Application for Works Approval

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

Works Approval Number	W3202/2026/1
Applicant	Main Roads Western Australia
File number	INS-0003202
Premises	Mobile Concrete Batching Plant Legal description Lot 33 on Deposited Plan 240249 Crown Land Title Volume LR3143 Folio 733 As defined by the premises map attached to the issued works approval
Date of report	10 April 2026
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 W3202/2026/1 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 and overview of premises

On 23 December 2025, the applicant 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 a mobile concrete batching plant at the premises. The premises is approximately 90 km west of Pannawonica.

The premises relates to the category and assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in works approval W3202/2026/1. 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 W3202/2026/1.

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	Installation of concrete-batching infrastructure (e.g. mobile batching plant, bunding, silos, water, tanks) Construction of wedge pit and wash pits, and load bay slab.	Air / windborne pathway	Vehicles must only access parts of the premises that are: - Paved or sealed, or treated with water or surfactants as often as is necessary; or - Swept, hosed or otherwise cleared of any loose aggregate, sand, cement, concrete or other material as often as is necessary. Speed limits implemented at the premises.
Noise		Air / windborne pathway	Adhering to noise guidelines when selecting appropriate reversing and warning alarms. Generator will be mounted in an acoustic enclosure.
Operation (including Time-Limited Operation)			
Dust	Operation of mobile concrete batching plant and associated infrastructure	Air / windborne pathway	Daily visual inspections of premises boundary to ensure no visible dust escapes from the premises. Cleanup of any material spilt during concrete batching as soon as possible. Vehicles must only access parts of the premises that are: - Paved or sealed, or treated with water or surfactants as often as is necessary; or - Swept, hosed or otherwise cleared of any loose aggregate, sand, cement, concrete or other material as often as is necessary. Vehicles carrying concrete or any concrete ingredients must be washed free of cement slurry and dust before leaving the premises. Cement storage silos fitted with air cleaning system, level indicator and relief valves, as well as reverse pulse filter ducted to 1m from the ground. Inspection ports, hatches and other openings to cement storage silo will be sealed while cement is being unloaded into the silo. If any visible cement dust escapes from the silo during filling, no further loads of cement will be unloaded until appropriate measures have been taken to prevent further escape of dust from the silo. Weekly inspection of filters and testing of the air cleaning system with spare filters kept on

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			premises. Concrete batching plant (CBP) will have an enclosed discharge hopper and conveyor, fitted with wind shields, water sprays and a dust extraction system which will able maintained in good working order. Premises will be cleaned regularly to prevent dust accumulation. Triggers set for additional control measures.
Noise		Air / windborne pathway	Adherence to *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* and noise limits. Generator will be mounted in an acoustic enclosure.
Sediment-laden stormwater		Overland runoff	All water draining off areas where agitators, mixers or moulds are loaded or where concrete is batched drains into a slurry pit (wedge pit or wash out pit). All water used to wash out agitators, mixers or moulds or to clean up split material drains into a slurry pit. Water draining off sealed or paved areas likely to contain waste material drains into a slurry pit or settling pond. Any water removed from or might overflow from a slurry pit drains into a settling pond. No wastewater discharged to land, instead wastewater to be pumped into a controlled waste carrier and disposed off-site. Impermeable earthen pad beneath CBP and mobile silos. Sampling of wastewater and ongoing monitoring of soils and surface water in the event of a spill/overflow event or large rainfall event (i.e. cyclone).
Hydrocarbons (via leaks/spills)	Storage of hydrocarbons	Direct discharge to ground	CBP and mobile silos to be serviced and maintained and not leaking fluids. Storage of diesel within a self-bunded container and in accordance with Australian standards. Monitoring of surface water if contamination is suspected following a large rainfall event.

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 as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises *(Guideline: Environmental Siting* (DWER 2020)).

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

Human receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
No human receptors within 10km of Premises	
Ngurrawaana Aboriginal Community (nearest human receptor)	30km north-west of Premises
Environmental receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Millstream-Chichester National Park (Class A Reserve)	50 m north of Premises
Millstream Water Reserve (P1 PDWSA)	700 m south-west of Premises
Dawson Creek Howlett Creek Fortescue River	1.6 km north-west of Premises 5.7 km south of Premises 9.3 km south-west of Premises
Underlying groundwater (non-potable purposes)	At least 30 m below ground level (derived from bores 1.3 km south-east and 1.2 km north of Premises)
Threatened fauna	2.5km east of Premises and 6.4km west of Premises
Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs)	3.4km south of Premises and 9.7km north of Premises
Millstream Pools (Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia (DIWA) wetland)	11.2km south-west of Premises
Cultural receptors	**Distance from prescribed activity**
Aboriginal heritage sites (Ritual/Ceremonial; Quarry)	10 m north of Premises This receptor has been screened out as multiple main roads intersect with the heritage site.

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 W3202/2026/1 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).

A registration 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. mobile concrete batching plant activities. A risk assessment for the operational phase has been included in this decision report, however registration conditions will not be finalised until the department assesses the registration 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 / DWER comments
Sources / activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Applicant controls**				
Construction								
Installation of concrete-batching infrastructure (e.g. mobile batching plant, bunding, silos, water, tanks) Construction of wedge pit and wash pits, and load bay slab.	Dust	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Millstream-Chichester National Park 50m north of premises	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	The delegated officer does not expect dust and noise emissions associated with the installation of the mobile batching plant and associated infrastructure to impact on sensitive receptors, taking into consideration the proposed noise and dust controls for equipment and the distance to the nearest residential receptors. The requirements of the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 (Noise Regulations) are also applicable.
	Noise			Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	
Operation (including time-limited-operations operations)								
Operation of mobile concrete batching plant and associated infrastructure	Dust	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Millstream-Chichester National Park 50m north of premises	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	The delegated officer does not expect dust and noise emissions associated with the operation of the mobile batching plant and associated infrastructure to impact on sensitive receptors, taking into consideration the proposed noise and dust controls for equipment and the distance to the nearest residential receptors. The requirements of the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 (Noise Regulations) are also applicable.
	Noise	Air / windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity		Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	
	Sediment laden or contaminated stormwater	Overland runoff potentially causing ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Millstream-Chichester National Park 50m north of premises Millstream Water Reserve 700 m south-west of premises	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	The applicant has specified that all wastewater and water likely to contain waste materials will be drained into a slurry pit or settling pond, and no wastewater will be discharged onto land. The delegated officer considers these to be suitable controls and has imposed no further controls onto the works approval.

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**				
Storage of hydrocarbons	Hydrocarbons (via leaks/spills)	Direct discharge to ground resulting in land contamination	Soil on the premises	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Rare **Low Risk**	Y	Condition 1	The applicant has specified that the diesel storage tanks will be stored in a bunded container in accordance with *AS1940*. The delegated officer considers this to be suitable containment and has imposed no further controls onto the works approval. The general provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 apply during operations.

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

The applicant was provided with the draft works approval and draft decision report on 24 March 2026. On 2 April 2026 the applicant waived the comment period.

5. Conclusion

The delegated officer has determined the construction installation and operation of the mobile concrete batching plant does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

The works approval will include time limited operations but not an environmental commissioning period as the applicant did not request higher than normal emissions or discharges than during operation of the Premises. Therefore, this is not deemed environmental commissioning but part of time limited operation. Time limited operations will start upon technical completion of the works.

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. Aurora Environmental (2025), *Supporting Information Report Mobile Concrete Batching Plant, Part Lot 33 on Deposited Plan 240249, Shire of Ashburton WA*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, 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.