

## *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

Robe River Mining Co. Pty Ltd (ACN: 008694246)  
Central Park  
152-158 St Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

### PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:

West Angles Revised Proposal  
Assessment No. 2290

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:

- Amendment to the Proposal Content Document to reflect updates to the maximum life of the project with the revised proposal operational phase increased from an estimated 15 years to an estimated 25 years (not including construction and closure implementation phases).
- Amendment to the Proposal Content Document to reflect the revised emission calculations for the West Angles Revised Proposal.
- Proposal elements with Greenhouse Gas Emissions:
  - **Scope 1:** decrease in predicted peak annual Scope 1 emissions by 35,890 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>-e) per annum, from 193,388 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum to 157,498 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum for the proposal expansion (significant amendment). Resulting in up to 249,129 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum for the revised proposal (combined existing operations and the proposal expansion).
  - **Scope 2:** increase in predicted peak annual Scope 2 emissions by 3,107 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e per annum, from 25,335 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum to 36,422 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum for the proposal expansion (significant amendment). Resulting in up to 40,610 tCO<sub>2</sub>-e/annum for the revised proposal (combined existing operations and the proposal expansion).
  - **Scope 3:** increase in total Scope 3 emissions by 177.6 million tonnes (Mt), from 17.4 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e to 195 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e for the proposed expansion (significant amendment). Resulting in up to 410 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-e for the revised proposal (combined existing operations and the proposal expansion).

The amended proposal content document is attached.

**SUMMARY OF REASONS:**

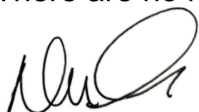
- The change in emissions is due to final recalculations of Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions based on an updated mine plan and preparation of the Greenhouse Gas Environmental Management Plan (December 2023).
- Although the 8-week public environmental review was previously undertaken from 8 January to 6 March 2024, the estimated emissions, as amended, were provided in the publicly available greenhouse gas environmental management plan (Appendix A7 of the environmental review document).
- As there are no new environmental factors identified as a result of the amendments, there are no additional EPA functions that need to be performed to assess the amended proposal.
- The amended proposal will still be substantially the same character as the existing referred proposal.
- The Proposal Content Document has been amended to reflect the emissions calculations in the West Angelas Revised Proposal Greenhouse Gas Environmental Management Plan (Appendix A7 of the environmental review document).

**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.



**Darren Walsh**  
**Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority**  
CHAIR

3 December 2024

**Attachment 1- Amended proposal content document**

**Table 1: Summary of the Proposal<sup>1</sup>**

Existing General Proposal Description as approved by S43A, 26 April 2023		Revised Proposal (as amended)
Proposal Title	West Angelas Revised Proposal	No change
Proponent Name	Robe River Mining Co Pty Limited	No change
Short Description	<p>The Proposal is located approximately 130 km northwest of Newman in the East Pilbara region of Western Australia. The Proposal is located within Yinhawangka and Ngarlawangga Peoples Native Title Determination Areas. The Proposal includes the development of AWT and BWT iron deposits and associated infrastructure including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of above and below water table mine pits;</li> <li>• Associated activities which may include as relevant, but are not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mineral waste management: including waste rock landforms, land bridges, low grade ore dumps, topsoil and sub-soil stockpiles, in-pit waste rock landforms and storage of waste fines;</li> <li>• Ore processing (including crushing) infrastructure;</li> <li>• Other facilities including workshops, hydrocarbon and Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil (ANFO) storage and laydown areas;</li> <li>• Linear infrastructure including heavy and light vehicle access roads, rail and associated infrastructure, conveyors, utilities corridors, pipelines and power (including substations) and communications distribution networks;</li> <li>• Infrastructure for surface water management including crossings, diversion drains, levees and culverts;</li> <li>• Groundwater abstraction and utilisation, and associated infrastructure;</li> <li>• Dewatering to enable below water table mining and associated infrastructure (including bores and pipelines);</li> <li>• Infrastructure for management and use of water from dewatering;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No change

<sup>1</sup> This a Revised Proposal that includes existing approved operations on MS1113 and the Proposal

Existing General Proposal Description as approved by S43A, 26 April 2023	Revised Proposal (as amended)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offices and accommodation villages;</li> <li>• Renewable energy including renewable energy generation, energy storage and associated ancillary infrastructure.</li> </ul>	

**Table 2: Proposal Key Characteristics**

Element	Location	West Angelas Revised Proposal Extent as approved by S43A, 26 April 2023	Proposed Amendment	Revised Proposal (as amended)
<b>Physical Elements</b>				
Mine and associated infrastructure	Figure 1	<p>Clearing no more than 17,555 ha within a 36,779 ha Revised Development Envelope.</p> <p>No clearing within Ghost Bat Cave AA1, WA-13, WA-21 and WA-23 Exclusion Zones</p> <p>No clearing within the West Angelas Cracking Clay Priority Ecological Community (PEC-2015-5)</p> <p>No more than 20 ha of clearing to other representations of the West Angelas Cracking Clay Priority Ecological Community</p> <p>No more than 25 ha of clearing of riparian vegetation</p> <p>No clearing of Hilltop, Hillslope, Ridge or Cliff habitat for the Managed Aquifer Recharge Scheme infrastructure</p> <p>No clearing of:</p> <p>Water features - WMAR-01 and WMAR-03</p> <p>Caves - CMAR-02, CMAR-03 and CMAR-04</p> <p>Clearing of no more than 0.6 ha of Major Drainage habitat for the Managed Aquifer Recharge scheme infrastructure</p> <p>Below water table pits are to be backfilled to a level to prevent the formation of permanent pit lakes.</p>	Removed to avoid duplication	<p>Clearing no more than 17,555 ha within a 36,779 ha Revised Development Envelope.</p> <p>Below water table pits are to be backfilled to a level to prevent the formation of permanent pit lakes.</p>
Linear Infrastructure	Figure 1	A 413 km rail network transports processed ore from West Angelas to port facilities located at Cape Lambert	No change	No change

Element	Location	West Angelas Revised Proposal Extent as approved by S43A, 26 April 2023	Proposed Amendment	Revised Proposal (as amended)
		<p>Clearing no more than 1,500 ha within a 19,400 ha Linear Infrastructure Development Envelope, including:</p> <p>Five existing sidings (Spoonbill, Bellbird, Rosella, Brockman Refuge and Emu) and potential additional sidings to support the rail network</p> <p>Turee Creek B Borefield, pipeline, powerline, access roads and other associated infrastructure</p>		
<b>Operational Elements</b>				
Surplus water management	NA	<p>Dewatering water will be used on-site in the first instance to supply water for operational purposes. Use of surplus water may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use in processing</li> <li>• On-site other use</li> <li>• Options for temporary storage in disused mine pits</li> <li>• Infiltration to the aquifer</li> <li>• Use in Managed Aquifer Recharge Project</li> <li>• Provision to other users</li> </ul> <p>Surplus dewatering water exceeding the operational requirement is discharged to a local ephemeral tributary of Turee Creek East.</p> <p>The surface discharge extent will not extend within 2 km of the boundary of Karijini National Park under natural no-flow conditions.</p>	No change	No change

Element	Location	West Angelas Revised Proposal Extent as approved by S43A, 26 April 2023	Proposed Amendment	Revised Proposal (as amended)
<b>Proposal Elements with Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>				
Scope 1 <sup>2</sup>	Diesel and land clearing – 193,388 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa.		Decrease in forecast peak annual emissions for the Proposal of 35,890 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa	Proposal <sup>3</sup> : no more than 157,498 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa Revised Proposal <sup>4</sup> : no more than 249,129 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa
Scope 2 <sup>2</sup>	Electricity – 25,335 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa.		Increase in forecast peak annual emissions for the Proposal of 3,107 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa	Proposal <sup>3</sup> : no more than 36,422 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa Revised Proposal <sup>4</sup> : no more than 40,610 t CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa
Scope 3 <sup>5</sup>	Annual average approximately 17.4 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -e pa.		Change to total emissions to align with recent Brockman and Hope Downs 2 PCDs	Proposal <sup>3</sup> : 195 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -e Revised Proposal <sup>4</sup> : 410 Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -e
<b>Rehabilitation and Closure</b>				
The key closure outcome is to rehabilitate the site to create a safe, stable, non-polluting landscape consistent with the post-mining land use and maintain environmental and cultural heritage values. Rehabilitation and closure activities will be carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan.				No change
<b>Other Elements that Affect the Extent of Effects on the Environment</b>				
Proposal Time	Maximum project life	The Proposal operational phase is estimated at ~ 15 years (not including construction and closure implementation phases).		The Revised Proposal operational phase is estimated at ~25 years (not including construction and closure implementation phases).

<sup>2</sup> Predicted peak annual emissions

<sup>3</sup> Proposal activities not including existing operations (as defined in Section 1.3 of the published Environmental Review Document (ERD))

<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of the Greenhouse Management Plan and emissions in the PCD, the Revised Proposal incorporates Approved Proposal Deposits C, D & G only (approved under MS 1113) and the Proposal (Western Hill, Deposit H, F-North and Mt Ella East)











<sup>5</sup> Attributable over the life of the operations

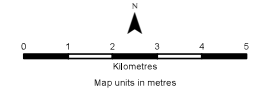
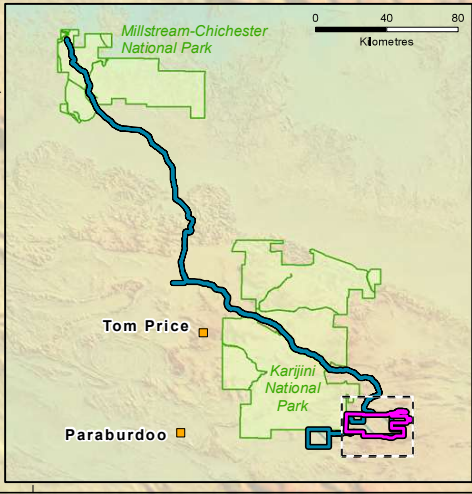
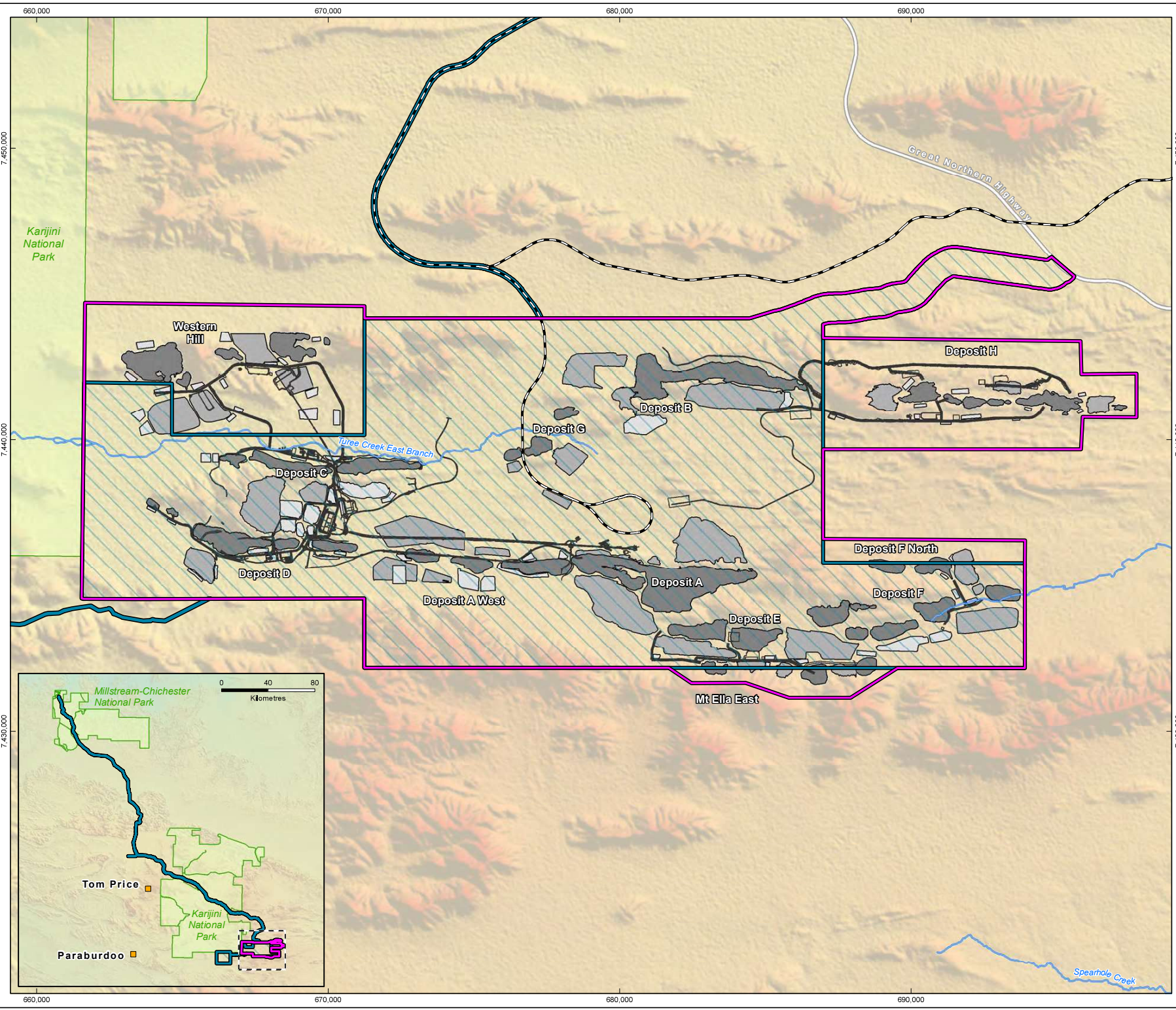


Figure 1  
Development Envelope and  
indicative location of  
Proposal Elements

Drawn: GIS Team  
Plan: RTIO-0976827v1  
Date: December 2022  
Proj: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 50  
Scale: 1:120 000 @ A3  
GIS.Team@riotinto.com

Legend

-  Revised Development Envelope
  -  Ministerial Statement Boundary 1113
- Conceptual Layout**
-  Infrastructure
  -  Pit
  -  Waste Dump
  -  Stockpile
-  National Park
  -  Rio Tinto Railway
  -  Highway
  -  Major Creek



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