



Department of Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning

Our ref: RPI15/002/Phosphate International OUT15/3477

Date: 18 May 2015

Ms Kate Hourigan
Principal Consultant
Orange Gum Environment
PO Box 1013
STANTHORPE QLD 4380

Dear Ms Hourigan

RPI15-002-PHOSPHATE INTERNATIONAL – Barr Creek Project

Requirement Notice *(RPI Act, s44)*

I refer to the assessment application, made on 30 April 2015 under section 29 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act), seeking a regional interests development approval (RIDA) for exploration and associated activities in the strategic environmental area.

Applicant	ACN132668314 Pty Ltd
Project	Barr Creek Project

Site Details

Street address	Barr Creek Station, 129 Mount Oxide Road, Gunpowder and Thornton Station, 11364 Gregory Downs- Camooweal Road, Gunpowder
Real property description	Lot 4 Crown Plan UN803944 and Lot 1 Crown Plan UN7
Local government area	Mount Isa City

You are advised that in accordance with the RPI Act, Section 44, further information is required to assess the application against the assessment criteria contained in the RPI Regulation, Schedule 2, Part 5. The requested further information is detailed in Attachments A and B.

It is noted that 19 of the proposed drill sites are located within the designated precinct of the strategic environmental area. While a RIDA may be approved for exploration and associated activities in a designated precinct, open cut mining is an unacceptable use under Schedule 2 Part 5 section 15(2) of the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 (RPI Regulation). Please note that any future assessment application that is for an unacceptable use in a designated precinct of a strategic environmental area could not be approved, as the activity could not meet the require outcome under the prescribed criteria.

If you require any further information, please contact Mitzi Venn, RPI Act Development Assessment Team on 3452 7609 who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



Kylie Williams

Executive Director: Regional and Precinct Planning
Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

ATTACHMENT A

To enable the issuing of a decision notice that succinctly identifies the resource activities, their location and the area of disturbance:

1. confirm that the definitions in Table 1 are an accurate description of the resource activities proposed in the application.
2. complete and confirm Table 2, column 4 detailing the total area of disturbance for each of the resource activities on each lot.

Table 1: Definitions

Activity	Definition
Reverse Circulation (RC) drill site	An area of approximately 750sq.m (30x25m), typically requiring limited disturbance, with mature trees avoided and pads orientated to minimise clearing. Drill holes are 150mm in diameter with a depth ranging from 30-65m.
Diamond drill site	An area of approximately 1500sq.m (30x50m) with minor earthworks for the drill pads. Two 10x5m drill sumps are constructed side by side to contain the drilling waters. Sumps are fenced to prevent stock access.
Access tracks	A cleared track between 5-7m wide to facilitate access to the drill sites or laydown storage.
Laydown storage	A dedicated laydown area of approximately 20x20m for the storage of approximately 500 litres of oil and drilling fluids.
Field campsite	A place where exploration activity personnel intermittently lodge for short terms of not more than 14 consecutive days in a tent or tents, caravan or other similar temporary means of shelter.

Table 2: Proposed activities, location and area of disturbance

Area of regional interest	Location	Resource activity	Total area of disturbance (Ha)
Strategic environmental area	Lot 4 Crown Plan UN803944	• 40 Reverse Circulation (RC) drill sites	3.0ha
		• Access tracks	
		• Campsite	0.04ha
		• Laydown storage	0.04ha
	Lot 1 Crown Plan UN7	• 4 RC drill sites	0.3ha
		• 2 diamond drill sites	0.3ha
		• Access tracks	
		• Campsite	0.04ha
		• Laydown storage	0.04ha

ATTACHMENT B

Information required for assessment against the SEA Criteria

In relation to RPI Act, Schedule 2, Part 5 Required Outcome

1. The map *Regional Ecosystems (Biodiversity Status)* (unnumbered page after page 9 of the application assessment report and associated data files) identifies the proposed location of the drill sites but not the locations of the proposed access tracks, creek crossings, laydown areas and field camps.
 - **Provide** a consolidated map (and data files) showing the locations of the drill sites, expected access tracks and creek crossings, and laydown areas.
2. Photographs are provided in Section 2 of the application assessment report regarding the typical RC drill site layout (existing cleared area) (Plate 1), and diamond drill site layout (site in existing disturbed area) (Plate 2).
 - **Provide** a generic layout plan, to scale and with dimensions, for a RC drill site layout and a diamond drill site layout.
3. In section 2.2 of the *Barr Creek Project (EPM 25239) Proposed Exploration Drilling Assessment Application Report* it is identified that where a creek or river crossing is required, dry crossing sites will be chosen with crossings located to minimise earthworks and constraints.
 - **Further detailed information** regarding any creek crossings is required on the:
 - justification for any creek crossing (i.e. is there a way that a crossing can be avoided and is this the best option?)
 - type/nature of each crossing (e.g. bridge, track and expected dimensions)
 - machinery and materials to be used to form the crossing
 - mitigation measures to be put in place to protect the vegetation and riparian function of the area.
4. Although a description of the surrounding vegetation and a list of regional ecosystems that will be affected by the drilling is provided in section 3.3 and Tables 3.3 and 3.4 of the assessment report, the report does not address the functioning riparian processes of the area.
 - **Provide information** about the riparian processes of the area, including aquatic processes, and in what ways (if at all) they will be affected by the resource activities.