

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; PRO-0025182

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:

- Addition of 5,571 ha Development Envelope (DE) within O'Neil Mine Region, with 1,062 ha of proposed clearing.
- Reduction of the Myara North DE by approximately 29% to 10,705 hectares (ha), with 3,219 ha of proposed clearing.
- Reduction of the Holyoake DE by approximately 42% to 7,624 hectares (ha), with 3,219 ha of proposed clearing.
- Reduction in disturbance of 299 ha at the Pinjarra Refinery, to the existing approved amount of 1,396ha, in a DE of 3,241 ha.
- Removal of mining (i.e. bauxite extraction) from within the reservoir protection zones.
- Increase in the annual bauxite residue disposal limit to 11.6 Mtpa (from 10.8 Mtpa).
- Extending to the life of mine by a further 7 years to 2045, in the event the Kwinana Refinery does not restart.

The amended proposal content document and figures are attached.

SUMMARY OF REASONS:

- The reduction in disturbance is likely to reduce impacts to flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, and terrestrial environmental quality.
- The reduction in disturbance at the Pinjarra Refinery is likely to reduce impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage within the development envelope.
- While the proponent has requested deferral of mining in the reservoir protection zones to allow time for the long-term efficacy of current water management and drainage controls and practices to be determined, the EPA considers mining within the reservoir protection zone to have been removed from the proposal's content for the purposes of this assessment and any associated decisions.
- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.
- There is likely to be new or additional impacts to flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna and social surroundings associated with the addition of the O'Neil DE. However, the impacts are not likely to reflect a significant change and overall impacts to all factors are expected to be reduced consistent with the overall reduction in the DE and disturbance footprint.
- 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 amendment follows a review by the proponent of identified environmental values against mining requirements to identify areas that could be avoided.

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.



Mr Darren Walsh
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

17 February 2025

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	<p>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, Holyoake and O’Neil mine regions (the Proposal).</p> <p>The Proposal is located in the Peel region of Western Australia (WA), approximately 100 km south-east of Perth.</p> <p>The Proposal is located within a 23,900 hectare (ha) Development Envelope and will require the clearing of up to 7,500 ha of native vegetation.</p>

Table 2: Proposed amendment to Proposal content elements currently under assessment

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment to Proposal extent currently under assessment	Combined extent
Physical elements					
Pinjarra Refinery Development Envelope (DE)	Figure 4	1,396 ha ¹ of clearing within a 3,241 ha Refinery DE.	Disturbance of no more than 1,695 ha within the 3,241 ha Refinery DE.	Reduction of 299 ha from the disturbance footprint within a 3,241 ha Refinery DE.	Clearing of no more than 1,396 ha ¹ within a 3,241 ha Refinery DE.
<p>1. Ministerial Statement 646 does not define this extent, this area is based on the cleared area shown in Figure 1 of Attachment 2 to Ministerial Statement 646.</p>					

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment to Proposal extent currently under assessment	Combined extent
Huntly Mine Development Envelope (DE)	Figure 1a, Figure 2a and Figure 3a	Clearing ² to occur within a 27,574 ³ DE.	Clearing of no more than 8,323 ha within the 34,103 ha Myara North and Holyoake DE.	Reductions to the Myara North and Holyoake DEs and addition of the O'Neil DE ⁴ Reduction of 10,203 ha to the Mine DE under assessment resulting in a DE of 23,900 ha ⁵ . Reduction of 823 ha of clearing within the Mine DE under assessment, to 7,500 ha ⁵ .	Clearing of no more than 7,500 ha within the Myara North, Holyoake and O'Neil Mine DE. ⁶ Clearing within Current Authorised Extent as approved via other State processes. Combined DE (Existing + Proposed) 51,473 ha

- Although clearing is subject to an EP Act Schedule 6 2.(a) exemption, any future clearing within the current authorised extent is subject to the clearing approvals process required by Alcoa's Alumina Refinery (Wagerup) Agreement and Acts Amendment Act 1978
- Ministerial Statement 646 does not define this extent, this area is based on the EPA's Section 38(G)7 Public Advice regarding the Bauxite mining on the Darling Range in the southwest of WA for the years 2023 to 2027 proposal (Assessment 2385)
- The proposed reduction to the total Mine Development Envelope comprises:
 - a reduction of 3,751 ha to Myara North and 2,736 ha to Holyoake mine DE;
 - a reduction of 947 ha to Myara North and 8,340 ha to Holyoake infrastructure corridors; and
 - the inclusion of 5,571 ha of the O'Neil mine region.
- The total Mine Development Envelope (DE) currently under assessment 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 (IC).
- The proposed amendment breaks down as follows and is illustrated in Figures 1b, 2b and 3b:

Development Envelope	Myara North			Holyoake			O'Neil			
	Mine DE	ICDE	Total	Mine DE	ICDE	Total	Mine DE	ICDE	Total	
Development Zone	5138	n/a	n/a	5138	4463	n/a	4463	2998	n/a	2998
Low Disturbance Area	715	305	243 ^(a)	1262	400	1198	1598	486	n/a	486
Low Disturbance Area - Fixed	1	8	n/a	9	8	5	13	2	n/a	2
Avoidance Zone	4143	152	n/a	4295	1550	0	1550	2084	n/a	2084
Total	9997	708	10705	6421	1203	7624	5571	n/a	5571	
Clearing										
Development Zone	2190	n/a	2190	1985	n/a	1985	573	n/a	573	
Low Disturbance Area (incl Fixed)	716	313	1029	408	826	1234	488	n/a	488	
Total	2906	313	3219	2393	826	3219	1062	n/a	1062	

(a) Existing cleared area

Combined	Mine DE	ICDE	Total
Development Envelope	21990	1911	23900
Clearing	6362	1138	7500

Development Zone – All mining activities can occur
Low Disturbance Area (LDA) – No bauxite extraction
LDA Fixed – Area subject to Section 18 heritage consent
Avoidance Zone – No mining activities can occur

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment to Proposal extent currently under assessment	Combined extent
Operational elements					
Alumina production	Figure 4	5 Mtpa	5.25 Mtpa (0.25 Mtpa increase)	No change	5.25 Mtpa
Bauxite export	Not applicable	2.0 Mtpa	0 Mtpa (all bauxite to be processed in WA, with none exported)	No change	0 Mtpa
Bauxite residue	Figure 4	10 Mtpa	10.8 Mtpa (0.8 Mtpa increase)	0.8 Mtpa increase to 11.6 Mtpa	11.6 Mtpa
Refinery outputs (atmospheric emissions)					
Particulates (from stacks)	Not applicable	140 tpa	150 tpa (10 tpa increase)	No change	150 tpa
NOx	Not applicable	860 tpa	900 tpa (40 tpa increase)	No change	900 tpa
CO	Not applicable	900 tpa	950 tpa (50 tpa increase)	No change	950 tpa
VOCs	Not applicable	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 t CO2e per annum	2,581,700 t CO2e per annum	No change	2,581,700 t CO2e per annum
Construction, Mining and Infrastructure	Scope 1 & 2	Not defined	<5% of Refinery Scope 1 and 2 emissions	165,163 t CO2e per annum ⁷	165,163 t CO2e per annum ⁷

Proposal element	Location / description	Existing Proposal extent (MS 646 Current Authorised Extent)	Proposal extent currently under assessment (change from existing proposal)	Proposed amendment to Proposal extent currently under assessment	Combined extent
Combined	Scope 3	Not defined	55,089,286 t CO2e per annum	56,782,000 t CO2e per annum ⁸	56,782,000 t CO2e per annum ⁸

7. Current estimate and excludes consideration of sequestered carbon; it is subject to further refinements with the final figure to be provided in the ERD

8. Current estimate; it is subject to further refinements with the final figure to be provided in the ERD.

Rehabilitation

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.

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.

Decommissioning

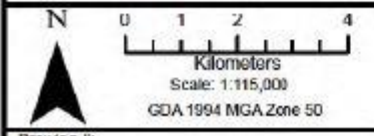
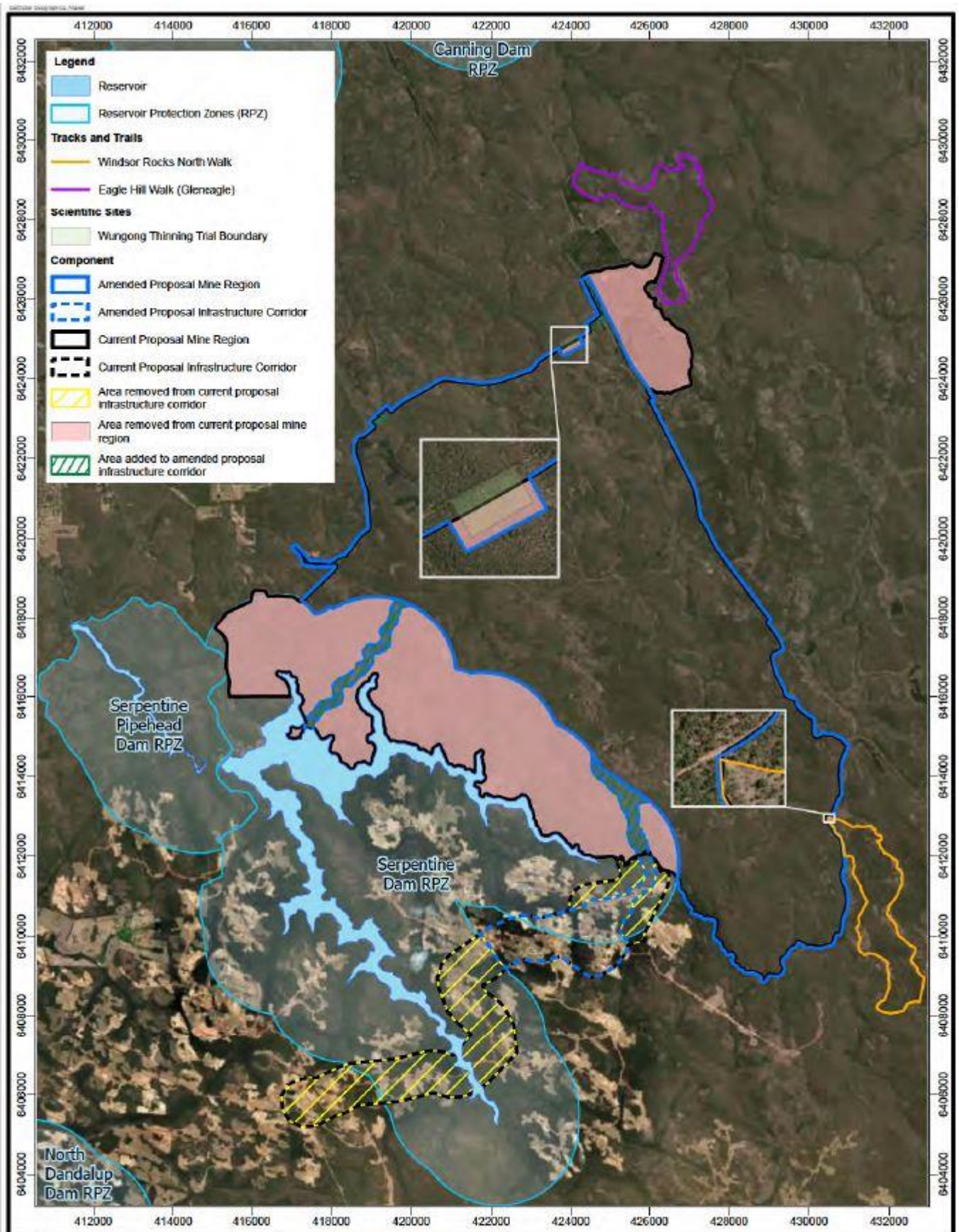
Mine facilities will be decommissioned at the end of mine life in accordance with an approved Huntly Mine Closure Plan.

The Refinery will be decommissioned at the end of life in accordance with an approved Pinjarra Alumina Refinery Closure Plan.

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 (Refinery operations) 20 years of mining construction and operational activity within the Mine Development Envelope ⁹	2045 ~2026-2045
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9. The Proposal currently under assessment assumes bauxite mining at a rate to support full production at the Kwinana Refinery, which is currently curtailed (i.e. not producing), and expanded Pinjarra Refinery alumina production up to 5.25 Mtpa. In the case that the Kwinana Refinery does not restart, and Pinjarra Refinery production does not increase, the effect would be the Life of Mine for the Huntly Mine within the Proposal's Mine DE could be extended to 2045.



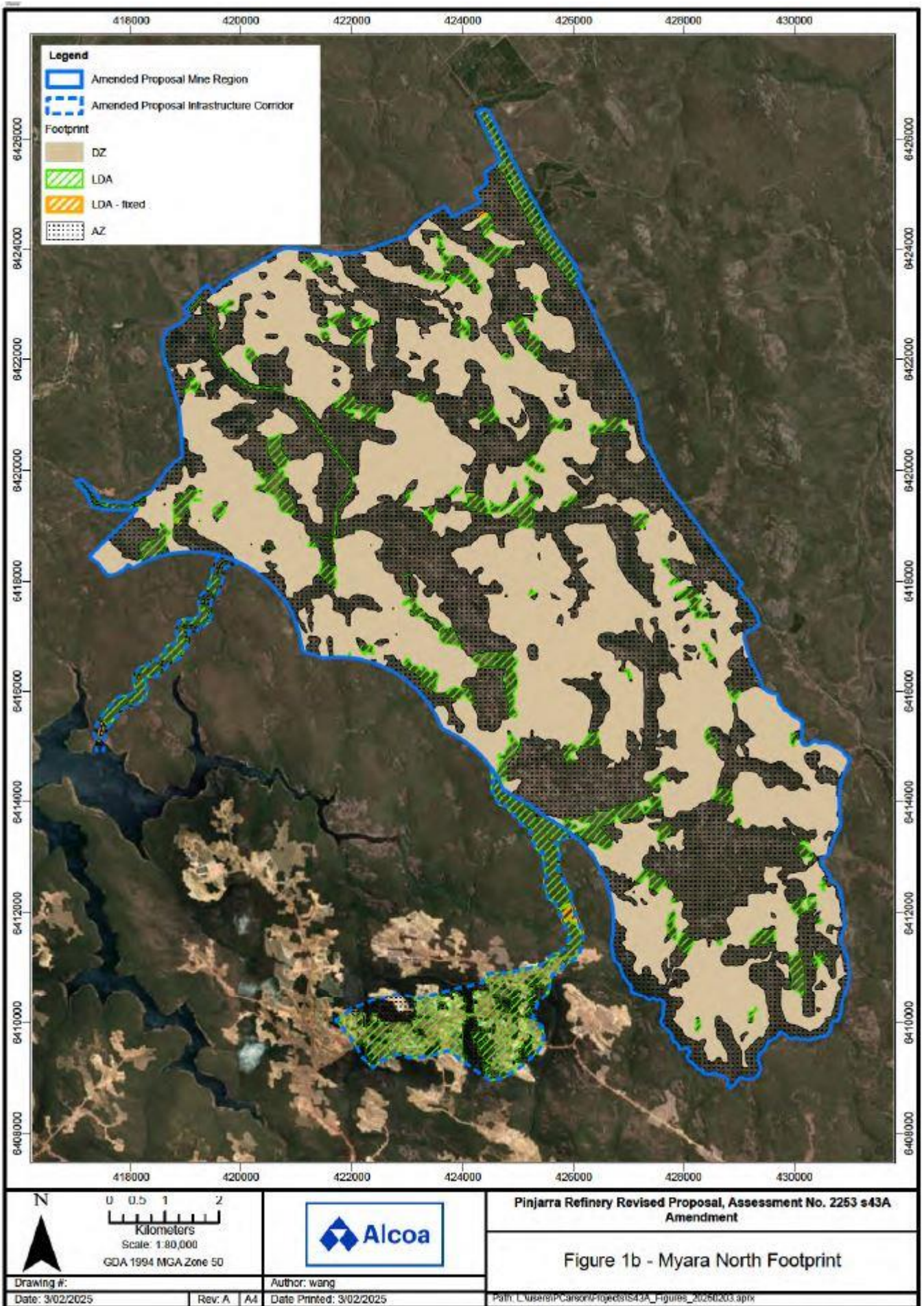
Pinjarra Refinery Revised Proposal, Assessment No. 2253 s43A
Amendment

Figure 1a - Overview of Proposal Area - Myara North

Drawing #:
Date: 3/02/2025

Author: wang
Date Printed: 3/02/2025

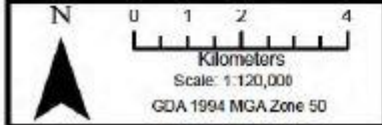
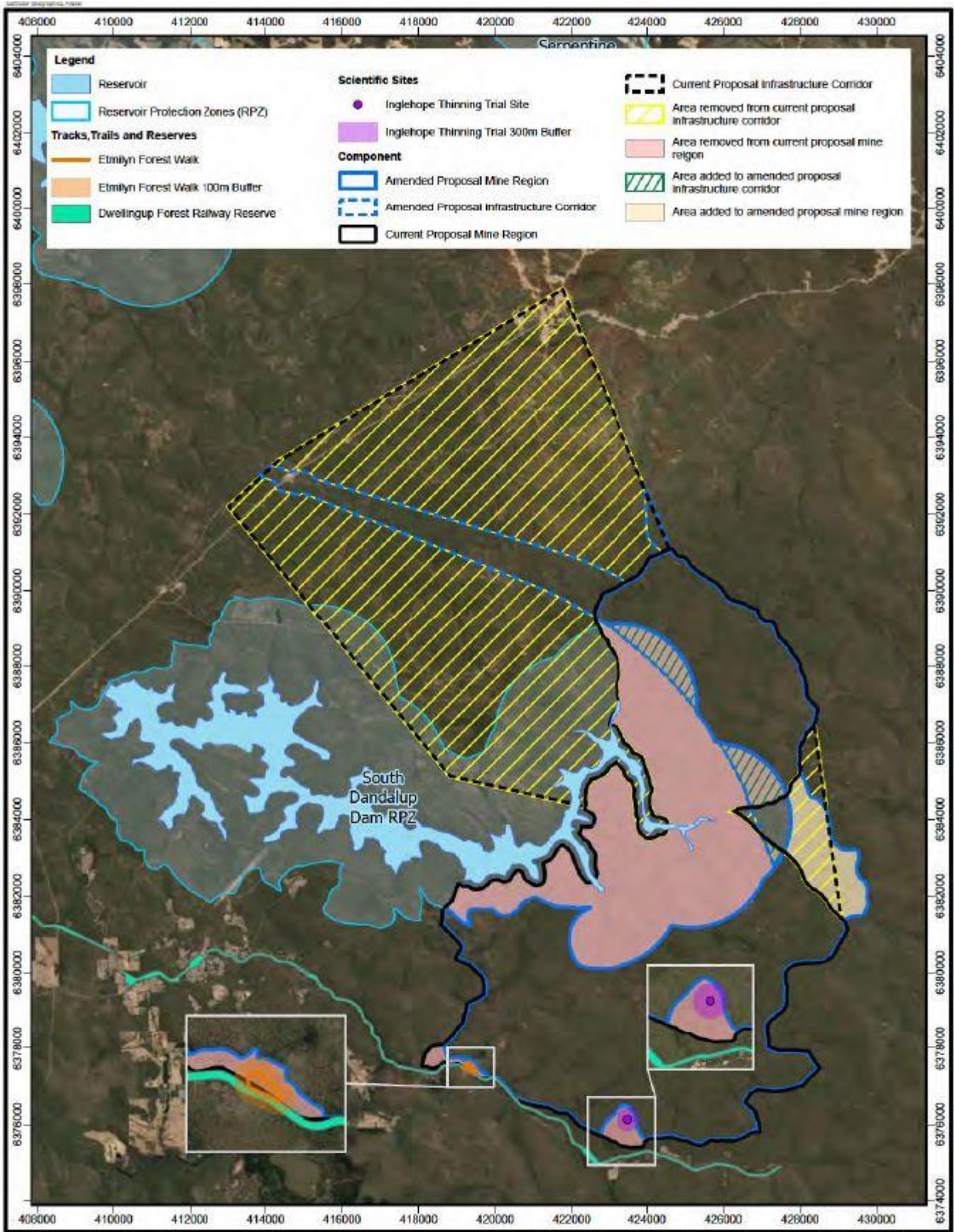
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Pinjarra Refinery Revised Proposal, Assessment No. 2253 s43A Amendment

Figure 1b - Myara North Footprint

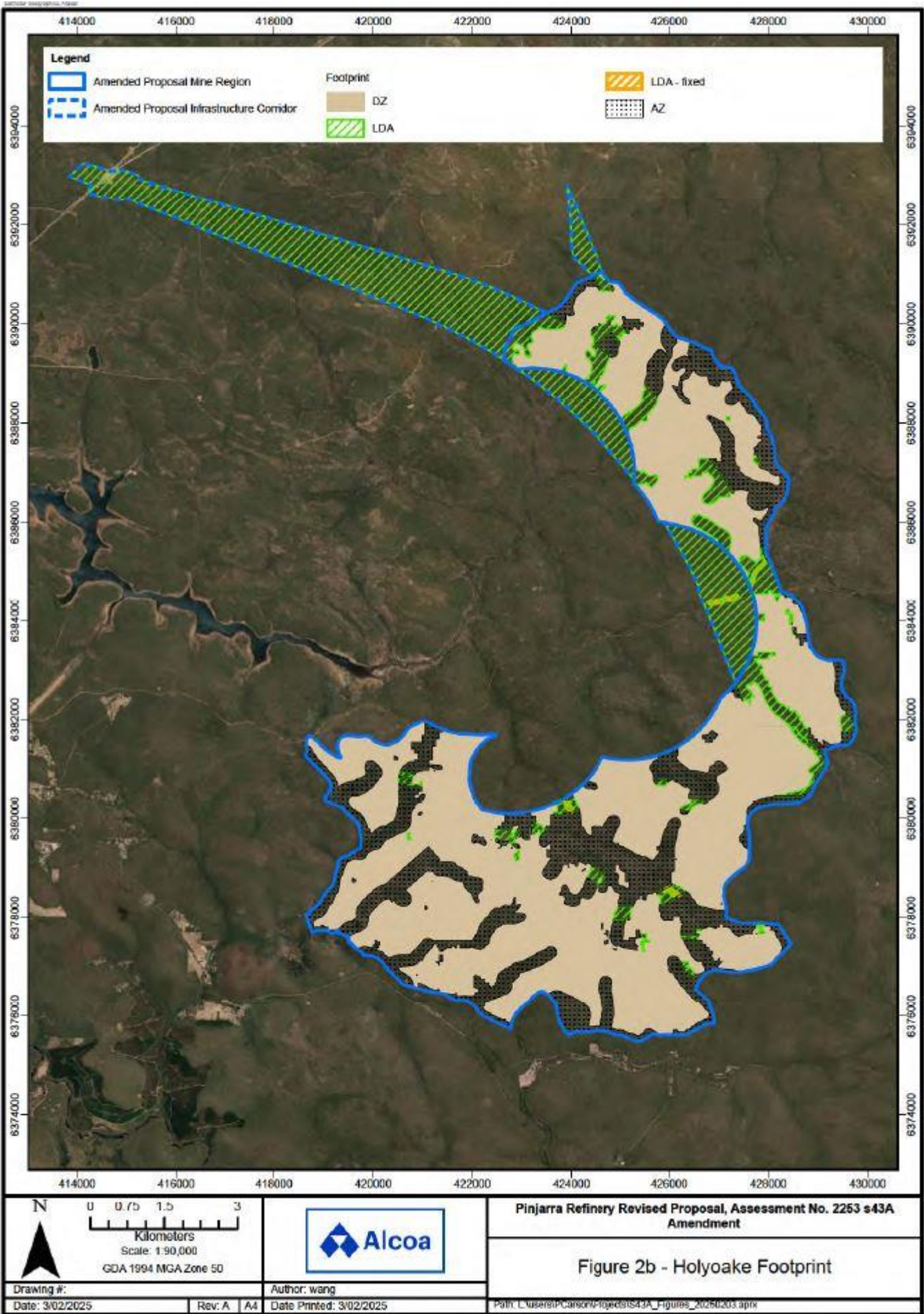
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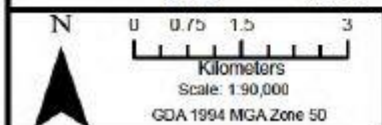
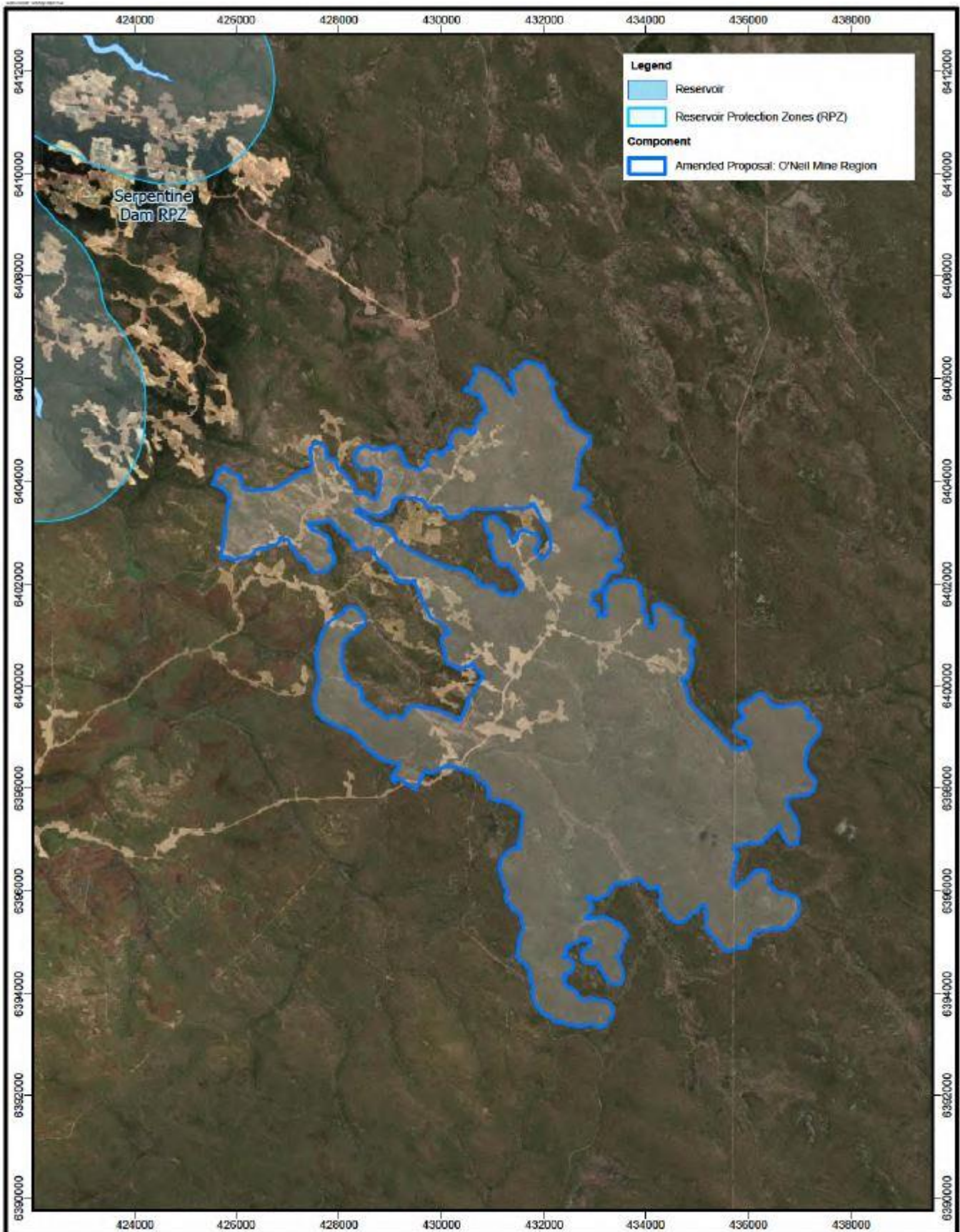


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Figure 2a - Overview of Proposal Area - Holyoake

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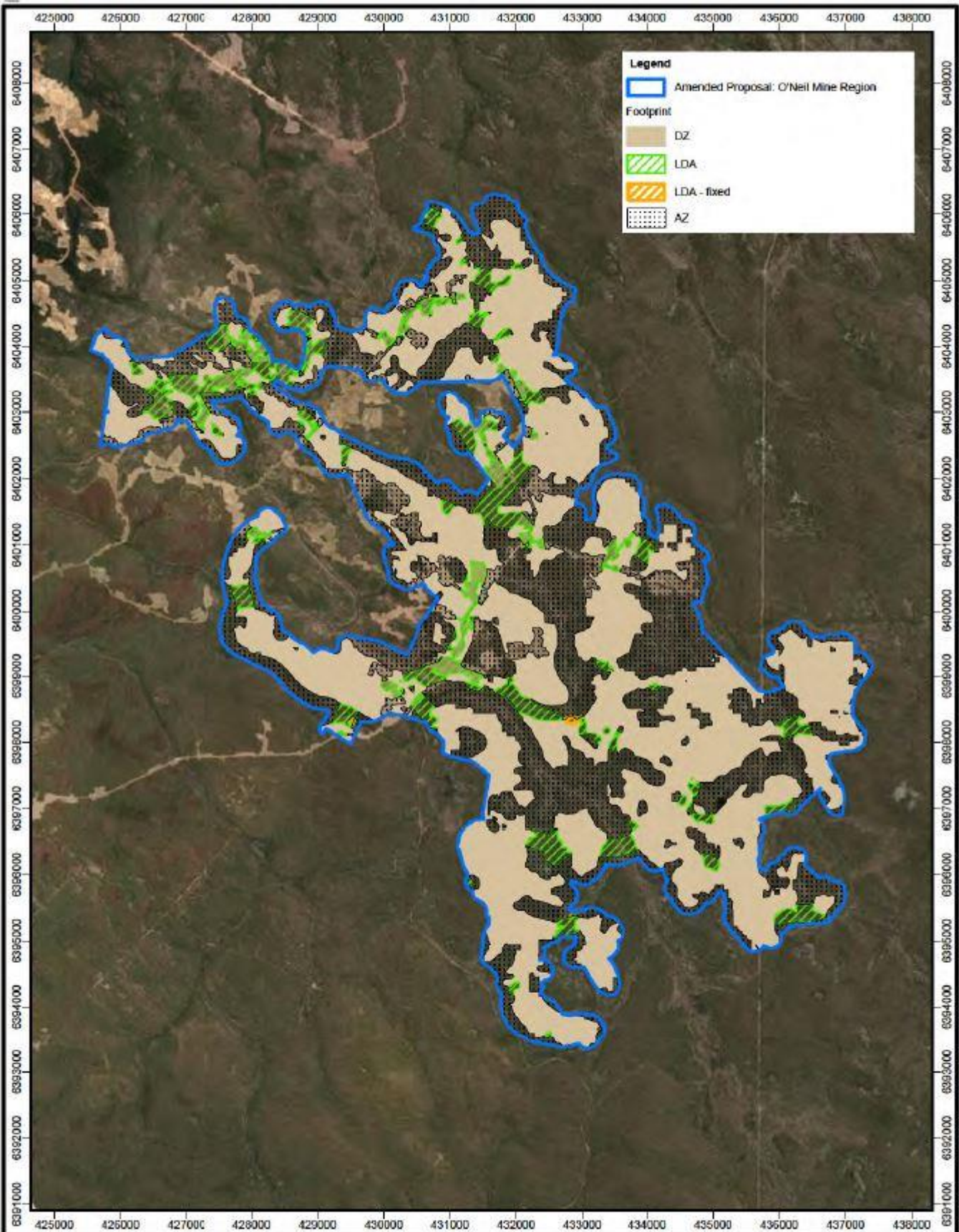




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Amendment

Figure 3a - Overview of Proposal Area - O'Neil

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Legend

- Amended Proposal: O'Neil Mine Region

Footprint

- DZ
- LDA
- LDA - fixed
- AZ

N

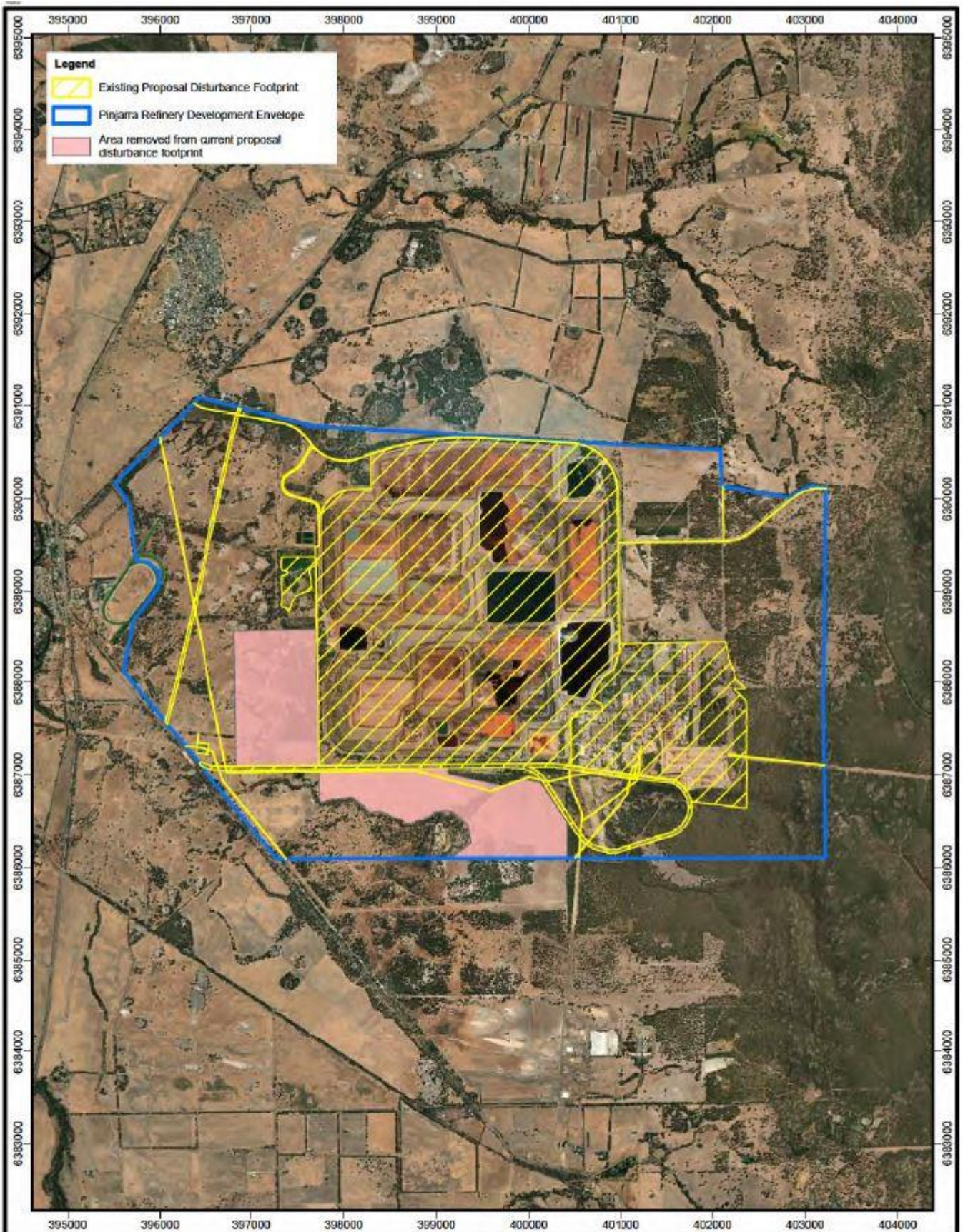
0 0.5 1 2
Kilometers
Scale: 1:70,000
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 50



Pinjarra Refinery Revised Proposal, Assessment No. 2253 s43A
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Figure 3b - O'Neil Footprint

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Date: 3/02/2025	Rev: A A4		



Legend

- Existing Proposal Disturbance Footprint
- Pinjarra Refinery Development Envelope
- Area removed from current proposal disturbance footprint

N

0 0.45 0.9 1.8

Kilometers

Scale: 1:50,000

GDA 1994 MGA Zone 50



Pinjarra Refinery Revised Proposal, Assessment No. 2253 s43A Amendment

Figure 4 - Overview of Proposal Area - Pinjarra Refinery

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