

NOTICE OF DECISION AND STATEMENT OF REASONS

Regulations 274(1)(a) and 275 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

Name of proposed action	GEMCO excess water disposal project
Proponent	Groote Eylandt Mining Company Pty Ltd (GEMCO)
Description of proposed action	To construct, install and operate water management infrastructure (pumps, pipes and marine outfall) for the transport of water from a water storage area north of Angurugu River via the Rowell Highway alignment and the Milner Bay Port Facility, and discharge it in Milner Bay. The proposed action is located on NT Portions 1031, 1305, 1306, 1632, 1669 & 1671 on the western side of Groote Eylandt at / adjacent to the Port, Rowell Highway and GEMCO's Western Leases. The proposed action is 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 action is to manage increased groundwater ingress (including saline groundwater) into the mining quarries as part of the ongoing GEMCO mining operations. Operational water discharge requirements are anticipated to be up to about 60 GL per year for the remaining life of the GEMCO operation.
Nature of proposed action	Mining
Person authorised to make decision	Dr Paul Vogel AM Chairperson Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) Delegate of the NT EPA under section 36 of the <i>Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012</i>
Decision	Extend the specified period to provide additional information in relation to the referral, by 15 business days, to 29 August 2025.
Original specified period	Provide additional information to NT EPA by 28 June 2025 (61 business days), with the period extended to 8 August 2025 (additional 29 business days)
Extended specified period	Provide additional information to the NT EPA by 29 August 2025 (additional 15 business days)
Signature	
Date of decision	11 August 2025

Statement of Reasons

Under regulation 274, the proponent's request to extend the specified period to submit additional information is considered to be:

- necessary to meet the objects of the Act (section 3 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*); and
- consistent with the purpose of the assessment process under section 42 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.