# **Amendment Report**

# **Application for Licence Amendment**

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

Licence Number L8562/2011/1

Licence Holder Pilbara Iron Company (Services) Pty Ltd

**ACN** 107 210 248

File Number APP-0030011

**Premises** Gudai-Darri Iron Ore Mine

L47/00701, AL70/00007 (L7SA), AML70/00252 (ML252SA),

L47/00648, L47/00682, L47/00849, L47/00912 and

L47/00768

**NEWMAN WA 6753** 

As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 2 of the Revised

Licence

Date of Report 24 November 2025 (FINAL)

**Decision** Revised licence granted

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# 1. Decision summary

Licence L8562/2011/1 is held by Pilbara Iron Company (Services) Pty Ltd (licence holder) for the Gudai-Darri Iron Ore Mine (the Premises), located in Newman, Western Australia on tenements L47/00701, AL70/00007 (L7SA), AML70/00252 (ML252SA), L47/00648, L47/00682, L47/00849, L47/00912 and L47/00768.

This Amendment Report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during construction and operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L8562/2011/1 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 <a href="https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents">https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents</a>.

# 2.2 Application summary

On 16 July 2025, the licence holder applied to the department to amend Licence L8562/2011/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The amendment involves the addition of two new categories as shown in Table 1.

No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to existing Categories 5, 54, 64 or 73 have been requested by the licence holder.

Table 1: Proposed new categories

Category	Design capacity	Description of proposed amendment
Category 12: Screening etc of material	10,000,000 tonnes per year	Construction and operation of mobile crushing and screening plants anywhere within the prescribed premises.
Category 57: Used tyre storage (general):	5,000 tyres	Requesting flexible conditions to allow storage throughout the prescribed premises subject to siting criteria.

#### 2.2.1 Mobile crushing and screening plants

The application is for two mobile crushing and screening plants, as authorised under works approval W6221/2019/1 but not installed during the term of that instrument which has since expired. This licence amendment is for both the construction and operation of these plants.

For each plant, borrow material will be fed into a feed hopper by an excavator or front end loader. Material will be crushed, screened, conveyed between units and stacked into stockpiles to be used in construction.

When assessing design capacity of each plant, the department conservatively assumes continuous operation. A plant design capacity of 500 tonnes per hour equates to a stated annual capacity of 4,830,000 tonnes per year. The licence holder has proposed up to three such plants, giving a total design capacity of up to approximately 15,000,000 tonnes per annum.

#### 2.2.2 Tyre storage

The licence holder proposes to store used tyres within the prescribed premises, with a view to future recycling. The application states that tyres will be stored in accordance with the standards set out in the Department of Fire and Emergency Service's (DFES) *Guidance Note on the bulk storage of rubber tyres including shredded and crumbed tyres*.

#### 2.3 Part IV of the EP Act

The Gudai-Darri Iron Ore Mine (then called the Koodaideri Iron Ore and Infrastructure Project) was referred to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act. Key components considered were the mine and rail facilities. Ministerial Statement 999 approves the project, including clearing of up to 7,911 hectares (ha). The EPA assessment is captured in EPA Report 1533.

Ministerial Statement 999 specifies ground disturbing activity exclusion zones to protect adits and cave systems significant to the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, and Koodaideri Spring Gorge. It also requires management plans to minimise direct and indirect impacts on Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bats and Northern Quolls.

Where Ministerial Statement 999 includes conditions which protect receptors, such controls are not duplicated in this assessment under Part V of the EP Act.

## 2.3.1 Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)

The construction and operation of the Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project was determined to be a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) on 9 July 2012, and was assessed under the bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and Western Australian governments.

The proposed action was approved under the EPBC Act, subject to conditions, on 9 May 2015 (referral 2012/6422).

## 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 construction and 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
Dust	Earthmoving and vehicle movements, crushing and	Air/windborne pathway	Dust sprays on mobile crushing and screening plants.

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
	screening of material, lift-off from stockpiles		
Noise	Crushing and screening of material	Air/windborne pathway	None proposed
Hydrocarbons	Spills from the crushing and screening plant, and mobile equipment	Direct discharge to soil; runoff to surface water	Existing licence conditions
Contaminated firefighting water	Firefighting in tyre storage areas	Surface runoff	Used tyres will be stored in accordance with the standards set out in the Department of Fire and Emergency Service's (DFES) Guidance Note on the bulk storage of rubber tyres including shredded and crumbed tyres.

## 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

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Native vegetation including Threatened / Priority flora:  1. Synostemon hamersleyensis Priority 1  2. Rostelluria adscendens var. latifolia Priority 3  3. Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642) Priority 3  4. Themeda sp. Hamersley Station (M.E. Trudgen 11431) Priority 3  5. Eremophila magnifica susbp. magnifica Priority 4  6. Lepidium catapycnon Priority 4  7. Rhynchosia bungarensis Priority 4	Within premises boundary MS 999 conditions apply for Lepidium catapycnon and Synostemon hamerselyensis.
Native fauna including Threatened / Priority fauna:  1. Northern Quoll ( <i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i> ) Endangered  2. Grey Falcon ( <i>Falco hypoleucos</i> ) Vulnerable  3. Ghost Bat ( <i>Macroderma gigas</i> ) Vulnerable  4. Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat ( <i>Rhinonicteris aurantia</i> (Pilbara form)) Vulnerable	Within premises boundary MS 999 conditions apply for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat and Northern Quoll.

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Pilbara Olive Python ( <i>Liasis olivaceus barroni</i> ) Vulnerable     Western Pebble-mound Mouse (Pseudomys chapmani) Priority 4     Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus) Other Specially Protected	
Waterways - Koodaideri Spring Gorge, and ephemeral creeks	Within premises boundary
Cultural receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Aboriginal heritage sites	Twenty two (22) registered sites and seventeen (17) lodged heritage sites within the premises.
	Direct impacts to heritage sites are regulated under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

## 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 considers 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 L8562/2011/1 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises.

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

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

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 <sup>2</sup> of licence	additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments	
Construction	Construction								
	Dust	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Reduction in vegetation health	Native vegetation, including priority flora	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	N/A	N/A	
Installation of mobile crushing and screening plant	Noise	Pathway: Airborne pathway Impact: Changes to fauna behaviour	Fauna	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Rare Low Risk	Y	N/A	N/A	
Vehicle movements	Spill of hydrocarbon	Pathway: Direct deposition to soil, contamination of surface water through runoff  Impact: Contamination of soil and surface water	Soil, surface water	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Existing licence conditions 4 and 5 – hydrocarbon management	N/A	
Operation	Operation								
Operation of mobile crushing and screening plant	Sediment laden stormwater	Pathway: Overland runoff Impact: Ecosystem disturbance or impact to surface water quality	Native vegetation, surface water	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Possible <b>Medium Risk</b>	Z	Existing licence condition 1 – stormwater management  Condition 7 – not within 100m of major drainage lines	Siting criteria consistent with W6221/2019/1. Reduces risk of waterway sedimentation.	

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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 <sup>2</sup> of licence	additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
	Dust	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Reduction in vegetation health	Native vegetation, including priority flora	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	Condition 7 – construction  Condition 9 – operation  Condition 18-20 – construction compliance reporting	N/A
	Noise	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Changes to fauna behaviour	Fauna	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Rare Low Risk	Y	N/A	N/A
	Spill of hydrocarbon	Pathway: Direct deposition to soil, contamination of surface water through runoff  Impact: Contamination of soil and surface water	Soil, surface water	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Existing licence conditions 4 and 5 - hydrocarbon management	N/A
Tyre storage	Discharge of contaminated firefighting fluids	Pathway: Direct runoff Impact: vegetation and surface water	Soil and vegetation Surface water runoff toward Fortescue Marsh	Refer to section 3.1.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	N	Condition 6 – specifications for tyre storage – includes distance from waterways, containment of fire water, some key criteria from DFES Guidance Note: GN02	Siting specification to protect waterways  Containment of fire water required because the department has not assessed the discharge of treated or untreated fire water on the premises  Specifications are consistent with licence

Risk Event					Risk rating <sup>1</sup>	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 <sup>2</sup> of licence	additional regulatory controls/ DWER comments
							Condition 22 – review and risk assessment of tyre storage in AER	holder commitment to operate in accordance with the <i>DFES Guidance Note: GN02</i> .
								Review of tyre storage in AER is required as flexibility is given to design tyre storage not fully in accordance with <i>DFES Guidance Note: GN02</i> , where justified based on the tyre type and local environment.

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
Traditional owners (Banjima people) advised of application and invited to comment (17 September 2025)	None	N/A
Licence holder was provided with draft amendment on 22 October 2025.	Specifications in condition 7 consistent with plans, but requesting up to 3 crushing and screening plants, rather than 2.	Three plants of 500 tonnes per hour would exceed the applied for design capacity of 10,000,000 tonnes per year. Advice provided to licence holder and added to section 2.2.1 of this report on how the department calculates design capacity. Design capacity of category 12 in this assessment increased to 15,000,000 tones per year, noting that actual production will be substantially lower since the plants are only intended to operate during daylight hours. Does not alter the risk assessment or fees for this amendment.

# 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.

# 5.1 Summary of amendments

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.

**Table 6: Summary of licence amendments** 

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Cover page	Registered business address updated, new categories added, administrative changes.
6	Condition added for used tyre storage. All subsequent conditions and tables renumbered.
7	Construction authorisation and requirements for mobile crushing and screening plants added.
9	Operating authorisation and requirements for mobile crushing and screening plants added.
18 and 19	Requirement for <u>evidence</u> in Construction Compliance Reports added. This is consistent with standard requirements for as-built plans and site maps, but more suited to the low complexity of required controls.
22	Annual report requirements:
	'Product produced' updated to 'Actual throughput or production for each category on the

	licence'.
	Review of tyre storage added
Definitions	'DFES Guidance Note: GN02' added

# 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.
- 4. Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) 2023, *Guidance Note: GN02: Bulk storage of rubber tyres including shredded and crumbed tyres*, Perth, Western Australia