

Environmental Protection Authority

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) Australian Vanadium Limited (ACN: 116 221 740)
Level 2, 50 Kings Park Road
WEST PERTH WA 6005

PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:

Australian Vanadium Project – Mining and Beneficiation Operation
Assessment No. 2287

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:

- overall increase in development envelope of 68 hectares (ha) (from 12,020 ha to 12,088 ha)
- overall reduction in clearing of 538 ha (from 2,657 ha to 2,119 ha)
- amend the wording of "High Groundwater Impact Zone" to ">10 m groundwater drawdown zone".
- amendment to the maximum extent of groundwater drawdown from "outside the Partial Groundwater Impact Zone of groundwater drawdown less than 2 m" to "5 m outside of the defined 5-10 m groundwater drawdown zone"
- reduction of the open pits combined maximum surface area by 10 ha (from 350 ha to 340 ha)
- inclusion of a maximum height for waste landforms of 35 m above ground level
- increase in tailings disposal of 70,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) (from 920,000 tpa to 990,000 tpa) in tailings storage cells
- amend the estimated greenhouse gas emissions to:
 - include scope 1 emissions of 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO₂-e) over 2 years during construction
 - include scope 3 emissions of 5,000 t CO₂-e over 2 years during construction

- increase scope 1 emissions from 63,775 t CO₂-e per annum to 92,000 t CO₂-e per annum and include the total scope 1 emissions of 2,500,000 t CO₂-e over 30 years
- reduce scope 3 emissions from peak annual 142,905 t CO₂-e per annum to 21,000 t CO₂-e per annum during non-operational and decommissioning periods, peak annual net reduction of -45,000 to -16,900,000 t CO₂-e per annum during operations, and a total net reduction of -260,000,000 to -507,000,000 t CO₂-e over thirty years.
- changes to provide a clearer definition of proposal timeframes
- minor administrative changes to clearly define the proposal.

The amended proposal content document and figures are provided in Attachment 1.

SUMMARY OF REASONS:

- The amendment to the proposal is mainly due to the removal of the northern pit, the inclusion of the Yarrabubba pit to the south, associated movement of waste landforms further south, the option for an independent Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) or a TSF associated with the waste landforms, and the addition of a water pipeline corridor to the boarder of the Gabanintha Vanadium Project. The inclusion of a maximum height of waste rock landforms was in response to matters raised by the Yugunga-Nya people regarding visual impacts to Mount Yagahong.
- Based on the information provided in the proposal amendment documentation there is predicted to be a decrease in impact to native vegetation, troglifaunal and visual amenity.
- The amended proposal will result in changes in direct impacts to flora and vegetation, and terrestrial fauna habitat. The impacts are unlikely to be significantly different from that of the original proposal.
- The movement of the pits and waste landforms further south and the abstraction of groundwater from those pits is likely to increase impacts to surface water, groundwater, stygofauna and the Priority 1 Nowthanna Hill calcrete groundwater assemblage type on Murchison palaeodrainage on Yarrabubba Station Priority Ecological Community. However, the impacts to the amended proposal are expected to be comparable with those of the original referred.
- The amendment to the proposal includes the redefinition of drawdown of 2 m not extending outside of the Partial Groundwater Impact Zone to drawdown of 5 m not extending outside of the 5-10 m groundwater drawdown zone. This amendment reflects the findings of a recent hydrogeological study which estimates the thickness and depth of potential stygofauna habitat.
- The estimated annual average scope 1 and scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions have been amended to include transportation as scope 1 rather than scope 3 emissions, vegetation clearing, the change in power station fuel source from

diesel to natural gas and downstream use in scope 3 emissions. Scope 1 emissions have increased but remain below the 100,000 t CO₂-e limit.

- There are no additional EPA functions that need to be performed to assess the amended proposal as a two-week public environmental review will take place following the submission of an adequate additional information, which will include assessment of the changes outlined in the amendment.
- There are no new environmental factors likely to be significantly affected as a result of the amendments.
- The amended proposal will still 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.



Darren Walsh
Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority
CHAIR

17 December 2025

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