



Department initiated amendment.

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

Licence Number	L8918/2015/1
Licence Holder	Keysbrook Leucoxene Pty Ltd
ACN	137 091 297
File Number	DER2015/001866
Premises	Keysbrook Mineral Sands Mine 1391 Hopeland Road NORTH DANDALUP WA 6207 Legal description Part of Lot 1 on Diagram 8916, Lots 101, 103, 104 & 105 on Diagram 92169, Lots 111, 112 & 113 on Diagram 94183, Lot 300 on Plan 31012, Lots 31, 32, 33 & 34 on Plan 408493, part of Lot 52 on Plan 739, Lots 56, 57, 59 & 63 on Plan 739 and Lot 6 on Diagram 52395 As defined by the Premises map and coordinates attached to the issued licence
Date of Report	16 May 2023
Decision	Revised licence granted

A/MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES
REGULATORY SERVICES

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

1. Decision summary

The Delegated Officer has determined to make amendments to Licence L8918/2015/1. The amendments are administrative in nature therefore they do 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 Application summary and Overview of Premises

On 23 March 2023 the department determined to initiate an amendment for licence L8918/2015/1, held by Keysbrook Leucixene Pty Ltd (licence holder) for the Keysbrook Mineral Sands Mine. The amendment is limited to:

- aligning the license expiry date with the annual fee period (22 November).; and
- extending the term of the licence by 20 years in accordance with Guidance Statement: *Licence Duration* (2016). The licence is due to expire on 29 June 2023.

This amendment is administrative in nature and does not alter the risk profile of the Premises. The current risk assessment and the Decision Report dated 6 April 2020 will remain on the department's website for future reference.

The licence was granted to the licence holder for the premises located at Hopelands Road, North Dandalup (Premises). The licence relates to prescribed premises categories as described in Table 1.

Table 1: Premises category description and production design capacity

Prescribed premises category description (Schedule 1, <i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i>)	Production / design capacity
Category 6: Mine dewatering	250,000 tonnes per annual period
Category 8: Mineral sands mining or processing	5,250,000 tonnes per annual period

The licence holder operates the Keysbrook Mineral Sands Mine near the townships of Keysbrook and North Dandalup, approximately 70 km south of Perth. It has been predominantly operated as a standalone mining operation, with the heavy mineral concentrate (HMC) produced transported off-site for toll treatment and export through the Port of Bunbury.

The mine is subject to Ministerial Statement 810 and is spread over a number of rural properties, which combined total around 1,532 hectares and comprises several private freehold lots with multiple landowners. The land within the mine area is on pre-1989 titles, where ownership of the mineral rights is with the landowner and not the State as such the provisions of the *Mining Act 1978* do not apply.

The mining and processing operation incorporates conventional dry mining followed by wet screening and gravity separation, to produce a HMC that is rich in leucixene, rutile and zircon (115,000 tonnes per annum). A number of pits are mined to a basement level that is below the water table, therefore dewatering is required to facilitate dry mining conditions. The extracted

water is used as part of the mine water supply and to supplant water required from other sources. Where the volume of water exceeds the site’s water holding capacity, excess water is allowed to flow over a lined spillway into an adjacent natural drainage channel (Balgobin Brook South). Mine voids are backfilled progressively throughout the life-of-mine by disposal of mine tailings.

3. Regulatory framework

In amending the licence, the department has considered and given due regard to the department’s regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

4. Considerations for extending the term of the licence

4.1 Compliance and enforcement actions

There have been eleven (11) incidents or complaints reported at the Premises about dust emissions, air quality, pipeline spills, late reports, exceedance of dewater quantity limits, excessive stormwater and diesel spills reported to the department since 2016.

There have been no enforcement actions taken against the occupier regarding the conditions of licence for the Keysbrook Mineral Sands Mine.

4.2 Legal occupancy

The licence holder has demonstrated legal occupancy of the Premises.

4.3 Categories of the licence

The categories and the corresponding maximum production capacities for the amended licence will remain consistent with the categories for which the licence holder currently holds a licence and which was previously assessed. A copy of the department’s previous risk assessment shall remain on the departments website for future reference and will act as a record of the department’s decision making.

5. Consultation

The Delegated Officer undertook the consultation for the application to renew the licence as per Table 2.

Table 1: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Delegated Officer’s response
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 24 April 2023	Queries about section 4.1 of the decision report.	This section simplified and immaterial information removed.

6. Decision

It has been determined that expiry of the licence will be extended for an additional 20 years. The extension of the expiry date as an administrative amendment is in accordance with the department’s internal work instruction *Licensing position – COVID-19 response* and also the department’s *Guidance Statement: Licence Duration 2016*.

In amending the licence the Delegated Officer has determined to amend the expiry date to 22 November 2043 and to correct clerical mistakes and unintentional errors (realign the annual fee date with the expiry date).