Notice Environmental Protection Act 1994

Assessment level decision

This notice is issued by the administering authority pursuant to section 229 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act) to advise whether a proposed amendment to an environmental authority is a major or minor amendment.

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Your reference: A-EA-AMD-100601215 | EPML00382513 Our reference: C-EA-100601271 | 101/0006323

Assessment level decision for an application to amend an environmental authority

1. Application details

The application to amend the environmental authority EPML00382513 was received by the administering authority on 30 April 2024.

The application reference number is: A-EA-AMD-100601215.

Land description: Mining Lease (ML) 5898, ML5900, ML5901, ML5902, ML5905, ML5906, ML5907, ML5909 and ML50058.

2. Decision

The assessment level decision for this application is that the proposed amendment to the environmental authority is a **major** amendment.

IMPORTANT ACTION REQUIRED

You are required to pay the major amendment fee before the application can progress.

3. Reasons for the decision

The administering authority is satisfied that the proposed amendment to the environmental authority (the EA) does not meet the definition of a minor amendment (threshold) under section 223 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) because:

a) The amendment significantly increases the level of environmental harm caused by the relevant activity.

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- The expansion of the activity will significantly increase the level of environmental harm through additional disturbance.
- b) The amendment changes the rehabilitation objectives stated in the authority in a way likely to result in a significantly different impacts on the environmental values than the impacts previously permitted under the authority.
 - The activity is proposed on mining leases, ML50058, ML5898, ML5900, ML5901, ML5905, ML5907 and ML5907 that have no current authorisation for disturbance.
- c) The amendment significantly increases the scale or intensity of the relevant activity.
 - The activity proposed an increase to the surface area that will significantly increase the scale of the relevant activity. Existing surface disturbance permitted under the environmental authority is 19.50 hectares (ha). This will increase to 146.31 ha.
- d) The amendment involves an addition to the surface area for the relevant activity of more than 10% of the existing area.
 - The amendment proposed an increase to the surface area by more than 10%. Existing surface disturbance permitted under the environmental authority is 19.50 ha. This will increase to 146.31 ha.

4. Notification stage applies

The notification stage in Chapter 5, Part 4 of the EP Act will apply to this amendment application.

Further information regarding the public notification requirements under Chapter 5, Part 4 can be accessed at <u>www.business.qld.gov.au</u> using the search term 'public notification requirements for environmental authority applications'.

5. Assessment fee

The administering authority has determined that the proposed amendment to the environmental authority is a major amendment therefore further fees for the assessment of this application are required to be paid to the administering authority.

The assessment fee for a major amendment is 30% of the annual fee for the environmental authority that is the subject of the application prescribed under Schedule 15, Part 2, Item 9 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*.

The assessment fee to be paid is identified on the attached invoice along with payment methods.

Under section 229(2)(b) of the EP Act, the assessment of the amendment application will not proceed until the assessment fee is paid.

6. Human rights

A human rights assessment was carried out in relation to this decision, and it was determined that the decision is compatible with human rights.

7. Review and appeal rights

You may apply to the administering authority for a review of this decision within 10 business days after receiving this notice. You may also appeal against this internal review decision to the Land Court. Information about your review and appeal rights is attached to this notice. This information is guidance only and you may have other legal rights and obligations.

Should you have any questions in relation to this notice, please contact Minerals Business Centre using the contact details provided below.

T.6ibbs

Signature

Teale Gibbs Department of Environment, Science and Innovation Delegate of the administering authority Environmental Protection Act 1994 29 May 2024

Date

Enquiries: Minerals Business Centre PO Box 7230, Cairns QLD 4870 Phone: (07) 4222 5352 Email: <u>ESCairns@des.qld.gov.au</u>

Attachments

Information sheet: Internal review and appeals (ESR/2015/1742)

Assessment fee invoice