

# **Amendment Report**

# **Application for Licence Amendment**

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

**Licence Number** L9280/2021/1

**Licence Holder** Atlas Iron Pty Ltd

**ACN** 110 396 168

**File Number** INS-0002152

**Premises** Sanjiv Ridge

**NULLAGINE WA 6758** 

G45/339, L45/408, L45/407, L45/410 and M45/1257

**Date of Report** 27 May 2025 (FINAL)

**Decision** Revised licence granted

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# 1. Decision summary

Licence L9280/2021/1 is held by Atlas Iron Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for Sanjiv Ridge (the Premises), located within the mining tenements: G45/339, L45/408, L45/407, L45/410 and M45/1257.

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 Licence L9280/2021/1 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 <a href="https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents">https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents</a>.

## 2.2 Application summary

On 10 April 2025, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L9280/2021/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

This amendment is limited to the installation of a secondary mobile crushing and screening facility (Figure 2) to provide additional crushing capacity to meet production targets. The location of the proposed crushing and screening facility is shown in Figure 1.

The applicant does not intend to exceed the existing production capacity of Category 5. No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to Category 5, 85 and 89 have been requested by the Licence Holder.



Figure 1: Location of the proposed crushing and screening facility

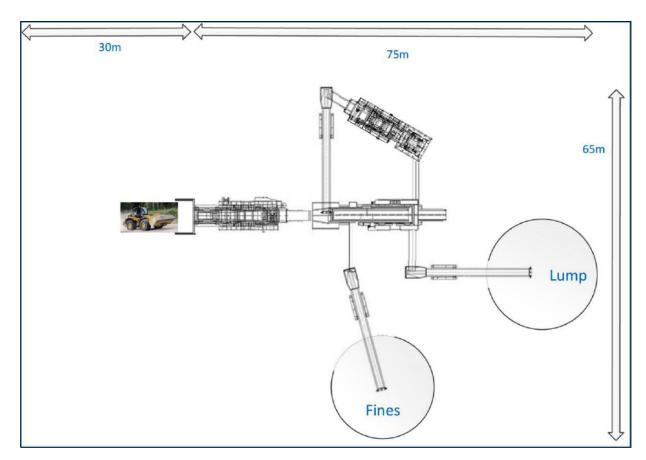


Figure 2: Layout of the proposed crushing and screening facility

#### 2.3 Part IV of the EP Act

The EPA has previously assessed the Sanjiv Ridge Project – Stage 1 and 2. As a result of the assessments, the Ministerial Statements (MS) 1125 and MS 1197 were published.

Ministerial Statement MS 1197 requires the proponent to develop and manage plans relating to:

- Terrestrial Fauna (Condition 2)
- Inland Waters (Condition 3)
- Cultural Heritage Sites (Condition 4)

Clearing of vegetation has been assessed under condition 5 of the Ministerial Statement. Impacts to the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat are covered under MS 1125 which included placing conditions on the proposal that limit the development envelope and indicative development footprint to avoid direct impacts to sensitive areas, exclusion areas and monitoring to manage potential impacts to bat cave CO-CA-03 and CO-CA-01, and offsets via the Commonwealth EPBC Approval 2017/7861.

#### 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 1 below.

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

**Table 1: Licence Holder controls** 

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Construction			
Dust	Installation of crushing and screening of material	Air/windborne pathway	Majority of the mobile crushing equipment is fabricated offsite and brought to site to be assembled (i.e. installed).
			<ul> <li>Dust emissions during installation are minor therefore no active dust controls have been proposed.</li> </ul>
			Clearing will be managed through Atlas' internal Ground Distruabnce Permit Procedure (950-EN-PRO-0006 and Clearing and Grubbing Procedure (950-EN-PRO-0002) to ensure any potential risk associated with these clearing activities are managed.
Noise	Installation of crushing and screening of material	Air/windborne pathway	Majority of the mobile crushing equipment is fabricated offsite and brought to site to be assembled (i.e. installed).
			All noise emissions will be compliant with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.
Operation			
Dust	Crushing of material, vehicle movements, lift-off from stockpiles and/or stored product, earthworks etc.	Air/windborne pathway	While the existing heritage sites occur close to the vicinity of the ROM/Plant Site, these sites are inspected to ensure they are not impacted by disturbance from mining activities.
			<ul> <li>Atlas does not require to sample or remove any rocks from the associate sites for the operation of the crushing facility.</li> </ul>
			Sprinklers and water sprays

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			<ul> <li>installed on the crushing facility.</li> <li>Water carts will be used for regular dust suppression on the ROM/Plant Site.</li> <li>Adherence to Atlas' Dust Management Procedure (950-HSE-EN-PRO-0026) will ensure dust emissions and impacts are minimised.</li> </ul>
Noise	Crushing and screening of material	Air/windborne pathway	<ul> <li>All noise emissions will be compliant with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.</li> <li>Long term monitoring equipment has been established in caves around the project to monitor ongoing Pilbara Leaf Nosed Bat and Ghost Bat activity, as well as annual monitoring of significant species to assess/monitor potential impacts from noise.</li> </ul>
Sediment laden stormwater	Overland and stockpile runoff	Surface runoff Seepage to soil and groundwater	<ul> <li>The crusher and screening facility is surrounded by an earthen bund to prevent ingress and egress of storm water.</li> <li>Stormwater drains and sedimentation basins have been constructed and are in place to contain any stormwater received.</li> <li>The ROM pad has been constructed so that all stormwater flow is diverted to the sedimentation basin and drainage channels.</li> <li>The diverted stormwater flows to the northeast of the ROM/Plant site eventually flowing into the adjacent haul road and diversion drains.</li> </ul>
Miscellaneous	Activities		
Hydrocarbon spills or leaks	Construction and operation of crushing and screening facility Vehicle and equipment movements operation on unsealed roads	Surface runoff Seepage to soil and groundwater	<ul> <li>Hydrocarbon Management         Procedure and Hydrocarbon (and         Chemical) Spill Management         Procedure (950-EN-PRO-0007).</li> <li>Hydrocarbon Management         Procedure (950-EN-PRO-0008).</li> <li>Refuelling shall not occur within 30         metres of a watercourse.</li> </ul>

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			Contaminated soil shall be stockpiled for removal offsite by a licenced controlled waste contractor.
			In the event of a spill, the spill will be contained using spill kits.

#### 3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020), the Delegssated 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 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 2020)).

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

Human receptors	Distance from activity / prescribed premises
Town of Marble Bar	14km North-East of the prescribed boundary
Pastoral Leases	Eginbah Station 1.6 km north of the ROM/Plant Site.
	Corunna Downs Station Located 3.05 km east of the ROM/Plant Site.
	Panorama Station 4.06 km west of the ROM/Plant Site.
Environmental receptors	Distance from activity / prescribed premises
Flora	Surveys done by the applicant has identified <i>Rothia</i> indica subsp. australis (P3); Heliotropium murinum (P3); Swainsona thompsoniana (P3) outside the premises boundary.
	The closest priority flora ( <i>Rothia indica subsp. australis</i> ) is located approximately 3 km north of the proposed activity area.
Fauna	Dasyurus hallocatus (Northern Quoll) (Endangered) and Rhinonicteris aurantia (Pilbara) (Pilbara leafnosed bat) (Vulnerable) located within 500m of the proposed activity area.
	Surveys done by the applicant has also recorded the <i>Macroderma gigas</i> (Ghost Bat) and <i>Liasis olivaceus barroni</i> (Pilbara Olive Python) within 500m of the proposed activity area.
	The management of fauna is under MS1197
Underlying groundwater	Groundwater is greater than 13m below ground level (mBGL). The local water table within the ore bodies

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	lies at approximately 58 mBGL (Mining Proposal, 2017).
Surface waterlines	Coongan River Approximately 2.5 km north east of the ROM/Plant Site.
	Minor Watercourse 554.62 m north of the ROM/Plant Site.
	The management of inland waters is under MS1197.
Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (TEC and PEC)	The closest TEC/PEC is the PEC - Stony saline plains of the Mosquito Land System (P3) which is located 55km south-east of the proposed activity area.
Cultural receptors	Distance from activity / prescribed premises
Aboriginal heritage site (ACH-00038586)	Approximately 500m north of the proposed activity area.

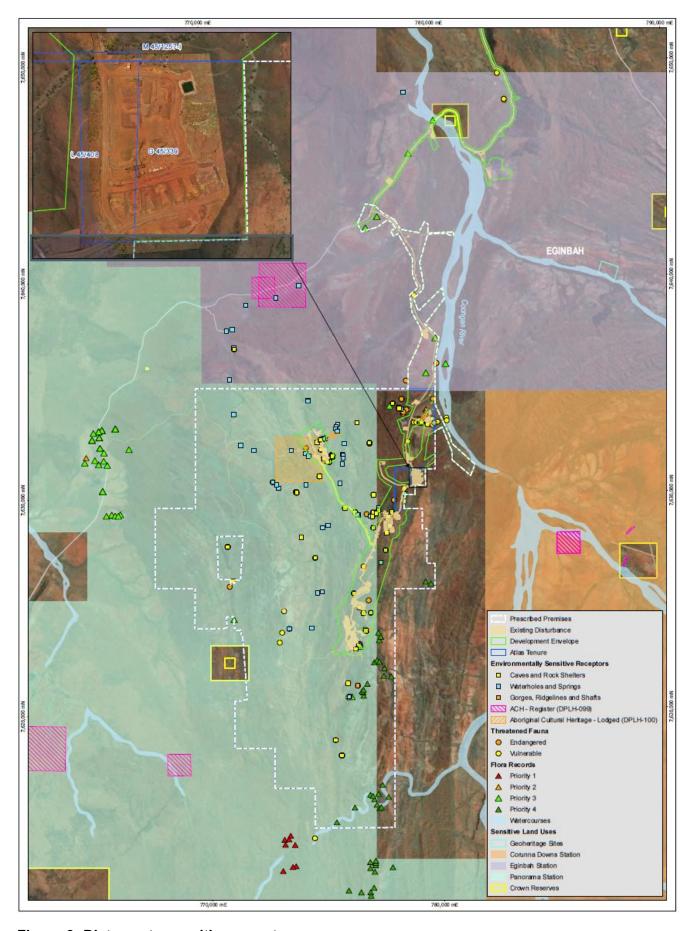


Figure 3: Distance to sensitive receptors

# 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 consider potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are in-complete 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 3.

The Revised Licence L9280/2021/1 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises i.e. Category 5 activities.

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

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

Risk Event	Risk Event							
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	Risk rating <sup>1</sup> C = consequence  L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Construction								
Installation of the crushing and screening facility and associated equipment including vehicle movements	Dust	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway  Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna.  Impact: Disturbance of aboriginal heritage sites	Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed activity area.  Aboriginal heritage site approximately 500m north of the proposed activity area.	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Minor L = Possible <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 2 – Design and construction / installation requirements Condition 3 – Operational requirements	The applicant's management controls for dust are sufficient in minimising the impact to the environment.  Threatened and priority fauna are also managed under MS1197.
(reversing beepers)	Noise	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna.	Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed activity area	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	N/A	Impact to fauna are managed under MS 1197 and impacts to bat caves are covered under MS 1125. The Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 also apply.
Operation	Operation							
Screening, crushing, unloading, loading and storage of material Vehicle movements	Dust	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna. Impact:	Aboriginal heritage site approximately 500m north of the proposed activity area.  Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Moderate L = Possible Medium Risk	Y	Condition 2 – Design and construction / installation requirements  Condition 3 – Operational requirements	The applicant's management controls for dust are sufficient in minimising the impact to the environment.  Threatened and priority fauna are also managed under MS1197.

Risk Event	Risk Event					Licence		Justification for additional
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	regulatory controls / DWER comments
		Disturbance of aboriginal heritage sites	activity area.					
	Noise	Pathway: Air/windborne pathway  Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna.	Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed activity area.	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	N/A	Impact to fauna are managed under MS 1197 and impacts to bat caves are covered under MS 1125. The Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 also apply.
	Sediment laden stormwater	Pathway: direct discharge to land; seepage to ground and underlying groundwater; and/or run-off into ephemeral drainage lines  Impact: adverse effects on local soils and impact to surface water quality  Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna.	Coongan River Approximately 2.5 km northeast of the ROM/Plant Site. Minor Watercourse 554.62 m north of the ROM/Plant Site. Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed activity area.	Refer to Section 5.1	C = Minor L = Possible <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 1 – Infrastructure and equipment (Earth bunded ROM pad with stormwater sedimentation basins and stormwater diversion structures)	The Delegated Officer finds the existing stormwater management infrastructure to be sufficient in minimising the impacts of stormwater ingress and runoff.
Miscellaneous activities	Aiscellaneous activities							
General mining activities	Spills and	Pathway: direct discharge to	Coongan River	Refer to	C = Minor	Y	N/A	Unintended discharge of hydrocarbons

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Risk Event	Risk Event					Licence		Justification for additional
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls	C = consequence L = likelihood	Controls	rols licence	regulatory controls / DWER comments
	leaks of hydrocarbons	land; seepage to ground and underlying groundwater; and/or run-off into ephemeral drainage lines  Impact: adverse effects on local soils and impact to surface water quality  Impact: Reduction in amenity and health of local fauna.	Approximately 2.5 km northeast of the ROM/Plant Site.  Minor Watercourse 554.62 m north of the ROM/Plant Site.  Priority fauna within 500m of the proposed activity area.	Section 5.1	L = Unlikely  Medium Risk			and other harmful materials into the environment are adequately regulated under the Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 and the Contaminated Sites Act 20023.

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

**Table 4: Consultation** 

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Local Government Authority advised of proposal 02 May 2025	N/A	N/A
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) advised of proposal 02 May 2025	DPLH notes that the application form states that no Aboriginal heritage sites intersect the Run-of-Mine (ROM)/Plant Site and that a number of other Aboriginal heritage places have been identified nearby, some of which are inside the prescribed premises boundary, but outside the ROM/Plant Site and therefore are not expected to be impacted.	DPLH comments are noted by the Department. Impacts to cultural heritage is covered under MS 1197.
	Based on a review of the Register of Places and Objects, and DPLH's Aboriginal heritage database, the proposed prescribed mobile crusher and screening facility does not intersect with any known Aboriginal heritage places or registered sites.	
	Therefore, based on the current information held by the Department, no approvals under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AHA) are required. In particular, based on the available information, we do not have any concerns or issues in relation to impacts to Aboriginal heritage place CRD-50-16 (ID 38586) located approximately 500 metres north of the proposed crusher and screening facility.	
	The work area is within the Nyamal Palyku Determination area, which is represented by Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) and Palyku-Jartayi Aboriginal Corporation (PJAC). DPLH encourages ongoing consultation with NAC and PJAC to allow for best practice management of the Aboriginal heritage extant in the vicinity of the project and to ensure heritage surveys undertaken to date remain fit for purpose.	
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 27 May	Response received on 27 May 2025 requesting to waive the 21-day	Noted.

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
2025	consultation period and proceed with issuing the licence.	

## 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 5 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 5: Summary of licence amendments** 

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
2	Construction/Installation of a secondary crushing and screening plant.
3	Operation of a secondary crushing and screening plant.
20	Condition the submission of an environmental compliance report in completion of infrastructure built under condition 2
21	Supplementary Condition to Condition 18 requiring certification for the construction of infrastructure

#### 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.