Department of Water and Environmental Regulation





Application for Works Approval Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Works Approval

Number

W5214/2012/1

Works Approval

Holder

Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd

ACN 607 635 192

File Number 2012/003780

Premises White Well Gold Project

Mining Tenement M20/54

CUE WA 6640

As defined by the coordinates in Schedule 1 of the Revised

Works Approval

Date of Report 29 August 2024 (FINAL)

Decision Revised works approval granted

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1. Decision summary

The Delegated Officer has determined to make amendments to Works Approval W5214/2012/1. The amendment is administrative in nature therefore they do not alter the risk profile of the Premises, providing that activities, emissions and receptors as stated in existing approvals remain unchanged.

This Amendment Report documents the amendments made pursuant to section 59 and 59(B) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The decision report for the Existing works approval will remain on the department's website for future reference and will act as a record of the department's decision making.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In amending the works approval, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents.

2.2 Application summary

Works Approval W5214/2012/1 is held by Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd (Works Approval Holder) for the White Well Gold Project (the Premises), located at Mining Tenement M20/54 CUE WA 6640. The Premises relates to the categories and the assessed design capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations* 1987 (EP Regulations) which are defined in existing Works Approval W5214/2012/1.

On 28 May 2024, the Works Approval Holder applied to the department to amend Works Approval W5214/2012/1 under section 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The amendment is limited only to extending works approval expiry date.

The Works Approval Holder initially applied to extend the Works Approval until 31 August 2027 and stated that none of the infrastructure authorised under the Works Approval has been constructed to date (DWER 2024a). Nominally works approvals are only granted for a 3–5-year duration. Since the granting of works approval W5214/2012/1, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) regulatory framework has evolved, especially with regards to the risk-based framework that is used in the application assessment process and with regards to the way conditions are set in legal instruments.

Noting the instrument has been active for approximately 12 years, DWER is only supportive of extending the works approval duration for an additional 12 months (1yr).

Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd has been advised to re-apply for a new works approval should they wish to hold the approval beyond this period so that the proposal can be subject to a contemporary risk assessment process and works approval.

3. Consultation

The Works Approval Holder was provided with the draft Amendment Report on 27 August 2024. The Works Approval Holder responded on 27 August 2024 with no comments and waived the remainder of the comment period.

4. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Amendment Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that an amended works approval will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the

determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

4.1 Summary of amendments

Table 1 below provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised works approval as part of the amendment process.

Table 1: Summary of works approval amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Duration	Extended from 31/08/2024 to 31/08/2025

References

- 1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions, Perth, Western Australia.
- 2. DWER 2024a, Notification: application for an amendment to works approval (W5214/2012/1) Answer to request for information (REF: A2292430).