

Our reference: D24/44894



2 April 2024

Department of
**Housing, Local Government,
Planning and Public Works**

Mr Kamalendra Jhala
Director
Anglo America Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 20 0006 195 982
email: kamalendra.jhala@angloamericam.com

Dear Mr Jhala

REQUIREMENT NOTICE

RPI24/001: Anglo American – Planet Downs Project (given under section 44 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*)

I refer to the assessment application which was properly made on 15 March 2024 under section 29 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act). The application is seeking a regional interests development approval (RIDA) for resource activity: mining and other resource activities (not petroleum and gas) for the Planet Downs Project in the Gulf Rivers strategic environmental area (SEA).

Application details

Applicant	Anglo America Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 20 0006 195 982
Project	Planet Downs Project
Description	Exploration activities for minerals
Area of regional interest	Gulf Rivers SEA
Proposed disturbance area	0.32 ha

Site details

Real property description	Lot 3 SP181805, Lot 2948 SP271811, Lot 9 BK30, Lot 1 BK21, Lot 3 SP194668, Lot 2 CP907594, Lot 5 SP111112, Lot 4 GY805051, Lot 1 GY14
Local government area	Burke Shire Council Carpentaria Shire Council Mt Isa City Council

Information Requirement

Pursuant to section 44 of the RPI Act, you are advised that further information is required to assist in the assessment of the application against the assessment criteria contained in the RPI Act and the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 (RPI Regulation).

The further information required is detailed in **Attachment A**.

The period in which the information must be provided is a maximum of three months from the date of this notice.

An extension to this period may be requested if necessary.

Another requirement notice may be given if, for example, the response to this requirement notice does not provide sufficient information to assess and decide the application or in response to matters raised in a submission.

Public notification requirement

Pursuant to section 34(4) of the RPI Act, it has been determined that the application requires notification. The reason for the decision is that the delegate for the chief executive has determined that it is in the public interest for the application to be publicly notified.

In accordance with section 35 of the RPI Act, you are required to:

- publish a notice about the application '*at least once in a newspaper circulating generally in the area of the land*' as prescribed in section 13 of the RPI Regulation
- where not the owner of the land, give the owners of the land notice about the application.

Please provide proof of delivery of notice about the application to landowners to RPIAct@dasilgp.qld.gov.au

Public notification must be undertaken within 10 business days of providing the response to the requirement notice to the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (DHLGPPW).

The notification period is 15 business days after the notice about the application is first published, with the closing date being a day that is after the end of the notification period.

The approved form for public notification is available on DHLGPPW's website at [rpi-regional-interests-dev-approval-template.doc \(live.com\)](#)

Please provide a copy of the notice as it appears in the newspaper circulating generally in the area to RPIAct@dasilgp.qld.gov.au

You are also referred to the RPI Act Statutory Guideline 06/14 Public notification of assessment applications at [RPI Act - Statutory Guideline 06/14 \(windows.net\)](#) for further information.

If you require any further information, or have any queries, please contact Morag Elliott, Manager, Planning Group, DHLGPPW on 3452 7653 or by email at RPIAct@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Joyce', is positioned above the typed name.

Phil Joyce
Director
Development Assessment Division
Planning Group

Encl. Attachment A

ATTACHMENT A

Information required for assessment against SEA criteria – Schedule 2, Part 5 of the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014

1.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 2.1 of RPI24-001 Anglo American – Planet Downs Project RIDA Application Supporting Information Report prepared by Umwelt, dated March 2024 (Supporting Report) describes the Project site and the subject land.</p> <p>Section 2.2 Property Titles states that the subject land comprises nine lots within the SEA.</p> <p>Figure 11 Seismic Survey Area indicates the Seismic Survey Area, the subject land, the SEA and the SEA (designated precinct). It does not include the lots the subject of the application.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>Provide a figure which shows the lots the subject of the application, the SEA, the SEA (designated precinct) as well as the seismic surface area.</p>
2.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 2.6 of the Supporting Report states '<i>Some areas of potential acid sulfate soils are present in the Project site, including a small area that overlaps the Subject Land in the north-east (Figure 5)</i>'.</p> <p>Table 4.1 'Compliance of Proposed Activities to Prescribed Solutions' states that the proposed activities '<i>will not significantly disturb acid sulfate soils</i>' as evidence of compliance.</p> <p>It is unclear how possible disturbance of potential acid sulfate soils (PASS) will be mitigated and managed throughout the site.</p> <p>Table 3.1 'Summary of Proposed Disturbance within the Project Site' indicates that the B and C horizons of the soil profile will be intercepted during exploration activities, which has the potential to disturb areas of PASS.</p> <p>The Supporting Report further indicates that 50% of the project site is located in a mapped flood area. It is unknown if areas of flood susceptibility correspond with areas of PASS.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Provide information on how the occurrence of PASS will be mapped and avoided during field activities(b) Discuss the impacts to waterways and nearby vegetation if oxidation of PASS occurs as a result of exploration activities(c) Identify the mitigation strategies that will be implemented to reduce likelihood of ASS being disturbed(d) Describe the management practices that will be utilised if the ASS are disturbed by exploration activities.

3..	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 3.1.2 of the Supporting Report mentions that ‘<i>excavation of the pits</i>’ is proposed. However, this disturbance type is not included within section 3.0 ‘Proposed Activities’.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>Clarify if ‘<i>excavation of pits</i>’ is a proposed activity and if so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide a definition of this activity, and the extent (in hectares), scale and intensity to which the proposed activity will be conducted throughout the tenure/s (b) describe any impacts to waterways, riparian vegetation and wildlife corridors as a result of this activity (c) identify the mitigation and management strategies to be implemented to reduce impacts.
4.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 3.1.2 of the Supporting Report details the method for backfilling holes following soil sampling but does not include information on how the area will be reseeded following disturbance.</p> <p>Condition B29 of the Environmental Authority (EA) states that the holder of the environmental authority (EA) must spread seeds or plant species that will promote vegetation of a similar species and density to that of the surrounding undisturbed areas.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>Provide rehabilitation strategies that align with the objectives authorised throughout the EA.</p>
5.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 3.4 of the Supporting Report states that all ground disturbance associated with exploration activities will be rehabilitated to a stable landform similar to that of the surrounding undisturbed areas. However, section 3.3.1 states ‘<i>All tracks used for the 2D Seismic Data Acquisition Survey will be left in a state to the satisfaction of the landowner, and this may include undertaking regrading if required</i>’.</p> <p>The descriptions of each of the proposed activities in Table 3.1 include that ‘<i>No news access tracks are required</i>’. They do not include regraded access tracks or regraded creek crossings or associated proposed SEA disturbance areas.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Confirm whether the regrading of existing access tracks is included in the application. (b) If so, provide details on the proposed activity, areas of disturbance, areas to be cleared, future rehabilitation and mitigation and management strategies demonstrated.
6.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p>

	<p>Section 3.3.1 of the Supporting Report states that <i>'The team will utilise existing creek crossings where available and no new crossings will be required to be constructed for the exploration program'</i>. Information on the location and extent (in hectares) of the existing creek crossings has not been provided.</p> <p>Table 4.1 'Compliance of Proposed Activities to Prescribed Solutions' states that creek crossings will be regraded (if required) during periods of no flow. It is not clear from this statement whether the plant community has begun regeneration processes which contribute to the stabilisation of the creek bed throughout riparian areas, wildlife corridors and waterways. If the regrading of creek crossings is proposed, this has not been included in the total proposed disturbance area in Table 3.1. The potential impacts of regrading the creek crossings on the environmental attributes of water quality, riparian processes and wildlife corridors have also not been addressed.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) details of the location of existing creek crossings and creek crossings to be regraded. (b) details of the area (in hectares) of any riparian vegetation that is proposed to be cleared at creek crossings (c) the total proposed disturbance (in hectares) within the SEA (including areas to be regraded) (d) a description of the impacts of vegetation clearing in riparian areas on the environmental attributes of water quality, riparian processes and wildlife corridors (e) a description of the mitigation and management strategies proposed to be utilised to reduce impacts to the identified environmental attributes.
7.	<p><u>Issue:</u></p> <p>Section 3.2.1 of the Supporting Report proposes nine seismic lines ranging from 2km to 15km in length. The seismic lines are proposed to be installed along existing farm tracks. The potential impact of the seismic surveys on wildlife has not been described.</p> <p>Specific information on the level of noise and vibration has not been provided.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Provide an assessment of any potential impacts the seismic survey may have on the surrounding environment, with relation to noise and vibration, on fauna species. (b) Provide the likely / actual Sound Pressure Levels (SPL) at 1m from source expressed as peak-to-peak. (c) Detail the likely Ground Particle Velocity created by the activity at 1m from source.