

Decision Report

Application for Works Approval

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Works Approval Number W6628/2021/1

Applicant Supercharge Batteries Pty Ltd

ACN 002 848 580

File number DER2018/001042-6

Premises Supercharge

Unit 4, 42 Gillam Drive

KELMSCOTT WA 6111

Legal description -

Lot 10 on Deposited Plan D090746

Certificate of Title Volume 2065 Folio 194

Date of report 19 April 2022

Proposed Decision Intent to grant works approval

Marko Pasalich A/MANAGER WASTE REGULATORY SERVICES

Officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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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 premises. As a result of this assessment, works approval W6628/2021/1 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 03 September 2021, the applicant submitted an application for a works approval to the department under section 57 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The application is to seek a works approval relating to storage and transfer of used lead acid batteries at the premises. The PS1 area within the premises is designated for the prescribed activity described within this authorisation. The premises is approximately 130m south west of Kelmscott residences within the City of Armadale.

The premises relates to the category and assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in works approval W6628/2021/1. The infrastructure and equipment relating to the premises category and any associated activities which the department has considered in line with *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) are outlined in works approval W6628/2021/1.

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 & 2 also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 1: Applicant Controls (Construction)

Emission (as identified above)	Emission source	Proposed controls
Dust	Vehicle Movements	None proposed
Noise	Vehicle movements, power tools	Comply with noise regulations

Table 2: Proposed applicant controls (Operation)

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Operation			
Lead-acid battery fluid (sulfuric acid, heavy metals)	Leaks and spills of waste from damaged or broken batteries during the storage, process and handling of batteries.	Overland runoff / migration into stormwater. Localised impacts to underlying soil	Battery pallets stacked a maximum of 2 pallets high. All staff are trained and know the Premises' emergency procedures. Spill kits as specified by Worksafe for Dangerous Goods, UN 2794, Class 8, packing group 3 to be present and accessible on the Premises. Monthly audits to be completed on spill kit. Prevent spilled material from spreading or entering drains by banking absorbent material. If available, consider using water spray to disperse vapour. All captured spilt waste to be removed from the Premises and disposed of by an appropriately licensed third party. Cut-off drains sealed to prevent migration of contaminants to offsite drainage in the event of a spill.
Toxic gases / smoke (fire)	Fire on premises due to battery explosion or short circuit	Air/windborne pathway	All staff are trained and know the Premises' emergency procedures. Each layer of batteries is to be separated by a thick layer of cardboard that encapsulates the battery poles. Fire fighting equipment is located at key points throughout the Premises.

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 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
Kelmscott residential dwellings	Approximately 130m north west from site boundary
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
TEC: Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Region, Priority 3, endangered	400m north and 600m south from site boundary

Geomorphic Wetlands - Swan Coastal Plain (Management) – Multiple use wetland	600m west from site boundary
Area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 – Perth Groundwater Area	Intersects the entire site boundary

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 works approval as regulatory controls.

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 4.

Works approval W6628/2021/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the premises i.e. storage of used lead acid batteries.

The conditions in the issued works approval, as outlined in Table 4 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Table 4: Risk Assessment (Construction)

Risk events					Risk rating ¹		Regulatory
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Reasoning	controls (refer to conditions of the granted instrument)
Dust	Dust from disturbance of drag out from vehicle movements	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to amenity	Residences 130m northwest Human receptors in surrounding industrial area	Refer to Table 1	C = Rare L = Slight Low Risk	Given the undercover, sealed storage area the Delegated Officer considers that dust could impact on receptors to a slight degree	Due to the low risk nature of dust emissions, regulatory controls are not included
Noise	Toxic	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Residences 130m northwest Human receptors in surrounding industrial area	Refer to Table 1	C = Slight L = Possible Low Risk	Given requirements under the noise regulations and the limited nature of works, the Delegated Officer considers that noise could impact on receptors to a slight degree	Due to the low risk nature of noise emissions, regulatory controls are not included

Table 5: Risk assessment (Operation)

Risk events		Risk rating ¹		Regulatory			
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential Receptors Applicant controls			C = consequence L = likelihood	Reasoning	controls (refer to conditions of the granted instrument)
Leaks and spills of hazardous liquid waste from damaged or broken batteries during the storage and transfer of batteries.	Lead-acid battery fluid (sulfuric acid, heavy metals)	Overland runoff / migration into stormwater potentially causing ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality Localised acidification and heavy metal contamination of soils	IBRA threatened woodland (400m north and 600m south) Geomorphic multiple use wetland (600m west)	Refer to Table 2	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Given the nature and volume of waste contaminants, the Delegated Officer considers that leachate spill could impact on receptors to a minor degree	In line with the applicant controls the following types of regulatory conditions will be included in the licence for spill emissions: Spill kit installation Removal of spills Bund inspection and maintenance Drain shut-off Pallet stack heights and buffers Fire water containment

Risk events					Risk rating ¹		Regulatory
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Reasoning	controls (refer to conditions of the granted instrument)
Fire on premises due to battery explosion or short circuit	Toxic gases / smoke	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Residences 130m northwest Human receptors in surrounding industrial area	Refer to Table 2	C = Major L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Given the flammable nature of wastes and proximity to residential receptors, the Delegated Officer considers that battery fire could impact on receptors to a major degree	In line with the applicant controls the following types of regulatory conditions will be included in the licence for fire prevention and emissions: Requirement nothing burn onsite Pallet stack heights and buffers Firefighting equipment

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 6 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 6: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 13 January 2022		N/A
Local Government Authority advised of proposal on 17 December 2021	None received	N/A
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 14 March 2022	N/A	N/A

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the delegated officer has determined that a works approval will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements. The works approval Holder is obliged to ensure that all other necessary approvals (i.e. DWER licence, dangerous goods licence and controlled waste licence) are in place and adhered to prior to and during operation.

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.

Appendix 2: Application validation summary

Works approval	\boxtimes						
	4	Relevant works approval number:		None	\boxtimes		
		Has the works approvith?	Yes □	No □			
Licence		Has time limited ope works approval dem acceptable operatio	nonstrated	Yes 🗆	No □ N/A		
		Environmental Com Critical Containmen Report submitted?		Yes □	No □		
		Date Report receive	ed:				
Renewal		Current licence- number:					
Amendment to works approval	-	Current works- approval number:					
Amendment to licence		Current licence number:					
Amendment to ilcence	₩	Relevant works- approval number:		N/A			
Registration-	-	Current works- approval number:		None			
Date application received		3 September 2021					
Applicant and Premises details							
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)							
Premises name		Supercharge Batter	ies Pty Ltd				
		Unit 4, 42 Gillam Drive, Kelmscott. WA 6111					
		Lot: 10					
Premises location		Plan: D090746					
		Volume: 2065					
		Folio: 194					
Local Government Authority		City of Armadale					
Application documents							
HPCM file reference number:		DWERDT499664					
Key application documents (addition application form):	Supporting documents – DWERDT499490						
Scope of application/assessment	1						
	New works approval						
Summary of proposed activities	Construction of internal bunding for sealed undercover storage and handling of used lead acid batteries for transfer under licence as a Category 62 solid waste depot.						

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

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescribed premises category and description	Proposed production or design capacity				
Category 62: Solid waste depot	Storage capacity of 200 tonnes with maximum throughput of 4,800 tonnes per annual period				

Legislative context and other approvals

Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes □	No ⊠	Referral decision No: Managed under Part V □ Assessed under Part IV □
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes □	No ⊠	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes □	No ⊠	Reference No:
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ⊠	No □	Certificate of title □ General lease ☒ Expiry: 28 June 2023 Mining lease / tenement □ Expiry: Other evidence □ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes □	No ⊠ N/A □	Approval: Expiry date: The applicant submitted exemption a clause 78H notice of exemption from planning requirements during state of emergency, which is still in effect.
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: Licence/permit No: Licence / permit not required.

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: Proclaimed Groundwater Area/Surface Water Area Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes □ No □ N/A □
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Name: N/A Priority: P1 / P2 / P3 / N/A Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to WQPN 25)? 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)	Yes ⊠ No □	The Proponent has provided a DMIRS Dangerous Goods Licence DGS022820
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes □ No ⊠	-
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes □ No ⊠	-
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003?	Yes □ No ⊠	Classification: N/A Date of classification: N/A