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

Castile Resources Pty Ltd - Rover 1

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

NT EPA reference number: EP2023/030

Government authority: Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet, Strategic Policy

| Section of referral or terms of reference | Theme / issue | Comment |
|---|--|--|
| Referral, section 5.6 p51-54 Draft ToR, p19,Table 7 - Minimum information required for the assessment of community and economy | Theme: People Issue: Community aspirations and cumulative impacts | The draft ToR and proposed Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) would benefit from a broader articulation of the regional context and recognition of regional community aspirations and goals, for example, as recently described in the <u>Barkly Economic Growth Strategy 2030</u> . Recommendation: To maximise the benefits and avoid/minimise any potential negative impacts of the project, it is recommended that the ToR and any subsequent SIA/SIMP consider, along with the relevant aspirations and goals of the regional community, the social and economic interactions and cumulative impacts (negative and positive) of other known current and future projects in the region. |
| Referral, sections 3.3, p24 and 5.6, p53. Draft ToR, p19, Table 7 | Theme: People Issue: Local employment and procurement | The Referral includes <i>high level</i> commitments to work with the local community and training providers to provide some employment opportunities, indicating that jobs are likely to be part of the Deed of Agreement negotiated with the Aboriginal landowners. The Referral also indicates that <i>minor</i> goods and services will likely be sourced from Tennant Creek. Recommendation: It is recommended that the draft ToR and any subsequent SIA/SIMP include assessment of, and strategies for, local training, employment and procurement opportunities relevant to the project. These can then inform the Deed of Agreement and other agreements and activities related to the project. |
| Referral Section 5.7, p54 Draft ToR, p21 | Theme: People Issue: Authority Certificate | The draft ToR requires the proponent to describe the status of the proposal with respect to obtaining an Authority Certificate. Recommendation: To inform project planning and engagement activities it is strongly recommended the proponent obtain an Authority Certificate from Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority as a priority. |