APPENDIX A

NT EPA Self-Assessment Referral Form

Pre-referral Screening Report

Project: Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine – Proposed Variations

The NT EPA has developed a pre-referral screening tool to assist proponents to determine whether a Proposal has potential to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore requires referral under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (NT EPA, 2025).

The purpose of the screening process is to assist Proponents along with their suitably qualified and experienced persons, to predict the potential for significant environmental impact from a Proposal.

A significant environmental impact is defined by Section 11 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019* as: "An impact of major consequence having regard to:

- the context and intensity of the impact; and
- the sensitivity, value and quality of the environment impacted on, and the duration, magnitude and geographic extent of the impact." (NT EPA, 2025)."

The tool has two parts: General screening questions (Part 1, Figure A1), and Answer checklist (Part 2, Table A1).

As per the NT EPA (2025) Guidance, the screening tool requires identification whether the Proposal activity/ industry type inherently has the potential to impact the environment and has the potential to impact aspects of the environment that are rare, sensitive to stress or important (environmental values and sensitivities).

The NT EPA premise for this approach is that any impacts (including impacts perceived to be minor), to environmental values and sensitivities, have the potential to be significant.

The general screening questions canvass the type of industry the Proposal activity is, and the environmental values likely to be present in relation to site selection, construction and operations, end of life, and the cumulative impacts across the life stages of the Proposal – on its own or cumulatively with other NT proposal actions.

All potential impact sources that relate to the Proposal have been reviewed, and the potential impact pathways between the source of an impact and environmental values and sensitivities that may be impacted has been assessed. Consideration of the life of the Proposal and after the Proposal ceases, both in isolation and cumulatively, has also been determined.

The key objective of this referral self-assessment has been to screen the proposed variation to undertake deeper underground mining at BP33, comprising an extended mine life duration up to 12 years and modifications and additions to associated infrastructure and activities. The deeper mining and extended LOM necessitate the following key project activities:

- dewatering of the BP33 mine at increased depth
- change in volumes of waste rock handling
- manufacture and use of paste to fill underground mine voids
- modifications to Grants processing plant for continuation of BP33 ore processing over the extended mine life duration
- additional ground disturbances associated with modified and additional infrastructure; and
- modification of closure method to install a paste plug at top of the BP33 mine decline/ base of the box cut upon completion of mining.

Part 1 – General screening questions

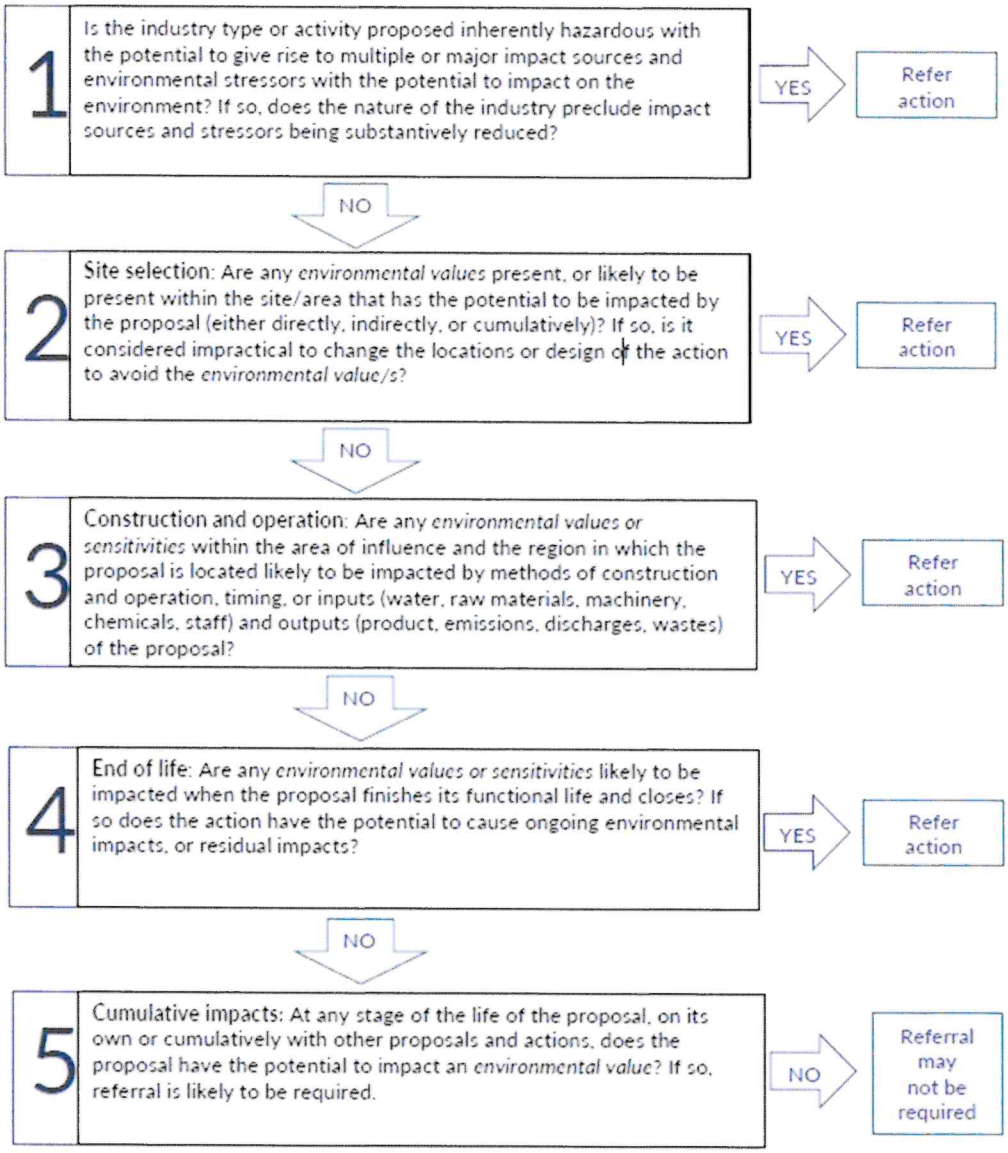

Figure A1. Pre-screening tool screening questions (Source: NT EPA 2025)

Part 2 – Answer checklist

The questions from the general screening tool (Part 1; Figure A1) have been used to answer corresponding checkboxes of the answer checklist in Table A-1. Table A-1 indicates possible environmental values and sensitivities for each environmental factor.

If the answer to a question is 'yes' or 'uncertain', it is possible that the proposal may have the potential to significantly impact related environmental values and the proposal should be referred to the NT EPA. If answer 'no' to any question, provide a justification why there is no likely impact to that factor.

There is one environmental factor that has a finding of 'yes' – atmospheric emissions; and a second factor hydrological processes with a finding of 'uncertain' requiring further assessment. The pre-referral screening results are documented in Table A1 below.

Table A1. Pre-referral screening tool checklist prepared for the Project

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
Is the industry type or activity proposed inherently hazardous with the potential to give rise to multiple or major impact sources and environmental stressors with the potential to impact on the environment? If so, does the nature of the industry preclude impact sources and stressors being substantively reduced?			No ☒ Yes ☐ No ☒				
LAND	1) Landforms Objective: Conserve the variety and integrity of distinctive physical landforms.	○ distinctive features in the landscape, either geological or anthropogenic ○ subterranean karstic terrain and faults ○ craters, gorges, ranges, caves, massifs, escarpments, plateaus ○ monuments ○ tourism related to landforms	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Landforms, provide justification here: This section is based on previously assessed factors in the formal environmental impact assessment (Assessment Report 89 [Grants] and Assessment Report 94 [BP33]). Site selection - the project activities of this varied Proposal include ground disturbance provided for under previous approvals for Grants and BP33. The Proposal's continuation of mining construction and operational activities at existing locations ensures established mine and infrastructure use is maximised within the existing approved disturbance footprints, avoiding the need for additional land clearing of native vegetation. There are no new natural landform features or sensitivities that will be disturbed, such as floodplains, because of the Proposal and there is no new significant disturbance (or clearing) on steep/ erosion-prone slopes or significant alteration to the integrity or function of existing landforms.						
	2) Terrestrial environmental quality Objective: Protect the quality and integrity of land and soils so that environmental values are supported and maintained.	○ high quality soils, including chemical, physical, biological, and aesthetic qualities that support life ○ the biological processes that depend on soil quality	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Terrestrial environmental quality, provide justification here: Site selection - no new locations are included in this varied Proposal and there is no increase to the areas previously approved for clearing of native vegetation in the NT Govt 2022 EP Act approval for BP33 and the areas accepted by the NT EPA in 2019 for Grants (see terrestrial ecosystems). Construction and operation - potential impacts on terrestrial environmental quality such as soil quality and soil structure could occur from the new/ modified project components included in this varied Proposal, comprising the paste plant, and slimes slurry pipeline and holding tanks. Unplanned loss of containment from the slimes slurry pipeline (containing inert and non-adhesive material) piped from Grants (processing plant) to BP33 paste plant along the Haul Route, could result in localised impacts to soils. An unplanned loss of containment from the paste reticulation line from the paste plant direct to the underground mine is not credible as would be fully contained within the bunded paste plant footprint. Planned delivery of paste backfill to primary stopes in the underground mine will permanently remain upon closure of the mine. Composition of waste rock to be encountered is per BP33 approval and will be handled as per existing management plans. The construction of paste walls during backfilling will permanently alter local sub-soil structure, however backfilling BP33 underground mine voids uses paste manufactured from inert materials (recovered from processing of ore mined from the locality). Engineering design, construction and operation of the slimes slurry pipeline will greatly reduce the likelihood of an unplanned loss of containment (automatic shut-off) and if a loss occurs, controls to quickly detect, shut in and contain slimes will be in place. Given the benign nature of the paste, and the planned use of paste backfilling in the mining						

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
	operations, no significant impacts to sub-surface soils due to unplanned losses from the paste reticulation system have been identified. The site water balance includes the use of water/ waste re-use, and internal operating procedures will enable quick mobilisation response to the Haul Route, ensuring remediation is highly effective if required. Residual impacts – the potential to impact terrestrial environmental quality, including impacts to land and soil, is expected to be localised within the existing Proposal footprint if they occur. Based on the risk assessment undertaken for this Proposal, any potential impacts are unlikely to affect the quality of land and soils (or associated environmental values), or affect the continued quality and function, including cumulatively for the extended LOM. Closure – upon cessation of mining at the BP33 mine, impacts to the integrity and quality of soils from permanent paste backfilling has determined to be minor. Both existing controls and new controls are proposed and with effective implementation of management measures, the Proposal is not likely to significantly affect terrestrial environmental quality. The OMS manuals for plant and infrastructure will ensure the management controls are implemented (including response arrangements for any losses due to unplanned events and controlled disposal of affected soils), as well as the Construction Environment Management Plan for plant and pipeline, and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for pipeline lay.						
	3) Terrestrial ecosystems Objective: Protect terrestrial habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity, and ecological functioning.	○ 'sensitive or significant' vegetation or buffers (as defined in the NT Land Clearing Guidelines) ○ listed threatened species and their habitat (NT and Commonwealth) ○ listed migratory species and their habitat (Commonwealth) ○ listed threatened ecological communities (Commonwealth) ○ locally endemic or restricted species and their habitat ○ species that are data deficient with unknown protection status ○ protected area or reserve, including Indigenous Protected Area ○ biosecurity ○ high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity, and services	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☒	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Terrestrial ecosystems, provide justification here: The project activities, with potential impacts to terrestrial ecosystems, has not significantly changed in scale and magnitude in this varied Proposal. Site selection - there is no increase to the previously approved disturbance areas for clearing of native vegetation and no new locations are included in this varied Proposal (refer area approved in the NT Govt 2022 EP Act approval for BP33 and the areas accepted by the NT EPA in 2019 for Grants). This section addresses previously assessed concerns raised during public consultation and the formal environmental impact assessment (as detailed in Assessment Report 89 [Grants] and Assessment Report 94 [BP33]). Construction and ongoing operations - the varied Project components includes the proposed pipeline crossing of an ephemeral creek within the Haul Route, relocation of ore and rejects haulage to Cox Peninsula Road, and groundwater drawdown from deeper underground mining at BP33. Listed threatened species or their habitat are not expected to be significantly impacted from the pipeline ephemeral creek crossing installation approach, haulage via the existing traffic route of Cox Peninsula Road will reduce the risk of vehicle strike for local fauna, and no additional raw water is required to be extracted from Observation Hill Dam (OHD) for the mining and processing activities included in the Proposal. Residual impacts - based on the findings of the creek crossing design, traffic impact assessment and the integrated water balance modelling, and considering both direct and indirect effects of the Proposal, it has been determined that the existing mitigation measures remain suitable and effective for the project activities described in this varied Proposal. These measures are expected to avoid significant impacts on terrestrial ecosystems environmental values and sensitivities. The updated numerical modelling, supported by long-term monitoring data, demonstrates that the groundwater systems at the Grants and BP33 mining areas are characterised by limited hydraulic connectivity and are predominantly governed by natural seasonal variability in the important shallow aquifer. Consequently, mining-induced impacts are localised, with zones of influence remaining spatially constrained and simulations of groundwater-dependent ecosystems indicate that project activities will have negligible impact. Implementation of the BP33 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, including construction of Sediment Basin 3 to manage sediment loads generated by the expanded WRD2 footprint,						

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
	will provide effective erosion control, maintain appropriate sediment management, and support the continued function of the local drainage network. Closure – The varied Proposal includes a new activity involving installation of a paste plug at the top of the BP33 mine decline (base of the box cut) upon completion of mining. Decommissioning of associated infrastructure, including the new paste plant and hardstand, additions to Grants processing plant, and modifications to BP33 water and waste-handling infrastructure, will be undertaken as part of the broader mine decommissioning and site closure program. Re-establishment of cleared areas will continue in accordance with existing requirements and the Mine Closure Plan, with closure activities to be updated through the Environmental Mining Licence (EML) process. Given that this Proposal includes no additional clearing of native vegetation, the cumulative impact on terrestrial ecosystem function is considered negligible.						
WATER	1) Hydrological processes Objective: Protect the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values including ecological health, land uses and the welfare and amenity of people are maintained.	○ the supply and quantity of water in surface water features including rivers, lakes, wetlands, swamps, creeks, billabongs, intermittent streams, floodplains, mangroves, and drainage lines ○ the supply and quantity of water in groundwater features including aquifers, aquitards, water tables and the ecosystems they support (stygofauna, vegetation, and groundwater dependent ecosystems) ○ declared beneficial uses ○ present and future uses, and users of water ○ current or potential water supplies, including regional scale aquifers ○ culturally important water features or other features affected by water level	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☒ ☐	☐ ☐ ☒ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Hydrological processes, provide justification here: Site selection - Potential impacts to hydrological processes relate to installation of the slimes slurry pipeline at the creek crossing within the Haul Route, increased ground disturbance within the BP33 mine site area, and the continuation of dewatering activities required to access the increased BP33 mining depth over the extended LOM. Construction and operations - Based on the proposed installation approach for the pipeline crossing at the ephemeral creek, the crossing is not expected to significantly impact the continued hydrological function of the watercourse. Approved and previously assessed ground disturbances at BP33 mine site are also not expected to result in significant impacts to local drainage. Potential impacts associated with cumulative ground disturbance have been evaluated through updated flood modelling, which indicates that local drainage patterns will remain functional. The pipeline crossing will be engineered in accordance with relevant standards and will follow the required permitting processes. The outcomes of the integrated water balance study indicate there is no site deficit in water supply for integrated operations for all modelled climatic conditions, and no additional raw water extraction from OHD will be required for mining and processing activities included in the Proposal. Predicted total surface water extraction volumes from OHD over the LOM remain below the limits specified in Surface Water Extraction Licence (SWEL) 8151018. Should a shortfall in water for mining or processing activities occur, the deficit will be met using mine-affected water sourced from either the BP33 mine water dam or the Grants mine water dam, consistent with the integrated water management plan. The zone of influence associated with dewatering of the deeper BP33 underground mine does not change significantly within the shallow aquifer that is thought to support riparian vegetation present at Drainage Line BP1 or for groundwater users in the local area. Impacts to riparian vegetation are not expected. This is supported by the revised groundwater model predictions, which demonstrate that the proposed deeper mine extension remains confined to the deeper aquifer system. The Proposal variation seeks approval for an increased underground mine depth from 320 mbgl (assessed) to 850 mbgl (this Proposal). Residual impacts - The environmental values and sensitivities relevant to the terrestrial ecosystems environmental factor were assessed by considering both the direct and indirect effects of the Proposal, together with the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures. Through this process, the risk assessment process identified a low likelihood of significant impact on hydrological processes resulting from the Proposal. Cumulative – Management of the varied Proposal's impacts on hydrological processes will continue through the existing management measures, updated as required. These include groundwater modelling, flood study modelling, and drainage control measures incorporated into updated management plans. With effective implementation of these management measures, alongside the integrated water management plan, mine dewatering plan, and re-use of mine affected water in mining operations wherever practicable, the						

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
	Proposal is not expected to significantly affect riparian vegetation, groundwater or surface water hydrological regimes. Closure - Groundwater modelling for the BP33 Underground Mine predicts that, during operations and for up to ~3 years post-closure, there will be some impact to groundwater levels and availability within a localised zone of influence (ZOI). The ZOI is not expected to extend into the adjacent proposed Lei Lithium Project area. If both developments were to operate concurrently, interaction between the respective drawdown cones is possible and may contribute to cumulative, localised impacts on groundwater, particularly the deep groundwater zone. However, given the low hydraulic connectivity between shallow, intermediate, and deep groundwater zones, and the strong influence of natural variability driven by regional rainfall, water availability for the assumed facultative groundwater dependent vegetation is expected to remain sufficient to support the ecological community of influence. Based on updated predications and technical assessments, this Proposal may significantly impact groundwater processes in the intermediate and deep aquifers, however impacts in the shallow aquifer and related groundwater dependent ecosystems are not expected.						
	2) Inland water environmental quality Objective: Protect the quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values including ecological health, land uses and the welfare and amenity of people are maintained.	○ the quality of water in surface water features including rivers, lakes, wetlands, swamps, creeks, billabongs, intermittent streams, floodplains, mangroves, and drainage lines ○ the quality of water in groundwater features including aquifers and water tables ○ declared beneficial uses ○ present and future uses and users of water ○ current or potential water supplies, including regional scale aquifers ○ potability / drinkability ○ culturally important water features	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Inland water environmental quality, provide justification here: Site selection - with an increased depth of BP33 mining, the life of mine will increase from 3–4 years to approximately 12 years, and discharges of BP33 mine affected water via the Grants authorised discharge point to receiving environments (ephemeral creek surface waters) will be ongoing for the increased LOM duration. The potential impacts to inland water environmental quality due to Project activities of additional ground disturbances at BP33 mine site (added surface structures includes extension of WRD2, and construction of an overflow stockpile, paste plant and third sediment basin), longer term MAW discharges to the environment, and potential unplanned losses of piped slimes slurry to an ephemeral waterway, have been considered. Construction and operations - based on the proposed design, construction and operation approach for the slimes slurry pipeline crossing at the ephemeral creek within the Haul Route, the crossing is not expected to experience a loss of containment of slimes to the ephemeral creek. Ultra trace analyses of mine affected water demonstrates that the risk of contaminants accumulating in the receiving stream environments will not be realised based on accumulating toxicants not detectable. Residual impacts - are not expected to reduce the quality and function of inland water environmental quality and determined to be a low risk when managed with the appropriate measures, including existing and new mitigation. The extended LOM proposed is considered unlikely to significantly affect inland water environmental quality, with potential impacts from the Proposal expected to be localised if they occur. Effective implementation of management measures, including secondary approvals (Management Plans, licences and waterway permits), along with an Integrated Water Management Plan for water handling operations, Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) Manuals and design, construction and operation of the slimes slurry pipeline in alignment with relevant standards. The Environmental Mining Licence will ensure that continued discharge operations associated with the extended LOM is managed in implementation. Cumulative - drainage and predicted sediment loads generated from the cumulative ground disturbances for the site were evaluated by WRM (2025) to complete a flood modelling study. Recommendations arising from the study included several management measures which will be incorporated into the BP33 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. Closure - decommissioning of infrastructure, including the slimes slurry pipeline, will occur as part of the mine site closure and decommissioning activities.						

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
	3) Aquatic ecosystems Objective: Protect aquatic habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity, and ecological functioning.	○ threatened species ○ the health of the biota in inland waterways ○ the habitats that support the lifecycle of aquatic biota ○ groundwater dependent ecosystems ○ Ramsar wetlands ○ high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity, and services	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Aquatic ecosystems, provide justification here: The project activities involve dewatering to access the increased depth of ore at the BP33 mine. These activities and potential impacts on aquatic ecosystems are discussed under hydrological processes.						
SEA	1) Coastal processes Objective: Protect the geophysical and hydrological processes that shape coastal morphology so that the environmental values of the coast are maintained.	○ processes that support marine ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves ○ processes that support coastal morphology such as beaches, rock bars, and sandbars ○ tidal creeks, deltas, and river mouths ○ storm surge protection ○ unique coastal landforms	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Coastal processes, provide justification here: Activities included in the Proposal do not include a change or addition that presents a risk to marine environmental quality factor.						
	2) Marine environmental quality Objective: Protect the quality and productivity of water, sediment, and biota so that environmental values are maintained.	○ quality of the water, sediment, and biota ○ physical parameters that support fishing and aquaculture ○ physical parameters that support recreation and aesthetics ○ industrial water supply ○ cultural and spiritual values	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Marine environmental quality, provide justification here: Activities included in the Proposal do not include a change or addition that presents a risk to this factor.						
	3) Marine ecosystems Objective: Protect marine habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity, and ecological functioning.	○ conservation significant marine and coastal fauna and critical habitat such as nesting, breeding or foraging habitat ○ conservation significant marine and coastal benthos (seagrass meadows, sponge gardens, coral reefs, mangrove communities and salt marshes) ○ groups of species (species richness and assemblages of species) ○ ecological functions and processes ○ high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity and services	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Marine ecosystems, provide justification here: Activities included in the Proposal do not include a change or addition that presents a risk to this factor.						

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
AIR	1) Air quality Objective: Protect air quality and minimise emissions and their impact so that environmental values are maintained.	○ ambient air quality in the local airshed ○ the chemical, physical and biological characteristics of quality air ○ the biological processes that depend on the air quality	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Air quality, provide justification here: Project activities are unlikely to impact air quality, with minor and short-term ambient air quality impacts having potential to temporarily disturb the amenity from dust generation potential. This factor is not considered to be of material significance (either due to the low level of likelihood, or consequence) and can be managed through implementation of existing Project commitments (dust management practices of moisture management of stockpiled materials and covered haulage). The potential impacts from dust because of the Proposal are captured under the community and economy environmental factor.						
	2) Atmospheric processes Objective: Minimise greenhouse gas emissions so as to contribute to the NT Government's goal of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.	○ a contribution to the NT's greenhouse gas emissions through nearing or reaching emission thresholds for: ○ industrial projects of 100 000 tCO2-e scope 1 emissions per financial year (not counting emissions generated from land clearing) ○ land use project/s of 500 000 tCO2-e scope 1 emissions from single or cumulative land clearing actions.	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Atmospheric processes, provide justification here: Site selection -The Proposal variation reflects integrated operations of Grants and BP33. Construction and operations - the current Grants and BP33 operations have been previously assessed individually, and a greenhouse gas assessment has been undertaken for the Proposal considering the integrated operations. The greenhouse gas assessment predicted emissions for Year 1 (2027) and Year 2 (2028) will require annual GHG emissions reporting to the Clean Energy Regulator under the National Greenhouse Gas Energy Reporting Act (i.e. the reporting threshold being >25,000 tCO_2e annually). By year 3 (2029), greenhouse gas Scope 1 emissions are estimated to exceed 100,000 tCO_2e annually and thereby meet the significance trigger for a Referral. The Proposal will not reach the emission threshold for land use projects, with scope 1 emissions from singular or cumulative land clearing actions not contributing a significant volume (well under 500,000 tCO_2e over the LOM of the integrated mine sites). By integrating operations in this varied Proposal, LDGNT has effectively combined Scope 1 GHG Emissions to a level that will by 2029 require a Safeguard Mechanism baseline and annual reduction of emissions approach, in line with regulatory requirements. Implementation of this varied Proposal now requires GHG emissions to be reduced that may not have been reduced if operations remained separate. Residual impacts – are reduced for this varied Proposal's GHG emissions when previously this was not required for the standalone project activities. Cumulatively the integrated operations of Grants and BP33 extended LOM is considered to not significantly contribute to NT emissions of GHG, contributing an estimated 0.78% to the NT annual emissions (Greenbase, 2026). Upon cessation of the Proposal duration, Project activities post-closure will not contribute to NT greenhouse gas emissions (scope 1) and will be concluded prior to 2050.						
PEOPLE	1) Community and economy Objective: Enhance communities and the economy for the welfare, amenity and benefit of current and future generations of Territorians.	○ communities, towns and suburbs where people live ○ community aspirations for liveable environment and healthy lifestyles, ○ affordable access to food, water, electricity, transport and communication networks. ○ good amenity – air quality, noise, aesthetics	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☒ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
		○ access to social infrastructure and services including transport and logistics ○ access to natural resources including bush food ○ recreational use of the natural or built environment (for example fishing, cycling, sports, picnics) ○ species of social, livelihood and or economic importance (terrestrial, aquatic and marine biota) ○ participation in jobs, businesses and education ○ existing industries such as agriculture, pastoralism, tourism, fisheries ovulnerable sectors of the community.					
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Community and economy, provide justification here: The varied Proposal is not expected to significantly affect the community and economy, with identified benefits expected to be achieved for local and regional communities, including employment for local workers from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounding areas. Site selection - some potential impacts could occur because of relocation of the previously approved BP33 haul route to Cox Peninsula Road, a public NT road. The relocated route is a section of 3.5 km between BP33 and Grants. Construction and operations - LDGNT will engage with Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) regarding the maintenance of Cox Peninsula Road, in particular the 3.5 km section intended for haulage of ore and rejects between the mine sites. Concentrate transport between Grants and Darwin Port will continue to avoid Berry Springs School drop off and pick up times. The use of Cox Peninsula Road has been subject to detailed traffic assessment as part of the BP33 Underground Mine assessment and found that the carrying capacity of Cox Peninsula Road can accommodate the proposed ore and rejects haulage activities. Residual impacts - implementation of the identified mitigation and management measures is unlikely to result in significant impacts occurring. Project activities are likely to impact local community using the 3.5 km section of Cox Peninsula Road, while the creation of job opportunities will provide opportunities for local and regional communities and economy. Core is committed to ongoing engagement and communication with stakeholders and the community. Cumulative – no cumulative social impacts were identified during the community engagement undertaken. The Social Impact Assessment and Management Plan prepared for the Grants Lithium Project, and reaffirmed in the BP33 project approval, adequately captures the social risks associated with an extension to LOM. Closure – The Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Mine Closure Plan adequately demonstrates the operation can be closed in a manner that prevents or minimises the potential adverse long-term environmental and social impacts that may otherwise have resulted from the mining and/or processing. Details of this varied Proposal will be added to the Mine Closure Plans appended to the EML, to be assessed following environmental approval of this Proposal.					
	2) Culture and heritage Objective: Protect culture and heritage.	○ Aboriginal cultural values ○ sacred sites ○ the Territory's natural and built heritage ○ declared heritage places and objects protected under the *Heritage Act 2011* (NT) such as: ○ any Aboriginal or Macassan archaeological place or object (coastal mounds and middens, rock art, stone arrangements, quarries, artefacts, graves, burial sites and ancestral remains) ○ underwater cultural heritage (isolated objects, shipwrecks, plane wrecks,	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values & sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
		underwater cables and evidence of Aboriginal occupation prior to sea level rise) ○ built heritage (colonial buildings and other historic buildings) ○ defence structures (defensive positions and airfields) ○ natural features (meteorite impact sites, palaeontological sites, springs, trees) ○ world heritage ○ heritage protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) ○ underwater cultural heritage protected under the *Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018* (Cth) ○ Aboriginal rights and interests, including right of access					
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Culture and heritage, provide justification here: The Proposal location does not include any direct or indirect interaction with cultural heritage sites, Aboriginal rights or interests. There are no Aboriginal Sacred Sites or restrictions identified in the areas covered by granted mineral leases for the Proposal. Under community and economy, consideration of cultural identity including connections to kin and country, has been assessed and no environmental values or sensitivities identified. Aboriginal communities were consulted as part of the Stakeholder consultation process for the existing both Grants and BP33 projects, and further engagement with representatives of this community group were positive in relation to employment opportunities and provision of services. Activities included in the Proposal do not include a change or addition that presents a risk to this factor.					
	3) Human health Objective: Protect the health of the Northern Territory population.	○ drinking water ○ air quality ○ bush foods ○ radiological limits (associated with electromagnetic and particulate radiation) ○ biting insects	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Human health, provide justification here: The Project activities of the varied Proposal may potentially impact neighbouring land users from trucking movements through communities such as generation of dust, noise and vibration. Project activities that may potentially impact air quality values are assessed under the community and economy factor. Under community and economy, consideration has been made regarding health, wellbeing, safety, cohesion, with no environmental values or sensitivities identified. The Proposal does not use or emit dangerous or hazardous materials or activities and therefore is unlikely to impact human health because of this Proposal.					

Where the screening has been undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced person and all responses in the checklist are 'no', a referral to the NT EPA is not likely required. The NT EPA and DLPE does not require the completed checklist to be submitted in this case.
However, the checklist and its justifications for no likely impact should be retained by the proponent to demonstrate the screening has been conducted. The proponent should also retain the scope of the proposal that was considered in conducting the screening, the name, qualifications and contact details of the suitably qualified and experienced person(s) who conducted the screening using the table below. The NT EPA retains to power to "call-in" a proposal under section 53 of the EP Act.

Recommended record keeping: Where a proponent intends to retain this checklist to demonstrate it has given consideration to whether a referral is required, it is recommended that the following details are recorded.

	Details
Proponent name	Lithium Developments (Grants NT) Pty Ltd
Proposal action name	Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine – Proposed Variations
Description of proposed action	As described within this Pre-referral Screening Report

Pre-referral screening has been conducted by: names, qualifications and date of works by suitably qualified and experienced persons* engaged by the proponent.

Environmental factor	Name	Qualification / Experience	Signature	Date
All	Hannah Fletcher	Bachelor of Science (Geography) (Hons.)		13.4.26
All	Martin Heller	Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management) (Hons.) Certificate IV in Government (Statutory Compliance)		13.4.26
All	Helen Astill	Doctor of Philosophy (Environmental Management), Master of Business Administration, Bachelor of Science (Hons.)		13-4-26

Proponent's declaration that the pre-referral screening has been conducted.
Note*: Section 4 of the EP Act provides the meaning of a qualified person. Experience may be provided in years and/or a description of relevant experience.

Screening declaration by proponent:

I, James Virgo, *(full name)* declare that I am authorised to verify the pre-referral screening of this proposed action~~/strategic proposal~~ on behalf of LDGNTofC name of legal entity organisation Core Lithium Ltd, and further declare that:

- the attached environmental impact assessment documents (including attachments) are true; and
- the attached environmental impact assessment documents do not provide false or misleading information and I know it is an offence to provide false and misleading information, noting the penalties under section 260 of the EP Act, and section 119 of the *Criminal Code Act 1983*.