



Application for Works Approval Amendment

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

Works Approval Number	W6506/2021/1
Works Approval Holder	IB Operations Pty Ltd
ACN	165 513 557
File Number	DER2021/000048
Premises	North Star Magnetite Project Power Station Marble Bar WA 6760 Legal description – Mining Tenement M45/1226 As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 1 of the works approval
Date of Report	17/02/2023
Decision	Revised works approval granted

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1. Decision summary

The delegated officer has determined to make amendments to works approval W6506/2021/1. The amendments are administrative in nature therefore they do not alter the risk profile of the Premises, providing that activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

This amendment report documents the amendments made pursuant to section 59 and 59(B) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

The decision report for the existing works approval will remain on the department's website for future reference and will act as a record of the department's decision making.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In amending the works approval, the department 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

Works approval W6506/2021/1 is held by IB Operations Pty Ltd (works approval holder) for the North Star Magnetite Project Power Station (the premises), located at North Star Magnetite Project (North Star MP) which is also referred to as the Iron Bridge Magnetite Project.

The premises relates to the category and the assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 (EP Regulations) which are defined in existing works approval W6506/2021/1.

On 16 December 2022, the works approval holder submitted an application to the department to amend works approval W6506/2021/1 under section 59B of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act). The amendment is limited to the extension of the expiry date for time limited operations (TLO) to allow completion of commissioning and emissions monitoring. A requirement to submit the results of emissions monitoring within 30 calendar days of the completion of monitoring was also included to allow for assessment of emissions results prior to authorisation of ongoing operation of the power plant through a future licence amendment application. No other changes have been made to existing conditions or works approval holder obligations.

2.3 Background

IB Operations Pty Ltd hold works approval W6506/2021/1 for the construction and construction, commissioning, and operation of a new back-up diesel fired power station at the existing North Star MP. The electric power plant will have a maximum energy generation capacity of 44.8 MW (opposed to annualised throughput) and has been assessed for usage up to a maximum of 400 hours in any calendar year for each energy generation unit.

Construction and commissioning of the works authorised by W6506/2021/1 were separated into two stages. Stage one authorised construction and installation of 10 x 1.6 MWe Cat 3516B diesel generators, diesel and oil storage tanks, a switch room, site drainage infrastructure and concrete hardstand areas. Stage two works authorised by W6506/2021/1 authorise the construction works and installation of an additional 20 x 1.6Mwe Cat 3516B diesel generators, diesel storage tanks and associated infrastructure. Stage one works have been completed and TLO commenced on 11 November 2022 following the submission of an Environmental Compliance Report, as required by W6506/2021/1. The works approval holder stated that Stage

2 of works will no longer be required.

Conditions 8 and 9 of W6506/2021/1 outline the requirement for process and emissions monitoring to be conducted during TLO, with a report summarizing time limited operations and emissions monitoring to be submitted within 30 calendar days of the completion of TLO. Table 3 of W6506/2021/1 specifies that TLO can be conducted for 180 days with emissions and discharge monitoring to be conducted within six weeks of commencing TLO.

The works approval holder submitted an application to amend W6506/2021/1 on 15 December 2022, outlining that the full commissioning of the power station will require at least 90 days to complete. The works approval holder aims to schedule emissions monitoring for February 2023 at the earliest but has identified that unavailability of required contractors may be a potential delaying factor. As commissioning and emissions monitoring are not able to be completed within the required timeframes, an application was submitted to amend W6506/2021/1 to extend the timeframes specified in W6506/2021/1 to 300 days for time limited operations (condition 5(a)) and 36 weeks for emissions monitoring (condition 9, Table 3). The applicant has not proposed any changes to approved activities.

Extension of TLO and emissions monitoring deadlines would also allow sufficient time for the department to adequately assess the addition of the power station infrastructure to the operating licence of the premises (L8845/2014/1). An amendment application is anticipated to be submitted by March 2023. The addition of condition 14 requires the submission of emissions monitoring results within 30 calendar days of the conclusion of emissions monitoring to allow for consideration of those emissions figures to be factored into the licence amendment assessment to accurately determine the risks associated with the ongoing operation of the backup power plant.

3. Consultation

The works approval holder was provided with the draft amendment report on 6 February 2023. On 15 February 2023 the works approval holder waived the remaining comment period, with no comment provided on the draft documents..

4. Conclusion

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

4.1 Summary of amendments

Table 1 below provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the revised works approval as part of the amendment process.

Table 1: Summary of works approval amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Cover page	Date of issue updated
5(a)	Time limited operations period updated to 300 days.
9, Table 3	Monitoring Frequency updated to one, within forty-two weeks of commencing time limited operations.
14	Condition added to require submission of emissions monitoring

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
	results within 30 calendar days of the completion of monitoring.
Condition numbers	Update to condition numbering following the addition of condition 14.