
The environmental approvals process in the Northern Territory is a public process and the Proponent is expected to consult with local landowners, the TLC, the Northern Territory and Australian Governments to ensure that updated information about local issues and concerns is used in the environmental and social impact assessment.

The objective of the consultation programme conducted during the preparation of this EIS was to enable individuals, groups and agencies potentially affected by the proposed Project to have their interests and concerns considered during the environmental impact assessment process.

The purpose of this section is to summarise the considerable level of consultation and stakeholder engagement that has been undertaken by Matilda and URS since exploration began in 2004. The outcomes of the consultations are discussed and any resulting changes made to the proposal clearly identified.

22.1 Consultations undertaken prior to preparing the EIS

Matilda has undertaken extensive consultations with the TLC, Traditional Owners and Northern Territory government since beginning exploration in 2004. The aim of their consultation program was to:

- Identify key stakeholders;
- Provide stakeholders with information on the proposed Project; and
- Identify key issues and potential impacts that Matilda needed to address.

During this initial phase of consultation, Matilda identified and consulted with the following stakeholders:

- Tiwi Land Council
- Traditional Owners
- Tiwi Island Local Government
- The Tiwi Union
- Office of Environment and Heritage
- Minister for Environment
- Minister for Mines
- Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board

Consultations were primarily undertaken by a series of presentations and information sessions and ranged from one-on-one meetings to as many as 170 people present. Outlined in Table 22.1 are details of documented consultations between Matilda and the Tiwi Land Council. Also Matilda have accepted an

invitation to join the Tiwi Union Joint Coordination Committee. The Tiwi Union meet four times a year and the seven Tiwi organisations represented each have an opportunity to put forward two agenda items each providing a maximum of 14 agenda items. The first meeting was on 9th August 2005 and was attended by Bruce Maluish, Director of Operations, Matilda Minerals. The Tiwi Union is made up of:

- The Manager, Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination
- The Manager, Department of Education
- The Manager, Office of Local Government
- The CEO, Tiwi Islands Local Government
- The Manager, Marine Harvest
- The Manager, Sylvatech Forestry
- The Manager, Matilda Minerals
- The Manager, Tiwi Design
- The Manager, Nguiu Ullintjinni
- The Manager, Tiwi College
- The CEO, Tiwi Training and Employment Board
- The Manager, Nguiu Club
- Les Edminstone, Works and Infrastructure, Milikapiti
- Kate Hadden, Land Management and Resources

Table 22.1: Documented Consultations Between Matilda and the Tiwi Land Council

Date	Purpose	Location	Details
30 Apr 04	Coordinated development forum	Maxwell Creek	170 Tiwi participants who included senior landowners from the areas of Matilda interest. Roger Hobbs of Matilda provided a detailed briefing of the Matilda interest; exploration and proposed mining and responded in detail to various questions. Four OIPC (then ATSIC/ATSIS) staff and the Minister for Environment Marion Scrymgour also present.
9 Sep 04	TLC meeting No. 233		Detailed discussion between TLC, Matilda staff and Lawrence Costa (ATSIC) about Matilda interests; payments; environmental and social impact. 55 Tiwi present including 12 senior Tiwi landowners of the areas directly affected by the leases. Minister Marion Scrymgour (NT Govt Environment) was also present.
27 Oct 04 to 28 Oct 04	Management Committee meeting	Milikapiti	Yimpinari and Wulirangkuwu land owners directly affected by the Matilda interests were represented. Over 50 land owners were in attendance of a total population of fewer than 70 adults owning land in the area in question.
30 Nov 04	Management Committee meeting	Milikapiti	Milikapiti community and the Management Board discussed Matilda interests and specific detail of their mining proposals. Unanimous approval for this agreement with Matilda to proceed.
10 Dec 04	TLC meeting	Pirlangimpi	Meeting briefed by Bruce Maluish of Matilda and resolutions accepted to enter into specific agreements with Matilda. In excess of 50 senior Tiwi present including eight from the land owning groups directly affected. Gayle De la Cruz and Lawrence Costa from OIPC.
13 Jan 05	Management Committee meeting		Referred to Matilda interests and works programme.
24 Jan 05	Management Committee plus others	Pirlangimpi	Management Committee meeting with all members of the NT Landcare Council and 14 other senior Tiwi. Discussions include Matilda interests and consents for mining activity to proceed.
3 Mar 05	Land Council meeting	Nguiu	Land Council meeting with 47 Tiwi including nine landowners of the particular areas of Matilda interest. Detailed discussion on environment surveys by Matilda and the quality of them. Responses to the Matilda planned NOI.
5 Apr 05	Land Council Management Committee plus others	Milikapiti	Matilda specific section 46 applications considered and discussed and reports and comments from environmental staff.
19 Apr 05	Land Council meeting No. 237	Maxwell Creek	43 Tiwi landowners discussed specific Matilda Application and the works pending expressing the hope that these would commence soon. Environmental reports noted and encouraging.
6 May 05	Tiwi Union First Session		25 members and Joint Coordinating Committee including Bruce Maluish from Matilda. Detailed briefing of Works Programme and Mining Intentions. Unanimous support and encouragement for the granting of Matilda applications for mining to proceed. Unanimous support for various works contract for Tiwi organisations to proceed with Matilda plans. Unanimous support for the purchase of new equipment by the Tiwi to undertake this work.

22.2 Consultation undertaken during EIS preparation

During the preparation of the EIS, consultation was undertaken with a wide range of Tiwi Island stakeholders, government agencies and non-government stakeholders. The aims of the consultation programme during the EIS preparation were to:

- Identify additional stakeholders;
- Disseminate information and identify stakeholder issues;
- Obtain feedback from stakeholders; and
- Respond to stakeholder issues.

22.2.1 Identification of Stakeholders

URS worked in collaboration with Matilda in drawing up a preliminary list of stakeholders. As URS and Matilda spoke with and visited stakeholders this list was added to. For the purposes of this EIS, stakeholders were defined as:

- People affected directly by, or concerned about, the environmental assessment and management of the Project;
- Government agencies that would be regulating the proposed operations;
- Traditional Land Owners and Tiwi Islanders; and
- People with a direct commercial interest in the Project.

The Government agencies consulted during the preparation of the EIS are listed below:

- Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines
- Office of Environment and Heritage
- Department of the Chief Minister's Office
- Northern Territory Minerals Council
- Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination
- Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority

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- Department of Planning and Infrastructure
 - Port of Darwin

Tiwi Island stakeholders that were consulted during the preparation of the EIS are listed below:

- Tiwi Land Council
- Tiwi Islands Local Government
- CDEP Tiwi Islands
- Trustee for land impacted by proposed Project
- Milikapiti community (30 adults)
- Sylvatech
- Top End Sportfishing Safaris

Other stakeholders and non-government organisations (NGOs) that were consulted during the preparation of the EIS are listed below:

- Northern Territory Environment Centre
- Amateur Fisherman's Association NT
- Tiwi Islands Employment and Training Board

22.2.2 Feedback on Stakeholder issues

The issues identified during the consultation programme are listed in Table 22.2, with the main issues being:

- The potential difficulty in successfully rehabilitating the land after mining;
- Employment prospects for the Tiwi Islanders;
- Continued access by the Tiwi Islanders to land for recreational purposes;
- Mine closure agreements relating to rehabilitation and infrastructure need to be crystallised prior to the commencement of mining;
- The importance of full information being provided to the community and ongoing consultation undertaken;
- Potential for fresh groundwater to become saline during mining; and

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- The potential for acid sulphate soils and radioactive material issues to arise;

22.2.3 Proponent's response to issues

Matilda has a sound understanding of the government and community issues relevant to the Project due to its comprehensive and on-going consultation process that has been undertaken prior to and during the EIS process. The consultation has provided an opportunity for the issues raised to be addressed in the EIS and in turn to inform the design and management of the Project. For example, in response to issues raised during consultations, Matilda will undertake a number of actions, some of which are described below:

- The need to undertake flora and fauna surveys was identified early. Surveys were conducted of the mine areas, camp areas and the associated haul roads.
- Matilda has also commissioned sea turtle surveys of the beaches fronting the mining areas and has committed to an on-going monitoring program.
- Ground and surface water studies have been conducted of the area as well as radon surveys and biting insect surveys.
- In response to concern that Aboriginal or European heritage sites may be disturbed by the project, Aboriginal and European heritage surveys were carried out. A cultural and heritage management plan will be completed by Matilda prior to the commencement of mining.
- The need to provide the community with full Project information and appropriate visual aids during presentations was raised by a number of stakeholders. Matilda will develop a consultation strategy which will encompass the timing and delivery of community meetings.
- In response to the concern that successful rehabilitation may be difficult, a draft agreement for rehabilitation has been completed, and agreement between Matilda and the TLC/Traditional Owners will need to be formalised prior to the commencement of mining.
- In response to a concern raised about potential impacts on the groundwater, a detailed groundwater study was undertaken.

A summary of the issues raised and the response developed by the Proponent in relation to these issues are provided in Table 22.2. The table also indicates where in this EIS the reader can find additional information on the issues.

Matilda's response to the issues raised by the stakeholders is being communicated through the distribution of the EIS and follow-up briefings with key stakeholder groups.

Table 22.2: Summary of Issues Raised by Stakeholders

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
Rehabilitation	Concern that successful rehabilitation will be difficult	A draft plan for rehabilitation and mine closure is included in the Draft EIS and has been completed in consultation with the TLC/ Traditional Owners. The plan will need to be formalised prior to the commencement of mining. Agreements will be documented in the Mine Management Plan and form the basis of Security calculations to be held by the NT Government for demolition and rehabilitation purposes in the event of project failure.	Section 21
Rehabilitation	Will the rehabilitation be continuous or will it be completed post mining at each site?	Rehabilitation of the mined area will be continuous. The top soil will be stockpiled and returned immediately post mining. The period of time between removing the topsoil and rehabilitation will be minimised to maintain soil fertility.	Section 21
Rehabilitation	Concern the vegetation will not be fully rehabilitated and the sand dunes will degrade.	Initially key species will be used to rehabilitate the disturbed areas. Over time, it is expected that other species will colonise the area, and the diversity of the area will return to what it was pre-mining. Rehabilitation programs will be supported by rehabilitation monitoring programs. Maintenance works or contingency plans will be put in place if rehabilitation programs do not meet predefined rehabilitation criteria and objectives.	Section 21
Rehabilitation	Concern that rehabilitation agreements will not be completed prior to mining commencing.	Draft criteria and objectives for rehabilitation and closure are presented in Section 21 of this EIS. It is agreed that it is important these agreements between Matilda and the TLC/ Traditional Owners are formalised prior to the commencement of mining, as rehabilitation could begin as soon as three months after mining commences.	Section 21
Rehabilitation	Concern that local provenance will not be used during rehabilitation.	Prior to clearing the site for mining, seeds will be collected from plants that are in seed, for use in ultimate rehabilitation of the area. If certain plants are not in seed prior to clearing, seeds will be collected from adjacent areas, to ensure that provenance is preserved.	Section 21
Soil and landforms	Consider potential for acid sulphate soils	Investigations to assess the presence of acid sulphate soils (ASS) have been undertaken at Andranangoo. Investigations into the presence of ASS at Lethbridge will be undertaken as part of more detailed site work prior to mining being undertaken. However, it is expected that the results for Lethbridge will be similar to those obtained for Andranangoo. The analytical results in all samples indicated that they were not likely to be acid forming	Section 5.1.1
Soil and landforms	The area of mining at Lethbridge is too close to the high water mark. This area is very exposed and there is the potential for massive erosion.	It is proposed that where mining occurs adjacent to swamps, creeks and mangrove communities, that a buffer zone of at least 50 m be maintained. This buffer zone will act as a fauna corridor, and prevent any potentially negative impacts of mining activities from affecting the swamp habitat.	Section 9
Infrastructure	Will accommodation infrastructure remain for use by the community for	Matilda will remove all plant and equipment post mining and, subject to discussions with the TLC and traditional landowners, will leave the accommodation units at the last site they mine on Melville Island (currently Lethbridge).	Section 21

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
	tourism, research and/ or camping facilities?		
Infrastructure	Will there be a fence around the Project that will prevent animals/ people from entering?	A fence to protect plant, equipment and personnel is considered unnecessary. A gate and appropriate signage will be placed on the access road to the mine, and signs will also be erected above the high water mark on the beach, warning that entry to the mine site is restricted to authorised persons. A fence around the Project would serve no practical purpose and may actually trap animals within the enclosure. Consultation with local people will advise them of the no go areas during mining operations.	Section 2
Flora and vegetation	What impact will mining have on the biodiversity of the region?	The biodiversity of the flora and fauna of the Tiwi islands is rich and contains a high proportion of endemic species. The mining of the proposed prospects is expected to have a localised impact on the biodiversity of the area. The areas to be disturbed are very small percentages of the respective habitats on the Islands. The impact will be local and temporary in nature.	Section 9 Section 10
Flora and vegetation	Concern the treatment plant will be dragged between sites (or on site) and have a negative impact on vegetation.	The concentrator plant is moveable, and depending on the distance from the mining operations, may need to be periodically moved from the camp and plant area along the ridge, as each of the mineralised zones is mined. Movement along the ridge will be only undertaken if required so as to minimise disturbance to vegetation. All disturbed areas will be rehabilitated. The treatment plant will be disassembled and moved by truck when mobilising between Andranangoo and Lethbridge. There will be no need to move the treatment plant at either of the mine sites for the duration of mining operations.	Section 2.2
Flora and vegetation	Concern there will be destruction, disturbance or contamination of rainforest ('vine thicket') and wetland environments	The vegetation communities to be disturbed at the proposed prospect areas are well represented on the island (Section 9). The areas to be disturbed are very small percentages of the respective habitats on the Islands. Coastal vine thicket is present at Lethbridge and a minor patch may be disturbed due to mining operations. However, in recognition of the high conservation of this community, disturbance will be kept to a minimum. Hydrocarbons and hazardous chemicals at the sites will be kept to a minimum, and will be stored with secondary containment in accordance with good practice and regulatory requirements. The processing of the ore is chemical free and the main fuelling facilities are located at Maxwells Creek.	Section 9 Section 16
Flora and vegetation	Concern there will be negative impacts on the wetlands due to the retraction of water	At Andranangoo, modelling results indicated that the groundwater-related impacts associated with mining will be minor and of short duration as the deposit is underlain by a significant thickness of permeable sand deposits which contain relatively large groundwater resources. In the area of the spring wetlands the drawdown is predicted to be approximately 0.1 m, which is comparatively minor compared with natural (seasonal) variations. At Lethbridge a prospective location for process water supply is located on the scarp, south of the mining area. Impacts associated with drawdown would need to be assessed, based on the location of the borefield. However, owing to the distance to wetland areas, adverse impacts are not expected. .	Section 8

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
Vertebrate fauna	Will there be lighting between the treatment plant and the beach that will impact on the turtles?	Lighting will be designed to minimise light spill, by use of directional light, light shades and low-level downward lighting along paths. Mining will not be undertaken at night. Vegetation surveys of the vegetation between the proposed mine sites and the nesting beaches for sea turtles indicates that the vegetation cover is of sufficient density to screen any residual light spill to the beach areas. Professional advice is that lighting will not have any adverse effects on the nesting of sea turtles.	Section 11
Stakeholder consultation	Will there be another opportunity for community input?	Matilda has undertaken extensive consultation with the TLC and Traditional Owners to date. Matilda will continue their consultation, which will be formalised through a consultation plan prior to mining. Another opportunity for Matilda to update the community prior to the EIS being released for public comment is being planned. Consultation will also be undertaken during the EIS display period.	Section 19.4
Stakeholder consultation and dissemination of information	When communicating Project information, consider using large maps	Community meetings and stakeholder consultation carried out to date have involved verbal presentations and the passing around of Project maps. Subsequent stakeholder and community meetings will utilise maps large enough so that a number of people can gather around and discuss the Project. This will help people in understanding the scale of the Project, and where it is located in relation to areas they are familiar with.	Section 19.4
Stakeholder consultation and dissemination of information	Concern the community has not fully understood the scale of the Project. Require a community walk around the Project area.	Matilda has undertaken extensive consultation to date with the TLC and Traditional Owners, and will continue to do so as a part of their consultation programme. Large maps will be utilised at subsequent stakeholder meetings to ensure all Project aspects are fully understood. A site visit by Matilda, key stakeholders and representatives of key interested parties will be incorporated into the consultation programme.	Section 19.4
Groundwater	How deep will the mineral sands be mined, and will this adversely affect the groundwater?	The mineral sand deposits, on average are located to a depth of 2.5 metres below ground level. The mineral sand deposits will be mined to or just below the water table and it is not expected that the operations will adversely affect the groundwater.	Section 8
Groundwater	Concern that dewatering will be required and will allow salt water intrusion into the freshwater	Dewatering is not planned for the operations at Andranangoo and Lethbridge as the mining will occur to or just below the water table. A process water supply borefield at Andranangoo will be used to supply water to the processing plant. Groundwater modelling results have indicated that groundwater level drawdown is limited at the coast (less than 0.1 m) where groundwater levels at the water table remain above sea level at 0.5 m RL. Therefore, seawater intrusion resulting from the simulated groundwater abstraction is unlikely. At Lethbridge, a seawater intrusion already exists on the coastal plain, and process water supply bores would be located south of the mining area on the scarp where fresh water can be sourced.	Section 8
Groundwater	How will Matilda be able to mine during	It is planned that mining will occur to or just below the water table. During the wet season, it is planned that mining will	Section 8

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
	the wet season without dewatering?	occur in areas where depth to groundwater are greatest.	
Groundwater	Concern there will not be enough monitoring bores and/ or they will not be sufficiently monitored	A groundwater drilling and testing program has been completed at the Andranangoo and Lethbridge to determine the hydrogeology and construct groundwater monitoring bores. A more detailed groundwater investigation program will be undertaken at Lethbridge prior to commencement of mining operations. Matilda is committed to implementing a groundwater monitoring programme prior to commencement, during and following the completion of mining activities..	Section 8.5
Groundwater	Will any emulsifiers, wetting agents or soluble oils be used in the treatment process?	No emulsifiers, wetting agents or soluble oils will be used in the treatment process.	Section 16
Groundwater	Concern the water that is returned to the mined area will not be of the same quality as that extracted.	No chemicals including emulsifiers, wetting agents or soluble oils will be used in the treatment process. Water will be used to slurry the sands, and separation of the heavy minerals will be via a centrifugal process only. There is not expected to be any effect on groundwater quality from water returned to the mining area.	Section 16
Surface water	The salt flats adjacent to Lethbridge are inhabited by juvenile barramundi during the wet season. Concern the opportunity for water to move across the flats will be restricted by mining operations.	It is proposed that where mining occurs adjacent to swamps, creeks and mangrove communities, that a buffer zone of at least 50 m be maintained. This buffer zone will act as a fauna corridor, and prevent any potentially negative impacts of mining activities from affecting the swamp habitat.	Section 7
Indigenous culture and heritage	There is concern the community will not be able to access their land for recreational pursuits.	It is recognised that access to land for recreational purposes is an important part of life on the Tiwi Islands for the Indigenous (and non-Indigenous) stakeholders. The only areas that will be restricted will be the operational mining leases, during the relatively short time of mining operations and closure activities. The restriction of access is necessary for safety purposes. Access to many areas of Melville Island will be improved as a result of upgraded/ new roads. The details of access restrictions to the mining leases (e.g., boundaries, rationale etc) will be conveyed to the community in a clear and pragmatic way to avoid confusion.	Section 20.4
Employment	A number of stakeholders have expressed the desire for employment opportunities.	Matilda currently employs two Tiwi Islanders for exploration activities. An employment strategy will be developed by Matilda outlining the potential for long-term and contract employment opportunities arising from the project. Matilda will continue to work with the TLC and the community to assess demand for employment and desired working conditions. Matilda have commenced discussions with the Tiwi	Section 19.4

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
		Islands Employment and Training Board, who are in a position to provide training needs as required.	
Employment	Concern that a two week on and one week off roster will not suit Indigenous people.	During the operational phase of the project the working roster will be two weeks on followed by one week off. This sort of roster may not be conducive to a settled family life for many people, and the Tiwi people may prefer to engage in contract work opportunities. Two areas of opportunity that exist for contract work are in mine site rehabilitation and civil works (such as road maintenance). The local civil works crew is run by the Tiwi Island Local Government (TILG). The civil works crew has completed work for Matilda during the exploration phase of the Project.	Section 19.4
Road transport	Consider impacts of increased traffic on road safety.	A road transport strategy will be developed by Matilda in collaboration with the TLC to reduce the level of disturbance and to ensure road safety is of the highest priority.	Section 19.4
Road transport	Consider impact of increased traffic on road maintenance requirements.	The local landowners Matilda will work in coordination with the TILG to maintain all roads from the mine areas to access points during the period of mining operations and closure activities.	Section 19.3
Liquid and solid waste	Consider a waste minimisation strategy.	Matilda will investigate options to minimise the amount of unnecessary waste generation as part of its waste management program. This will include avoiding excessive packaging. Domestic type waste arising from the camp (including kitchen and office waste) would be collected in 205 L drums, and periodically burnt and disposed of in a small sanitary landfill trench adjacent to the infrastructure area. The camp kitchen and ablution areas would be served by a septic tank system with associated soakage trench. Miscellaneous vehicle waste (tyres, batteries, scrap parts) would be collected for return to Darwin for appropriate recycling and / or disposal. The minimisation of packaging will decrease the amount of waste that will be placed in the sanitary land fill trench.	Section 17.4
Bushfire management	Concern planned firebreak is unnecessarily wide. A narrow firebreak (4m) with burning back to reduce the amount of fuel is an effective strategy.	Fire breaks 4 m wide will be maintained around the perimeter of the camp and processing areas. Hazard and fuel load reduction programs will be employed around the around the camp and processing area. These programs will be undertaken in the early to mid dry season when fires will be cooler and there will be less of a chance of the fires escaping into surrounding areas.	Section 15
Radiation	Potential for contamination of the environment though radioactive monazite.	Monazite levels in the sands are very low, and the radioactivity of the mineral sands concentrate is also low. Soil radon and gamma surveys indicate that the conditions of exposure from current exploration operation and proposed mining activity will not be higher than natural exposure in the region. The Uranium and Thorium analysis of concentrate indicate that the heavy mineral sands to be mined are not considered to be radioactive ores.	Section 14

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
Quarantine	Primary quarantine concern is that weeds and/ or the cane toad will invade the Tiwi Islands.	Matilda will work with the appropriate authorities and the Tiwi Barge Service to ensure no weedy seeds, feral animals or pests such as cane toads are accidentally transported onto the Island. Matilda will also ensure all vehicles, machinery and equipment undergo inspection and washdown at the barge service before they are transported to the Island. Employees flying into the Island will also inspect their boots, clothing and any other belongings before they board the plane.	Section 9 Section 10
Regulation	Concern about the capacity of the NT government to regulate mining, especially in remote areas.	Commitments made by Matilda during the Environmental Assessment process will be incorporated into Matilda's Mine Management Plan. Matilda will be required to report on performance against commitments in the Mine Management Plan on an annual basis. Officers from NRETA and DPIFM will also audit Matilda's performance against the commitments in the Mine Management Plan on a regular basis. Internally Matilda will also establish its own Environmental Management System and associated Environmental Management Plan specific to the project. Draft versions of the components of this system and plan are included in Sections 22 and 23.	Section 23 Section 24
Approvals process	Why was the haul road upgraded and infrastructure transported prior to EIS approval.	The upgrade of the 4WD access track to Andranangoo from the existing road across Melville Island from Pirlangimpi to the east, a distance of approximately 60 km (Figure 1.1), commenced with the approval of the TLC. The track was upgraded to enable access to the area for exploration purposes and also to provide improved access for the landowners, as a gesture of goodwill. The treatment plant was built and transported to the Tiwi Islands prior to EIS approval as there was a window of opportunity to build and transport the plant, due to the availability of skilled labour, equipment and materials earlier in 2005. Matilda took this opportunity as there was a risk that significant delays in the future were likely, due to the current growth being experienced by the mining industry.	Section 1.4.3
Other	Concern that the increase in shipping to Port Melville may lead to an increase in navigation incidences.	The loading and unloading of goods and ore at Port Melville will be controlled by PenSyl Pty Ltd, and will be conducted under PenSyl's Management, Procedures and Guidelines.	Section 2.5.2
Other	Concern about the potential scale of sand mining on the Tiwi Islands, e.g., if multiple mines opened up.	The availability of processing equipment and infrastructure requirements to the mine site, as well as market conditions, are such that only one site will be in operation at any one time. Further exploration will continue under a mining exploration license. Any subsequent proposals will be the subject of a separate Notice of Intent, and assessed by DPIFM and OEH as required.	NA
Other	Consider taking key community members to visit other mineral sands mining	There are no mineral sands mining operations in Australia that are similar to the proposed Project on the Tiwi Islands. Examples of similar sand mines exist in Vietnam and Gambia.	NA

Element of environment	Issue raised	Proponent's response	Reference in EIS
	operations in Australia.	The proposed mining operations and associated activities are fully described in this Draft EIS, and Matilda has and will continue a comprehensive consultation program. To increase awareness and understanding of the project there will be more value in presenting information directly to stakeholders and also in conducting field visits.	

22.3 Consultations during the public review period

The Draft EIS is subject to public review period of not less than 28 days. During this time, the Proposal will undergo further scrutiny by regulators and the community.

Matilda Minerals will maintain its existing stakeholder consultation by continuing its consultation programme during the public review period. The programme will include the following actions:

- On-going meetings with the TLC and Traditional Owners.
- A community meeting involving a site visit.
- Placing the Draft EIS on the Matilda Minerals website (www.matildaminerals.com).
- Media releases to provide information on the Draft EIS and its availability for review.
- Provide information to stakeholders when requested, including providing responses directly to the stakeholders who asked questions during earlier consultations.

22.4 Consultations following proposal implementation

In the event the Project receives environmental approval and is implemented, Matilda intends to continue the consultation process throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Matilda's consultations with the TLC and Traditional Owners to date have formed the foundations for a healthy working relationship. A consultation strategy will be developed by Matilda in collaboration with the TLC and Traditional Owners to ensure the delivery of current project information occurs in a timely manner and in a way which is appropriate for the stakeholders. Included in the consultation strategy will be a mechanism for gathering grievances and bringing them to Matilda's attention so that they can be resolved.

22.5 Commitments

Matilda commits to maintaining its existing stakeholder consultation by continuing its extensive consultation programme during the public review period and throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the mining operations, and developing a consultation strategy in collaboration with the TLC and the Traditional Owners (Section 22.4).