

DIRECTION TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

This direction is given under regulations 119(2) and 121(2) of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

Name of proposed action	GEMCO Excess Water Disposal Project
Proponent	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 gigalitres. The proposed action 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 proposed action is for the remaining life of mine and to support closure activities.
Method of environmental impact assessment	Assessment by supplementary environmental report (SER)
Direction	The proponent is directed to: - prepare an SER to address the submissions received in relation to the referral information - include additional information in the SER as detailed in Attachment 1.
Submission period for SER	The SER must be submitted to the NT EPA within 24 months of the date of this notice.
Form	The SER must generally conform with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA and material relevant to creating accessible documents on the NT Government website In particular, the SER must: - be provided as: - accessible PDF files that do not exceed 20 MB - a printed copy to be displayed at the locations listed below

NOTICE OF DIRECTION

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- be divided into two parts:
 - a main report (with summary available as separate document)
 - appendices to the main report
 - have a navigable table of contents
 - present information in a format that is easy to follow
 - use hyperlinks to assist with navigation through the document
 - include a summary presented in appropriate local language/s
 - ensure that all spatial data is provided in GIS format, georeferenced, provided as an ESRI geodatabase or shapefile, uses GDA2020 and projected into the appropriate MGA zone.
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Manner	The SER must be: • provided electronically to the NT EPA for publishing on its public register • published electronically on the proponent's webpage and maintained for the duration of the proposal • provided in printed hard copy for display at the following locations during the public consultation submission period: ○ NT EPA, Level 1, Arnhemica House, 16 Parap Road, Parap ○ Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, Darwin ○ Environment Centre NT, Unit 3, 98 Woods Street, Darwin ○ Anindilyakwa Land Council, main office, 30 Bougainvillea Drive, Alyangula, NT ○ East Arnhem Regional Council, Angurugu, NT ○ Angurugu Community Postal Agent, Lot 550 Angurugu Street, Angurugu, NT ○ Minerals and Energy InfoCentre, Level 3 Paspalis Centrepont Building, 48-50 Smith Street, Darwin
Person authorised to give direction	Dr Paul Vogel AM – Chairperson, Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Delegate of the NT EPA under section 36(1) of the <i>Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012</i>
Signature	
Date of direction	20 November 2025

Attachment 1 – Additional information requirements for the Supplementary Environmental Report Groote Eylandt Mining Company Pty Ltd – GEMCO Excess Water Disposal Project

The SER is to **address the submissions received** in relation to the referral information, and provide additional information required (as tabulated below).

Topic	Comment	Additional Information Required
SEA Factor		
Marine environmental quality		
Dispersal and mixing of discharge waters	The SER is to address the submissions made on the referral including provision of updated hydrodynamic modelling. The hydrodynamic modelling in the referral did not account for the effects of vessel movements and berthing on the dispersal and mixing of discharge waters in the marine environment. This may lead to an underestimation of the zone of influence.	Provide hydrodynamic modelling accounting for the effects of vessel movements and berthing on the dispersal and mixing of discharge waters in the marine environment. Discuss any change to the zone of influence, including how it may change the potential for dispersal, biomagnification or bioaccumulation of metals and metalloids, or change the predicted cumulative impacts of the proposed action combined with effluent discharges.