



Application for Works Approval Amendment

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

Works Approval Number	W6635/2021/1
Works Approval Holder	Australian Nickel Investments Pty Ltd
ACN	111 599 323
File Number	DER2021/000643
Premises	Cosmos Nickel Operations – Paste Plant Goldfields Highway SIR SAMUEL WA 6437 Legal description: Mining tenement M36/371 and part mining tenements M36/127 and M36/180 as defined by the premises map attached to the issued works approval.
Date of Report	5 January 2023
Decision	Revised works approval granted

Fiona Westcott
A/MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES
REGULATORY SERVICES

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

Table of Contents

1. Decision summary	1
2. Scope of assessment	1
2.1 Regulatory framework	1
2.2 Background	1
2.3 Application summary	1
2.3.1 Dewatering strategy and water management ponds overview	1
2.3.2 Existing regulatory controls	2
3. Risk assessment	2
3.1 Source-pathways and receptors	2
3.1.1 Emissions and controls	2
3.1.2 Receptors	4
3.2 Risk ratings	6
3.3 Detailed risk assessment – Seepage from water management ponds causing groundwater mounding	9
3.3.1 Scope of assessment and Overview of risk event	9
3.3.2 Review of general characteristics of emission	9
3.3.4 Justification for additional regulatory controls	9
4. Consultation	10
5. Conclusion	10
5.1 Summary of amendments	10
References	11
Appendix 1: Summary of Works Approval Holder’s comments on risk assessment and draft conditions	12
Appendix 2: Application validation summary	13
Table 1: Works Approval Holder controls	3
Table 2: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity	4
Table 3. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during construction, and operation	7
Table 4: Consultation	10
Table 5: Summary of works approval amendments	11
Figure 1: Distance to sensitive receptors	5

1. Decision summary

Works Approval W6635/2021/1 is held by Australian Nickel Investments Pty Ltd (ANI) for the Cosmos Nickel Operations (the Premises), located at mining tenement M36/371 and part of mining tenements M36/127 and M36/180, Sir Samuel, Western Australia.

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 construction and operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Works Approval W6635/2021/1 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 Background

Cosmos Nickel Operations was acquired by ANI in September of 2015, at this time the operation had been in care and maintenance since 2012 following the exhaustion of Prospero Ore body. In November of 2015 the licence for the premises, L7404/1999/9, was transferred to ANI. ANI has since been preparing to recommission the project to target different nickel ore deposits to those previously mined. Several approvals have been granted to ANI as part of the recommissioning process including amendments to licence L7404/1999/9 and separate works approvals. Works approval W6605/2021/1, held by ANI is related to category 5 activities at the premises for the refurbishment and upgrade of the processing plant, this works approval was granted in December of 2022 and has not yet progressed to the commissioning phase.

2.3 Application summary

On 29 June 2022, the Works Approval Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Works Approval W6635/2021/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). Works approval W6635/2021/1 was granted in February of 2022, it authorised the construction works and time limited operations of a paste plant at the premises. The amendment being sought is to authorise the discharge of process water from the processing plant, and/or return water from the paste plant (via process plant), direct to a water management pond (WMP) currently used for dewatering operations at the premises. Additionally, construction of a pipeline from the processing plant to water management pond 2 (WMP2) is required to facilitate this discharge. ANI has calculated that 37,000 m³/year of process water will be required to be discharged into water management pond 2. Water management pond 2 is within a series of cascading ponds, water management ponds 1-5 hence, the entire system must be considered in this assessment.

2.3.1 Dewatering strategy and water management ponds overview

Dewatering of surrounding aquifers to a depth of 1,100m is required at the project to allow for the underground mining operation. ANI has dewatering approval for up to 3,000,000 tonnes per annual period under licence L7404/1999/9, this mine dewater is primarily used in the processing plant and for dust suppression. The dewatering strategy involves the disposal of excess mine dewater via evaporation/seepage in 9 constructed water management ponds at the premises. ANI proposes to discharge excess return water from the paste plant and recycled water from the processing plant (process water) into water management pond 2 in addition to the mine dewater effluent approved under licence L7404/1999/9.

Water management pond 2 is within a series of cascading ponds, water management ponds

1-5. The ponds share a common wall and have purpose built spillways which allow for water from the upper ponds to overflow into consecutive downstream ponds, external embankments are lined with HDPE, while pond floors are unlined to promote seepage.

Water balance modelling was conducted as a part of this application and demonstrated that the water management ponds have the capacity for the proposed discharges of mine dewater and the additional recycled process water into WMP2 inclusive of freeboard requirements. The modelling concluded that the proposed additional input of process water is relatively small compared with the surplus water rates due to the predicted dewatering requirements and is considered less than the uncertainty associated with the dewatering predictions (AQ2, 2022).

2.3.2 Existing regulatory controls

Existing conditions in issued licence L7404/1999/9 act to manage the risks associated with the water management ponds of overtopping and groundwater mounding attributed to seepage.

Controls include operational requirements inclusive of a minimum freeboard requirement for WMP5. Quarterly monitoring of water quality is conducted within all water management ponds and discharge volumes are continually monitored. An annual water balance is conditioned under the current licence with inputs such as the evaporation rate to be determined using local factors. An amendment to licence L7404/1999/9 was made in January 2020 to authorise the use of mine dewatering water (stored in the WMP's) for dust suppression. This amendment resulted in a licence condition that obligated ANI to ensure this use of dewatering effluent does not cause loss of health or condition of native vegetation.

Additionally, there is an extensive groundwater monitoring bore network of 28 monitoring bores on the premises surrounding the water management ponds and the tailings storage facility, these can be seen in figure 4 of the issued works approval. These bores monitor both water quality and standing water levels (SWL's). There is an action criterion of 6 meters below ground level (mbgl) and a licence limit of 4 mbgl for groundwater at the premises. On breaching the action criterion the licence holder must investigate and review the groundwater flow model to determine the cause of exceedance and identify remedial actions, if these remedial actions are ineffective discharges must be suspended. These controls are conditioned under conditions 10 - 13 of licence L7404/1999/9.

A licence limit of 4 mbgl is imposed to protect the root zone of native vegetation typical of the Northern Goldfields. Furthermore, licence L7404/1999/9 conditions 14 - 16 outline the requirement for annual native vegetation assessment of adjacent vegetation deemed to be within the mounding range of influence of water management ponds. This assessment monitors the health and condition of native vegetation annually.

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 2020b).

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 construction and operation which have been considered in this Amendment Report are detailed in

Table 1 below.

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

Table 1: Works Approval Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Dust	Construction of pipeline infrastructure	Air/windborne pathway	No controls proposed
Noise			No controls proposed
Hypersaline process water with elevated metals and metalloids	Transport of process water through pipelines	Spills and leaks from the pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pipelines will incorporate leak detection technology Pipelines will be placed within a containment trench or suitably bunded easement capable of containing any spill with appropriately designed catch pits or sumps Pipelines will be inspected daily for integrity during operations Where pipelines cross creeks or drains, reinforcement (steel casing) will be used, and the pipeline raised above predicted flood levels for a 1 in 100-year event.
	Discharge of process water into WMP02	Seepage from WMP02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANI state that inspection and monitoring controls in place in L7404/1999/9 are sufficient to mitigate risks associated with discharge to WMP02.
		Overtopping of WMP02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500mm freeboard requirement for all ponds, freeboard markers are to be installed. Flow meter readings, water usage and discharge to ponds are collected, assessed and reported Annual water balance Daily inspections of active ponds inclusive of; freeboards, embankment liner integrity, fencing, seepage recovery trenches, bores and pumps
Dust suppression		Runoff from roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No controls proposed, the delegated officer notes conditions for licence L7404/1999/9 described in section 2.3.2 manage this emission pathway and does not require re-assessment.

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020b), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors of the Works Approval 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 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 2020a)).

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

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Yakabindie Pastoral Station (Homestead)	Approximately 5.2km northwest of the proposed new pipeline infrastructure.
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Priority Ecological Community	According to available datasets, there is a mapped occurrence of the Violet Range (Perseverance Greenstone Belt) vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) Priority 1 ecological community that intersects the Premises boundary and is located approximately 823m west of the proposed new pipeline infrastructure and 618m west of the WMP2 as seen in Figure 1.
Remnant native vegetation	Remnant native vegetation occurs approximately 50m east of WMP2 and 300m east of the proposed new pipeline infrastructure.
Surface water lines	A freshwater creek flows north-south adjacent to the eastern flank of Water Management Pond 2 as seen in Figure 1. Several smaller drainage lines occur around the new proposed pipeline which divert to the freshwater creek before feeding into Lake Miranda (5km south of the premises boundary)
Groundwater	Pre-mining groundwater levels surrounding the ponds have not been documented, however, it is thought to be about 15 mbgl. Dewatering activities at the Cosmos pit and underground has resulted in a drawdown cone which extends approximately 1.4 km north of the pit, forming a capture zone around almost the entire upper catchment (including the area beneath the water management ponds and TSF). Current standing water levels surrounding WMP1-5 range from 11.12 to 20.68 mbgl (MB15 and MB07 respectively).
Conservation significant flora	<i>Grevillea inconspicua</i> (Priority 4 flora) located approximately 3.4km southwest of the proposed new pipeline infrastructure.

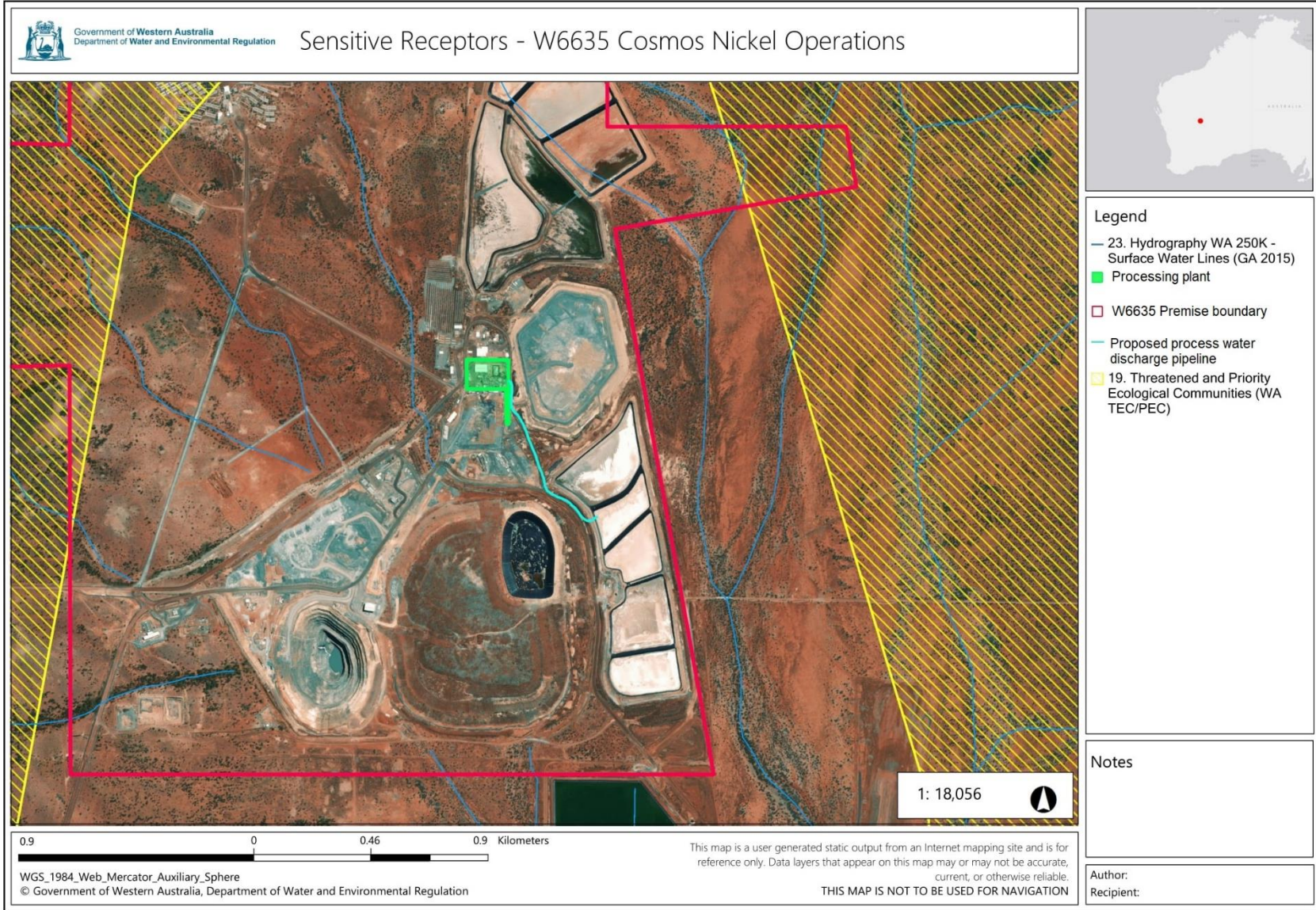


Figure 1: Distance to sensitive receptors

Works Approval: W6635/2021/1

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020b) 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 Works Approval 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 Works Approval Holder'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 Works Approval Holder's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 3.

The Revised Works Approval W6635/2021/1 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises construction and time-limited operations. The conditions in the Revised Works Approval have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

A licence is required following the time-limited operational phase authorised under the works approval to authorise emissions associated with the ongoing operation of the paste plant activity. A risk assessment for the operational phase has been included in this Amendment Report, however licence conditions will not be finalised until the department assesses the licence application.

Table 3. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during construction, and operation

Risk Event					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Works Approval Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Works Approval Holder's controls				
Construction								
Construction of new pipeline infrastructure to transport process discharge water to WMP02.	Dust	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Remnant native vegetation	None proposed.	C = Minor L = Rare Low Risk	N/A	N/A	No additional regulatory controls required.
Operation (including time-limited-operations)								
Operation of new pipeline to transport process discharge water to WMP02.	Hypersaline process water with elevated metals and metalloids	Spills and leaks from pipeline infrastructure Impact: Degradation to soil structure, soil contamination, impacts on vegetation growth and health.	Remnant native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	<u>Changes to existing conditions</u> Condition 1 & 11: Construction and operational requirements for process water discharge pipeline.	The Delegated Officer considers the controls proposed by the Works Approval Holder to be sufficient to control incidental hypersaline process water release from impacting receptors.
Discharge of process water into WMP02		Seepage from WMP01-WMP05 Impact: Mounding groundwater, inundating vegetation root zones and groundwater contamination.	Remnant native vegetation Groundwater	None proposed.	C = Major L = Unlikely Medium Risk	N	<u>Condition 7d and 8: Standard conditions for monitoring of ambient groundwater conditions prior to discharge of process water inclusive of reporting.</u>	Refer to section 3.3
		Overtopping of WMP01-WMP05 Impact: Degradation to soil structure, soil	Remnant native vegetation Groundwater	None proposed.	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	N	N/A	The delegated officer considers the controls in place for the water management ponds under licence L7404/1999/9 outlined in section 2.3.2 to be sufficient in controlling

Works Approval: W6635/2021/1

Risk Event					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Works Approval Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Works Approval Holder's controls				
		contamination, impacts to vegetation growth and health.						the risk of overtopping of the water management ponds.

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

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

3.3 Detailed risk assessment – Seepage from water management ponds causing groundwater mounding

3.3.1 Scope of assessment and Overview of risk event

The discharge of mine dewater effluent into the water management ponds was assessed and approved on 15 January 2020 under licence L7404/1999/9. At this time the delegated officer determined that the risk of groundwater mounding caused by seepage from all water management ponds was **high** and resulted in various regulatory controls on the issued licence. This assessment is limited to assessing if the additional discharge of process water into WMP2 will increase the level of environmental risk associated with seepage from water management ponds 1 to 5 and if additional controls are required.

ANI have reported consistently high seepage rates of about 30% for the past four years (2018 to 2021). These rates have been estimated within the water balance for the premises, reported in the Annual Environmental Report's (AER) for licence L7404/1999/9. This rate was used in the water balance modelling conducted by a consultant for ANI as a part of this application which demonstrated capacity. The department's review found that the water balance modelling provided likely underestimated seepage due to the absence of on-site evaporation measurements and the high salinity of water discharged into the ponds. Absence of on-site evaporation measurements adds a level of uncertainty to water balance modelling, as it is recommended that a weather station on or near the structure for which a water balance is being developed is established and evaporation rates are measured using the method outlined in McJannet et al. (2017).

In 2016 ANI contracted a consultant to review the performance of the water management ponds through groundwater modelling. This modelling indicated that drawdown from dewatering the Cosmos pit extended under WMP1 to WMP5 and around the southern and western sides of the TSF, which negated mounding from pond seepage. It was concluded that unacceptable mounding impacts around WMP1 to WMP5 are not expected due to the drawdown impacts from dewatering of the Cosmos pit and underground (GRM, 2016).

3.3.2 Review of general characteristics of emission

The stored process water has the potential to contain several chemical constituents of potential concern (CCoPC). Since the processing plant at the premises is currently under re-construction and is yet to reach the commissioning phase, the actual quality of process water cannot be determined. Given the nature of the mineralization at the site, the departments technical review identified that metals nickel and cobalt have the potential to be CCoPC.

The review of the application supporting documents by the department determined that the majority of the environmental risk associated with seepage from the water management ponds would be caused by the high salinity of the water rather than by individual chemical constituents. ANI has estimated that the mine dewatering water has a TDS of 89,000mg/L. The volume and rate of flow of the process water to be discharged into WMP2 are very low with an average flow rate of 1.17L/s. In comparison, the future rate of disposal of the hypersaline dewatering effluent is estimated to be up to 120L/s to the water management ponds. Hence, the delegated officer considers that there is negligible additional environmental risk associated with the disposal of the process water to these ponds and that majority of the environmental risk is associated with the high rate of discharge of hypersaline dewatering effluent which was assessed and authorized under licence L7404/1999/9.

3.3.4 Justification for additional regulatory controls

Technical review from the department's principal hydrogeologist found current controls and monitoring requirements described in section 2.3.2 to be sufficient to control the risk of groundwater mounding and does not consider the additional discharge of process water into

water management pond 2 to significantly increase the risk of groundwater mounding to impose further regulatory controls.

Additionally, the department’s technical review found that metals nickel and cobalt could be of potential concern, therefore water quality testing has been conditioned. The monitoring is inclusive of a suite of metals and metalloids considering the unknown nature of the process water and consistent with monitoring parameters for ambient groundwater within condition 10, Table 5 of the premises licence L7404/1999/9. These water quality tests and surface water level readings are conditioned under this works approval for all surrounding bores (MB05, MB06, MB07, MB08, MB15 and MB22) to confirm background levels surrounding water management ponds 1 to 5 prior to process water discharge. Ongoing monitoring and reporting of SWL’s and water quality are regulated under licence L7404/1999/9 (described in section 2.3.2) hence, there is no requirement to condition ongoing monitoring under this works approval. The delegated officer considers this monitoring necessary to ensure the proposed addition of process water to WMP2 does not have adverse effects on adjacent native vegetation through increasing seepage from WMPs 1 to 5 thereby, increasing groundwater mounding.

4. Consultation

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

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) advised of proposal 10 August 2022	DMIRS replied on 15 August 2022 stating/advising that: “The Cosmos Nickel Operation operates under consolidated Mining Proposal approved under 2020 guidelines and thus Australian Nickel Investments should be reminded to ensure that any activities are appropriately captured in Mine Activity Details tables provided in the approved Mining Proposal. A revised Mining Proposal is required for assessment and approval where there is new activities or change to activity type/disturbance footprint from that outlined in the activity detail section of the Mining Proposal.”	Noted.
The works approval holder was provided with draft amendment on 16 December 2022 and comments were received on 24 December 2022	See Appendix 1.	See Appendix 1.

5. Conclusion

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

5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 5 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Works

Approval as part of the amendment process.

Table 5: Summary of works approval amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
1	Inclusion of construction requirements for the process water discharge pipeline.
7	Additional requirement to submit baseline ambient environmental conditions within the Environmental Commissioning Report and inclusion to report on the amount of process water discharged.
8	Inclusion of the requirement to conduct baseline ambient environmental monitoring within bores surrounding water management ponds 1-5.
11	Additional operational requirements for the proposed process water discharge pipeline.
13a	Additional requirement to include the amount of tailings processed and amount of process water discharged within the time limited operations report.
All conditions	Administrative change to the numbering of conditions and tables due to amendments made.
Definitions	Inclusion of the Australian/New Zealand standard water quality sampling standard and water management pond definition.
Schedule 1	Addition of figure 4 illustrating the location of dewatering infrastructure and groundwater monitoring bores.
Schedule 1	Addition of figure 5 illustrating the location of the proposed process water discharge pipeline.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020a, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER 2020b, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. McJannet, D., Hawdon, A., van Niel, T., Boadle, D., Baker, B., Trefry, M. and Rea, I., 2017. *Measurements of evaporation from a mine void lake and testing of modelling approaches*. Journal of Hydrology, Perth, 555, 631-647.
5. AQ2, 2022, *DWER RFI Query Regarding WMP2*, dated 4 October 2022.
6. Groundwater Resource Management (GRM), 2016, *Cosmos Nickel Operation: Water Management Pond Groundwater Modelling*. Report prepared for Western Areas Ltd.

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

Condition	Summary of Works Approval Holder's comment	Department's response
<p>Condition 2</p> <p>The works approval holder must design, construct, and install groundwater monitoring wells to replace inactive groundwater monitoring wells MB06 and MB08.</p>	<p>Request removal of condition 2 to reinstate monitoring wells MB06 and MB08. Upon review, the works approval holder found both monitoring wells to be operational and provided the standing water level and the updated condition of both monitoring wells.</p> <p>MB06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current water level - DRY at 28.78 m bgl <p>MB08</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current water level – 17.12 m bgl; and • The above ground casing of this bore requires to be extended as the top section is damaged. This repair will be completed in January 2023, weekly monitoring will commence immediately. 	<p>Requested change has been accepted as monitoring wells MB06 and MB08 being operational satisfy the original intent of condition 2 to ensure all monitoring bores within the network are active. The instrument and risk assessment within the decision report have been revised to reflect this change.</p> <p>Condition 3 of the draft works approval, the requirement to submit a well construction report is hence redundant and has been deleted from the issued works approval.</p> <p>The requirement for baseline environmental conditions required by condition 8 of the issued works approval requires monitoring data from both MB06 and MB08 prior to discharge of process water into water management pond 2. Therefore, these bores must be operational for compliance with this condition hence no further conditions regarding MB06 or MB08 are deemed necessary by the delegated officer.</p>

Appendix 2: Application validation summary

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY (as updated from validation checklist)			
Application type			
Amendment to works approval	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Current works approval number:	W6635/2021/1
Date application received		29 June 2022	
Applicant and Premises details			
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)		Australian Nickel Investments Pty Ltd	
Premises name		Cosmos Nickel Operations	
Premises location		Mining tenement M36/371 and part mining tenements M36/127 and M36/180.	
Local Government Authority		Shire of Leonora	
Application documents			
HPCM file reference number:		DER2021/000643	
Key application documents (additional to application form):		Supporting documents (DWERDT624472) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANI Cosmos W6635-2021-1 – amendment application_220629; • Western Areas Limited - Cosmos Paste Plant Works Approval Amendment (W6635/2021/1); and • Attachment 1c – Letter of Authority to sign for WSA – ANI 	
Scope of application/assessment			
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.		<u>Works approval amendment</u> The Applicant is seeking to construct a pipeline in a v-trench from the processing plant/paste plant to discharge process water to the approved Water Management Pond 2 rather than to the process water pond.	
Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)			
Table 1: Prescribed premises categories			
Prescribed premises category and description	Assessed production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)	
Category 5: Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore	1.1 million tonnes per annum (max design capacity)	No change.	
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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referral decision No: N/A	
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ministerial statement No: N/A	

Works Approval: W6635/2021/1

Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reference No: N/A
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Mining lease / tenement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expiry: M36/371 – Expiry 03/03/2041 M36/127 – Expiry 19/04/2031 M36/180 – Expiry 03/07/2032
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approval: Expiry date: If N/A explain why? Not required
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Application reference No: Licence/permit No: Several Groundwater Licenses and agreements are held to allow for abstraction of water under the Rights in RIWI Act and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GWL 110790(7) allowing 3 Gigalitres (GL) per year for the purposes of dust suppression, dewatering and mineral ore processing; ▪ GWL 63896(10) allowing 1.5 GL per year for the purposes of mineral exploration activities; and ▪ AGR 201905(1) allowing 1.5 GL per year for potable water production
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Name: Goldfields Type: Proclaimed Groundwater Area Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional office: Goldfields
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name: N/A Priority: N/A Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Mining Act 1976</i> – The Applicant has advised that a mining proposal is to be submitted to DMIRS concurrently with the application for the embankment raises (Works Approval application has been submitted to DWER).
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the <i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003</i> ?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Classification: possibly contaminated – investigation required (PC–IR) Date of classification: 20/07/2011