

Department of
Housing, Local Government,
Planning and Public Works

REGIONAL INTERESTS DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL (RIDA)

RPI24/002: Rio Tinto – Carrier Project Police Creek (EPM27951) & Riversleigh (EPM27935)

(Given under section 53 of the Regional Planning Interests Act 2014)

Date: 2 September 2024

Description of the land

Real property description: Lot 4 GY805051
Local Government Area: Burke Shire Council
Mt Isa City Council

Approved resource activities

The approved resource activities are set out in Table 1 below.

Definitions of the approved resource activities are provided in Table 2 below.

This development approval authorises impacts on the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area (SEA) by the approved resource activities.

Table 1: Approved resource activities

Area of regional interest	Location	Resource activity	Area of disturbance (hectares)
Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area	Lot 4 GY805051	Mapping and sampling	0
		Exploration drilling	1.62
		Exploration camp	0.49
		Access tracks	5.04
		Total disturbance area	7.15 ha

Table 2: Definitions of approved resource activities

Resource	Definition		
activities			
Mapping and sampling	Mapping, including surface and rock chip sampling, with soil/gravel samples collected from the natural land surface and limited to approx. 2-3 kilograms each.		
Exploration drilling	 18 drill pads, with each drill site being 30m x30m in area, up to 600m deep with a SEA disturbance area of 0.09 ha. Drilling to be undertaken using conventional reverse circulation or/and diamond drilling method. 		
Exploration camp	 Temporary exploration camp, consisting of caravans and tents with all equipment for the drilling programme stored in a designated area. All rubbish generated to be removed and disposed of at a licenced facility. 		
Access tracks	Approx. 15 new access tracks, approx.11.2 kms long and 4.5m wide, cleared using the 'blade up' method wherever possible.		

Regional interests conditions

A person who is the holder of, or is acting under, this RIDA must not contravene a condition of this approval.

Condition number	Condition	Timing for condition
1.	Carry out the approved resource activities and disturbance of land in the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area generally in accordance with: (a) the resource activities identified in Table 1: Approved resource activities (b) the resource activities defined in Table 2: Definitions of approved resource activities (c) Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX) Project Map 2024 dated 24/06/2024 prepared by Rio Tinto (Attachment 1).	At all times.
2.	No activities are to be undertaken: (a) during the regional wet season (December to March) (b) in times when there is water present (c) in times of flow.	As indicated.
3.	Implement measures to minimise the diversion of overland flow.	At all times.
4.	Implement measures to prevent the interference with natural flows along watercourses.	At all times.
5.	Maintain a buffer zone of 100 metres between the extent of disturbance from the resource activities and riparian areas, and the banks of a watercourse, lake, spring or wetland. Note: "disturbance' means any impact to the landscape, vegetation, air quality, hydrology, habitat, or water quality that has been directly or indirectly caused by human activity associated with the resource activity.	
6.	Contaminants from the resource activities must not be directly or indirectly released to a watercourse, wetland, drainage feature or to the banks of a watercourse, wetland, drainage feature or to groundwater. Note: Contaminants means water contaminants as defined in Schedule 9 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008.	At all times.
7.	Develop and implement erosion and sediment controls in accordance with 'Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control International Erosion Control Association (Australasia)' which: (a) allows stormwater to pass through or around the site in a controlled manner and at non-erosive flow velocities (b) minimises soil erosion resulting from wind, rain and flowing water	At all times.

Condition number	Condition	Timing for condition
	 (c) minimises the duration that disturbed soils are exposed to the erosive forces of wind, rain and flowing water (d) minimises work-related soil erosion and sediment runoff (e) minimises negative impacts to land adjacent to the resource activities. 	
8.	At the completion of the resource activities, return disturbance areas to a profile similar to pre-disturbance conditions which achieves stable landforms that perform in the same hydrological way as they did prior to disturbance. Note: 'disturbance' means any impact to the landscape, vegetation, air quality, hydrology, habitat, or water quality that has been directly or indirectly caused by human activity associated with the resource activity. 'pre-disturbance' - the condition of the land before any resource activities occurred.	As indicated and prior to each wet season.
9.	Retain records of the pre-disturbance, post-reinstatement and post-restoration condition of disturbance areas and provide these to the chief executive (RPIAct@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au application reference number RP124/002), demonstrating that the impacted land within the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area has been returned to its pre-disturbance condition. Such records must include: (a) photographs of the pre-disturbance site conditions (b) photographs of the post-reinstatement site conditions (c) photographs of the post-restoration site conditions (d) evidence with the records (date and GPS stamped) required by parts (a) to (c) of this condition. Note: 'disturbance' means any impact to the landscape, vegetation, air quality, hydrology, habitat, or water quality that has been directly or indirectly caused by human activity associated with the resource activity. 'pre-disturbance' - the condition of the land before any resource activities occurred. 'post-reinstatement' - following the completion of the resource activity, being the return of the soil to its previous profile, topography and drainage 'post-restoration' - this is the point at which the ground cover has been established and ponding, erosion, subsidence, etc has been dealt with (being a longer process than the reinstatement phase).	Within three months of completing all post-restoration works.

Condition number	Condition	Timing for condition
10.	 (a) All complaints received, and resulting actions taken, about the impact of the approved resource activities on the environmental attributes in the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area must be recorded. The record must include: (i) name, address and contact number of the complainant (ii) time and date of complaint (iii) reasons for the complaint (iv) investigations undertaken (v) conclusions formed (vi) actions taken to resolve the complaint (vii) any abatement measures implemented (viii) person responsible for resolving the complaint. (b) Provide records of any complaints received and recorded in accordance with this condition to the chief executive at RPIAct@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au Note: The record of complaint provided to the chief executive must state the application reference number, being RPI24/002.	(a) At all times. (b) Within 60 business days of receipt of a complaint.
11.	A full copy of the regional interests development approval must be kept on-site and available to any person(s) contracted to undertake the approved resource activities.	At all times.

General Advice

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all relevant approvals and licenses are obtained from the applicable Local, State, and/or Federal Authorities prior to works commencing on site.

Attachment 1 - Approved plan

