Decision Report

Application for Licence

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Licence Number L9251/2020/1

Applicant Fairfield Holdings Pty Ltd

ACN 104 086 320

File Number DER2020/000221

Premises Capital Recycling

366 Horton Road

WOOTTATING WA 6562

Lot M1822 on Diagram 8755

Certificate of Title Volume 1034 Folio 539

Date of Report 18 August 2020

Decision Licence granted

Terrel MacGregor

A/SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

INDUSTRY REGULATION

An officer delegated by the CEO under section 20 of the EP Act

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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, Licence L9251/2020/1 has been granted.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Decision Report, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://www.der.wa.gov.au.

2.2 Application summary and overview of Premises

On 18 May 2020, the applicant submitted an application for a licence to the department under section 57 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The application is to seek a licence relating to screening up to 55,000 tonnes per year of gravel at the Premises. Specifically, the application relates to the Stage 1 area located at the western end of the Premises. The applicant previously held Licence L8797/2013/1 for screening up to 200,000 tonnes per year of gravel from the whole Premises.

The applicant proposes to screen gravel extracted from the 29.1 ha Stage 1 area. The Stage 1 area will be divided into working areas for gravel extraction, screening and stockpiling activities. Periodic gravel screening is proposed, with operational activities taking place on a campaign basis (approximately 4,000 tonnes of gravel will be screened per campaign). Each campaign will last about three weeks, and a maximum of eight campaigns are expected during a year. Operational hours will be from 7 am to 7 pm.

The Premises relates to the category and assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in Licence L9251/2020/1. The infrastructure and equipment relating to the premises category and any associated activities which the department has considered in line with Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments (DER 2017) are outlined in Licence L9251/2020/1.

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 *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments* (DER 2017).

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 proposed 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
Dust	Screening, handling and	Air/windborne pathway	Screening activities to be confined to calm/light wind conditions.
	material, vehicle movements	vehicle	Monitor wind conditions in times of strong prevailing winds (>25 knots) in direction of closest sensitive receptors and modify screening operations accordingly to mitigate dust generation (i.e. cease or limit operations, wet down working area).
			Water cart to be stationed on-site and used to wet down access roads and working areas in dry conditions and strong winds.
			Operator to monitoring dust generation.
			Stockpiles to be maintained at <7 m height.
			In dry weather, strong winds and prior to non-operating activity days stockpiles to be watered.
			Loads to be covered and on-site vehicle speeds limited to <15 kph.
			Site supervisor to proactively monitor visible dust crossing the boundary premises.
			Implementation of Dust Management Plan (Encycle Consulting 2020a).
Noise	Screening, handling and	Air/windborne pathway	Site operational activities will be conducted between 7 am and 7 pm.
	stockpiling of material, vehicle		Plant and equipment will be regularly maintained.
	movements		"Croakers" fitted to mobile plant including loaders.
			Implementation of Noise Management Plan (Bowman & Associated 2013a).
Sediment laden surface water	Stockpiling, material handling and	Direct discharge from overland flow	Stormwater drains with retention pits will be excavated downgradient of the working area to mitigate potential impacts.
	screening areas		Surface water monitoring for pH and turbidity to be conducted at three locations during periods of flow during the winter in accordance with Water Management Plan (Bowman & Associates 2013b).
Hydrocarbons	Spillage during refuelling	Direct discharge from overland flow or percolation to groundwater	No fuel stored on-site – refuelling of plant, equipment and generator will be done by mobile plant.

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessment* (DER 2017), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors of the applicant'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 and Figure 1 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 (*Guidance Statement: Environmental Siting* [DER 2016]).

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

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed premises
Auburn Park residences and rural property off Gt Eastern Hwy used for grazing and crops	Approximately 830 m SW from premises boundary
Residence on rural property at 598 Warlin Road	Approximately 2.5 km SE of the Premises boundary
Residence on rural property at 284 Warlin Road	Approximately 945 m NE of the Premises boundary
Industrial premises - Pure Earth Composting Facility	Approximately 600 m SE of the Premises boundary
Voyager II Quarry (BGC)	Approximately 1100 m SE of the Premises boundary
Acacia Prison	Approximately 1.3 km to NW of the Premises boundary
Environmental receptors	Distance from activity / prescribed premises
Environmental receptors Watercourse: Minor non-perennial watercourse flowing northward through the Premises Located in proclaimed surface water area under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914	I .
Watercourse: Minor non-perennial watercourse flowing northward through the Premises Located in proclaimed surface water area under	premises

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments* (DER 2017) for each identified emission source 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 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.

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.

Licence L9251/2020/1 that accompanies this Decision Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises i.e. screening activities.

The conditions in the issued Licence, as outlined in Table 3 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

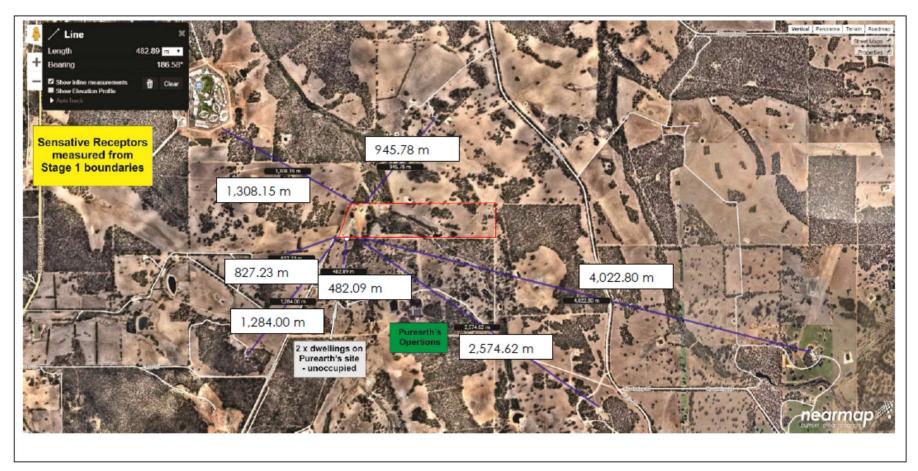


Figure 1: Distance to sensitive receptors (provided by applicant)

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

Risk Event			Risk rating ¹ Applicant controls	Conditions ²	Justification for additional regulatory			
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	sufficient?		controls
Operation								
Screening, handling and stockpiling of material, vehicle movements	Dust	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Industrial premises: 600 m S Residences: 830 m SW and 945 m NE	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare Low Risk	Y	Condition 1 Condition 2	Dust aprons on screening plant transfer hoppers required as per standard screening plant infrastructure
Screening, handling and stockpiling of material, vehicle movements	Noise	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to amenity	Industrial premises: 600 m S Residences: 830 m SW and 945 m NE	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 3 Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 apply	N/A

Risk Event	Risk rating ¹ Applicant controls	Conditions ² of licence	Justification for additional regulatory					
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	sufficient?	of ficerice	controls
Stockpiling, material handling and screening areas	Sediment laden stormwater	Overland runoff potentially causing ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Minor, non-perennial surface watercourses	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1 Condition 8 Condition 9	Condition 8 Six-monthly surface water monitoring frequency required for summer and winter stormwater flows (applicant specified annual sampling in winter only) Additional monitoring parameters specified to allow comparison with groundwater monitoring Condition 9 Whilst not required to specifically control this Risk Event, the applicant has proposed to continue groundwater monitoring as specified in the previous licence (Environmental Aspects Management Plan [Encycle Consulting 2020b]). Therefore, groundwater monitoring has been included in the licence to allow for continued collection of baseline data
Refuelling of generator and mobile plant and equipment	Hydrocarbon	Overland runoff potentially impacting surface water quality and infiltration to groundwater via soil causing impacts to groundwater quality	Perched aquifer Minor, non-perennial surface watercourses	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare Low Risk	Y	N/A	N/A

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments (DER 2017).

Note 2: Proposed applicant controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by the 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 (22/6/2020) and published in the West Australian newspaper (29/06/2020)	No comments received	N/A
Community consultation: letters sent to nearby residential lots and interested parties (22/6/2020)	One submission received from community stakeholder on 20/07/2020 Comments summarised in Appendix 1	Refer to Appendix 1
Local Government Authority (Shire of Northam) advised of the proposal (22/6/2020)	The Shire of Northam replied on 10 July 2019 Refer to Appendix 1	Refer to Appendix 1
Applicant provided with draft documents 30/7/2020	Updated maps provided with no comments on the draft documents.	Updated maps placed in licence. References for groundwater monitoring bores updated in Table 3 of the licence to align with reference on updated map.

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. Bowman & Associates 2013a, Lot M1822 Horton Road Noise Management Plan (V2), report prepared for Capital Recycling, May 2013.
- 2. Bowman & Associates 2013b, Lot M1822 Horton Road Water Management Plan (V3), report prepared for Capital Recycling, May 2013.
- 3. Encycle Consulting 2020a, *Dust Management Plan (Version III)*, report prepared for Capital Recycling, May 2020.
- 4. Encycle Consulting 2020b, *Environmental Aspects Management Plan 366 Horton Road, Woottating*, prepared for Capital Recycling, May 2020.
- 5. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 6. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2016, *Guidance Statement:* Environmental Siting, Perth, Western Australia.
- 7. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2017, *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.

Appendix 1: Summary of consultation comments

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Local Government Authority (Shire of Northam) advised of the proposal (22/6/2020)	 The Shire advised that: Conditional development approval to conduct an extractive industry on the premises was granted on 19 December 2012 (Stage 1 area only). An Extractive Industry Licence (EIL) under the provisions of the Shire's Extractive Industries Local Laws was issued on 17 September 2013 for an initial period of 2 years, and then annually. The last EIL was issued on 31 August 2016 for the 2016-2017 period due to the applicant advising that no extraction was taking place. An application for the 2019-2020 period was received by the Shire but was not issued due to the ongoing concerns regarding the screening of imported material for backfilling excavated areas. At present, the applicant does not hold a current EIL and will need to apply for a renewal of the EIL in accordance with Part 4 of the Local Laws. The Shire provided the following comments and advice relating to the application: 	The Delegated Officer notes that the applicant has relevant development approval and that the applicant will need to apply for a renewal of the EIL before it can commence extraction activities at the Premises. The licence expiry date of 2040 does not exclude the applicants need to hold applicable planning approval or other necessary approvals for the activities at the Premises.
	The Shire acknowledges that the Applicant has previously held a DWER Category 12 Licence (ref: L8797/2013/I) in 2013. It is noted that the previous licence was for a lower volume.	The applicant previously held Licence L8797/2013/1 for category 12 screening activities with an assessed production capacity of 200,000 tonnes per annual period (material extracted from the whole premises). The assessed production capacity for this application is 55,000 tonnes per year (material extracted from Stage 1 area only). Licence L8797/2013/1 ceased to have effect in January 2018 due to non-payment of annual fees.
	Development approval was granted by the Shire on 20 December 2012 for Stage 1 of the extractive industry, which encompassed an area of 29,100m² with a depth varying from 2m to 4m and an approved volume of up to 60,000m³. The proposed licence volume of 72,750m³ is greater than the volume approved.	The Delegated Officer notes that the applicant holds valid development approval for Stage 1 activities consistent with this application. The volume of 60,000 m³ in the development approval relates to the quantity of material extracted from the ground. This application relates to screening activities with a maximum throughput of 55,000 tonnes per year. The amount of gravel that can be screened will be limited by the volume of material permitted to be extracted under the development approval and EIL (if issued).

Licence L9251/2020/1

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
	Stage 2 of the extractive industry has not been applied for, considered or approved by the Shire of Northam. This will be a separate merit-based development application process.	The application relates to Stage 1 activities only.
	The application indicates that the gravel extraction will be conducted in campaigns lasting about 3 weeks at a time during the year with the exception of the winter months, unless there is market demand. However, the Noise Management Plan (and development application documents) indicates that the extraction will occur at an average of one week every month during summer months over 5 years.	The Delegated Officer identified the discrepancies in the application and has based the assessment on the information in the application supporting document (i.e. an estimated 8 x 3-week campaigns per year) noting that the noise management plan was prepared in 2013.
	The application is for screening of gravel in conjunction with the extractive industry, however the screening activities recently investigated by the Shire and DWER were also of the incoming material, predominantly construction and demolition waste, in connection with the rehabilitation of the extracted areas of Stage 1.	The application is for category 12 activities relating to premises on which material extracted from the ground [emphasis added] is screened, washed, crushed, ground, milled, sized or separated. Additional approval will be required if the applicant wants to accept construction and demolition waste onto the Premises.
	The submitted acoustic assessment was carried out in 2008 was in conjunction with a proposed composting plant that included the assessment of the screening plant processing organic material. The acoustic assessment has not been updated and no assessment has been carried out on screening of gravel, which is the subject of this application. The Applicant contends that the screening activities are similar, however this argument is refuted and an updated assessment should be submitted.	The Delegated Officer has assessed the risk of noise impacting receptors and has determined that it poses a medium risk (see Table 3 for the risk assessment). Accordingly, conditions have been included in the licence to control the risk (refer to Table 3). The <i>Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations</i> 1997 also apply to control of noise from the Premises.
	The Rehabilitation Plan submitted with the licence application should be considered irrelevant to the application if it is proposed to only screen gravel extracted from the site. The rehabilitation of the site is a requirement of the development approval and extractive industry licence. Notwithstanding this, the Rehabilitation Plan is inconsistent with the Shire's approval. The submitted Plan proposes to backfill the pits with uncontaminated soil sourced from 'the residential sector, predominantly from vegetated areas; material from land clearing works: and purchased topsoil I fill material". Whereas, original development application was assessed on the basis of 'inert (or clean) fill ' being utilised for rehabilitation that would .comprise of clayey soil, overburden and top soils collected from various earthworks sites across Perth, WA	The Delegated Officer has not considered the rehabilitation plan in the assessment of screening activities noting that this is a requirement of the development approval and EIL for extraction activities.

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
	In closing, the Shire advised that it had no objections to the application if it is the applicant's genuine intention to conduct the extractive industry in accordance with their conditions of development approval and subject to the applicant obtaining an EIL prior to recommencing extraction activities and conducting any screening.	Noted. No response required.
Community consultation: letters sent to nearby residential lots and interested parties (22/6/2020)	 One community stakeholder responded providing comments regarding: Potential noise impacts should the premises operate from 7 am to 7 pm on weekends and public holidays; Impacts to Wooroloo Brook and horticulture business downstream; and Vehicle/truck movements on Great Eastern Highway and impacts on local road networks/junctions. 	The risk of noise causing amenity impacts at nearby residential receptors has been assessed as medium. The applicant's controls are detailed in Table 1 and are considered appropriate to control the risk. Condition 3 of the licence specifies that operations at the Premises must only occur between the hours of 7 am to 7 pm on the days Monday to Saturday.
		The application concerns the screening of material extracted from the ground and associated activities such as stockpiling and material handling. Impacts to surface water from the extraction of gravel are a consideration for the Shire of Northam. It is noted that the applicant will need to apply for a renewed Extractive Industries Licence (refer to advice provided by the Shire of Northam above).
		See Table 3 for a risk assessment with respect to concerns regarding impacts to the watercourse from sediment laden surface water from stockpiling, material handling and screening areas.
		Traffic impacts are a consideration for the Shire of Northam and are not assessed under DWER's regulatory framework applied to emissions and discharges from the Premises.

Appendix 2: Application validation summary

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY							
Application type	Application type						
Works approval							
		Relevant works approval number:		None	\boxtimes		
		Has the works appr complied with?	oval been	Yes □	No □		
Licence		Has time limited operation the works approval acceptable operation	demonstrated	Yes □	No □ N/A ⊠		
		Environmental Comsubmitted?	pliance Report	Yes □	No □		
		Date Report receive	ed:				
Renewal		Current licence number:					
Amendment to works approval		Current works approval number:					
A		Current licence number:					
Amendment to licence		Relevant works approval number:		N/A			
Registration		Current works approval number:		None			
Date application received		18/05/2020					
Applicant and Premises details	3						
Applicant name/s (full legal name	e/s)	Fairfield Holdings P	ty Ltd ATFT R Gul	lotto Fam	nily Trust		
Premises name		Capital Recycling					
Premises location		Lot M1822 on Diagram 8755, Volume 1034 Folio 539					
Local Government Authority		Shire of Northam					
Application documents							
HPCM file reference number:		DER2020/000221					
Key application documents	Licence Application Category 12 Attachments Environmental Aspects Management Plan Attachment 8B - 130507.1a PA Lot M1822 Rehabilitation Plan V3						
(additional to application form):		Attachment 8C - 130507.1a PA Water Management Plan V3 Attachment 8D - Noise Management Plan V2 Attachment 8E – Fire Management Plan V1 Attachment Northam Shire - Application Approval					

Scope of application/assessment Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations. Operation of a Category 12 gravel screening facility.

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

Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescribed premises category and description	Production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)
Category 12: Screening, etc. of material: premises (other than premises within category 5 or 8)	Maximum: 100,000 tonnes gravel per year	
on which material extracted from the ground is screened, washed, crushed, ground, milled, sized or separated	Estimated: 55,000 tonnes gravel per year	

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: N/A EPA Report No: N/A
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes □ No ⊠	Reference No: N/A
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Certificate of title □ General lease ⊠ Expiry: 28/02/2023 Mining lease / tenement □ Expiry: Other evidence □ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes ⊠ No □ N/A □	Approval: Letter dated 20 December 2012 advising Shire of Northam approved land use application for an extractive industry (gravel) at Lot M1822 (366) Horton Rd, Woottating (Reference A1271/P1608) Expiry date: Not provided

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 ⊠	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 ⊠	Licence / permit not required.
		Name: N/A
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes □ No ⊠	Type: N/A
		Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted?
		Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠
		Regional office: N/A
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		Local Government Act 1995 -
Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx)	Yes ⊠ No □	Shire of Northam Extractive Industries Local Law 2008
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