



CEO-initiated amendment to licence

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

Licence Number	L6942/1997/13
ACN	008 700 981
File Number	DER2013/000329-1~6
Premises	Eastern Ridge Iron Ore Mine Legal description – Mining Tenement M244SA as defined by the coordinates in Schedule 2 of the Revised Licence
Date of Report	21/10/2025
Decision	To grant a licence

1. Decision summary

The Delegated Officer has determined to make an amendment to licence L6942/1997/13. The amendment is administrative in nature therefore does not alter the risk profile of the premises, providing that activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

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

The decision report for the existing licence will remain on the department's website for future reference and will act as a record of the department's decision making.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In amending the licence, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at [DWER Regulatory documents | Western Australian Government \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/dwer-regulatory-documents).

2.2 Amendment summary

Licence L6942/1997/13 is held by BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Eastern Ridge Iron Ore Mine (the Premises), located approximately 4.5km northeast of Newman in Western Australia's Pilbara Region.

The Premises comprises of Orebodies (OB) 23, 24, 25 and 32 and is part of the Licence Holder's Newman Operations. Iron ore at the Premises is mined using conventional open cut methods at a design rate of 41 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). Ore at Eastern Ridge is drilled and blasted and then loaded onto haul trucks using an excavator and front-end loaders. Ore is then transported to one of two ore handling plants (OHP) - OB25 OHP; and OB24 OHP.

All ores at either OB24 OHP or OB25 OHP are stockpiled at run of mine pads prior to being crushed and re-stockpiled before train load out.

Approved design or throughput capacity under the Licence

Prescribed premises category description	Assessed production / design capacity
Category 5: Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore	41 000 000 tonnes per annual period
Category 6: Mine dewatering	19 gigalitres per annual period
Category 63: Class I inert landfill site	10,000 tonnes per annual period
Category 85: Sewage facility	52 cubic metres per day

3. Consultation

The draft licence and this report were provided to the licence holder on 13/10/2025. The licence holder sent an email on 14/10/2025 and waived the remainder of the commenting period.

4. Decision

Section 63 of the EP Act prescribes that a licence shall continue in force for such period as is specified in the licence. Licence L6942/1997/13 is due to expire on 16/11/2025. The delegated officer considers it appropriate to extend the licence duration by twenty years.

In determining to extend the duration of the licence by twenty years, the following matters

were considered by the delegated officer:

- all complaints and compliance issues received by the department has been resolved;
- an extension to the duration of the licence will not change the current risk profile of the premises, and the risks posed by ongoing emissions from the premises will continue to be subject to the existing licence conditions;
- *Guidance Statement: Licence duration* (2016) provides for licences to be issued for a term of up to 20 years; and
- in the event that risk issues arise in relation to the premises, the CEO may:
 - amend the licence conditions at any point; and
 - in the event of an alleged offence, exercise enforcement powers under the provisions of the EP Act.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Summary of amendments

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

Table 1: Summary of licence amendments

Condition / table	Description
Front page of licence	Expiry date extended to 16 November 2045