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Ms Kylie Fitzpatrick  
Manager Environmental Assessment  
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security  
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File reference  
36:DITT2022/00015

Via email: [eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au](mailto:eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au)

Dear Ms Fitzpatrick

**Re: Invite to comment on GEMCO's Referral for their Southern Lease Exploration Project**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the referral for the Southern Lease Exploration Project submitted by the Groote Eylandt Mining Company Ltd (GEMCO).

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade has reviewed the referral documents and comments are provided at Attachment A.

If you require any further information please contact Mairi Walsh, Manager Resource Regulatory Reform at [StrategyPolicyCoordination.DITT@nt.gov.au](mailto:StrategyPolicyCoordination.DITT@nt.gov.au) or on 8999 7020.

Yours sincerely



BRETT EASTON  
Director, Resource Policy and Reform

## Submission on the referral

### Groote Eylandt Mining Company Ltd – Southern Lease Exploration Project

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

**Government authority:** Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (DITT)

#### **Summary:**

DITT has reviewed the Southern Lease Exploration Project Referral and considers that GEMCO has demonstrated considerable knowledge of the project area. Whilst the proposed works involve significant disturbance (62.7 ha), some of this disturbance will occur in previously disturbed areas and appropriate mitigation strategies are described. Strategies such as pre-clearance surveys, exclusion of ecologically and culturally sensitive areas and progressive rehabilitation will ensure that the environmental risks will be adequately managed and consequently the proposal presents a low environmental risk. DITT considers that the Southern Leases Exploration Project identifies and addresses NT EPA environmental factors.