



Application for Works Approval

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

Works Approval Number	W3183/2026/1
Applicant	Endurance Mining Pty Ltd
ACN	686 341 471
File number	APP-0032449
Premises	ABRA Base Metals Project Mining Tenement G52/292 MEEKATHARRA WA 6642 As defined by the premises map attached to the issued works approval
Date of report	16/03/2026 (FINAL)
Decision	Works approval granted

Table of Contents

1. Decision summary	1
2. Scope of assessment	1
2.1 Regulatory framework	1
2.2 Application summary	1
2.2.1 Overview of Premises	1
2.2.2 Construction activities	2
2.2.3 Groundwater monitoring	3
2.3 Legislative context	5
3. Risk assessment	5
3.1 Source-pathways and receptors	5
3.1.1 Emissions and controls	5
3.1.2 Receptors	7
3.2 Risk ratings	9
4. Consultation	16
5. Conclusion	18
References	18
Table 1: Proposed applicant controls	5
Table 2: Environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity	7
Table 3: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the premises during construction and time limited operations	10
Table 4: Consultation	16
Figure 1: TSF Cell A and Cell B construction timeline	1
Figure 2: TSF Cell B2 including monitoring bore locations	4
Figure 3: Distance to sensitive receptors	8

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, *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) works approval W3183/2026/1 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

On 13 November 2025, Endurance Mining Pty Ltd (the Applicant) applied to the department for a works approval under section 54 of the EP Act.

The Applicant proposes to increase tailings storage capacity at Abra Base Metals Project (the premises) by constructing and operating an additional tailings storage facility (TSF). The facility, known as TSF Cell B2, will involve an expansion of the existing TSF.

2.2.1 Overview of Premises

The Applicant currently holds EP Act licence L9383/2023/1 (the Licence) for operating an *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* category 5 prescribed premises.

Ore mined at the premises is processed through an onsite processing plant consisting of a crushing and screening circuit, flotation and concentrate dewatering circuit, and a tailings thickener with tailings discharged to a TSF. Approximately 1.35 million tonnes (Mt) of ore is processed through the processing plant each year to produce a lead/silver product.

Construction of the existing TSF approved under EP Act works approval W6205/2018/1 was originally proposed as two separate cells, TSF Cell A and TSF Cell B, however due to operational requirements, TSF Cell A was split into smaller cells through amendments to W6205/2018/1. These smaller cells within the original TSF Cell A footprint included a starter cell (Mini Cell 1), Mini Cell 2 and Cell A South (see Figure 1 below).

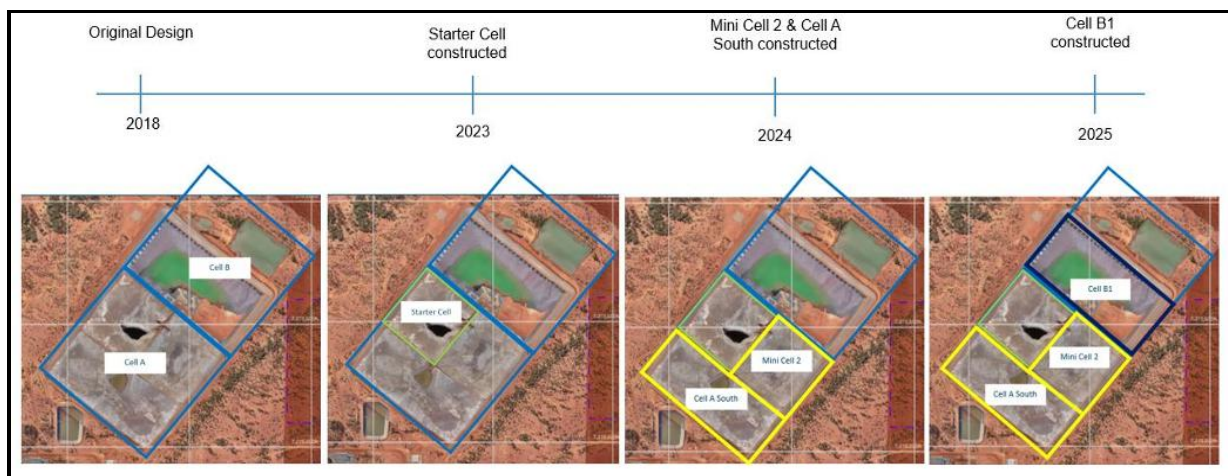


Figure 1: TSF Cell A and Cell B construction timeline

The original TSF design included starter embankments and TSF cell basins that were to be lined with geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) to produce a low permeability liner with hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-12} metres per second (m/s) to reduce seepage. This was based on initial metallurgical test work. The works approval at the time required the works approval holder to undertake a geochemical analysis from 10 individual tails samples once tailings were produced. Specifically, undertaking leaching tests of the material using the US EPA Method 1313 procedure (LEAF Test). Results from the analysis triggered a review of TSF seepage modelling by the Applicant which resulted in a proposed amendment to W6205/2018/1 to change material used for lining TSF Cell A.

At the time of the works approval amendment assessment, the department sought technical advice from the department's Principal Hydrogeologist for removal of the GCL from the TSF Cell A basin and alter the liner type to a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) liner for the starter embankments. Technical advice provided recommended:

- The works approval holder undertakes suitable subgrade preparation of the substrate beneath the TSF footprint to reduce permeability of the soils within the area.
- The works approval holder should install and construct at least one monitoring bore located hydraulically downgradient of the proposed interception drain to assess its effectiveness in recovering seepage.
- The works approval holder should undertake monitoring of the monitoring bores near the TSF and should be sampled on a quarterly basis to monitor for groundwater contamination from leached metals.

These recommendations were applied as additional conditions through an amendment to W6205/2018/1 in October 2023 ([W6205 2023](#)).

TSF Cell B (see Figure 2 below) was also approved for construction under W6205/2018/1. The original approval required a GCL liner be installation to reduce seepage, however, following an application from the works approval holder, TSF Cell B liner requirements were amended in October 2024 to duplicate the updated liner requirements for TSF Cell A ([W6205 2024](#)). Also, as part of the amendment to W6205/2018/1 in October 2024, TSF Cell B was split into two sub-cells (B1 and B2) due to operational requirements (see Figure 1 above). Construction of TSF Cell B1 was completed in 2025 and is currently the active tailings storage facility at the premises.

The Applicant now seeks approval to construct TSF Cell B2 as TSF Cell B1 is nearing capacity.

2.2.2 Construction activities

TSF Cell B2 will be constructed against the northern embankment of existing TSF Cell B1 which will act as a dividing wall (see Figure 2 below). TSF Cell B2 will be constructed to a crest level of 538.3 m Relative Level (RL) with the embankment reaching a maximum height of approximately 12 m. The 14 hectare (ha) storage area is expected to provide approximately 1.8 Mt of tailings storage based upon dry tailings density of 1.65 tonnes per cubic meter (t/m^3). At the current Licence tailings production rate of 1.3 Mt per annum, TSF Cell B2 is expected to have a storage life of approximately 1.4 years.

Construction of the TSF Cell B2 perimeter embankment will be zoned, with an upstream section made from selected silty gravel and a downstream section using mine waste or borrowed sandy gravel. The upstream zone will include a cut-off trench which will be approximately 4.0 m wide and 0.5 m deep, and be 'keyed' into the Wiluna Hardpan to help reduce seepage. To provide additional protection, the Applicant will install a 1.5 mm HDPE liner along the upstream slope of TSF Cell B2, as well as a 150 m by 100 m HDPE section at the base of the TSF basin under the new proposed decant recovery system. Additional measures include seepage recovery trenches within the basin with sumps at low points and provision for seepage recovery bores if required. A decant water recovery system capable of recovering up to 1,317 m^3 of water per day will be installed with all captured water pumped back to the processing plant for reuse.

All new tailings and decant water return pipelines will be contained within a bund, except for those located in the lead area. Pressure gauges will be installed at both the Process Plant and TSF Cell B2. A deviation in flow rate of 20 m³/hr over 20 seconds between the two gauges will trigger an alarm in the Control Room. Visual inspections of pipelines and tailings discharge will also be conducted every six hours to identify any small leaks.

The TSF Cell B2 has been designed such that a 1:100 years Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), 72-hour duration storm event can be temporarily stored on top of the facility. Provision of a minimum 0.5 m freeboard comprising of a minimum operational freeboard (vertical height between the tailings beach and embankment crest) of 0.3 m plus a minimum beach freeboard of 0.2 m and the allowance for the 1:100 years AEP, 72-hour event of 0.3 m.

The Applicant noted the proposed TSF Cell B2 has an intersection against a minor drainage line that flows northwards and another minor drainage line that runs parallel to the east embankment. As a result, high rainfall events could cause flooding and subsequently damage TSF walls resulting in wall failure due to reduced structural integrity. A hydrological study recommended levees and drains are installed to control the width of the flows. As a result, the Applicant included diversion drains as part of the design for TSF Cell B2. Existing diversion drains are in place to protect embankment walls of TSF Cell A and TSF Cell B which will require extensions to the north to accommodate TSF Cell B2. Similarly, diversion drains to the east of TSF Cell B and TSF Cell A are also in place and will need to be extended to the north. The department notes, structural integrity of TSFs are regulated under the *Mining Act 1978* and its subsidiary regulations which are administered by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE). As a result, the construction of levees and drains to protect the structural integrity of TSF Cell B2 has not been included as part of the assessment of this work approval application (see Section 2.3 below for further details).

2.2.3 Groundwater monitoring

Existing ambient groundwater monitoring bores TSFMB001 to TSFMB008, and WMB001, WMB002 and WMB002A (see Figure 2 below) are already in place (including at the proposed TSF Cell B2 footprint area) to monitor for potential groundwater impacts from operations at the premises. Monitoring data collected to date and presented to the department indicates there has been no significant impacts associated with operating TSF Cell A and TSF Cell B1 at the premises. Monitoring data presented shows a steady increase in groundwater levels at the northern and eastern monitoring bores TSFMB003, TSFMB004 and TSFMB008 which is likely due to localised seepage from operating TSF Cell B1. The most recent results for standing water levels (SWL's) in these monitoring bores indicates levels of between 7.14 to 13.14 metres below ground level (mbgl), however these results are localised and are still well below the root zones of groundwater dependent vegetation. Results also indicate there has been no significant impacts on groundwater quality.

Conditions of W6205/2018/1 require the Applicant to conduct routine sampling of existing groundwater monitoring bores during time limited operations of TSF Cell B1, and provide to the department a report of collected data at the completion of time limited operations. The Licence also has ambient groundwater monitoring requirements for groundwater monitoring bores TSFMB001 to TSFMB004 (currently identified as MB1 to MB4 in the Licence). The department notes W6205/2018/1 is due to expire in June 2026. The Applicant has stated existing ambient groundwater monitoring bores TSFMB003, TSFMB004 and TSFMB008 are the most suitable for monitoring potential impacts on groundwater and surface water due to seepage at the TSF Cell B2, and therefore proposes monitoring of these bores be regulated under W3183/2026/1.

The applicant also seeks approval to construct an additional groundwater monitoring bore (TSFMB010) which will be located to the north of TSF Cell B2 (direction of groundwater flow) to assess for potential impacts beyond the cone of depression created by the underground dewatering.

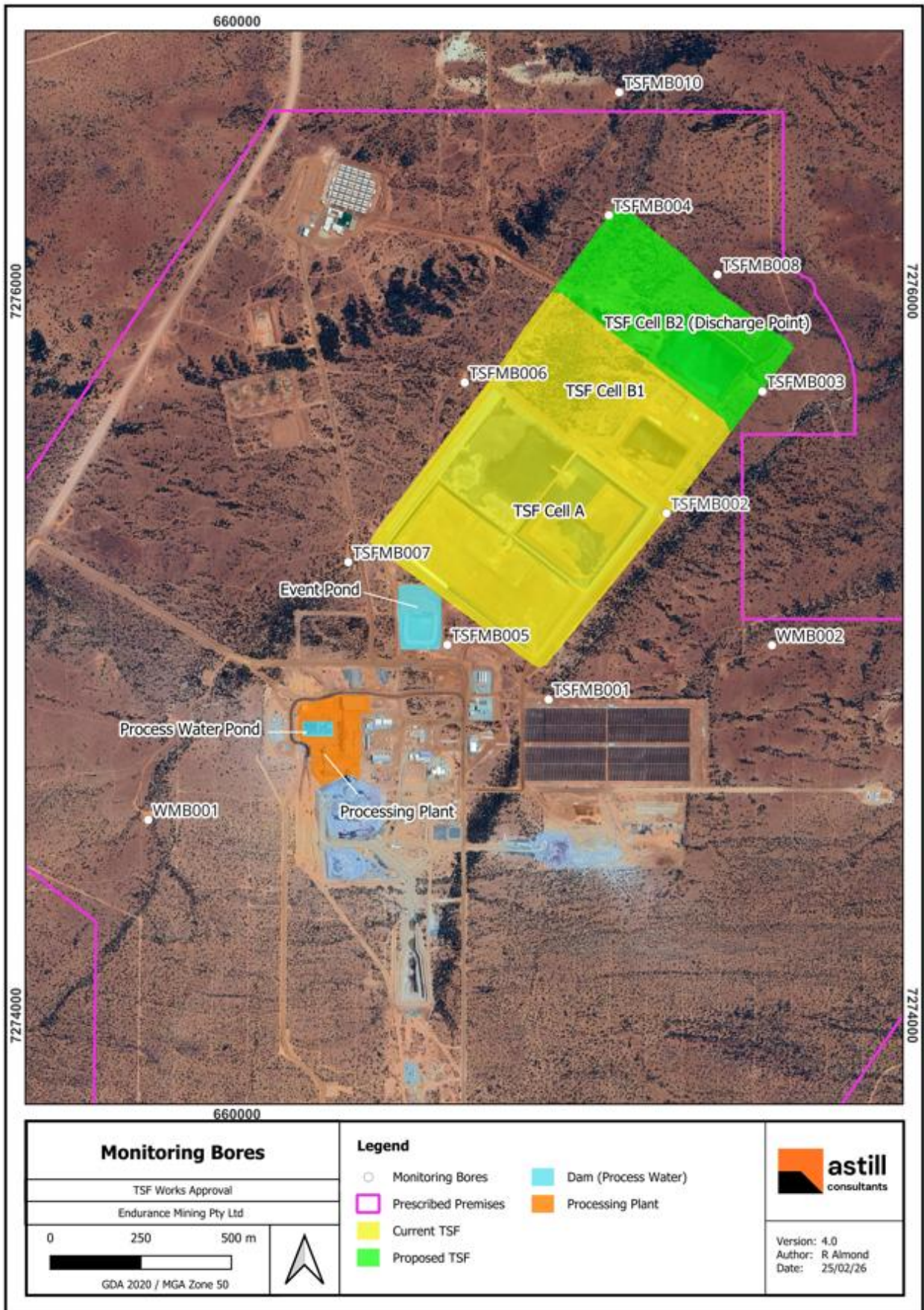


Figure 2: TSF Cell B2 including monitoring bore locations

The Applicant requested a Time Limited Operations period of 350 days following construction to allow submission and assessment of an application for an amendment to EP Act licence L9383/2023/1 to include operation of TSF Cell B2.

The department typically applies a standard 180-day Time Limited Operation period for works approvals which can be extended if required through a Works Approval Holder amendment application or initiated by the CEO. The department considers a Time Limited Operation period of 180 days sufficient for this application because risks to the environment from operating a TSF at the premises have already been considered under W6205/2018/1, and there is an existing licence in place which includes conditions for regulating the operation and monitoring of a TSF at the premises. The department believes an extended Time Limited Operations period will not be necessary.

2.3 Legislative context

In regulating the construction and operation of TSF Cell B2, determinations about the geotechnical stability are regulated under the Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulations 2022 (WHS (Mines) Regulations) and are therefore outside the scope of this assessment. This assessment will only consider the potential impacts from emissions and discharges from the TSF under normal operating conditions.

Similarly, the management of tailings dust which is likely to contain asbestiform material is regulated under the WHS (Mines) Regulations and is outside the scope of this assessment. This includes potential worker exposure to asbestiform material, as well as environmental considerations regarding the management of tailings dust. Should excessive amounts of tailings containing fibrous material escape into the environment, the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003* may apply.

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 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	TSF Cell B2 construction activities including earth moving and	Air / windborne pathway to nearby creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of water carts as required. • Visual monitoring to determine if work needs to be paused during high winds or

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
	vehicle movement	lines	extremely dry conditions.
Sediment laden stormwater	Cleared areas, earth moving, material stockpiles, unsealed roads etc.	Overland flows to nearby creek lines	No controls proposed.
Time Limited Operations			
Seepage from tailings	Tailings stored within a paddock style tailings storage facility	Seepage through soils to underlying groundwater and nearby creek lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut-off trench installed under the upstream toe of the perimeter embankment that will be excavated to 'refusal' on the cemented layer (Wiluna Hardpan). • HDPE liner installed on the upstream slope of the embankment and part of the TSF basin directly under the decant. • Seepage recovery trenches with sumps located at low points. Provision for seepage recovery bores if required. • Daily visual inspections to confirm general integrity of the TSF embankments and HDPE liner are maintained.
Tailings	Overtopping of embankment	Direct discharge to surrounding soils and overland flow to nearby creek lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSF constructed with a freeboard allowance of 0.5 m plus allowance for a 1 in 100 year, 72 hour AEP storm event. • Tailings discharged sub-aerially and cyclically in thin discrete layers not exceeding 300 mm thickness . • Deposition to occur through multiple spigots. • Spigotting of tailings carried out such that a beach is developed so the supernatant pond is maintained within and around the rock ring decant. • Supernatant pond always maintained away from the perimeter embankments. • Water recovery system maintained for a minimum recovery of not less than 90 t/hr (36% water return plus removal of 1:100 years AEP 72-hour storm over 1 month).
Tailings and decant return water	Pipelines due to leaks and/or failure	Direct discharge to surrounding soils and overland flow to nearby creek lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pipelines positioned within unlined V drains to contain spills or leaks. • Pressure sensors fitted to pipelines for leak and/or failure detection.

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 and Figure 3 below provides a summary of potential 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: Environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Surface water - including nearby drainage lines / creeks	<p>TSF infrastructure intersects or lies close to two minor drainage lines. These drainage lines remain dry for long periods of time and only flow during heavy rainfall events (ephemeral). There is also a larger drainage line (5 Mile Creek) which is located approximately 1.2 km east of TSF Cell B2.</p> <p>Applicant stated seepage will be localised to immediate vicinity of TSF Cell B2 and is expected to flow in a SW direction back towards mining operations.</p>
Groundwater	<p>Groundwater levels range from 16 – 54 mbgl at the premises. Groundwater under the TSF is approximately 10.64 to 25.7 mbgl, based on the SWL’s measured in four of the surrounding TSF monitoring bores.</p> <p>Salinity measured from these bores range from 320 mg/L to 710 mg/L Total Dissolved Solids, with a pH between 7.2 to 8.3.</p> <p>Groundwater within this area is good quality and suitable for livestock drinking, potable or industrial use.</p>
Aboriginal heritage site	Approximately 150 m northeast of TSF Cell B2.

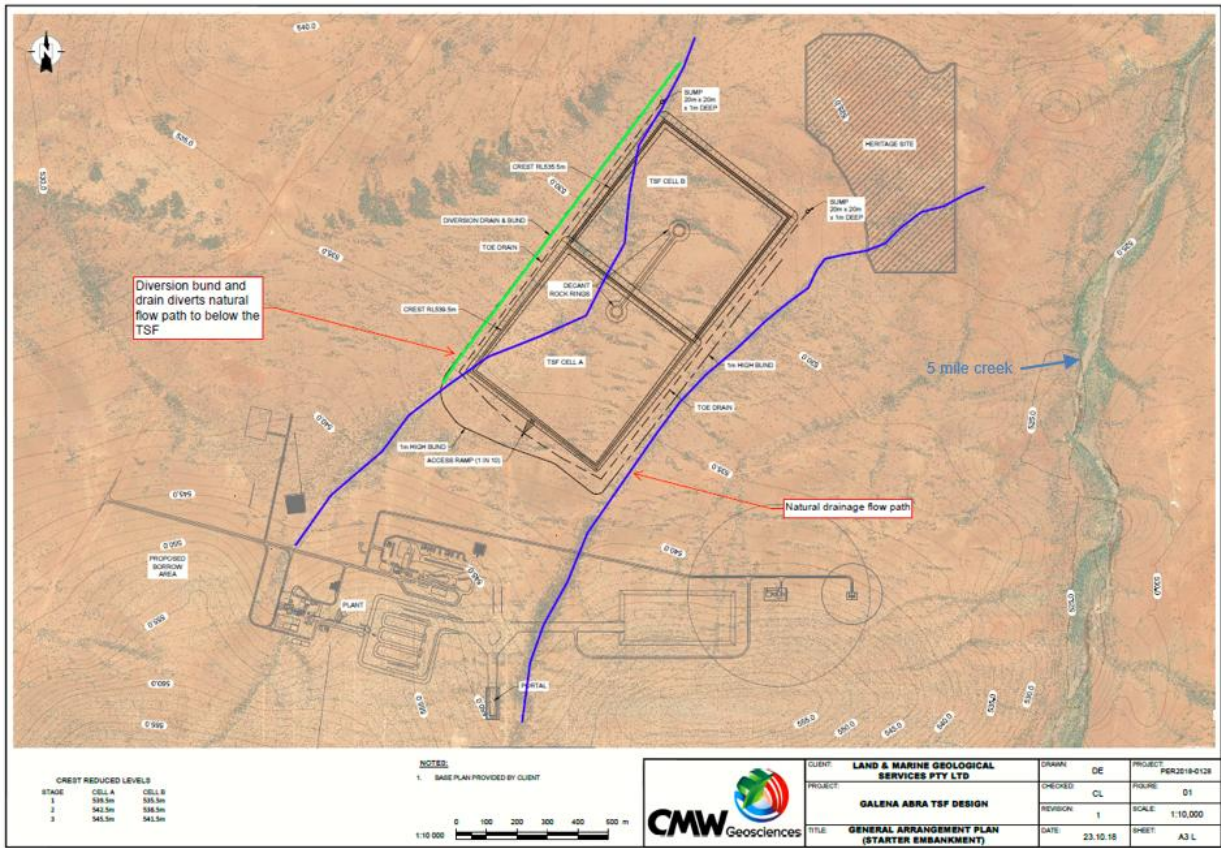


Figure 3: Distance to sensitive receptors

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for 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 3.

Works approval W3183/2026/1 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).

An amendment to the 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 5 tailings discharge 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 time limited operations

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
Construction								
Construction of TSF Cell B2	Dust	Pathway: Air / wind dispersion. Impact: Contamination of nearby creek lines.	Onsite minor ephemeral creeks	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Slight L = Unlikely Low Risk	Y	Condition 1 – construction requirements. Conditions 2 and 3 – construction compliance reporting. Conditions 23, 24 and 25 – recording and reporting.	Standard conditions relating to location of infrastructure and compliance auditing and reporting have been applied to the works approval. The general provisions of the EP Act and <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004</i> apply.
	Sediment laden stormwater	Pathway: Overland runoff. Impact: Contamination of nearby creek lines.	Onsite minor ephemeral creeks	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1 – construction requirements. Conditions 2 and 3 – construction compliance reporting. Conditions 23, 24 and 25 – recording and reporting.	Standard conditions relating to location of infrastructure and compliance auditing and reporting have been applied to the works approval. The general provisions of the EP Act and <i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004</i> apply.

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
Operation (including time-limited-operations operations)								
Storage of tailings material at TSF Cell B2	Seepage from stored tailings	<p>Pathway: Seepage through soils to the underlying groundwater and nearby creek lines.</p> <p>Impact: Contamination of groundwater suitable for stock watering. Contamination of nearby surface water causing ecosystem disturbance.</p>	<p>Groundwater</p> <p>Onsite minor creek lines</p> <p>5 Mile Creek approximately 1.2 km east from the premises</p>	Refer to Section 3.1	<p>C = Moderate</p> <p>L = Possible</p> <p>Medium Risk</p>	Y	<p>Condition 1 – construction requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 2 and 3 – construction compliance reporting.</p> <p>Condition 4 and 5 - construction and reporting for new groundwater monitoring bore.</p> <p>Conditions 6, 7 and 8 – baseline monitoring and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Condition 9 – authorised discharge point.</p> <p>Conditions 10, 11, 12 and 13 – environmental commissioning, monitoring and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 14 and 15 – commencement and duration for time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 16 – operational requirements during time limited operations.</p> <p>Conditions 17, 18 and 19 – monitoring requirements during time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 20 – inspection of infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 21 and 22 – time limited operations</p>	<p>Applicant proposed design and construction requirements included as conditions of the works approval.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to construction of a groundwater monitoring bore, reporting and baseline monitoring requirements have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Standard condition included identifying authorised discharge point during commissioning and time limited operations.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to Environmental Commissioning requirements, including monitoring and reporting, have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to time limited operation</p>

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
							compliance reporting. Condition 23, 24 and 25 – recording and reporting requirements.	requirements, including inspections, recording and reporting requirements, have been included in the works approval. Monitoring and reporting requirements for additional ambient groundwater monitoring bores TSFMB006 and TSFMB008 (installed under W6205/2018/1), and TSFMB010 to be installed under this works approval have been included as conditions in the works approval. Existing monitoring bores TSFMB001 to TSFMB004 are already regulated through conditions of the Licence. Standard keeping of records and reporting requirements included in the works approval.
	Direct discharge of tailings due to overtopping of embankments	Pathway: Direct discharge to surrounding soils and overland flow to nearby creek	Onsite minor creek lines 5 Mile Creek approximately 1.2 km east	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1 – construction requirements. Conditions 2 and 3 – construction compliance reporting.	Applicant proposed design and construction requirements relating to freeboard and decant recovery

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
		lines. Impact: Contamination of soils causing ecosystem disturbance. Contamination of surface water with sediment and metals in sediment causing ecosystem disturbance.	from the premises				<p>Condition 9 – authorised discharge point.</p> <p>Conditions 10, 11, 12 and 13 – environmental commissioning, monitoring and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 14 and 15 – commencement and duration for time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 16 – operational requirements during time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 20 – inspection of infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 21 and 22 – time limited operations compliance reporting.</p> <p>Condition 23, 24 and 25 – recording and reporting requirements.</p>	<p>system have been included as conditions of the works approval.</p> <p>Standard condition included identifying authorised discharge point during commissioning and time limited operations.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to Environmental Commissioning requirements, including inspections and reporting, have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to time limited operations including recording and reporting requirements have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Applicant proposed operational controls including routine inspections have been conditioned within the works approval.</p> <p>Standard keeping of records and reporting requirements</p>

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
								included in the works approval.
	Spillage of tailings and decant return water through leaks, pipeline ruptures or failure	<p>Pathway: Direct discharge to surrounding soils and overland flow to nearby drainage lines.</p> <p>Impact: Contamination of soils causing ecosystem disturbance. Contamination of surface water with sediment and metals in sediment causing ecosystem disturbance.</p>	<p>Onsite minor creek lines</p> <p>5 Mile Creek approximately 1.2 km east from the premises</p>	Refer to Section 3.1	<p>C = Moderate</p> <p>L = Possible</p> <p>Medium Risk</p>	Y	<p>Condition 1 – construction requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 2 and 3 – construction compliance reporting.</p> <p>Condition 9 – authorised discharge point.</p> <p>Conditions 10, 11, 12 and 13 – environmental commissioning, monitoring and reporting requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 14 and 15 – commencement and duration for time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 16 – operational requirements during time limited operations.</p> <p>Condition 20 – inspection of infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Conditions 21 and 22 – time limited operations compliance reporting.</p> <p>Condition 23, 24 and 25 – recording and reporting requirements.</p>	<p>Applicant proposed design and construction requirements relating to tailings discharge and decant return pipelines have been included as conditions of the works approval.</p> <p>Standard condition included identifying authorised discharge point during commissioning and time limited operations.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to Environmental Commissioning requirements, including inspections and reporting, have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Standard conditions relating to time limited operations including recording and reporting requirements have been included in the works approval.</p> <p>Applicant proposed operational controls</p>

Risk events					Risk rating ¹ C = consequence L = likelihood	Applicant controls sufficient?	Conditions ² of works approval	Justification for additional regulatory controls / DWER comments
Sources / activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Applicant controls				
								including routine inspections have been conditioned within the works approval. Standard keeping of records and reporting requirements included in 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 4 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response																				
Request for comments - Shire of Meekatharra. Advised of proposal on 19/01/2026	Period to receive comments ended 10/02/2026. No comments received.	N/A																				
Request for comments – DMPE. Advised of proposal on 19/01/2026	<p>Comments received 20/01/2026.</p> <p><i>The requirement for a Works Approvals for the above purpose was communicated to DMPE in Table 4 (see below) of the Mining Development & Closure Proposal (MDCP) (Reg ID 205247), which was approved 6 January 2026. This MDCP proposed modifications the TSF as well as accounted for other supporting activities within the previously approved activity envelope:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Environmental Factor</th> <th>Risk pathway regulated</th> <th>Relevant legislation</th> <th>Relevant approval condition/outcome</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Terrestrial Environmental Quality</td> <td>Waste disposal.</td> <td><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i></td> <td>Works Approval W3071/2025/1 granted under Part V of the Act. Authorises Category 89: Class II putrescible landfill site with an assessed capacity of 5,000 tonnes (t) per annual period.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Terrestrial Environmental Quality</td> <td>Processing operations and discharge of tailings</td> <td><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i></td> <td>In accordance with the Act, Works Approval (W6205/2018/1) allows for the discharge of tailings into Mini Cell 2, Cell A South and Cell B1. A Works Approval application is currently being prepared for the discharge of tailings into Cell B2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flora, Vegetation and Fauna</td> <td>Clearing of native vegetation.</td> <td><i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i></td> <td>Clearing Permit 10170/1 granted. Authorises clearing of up to 70 ha of native vegetation. Record keeping and reporting in accordance with permit conditions.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rehabilitation and Mine Closure</td> <td>Rehabilitation outcomes.</td> <td><i>Mining Act 1978</i></td> <td>Mine Closure Plan revisions to be submitted as per tenement conditions outlining closure commitments and obligations.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Environmental Factor	Risk pathway regulated	Relevant legislation	Relevant approval condition/outcome	Terrestrial Environmental Quality	Waste disposal.	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	Works Approval W3071/2025/1 granted under Part V of the Act. Authorises Category 89: Class II putrescible landfill site with an assessed capacity of 5,000 tonnes (t) per annual period.	Terrestrial Environmental Quality	Processing operations and discharge of tailings	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	In accordance with the Act, Works Approval (W6205/2018/1) allows for the discharge of tailings into Mini Cell 2, Cell A South and Cell B1. A Works Approval application is currently being prepared for the discharge of tailings into Cell B2.	Flora, Vegetation and Fauna	Clearing of native vegetation.	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	Clearing Permit 10170/1 granted. Authorises clearing of up to 70 ha of native vegetation. Record keeping and reporting in accordance with permit conditions.	Rehabilitation and Mine Closure	Rehabilitation outcomes.	<i>Mining Act 1978</i>	Mine Closure Plan revisions to be submitted as per tenement conditions outlining closure commitments and obligations.	Noted.
Environmental Factor	Risk pathway regulated	Relevant legislation	Relevant approval condition/outcome																			
Terrestrial Environmental Quality	Waste disposal.	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	Works Approval W3071/2025/1 granted under Part V of the Act. Authorises Category 89: Class II putrescible landfill site with an assessed capacity of 5,000 tonnes (t) per annual period.																			
Terrestrial Environmental Quality	Processing operations and discharge of tailings	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	In accordance with the Act, Works Approval (W6205/2018/1) allows for the discharge of tailings into Mini Cell 2, Cell A South and Cell B1. A Works Approval application is currently being prepared for the discharge of tailings into Cell B2.																			
Flora, Vegetation and Fauna	Clearing of native vegetation.	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986.</i>	Clearing Permit 10170/1 granted. Authorises clearing of up to 70 ha of native vegetation. Record keeping and reporting in accordance with permit conditions.																			
Rehabilitation and Mine Closure	Rehabilitation outcomes.	<i>Mining Act 1978</i>	Mine Closure Plan revisions to be submitted as per tenement conditions outlining closure commitments and obligations.																			

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Request for comments - Jidi Jidi Aboriginal Corporation. Advised of proposal on 19/01/2026	Period to receive comments ended 10/02/2026. No comments received.	N/A
Meeting held with Endurance Mining Pty Ltd on 14/10/2025	<p>Scoping meeting to discuss submission of an application for a works approval for construction of TSF Cell B2 tailings storage facility at the Abra Base Metals Project.</p> <p>Attendees: Gavin Lee (Sustainability Manager) – Abra Mining Pty Ltd, Wayne Astill – Astill Consultants, Paul Anderson (Environmental Officer) – Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Jarrod Abrahams (Manager, Resource Industries) - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.</p>	N/A
Email received from Gavin Lee – Endurance Mining Pty Ltd on 26/02/2026	An updated groundwater monitoring bore map provided. The original submitted map with the application had some groundwater monitoring bores omitted and was out of date.	Works Approval updated with latest map
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 12/03/2026	<p>Response received from Applicant 12/03/2026.</p> <p><i>Endurance Mining has reviewed the documents and has only one comment. In Table 2 of the decision report, the location is correct; however, the reference to the “Nicols Springs heritage site” should be amended, as the area contains an Aboriginal site, but it is not referred to as “Nicols Springs heritage site” it should read as Aboriginal heritage site.</i></p> <p><i>Other than the above, Endurance Mining has no further comments on the draft instrument or decision report and wishes to waive the 21-day comment period.</i></p>	<p>DWER notes and supports the variation.</p> <p>Decision report updated.</p>

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 Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020a, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER 2020b, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. Endurance Mining 2025, *Endurance Works Approval Application Supporting Document Version 1.0*, 11 November 2025, Unpublished report prepared by astill consultants for Endurance Mining Pty Ltd.
5. CMW Geosciences (CMW) 2025, *Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Cell B2 – Abra Base Metals Project – Design Report*, 30 October 2025, Perth, Western Australia. Unpublished report prepared by CMW for Abra Mining Pty Ltd.
6. Rockwater 2024a, *Hydrogeological Assessment of TSF Cell B Tailings Seepage*, Jolimont, Western Australia. Unpublished report prepared by Rockwater for Abra Mining Pty Ltd.
7. Rockwater 2024a, *Production and Monitoring Bore Completion Report*, Jolimont, Western Australia. Unpublished report prepared by Rockwater for Abra Mining Pty Ltd.