

Dianne Copper Mine Recommencement Project

Application Number: **02899**

Commencement Date:
01/05/2025

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Dianne Copper Mine Recommencement Project

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Mining

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Other

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/10/2025

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2030

1.2 Proposed Action details

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

The Dianne Copper Mine is located in Cape York Peninsula, Queensland, approximately 160 kilometres northwest of Cairns and 100 km southwest of Cooktown. The Dianne Copper Mine comprises Mining Leases ML 2810, ML 2811, ML 2831, ML 2832, ML 2833 and ML 2834. The mine has been under care and maintenance since copper mining activities ceased in 1982. The proponent for the Dianne Copper Mine is Mineral Projects Pty Ltd and Tableland Resources Pty Ltd. The Dianne Copper Mine is authorised under Environmental Authority (EA) EPML00881213.

The Dianne Recommencement Project (the project) involves the recommencement of mining and associated activities at the Dianne Copper Mine. The project will include:

- Mining approximately 1.6 Mt of copper ore as a single pit with an approx. depth of 124 m using conventional excavator and truck load and haul methods. A throughput of up to 900,000 tonne per annum of ore will be mined with a target recovery rate of 85%. Note the pit will be located over the old open cut pit and portal.
- Processing ore via crushing, screening, agglomeration and stacking circuits on up to six heap leach pads. Ore will be crushed and stacked on a specially prepared and lined heap leach pad area with overall approximate dimensions of 300 meters (m) length by 100 meters width. Stockpiles on the pads will be to a height of approximately up to 6 m. No tailings dam is required on site, and spent ore will be stockpiled, reprofiled and rehabilitated in a manner that is consistent with the existing approved PRCP.
- Reprocessing the existing waste rock stockpile. Existing waste rock will either be reprocessed, or treated as required and used in the construction of the heap leach pads.
- Mine infrastructure upgrades and construction including:
 - Run of mine laydown area
 - Access roads to site from Whites Creek Road
 - Temporary accommodation camp and associated sewage treatment plant
 - Water management infrastructure including additional remediation and upgrading of the existing Settling Dam (to be renamed the Release Dam)
 - Workshop facility
 - Site office
 - Temporary fuel storage in fully bunded areas
 - Power infrastructure (solar and diesel combination).
 - A small landfill for construction and general waste (approximately 2,400 m²)
 - Topsoil and subsoil stockpiles
- Employment of approximately 35 construction and 40 operation staff. Opportunities will be prioritised for Indigenous people supported by on-the-job training, and employment, with an aim of a minimum 20% FTE Indigenous employment. In addition, local employment opportunities will be made available from the Lakeland, Cooktown, Mareeba and Mossman regions.
- Ongoing exploration programs will be aimed at confirming additional mineral resources.

The total disturbance area for the project will be 50 ha, which includes the 14.1 ha of existing disturbance. The major disturbance areas for the project are:

- Infrastructure (0.84 ha) – incorporating the temporary accommodation village, sewage treatment plant, office, workshop and main roads.
- Pit (4.84 ha) – incorporating the mining operations pit.
- Overburden Stockpiles (4.74 ha) – incorporating the temporary and permanent overburden stockpiles.
- Mine Water Management (8 ha) – incorporating all mine water management systems including dams, drains, etc.

- Processing Area (7.02 ha) – incorporating the ROM area, heap leach pads and Solvent Extraction and Electrowinning Areas.
- Other (25.11 ha) – incorporating all other disturbance which includes minor access tracks, power and pipe lines, topsoil stockpiles, fire breaks and buffer areas.

Full detail of the project is provided in Attachment - Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main, as follows:

- Detailed project description, including project need are provided in Section 2.
- Detailed environmental impacts are provided in:
 - Impacts on EPBC Act protected matters - throughout the document, summarised in Table 1
 - Groundwater - Section 4 and Attachment 3
 - Surface water and mine water management - Section 5 and Attachment 2 and 3
 - Ecology (terrestrial, aquatic, and offsets) - Section 6 and attachments 1, 4, and 5
 - Cultural heritage - Section 7 and Attachment 6
- Project layout is provided in Figure 2

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? *

Legislation requirements for the project are detailed throughout the referral. The key Commonwealth legislation include the EPBC Act and Significant Impact Guidelines.

The key State legislation for an amendment to an Environmental Authority are the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act) and associated *Environmental Protection Regulations 2019* (EP Regulations) and Environmental Protection Policies, in addition to the Guideline: Major and Minor Amendments (ESR/2015/1684) and associated guidelines for assessment of impacts on environmental values. Additional legislation, policies and regulations relevant to the management of environmental values such as ecology and water are detailed in technical reports. In summary, these include:

- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*;
- *Water Act 2000* (Water Act);
- *Fisheries Act 1994*;
- Directory of important wetlands of Australia, Ramsar wetlands and the Map of Queensland wetland environmental values;
- *Vegetation Management Act 1999*;
- *Biosecurity Act 2014*;
- Commonwealth and State environmental offsets policy/framework.

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. *

Consultation has been undertaken to date with the landowners, Traditional Owners, the Cook Shire Council and the DETSI ongoing regularly since Mineral Projects took ownership of the project. A pre-lodgement meeting with DCCEEW has also been completed. The Palmer River Roadhouse was also consulted for the project due it being the closest place of accommodation to the project. Due to the remoteness of the site, there are no towns or additional sensitive receptors within the vicinity of the mine that may be impacted by mining activities, rehabilitation outcomes and/or post mine land uses.

The landowner and Traditional Owner representatives Gummi Junga Aboriginal Corporation (GJAC) have been involved with the final land use considerations and have provided written agreement on post-mining land use (namely to retain valuable infrastructure (access roads and freshwater dam) and to rehabilitate to cattle grazing land to continue support for surrounding agricultural practices). In addition, GJAC personnel have attended ecology site surveys as detailed in the Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report provided as Attachment - Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 6.

Consultation has shown that the community generally supports the recommencement of the mine and the project as a whole.

Consultation is ongoing with all parties as the project is progressing.

Full detail of the project consultation is provided in Attachment - Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main, Section 3.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN 71163302985
Organisation name LANDROC PTY LTD
Organisation address 4559 QLD

Referring party details

Name Chloe Annandale
Job title Senior Environmental Scientist
Phone 0407784554
Email chloe@annandaleconsulting.com.au
Address PO Box 281 Woombye QLD

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 629609267
Organisation name MINERAL PROJECTS PTY LTD
Organisation address 4059 QLD

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Patrick Williams
Job title Director
Phone 0407145415
Email patw@rangerresources.com.au
Address Level 15, 300 Queen St, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

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
Tableland Resources Pty Ltd	Level 15, 300 Queen Street	638171534	Patrick Williams	patw@rangerresources.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. *

The proponent has a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management, with no Commonwealth or State proceedings undertaken.

The proponent has consistently engaged environmental consultants to provide advice and assistance with ongoing environmental management, planning and on ground environmental works.

No previous EPBC referrals have been undertaken by the proponent.

The project will be undertaken in accordance with the proponent's environmental policy, and the proponent has committed to the ongoing use of environmental consultants to ensure best practice environmental management is undertaken.

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

The company has had an environmental policy in place since 2021, provided as attachment.

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	629609267
Organisation name	MINERAL PROJECTS PTY LTD
Organisation address	4059 QLD

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Patrick Williams
Job title	Director
Phone	0407145415
Email	patw@rangerresources.com.au
Address	Level 15, 300 Queen St, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

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	71163302985
Organisation name	LANDROC PTY LTD
Organisation address	4559 QLD
Representative's name	Chloe Annandale
Representative's job title	Senior Environmental Scientist
Phone	0407784554
Email	chloe@annandaleconsulting.com.au
Address	PO Box 281 Woombye QLD

✔ 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	629609267
Organisation name	MINERAL PROJECTS PTY LTD
Organisation address	4059 QLD
Representative's name	Patrick Williams
Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0407145415
Email	patw@rangerresources.com.au
Address	Level 15, 300 Queen St, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

✔ 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)?

Yes

1.4.2 Select reason for exemption

Small Business

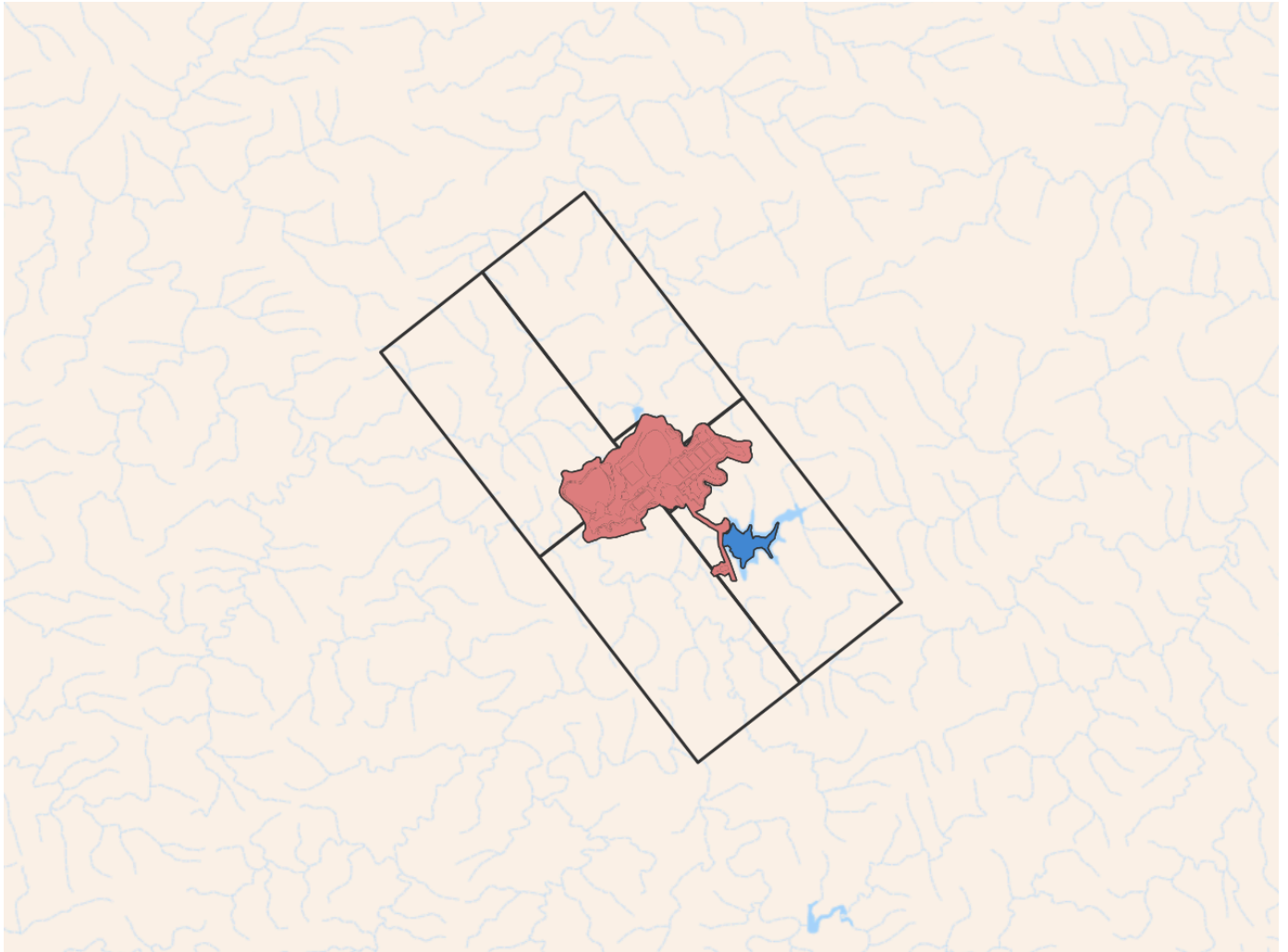
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

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



Project Area: 519.28 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 49.58 Ha **Avoidance Area:** 3.47 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Whites Creek Road (off Mulligan Highway)

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

Queensland

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 is located on Mining Leases ML 2810, ML 2811, ML 2831, ML 2832, ML 2833 and ML 2834.

Underlying tenure for all leases is Lot 66 SP245572, owned by Bonny Glen Holding under a Lands Lease rolling term lease pastoral holding. Bonny Glen Holding is owned by the Gummi Junga Aboriginal Corporation (GJAC), who are also the Traditional Owner representatives of the land. The proponent has an agreement with GJAC for mining activities within the mining leases.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

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

The Dianne Copper Mine is located in Cape York Peninsula, Queensland, approximately 160 kilometres northwest of Cairns and 100 km southwest of Cooktown. The site is remote, with no permanent sensitive receptors or sensitive places in the vicinity of the project site. The closest public road is located approximately 20 km south of the project.

The project is located in an area subject to historical disturbance from small-scale mining operations and grazing activities. Approximately 30% of the proposed disturbance area has previously been cleared for historic mining operations and exploration activities, with much of the remainder historically disturbed for cattle grazing.

The vegetation within the project site is listed as Least Concern Regional Ecosystems and consists of Eucalypt low, open woodlands. No threatened ecological communities or flora species were identified.

There is a long history of exploration activities that have been undertaken within the Dianne Copper Mine mining leases. Current and pre-mining land uses for both the mining leases and broader region have been exploration and mining (copper and gold) and cattle grazing.

Predominantly, all access will be by road from the south through Mt Carbine (either from Cairns/Port Douglas via Highway 44 to Highway 81 or from Mareeba via Highway 81) with a small amount of traffic from the north (local employees from the Palmer River, Lakeland area). Typically traffic will be:

- Heavy Vehicles – single semi-trailer, heavy combination trucks; and
- Light Vehicles – commercial vehicles and cars.

Processed ore will be transported to Townsville via road transport as back-haul. This method will reduce total number of vehicle movements, with an estimated average rate of 4 truck movements per week, for export to international markets aimed to support the transition to renewable energy with copper designated a critical mineral. Discussions on any required road/signage upgrades are ongoing with the Cook Shire Council.

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

Existing and proposed uses for the project area are limited to exploration, mining and cattle grazing.

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

There are no Matters of National Environmental Significance within the mining leases, nor other significant natural features within the project disturbance footprint.

As outlined in Attachments EPBC Main (Section 6), 1 (EPBC Act Listed Species), 4 (terrestrial ecology), 5 (aquatic ecology) and 6 (Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report), a detailed terrestrial and aquatic ecology assessment has been completed for the project, including four field surveys completed between November 2023 and May 2024:

- 6–12 November 2023 dry season fauna and flora survey
- 30 January – 3 February 2024 early wet season fauna survey (migratory birds)
- 24–28 March 2024 wet season fauna survey (migratory birds)
- 29 April – 4 May 2024 wet season flora and fauna survey

The field surveys included:

- Fauna survey sites
- Fauna habitat assessments
- Camera traps
- Ultrasonic bat detectors
- Bird surveys
- Spotlighting and owl playbacks
- Opportunistic surveys

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 project site – associated with an elevated bedrock plateau (~400–450 m AHD [metres Australian Height Datum]) to the west and south of the Great Dividing Range – lies within the surface water catchment system of the Mitchell–Coleman rivers. The site is located in the upper catchment of a Gum Creek tributary, with watercourses within the project site being intermittent to ephemeral.

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.

A detailed ecology assessment has been completed for the project for both terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna, including four field surveys completed between November 2023 and May 2024:

- 6–12 November 2023 dry season fauna and flora survey
- 30 January – 3 February 2024 early wet season fauna survey (migratory birds)
- 24–28 March 2024 wet season fauna survey (migratory birds)
- 29 April – 4 May 2024 wet season flora and fauna survey

The ecology assessments have been completed in line with relevant species specific government guidelines and recovery plans, in addition to the Significant Impact Guidelines.

The project has a maximum disturbance area of 50 ha, which includes 16.1 ha of non-remnant (i.e. cleared), 33.1 ha of mapped remnant, 0.3 ha of regrowth vegetation, and 0.5 ha of open water (i.e. existing dams).

The ecology assessments identified seven threatened fauna species and nine migratory species listed under the EPBC Act with potential to occur in the area due to presence of foraging or other suitable habitat. Site specific assessments were completed for these species that either met or exceeded survey guidelines. Potential impacts to these species was assessed against relevant recovery plans, definitions of critical habitat, and significant impact guidelines.

The habitat within the project site fits the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three endangered fauna species listed under the EPBC Act, including the Australia painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Only one species was recorded during surveys, Mertens' Water Monitor.

The assessment determined that a significant impact to most of the above-listed, threatened and migratory species is unlikely due to:

- The limited area of clearing which will be located in a landscape which has historically been disturbed for the original operation;
- The lack of recent, nearby records; and
- The suite of general and species-specific mitigation measures proposed to manage impacts to ecological values.

However, habitat within the site does meet the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three threatened species – the Australian painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Consequently, the precautionary principle has been applied, and this EPBC Act Referral has been completed to confirm that no additional assessment is required for the project.

In addition, significant effort has been put into the mine water management system for the project. These efforts include upgrade and remediation of the existing water management system and an anticipated reduction in water releases for the project from the existing operation. These efforts are expected to have a positive environmental outcome to the aquatic environment both within the project site and downstream.

Given the nature of the project in the immediate vicinity of an existing disturbed site and in the context of the broader region, the risks to the identified terrestrial ecology values from most of the identified hazards can be appropriately mitigated within the design phase of the project through the adoption of current best-practice measures. Therefore, it is concluded that there is unlikely to be significant impacts to threatened or migratory species, their habitat, or connectivity from the project, due to:

- The amount of habitat/vegetation clearing required for the project is relatively small, suggesting a low risk of population decline in terms of abundance and extent for any identified threatened and migratory species.
- A range of effective avoidance and mitigation measures will be implemented to protect individuals of each listed species observed within the area. Additionally, a program of ongoing monitoring and adaptive management will be implemented to track and respond appropriately if any adverse impacts not expected are identified.

- On-site observations, species records and modelled habitat suggest there are large areas of contiguous suitable habitat surrounding the project area, limiting the potential to fragment and isolate impacted communities.
- Invasive weeds (grader grass) and pest animals (cane toads, feral cattle, etc.) are already present on site. Weed and pest prevention and control measures will be implemented to prevent new weed and pest incursions and to avoid direct risks to key species and altered fire regimes.
- The risk of injury and mortality from mine operations is considered low, but will be monitored and actioned accordingly.

Provided that the species-specific mitigation measures are delivered, the key habitat values for threatened and migratory species will continue to be present within and adjacent to the project site, suggesting the development and operations of the project will not prevent the use of the local area by these species.

Appendices EPBC Main, 1, 4 and 5 detail ecology for the project site, as follows:

- EPBC Main, Section 6 summarises terrestrial and aquatic ecology values of the project site, including details of field surveys undertaken.
- Attachment 1 details EPBC Act listed species, habitat values, and potential impacts from the project.
- Attachment 4 details terrestrial ecology of the project site, both State and Commonwealth listed.
- Attachment 5 details aquatic ecology of the project site, both State and Commonwealth listed.

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

The vegetation within the project site is listed as Least Concern Regional Ecosystems and consists of Eucalypt low, open woodlands. No threatened ecological communities or flora species were identified.

Appendices 1 and 4 detail vegetation across the project site, as follows:

- Attachment 1 details EPBC Act listed species and their habitat values, including vegetation requirements.
- Attachment 4 details terrestrial ecology values of the project site, both State and Commonwealth listed. Flora results are described in Section 6.2 and 6.3, with potential project impacts on flora described in Section 7.1.

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.

There are no Commonwealth heritage places or other recognised heritage places within the project site.

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

Representatives of the Western Yalanji People participated in multiple field surveys throughout 2023 and 2024 to provide an assessment of proposed impacts of the project. The field surveys focused on cultural and ecological values of the proposed area from the perspective of traditional custodians. The ecological values including traditionally used plants such as medicinal plants, food plants, calendar plants and uses of vegetation as habitat for key species, ecosystem services and or significant environmental features. In addition to the culturally important ecosystem services the cultural field surveys included inspection for cultural heritage values, cultural sites and artefacts such as stone tools, scar trees, and occupation sites.

The Western Yalanji People cultural heritage and environmental surveys confirmed there are no cultural sites or cultural artefacts of cultural importance in the proposed disturbance area. It is confirmed there are no significant ecosystem services identified during this survey that would be impacted by the proposed project.

The recommencement of mining operations is generally supported by the Western Yalanji People, who are also the landowners of the Bonny Glen Station, on which the mining leases are located.

In addition, project clearing works will include Western Yalanji people as monitors to help support identification of any cultural artefacts that maybe identified through ground disturbance.

Appendix 6 outlines the Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report and Attachment Main, Section 7 provides an overview of heritage values.

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. *

The existing water environmental values for the project have been described in detail based on multiple field surveys. In summary:

- The watercourses within the project site are intermittent to ephemeral, with most sites have a habitat condition of moderate to good.
- No other State or Commonwealth listed species were recorded during the surveys and are not expected to occur within the project site.
- There are no wetlands of significance within the project site.

Potential project impacts to surface water values include:

- Physical disturbance and associated habitat loss.
- Changes in the groundwater regime.
- Mine affected water releases.
- The project causing the introduction or spread of pests and weeds

Mitigation measures to be put in place for the project to reduce impacts on surface water environmental values include:

- Reducing disturbance footprint and progressive disturbance
- Progressive rehabilitation
- Water releases to occur from a set release point at the Release Dam
- Implementation of a detailed Water Management Plan
- Ongoing REMP monitoring

The project activities that may impact the surface water environment include physical disturbances, release of mine affected water, and seepage of spent ore and waste rock stockpiles impacting water values. The signature heavy metal contaminants associated with the operations and historical results suggest that a release will negatively influence the downstream water quality associated with the receiving environment. However, the mitigation measures and strategies are in place to limit the potential of such a release occurring to within appropriate risk levels.

There is a detailed mine water management system in place to provide for the protection of surface water and aquatic ecology, as outlined in the Water Management Plan. The system provides for:

- The storage and handling of contaminants to minimise releases
- Contingency measures for controlled and unplanned discharges
- Containment of stormwater, with controlled releases to be compliant with water quality objectives outlined in the EA
- Management of PAF material per the Waste Rock Management Plan and detailed rehabilitation cover design
- All new dams will be designed, assessed and managed under the *Guideline: Manual for assessing consequence categories and hydraulic performance of structures*

Appendix Main, 2 and 3 provide detailed assessment of water management, and groundwater and surface water technical assessments, as follows:

- Appendix Main, Section 4 outlines groundwater values of the site, with Section 4.1 detailing hydrogeology values. Section 5.1 details surface water values.
- Appendix 2 (Water Management Plan):
 - Section 3.4 - existing surface water environment
 - Section 3.5 - existing groundwater environment
 - Section 4.2 - mine water management system for the project
 - Section 6 - erosion and sediment controls for the project
 - Section 8 - water monitoring to be in place for the project
- Appendix 3 (Groundwater and Surface Water Report):

- Section 3.3 to 3.5 - existing hydrogeology, geomorphology, and hydrology of the site
- Section 6.2 - surface water values of the site
- Section 6.3 - groundwater values of the site
- Section 6.4 - surface water and groundwater connectivity
- Section 7.1 - mitigation measures in place for the project
- Section 7.2.1 - potential surface water impacts from the project
- Section 7.2.1 and 7.2.3 - potential groundwater impacts from the project
- Section 7.2.4 - potential impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems

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	No	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	No	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.

*

There are no World Heritage areas within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

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.

—

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.

*

There are no National Heritage areas within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

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.

—

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.

*

There are no RAMSAR wetlands within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

In addition, significant work has been put into water management for the project to ensure no impacts downstream of the project.

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
No	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>	Gouldian Finch
Yes	Yes	<i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i>	Northern Quoll, Digul [Gogo-Yimidir], Wijingadda [Dambimangari], Wiminji [Martu]
No	No	<i>Egernia rugosa</i>	Yakka Skink
No	No	<i>Erythroriorchis radiatus</i>	Red Goshawk
No	No	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon
No	No	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	<i>Hipposideros semoni</i>	Semon's Leaf-nosed Bat, Greater Wart-nosed Horseshoe-bat
No	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
No	No	<i>Macroderma gigas</i>	Ghost Bat
No	No	<i>Macropteranthes montana</i>	
No	No	<i>Mesembriomys gouldii rattoides</i>	Black-footed Tree-rat (north Queensland), Shaggy Rabbit-rat
No	No	<i>Phaius australis</i>	Lesser Swamp-orchid
No	No	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish
No	No	<i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i>	Spectacled Flying-fox
No	No	<i>Rhinolophus robertsi</i>	Large-eared Horseshoe Bat, Greater Large-eared Horseshoe Bat
Yes	Yes	<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus nudicluniat</i>	Bare-rumped Sheath-tailed Bat, Bare-rumped Sheath-tail Bat

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank, Greenshank
No	No	Tyto novaehollandiae kimberli	Masked Owl (northern)
No	No	Vappodes phalaenopsis	Cooktown Orchid
Yes	Yes	Varanus mertensi	Mertens' Water Monitor, Mertens's Water Monitor

Ecological communities

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

No

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

*

The ecology assessments identified seven threatened fauna species and nine migratory species listed under the EPBC Act with potential to occur in the area due to presence of foraging or other suitable habitat. Site specific assessments were completed for these species that either met or exceeded survey guidelines. Potential impacts to these species was assessed against relevant recovery plans, definitions of critical habitat, and significant impact guidelines.

The habitat within the project site fits the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three endangered fauna species listed under the EPBC Act, including the Australia painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Only one species was recorded during surveys, Mertens' Water Monitor.

The assessment determined that a significant impact to most of the above-listed, threatened and migratory species is unlikely due to:

- The limited area of clearing which will be located in a landscape which has historically been disturbed for the original operation;
- The lack of recent, nearby records; and
- The suite of general and species-specific mitigation measures proposed to manage impacts to ecological values.

However, habitat within the site does meet the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three threatened species – the Australian painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Consequently, the precautionary principle has been applied, and this EPBC Act Referral has been completed to confirm that no additional assessment is required for the project.

In addition, significant effort has been put into the mine water management system for the project. These efforts include upgrade and remediation of the existing water management system and an anticipated reduction in water releases for the project from the existing operation. These efforts are expected to have a positive environmental outcome to the aquatic environment both within the project site and downstream.

Further detail on the significant impact assessment of EPBC Act listed species is provided in Attachment Main (Section 6.1 and 6.3) and Appendix 1 (Sections 5.1 and 5.2).

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	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	Red-rumped Swallow
No	No	<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo
No	No	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
No	No	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow
No	No	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	Freshwater Sawfish, Largetooth Sawfish, River Sawfish, Leichhardt's Sawfish, Northern Sawfish
No	No	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank, Greenshank

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

No

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

*

The ecology assessments identified seven threatened fauna species and nine migratory species listed under the EPBC Act with potential to occur in the area due to presence of foraging or other suitable habitat. Site specific assessments were completed for these species that either met or exceeded survey guidelines. Potential impacts to these species was assessed against relevant recovery plans, definitions of critical habitat, and significant impact guidelines.

The habitat within the project site fits the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three endangered fauna species listed under the EPBC Act, including the Australia painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Only one species was recorded during surveys, Mertens' Water Monitor.

The assessment determined that a significant impact to most of the above-listed, threatened and migratory species is unlikely due to:

- The limited area of clearing which will be located in a landscape which has historically been disturbed for the original operation;
- The lack of recent, nearby records; and
- The suite of general and species-specific mitigation measures proposed to manage impacts to ecological values.

However, habitat within the site does meet the criteria of 'habitat critical to the survival' of three threatened species – the Australian painted snipe, Northern quoll and Mertens' water monitor. Consequently, the precautionary principle has been applied, and this EPBC Act Referral has been completed to confirm that no additional assessment is required for the project.

In addition, significant effort has been put into the mine water management system for the project. These efforts include upgrade and remediation of the existing water management system and an anticipated reduction in water releases for the project from the existing operation. These efforts are expected to have a positive environmental outcome to the aquatic environment both within the project site and downstream.

Further detail is provided in Attachment Main (Section 6.1 and 6.3) and Appendix 1 (Section 5.3).

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 project is not a nuclear project. There are no Nuclear projects within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

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.

*

There are no Commonwealth Marine Areas within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

In addition, significant work has been put into water management for the project to ensure no impacts downstream of the project.

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 Great Barrier Reef is not within the project site or wider mining leases, and is not anticipated to be impacted by the project.

In addition, significant work has been put into water management for the project to ensure no impacts downstream of the project.

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 project is not a large coal mining project.

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.

—

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.

*

There is no Commonwealth Land within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

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.

—

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.

*

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas within the project site or wider mining leases, and none are anticipated to be impacted by the project.

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:

None

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)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- 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. *

There are no alternatives for the project. The project involves the recommencement of a historic mining operation, and bringing the site to contemporary environmental management and rehabilitation, providing an overall benefit for the site. As such, there are no alternative locations or activities. The project will commence immediately after both Commonwealth and State approvals are received.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	01/04/2025	No	High

1.2.6 Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents that are relevant to the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 6.pdf Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report	01/12/2024	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	RRR Environment Policy.pdf Company environmental policy	22/07/2021	No	High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 1.pdf EPBC Ecology Assessment	01/04/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_A.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 1	31/10/2024		High
#3.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_B.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 2	31/10/2024		High

#4.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_A.pdf Aquatic ecology part 1	31/10/2024		High
#5.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_B.pdf Aquatic ecology part 2	31/10/2024		High
#6.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_C.pdf Aquatic ecology part 3	31/10/2024		High
#7.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 6.pdf Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report	30/11/2024	Yes	High
#8.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 1.pdf EPBC Ecology Assessment	31/03/2025		High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_A.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 1	01/11/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_B.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 2	01/11/2024	No	High
#4.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_A.pdf Aquatic ecology part 1	01/11/2024	No	High
#5.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_B.pdf Aquatic ecology part 2	01/11/2024	No	High
#6.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 5_C.pdf Aquatic ecology part 3	01/11/2024	No	High
#7.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 1.pdf EPBC Ecology Assessment	31/03/2025		High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_A.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 1	31/10/2024		High
#3.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 4_B.pdf Terrestrial ecology report part 2	31/10/2024		High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 6.pdf Traditional Owner Environmental and Cultural Report	30/11/2024	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 2_A.pdf Water management plan part 1	21/11/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 2_B.pdf Water management plan part 2	21/11/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 2_C.pdf Water management plan part 3	21/11/2024	No	High
#4.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 3.pdf Groundwater and surface water report	01/11/2024	No	High
#5.	Document	Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

4.1.4.3 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

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Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 1.pdf EPBC Ecology Assessment	31/03/2025		High
#2.	Document Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

4.1.5.3 (Migratory Species) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC App 1.pdf EPBC Ecology Assessment	31/03/2025		High
#2.	Document Dianne Recommencement Project - EPBC Main.pdf Dianne Recommencement Project EPBC Act Referral Report	31/03/2025		High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

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

ABN/ACN	71163302985
Organisation name	LANDROC PTY LTD
Organisation address	4559 QLD
Representative's name	Chloe Annandale
Representative's job title	Senior Environmental Scientist
Phone	0407784554
Email	chloe@annandaleconsulting.com.au
Address	PO Box 281 Woombye QLD

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, **Chloe Annandale of LANDROC 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	629609267
Organisation name	MINERAL PROJECTS PTY LTD
Organisation address	4059 QLD
Representative's name	Patrick Williams

Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0407145415
Email	patw@rangerresources.com.au
Address	Level 15, 300 Queen St, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

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. *

I, **Patrick Williams of MINERAL PROJECTS 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.

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. *

I, **Patrick Williams of MINERAL PROJECTS 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. *