



Doc ID: EPR-03984

11 February 2026

Mr Greg Swain  
Manager Exploration  
FMG Resources Pty Ltd  
Ground Floor, 256 ST Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

Via email: greg.swain@fortescue.com.au

Dear Mr Swain,

### Notification of Approved Exploration Program for Environment Protection and Rehabilitation (EPEPR) Review

In reference to your final submission dated 8 January 2026, the EPEPR review has been approved pursuant to section 70C(5) of the *Mining Act 1971* (the Mining Act).

The approved EPEPR will be made publicly available on the Mining Register and the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) website. Details of the approved EPEPR are listed below.

<b>Approval Granted to</b>	<b>FMG Resources Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Tenement Type &amp; Number</b>	EL6044
<b>Program Number</b>	EPR-03984 review
<b>EPEPR Description</b>	EPEPR Review – 12 month extension to conduct RC and Diamond Drilling for IOCG-style mineral systems at Moonlight Dam.

You are reminded that you must always implement and comply with this approved EPEPR.

This approval does not constitute endorsement of the systems that you have in place to manage the mining operations in compliance with the Mining Act. Whilst your capability to undertake this activity has been considered in this approval, the responsibility for compliance with the Mining Act always remains with the tenement holder.

The legislative requirements associated with the EPEPR are outlined below, and certain requirements must be actioned prior to commencement of operations authorised by the EPEPR.

<b>1</b>	<b>Public Liability Insurance</b> Pursuant to Regulation 81 of the <i>Mining Regulations 2020</i> (the Mining Regulations), you are required to provide a copy of a certificate evidencing the insurance coverage over the tenement.
<b>2</b>	<b>Compliance Reporting</b>



	<p>You are required to submit an annual exploration compliance report. The report is required to be submitted <b>within 2 months</b> after the anniversary of the date the licence/ease was granted, or in accordance with joint reporting requirements agreed to with the Minister. Please refer to the DEM <a href="#">website</a> for more information on the reporting requirements.</p> <p>You are reminded that a separate compliance report is required <b>2 months after</b> the expiry or surrender of the EL.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Work, Health and Safety Compliance</b> In accordance with Chapter 10 of the <i>Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)</i>, you must meet the requirements for mine operators in South Australia, which include a notification for mining operations, the establishment of a Safety Management System, the identification of Principal Mining Hazards and development of a Principal Mining Hazard Management Plan. Further information on your responsibilities, including a guide to Chapter 10, and the Mine Operator Notification Form, is available on the <a href="#">SafeWork SA website</a>.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>EPEPR Timeframe</b> The EPEPR Review is approved for a period of twelve months from the date of this letter. A further 3 months after expiry of the 12-month period is provided to complete all rehabilitation.</p>

Please note, proposed changes to exploration operations stated in the approved EPEPR may require a EPEPR review to be submitted for assessment. Where a EPEPR review is required, implementation of the operational changes can only occur after the revised EPEPR is approved. Further information on when an exploration PEPR review is required can be found in Departmental guideline [MG22 Conducting mineral exploration](#).

In addition to the requirements under the *Mining Act*, you are reminded that your operation will have other legislative requirements that you will need to comply with.

If you have any further queries, please contact DEM staff as below:

<b>General enquiries</b>	<p>Cobus Martins Assessment Officer, Exploration Regulation <a href="mailto:DEM.exploration@sa.gov.au">DEM.exploration@sa.gov.au</a></p>
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Yours sincerely

Simon Constable

**DIRECTOR, MINERALS REGULATION**

In accordance with delegated powers and functions

The Department's Regulatory Guidelines, Ministerial Determinations and Information Sheets are available at: [http://energymining.sa.gov.au/minerals/knowledge\\_centre](http://energymining.sa.gov.au/minerals/knowledge_centre)

# Exploration PEPR - EPEPR | 12 Month PEPR Review

Reference Number: **EPR-03984** • Status: **Assessment**

## Select Applicable PEPR

Is historical?

No  Yes

Previous PEPR ID

EPEPR2023-035

Search PEPRs

—

## Applicant and General Details

### Applicant Details

Carolyn Grant

**Full Name \***

Carolyn Grant

**Business Phone**

**Mobile Phone**

0418 839 521

**Email \***

[carolyn.grant@fortescue.com](mailto:carolyn.grant@fortescue.com) (mailto:carolyn.grant@fortescue.com)

## Project Supervisor

Greg Swain, Manager Exploration South Australia  
Peter Hill, Senior Project Geologist

## General Details

### Tenement Details \*

Tenement Type	Tenement Name	Tenement Holder
Exploration Licence	EL 6044	FMG Resources Pty Ltd

### Operating Company

FMG Resources Pty Ltd

If there is another Operating Company, please provide

Account Name	Entity Type	Registered Address	Registered Email
There are no records to display.			

### Project/prospect name

Moonlight Dam Prospect

### Mineral Model

The Moonlight Dam Prospect is located at the southern end of the Olympic Iron-Oxide Copper-Gold (IOCG) Province on the eastern margin of the Gawler Craton. The primary commodities sought by Fortescue are copper and gold as part of the IOCG-style mineral system akin to Olympic Dam, Prominent Hill, Carrapateena and Oak Dam West.

### Primary Commodities \*

Commodity Name ↑	Commodity Group	Grade
Copper	Exploration	
Gold	Exploration	

## Secondary Commodities

Commodity Name ↑	Commodity Group	Grade
There are no records to display.		

## Project Description

FMG Resources Pty Ltd (Fortescue) is proposing to drill a vertical diamond drill hole to a maximum depth of 1500m, with an RC pre-collar to a maximum depth of 250m, with option for a wedge from the parent hole.  
Up to two RC holes drilled within 20m of the planned RC/Diamond core hole will be drilled on the same pad for a temporary source of water for drilling activities  
3 x sumps will be prepared, each with a maximum size of 6x3x1.5m (27m3)  
A 50mx50m drill pad will also be prepared  
Rehabilitation of drill site and sumps post the completion of drilling

## Proposed Project Schedule

### Start Date

31/10/2025

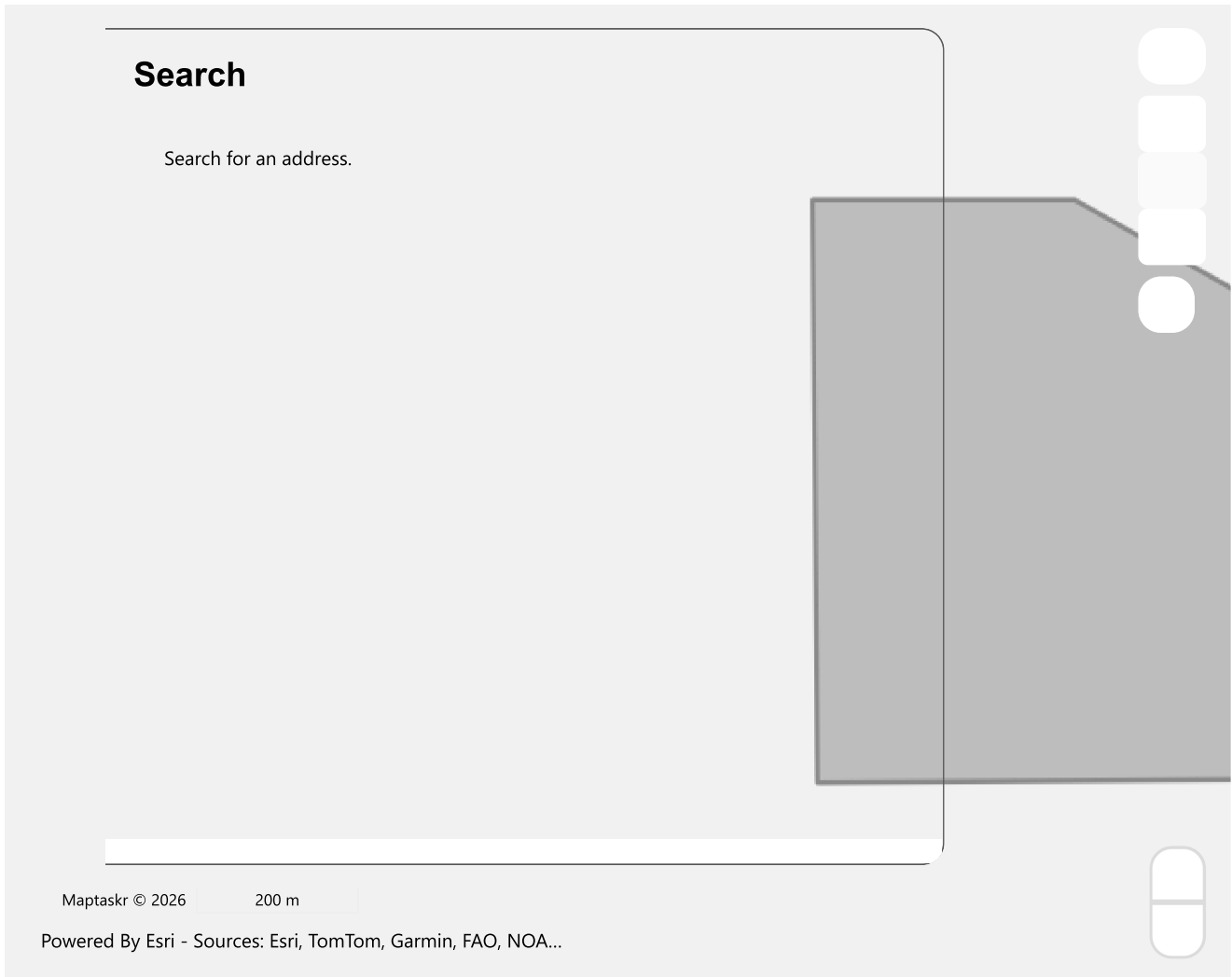
### End date

31/10/2026

**Clearly describe why a PEPR review is required, summarise all content changes made to the approved PEPR, and provide appropriate justification where a time extension is required.**

EPEPR2023-035 was initially approved on 1 November 2023 for a 12 month term. No authorised operations were conducted on the tenement during the term, due to a heritage survey not yet being conducted, and an extension request for a further 12 months was submitted on 15 October 2024 with notice of approval provided on 22 October 2024. No authorised operations have been conducted during the current 12 month term as a heritage survey is still pending, therefore a final 12 month extension request is now sought.

## Identify Application Area



## Map Layer Intersects

### Application Area Details

#### Location Description

Corraberia area, approximately 25km northwest of Port Augusta

#### Area (Sqkm)

0.52

### Spatial Data Intersects - Summary Table

Show  entries

Search:

Spatial Layer Name	Category	Referral	Intersect Count
1:250K mapsheets	Other		1
Cadastral Parcels	Other		1
Determinations of Native Title	Other		1
Exploration licences (geothermal)	Other		1

Spatial Layer Name	Category	Referral	Intersect Count
Exploration licences (mineral/opal)	No-Go Area		1
Pastoral Lease Boundaries	Other		1

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries

Previous 1 Next

### Spatial Data Intersects - Details Table

Show 10 entries

Search:

Spatial Layer Name	Shape	Primary Attribute	All Attributes	Category
1:250K mapsheets	Shape 1	PORT AUGUSTA	<a href="#">View attributes</a>	Other
Cadastral Parcels	Shape 1	H540100SE1	<a href="#">View attributes</a>	Other
Determinations of Native Title	Shape 1	Barngarla Native Title Claim	<a href="#">View attributes</a>	Other
Exploration licences (geothermal)	Shape 1	GEL 692	<a href="#">View attributes</a>	Other
Exploration licences (mineral/opal)	Shape 1	EL 6044	<a href="#">View attributes</a>	No-Go Area
Pastoral Lease Boundaries	Shape 1		<a href="#">View attributes</a>	Other

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries

Previous 1 Next

### Program Preparation

## Work undertaken in preparing the proposal

In summary, work completed to prepare this proposal includes:

1. Desktop review of Open File historical drill exploration of the region, including 3D geological modelling
2. Assessment and modelling of Open File gravity and magnetic data
3. Acquisition of ground gravity under the terms of the Generic PEPR. Fortescue completed a detailed ground gravity survey at 250m x 250m spacing over the entire EL6044 tenement (131km<sup>2</sup>).
4. Geophysical modelling of potential field data
5. Pastoralist and other stakeholder engagement and reconnaissance trips for environmental assessment and drill rig access
6. Notice of Entry to Carriewerloo Pastoral Lease
7. Consultation with the Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation (Barngarla) (holders of Native Title) under the terms of a Native Title Mining Agreement. A Heritage Survey is pending.
8. Consultation with drill rig contractor for rig depth, capacity, mobility over variable surfaces, sustainability for the type of program
9. Desktop GIS review of environment and groundwater, easements, dams, 'improved land', exempt land, locations of water pipelines, above ground and buried telecommunications, railways, power lines and other infrastructure.
10. Planning to drill a vertical hole to approximately 1500m at the Moonlight Dam prospect, 741175mE, 6421707mN GDA94 Zone 53, with option for a wedge from the parent hole. Up to two RC holes drilled within 20m of the planned RC/Diamond core hole will be drilled on the same pad for a temporary source of water for drilling activities.

## Operator Capability

As specified in this PEPR, Fortescue is committed to upholding its program in a manner that ensures achievement of all the environmental outcomes. Fortescue employs geologists and field staff in the Adelaide office who are dedicated to South Australian exploration, ensuring compliance, and achieving environmental outcomes of this PEPR.

To achieve this, Fortescue has numerous documented procedures including, but not limited to:

- Drillhole Stabilisation and Site Rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation Safe Work Instructions
- Stakeholder Management Plan; and
- Environmental Management Plan.

Constant internal auditing of these procedures and guidelines to ensure that they are followed is carried out at every level of exploration activities.

Fortescue integrates the PEPRs with its own 'Land Use Certificate' which is used to manage land use and associated activities, including access, ground disturbance, construction and compliance activities (e.g. rehabilitation).

## Lease Conditions

NA

## Land Access

## Identify the Owners of Land and authority to access land

Land Title Reference	Plan Parcel Reference	Type of Land	Owner of Land ↑	Land Access Authorisation Method	Date of Form 21 or Agreement Signed	Instrument or Uploaded Document Id	Uncheck land not applicable to your application ar
CL 6181/119	H5401 00SE1	Perpetual Lease	David & Jill Michael, Pastoralist, Carriewerloo Station, Corraberra Station	Service of Notice of Entry	23/08/2023	230822 - Form_21B_Corraberra	Checked

Is any of the application area over a road, street or highway

No

## Woomera Prohibited Area (WPA)

Will activities be conducted within the WPA

No

In which zone will activities be conducted?

Name	Are you intending to undertake work?	Closure start date	Closure end date
There are no records to display.			

Does the tenement holder hold a valid and current Resource Exploration Permit under the WPA Rule?

—

Permit No.

—

What is the expiry date of the permit?

—

Does the Exploration Permit allow the operator to conduct exploration operations in the WPA?

—

## Other Land Owned or Controlled by the Commonwealth Department of Defence

Indicate if you are intending to undertake exploration operations within the identified defence land

No

### Other Commonwealth defence land

**Defence Land**

**Applicable**

There are no records to display.

Do you have a Deed of Access with Defence?

—

Expiry date of the Deed of Access

—

Date the Range Control Officer granted permission to conduct the proposed exploration operations.

—

Describe the results of consultation and how any concerns raised were addressed

—

## Native Title

Does 'Native Title land' exist within the application area?

Yes

Using the table below, describe how you have complied with the requirements of Part 9B of the Mining Act for each tenement.

Name of Determined / Claimant Group	Agreement Type	Instrument Number	Applicable
Barngarla Native Title Claim	Native Title	416	Yes

## Provide any additional relevant information

NTMA between FMG Resources Pty Ltd and Barnjarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation executed on 1 August 2018, covering ELs 5825, 6042, 6043, 6044, 6049, 6088, 6106, 6108, 6130

## Exempt Land

### Exempt Land

Has Exempt land been identified?

No

If a "Waiver of Exemption" has been reached to waive the benefit of the exemption, a notice of the agreement must be given to the Mining Registrar, either within 21 days after the agreement was entered into or when an application for the mineral tenement is made under the Mining Act.

In the table below enter the relevant instrument numbers for any Form 23C - Notice of wavier of exemption provided to the Mining Registrar.\*

Land Title	Plan Parcel	Owner of Land that has benefit of exemption ↑	Why is the land exempt land?	Waiver of exemption(s) been negotiated	Instrument Number or Uploaded Document Id
CL 6181/119	H54010 0SE1	David & Jill Michael, Pastoralist, Carriewerloo Station, Corraberra Station			

## Consultation

### Consultation

<b>Stakeholder ↑</b>	<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Matters raised</b>	<b>Stakeholder concerns raised and how addressed</b>
David & Jill Michael, Pastoralist, Carriewerloo Station, Corraberra Station	Grazing	During a site reconnaissance in August 2023, Greg Swain, Peter Hill and Melissa Stinear (now Roberts), Fortescue geologists, met Dean, the resident at the Corraberra Homestead and Fortescue raised the issue of vehicle access past the house.	Fortescue agreed to call Dean prior to trucks or vehicles mobilising past his house so he could restrain his domestic dogs.
Volt Geothermal Pty Ltd (operated by Cradle Resources Limited)	Other (e.g. historic mining)	None	-

**If any individual or group of similar affected persons were not able to be consulted, what steps were taken to consult with them?**

**Provide any additional relevant information.**

Form 21B was sent to Volt Geothermal on 11/9/2023.  
Due to the extended timeframe since Form 21B notices were submitted to landholders, new Form 21B documents will be submitted, should plans for drilling progress in 2026.

**Describe any council policies (or out of council) or development plans that may impact the program area and a description of any known plans for future land use changes by other parties.**

## **Description of Environment**

### **Proximity to Infrastructure and Housing**

**Provide the following information:**

The location of the Moonlight Dam target area is shown in Maps 1 and 2 and the planned drill hole to be sited at 741175mE, 6421707mN GDA94 Zone 53.

The prospect is approximately 27km NW of Port Augusta. Moonlight Dam is ~ 3km north of the Corraberra Homestead (which comprises the nearest existing infrastructure). Access is via the Stuart Highway and unsealed station tracks (see Figure 1 – in Landform and Topography). The Stuart Highway and the railway are 2.2 km to the east of the planned drill site. The house at Corraberra is connected to the SA Power Network by an overhead power line that goes due east to the powerline along the Stuart Highway. The powerline is well above the maximum height of the drill rigs (during mobilisation/demob).

There are no features that constitute Exempt Land under the Mining Act 1971. There is clear visibility up and down the Stuart Highway when entering or exiting the station.

Please refer to the attached document 'EPEPR2023-035 Extension request - EL6044' for the relevant photos and maps that are referred to in this text

**Attach Files** ⓘ

Expand/Collapse

<b>File Name</b>	<b>File Size (Mb)</b>	<b>Created On</b>	<b>Download</b>
20241015_EPEPR2023-035 Extension request - EL6044.pdf	6.41 Mb	24-10-2025 15:50:21	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Proximity to infrastructure/20241015_EP EPR2023-035 Extension request - EL6044_2025-10-24T05-20-22.015Z.pdf)</a>

**Landform, topography, soil and surface cover**

**Describe the topography and soil and surface cover (e.g. gibber) of the general area affected by the exploration program. Include details on the susceptibility to compaction, erosion, dust, runoff and visual attributes (steep or undulating slopes, plains, rocky outcrops, dunes, salt pans, clay pans etc) any other characteristics (e.g. acid sulphate soils) that may require control strategies to reduce environmental impacts during operations or rehabilitation.**

The area is in the "South Australian Arid Lands" Landscape Management Region (Naturemaps online GIS by Environment SA). It is also classified as the 'Hesso' land system in the Pastoral Land System GIS layer in Naturemaps and is described as: "Extensive sand sheets with calcareous soils. Plains of myall, sugarwood woodland over pearl bluebush +/- bladder saltbush; plains and rises of mulga and myall woodland with pinbush wattle, pearl bluebush and spiny fan flower."

The topography around the proposed drill site is very flat plain and there are no hills or creeks/drainage courses. The nearest drainage course is 3km to the southwest of the planned drill site. 'Moonlight Dam' (after which the prospect is named) is over 1.4 km from the planned drill site and is a non-functioning abandoned dam. The 100K scale topography map shows a 60m elevation contour outlining a very low rise 1km in diameter centred 800m southeast of the planned drill site (see Figure 1 below). The nearest hill is South Tent Hill (317m AHD) approximately 7km to the south.

The area is in the "Gawler Ranges" Soil Conservation District (Naturemaps online GIS by Environment SA). In the area of the planned drill site the ground surface and soil comprise red clayey silt (see photos 2 and 3). The surface soil/silt may be susceptible to water erosion if disturbed or if the bluebush is cleared for the drill pad worksite. Fortunately, the surface slope is very minimal, and water run-off is slow and low energy so erosion or gullying would be minimal to nil. There is no evidence of gullying on the surrounding station tracks except for a short 80m section (see photo 5) with 20cm deep drain and exposed calcrete base. It is evident by the vegetation overgrowth that the station tracks pond water after heavy or extended rains rather than erosional flowing.

Please refer to 'EPEPR2023-035 Extension request - EL6044' document that has been uploaded, that provides all photos, images and maps

**Attach Files** ⓘ

[Expand/Collapse](#)

File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Download
Figure1_Landform and topography of the district.png	0.36 Mb	16-12-2025 14:45:57	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Landform and topography/Figure1_Landform and topography of the district_2025-12-16T04-15-57.749Z.png)</a>

**Surface Water**

**Will the proposed program interfere with surface water bodies and natural drainage (e.g. drainage lines, creeks, floodplains, wetlands)?**

No

**Describe the potential interference and surface water bodies and natural drainage on maps.**

—

**Indicate how you will avoid disturbance**

No, the drilling is in a flat plain (see Figure 1 and Photo 2 of attached document) and several kms away for the nearest creek.

**Is the program area located within water protection areas defined under the River Murray Act 2003?**

No

**Select the name(s) of protected water areas**

---

**Is the program area located within any prescribed watercourses or prescribed surface water areas under the Landscape?**

No

**Select the name(s) of the prescribed watercourses or prescribed surface water areas under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.**

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**Attach Files** ⓘ

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File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Download
No Files Uploaded			

**Name**

**Applicable**

There are no records to display.

**Groundwater**

**Is groundwater likely to be intersected when conducting the exploration program?**

Yes

**Provide evidence or any supporting information demonstrating this.**

—

## Description of the localities/areas where different groundwater conditions may be encountered

There is no artesian or sub artesian water in the area or the district. The groundwater aquifer at the proposed drill site is classified as "Fractured Rock" i.e., fractured basement (fractured Neoproterozoic).

In general, the bore data in the "Water Connect SA" online GIS of water bore data shows there is a low flow of salty water. Many water bores have been drilled to 20-50m depth e.g., bore PU10, unit number 6433-457 to 27m depth or hole EX112, unit number 6433-464 drilled to 51m depth, roughly indicating the depth to groundwater. The Whyalla Sandstone is the aquifer.

Bore 6433-35 to 60m depth in 1974 (mineral hole Mt Gunson Mines 111, located 2.5km to the SE of the proposed drilling) has a recorded yield rate of 0.65 l/sec and TDS 25,232 mg/L. This is a low yield and very salty water. The site of the proposed drillhole is about 15km west from the southern reaches of Salt Lake, Lake Torrens, and its connection to the Spencer Gulf and that may play a part in producing strongly saline groundwater. A water bore (PUB 03/SAU1) located 6km to the south-south-west has a TDS of 23,888 mg/L which is similarly very salty. See Map 4.

There is only very little geological information from historic drilling, but a regional and district scale interpretation of the subsurface geology by a Fortescue geologist suggests that the stratigraphy at the site of the planned drilling could be:

0-120m Whyalla Sandstone (unconfined fracture rock aquifer for low yield salty water)

120-280m Tapley Hill Formation

280-750m Beda Basalt and Backy Point Formation

750m – top of Mesoproterozoic, (800m top of Fortescue modelled dense body).

Based on SARIG interpreted stratigraphy for drillholes PUB03-SAU1, PUB49-SAU30, PU10, Pacminex EX112, Mt Gunson Mines 111.

Add the different groundwater conditions for each localities/areas to the table below.

Name ↑	Formation age and/or stratigraphic unit	Stratigraphic intervals (depth range) (m)	Aquifer formation name	Aquifer Interval/thickness (from-to) (m)	Aquifer Type	Aquifer salinity (TDS)	Depth to groundwater (m)	Comments
Mt Gunson Mines	Neoproterozoic	60	Fractured rock	60	Unconfined	0.65 l/sec and TDS 25232 mg/L (the nearest bore with recorded yield and salinity Bore 6433-35)	50	

Provide the environmental value of each aquifer present determined according to the current Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy.

From the EPA website : "Clauses 10 and 11 of the Water Quality Policy states that a person must not discharge pollutants listed in Schedules 2 and 3 of the Policy into any waters. Furthermore, those pollutants known as Class 1 and listed in Schedule 2 must not be deposited onto land where they are likely to enter waters. The definition of waters includes the stormwater systems, groundwater, surface water and marine. This means that listed pollutants cannot be placed in a water system or on land where they may enter the water body or the stormwater system.

Advice and assistance | EPA."

The planned drilling will not emit any listed pollutants into any waters, including the Fractured Rock Aquifer. None of the additives that are mixed with drilling water are toxic or hazardous or classed as pollutants by the EPA.

**Provide a description of the existence, location and value of all Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) within and immediately surrounding the project area**

A search of the GDE Atlas showed there are no aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems such as springs, mound springs, wetlands, caves, rivers, or forests (nor anything else that comes under the definition of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems) at the site of the planned drilling and not within 5km of the planned drilling. See below screen shot of search results of the GDE Atlas Home: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology (bom.gov.au).

Please refer to the 'EPEPR2023-035 Extension request - EL6044' document that has been uploaded and provides further details including images of the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Atlas

**Is the proposed program located within a prescribed wells area?**

No

**Select the prescribed wells**

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**Is the proposed program located within a prescribed water resource area?**

No

**Select the prescribed water resource areas**

---

**Provide any additional information**

**Attach Files** ⓘ

File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Expand/Collapse Download
GDE Atlas search_EL6044.png	0.16 Mb	29-10-2025 09:33:01	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Ground water/GDE Atlas search_EL6044_2025-10-28T23-03-02.189Z.png)</a>
Stratigraphy of Water Bore unit 6433-35.jpg	0.05 Mb	29-10-2025 09:31:47	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Ground water/Stratigraphy of Water Bore unit 6433-35_2025-10-28T23-01-49.133Z.jpg)</a>

**Native Vegetation**

## Will you be working within areas of native vegetation?

Yes

### Provide the following information:

At the site of the planned drill hole and within 2km, the cover is described in Nature Maps "SA Land Cover" layer as a mixture of Non-woody Native Vegetation (e.g. grasslands including herbs and low shrubs such as chenopods) and isolated stands of Woody Native Vegetation (Woody native vegetation generally > 1 m tall including casuarina woodlands, wattle shrublands, hop-bush shrublands). See photos 2, 3, 6 and 7 in the EPEPR2023-035 document that has been previously uploaded as part of this review application.

NatureMaps shows there are no native vegetation Heritage Agreements or Significant Environmental Benefit Areas at the site or within 5km of the planned drill site. Site visits by Fortescue staff record the area at the planned drill site and surrounds to comprise low sparse shrubland dominated by bluebush (*Maireana* spp.) and Bladder Saltbush (*Atriplex vesicaria*) with isolated overstorey of acacia ('Western Myall' - *A. papyrocarpa*, 'Mulga' *A. aneura*) to 4m in height (see photo below taken looking south from the area of planned drill site). Two *Pittosporum angustifolium* ('weeping pittosporum') were observed in the area (but well away from drilling).

### Indicate why you will not be working within areas of native vegetation?

### Attach Files

Expand/Collapse

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No Files Uploaded			

## Fauna

### Describe the native and feral fauna that may be present in the application area, including feral species.

The predominant native fauna within the area are kangaroos, emus, bird species and reptiles. Feral fauna includes foxes, dingoes, goats, cats, and rabbits. Other fauna from pastoral activities includes sheep and cattle. Naturemaps shows that a Major Mitchell Cockatoo (*Lophochroa leadbeateri*) has been observed 30km to the west at Carriewerloo Homestead and at 25km to the north near Hesso Outstation. These are the only two observations of Threatened species in the area.

EPBC Protected Matters report (generated online via <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/protected-matters-search-tool>) for Threatened and Migratory species listed below in Significant Fauna Table, and refers to a Report extracted by a spatial search area centred over the planned drill site as shown in inserted screen shot below. The presence or not, of the species being in the exact search area is expressed as a probability and most of the species classify as 'may' or 'likely'. Of the three groupings of species, only the Southern Whiteface bird is described as 'known' in the search area.

## Significant Habitats, Flora & Fauna

### Are there any significant habitats, flora and fauna within the project area?

Yes

Use the table below to list any significant habitats and any rare or endangered flora and fauna species located or reported to have been in the area that may be impacted by the proposed program. Include known sightings of listed species on a locality plan/map.

Species name/habitat	Common name	NPW Act Rating	EBPC Act Rating
Numenius madagascariensis	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew	Critically endangered (CR)	Critically endangered

#### Attach Files

File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Download	Expand/Collapse
EPBC Protected Matters Report_EL6044.png	0.4 Mb	29-10-2025 09:35:47	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Fauna/EPBC Protected Matters Report_EL6044_2025-10-28T23-05-47.543Z.png)</a>	
Significant fauna_1_EL6044.png	0.05 Mb	29-10-2025 09:41:45	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Fauna/Significant fauna_1_EL6044_2025-10-28T23-11-46.111Z.png)</a>	
Significant fauna_2_EL6044.png	0.06 Mb	29-10-2025 09:41:45	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Fauna/Significant fauna_2_EL6044_2025-10-28T23-11-46.088Z.png)</a>	

#### Weeds and Pathogens

**Provide information of the extent the area is affected or potentially affected by weeds and pathogens (e.g. phytophthora; buffel grass *Cenchrus ciliaris*).**

The average annual rainfall for the project area is too low for Phytophthora to exist and there are no occurrences within 100km.

Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) has been identified as a major threat and it occurs across most of South Australia, particularly along major roads. This grass is known along the edges of Stuart Highway located 2 km to the east.

Procedures will be taken to avoid the spread of Buffel Grass by the proposed exploration activities. The major dispersal mechanism is by the accidental transportation of seeds via seed bearing mud carried on and under dirty vehicles.

To prevent the spread of Buffel grass, all vehicles, trailers, equipment, and the boots of field staff will be checked and cleaned of any mud or organic matter when entering and leaving the project area. All vehicles (both Fortescue and drill contractor) will be washed down off-site with a record of this in the attached document: FMG - Exploration Weed Hygiene - Vehicle Inspection Checklist - June 2020.

Information from The South Australian Buffel Grass Strategic Plan 2019-2024 and Weed Control Handbook will be included in the Fortescue Site Induction process.

**Attach Files** 

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**Aboriginal Heritage**

**Describe the steps taken to identify Aboriginal heritage sites within the proposed area of exploration. Include a statement advising if an Aboriginal heritage survey has been conducted by the proponent and if so, the results of the survey.**

A heritage survey has not yet been completed with the Barngarla. The results of the survey will be used to avoid Aboriginal Heritage sites and sensitive locations.

**Environmentally Sensitive Locations**

**Indicate if you are intending to undertake exploration operations within the environmentally sensitive locations listed.**

No

Name	Applicable
There are no records to display.	

Are you likely to impact on the environmentally sensitive area?

—

Detail the likely effects the proposed program may have.

Attach Files 

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## Exploration Operations

### Equipment and Personnel requirements

Using the table below, describe the maximum composition of field crews (operator, contractors, and geologists) and proposed working hours/days for each type of activity.

Type of Personnel	Number	Name of contractor company (if applicable)
Geologists	2	Fortescue
Land access/environmental	1	Fortescue
Field assistants/technicians	2	Fortescue
Drilling Crew	6	DDH1 Drilling
Site Preparation and rehabilitation	1	Remote Civil and Construction, or other (under supervision by Fortescue)

Shifts worked per day	Hours worked per day	Days worked per week
2	24	7

Using the table below, describe the equipment (size, number and contractor details) required to conduct the proposed operations.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Owner/Operator</b>	<b>Description/capacity</b>	<b>Activity/purpose</b>
Drill rig	DDH1 Drilling	20-30 tonne 8x8	RC/RAB Pre-collar, Diamond Tail
Booster truck	DDH1 Drilling	20 tonne flatbed 8x8 support truck with mounted Air Compressor Booster	For RC precollar and drilling
Support trucks for drilling	DDH1 Drilling	Up to three 10-20 tonne flatbed trucks including 8x8 support truck to transport drill rod sloops and 20,000L water tank on a hydraulic jack up platform.	Transporting drilling parts, consumables and supplies, drill rod sloop, water tank to drill site.
'telehandler' all terrain forklift	DDH1 Drilling	5 to 7 tonnes total weight	For moving heavy equipment at site (drill rods, water pumps, generators, unloading pallets of supplies from flatbed)
Toyota Utes	DDH1 and Fortescue	Up to three 3 tonne utes	Personnel transport to site from accommodation, replenishing drilling consumables and supplies.
Front end loader	Earthmoving contractor	15-20 tonne front end loader	Digging drill fluid sumps, levelling drill pad and drillers workspace, and rehabilitating sumps and drill pad, clearing vegetation for tracks, rehabilitating tyre tracks, rehabilitating pastoral station tracks after de-mobilisation of drill trucks

Name	Owner/Operator	Description/capacity	Activity/purpose
Other ancillary equipment for the drilling activities will include:	DDH1	Up to three lighting plants on 5 ft trailers and powers generators. Drill site supply humpy and drillers' office caravan next to drill rig Trailer with RC drilling dust suppression unit and sample cyclone for RC precollar. Submersible pump attached to polypipe and small 5kva generator for pumping water from the RC Mineral hole (temporary water supply) Enclosed trailer for assorted gear Two 5000 polycarb above ground water tanks for management and mixing drill fluids Campsite: Up to three caravans (sleeping quarters for up to 6, kitchen and shower), a generator on a trailer and two 500l polycarb water tanks,	Submersible pump attached to polypipe and small 5kva generator for pumping water from the RC Mineral hole (temporary water supply) Enclosed trailer for assorted gear Two 5000 polycarb above ground water tanks for management and mixing drill fluids Campsite: Up to three caravans (sleeping quarters for up to 6, kitchen and shower), a generator on a trailer and two 500l polycarb water tanks,

## Low impact exploration activities

Will low impact exploration operations be conducted that are not covered by the Generic program for environment protection and rehabilitation – low impact mineral exploration in South Australia, (generic PEPR)?

No

Describe each type of low impact operations proposed.

## Drilling Operations

Will exploration drilling Operations be conducted?

Yes

Fill out the below table

Tenement	Drilling Types	Maximum number of drillholes	Maximum drillhole depth (m)	Number of drill pads	Maximum number of sumps required at each site	Maximum size of sumps (length x depth x width)	Average size of each drill pad	Number of sites requiring pad excavation	Average volume of material to be excavated
EL 6044	Reverse Circulation with Diamond Tails	1	1,500.00	1	3	27.00	2,500.00	0	0.00
EL 6044	Reverse Circulation	2	250.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00

**Other Drilling Method(s)**

**Drillsite preparation**

If exploration drilling activities are proposed, describe the methods used to prepare sites, including vegetation clearance requirements, site levelling and digging of sumps.

Fortescue will demarcate the boundary of the Aboriginal heritage approved 50 x 50m drill pad areas with stakes and flagging prior to any drill site preparation.

The final positioning of drill pads will be optimised to minimise disturbance to existing soil and vegetation by using available tracks and natural clearings for parking of rig and support vehicles, sump excavation and RC sample work area. Vehicle access around drill sites will be delineated with wooden survey stakes and flagging tape to restrict vehicle movements to proposed drill pad and to proposed off-track access routes. Site visits (see site photos above) show that there is plenty of open ground or sparse low shrubland so clearing of shrubland will be minimised and no trees will be cleared.

For the work area of the drill rig, clearing of lower storey (chenopod shrubland e.g., bluebush, saltbush etc) for the drill work area, care will be taken to leave roots in place and to not cut into the soil, i.e. The loader bucket/blade will skim over the ground surface to cut the vegetation and leave the soil in place. Any pruned or cut vegetation will be temporarily stockpiled for later redistribution over the ground to act as natural seed bank, soil windbreak and mulch.

Up to three 6m x 3m x 1.5m deep sumps will be excavated to contain drilling fluids. Sumps will have a ramp at one end to enable the exit of any potentially straying fauna and stock after the drill rig has left the site and before final rehabilitation can be completed. Bunting will be erected around the excavated sumps and will remain in place until site rehabilitation is completed. During the excavation of the sumps, the top 10-20cm layer of topsoil will be scraped aside and temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the sumps for later re-distribution over the backfilled sumps and re-contoured ground. Where the sump is lined with plastic, the plastic will be removed for final rehabilitation and disposed at the EPA approved Waste Management facility at the Port Augusta Resource Recovery Centre. With the level topography there will be no need for excavating level drill pads.

## Drillhole construction and decommissioning

### Drillhole construction and decommissioning

Construction of drillholes will be compliant with Information Sheet M21.

1: Open hole 8 inch face-sampling RC drilling up to 18m which is cased with joined 6m lengths of six inch PVC collar casing. This collar is suitable as there is no artesian water at the Moonlight Dam region.

2. 5.5" Reverse Circulation Percussion 'pre-collar' to approximately 100-300m depth (depending on sample recovery and the rig's capacity to hold back groundwater from the sample).

(Step 1 and 2 will be for the RC-only mineral exploration water hole and for the RC precollar to the diamond tail hole. The diamond tail for the mineral hole will continue with Steps 3-5 below).

3: Insert HWT steel casing to base of RC precollar

4: HQ Diamond core drilling to 500-700m depth, or possibly to NQ2 diamond core drilling at base of RC precollar (with HQ casing inside the HWT casing) to planned target depth of 1500m.

5. Optional wedge to parent hole: insert vanruth plugs 10m below wedge off depth (roughly 700m), navidrill to desired dip and azimuth, then commence NQ2 coring to the end of the hole (up to 1500m).

Casing will not need cementing in place to prevent leakage as there are no pressurised aquifers than could leak around the casing. The nearest other holes that were drilled into basement intersected Tapley Hill Formation that doesn't host aquifers.

Note: Drilling will be directly into Neoproterozoic unconfined fractured rock aquifer and confined pressurised aquifers have not historically occurred in these geological conditions in this region. There are no Tertiary or Permian basins in the vicinity of Moonlight Dam that usually host aquifers in other parts of the state.

In the unlikely event a pressurised aquifer is encountered, a Class 3 licenced water driller can be sourced by DDH1 Drilling (drill contractor) to supervise required grouting operations. Salt and barium will be kept on site should the drilling fluid density require increasing to hold back any excessive aquifer flow.

**Have the personnel responsible for implementing the proposed program read and understood the Earth Resources Information Sheet M21, Mineral exploration drillholes – general specifications for construction and backfilling?**

Yes

**Describe how drillholes will be constructed, including the casing material to be used, depth of casing, if the casing will be cemented, cementing intervals and the class of driller that will install the casing.**

Refer above

**When describing drillhole decommissioning requirements, include the materials to be used, stratigraphic intervals where cement plugs will be placed, if the casing will be removed and when decommissioning will occur after drilling is completed.**

Upon completion of the hole (and after any downhole geophysics), the steel casing will be removed, and the hole will be abandoned in accordance with requirements outlined in M21. If more than one aquifer is encountered, cement grout plugs will be used to isolate aquifers, followed by drill cuttings or clay (alternatively, the entire hole will be grouted).

On departure of the rig from the site the PVC collar casing will be securely capped until the drill assay results of the drill core can be assessed, in case of the need to return to the drill site to re-enter the hole to continue diamond core drilling deeper, by wedging or for downhole geophysics or wireline logging.

For final rehabilitation, the 6m PVC drill collar casing will be cut off below ground level (approx. 30cm). The RC drill cuttings will be used to backfill the hole as much as possible and then the hole will be capped and buried. The sumps, drill collar and drill site ground surface will be smoothed and contoured to resemble the ground's pre-drilling surface form. The temporarily stockpiled topsoil will be redistributed over the drill collar and cleared areas of the drill pad.

The timing of final rehabilitation may be dependent on the results obtained from the drilling. Final rehabilitation will be completed within 3 months after the expiry of the 12-Month PEPR.

File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Download
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## Costeans and bulk sample disposal pits

Will costeans/bulk sample disposal pits be required for the proposed program?

No

Tenement	Number of costeans/pits	Size of costean (length x width) (m2)	Average depth (m)	Volume excavated (m3)	Total Volume Excavated (m3)	Total area of disturbance
There are no records to display.						

Describe site preparation methods, vegetation clearance, and safety and maintenance requirements

No costeans or bulk sample disposal pits are required

## Sample management

**Describe the size of samples collected (including drilling samples and bulk sampling), collection methods, materials used when collecting the sample, sample disposal methods (including removal of sample bags), safety management and any other sample management requirements at the exploration site (e.g. tarps or matting used to contain cuttings). Include requirements for on-site geological sample management (splitting of archive samples, bag farms, core processing and storage).**

Reverse Circulation Percussion (RC) Drilling:

For the RC pre-collar, a hessian groundsheet will be spread over the ground to contain the drill chips and dust. One to two kgs of representative drill chips will be collected every 1 m by the driller offside who will place it on the hessian covered ground, in rows of 30, for geological logging and magnetic susceptibility measurements.

The drill chips from the mineral hole for temporary groundwater supply will be temporarily stockpiled next to the sumps ready for backfilling the hole and burial in the sumps on final rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation of drill cuttings will be completed as soon as practicable following completion of drilling and receipt of sample analysis results, with drill cuttings used to back-fill drill holes where possible. Excess drill cuttings will be buried in the drill sumps when they are sufficiently depleted of water and any spilt drill chips shovelled into the sump to leave the original red clayey silty soil at the surface. No green sample bags will be used for the RC drilling and hence there will be no need for bag farms.

HQ and NQ Diamond Drilling:

All diamond core will be placed in core trays as the core is retrieved. Drill core will be orientated, metre marked and logged (both geological interpretation and petrophysical analysis) on site. Following this, the core will then be transported back to Fortescue's office/warehouse storage facility in Pt Augusta or Adelaide, and depending on intersected lithologies, selected core will be transported to Challenger Services in Adelaide for cutting, bagging and despatch to the assay laboratory. This ensures all drill sample will be removed from the drill site and from pastoralists property.

In accordance with MG18 Guidelines, all drilled diamond core will be retained by Fortescue for the term of the tenement and 7 years after expiry, surrender or forfeiture, primarily in the Port Augusta yard, and will be offered to the South Australian core library if it is deemed unrequired by senior Fortescue geologists.

## **Access routes to work areas**

**Will existing tracks require upgrading and/or maintenance?**

Yes

**Detail the work required to upgrade/maintain existing tracks.**

Access to the Moonlight Dam prospect will be via the Stuart Highway. From the highway, access will be via approximately 4km of existing station tracks. After a site inspection in August 2023, most of the existing station tracks do not require maintaining or upgrading. However, once the drilling program is completed, some parts of the station tracks may require some remedial work, with bulldust being the most likely issue to address which can be controlled by watering down with a water truck supplied and operated by a Pt Augusta contractor.

An 80m section of the station track north of Corraberra Homestead has some ruts and rough calcrete outcrop (see Photo 5) and will require smoothing with a front-end loader.

**Will access be required across adjoining tenements?**

No

**Detail the method(s) for gaining access, and if an agreement is in place with all stakeholders. Include the total area of disturbance required (i.e. length (km) and width (m) of tracks) and provide on a locality map.**

A Native Title Agreement with the Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation is in place for EL6044, and a request for a heritage survey is currently pending. Form 21 Notice of Advanced Operations has previously been lodged with the landholder, however, if drilling does proceed, a new Form 21B will be served, due to the time that has lapsed since the submission of the original notice.

**Will access off existing tracks be required?**

Yes

**Detail the method(s) for gaining access and if vegetation clearance is required. Details of the total area of disturbance (includes drill traverses and seismic lines) required off existing tracks (i.e. length (km) and width (m) of new tracks) must be provided in the program notification.**

A 1.3km long (x 5m width) new access track will be required to access the proposed drill site from nearest existing station track. The access routes / tracks have been tentatively planned in preparation for a Heritage Clearance survey with the Barngarla.

The planned drill site is close to existing station tracks which minimises the extent of new tracks. The route of the proposed new track has been optimised to use the least vegetated chenopod shrubland, to avoid the Western Myall trees and to avoid sharp bends that can cause deep rutting by trucks.

In clearing the lower storey (chenopod shrubland e.g. bluebush, saltbush etc) for the temporary access track, care will be taken to leave roots in place and to not cut into the soil, i.e. The loader bucket/blade will skim over the ground surface to cut the vegetation and leave the soil in place. Any pruned or cut vegetation will be temporarily stockpiled for later redistribution over the ground to act as natural seed bank, soil windbreak and mulch. For final rehabilitation of the drill site, campsite and access track, the track will be blocked from any vehicle use.

Please refer to the document 'EPEPR2023-035\_Extension request - EL6044' that has been attached to this review request for details of images

**Attach Files** 

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## **Campsites and equipment laydown areas**

**Indicate where staff and contractors will be accommodated during the exploration program.**

All Fortescue staff will stay in accommodation at Port Augusta.

The DDH1 drill crew will camp in an area about 300m SW of the drill pad in a cleared area for the caravans, generator, and vehicles.

**What is the maximum number of personnel requiring accommodation?**

**Is a campsite required to be established?**

Yes

**Provide a description and justification of the camp location (e.g. previously cleared areas etc.), and any other relevant information.**

The DDH1 drill crew will camp in an area about 300m southwest of the drill pad in a cleared area for the caravans, generator, and vehicles.

The cleared area for the temporary camp will be 50 m x 50m and will adjoin an area up to 50m x 50m set aside for the laydown (see below).

The campsite and laydown area will use the temporary drill site access track. The area for the camp location is nearly flat lying (1 degree slope to the west) and is vegetated by low chenopod shrubland.

**What will be the total area (ha) of the campsite(s)?**

0.25

**Will native vegetation clearance be required?**

Yes

**What will be the total area (ha) of vegetation clearance for the campsite?**

0.25

**Describe the methods used to prepare the campsite including vegetation requirements and site levelling.**

The DDH1 drill crew will camp in an area about 300m southwest of the drill pad in a cleared area for the caravans, generator, and vehicles.

The cleared area for the temporary camp will be 50 m x 50m and will adjoin an area up to 50m x 50m set aside for the laydown (see below). The campsite and laydown area will use the temporary drill site access track. The area for the camp location is nearly flat lying (1 degree slope to the west) and is vegetated by low chenopod shrubland.

**Will any excavations be required?**

Yes

**Describe the purpose of the excavation**

A fenced 3m x 3m x 1.5m soakage pit will be excavated for grey water (shower and kitchen). Beneath the surficial clayey silt is calcrete which will be a suitably porous substrate for the greywater to soak into.

**Describe the maximum volume (m3) of material to be excavated.**

13.50

**Provide confirmation that the proposed ablution facilities have been endorsed for use by the Department of Health or local council, where applicable.**

Yes

**Indicate why endorsement approval is not required by the Department of Health or local council.**

**Proposed infrastructure (includes caravans, tents, offices, hydrocarbon and water storage requirements etc)**

<b>Proposed infrastructure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Description / capacity</b>
Water tank	1	for camp use
Explorex self-contained caravans	3	4-6 people with beds, shower and kitchen
Portable chemical toilet	2	For use at campsite
Diesel generator on bunded skid	1	For use at campsite

**Will laydown areas be required?**

Yes

**Will the laydown area(s) be located at the same location as the campsite?**

Yes

**Provide a description and justification of the location (e.g. previously cleared areas), and any other relevant information if required.**

The proposed laydown area will join the campsite area

For noting: - details of total area of vegetation clearance, methods used and excavations required have been added into this document three times and have disappeared after saving the page. In the event this information is not appearing, please refer to the attached document EPEPR2023-035\_Extension request\_EL6044 for the relevant details.

**What will be the maximum area (ha) required for the laydown area(s)?**

0.25

**Will native vegetation clearance be required?**

Yes

**What will be the total area (ha) of vegetation clearance for the site?**

0.25

**Describe the methods used to prepare the laydown area including vegetation requirements and site levelling.**

Methods for preparation and rehabilitation of the laydown area will be the same as for the campsite and drill pad. An area up to 50m x 50m will be used for the laydown (see Figure 3). The actual individual campsite and the individual laydown area will likely only be 20m x 50m, but a larger area will be cleared during an Aboriginal Heritage survey as a buffer for turning circles or the need for Fortescue employees to camp on the same site as the drill crew. The laydown will be prepared at the same time and in the same manner as the drill pad preparation, whilst maximising the use of naturally clear ground, avoiding all trees. Up to 0.25ha of lower storey (chenopod shrubland e.g., bluebush, saltbush etc) may be affected, and care will be taken to leave roots in place and to not cut into the soil, i.e. The front-end loader bucket/blade will skim over the ground surface to cut the vegetation and leave the soil in place. Any pruned or cut vegetation will be temporarily stockpiled around the margin of the camp area for later redistribution over the ground to act as natural seed bank, soil windbreak and mulch.

**Will any excavations be required?**

No

**Describe the purpose of the excavation.**

—

**What will be the volume (m3) of material to be excavated.**

—

**Proposed infrastructure (includes hydrocarbon and water storage requirements)**

Proposed infrastructure	Quantity	Description / capacity
All essential on-site drilling equipment will be contained within the cleared drill pad area. All non-essential drilling equipment will be located at Fortescue's storage yard in Port Augusta.	1	All essential on-site drilling equipment will be contained within the cleared drill pad area. All non-essential drilling equipment will be located at Fortescue's storage yard in Port Augusta.

**Attach Files** ⓘ

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**Other exploration methods and/or ancillary operations**

**Are any other proposed exploration methods (e.g. seismic) and/or ancillary exploration operations required?**

No

**Describe the activity(s), site preparation, vegetation clearance, and safety and maintenance requirements.**

—

## Water supply and management

**Will camp and/or drilling water be required?**

Yes

**Describe how and where water will be sourced for drilling, track maintenance and camping purposes (e.g. groundwater, surface water, mains). Indicate how wastewater and/or runoff water will be managed.**

A separate mineral drillhole drilled within 20 metres of the main percussion-diamond core hole (within the proposed drill pad) will be used as a water source for the diamond drilling activities. Water from the hole will be pumped directly into the sumps or into the mixing polycarb tanks. An extra 10,000 to 15,000L water tank will be kept at the drill site either in polycarb tanks or in a 20,000L tank on a hydraulic powered flatbed truck platform. In case of temporary water supply problems, there will be the option for carting water into the drill site by the driller's water truck or by a separate water carting contractor and placed directly into the drill sumps and mixing polycarb tanks.

The drillers' campsite will require approximately 1000 litres per day and will be carted to the campsite and stored in polycarb tanks or on a tank on a hydraulic powered flatbed truck platform. The water can be purchased from Pt Augusta Council, or from a water carting contractor or obtained from Fortescue's yard in Pt Augusta.

**Will surface water and/or mineral drillholes be used as a water source/supply?**

Yes

**Indicate if a licence for water extraction/usage is required (refer to relevant Natural Resources Management water allocation plan available on the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) website.**

No

**Attach a copy of the licence or include a statement confirming that a licence will be obtained before the extraction and/or usage of water.**

A separate mineral drillhole drilled within 20 metres of the main percussion-diamond core hole (within the proposed drill pad) will be used as a water source for the diamond drilling activities. Using the salty water from the unconfined fracture rock aquifer mitigates against having to source water from pastoral dams, bores, or other existing fresh water that the pastoral station uses for their own purposes. This process also mitigates against the need for water carting and subsequent track degradation. The hole will be drilled on the corner of the proposed drill pad and will be rehabilitated at the end of the program in accordance with M21, as per the proposed drillhole.

The area of the planned hole is not a prescribed water well area and is not covered by the Landscape South Australia Act 2019. A mineral hole will be drilled specifically for a proximal supply of groundwater for the deeper percussion-diamond core hole.

## Groundwater investigation and water affecting activities

**Will any water investigation (e.g. pump testing, water monitoring sites, water storage, turkey nests/dams) and/or water affecting activities, be undertaken (refer to s. 127 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019)?**

No

Describe the water investigation and/or water affecting activities, including site preparation, vegetation clearance, and safety and maintenance requirements.

Indicate if water affecting activities permits (eg well and water extraction/discharge permits) have been obtained and in accordance with the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.

—

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## Management of hazardous materials

Will activities be conducted in areas of known uranium and thorium mineralisation?

No

Attach Files 

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Will any other hazardous material be encountered when exploring in the area?

No

List the types of hazardous materials and provide a management plan on how these materials will be managed.

## Rehabilitation

**Detail all the activities and strategies relating to the remediation of all impacts associated with the proposed exploration operations (includes exploration camps and laydown areas, tracks). Completion of rehabilitation must be achieved within 3 months after the expiry of each program notification.**

Fortescue is committed to ensuring proactive rehabilitation practices are maintained to meet Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) requirements, and associated tenement conditions, under the Mining Act 1971 (SA). The method of rehabilitation for the exploration works proposed in this EPEPR are detailed in the Drill Hole Stabilisation and Site Rehabilitation Procedure attached in the appendix.

Specific to the works at the Moonlight Dam Prospect, the following rehabilitation procedures will be met:

Immediately Post Drilling when the rig leaves the site:

- Insert a PVC Collar into drillhole that protrudes a maximum of 0.3m above ground level (if collar PVC casing stops below surface level) and backfill any collar blow-outs or collar perimeter cavities.
- Place (glue or teck screwed) a temporary cap on PVC collars. Plugging drillholes is crucial to prevent animals falling into the hole and to stop potential surface water (from heavy rains) draining into it and causing collar collapse and widening of the hole at the surface.
- After each drillhole is collared and capped, collect, and remove all rubbish and drillers' equipment from the site.
- Ensure capped drill collar cannot act as a pitfall trap to animals.

Upon completion of the Drilling Program, where no further downhole geophysics, wireline logging or re-entering of holes is required:

- Cut and remove the PVC collar to approximately 30cm below the ground surface level, as described in Information Sheet M21.
- Backfill the hole with RC chips as much as possible.
- Securely block the cut PVC with a pvc cap and backfill the hole.
- Mound over the backfilled hole with soil.
- Remove all casing foam and rubbish from around the collar.
- Relocate RC chips to a heap next to the sumps in preparation for dumping in the sumps when they've dried.
- Remove the hessian tarp for the RC chips and scoop up any drill chips or dust to the heap next to the sump.
- Dispose of rubbish, including PVC collar, in the Pt Augusta Resource Recovery Centre waste facility.

Final Rehabilitation - once the target area site is no longer required for future works or access, final rehabilitation of drill site, temporary access track and campsite:

- Remove temporary fencing from around drill sumps and grey water sump at the campsite.
- Remove plastic liners from drill sumps. Backfill to the surface with stockpiled RC chips and stockpiled excavated material and backfill greywater campsite sump.
- Dispose of sump liner at the Pt Augusta Resource Recovery Centre waste facility.
- For final rehabilitation of the sumps, drill collar, drill site and campsite, the ground surface will be smoothed and contoured to resemble the ground's pre-drilling surface form, is consistent with the surrounding natural landscape and provides for successful revegetation and reduces the potential for excessive erosion.
- Scarify compacted areas (e.g., drill pads and tracks and campsite) to loosen compacted soil, promote vegetation regrowth and ensure draining and contours are adequate. Scarify on the contour where the compacted area are in a sloping landscape to avoid erosion gullying. Where contour scarification is not possible, scarify against the contour but periodically raise the tynes of the machinery to provide some resistance to downhill surface water flow.
- The temporarily stockpiled topsoil will be redistributed over the drill collar and cleared parts of the drill pad and campsite.
- Flatten windrows, lightly scarify compacted temporary access tracks, and redistribute cleared vegetation over track to act as natural seed bank, soil windbreak and mulch. For final rehabilitation of the drill site, campsite and access track, the track will be blocked from any vehicle use. Block access to rehabilitated tracks to prevent vehicle use and to allow vegetation to establish.

Post exploration drilling activities, Fortescue will continue to monitor the rehabilitation.

**State the estimated budget required to rehabilitate all impacted sites. State the estimated budget required to rehabilitate all impacted sites. Include a breakdown of the cost associated with each rehabilitation component**

Proposed budget for rehabilitation works is approximately \$12,500 and includes salaries for Fortescue personnel required to monitor and report on rehabilitation works as well as payments to the pastoral lease station or contractor for earthworks on behalf of Fortescue.

A bond of \$10,000 was paid on 4 December 2023.

## Vegetation Clearance

**Will any area of cleared native vegetation be unrehabilitated after the authorised period?**

No

**Provide a map and description of the vegetation present in the application area, the extent of any proposed vegetation clearance and the likelihood of the presence of threatened flora.**

—

**State the estimated quantum of significant environmental benefit (SEB) to be gained in exchange for the proposed native vegetation clearance and describe how the SEB will be provided.**

—

## System

Tenement Name ↑	Tenement Holder	Tenement Operators	Grant Date	Expiry Date	Tenement Type	Location Description	Tenement Area	Tenement Status	Shape Identifier
EL 6044	FMG Resources Pty Ltd		02/11/2017	01/11/2028	Exploration Licence	Corraberra area approximately 25km northwest of Port Augusta	131.00	Active	10006107-0000

## Management of Environmental Impacts

**Applicable environmental aspects and potential impacts**



Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Fauna	All fauna	Entrapment of fauna through open drillholes and excavations.	Three (3) 6m x 3m x1.5m deep sumps will be constructed at the drill site to contain diamond drilling fluids, and one unlined greywater sump will be excavated at the driller's campsite. The sumps will be barricaded with bunting or fenced immediately after construction. The sumps will have a ramp at one end to permit exit of native fauna and stock in the event of breaching the erected bunting/fencing. Bunting or temporary fencing will remain around the sumps until the sumps have dried out sufficiently to allow rehabilitation (removal of sump liner and backfilling). Upon completion of the drillholes, abandonment procedures will be compliant with specifications documented within Information Sheet M21. Initially, PVC collar casing and/or cemented casing will remain in the hole and collars initially capped, pending assay results to allow for later geophysical logging or further drilling. Upon final hole abandonment, holes will have any casing cut off	Low	No disturbance to Aboriginal artefacts or sites of significance unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	Maintain a database and provide a statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage sites were not impacted during the conduct of the exploration program, unless prior approval was obtained under the appropriate legislation</li> <li>Work ceased on discovery of a significant site and recommenced only after authorisation.</li> <li>Aboriginal heritage sites identified during the exploration program were appropriately recorded and reported to authorities, if not previously known.</li> </ul>

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
			below ground level, backfilled and then capped to prevent cave in. Sumps will be backfilled with excavated material and then original topsoil and vegetation matter will be spread across the site to reduce visual impact and encourage regeneration.			
Third party access	Soil/vegetation/farina	Degradation of rehabilitated access tracks caused by third party access (includes previously closed and rehabilitated access tracks).	All new tracks will be rehabilitated and closed off from the existing station track at the end of the drilling program. The access track will be scarified, and all topsoil and vegetation piles will be spread evenly across the rehabilitated area.	Low	Rehabilitated access tracks remain permanently closed, unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	Maintain before and after photographic evidence demonstrating that all tracks are closed and rehabilitated within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), unless otherwise authorised. Representative photos are to be included within the annual exploration compliance report. Provide the information requested within the 'Rehabilitation' section of the annual exploration compliance report.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Aboriginal heritage	Aboriginal heritage sites	Disturbance to Aboriginal heritage	<p>Fortescue is aware of its obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 which protects all Aboriginal sites, objects, and remains. The Company acknowledges that under this Act, it is an offence to damage, disturb or interfere with an Aboriginal site, object, or remains. The Native Title Mining Agreement for Exploration includes the requirement for heritage survey clearances prior to ground disturbing work. A heritage clearance survey with the Barnjarla will demarcate areas to be avoided. Heritage sites identified during the clearance survey process will be flagged in the field and avoided. Personnel will be notified of any heritage sites during the induction process, on maps, and at toolbox meetings, etc. All vehicle movements will be limited to existing station tracks and Barnjarla approved site access routes. Fortescue has consulted with Barnjarla for an Aboriginal Heritage approval for the proposed</p>	Mod erat e	No disturbanc e to Aboriginal artefacts or sites of significanc e unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	<p>Maintain a database and provide a statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage sites were not impacted during the conduct of the exploration program, unless prior approval was obtained under the appropriate legislation</li> <li>Work ceased on discovery of a significant site and recommenced only after authorisation.</li> <li>Aboriginal heritage sites identified during the exploration program were appropriately recorded and reported to authorities, if not previously known.</li> </ul>

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
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			exploration drilling program.			
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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Contamination	Soil/vegetation/farina	Soil/vegetation contamination (e.g. hydrocarbons, rubbish, drill samples/cuttings, ablutions, other sources)	All general and non-degradable waste generated by the drilling program will be removed from site and disposed of at the EPA approved Waste Management facility at the Port Augusta Resource Recovery Centre. Hydrocarbon and chemical wastes (including oily water) will be segregated from the general waste and removed offsite to be disposed of at the EPA approved Waste Management facility at the Port Augusta Resource Recovery Centre. To mitigate against higher risk sources of hydrocarbon contamination and spills, plastic bunding will be placed under major drilling equipment such as the drill rig, rod handling equipment and generators. Any fuel/oil supply stations will be located on containment spill bunds. Spill kits will be on site. All waste will be managed and disposed of in accordance with Fortescue's EMP (EX-PL-EN-0006). Ablutions will be managed by having a portable Chemical Toilet on site which will be emptied once a	Low	No contamination of soil and vegetation of exploration activities.	Demonstrate that all domestic or industrial waste (includes general rubbish and hydrocarbons) is disposed of in accordance with the Environment Protection Act 1993 within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), and that all fuel and chemicals are stored in accordance with EPA requirements, by providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The name, location and contact details of the authorised waste disposal facility.</li> <li>• A statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report confirming domestic and industrial waste was removed from all exploration sites and disposed of at an authorised waste disposal facility.</li> <li>• Photographic evidence within the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that all fuel and chemical storage facilities were managed in accordance with EPA requirements. Maintain photographs of all exploration sites and provide representative photos within the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that drill cuttings are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removed from site and disposed of at a licensed facility</li> <li>• buried under a minimum of 30 cm of soil, or in accordance with EPA guideline, Radiation protection guidelines on mining in South Australia: mineral exploration, available on the EPA website, or</li> <li>• backfilled down the drillhole, within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), unless otherwise authorised. Provide the information requested within the 'Rehabilitation' section of the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
			<p>week by a contractor from Pt Augusta. The greywater soakage pits for the campsite will be constructed and maintained in a manner that will not be a potential hazard to health, not emit odours, not attract flies or mosquitoes, is for a short period only in a remote low rainfall environment and is rehabilitated by backfilling. If the greywater soakage pits become excessively full compared to the rate of soakage, a Pt Augusta based contract 'sump sucker' will be engaged for the removal of greywater.</p>			annual exploration compliance report.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Fire	Community/landowners	Damage to infrastructure and loss of income through fire.	The drilling will take place in the area classified by the CFS as the 'North West Pastoral' and Fire Danger Ratings are issued daily after 4.30pm the day prior during the fire season which starts 1st November to 31st March. On days of Total Fire Ban (declared for Extreme and Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating) Fortescue will comply with the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, specifically: 1. cease any activities that could be spark-generating (activities include the operation of Stationary Engines, generators; Internal combustion engines; vehicles; gas welding, soldering, metal cutting, grinding and abrasion); 2. Not drive a vehicle referred to in sub regulation (1) within 2 m of flammable bush or grass unless the vehicle is fitted with an exhaust system that complies with the Act. The sparse shrubland of bluebush and saltbush comprises very low fuel load in the project area and the drill pad will be cleared of	Low	No loss of infrastructure or income through fire as a result of exploration activities.	Provide a statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report confirming that no uncontrolled fires* occurred. Alternatively, provide a report on the independent investigation of all uncontrolled fires* demonstrating that the licensee could not have reasonably prevented the fire through the implementation of precautionary measures.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
			vegetation. The underside of vehicles, especially light vehicles will be kept clear of grass. Vehicles will only park in the cleared drill pad or the tracks, away from vegetation.			
General Public	General Public	Injury or death to members of the public as a result of exploration activities.	The location of the proposed drill site is not frequented by the general public. The drill site will have safety and access permission signage to prevent undue entry of personnel who have not completed company and site-specific safety inductions.	Low	No accidents involving the public that could have been reasonably prevented by the licensee.	Provide a statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report confirming no accidents occurred involving the public during and after the exploration program. If an accident involving the public did occur, provide a copy of the independent investigation report within the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that the licensee could not have reasonably prevented the accident through the implementation of precautionary measures.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Groundwater	Groundwater/aquifer	Groundwater contamination: • contamination of aquifers through entry of pollutants from the surface • interconnection between aquifers • degradation of natural hydrostatic conditions (maintain pre-drilling pressures).	All exploration drill holes will be completed in accordance with Information Sheet M21: Mineral Exploration Drillholes - General specifications for construction and backfilling. In the region surrounding the drilling there are no confined aquifers or artesian water, so the likelihood and the consequences of groundwater contamination is very low. No confined fresh water or artesian aquifers are present in the area. The area is not under a Prescribed Wells Area. Waterconnect water bore records of previous drilling in the area shows that the Whyalla Sandstone is an unconfined low yield salty fractured rock aquifer. In construction of the initial percussion pre-collar, the drill hole will be cased with either PVC or removable steel drill pipe to prevent ingress of water, and to aid continued deeper percussion/diamond drilling. HQ casing to the bottom of the RC precollar will remain in the hole during NQ diamond core drilling, isolating the aquifer, until completion of the	Low	Drillholes restored to controlling geological conditions that existed before the hole was drilled or, where it is intended to re-enter the hole, must be completed with casing of adequate strength and the casing cemented so that all aquifers are isolated to prevent the movement of any fluids behind the casing.	Maintain evidence demonstrating that drillholes are decommissioned in accordance with Earth Resources Information Sheet M21, Mineral exploration drillholes – general specifications for construction and backfilling, and/or specific conditions from DEW (Groundwater) within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), unless otherwise authorised. Provide the information requested within the 'Groundwater' section of the annual exploration compliance report.

drill hole, followed by removal at the end of the hole. Upon completion of the hole (and after any downhole geophysics), the hole will be abandoned in accordance with requirements outlined in Information Sheet M21. If more than one aquifer is encountered, cement grout plugs will be used to isolate aquifers, followed by drill cuttings or clay (alternatively, the entire hole will be grouted). For plugging the drillhole at Moonlight Dam, a 20m length of cementing ('cement grout') will be placed just below the base of the Whyalla Sandstone (the unconfined fractured rock aquifer) extending into the underlying Tapley Hill Formation shale. The RC hole that was used for a groundwater supply will be backfilled with the stockpiled RC drill chips as much as possible and the PVC collar rehabilitated in the same manner as the collar of the full diamond tail hole (described above). The greywater soakage pits for the campsite will be constructed and maintained in a

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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
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manner that will not be a potential hazard to health, not emit odours, not attract flies or mosquitoes, is for a short period only in a remote low rainfall environment, and is rehabilitated by backfilling. The water will soak through limestone (calcrete) and Whyalla sandstone and will not measurably affect the quality of the salty unconfined aquifer or percolate more than several metres beyond the greywater pit. If the greywater soakage pits become excessively full compared to the rate of soakage, a Pt Augusta based contract 'sump sucker' will be engaged for the removal of greywater.

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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Groundwater	Soil/vegetation/fauna	Discharge of groundwater into the surrounding environment.	Up to three (3) 6m x 3m x 1.5m deep sumps constructed on the drill pad will be utilised to contain drilling fluids for diamond drilling if above ground tanks are not used. These sumps will also be utilised to contain any discharge of groundwater during the percussion drilling of the pre-collar. Fortescue maintains regular practice to take north, east, south and west directional photographs of each site, prior to, during and after drilling activities and then post rehabilitation, for the annual exploration compliance report.	Low	No discharge of groundwater outside of the exploration site (e.g. drillsite) into the surrounding environment and no discharge of water into a watercourse, unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	Maintain photographic evidence of all drillsites demonstrating that groundwater was not discharged into the surrounding environment, unless water affecting activity permits were obtained allowing the discharge of groundwater into watercourses and/or lakes. Representative photos and water affecting activity permits (where applicable) to be included within the annual exploration compliance report.
Groundwater users	Groundwater users	Interference to existing water users when extracting water from existing dams, water bores or mineral drillholes.	NA	Low	No public nuisance impacts resulting from the extraction of water for exploration purposes, unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	Provide the information requested within the 'Complaints' section of the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that all reasonable complaints from stakeholders were resolved to the satisfaction of both parties, prior to and ongoing during the course of the exploration program without the involvement of DEM. Where permits are required for the extraction and/or usage of groundwater, provide copies of the licence or permit within the annual exploration compliance report.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Native Vegetation	Flora and fauna and their habitats; includes Common wealth and state scheduled species.	Loss/modification of native vegetation and associated habitats through the clearance of vegetation.	Existing station roads and tracks will be used to minimise impact and disturbance to native vegetation. Drill pads and any new access tracks will be prioritised through naturally clear ground where possible to eliminate the need to disturb or clear existing vegetation. All trees will be avoided from the route of the access track and the drill pad. The location of these tracks will avoid natural drainage courses. The length of temporary drill site access tracks will be minimised as much as possible. Minimise the shrubland clearance for the temporary drill site access tracks and minimise the drill pad size to below 50m x 50m if possible. All new tracks and pads are to be rehabilitated as described in the Rehabilitation section of this PEPR. Site access, preparation and rehabilitation will be completed in line with the objectives and guidelines outlined in Information Sheet M33 and in this PEPR. To avoid the potential ignition of wildfires, no spark generating	Low	No permanent loss/modification of native flora and fauna populations and their habitats through: • clearance • fire • other unless prior approval under the relevant legislation is obtained.	Maintain before, during and after photographic evidence of all exploration sites (e.g. drillsites, new track exit/entry points off existing tracks, costeans, campsites) demonstrating that: • The area and method of disturbance is consistent with that described in the PEPR. • No uncontrolled fires* occurred as a result of exploration activities. Representative photos to be included within the annual exploration compliance report.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
			activities (e.g., angle grinding or welding) will be conducted at the drill site.			
Other	Surface water	Alteration to surface water – interference to surface drainage.	Drill holes and new access tracks are not located within the vicinity of any natural ephemeral surface drainage, creeks and claypans. The topography at the planned drill site and planned temporary access track is very flat.	Low	<b>No permanent modification to hydrological features caused by exploration activities without obtaining a water affecting permit from the relevant Landscape Board (under Landscapes Act SA 2019).</b>	Provide before, during and after photographic evidence within the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that original drainage contours (watercourses and lakes) are consistent with the natural relief post rehabilitation within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period).  Alternatively, provide copies of water affecting permits within the annual exploration compliance report.

Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Soil	Soil	Disturbance to the soil profile and topography, and accelerated soil erosion caused by exploration activities (e.g. construction of sumps, new tracks and drill pads; ground compaction at laydown areas and camps).	Other than the three sumps, there will be no excavations because the naturally flat terrain is acceptable for rig access and the drill pad. The sumps comprise three (3) 6m x 3m x 1.5m deep pits to contain drilling fluids. In the excavation of the sumps, the top 10-20cm layer of topsoil will be scraped aside and temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the sumps for later re-distribution over the backfilled sumps and re-contoured ground. For the work area of the drill rig, clearing of lower storey (chenopod shrubland e.g. bluebush, saltbush etc) for the drill work area, care will be taken to leave roots in place and to not cut into the soil, i.e. The loader bucket/blade will skim over the ground surface to cut the vegetation and leave the soil in place. Any pruned or cut vegetation will be temporarily stockpiled for later redistribution over the ground to act as natural seed bank, soil windbreak and mulch. There are no acid sulphate soils in the area, so no control strategies or	Low	Where soil disturbance occurs as a result of exploration activities, ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• topsoil quality and quantity is maintained</li> <li>• the soil profile and topography is reinstated to original conditions</li> <li>• there is no accelerated soil erosion.</li> </ul>	Maintain before, during and after photographic evidence of all excavations, drillsites, camps, laydown areas and new tracks demonstrating that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The soil profile and topography is reinstated to original conditions and is consistent with natural surroundings within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), unless otherwise authorised.</li> <li>• Where required, sufficient topsoil is removed (depending on soil profile), stored separately from subsoil and reinstated (in the correct order) within 3 months of the expiry of the PEPR approval (for PEPRs approved for a period of 12 months), or 3 months after the expiry of a program notification (for PEPRs approved for an ongoing period), unless otherwise authorised.</li> <li>• There are no signs of accelerated soil erosion during and post rehabilitation of disturbed sites.</li> </ul> Representative photos to be included within the annual exploration compliance report. Provide the information requested within the 'Rehabilitation' section of the annual exploration compliance report.

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**Environmental Aspect Receptor Potential Impact Control Strategies Risk Outcomes Outcome Measurement Criteria**

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management plans are required for that potential impact.

Rehabilitation of topsoil and subsoil at drill sites and any new tracks will be undertaken as described earlier in the relevant sections of this PEPR, and in a manner which is compliant with the guidelines outlined in Information Sheet M33. In areas of soil compaction such as the drill site and short access track off the existing station track, light scarification will be conducted to promote natural vegetation regrowth and reduce risk of soil erosion. Fortescue will ensure rehabilitation is completed within 3 months of expiry of the PEPR approval or program notification unless written arrangements are approved.

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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Stakeholders	Stakeholders	Stakeholders: - freehold land owners - perpetual lease holders - pastoral lease holders - Aboriginal land (Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara and Maralinga Tjarutja lands) - Department of Defence - state government departments - local government (councils) - federal government - native title parties.	<p>The proposed exploration area for drilling activities is over areas located on the Corraberra Pastoral Lease. Small area of the drill pad laydown and camp site will have negligible impact on existing land use such as stock grazing.</p> <p>Form 21A: Notice of Entry and Form 21B: Notice of Entry on land – advanced exploration operations have been served to the appropriate stakeholders.</p> <p>Commence early consultation (phone and face to face discussions) with Pastoral Lease holder and Barngarla to explain scope of program, and to ascertain areas of concern. Conduct Heritage Surveys over planned drill pad, campsite, and temporary access routes. Meet with or telephone pastoralists at an agreed frequency, to discuss drill program, progress/issues.</p> <p>Have one designated landholder liaison officer for resolution of any issues. Drill holes will be situated well away from infrastructure and stock watering points (i.e. &gt;500m). Drill hole located well away (over</p>	Low	Stakeholders are fully informed and satisfied with the proposed methods used to conduct exploration activities on their land, and all prescribed forms are served and agreements obtained in accordance with the Mining Act.	Provide the information requested within the 'Complaints' section of the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that all reasonable complaints from stakeholders are resolved to the satisfaction of both parties prior to and ongoing during the course of exploration program, without the involvement of DEM. Provide the information requested within the 'Landowner details and liaison' section of the annual exploration compliance report demonstrating that prescribed forms were served and agreements obtained in accordance with the Mining Act prior to the commencement of exploration activities.

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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
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2km) from residence at Corraberra homestead. Use existing track networks wherever possible. Vehicle speed limits will be imposed to reflect local road conditions and the proximity to any infrastructure or stock. Put out signs warning station personnel of proximity to exploration vehicles. Planning and coordination will be used to minimize the number of individual vehicle movements. Rehabilitation of tracks and pads at the end of the program. There is a clear view at the junction of the Corraberra Station track with the Stuart Highway, so the traffic hazard of entering/exiting vehicles is significantly reduced.

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Environmental Aspect	Receptor	Potential Impact	Control Strategies	Risk	Outcomes	Outcome Measurement Criteria
Weeds and Pathogens	All flora and fauna, especially listed species.	Loss/modification of the environment (biological, social and economic) through the introduction of weeds and pathogens.	A table of key environmental considerations encompassing flora and fauna (including weeds and pathogens) has been generated according to information provided in the regulatory feedback from DEW coupled with information identified from site specific searches (20km radius) conducted for EPBC Act Protected Matters Report. This information will be included in the Fortescue site/project specific Inductions. Buffel Grass has been identified as a major threat. The grass is known along the Stuart Highway. Steps will be taken to avoid the introduction and/or establishment of Buffel Grass due to the proposed exploration activities. The major dispersal vector is machinery. All vehicles, trailers, equipment, and the boots of field staff will be checked for any mud or organic matter when entering the project area. Where possible, any earthworks machinery will be sourced from the pastoral station to	Low	No introduction of new species of weeds and plant pathogens, nor increase in abundance of existing weeds species.	Provide a statement within the 'Compliance with approved programs' section of the annual exploration compliance report, confirming that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle logs were kept during the exploration program, demonstrating that all vehicles are clean and free of plant and mud material prior to entering properties† within the tenement areas, unless otherwise agreed to with the relevant landowners.</li> <li>• Photographic evidence before and during exploration operations and after rehabilitation of disturbed sites was captured, demonstrating that no new weeds and plant pathogens were introduced, nor an increase in abundance of existing weeds recorded.</li> </ul>

**Environmental Aspect Receptor Potential Impact Control Strategies Risk Outcomes Outcome Measurement Criteria**

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minimise  
contamination  
risks. Key  
components of the  
South Australian  
Buffel Grass  
Strategic Plan  
(2019-2024)  
including impacts  
and mitigation of  
spread and  
infestation will be  
addressed in the  
Fortescue site  
induction process.

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## Supporting Information

### Photos

Upload Photos 

[Expand/Collapse](#)

<b>File Name</b>	<b>File Size (Mb)</b>	<b>Created On</b>	<b>Download</b>
Photo 1_Entry exit from Corraberra Station to Stuart Highway.png	0.71 Mb	27-10-2025 14:35:11	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Supporting information/Photos/Photo 1_Entry exit from Corraberra Station to Stuart Highway_2025-10-27T04-05-11.036Z.png)</a>
Photo 2_Typical topography and soil cover_campsite_laydown area.png	0.75 Mb	27-10-2025 14:37:19	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Supporting information/Photos/Photo 2_Typical topography and soil cover_campsite_laydown area_2025-10-27T04-07-18.706Z.png)</a>
Photo 3_Vegetation and topography of first priority drillpad.png	0.46 Mb	27-10-2025 14:42:41	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Supporting information/Photos/Photo 3_Vegetation and topography of first priority drillpad_2025-10-27T04-12-40.618Z.png)</a>

Site identification	Date taken	Photo number & PEPR section reference	Easting (GDA94)	Northing (DGA94)	Zone	Details and comments	Document ID
EL6044	23/07/2023	Photo 2 - Landform, topography, soil and surface cover	741127mE	6421502mN	53	Typical topography and soil cover, at the area for the planned laydown and campsite. This is 150m away from the drill pad and the proposed temporary drill access track will go across this photo (741127mE, 6421502mN GDA94 Zone53, looking northwest). Vegetation comprises sparse and low shrubland of chenopod (bluebush and saltbush).	Photo 2
EL6044	23/07/2023	Photo 3 - Landform, topography, soil and surface cover			53	Vegetation and topography of planned 'First Priority' drill pad, looking south from northeastern corner. Bluebush and Western Myall trees can be seen in the distance	Photo 3

## Supporting Maps

Upload Maps 

[Expand/Collapse](#)

File Name	File Size (Mb)	Created On	Download
Figure 1_Landform and topography of the district.png	0.36 Mb	27-10-2025 14:48:39	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Supporting information/Maps/Figure 1_Landform and topography of the district_2025-10-27T04-18-38.367Z.png)</a>
Figure2_Satellite view of planned drillsite area.jpg	0.07 Mb	27-10-2025 14:51:54	<a href="#">Download (MERS/EPR-03984/Supporting information/Maps/Figure2_Satellite view of planned drillsite area_2025-10-27T04-21-54.075Z.jpg)</a>

Figure Description	Document ID
Landform and topography of the district	Figure 1
Satellite view, blue line is path of planned drill access track and pink + blue squares are proposed drill pads and green + blue boxes are the camp + laydown areas (to be cleared by Heritage surveying). The satellite imagery clearly shows the mature Western Myall trees as green dots.	Figure 2

## Additional Information

List any other supporting information and/or documents submitted with the application, including land access approvals/permits required to conduct the proposed exploration program.

Fortescue has had ongoing relations and regular consultation with the relevant pastoralists, including face-to-face meetings, delivery of email updates and phone calls to update on planned activities and arranging site access.

Also refer to documents previously provided:

- EX-PL-EN-0006\_South Australia Exploration Activities – Environmental Management Plan
- FMG – Exploration Weed Hygiene – Vehicle Inspection Checklist – June 2020







## Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Atlas

About

FAQ

Feedback

Quick Search

Layers

- Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems
  - Aquatic GDE
  - Terrestrial GDE
  - Subterranean GDE
- Areas of update
- Inflow Dependent Ecosystems
- Water management
- Hydrology
- Hydrogeology
- Environment
- Base maps
  - Topographic overlays
    - Places
    - State and Territory borders
    - Roads
  - Hillshade

Selectable layer: Aquatic GDE

137.57236, -32.29981

Current Scale: 
Selection Size: 0

Search Results (0)

SEARCH RESULTS

Export
Detailed Results
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Zoom
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Refine

Name	State	Ecosystem type	Supplied ecosystem type	GDE Potential	IDE likelihood

Page 1 of 1
20 Items per page

## SA Geodata Database - Drillhole Details

Drillhole: 24926 Drillhole Name: MT. GUNSON MINES 111

Details	Location	Stratigraphy	Lithology	Petrophysics	Core Details	Spectral Scanning	Rock Samples	Historical Documents	References
<b>Metres From</b>	<b>Metres To</b>	<b>Map Symbol</b>	<b>Major Lithology</b>	<b>Minor Lithology</b>	<b>Description</b>				
0	3	Q	CLAY (UNDIFF. ORIGIN)	SOIL	Clay, soil				
<b>Strat Unit Name</b>		Quaternary rocks							
<b>Strat Unit Description</b>		Undifferentiated Quaternary rocks.							
<b>GIS Code</b>		IH							
3	25.5	? Nhueh	SANDSTONE	CLAY (UNDIFF. ORIGIN)	Quartzose & lithic sandstone, clayey in part, coarser grains rounded				
<b>Strat Unit Name</b>		Whyalla Sandstone							
<b>Strat Unit Description</b>		Sandstone, coarse-grained, bimodal, with large-scale crossbedding, sand grains very well rounded, spherical.							
<b>GIS Code</b>		N-hueh							
25.5	52	? Nhu2	SILTSTONE	Red-grey-green calcareous siltstone					
<b>Strat Unit Name</b>		Umberatana Group unit 2							
<b>Strat Unit Description</b>		Undifferentiated Upalina and Yerelina Subgroups; includes the superseded Willochra Subgroup.							
<b>GIS Code</b>		N-hu---02							
52	60	Nhunt	SHALE	DOLOMITE ROCK	Grey dolomitic shale & pyritic dolomite				
<b>Strat Unit Name</b>		Tapley Hill Formation							
<b>Strat Unit Description</b>		Siltstone, grey to black, dolomitic and pyritic grading upwards to calcareous, thinly laminated, locally cross-bedded; dolomite, grey, flaggy to massive; limestone conglomerate, intraformational; greywacke.							
<b>GIS Code</b>		N-hunt							



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,  
the Environment and Water

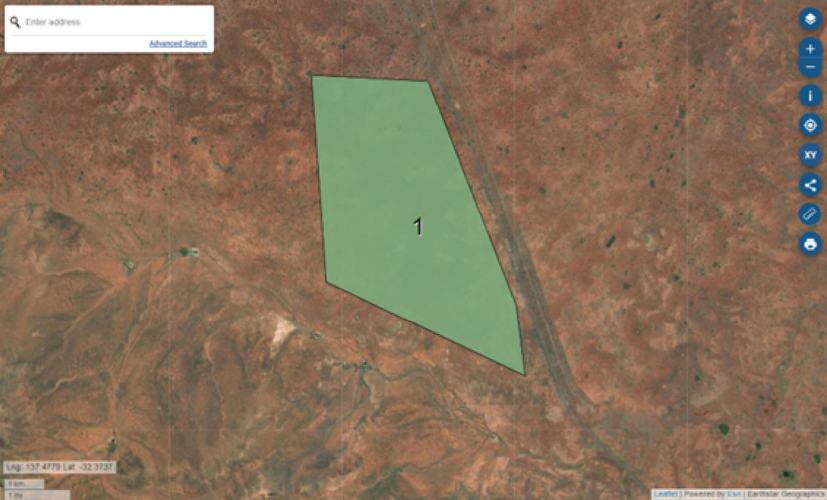
## Protected Matters Search Tool

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COLLAPSE SIDEBAR

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Ung. 137 4779 Lat. -32 3237

1 km  
1 mi

Leaflet | Powered by Esri | Earthstar Geographics



## Significant fauna

Where possible, using the table below, list any rare or endangered fauna species located or reported to have been in the area that may be impacted by the proposed program. Include known sightings of listed species on a locality plan/map.

Species	Common name	NPW Act rating	EPBC Act rating
<i>Lophochroa leadbeateri mollis</i>	Major Mitchell's Cockatoo (EP, GR, NW)	SP	<EPBC Act rating>
			<Tab to add rows.>
EPBC Protected Matters Threatened Species 'Likely' and 'May' and 'Known' presence ranking			
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew		Critically Endangered
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper		Critically Endangered
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe		Endangered
<i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i>	Night Parrot		Endangered
<i>Frankenia plicata</i>	null		Endangered
<i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>	Blue-winged Parrot		Vulnerable
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon		Vulnerable
<i>Pterostylis xerophila</i>	Desert Greenhood		Vulnerable
<i>Amytornis textilis myall</i>	Western Grasswren (Gawler Ranges)		Vulnerable
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	Malleefowl		Vulnerable
<i>Archeloceros leucopsis</i>	Southern Whiteface	Vulnerable	Vulnerable

EPBC Protected Matters <b>Migratory</b> species, 'Likely' and 'May' presence ranking			
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail		Critically Endangered
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew		
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe		
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail		
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper		Critically Endangered
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper		
<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift		
<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	Oriental Plover, Oriental Dotterel		
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper		
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		
EPBC Protected Matters <b>Marine</b> species, 'Likely' and 'May' presence ranking			
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail		
<i>Neophama chrysostoma</i>	Blue-winged Parrot		Vulnerable
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew		Critically Endangered
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe		
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe		Endangered
<i>Merops ornatus</i>	Rainbow Bee-eater		
<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cattle Egret		
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail		
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper		
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper		Critically Endangered
<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift		
<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	Oriental Plover, Oriental Dotterel		
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper		
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		
<i>Chalcites osculans</i>	Black-eared Cuckoo		

Note: NPW Act conservation status includes extinct, endangered, vulnerable, threatened and rare.

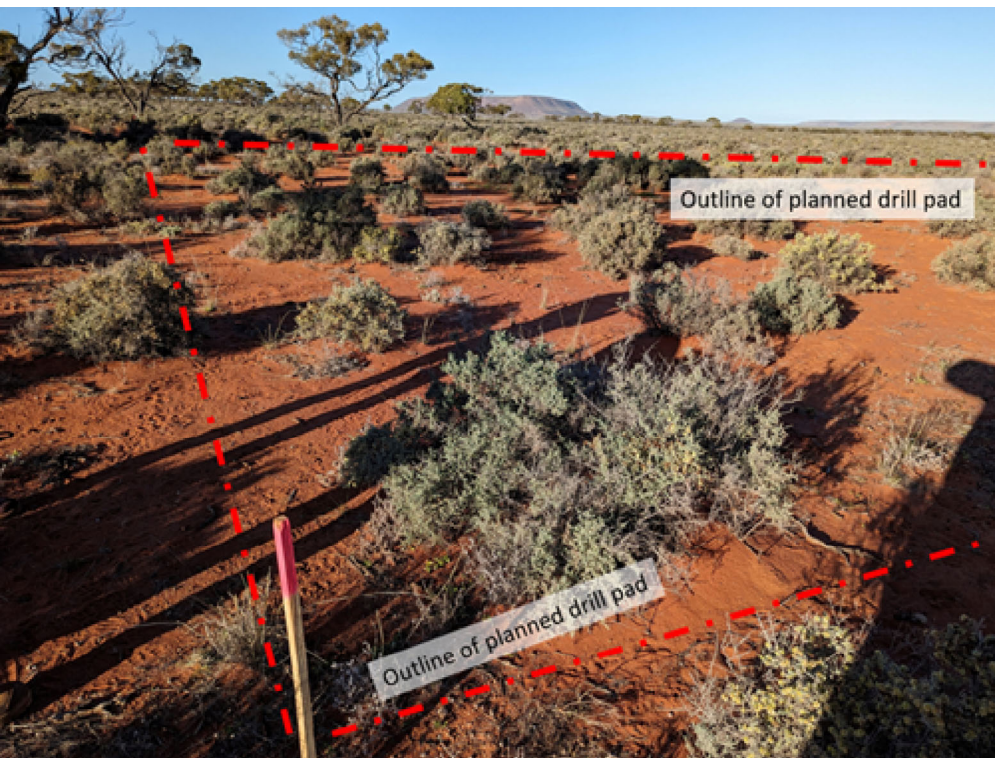
EPBC Act listings include extinct, extinct in the wild, critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and conservation dependent.











Outline of planned drill pad

Outline of planned drill pad