



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**Notification of Variation of Proposal to Take Action under section 156B of the
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)****Mulga Downs Iron Ore Mine, Western Australia (EPBC 2022/09255)**

The delegate of the Minister has accepted the variation to the proposal in accordance with section 156B of the EPBC Act

Proposed action

original proposed action	To construct and operate a new iron ore mine (above and below water table) and associated works, including vegetation clearing, 210 km south of Port Hedland and 180 km north-west of Newman in the Pilbara Region, Western Australia [See EPBC Act referral 2022/09255].
varied proposed action	To construct and operate a new iron ore mine (above and below water table) and associated works, including vegetation clearing, 210 km south of Port Hedland and 180 km north-west of Newman in the Pilbara Region, Western Australia (See EPBC Act referral 2022/09255 and request for variation of proposed action dated 14 March 2023).
person proposing to take the action	Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd ABN: 69 008 676 417
variation	<p>To reduce the size of development envelope from 39,207 ha to 39,101.20 ha and reduce the clearing footprint from 11,521 ha to 9,705.47 ha.</p> <p>Refine supporting infrastructure elements to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar farm;• Northern access road;• Northern most portion of the proposed storage facility; and• Change of the pipeline route from the Mulga Mine to the Bore field West. <p>Refine supporting infrastructure elements to exclude:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bat cave exclusion area; and• Murray's West pit. <p>To increase the maximum groundwater abstraction volumes for supply and mine dewatering from 25 gegalitres per annum to 36.5 gegalitres per annum.</p>

To remove discharge of surplus dewater via surface discharge.
Surplus water will be managed through managed aquifer recharge.

To involve third party iron ore mines (within the overall maximum
20 million tonnes per annum throughput)

To reduce waste rock volume mined from the Proposed Action
from 1,755.5 million tonnes to 800 million tonnes.

Person authorised to make decision

name and position	Brendan Linton-Smith Acting Branch Head Environment Assessments West (WA, SA, NT) Branch
--------------------------	--

signature



date of decision	13 April 2023
-------------------------	---------------
