Renison Tailings Retreatment Project (Rentails Project)

Application Number: **02664** Commencement Date: **31/10/2024** Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Renison Tailings Retreatment Project (Rentails Project)

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Mining

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Other

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/10/2026

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2046

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

This referral has been prepared for the Bluestone Mines Tasmania Pty Ltd Joint Venture (BMTJV) (the Proponent) by GHD Pty Ltd (GHD), to be submitted for the proposed **Rentails (Renison Tailings Retreatment) Project (the proposed action)** at the existing Renison Mine in Western Tasmania (the proposed action site). **This referral supersedes the original EPBC Act referral (2017/8064) which has recently been withdrawn.**

The proposed action includes the construction and operation of a new tailings retreatment plant, tailings storage facility and associated infrastructure at the Renison Mine site. The proposed action will reclaim tailings from existing tailings storage facilities on the Renison Mine site and process a total of approximately 30 million tonnes (Mt) of

tailings material. Copper and tin concentrates will be produced for transport and sale to international customers.

The proposed action will create an additional revenue stream and facilitate improved closure of existing tailings dams, and extend the life of the mine. The proposed action proposes construction of E Dam, a new modern tailings storage facility (TSF) to store reprocessed tailings and tailing produced by the existing Renison underground mining and processing operation. The E Dam is located within the existing mining lease at Dunkley Creek, approximately 6.5 km west of the existing mine. The new tailings dam disturbance area is approximately 4.05 km2.

The proposed action will reclaim approximately 24 million tonnes of tailings from existing tailings dams (TSF A-B and C Dams), at approximately 0.44% tin and 0.22% copper, containing approximately 105,000 tonnes of tin and 53,000 tonnes of copper. A further 6 million tonnes of tailings from the current operational dam (D Dam) is planned to be processed in the later years of the project. The tailings will be re-treated in a new treatment facility (processing plant) to produce tin and copper concentrates for export.

Preliminary environmental, geotechnical, hydrogeological, hydrological and heritage studies have been completed and further studies are planned as the project progresses.

Key aspects of the Project include:

- Tailings reclamation from TSF A-B, C and D Dams, using mobile high-pressure water monitors, mobile earthmoving equipment, and the pumping of tailings slurry to the Rentails plant site.
- Feed slurry preparation, trash and cemented tailings removal, fine grinding, and the concentration of reclaimed tailings into copper and tin concentrates via a new tailings concentrator are also included.
- Rentails concentrator tailings, Renison primary ore concentrator tailings will be combined in the new tailings concentrator plant and deposited in a new tailings storage facility (TSF, E Dam).
- The new TSF (E Dam) will be located at Dunkley Creek (PID 3388012), approximately 6.5 km west from the existing Renison mine site.
- Tailings streams from the existing Renison concentrator will be redirected to a new centralised tailings pumping station located at the Rentails process plant site, where they will be combined with the Rentails tailings streams and pumped as a single combined stream to E Dam. This will avoid the need to increase the capacity of the existing D Dam.
- TSF E Dam will facilitate the extension of operations at the existing mine site as it will be used to store tailings from existing and additional mineral resources.
- The tailings pipeline and E Dam access road route will run from the Rentails plant site to the Argent Dam and then follow an (upgraded) access track through to E Dam.
- The existing tailings storage facilities will be progressively deconstructed and rehabilitated in accordance with the approved closure plan for the site, though a small waste containment cell is expected to remain within the existing footprint of D Dam.
- The final tailings waste stream is expected to be stable but potentially acid forming (PAF). Tailings from the Project will generally be discharged and stored sub-aqueously in the new TSF E Dam to minimise acid generation. A tailings beach could be established adjacent to the dam embankment to assist with dam stability and seepage control at closure.
- Subject to Hydro Tasmania approval, water extraction would occur from Lake Pieman, via a pumping station and a pipeline from the lake’s edge to the Rentails plant site.
- Excess water will be discharged from E Dam to Dunkley Creek / Western Rivulet and into Lake Pieman via operational and emergency spillways. Water quality will be managed to meet regulated quality standards.

In summary, the approximate areas include = project area 4496 ha, including a disturbance footprint of 835 ha and avoidance of 3262 ha.

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*

The Rentails Project (proposed action) will be assessed as a Level 2 Activity by Tasmania's Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under this legislation. This will require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS). A Notice of Intent (NoI) has been submitted to the EPA on 31 October 2024, which proposed not to elect the bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth Government. As part of this referral Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) will be assessed and considered in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.*

Under Section 25(1) of the EMPC Act an application for development on land that is on the same land as an existing level 2 activity, clause (1A) determines, relevant to this Project:

(1A) For the purposes of subsection (1), a use or development that is on the same land as an existing level 2 activity is not ancillary to that activity if –

(a) it constitutes conduct of works within the definition of that level 2 activity in Schedule 2; or

(b) it constitutes an intensification of the use or development of the land for the purposes of conducting the works which define that level 2 activity in Schedule 2; or

(c) it will, or is likely to, cause serious or material environmental harm; or

(d) it constitutes conduct of works within the meaning of any other level 2 activity in Schedule 2.

The above indicates that the Project will require approval under the EMPC Act as it is both an (a) intensification of the use and (b) development that constitutes works within another Schedule 2 activity type

Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*

Under the TSP Act, a person cannot knowingly 'take' a listed species without a permit. The definition of 'take' encompasses actions that kill, injure, catch, damage, destroy and/or collect threatened species or vegetation elements that support threatened species, e.g., nests and dens.

Disturbance to either threatened flora or fauna species within the meaning of the word 'take' under the Act will trigger the requirement for a permit under this Act.

Identified relevant natural values:

- Grey goshawk (*Accipiter novaehollandiae*)
  Where protection of a potential nest site cannot be adequately achieved due to design constraints of the development footprint, then it may be necessary to obtain a permit to remove this nest under the TSP Act.

Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002*

One vegetation community (*Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland – DOV) is listed as threatened under the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002* , which could also qualify for listing as the Tasmania Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (*Eucalyptus ovata / E brookeriana*) ecological community under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection an Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* , however, the patch does not meet the patch size thresholds for listing as this ecological community.

The removal of any nests or den structures will require a permit under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

The Subject Site includes land in the Renison Bell Regional Reserve. The Act identifies that a Regional Reserve is:

An area of land –

(a) with high mineral potential or prospectivity

(b) predominantly in a natural state

Where the purpose of the reserve is as follows:

Mineral exploration and the development of mineral deposits in the area of land, and the controlled use of other natural resources of that area of land, including special species timber.

The identification and purpose is relevant in relation to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

Tasmanian *Biosecurity Act 2019*

According to the provisions of the Tasmanian *Biosecurity Act 2019*, Zone B municipalities host moderate or large infestations of the declared weed that are not deemed eradicable because the feasibility of effective management is low at this time. Therefore, the objective is containment of infestations. This includes preventing spread of the declared weed from the municipality or into properties currently free of the weed or which have developed or are implementing a locally integrated weed management plan for that species. In addition, there is a requirement to prevent spread of the weeds to properties containing sites for significant flora, fauna, and vegetation communities.

Zone A localities are areas in which eradication is deemed feasible (generally due to the existence of a targeted management plan) and is the responsibility of the landowner or land manager, or in the case of disturbance the development proponent.

The relevant statutory weed management plans define the West Coast Council as a Zone B municipality for infestations of:

- Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)
- Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)

No Zone A species were recorded within the project area.

Provided that a Weed and Hygiene Management Plan is developed for the site, the provisions of this act would be satisfied.

Tasmanian *Forest Practices Act 1985*

Under the Tasmanian *Forest Practices Act 1995*, a Forest Practices Plan (FPP) is required for clearing of land. However, Section 6 states that this does not apply in prescribed circumstances. The prescribed circumstances are defined in the Forest Practices Regulations 2017.

Section 4 of the Regulations states under what circumstances an FPP is not required. These circumstances include mineral exploration activities or mining activities that are authorised under:

- a permit granted under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*; or
- a mining lease within the meaning of the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*.

If the activity fits within one of the above points, a Forest Practices Plan is not required.
The proposal is exempt from requiring a Forest Practices Plan.

Tasmanian *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPA Act 1993)

The LUPA Act is the State legislation that regulates land use and development in accordance with the Objectives of the Act (Schedule 1) '*The objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania'* which are (amongst other things) *'To promote sustainable development of natural and physical resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity'.*

The Rentails Project (proposed action) is within the West Coast Local Government Area and is subject to the requirements of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – West Coast (The Scheme), this is based on the State Planning Provisions (v. 26/06/24) and the Local Provisions Schedule – West Coast (v.19/05/2021). The West Coast Council is the Planning Authority to determine a permit application in accordance with the LUPA Act. The planning permit application will be assessed in conjunction with a Level 2 activity assessment under the EMPC Act.

Most of the proposed action site is contained within the Rural Zone (20.0), with a small area of railway easement contained within the Utilities Zone (26.0). The Renison Bell Regional Reserve, including the processing plant area and a small area of the pipeline northeast of Argent Dam, is within an Environmental Management Zone (23.0). The Rural Zone and Utilities Zone do not have any standards in relation to the protection of natural values, so the project will not conflict with zone purpose statements (in relation to natural values); however, the Environmental Management Zone must be addressed. It is not anticipated that a rezoning application will be required.

The Project is an intensification of the existing “Extractive Industries” use. Currently, the Renison site is approved for use and development for ‘Extractive Industries’. The Project is anticipated to be consistent with this definition as the primary use class. ‘Extractive Industries’ is a permitted use class under the Rural Zone, and a discretionary use class in the Environmental Management Zone. The use class is prohibited in the Utilities Zone, however, a discretionary applies as the use and development would only be required in the zone for access and provision of infrastructure and will comply with clause 7.5.

Under Section 23.2, the proposed action requires a permit under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, as extractive industries are classified as a discretionary use. The processing plant area is the only element of the proposal that is subject to this zone.

The purpose statements for this zone (23.1.1) are for the protection, conservation and/or management of areas with significant ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic value, and the proposal should be compatible with the protection, conservation and management of the values of the land and applicable reserved land management objectives. Under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* the land is in a Regional Reserve, the purpose of the reserve is as follows:

Mineral exploration and the development of mineral deposits in the area of land, and the controlled use of other natural resources of that area of land, including special species timber harvesting, while protecting and maintaining the natural and cultural values of that area of land.

Extractive industry (including the processing of tailings) is a discretionary use class within this zone under Section 23.2 and is considered to be consistent with the purpose of the Renison Bell Regional Reserve as demonstrated by the existing development for the Renison Bell Mine.

The proposal is exempt from the Natural Assets Code under Clause C7.4.1(b): Development assessed as a Level 2 activity as defined in the Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.*

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

The Renison Mine has been in operation for several decades and has well-established relationships with nearby landowners, the broader West Coast Tasmania community and environmental regulators. BMTJV is keen to maintain and enhance these existing relationships with the project.

BMTJV’s Stakeholder and Community Engagement Plan (SCEP) guides the project's community engagement process. The SCEP is underpinned by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Public Participation Spectrum, which has been used to identify the level of participation to be pursued for the proposed action.

The following principles provide the stakeholder engagement framework for the project:

- Involving stakeholders shows respect for them. It recognises that as recipients and ‘hosts’ of projects, stakeholders, including communities, have a long-term interest in the project's outcomes.
- Using communication and consultation techniques that effectively and meaningfully engage the community and stakeholders.
- Ensuring all stakeholders have easy access to the process and information about the project.
- Demonstrating that concerns and aspirations raised by the community and stakeholders are considered in project development.
- Ensure that all information is timely, written in plain English, and understandable by a range of audiences.

Stakeholder engagement activities are captured and managed in a dedicated Consultation Manager database.

Prior to lodgement of this referral, BMTJV has engaged with a range of stakeholders, including those shown below grouped by stakeholder:

Regulators

- Tasmanian EPA
- West Coast Council

- Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

Tasmanian Government Agencies

- Hydro Tasmania
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania
- TasRail
- TasNetworks

Local communities and landowners

- Residents of Queenstown, Strahan, Zeehan, Rosebery, and Tullah, schools and local businesses
- West Coast Aboriginal Community
- BMTJV workforce

State Government

- Tasmanian Minerals, Manufacturing and Energy Council (TMEC)
- Mineral Resources Tasmania
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment
- Parks and Wildlife Service
- Department of State Growth
- Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania
- State Govt - Premier, lead Ministers and Members of Parliament
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment – Inland Fisheries Service

The broad themes of responses from stakeholder engagement to date are summarised below per group:

Regulators

- Environmental Impacts
- Community impacts and benefits (e.g. employment and housing)
- Project timeline

Tasmanian Government Agencies

- Infrastructure requirements (e.g. water, electricity, transport, road access)
- Project timing
- Impacts to existing operations

Local communities and landowners

- Community impacts and benefits (e.g. housing, health, transport, training and employment, cultural heritage)
- Property acquisition

State Government

- Infrastructure requirements
- Environmental and heritage impacts
- Economic impacts and benefits (e.g. employment and service provision)
- Social impacts and benefits (e.g. workforce, training and employment, housing)

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) collects your personal information (as defined by the Privacy Act 1988) through this platform for the purposes of enabling the department to consider your submission and contact you in relation to your submission. If you fail to provide some or all of the personal information requested on this platform (name and email address), the department will be unable to contact you to seek further information (if required) and subsequently may impact the consideration given to your submission.

Personal information may be disclosed to other Australian government agencies, persons or organisations where necessary for the above purposes, provided the disclosure is consistent with relevant laws, in particular the Privacy Act 1988 (Privacy Act). Your personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

See our Privacy Policy to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint.

Alternatively, email us at privacy@awe.gov.au.

☑ **Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice ***

1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN	39008488373
Organisation name	GHD PTY LTD
Organisation address	2000 NSW

Referring party details

Name	Lauren McCall
Job title	Environmental Scientist
Phone	61362100681
Email	lauren.mccall@ghd.com
Address	113 -115 Cimitiere St, Launceston TAS 7250

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

No

1.3.2.2 Is Person proposing to take the action an organisation or business? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN	35141265974
Organisation name	Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd
Organisation address	7320 TAS

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Mark Recklies
Job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	(03) 6473 2618
Email	rentails@bluestonetin.com.au
Address	Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

Yes

Joint Venture Name	Business Address	ABN/ACN	Responsible Person	Email
Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd	Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.	35141265974	Mark Recklies	rentails@bluestonetin.com.au

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

BMTJV has made significant strides in environmental stewardship. BMTJV is proud of its achievements and remains committed to continuous improvement and sustainability. BMTJV is dedicated to reducing environmental impacts while maintaining operational efficiency. This underscores our commitment to a healthier environment for future generations.

While the company has been subject to no formal legal proceedings, three Environmental Infringement Notices (under the Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*) were served in February 2015 following an investigation into waste rock management at the Renison site. BMTJV has implemented appropriate corrective actions to ensure that the immediate issue was addressed and to bolster the robustness of its management systems to ensure that such issues will not occur in the future.

In 2024, BMTJV proudly completed the Sustainable Water and Waste Management Initiative at the Renison Bell mine. This landmark project underscores the proponent's dedication to reducing environmental impacts and enhancing regulatory compliance. Recognising the historical legacy of the site, significant investments have been made to improve the environmental footprint. Examples include:

- A new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to replace outdated infrastructure. It ensures effective treatment of black water, while a new Oily Water Separator (OWS) treats runoff from site refuelling bays, removing hydrocarbons and improving water quality.
- This initiative included establishing water recycling infrastructure, where water decanted from the active tailings dam is pumped back to the Processing Plant for reuse. This significantly reduces the volume of water extracted from natural sources, preserving the Argent Dam ecosystem and reducing the discharge of mine-contact water.
- The Paste Backfill Plant plays a crucial role by combining mine waste (tailings) with cement to create paste for backfilling the underground mine. This not only recycles waste and allows 100% extraction of the Area 5 resource but also extends the lifespan of D-Dam, delaying the need for new tailings storage facilities. During the opening of the Paste Plant, our COO Mark Recklies remarked, "This plant is a testament to our commitment to reducing our environmental footprint while enhancing the efficiency of our mining operations."

BMTJV's new treatment facilities—the CWTP, WWTP, and OWS—have collectively enhanced water quality entering the surrounding environment. This improvement is evident in the reduced levels of contaminants in the Ring River and Lake Pieman, benefiting local ecosystems. By investing in these advanced treatment facilities, we ensure that our mining activities have minimal environmental impact, reflecting our core value of sustainability.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

Policy

Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd (BMTJV) is committed to providing a workplace and systems of work that ensures the safety of all employees and contractors. We believe that everyone has the right to expect, as well as the obligation to contribute to, a safe and healthy work environment. Every employee and contractor has a role to play, albeit in different capacities, to achieve a reliable health and safety performance and to ensure continual improvement.

BMTJV will:

- Strive for continuous improvement through ongoing assessment of our environmental performance.
- Assess environmental risks within our operations in a systematic manner and implement appropriate controls to minimise the environmental impacts to as low as reasonably practicable.
- Communicate and consult with employees and other stakeholders.

- Comply with regulatory standards and conditions related to all tasks performed to maintain a “social license to operate”; and
- Provide an environment where all workers feel they can freely discuss or report all environmental incidents and hazards.

All Employees and Contractors will:

- Commit to assisting in identification of any environmental issues that may arise or come to their attention.
- Participate in programs that will, from time to time, be put in place to correct a highlighted environmental risk; and
- Enhance the reputation of BMTJV as a good environmental steward by actively participating in the environmental improvement processes.

BMTJV updated its environmental policy in 2022, with the next review planned in 2025.

Environmental Management System (EMS) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

BMTJV has an Environmental Management System (EMS) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The two processes are linked to provide an iterative process for ongoing review and improvement of environmental management systems and actions.

The Environment Team report regularly to the BMTJV Board to keep them informed about environmental matters at the site. This occurs on an as needs basis, and relates to operational, monitoring, and future works.

The Incident / Hazard Reporting system provides a basis to record all incidents and responses on an ongoing basis. BMTJV use an electronic risk management system. When necessary, incidents are reported to the Director of EPA, utilising the data from this system as a reporting tool.

The Environmental Risk Register ensures all aspects with potential environmental harm concerning Renison Mine operations are identified, controlled, and monitored. The risk register defines new risk categories and definitions, with the aim of prioritising initiatives and informing the annual capital planning at Renison Mine. The register is a live document that is regularly updated.

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN	35141265974
Organisation name	Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd
Organisation address	7320 TAS

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Mark Recklies

Job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	(03) 6473 2618
Email	rentails@bluestonetin.com.au
Address	Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	39008488373
Organisation name	GHD PTY LTD
Organisation address	2000 NSW
Representative's name	Lauren McCall
Representative's job title	Environmental Scientist
Phone	61362100681
Email	lauren.mccall@ghd.com
Address	113 -115 Cimitiere St, Launceston TAS 7250

Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	35141265974
Organisation name	Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd
Organisation address	7320 TAS
Representative's name	Mark Recklies
Representative's job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	(03) 6473 2618
Email	rentails@bluestonetin.com.au

Address	Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.

Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

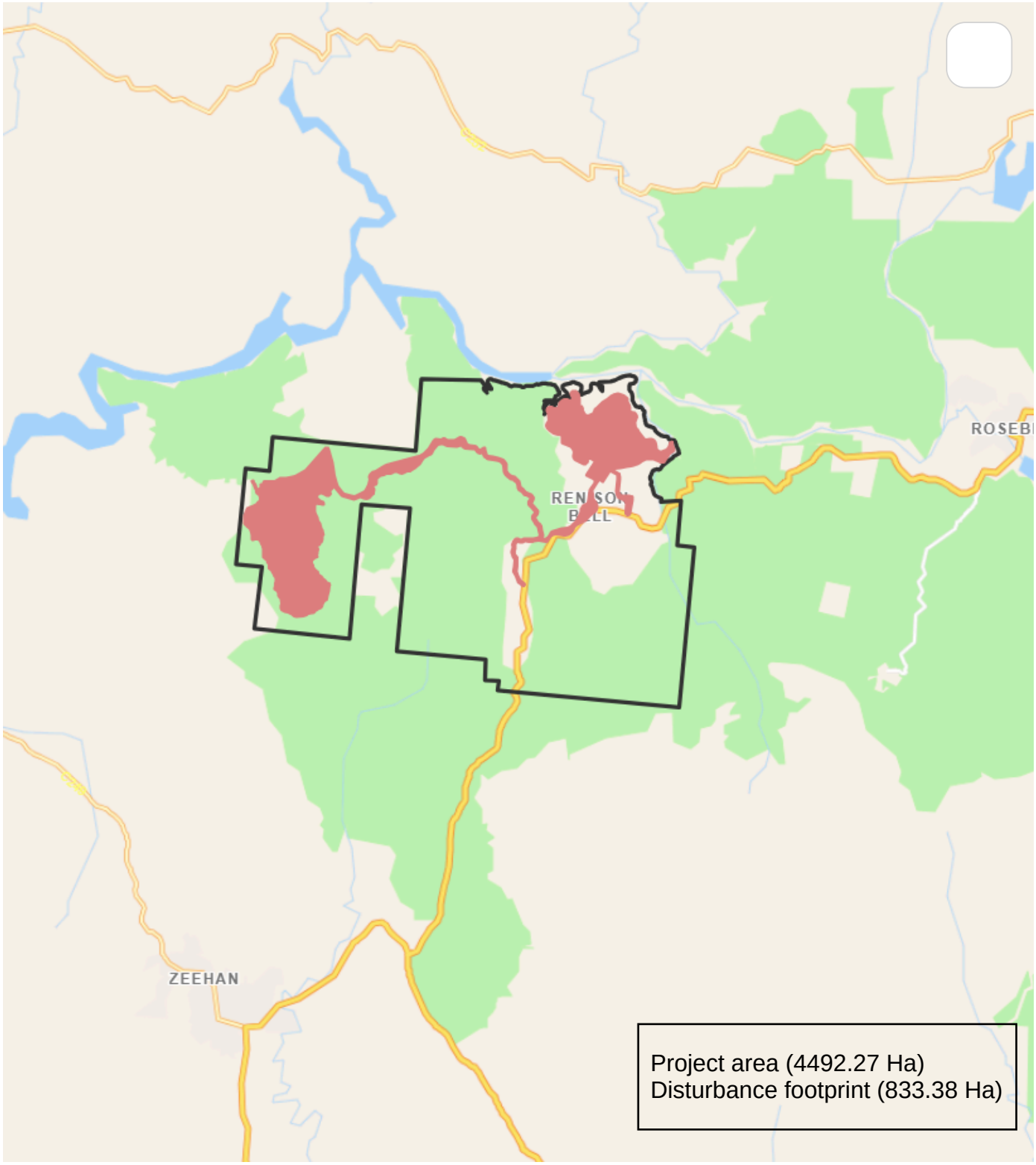
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

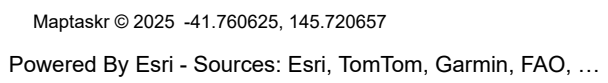
1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint





2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Tasmania

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

The project area is on the Murchison Highway in western Tasmania, by road 135 km south of Burnie, 10 km west of Rosebery and 18 km north-east of the township of Zeehan (Latitude South 41°47’58” Longitude East 145°26’29”). It is located within the West Coast Local Government Area.

The proposed action is within the mining lease associated with the Renison Mine (12M/1995) (except for proposed water extraction from Hydro Tasmania land). The mining lease covers an area of 4,662 ha and includes the existing mine and associated infrastructure described in Section 3.1.

The land tenure of the project area is comprised of:

- Regional Reserve
- Permanent Timber Production Zone Land
- Private freehold
- Crown Land
- Hydro-Electric Corporation

The Renison Bell Regional Reserve covers a significant portion of the central part of the lease, including the area proposed for the Rentails processing facilities. Much of the western half of 12M/1995 is designated as an informal reserve on Permanent Timber Production Zone Land. The area running north-south from Argent Dam is allocated as Future Potential Production Forest. The far southwest corner of the mining lease includes a small area of the Parting Creek Regional Reserve, though this area is not expected to be impacted by the Rentails Project. The project area also includes some private freehold and Crown Land parcels; and Hydro Tasmania land for the proposed water extraction.

The nearest land owned by others is situated within the historic township of Renison Bell, noting that no occupied residences are remaining. The main sensitive receptors are residences along the Murchison Highway towards Rosebery, with the closest residence located 3 km from the existing Renison Mine site lease boundary. The proposed action site is on the southern side of Lake Pieman, under Hydro Tasmania's tenure. Lake Pieman was flooded in 1986 and dammed for hydro power usage.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

The project area contains native vegetation and other natural values typical of western Tasmanian lowland vegetation and habitats on similar geologies. Native vegetation within is generally consistent with vegetation communities frequently occurring across western Tasmania, which are well-represented and reserved. The western section of the project area is largely native vegetation regrowth, with various access tracks. Much of this area has been heavily disturbed and subjected to historical logging.

Due to the wet climate, low productivity soils and low fuel load of vegetation around the project area, fire frequency is low. The western extent of the project area (dominated by MBW – western buttongrass moorland), has been impacted by bushfire fire most recently in early 2019. Due to the low fuel load and low fire sensitivity characteristic of the vegetation type, the impact of fire on this portion of the project area has been low.

Sections of SWW (western wet scrub) occurring in the creek lines at the northern boundary of the project area was also burnt in the same fire. This community has medium fire sensitivity (per TASVEG 4.0 fire attributes) and was significantly impacted by the fire, resulting in a loss of riparian vegetation and creation of log jams in Dunkley Creek and Western Rivulet. The unburnt vegetation in the remainder of the project area was observed to be in good condition, however conditions were dry at the time of assessment.

Introduced plant species are generally sparse across the project area, with only a few isolated occurrences recorded. Root rot fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) has been recorded near the Renison Mine site, however, extensive infestations have not been reported.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Existing

The project area is located within Mining Lease 12M/1995 (with the exception of proposed water extraction from Hydro Tasmania land), with the existing Renison Mine, and associated processing infrastructure and tailings storage facilities (A-D Dams) located in the eastern section of the proposed action site. The western section of the project area is largely native vegetation regrowth, with various access tracks. Much of this area has been heavily disturbed and subjected to historical logging.

Mining has occurred at Renison Bell since approximately 1890, with a range of infrastructure in place, including the following key components:

- An underground mine.
- A mineral processing facility.
- Multiple tailings storage facilities (A-D Dams).
- Associated buildings and infrastructure.

Proposed

Key future uses include existing mining operations, along with tailings retreatment, associated with the Proposed Action.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

The project area comprises a range of landforms, including:

- Steep ridges and valleys of siliceous Precambrian geology, with shallow, sandy organic soils in the western part of the Project Site, including the proposed E Dam site.
- Within the central section of the project area between the proposed E Dam and Renison Mine site, steep-sided ridges and valleys developed from Precambrian mudstones and slates. Gradational soils cover the peaks and upper slopes, and deep clays exist on floodplains and valleys.
- Low relief terrain on Cambrian sedimentary and volcanic rocks incised by river valleys, with variable soil depth and profile, within the eastern portion of the project area around the existing Renison Mine site and A-D Dams.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The gradient comprising the largest area of the proposed action (E Dam) is predominately flat sloping north (350m) to south (300m).

Based on site observations, soil development across the site is generally thin (up to approximately 1 to 2 m thickness) of colluvium and residual soil and extremely weathered rock present on the slopes. This depth of soil is expected to increase towards the base of the valleys where it is reworked into alluvial deposits but it is not currently anticipated that the depth of soil will exceed 5 m across the site. Geophysical survey results indicate potentially deeper soil cover of up to 10m depth, particularly in the upper storage area.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

Threatened Terrestrial Flora

A natural values assessment was carried out by North Barker Ecosystem Services (NBES) in 2023 (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 1.1, pg. 1). No threatened flora species listed under the EPBC Act were recorded during the survey.

The Natural Values Atlas database shows records of five threatened flora species within 500 m the 12M/1995 and EL18/2021 areas. Of these five species, only one is listed under the EPBC Act – *Epacris glabella* (TSPA Endangered / EPBCA Endangered) (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.4, pg. 56).

Threatened Avifauna

Blue-winged parrot – *Neophema chrysostoma*

A single parrot was observed flying above the project area near to the dam embankment area during collection of trail cameras and song meters (March 8, 2023) (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.5.1, pg. 60). The sighting was made in open woodland adjacent to burnt buttongrass moorland, and roughly aligns with the migration period for this species. This is the only observation from within 5km of the project area, however sightings in inland areas of the west coast is not uncommon.

Swift parrot – *Lathamus discolor*

Swift parrots have been recorded in the broader area in recent times, and some marginal foraging habitat was recorded in the form of *Eucalyptus ovata* forest (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.5.3, pg. 62).

It is highly unlikely that swift parrots utilise the project area for nesting. This is because there is very little prime foraging habitat nearby. Nevertheless, potential nesting trees are sparsely distributed throughout the project area. Foraging habitat is present in the form of just 0.24ha of DOV forest, however, there are very few mature trees >40cm DBH (diameter at breast height) which is considered the minimum size for foraging trees to offer a significant flowering/nectar resource, as such, any impacts are likely to have a negligible impact on the foraging habitat for swift parrots.

Tasmanian masked owl – *Tyto novaehollandiae castanops*

The project area is mapped as core habitat according to the Tasmanian Natural Values Atlas and EPBCA protected matters report. The productivity of the landscape for prey is extremely low, being predominantly shallow peat over infertile geology.

Nevertheless, hollow-bearing trees with hollows of a suitable size for masked owls (>15 cm entrance diameter) – characterised as significant habitat for masked owls - occur in a low density within the *Eucalyptus obliqua* and *E. nitida* forests within the project area. Significant habitat present in eucalyptus forest with large hollows, rainforests with emergent eucalypts and old growth myrtles for roosting, and forest edges and open ground suitable for hunting. Although the frequency of records on the west coast is low the presence of significant habitat requires investigation to determine if it supports a nest.

Song meter recordings in 2023 detected masked owls in the project area (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.5.5, pg. 65). Further song meter surveys undertaken by NBES in August 2024 throughout targeted locations within the Dunkley Creek project area failed to detect the presence of any masked owl calls (Att2_2024MaskedOwlSurvey, Section 4, pg. 2). This survey was undertaken during what is considered peak masked owl breeding (and subsequent calling) activity. Given that there was a total of zero (0) masked owl calls detected during this time, it was concluded that it is highly unlikely for masked owls to be occupying the Dunkley Creek project area, with an even lesser likelihood that the species is utilising the project area for breeding during the 2024/25 breeding period.

Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle – *Aquila audax fleayi*

The nearest known nest record of this species is approximately 3.7km to the east of the project area. This nest is well beyond the range of likely disturbance. No nests were observed from within the project area during aerial surveys in 2022; however, two birds were observed during Natural Values Assessment indicating the area is likely to be part of a territory (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.5.6, pg. 65).

The habitat within the project area is considered to support low quality eagle nest habitat, due to the relative dearth of large eucalypt trees. It is most likely to be part of a larger foraging territory but has a low likelihood of being used for nesting.

The aerial survey of all forested habitat within 1km line-of-sight of the project area did not locate any nests. Suitable nesting habitat was present in some areas along ridgelines and upper slopes containing mature eucalyptus habitat. The most optimal habitat was observed along the length of Lake Pieman (outside of the nest search survey area).

Threatened Terrestrial Fauna

Evidence of Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii)* and Spotted-tail quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus maculatus)*, in the form of scats and latrines were scarcely recorded during Natural Values Surveys. Tasmanian devils were recorded during camera trapping surveys; however, they do not appear to be abundant across the site (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.6.3, pg. 79).

Habitat suitable for denning for both devils and quolls are present across the project area, and a number of wombat burrows were observed during surveys.

Aquatic Biodiversity

A baseline aquatic assessment undertaken for the proposed action identified that Dunkley Creek provides a diverse range of habitats for macroinvertebrate fauna (Att3_AquaticEcologySurvey, Section 7.1, pg. 21). Despite the quality of habitat, the sampled macroinvertebrate fauna was relatively depauperate, especially when compared to the High Ecological Value default guideline values (DGVs) of the Pieman Catchment. Furthermore, the water quality sampling program recently carried out at the site indicates that Dunkley Creek typically has a low pH and naturally high background concentrations of some metals. This, compounded with the seasonal low flows, will explain the lower-than-expected macroinvertebrate diversity.

The project area is near the potential range for Zeehan freshwater snail (*Beddomeia zeehanensis*). However, no snail species were observed during the baseline aquatic assessment.

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

The project area is typical of western Tasmanian lowland vegetation and habitats on similar geologies. It includes eleven distinct native vegetation communities or mapping units, ten of which are all frequently occurring communities that are well represented and reserved both in the local bioregion and state-wide (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 1.3, pg. 3).

One vegetation community (*Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland – DOV) is listed as threatened under the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002*, which could also qualify for listing as the Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (*Eucalyptus ovata / E. brookeriana*) ecological community under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, however, the patch does not meet the patch size thresholds for listing as this ecological community.

Per the desktop Natural Values Assessment (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.1, pg. 24), the following vegetation types are present in the project area:

- WNL - *Eucalyptus nitida* forest over *Leptospermum* (82.35 ha)
- RMT - *Nothofagus – Atherosperma* rainforest (64.49 ha)
- MBW - Western buttongrass moorland (52.67 ha)
- NLE - *Leptospermum* forest (23.82 ha)
- WOL - *Eucalyptus obliqua* forest over *Leptospermum* (19.98 ha)
- WNR - *Eucalyptus nitida* forest over rainforest (16.42 ha)
- SMR - *Melaleuca squarrosa* scrub (11.17 ha)
- WOR - *Eucalyptus obliqua* forest over rainforest (3.49 ha)
- NAF - *Acacia melanoxylon* swamp forest (2.32 ha)
- NAR - *Acacia melanoxylon* forest on rises (1.17 ha)
- DOV - *Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland (0.24 ha)

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

No features listed on any National, State or Local heritage registers are present in the project area.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

Cultural Heritage Management Australia (CHMA) carried out an Aboriginal Heritage Assessment at the site in 2023, which did not locate any Aboriginal sites (Att4_HistoricHeritageAssessmentReport, Section 7, pg. 40). A search of the Aboriginal Heritage Register did not find any registered Aboriginal sites located within or near the study area surveyed. This assessment concluded that there are no Aboriginal heritage constraints or impediments applicable to the proposed development.

In the event of an unanticipated discovery of an Aboriginal site, object or suspected feature, a copy of the Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) will be kept on site during all ground disturbance works, and construction personnel will be made aware of the UDP and their obligations under the Tasmanian *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Prominent surface hydrological features of the project area include Dunkley Creek/Western Rivulet, Crimson Creek, Argent River and Ring River, which flow north towards Lake Pieman on the northern boundary of the Project Site.

At the E Dam site groundwater levels are generally shallow, ranging from artesian condition to 14 m below surface. They range from moderately to highly responsive to rainfall, with extended periods of high rainfall followed by equally extended periods of groundwater level rise, albeit with a time lag in the order of 1-2 days.

Around the proposed E Dam site within the western part of the Project Site, groundwater flow appears to be inwards toward the Dunkley Creek and Western Rivulet flow channels, then down the central valley towards Lake Pieman. All groundwater from within the Dunkley Creek catchment is likely to discharge through the valley around the proposed E Dam site, either indirectly as groundwater discharging to surface within the catchment, or groundwater down the valley to the south of proposed E Dam.

There are zones within the E Dam area of extremely high permeability, possibly corresponding to fracturing associated with sub-vertical regional faults. The major streams appear to follow zones of preferential weathering associated with some of the faults.

Groundwater infiltration and migration through the shallow groundwater system is likely influenced by:

- Potential seepage from the inundated areas.
- Surficial sediments consisting of gravelly, sandy, clayey sediments (silt dominated) colluvium and weathered bedrock. Localised areas of sandy alluvial material may create channels of relatively high permeability, and inversely thicker, more weathered zones may create local aquitards / low flow zones.
- Intersection into, and exposure of fractured bedrock beneath comparably low permeability clays that constitute the upper boundary of the variably weathered and/or fractured mudstone and siltstone (Success Creek Group) profile.

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	Yes	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No World Heritage properties are in proximity to the project area.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No National Heritage Places are in proximity to the project area.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No Ramsar wetlands are within proximity of the project area.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	Yes	Aquila audax fleayi	Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle, Wedge-tailed Eagle (Tasmanian)
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Carinascincus orocryptus	Heath Cool-skink, Mountain Skink
No	No	Ceyx azureus diemenensis	Tasmanian Azure Kingfisher
Yes	Yes	Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (Tasmanian population)	Spotted-tail Quoll, Spot-tailed Quoll, Tiger Quoll (Tasmanian population)
No	No	Epacris glabella	Funnel Heath, Smooth Heath
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail
No	No	Hiya distans	Scrambling Ground-fern
Yes	Yes	Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot
Yes	Yes	Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot
No	No	Prototroctes maraena	Australian Grayling
No	No	Pseudocephalozia paludicola	Alpine Leafy Liverwort
No	No	Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera	Gould's Petrel, Australian Gould's Petrel
Yes	Yes	Sarcophilus harrisii	Tasmanian Devil
Yes	Yes	Tyto novaehollandiae castanops (Tasmanian population)	Masked Owl (Tasmanian)

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens
Yes	Yes	Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (Eucalyptus ovata / E. brookeriana)
No	No	Tasmanian white gum (Eucalyptus viminalis) wet forest

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

Records of EPBC Act listed species and communities around the Proposed Action are detailed in Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.

This assessment uses the Protected Matters Search Tool to understand the potential for EPBC Act listed species and communities to occur around the Proposed Action (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 3.1, pg. 15).

Assessment of EPBC Act listed species and communities is grouped into the below categories, and discussed further below).

Threatened terrestrial fauna

A number of terrestrial fauna species are known to occur within or adjacent to the project area (Tasmanian Devil - *Sarcophilus harrisii*, Spotted tailed Quoll - *Dasyurus maculatus maculatus,* Eastern Barred Bandicoot - *Perameles gunnii gunnii*) (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.6, pg. 77). The project area includes areas of potential foraging and denning habitat for these species.

Potential impacts include habitat disturbance during construction and increased roadkill risk (associated with increases in traffic during construction and operation).

Threatened avifauna

A range of threatened avifauna species utilise the project area, or have been recorded nearby , including:

- Swift parrot - *Lathamus discolor*
- Tasmanian azure kingfisher – *Ceyx azureus* subsp. *diemenensis*
- Tasmanian masked owl - *Tyto novaehollandiae* subsp. *castanops*
- Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle - *Aquila audax* subsp. *fleayi*

Potential impacts include habitat disturbance during construction, and indirect disturbance, such as vehicle and/or construction activities disturbing breeding.

Threatened Freshwater Fauna

Hydrological features within the project area support aquatic species (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 3.4, pg. 23). However, no species listed under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* were found during site survey (Att3_AquaticEcologySurvey, Section 3.4, pg. 23). It is considered unlikely that the Proposed Action would impact any threatened freshwater fauna species.

Construction activities may impact waterways through sedimentation, dust and soil compaction associated with earthworks and vegetation clearance. However, any construction activities will be managed through works plans that contain prescriptions to avoid and minimise environmental impacts, including specific measures to mitigate impacts to waterways and freshwater species.

Threatened Flora and Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC)

A range of threatened flora and TECs have the potential to occur in the project area:

- Funnel Heath – *Epacris glabella*
- Scrambling Ground-fern – *Hiya distans*
- Alpine Leafy Liverwort – *Pseudocephalozia paludicola*
- Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (Eucalyptus ovata / E. brookeriana)

The primary potential impact on threatened flora and ecological communities (TEC) is through the potential clearance of vegetation during the construction phase.

Indirect impacts may include the introduction of weeds or pathogens (e.g. Phytophthora cinnamomi), especially during construction. Weeds and plant pathogens have the potential to degrade the conditions of native vegetation and/or species habitat, and fragment existing vegetation. Pathogens can cause diseases in plant and animal species and lead to population or community degradation. Measures to control weeds and disease will be included in relevant project documentation and will be enforced throughout the construction and operation phases

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

Yes

4.1.4.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

Swift parrot

Swift parrots have been recorded within 5km of the project area in recent years. The project area contains 0.24 ha of *Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland (DOV) which may provide foraging habitat. It is highly unlikely that swift parrots utilise the project area for nesting, due to limited foraging habitat nearby. Nevertheless, potential nesting trees are sparsely distributed throughout the project area (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 7.3.2, pg. 132). It is unlikely that the project would have significant impact on the swift parrot.

Funnel heath

The Serpentine Hill and Savage River populations occur on Cambrian serpentinite. Near the Wilson River, the species also occurs on ultramafic (serpentinite) substrate. The Gordon River population occurs on sparsely vegetated Precambrian quartzite outcrops prone to flooding.

Although there are no areas of serpentinite substrates within the project area, due to the complex geology of the region, the presence of this species cannot be discounted. However, this species was not observed during field surveys, and is unlikely to have been overlooked (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, not observed). The Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Tasmanian azure kingfisher

Surveys of the project area have established that nesting habitat is absent. This species may utilise the banks of the nearby Lake Pieman, and if azure kingfishers are present in the project area at a given time, it is likely to only be a transient occurrence (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 3.2.3, pg. 17). The Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Tasmanian devil

The project area is anticipated to support a low density of Tasmanian devils, and likely to be utilised for foraging, but less likely to support significant natal den sites (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 6.2.5, pg. 123). The Proposed Action involves the loss of areas considered potential denning habitat, site surveys did not detect any devil dens (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 6.2.5, pg. 123). The Proposed Action would include a pre-clearance den search (and a den management protocol) to mitigate against the potential for direct impacts to devils.

Construction and operation related to the Proposed Action will increase traffic volumes and/or speed levels, which may increase roadkill risk. Increase in roadkill of prey animals has the potential to attract more scavenging devils to the road. Risks to this species from roadkill have been successfully managed on other similar projects, and it is anticipated that the Proposed Action can implement similar measures effectively.

Considering the broad availability of habitat in the surrounding landscape, and the low density of the local population, the area is unlikely to have a significant impact (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 6.2.5, Table 30).

Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle

The key potential impact of the Proposed Action on this species relates to potential breeding disturbance. The project area has limited potential eagle nesting habitat, due to the relative dearth of large eucalypt trees, and is most likely to be part of a larger foraging territory (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 7.3.4, pg. 132). Aerial survey of all forested habitat in 2022 within 1 km line-of-sight of the project area did not locate any nests.

Risks to this species related to breeding disturbance have been successfully managed across Tasmania, and it is anticipated that the Proposed Action can implement similar measures effectively. It is unlikely that the Proposed Action would have a significant impact on the Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle.

Scrambling ground-fern

This species was not observed during field surveys. Marginal habitat suitable for this species is present in the form of blackwood swamp forest (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.4.4, pg. 57). The wet forests in the project area are generally well-drained, with ferns generally absent. Given the limited habitat suitability and the distinctive

nature of this species, it is very unlikely that any populations of this species were overlooked during field surveys. It is unlikely that the Proposed Action would have a significant impact on this species.

Eastern quoll

Surveys were conducted concurrently during natural values surveys across the duration of field assessments. No denning sites were observed nor any indications of the species presence in the project area (e.g. scats, carcasses) (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.6.1, pg. 77). Potential den sites are likely widespread in the broader area (around the Proposed Action), but rocky outcrops may be utilised by eastern quolls are absent.

Given that the project area is outside core range, and observations from the west coast of Tasmania are sparse, the likelihood of eastern quolls occurring in the project area is very low.

Spotted-tailed quoll

The project area occurs outside core habitat range, key sites and important populations for the spotted-tailed quoll.

The vegetation types within the project area are less likely to support dense populations of quoll prey (e.g. small mammals, birds, reptiles, and invertebrates) and hence are likely to support lower densities of quolls (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.6.2, pg. 77).

Evidence in the form of fresh scats was not recorded, and no spotted-tail quolls were observed during camera trapping surveys (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.6.2, pg 78). However, this does not entirely discount their presence in the project area. Tasmanian devils and feral cats were observed, suggesting that the competition for food sources may be high at this site.

The project area and surrounding areas are anticipated to support a low density of spotted-tailed quolls, is likely to be utilised for foraging, but far less likely to support natal den sites. It is unlikely that the Proposed Action would have a significant impact on the eastern quoll.

Tasmanian masked owl

The project area is mapped as a core habitat for this species. However, the landscape's productivity for prey is extremely low, being predominantly shallow peat over infertile geology.

Hollow-bearing trees with hollows of a suitable size for masked owls (>15 cm entrance diameter) – characterised as significant habitat for masked owls - occur in a low density within the *Eucalyptus obliqua* and *E. nitida* forests within the project area (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 5.3.5, pg. 96).

Song-meter recordings in the area from 2023 detected isolated masked owl calls; however, an extensive song-meter survey carried out in 2024 did not detect any calls (Att2_MOSupplementarySurvey, Section 3, pg. 1), suggesting that it is unlikely the species is breeding or substantially present within the project area. The Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Australian grayling

In Tasmania, this species is generally found in coastal rivers and streams and requires unrestricted access to a range of freshwater, estuarine, and marine habitats. The project area is located upstream from a large dam and there is no chance of this species occurring.

Alpine leafy liverwort

In Tasmania, this species has been recorded in subalpine grassland in the west of the state and on its central and eastern mountains. This species was not observed during site surveys (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, not observed), and considering the lack of habitat, the Proposed Action would not have a significant impact on this species.

Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (*Eucalyptus ovata / E. brookeriana*)

A small area of *Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland (DOV) was recorded within the proposed disturbance footprint for the project area, covering a total of 0.24 ha. This patch size fails to qualify for listing as the Tasmanian forests dominated by black gum / Brookers gum ecological community, based upon the criteria, with the minimum patch size thresholds being ≥0.5 ha for patches within a larger native vegetation remnant (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 7.1, pg. 131). The Proposed Action will not have a significant impact on this MNES.

Other vegetation communities

Alpine sphagnum bogs and associated fens and Tasmanian white gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) wet forest are noted as having the potential to occur. Vegetation mapping and site survey indicate that these TECs do not occur within the project area (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.2, pg. 30).

Blue-winged parrot (also listed as Migratory)

Site surveys recorded one observation of this species in open woodland adjacent to buttongrass moorland, which is widespread and abundant in western Tasmania. Nesting habitat is scarce across the project area, with hollow-bearing trees scarcely observed (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Section 4.5.1, pg. 60).

Given the broad availability of habitat around the project area, and the sparse records, the Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Latham's snipe (also listed as Migratory)

This species utilises a wide range of habitats, from coastal/inland lakes and wetlands to rivers and wet grassland. There is no suitable habitat for this species in the project area, and thus no chance of it occurring (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Table 20, pg. 68).

White-throated needletail (also listed as Migratory)

In Australia, this species is almost exclusively aerial, occurring over a very broad range of habitats, most often above wooded areas, including open forest and rainforest, but less commonly flying above woodland. If present in the project area, it is likely to be part of a much broader range across broader habitats across western Tasmania. The Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Curlew sandpiper (also listed as Migratory)

There is no suitable habitat for this species in the project area.

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.4.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

As outlined in Section 4.1.4.5, the Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact to any individual species or community.

However, considering the Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, a significant impact to Tasmanian masked owl, Tasmanian devil and spotted-tailed quoll remains as a possibility.

Considering that there is uncertainty about the potential impacts, the precautionary principle is applicable, and it is concluded that the Proposed Action is a controlled action.

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Given that the Proposed Action is anticipated to be a Controlled Action, it is proposed to develop a detailed range of management measures during the EPBC Act assessment process.

Some of the potential measures are provided as examples below, however, as these measures are not yet confirmed, they do not form part of the Proposed Action, and are **not considered as mitigation measures in the assessment of the potential impacts to EPBC Act listed threatened species in this referral**.

It is also noted that the existing Renison operations has implemented a range of environmental management measures, providing a significant knowledge base to manage potential impacts and environmental risks. During the assessment process, existing management measures will be validated and, where required, previous prescriptions and areas avoided will be implemented.

Management of vegetation clearance

The risk of unnecessary and indirect impacts on vegetation outside the 'footprint' of the development could be minimised by following these measures:

- Clearly define the extent of clearance required for the project and ensure that any additional impacts are avoided.
- The works area should be marked, and all works, vehicles and materials must be confined to the works area.
- Reduce extent of external borrow pits as much as is possible.
- All areas of temporary impacts (i.e. borrow areas, temporary access tracks) must be revegetated using species from the adjacent impacts.
- Implement a project specific weed and hygiene management plan to maintain the largely weed free status of the vegetation that is to remain.

Tasmanian devil and spotted-tailed quoll habitat

As there is habitat for Tasmanian devils and quolls present across the project area, the following measures will be considered:

- Pre-clearance den surveys, as part of a den management protocol, consistent with the *Survey Guidelines and Management Advice for Development Proposals that may impact on the Tasmanian devil (Sarcophilus harrisii): A supplement to the Guidelines for Natural Values Surveys - Terrestrial Development Proposals* to be conducted prior to works.
- Conduct a traffic impact assessment for internal and external roads (including material haulage routes) for the construction and operation of the Proposed Action to inform a roadkill mitigation plan.
- Develop and implement a roadkill mitigation plan.

Weed management

Development of weed management plan that covers all relevant aspects of the control and management of declared and environmental weeds. The weed management plan could include:

- An overarching set of objectives and the context in which they are to be achieved;
- An assessment of the potential impact of the introduction of weeds, including immediate and adjacent areas which are free of weeds;
- Strategies for managing weeds including their eradication within the project area and on any public roads used for mine related transport;
- Strategies for ongoing monitoring and control of weeds within the project area; and
- Identification of appropriate herbicides for control and how they are to be used.

Hygiene management

A hygiene plan also aimed at pathogen control is part of the WHMP to ensure there is no introduction of pathogens or 'declared' weeds or significant environmental weed species into the area, translocation of weeds within the project area or the import of existing declared weeds from outside the area. The hygiene plan should cover, but not be limited to:

- Vehicle, machinery, and equipment hygiene;
- Washdown protocols when travelling between clean and contaminated areas;
- Location and management of washdown areas and facilities, including management of effluent;
- Maintaining logbooks detailing adherence to hygiene protocols for all contractors; and
- Material hygiene (soils, gravel, plant material etc.) – ensuring that no materials contaminated with weed propagules (seed, propagative vegetative material) are imported into the project area.

Eagle nest management plan

Should a nest be detected within 1 km line-of-sight of the project area in the future, a nest management plan would be developed, consistent with best practice guidelines. Management measures may include exclusion of any potentially disruptive works to be conducted within 500 m direct distance and/or within 1 km line-of-sight of active eagle nests.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Currently, the residual impact, post-implementation of mitigation measures (i.e. the avoidance, management and mitigation measures that will be developed and implemented) for EPBC listed species is not understood.

Given that the Proposed Action is in an early development phase and that a detailed assessment process is anticipated, residual impact is anticipated to be identified during this assessment process, with appropriate offset measures developed, consistent with the requirements of DCCEEW's EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper
No	No	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	Yes	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

Records of EPBC Act listed migratory species around the Proposed Action are detailed in Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.

This assessment uses the Protected Matters Search Tool to understand the potential for EPBC Act listed species and communities to occur around the Proposed Action.

A range of migratory avifauna species utilise the Proposed Action Area, or have been recorded nearby, including:

- Blue-winged parrot
- Latham’s snipe

Potential impacts include habitat disturbance during construction, and indirect disturbance, such as vehicle and/or construction activities.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

No

4.1.5.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

From the above assessment, there are EPBC Act-listed species that require consideration in determining whether the Proposed Action has the potential to have a significant impact, consistent with the Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1—Matters of National Environmental Significance. The potential for significant impact on these species is considered further below.

The Blue-winged parrot, Latham's snipe, white-throated needletail and curlew sandpiper are also listed as threatened, and assessment of these species is also considered in Section 4.1.4 of this referral.

Blue-winged parrot

In Tasmania, this species breeds mainly in the state's north-western, central, and eastern parts. This species prefers grasslands and grassy woodlands near wetlands and can also use disturbed habitats such as airfields, golf courses, and paddocks. During migration, they forage for seeds of a range of coastal and saltmarsh plants, as well as exotic plants in degraded pasture adjacent to saltmarsh. Nesting occurs in hollows in heathy eucalypt forest and woodlands, and in wetter forests if disturbed by logging or fire.

Site surveys recorded one observation of this species in open woodland adjacent to buttongrass moorland, which is widespread and abundant in western Tasmania. Nesting habitat is scarce across the project area, with hollow-bearing trees scarcely observed.

Given the broad availability of habitat around the project area and the sparse nature of records of this species in western Tasmania, the Proposed Action is anticipated to have a minimal impact on this species.

Latham’s snipe (also listed as Migratory)

This species utilises a wide range of habitats, from coastal/inland lakes and wetlands to rivers and wet grassland. Around wetlands, it favours a variety of vegetation cover, such as sedges, lignum, grasses, rushes, and reeds.

Breeding occurs in Japan and far eastern Russia before departing the breeding grounds to winter in Australia. They are typically present in Australia between August and March.

There is no suitable habitat for this species in the project area, and thus no chance of it occurring (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Table 20, pg. 68).

White-throated needletail

In Australia, this species is almost exclusively aerial, occurring over a very broad range of habitats, they are probably recorded most often above wooded areas, including open forest and rainforest, but less commonly flying above woodland.

They also commonly occur over heathland, but less often over treeless areas, such as grassland or swamps. In coastal areas, they are sometimes seen flying over sandy beaches or mudflats, and often around coastal cliffs and other areas with prominent up-draughts, such as ridges and sand dunes.

White-throated needletails forage aerially by diving through swarms of insects. They seldom descend to feed. If present in the Proposed Action Area, it is likely to be part of a much broader range across broader habitats across western Tasmania. The Proposed Action is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Table 20, pg. 69).

Curlew sandpiper

In Tasmania, this species is most commonly recorded on intertidal mudflats in sheltered coastal areas, with the most important sites for them in Tasmanian centred on the north and east coast of Tasmania; however, they are also occasionally recorded inland, along the open edges of ephemeral and permanent lakes and other water bodies. The nearest known record is from over 20 km away at Lake Mackintosh, which has fluctuating water levels (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment, Table 20, pg. 68).

There is no suitable habitat for this species in the Proposed Action Area, and thus no chance of it occurring (Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment).

Fork-tailed swift

In Tasmania, the fork-tailed swift is almost exclusively aerial, flying from less than 1 m to at least 300 m above ground. They mostly occur over dry or open habitats, including riparian woodland and tea-tree swamps, low scrub, heathland, or saltmarsh.

Suitable foraging habitat does occur within the Proposed Action Area, however as this species is almost exclusively aerial, it is not likely to be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Other migratory shorebirds

Based on the Protected Matters Search Tool, there are a range of migratory shorebirds that have potential to be impacted by the Proposed Action. These include:

- Pectoral Sandpiper - *Calidris melanotos*
- Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - *Calidris acuminata*
- Common Sandpiper - *Actitis hypoleucos*

These species are generally recorded in coastal areas, including wetlands, coastal lagoons, estuaries, swamps, inundated grasslands, saltmarshes, river pools, creeks, floodplains and artificial wetlands.

The Proposed Action Area does not support habitat suitable for migratory shorebird species, so the Proposed Action would not significantly impact these species.

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.5.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

Considering the species-specific assessments above, the Proposed Action is not anticipated to have a significant impact on migratory species, due to the lack of habitat for these species within the project area.

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Mitigation measures relevant to natural values (and migratory species) are outlined in Section 4.1.4

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

No offsets are proposed for migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not involve any nuclear matters.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not impact the Commonwealth Marine Area.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not impact the Great Barrier Reef.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not involve a water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not involve any Commonwealth Land.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The Proposed Action does not impact Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Location alternatives

The new TSF E Dam preferred location has been identified at Dunkley Creek, which is located on the Renison mining lease several kilometres to the west of the existing facilities. This location was identified as part of the options analysis in the feasibility stage of the Project.

The siting study and concept design was completed in 2022 for a new tailings storage facility (TSF), E Dam, which is required to store the retreated tailings. The siting study considered four potential sites for E Dam:

1. Argent River Site

2. Crimson Creek Site

3. Dolcoath Creek Site

4. Dunkley Creek Site

The optioneering and decision-making process was documented in Rentails Tailings Reclaim and Management Stage 1 Study Report (GHD, 2022). The site selection was made through an MCA workshop involving representatives from GHD and BMTJV.

The Dunkley Creek site was found to be the most favourable location for the proposed E Dam considering aspects such as natural values, permitting, capital cost, operating cost, expansion potential, constructability and closure. E Dam capital costs are a full order of magnitude lower compared to D Dam - it represents a very efficient tailings storage solution. Importantly, the deconstruction of the existing dams in association with the Rentails project provides an opportunity to rectify known legacy and stability aspects associated with these waste storage structures.

Design and activities

The optioneering and decision-making process for general project configuration was part of the options analysis in the feasbility stage of the Project.

Laboratory and pilot plant test work to define the metallurgical response of the tailings has been completed, leading to definition of the plant flowsheets and process design criteria, selection of key equipment, the establishment of process performance, and product specifications.

Geochemical, geological, geotechnical and hydro-geological drilling and test work have progressed over several years, in support of environmental permitting, facility design, and resource evaluation. Further geological and geo-technical investigation including drilling, sampling, and assaying will occur in the front-end engineering stage of the Project. Regular monitoring and sampling of surface and groundwater conditions has been established and will continue in support of associated computer models.

During the initial planning stages and early parts of the Study, the project team held workshops to determine the configuration and optionality issues which required further focus and assessment over the course of the study. This led to focus on resolving the major project configuration and optionality issues across the following areas:

- Tailings management, including tailings reclaim and tailings and waste disposal
- Concentrator
- Permanent Infrastructure
- Temporary infrastructure
- Water management strategy and raw water source
- Overall plant capacity, including tailings retreatment rate
- Permitting and planning
- Execution of necessary field works to inform assessments and permitting

Timeframes

The proposed timing for the project has been reviewed as part of the feasibility stage planning of the project development. BMTJV considered split approvals for alternative timeframes, however due to interdependencies between project components this was abandoned and the current timeframe was selected as most appropriate. The timing will be dependent on several factors, including completion of supporting studies, approvals, and Project financing. BMTJV proposes staged construction of key items, whilst still meeting required timeframes for construction commencement. The initial focus will be on earthworks, stormwater management, and the development of access roads to facilitate construction, all of which will be prioritised for summer periods commencing in 2026/27.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document				

		Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023	No	High
#2.	Document	Att2_2024MaskedOwlSurvey.pdf Supplementary song meter survey for Tasmanian masked owl	30/10/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Att3_AquaticEcologySurvey.pdf Results of aquatic ecology survey	27/05/2024	No	High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023		High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att4 _ (Redacted)AboriginalHeritageAssessmentReport_Redacted.pdf (Redacted version) Aboriginal Heritage Assessment of Renison Bell E Dam and Associated Pipeline Options, West Coast Region, Tasmania	04/01/2023	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Att4 _ AboriginalHeritageAssessmentReport.pdf Aboriginal Heritage Assessment of Renison Bell E Dam and Associated Pipeline Options, West Coast Region, Tasmania	04/01/2023	Yes	High

4.1.4.2 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023		High
#2.	Document	Att3_AquaticEcologySurvey.pdf Results of aquatic ecology survey	27/05/2024		High

4.1.4.5 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023	No	High
#2.	Document	Att2_2024MaskedOwlSurvey.pdf Supplementary song meter survey for Tasmanian masked owl	30/10/2024		High

4.1.5.2 (Migratory Species) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023	No	High

4.1.5.6 (Migratory Species) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att1_NaturalValuesAssessment.pdf Natural Values Report	10/07/2023	Yes	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	39008488373
Organisation name	GHD PTY LTD
Organisation address	2000 NSW
Representative's name	Lauren McCall
Representative's job title	Environmental Scientist
Phone	61362100681
Email	lauren.mccall@ghd.com
Address	113 -115 Cimitiere St, Launceston TAS 7250

☑ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☑ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

☑ By checking this box, I, **Lauren McCall of GHD PTY LTD**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

☑ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

ABN/ACN	35141265974
Organisation name	Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd
Organisation address	7320 TAS

Representative's name	Mark Recklies
Representative's job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	(03) 6473 2618
Email	rentails@bluestonetin.com.au
Address	Murchison Highway, Renison Bell, Tasmania, 7469.

- [x] Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

- [x] I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

- [x] I, **Mark Recklies of Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

- [ ] I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

- [x] Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

- [x] I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

- [x] I, **Mark Recklies of Bluestone Mines Tasmania Joint Venture Pty Ltd**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

- [ ] I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *