Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Decision Report

Application for Licence

Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence Number	L3062/2025/1
Applicant	Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd
ACN	612 668 201
File number	APP-0029154
Premises	Ashburton Infrastructure Project – Port Landside and Nearshore Legal description – Part of Lot 555 on Deposited Plan 402556 Part of Lot 569 on Deposited Plan 71345 Part of Lot 570 on Deposited Plan 71345 TALANDJI WA 6710 As defined by the premises map attached to the issued licence
Date of report	21/11/2025 (**FINAL**)
Decision	Licence granted

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1. Decision summary

This decision report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from emissions and discharges during the operation of the Ashburton Infrastructure Project – Port Landside and Nearshore (the Premises). As a result of this assessment, *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) licence L3062/2025/1 (L3062) has been granted.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this decision report, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department; DWER) has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents.

2.2 Application summary and overview of premises

On 26 June 2025, Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd (the applicant) submitted an application for a licence to the department under section 57 of the EP Act. The application seeks a licence relating to the ongoing operation of bulk material loading or unloading activities at the Premises.

The Premises is located approximately 10.5 km southwest of the town of Onslow and is situated within Part of Lot 555 on Deposited Plan 402556, Part of Lot 569 on Deposited Plan 71345 and Part of Lot 570 on Deposited Plan 71345.

The Premises was approved for construction under EP Act Works Approval W6713/2022/1 (W6713).

The Premises relates to category 58 as defined in Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) and was constructed to facilitate loading of up to 110,000 tonnes per day of iron ore onto transshipment vessels. The applicant currently undertakes category 58 activities at the Premises through Time Limited Operation (TLO) conditions applied under W6713. These conditions will be transferred over to the licence to allow ongoing operations at the Premises.

Components of the Premises relevant to the application (as shown in Figure 1) are:

- Landside Facility (port) - where crushed ore from West Pilbara operations will be unloaded from haul trucks, stockpiled and loaded onto a conveyor system (bulk handling facility); and
- Nearshore Facility (marine) - where the conveyed ore is loaded onto berth transhipment vessels (TSVs) for offshore transfer to ocean going vessels (OGVs) at offshore anchorage points.

A power station was also constructed under W6713 which uses natural gas as a fuel source to generate electrical power. The power station consists of nine (9) 1.56 megawatt (MW) generators and is designed to generate a combined total of 14 MW of power. As this is below 20 MW (using natural gas) it does not trigger category 52 under Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations. These activities can however be regulated under Part V as a directly related activity.

A 2 gigalitre per annum (GL/annum) seawater desalination plant was also constructed at the Premises, however because the wastewater (brine) is discharge into marine waters it did not satisfy the description of a category 85B prescribed premises. Ministerial Statement 1204 (MS 1204) issued July 2023 regulates discharge of up to 2 GL/annum of hypersaline brine into marine waters at the Premises through operational, monitoring, recording and reporting conditions. See section 2.3.1 below for further details.

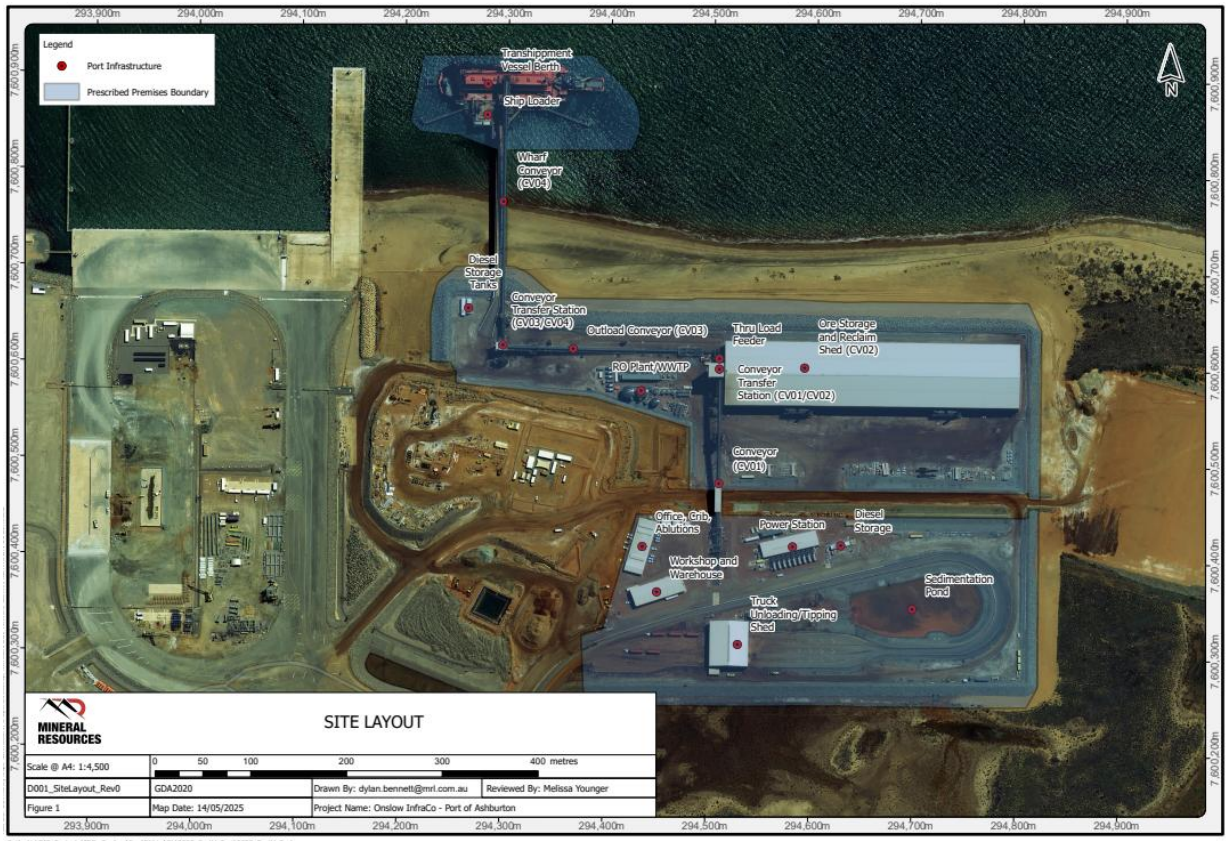

Figure 1: Site layout

2.2.1 Compliance reporting

An assessment of constructed infrastructure items conditioned under W6713 was undertaken by the department with a summary of compliance provided below:

- Environmental Construction Report – submitted 30/04/2024. DWER determined compliance was demonstrated for Condition 1 - items 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12 and notified Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd on 05/06/2024 (A2284842).
- Environmental Construction Report – submitted 31/05/2024. DWER determined compliance was demonstrated for Condition 1 - items 5, 6 and 7 and notified Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd on 24/06/2024 (A2289724).
- Environmental Construction Report – submitted 06/11/2024. DWER determined compliance was demonstrated for Condition 1 - items 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 and notified Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd.
- Environmental Construction Report – submitted 04/02/2025. DWER determined compliance was demonstrated for Condition 1 - items 3 and 10 and notified Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd on 22/07/2025 (APP-0027379).

2.3 Part IV of the EP Act

2.3.1 Ministerial Statement No. 1204

The Ashburton Infrastructure Project – Port Landside and Nearshore proposal (the Proposal) was referred by Onslow Infraco Pty Ltd to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under section 38 of the EP Act. The EPA decided to assess the Proposal and set a level of assessment of Public Environment Report (PER).

The EPA determined (EPA report 1733) the Proposal may be implemented subject to conditions and procedures and published MS1204 on 3 July 2023. Operational elements of MS1204

relevant to the application include:

- Hypersaline brine discharge up to 2 GL/annum; and
- Bulk material loading up to 40 Mtpa

Conditions imposed under MS 1204 that negate requirement to include conditions under an EP Act Part V licence include:

- Ensuring no adverse impact to benthic communities and habitat beyond the zone of moderate impact;
- Ensuring no adverse impacts on the environmental values of ecosystem health;
- Implementing the Marine Operations Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan;
- Implementing the Underwater Noise Management Protocol and the Artificial Light Impact Assessment and Management Plan;
- Ensuring no adverse impacts on potential groundwater dependent ecosystems;
- Minimising risk of physical injury or mortality from operations on native fauna;
- Minimising the risk of adverse impacts including behavioural changes and health impacts from operations on Native fauna;
- Implementing the most recent environmental management plan;
- Monitoring requirements to determine whether environmental outcomes have been achieved and to prepare and submit a compliance monitoring report, including non-compliance reporting, along with management actions undertaken to ensure compliance.

2.3.2 Ministerial Statement No.1131

MS 1131 was published on 23 April 2020 (EPA Report No: 1653) and the Pilbara Port Authority (PPA) is the nominated proponent responsible for administering MS 1131 which relates to the on-going management of onshore, nearshore, and offshore facilities located within the Port. MS 1131 includes the following elements:

- Shipping channel

- Material Offloading Facility (also known as Ashburton Cargo Wharf);

- Access Road; and

- Eastern Port Precinct (new element added in February 2022 via s45c)

MS 1131 was not originally intended to operate a significant iron ore handling facility. On 2 February 2022, EPA approved a request change to a proposal for MS 1131 under section 45C of the EP Act to add the Eastern Port Precinct (43.44 ha disturbance area) to MS 1131 to authorise preliminary site preparation works, including development of a temporary construction camp, clearing and earthworks associated with construction of an outer revetment rock wall.

Physical and operational elements authorised under MS 1131 are not associated with authorised activities undertaken at the Premises under L3062. Therefore, conditions imposed under MS 1131 have not been considered any further in determining conditions in the issued licence L3062.

3. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a risk event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that

emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises operation which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in

Table 1 below.

Table 1 also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 1: Proposed applicant controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Operation			
Dust	Material unloading from road trains (truck unloading shed) (tipping stations / in- loaders hoppers and feeders) Transfer stations and conveyors Ship loader and out-loading conveyor Dust collector systems	Air / windborne pathway	**General** • Water carts available 24/7 for dust suppression. **Truck unloading shed** ***Delivery*** • Ore delivered to the prescribed premises at or above the Dust Extinction Moisture (DEM). ***Unloading*** • Truck unloading into hoppers undertaken in semi-enclosed steel structure tipping station with a drive-in/drive out unloading arrangement. • Water dust suppression systems implemented within the tipping station. • Transfer stations include dust suppression sprays. • Concrete slabs and kerbs provided at areas where spillage is likely (i.e. transfer points). • Equipment regularly hosed down. ***Feeder & conveyor*** • Material from the in-loading system feed onto a single belt conveyor. • Inload conveyor CV01 includes carry side covers, over material burden and idlers, to prevent generation of dust. • Scrapers fitted at the head pulley to limit material carry back and belt ploughs at the tail-end to prevent belt damage.

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			• CV01/CV02 transfer station enclosed. • Water spray dust suppression systems implemented on the feeder head chute and conveyor dust hood. **Storage and Reclaim – Ore Storage Shed** • single storage steel structure shed complete with tripper, rail mounted bridge reclaimer and direct out-loading (bypass) option. • dust collection system in the shed to mitigate dust escape and provide ventilation to permit the use of mobile equipment. • The Ore Storage Shed collected dust pumped as a slurry to the sedimentation pond. • The insertable dust collector at the load point on CV04 returned downstream. • Maintain product storage/reclaim building at negative internal pressure using baghouse dust collectors. • All building openings not required for ventilation purposes airtight sealed, as far as practicable. • Openings (roller doors) electrically actuated, and the number of doors open at any time are controlled through regular visual inspection. • Outload conveyor CV03 includes carry side covers. **Wharf conveyor** • Wharf conveyor CV04 includes carry side covers. • CV03/CV04 transfer station enclosed/clad. • A baghouse dust collector installed on CV04 leading skirt dust hoods. **TSV Loader** • The TSV loader boom conveyor incudes covers on the carry side. • Dust suppression water sprays are utilised on the discharge of the TSV loader boom. • The distance between the TSV loader boom and the TSV hopper kept to a minimum during loading operations to reduce fugitive dust emissions.

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			• Single fixed boom shiploader, with both slewing and luffing capability to optimise clearance to the vessel loading point to assist in dust reduction. • The shiploader delivers material to a single point loading (SPL) hopper mounted on the transhipp vessels for even distribution within the vessel.
Noise	Mobile machinery and haul trucks Closed Conveyors and drives Conveyor Transfer Air extraction CAT 966 Front-End Loader Power station Dumping of ore	Air / windborne pathway	• Equipment and machinery regularly maintained in accordance with manufacturer specification to ensure optimum efficiency and minimise emissions. • Machinery Plant fitted with appropriate mufflers. • Noise attenuating equipment used where practicable to minimise noise during operation.
Iron ore spills into marine environment	Ship loader (SHL01) and out-loading conveyor (CV04).	Direct discharge	• CV04 conveyor operated with top covers and carry side/windward side covers • TSV loader boom conveyor operated with top cover and carry side/windward side covers • Operations in accordance with existing PPA policies and procedures for the Port.
Sediment laden stormwater	Sedimentation basin Collection sumps pumped as a slurry to the sedimentation pond	Overland runoff, overtopping of sedimentation basin or direct discharge to tidal flats.	• Rock armoured apron discharge outlet structure to dissipate discharge energy and reduce erosion impacts • Sedimentation basin operated with minimum 300 mm freeboard at all times • Sedimentation basin will be excavated of excess material when basin capacity is reduced by more than 30% • The sedimentation basin outflow culverts are fitted with raised inlets / concrete pits that act as overflow weirs to control the passive storage volume available for sediment settlement • During emergency situations, water contained within the sedimentation basin will be discharged via the discharge outlet/s.
Unauthorised / unplanned discharge of	Fuel unloading, storage, delivery and bunkering	Loss of containment / malfunction	• Refueling of vehicles/machinery only to be undertake in dedicated areas with concrete

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
hydrocarbons	activities	or leak or spill	aprons • Spill kits maintained onsite • All spills will be contained and cleaned up and reported in accordance with PPA requirements.
Ore residue in washdown water	Washdown activities	Overland runoff	• Washdown water contained and not discharged into the marine environment.

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessment* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded the applicant's employees, visitors, and contractors from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 2 and

Figure 2 below provides a summary of potential human and environmental receptors that may be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises *(Guideline: Environmental Siting* (DWER 2020)).

Table 2: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity

Pilbara Ports employees and contractors	Approximately 300 m to the west of the conveyor and ship loading infrastructure.
Chevron Accommodation Village	Approximately 10 km southeast of the Premises. **Screened out** - Separation distance considered too large for a source-pathway-receptor linkage to exist for this receptor.
Onslow town	Approximately 10.5 km southeast of premises. **Screened out** - Separation distance considered too large for a source-pathway-receptor linkage to exist for this receptor.
Environmental receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Priority fauna – Endangered (Population decreasing) - Northern quoll (*Dasyurus hallucatus)*	High to moderate likelihood of occurring within the area surrounding the Premises. **Screened out** - managed under MS 1204. Conditions B5-2(1), B5-2(2), C3-1(2), C3-2, D2-1, D2-2, D2-3, D2-4, D2-5, and D2-6.
Priority species	The Short-tailed Mouse (*Leggadina lakedownensis*) (P4), and one reptile, Maryan's Keeled Slider (*Lerista planiventralis maryani*) (P1), that have a High to Moderate likelihood of occurring within the area around the prescribed premises. **Screened out** - managed under MS 1204. Conditions B5-2(1), B5-2(2), C2-1, C2-2, C2-3, C2-4, C2-5, C3-1(2), C3-2, D2-1, D2-2, D2-3, D2-4, D2-5, and D2-6.
Migratory Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) migratory birds – Shore/water bird species	The area surrounding the Facility consists of Primary Dune, Claypans and Tidal Flats. These areas provide seasonal habitats for numerous MNES shore/waterbird species. **Screened out** - managed under MS 1204. Conditions B5-2(1), B5-2(2), C2-1, C2-2, C2-3, C2-4, C2-5, C3-1(2), C3-2, D2-1, D2-2, D2-3, D2-4, D2-5, and D2-6.
Marine Environment	The nearshore materials handling infrastructure is predominately within the Moderate level of ecological protection (LEP) zone with the designation of a Low Ecological Protection Area (LEPA) surrounding the brine outfall diffuser. **Screened out** – managed under MS 1204. Conditions B1-1, B2-1, B2-2, C2-1, C2-2, C2-3, C2-4, C2-5, C3-1(2), C3-2, D2-1, D2-2, D2-3, D2-4, D2-5, and D2-6.
Island nature reserves (ESA) Series of limestone island nature reserves, including Ashburton, Bessieres, Direction and	The Project is located approximately 21 km from the nearest island nature reserve being Direction Island. **Screened out** – Separation distance considered

Tortoise islands.	too large for a source-pathway-receptor linkage to exist for this receptor.
Surface water including mangrove vegetation	The designated Ashburton River Delta 'Regionally Significant' mangrove area (EPA, 2001) is located on the Western extent of the Port, approximately 2.2 km from the proposed premises. Mangroves are also located approximately 200 m south-east of the premises boundary along the riverbanks of Hooley Creek (West).
Groundwater The groundwater is brackish to hyper-saline, near neutral to slightly alkaline in pH and also contains high levels of dissolved metals. The level of some of these metals are in excess of the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG 2018). The water is not considered suitable for potable or industrial use.	Groundwater table (saline wedge) is approximately 1 m below the natural surface at the premises boundary.
Cultural receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Thalanyji (WCD2008/003) Native Title Area	The Landside portion of the Premises occurs within the Thalanyii Native Title area. The PPA has a heritage agreement with the Thalanyji People guiding consultation and other matters that may affect Thalanyji interests including within the Landside portion of the proposed works. **Screened out** - managed under MS 1204, conditions B6-2 and B6-3.
Commercial receptors	
Onslow salt	Evaporation ponds approximately 3 km southeast.
BHP Macedon Gas Facility	Approximately 6 km southwest. **Screened out** - Separation distance considered too large for a source-pathway-receptor linkage to exist for this receptor.
Chevron Wheatstone gas processing facility	The Chevron facility boundary is located immediately to the southwest of the proposed premises, approximately 400 m. Train 1 within the facility is approximately 1.5 km southwest and the gas turbines are approximately 2.1 km southwest.

Figure 2: Distance to sensitive receptors

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for each identified emission source and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are in-complete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the applicant has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 3.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the delegated officer considers the applicant's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the licence as regulatory controls.

Licence L3062/2025/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the premises i.e. bulk material loading or unloading activities. The conditions in the issued licence, as outlined in Table 3 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the applicant's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 3.

Table 3: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during operation

Risk events					Risk rating [1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions [2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Sources / activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Operation								
Vehicle movements Truck unloading shed/tipping station Excess wet product drying stockpiles Ore storage and reclaim shed Out loading facility	Dust	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway **Impact:** Deposition onto plants and surface water, potentially causing compromised ecological function and surface water quality. Impacts on human health (employees)	Hooley Creek West Mangroves approximately 200m southwest of boundary Regionally Significant mangrove area approximately 2.2km west of boundary Pilbara Ports employees and contractors approximately 300 m to the west Commercial receptors (namely Onslow Salt and Chevron Wheatstone – refer to Table 2)	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Possible **Medium Risk**	Y	Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, **9, 10**, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22	Applicant proposed operational controls, monitoring, trigger value exceedance management actions and reporting conditioned in the licence. Air monitoring equipment installed at the Premises. Standard conditions included requiring calibration of monitoring equipment is undertaken. Standard recording and reporting conditions included.
Fuel and oil spills while operating plant, machinery and vehicles Fuel and oil spills while refuelling and servicing	Hydrocarbons and chemicals	**Pathway:** Direct discharge to land and overland flow to surface waters, and seepage to groundwater	Hooley Creek West Mangroves approximately 200m southwest of	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Conditions 1, 5, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22	Applicant proposed operational controls, monitoring, inspections and management

Risk events					Risk rating [1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions [2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Sources / activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
plant, machinery and vehicles Spill and leaks from fuel storage facility or fuel delivery pipes		**Impact:** Contaminated soils, groundwater and surface water potentially causing adverse impacts to ecosystems	boundary Regionally Significant mangrove area approximately 2.2km west of boundary Groundwater approximately 1.0 mbgl					actions conditioned in the licence. Standard recording and reporting conditions included.
Stormwater drainage collection network including drains/culverts, drive-in-sumps, immediate sumps, slurry pumps and unlined sedimentation basin	Sediment laden/contaminated stormwater	**Pathway:** Direct discharge to land and overland flow to surface waters, and seepage to groundwater **Impact:** Contaminated soils, groundwater and surface water potentially causing adverse impacts to ecosystems	Hooley Creek West Mangroves approximately 200m southwest of boundary Regionally Significant mangrove area approximately 2.2km west of boundary Groundwater approximately 1.0 mbgl	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Conditions 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and **23**	Applicant proposed operational controls, monitoring, inspections and management actions conditioned in the licence. Non-annual reporting requirements included for requesting copies of third-party monitoring reports. Standard recording and reporting conditions included.
Excess sedimentation basin discharge to land (tidal flats)	Sediment laden/contaminated stormwater	**Pathway:** Direct discharge to land, overland flow to surface waters, and seepage to groundwater **Impact:** Contaminated soils, groundwater	Hooley Creek West Mangroves approximately 200m southwest of boundary Regionally Significant	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Moderate L = Possible **Medium Risk**	Y	Conditions 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23 and **24**	Applicant proposed operational controls, monitoring, inspections and management actions conditioned in the licence. Limits included for

Risk events					Risk rating [1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions [2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Sources / activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
		and surface water potentially causing adverse impacts to ecosystems	mangrove area approximately 2.2km west of boundary Groundwater approximately 1.0 mbgl					TRH and pH in discharge waters due to nearby sensitive receptors (i.e. mangrove area within 200m and regionally significant mangrove area 2.2 km away). Non-annual reporting requirements included for requesting copies of third-party monitoring reports. Standard recording and reporting conditions included.

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed applicant controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

4. Consultation

Table 4 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 08/09/2025	No comments received.	N/A
Local Government Authority advised of proposal on 09/09/2025	No comments received.	N/A
Pilbara Ports advised of proposal on 09/09/2025	Comments received 26/09/2025. 1. *Section 4.2 – Table 3* *Uncovered trailers on super-quad road-trains represent a significant potential source of dust during transit to and within the Premises boundary. Pilbara Ports understands best practice dust management control is for ore to be delivered to the Premises via fully covered road-trains.* *Pilbara Ports notes that Table 3 does not include a commitment to cover trucks (road trains) carrying ore to site. However, this commitment was included in the Works Approval (W6713/2022/1, refer to Table 1 - design and construction / installation requirements - item 2 - Mobile machinery / vehicles - "haul truck loads to be covered to minimise dust emissions").* 2. *Section 5.1.1* *A statement is made that "there are no sensitive human receptors located within 10 km of the premises. The nearest sensitive land use (infrastructure) is located approximately 1.5 km to the southwest (Chevron Wheatstone Processing Facility)."* *Pilbara Ports manages Port Facilities at the Port of Ashburton, including the Ashburton Cargo Wharf, sheds and office buildings, Port Access Road and a range of lease areas for light commercial / industrial activities. Pilbara Ports has permanent staff, contractors and lease holders. The Port Facilities are located immediately adjacent (~290m to the west) of the conveyor and shiploading infrastructure at the Prescribed Premises. The Port Facilities are not discussed in the context of a*	1. Licence only regulates emissions from prescribed activities (i.e. loading and unloading of vessels) that occur within the prescribed premises boundary. The requirement to cover haul trucks under W6713 only applied during the construction phase due to the nature of the material being transported (i.e. excavated materials and construction sands). During commissioning and time limited operations under W6713, mined ore delivered to site must be above the dust extinction moisture (DEM) level. There was no requirement for ore loads to be covered when received at the Premises. DEM level requirement for ore received at the premises has been carried over as a condition in the licence. 2. Local commercial operations and Pilbara Ports employees and contractors identified as potential human receptors as part of the risk assessment for the premises. Conditions for regulating dust emissions at the Premises have been included in the Licence. 3.

	potential receptor for fugitive dust emissions from the Premises. 3. *Section 5.1.1.3* *Pilbara Ports manages Port Facilities at the Port of Ashburton, including the Ashburton Cargo Wharf, sheds and office buildings, Port Access Road and a range of lease areas for light commercial / industrial activities. Pilbara Ports has permanent staff, contractors and lease holders. The Port Facilities are located immediately adjacent (~290m to the west) of the conveyor and shiploading infrastructure at the Prescribed Premises. Section 5.1.1.3 (Tables 9 and 11) do not reference the Port Facilities managed by Pilbara Ports in the context of a potential receptor for fugitive dust emissions from the Premises.* 4. *Section 5.1.3* *Pilbara Ports notes that proposed operational controls refers to Table 3 (Section 4.2); however, Table 3 does not include a commitment to cover road trains. Uncovered trailers on super-quad road-trains represent a significant potential source of fugitive dust emissions during transit to the Premises and within the Premises. Pilbara Ports notes that standard practice for dust management is for ore to be delivered to the Premises via fully covered road-trains* 5. *Section 8.1.1 – Table 15* *Table 15 identifies management of mangroves as being under Ministerial Statement 1131 (MS 1131) (Pilbara Ports) and MS873 (Chevron). Pilbara Ports can confirm that a commitment to undertake monitoring of mangrove ecosystems within and immediately adjacent to the Port has been made under the Coastal Processes Monitoring and Management Plan approved under MS1131. However, it is unclear how this commitment to monitor mangroves under MS1131 is directly relevant to the Premises and its proposed activities.*	See point 2 above. 4. See comment above for point 1. 5. Physical and operational elements authorised under MS 1131 are not associated with authorised activities undertaken at the Premises under L3062. Therefore, conditions imposed under MS 1131 have not been considered any further in determining conditions in the issued licence L3062.
Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation advised of proposal on 09/09/2025	No comments received.	N/A
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 27/10/2025	Comments received 10/11/2025. Refer to Appendix 1 for further details.	Refer to Appendix 1.

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the delegated officer has determined that a licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. DWER 2019, *Guideline: Industry Regulation guide to Licensing*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. Mineral Resources, Part V Licence Application Supporting Document, Category 58: Bulk Material Loading or Unloading, Ashburton Infrastructure Project – Port Landside and Nearshore, 23/06/2025 Version REV0
6. Ministerial Statement 1204 - *Ashburton Infrastructure Project*, Environmental Protection Act 1986. Government of Western Australia, 3 July 2023

Appendix 1: Summary of applicant's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 1, Table 1 Mobile machinery operational requirements	Applicant seeking to amend wording to ensure practicality and allow more effective approach. Proposed: • Access to a skid steer/road sweeper and/or equivalent plant and equipment to be made available at all times, to assist in cleaning up ore spillages at the premises. • Access to a water cart to be made available as required, to assist in managing dust emissions.	Supported. Condition updated.
Condition 1, Table 1 Truck unloading shed	Reword bullet point 3 to read: • Material handling infrastructure regularly hosed down to reduce ore build up and minimise dust emissions. Reword bullet point 5 to read: • Collected excess wet solid materials (product sludge) transferred to dedicated area for drying.	Supported. Condition updated.
Condition 1, Table 1 Ore storage and reclaim shed	Reword point 1 to read: • Where practicable, all build openings not required for ventilation purposes to be closed. Reword bullet point 4 to read: • Maintain and operate dust collectors and fans in accordance with manufacturer's instruction keeping a record of all maintenance activities undertaken. Ensure during maintenance activities a minimum of one fan remains operational whilst materials handling infrastructure is operational. Reword bullet point 5 to read: • Use of mobile track feeder or dedicated feed hopper using large wheel loader permitted in storage shed during maintenance activities. Reword bullet point 8 to read: • Collected excess wet solid materials (product sludge) transferred to dedicated area for drying. Remove bullet point 9 as this is a double up of bullet point 7.	Supported. Condition updated.
Condition 1, Table 1 Excess wet solid material storage	Reword to: • Drying sludge stockpiles maintained and managed in a manner that ensures no visible dust emissions.	Partially supported. Condition updated with DWER standard condition for regulating visible dust emissions from stock piles.

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 1, Table 1 Stormwater infrastructure	Remove the first bullet point as oily water separators service the power station and fuel storage/refuelling area which is covered by bullet point 2.	Supported. Condition updated.
Condition 1, Table 1 Sedimentation basin	The applicant seeks to have bullet point 1 reworded due to an oversight in the application. As reported in the Environmental Commissiong report, freeboard will be maintained at a minimum of 300 mm.	Supported. Condition updated.
	Reword bullet point 2 to allow for operational flexibility to ensure adequate storage volume of the sedimentation basin and to avoid water becoming stagnant that could become a mosquito breeding area. The are two potential discharge mechanisms including the low flow drainage pipe and the high level graded outlet (outlet at 1.3m and outlet at 1.5m of the pond depth), one activates earlier. Reword to: • During rainfall events or as required for operations to maintain adequate freeboard and avoid water becoming stagnant, excess water within the Sedimentation Basin to be discharged to land/tidal flats beyond the southern seawall of the premises.	Supported however suggested wording simplified to 'Any excess water in the Sedimentation Basin…'
	To allow greater operational flexibility, reword bullet point 4 to: • Excavated solid material sent to an appropriate offsite facility for disposal and/or recycling/reuse.	Supported. Condition updated. Note, 'appropriate' replaced with 'approved'
Condition 2	The Applicant does not wish to assess the DEM levels for every load received at the Premises due to the following reasons: • As required by licence L9430/2024/1, ore is conditioned at the source (mine) so the moisture content is at or above the DEM level. Moisture testing is undertaken at the mine prior to transport to the premises to ensure it meets licence requirements. • During the commissioning stage, results from testing the moisture levels at the source (mine) with moisture levels recorded at the port TSV loader (a requirement under MS1204), no reduction in the moisture content of the ore during transit was observed. • Ore is unloaded into a semi-enclosed tipping shed and stored/reclaimed in a closed storage shed. The Applicant seeks to have Condition 2 reworded to: a) ensure ore delivered to the premises has been appropriately conditioned prior to arrival at or above associated dust extinction moisture (DEM) levels for the ore type as determined by	Supported. Condition updated.

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
	AS 4156.6 and updated as required through laboratory analysis. b) maintain accurate records of quantity of ore unloaded at the premises, including DEM level of the ore type received from the source premises; and c) no change	
Condition 6, Table 2	To ensure consistency with condition 1, Table 1, please reword to: • Sedimentation Basin discharge outlets to land/tidal flats.	Not supported. Condition 6 identifies authorised discharge points for emissions to the environment. The emission (stormwater runoff and washdown water) is authorised for discharge to the environment from the sedimentation basin discharge outlet.
Condition 11, Table 3	Sedimentation Basin overflow outlet Frequency of monitoring. Amend to: • During each rainfall discharge events and quarterly when operational discharge is required.	Partially supported. Frequency updated requiring monitoring at the sedimentation basin overflow outlet is undertaken for each rainfall overflow and operational discharge event. Quarterly sampling of waste water contained in the sedimentation basin is already a requirement of the licence, even if there is no discharge to the environment.
Condition 19	The applicant seeks to amend Condition 19 (c) and (e), to read: • (c) quantity of ore unloaded at the premises, including DEM level of the ore type/product received as required under condition 2. • (e) number of times water discharged from the sedimentation basin to land/tidal flats during operations.	Supported. Condition updated.
Condition 22, Table 9	The applicant seeks to amend Table 9, specifically the wording of parameters detailed for Condition 2 and Condition 6. Condition 2: Quantity or iron ore received at the Premises and DEM levels for the ore type/product received, including where product DEM level was not achieved and actions taken. Condition 6: Dates and duration for each rainfall discharge event and operational discharge event, where water is discharged from the sedimentation basin.	Supported. Condition 22 updated.
Schedule 1	Applicant provided an updated Figure 2 because DWER had screened out Chevron Wheatstone Camp (including PM10 monitor) as a receptor.	Supported. Figures 2 and 5 updated in the licence.
	There was an oversight with one of the polygons showing locations of the excess wet solid material storage areas. A revised Figure 5 showing correct storage location was provided	

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
	by the applicant.	