

NOTICE OF DECISION

This notice of decision is made under regulation 50 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020 (EP Regulations)

Proposed action name	GEMCO Excess Water Disposal Project
Proponent name	Groote Eylandt Mining Company Pty Ltd (GEMCO)
NT EPA reference	EP2025/043
Nature of proposed action	Mining, utilities and services
Description of proposed action	The project is located on NT Portions 1031, 1305, 1306, 1632, 1669 & 1671 on the western side of Groote Eylandt adjacent to the Port, Rowell Highway and GEMCO's Western Leases. The project sits within the East Arnhem Local Government area, and the land tenure is a mix of Aboriginal freehold, Mineral Lease (North) and Special Purpose Lease. The proposed activities include vegetation clearing (~10.44 ha) and the construction, installation and operation of water discharge infrastructure (pumps, pipes and marine outfall) over a distance of ~12 km extending to a discharge point 600 m into Milner Bay. The water management infrastructure is proposed to have a water discharge capacity of up to 80 GL per year. The proposal is expected to manage increased saline groundwater ingress into the mining quarries as the pit depth increases and mining progresses towards the coast. The duration of the proposal is for the remaining life of mine and to support closure activities.
Person authorised to make decision	Paul Purdon Executive Director Environment and Heritage Department of Lands, Planning and Environment Delegate of the NT EPA under section 36 of the <i>Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012</i>.
Decision	To accept the above named referral of a proposed action for standard assessment in accordance with regulation 44 of the EP Regulations ¹
Signature	
Date of decision	21 August 2025

¹ After this decision, the referral undergoes public consultation and consideration to inform the NT EPA's decision under regulation 57 of the EP Regulations on whether environmental impact assessment is required