

Permit Application Amendment APP0052940 Review and Plan: SUNSTATE SANDS BUNDABERG PTY LTD

Review Application

Review Application

Areas of Interest

Permit Application milestones

Work Requests

Permit Application Details

Application Summary

Application Reference: APP0052940

Authority Type: Environmental Authority

Application Type: Amendment

Permit Type: Resource Activity

Current timeframe: ALD Notice Decision

Expected end date: 18/05/2020

Industry Sector: Minerals

Lodgement Date: 01/05/2020

Status: Under Review

Related Permit [EPPL00051713](#)

Questions and Answers

Hide Details

Is the resource activity located anywhere within an area of regional interest?

No

Would the carrying out of the proposed ERA, or where relevant, the ERA project, be likely to have a significant impact on any of the following matters of national environmental significance?

No

What is the ANZSIC code for the activity?

Other

What is the website address for the application notice and application documents?

This question is only applicable if you are proposing to undertake a mining activity on a mining lease, or a geothermal, petroleum, or greenhouse gas storage activity.

Website address:	www.earthcommodities.com.au
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Does the application relate to an environmental authority for a coal seam gas activity that is an ineligible ERA?

No

Will the ERA(s) being applied for cause, or be likely to cause, a significant residual impact to a prescribed environmental matter (other than a matter of local environmental significance)?

No

Has an environmental impact statement (EIS) process that includes the proposed amendment been completed?

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for an increase in the annual extraction of more than 100 percent or 5 million tonnes per year (whichever is the lesser)?

No

Provide details of the proposed measures for minimising and managing waste generated by any amendments to the relevant activity.

Details:	
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	The proposed changes are considered to have negligible impact on waste at the site. The change does not authorise any more waste impacts than already exist within the EA approval. The waste management for the site is managed as per the Environmental Management Plan (SSB-ENV-PLN-E2-01 dated 15/04/2019) Section C6.
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Is any part of the land currently recorded in, or has previously been recorded in, the environmental management register?

No

Has the land been removed from the environmental management register?

No

Do you currently have a financial assurance or estimated rehabilitation cost decision as part of the approved environmental authority?

Yes

Is this land currently subject to an environmental protection order or a site management plan?

No

Do you have an environmental protection order or site management plan?

Not Applicable

Is there a site management plan in effect for contaminated land that relates to the land that is the subject of this application?

No

Describe the proposed amendment

Description	Major Amendment: Add new Mining Lease activity (MLA100242) to existing location (MDL145). new activity triggers major amendment.
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Describe the land that will be affected by the proposed amendment.

Description	within MLA100242, previously mapped as MDL145
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State whether each relevant activity will, if the amendment is made, comply with any eligibility criteria for the activity. Include a declaration that the statement is correct.

Description	I declare that the proposed activity will comply with the eligibility criteria defined in "eligibility criteria and standard conditions for mining lease activities – Version 2". I declare that the statement is correct.
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If the activity/activities are proposed to be undertaken on a mineral development license (MDL), mining lease (ML) or petroleum lease (PL), does the application propose to exercise underground water rights?

If you select Yes, you must attach documentation detailing:

- the areas in which underground water rights are proposed to be exercised;
- for each aquifer affected, or likely to be affected, by the exercise of underground water rights:
 - (i) a description of the aquifer;
 - (ii) an analysis of the movement of underground water to and from the aquifer, including how the aquifer interacts with other aquifers and surface water; and
 - (iii) a description of the area of the aquifer where the water level is predicted to decline because of the exercise of underground water right; and
 - (iv) the predicted quantities of water to be taken or interfered with because of the exercise of underground water rights during the period in which resource activities are carried out;
- the environment values that will, or may, be affected by the exercise of underground water rights and the nature and extent of the impacts on the environmental values;
- any impacts on the quality of groundwater that will, or may, happen because of the exercise of underground water rights during or after the period in which resource activities are carried out; and

- strategies for avoiding, mitigating or managing the predicted impacts on the environment values or the impacts on the quality of groundwater.

No

Specify

Details	All minerals other than Coal
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Details of contact person if technical assistance is required

Name	Darren Wardle
Telephone	0438723017
Email	darren@earthcommodities.com.au

Do you want to upload a separate document or is this part of a combined supporting document?

Combined Supporting Document

Do you need to change the financial assurance or estimated rehabilitation cost decision in relation to this amendment?

I will not need to change the financial assurance or estimated rehabilitation cost in relation to this amendment

Provide an assessment of the likely impact of each relevant activity on environmental values (EVs). Note: All fields are mandatory, therefore a statement is required where there are no likely impacts to an EV.

Water	The proposed changes are considered to have minimal impact on the water quality at the site. Section C3 of the EMP details the Water Quality Management Plan and Attachment E of the EMP details the Stormwater Management Plan for the site. The existing operations are managed under a stormwater management system and the extension of activities into ML100242 will continue similar measures. Existing conditions in the EA cover the stormwater releases from site and there are no proposed increases in discharge of contaminants to waters. The proposed amendment does not include additional storage of contaminants, disturbance of acid sulfate soils or altering of watercourses. The proposed amendment continues to protect water values through a best practice water treatment and sampling program with specific limits applied to any discharges from the site.
Groundwater	The proposed changes are considered to have a minor impact on the groundwater quality at the site. Existing management of groundwater will continue with no extraction below the water table and proactive rehabilitation following extraction activities. In line with the existing groundwater management plan, ongoing development of groundwater sampling and investigation will continue as the extraction progresses to the north. No changes are being made to the methods utilised to manage groundwater at the site. Section C3 of the EMP details the Water Quality Management Plan which covers groundwater resources.
Wetlands	The proposed changes are considered to have a minor impact on wetlands. Similar to groundwater, the proposed changes to the activity have no direct interaction with wetlands. However, there are proposed impacts to the buffer zone that includes MSES regulated vegetation (100m from wetland). It is considered unlikely that the proposed activities will have a significant residual impact due to the area for clearing being less than the threshold of 2ha for sparse regional ecosystems.
Land	The proposed changes are considered to have minimal impact on land at the site. The change authorises mining lease impacts where existing mineral development licence impacts were authorised. The EA maintains compliance with the eligibility criteria which limit the significantly disturbed land to <10ha. A land management plan has been developed for the project and is included in Section C5 of the EMP. The land management plan details the following;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acid sulfate soils • erosion and stormwater controls/pollution controls • site rehabilitation plan and maintenance • spills and spill containment • landform management • topsoil management • weed control and management • revegetation. <p>The management of these issues for the proposed operations will remain consistent with the existing approved operations.</p> <p>A small proportion of the proposed activities between existing ML1228 & ML1178 are located within an area mapped as containing MSES endangered or vulnerable wildlife (Wallum Froglet). Further interrogation of the data was undertaken by downloading 'Habitat Suitability Model – Crinia Tinnula' from QSpatial. The data reveals that the area of interest contains only a small portion of Regional Ecosystem (RE) 12.2.9 which is listed as containing 'preferred habitat possible, medium confidence, non-core' habitat. Targeted surveys for the Wallum froglet (refer Attachment 1) were undertaken in 2016 as per condition GC9 of EPVL00603713 (for adjacent ML1228 and 1229) within the wetlands where Habitat Suitability modelling indicated 'preferred habitat possible, high confidence, core' habitat. These surveys did not positively identify the Wallum froglet within the area. It is therefore considered that the area proposed for operations under ML100242 are unlikely to contain suitable habitat for the Wallum froglet. It is considered that the proposed clearing does not trigger a significant residual impact due to the following assessments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing will not lead to a long-term decrease in the size and extent of the local population, due to pre-clearing surveys and active rehabilitation areas within the project site providing suitable replacement habitat. • Clearing will not fragment an existing population by avoiding impacts to connectivity by clearing only near the edges of potential habitat zones • Clearing will not result in invasive species which are harmful to the Wallum Froglet or its habitat due to the application of the revegetation management plan as well as the established pest & weed management for mining activities. • Clearing is unlikely to cause disease or interfere with the recovery of the species, the proposed clearing of low value non-core habitat is considered to have an insignificant impact compared to the available habitat in the surrounding area that is protected by National Park. Quarries are identified as a likely habitat for the Wallum froglet and the rehabilitated profile of the site will allow for suitable habitat features. • Clearing will avoid areas of ecologically significant locations (breeding, feeding or nesting sites) of the Wallum froglet by carrying out pre-clearing surveys.
Land Use	<p>The land is currently rural and is utilised for exploration purposes under a Mineral Development Licence held by the applicant. The land use change is consistent with the surrounding uses being predominantly Mining Leases.</p>
Air	<p>The proposed changes are considered to have a minimal impact on air quality at the site. The change does not authorise any more air impacts than already exist within the EA approval. The existing EA allows for mineral development activities within the ML Application area however the proposed operations include mining activities within closer proximity to the nearest neighbours than previously authorised. The existing proximity is approximately 225m and the proposed proximity is 175m. It is proposed that air quality is more closely monitored when operations are conducted in close proximity to neighbouring residences to ensure compliance limits are maintained. Air quality is maintained through a series of strategies including limiting topsoil removal to favourable weather conditions, restricting vehicle movements, progressive rehabilitation and monitoring of weather conditions. Section C1 of the EMP details the Air Quality Management Plan for the site.</p>
Acoustic	<p>The proposed changes are considered to have minor impact on acoustics at the site. As per the EMP the operation does not require blasting and therefore vibration and air overpressure are negligible. The processing plant is not changing with the proposal, therefore impacts from this operation will remain the same as per the existing EA approvals. Section C2 of the Environmental Management Plan</p>

	<p>detail the Noise and Vibration Management Plan for the site. The proposed extractive operations within Resource Area 2 are adjacent to several beachside residences, with a buffer of around 50m. Prior to operation within this area an assessment will be conducted to ensure appropriate mitigation measures are implemented to keep the impacts from operations to an acceptable level for the sensitive receptors. Equipment likely to be operating in this area include an excavator, front end loader, articulated dump truck and light vehicles (4wd). If necessary, acoustic fencing will be established along the boundary of operations for the duration of works to ensure the site remains in compliance with the standard acoustic conditions.</p> <p>Operations within Resource Area 1 will also encroach sensitive receptors to the north with a buffer of around 550m. It is anticipated that this buffer distance will be sufficient to mitigate potential acoustic emissions and that the operation will comply with the standard acoustic conditions.</p>
Waste	<p>The proposed changes are considered to have negligible impact on waste at the site. The change does not authorise any more waste impacts than already exist within the EA approval and no greater volume or type of wastes are proposed. Current waste management practices will be implemented for the new ML area. Section C6 of the EMP details the Waste Management Plan for the site.</p>

Is the proposed ERA amendment for an increase in annual extraction of more than 10 percent or 10 million tonnes per year (whichever is the lesser)?

No

Do you want to upload a separate document or is this part of a combined supporting document?

Separate Document

Is the proposed ERA amendment for an increase in annual extraction of greater than 25 percent?

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for a mining activity that will extend into a category A or B environmentally sensitive area (ESA), unless previously authorised by the state?

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for a mining activity that would involve a substantial change in mining operations? For example; from underground to open cut, or (for underground mining) a change in operations that currently causes little subsidence but with the proposed ERA amendment, is likely to cause substantial subsidence?

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for a mining activity and a novel or unproven resource extraction process, technology or activity?

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for a petroleum and gas activity that is likely to have a total disturbance area of greater than 2000 hectares at any one time during the life of the proposed project? This includes areas occupied by well pads (single or multi-directional), access tracks and roads, water storages, and process plants.

No

Is the proposed ERA amendment for a petroleum and gas activity that is likely to involve the construction of a high pressure pipeline over a distance of 300 kilometres or greater?

No







Is the proposed ERA amendment for a petroleum and gas activity that is likely to involve the construction of a liquefied natural gas plant?

No

Do you want to upload a separate document or is this part of a combined supporting document?

Combined Supporting Document

Documents

Download	Name	Reference	Type	Subtype	Date created	Created by	Version	Internal only
	DOC00487841	DOC00487841	Financial Transaction	Receipt	01/05/2020 15:55	carl.morandy@ausrocks.com.au	1	
	Cover Letter & Plans	DOC00487797	Application Supporting Document	Combined Supporting Document	01/05/2020 15:08	carl.morandy@ausrocks.com.au	1	
	Crinia Tinnula Survey	DOC00487798	Application Supporting Document	Assessment of environmental impact	01/05/2020 15:08	carl.morandy@ausrocks.com.au	1	

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