proposal as amended in accordance with this notice is taken to have been referred to the EPA under s. 38 of the EP Act.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL:

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



Prof. Matthew Tonts
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

27 November 2023

Attachment 1- Amended proposal content document and figures showing the new approved proposal to be assessed

Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Revised Proposal

Proposal Content Document

Table 1: General proposal content description

Proposal title	Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Revised Proposal
Proponent name	Alcoa of Australia Limited
Short description	Alcoa of Australia Limited is proposing to increase production at the Pinjarra Alumina Refinery (Refinery) by 5 per cent from 5.0 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) to 5.25 Mtpa and transition the Huntly Bauxite mine to the proposed Myara North and Holyoake mine regions (the Proposal). The Proposal is located in the Peel region of Western Australia (WA), approximately 100 km south-east of Perth.

Table 2: Proposal content elements

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment	Combined extent
Physical elements					
Refinery development envelope	Figure 1	3241 ha	Disturbance of no more than 1695 ha ¹ within the 3241 ha development envelope	No change	Disturbance of no more than 1695 ha ¹ within the 3241 ha development envelope
Mine development envelope	Figure 2 and Figure 3	Clearing is exempt under section 6 of the EP Act. ²	Clearing of no more than 9,273 ha ³ within the 41,403 ha ³ development envelope	Reduction of 7,300 ha from the Mine Development Envelope. Reduction of 950 ha from the disturbance footprint.	Clearing of no more than 8,323 ha ³ within the 34,103 ha ³ development envelope

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment	Combined extent
Operational elements					
Alumina production	Figure 1	5 Mtpa	5.25 Mtpa (0.25 Mtpa increase)	No change	5.25 Mtpa
Bauxite export	n/a	n/a	2.5 Mtpa	All Bauxite to be processed in WA, with none exported	0 Mtpa
Bauxite residue	Figure 1	10 Mtpa	10.8 Mtpa (0.8 Mtpa increase)	No change	10.8 Mtpa
Refinery outputs (atmospheric emissions)					
Particulates (from stacks)	n/a	140 tpa	150 tpa (10 tpa increase)	No change	150 tpa
NOx	n/a	860 tpa	900 tpa (40 tpa increase)	No change	900 tpa
CO	n/a	900 tpa	950 tpa (50 tpa increase)	No change	950 tpa
VOCs	n/a	162 tpa	162 tpa	No change	162 tpa
Proposal elements with greenhouse gas emissions					
Operation elements:					
Refinery (to 2045)	Scope 1 & 2	2,581,700 tpa	2,581,700 tpa	No change	2,581,700 tpa
Clearing, Mining and Infrastructure (13 yrs LoM)	Scope 1 & 2	n/a	<5% of Refinery Scope 1 & 2 emissions	No change	<5% of Refinery Scope 1 & 2 emissions
Combined	Scope 3	n/a	55,089,286 tpa	No change	55,089,286 tpa

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment	Combined extent
Rehabilitation					
<p>All clearing within the Mine Development Envelope will be rehabilitated to Alcoa's objective of establishing a 'self-sustaining jarrah forest ecosystem, planned to enhance or maintain water, timber, recreation, conservation, and other nominated forest values' in accordance with an approved Huntly Mine Closure Plan and completion criteria.</p> <p>All disturbance within the Refinery Development Envelope will be rehabilitated to an agreed post closure land use in accordance with an approved Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Closure Plan.</p>					
Decommissioning					
<p>Mine facilities will be decommissioned at the end of mine life in accordance with an approved Huntly Mine Closure Plan.</p> <p>The Refinery will be decommissioned at the end of life in accordance with an approved Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Closure Plan.</p>					
Other elements which affect extent of effects on the environment					
Proposal time	Maximum project life	> 45 years		2045 (Refinery and Mine Rehabilitation) 13 years mining activity within Mine Development Envelope	2045 ~2025-2037
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final approved extent of disturbance and associated clearing within the Refinery Development Envelope includes the current disturbance of 1,396 ha and proposed disturbance of 299 ha. The total refinery disturbance is no more than 1,695 ha. Disturbance and associated clearing to be approved under relevant legislation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> EPBC Act – 299 ha EP Act – 1695 ha. The clearing is reviewed and approved under the Environmental Protection (Alcoa - Huntly and Willowdale Mine Sites) Exemption Order 2004. Total Mine Development Envelope includes 13,748 ha for Myara North and 9,158 ha for Holyoake mine regions and 1,655 ha for Myara North and 9,542 ha for Holyoake infrastructure corridors. 					

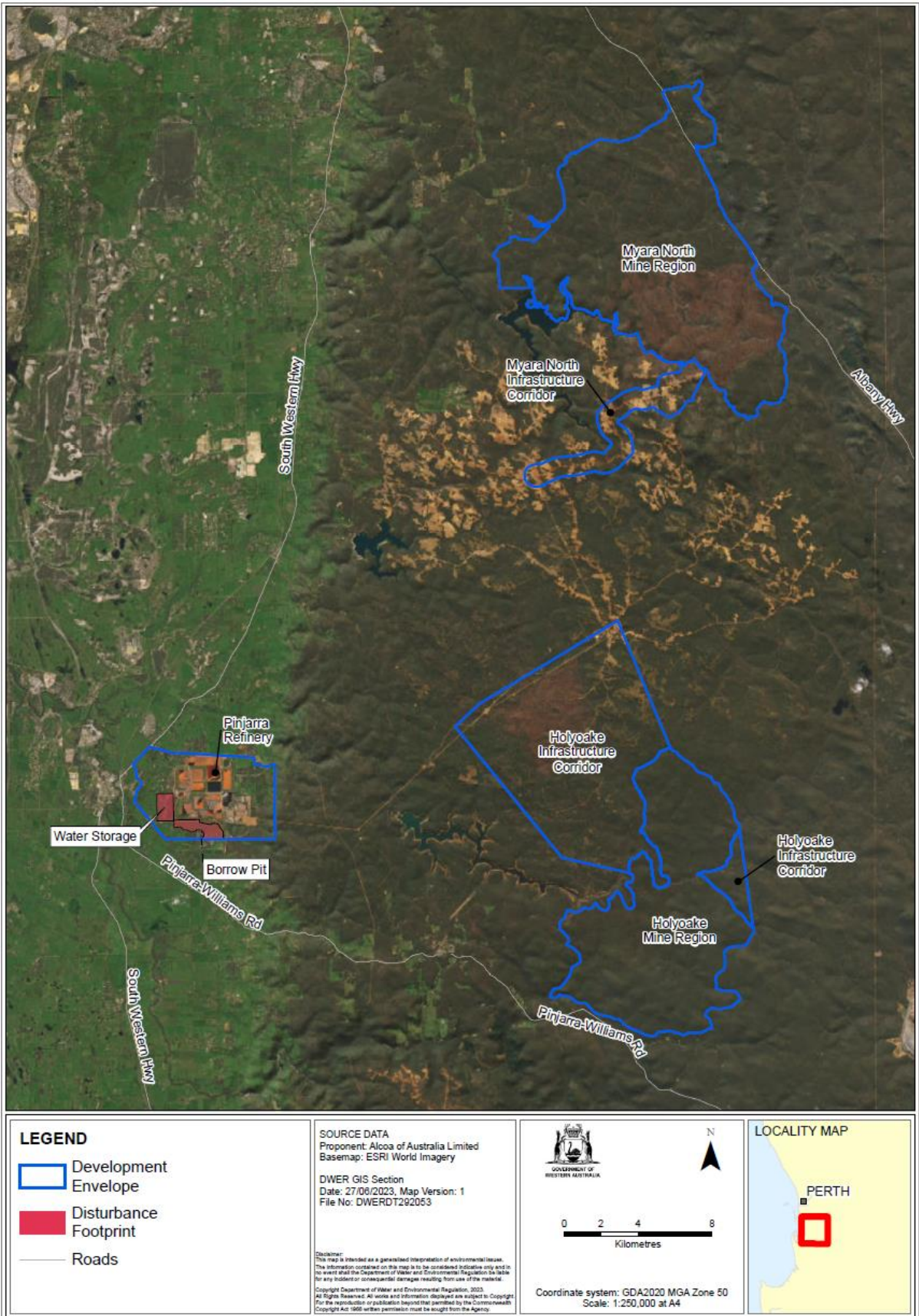


Figure 1. Refinery development envelope and amended mine development envelope

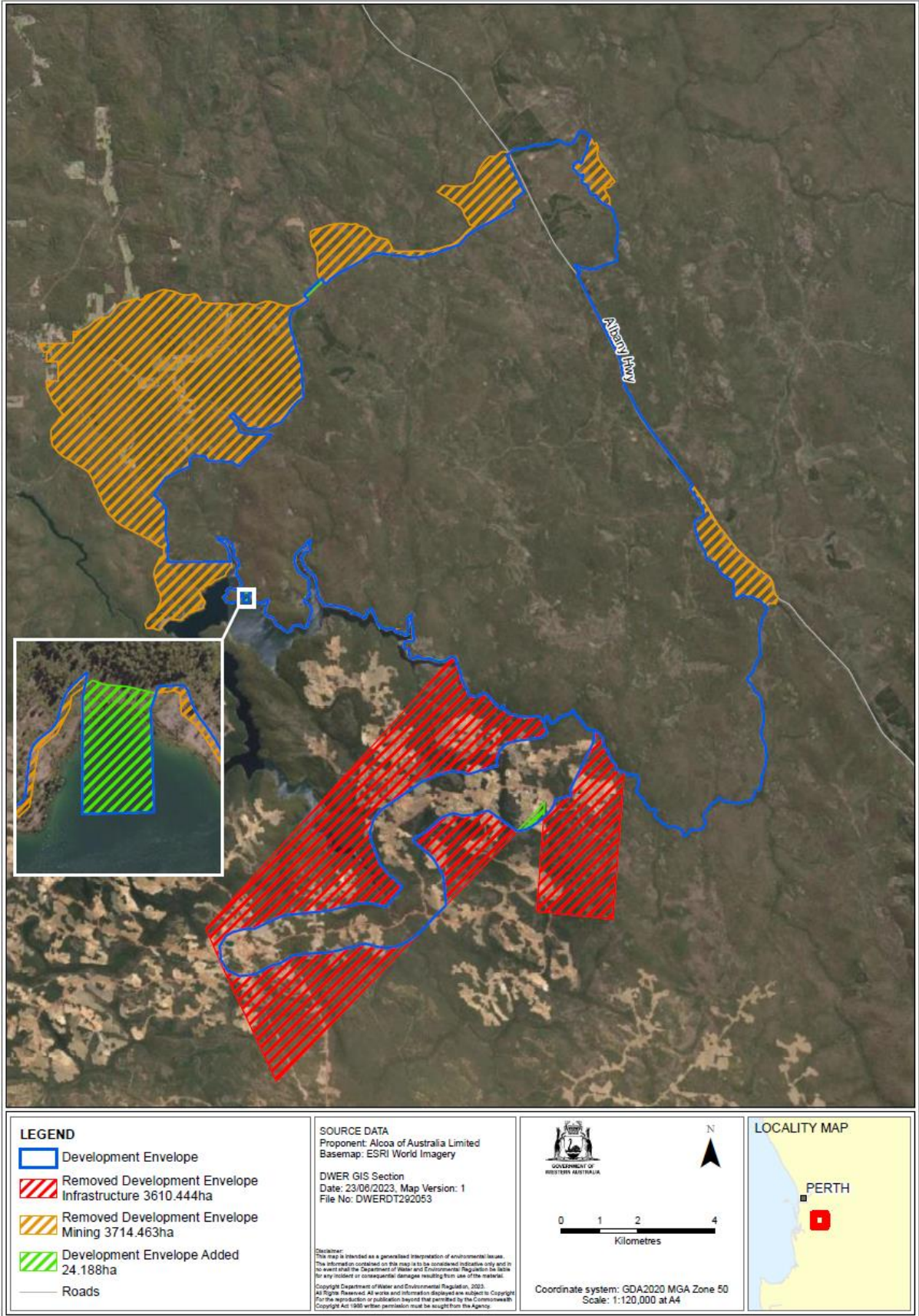


Figure 2: Amendment to Myara North Mine Region and Infrastructure Corridor

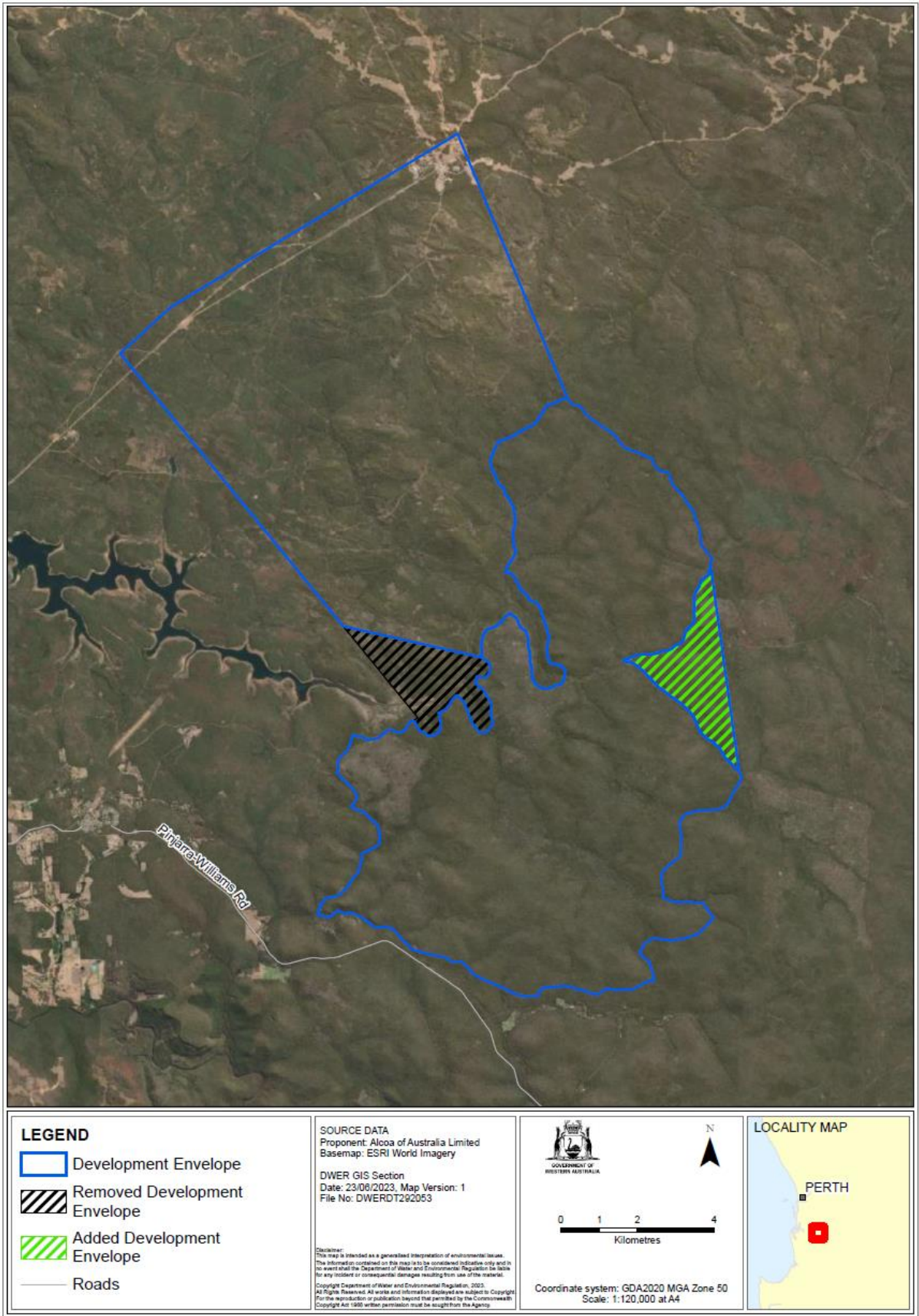


Figure 3: Amendment to Holyoake Infrastructure Corridor