

Submission on proponent initiated EIS referral information and draft terms of reference

GEMCO - Southern Lease Mining Project

This submission is made under regulation 53 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

NT EPA reference number: EP2023/024

Government authority: NT Health, Centre for Disease Control–Medical Entomology

Summary: The draft terms of reference, and supporting document, includes information regarding the requirement for mosquito management, and references the relevant NT Health mosquito prevention guideline. Therefore, there are no major Medical Entomology comments on the draft terms of reference.

Section of referral or terms of reference	Theme / issue	Comment
<p>Terms of Reference - Section 3.10 Human Health, and Gemco southern lease mining project referral supporting information - Section 6.11 Human Health</p>	<p>Mosquitoes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no requirement for baseline mosquito monitoring for this project, as there is no proposal to create additional accommodation areas. Previous baseline mosquito studies have already been carried out in the Alyangula area, and there are currently several mosquito traps set routinely nearby to the port and Alyangula township. • Due to the location of coastal swamps nearby to the southern leases, it is possible that seasonal mosquito problems will affect parts of the lease. Therefore, office buildings should be sited, where feasible, at least 1.6-2km from tidal and freshwater swamps, and different mosquito mitigation strategies may be required in the southern lease compared to the existing mining area. • The Draft TOR and supporting document adequately mentions the requirement for mosquito mitigation, and mentions the correct Medical Entomology guideline and ongoing liaison between both the proponent and Medical Entomology regarding the existing mine. Therefore, Medical Entomology has no further comments. The proponent can contact Medical Entomology when preparing the mosquito mitigation section of the EIS, as required. • Medical Entomology does not suggest any mosquito specific development conditions.