

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Section 43A

**NOTICE OF DECISION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSAL DURING
ASSESSMENT**

PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

Mr Les Purves
General Manager
Environment, Communities and Land Access
Polaris Metals Pty Ltd, subsidiary of Mineral Resources Limited (ABN: 18 085 223
570)
1 Sleat Road
APPLECROSS WA 6153

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:

Parker Range (Mt Caudan) Iron Ore Haul Road Revised Proposal
Assessment No. 2297

Pursuant to section 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 being:

1. Change to the development envelope from 539 hectares (ha) to 339 ha (reduction of 200 ha)
2. Change to native vegetation clearing from 298 ha to 203 ha (reduction of 95 ha).

See the attached amended Proposal Content Document and Figure 1.

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 section 38 of the EP Act.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL:

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Tonts', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Matthew Tonts
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

28 January 2022

Amended Proposal Content Document

Table 1: Summary of the proposal

Proposal title	Parker Range (Mt Caudan) Iron Ore Project Haul Road Revised Proposal
Proponent name	Polaris Metals Pty Ltd
Short description	The Proposal involves the development of a haul road to transport iron ore to Mineral Resources Limited's Koolyanobbing Operations for processing.

Table 2: Location and proposed extent of physical and operational elements

Element	Location	Changed Proposal Extent (s43A)
<i>Physical Elements</i>		
Haul Road	Figure 1	Clearing of up to 203 hectares (ha) of native vegetation and use of existing disturbed land within a 339 ha development envelope.
<i>Operational Elements</i>		
Haul Road	Figure 1	Construction and operation of approximately 52 kilometres of bitumen seal haul road with operation 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, with nominally between 110 to 160 of ore haulage vehicle movements per day.

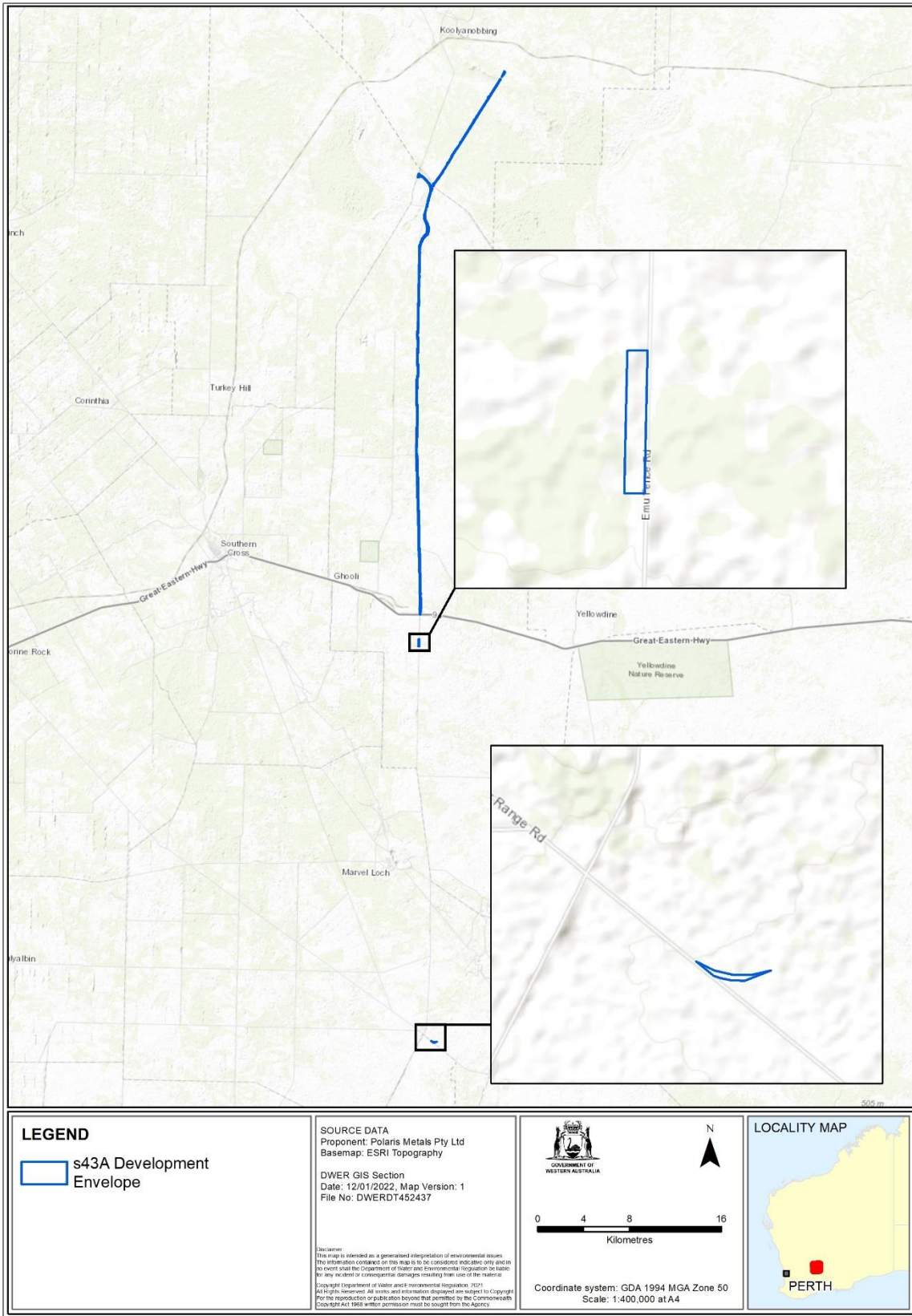


Figure 1: Amended Proposal Area

Summary of reasons for decision – request to amend a referred proposal under s43A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal Title: Parker Range (Mt Caudan) Iron Ore Haul Road Revised Proposal

Proponent: Polaris Metals Pty Ltd

Proposal referral date: 14 May 2021

Date request to amend referred proposal under section 43A received: 24 November 2021

Existing referred proposal:

The proposal involves the development of a haul road to transport iron ore to Mineral Resources Limited's Koolyanobbing Operations for processing. The proposal is approximately 52 kilometres (km) south of Southern Cross and 15 km southeast of Marvel Loch, in the Shire of Yilgarn.

Short description of amendment(s) sought:

- Change to the development envelope from 539 hectares (ha) to 339 ha (reduction of 200 ha)
- Change to native vegetation clearing from 298 ha to 203 ha (reduction of 95 ha).

Decision:

Amendment(s) to proposal as set out in Attachment 1 are approved.

Environmental factors relevant to amendment(s):

- Flora and Vegetation: clearing of native vegetation
- Terrestrial Fauna: loss of potential habitat for conservation significant fauna species.

Summary of likely changes to environmental impacts from proposed amendment(s)

Amendment sought	Changes to environmental impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the development envelope from 539 hectares (ha) to 339 ha (reduction of 200 ha) • Change to native vegetation clearing from 298 ha to 203 ha (reduction of 95 ha). 	<p>The proposed changes do not alter the key environmental factors likely to be impacted by the proposal, which will be considered during the assessment.</p> <p>The changes will result in a reduction in native vegetation clearing and development envelope area, and consequently a reduction in associated environmental impacts.</p>

Summary of consultation

No consultation has been undertaken by the proponent on the application.

The additional information required under section 40(2)(a) incorporating the proposed amendments will be subject to 2-weeks public review, which is considered adequate consultation.

Summary of consideration of amendment

The EPA has considered whether, if the proposal were already approved, the amendment would be a significant amendment. This has included considering the likely significance of:

- Effects of the proposed amendment on its own
- Effects of the proposed amendment in the context of the existing referred proposal
- Cumulative environmental impacts
- Holistic impacts.

The EPA has considered whether it has sufficient information about the proposed amendment to be able to reasonably proceed with assessment of the amended proposal with or without performing any additional functions at this stage.

The EPA has considered whether the amended proposal will still be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.

Approval – not a significant amendment

The EPA considers the amended proposal to be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal and does not consider that the amendment would be a significant amendment if the proposal were already approved. The EPA considers it has enough information to reasonably proceed with assessment of the amended proposal without performing any additional functions at this stage.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Amended Proposal Content Document
- Figure 1: Amended Proposal Area

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Matthew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 28 January 2022

Attachment 1

Amended Proposal Content Document

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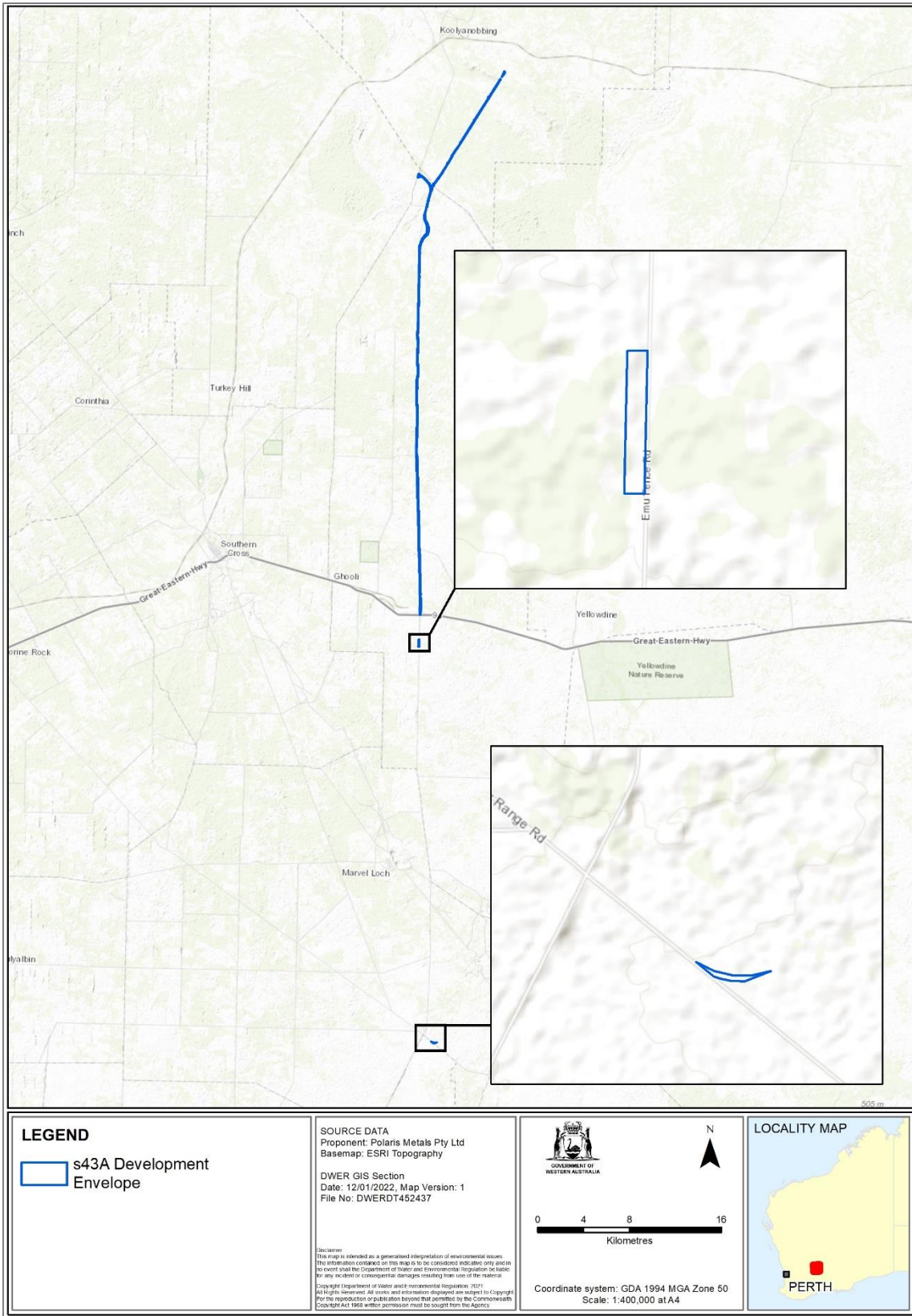


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