



## Annual Compliance Report EPBC 2012/6472

AustSand Mining 19 December 2023



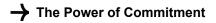
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| Code      |          |                   | Name           | Signature         | Name           | Signature | Date       |
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| S4        | 0        | K De Landgrafft   | V Davies       | Nutri Davies      | J Cramer       | Jum       | 19/12/2023 |
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#### GHD Pty Ltd | ABN 39 008 488 373

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## 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

In 2012, TT Sands Pty Ltd, trading as AustSand Mining (AustSand) submitted a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for their Mindijup Silica Sand Mine at Lot 5 on Diagram 62329 (570 Mindijup Road), Palmdale, approximately 40 km north-east of Albany.

The proposed action is: To clear native vegetation for the extension of silica sand mining on the Mindijup Mine Lease (M70/M793), 40 km north-east of Albany, Western Australia. The project was approved under the EPBC Act on 27 May 2013 (EPBC 2012/6472). A copy of the approval is included in Appendix A.

## 1.2 Purpose of this report

This report has been prepared by GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) on behalf of AustSand to demonstrate adherence to conditions of approval granted under the EPBC Act (EPBC 2012/6472) as required under Condition 9 of the above approval, from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

## 1.3 Compliance summary

This report provides compliance reporting for EPBC 2012/6472. Under this approval there are 13 conditions with reporting requirements. AustSand was compliant with all conditions listed under EPBC 2012/6472, from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

### 1.4 Scope and limitations

This report: has been prepared by GHD for AustSand Mining and may only be used and relied on by AustSand Mining for the purpose agreed between GHD and AustSand Mining as set out in section 1.2 of this report.

GHD otherwise disclaims responsibility to any person other than AustSand Mining arising in connection with this report. GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.

The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report were limited to those specifically detailed in the report and are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the date of preparation of the report. GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on assumptions made by GHD described in this report. GHD disclaims liability arising from any of the assumptions being incorrect.

GHD has prepared this report on the basis of information provided by AustSand Mining and others who provided information to GHD (including Government authorities)], which GHD has not independently verified or checked beyond the agreed scope of work. GHD does not accept liability in connection with such unverified information, including errors and omissions in the report which were caused by errors or omissions in that information.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on information obtained from, and testing undertaken at or in connection with, specific sample points. Site conditions at other parts of the site may be different from the site conditions found at the specific sample points.

Investigations undertaken in respect of this report are constrained by the particular site conditions, such as the location of buildings, services and vegetation. As a result, not all relevant site features and conditions may have been identified in this report.

Site conditions (including the presence of hazardous substances and/or site contamination) may change after the date of this Report. GHD does not accept responsibility arising from, or in connection with, any change to the site conditions. GHD is also not responsible for updating this report if the site conditions change.

## 2. Conditions

#### 2.1 Condition 1

The person taking the action must not clear more than 70 ha of native vegetation within the project area. Clearing must not occur within the 'Site Boundary Buffer (100 m)' identified in Attachment A.

**Response:** The total area of clearing to date is 38.7055 ha (6 ha in each of 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, with no clearing undertaken in 2022, and 2.7055 ha of clearing in 2023), as shown in Figure 1, Appendix B. The boundary of the clearing is surveyed on a yearly basis by Harley Dykstra and compared to approved clearing boundary areas (Appendix C). This survey indicates that all clearing has been undertaken within the approved area and no clearing has occurred within the Site Boundary Buffer identified in EPBC 2012/6472 (Appendix A).

#### 2.2 Condition 2

To avoid potential impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must not undertake any clearing within a 150 m radius of any Black Cockatoo roosting trees identified in Attachment A.

**Response:** All clearing has been undertaken within the approved area and no clearing has taken place within a 150 m radius of Black Cockatoo roosting trees identified in EPBC 2012/6472 (Appendix A) and Figure 1, Appendix B.

#### 2.3 Condition 3

To avoid potential impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must not clear any remnant vegetation within the 25.36 ha 'Wetland area' in the south west corner of the project area identified in Attachment A.

**Response:** No clearing has taken place within the 'Wetland area' located within the south west corner of the project area, identified in EPBC 2012/6472 (Appendix A) and Figure 1, Appendix B.

#### 2.4 Condition 4

To prevent the occurrence of Dieback (Phytophthora cinnamomi) on site and to mitigate potential impacts to Black Cockatoo roosting habitat to be retained within the Project Area, the person taking the action must ensure that all vehicles being used during operation of the quarry that have come from a Dieback affected area must be washed down prior to entering the project area in accordance with WA DEC best practice guidelines for the management of Phytophthora cinnamomi.

**Response:** Mobile machinery used in all clearing works were visually inspected prior to being used on site and removed from site. Weed and Seed Certificates are completed as required and held on file by AustSands.

Dieback surveys were completed for the mine and rehabilitation areas during September and October 2022 and a report and management plan were prepared by Great Southern Biologic in February 2023 (Great Southern Bio Logic, 2023).

#### 2.5 Condition 5

To mitigate impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must prepare and submit a Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan (RMCP). The RMCP must include, but not be limited to:

a. Details of progressive rehabilitation measures for each cell of annual clearing. These details should include; commencement timeframes, species to be utilised, stocking rates, measures to be utilised to ensure success, success targets, contingency measures in the case of not meeting targets and monitoring requirements;

b. Measures to exclude weeds and feral animals from rehabilitation areas;

- c. Details of rehabilitation and revegetation measures following the completion of mining operations;
- d. Strategies to prevent the spread of Dieback;
- e. Maps showing where key rehabilitation work is to occur;

- f. Timeframes for the implementation and completion of the above measures or strategies;
- g. Details of monitoring and contingency measures if the performance indicators are not met; and,
- h. Roles and responsibilities of personnel associated with implementing each of the above measures.

The RMCP must be submitted to the Department within 12 months of the commencement of mining operations. If the Minister approves the RMCP, the approved RMCP must be implemented.

**Response:** AustSand Mining, Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan (RMCP) (GHD, 2017) was approved by Department of the Environment and Energy on the 10 May 2017 (Appendix D). Across the entire Mindijup site approximately 74.1874 ha of rehabilitation has been undertaken. Of this, 38.7055 ha has been cleared within the EPBC 2012/6472 approval area and approximately 14.6525 ha has undergone rehabilitation (Figure 1, Appendix B).

Rehabilitation has been undertaken, within the EPBC approval area, in 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023 (no rehabilitation was undertaken in 2022).

As part of the commitment to progressive rehabilitation of the site, the following works have been carried out in accordance with the approved RMCP (GHD, 2017):

- Progressive rehabilitation measures:
  - Stockpiling of topsoil, subsoil and vegetation material
  - Strategies to prevent the spread of Dieback:
    - Earthmoving machinery was cleaned prior to access to the site.
    - Clean-down certificates were completed and kept as a record of machinery condition on entering site
    - The movement of machines and other vehicles was restricted to the limits of the areas to be cleared
    - Dieback surveys were completed for the mine and rehabilitation areas during September and October 2022 and a report and management plan were prepared by Great Southern Biologic in February 2023.

In October 2021 monitoring quadrats were installed within the 2017 and 2018 rehabilitation areas. The monitoring results indicate that the species diversity and weed coverage interim targets are being met at all monitoring sites (Table 1). At the time of the 2021 survey, plant cover was below interim target levels however, is expected to increase in time to meet the target (GHD, 2022).

| Rehabilitation<br>Age | Quadrat | Species Diversity<br>Target (27 taxa) | Cover target<br>mid layer<br>(17.5 %) | Cover target<br>ground layer<br>(30 %) | Weed cover <<br>5% | Black<br>Cockatoo – 2<br>plants |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3                     | 18      | 28                                    | 2                                     | 10                                     | 0                  | 0                               |
|                       | 19      | 31                                    | 11                                    | 10                                     | <1 (1 plant)       | 9                               |
| 4                     | 16      | 33                                    | 15                                    | 12                                     | 0                  | 1                               |
|                       | 17      | 33                                    | 7                                     | 12                                     | 0                  | 0                               |

| Table 1 | Rehabilitation | results |
|---------|----------------|---------|
|         |                |         |

Note: Green indicates criteria has been met and orange indicates the criteria has not yet been met.

In 2021, the density of Black Cockatoo tree species was below the RMCP interim target of two plants per quadrat. AustSands has undertaken additional fertilising and direct seeding throughout existing rehabilitation areas for *Allocasuarina fraseriana, Banksia ilicifolia* and *Banksia attenuata* in 2022 and infill planting in 2023 (2014 and 2015 rehabilitation areas) to address this target.

Rehabilitation monitoring was undertaken in spring 2023 however this report is still in preparation (GHD, In prep).

#### 2.6 Condition 6

To offset the loss of habitat for Black Cockatoos, prior to the commencement of mining operations, the person taking the action must provide the Department with written evidence of provision of funds to WA DEC for the acquisition of the offset property. The written evidence must include a description and map clearing defining the location and boundaries of the offset property and be accompanied with the offset attributes. The person taking the action must provide the Department with written evidence that an area of no less than 600 ha of Lot 51 on

Deposited Plan 38521, Branson Road, Takalarup, WA, has been attributed as an offset for this action. The person taking the action must inform the Department how much of this property remains unattributed to any action for the purpose of offsetting.

**Response:** AustSand submitted an Offset Proposal to the Department of the Environment and Energy in December 2012, providing information relating to the acquisition of an offset property at Lot 51 in Branson Road, Takalarup. The offset property was purchased by AustSand and is now held in the name of the State of Western Australia and is being managed as a nature reserve by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (Parks and Wildlife Service).

#### 2.7 Condition 7

Within 30 days after the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement.

**Response:** Notification of commencement of the action was provided to the Department of the Environment and Energy in writing on 22 February 2016. The action (native vegetation clearing) commenced on 8 February 2016.

#### 2.8 Condition 8

The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the RMCP required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 or the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.

**Response:** Clearing records and survey data are maintained by AustSand and are available upon request. A copy of the 2023 mine plan is included in Appendix C. The cleared area for the current mine cell is active.

Approximately 74.1874 ha of rehabilitation has commenced within previously mined, inactive cells across the site, and approximately 14.6525 ha has undergone rehabilitation within the EPBC 2012/6472 approval area.

During the 2023 reporting period, 2.7055 ha of clearing and 6.5184 ha of rehabilitation works were undertaken.

#### 2.9 Condition 9

By 31 December of each year after the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with the conditions of this approval over the previous 12 months, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. Non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be reported to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.

Response: This report serves to fulfil the requirements of Condition 9.

## 2.10 Condition 10

If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the RMCP as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that RMCP. The varied activity shall not commence until the Minster has approved the varied RMCP in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied RMCP unless the revised RMCP would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised RMCP, that RMCP must be implemented in place of the RMCP originally approved.

**Response:** The RMCP (GHD, 2017) was approved by the Department of the Environment and Energy on the 10 May 2017. Approximately 14.6525 ha of rehabilitation has commenced within the approval area including 6.5184 ha of additional rehabilitation undertaken during the 2023 reporting period (Figure 1, Appendix B).

Rehabilitation works have been in accordance with, and AustSands do not propose any changes to, the approved RMCP (GHD, 2017).

## 2.11 Condition 11

If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the RMCP specified in the conditions and submit the revised RMCP for the Minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved RMCP must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised RMCP, then the person taking the action must continue to implement the RMCP originally approved, as specified in the conditions.

Response: No changes to the approved RMCP (GHD, 2017) have been requested by the Minister.

### 2.12 Condition 12

*If, at any time after five (5) years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence mining operations associated with this action without the written agreement of the Minister.* 

Response: The action was commenced on 8 February 2016.

#### 2.13 Condition 13

Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must provide a copy of each approved RMCP referred to in these conditions of approval to members of the public upon request. Copies must be provided within a reasonable time of the request.

**Response:** AustSand will maintain copies of each approved RMCP and will make copies available to members of the public upon request. No requests have been received for copies of the RMCP.

## 3. References

- GHD. (2017). *Mindijup Silica Sand Mine, Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan.* Unpublished report prepared for AustSand Mining.
- GHD. (2022). *Mindijup Silica Sand Project Rehabilitation Monitoring 2021.* Unpublished report prepared for AustSand Mining.
- GHD. (In prep). *Mindijup Silica Sand Project Rehabilitation Monitoring 2023.* Unpublished report prepared for AustSand Mining.
- Great Southern Bio Logic. (2023). *Phytophthora Dieback Management Plan AustSand Mining -Palmdale.* Unpublished report prepared for AustSand Mining.

# Appendices

## **Appendix A** EPBC Approval (EPBC 2012/6472)



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

#### Approval

## Extension of existing Silica Sand Mine, Mindijup, 40 km north-east of Albany, WA (EPBC 2012/6472)

This decision is made under sections 130(1) and 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999.

#### Proposed action

| person to whom the approval is granted | TT Sands Pty Ltd (trading as Austsand Mining)  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| proponent's ACN (if applicable)        | ACN: 064 072 322   |  |  |
| proposed action                        | To clear native vegetation for the extension of silica sand mining on<br>the Mindijup Mine Lease (M70/M793), 40 km north-east of Albany,<br>Western Australia [See EPBC Act referral 2012/6472]. |  |  |

| Approval decision   |          |  |  |
|---|----------|--|--|
| Controlling Provision   | Decision |  |  |
| Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A) | Approved |  |  |

#### conditions of approval

This approval is subject to the conditions specified below.

#### expiry date of approval

This approval has effect until 31 December 2031

#### Decision-maker

name and position

Barbara Jones Assistant Secretary North, West and Offshore Assessment Branch

signature

date of decision

27 May 2013

#### Conditions attached to the approval

- 1. The person taking the action must not **clear** more than 70 ha of native vegetation within the **project area**. **Clearing** must not occur within the 'Site Boundary Buffer (100m)' identified at <u>Attachment A</u>.
- To avoid potential impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must not undertake any clearing within a 150 m radius of any Black Cockatoo roosting trees identified at <u>Attachment A</u>.
- To avoid potential impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must not clear any remnant vegetation within the 25.36 ha 'Wetland area' in the south west corner of the project area identified at <u>Attachment A</u>.
- 4. To prevent the occurrence of Dieback (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) on site and to mitigate potential impacts to Black Cockatoo roosting habitat to be retained within the Project Area, the person taking the action must ensure that all vehicles being used during operation of the quarry that have come from a Dieback affected area be washed down prior to entering the project area in accordance with WA DEC best practice guidelines for the management of *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.
- To mitigate impacts to Black Cockatoos, the person taking the action must prepare and submit a Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan (RMCP). The RMCP must include, but not be limited to:
  - a. details of progressive rehabilitation measures for each cell of annual clearing. These details should include; commencement timeframes, species to be utilised, stocking rates, measures to be utilised to ensure success, success targets, contingency measures in the case of not meeting targets and monitoring requirements;
  - b. measures to exclude weeds and feral animals from rehabilitation areas;
  - details of rehabilitation and revegetation measures following the completion of mining operations;
  - d. strategies to prevent the spread of Dieback;
  - e. maps showing where key rehabilitation work is to occur;
  - f. timeframes for the implementation and completion of the above measures or strategies;
  - details of monitoring and contingency measures if performance indicators are not met; and,
  - roles and responsibilities of personnel associated with implementing each of the above measures.

The RMCP must be submitted to the **Department** within 12 months of the **commencement** of mining operations. If the **Minister** approves the RMCP, the approved RMCP must be implemented.

6. To offset the loss of habitat for Black Cockatoos, prior to the commencement of mining operations, the person taking the action must provide the Department with written evidence of the provision of funds to WA DEC for the acquisition of the offset property. The written evidence must include a description and map clearly defining the location and

boundaries of the **offset property** and be accompanied with the **offset attributes**. The person taking the action must provide **the Department** with written evidence that an area of no less than 600 ha of Lot 51 on Deposited Plan 38521, Branson Road, Takalarup, WA, has been attributed as an offset for this action. The person taking the action must inform **the Department** how much of this property remains unattributed to any action for the purpose of offsetting.

- 7. Within 30 days after the **commencement** of the action, the person taking the action must advise **the Department** in writing of the actual date of commencement.
- 8. The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the RMCP required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.
- 9. By 31 December of each year after the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with the conditions of this approval over the previous 12 months, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. Non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be reported to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.
- 10. If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the RMCP as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that RMCP. The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied RMCP in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied RMCP unless the revised RMCP would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised RMCP, that RMCP must be implemented in place of the RMCP originally approved.
- 11. If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the RMCP specified in the conditions and submit the revised RMCP for the Minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved RMCP must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised RMCP, then the person taking the action must continue to implement the RMCP originally approved, as specified in the conditions.
- 12. If, at any time after five (5) years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence mining operations associated with this action without the written agreement of the Minister.
- 13. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must provide a copy of each approved RMCP referred to in these conditions of approval to members of the public upon request. Copies must be provided within a reasonable time of the request.

#### Definitions

**Black Cockatoos** is defined as the endangered Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), the vulnerable Baudin's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and the vulnerable Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*).

**Black Cockatoo roosting** trees are located within the remnant wetland vegetation in the south eastern corner of the project area. The trees are individually marked as 'Roosting Site' at <u>Attachment A</u>.

**Clear** or **Clearing** is defined as the cutting down, felling, thinning, logging, removing, killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, uprooting or burning of native vegetation.

**Commencement** includes **clearing** and any preparatory works required to be undertaken including clearing vegetation, the erection of any fences, signage or on-site temporary structures and the use of construction or excavation equipment on site for the purpose of breaking the ground for buildings, infrastructure or resource extraction.

**The Department** is the Australian Government Department administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.* This includes any future Australian Government Department that becomes responsible for the administration of this approval under any future environmental legislation.

**The Minister** is the Minister administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and includes a delegate of the **Minister**. Includes any future **Minister** of the **Department**.

**Project area** is defined by the area of mining lease M70/M793 identified as 'Site Boundary' at <u>Attachment A</u>.

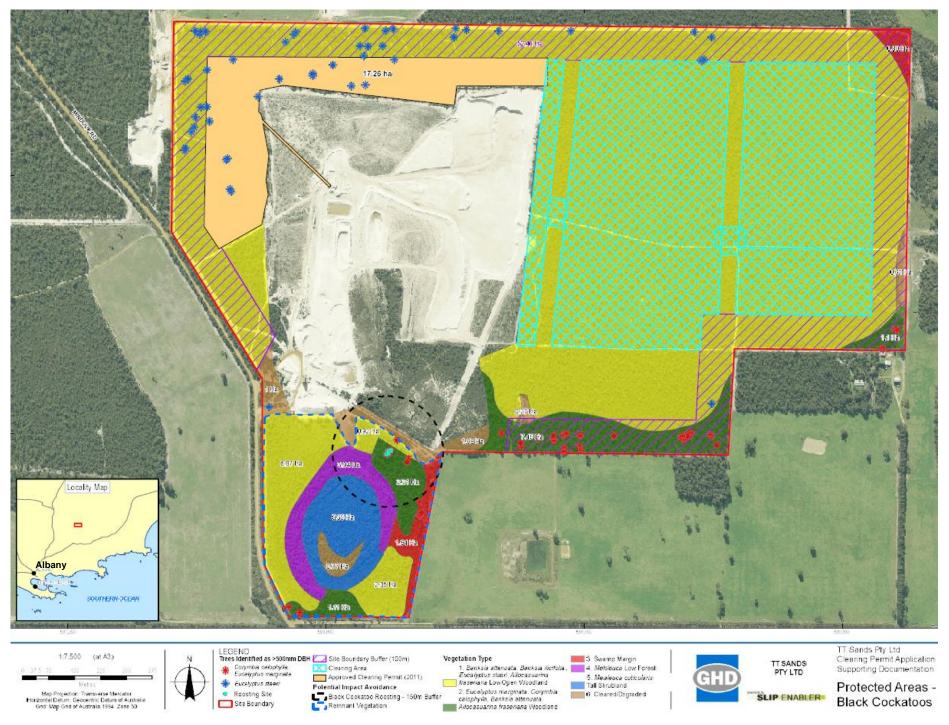
**Offset attributes** must be in the form of an excel file ('.xls') capturing relevant attributes of the Offset Area, including the EPBC reference ID number, the physical address of the offset site, coordinates of the boundary points in decimal degrees, the EPBC protected matters that the offset compensates for, any additional EPBC protected matters that are benefiting from the offset, and the size of the offset in hectares.

The **Offset property** is the property that is approximately 793 ha in size (identified as the 'Proposed Offset Area 2012/6472' at <u>Attachment B</u>) that has been purchased by Austsand Pty Ltd and is being managed for conservation by **WA DEC** on behalf of the person proposing to take the action. The offset property is Lot 51 on Deposited Plan 38521 Branson Road, Takalarup, South Stirling. Six hundred hectares (600 ha) of the offset property is attributed as an offset specifically for the proposed action.

**Remnant vegetation** is defined by any native vegetation that has not been cleared within the last 20 years.

**WA DEC** is the Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation (or equivalent agency).

#### **Attachment A**



#### **Attachment B**





Existing State Offset – TT Sands (Austsands) Proposed Offset Area Cadastre





TT SANDS PTY LTD

TT Sands Pty Ltd Clearing Permit Application Supporting Documentation Job Number 61-28055 Revision 0 Date 28 Mar 2013

SLIP ENABLER Offset Portion

Attachment B

## Appendix B Figures

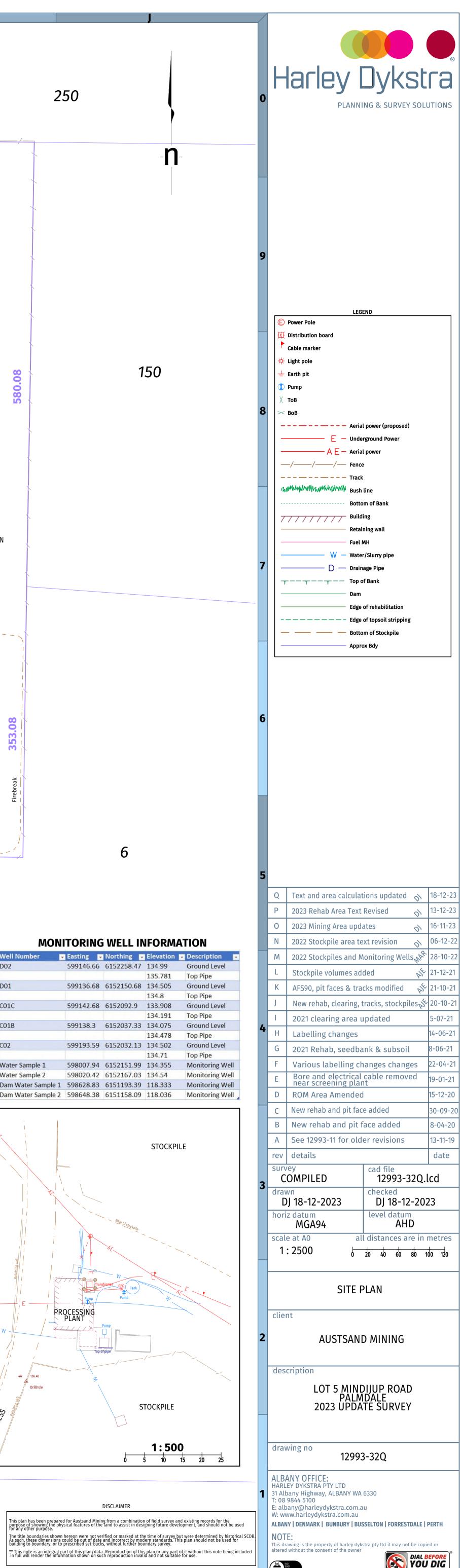


\lghdnet(GHD)AU/PerthIProjects)61/12618449(GIS)Maps\Working(12618449\_EPBC\12618449\_EPBC.aprx\12618449 Clearing and Rehab Areas Print date: 13 Dec 2023 - 08:49

Hybrid Reference Layer: Esri Community Maps Contributors, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Fourquare, METINAAA, USGSSouth Coast Significant Wetlands: DBCA; Site boundary, 100 m buffer: GHD; Previous cleaning, Iulure cleaning, inhabilitation areas: Harley Dyksite, Rodos, ereal in arguez Landgete

## Appendix C November 2023 Site Plan





## Appendix D RMCP Approval Letter



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

Mr Scott Whitbread Site Manager, Mindijup Silica Sand Mine Austsand Mining PO Box 1373 ALBANY WA 6331

Dear Mr Whitbread

## EPBC 2012/6472: Extension of existing Silica Sand Mine, Mindijup – revised Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan

I refer to the letter dated 16 September 2016, from GHD Pty Ltd to the Department, seeking on behalf of Austsand Mining approval of the revised Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan.

Officers of this Department have evaluated the revised Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan, with particular regard for the approval conditions for EPBC 2012/6472. On the Department's advice, and as a delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Energy, I have decided to approve the following plan in accordance with condition 10 of the approval:

 Austsand Mining, Mindijup Silica Sand Mine, Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan 2016 Rev D, dated 12 April 2017 and declared to be accurate by Ryuji Sakizaki of Austsand Mining.

In accordance with condition 5 of EPBC 2012/65472, the *Austsand Mining, Mindijup Silica Sand Mine, Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan 2016* Rev D, dated 12 April 2017 must now be implemented in place of the Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan approved by a delegate of the Minister for the Environment on 17 March 2014. If Austsand Mining wishes to implement the approved action in a manner other than in accordance with the approved Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan, Austsand Mining must submit a revised Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan for approval.

The Department is continuously seeking opportunities to reduce regulatory burden, with a recent initiative being to only require approval of revised management plans where implementing the revised plan may result in a new or increased impact. Please see attached guidance on the "Revised Management Plan" condition and, if you might be interested, submit a request to the Department to vary the conditions of approval for EPBC 2012/6472.

Should you require further information on any of the above please contact Vaughn Cox on 02 6274 2005 or by post.approvals@environment.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Malin.

Monica Collins Assistant Secretary Compliance & Enforcement Branch Environment Standards Division

May 2017

CC: Anna Napier, GHD Pty Ltd. Enc. Guidance on new or increased impact



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