Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Decision Report

Application for Works Approval

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

Works Approval Number	W2936/2025/1
Applicant	Evolution Mining (Mungari) Pty Ltd
ACN	002 124 745
File number	APP-0027508
Premises	Castle Hill Project Kundana Road, Kalgoorlie WA 6430 Legal description - Part of mining tenements: G16/29, L15/228, L15/246, L15/387, L16/101, L16/108, L16/113, L16/126, L16/128, L16/84, L16/97, M15/1287, M15/1407, M15/1741, M15/1827, M15/1832, M15/688, M15/829, M15/830, M16/140, M16/15, M16/152, M16/189, M16/195, M16/198, M16/199, M16/200, M16/24, M16/248, M16/354, M16/40, M16/43, M16/444, M16/526, M16/527, M16/532, M16/533, M16/536, M16/537, M16/538, M16/553, M16/565
Date of report	20 August 2025
Decision	Works approval granted

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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 construction and operation of the premises. As a result of this assessment, works approval W2936/2025/1 has been granted.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this decision report, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department; DWER) has considered and given due regard to its regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents.

2.2 Application summary and overview of premises

On 13 February 2025, Evolution Mining (Mungari) Pty Ltd submitted an application for a works approval to the department under section 54 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The application is to undertake construction works relating to mine dewatering, crushing and screening, and the establishment and operation of a putrescible landfill site at the premises. The premises is approximately 20 km north of Coolgardie.

The proposed operations are located at the Castle Hil Project which operates within the broader Mungari Gold Operations (MGO). Ore produced from the MGO is processed through the Mungari Processing Plant and tailings are deposited into the Mungari Tailings Storage Facilities (TSFs).

This Works Approval application precedes an amendment to operating licence L7750/2001/10 to include the afore-mentioned activities for the Castle Hill Project and a larger premises boundary into the current Licence once time limited operations have been undertaken.

Mine water will be removed from the Castle Hill pits as required and transferred via several possible pipelines to be constructed as part of this works approval, to neighbouring pits with storage capacity. The proposed construction and dewatering operations are outlined in further detail in section 0 below.

Mobile crushing and screening plant will be installed at Castle Hill to expand operations within the MGO. Production capacity is expected not to exceed 27,000 tonnes per year; however, this will ultimately be incorporated into the existing category 12 throughput of 500,000 tonnes per year as authorised under licence L7750/2001/10.

A putrescible landfill site will also be established to facilitate the expansion of operations at Castle Hill. This site will be created at the existing Waste Rock Dump (WRD) and will have a design capacity of 3,000 tonnes per year. It is expected that this capacity will be added to the existing 2,000 tonnes per year in a future amendment of licence L7550/2001/10.

The premises relates to the categories and assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in works approval W2936/2025/1. The infrastructure and equipment relating to the premises category and any associated activities which the department has considered in line with *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) are outlined in works approval W2936/2025/1.

Category 6 Mine Dewatering

The Works Approval application proposes the staged construction of a collection of dewatering pipelines from the Castle Hill Project to neighbouring areas. Construction activities and associated vegetation clearing for the mine dewatering infrastructure will be carried out within the premises boundary as illustrated in Figure 1.

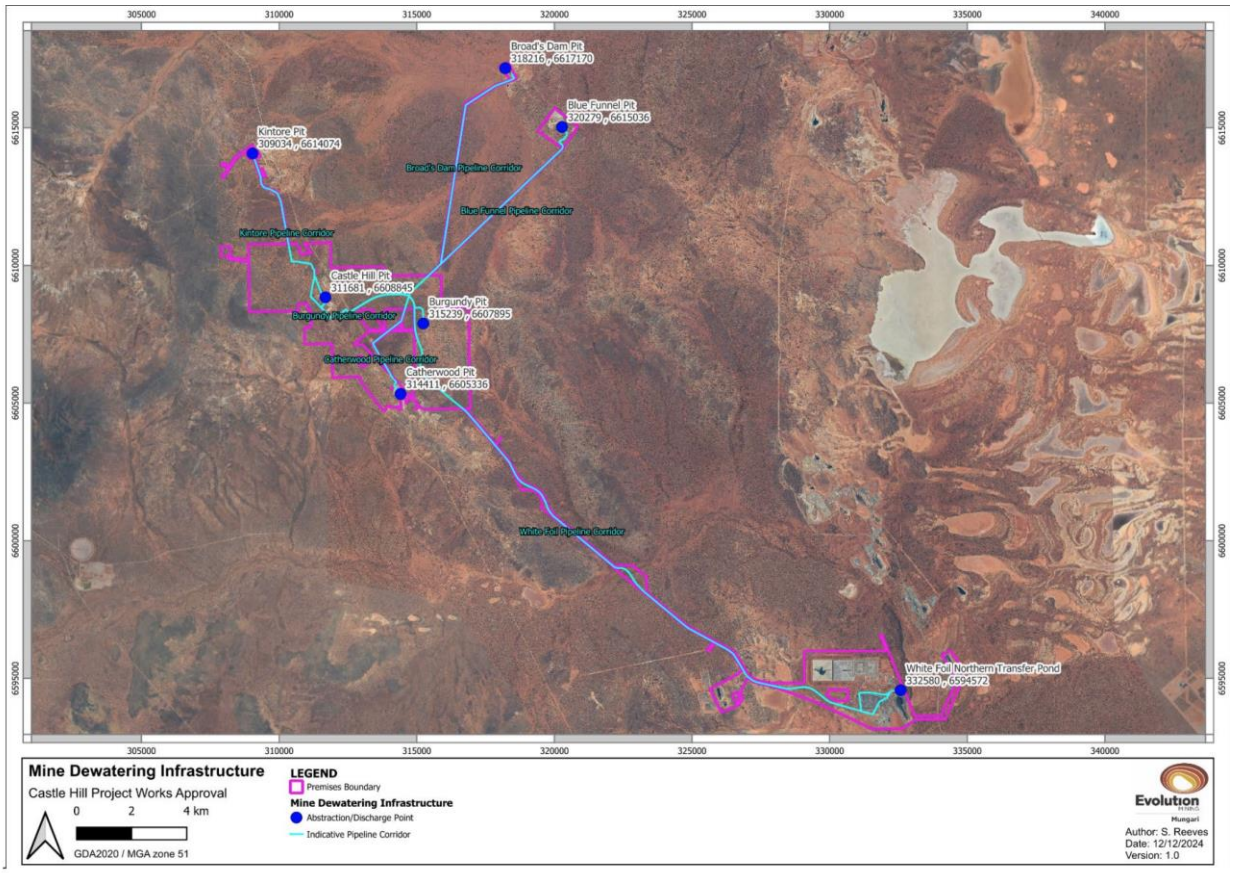

Figure 1: Premises boundary and pipeline infrastructure

Construction of the pipelines will be undertaken across multiple tenements within the premises and will involve some removal of native vegetation which is described in more detail in section 0.

The dewatering pipelines will allow mine dewater to be transported to and from the Castle Hill pits (Caste Hill and Burgundy pits) for either operational use or disposal via the following 6 open pit discharge points:

- Blue Funnel Pit.
- Broads Dam Pit.
- Burgundy Pit.
- Catherwood Pit.
- Kintore Pit; and
- White Foil Northern Transfer Pond (containment bund)

Construction of the pipelines will be carried out in a staged approach, with pipeline sections being installed as needed depending on the inflows of groundwater and rainfall into Castle Hill pit.

The applicant expects that the operations within Castle Hill pit will extend below the groundwater table and propose dewatering by sump pumping to remove groundwater from the pit, as well as incidental stormwater runoff. Multiple pipelines to the above listed pits are proposed to ensure the risk of underestimated high pit flows during mining operations can be managed if encountered. Conversely, should pit inflows be low, water will need to be transported to Castle Hill from the existing pits for dust suppression.

Predicted groundwater inflows to the Castle Hill pits have a base case of 8 L/s, with a high uncertainty case of 25 L/s and a low uncertainty case of 4 L/s (Evolution Mining 2025). Based on the base case 8 L/s and the high case of 25 L/s, annual inflow volumes have been estimated between 252,288 kL/year and 788,400 kL/year.

The recent pit water levels and storage availability for the receiving pits is shown in Table 1: Capacity and current water levels for receiving pits below. These pits have not been actively mined for several years therefore the water level has become relatively stable with very little change. Upon discharge, a freeboard of no less than 6 metres from the lowest part of the pit crest will be maintained for all pits.

Table 1: Capacity and current water levels for receiving pits

Open Pit	Pit Crest (mRL)	Pit Water Level (mRL)	Pit Water Level (mbgl)	Volume Remaining to Freeboard Level (m^3)
Blue Funnel Pit	380	316	64	1,455,153
Broads Dam Pit	381	346	35	1,490,468
Catherwood Pit	406	355	51	900,924
Kintore Pit	426	349	77	1,560,307

The Burgundy Pit is currently proposed (approved under Mining Proposal Reg. ID 129848) and has a water level of 54 mbgl. This indicates that the proposed pit may not require dewatering as it is currently designed to be 50 m deep (Evolution Mining 2025). However, Burgundy pit is anticipated to be used to pump water into if necessary (Table 2).

There is deliberately no freeboard limit on the White Foil Northern Transfer Pond as the dam has been designed to overflow into the White Foil Pit. The dam level is maintained by a float system and automatically pumps out via the existing, approved Pope John pipeline to the Kundana Gold Mine premises (L9190/2019/2) when the dam reaches a trigger level. The water from the dam is transported to Evolution's Kundana Gold Mine and used for dust suppression and underground operations.

Licence L7750/2001/10 has an assessed Category 6 dewatering production / design capacity of 5,000,000 tonnes per year and no increase to the assessed design capacity is required to accommodate the addition of the Castle Hill project. The groundwater inflow to the Castle Hill Pit is predicted to be no more than 788,400 kL per year, just 15% of the assessed design capacity of 5,000,000 tonnes per year on Licence L7750/2001/10. All dewatering pipelines will be placed within containment bunds with sufficient capacity to contain spillage in the event of a pipeline failure. Calculations for the anticipated containment bund capacity with a maximum flow rate of 125 L/s are detailed in **Error! Reference source not found.**. The works approval holder has advised that the water quality of the receiving pits has similar properties to the water being discharged.

Table 2: Containment Bund Capacity and Maximum Release Volumes

To Location	Pipeline Length (m)	Nominal Pipeline Diameter (mm)	2:1 Bund Capacity (m^3)	Max. Flow Rate (L/s)	Time Between Inspections (hours)	Maximum Release Volume (m^3)
Blue Funnel Pit	13,800	250	13,100	125	24	10,800
Broads Dam Pit	12,800	250	12,100	125	24	10,800
Burgundy Pit	5,400	250	5,100	125	8	3,600
Catherwood Pit	8,400	250	8,000	125	12	5,400
Kintore Pit	6,300	250	6,000	125	12	5,400
White Foil Northern Transfer Pond	30,100	250	28,600	125	24	10,800

Category 12 Crushing and Screening

A mobile crushing and screening plant is proposed to be established at the Castle Hill site and will be comprised of jaw crushers, cone crushers, screens and stackers. The precise location of the plant will be dependent on the source rock properties and operational needs but will be within disturbed operational areas such as Waste Rock Dumps (WRD's), run-of-mine pads and stockpile locations. Material will be crushed to varying sizes, usually between 5 mm and 300 mm, and will be utilised for road construction and stemming from open pit blasting operations.

The crushing and screening equipment will be equipped with dust covers and variable flow dust suppression sprays on discharge points. Operators of the equipment will be expected to operate the dust suppression system to minimise dust emissions. Stockpiles are also to be dampened using a water cart the night before crushing/screening. Water will be used from the dewatered mine water removed from the Castle Hill pits. There are no consumable reagents or chemicals used in the screening plant. No hydrocarbons will be stored at the plant site, except within the service truck that feeds the mobile equipment.

The applicant has requested a production/design capacity of 500,000 tonnes per year for Category 12, which aligns with the approved capacity of existing licence L7750/2001/10. The estimated screened material to support the Castle Hill Pit is predicted to be 27,000 tonnes per year, 5% of the assessed design capacity of L7750/2001/10.

Category 89 Putrescible Landfill Site

Putrescible landfills are proposed to be located within the existing Castle Hill Waste Rock Dumps which have a total area of 250 ha. Disposal of waste by landfilling will only take place within designated landfill trenches located in the putrescible landfill site areas as shown in Figure

2.

Placement of each landfill trench is dependent on the mining schedule as location will move in line with the construction of the waste dumps, ensuring that the landfill facilities will eventually be encapsulated within the landform. Landfill trenches are planned to be constructed to be approximately 30 x 30 x 3 meters, resulting in an approximate volume of up to 3,000 m^3 to account for variability in their construction. The total estimated waste volume is 57,000 m^3 over the current 9.5-year life of mine (LoM).

The Castle Hill Landfill will be levelled and compacted regularly. The location of landfill trenches will be designed so as not to affect the final stability of the waste rock landform, and trenches will be covered to ensure that relevant waste types are not exposed and ensure that wind-blown waste is contained. The position of the landfill cells will be greater than 20 meters from the outer operational slope to ensure the landfill is not exposed when pushing the batters to their final slope of 15 degrees. This placement also accounts for the potentially unstable edge zone behind the final landform crest, due to any slope instability mechanisms.

No more than 3,000 tonnes of waste per year will be disposed of in the Castle Hill Landfill. The landfill will accept the following waste types:

- Clean fill;
- Inert waste type 1;
- Inert waste type 2; and
- Putrescible waste.

Any waste that does not comply with the types listed above will be removed from the premises and disposed of appropriately.

This Work Approval proposes to increase the premises design capacity by 3,000 tonnes per year to include the new Castle Hill operation. An amendment to Licence L7750/2001/10 will be sought after construction to increase the design capacity of the landfill.

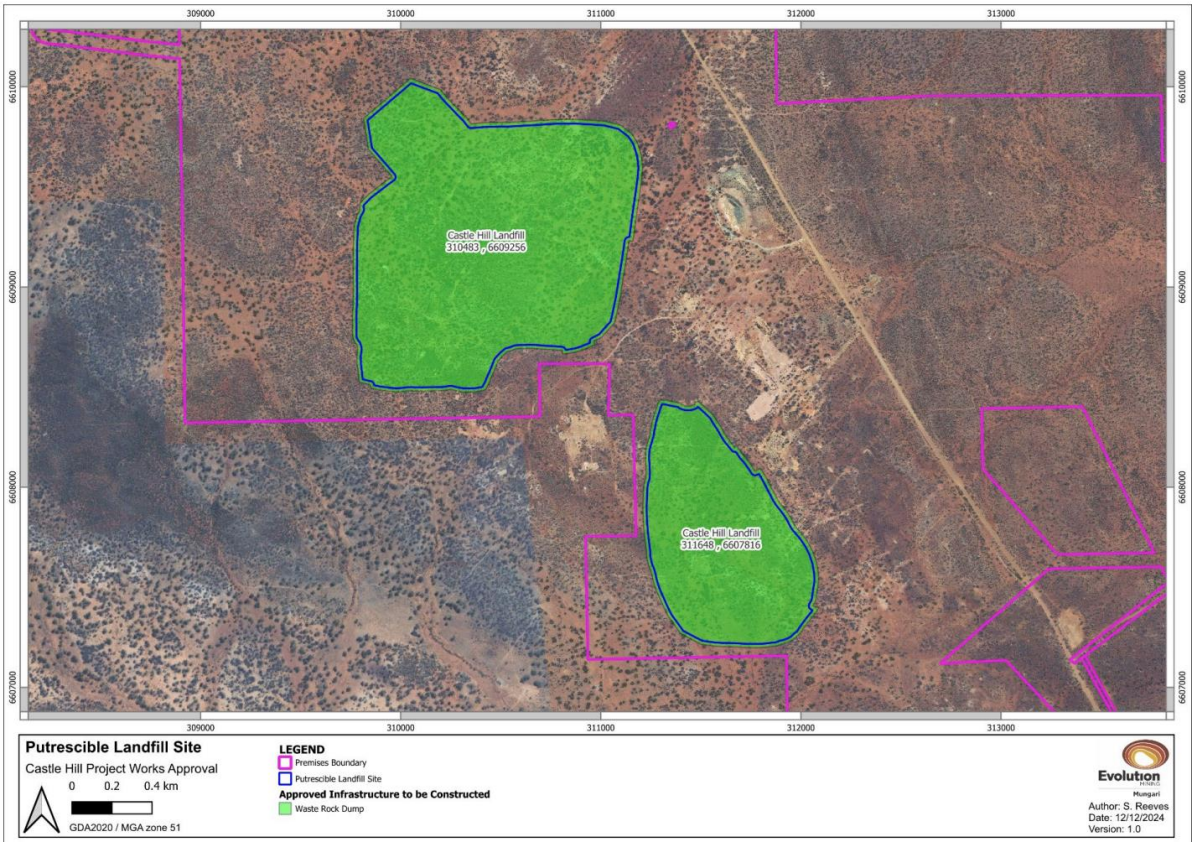

Figure 2: Putrescible landfill and Waste Rock Dump locations

Proposed clearing activities

An area of up to 35.5 ha is proposed to be cleared for the new pipeline corridors, as displayed in Figure 3. Clearing will be undertaken using a dozer or loader to remove vegetation, topsoil and overburden. Any salvaged vegetation and topsoil will be stockpiled for rehabilitation purposes.

This Decision Report has not assessed clearing activities and works approval W2936/2025/1 does not authorise any clearing.

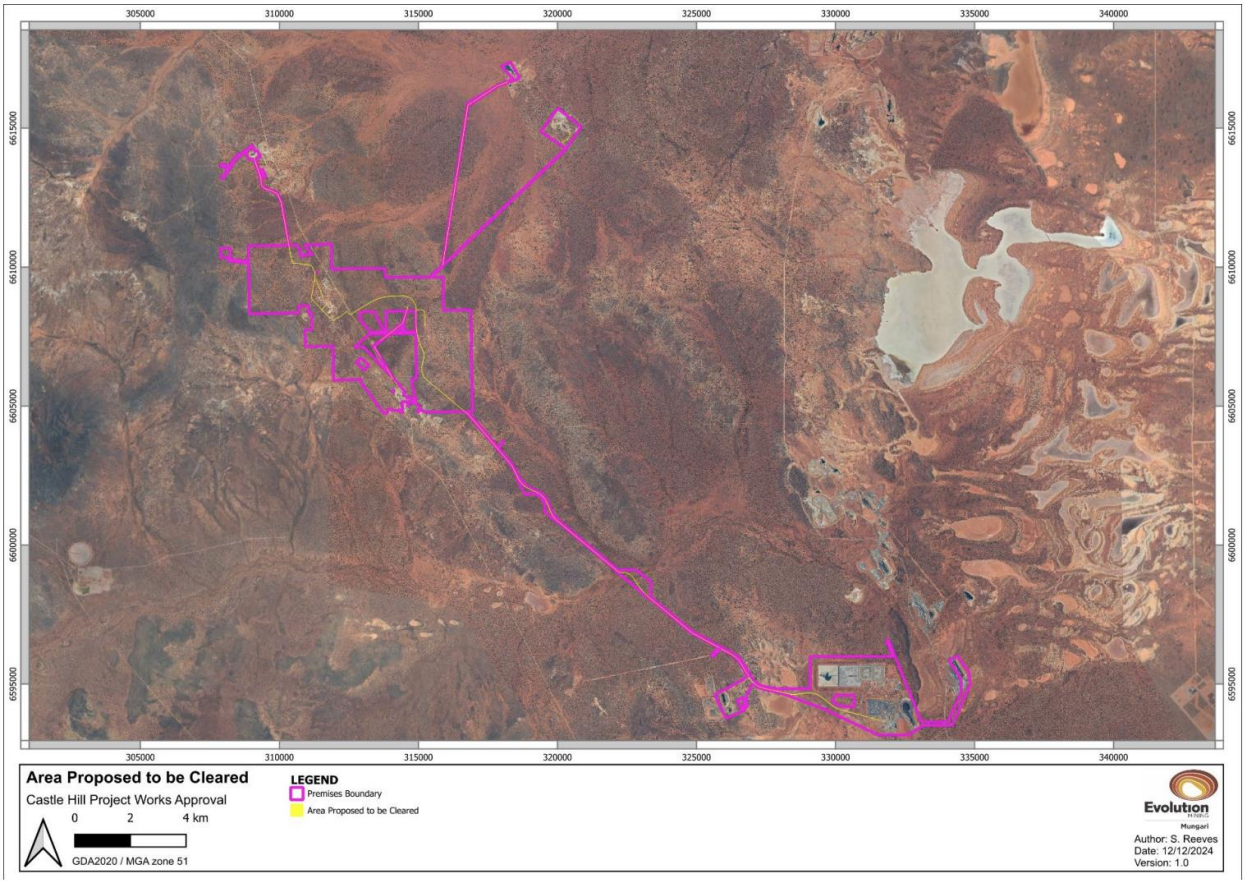

Figure 3: Areas proposed to be cleared

Much of the proposed clearing is approved under clearing permit CPS 9500/1, issued by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation, and Safety (DEMIRS).

Any proposed clearing outside clearing permit boundaries will be carried out under the Reg. 5, Item 20 exemption under the *Environmental Protection (Native Vegetation Clearing) Regulations 2004* (DER 2004) which allows the clearing for the purposes of other mineral activities, provided that an authority under the *Mining Act 1978* is in place (e.g. a Program of Works for exploration activities, or a Mining Proposal with Mine Closure Plan for mining activities), clearing is only done outside non-permitted areas, and clearing is progressively rehabilitated. This exemption allows up to ten hectares of clearing per tenement per financial year.

All proposed clearing under this works approval application:

a. Is wholly on Evolution Mining tenements.

b. Is within the disturbance footprints/envelopes of approved Mining Proposals granted to Evolution Mining Ltd and its subsidiaries i.e. has an authority under the *Mining Act 1978* in place.

c. Is outside a non-permitted area under Schedule 1 of the Regs; and

d. Will be progressively rehabilitated.

Areas of riparian vegetation within the proposed area would need to be avoided to ensure that Regulation 5, Item 20 exemption applies.

The proposed clearing is closely tracked through the applicant's permitting process and reported to DEMIRS' Native Vegetation Assessment Branch under the annual reporting requirements. The applicant states that reporting will also be carried out under the Mining Rehabilitation Fund Regulations 2013 to ensure that clearing is closely managed, and all compliance obligations are met.

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

Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises construction and operation which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in Table 3: Proposed applicant controlsbelow. Table 3Table 3: Proposed applicant controls also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 3: Proposed applicant controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Construction			

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Dust	Construction of dewatering pipelines and landfill infrastructure. Placement of mobile screening plant.	Air / windborne pathway	Water carts to be operated during mobilisation and installation of crushing and screening plant and on active stockpiles Dust suppression sprays and/or sprinklers to be operated on the crushing and screening plant Dust suppression measures using water sprays and other means will be used in the event that: • High levels of dust are observed. • Strong winds and dry conditions make dust generation likely; or • Complaints about dust are received
Operation			
Hypersaline water	Operation of dewatering pipeline	Pipeline leaks/rupture	All pipelines containing mine dewater will be provided with secondary containment sufficient to contain any spill for a period equal to the time between routine inspections. Flow meters on dewatering lines. HDPE pipelines to be maintained in proper working condition. Fit-for purpose containment bunds to assist to contain any spills and isolation valves are to be used to prevent further discharge. Repairs are to be carried out on the pipeline and any bunding that may have been damaged will be reconstructed to standard by the service crew. Soil remediation will be carried out where required, including removal of contaminated soil. Inspections will be carried out daily to verify the visual integrity of pipes and bunds, and to detect any leaks. HDPE lined transfer dams may be installed if necessary.
	Discharge of hypersaline water into pit or HDPE-lined transfer dams	Overtopping of pits or HDPE-lined transfer dams	Adherence to prescribed freeboard level (6 metres from the lowest part of the pit crest) including monitoring of high rainfall / flood events. Abandonment and safety bunding may be present around the pit crests which will limit the affected area should overtopping occur. Cessation of pumping operations should visual

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			inspections indicate water level is approaching the freeboard limit of 6m in pits and 300mm in HDPE-lined transfer dams. Daily visual inspection of freeboard level when discharging. Fit-for purpose containment bunds to assist to contain any spills and isolation valves are to be used to prevent further discharge. Repairs are to be carried out on the pipeline and any bunding that may have been damaged will be reconstructed to standard by the service crew. Soil remediation will be carried out where required, including removal of contaminated soil.
		Seepage through pit into groundwater	Proposed monitoring program will be followed. Water quality in receiving pits is similar to source water so no adverse impacts are anticipated.
Windblown waste	Operation of landfill	Air/windborne pathway	Any wind-blown waste identified will be returned to the landfill area. Trenches and bunding will be constructed to minimise wind-blown waste and waste will be covered regularly. Trenches are not overfilled. Full trenches are compacted and covered, and new trenches are constructed when required.
Leachate from base of landfill		Groundwater infiltration	The risk of groundwater infiltration of leachate is extremely low due to the significant depth to the aquifer in this location (approx. 40mbgl) and the further separation of the landfill trenches from the ground surface based on their position on the waste rock landform. Full trenches are compacted and covered, and new trenches are constructed when required.
Stormwater runoff		Overland run-off	
Dust	Operation of crushing and screening plant	Air/windborne pathway	Dust generating activities will be visually monitored to ensure that vegetation and workers are not impacted. Water carts to be operated during mobilisation of crushing and screening plant and around active stockpiles. Dust suppression sprays and/or sprinklers to be operated on the crushing and screening plant. Operations to be paused if weather conditions mean dust cannot be controlled.
Hydrocarbon spills and		Direct discharge to land	Fit-for purpose containment bunds to assist to contain any spills are to be used to prevent further discharge. Spill kits containing

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
leaks			appropriate control equipment will be kept and maintained at appropriate locations. Soil remediation will be carried out where required, including removal of contaminated soil.

Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessment* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded the applicant's employees, visitors, and contractors from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 4 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 4: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Kurrawang Aboriginal Community	9.5 km south east of the premises. Screened out of this assessment due to distance.
Environmental receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Adjacent native vegetation	Immediate vicinity of pipeline
Surface water	Ephemeral salt lakes located 20 km east of the premises. Surface water has been screened out due to distance.
Groundwater	Underlying groundwater is approximately 35 mbgl and is saline to hypersaline. Dissolved solids ranges around 30,000 to 120,000 mg/L).
Cultural receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Aboriginal and other heritage sites	• Wookie 01 (lodged Site 38761 - outside premises boundary). • Kununulling Water Tree (lodged site 30581 - within premises boundary). • Kununulling Rock Hole 2 (lodged site 30375 - within premises boundary) • Kununulling Black Hill (site 30372 – within premises boundary) • Kunulling camp site (within premises boundary). • Pulyinyaminya Cave (site 34415 - within

	premises boundary).

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for each identified emission source and takes into account 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 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 works approval 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 5.

Works approval W2936/2025/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises construction and time-limited operations. The conditions in the issued works approval, as outlined in Table 5 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

A licence is required following the time-limited operational phase authorised under the works approval to authorise emissions associated with the ongoing operation of the premises i.e. Category 6, 12 and 89 activities. A risk assessment for the operational phase has been included in this decision report, however licence conditions will not be finalised until the department assesses the licence application.

Table 5: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during construction and operation

Risk Event					**Risk rating** C = consequence L = likelihood	**Applicant controls sufficient?**	**Conditions of works approval**	**Justification for works approval controls**
Source/Activities	**Potential emissions**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Construction								
Construction of dewatering pipelines and landfill infrastructure. Placement of mobile screening plant.	Dust	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway **Impact:** Dust impacting native vegetation	Native vegetation Cultural heritage sites	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1, Table 1 - Design and construction / installation requirements	N/A

Risk Event					Risk rating C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions of works approval	Justification for works approval controls
Source/Activities	**Potential emissions**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Operation (including time-limited operations)								
Operation of dewatering pipeline	Hypersaline water	**Pathway:** Pipeline leaks causing overland runoff and infiltration through soil **Impact:** Direct impact to native vegetation or seepage to groundwater	Native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations Condition 7 Authorised discharge point	N/A
Discharge of hypersaline water into pit	Hypersaline water	**Pathway:** Overtopping of pits causing overland runoff and infiltration through soil **Impact:** Overtopping leading to surface water runoff and/or impact to groundwater	Native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations Condition 7 Authorised discharge point Condition 8, Table 4 – Emissions and discharges monitoring	N/A
		Pathway: Seepage through pit into groundwater **Impact:** Impact to groundwater and native vegetation	Native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations Condition 7 Authorised discharge point Condition 8 Monitoring during time limited operations	N/A

Risk Event					Risk rating C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions of works approval	Justification for works approval controls
Source/Activities	**Potential emissions**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Operation of landfill	Windblown waste	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway **Impact:** Impact to native vegetation	Native vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	Additional controls for waste acceptance, waste processing and cover requirements have been included in Condition 6, Table 2 to better align with existing controls under Licence L7750/2001/10.
	Leachate from base of landfill	**Pathway:** Groundwater infiltration **Impact:** Contamination of groundwater	Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Minor L = Possible **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations Condition 8 Monitoring during time limited operations	N/A
	Stormwater runoff	**Pathway:** Overland run-off and infiltration through soil **Impact:** Contamination / ecosystem impacts	Native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2- Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	Additional controls for waste acceptance, waste processing and cover requirements have been included in Condition 6, Table 2 to align with existing controls.

Risk Event					Risk rating C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions of works approval	Justification for works approval controls
Source/Activities	**Potential emissions**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Operation of crushing and screening plant at increased capacity	Dust	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway **Impact:** Smothering leading to impact to native vegetation and ecosystem health	Native vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Possible **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	N/A
	Additional risk of Hydrocarbon spills and leaks from increased operation of plant	**Pathway:** Direct discharge to land and infiltration through soil **Impact:** Contamination of soil and groundwater	Native vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely **Low Risk**	N	Condition 6, Table 2 - Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	The operation of crushing and screening plant has some inherent risk for spilling and mobilisation of hydrocarbons. Sufficient controls were absent from the application, and as such, additional baseline controls have been added to the Works Approval.

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed applicant controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

4. Consultation

Table 6 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 6: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 29 April 2025	N/A	N/A
Shire of Coolgardie advised of proposal on 6 May 2025	The Shire of Coolgardie provided the following comments on 17 June 2025: <u>Local Planning Framework</u> • The area the subject of the proposal is located wholly within the Rural zone as per the Shire's Local Planning Scheme No. 5 and as such the activity proposed is consistent with the objectives and intent of the zone. • The land is zoned for mining-related uses, with no direct interface with residential or urban zones. • Mining Operations as defined under the *Mining Act 1978* are exempt from requiring planning approval under Local Planning Scheme No. 5. • The proposal is consistent with relevant local planning policies.	Noted.

	<u>Heritage Considerations</u>
	• The proposal impacts upon several registered Aboriginal Heritage Places, including:
	  ○ Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Register **Place 30372** Kununulling Black Hill (Kurntjadjadi)
	• The proposal also impacts upon several lodged Aboriginal Heritage Places, including:
	  ○ Place 38761 (Wookie 01)
	  ○ Place 30581 (Kununulling Water Tree)
		Noted. This works application proposal has also been provided to the Maduwongga Aboriginal Corporation and the Marlinyu Ghoorlie Aboriginal Corporation as part of this assessment.

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
	○ Place 32249 (Kununulling Camp Site) ○ Place 40048 (MG2318_004) ○ Place 22899 (Mungari 4 (X05)) ○ Place 22898 (Mungari 3 (X04)) ○ Place 22897 (Mungari 2 (X03)) ○ Place 22895 (Park Dam 04) ○ Place 22893 (Park Dam 02) ○ Place 22904 (Lake Kopai East 01) ○ Place 34415 (Pulyinyaminya Cave)	
	<u>Environmental Considerations</u> • There are no local biodiversity guidelines and/or plans and/or environmental impact assessment decisions related to this proposal.	Noted.
	<u>Other</u> • The area subject to this proposal intersects several local roads. Noting that the project is entirely located within granted mining leases and on rural zoned land, the Shire has no objection to the proposal subject to the following: • The proponent should ensure that all activities avoid known Aboriginal heritage sites and engage with Traditional Owners as required under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*. • This approval does not authorise any closure of dedicated or vested roads. Closure is subject to separate approval from the Shire of Coolgardie.	Under Part V of the EP Act, the department has undertaken an assessment of the licence amendment application consistent with its published Regulatory Framework, Guideline: Risk Assessments (2020) which provides for consideration of the risk of impacts from emissions and discharges to the environment and cultural heritage from prescribed activities under Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations. DWER acknowledges that the licence holder is required to meet its obligations under all other legislation.
Maduwongga Aboriginal Corporation advised on proposal 6 May 2025	N/A	N/A

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Marlinyu Ghoorlie Aboriginal Corporation advised of proposal 6 May 2025	N/A	N/A
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) advised of proposal 6 May 2025	N/A	N/A
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 21 July 2025	Refer to Appendix 1	Refer to Appendix 1

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this decision report, the delegated officer has determined that a works approval will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) 2004, *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. Evolution Mining 2025, *Additional Information for Works Approval Application – Castle Hill Dewatering, Screening and Landfill*, Perth, Sydney, New South Wales.

Appendix 1: Summary of applicant's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
Condition 1, Table 1	'Pumps' removed as this is not an environmental control. Pumps will be installed as the means to move water between locations. Air release valves may not be necessary for open ended pipe discharge into open pits - breathers are sufficient. HDPE lined transfer dams may be required to support mine dewatering.	Pumps have been removed from the controls and condition updated to more accurately reflect the controls to be put in place for pipeline design and construction.
	Water carts will spray the face of active stockpiles for dust suppression. It is not practicable to install fixed dust suppression sprays at temporary stockpiles.	Noted. The table has been updated to remove fixed dust suppression from stockpiles.
	Improved clarity around example control methods.	The table has been updated to be more clear with regards to control methods.
Condition 6, Table 2	Deleted: Point 3 - duplicate condition for daily pipeline integrity inspections. Amended: Point 8 for clarity. Deleted: Point 9 - Abandonment/ safety bunds are not installed until suitable material is available, typically after the pit depth intercepts groundwater. Therefore, mine dewatering may occur prior to the bund's construction. Adequate controls are in place to prevent overtopping of pits e.g. daily visual inspections.	The duplicate controls have been deleted, and wording has been amended to provide clarity to operational requirements for pipeline infrastructure.
	Deleted: Point 10 - The ability to increase flowrate into other pits will only be an option if multiple pipelines are installed. Discharge will be ceased when freeboard limit is approached.	Noted and controls updated.
Condition 7, Table 3	This Works Approval application was for discharge both to and from the Castle Hill pit. This is acknowledged in the Decision Report, however, Castle Hill pit has been missed as an authorised discharge point. The proposed controls within the draft Works Approval are appropriate for discharge of mine dewatering to Castle Hill pit.	The table has been updated to accurately reflect the discharge points, in particular Castle Hill Pit.
Decision Report Section 2.2	Water quality of the receiving pits has similar properties to the water being discharged. Monitoring data was provided to DWER in response to a request to further information on 09 April 2025.	The report has been updated to note that the water quality of the receiving pits and the discharged water are similar.
Decision Report Section 3.1, Table 3	The widespread and remote locations of mine dewatering abstraction and discharge points introduce challenges for installing and maintaining telemetry with automatic cut off valves and alarms. Existing mine dewatering telemetry systems at the Mungari Gold Operations rely on line-of-sight communication. It has not been investigated if utilising this system is feasible in the steeper topography across the Castle Hill Project. This control is not proposed to be implemented without further investigation into its feasibility. Primary	The table has been updated to reflect the draft Works Approval and to reflect the relevant controls that will be in place.

Condition	Summary of applicant's comment	Department's response
	containment (pipelines), secondary containment (bunds and catch pits) and daily visual inspections of pipeline and bund integrity are deemed to be adequate controls. HDPE lined transfer dams may be required to support mine dewatering.	
	Abandonment/ safety bunds are not installed until suitable material is available (as per DMPE guidelines), typically after the pit depth intercepts groundwater. Therefore, mine dewatering may occur prior to the bund's construction. Adequate controls are in place to prevent overtopping of pits. The ability to increase flowrate into other pits will only be an option if multiple pipelines are installed. Discharge will be ceased when freeboard limit is approached. It is not anticipated to reach the freeboard water level limit within the 180-day time limited operations period as the volumes required to do this are immense for this timeframe. Quarterly freeboard water level monitoring will verify this. Visual markers are not proposed to be installed unless pit water level is predicted to approach the freeboard limit. Based on existing groundwater data, this is not anticipated to occur.	The table has been updated to more accurately reflect the controls that will be in place for mine dewater discharge into the pits.
	No increase in crushing and screening operations or capacity is proposed. Mobile crushing and screening plant from Mungari Gold Operations will be utilised at the Castle Hill Project, with no proposed increase in throughput. Removed reference to pipeline repairs. Water carts will spray the face of active stockpiles for dust suppression. It is not practicable to install fixed dust suppression sprays at temporary stockpiles.	The table has been updated to accurately reflect the nature of the proposal/ application. Fixed dust suppression has been removed from stockpiles.