

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Heemskirk Quarry Upgrade

Heemskirk Road, Granville Harbour

Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd

Board of the Environment Protection Authority

September 2017



Environmental Assessment Report	
Proponent	Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd
Proposal	Heemskirk Quarry Upgrade
Location	Heemskirk Road, Granville Harbour
NELMS no.	9699
Permit application no.	2017/9 (West Coast Council)
Folder	262637
Document.	H720864
Class of Assessment	2A

Assessment process milestones	
12/05/2017	Notice of Intent lodged
16/06/2017	EER Guidelines issued
4/05/2017	Permit application submitted to Council
12/05/2017	Application/Referral received by Board
09/08/2017	Start of public consultation period
23/08/2017	End of public consultation period

Acronyms

Board	Board of the Environment Protection Authority
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
EER	Environmental Effects Report
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EMPC Act	<i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</i>
EMPCS	Environmental management and pollution control system
EPA	<i>Environment Protection Authority</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)</i>
EPGs	Environmental Protection Guidelines
LUPA Act	<i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i>
MRT	Mineral Resources Tasmania
NC Act	<i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i>
QCoP	<i>Quarry Code of Practice, 3rd Edition, 2017</i>
PCAB	Policy and Conservation Advice Branch, Natural and Cultural Heritage Division, DPIPWE
RMPS	Resource management and planning system
SD	Sustainable development
TSP Act	<i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i>
Weed Guidelines	<i>Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines – Preventing the spread of weeds and diseases in Tasmania – March 2015</i>

Report summary

This report provides an environmental assessment of Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd's proposed Heemskirk Quarry Upgrade.

The proposal involves an increase in the permitted annual extraction limit for an existing hard rock quarry located at Heemskirk Road, Granville Harbour on the West Coast of Tasmania, approximately 19 km from Zeehan. The quarry currently operates under a Level 1 permit and proposes to increase maximum annual production to 19 995 tonnes (17 762 m³) per annum.

This report has been prepared based on information provided by the proponent in the Environmental Effects Report (EER). Relevant government agencies and the public have been consulted and their submissions and comments considered as part of this assessment.

Further details of the assessment process are presented in section 1 of this report. Section 2 describes the statutory objectives and principles underpinning the assessment. Details of the proposal are provided in section 3. Section 4 reviews the need for the proposal and considers the alternatives to the proposal. Section 5 summarises the public and agency consultation process and the issues raised in that process. The detailed evaluation of environmental issues is contained in section 6. The report conclusions are contained in section 7.

Appendix 1 contains details of comments made and issues raised in the consultation process. Appendix 2 contains the environmental permit conditions for the proposal. Attachment 2 of the permit conditions contains the table of commitments from the EER. The environmental permit conditions in Appendix 2 are a new set of operating conditions for the entire, intensified activity that will supersede the existing permit conditions.

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1 Approval process

An application for a permit under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPA Act) in relation to the proposal was submitted to West Coast Council on 4 May 2017.

The proposal is defined as a 'level 2 activity' under clause 6(a)(ii), schedule 2 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPC Act), being a materials handling activity. Section 25(1) of the EMPC Act required Council to refer the application to the Board of the Environment Protection Authority (the Board) for assessment under the Act. The application was received by the Board on 12 May 2017.

The assessment has been undertaken by the Director, Environment Protection Authority under delegation from the Board.

The Board required that information to support the proposal be provided in the form of a Environmental Effects Report (EER).

Two drafts of the EER were submitted to the Department for comment prior to its finalisation and acceptance on behalf of the Board. The EER was released for public inspection for a 14-day period commencing on 9 August 2017. An advertisement was placed in *The Advocate* and a notice was placed on the EPA website. The EER was also referred at this time to relevant government agencies for comment. No public submissions were received.

2 SD objectives and EIA principles

The proposal must be considered by the Director in the context of the objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania (RMPS), and in the context of the objectives of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control System (EMPCS) (both sets of objectives are specified in Schedule 1 the EMPC Act). The functions of the Board are to administer and enforce the provisions of the Act, and in particular, to use its best endeavours to further the RMPS and EMPCS objectives.

The Director must undertake the assessment of the proposal in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles defined in Section 74 of the EMPC Act.

3 The proposal

The main characteristics of the proposal are summarised in Table 1. A description of the proposal is provided in Section 1 of the EER.

Table 1: Summary of the proposal's main characteristics

Activity	
Extraction and crushing of a maximum of 17,762 cubic metres (19 995 tonnes) of hard rock per annum.	
Location and planning context	
Location	Heemskirk Road, Granville Harbour, as shown in Figure 1. Property ID 3388303.
Land zoning	Rural Resource Zone – <i>West Coast Interim Planning Scheme 2013</i>
Land tenure	Crown Land – Forestry Tasmania
Mining lease	7M/2002
Lease area	2 hectares
Bond	\$5,000 (up for review by MRT in February 2018)
Existing site	
Land Use	Existing level 1 hard rock quarry.
Topography	The quarry is situated on a saddle at around 200 m AHD. The land slopes generally to the south-east.
Geology	Jurassic dolerite
Soils	Soils are thin to non-existent over much of the site.
Hydrology	The Heemskirk River is located approximately 150 m to the south of the site.
Fauna	No fauna species listed as threatened under the <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> (TSP Act) or the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act) were recorded from the proposed quarry area. No potential key habitat for threatened fauna species was observed in the mining lease area.
Flora	No vegetation communities listed as threatened under Schedule 3A of the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i> (NC Act), or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act were recorded within the mining lease area. No threatened flora species listed as threatened under the TSP Act or the EPBC Act were recorded from the mining lease area.
Local region	
Climate	Annual mean rainfall is 1,976 mm per annum. Wind direction is predominantly south-westerly.
Surrounding land zoning, tenure and uses	The quarry is surrounded by forest and woodland classified as Permanent Timber Production Zone land. All surrounding land is Crown Land, managed by Forestry Tasmania or DPIPW.

Proposed infrastructure	
Major equipment	The particular type/model of equipment used will be determined prior to expansion. Extraction and crushing will involve the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • excavator • wheel loader • mobile jaw crusher • mobile cone crusher • mechanical screen.
Other infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sediment retention basins • Access road (in situ), widening to occur • Stockpiles.
Inputs	
Water	A water cart will be used for dust suppression, if required.
Energy	No electrical power infrastructure will be required to operate the facility. Machinery and equipment will be operated with diesel fuel.
Other raw materials	No other raw materials will be used.
Wastes and emissions	
Liquid	Stormwater runoff from extraction and stockpile areas.
Atmospheric	Dust from internal traffic, and potential blow-off from stockpiles.
Solid	Small amount of general refuse including food scraps, paper and packaging as well as waste from lubricating equipment and minor spares.
Controlled wastes	No controlled wastes will be generated at the site. Portable chemical toilet will be used when operations are being undertaken that will generate sanitary waste.
Noise	Noise emissions from excavators, mobile crusher and blasting, as well as vehicles going to and from the site.
Greenhouse gases	Mobile equipment (excavators, dozers, cars, trucks) will produce greenhouse gas emissions.
Operations	
Proposal timetable	If a permit is granted, works will commence immediately to process shot rock existing on the quarry floor. Further preparation work including clearing land, drilling and blasting will depend on progress with the Granville Harbour Wind Farm Project. Once the demand from the wind farm project is met, production from the quarry will reduce to small quantities 'as required'. Operating on an 'as required' basis the quarry will have a lifetime of at least 30 years.
Operating hours (ongoing)	The activity will operate between: 0700 to 1900 hours Monday to Friday 0800 to 1600 hours Saturday
Other key characteristics	
None	

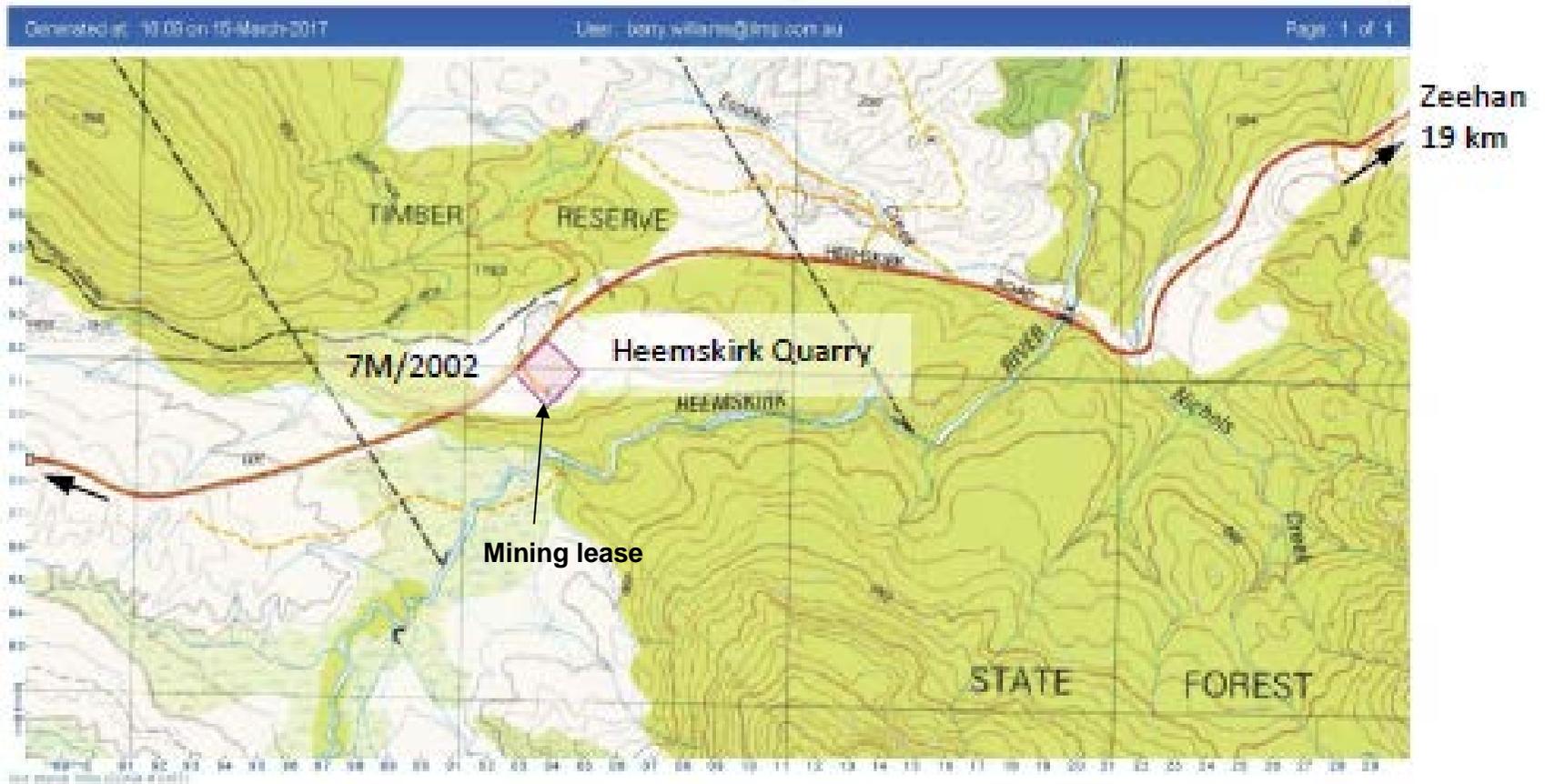


Figure 1 – Site location (Figure 3 of EER)

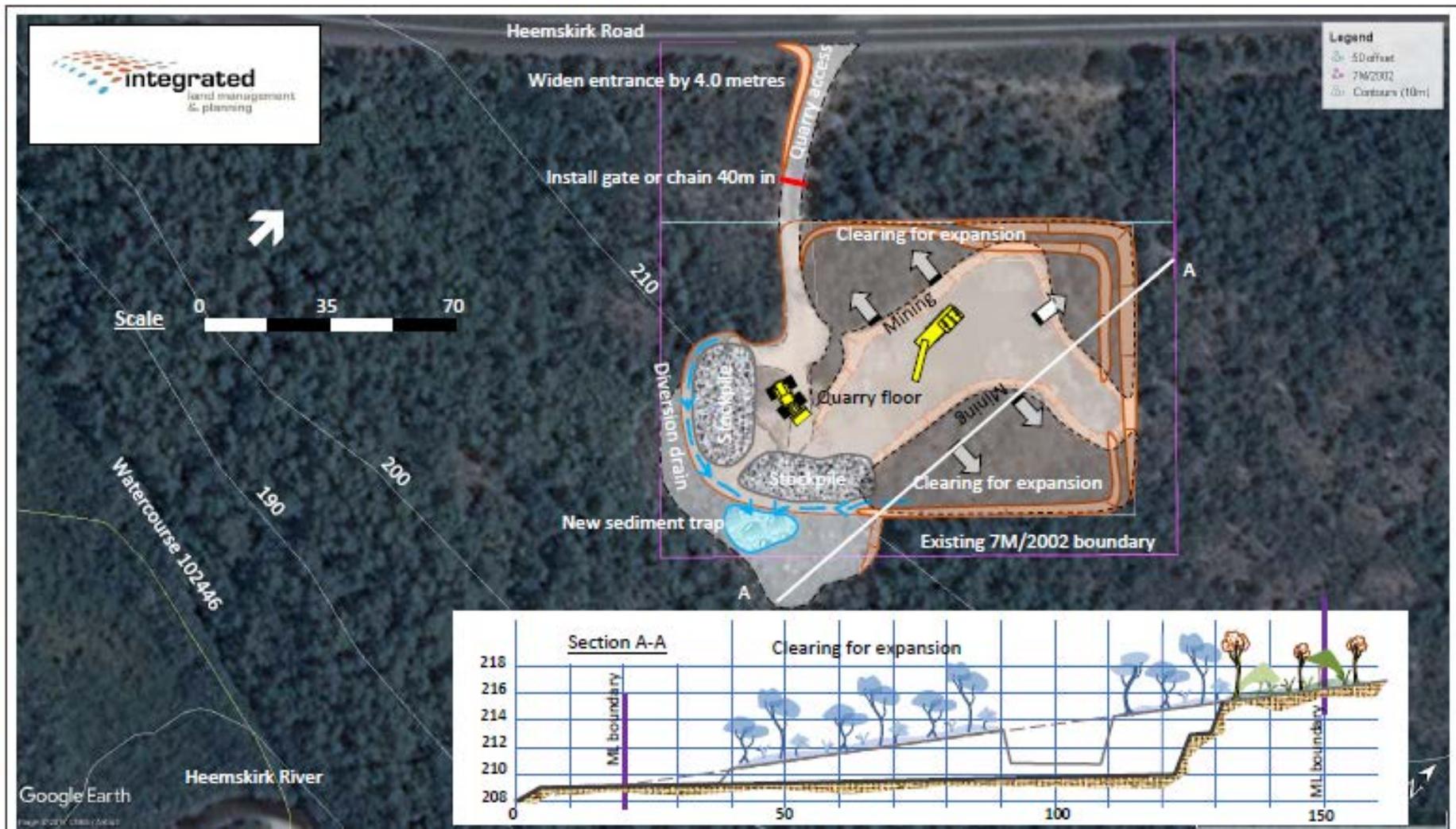


Figure 2 – Site layout (Figure 4 of EER)

4 Need for the proposal and alternatives

According to the EER there are few quarries located in the vicinity of the proposed new Granville Harbour Wind Farm to supply the construction materials required to commence the project. Although the project statement describes up to three new quarries on the property to service the project, the underlying geology is unlikely to produce high quality aggregates and gravels suitable for concrete production and road surfacing.

Granville Harbour Wind Farm proposal documentation also describes three potential external sources of construction materials. Heemskirk Quarry is the most conveniently located and better prepared, with a current mining lease and permit (Level 1).

The Heemskirk Quarry will produce high quality dolerite gravels and aggregates suitable for a variety of construction applications, for example, select fill, gravel pavements and potentially aggregate for concrete production.

If the Proponent is successful with this application, the Granville Harbour Wind Farm project will have a reliable source of products located within 20 kilometres of the site via good road access.

According to the EER, the quarry's proximity to potential new projects at Granville Harbour gives future developers in the area a cost-effective source of quality construction materials. The EER notes that crushed dolerite products are rare on the west coast.

5 Public and agency consultation

A summary of the government agency/body submissions is contained in Appendix 1 of this report.

No public representations were received.

The EER was referred to a number of government agencies/bodies with an interest in the proposal, with no responses received. Referral agencies included:

- Department of State Growth, Mineral Resources Tasmania;
- Department of State Growth, Policy & Coordination Branch; and
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania (formerly Forestry Tasmania).

The following Division of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment provided a submission on the EER:

- Policy and Conservation Advice Branch, Natural and Cultural Heritage Division.

6 Evaluation of environmental issues

The environmental issues considered relevant to the proposal have been evaluated by EPA Tasmania. Details of this evaluation, along with the permit conditions required by the Director, are discussed below.

Issue 1: Flora, fauna and habitat
Description of potential impacts
<p>Two vegetation communities were recorded from the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eucalyptus nitida</i> wet forest; and • <i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i> wet forest, as a minor occurrence. <p>The Flora and Fauna Habitat Survey¹ did not identify any threatened vegetation communities or threatened flora species within the mining lease area. A total of 0.9 ha of vegetation will be cleared during the quarry expansion.</p> <p>The Flora and Fauna Habitat Survey did not observe any threatened fauna species or identify any key habitat within the mining lease area.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>Limit the extent of vegetation clearing to the minimum required for the proposed expansion, leaving a buffer between the quarry and Heemskirk Road.</p> <p>Provide effective drainage management to ensure sediment is not transported to potential aquatic habitat in the Heemskirk River.</p> <p>Commitment 6 – Cartage for delivery to the Granville Harbour Wind Farm project will only occur during daylight hours.</p>
Public and agency comment
<p>No public comments were received.</p> <p>PCAB noted that the quarry site would be within the likely foraging home range for a number of Tasmanian devils and there was a concern that an increase in road traffic could potentially increase the occurrence of roadkill on the quarry access road (Heemskirk Road). PCAB supports the commitment (Commitment 6) in the EER for cartage of rock from the quarry to occur during daylight hours only, as this will substantially reduce the risk for an increase in roadkill.</p>
Evaluation
<p>Commitment 6 is sufficient to reduce the risk of roadkill from truck movements, given no devils were recorded on the site and the number of average vehicle movements per day is low (10). It is noted in the EER that the majority of the product from the quarry will be delivered to the Granville Harbour Wind Farm project. It is therefore possible that for short periods during construction of the project, cartage for the quarry will increase to 30 movements per day, but only during daylight hours.</p> <p>The EER states there are no threatened flora or fauna values within the quarry area and clearing of native vegetation will be less than one hectare in area, therefore the impacts to threatened flora, fauna and vegetation communities is considered negligible provided mitigation measures and commitments as contained in the EER are implemented (O12).</p> <p>No further restrictions are considered necessary.</p>
Conclusion
<p>The proponent will be required to comply with Commitment above.</p> <p>O12 Commitments</p>

¹ Philip Milner Landscape Consultant Pty Ltd (2017) *Flora and Fauna Habitat Survey of Heemskirk Quarry, 7M/2002* For Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd.

Issue 2: Weed and disease management
<p>Description of potential impacts</p> <p>Two environmental and declared weeds were observed during the field survey, Spanish heath (<i>Erica lusitanica</i>) and Foxglove (<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>); however, no weeds were observed within the operation area of the quarry itself.</p> <p>Spanish heath was observed along the verge of the Heemskirk Road, including a few plants adjacent to the quarry entrance. A single foxglove plant was also observed on the access road into the quarry, which was removed on the day of the survey</p> <p>There was no symptomatic evidence of the presence of <i>phytophthora cinnamomi</i> observed within the mining lease.</p> <p>There is potential for weeds and diseases to be transported to and from the site, if appropriate management measures are not implemented.</p>
<p>Management measures proposed in EER</p> <p>Commitment 1 – Implement a preventative weed management plan to ensure the weed free status of the quarry is maintained.</p> <p>Commitment 2 – Works will be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines</i> (DPIPWE, 2015).</p>
<p>Public and agency comment</p> <p>No public representations were received in relation to weed and disease management.</p> <p>PCAB commented that a number of flora species in the area are highly susceptible to <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>, and adherence to strict hygiene measures is recommended. PCAB supports commitment 2.</p>
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>With the low levels of weeds within and surrounding the site Commitment 1 and Commitment 2 are considered adequate to manage the potential risks associated with weeds and disease at the site. Permit condition OP1 is included to minimise the risk of weeds being spread through the transport of products from the site and to ensure the site is maintained as weed free. Permit condition FF1 is included to ensure that machinery is washed down prior to entering the land and therefore reduce the risk of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> establishing at the site.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p> <p>The proponent will be required to comply with the EER commitments summarised above, and the following standard conditions:</p> <p>FF1 Washdown Guidelines</p> <p>OP1 Weed management</p>

Issue 3: Stormwater and sediment management
<p>Description of potential impacts</p> <p>The mining lease area is two hectares with the proposed quarry expansion to include a footprint of 0.9 ha. The quarry is located on a south-easterly slope leading towards the Heemskirk River approximately 130 m from the southern boundary, refer Figure 2.</p> <p>If appropriate measures are not implemented there is potential for the movement of sediment to leave the site. Sedimentation has the potential to impact on water quality and aquatic habitat.</p> <p>According to the EER, a sediment trap will be constructed at the point where the quarry drainage leaves the disturbed area to detain run off and capture sediment. Figure 2 shows the location of proposed diversion drains and the sediment pond.</p>
<p>Management measures proposed in EER</p>
<p>Commitment 3 - Quarry drainage will be directed to a sediment trap prior to being discharged off-site.</p>
<p>Public and agency comment</p>
<p>No public or agency representations were received in relation to stormwater and sediment management.</p>
<p>Evaluation</p>
<p>The commitment (Commitment 3) to direct drainage to a sediment pond for treatment prior to discharge is supported and considered necessary.</p> <p>There is potential for environmental harm or nuisance to occur if stormwater and sediments are not managed appropriately. It is therefore considered appropriate to include the standard conditions as detailed below.</p> <p>Condition E1 requires the proponent to construct and maintain perimeter cut-off drains to prevent stormwater from entering the working area or other disturbed areas and overwhelming the sediment pond capacity.</p> <p>Condition E2 requires that any polluted stormwater that will be discharged from the Land be collected and treated prior to discharge to the extent necessary to prevent environmental harm or nuisance. It also requires that stormwater discharged from the land must not carry pollutants or sediments in such concentrations as to degrade the visual quality of receiving waters outside of the land.</p> <p>Condition E3 is included to ensure the sediment pond is adequately maintained.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>
<p>The proponent will be required to comply with the relevant EER commitments summarised above.</p> <p>The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard conditions:</p> <p>E1 Perimeter drains</p> <p>E2 Stormwater</p> <p>E3 Maintenance of settling ponds</p>

Issue 4: Air Emissions
Description of potential impacts
<p>According to the EER, the total footprint of the expanded quarry site will be 0.9 ha.</p> <p>During operation, machinery will be moving within the extractive area itself as well as vehicles moving on and off site. There will be crushing and screening as well as occasional blasting. There will also be stockpiled materials, mostly rock, located on site.</p> <p>If these activities are not managed appropriately, there is potential for dust emissions to leave the site that may cause an environmental nuisance.</p> <p>The nearest sensitive receptor would be residences in Granville Harbour and Zeehan, approximately 12 km from the site.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>The Proponent will monitor dust emissions from the quarry and introduce dust suppression in the form of a water cart or sprays if fugitive dust emissions are a nuisance when crossing the boundary closest to Heemskirk Road.</p> <p>Commitment 4 - Introduce dust suppression if emissions become a nuisance on Heemskirk Road.</p>
Public and agency comment
<p>No public or agency representations were received in relation to air emissions.</p>
Evaluation
<p>The commitment (Commitment 4) to introduce dust suppression if emissions become a nuisance is supported.</p> <p>Due to the potential for dust emissions during operations it is considered appropriate to include condition A1 which will require the proponent to control dust emissions to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of The Land.</p>
Conclusion
<p>The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard condition:</p> <p>A1 Control of dust emissions</p>

Issue 5: Noise Emissions
Description of potential impacts
<p>Noise will be generated by plant and machinery (excavator, mobile crusher, mechanical screen) as well as haulage trucks. Occasional blasting is also proposed.</p> <p>There are no residential properties located in the vicinity of the quarry and hence potential noise emissions are not considered a significant environmental issue.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>There are no management measures proposed in the EER.</p>
Public and agency comment
<p>No public or agency representations were received in relation to noise emissions.</p>
Evaluation
<p>Given the location of the quarry in relation to the nearest sensitive receptor located approximately 12 km away, it is not anticipated that the quarry will generate a significant or unacceptable noise impact.</p> <p>It is considered that the hours of operation proposed in the EER (standard Quarry Code of Practice hours) are adequate to manage the potential noise emission risks to the nearest sensitive receiver.</p>
Conclusion
<p>No permit conditions required.</p>

Issue 6: Solid waste management
Description of potential impacts
<p>According to the EER, the quarry will generate a small amount of overburden that will be retained on site and used in future rehabilitation activities.</p> <p>General solid wastes such as litter associated with lubricating equipment, minor spares and food scraps will be generated.</p> <p>Inappropriate collection, storage or disposal of these wastes has the potential to cause environmental nuisance.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>Commitment 5 - Waste including food waste, lubricating tubes and other spares and packaging will be collected in the machine operator's ute and disposed of off-site at an approved disposal facility.</p>
Public and agency comment
<p>No public or agency representations were received in relation to waste management.</p>
Evaluation
<p>Given the likely types and low volume of waste generated at the site, the commitment (Commitment 5) to dispose of waste materials off-site at an approved facility is considered adequate and is supported. Specific conditions in regard to solid waste management are not considered necessary.</p> <p>Nevertheless, condition G7 is included. This requires that the activity undertaken must comply with the acceptable standards provisions of the QCoP (which includes waste management provisions). In addition, O11 outlines the appropriate manner in which to manage wastes (i.e. reduce, re-use or recycle wastes where possible).</p> <p>The EER states that no liquid wastes will be produced at the proposed quarry.</p>
Conclusion
<p>The proponent will be required to comply with the relevant EER commitment summarised above.</p> <p>The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard condition:</p> <p>G7 Quarry Code of Practice</p> <p>The following information is included in the notice:</p> <p>O11 Waste management hierarchy</p>

Issue 7: Dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous material
<p>Description of potential impacts</p> <p>The EER states that machinery used for the excavation, loading and haulage of materials may require refuelling within the proposed quarry area. Should fuel be stored or handled incorrectly or a spill to the environment occurs there is potential for contamination of soil, groundwater and waterways that could cause environmental harm or nuisance.</p> <p>The EER states that no machinery will be serviced on site and that no other hazardous materials or controlled wastes will be stored on site.</p> <p>According to the EER explosives used for periodic blasting will not be stored on site but will be transported, handled and managed by a professional explosives contractor in accordance with a documented blast management plan.</p>
<p>Management measures proposed in EER</p> <p>A hydrocarbon spill clean up kit will be available for immediate deployment if a fuel spill occurs during refuelling.</p>
<p>Public and agency comment</p> <p>No public or agency representations were received in relation to dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous materials.</p>
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>The EER states that a hydrocarbon spill clean up kit will be available for immediate deployment if a fuel spill occurs during refuelling, this is supported and is considered necessary (condition H1).</p> <p>Permit condition H2 is included to ensure that any environmentally hazardous materials located on-site are located within impervious bunded areas, spill trays or other containment systems and that the environmentally hazardous materials are managed to prevent emission, discharge or deposition to the environment. In addition, LO2 is included which provides information on the proponent's responsibilities under other relevant legislation.</p> <p>The inclusion of the above permit conditions and the proponent's management mitigation measure are considered appropriate to manage the potential risk from the relatively minor volumes of hazardous materials (fuel) that may be located and handled on-site to refuel equipment.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p> <p>The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard conditions:</p> <p>H1 Spill kits</p> <p>H2 Storage and handling of hazardous materials</p> <p>The following legal information is included in the notice:</p> <p>LO2 Storage and handling of dangerous goods, explosives and dangerous substances</p>

Issue 8: Cultural heritage
Description of potential impacts
<p>There are no sites listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register in close proximity to the quarry. The closest sites are located in the town of Zeehan, 12 km south east of the site. According to the EER it is highly unlikely the upgrade of the quarry will have an impact on a heritage place.</p> <p>The EER states that Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania (AHT) found no records or sites in close proximity to the quarry and that there is a low probability that an expansion of the existing operation will disturb Aboriginal heritage values, hence a site specific survey was not required.</p> <p>Nevertheless, there is potential that Aboriginal sites could be encountered when the topsoil is disturbed.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>The EER states that if during the course of the works an item or site suspected to have Aboriginal heritage significance is observed, the provisions of an Unanticipated Discovery Plan will be invoked.</p>
Public and agency comment
<p>Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania advised that there are no Aboriginal heritage sites recorded within the proposed quarry footprint and believe that the area has a low probability of Aboriginal heritage being present.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania recommend that an Unanticipated Discovery Plan should be available on-site during ground disturbing works to help aid the proponent in meeting their requirements under the <i>Aboriginal Relics Act 1975</i> should suspected Aboriginal heritage be discovered.</p> <p>No public representations were received.</p>
Evaluation
<p>The proponent intends to implement the Unanticipated Discovery Plan in the event that an item or site suspected to have Aboriginal heritage significance is observed.</p> <p>The proponent is made aware of the <i>Aboriginal Relics Act 1975</i> via the legal obligation clause LO3.</p>
Conclusion
<p>The following legal information is included in the notice:</p> <p>LO3 Aboriginal relics requirements</p>

Issue 9: Decommissioning and rehabilitation
Description of potential impacts
<p>The EER states that the objective of site rehabilitation is to restore the site to a native vegetation community similar to that surrounding it.</p> <p>The maximum area of native vegetation to be cleared will be 0.9 hectares.</p>
Management measures proposed in EER
<p>The EER states the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All equipment will be demobilised and any gravel surfaces will be ripped to facilitate infiltration. The faces will be made stable and benches will be made impassable. This will be achieved by spreading overburden against faces and site won topsoil over benches and allowing natural recruitment of the surrounding forest and woodlands to colonise the new surfaces. • The sediment trap will remain in place but be cleaned out and the silt won will be used in the rehabilitation works. The sediment trap will continue to provide detention for runoff during the revegetation phase until the trap is full of sediment, at which time disturbed surfaces will be stabilised with a cover of natural recruitment vegetation. • During the revegetation phase the proponent will deploy weed treatment contractors to ensure any colonising weeds are controlled until reasonable ground cover with native species is achieved. • To prevent further disturbance the access road will be ripped and covered with large stone to exclude vehicles.
Public and agency comment
No public or agency representations were received in relation to decommissioning and rehabilitation.
Evaluation
<p>The four management measures included above will likely prove adequate given the simple nature and size of the quarry. Nevertheless, to ensure appropriate rehabilitation is undertaken, it is considered appropriate to include permit conditions DC1 to ensure stockpiling of top-soil is kept separate for later use in rehabilitation; DC2 to ensure that progressive rehabilitation is undertaken where possible; DC3 to ensure rehabilitation on cessation of the quarry is substantially completed within 12 months of cessation, and that rehabilitated areas are monitored and maintained for a period of at least three years.</p> <p>Additionally the proponent is required to notify the Director, of the permanent cessation of the activity (DC4) or where a temporary suspension of activity (DC5) is likely to occur.</p>
Conclusion
<p>The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard conditions:</p> <p>DC1 Stockpiling of surface soil</p> <p>DC2 Progressive rehabilitation</p> <p>DC3 Rehabilitation on cessation</p> <p>DC4 Notification of cessation</p> <p>DC5 Temporary suspension of activity</p>

7 Report conclusions

This assessment has been based on the information provided by the proponent, Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd, in the permit application, EER and in correspondence and discussion between the EPA Division and the proponent and the proponent's representatives.

This assessment has incorporated specialist advice provided by EPA Tasmania scientific specialists and regulatory staff.

No public submissions were raised during the advertising period.

It is concluded that:

1. the RMPS and EMPCS objectives have been duly and properly pursued in the assessment of the proposal; and
2. the assessment of the proposed activity has been undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles.

It is concluded that the proposed activity is capable of being managed in an environmentally acceptable manner such that it is unlikely that the objectives of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (the RMPS and EMPCS objectives) would be compromised, provided that the Permit Conditions - Environmental No. 9699 appended to this report are imposed and duly complied with, including commitments made by the proponent in the EER.

The environmental conditions appended to this report are a new set of operating conditions for the entire, intensified activity that will supersede the existing permit conditions.

8 Report approval

Environmental Assessment Report and conclusions, including permit conditions, adopted:



Wes Ford

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Acting under delegation from the Board of the Environment Protection Authority

Date: 28-09-2017

9 References

Integrated land management & planning (2017), Heemskirk Quarry Upgrade – Environmental Effects Report, 17 July 2017.

Philip Milner Landscape Consultant Pty Ltd (2017) *Flora and Fauna Habitat Survey of Heemskirk Quarry, 7M/2002* For Gaspersic Contracting Pty Ltd

10 Appendices

Appendix 1 Summary of public and agency submissions

Appendix 2 Permit conditions

Appendix 1 Summary of public and agency submissions

TABLE 1: MATTERS RAISED DURING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD

Note that no public representations were received during the public consultation period.

Agency	EER section no	Comments and issues
PCAB	Part C Section 4.1	<p>PCAB made the following comments:</p> <p>The flora and fauna survey did not record any species of flora within the quarry footprint which are listed under the <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i>. PCAB has no further recommendations in regards to threatened flora for the proposed quarry intensification.</p> <p>The flora and fauna survey did not record any habitat suitable for Tasmanian devil (<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i>) dens within the quarry site. However the area is well known for devil habitation and the quarry is likely to be within the foraging home range for a number of Tasmanian devils. A concern for increased quarry activity is an increase in road traffic which could potentially increase the occurrence of roadkill on the quarry access road (Heemskirk Road). PCAB supports the commitment in the EER for cartage of rock from the quarry to occur during daylight hours only, as this will substantially reduce the risk for an increase in roadkill as a result of the quarry intensification</p> <p>The quarry hygiene report found no evidence of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> in or surrounding the quarry site. A number of flora species in the area are highly susceptible to <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>, and adherence to strict hygiene measures is recommended. PCAB supports the commitment in the EER for the quarry to be operated in accordance with DPIPWE (2015) <i>Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines - Preventing the spread of weeds and diseases in Tasmania</i>.</p>

Appendix 2 Permit conditions - Environmental No. 9699

PERMIT PART B
PERMIT CONDITIONS - ENVIRONMENTAL No. 9699

Issued under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*

Activity: **The operation of a quarry (ACTIVITY TYPE: Crushing, grinding, milling or separating into different sizes (rocks, ores or minerals))**
HEEMSKIRK QUARRY, HEEMSKIRK ROAD
GRANVILLE HARBOUR TAS 7469

The above activity has been assessed as a level 2 activity under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

Acting under Section 25(5)(a)(i) of the EMPCA, the Board of the Environment Protection Authority has required that this Permit Part B be included in any Permit granted under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* with respect to the above activity.

Municipality: **WEST COAST**
Permit Application Reference:
EPA file reference: **252637**

Date conditions approved: 28-09-2017

Signed:



DELEGATE FOR THE BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DEFINITIONS

Unless the contrary appears, words and expressions used in this Permit Part B have the meaning given to them in **Schedule 1** of this Permit and in the EMPCA. If there is any inconsistency between a definition in the EMPCA and a definition in this Permit Part B, the EMPCA prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The person responsible for the activity must comply with the conditions contained in **Schedule 2** of this Permit Part B.

INFORMATION

Attention is drawn to **Schedule 3**, which contains important additional information.

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Attachments

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Schedule 1: Definitions

In this Permit Part B:-

Aboriginal Relic has the meaning described in section 2(3) of the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*.

Activity means any environmentally relevant activity (as defined in Section 3 of EMPCA) to which this document relates, and includes more than one such activity.

Authorized Officer means an authorized officer under section 20 of EMPCA.

Director means the Director, Environment Protection Authority holding office under Section 18 of EMPCA and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.

EMPCA means the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

Environmental Harm and **Material Environmental Harm** and **Serious Environmental Harm** each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 5 of EMPCA.

Environmental Nuisance and **Pollutant** each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 3 of EMPCA.

Environmentally Hazardous Material means any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment and includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals but excludes sewage.

Person Responsible is any person who is or was responsible for the environmentally relevant activity to which this document relates and includes the officers, employees, contractors, joint venture partners and agents of that person, and includes a body corporate.

Quarry Code Of Practice means the document of this title published by the Environment Protection Authority in May 2017, and includes any subsequent versions of this document.

Stormwater means water traversing the surface of the land as a result of rainfall.

The Land means the land on which the activity to which this document relates may be carried out, and includes: buildings and other structures permanently fixed to the land, any part of the land covered with water, and any water covering the land. The Land falls within the area defined by:

- 1 Mining Lease 7M/2002; and
- 2 as further delineated at Attachment 1.

Washdown Guidelines means the document titled *Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines - Preventing the spread of weeds and diseases in Tasmania*, by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, dated March 2015, and any amendment to or substitution of this document.

Weed means a declared weed as defined in the *Weed Management Act 1999*.

Schedule 2: Conditions

Maximum Quantities

Q1 Regulatory limits

- 1 The activity must not exceed the following limits :
 - 1.1 18,000 cubic metres per year of rocks, ores or minerals processed.

General

G1 Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents

A copy of these conditions and any associated documents referred to in these conditions must be held in a location that is known to and accessible to the person responsible for the activity. The person responsible for the activity must ensure that all persons who are responsible for undertaking work on The Land, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with these conditions to the extent relevant to their work.

G2 Incident response

If an incident causing or threatening environmental nuisance, serious environmental harm or material environmental harm from pollution occurs in the course of the activity, then the person responsible for the activity must immediately take all reasonable and practicable action to minimise any adverse environmental effects from the incident.

G3 No changes without approval

- 1 The following changes, if they may cause or increase the emission of a pollutant which may cause material or serious environmental harm or environmental nuisance, must only take place in relation to the activity if such changes have been approved in writing by the EPA Board following its assessment of an application for a permit under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, or approved in writing by the Director:
 - 1.1 a change to a process used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
 - 1.2 the construction, installation, alteration or removal of any structure or equipment used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
 - 1.3 a change in the quantity or characteristics of materials used in the course of carrying out the activity.

G4 Change of responsibility

If the person responsible for the activity intends to cease to be responsible for the activity, that person must notify the Director in writing of the full particulars of any person succeeding him or her as the person responsible for the activity, before such cessation.

G5 Change of ownership

If the owner of The Land upon which the activity is carried out changes or is to change, then, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 30 days after becoming aware of the change or intended change in the ownership of The Land, the person responsible must notify the Director in writing of the change or intended change of ownership.

G6 Complaints register

- 1 A public complaints register must be maintained and made available for inspection by an Authorized Officer upon request. The public complaints register must, as a minimum, record the following detail in relation to each complaint received in which it is alleged that environmental harm (including an environmental nuisance) has been caused by the activity:

- 1.1 the date and time at which the complaint was received;
 - 1.2 contact details for the complainant (where provided);
 - 1.3 the subject-matter of the complaint;
 - 1.4 any investigations undertaken with regard to the complaint; and
 - 1.5 the manner in which the complaint was resolved, including any mitigation measures implemented.
- 2 Complaint records must be maintained for a period of at least 3 years.

G7 Quarry Code of Practice

Unless otherwise required by these conditions or required in writing by the Director, the activity (or activities) undertaken on The Land must comply with the Acceptable Standards provisions of the *Quarry Code of Practice*.

Atmospheric

A1 Control of dust emissions

Dust emissions from The Land must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of The Land.

Blasting

B1 Blasting times

Blasting on The Land must take place only between the hours of 1000 hours and 1600 hours Monday to Friday. Blasting must not take place on Saturdays, Sundays or public holidays unless prior written approval of the Director has been obtained.

Decommissioning And Rehabilitation

DC1 Stockpiling of surface soil

Prior to commencement of extractive activities on any portion of The Land, surface soils must be removed in that portion of The Land to be disturbed by the conduct of the activity and stockpiled for later use in rehabilitation of The Land. Topsoil must be kept separate from other overburden and protected from erosion or other disturbance.

DC2 Progressive rehabilitation

Worked out or disused sections of The Land must be rehabilitated concurrently with extractive activities on other sections of The Land. Progressive rehabilitation must be carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Quarry Code of Practice*, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director. The maximum disturbed area of land which may remain, at any time, without rehabilitation is one hectare.

DC3 Rehabilitation on cessation

- 1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, rehabilitation upon permanent cessation of the activity must be undertaken in accordance with relevant provisions of the *Quarry Code of Practice* and in accordance with the following:
 - 1.1 rehabilitation earthworks must be substantially completed within 12 months of cessation of the activity; and
 - 1.2 rehabilitated areas must be monitored and maintained for a period of at least three years after rehabilitation works have been substantially completed, after which time the person responsible for the activity may apply in writing to the Director for a written statement that rehabilitation has been successfully completed.

DC4 Notification of cessation

Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the permanent cessation of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to cease or has ceased.

DC5 Temporary suspension of activity

- 1 Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the temporary suspension of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to suspend or has suspended.
- 2 During temporary suspension of the activity:
 - 2.1 The Land must be managed and monitored by the person responsible for the activity to ensure that emissions from The Land do not cause serious environmental harm, material environmental harm or environmental nuisance; and
 - 2.2 If required by the Director a Care and Maintenance Plan for the activity must be submitted, by a date specified in writing by the Director, for approval. The person responsible must implement the approved Care and Maintenance Plan, as may be amended from time to time with written approval of the Director.
- 3 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, if the activity on The Land has substantially ceased for 2 years or more, rehabilitation of The Land must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of these conditions as if the activity has permanently ceased.

Effluent Disposal**E1 Perimeter drains**

- 1 Perimeter cut-off drains must be constructed at strategic locations on The Land to prevent surface run-off from entering the area used or disturbed in carrying out the activity. All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that sediment transported along these drains remains on The Land. Such measures may include provision of strategically located sediment fences, appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds, vegetated swales, detention basins and other measures designed and operated in accordance with the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design.
- 2 Drains must have sufficient capacity to contain run-off that could reasonably be expected to arise during a 1 in 20 year rainfall event. Maintenance activities must be undertaken regularly to ensure that this capacity does not diminish.

E2 Stormwater

- 1 Polluted stormwater that will be discharged from The Land must be collected and treated prior to discharge to the extent necessary to prevent serious or material environmental harm, or environmental nuisance.
- 2 Notwithstanding the above, all stormwater that is discharged from The Land must not carry pollutants such as sediment, oil and grease in quantities or concentrations that are likely to degrade the visual quality of any receiving waters outside the Land.
- 3 All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that solids entrained in stormwater are retained on The Land. Such measures may include appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds or detention basins.
- 4 Stormwater discharged in accordance with this condition must not be directed to sewer without the approval of the operator of the sewerage system.

E3 Maintenance of settling ponds

Sediment settling ponds must be periodically cleaned out to ensure that the pond design capacity is maintained. Sediment removed during this cleaning must be securely deposited such that sediment will not be transported off The Land by surface run-off.

Flora And Fauna**FF1 Washdown Guidelines**

Prior to entering the land, machinery must be washed in accordance with the Washdown Guidelines, or any subsequent revisions of that document.

Hazardous Substances**H1 Spill kits**

Spill kits appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled on The Land must be kept in appropriate locations to assist with the containment of spilt environmentally hazardous materials.

H2 Storage and handling of hazardous materials

- 1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, environmentally hazardous materials held on The Land must be:
 - 1.1 stored within impervious bunded areas, spill trays or other containment systems; and
 - 1.2 managed to prevent unauthorised discharge, emission or deposition of pollutants:
 - 1.2.1 to soils within the boundary of The Land in a manner that is likely to cause serious environmental harm;
 - 1.2.2 to groundwater;
 - 1.2.3 to waterways; or
 - 1.2.4 beyond the boundary of The Land.

Operations**OP1 Weed management**

The Land must be kept substantially free of weeds to minimise the risk of weeds being spread through the transport of products from The Land.

Schedule 3: Information

Legal Obligations

LO1 EMPCA

The activity must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* and Regulations thereunder. The conditions of this document must not be construed as an exemption from any of those requirements.

LO2 Storage and handling of dangerous goods, explosives and dangerous substances

1 The storage, handling and transport of dangerous goods, explosives and dangerous substances must comply with the requirements of relevant State Acts and any regulations thereunder, including:

1.1 *Work Health and Safety Act 2012* and subordinate regulations;

1.2 *Explosives Act 2012* and subordinate regulations; and

1.3 *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2010* and subordinate regulations.

LO3 Aboriginal relics requirements

1 The *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*, provides legislative protection to Aboriginal heritage sites in Tasmania regardless of site type, condition, size or land tenure. Section 14(1) of the Act states that; Except as otherwise provided in this Act, no person shall, otherwise than in accordance with the terms of a permit granted by the Minister on the recommendation of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife:

1.1 destroy, damage, deface, conceal or otherwise interfere with a relic;

1.2 make a copy or replica of a carving or engraving that is a relic by rubbing, tracing, casting or other means that involve direct contact with the carving or engraving;

1.3 remove a relic from the place where it is found or abandoned;

1.4 sell or offer or expose for sale, exchange, or otherwise dispose of a relic or any other object that so nearly resembles a relic as to be likely to deceive or be capable of being mistaken for a relic;

1.5 take a relic, or permit a relic to be taken, out of this State; or

1.6 cause an excavation to be made or any other work to be carried out on Crown land for the purpose of searching for a relic.

2 If a relic is suspected and/or identified during works then works must cease immediately and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and the Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania be contacted for advice before work can continue. In the event that damage to an Aboriginal heritage site is unavoidable a permit under section 14 of the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* must be applied for. The Minister may refuse an application for a permit, where the characteristics of the relics are considered to warrant their preservation.

3 Anyone finding an Aboriginal relic is required under section 10 of the Act to report that finding as soon as practicable to the Director of National Parks and Wildlife or an authorized officer under the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*. It is sufficient to report the finding of a relic to Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania to fulfil the requirements of section 10 of the Act.

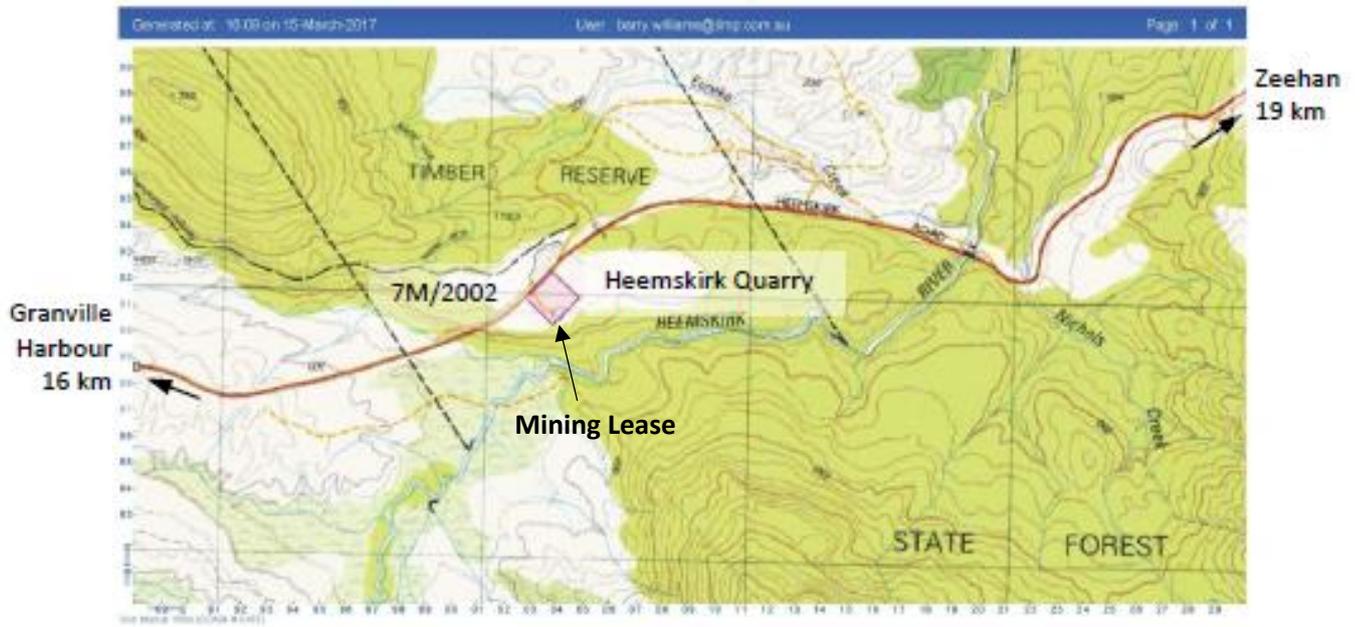
Other Information**OI1 Notification of incidents under section 32 of EMPCA**

Where a person is required by section 32 of EMPCA to notify the Director of the release of a pollutant, the Director can be notified by telephoning 1800 005 171 (a 24-hour emergency telephone number).

OI2 Commitments

The person responsible for the activity has a general environmental duty to conduct the activity in accordance with the commitments contained in Attachment 2.

Attachment 1 – The Land



Attachment 2 – Commitments

Number	Commitment	Completion Date
1	Implement a preventative weed management plan to ensure the weed free status of the quarry is maintained.	On issue of permit
2	Works will be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines</i> (DPIPWE, 2015).	During operations
3	Quarry drainage will be directed to a sediment trap prior to being discharged off site.	Prior to future quarry expansion
4	Introduce dust suppression if emissions become a nuisance on Heemskirk Road.	During operations
5	Waste including food waste, lubricating tubes and other spares and packaging will be collected in the machine operator's ute and disposed of off-site at an approved disposal facility.	At the end of each operating day
6	Cartage for delivery to the Granville Harbour Wind Farm project will only occur during daylight hours.	At any time
7	A 'trucks entering' sign (W5-22A) will be installed on the eastern approach to the quarry entrance.	On issue of a permit