

29 June 2021

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Ms Kylie Fitzpatrick
Manager Environmental Assessment
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security
GPO Box 3675
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File reference
2019/0182

Via email: eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Fitzpatrick

Re: Invite to comment - Winchelsea Island Manganese Mine Project (NOSV)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 'Winchelsea Island Manganese Mine Project Notice of Significant Variation (NOSV)'.

The Mining Operations division of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (DITT) has reviewed the documents and notes the significant scaling back of operations. Updated comments on this proposal are included at attachment A.

Please contact Roslyn Vulcano, Director Mining Operations on (08) 8999 5029 or via email at roslyn.vulcano@nt.gov.au if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

BRETT EASTON
Director, Resource Policy and Reform

DITT Response to NT EPA – Winchelsea Island Manganese Mine Project

NT EPA Considerations for Comment

NT EPA Question	DITT Response
<p>Whether the proposal has the potential to have a significant impact on the environment (social, cultural, physical, biological, economic), from your perspective.</p>	<p>The department supports Winchelsea Mining Pty Ltd in their proposal to mine on this site. Providing environmentally responsible mining methods are implemented, potential impacts to the environment within the mine footprint will be managed under the <i>Mining Management Act 2001</i>.</p>
<p>Whether additional information is required, and if so, the specific nature and details of the additional information that is required.</p>	<p>The following knowledge gaps are still present in the NOSV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure planning, • Appropriate water sources, • Development of a water treatment plant, water storage dams and/or tailing dams (converted quarry pits that may or may not be suitable), • Geochemical properties of the waste rock materials to be backfilled into pit voids and the overburden to be used as construction material for haul roads, • Hydrogeology (associated impacts to identified sensitive receptors) and groundwater quality of the project area and • Surface water management around the Mine Infrastructure Area. • In addition, it appears that the Indicative Transshipment Location area was not surveyed during the 2019 Benthic Survey, so potential environmental impacts in this area may not be fully identified.
<p>If you feel that the referral has adequately addressed your concerns or issues, are there any management conditions (relating to certain aspects of the proposal) you would suggest including in an environmental approval (if approved). If so, provide details and reasoning in your submission.</p>	<p>The planned studies outlined in the NOSV will address shortcomings identified above and inform the future Mining Management Plan (MMP) for this project.</p>