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NOTICE OF INTENT

Austral Bricks - Barton Quarry



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CLIENT: Austral Bricks
PROJECT: Barton Quarry Approval
JOB NO: P25046

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1 General Details

1.1 The name and contact details of the person lodging the application.

Table 1: Company Information

Name of proponent	Austral Bricks (Tasmania) Pty Ltd
Registered address of proponent	15 Weston Street, Longford
Postal address of proponent	PO Box 20 Longford
ABN number	14 009 501 053
ACN number	009 501 053

Table 2: Contact Person Information

Name	Matthew Gordon
Position	Business Manager - Tasmania
Telephone number	0404 817 773
Email address	Matthew.Gordon@brickworks.com.au

1.2 Project name and location

The project is the Barton Quarry, and it is located at 2045 Macquarie Road, approximately 17km north west of Campbell Town. The property ID is 6208566 and title reference is 34804/1. There are no easements or reserves associated with the title according to LISTmap (<https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map>).

1.3 Background of the project proponent

Austral Bricks (Tasmania) Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Brickworks, which was founded in 1934, listed on the ASX in 1962 and has a current market capitalisation of ~\$4.2 billion. Brickworks has approximately 1,800 staff worldwide with 27 active manufacturing plants and 55 design studios, displays and masonry supply centres. Brickworks produces and sells a diverse range of building products across multiple brands.

There are three divisions within the Brickworks Group structure: Property; Building Products Australia and Building Products North America.

The Barton Quarry site is managed under the Building Products Australia division, who is the proponent for this project. Building Products Australia is a leading manufacturer and distributor of building products across all Australian states. For simplicity, the proponent will be referred to as Austral Bricks throughout this document. Following the Bristle acquisition in 2003, Building Products Australia has grown from a two-state brick manufacturer, in New South Wales and Queensland, to a diversified national building products business. In total, Building Products Australia comprises 19 active

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manufacturing sites, and numerous company-owned design centres, studios and resellers across the country.

The portfolio includes key brands such as Austral Bricks (Australia's largest clay brick manufacturer), Austral Masonry and Bristile Roofing. The portfolio also includes a 33% interest in the Southern Cross Cement joint venture, established to import and supply cement to the joint venture partners in Queensland.

Brickworks has the experience and financial capacity to successfully undertake the project.

2 Project Details

2.1 A description of the proposed project, including its key physical components

The proposal is an existing clay quarry that has operated since 1981 and now meets the threshold of a level 2 activity under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA) and thus requires approval by the EPA. The proposed quarry life is 15 years.

Clay extraction occurs on a short, intermittent campaign basis rather than year-round continuous operations. Activity is typically limited to approximately three weeks per year, concentrated during the summer months when weather conditions are most favourable for excavation and transport. This seasonal approach reflects the relatively low annual demand from the Longford plant and helps to minimise environmental disturbance, dust generation, noise, and surface disruption over the large lease area.

The operation is straightforward and low-intensity, relying on a single 30-tonne excavator and front-end loader as the primary equipment. The excavator advances the working face progressively in a southerly direction, extracting clay from the exposed face. The quarry face is predominantly developed as a single bench for most of its length, with only a small proportion featuring two benches. All benches are kept at heights no greater than the excavator's maximum reach, ensuring safe and stable working conditions without the need for blasting, drilling, or high-wall management. This bench configuration also simplifies face control and reduces the risk of instability.

Prior to any clay removal, topsoil and any overburden are stripped and stockpiled separately in designated areas. These stockpiles are preserved for future use in progressive rehabilitation or final site restoration, consistent with standard progressive rehabilitation principles for extractive operations.

Extracted clay is not stored in large volumes on-site. Only minor temporary stockpiles are maintained at the quarry to facilitate loading and short-term buffering before haulage. All material is loaded to trucks via the front-end loader and transported off-site promptly to the Longford site for storage, blending, and use in brick production.

Transport is undertaken using truck and dog trailer combinations, with each load having a nominal capacity of 35 m³. The primary route for the material transport from the quarry to the Longford site is via Macquarie Rd, Cressy Rd and Weston St.

Austral Bricks intends to continue to operate the quarry on a campaign basis and will subcontract the earthworks and transport of the clay.

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Infrastructure at the site includes the previously quarried area, a stormwater pond, and the access road to the north of the cleared area. No other services are available or required at the site. The proponent intends to progressively rehabilitate the site as the quarry face extends south.

The Site has not previously been classified as a level 2 activity under Schedule 2 of EMPCA but as the threshold for a level 2 activity, being 5,000 m³ per annum is currently being exceeded, it will require assessment by the EPA Board. The proposed maximum annual production is 10,000 m³.

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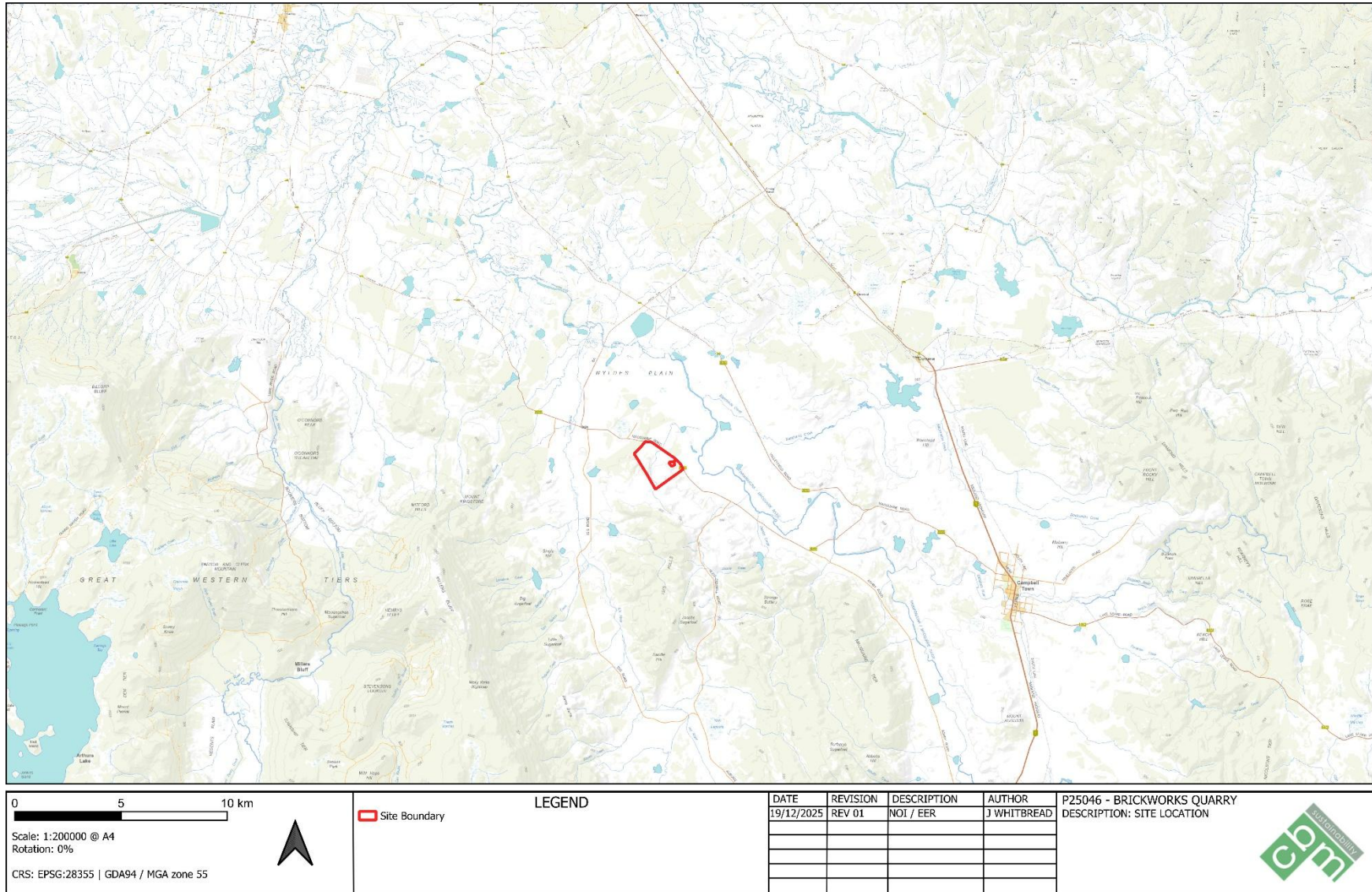


Figure 1: Site location

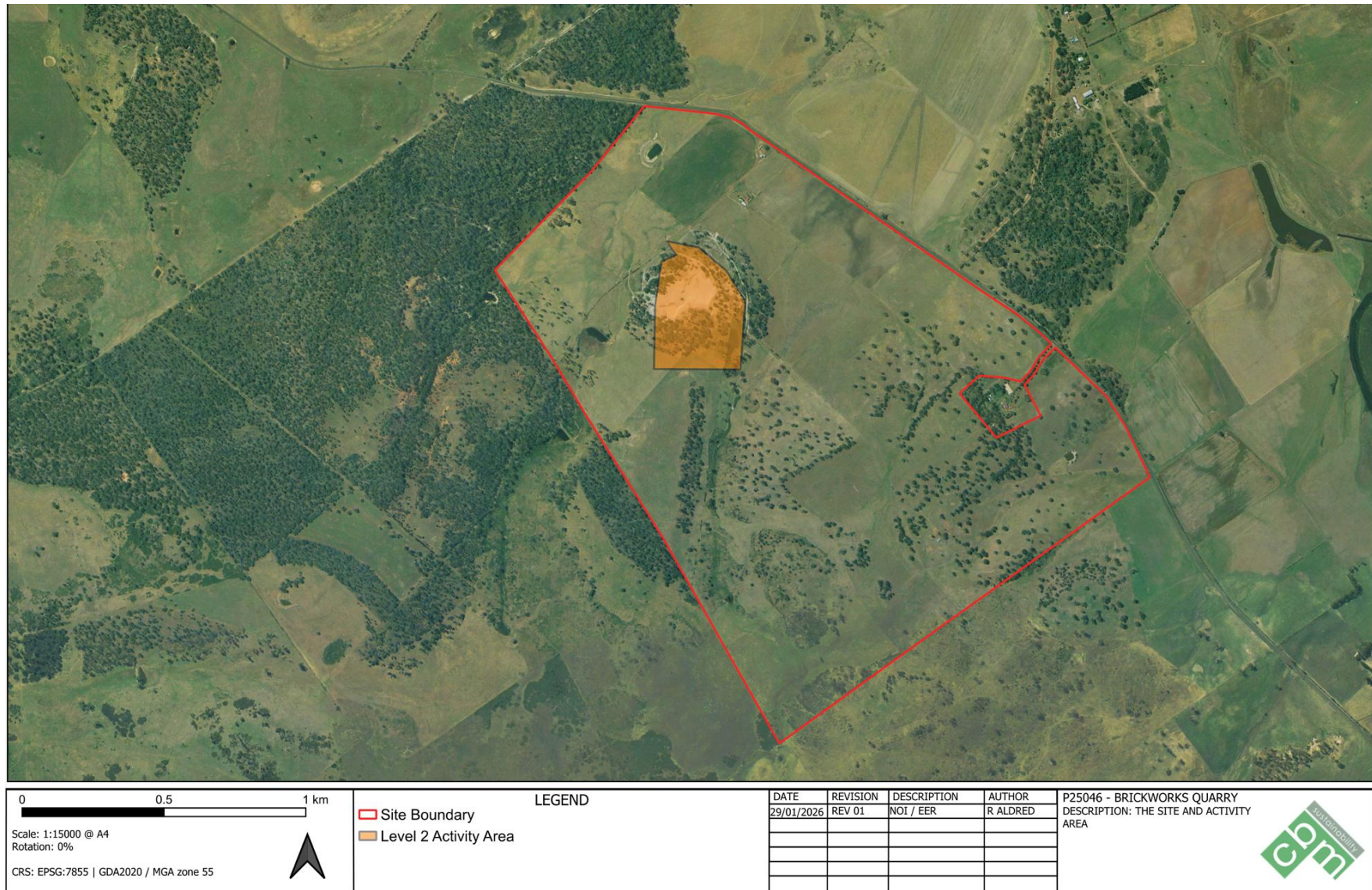


Figure 2: Site title and activity area

2.2 Stakeholder Consultation

Details of the stakeholder consultation undertaken to date and proposed throughout the approvals process are outlined below. No concerns have been raised by any stakeholders during the consultation undertaken to date.

2.2.1 Northern Midlands Council

Austral Bricks has engaged Nova Land Consulting to assist with the planning application process with Northern Midlands Council. CBM, Nova and Austral Bricks will liaise with Council as required during the approvals process.

2.2.2 EPA Tasmania

The proponent will work closely with EPA Tasmania through this approval process, which will include the preparation and submission of this Notice of Intent, the issuing of project specific guidelines by EPA to guide the approval application, the submission of approvals documentation to EPA for review, assessment by the EPA board and EPA's decision concerning the issuing of permit conditions relating to the facility.

2.2.3 Landowner

The land is owned by Danny and Val Double. Austral Bricks has a good relationship with the landowner and has negotiated a long-term lease to enable the operation of the quarry over the next fifteen years or more. Recent consultation has occurred with the landowner regarding this application.

2.2.4 General

Austral Bricks is available for further consultation with interested parties at any time to discuss the project and answer any questions or concerns. This might be through direct enquiries, or the usual consultation as part of the Council planning and EPA approval process.

2.3 Physical Environment

The activity area is located within a farm that is substantially cleared of native vegetation. The zoning of the site and surrounding land is Agriculture (see Figure 3):

There are 2 residences located within 1.5 km of the Site, as per Figure 3. The closest residence belongs to the landowner and is approximately 420 m from the activity and is just within the Quarry Code of Practice 300 m attenuation distance. There is also a residence to the south which is approximately 1.1 km from the activity.

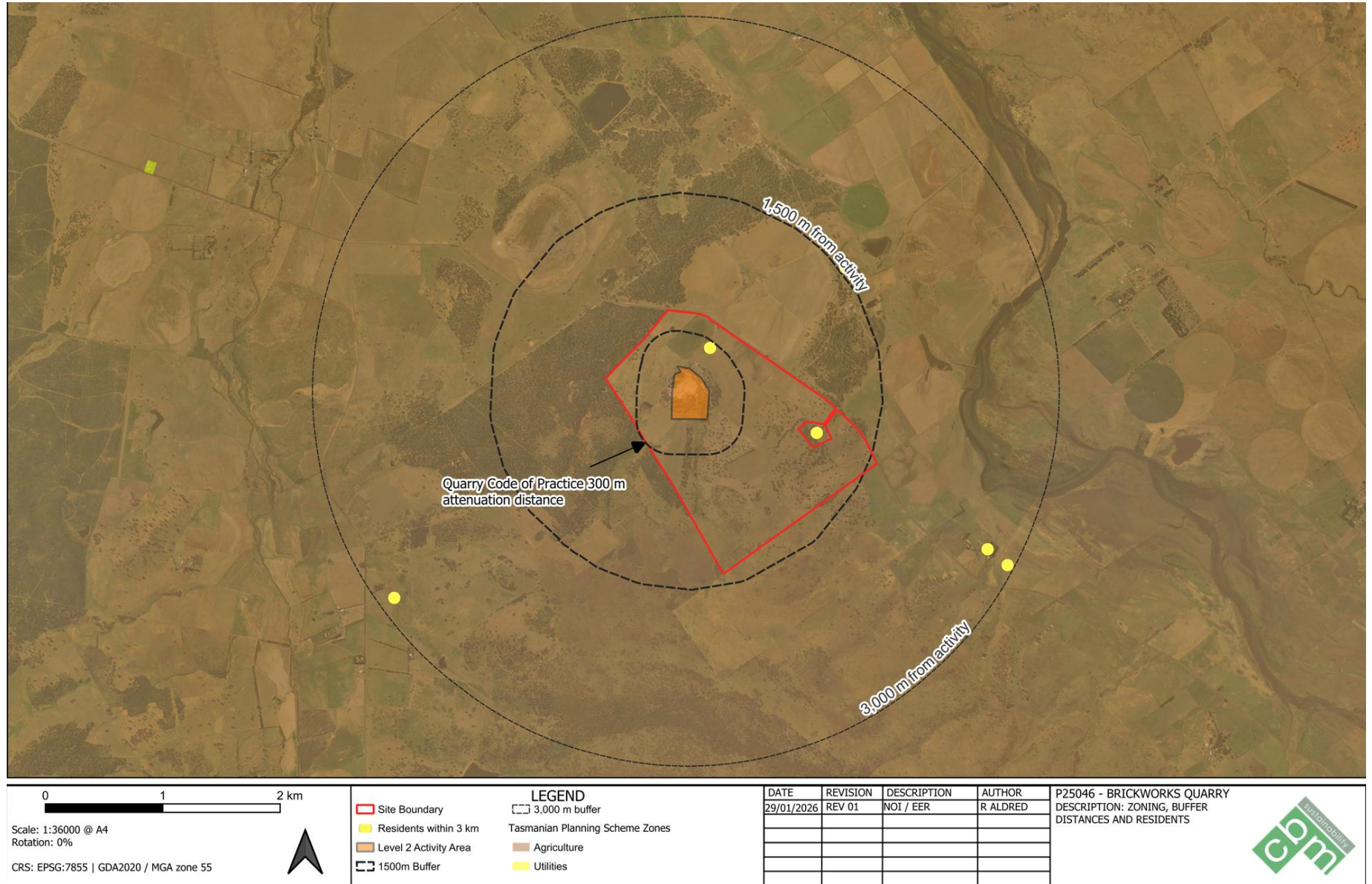


Figure 3: Zoning of the Site and surrounds

2.4 Key Environmental, Health, Economic and Social Issues

The key environmental, health, economic and social issues identified for the project to date are outlined below.

2.4.1 Air Quality

Dust may be generated from excavation, vehicle movements on unsealed surfaces, and minor on-site stockpiling during the short annual extraction campaigns (nominally three weeks in summer). Potential emissions are limited due to the low-volume, seasonal nature of operations; use of a single excavator; no crushing, screening, or blasting; and prompt off-site transport with only minor stockpiles maintained.

Standard dust suppression measures (e.g., water carting as required, limiting activity during adverse windy conditions, and progressive topsoil management) will be applied in accordance with the *Quarry Code of Practice* and to prevent environmental nuisance.

2.4.2 Noise

Noise sources are restricted to the single 30-tonne excavator operating on the face, heavy vehicle movements (truck and dog trailers), and associated truck loading using a front-end loader during the brief summer campaigns. The intermittent, low-intensity operation (approximately three weeks per year) and absence of blasting or processing plant result in limited potential for noise nuisance. Operations will comply with relevant noise standards, with activities scheduled during daytime hours and equipment maintained to minimise emissions. No noise complaints have been received to date from the operation.

2.4.3 Waste Management

The operation generates negligible waste. No processing occurs on-site, and only minor quantities of clay are temporarily stockpiled before prompt transport to the regulated Longford plant. Topsoil and overburden are stripped and stockpiled for future rehabilitation use. No hazardous wastes, liquid discharges, or significant solid wastes are anticipated. Any minor operational wastes (e.g., from equipment maintenance) will be managed per standard practices and removed off-site as required.

2.4.4 Water quality

The primary potential risk to water quality arises from stormwater runoff from the disturbed quarry face and working area, which may carry suspended sediment, including fine colloidal clay particles that settle slowly in natural conditions. No processing, washing, or dewatering occurs on-site, and operations are dry excavation with only minor temporary stockpiles.

An existing settling pond is in place to capture and retain any sediment-laden runoff before it leaves the site, consistent with the *Quarry Code of Practice* (EPA Tas, 2017)

requirements for self-draining benches, erosion control, and sediment management in extractive operations.

To further manage the risk of persistent turbidity from colloidal clay particles, upgrades to the settling pond system are proposed, including targeted flocculation (using appropriate polymer flocculants) to enhance aggregation and rapid settling of fine suspended solids. This will improve effluent clarity, and downstream turbidity impacts by enhancing the settlement of suspended solids. Flocculant selection and dosing will be based on site-specific jar testing if required, with application during or after rainfall events to minimise chemical use.

2.4.5 Natural Values

A desktop Natural Values Assessment was completed for the activity area and is appended to this document. No threatened vegetation communities occur within the activity area, and the vegetation proposed for clearing consists predominantly of modified land and dry eucalypt forest and woodland that is not listed as threatened. Clearing will be progressive, with less than 0.5 ha per year anticipated

The nearest known raptor nests are located more than 1 km from the activity area, and line-of-sight modelling indicates the quarry is unlikely to disturb nesting raptors. Consequently, no specific raptor nest management is required.

Tasmanian devils are likely to be present in the broader area, and while the site exhibits limited potential denning habitat, a targeted field survey is recommended prior to vegetation clearance in accordance with the Devil Guidelines to confirm habitat use prior to disturbance.

Overall, the activity area and broader site exhibits low ecological sensitivity with no anticipated significant impacts to natural values.

2.4.6 Traffic Impacts

Traffic associated with the activity is limited to the 3-week annual campaign, during which there are approx. 56 truck movements per day. The existing site access to Macquarie Rd is well formed with substantial site distances of >1km to the south east and ~500m to the north west. The minimal additional traffic on an annual basis and suitable existing access means that impacts associated with product transport is negligible.

2.4.7 Economic and social issues

The quarry provides a reliable, long-term clay feedstock to the Longford plant, supporting employment and brick manufacturing in the region. Operations are low-impact and

seasonal, with no anticipated adverse social effects (e.g., due to limited duration, low traffic, and established site). Economic benefits include sustained resource supply and contributions to local industry without significant community disruption.

2.4.8 Summary

The Barton Quarry represents a simple, low-impact extractive operation focused on seasonal, campaign-based clay supply to a dedicated downstream user. The limited scale of activity (short annual duration, single machine, no blasting, minimal stockpiling) results in low levels of disturbance. The operation's design and practices prioritise face stability, topsoil conservation, and efficient material transfer, supporting long-term resource management and eventual site rehabilitation.

2.5 Surveys and Studies Proposed

In accordance with the *Survey Guidelines and Management Advice for Development Proposals That May Impact the Tasmanian Devil (Sarcophilus harrisii)*, ground searching to determine any signs of use and/or presence of potential den/s will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced practitioner. The consultant will also survey the Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) for trees in the activity area to determine the mature habitat availability class for Masked Owls.

No other specific surveys and studies are proposed in relation to the key issues for the project.

2.6 The proposed timetable for the project

The proponent's proposed timetable for the project is to progress the permit applications immediately. There is no development or construction associated with the proposal.

3 Other Planning Matters

3.1 Commonwealth Approvals

The project is unlikely to impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance or Commonwealth land. The proponent will therefore not refer the project for approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act).

3.2 Local Government Approvals

Northern Midlands Council will require the proponent to make a single LUPA Act permit application as no permit has been issued for the activity. The zoning is Agriculture (21) under the State Planning Scheme, Northern Midlands Local Provisions Schedule and this zoning will not change. An application will be made under Division 2 of the LUPA Act, section 57 or 58, depending on project details. This application will occur in parallel with the assessment under EMPCA.

3.3 State Approvals

The operation of the quarry will be a Level 2 Activity in accordance with Schedule 2 of EMPCA. The likely activity is described in section 5 of Schedule 2:

5. Extractive Activities

(b) Extractive pits: the extraction of 5,000 cubic metres or more of sand or clay per year if the extraction is the subject of, or requires, a mining lease under the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*.

The project will therefore require approval by the EPA.

Austral Bricks has not contravened EMPCA or any associated environmental conditions, or subordinate regulations. Austral Bricks has not within the last 5 years been convicted of an offence against:

- the EMPCA Act;
- any other Tasmanian Act that relates to the protection of the environment; or
- a law of another State, a Territory, or the Commonwealth, that relates to the protection of the environment.

3.4 Mining lease

There is a current mining lease issued for the activity, but which is pending renewal. The lease area encompasses the entire title boundary (shown as site boundary in Figure 2). The renewal process will seek to reduce the lease area to the proposed activity area (also shown in Figure 2), thus aligning with the activity area defined in this application.