



Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore: EPBC Compliance Report 2020 - Stage 1 and 2




EPBC 2012/6611

132-LAH-EN-REP-0061

Revision 0



Authorisation

Rev	Reason for Issue	Prepared	Checked	Authorised	Date
0	Required	K. Stanbury	T. Sprenkels	M. Goggin	30/06/2020
					

Signatures are required for Revision 0 and above

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1. Background

Atlas Iron Pty Ltd (Atlas Iron) operates the Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore (DSO) Project (the Project) in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. The Project is located approximately 150 kilometres (km) southeast of Port Hedland.

Due to economic and opportunistic circumstances, the Project has been developed in stages with each assessed and approved individually. Stage 1 comprised the initial development of the mine (Ibanez and Fender pits), crushing infrastructure, contractor area, and permanent camp. Stage 2 comprised the development of the Dalton pit and associated mining infrastructure.

In accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), Atlas submitted a referral to the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC), now the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) on 2 November 2012 to allow a determination of whether Stage 1 of the Project is a controlled action. On 3 December 2012, the DAWE advised the proposed action is 'controlled' and required to be assessed by preliminary documentation. Following the submission of additional documentation and public notification of the action, approval for Stage 1 was granted via EPBC 2012/6611 on 18 May 2013.

At the time of reporting, Stages 1 and 2 had progressed substantially with the completion of mining in the Ibanez and continuation of mining in the Daltons and Fender pits.

2. Objective

This report is intended to address Condition 9 of EPBC 2012/6611 whereby:

Within 3 months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement of the action, the approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of the management plan as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.

3. Scope

This report details the commitments outlined within the EPBC approval document and associated compliance with these commitments for the 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 period.

4. Compliance

EPBC 2012/6611		
Condition Number	Description	Compliance Status
1	Within 10 days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Compliant: Atlas commenced the action on 11 July 2013. The Department were notified on 12 July 2013 (Appendix 1).
2	For the purpose of the action, the approval holder must not clear outside of the approved application area as shown in Appendix 1 of this approval. Within the application area the approval holder must not clear more than 756 hectares of native vegetation.	Compliant: No clearing has occurred outside of the approved application area. To date, 280.3011 hectares has been cleared.
3	The approval holder must not undertake drilling, blasting or excavation within 100 metres of the lateral extent of cave MW-AN-27.	Compliant: No drilling, blasting, or excavation has occurred within 100 metres of the lateral extent of cave MW-AN-27.
4	The approval holder must implement the Significant Species Management Plan.	Compliant: The Mt Webber Significant Species Management Plan (May 2013) is currently being implemented (Appendix 2).
5	<p>The approval holder must submit to the Minister for approval an Artificial Roost Research Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat. The plan must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provision for the construction of four artificial roosts; b) A summary of the research utilised to identify the required conditions and micro climate for suitable roosts for the species. This must include quantification of atmospheric conditions in cave MW-AN-27 and confirmation of its size and extent and whether it's a diurnal roost; c) The design details for the trial artificial roosts and how they will successfully recreate suitable micro climate for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat; d) Discussion of alternative designs including a comparison of cost, longevity and justification for the preferred choice of design; e) A program to monitor the utilisation of the artificial roosts, including number 	<p>Atlas submitted the Artificial Roost Research Plan (ARRP) for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat to the Department on 11 October 2013.</p> <p>The Department provided comments on the plan to Atlas on 3 January 2014.</p> <p>Atlas submitted a response to the Department on 30 April 2014, with comments received from the Department to Atlas on 6 August 2014.</p> <p>After this time, the plan was in various stages of revision and review by MWH Pty Ltd (now Stantec Australia), with a final version provided to the Department on 3 August 2015.</p> <p>The final plan was approved on 3 February 2016 (Appendix 3) and is being implemented accordingly.</p> <p>Atlas submitted quarterly ARRP progress report No. 1 to the Department on 19 March 2018 noting finalisation of artificial roost design, procurement of required materials to construct two roosts, and mobilisation of materials to site.</p> <p>Subsequent quarterly reports have been submitted to the Department, with the final ARRP progress report No. 6 being submitted</p>



EPBC 2012/6611		
Condition Number	Description	Compliance Status
	<p>of bats using the roost, timing of use (daily and seasonal), and how roost is used; and</p> <p>f) A requirement for an evaluation report to be prepared and made publically available on outcomes of the trial.</p> <p>The Artificial Roost Research Plan must be submitted to the Minister within 3 months of commencement of the action. The approved plan must be implemented.</p>	<p>on 28 June 2019 noting the completed construction of two additional artificial roosts within the Ibanez stage four backfill.</p> <p>The Draft Artificial Roost Monitoring Report was submitted to the Department on 31 December 2019.</p>
6	<p>The approval holder must submit to the Minister a Regional Survey Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat to enable a better understanding of the habitat use and requirements for the species. The plan must include the aim, methodology and rationale for the survey, with a particular focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Location of roost sites and usage (transitory, day, colony and/or breeding roost) within 20km radius of the proposed action; b) The environmental attributes that influence roost selection and fidelity; c) The extent of movement between roosts; d) Foraging range for the species; e) Environmental attributes of foraging habitats; and f) Foraging energetics. <p>The Regional Survey Plan must be submitted to the Minister within 3 months of the commencement of the action. The approved plan must be implemented.</p>	<p>Compliant: Atlas submitted the Regional Survey Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat to the Department on 11 October 2013.</p> <p>The Department provided comments on the plan to Atlas on 3 January 2014.</p> <p>Atlas submitted a response to the Department on 30 April 2014, with comments received from the Department to Atlas on 6 August 2014.</p> <p>After this time, the plan was in various stages of revision and review by MWH Pty Ltd (now Stantec Australia), with a final version provided to the Department on 3 August 2015.</p> <p>The final plan was approved on 3 February 2016 (Appendix 3) and is being implemented accordingly.</p> <p>MWH Pty Ltd (now Stantec Australia) completed the regional Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat survey in July 2016.</p>
7	<p>The approval holder must make a direct financial contribution of \$70,000 (AUD) into an established fund administered by the WA DEC to implement actions for the management of those weeds identified as posing a risk to EPBC Act listed threatened species of the Chichester subregion of the Pilbara. Documentary evidence must be provided within 3 months of commencement showing that payment of \$70,000 (AUD) to the established fund occurred.</p>	<p>Compliant: Atlas paid \$70,000 (AUD) to the DEC (now Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions) on 20 September 2013 for the management of weeds.</p> <p>The Department was notified of the payment and provided with a receipt on 11 October 2013 (Appendix 4).</p>



EPBC 2012/6611		
Condition Number	Description	Compliance Status
8	<p>The approval holder must maintain accurate records to substantiate all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the plans, and make them available upon request to the Department.</p> <p>Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with Section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be published through the general media.</p>	Compliant: Records of activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval are currently being maintained.
9	<p>Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement of the action, the approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of the plans specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any conditions of this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.</p>	Noted: This compliance report shall be published and made available on Atlas' website (Appendix 5).
10	<p>If the approval holder wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the plans specified then the person undertaking the action must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that plan. The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied plan in writing. The Minister will not approve the varied plan unless the revised plan would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised plan, that plan must be implemented in place of the plan originally approved.</p>	Compliant: All activities being carried out are in accordance with the approved management plan.
11	<p>If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species and ecological communities to do so, the Minister may request that the approval holder make specified revisions to the plans specified in the conditions and submit the revised plan within a specified timeframe for the Minister's written approval. The approval holder must comply</p>	Compliant: No specified revisions of the approved plans have been requested to date.



EPBC 2012/6611		
Condition Number	Description	Compliance Status
	with any such request. The revised approved plan must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised plan, then the approval holder must continue to implement the plan originally approved, as specified in the conditions.	
12	If at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not substantially commenced the action, then the approval holder must not substantially commence the action without written agreement.	Compliant: The action has been substantially commenced.
13	Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must publish the plans referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each plan must be published on the website within 1 month of being approved.	Compliant: The Mt Webber Significant Species Management Plan (May 2013), Artificial Roost Research Plan (July 2015), and Regional Survey Plan (July 2015) have been published on the Atlas Iron website (Appendix 5).

Appendix 1 – Notification of commencement of action



12 July 2013

Pablo Shopen
Pilbara Taskforce
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA 2601

Dear Mr Shopen,

RE: Atlas Iron Limited Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore Project (2012/6611) commencement

As specified in condition 1 of the approval decision for the Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore Project (2012/6611), I am writing to advise you that on Thursday 11 July 2013, ground disturbance for the Mt Webber project commenced.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on (08) 6228 8284 if you require additional information or have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Michael Rovira
Senior Environmental Advisor
Atlas Iron Limited

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Appendix 2 – Mt Webber DSO Significant Species Management Plan

SIGNIFICANT SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mt Webber DSO Project

May 2013

3292AC_04_SSMP_v4



Appendix 3 – Approval of Artificial Roost Research Plan and Regional Survey Plan



Our reference: 2012/6611

Ms Esme Wink
Senior Environmental Advisor – Compliance
Atlas Iron Limiter
Level 18, 300 Murray Street
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Wink

**Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore Project, 150 km south of Port Hedland, Pilbara
WA (EPBC 2012/6611)**

Thank you for your email dated 3 August 2015 to the Department, seeking approval of the Artificial Roost Research Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (July 2015) and the Regional Survey Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (June 2015), in accordance with conditions 5 and 6 of the approval decision dated 18 May 2013.

Officers of this Department have considered the Artificial Roost Research Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (July 2015) and the Regional Survey Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (June 2015) and are satisfied that they meet the requirements of conditions 5 and 6 of the approval for this project. On this basis, and as a delegate of the Minister for the Environment, I have decided to approve the Artificial Roost Research Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (July 2015) and the Regional Survey Plan for the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (June 2015). These plans must now be implemented.

In accordance with EPBC 2012/6611 condition 10, if the approval holder wants to act other than in accordance with this approved plan, the approval holder must submit a revised plan for approval. Until the Minister (or his delegate) has approved the revised plan, the approved version of the plan must continue to be implemented.

Should you require any further information please contact Matthew Plunkett, Project Officer, Post Approvals Section, on 02 6275 9453 or by email:
post.approvals@environment.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Shane Gaddes
Assistant Secretary
Compliance & Enforcement Branch
Environment Standards Division

3/2/2016

Appendix 4 - Payment of AUD \$70 000 to DPaW (Weed Management)



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



TAX INVOICE
ABN: 38 052 249 024

Date 11-SEP-13

Page 1 of 1

Number 1885

Customer 38475

Site 85429

Enquiries To : KATHY SALONGA
Phone Number (08) 9405 5198

Attn: Accounts Payable
ATLAS IRON LIMITED
PO BOX 7071
CLOISTERS SQUARE PO
PERTH WA 6850

Terms 30 NET

Salesrep

Due Date 11-OCT-13

Item	Description	Qty Ordered	Unit Price	Amount
1	Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore Project (EPBC 2012/6611) Offset: Condition 7 - Contribution to Weed Management in Chichester Subregion	1	70,000.00	70,000.00

Special Instructions

Item Amount

70,000.00

GST

7,000.00

Freight

0.00

Total

77,000.00

Currency: AUD



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



Remittance Advice

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

ABN: 38 052 249 024

Remittance Advice to be faxed to:

Senior Finance Officer

Fax (08) 9219 8896

Email: revenue@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Pay By Direct Deposit:

BSB 066-040

A/C No 11300006

Account Name: Department of
Parks and Wildlife

Reference: 38475 / 1885

Pay By Cheque:

Make cheque payable to: Department of
Parks and Wildlife

Mail to: Department of Parks
and Wildlife

Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery
Centre WA 6983

Customer Number	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Invoice Total
38475	1885	11-SEP-13	77,000.00

DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

DEC 738A

ABN 38 052 249 024

POSTAL ADDRESS: LOCKED BAG 104, BENTLEY DELIVERY CENTRE
BENTLEY 6983
TELEPHONE: (08) 9334 0555

CUSTOMER No.

20 SEP 2013

981

38425

ATLAS IRON LIMITED

OFFICIAL RECEIPTNOT VALID UNLESS PAYMENT
IS RECEIPTED BY CASH REGISTER

DATE	REF.	DETAILS	BALANCE
		1885	77000.00
		<div data-bbox="403 1133 785 1426" data-label="Text"><p>INPUT at HEAD OFFICE Date :- 24 SEP 2013 Operator</p></div>	
		GST	
TICK BOX IF RECEIPT REQUIRED		TOTAL INCLUDES GST	77000.00

**DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT
AND CONSERVATION**
17 DICK PERRY AVE, KENSINGTON WA 6151

Appendix 5 – Proof of publication of compliance report and management plans

Environmental Publications

Pardoo Direct Shipping Ore Project

[Ministerial Statement 775 Compliance Assessment Report 2017](#)

Wodgina Direct Shipping Ore Project

[Significant Species Management Plan Part 1](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan Part 2](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan Appendices](#)

[Wodgina Compliance Report 2017 \(EPBC2009/5167\)](#)

[Wodgina Compliance Report 2017 \(EPBC2011/5975\)](#)

Mt Dove Direct Shipping Ore Project

[Significant Species Management Plan](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan \(Appendices 1 - 3\)](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan \(Appendices 4\)](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan \(Appendices 5\)](#)

[Significant Species Management Plan \(Appendices 6\)](#)

Abydos Direct Shipping Ore Project

[Abydos DSO Significant Species Management Plan](#)

[Abydos Compliance Report 2017 \(EPBC2012/6345\)](#)

[Abydos Compliance Report 2017 \(EPBC2013/6985\)](#)

[Abydos Compliance Report 2018 \(EPBC2012/6345\)](#)

Mt Webber Direct Shipping Ore Project

[Mt Webber Artificial Roost Research Plan](#)

[Mt Webber Regional Survey Plan](#)

[Mt Webber Significant Species Management Plan](#)

[Mt Webber Compliance Report 2017 \(EPBC2012/6611\)](#)

[Mt Webber Compliance Report 2018 \(EPBC2012/6611\)](#)

[Mt Webber Compliance Report 2019 \(EPBC2012/6611\)](#)

[Mt Webber Compliance Report 2020 \(EPBC2012/6611\)](#)