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Good afternoon,

I have reviewed the Invite to comment – Accepted referral for the Core Lithium Limited - Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine and can confirm that all heritage and archaeological issues have been adequately addressed and Heritage Branch has no further concerns with this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Thank you for providing the Parks and Wildlife Division of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture the opportunity to comment on the referral of the Core Lithium Limited, Finnis Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine project under regulation 53 of the *Environment Protection Regulations 2020*.

The Division provided a response in relation to this project on 14 May 2020. The project is located 18km west from the Blackmore Conservation Reserve, and 35km north west of Litchfield National Park which are managed by the Parks and Wildlife Division of this Department in accordance with the Territory *Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976*. The Division does not foresee an impact upon the environmental, social or cultural values associated with both reserves and the overall operations of the Division.

The Parks and Wildlife Division defers to the expertise and advice of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for any environmental considerations under this project, and whether an environmental impact assessment is required for the referred action.

Please note that as we are making no comment that could be considered to be of a sensitive nature, I have taken the liberty of discussing our response with the A/CEO Andrew Hopper and responding direct to your request myself with a CC to the CEO.

13 May 2020

Ms Lisa Bradley  
Director, Environmental Assessment  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
GPO Box 3675  
DARWIN NT 0801

Lisa

Dear Ms Bradley

Re: Finniss and Grants Lithium Project BP33- Core Lithium Limited

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Core Lithium Limited, Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine, and the altered 14(A) notification under the Environmental Assessment Administrative Procedures (EAAP) relating to the Grants Lithium Project (Processing Facility). The Department is providing a single response to both the altered 14(A) notification for the Processing Facility, and the NOI for the Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine.

The Proponent proposes to develop and operate an underground lithium mine and processing facility at the BP33 resource on the Cox Peninsula, 33 km west of Berry Springs. The proponent submitted a proposal to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) for the Processing Facility in 2019. The proponent has under section 14(A) of the EAAP altered the previously assessed proposal as originally assessed by the NT EPA at the level of an Environmental Impact Statement, concluding with Assessment Report 89 in June 2019. The NT EPA is requesting comments if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is now required under the *Environmental Assessment Act 1982* for the revised proposal.

The project is located 18km west from the Blackmore Conservation Reserve, and 35km north west of Litchfield National Park, which are managed by the Parks and Wildlife Division of this Department in accordance with the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976*. The Department does not foresee an impact upon the environmental, social or cultural values associated with both reserves and the overall operations of the Department.

The Department will rely on the expertise and advice of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources on whether an EIS is required under the altered 14(A) notification and NOI for Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine.

Kind Regards



Andrew Hopper  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

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**Subject:**

RE: Invite to comment – Accepted referral of - Core Lithium Limited – Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine

Hi

We restate the comments made when this was released as an NOI:

- We note the proposal will extend the existing traffic impacts from three to seven years, rather than increase impacts on a daily basis. Additionally, the road closures for blasting (proposed for the Grants Lithium site) will not be required for the BP33 Underground Mine.
- We note the scale of this project, footprint, engineering required and length of anticipated operations are significant.
- The information in the NOI about water for use during operations and groundwater references a site groundwater model which is expected in late 2020. We will let DNER comment on water usage and management issues in the absence of this modelling.
- There are no direct tourism impacts from this project, however extending the life of the mine will have major ongoing benefits in terms of driving demand for aviation, tourism and hospitality services.

