

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) Leichhardt Salt Pty Ltd (ABN: 82 613 581 614)
Suite A7 / 435 Roberts Road
SUBIACO WA 6008

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:

Eramurra Solar Salt Project
Assessment No. 2306

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:

- a reduction of 4,320 hectare (ha) in the area of the Dredge Spoil Disposal Development Envelope (DSDDE), from 4,605 ha to 285 ha, and relocation of the DSDDE 14 km north of the Marine Development Envelope (MDE)
- a reduction of 220 ha in the marine disturbance footprint within the DSDDE from 320 ha to 100 ha
- a reduction of 3 ha in the Ponds and Infrastructure Development Envelope (PIDE), from 20,160 ha to 20,157 ha
- a reduction of 2,099 ha in the terrestrial disturbance footprint within the PIDE from 14,300 ha to 12,201ha
- relocating the seawater intake from the MDE to the PIDE
- a reduction of 87 ha to the MDE extent from 790 ha to 703 ha
- a reduction of 37 ha in the marine disturbance footprint within the MDE, from 90 ha to 53 ha
- a reduction of 700,000 m³ in dredge volume from 1,100,000 m³ to 400,000 m³
- a reduction of 2.1 gegalitre per annum (GL pa) in the annual bitterns discharge, from 8 GL pa to 5.9 GL pa
- the removal of groundwater abstraction.

The amended proposal content document is attached.

SUMMARY OF REASONS

- The amended proposal will be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.
- The changes to the DSDDE are likely to decrease impacts to marine environmental quality and marine fauna.
- There are likely to be no changes to benthic communities and habitats, and marine fauna from relocation of the DSDDE.
- The changes to the PIDE and indicative disturbance footprint are likely to decrease impacts to flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, inland waters, benthic communities and habitats and social surroundings.
- Relocation of the seawater intake from the MDE to the PIDE is unlikely to result in changes to marine environmental quality and benthic communities and habitats.
- The changes to the MDE and disturbance areas are likely to decrease impacts to marine environmental quality, benthic communities and habitats and marine fauna.
- The reduction in dredge volume is likely to decrease impacts to marine environmental quality and marine fauna.
- The reduction in bitterns discharge is likely to decrease impacts to marine environmental quality, subtidal benthic communities and habitats and marine fauna.
- The removal of groundwater abstraction is likely to avoid drawdown impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems (flora and vegetation) and direct impacts to groundwater (inland waters).
- All of these impacts will be detailed in the environmental review document, which has an 8-week public review period, and will be addressed during the assessment process.

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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MAT TONTS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Matthew Tonts
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

21 June 2023

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Eramurra Solar Salt Project Proposal Content Document including Figure 1

Attachment 2 – Figure 2 Comparison of referred and s43A amended development envelopes and Figure 3 Comparison of referred and s43A amended indicative disturbance footprints

Eramurra Solar Salt Project

Proposal Content Document

Table 1: General proposal content description

Proposal title	Eramurra Solar Salt Project
Proponent name	Leichhardt Salt Pty Ltd
Short description	<p>Leichhardt Salt Pty Ltd (Leichhardt) is seeking to develop a solar salt project in the Cape Preston East area, approximately 55 kilometres (km) west-southwest of Karratha in Western Australia (WA) (the Proposal). The Proposal will utilise seawater and evaporation to produce a concentrated salt product for export.</p> <p>The Proposal includes the development of a series of concentration ponds, crystallisers and processing plant. Supporting infrastructure includes bitterns outfall, drainage channels, product dewatering facilities, desalination plant, pumps, pipelines, power supply, access roads, administration buildings, workshops, laydown areas, landfill facility, communications facilities and other associated infrastructure. The Proposal also includes dredging at the Cape Preston East Port and both offshore and onshore disposal of dredge spoil material.</p>

Table 2: Proposal content elements

Proposal element	Location / description	Maximum extent, capacity or range
Physical elements		
1. Pond and Infrastructure Development Envelope – Seawater intake and pipeline, concentration ponds and crystallisers. Process plant, desalination plant, administration, water supply, intake, associated works (access roads, laydown, water supply and other services).	Figure 1	Disturbance of no more than 12,201 ha within the 20,157 ha Ponds and Infrastructure Development Envelope.
2. Marine Development Envelope –Dredged channel, bitterns pipeline and outfall diffuser.		Disturbance of no more than 53 ha within the 703 ha Marine Development Envelope.
3. Dredge Spoil Disposal Development Envelope – Disposal		Disturbance of no more than 100 ha within the 285 ha Dredge Spoil Disposal Development Envelope.


location for dredge spoil.		
Construction elements		
Dredge Volume	Figure 1	Up to 400,000 m ³
Operational elements		
Bitterns Discharge	Figure 1	Discharge of up to 5.9 Gigalitres per annum of bitterns within a dedicated offshore discharge location within the Marine Development Envelope.
Proposal elements with greenhouse gas emissions		
Construction elements:		
Scope 1	31,000 tonnes of CO ₂ -e from diesel usage over the construction period (estimated four years). 79,000 tonnes of CO ₂ -e from land use change over the construction period (estimated four years).	
Scope 2	N/A.	
Scope 3	Not able to be calculated at this early design stage.	
Operation elements:		
Scope 1	Electricity generation: 20,200 tonnes of CO ₂ -e per annum. Diesel use: 10,300 tonnes of CO ₂ -e per annum. Total: 30,500 tonnes of CO ₂ -e per annum.	
Scope 2	N/A	
Scope 3	Emissions associated with shipping the produced salt to customers (indicative only): 14,700 CO ₂ -e per annum.	
Rehabilitation		
<p>Progressive rehabilitation will take place where areas are not required for ongoing operations, such as laydown and stockpiling areas used during construction, exhausted borrow pits or tracks.</p> <p>Above-ground infrastructure will be removed at closure and pond embankments breached to reinstate tidal flows into coastal areas and surface drainage further inland. Some modified landforms will be retained post-closure where compatible with rehabilitation.</p>		
Commissioning		
No specific commissioning activities.		
Decommissioning		
Construction disturbance that is not required for operations is to be rehabilitated after construction.		

Proposal infrastructure to be removed within five years of closure.

Other elements which affect extent of effects on the environment

Proposal time*	Maximum project life	64 years
	Construction phase	4 years
	Operations phase	60 years
	Decommissioning phase	5 years

** Proponents should only provide realistic timeframes to avoid unnecessary change to proposal applications at referral (section 38C), assessment (section 43A) or post assessment (section 45C).*

Preston Consulting


CREATED BY	JOB	DATE	REVISION
ENVIRONMAPS	PC2900212	20/04/2023	0

Leichhardt Salt Pty Ltd

0 1.25 2.5 5 km
Scale: 1:150,000 @ A3

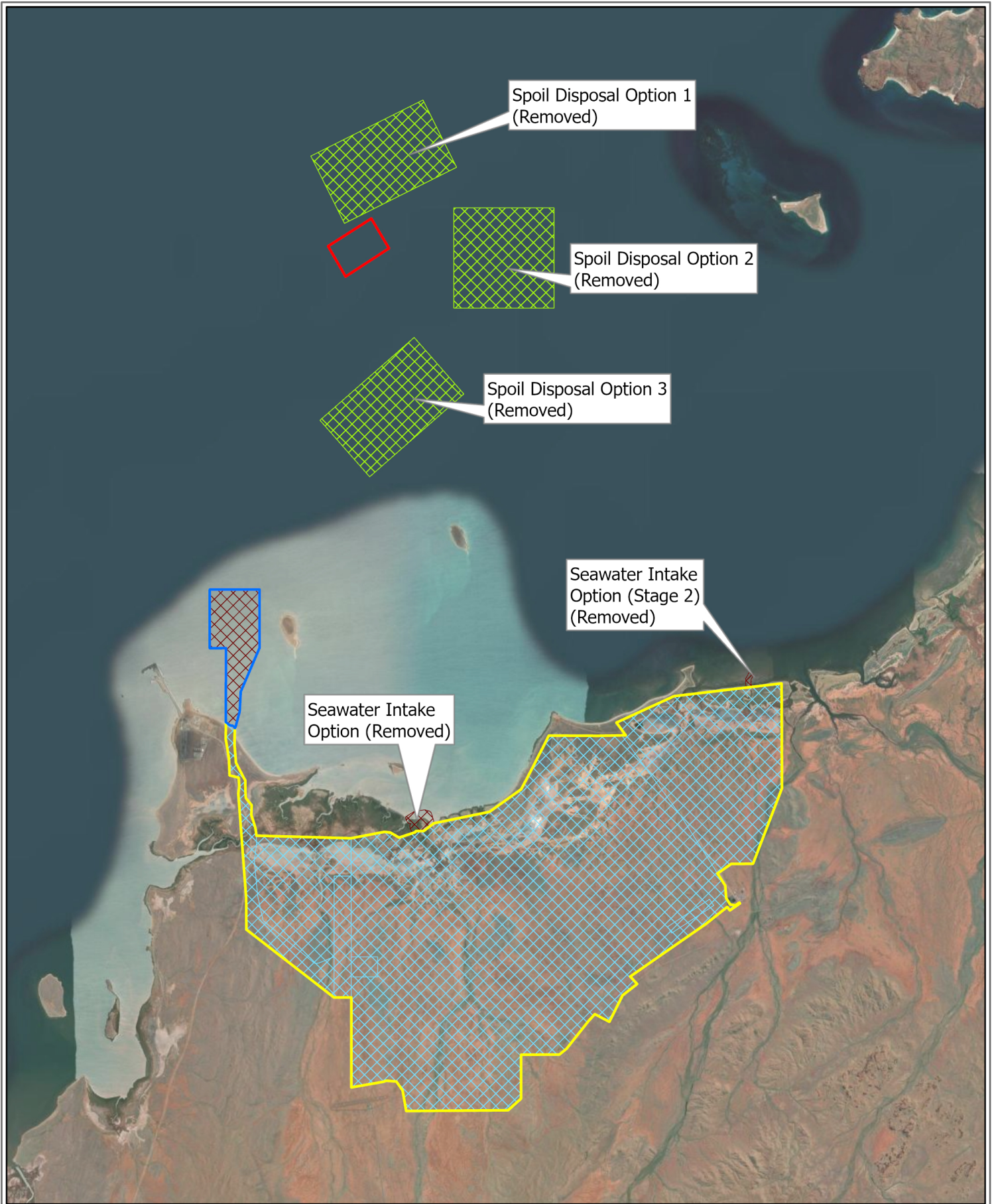
- NOTE THAT POSITION ERRORS CAN BE >5M IN SOME AREAS

LOCALITY



Legend

- Dredge Spoil Disposal Development Envelope
- Marine Development Envelope
- Pond and Infrastructure Development Envelope
- Indicative Disturbance Footprint



Spoil Disposal Option 1
(Removed)

Spoil Disposal Option 2
(Removed)

Spoil Disposal Option 3
(Removed)

Seawater Intake
Option (Stage 2)
(Removed)

Seawater Intake
Option (Removed)

- Legend**
- s43A Development Envelopes
- Dredge Spoil Disposal Development Envelope
 - Marine Development Envelope
 - Pond and Infrastructure Development Envelope
- Original Referral Development Envelopes
- Marine Development Envelope
 - Offshore Spoil Development Envelope
 - Ponds and Infrastructure Development Envelope

SOURCE DATA
 Proponent: Leichhardt Industrials Pty Ltd
 Basemap: ESRI World Imagery

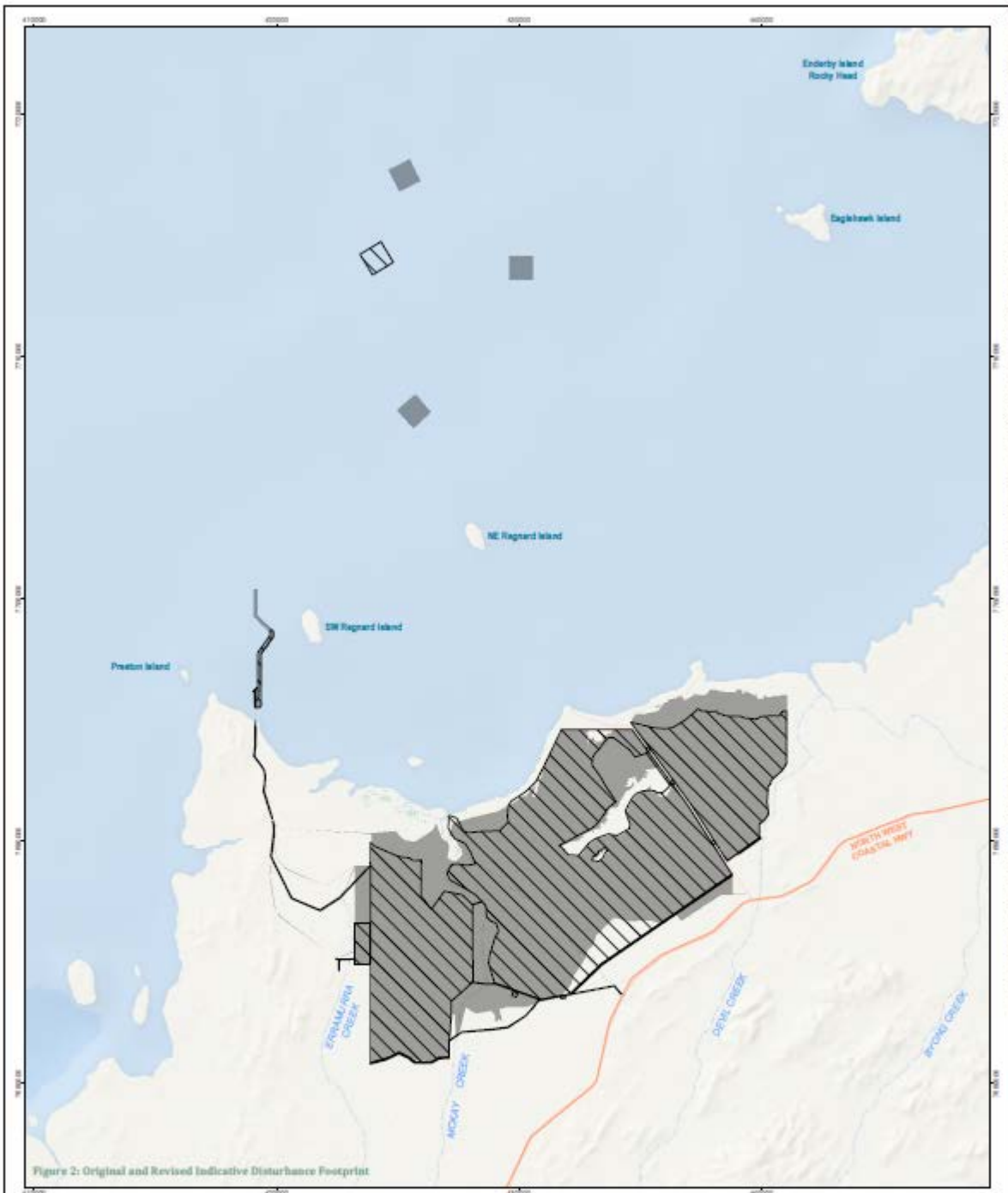
DWER GIS Section
 Date: 20/06/2023, Map Version: 1
 Application No: DWERDT471456
 Ministerial Statement No:

Disclaimer:
 This map is intended as a generalised interpretation of environmental issues.
 The information contained on this map is to be considered indicative only and in
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Kilometres

Spatial Reference: GDA2020 MGA Zone 50
 Scale: 1:200,000 at A4





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CREATED BY	JOB	DATE	REVISION
ENVIRONMAPS	PC2000212	30/06/2023	0

Lelohardt Salt Pty Ltd

Scale 1:100,000 @ A3

NOTE THAT POSITION ERRORS CAN BE ±5M IN SOME AREAS

LOCALITY

Legend

- Revised Disturbance Footprint
- Previous Disturbance Footprint