



## Department initiated Amendment

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

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|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Licence Number</b>    | L4504/1981/17  |
| <b>Licence Holder</b>    | South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd  |
| <b>ACN</b>               | 008 905 155  |
| <b>File Number</b>       | DER2017/001998-1   |
| <b>Premises</b>          | Worsley Alumina Refinery<br>Gastaldo Road<br>ALLANSON WA 6225<br><br>Legal description –<br><br>Lease No 3116/7574 being Wellington Locations 5314 –<br>5317 on Plan 220209<br><br>As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 1 of the Revised<br>Licence |
| <b>Date of Report</b>    | 27 January 2022  |
| <b>Proposed Decision</b> | Revised licence granted  |

## Table of Contents

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>1. Decision summary</b> .....    | <b>3</b> |
| <b>2. Scope of assessment</b> ..... | <b>3</b> |
| 2.1 Regulatory framework .....      | 3        |
| 2.2 Amendment summary .....         | 3        |
| <b>3. Consultation</b> .....        | <b>4</b> |
| <b>4. Conclusion</b> .....          | <b>4</b> |
| 4.1 Summary of amendments.....      | 4        |

## 1. Decision summary

The Delegated Officer has determined to make amendments to Licence L4504/1981/17. The amendments are administrative in nature therefore they do not alter the risk profile of the Premises, providing that all activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

This Amendment Report documents the amendments made pursuant to section 59 and 59(B) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

## 2. Scope of assessment

### 2.1 Regulatory framework

In amending the licence, the department 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 Amendment summary

Licence L4504 is held by South32 Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Worsley Alumina Refinery (the Premises), located at Wellington Locations 5314-5317 Gastaldo Road, Allanson Western Australia.

The Premises relates to the categories and the assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in existing Licence L4504/1981/17.

On 1 December 2021, the department initiated an amendment to Licence L4504/1981/17. The amendment is limited to reflect the actual fly ash deposition volumes at the premises and to clarify the reporting requirements for existing monitoring conditions.

The Licence Holder has disposed of over 100,000 tonnes of fly ash into the bauxite residue disposal areas for a number of years and this has not been reflected on the assessed production capacity on the Licence. Over the last five years the site has disposed of between 100,000 tonnes and 105,000 tonnes per annual period. Bauxite refining is a high energy input process and has resulted in increased volumes of coal combustion and ash disposal at the premises into the Bauxite Residue Disposal Areas (BRDA's). This increase is now reflected on the Licence.

The disposal of ash into the BRDA's was inadvertently omitted from the waste processing table 1.2.2 as part of Condition 1.2.3 and this has now been included under this amendment.

The reporting format for exceedances of descriptive or numerical targets and specified management actions as part of quarterly monitoring requirements has been amended to require the submission of a quarterly monitoring report that contains all the information for all separate pieces of infrastructure at the same time and contained within one report. This is sought to limit the submission of several documents for different infrastructure in different documents and on different days, and to facilitate ease of comparison of results and trend analysis across quarters and years through the submission of collated reports (Condition 4.2.3 and Table 4.2.3). A summary in the form of trend analysis of these quarterly reporting requirements is now required to be submitted within the annual report (Table 4.2.1 and Condition 4.2.1).

The annual Relative Accuracy Test Audits (RATA) reports are now required to be submitted within the annual reports rather than within the non-annual reporting

requirements.

Various minor edits have been made such as clarifying changes to production design or assessment capacity to the prescribed activities on the cover page; typographical errors to Condition numbers in Tables 4.2.1, 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 as detailed in Table 1 below.

The Licence has been amended to reflect these changes.

### 3. Consultation

The Licence Holder was provided with the draft Amendment Report on 15/12/2021. Comments received from the Licence Holder on 15 December 2021 have been considered by the Delegated Officer as detailed in Appendix 1.

### 4. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Amendment Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that an amended licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

#### 4.1 Summary of amendments

Table 1 below provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised licence as part of the amendment process.

**Table 1: Summary of licence amendments**

| Condition no.   | Proposed amendments  |
|---|--|
| Cover page  | Change of fly ash deposition production capacity from 65,000 tonnes per annum to 110,000 tonnes per annum.<br><br>The throughput capacity for each prescribed activity as either an assessed or design or production capacity has been specified   |
| <i>History</i>  | <i>Added current Licence Amendment</i>   |
| Condition 1.2.3 – Table 1.2.2 Waste Processing            | Inclusion of fly ash as a waste type that is disposed of into the BRDA's   |
| Condition 4.2.1 – Table 4.2.1 Annual Environmental Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• correct Licence condition number for complaints summary from 4.1.4 to 4.1.3 (row 2)</li><li>• correct Licence condition number for location of landfill cells map from 1.3.3 to 1.2.5 (row 3)</li><li>• remove reference to Licence condition 1.3.7 (row 4)</li><li>• correct Licence condition number from 1.3.4(c) to 1.2.3 (row 5)</li><li>• include a requirement from Licence holder to include an analysis of CEMS and stack test data and an explanation where target exceedances are exceeded (row 7)</li><li>• require the inclusion of a summary of specified actions for each emission reference point over a three-year period (row 8)</li></ul> |

| Condition no.  | Proposed amendments  |
|--|--|
|  | 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• include the annual RATA audit results within the annual report (row 9)</li> </ul>  |
| Condition 4.2.3 –<br>Table 4.2.2 Non-annual<br>Environmental<br>Report | Requires submission of non-annual reporting requirements within a combined quarterly report and to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• correct Licence condition number for exceedance from 2.1.2 and 2.1.4 to 2.2.2 and 2.2.4 (row 1)</li> <li>• require submission of all specified management actions undertaken within the quarterly period within a quarterly report</li> <li>• allow the submission of combined monitoring report to be submitted 35 rather than 30 days after the end of the quarterly period.</li> <li>• Remove the requirement for annual RATA to be included as a non-annual reporting requirement (row 3 to be deleted)</li> </ul> |
| Condition 4.2.3 –<br>Table 4.2.2                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct Licence condition number for calibration report notification requirements from 3.1.5 to 3.1.4 (row 1)</li> <li>• Remove Licence condition number for a breach of limit from condition 2.6.2 as this does not exist within the licence and single condition (row 2)</li> <li>• Remove the reporting of exceedances of descriptive or numerical targets from the table as this is now included in Table 4.2.2 (row 3)</li> </ul>  |