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## 1. Introduction

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This Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement (Supplementary EIS) supplements the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the McArthur River Mine (MRM) Overburden Management Project (OMP), which was submitted to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) and the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy (DEE) in March 2017.

The Draft EIS was made publicly available on the MRM website and the NT EPA website with hard copies also made available at the following locations:

- NT Environment Protection Authority office (Darwin);
- NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources office (Darwin);
- Roper Gulf Council building (Borroloola);
- Environment Centre Northern Territory (Darwin); and
- Northern Territory Library, Parliament House (Darwin).

The Draft EIS public exhibition period was initially set at 22 March 2017 to 3 May 2017, although this period was subsequently extended to 17 May 2017 at the request of a number of stakeholder organisations. In addition, NT EPA's final submission (incorporating Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DPIR) and Commonwealth DEE comments) was provided to McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd (McArthur River Mining) on 9 June 2017.

The purpose of the Supplementary EIS is to fulfil McArthur River Mining's legislative requirements under the Northern Territory's *Environmental Assessment Act* (EA Act) relating to the provision of responses to comments made on the Draft EIS during the public exhibition period. It also provides MRM with an opportunity to communicate changes to the project that have been developed since the submission of the Draft EIS and to include them in the project proposal.

A total of 13 formal submissions on the Draft EIS were received. This included nine from government departments and four from statutory authorities and non-government organisations (NGOs). No public submissions were received. Submissions were received from the following:

- Government Departments:
  - NT Department of Attorney – General and Justice (NT Worksafe);
  - NT Department of Tourism and Culture – Heritage Branch;
  - NT Department of the Chief Minister – Economic and Environment Policy Division;
  - NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation – Strategic Policy and Research;
  - NT Department of Health – Medical Entomology Unit;
  - NT Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Rangelands, Flora and Fauna and Water Resources Division;
  - NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services;
  - Environment Division of DENR (on behalf of NT Environment Protection Authority); and
  - NT EPA – incorporating DPIR and Commonwealth DEE comments.
- Statutory Authorities and NGOs:
  - Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA);
  - NT Environment Centre (ECNT);
  - NT Environmental Defenders Office (NT EDO); and
  - Northern Land Council (NLC).

McArthur River Mining's responses to stakeholder submissions are presented in **Supplementary EIS Section 7 – Stakeholder Submission Comments and MRM Responses** and have been categorised by respondent. For the purposes of providing a response, the submissions have been broken up into separate points of discussion. Full copies of all submissions (and associated technical review supporting reports) are provided in **Supplementary EIS Appendix A – Stakeholder Submissions**.

The NT EPA is required to provide an assessment report to the NT Minister for Environment and Natural Resources based on information provided in the Draft EIS and Supplementary EIS. The NT EPA will also provide the assessment report to the Australian Minister for the Environment for consideration under the Commonwealth *EPBC Act 1999*.

This Supplementary EIS provides additional or updated project information on the following:

- **Supplementary EIS Section 2 – EIS Clarifications.** This section has been included to provide additional information where deemed necessary, in order to clarify a number of misinterpretations that were apparent from the submissions on the Draft EIS.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 3 – Common Stakeholder Responses.** From the review of all stakeholder submissions, a number of common themes were identified. Some were related to specific stakeholder concerns, whilst some were associated with requests for further information. This section summarises the common themes and provides further information where relevant.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 4 – Summary of Project Changes.** Since the submission of the Draft EIS (and as a result of stakeholder input and/or further refinements to project design), there have been a number of project design or description changes that will require regulatory approval. This section provides a description of these changes with the reasoning behind the changes.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 5 – Potential Environmental Impact of Project Changes.** This section provides a discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project changes as presented in **Supplementary EIS Section 4 – Summary of Project Changes**. Where required, it is supported by environmental modelling and specialist assessment.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 6 – Simplified Project Description.** A more concise description of the proposed project has been provided in this section, in response to selected stakeholder feedback.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 7 – Draft EIS Stakeholder Submission Comments and MRM Responses.** McArthur River Mining has reviewed all stakeholder submissions on the Draft EIS and has provided responses to the submissions where warranted. Also note that copies of all stakeholder submissions are provided in **Supplementary EIS Appendix A – Stakeholder Submissions**.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 8 – Progress Reporting Against EIS Commitments.** The Draft EIS included a comprehensive list of commitments made by McArthur River Mining. Whilst many of these commitments apply to the entire life of mine (LOM), a number are also proposed to be completed in the shorter term. This section provides relevant updates on progress against these shorter term commitments.
- **Supplementary EIS Section 9 – Summary and Conclusions.**
- **Supplementary EIS Section 10 – References.**