

Amendment Report

Application for Licence Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Licence Number	L8308/2008/2
Licence Holder	CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd
ACN	119 578 371
File Number	DER2014/000430-2
Premises	Sino Iron Project Mine Site
	Mining Tenements M08/123, M08/124, M08/125, M08/264, M08/265, M08/266, G08/54 and L08/126
	MARDIE WA 6714

Decision Revised licence granted

ALANA KIDD MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

Date of Report

an officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)

24 February 2022

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1. Decision summary

Licence L8308/2008/2 is held by CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Sino Iron Project Mine Site (the Premises), located at Mining Tenements M08/123, M08/124, M08/125, M08/264, M08/265, M08/266, G08/54 and L08/126, MARDIE WA 6714.

This Amendment Report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during the operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L8308/2008/2 has been granted.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Amendment Report, 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 Application summary

On 21 January 2022, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L8308/2008/2 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- Extension of expiry date;
- Reduced frequency Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) Relative Accuracy Test Audit (RATA);
- Decommissioning of the Bulk Fuel Facility;
- Disposal of waste within the North East (NE) Waste Rock Landform; and
- Minor administrative changes as shown in Table 6.

This amendment is limited only to changes to Categories 52, 64 and 73 activities from the Existing Licence. No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to Categories 5, 6, 12, 54 and 57 have been requested by the Licence Holder.

Table 1 below outlines the proposed changes to the existing Licence.

Table 1: Proposed design or throughput capacity changes

Category	Current design throughput capacity	Proposed design throughput capacity	Description of proposed amendment
5	Primary Crushers (1, 2, 3 and 4) 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period	Primary Crushers (1, 2, 3 and 4) 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period	N/A
	Concentrators (Mill Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period (producing 27,600,000 tonnes per annual period) Tailings Storage Facility (Stage 2) 67,400,000 tonnes per annual period	Concentrators (Mill Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period (producing 27,600,000 tonnes per annual period) Tailings Storage Facility (Stage 2) 67,400,000 tonnes per annual period	

6	12GL/annum	12GL/annum	N/A
12	2,700,000 tonnes per annual period	2,700,000 tonnes per annual period	N/A
52	480 megawatts	480 megawatts	N/A
54	160 cubic metres per day	160 cubic metres per day	N/A
57	No more than 500 tyres	No more than 500 tyres	N/A
64	25,000 tonnes per annual period	25,000 tonnes per annual period	N/A
73	4,800 cubic metres in aggregate	0 cubic metres in aggregate	Removal category 73 for the bulk fuel facility from the licence.

2.2.1 Reduced frequency CEMS RATA

Point source emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and carbon monoxide (CO) are monitored at the Power Station using CEMS. Seven CEMS are installed at the Power Station. The six CEMS installed across gas turbine generators 1 - 6 are dual probe multiplexing systems whereby stack emissions can either be sampled from the Gas Turbine (GT) Bypass Stack or the Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG) Main Stack. GT 7 is a stand-alone analyser with a standard probe configuration.

Since 2018, the licence holder has engaged Ektimo Pty Ltd to conduct two RATA and two CGA on each CEMS per annual period in accordance with the CEMS Code.

During 2020 the licence holder engaged Emission Assessment Pty Ltd to complete an annual evaluation of the CEMS Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) and the CEMS Code allows for the transition to a minimum of one RATA per year and three CGA per year for the second and succeeding years of operations subject to the QAP demonstrating ongoing compliance with the CEMS Code.

Annual Environmental Report (AER) for 2020/2021 shows average carbon monoxide (CO) emissions across GT 1 -7 was slightly lower than previous reporting period, 0.89 ppmV @15% O_2 compared to the previous reporting period of 1.14 ppmV @15% O_2 .

AER for 2020/21 shows average oxide of nitrogen (NOx) across GT 1 – 7 was consistent with the previous reporting period of 22.54 ppmV @15% O_2 for all GTs at 22.55 ppmV @15% O_2 .

2.2.2 Decommissioning of the Bulk Fuel Facility

In 2010 the licence holder constructed a 4,800 m³ Bulk Fuel Facility, however, the heavy vehicle fleet did not utilise this facility. All diesel was removed from the facility and the tanks and Oily Water Separator (OWS) 2 have been decommissioned. The area will be used as a temporary laydown area for processing components that include in-built hydrocarbon stores (i.e. Transformers). The bunded compound will stay in place until it impedes future development.

To service the ongoing needs of the heavy fleet, diesel will continue to be stored within the existing 990 m³ fuel storage facility located at the southern end of the mine pit. The production capacity does not trigger the Category 73 Bulk storage of chemicals, etc. threshold and, therefore, this can be removed from the licence.

2.2.3 NE Waste Rock Landform

Proposed landfilling locations are within the existing NE Waste Rock Landform footprint but

have not been incorporated into the operational waste rock landform as they are separated by an established mine-access road.

A minimum separation distance of 100m will be maintained between the landfilling and Edwards Creek. Stormwater will be diverted around waste areas. Water that has come into contact with waste will be diverted into a sump within the landfill area. There are two sites within the NE Waste Rock Landform to be used as shown in Schedule 1: Maps, Figure 1 of the Licence L8308/2008/2. The depth to groundwater is 35m at the first location and 43m at the second location.

Both locations are located within the waste rock landform footprint and will be wholly encapsulated by the final landform.

During the previous assessment of the South East (SE) Waste Rock Landform, DWER sought confirmation from the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety if the landfill proposed within the South East Waste Rock Landform is authorised under the *Mining Act 1978*. The Sino Iron Project mining areas, including the SE Waste Rock Dump, is managed under the *Iron Ore Processing (Mineralogy Pty Ltd) Agreement Act 2002* administered by the Department of Jobs Tourism Science and Innovation (DJTSI). The landfill has therefore not been approved under the *Mining Act 1978*.

2.3 Part IV of the EP Act

The Premises is subject to MS 635, MS 822 and MS 1066 under Part IV of the EP Act:

- MS 635, issued on 20 October 2003, approved the construction and operation of a 44.8 Mtpa iron ore mine, power station, desalination plant, processing plant, accommodation, and port facilities in the Cape Preston area;
- MS 635, Attachments 1 to 5 have resulted in approvals to increase the mining rate to 95 Mtpa, the production of concentrate to 27.6 Mtpa and produced waste to tailings storage to 67.4 Mtpa and discharge of up to 2 GL/a of dewatered groundwater from the mine pit to a point near the mouth of the Fortescue River;
- MS 822, issued on 23 December 2009, amended conditions in MS 635 to remove requirements for further investigations into seawater quality and the location of the marine outfall and replaced them with conditions related to Ecological Protection Areas; and
- MS 1066, issued on 20 October 2017, approved the expansion of the iron ore mine, processing plant and export facilities in the Cape Preston area. For the mine and processing plant this included deepening the mine pit, additional infrastructure (including waste storage, creek diversion and infrastructure corridors), additional dewatering and discharge of surplus dewater.

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 Amendment Report are detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 2: Licence Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls						
Power Station	Power Station								
Air emissions	Power Station stacks	Air/windborne pathway	No additional controls included as part of this amendment. Only modifications to CEMS Code monitoring.						
Bulk Fuel Facility used a	s temporary laydov	vn area							
Hydrocarbons / chemicals, stormwater	Temporary laydown area in the Bulk Fuel	Direct discharges	Compound maintained and emptied prior to heavy rain or cyclonic weather.						
	Facility area		Stormwater within the bunded compound will be collected and disposed of to an appropriately licensed facility.						
NE Waste Rock Landform	n Landfilling								
Air emissions	Smoke generated from potential fires	Air/windborne pathway	Water supply and cover material available in the event of fires.						
		Air/windborne	Wastes frequently covered.						
Marchar	Windblown	pathway	Landfilling activities managed for rehabilitation.						
Wastes	wastes		Cover material available and wastes totally covered.						
			Waste input monitoring.						
		Direct	Wastes frequently covered.						
Contaminated	Rainwater flowing	discharges	Landfilling activities managed for rehabilitation.						
stormwater	into contaminated areas		Cover material available and wastes totally covered.						
			Waste input monitoring.						
		Seepage / infiltration to	Waste input monitoring.						
Leachate	Contaminated wastes	infiltration to groundwater	The depth to groundwater is 35m at the first location and 43m at the second location.						

3.1.2 Receptors

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

Table 3 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 3: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Fortescue River Mouth recreational area (informal campsite not managed by the City of Karratha)	More than 5 km to the north-west of the mining / processing operational areas
Mardie Station Homestead	Approximately 20km south west of the premises (the Prescribed Premises is within the Mardie Station Pastoral Lease)
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Fortescue River	More than 5 km to the north-west of the mining / processing operational areas

3.2 Risk ratings

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

Where the Licence Holder 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 Licence Holder's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the Licence as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the Licence Holder's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 4.

The Revised Licence L8308/2008/2 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises i.e. Categories 52 and 73 activities.

The conditions in the Revised Licence have been determined in accordance with Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions (DER 2015).

Risk Event					Risk rating ¹	Licence		Justification for
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of licence	additional regulatory controls
Operation								
Power Station	Air emissions (particularly CO and NOx)	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Fortescue River Mouth recreational area 5 km away and Mardie Station Homestead 20 km away	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	Condition 22, Table 10 Emissions and discharges monitoring Requires monitoring of the Power Station emissions. Condition 23 requires CEMS Code monitoring. Condition 35, Table 15 Annual Environmental Report Requires CEMS results.	N/A
Bulk Fuel Facility used as temporary laydown area	Hydrocarbons / chemicals	Direct discharges causing contamination	Fortescue River more than 5 km to the north- west of the mining / processing operational areas Vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	N/A	N/A
NE Waste Rock Landform Landfilling	Air emissions	Smoke generated from potential fires	Fortescue River Mouth recreational area 5 km away and Mardie Station Homestead 20 km away	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	Condition 2, Table 2 Waste processing Updated to include the NE Waste Rock Landform landfilling locations. Condition 5 requires that water supply and cover material is available in the event of fires. Condition 33 requires that the	N/A

Table 4. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during operation

Licence: L8308/2008/2

Risk Event	Risk Event					Licence		Justification for
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?	controls Conditions ² of licence	additional regulatory controls
							CEO notified of fires at the landfill facilities.	
	Wastes	Windblown wastes	Fauna ingestion	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Possible Low Risk	Υ	Condition 2, Table 2 Waste processing Updated to include the NE Waste Rock Landform landfilling locations. Condition 3, Table 3 Cover requirements Requires that wastes are covered frequently. Condition 4 requires that landfilling activities are managed for rehabilitation. Condition 5 requires that cover material is available and that waste is totally covered. Condition 25, Table 11 Waste input monitoring Requires that tonnes of waste types are estimated. Condition 35, Table 15 Annual Environmental Report Requires waste input data to be included.	N/A
	Contaminated stormwater	Rainwater flowing into contaminated areas	Vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	Condition 2, Table 2 Waste processing Updated to include the NE Waste Rock Landform landfilling locations. Condition 3, Table 3 Cover requirements Requires that wastes are	N/A

Licence: L8308/2008/2

IR-T15 Amendment report template v3.0 (May 2021)

Risk Event	Risk Event					Licence		Justification for
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of licence	additional regulatory controls
							covered frequently.	
							Condition 4 requires that landfilling activities are managed for rehabilitation.	
							Condition 5 requires that cover material is available and that waste is totally covered.	
							Condition 25, Table 11 Waste input monitoring Requires that tonnes of waste types are estimated.	
							Condition 35, Table 15 Annual Environmental Report Requires waste input data to be included.	
				Refer to Section 3.1		Y	Condition 2, Table 2 Waste processing Updated to include the NE Waste Rock Landform landfilling locations.	N/A
	Leachate	Seepage / infiltration to groundwater	Vegetation Groundwater		C = Minor L = Unlikely Low Risk		Condition 25, Table 11 Waste input monitoring Requires that tonnes of waste types are estimated.	
							Condition 35, Table 15 Annual Environmental Report Requires waste input data to be included.	

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

Note 2: Proposed Licence Holder's controls are depicted by standard text. Bold and underline text depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

4. Consultation

Table 5 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 5: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on (18/02/2022)	Comments were received on 22/02/2022 Refer to Appendix 1	Comments were received on 22/02/2022 Refer to Appendix 1

5. Conclusion

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

Summary of amendments 5.1

Table 6 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Licence as part of the amendment process.

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Cover page	Extended expiry date from 31/05/2022 to 31/05/2024. Removal of Category 73 Bulk storage of chemicals, etc.
1, Table 1	Removal of Category 73 Bulk storage of chemicals, etc.
2, Table 2	Addition of the NE Waste Rock Landform so waste may also be disposed of there for increased flexibility.
12	Removal of TSF decant and seepage water volumes as they are captured as part of the Annual Environmental Report requirements.
16, Table 8	Removal of AP1 discharge pipe that was to lead out to the Pastoral Management Pty Ltd (PMPL) algae concentrate and/or biomass for cattle feed using hypersaline dewater from the Sino Iron Project Mine Site. Construction of the ponds did not progress.
23	Modifications to the CEMS monitoring as per the CEMS Code.
26, Table 12	Removal of OWS2 as part of the Bulk Fuel Facility.
	Removal of AP1 discharge pipe that was to lead out to the Pastoral Management Pty Ltd (PMPL) algae concentrate and/or biomass for cattle feed using hypersaline dewater from the Sino Iron Project Mine Site. Construction of the ponds did not progress.
27, Table 13	Reformatted sections of the table for clarity.
35, Table 15	Removal of the Magnetic Separation Elutriation Columns Trial summary as this was received 27 January 2021.
Definitions	Addition of definitions for CGA and RATA.
Schedule 1: Maps	Updated Map of the boundary of the prescribed premises.

Table 6: Summary of licence amendments

Licence: L8308/2008/2

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.
- CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd, DR050914 LTR 2022.01.21 CPM to DWER Licence Amendment Application (L8308.2008.2) 21 January 2022, Perth, Western Australia.
- CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd, DR050935 LTR 2022.02.09 CPM to DWER Licence Amendment Supplementary Info (L8308.2008.2) 11 February 2022, Perth, Western Australia.
- CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd, DR050943 LTR 2022.02.22 CPM to DWER Response to Proposed Amendment to Licence (L8308.2008.2) 22 February 2022, Perth, Western Australia.

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

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
Condition 2, Table 2	Change "Landfill Facility" to landfill.	Updated as requested. Condition 33 also updated.
	As prescribed by the first dot-point, landfilling operations are permitted at the following locations:	
	1. Landfill Facility;	
	2. South East Waste Rock Landform; and	
	3. North East Waste Rock Landform.	
	It is proposed all references to Landfill Facility in the subsequent dot points be replaced with landfill. This will avoid misinterpretation that these specifications do not apply to landfilling operations in the South East Waste Rock Landform and/or North East Waste Rock Landform.	

Appendix 2: Application validation summary

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21 January 2022				
CITIC Pacific Mining Management Pty Ltd				
Sino Iron Project Mine Site				
Mining Tenements M08/123, M08/124, M08/125, M08/264, M08/265, M08/266, G08/54 and L08/126 MARDIE WA 6714				
City of Karratha				
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Licence: L8308/2008/2

Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories					
Prescribed premises category and description	Asse capa	essed production or design acity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)		
5 Processing or beneficiation or metallic or non-metallic ore	95,0 perio Con 4, 5 annu	centrators (Mill Lines 1, 2, 3, and 6) 95,000,000 tonnes per ual period (producing 00,000 tonnes per annua	 I 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period Concentrators (Mill Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6) 95,000,000 tonnes per annual period (producing 		
	Tailings Storage Facility (Stage 2) 67,400,000 tonnes per annual period		Tailings Storage Facility (Stage 2) 67,400,000 tonnes per annual period		
6 Mine dewatering	12GL/annum		12GL/annum		
12 Screening, etc. of material	2,700,000 tonnes per annual period		l 2,700,000 tonnes per annual period		
52 Electric power generation	480 megawatts		480 megawatts		
54 Sewage facility	160 cubic metres per day		160 cubic metres per day		
57 Used tyre storage	No more than 500 tyres		No more than 500 tyres		
64 Class II or III putrescible landfill site	25,000 tonnes per annual period		25,000 tonnes per annual period		
73 Bulk storage of chemicals, etc	4,800 cubic metres in aggregate		0 cubic metres in aggregate		
Legislative context and other approval	5				
Has the applicant referred, or do they			Referral decision No: N/A		
intend to refer, their proposal to the E under Part IV of the EP Act as a		Yes □ No ⊠	Managed under Part V \Box		
significant proposal?			Assessed under Part IV \Box		
Does the applicant hold any existing Par IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?		Yes 🗵 No 🗆	Ministerial statement No: 635, 822 and 1066		
			EPA Report No: 1056, 1343 and 1602		
Has the proposal been referred and/c assessed under the EPBC Act?	or	Yes 🛛 No 🗆	Reference No: Sino Iron Mine Continuation Proposal (EPBC 2017/7862)		
			Certificate of title		
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?		Yes 🗵 No 🗆	General lease Expiry:		
			Mining lease / tenement 🛛 Expiry:		
			Other evidence Expiry:		

Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 N/A 🖂	Approval: Expiry date:
		If N/A explain why?
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes 🗆 No 🛛	CPS No: N/A No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes 🗆 No 🛛	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes 🛛 No 🗆	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: GWL167151 The licence holder holds a licence to extract water for the purpose of mine dewatering and other mining related operations under section 5C of the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act</i> 1914
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A Type: N/A Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠ Regional office: North West
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A Priority: N/A Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to <u>WQPN 25</u>)? Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠
Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx)	Yes ⊠ No □	Iron Ore Processing (Mineralogy Pty Ltd) Agreement Act 2002
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A

Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes 🗆 No 🛛	N/A
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the <i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003</i> ?	Yes □ No ⊠	Classification: N/A Date of classification: N/A