



Pardoo Direct Shipping Ore (DSO) MS775 Compliance Assessment Report




2016-2017

137-LAH-EN-REP-0003

Revision 0



Authorisation

Rev	Reason for Issue	Prepared	Checked	Authorised	Date
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Signatures are required for Revision 0 and above

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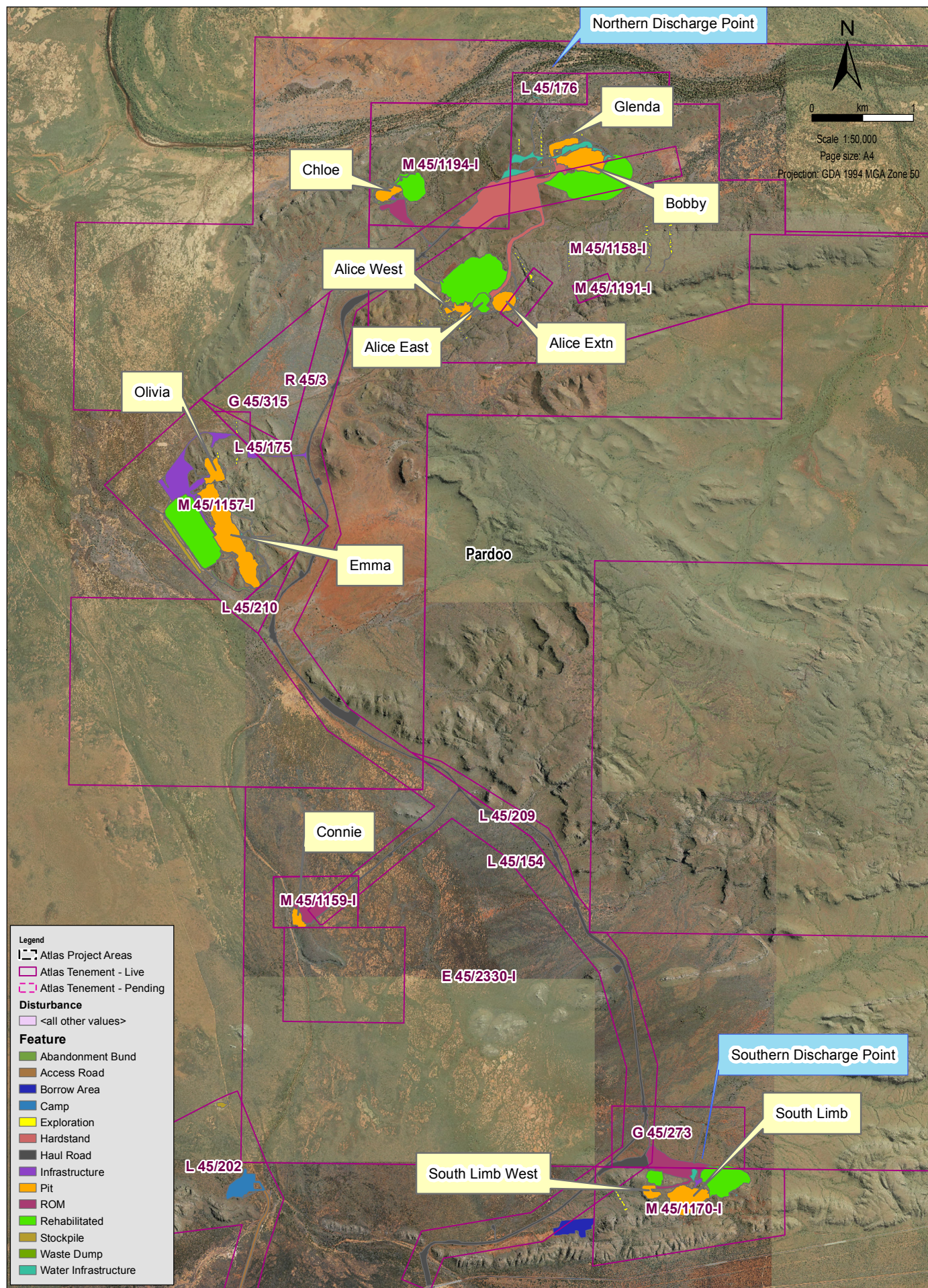


1. Introduction

The Atlas Iron Limited (Atlas) Pardoo direct shipping ore (DSO) Project (the Project) is located in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, with the mine site situated approximately 70km east of Port Hedland.

The Pardoo DSO project was assessed through a Public Environmental Review (PER) under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and approved under Ministerial Statement No. 775 on 3 October 2008.

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) has been prepared to satisfy Ministerial condition 4 of Ministerial Statement No. 775 for the Pardoo Project, in accordance with the Office of Environmental Protection's (OEPA's) *Post Assessment Guideline No. 3 Preparing a Compliance Assessment Report* (August 2012). The review period for this CAR is 3 October 2016 through to 2 October 2017.



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Pardoo DSO
Site Layout 2017

Figure No:

1



2. Implementation Status

The Project commenced construction in October 2008, shipping first ore through Port Hedland in December 2008. The approved mining rate was 3 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) in accordance with Schedule 1 - Attachment 4 to Ministerial Statement 775. The Project ceased operations in 2014 following the mining of all economic ore reserves.

During this assessment period the Pardoo DSO Project remained in care and maintenance.

2.1 Significant Changes to the Project

No significant changes occurred at the Project during the reporting period.

2.2 Water Management Plan

Atlas conducted water monitoring at Pardoo in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan (Atlas, 2013).

2.3 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan

In accordance with Condition 9 of MS775 Atlas' Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) was prepared and submitted to the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) in 2009.

The Ngarla Native Title Working Group was formed and this group has undertaken and assisted with several ethnographic and archaeological surveys over the proposed and approved project areas.

During the assessment period there were no changes to the ACHMP.



3. Compliance

This audit table is a summary and timetable of conditions and commitments applying to this project. Refer to the Minister's Statement for full detail/precise wording of individual elements.

Abbreviations: CAR = Compliance Assessment Report; CEO = Chief Executive Officer of OEPA; DER = Department of Environment Regulation; DIA = Department of Indigenous Affairs; DMP = Department of Mining and Petroleum; DoH = Department of Health; DoW = Department of Water, EPA = Environmental Protection Authority, Minister for Env = Minister for the Environment; OEPA = Office of the Environmental Protection Authority.

Compliance Status: C = Compliant, CLD = Completed, NC = Non – compliant, NR = Not Required at this stage. Please note the terms NA = Not Audited and VR = Verification Required are only for OEPA use. IP = In Process may only be used by the proponent in circumstances outlined in Section 2.8 of the *Post Assessment Guideline for Preparing an Audit Table*.

Table 3.1 – MS775 Audit Table

Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
775: 4-1	Compliance Reporting	Submit environmental compliance reports to the CEO of the DEC annually, reporting on the previous twelve months unless required by the CEO of DEC to report more frequently.	C	This report shall be submitted before Oct 31 and address requirements as appropriate.



Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
775: 7-1	Flora and Vegetation	In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall ensure that priority flora outside the pit infrastructure areas shown in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 are not impacted by the proposal	CLD	Atlas commissioned Woodman Environmental to monitor priority flora populations adjacent to operational areas from 2009-2014. The monitoring was conducted again in 2017 to identify any continuing impacts on priority flora (post mining). The results demonstrate no impact to priority flora with no future impacts predicted. The Pardoo DSO Priority Flora Monitoring Report (Woodman, 2017) has been provided on submission of this report.



Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
7-2		In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall ensure that no more than 10% of priority flora within the two dewater discharge saturation zones of 14 and 10 hectares is lost.	C	No priority flora were recorded within the dewater discharge saturation zone in 2014, or during the 2017 monitoring.
7-3		The proponent shall monitor, in liaison with the Department of Environment and Conservation, priority flora and vegetation in the proposal area and down gradient of dewatering discharge to detect any impact of the proposal on priority flora species and vegetation. This monitoring is to be carried out to the satisfaction of the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.	C	Vegetation monitoring was undertaken by Woodman Environmental from 2008-2014 and again in 2017.
7-4		The proponent shall submit the results of monitoring referred to in condition 7-3 to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation at times determined by the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.	C	The Pardoo DSO Environmental Discharge Vegetation Health Monitoring Report (Woodman, 2017) has been provided on submission of this report.
7-5		The proponent shall immediately provide proposed management measures to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation in the event that the requirements of condition 7-1 and 7-2 are not met or are not likely to be met.	C	No action required as Condition 7-1 and 7-2 have been met. Priority flora monitoring will be discontinued going forward as the intent of the conditions have been met and no future impacts are predicted.



Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
775: 9-1	Aboriginal Heritage	Prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan that meets the objectives specified in this condition.	CLD	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) submitted and approved.
9-2		Consult with the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) in the preparation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.	CLD	ACHMP implemented.
9-3		Ensure that changes to the biological and physical environment arising from the implementation of the proposal do not adversely affect Aboriginal cultural heritage values, through: 1. Identify Aboriginal heritage sites. 2. Identify potential impacts. 3. Identify and implement appropriate management measures in consultation with the Ngarla People. 4. Inform all project stakeholders of their obligations.	CLD	ACHMP implemented.
9-4		Implement the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.	CLD	ACHMP implemented. Atlas completed heritage surveys prior to any disturbance and maintains a geospatial database of heritage sites.
775: 10-1	Closure / Decommission and Rehabilitation	Conduct surveys of the proposal area to collect baseline information on pre-mining soil profiles prior to the commencement of productive mining.	CLD	Conducted prior to mining commencing.



Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
775: 10-2	Closure / Decommission and Rehabilitation	<p>Commence rehabilitation of the mine site area as the mining progresses, in accordance with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-establishment of vegetation in the rehabilitation area to be comparable with that of the pre-mining vegetation such that the following criteria are met within four years following the cessation of productive mining: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Flora and vegetation are re-established with not less than 70 percent coverage (not including weed species); and (2) Weed coverage less than 10 percent. 2. A schedule of rate of rehabilitation acceptable to the CEO of the DEC. 	<p>C</p> <p>C</p> <p>C</p>	<p>All waste rock landforms have been rehabilitated; some infrastructure areas (including the camp) still require rehabilitation.</p> <p>Stantec Australia (formerly MWH Australia) conducted rehabilitation monitoring at Pardoo in April 2016 and April 2017. Monitoring included an assessment of rehabilitation against completion criteria for vegetation and weeds. Results indicate perennial cover (%) increased at all transects from 2016 to 2017 and is progressing towards achieving the completion criteria. Weed coverage was <10% at 19 of the 23 transects.</p> <p>A schedule of rate of rehabilitation has been included in the MCP (Table 44), accepted by DMP (Reg: 39884) and OEPA.</p>



Audit Code	Subject	Requirement	Status	Further Information
10-3		Ensure that the final pit lakes do not cause significant environmental impacts arising from groundwater pollution or through attracting native fauna which may subsequently be harmed or fauna which may harm surrounding native vegetation.	C	Nominated groundwater bores and pit lakes are sampled annually in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan. Results are included in the Annual Aquifer Report submitted to the DoW. Abandonment bunds have been constructed around all open pits to prevent fauna entering the lakes.
10-4		In liaison with the DEC, monitor progressively the performance of rehabilitation against the criteria in 10-2 based on annual reporting.	C	Stantec Australia (formerly MWH Australia) conducted rehabilitation monitoring at Pardoo in April 2016 and April 2017. The monitoring included an assessment of rehabilitation against completion criteria for vegetation, surface water (erosion), weeds and quoll habitat.
10-5		Submit annually a report of the rehabilitation performance monitoring required by condition 10.4 to the CEO of DEC.	C	The Pardoo 2017 Rehabilitation Monitoring Assessment (Stantec, 2017) and Pardoo 2017 Weed Assessment (Stantec, 2017) have been provided on submission of this report.



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