WESTON ALUMINIUM

Additional Waste Streams - Storage and Treatment Scoping Report

Prepared for:

Weston Aluminium
129 Mitchell Street
Kurri Kurri

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BASIS OF REPORT

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Weston Aluminium (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Reference	Date	Prepared	Checked	Authorised
630.30143-R01-v0.2	19 July 2021	Renae Gifford	Dan Thompson	
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ACRONYMS

Acronym	Term/Definition
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
BC Act	Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
CCTC	Closed Circuit Television
DG	Dangerous Good
DPIE	Department Planning Industry and Environment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
EPL	Environmental Protection Licence
LEC	Land and Environment Court
LEP	Local Environment Plan
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
MOD	Modification
PHA	Preliminary Hazard Analysis
POEO Act	*Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997*
SEARS	Secretary Environmental Assessment Requirements
SPL	Spent Pot Lining
SSD	State Significant Development
TSC Act	*Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*
WA	Weston Aluminium
WARR Act	*Waste Avoidance Resource Recovery Act* 2001

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

Weston Aluminium Pty Ltd (WA) have been operating their resource recovery facility since 1998, located at 129 Mitchell Road, Kurri Kurri. The facility was originally established to recover aluminium from dross, which is a by-product of the aluminium smelting process. The site also remelts aluminium scrap waste to produce deoxidant products which are used in the steel making industry. More recently, a dedicated thermal waste treatment plant was established on site, which is currently undergoing commissioning.

WA currently operates under three primary consents (as modified) which are summarised below:

- Land and Environment Court (LEC) Consent 10397. This consent was issued in 1996 which allowed for the construction and operation of a dross recycling plant with a limit of up to 40,000 tonnes per annum. The facility commenced operations in 1998;
- Development Consent (DA-86-04-01) issued on the 20 September 2001 by the Minister for Planning. DA-86-04-01 allowed for the construction and operation of additional processing and storage areas and permitting the production of alloyed and molten aluminium (up to 35,000 tonnes per annum of scrap processing and trading); and
- State Significant Development (SSD) 7396 was issued on the 12 December 2018 for the construction and operation of a dedicated thermal waste processing facility (up to 8,000 tonnes per annum of medical, quarantine, solvents, paints and other wastes).

Due to changing market conditions, WA are now seeking to further diversify wastes streams which can be stored and treated on site. In addition, WA is seeking approval to establish new physiochemical treatment technologies within the proposed development. The proposal does not include an increase in waste tonnages (i.e. maintain activity within the combined 48,000 tonnes per annum). To facilitate the storage and treatment of additional waste streams, WA are seeking to repurpose the existing Aldex building. The Aldex building currently has eight storage bays, which historically stored Class 4.3 Dangerous Goods (now wholly-received, stored and processed within the Main Plant Building). Crushing and blending is currently undertaken at the western end of the building for reprocessing and beneficiation of furnace ashes and SPL treatment products. The Briquetting Plant was previously located at the eastern end, and has subsequently been dismantled.

Key aspects of the project include:

- Deletion of the Briquetting Plant from the Project Approval;
- Relocation of the crushing / sizing plant from the Aldex Building for operation at the Front Bay area of the Main Plant Building;
- Discontinuation of the storage and handling of DG Class 4.3 material (dross and spent pot linings) within the Aldex Building. Storage, handling and processing of these inputs is to be managed solely within the Main Plant Building;
- Repurposing of the ALDEX building to undertake new activities. These include:
    - Receipt and storage of various aqueous- and solvent-based liquid wastes (e.g. Class 3 flammables; paints, solvents, dyes, etc) and other wastes currently approved for thermal treatment in WA's existing Thermal Treatment Facility;
    - Receipt, storage and consolidation (i.e. bulking) of other additional waste types for subsequent treatment onsite or alternatively for transfer to an offsite treatment facility; and

- Establishment of new pysio-chemical treatment processes including chemical immobilisation and solidification and neutralisation and oxidation.

To achieve the proposed changes to the site operations WA, propose to lodge an SSD application with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). SLR have prepared this Scoping Report for submission to DPIE inviting Secretaries Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) to inform the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for assessment and determination under Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

1.2 Proponent Details

WA is the proponent for the project with the relevant details provided in **Table 1**.

Table 1 Proponent Details

Requirement	Detail
Proponent	Weston Aluminium Pty Ltd
Postal Address	PO Box 295 Kurri Kurri NSW 2327
ACN	075 245 108
Contact	Chris McClung
Contact details	0409 462 532

1.3 Structure of report

This scoping report has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment's (DPIE's) *Scoping an Environmental Impact Statement – Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Guidance Series June 2017* (DPE 2017). The report contains the following information:

- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Existing Environment
- Chapter 3 – Project Description
- Chapter 4 – Strategic and statutory context
- Chapter 5 – Scoping of key issues
- Chapter 6 – Stakeholder consultation
- Chapter 7 – Application process

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Site Details

The current operations are located a 129 Mitchell Street, Kurri Kurri (Lot 61 DP 1237125). The site is located approximately 130 km north of Sydney and approximately 30 km west of Newcastle (Refer **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**).

2.2 Existing Operations

WA have operated from their premises at Kurri Kurri since 1998. The plant was established to undertake several resource recovery processes. Processes which have been undertaken at the site include:

- Reprocessing of various aluminium smelter by-products generated during primary and secondary aluminium smelting, and recovery of aluminium units;
- Recovery of aluminium units from the re-melting of scrap aluminium for the production of deoxidant products for the steelmaking sector, as well as trading of scrap metals; and
- Processing of SPL to enable its reuse as a raw material substitute in industrial and manufacturing processes.

In addition to aluminium and metal recycling activities, WA expanded its capability to process various waste streams by obtaining a modification to its consents for the trial processing of illicit and pharmaceutical wastes.

Approved modifications and additions to the WA Site, include:

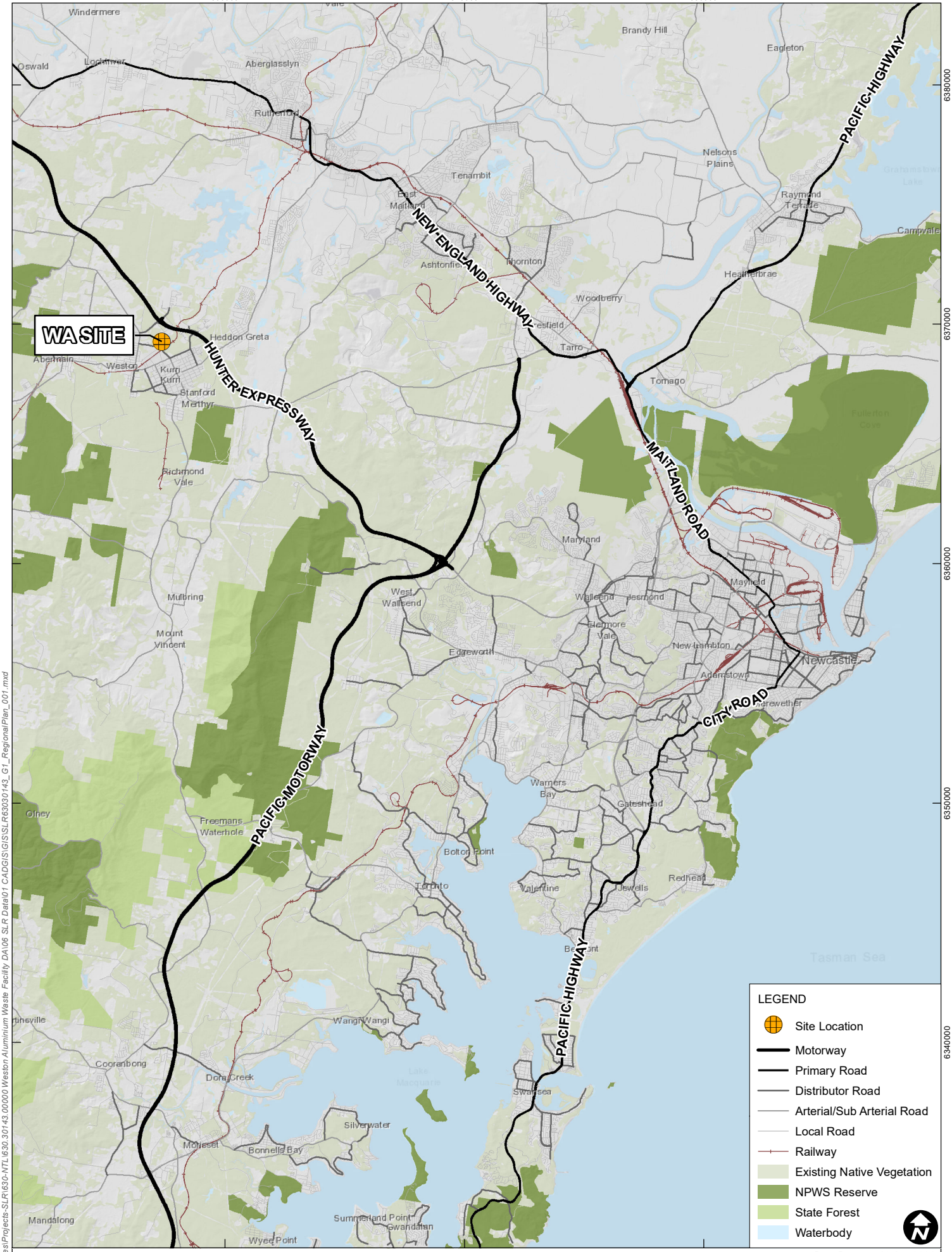
- The receipt and reprocessing of scrap aluminium material;
- The production of solid alloyed aluminium and molten aluminium;
- An increase in the annual production of ALDEX, and the construction of three ALDEX storage buildings.
- Additions to the Dross Recycling Facility;
- Spent Pot Lining Processing trial, mixed SPL trial and subsequent extension of the trials;
- The addition of a briquetting facility; and
- Illicit Drug and Pharmaceutical Waste Processing Trial.

In 2018 WA obtained SSD 7396 to construct and operate a dedicated gas-fired thermal waste processing facility. This SSD provided for the site to receive wastes from offsite and thermally treat a variety waste streams including medical (clinical, cytotoxic, pathological and pharmaceutical), quarantine, solvents, paints, pitch sludge residues, oily residues and documents). The thermal treatment plant has been constructed and is currently undergoing commissioning with operations to commence during 2021.

WA is licensed to process up to 35,000 tonnes per annum of scrap, accept and process up to a combined 40,000 tonnes per annum of waste for processing in conventional rotary furnace operations, plus an additional 8,000 tonnes which may be treated in the thermal processing facility. The facility is licensed to operate 7 days a week 24 hours per day. Truck movements are limited to the hours of 7 am to 10 pm.

2.3 Surrounding Environment

The WA site is located on land zoned IN3 Heavy Industry. Vacant industrial zoned land is located to the east and west of the site. Low lying flat vacant land with remnant vegetation and Swamp Creek is located to the north. Mitchell Avenue is to the south with industrial development on the southern side. An existing rail line is located approximately 100m to the south-east of the site. **Figure 1** illustrates the site's regional context, with **Figure 2** providing a more detailed illustration of the site location.



Scale: 1:200,000 at A4
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

Date Drawn: 19-Apr-2021
Project Number: 630.30143

Data Source: Basedata NSW SS, 2021
Basemap supplied by ESRI and other sources
Existing Native Vegetation: HunterGreater_z4_E_3855

REGIONAL CONTEXT
Weston Aluminium Recycling Facility

FIGURE 1

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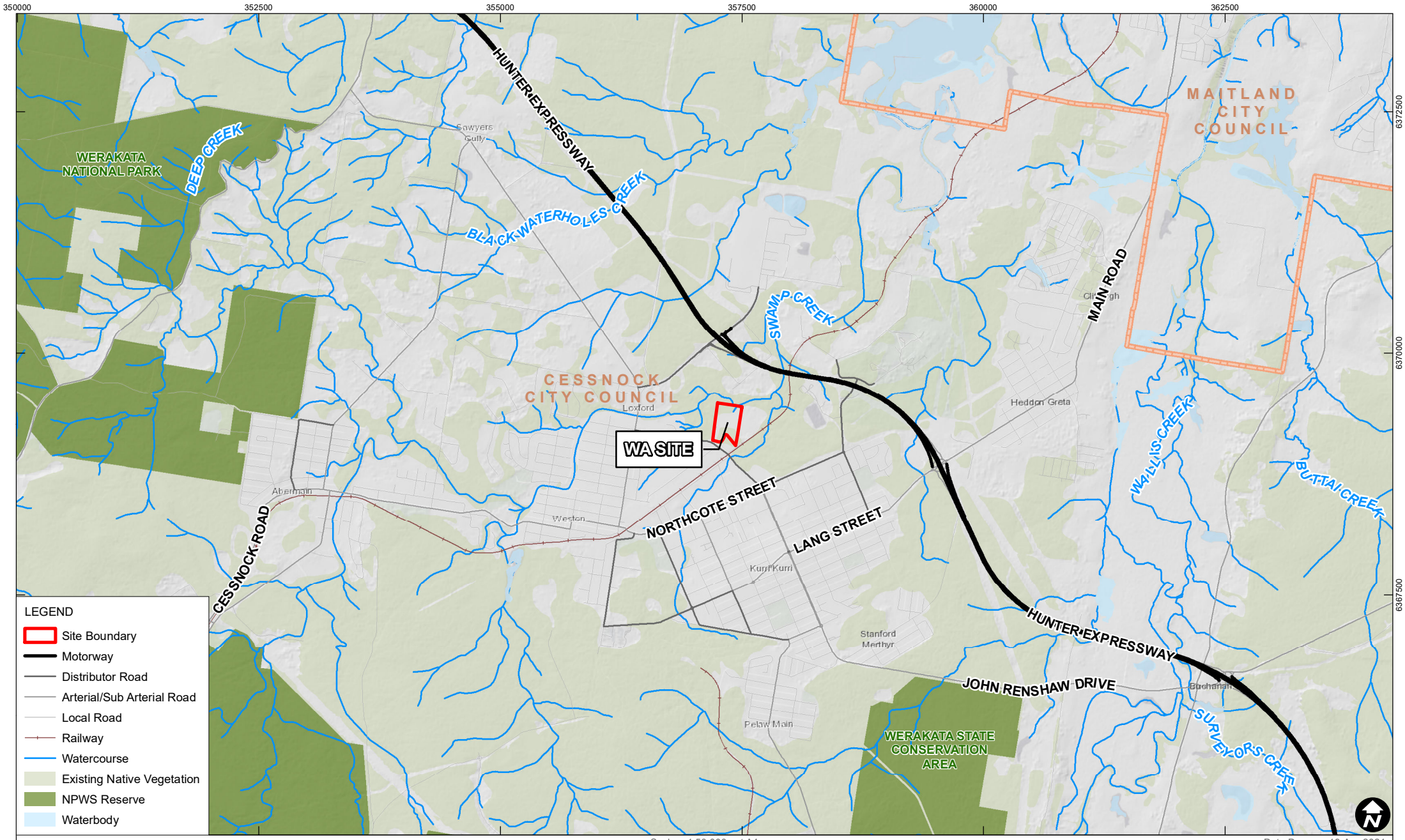

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Date Drawn: 19-Apr-2021
Project Number: 630.30143

Data Source: Basedata NSW SS, 2021
Basemap supplied by ESRI and other sources
Existing Native Vegetation: HunterGreater_z4_E_3855

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SITE LOCATION
Weston Aluminium Recycling Facility

FIGURE 2

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3 Project Description

3.1 Overview

The proposal seeks to permit the receival, consolidation, storage and treatment of additional waste types at WA's facility at Kurri Kurri. The proposal does not involve any significant external construction activities with receival, storage, consolidation and treatment being undertaken utilising existing infrastructure and waste treatment processes already operating with some internal retrofitting required to accommodate the new activities. The current infrastructure on site is provided in **Figure 3.**

As detailed in **Section 2.2**, WA is currently licensed to process up to 35,000 tonnes per annum of scrap, accept and process up to a combined 40,000 tonnes per annum of waste for processing in conventional rotary furnace operations, plus an additional 8,000 tonnes per annum, which may be treated in the thermal processing facility. This proposal does not seek to increase the currently approved waste tonnages. The development proposes a diversification of wastes streams permitted to be received at the facility, as well as some retrofitting of existing building infrastructure.

The option to consolidate the previous consents held by WA, LEC Consent 10397 and DA 86-04-01, will also be considered and assessed as part of the SSD application.

Details of the proposal are provided in the following sections.

3.2 Receival of Wastes

WA are currently licensed to receive various waste types in accordance with SSD 7396 and EPL 6423. However, since the SSD approval, market conditions have shifted dramatically, and the amount and proportion of wastes from the approved waste streams has altered to that previously anticipated. WA are therefore proposing to expand the types of wastes, which can be processed on site to better satisfy market demands. It is estimated that approximately 8,750 tonnes per annum will be received and at the facility, however this will be within the existing approved total waste volumes for the site. The proposed additional waste types, treatment pathway and indicative annual tonnages are presented in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Proposed Wastes for Processing

Waste Type	Waste Code	DG Class	Treatment	Approximate tonnes per annum (tpa)
Acidic solutions or acids in solid form	B100	8	PC, S	250-500
Antimony: antimony compounds	D170	6	PC, S	<20
Arsenic; arsenic compounds	D130	6	PC, S	<20
Barium compounds (excluding barium sulphate)	D290	6	PC, S	<20
Basic solutions or bases in solid form	C100	8	PC, S	250-500
Beryllium; beryllium compounds	D160	6	PC, S	<20
Boron compounds	D310	6	PC, S	<20
Cadmium; cadmium compounds	D150	6	PC, S	<20
Chlorates	D350	5.1	S	<20

Waste Type	Waste Code	DG Class	Treatment	Approximate tonnes per annum (tpa)
Chromium compounds	D140	6	PC, S	100-250
Cobalt compounds	D200	6.1	PC, S	<20
Containers and drums that are contaminated with residues of substances referred to in this list	N100	9	R	100-200
Copper compounds	D190	6.1	PC, S	100-200
Cyanides (inorganic)	A130	6.1	S	<20
Cyanides (organic)	M210	6.1	S	<20
Filter cake contaminated with residues of substances that are referred to in this part	N190	NA	PC, S	250-500
Fire debris and fire wash waters	N140	NA	PC,S	250-500
Fly ash	N150	NA	PC, S	100-200
Highly odorous organic chemicals (including mercaptans and acrylates)	M260	NA	S	<20
Inorganic fluorine compounds excluding calcium fluoride	D110	NA	PC, S	250-500
Inorganic sulfides	D330	NA	PC, S	<20
Isocyanate compounds	M220	6.1	PC, S	20-100
Lead; lead compounds	D220	6.1	PC, S	250-500
Mercury; mercury compounds	D120	6.1	PC, S	<20
Nickel compounds	D210	6.1	PC, S	<20
Organic phosphorous compounds	H110	6.1	S	20-100
Oxidising agents	E100	5.1	PC, S	20-100
Perchlorates	D340	5.1	PC, S	<20
Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contaminated materials, including waste PFAS-containing products and contaminated containers	M270	9	S	100-200
Phenols, phenol compounds including chlorophenols	M150	NA	S	<20
Phosphorous compounds excluding mineral phosphates	D360	6.1	S	20-100
Residues from industrial waste treatment / disposal operations	N205	NA	PC, S	500-1000
Soils contaminated with a substance or waste referred to in this table	N120	NA	PC, S	1000-2000
Surface active agents (surfactants), containing principally organic constituents and which may contain metals	M250	NA	PC, S	500-1000

Waste Type	Waste Code	DG Class	Treatment	Approximate tonnes per annum (tpa)
Thallium; thallium compounds	D180	6.1	PC, S	<20
Vanadium compounds	D270	6.1	PC, S	100-200
Waste containing peroxides other than hydrogen peroxide	E100	NA	PC, S	<20
Waste from manufacture, formulation and use of wood-preserving chemicals	H170	NA	PC, S	100-200
Waste from manufacture, formulation and use of biocides and phytopharmaceuticals	H100	NA	PC, S	100-200
Waste resulting from surface treatment of metals and plastics	A100	NA	PC, S	100-250
Waste substances and articles containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated naphthalene's, polychlorinated biphenyls and/or polybrominated biphenyls	M100	9	S	100-200
Zinc compounds	D230	NA	PC, S	<20

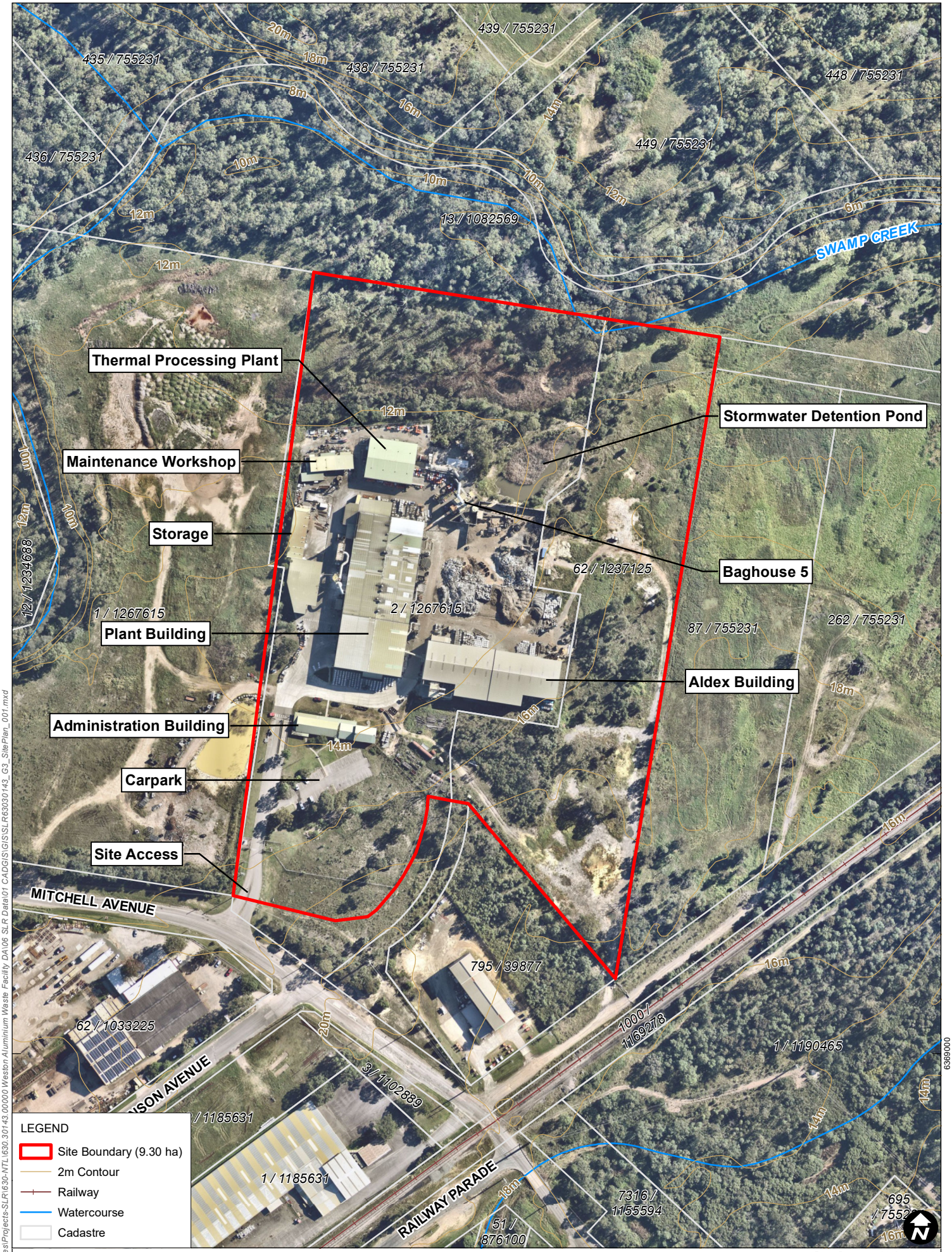
R: Triple rinse, crush and recycle

S= Storage and/or consolidation

PC = Physio-chemical Treatment

All waste delivered to site will be via road entering from Mitchell Avenue, utilising Government Road and Hart Road to access the Hunter Expressway via the Loxford Interchange. As per current operations all waste would be packaged at the source with appropriate packaging and labelling requirements. All wastes transported to the site would follow the EPA waste tracking and Dangerous Goods licencing requirements, as applicable.

Receipt of waste at the site would be in accordance with the current operations. Trucks would enter the site via the existing weighbridge for recording and then be directed to the appropriate location for unloading. Wastes will be visually screened by operators and then paperwork checked prior to unloading and receipt. Any non-conforming waste would be quarantined and re-directed back to the origin source.


Thermal Processing Plant
Maintenance Workshop
Storage
Plant Building
Administration Building
Carpark
Site Access
Stormwater Detention Pond
Baghouse 5
Aldex Building
SWAMP CREEK
MITCHELL AVENUE
RAILWAY PARADE
435 / 755231
436 / 755231
438 / 755231
439 / 755231
448 / 755231
449 / 755231
13 / 1082569
12 / 1234688
1 / 1267615
2 / 1267615
62 / 1237125
87 / 755231
262 / 755231
795 / 39877
62 / 1033225
3 / 1102889
1 / 1185631
1000 / 1169218
1 / 1190465
7316 / 1155594
51 / 876100
695 / 755231
6369000
LEGEND
Site Boundary (9.30 ha)
2m Contour
Railway
Watercourse
Cadastre
0
50
100
m
Scale: 1:3,000 at A4
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56
Date Drawn: 19-Apr-2021
Project Number: 630.30143
Data Source: Basedata NSW SS, 2021
Aerial imagery supplied by Nearmap (March, 2021)
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SITE LAYOUT
Weston Aluminium Recycling Facility
FIGURE 3
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3.3 Aldex Building Refitting

The Aldex building is a large waste storage and processing area, which was constructed after MOD 1 in 2001. (refer **Figure 3**). The Aldex Building has historically been used for the receipt and storage of aluminium dross and spent pot lining wastes, contains a processing plant for the crushing and sizing of furnace process ash residues, as well as a briquetting plant for the further beneficiation of finer ash fractions. Whilst the processing plant remains within the far-western building portion, the briquetting plant, formerly located within the eastern building portion, has recently been dismantled and removed due to market changes. Reduced dross and spent pot lining processing loads, as well as the briquetting plant decommissioning have resulted in the Aldex building be largely vacant with the exception of some storage of several waste materials.

It is proposed that the Aldex building will be retrofitted to receive, store, consolidate and treat waste materials listed above. There are currently some existing concrete internal bays, which are to be utilized for waste segregation in compliance with Australian Dangerous Goods standards with additional risk management controls. It is planned as part of the proposal to construct some additional bays to allow for the appropriate treatment and storage of the additional waste streams. Additional bunding will also be installed as part of the repurposing at the new treatment bays.

3.4 Storage of Wastes

All wastes received will be stored under cover inside the Aldex building in appropriate containers relevant to the type of waste prior to treatment. As per current operations, there would be no freestanding waste stockpiles or waste stores in the open air. All waste storage areas will be appropriately signposted and designed in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.

It is also proposed that the entire Aldex building will be subject to an Emissions Control Unit, which will provide suitable negative pressure in the building to avoid fugitive emissions and manage the occupational hygiene of the workforce operating within the building. All air will be cleaned by the ECU filtration process.

3.5 Waste Treatment and Disposal

3.5.1 Physio-chemical Treatment

It is proposed that a number of new physio-chemical treatment activities be established within the Aldex building to enhance the treatment capability at the WA site. These include established waste treatment processes including 1) Chemical Immobilisation and Solidification, 2) Chemical Neutralisation.

As noted previously, these new treatment activities will be incorporated into the existing Aldex building through the retrofit activities. This would include some minor civil infrastructure modifications and establishment of some additional consolidation (e.g. shredder) and physiochemical treatment processes (e.g. tank farms). It is proposed that in addition to the existing thermal treatment process, the majority of wastes to be received (refer **Table 2**) would be consolidated or treated by way of Physiochemical treatment activities.

Some further details on the consolidation and physiochemical treatment process is provided below.

3.5.2 Consolidation

Consolidation is a term used to describe the removal of a waste type from a smaller receptacle to be placed with other similar waste types in a larger receptacle. For example, waste paint is often received in small commercial packages such as 4 L containers. The process of consolidation involves the decanting either manually or using mechanical aids (eg shredders) into a larger receptable such as an Intermediate Bulking device. It is proposed the consolidation will be undertaken both manually and also using mechanical aids such as pumps, and automated de-packaging technologies including shredders.

3.5.3 Chemical Immobilisation and Solidification

Chemical immobilisation and/or Solidification may be used in combination or separately in the treatment process. This would depend on the nature of the contaminants and their physical properties. Chemical immobilisation would involve the introduction of chemical reagents, which would convert the target contaminants contained in the waste so that they would be chemically stable and suitable for landfill disposal. Stabilisation or solidification would involve the mixing of cement (or other suitable solidification reagents), which would transform the waste into a stabilised form suitable for landfill disposal. Where stipulated under NSW EPA regulations suitable wastes would be processed by Chemical Immobilisation and Solidification under a valid General or Specific Immobilisation Approval. Wastes would be mixed with reagents using either an excavator or front end loader, or using an approved high shear mixing device, as may be stipulated by a General or Specific Immobilisation Approval.

Prior to disposal, the wastes would undergo sampling and analysis in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines Part 1: Classifying waste and/or Waste classification guidelines and/or Part 2: Immobilisation of waste, as required by the *EPAs General Approval of the Immobilisation of Contaminants in Waste 2005*.

3.5.4 Chemical Neutralisation

Chemical Neutralisation is a term where a particular chemical characteristic is neutralised to produce an inert by-product. The most common example is the neutralisation of waste acids and alkalis to produce a salty effluent. Other types of neutralisation target changes in the redox potential. It is proposed that small scale Chemical Neutralisation be undertaken focussed largely on packaged waste. The infrastructure would include a small tank farm including a filtration system for the recovered solids. The resultant liquid waste would either be disposed to trade waste or transferred off site for disposal. The resultant solids would be solidified and sent to landfill or treated by Chemical immobilisation and/or Solidification.

Prior to disposal, the wastes would undergo sampling and analysis in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines Part 1: Classifying waste and/or Waste classification guidelines and/or Part 2: Immobilisation of waste as required by the *EPAs General Approval of the Immobilisation of Contaminants in Waste 2005*.

3.6 Safety and Hazards

WA have a documented Safety Management Manual which was developed with reference to *Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 9 Safety Management.* The management of incidents or emergency situations is to be managed in accordance with WA's Emergency Response Plan. Both documents are regularly reviewed and updated as required. The EIS will address the requirements of appropriate storage of Dangerous Goods in accordance with the relevant Dangerous Goods Code.

3.7 Site Security

The following site security measures and currently in place and would continue to be implemented:

- Security boundary fencing;
- 24-hour manned site;
- Attended security patrols;
- Security lighting;
- Back-to-base security monitoring; and
- An extensive network of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras.

Access to the site is restricted to WA staff and employees. All visitors and contractors access the site by appointment only, and must firstly report to the site office, undergo site induction and are accompanied by WA staff as appropriate.

3.8 Alternatives Considered

Alternatives considered primarily relate to the nature and classification of additional waste streams that would be included within the new SSD application.

The “do nothing” option is not considered feasible given the current market conditions and lack of access to suitable and regional modes of treatment. When the original application for SSD 7396 was scoped, the type, volume and relative proportion of wastes applied for was predicted to differ greatly to what has occurred. The do nothing option would limit the capacity of thermal treatment at the plant and require the continued transport of various wastes interstate for subsequent storage and treatment.

4 Statutory Considerations

4.1 NSW Planning Framework

4.1.1 Approvals Pathway

The EP& Act and the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (EP&A Regulation) form the statutory framework for planning approval and environmental assessment in NSW. Part 4m Division 4.7 of the EP&A Act relates to SSD.

The *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* (the SRD SEPP) declares development under SSD under Clause 8 which states:

(1) Development is declared to be State significant development for the purposes of the Act if:

a. The development on the land concerned, is, by the operation of a planning instrument, not permissible without development consent under Part 4 of the Act; and

b. The development is specified in Schedule 1 o 2.

Schedule 1 of the SRD SEPP specifies the following development category to the project:

23 Waste and resource management facilities

5) Development for the purpose of hazardous waste facilities that transfer, store or dispose of solid or liquid waste classified in the Australian Dangerous Goods Code or medical, cytotoxic or quarantine waste that handles more than 1,000 tonnes per year of waste.

The Project would be subject to an assessment by the Minister for Planning (or delegate) under Division 4.1, Part 4 of the EP&A Act. An EIS will be prepared to support the application for development consent and addresses the SEARs issued for the project under section 78A(8A) of the EP&A Act.

The option to consolidate the previous consents held by the site, LEC Consent 10397 and DA 86-04-01, will also be considered and assessed as part of the SSD application.

4.1.2 Other Planning Policies

State Environmental Planning Policies are all legal documents enacted under Part 3 of the EP&A Act that regulate land use and development. The following State Environmental Planning Policies enacted under Part 3 of the EP&A Act are considered relevant to the Project:

- *State Environment Planning* Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011;
- *State Environmental Planning Policy No 33—Hazardous and Offensive Development*;
- *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 – Koala Habitat Protection*; and
- *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 – Remediation of Land*.

These would be considered further in the EIS.

4.1.3 Cessnock Local Environment Plan 2011

The *Cessnock Local Environmental Plan 2011* (LEP 2011) applies to the Cessnock LGA. Under LEP 2011, the Project Area is on land zoned as IN3 Heavy Industrial. Development for the purpose of a waste management facility is permissible with consent in the IN3 Heavy Industrial zone.

4.2 Other NSW Legislation

4.2.1 Protection of the Environment Operations Acts 1997

The *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) provides the NSW EPA with mechanisms to regulate certain activities (Scheduled Activities), which by their nature have the potential to cause harm to the environment. Schedule 1 of the POEO Act lists these Scheduled Activities. The existing WA operation currently operates in accordance with EPL 6423 for the following Scheduled Activities:

- Metallurgical activities;
- Resource recovery;
- Waste disposal (thermal treatment); and
- Waste storage.

WA would apply for a variation for EPL 6423 (subject to Project Approval) to include the additional waste codes for which they are currently not licensed to process. Further information on wastes proposed to be received and processed on site is further discussed in **Section 3.2**.

4.2.2 Protection of the Environment (Waste) Regulation 2014

The *Protection of the Environment (Waste) Regulation 2014* (POEO Waste Regulation) came into effect on 1 November 2014. The POEO Waste Regulation introduced a number of changes to the regulatory environment for waste management in NSW.

The new regulations reduced the volumes of waste that may be handled at resource recovery facilities and waste storage facilities without an EPL on a daily basis to 1,000 tonnes per day and on an annual basis to 6,000 tonnes per annum (within the regulated area), respectively.

EPL 6423 is currently held by the site. This licence would be varied to include those waste codes as listed in Table 2.

4.2.3 Waste Management and Minimisation Act 2001

The *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001* (WARR Act) is implemented to encourage the efficient use of resources and to reduce environmental harm in accordance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development. The WARR Act also aims to ensure that resource management options are considered against a hierarchy of avoidance of unnecessary resource consumption, resource recovery and disposal to provide for the continual reduction in waste generation. The Act also promotes the preparation of a waste strategy for the State by the Director-General and aims to improve the responsibility for waste reduction in the industry.

4.2.4 Water Management Act 2000

The *Water Management Act 2000* (WM Act) is intended to ensure that water resources are conserved and properly managed for sustainable use benefitting both present and future generations. The WM Act covers water sharing plans; that establish rules and extraction limits for access to water, account management, water determinations and trading. The water sharing plan which applies to the area is the *Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2009*. The project would not require the use of water from nearby Swamp Creek, nor would it intercept or require the use of any groundwater.

4.2.5 Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

The *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) commenced in August 2016 and provides a framework to avoid, minimise and offset impacts on biodiversity. In conjunction with the *Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016*, the BC Act repeals the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*, the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC Act), and parts of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. The BC Act also repealed Section 5A of the EP&A Act which provided for Assessments of Significance. Assessments of Significance are now provided in Section 7.3 of the BC Act.

There is no clearing of native vegetation proposed as part of the project.

4.2.6 Roads Act 1993

The objectives of the *Roads Act 1993* include, but are not limited to, regulating the carrying out of various activities in public roads. The Development does not involve any road works on public roads, therefore the requirements under the *Roads Act 1993* are not applicable.

4.2.7 Contaminated Land Management Act 1997

The *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997* (CLM Act) establishes a system for investigating and remediating land that the EPA considers to be contaminated significantly enough to require regulation.

Section 5 of the CLM Act defines “contamination” of land as:

“the presence in, on or under the land of a substance at a concentration above the concentration at which the substance is normally present in, on or under (respectively) land in the same locality, being a presence that presents a risk of harm to human health or any other aspect of the environment.”

A search of the NSW Contaminated Land Public Record (EPA, 2021) found no records of contaminated sites.

4.2.8 Work Health and Safety Act 2011

The Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the supporting *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* (WHS Regulation) set out further requirements for the storage and handling of dangerous goods, including licensing and notification requirements with SafeWork NSW. As part of the project, WA will update their Dangerous Goods Manifest and emergency plans as required for chemicals exceeding the Schedule 11 placard or manifest quantities, update its onsite dangerous goods register and Safety Data Sheet register, as well as provide updated dangerous goods notifications to SafeWork NSW as required.

4.2.9 Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail) Transport Act 2008

Part 2 of the *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail) Transport Act 2008* sets out the licensing and safety obligations for those transporting dangerous goods by road or rail within NSW. Section 7 of the Act makes it an offence to allow another person to drive a vehicle transporting dangerous goods where that vehicle or person is required by the regulations to be licensed but is in fact unlicensed. The Act also makes it an offence to transport goods, which are too dangerous to transport in the proposed vehicle.

4.3 Commonwealth Legislation

4.3.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) aims to protect matters of national environmental significance (MNES).

A protected matters search was undertaken within a 10km radius of the Project Area on the 12 April 2021. The results of the search are provided in **Appendix A** and summarised below.

Table 3 Consideration of Matters of National Significance

NES Matter	Comment
World heritage properties	There are no World heritage properties listed within 10km of the project area.
National heritage places	There are no National heritage properties listed within 10km of the project area.
Wetlands of national importance	No Ramsar wetlands are located within 10 km of the Project Area. The nearest Ramsar wetlands are in the Hunter River National Park located around 20 km to the southeast of the Project Area.
Great Barrier reef marine park	The project is not located either within or adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef.
Commonwealth marine park	The project is not located either within or adjacent to the Commonwealth marine park.
Listed threatened ecological communities	It is unlikely that the project would result in any impact to federally listed threatened ecological communities.
Listed threatened species	It is unlikely that the project would result in any impact to federally listed threatened species.
Listed migratory species	It is unlikely that the project would result in any impact to federally listed migratory species.
Nuclear Action	The project does not involve a nuclear action.
Water resources impacted on by a coal seam gas or large coal mining development	The project does not involve coal seam gas or a large coal mining development.

5 Scoping and Key Issues

5.1 Issue Identification

Key issues relevant to the proposal and have been identified and categorised with reference to the scoping guideline (DPI, 2017) and the supporting scoping tool which is included in **Appendix B**.

5.2 Air Quality

Emissions to air are a key concern for the Project. The storage and treatment of waste types as listed in Section **Table 2** have the potential to result in both fugitive and process related emissions.

WA are currently licensed to receive various waste types in accordance with SSD 7396 and Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 6423, with the latter setting out concentration limits for air emissions from several emission points across the site.

The potential point source air emissions after implementation of the Project are not anticipated to differ from those previously assessed, specifically:

Table 4 Previously Assessed

Contaminant	Contaminant
• Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)	• Cadmium
• Particulates ≤10µm in diameter (PM_{10})	• Lead (Pb)
• Carbon Monoxide (CO)	• Mercury (Hg)
• Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2)	• Beryllium (Be)
• Sulphur Trioxide (SO_3)	• Chromium (Cr)
• Sulphuric Acid Mist (H_2SO_4)	• Cobalt (Co)
• Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x)	• Manganese (Mn)
• Hydrogen Chloride (HCl)	• Nickel (Ni)
• Hydrogen Fluoride (HF)	• Selenium (Se)
• Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	• Tin (Sn)
• Antimony (Sb)	• Vanadium (V)
• Arsenic (As)	• Copper (Cu)
	• Dioxins and Furans

The inorganic waste will be treated via physio-chemical treatment inside the Aldex building. The air quality impact assessment (AQIA) for the project will assess the air emissions from the building both with and without air emission controls. As these processes have the potential to generate odour, the impact of odour emissions will also be assessed.

The local land use surrounding the WA Facility is characterised as industrial and bushland with the nearest residential areas located approximately 600 m to the south. The main sources of air pollutants in the area surrounding the WA Facility include emissions from other industries within the local industrial area, local anthropogenic activities (such as motor vehicle exhaust and domestic wood heaters) and commercial activities. A Battery Recycling Facility (BRF) was proposed to be constructed on the adjacent block of land east of the WA Facility, approved on 19 December 2017. It is noted that construction has not yet commenced and it is anticipated that this project is unlikely to proceed. Nonetheless, the AQIA will include the BRF in the cumulative impact assessment to ensure a conservative approach.

The background air environment will be characterised by ambient air quality data from the nearest regional air quality monitors operated by EPA, located in Beresfield, approximately 17.4 km east of the WA Facility, and Wallsend, approximately 20.7 km southeast of the WA Facility.

Emission rate inputs for the AQIA will be informed by stack test data for current operations (where available), existing stack emission limits for the plant, proposed throughputs and other relevant Project information.

Based on the above, a quantitative AQIA would be completed for the Project to:

- Identify any changes in the quantities or composition of air emissions from the site as a result of the Project.
- Assess the compliance status of the estimated air pollutant emission rates/concentration with respect to the existing EPL emission limits and relevant regulatory emission limits for waste treatment processes, as well as international best practice guidelines.
- Assess the compliance status of the downwind air pollutant concentrations predicted by a detailed air dispersion modelling study with respect to relevant state and national ambient air quality criteria.
- Confirm that the existing EPL emission limits would continue to be appropriate for the operations or identify proposed changes, if required and appropriate.
- Identify any potential for increased air emissions during upset conditions, the potential off-site air quality impacts of such events, and the control systems and response mechanisms that will be put in place to prevent/minimise such impacts.

The AQIA would also include a description of the air quality and odour impact mitigation and monitoring measures proposed as part of the Project, and appraisal against International Best Practice.

The Project does not involve any construction activities, with all treatment of new waste streams to be undertaken utilising existing infrastructure and waste treatment processes that are already operating; hence a construction-phase air quality impact assessment will not be required.

The AQIA to be prepared for the proposal would be completed with reference to the following regulations/guidelines:

- *NSW EPA Approved Methods for Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW* (NSW EPA, 2017);
- *POEO (Clean Air) Regulation* 2010;
- *Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW* (NSW DEC, 2006);
- *Technical Notes: Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW* (NSW DEC, 2006);
- *Generic Guidance and Optimum Model Settings for the CALPUFF Modelling System for Inclusion into Approved Methods for Modelling (sic) and Assessments of Air Pollutants in NSW*, (TRC 2011); and

- *Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document for Waste Incineration: Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control)*, EU 2010.

5.3 Greenhouse Gases

The key objective of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Assessment will be to estimate direct and indirect GHG emissions from the proposed operations and compare with estimated baseline (current) GHG emissions (both for the existing operations at the WA Resource Recovery Facility, and considering the current disposal methods for the wastes proposed to be treated as part of this Project) in accordance with state regulations and guidelines. The assessment will be performed with reference to:

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines;
- Australia's commitments under the Paris Agreement;
- The *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act* (NGER); and
- NSW Climate Change Policy Framework and Net Zero Plan.

The scope of the GHG Assessment will include:

- Reviewing past NGER reports and GHG emission inventories to confirm relevant activity data and emission factors for current identified emission sources of Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions. This includes direct emissions from combustion, electricity consumption, fuel use in mobile plant and machinery, including waste transport etc;
- Identify the projected changes in relevant activity data and emissions sources associated with the proposed changes in the waste streams and treatment processes and calculate annual GHG emissions after implementation of the Project;
- Estimating any negative offset of emissions (e.g. reduction of landfill emissions) associated with the Project;
- Estimate the cumulative GHG emissions over the lifetime of the facility (e.g. 25 years);
- Identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce GHG emissions; and
- Assess the significance of the project in terms of current State and National GHG emission inventories, as well as current policies and objectives to reduce GHG emissions.

5.4 Hazard and Risk

WA have well established and effective management practices in place to minimise and mitigate any potential hazards and risks associated with site activities.

To determine the applicability of SEPP 33 to WA operations, a Preliminary Hazard Analysis (PHA) was undertaken for SSD 7396. The PHA was undertaken for the following Australian Dangerous Goods Codes:

- Class 3 flammable liquids (e.g. solvents, paints and some pharmaceutical and quarantine wastes);
- Class 6.2 infectious substances (e.g. clinical and cytotoxic wastes);
- Class 6.1 toxic substances (e.g. cytotoxic drugs and some pharmaceutical wastes);
- Class 8 corrosive substances (e.g. some pharmaceutical wastes); and
- Class 9 miscellaneous dangerous substances and articles and environmentally hazardous substances (e.g. some pharmaceutical wastes).

In accordance with Applying SEPP 33, SSD 7396 met the threshold requirements for potentially hazardous due to the storage of Class 6.2 and Class 6.1 substances. The PHA concluded that hazards associated with the project did not change the existing risk profile of the WA site and that the site remained categorized as "potentially hazardous" and not "hazardous".

For the processing of additional wastes as detailed in **Table 2**, the PHA would be updated. The PHA would be prepared in accordance with the *Hazardous and Offensive Development Application Guidelines Applying SEPP 33 Guideline* (DoP 2011).

5.5 Surface Water

There is an existing on-site stormwater system which segregates potentially dirty from clean stormwater runoff. Potentially contaminated stormwater from sealed hardstand operational and trafficable areas drains flows to an existing detention and settling basin via a network of pits and pipework.

The nearest water body to the site is Swamp Creek located approximately 50m to the north of the WA site. Clean stormwater is diverted around the site and is discharged to Swamp Creek via an established grass catch drain.

The proposal does not involve an increase in impermeable areas, therefore there would be no changes to current surface water management on the site.

5.6 Noise

The WA site is in an industrial area with the closest residential receiver located at 122 Mitchell Ave, approximately 450m to the south east. This residence lies within an Industrial Zone. The nearest Residential Zone is located approximately 750m to the south east.

WA operates in accordance with their EPL 6423 which provides the following noise limits:

- L5.1 To restrict noise impacts, truck movements to and from the premise must be limited to between the hours of 7 am and 10 pm; and
- L5.2 Noise from the premises must not exceed the noise limits presented in **Table 5**.

Table 5 Noise Limits By Location

Location	Day	Evening	Night
Residences at the corner of Government and 10th Streets	LAeq(15 minute) 48 dB(A)	LAeq(15 minute) 48dB(A), LAeq(evening) 40dB(A)	LAeq(15 minute) 47dB(A), LAeq(night) 35dB(A), LAeq(1 minute) 57dB(A)
Residences on Northcote Street	LAeq(15 minute) 44 dB(A)	LAeq(15 minute) 44dB(A),	LAeq(15 minute) 44 dB(A), LAeq(night) 40 dB(A), LAeq(1 minute) 57 dB(A)
Residences in the Light Industrial Zone on Mitchell Avenue and Railway Avenue	LAeq(15 minute) 43 dB(A)	LAeq(15 minute) 43dB(A),	LAeq(15 minute) 43 dB(A), LAeq(night) 41 dB(A), LAeq(1 minute) 55 dB(A)

The potential for noise impacts was previously assessed in the EIS for SSD 7396. For operational scenarios, the assessment concluded that the noise emissions would meet EPL conditions and under certain conditions may exceed the Industrial Nosie Policy (INP) limits at 122 Mitchell Ave by 3 dBA. Attended noise monitoring undertaken by WA however have not identified any non-compliances or exceedance of the INP criteria.

5.7 Traffic and Transport

All feedstock materials and products are transported to and from site via road. The main routes, which service the WA site include:

- Hunter Expressway – two lane divided expressway linking the Newcastle area with the upper Hunter. Posted speed of 110 km/hr and a B-double approved route by TfNSW;
- Hart Road - two-way local road with a posted speed limit of 70 km/hr linking the Hunter Expressway with Government Road;
- Government Road - two lane regional road with a posted speed limit of 60 km/hr connecting Hart Road with Mitchell Street; and
- Mitchell Avenue – two lane local road connecting Government Road to the WA site. Speed limit for local roads is 50 km/hr.

There are currently 33 full time staff working at the WA site. On average, 25 heavy vehicles move in and out the WA site every day. This will increase by an estimated three trucks once the thermal treatment plant is fully operational. The operating hours for existing truck movements are from 7am-10pm as per Condition 5.1 of EPL 6423. All light and heavy vehicles access the Project Area from the Hunter Expressway, Hart Road, Government Road and Mitchell Avenue.

On site there is sufficient capacity for light vehicle parking for employees and visitors at the front of the WA site. Heavy vehicles enter the site via a dedicated access driveway and weighbridge located to the west of the administration building. There is no parking of light or heavy vehicles on public roads.

WA is currently licensed to accept up to a limit of 40,000 tonnes (conventional operations) and 8,000 tonnes (thermal processing operations) of waste, and up to 35,000 tonnes of scrap metal annually. The proposal does not involve the receipt of any additional material tonnages or an increase in employee numbers. The impact to traffic and transport is therefore considered negligible.

5.8 Other Issues

5.8.1 Biodiversity

There is minimal vegetation within the WA site, with significant areas of hardstand and buildings present across the operational areas. There is some vegetation present between the carpark and Mitchell Avenue. Previous assessments prepared for the WA site did not identify the presence of any Threatened Ecological Communities (TECS) as listed under the TSC Act and/or the EPBC Act. Furthermore, previous assessments have concluded that the presence of threatened flora and fauna species is very low due the sparse and degraded nature of the habitat on site.

As the proposal does not involve the removal of any vegetation, it is concluded that the potential impacts to biodiversity are minimal.

5.8.2 Visual

The proposed storage and treatment will have negligible impact on visual amenity. The wastes will be transported via licensed trucks and stored in the existing Aldex shed. The nearest sensitive receptor is a private dwelling located approximately 450 m to the south, which does not have a direct line of sight to the WA site.

The proposal will have negligible impacts on visual amenity. WA will continue to maintain existing landscaping, which currently exists on site.

5.8.3 Groundwater

A search of the Australian Groundwater Explorer was undertaken to determine whether there were any registered bores within proximity to the WA site. There are no bores registered near the site and a review of previous assessments concluded the depth and quality of groundwater is unknown.

Nevertheless, the proposal is unlikely to have any impacts on groundwater. Waste will be stored in a bunded, covered and sealed area. There is no construction or disturbance to the surface associated with this proposal.

5.8.4 Non-Indigenous Heritage

The WA site is in a highly developed industrial area. The closest item of Non-Indigenous heritage is the South Maitland Rail Line System which is located approximately 150 m to the south of the WA site. There are numerous local and state heritage listed items located within the township of Weston and Kurri Kurri, however given the distance there would be no impact to these items.

5.8.5 Indigenous Heritage

A search of the AHIMS database was undertaken as part of the scoping exercise. The report identified one item of Aboriginal heritage, which has not previously been reported in assessments previously undertaken for the WA site. Given the highly developed nature of the site, it is considered highly unlikely this recorded site would be within the footprint of the activities. Nevertheless, as part of the due diligence process a request for a detailed search will be undertaken for the EIS.

The results of the AHIM search is provided in **Appendix C**.

6 Stakeholder Engagement

A pre-scoping meeting was held between WA and DPIE on the 12th March 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to present an overview of the project and obtain any feedback on what may be considered key issues for the project. It was advised to engage early in the process with the EPA. WA approached EPA to discuss the project but were advised that this would be more appropriate once the request for SEARs had been made.

WA intend to undertake a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process as part of the EIS process. The consultation process will involve introducing the project, including the rationale and benefits of the proposal. Stakeholders that would be contacted would include representatives of the community, local council and other regulators (e.g. EPA).

7 Application Process

This Scoping Report has been developed to accompany a request for SEARs for the project. The SEARs once issued will inform the content of the EIS. Once the EIS is prepared and accepted by DPIE it will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. Following, a response to submissions report will be prepared to address any issues raised during the exhibition period. The application would then be determined by the Minister for Planning, or under delegation.

APPENDIX A

MNES Search Results

Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected.

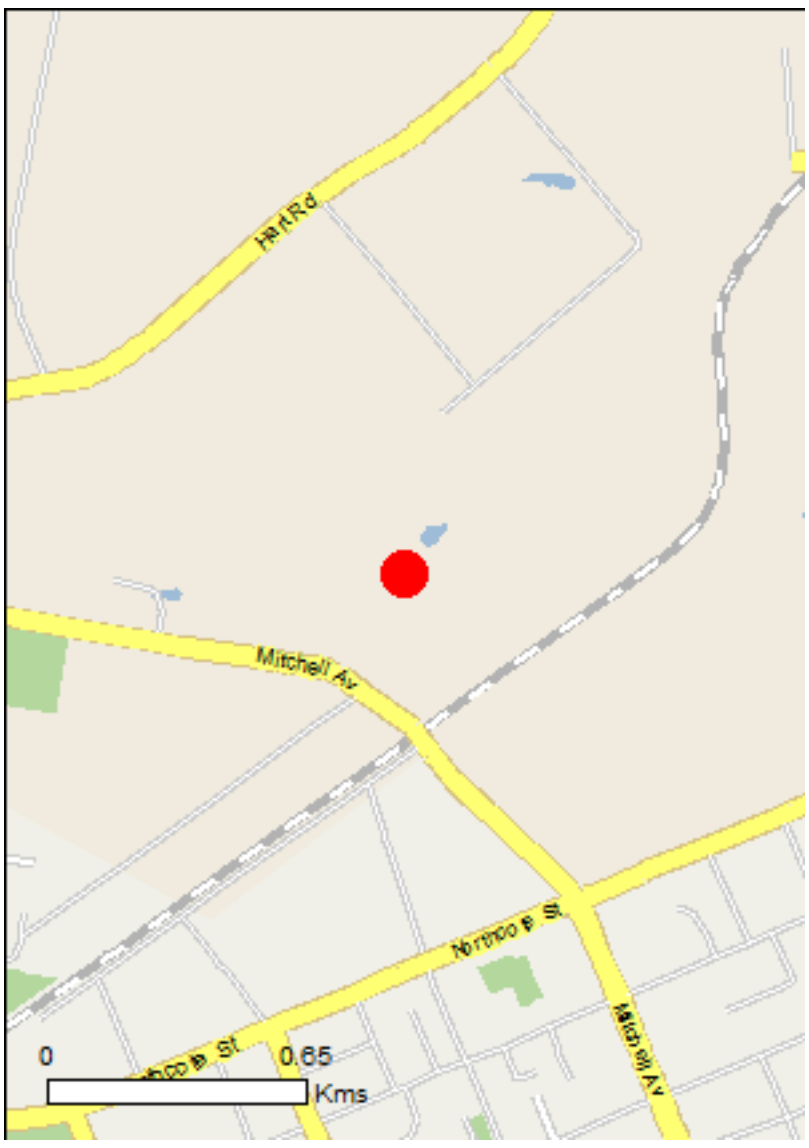
Information on the coverage of this report and qualifications on data supporting this report are contained in the caveat at the end of the report.

Information is available about Environment Assessments and the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details.

Report created: 12/04/21 15:00:02

Summary
Details
- Matters of NES
- Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act
- Extra Information

Caveat
Acknowledgements



This map may contain data which are ©Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia), ©PSMA 2015

Coordinates

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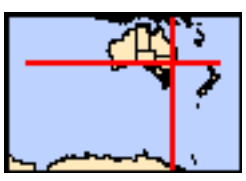

Summary

Matters of National Environmental Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance.

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance:	1
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	None
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	4
Listed Threatened Species:	33
Listed Migratory Species:	15

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Land:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	21
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	None
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have nominated.

State and Territory Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	1
Invasive Species:	39
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
Key Ecological Features (Marine)	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar) [Resource Information]

Name	Proximity
Hunter estuary wetlands	20 - 30km upstream

Listed Threatened Ecological Communities [Resource Information]

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Name	Status	Type of Presence
Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area
Coastal Swamp Oak (Casuarina glauca) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community	Endangered	Community may occur within area
River-flat eucalypt forest on coastal floodplains of southern New South Wales and eastern Victoria	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area

Listed Threatened Species [Resource Information]

Name	Status	Type of Presence
Birds		
Anthochaera phrygia Regent Honeyeater [82338]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Botaurus poiciloptilus Australasian Bittern [1001]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Erythrotriorchis radiatus Red Goshawk [942]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Falco hypoleucos Grey Falcon [929]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Grantiella picta Painted Honeyeater [470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species

Name	Status	Type of Presence
		habitat may occur within area
Rostratula australis Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Frogs		
Heleioporus australiacus Giant Burrowing Frog [1973]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Litoria aurea Green and Golden Bell Frog [1870]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mammals		
Chalinolobus dwyeri Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat [183]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population) Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population) [75184]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Petauroides volans Greater Glider [254]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT) Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) [85104]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Pseudomys novaehollandiae New Holland Mouse, Pookila [96]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Pteropus poliocephalus Grey-headed Flying-fox [186]	Vulnerable	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour known to occur within area
Plants		
Acacia bynoeana Bynoe's Wattle, Tiny Wattle [8575]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Cynanchum elegans White-flowered Wax Plant [12533]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Eucalyptus glaucina Slaty Red Gum [5670]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eucalyptus parramattensis subsp. decadens Earp's Gum, Earp's Dirty Gum [56148]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Euphrasia arguta [4325]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora Small-flower Grevillea [64910]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Persicaria elatior Knotweed, Tall Knotweed [5831]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Persoonia hirsuta Hairy Geebung, Hairy Persoonia [19006]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Name	Status	Type of Presence
Prasophyllum sp. Wybong (C.Phelps ORG 5269) a leek-orchid [81964]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pterostylis gibbosa Illawarra Greenhood, Rufa Greenhood, Pouched Greenhood [4562]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Rhizanthella slateri Eastern Underground Orchid [11768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Rhodamnia rubescens Scrub Turpentine, Brown Malletwood [15763]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Rutidosis heterogama Heath Wrinklewort [13132]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Syzygium paniculatum Magenta Lilly Pilly, Magenta Cherry, Daguba, Scrub Cherry, Creek Lilly Pilly, Brush Cherry [20307]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptiles		
Delma impar Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake-lizard [1649]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area

Listed Migratory Species [Resource Information]

* Species is listed under a different scientific name on the EPBC Act - Threatened Species list.

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
Migratory Marine Birds		
Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Migratory Terrestrial Species		
Cuculus optatus Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo [86651]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Monarcha melanopsis Black-faced Monarch [609]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Monarcha trivirgatus Spectacled Monarch [610]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Migratory Wetlands Species		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pandion haliaetus Osprey [952]		Species or species habitat may occur within area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[Resource Information]
* Species is listed under a different scientific name on the EPBC Act - Threatened Species list.		
Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
Birds		
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Ardea alba Great Egret, White Egret [59541]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Ardea ibis Cattle Egret [59542]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chrysococcyx osculans Black-eared Cuckoo [705]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
Haliaeetus leucogaster White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Merops ornatus Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Monarcha melanopsis Black-faced Monarch [609]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Monarcha trivirgatus Spectacled Monarch [610]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Numenius madagascariensis Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew [847]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Pandion haliaetus Osprey [952]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Rostratula benghalensis (sensu lato) Painted Snipe [889]	Endangered*	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Extra Information

Regional Forest Agreements [Resource Information]

Note that all areas with completed RFAs have been included.

Name	State
North East NSW RFA	New South Wales

Invasive Species

[Resource Information]

Weeds reported here are the 20 species of national significance (WoNS), along with other introduced plants that are considered by the States and Territories to pose a particularly significant threat to biodiversity. The following feral animals are reported: Goat, Red Fox, Cat, Rabbit, Pig, Water Buffalo and Cane Toad. Maps from Landscape Health Project, National Land and Water Resouces Audit, 2001.

Name	Status	Type of Presence
Birds		
Acridotheres tristis Common Myna, Indian Myna [387]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Alauda arvensis Skylark [656]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Anas platyrhynchos Mallard [974]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Carduelis carduelis European Goldfinch [403]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Columba livia Rock Pigeon, Rock Dove, Domestic Pigeon [803]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Passer domesticus House Sparrow [405]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Pycnonotus jocosus Red-whiskered Bulbul [631]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Streptopelia chinensis Spotted Turtle-Dove [780]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Sturnus vulgaris Common Starling [389]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Turdus merula Common Blackbird, Eurasian Blackbird [596]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Frogs		
Rhinella marina Cane Toad [83218]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area
Mammals		
Bos taurus Domestic Cattle [16]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Canis lupus familiaris Domestic Dog [82654]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Felis catus Cat, House Cat, Domestic Cat [19]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Feral deer Feral deer species in Australia [85733]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Lepus capensis Brown Hare [127]		Species or species habitat likely to occur

Name	Status	Type of Presence within area
Mus musculus House Mouse [120]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Oryctolagus cuniculus Rabbit, European Rabbit [128]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Rattus norvegicus Brown Rat, Norway Rat [83]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Rattus rattus Black Rat, Ship Rat [84]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Sus scrofa Pig [6]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Vulpes vulpes Red Fox, Fox [18]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Plants		
Alternanthera philoxeroides Alligator Weed [11620]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Anredera cordifolia Madeira Vine, Jalap, Lamb's-tail, Mignonette Vine, Anredera, Gulf Madeiravine, Heartleaf Madeiravine, Potato Vine [2643]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Asparagus aethiopicus Asparagus Fern, Ground Asparagus, Basket Fern, Sprengi's Fern, Bushy Asparagus, Emerald Asparagus [62425]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Chrysanthemoides monilifera Bitou Bush, Boneseed [18983]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera Boneseed [16905]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Cytisus scoparius Broom, English Broom, Scotch Broom, Common Broom, Scottish Broom, Spanish Broom [5934]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dolichandra unguis-cati Cat's Claw Vine, Yellow Trumpet Vine, Cat's Claw Creeper, Funnel Creeper [85119]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Eichhornia crassipes Water Hyacinth, Water Orchid, Nile Lily [13466]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Genista sp. X Genista monspessulana Broom [67538]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
Lantana camara Lantana, Common Lantana, Kamara Lantana, Large-leaf Lantana, Pink Flowered Lantana, Red Flowered Lantana, Red-Flowered Sage, White Sage, Wild Sage [10892]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Opuntia spp. Prickly Pears [82753]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Pinus radiata Radiata Pine Monterey Pine, Insignis Pine, Wilding		Species or species

Name	Status	Type of Presence
Pine [20780]		habitat may occur within area
Rubus fruticosus aggregate Blackberry, European Blackberry [68406]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Sagittaria platyphylla Delta Arrowhead, Arrowhead, Slender Arrowhead [68483]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Salix spp. except S.babylonica, S.x calodendron & S.x reichardtii Willows except Weeping Willow, Pussy Willow and Sterile Pussy Willow [68497]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Salvinia molesta Salvinia, Giant Salvinia, Aquarium Watermoss, Kariba Weed [13665]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Senecio madagascariensis Fireweed, Madagascar Ragwort, Madagascar Groundsel [2624]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

Caveat

The information presented in this report has been provided by a range of data sources as acknowledged at the end of the report.

This report is designed to assist in identifying the locations of places which may be relevant in determining obligations under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. It holds mapped locations of World and National Heritage properties, Wetlands of International and National Importance, Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves, listed threatened, migratory and marine species and listed threatened ecological communities. Mapping of Commonwealth land is not complete at this stage. Maps have been collated from a range of sources at various resolutions.

Not all species listed under the EPBC Act have been mapped (see below) and therefore a report is a general guide only. Where available data supports mapping, the type of presence that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. People using this information in making a referral may need to consider the qualifications below and may need to seek and consider other information sources.

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been derived through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, maps are derived using either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc) together with point locations and described habitat; or environmental modelling (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using point locations and environmental data layers.

Where very little information is available for species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc). In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More reliable distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions as time permits.

Only selected species covered by the following provisions of the EPBC Act have been mapped:

- migratory and
- marine

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in reports produced from this database:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered as vagrants
- some species and ecological communities that have only recently been listed
- some terrestrial species that overfly the Commonwealth marine area
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in small numbers

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- non-threatened seabirds which have only been mapped for recorded breeding sites
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

Such breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Coordinates

-32.80515 151.47611

Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

-Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales
-Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria
-Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania
-Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia
-Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory
-Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland
-Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
-Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT
-Birdlife Australia
-Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme
-Australian National Wildlife Collection
-Natural history museums of Australia
-Museum Victoria
-Australian Museum
-South Australian Museum
-Queensland Museum
-Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums
-Queensland Herbarium
-National Herbarium of NSW
-Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria
-Tasmanian Herbarium
-State Herbarium of South Australia
-Northern Territory Herbarium
-Western Australian Herbarium
-Australian National Herbarium, Canberra
-University of New England
-Ocean Biogeographic Information System
-Australian Government, Department of Defence
Forestry Corporation, NSW
-Geoscience Australia
-CSIRO
-Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns
-eBird Australia
-Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre
-Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
-Australian Government National Environmental Science Program
-Australian Institute of Marine Science
-Reef Life Survey Australia
-American Museum of Natural History
-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania
-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
-Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the Contact Us page.

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APPENDIX B

DPIE Scoping Tool

Scoping Worksheet for Proposal:			*Weston Aluminium*		Stage of Proposal:						*Operation*		Date:			
What matters might be impacted?			What activities might cause an impact?		What are the characteristics of the impact?						How will the impact be managed?	What are the community & other stakeholders views?	What type of assessment and engagement is required in the EIS stage?			
Environmental and social matters these are natural or human assets or values aggregated at the level most appropriate for informing management and assessment requirements *for more information about the matters click the link above*			Without any mitigation, will the proposal impact on the matter?	If there is a "likely" impact: 1. list the activities likely to cause the impact; and 2. if applicable, list the receptor being impacted and its status. *E.g. clearing 100ha EEC, or construction noise nearby school* If "unlikely", why? has the impact been actively avoided through project design or site location?	Is the impact, without mitigation, likely to cause a material effect with regard to its …				Does the impact need assessment in the EIS? *(auto fills)*	Is the impact, without mitigation, likely to have a material cumulative effect with other impacts from emerging projects?	What safeguards and management measures are likely to be required to address the impact?	Are there community & other stakeholder concerns regarding the impact or activity? *(requires consultation)*	Likely level of assessment and/or engagement required *(auto fills)*	Relevant Section in Scoping Report		
					Extent	Duration	Severity	Sensitivity								
What does the proposal mean for people?	AMENITY	acoustic	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		visual	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		odour	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		microclimate	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	ACCESS	access to property	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		access to services	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		road and rail network	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		offsite parking	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	BUILT ENVIRONMENT	public domain	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		public infrastructure	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other built assets	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	HERITAGE	natural	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		cultural	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		Aboriginal cultural	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		built	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	SOCIAL	health	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		safety	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		community services and facilities	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		housing availability	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		social cohesion	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	ECONOMIC	natural resource use	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		livelihood	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		opportunity cost	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
What does the proposal mean for the natural environment?	AIR	particulate matter	Likely		Y	Y	Y	Y	Yes							
		gases	Likely		Y	Y	Y	Y	Yes							
		atmospheric emissions	Likely		Y	Y	Y	Y	Yes							
		other - please specify														
	BIODIVERSITY	native vegetation	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		native fauna	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	LAND	stability / structure	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		soil chemistry	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		capability	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		topography	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
	WATER	water quality	Likely		N	N	Y	Y	Yes							
		water availability	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		hydrological flows	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														
What risks does the proposal face?	RISKS	coastal hazards	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		flood waters	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		bushfire	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		undermining	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		steep slopes	Unlikely										Scoping Report			
		other - please specify														

APPENDIX C

AHIMs Search Result

AHIMS Web Services (AWS)
Search Result

Purchase Order/Reference : weston 3

Client Service ID : 572339

Renae Gifford

21 Fenton Ave
Bar Beach New South Wales 2300
Attention: Renae Gifford

Email: rgifford@slrconsulting.com

Date: 02 March 2021

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lat, Long From : -32.8078, 151.4723 - Lat, Long To : -32.8026, 151.4806 with a Buffer of 0 meters, conducted by Renae Gifford on 02 March 2021.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.

A search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

1	**Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.**
0	**Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. ***

If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the NSW Government Gazette (http://www.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Office of Environment and Heritage's Aboriginal Heritage Information Unit upon request

Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Office of Environment and Heritage and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date .Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.

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