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	W2992/2025/1
Applicant	Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd
ACN	112 287 797
File number	APP-0028699
Premises	Binduli Operations Legal description - Part of mining tenements M26/446 and M26/447 KANOWNA WA 6430 As defined by the premises map in Schedule 1 and the coordinates outlined in Schedule 2 of the works approval.
Date of report	29 July 2025
Decision	Works approval granted

Abbie Crawford

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Abbie Crawford
Manager, Waste Industries

Officer delegated under section 20of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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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 W2992/2025/1 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 24 April 2025, Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd (the 'applicant') applied for a works approval to the department under section 54 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The proposed premises boundary for this Works Approval is located within the approved Binduli North Minesite Licence L9362/2022/1 premises boundary. The site layout and mining tenements are shown in Figure 1 below.

The application is to undertake construction works relating to:

- Installation of Category 5 screening infrastructure and time limited operations of the 2 Mtpa mobile ore crushing and screening plant at the Premises, within the East Waste Rock Landform (WRL) footprint as shown in Figure 1.
- Construction of a sedimentation pond to assist in managing surface water from the Dry Plant approved for construction under W2873/2025/1, also shown in Figure 1.

The premises is approximately 4.6 km west of Kalgoorlie.

The premises relates to Category 5 and the assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in works approval W2992/2025/1. 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 W2992/2025/1.

An amendment to L9362/2022/1 will be required to incorporate the 2Mbta of additional Category 5 design capacity constructed under this works approval.

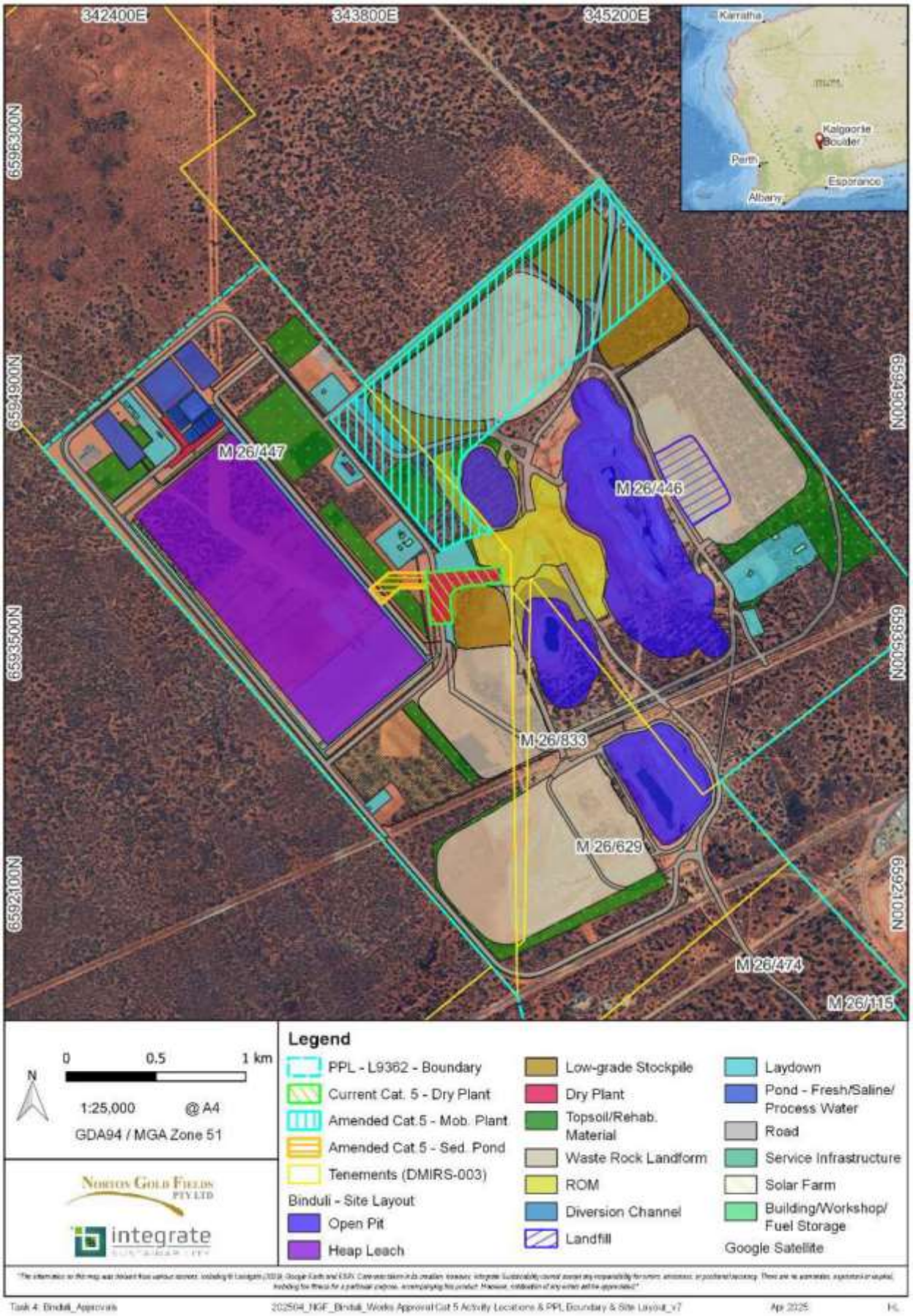

Figure 1: Binduli North Site layout (NGF 2025)

2.2.1 Mobile crushing and screening plant

The mobile crushing and screen plant will be located within an existing approved WRL stockpile, ROM and topsoil/rehabilitation material stockpile area. Mobile crushing plant infrastructure will consist of a dozer trap feeder and primary, secondary, and tertiary crushers as listed in Figure 2 below. The material generated will be transported via the existing internal road and deposited at Binduli's heap leach facility, as shown on Figure 1 (NGF 2025). The general arrangement of the plant at Stage 1 and Stage 2 is shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4 respectively.

Equipment	Description
Primary Crushing Station	Primary Crushing Station c/w Feed Hopper, Grizzly, Crusher, Grizzly Undersize Conveyor, Tramp Metal Magnet and Crusher Discharge Conveyor (or equivalent)-
Secondary Crushing Station	Secondary Crushing Station c/w Crusher, Screen (Metso330GPS or equivalent)
Tertiary Crushing Station	Tertiary Crushing Station c/w Crusher, Screen (Metso330GPS or equivalent)
Primary Crusher Feeder	Primary Crushing Station Feeder - Capable of up to 2Mtpa (Transmin Dozer Trap Feeder or equivalent)
Grizzly Feeder	Part of Primary Crushing Station: 200-CR-001 (Metso TKF12-48-2V or equivalent)
Pan Feeder 1	Part of Secondary Surge Hopper: 200-HP-001 (Metso TKP12-25 or equivalent)
Pan Feeder 2	Part of Secondary Surge Hopper: 200-HP-002 (Metso TKP12-25 or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-001	Grizzly Under Size Conveyor - Part of Primary Crushing Station: 200-CR-001
Belt Conveyor CV-002	Primary Crusher Discharge Conveyor - Part of Primary Crushing Station: 200-CR-001
Belt Conveyor CV-003	18m long - Primary Crushing Ore Transfer Conveyor (Metso BC1000R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-004	18m long - Secondary Surge Hopper Discharge Conveyor (Metso BC1000R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-005	21m long - Secondary Crusher Screen Feed Conveyor (Metso BC1200R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-006	15m long -Secondary Crusher Screen Undersize Conveyor (Metso BC650R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-007	21m long - Secondary Crushing Screen 2nd Deck Conveyor (Metso BC800R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-008	18m long - Secondary Crusher Discharge Conveyor (Metso BC1000R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-009	18m long - Tertiary Surge Hopper Discharge Conveyor (Metso BC800R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-010	15m long - Tertiary Crusher Screen Undersize Conveyor (Metso BC650R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-011	18m long - Tertiary Crusher Discharge Conveyor (Metso BC800R or equivalent)
Belt Conveyor CV-012	18m long - Tertiary Crusher Screen Feed Conveyor (Metso BC800R or equivalent)
Surge Hopper 1	Secondary Surge Hopper - 30m3 Live Capacity c/w Pan Feeder and Surge Hopper (Metso NW-SH or equivalent)
Surge Hopper 2	Tertiary Surge Hopper - 30m3 Live Capacity c/w Pan Feeder and Surge Hopper (Metso NW-SH or equivalent)
Tramp Metal Magnet	Part of Primary Crushing Station: 200-CR-001
Screen 1	Part of Secondary Crushing Station: 200-CR-002 (Nordberg CVB2060-4 or equivalent)
Screen 2	Part of Tertiary Crushing Station: 200-CR-003 (Nordberg CVB2060-4 or equivalent)

Figure 2: Equipment list (NGF 2025)

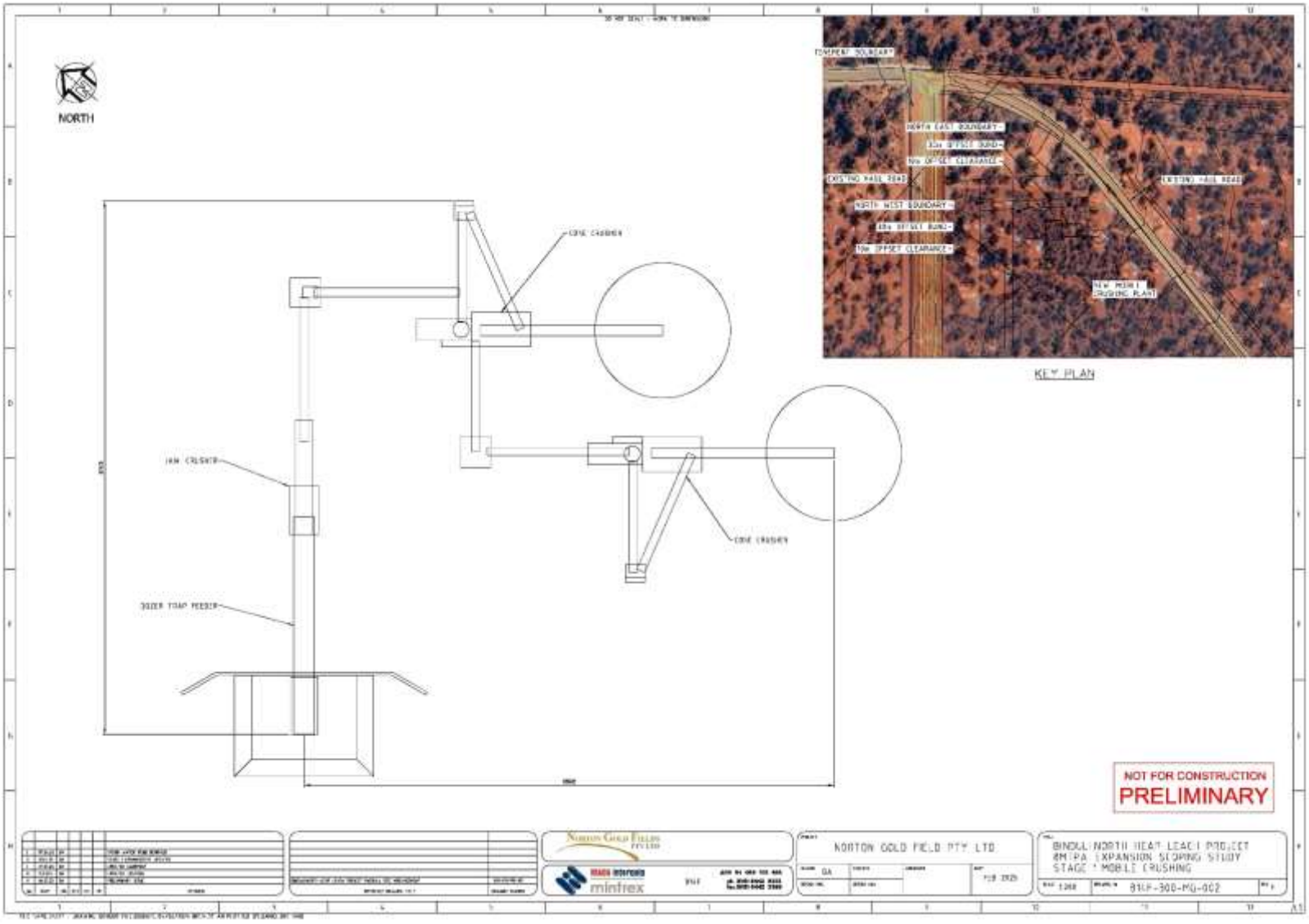

Figure 3: General arrangement of plant - Stage 1

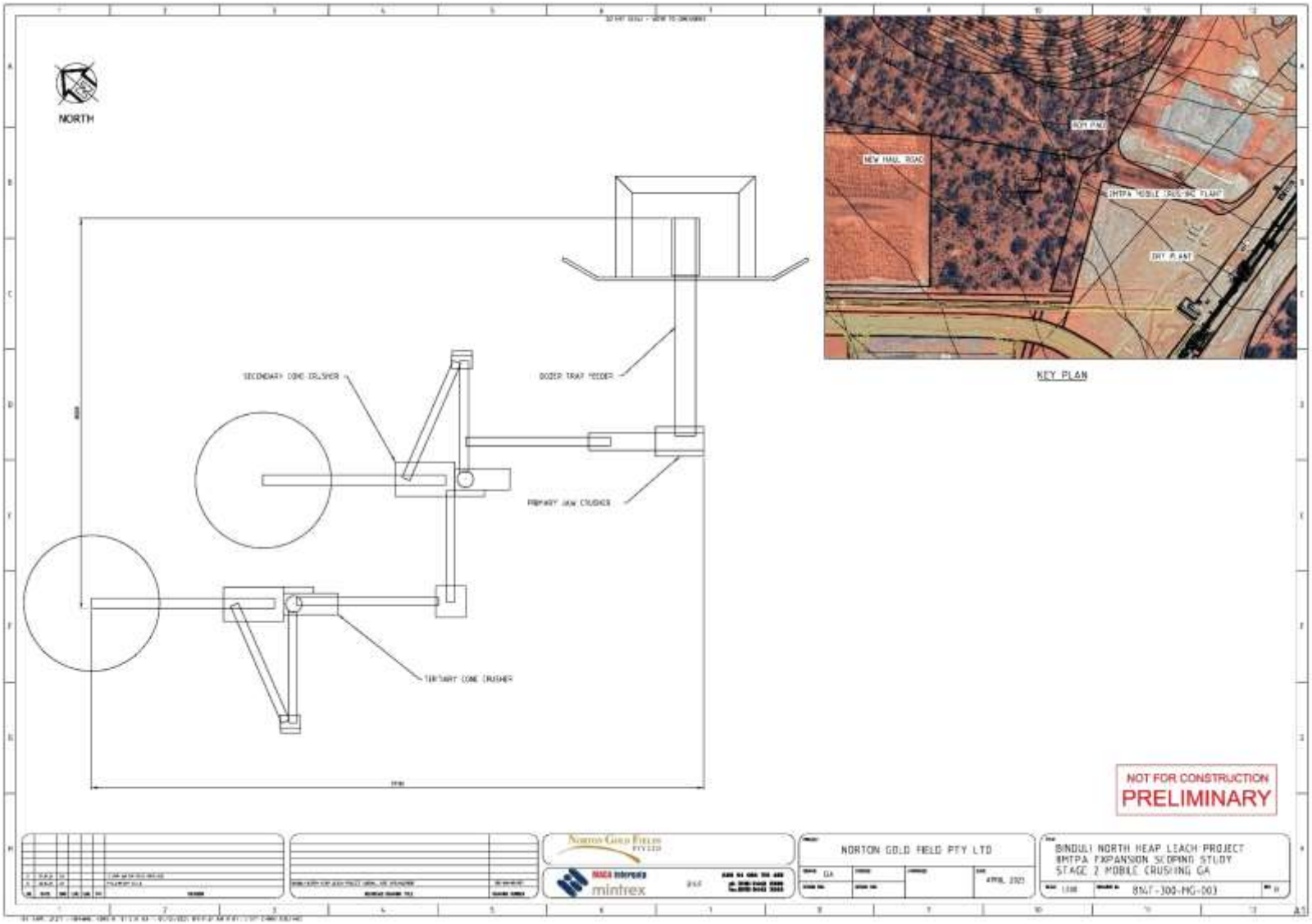

Figure 4: General arrangement of plant - Stage 2

2.2.2 Sedimentation pond

The sedimentation pond will be located adjacent to the dry plant approved under works approval W2873/2025/1, as shown in Figure 1. Although not required as part of W2873/2025/1, the works approval holder considers stormwater management infrastructure associated with the dry plant can be improved by upgrading and expanding the existing infrastructure.

The dry plant has four sumps at the fixed plant crushing/screening area. However, the pump efficiency is impacted by sediment build-up, as is the sump capacity, which can cause water to spill out of the sumps (NGF 2025).

The proposed sedimentation pond will be 50m x 50m with an estimated capacity of 10,000m^3. It will receive diverted contaminated water and sediment run-off from the existing stormwater pond which captures rainwater that runs off from or percolates through the Heap Leach facility. It will be constructed from a combination of excavated material and mine waste and lined with 1.5mm HDPE over a compacted soil layer and maintain a minimum freeboard of 0.3m.

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/operation which have been considered in this decision report are detailed in Table 1 below. Table 1 also details the control measures the applicant has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 1: Proposed applicant controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Construction			
Dust	Vehicle movements, earthworks and construction activities.	Air / windborne pathway	• Application of water on stockpiles and high-traffic areas via a water cart. • Water carts with spray bars. • Daily visual monitoring of dust emissions. • Complaints management. • Adoption of controls as outlined in the works approval holder's Dust Management Plan (not provided to the Department); and • Alignment with '*A Guideline for managing the impacts of dust and associated contaminants from land development sites, remediation of*

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			contaminated sites, and other related activities' (DER 2011)
Noise	Vehicle movements, earthworks and construction activities.	Air / windborne pathway	• Noise emissions are not expected to differ from the current operational levels. • Shielding effects from Waste Rock Landforms and/or Stockpiles and other activities. • If stockpiles are not in place during construction or operations, a noise bunding structure will be constructed, up to 30m wide and 15m high to provide noise isolation. • Regular plant maintenance and the planning of routes and travel paths to utilise existing features to shield noise. • Complaints register.
Operation			
Dust	Crushing and screening of ore, vehicle movements, lift-off from stockpiles and/or stored product.	Air / windborne pathway	• Application of water on stockpiles and high-traffic areas via a water cart. • Water carts with spray bars. • Daily visual monitoring of dust emissions. • Complaints management. • Adoption of controls as outlined in the works approval holder's Dust Management Plan; and • Alignment with '*A Guideline for managing the impacts of dust and associated contaminants from land development sites, remediation of contaminated sites, and other related activities*' (DER 2011)
Noise	Crushing and screening of ore	Air / windborne pathway	• Noise emissions are not expected to differ from the current operational levels. • Shielding effects from Waste Rock Landforms and/or Stockpiles and other activities. • If stockpiles are not in place during construction or operations, a noise bunding structure will be constructed, up to 30m wide and 15m high to provide noise isolation. • Regular plant maintenance and the planning of routes and travel paths to utilise existing features to shield noise.

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			• Complaints register.
Sediment laden / contaminated stormwater	Crushing and screening of material, waste rock stockpiles. Rainfall events causing sedimentation runoff into local water bodies.	Overland runoff and infiltration to soil and groundwater	• Existing stormwater controls required under L9362/2022/1 • Lined 10,000m^3 sedimentation pond will improve stormwater management associated with the existing dry plant and Heap Leach facility

3.1.2 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 2 below provides a summary of potential human and environmental receptors that may be impacted because 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
H1 Closest Residential Premises	Approximately 2.7km south east of the proposed premises boundary.
H2 Binduli Rock Hole Aboriginal Cultural Heritage - Lodged Site 21047	Approximately 2.3 km south-east of the proposed premises boundary.
Environmental receptors	**Distance from activity / prescribed premises**
Surrounding native vegetation – Mixed Eucalyptus woodlands	Within and surrounding the proposed premises boundary.
Kurrawang Nature Reserve (DBCA Legislative tenure)	2km South-west of the proposed premises boundary
Goldfields Groundwater Area (proclaimed under RIWI Act) Combined Fractured Rock West • Fractured Rock Aquifer • Calcrete aquifer • Paleochannel aquifer • Alluvium aquifer	The closest groundwater license GWL 167686 is within the prescribed premises boundary of L9362/2022/1.
Non-perennial lake	Approximately 2.7km north-west of the proposed premises.

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for each identified emission source and considers 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 3.

Works approval W2992/2025/1 that accompanies this decision report authorises construction and time-limited operations. The conditions in the issued works approval, as outlined in Table 3 have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

A licence amendment 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 5 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 3: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during construction and operation

Risk events					**Risk rating [1]** **C = consequence** **L = likelihood**	**Applicant controls sufficient?**	**Conditions [2] of works approval**	**Justification for additional regulatory controls**
Sources / activities	**Potential emission/discharge**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Construction								
Movement of vehicles on roadways Installation of crushing and screening infrastructure Earthworks and construction of the sedimentation pond	Dust	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway impacting **Impact:** Health and amenity	Native vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1, table 1, Design and installation requirements	The works approval holder's proposed controls to manage dust have been conditioned within the licence. The general provisions of the EP Act also apply
	Noise		Residences located 2.7 south east and 2.9km east of the premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1, table 1, Design and installation requirements	The location of the crushing and screening plant (WRD provides a noise buffer) and the distance to the nearest receptor, noise emissions are not expected to exceed to assigned levels outline in the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* at the nearest

Risk events					Risk rating [1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions [2] of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Sources / activities	**Potential emission/discharge**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
								receptor. The general provisions of the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* apply
	Hydrocarbon spills/leaks	**Pathway:** Overland runoff **Impact:** ecosystem disturbance and/ or impacting surface water quality	Soil and Groundwater beneath the premises Native vegetation	Refer to Section **Error! R eference source not found.**	C = Minor L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 1, table 1, Design and installation requirements	The general provisions of the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* also apply.
	Sediment laden stormwater	**Pathway:** Overland runoff **Impact:** ecosystem disturbance and/ or impacting surface water quality	Soil and Groundwater beneath the premises Native vegetation	Refer to Section **Error! R eference source not found.**	C = Minor L = Possible **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 1, table 1, Design and installation requirements	The works approval holder's proposed controls to manage stormwater have been conditioned within the works approval. Existing conditions within L9362 will also apply and require stormwater from stockpiles to be managed appropriately. The general provisions of the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* also apply.
Operation (including time-limited-operations)								
Time limited operations of screening, crushing, unloading, loading and storage of material Vehicle movements	Dust Noise	**Pathway:** Air/windborne pathway **Impact:** Health and amenity	Residences located 2.7 south east and 2.9km east of the premises boundary Native vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 6, table 2, Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	The works approval holder's proposed controls to manage dust have been conditioned within the works approval. The location of the crushing and screening plant (WRD provides a noise buffer) and the distance to the nearest receptor, noise emissions are not expected to exceed to assigned levels outline in the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 at the nearest

Risk events					Risk rating [1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions [2] of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Sources / activities	**Potential emission/discharge**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
								receptor.
	Sediment laden / contaminated stormwater	**Pathway:** Overland runoff **Impact:** ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Native vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely **Low Risk**	No controls proposed	Condition 6, table 2, Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	The works approval holder's proposed controls to manage stormwater have been conditioned within the works approval. Existing conditions within L9362 will also apply and require stormwater from stockpiles to be managed appropriately. The general provisions of the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* also apply.
Time limited operations of sedimentation pond Accidental spills or loss of containment	Sediment laden / contaminated stormwater	**Pathway:** Overland runoff, subsurface seepage **Impact:** ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Soil and Groundwater beneath the premises Native vegetation Non—perennial lake 2.7 km northwest	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Possible **Medium Risk**	Y	Condition 6, table 2, Infrastructure and equipment requirements during time limited operations	The works approval holder's proposed controls to management stormwater have been conditioned within the works approval. Existing conditions within L9362 will also apply and require stormwater from stockpiles to be managed appropriately. The general provisions of the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 also apply.

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

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website on 25 June 2025.	None received	NA
Application advertised in the West Australian newspaper on 30 June 2025.	None received	NA
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 23 July 2025.	Norton suggested an alternative to Table 1, detailing the ore crushing and screening plant proposed for Binduli North and consolidates the remaining auxiliary plant under the singular dot point. Norton believes this table encompasses all plant intended to be operated under this Works Approval.	Table 1 revised and updated.

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 Environment Regulation (DER) 2011, *A Guideline for managing the impacts of dust and associated contaminants from land development sites, remediation of contaminated sites, and other related activities*, 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. Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd (NGF) 2025, *Binduli - Works Approval Application Cat 5 - Supporting Information Package - Sediment Pond and Mobile Crushing / Screening Plant*, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.