



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Ms Mandy Trueman
Manager Environmental Assessment, Environmental Division
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
16 Parap Road, Parap
Darwin NT 0820

Via: eia.consult@nt.gov.au

**Re: Invitation to Comment on Groote Eylandt Mining Company Pty Ltd (GEMCO) -
Excess Water Disposal Project referral, Northern Territory**

Dear Ms Trueman

Thank you for inviting comment on the referral of the GEMCO Excess Water Disposal Project under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (EP Act). Please note these comments address matters relevant to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The department notes that the project intersects with known occurrences of the following protected matters under the EPBC Act:

- Listed threatened species and communities (section 18 & section 18A)
- Listed migratory species (section 20 & section 20A)

The department also notes section 6.5 ('Environmental Referral Report') of the proponent's referral to the NT EPA includes a self-assessment against the Australian Government's 'Significant impact guidelines 1.1 — Matters of national environmental significance'. This self-assessment noted that, following the application of avoidance and mitigation measures, the proposal is unlikely to result in significant impacts to nationally protected matters and no referral is proposed under the EPBC Act.

For clarity, the department has communicated relevant obligations to the proponent earlier this month. The proponent has indicated they would advise whether they intend to refer under the EPBC Act in due course.

If you have any questions about the referral process or this decision, please contact the project manager, Michael Weiss, by email to Michael.Weiss@dcceew.gov.au and cc EADSAandNTSection@dcceew.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bray'.

Dr Josh Bray
A/g Director
SA & NT Section

26 September 2025

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