Environmental Assessment Report

North East Excavations (Tas) Pty Ltd

Dianas Basin Quarry Capacity Increase

St Helens

November 2025

EPA TASMANIA

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Environmental Assessment Report

Proponent	**North East Excavations (Tas) Pty Ltd**
Proposal	Dianas Basin Quarry Capacity Increase
Location	St Helens
Class of Assessment	2A
PCE No.	10824
Permit Application No.	096/2025 (Break O'Day Council)
myDAS Folder No.	21/1562
myDAS Document No.	D25-187930

Assessment Process

Date	Milestone
6 April 2021	Notice of Intent lodged
20 April 2021	Class of assessment determined
12 May 2021	Guidelines Issued
23 March 2022	Case of assessment accepted by the Board
28 July 2025	Referral received by the Board
20 September 2025	Start of public consultation period
3 October 2025	End of public consultation period
22 October 2025	Date draft conditions issued to proponent
11 November 2025	Statutory period for assessment ends

Glossary/Acronyms

Term	Detail
AHD	Australian Height Datum
Board	Board of the Environment Protection Authority
EER	Environmental Effects Report
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EMPCA	*Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*
EMPCS	Environmental management and pollution control system
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth)
ha	Hectares
km	Kilometres
LUPAA	*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*
m	Metres
mm	Millimetres
m^3	Cubic metres
NCA	*Nature Conservation Act 2002*
NOI	Notice of Intent
NRE Tas	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
QCP	Quarry Code of Practice (EPA 2017)
RMPS	Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania
SD	Sustainable development
TSPA	*Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*

Report Summary

This report provides an environmental assessment of the proposed capacity increase of the existing Dianas Basin Quarry by North East Excavations (Tas) Pty Ltd.

The proposal involves an increase in production from 20,000 cubic metres (m^3) to 50,000 m^3 of material extracted and crushed per annum. The proposal includes an additional disturbance area.

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

Appendix 1 contains details of matters raised by referral agencies during the consultation process.

Appendix 2 contains a table of the proponent's proposed management measures.

Appendix 3 contains the environmental permit conditions for the proposal.

Table of Contents

1. Approval Process

The Board of the Environment Protection Authority (the Board) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) in relation to this proposal on 6 April 2021.

An application for a permit under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) in relation to the proposal was submitted to Break O'Day Council on 21 May 2025.

This proposal is defined as a 'level 2 activity' under clause 5(a) (quarries) and 6(a)(ii) (crushing of rock), Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA), being the capacity increase of an existing quarry and materials handing facility.

Section 25(1) of EMPCA required Council to refer the application to the Board for assessment under EMPCA. The permit application was received by the Board on 28 July 2025.

The Board required that information to support the proposal be provided in the form of an Environmental Effects Report (EER) prepared in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Board on 12 May 2021. A draft of the EER was submitted to the EPA for review against the Guidelines prior to finalisation and acceptance on behalf of the Board on 23 March 2022.

The EER was released for public inspection for a 14 day period commencing on 20 September 2025. Advertisements were placed in The Examiner and on the EPA website. The EER was also referred to relevant government agencies for comment. No public representations were received.

The Acting Director, Environmental Assessments has undertaken determination of the assessment under delegation from the Board.

2. Sustainable Development Objectives and EIA Principles

The proposal must be considered by the Board in the context of the objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania (RMPS), and the Environmental Management and Pollution Control System (EMPCS). Both sets of objectives are specified in Schedule 1 of EMPCA.

The functions of the Board are to administer and enforce the provisions of EMPCA, and to use its best endeavours to further the RMPS and EMPCS objectives. The Board must assess the proposal in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles defined in Section 74 of EMPCA.

3. The Proposal

The main characteristics of the proposal are summarised below. A detailed description of the proposal is provided in Part B of the EER.

Summary of the proposal's main characteristics

Activity

The proposal is for a capacity increase at the existing Dianas Basin Creek Quarry from 20,000 m^3 to 50,000 m^3 of rock extracted and crushed per annum.

The Activity Area and Operational Area (the area that extraction and materials handling will be confined to) for the proposal are shown in **Figure 3.** The Operational Area comprises existing operations, the 'future development area' and the 'ultimate development area'.

The proposal will result in an increase to the current maximum disturbed area at any one time from 2.1 hectares (ha) (of which only 1 ha is permitted) up to 4.7 ha.

Location and planning context

Location	Basin Creek Road, St Helens as shown in **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**
Land zoning	Zoned 'Rural' under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Break O'Day Local Provisions Schedule
Land tenure	Crown Land • Property Services, Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) • Sustainable Timber Tasmania
Mining lease	22M/2003
Lease area	10 ha
Bond	$70,000

Activity site

Land Use	The current land use is the existing quarry and native vegetation. It is an area of ex-production forest and now has low sparse native *Eucalyptus* woodland regrowth vegetation cover.
Topography	The Activity Area occupies a low ridge top location at approximately 100 metres (m) Australian Height Datum (AHD). The landscape in the vicinity of the Activity Area has an easterly aspect and is part of the lower foothills of the Scamander Tier.
Geology and Soils	The Activity Area is mapped as Scamander Formation further described as Turbidite succession dominated by quartz-rich sandstones with minor siltstone and mudstone. Current related sedimentary structures are abundant. It contains Devonian marine macrofossils, graptolites and vascular plant fossils. The north west corner of the Activity Area is mapped as Cenozoic cover sequences comprising gravel, sand and derived lag. Sampling and analysis taken from the western face of the quarry development area found no detectable sulphur and calculated pyrite contents, concluding it would have very low Maximum Acid Producing Potential (refer to Attachment 2 of the EER).
Hydrology	Basin Creek is located approximately 1.4 kilometres (km) to the north and downstream from the Activity Area. An ephemeral tributary to Basin Creek crosses the western and eastern corners of the Activity Area.

	The closest water bores are approximately 2.8 km to the southeast of the Activity Area, at a lower elevation and occupying different geology. The EER states that these bores can therefore not be used to predict groundwater systems at the site.
Natural Values	A natural values assessment was undertaken in August 2021. No threatened species or threatened vegetation communities listed under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (NCA), the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSPA) or the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) were recorded.

Location region

Climate	Rainfall is approximately 680 millimetres (mm) per annum. Wind direction is predominantly north westerly in the mornings with north easterly and westerlies dominant in the afternoons.
Surrounding land zoning, tenure and uses	Surrounding land uses include forestry (plantations and future potential production forest) with rural and residential use to the north and northeast. Areas of private conservation reserve are located to the east. Mining Lease 1589P/M held by Break O'Day Council is located adjacent to the northern boundary of the Activity Area. The land surrounding the Activity Area is also zoned 'Rural', and further afield between the quarry and Dianas Basin, the land is zoned 'Landscape Conservation'. The nearest sensitive receptor is 'Featherdale' 24671 Tasman Highway, approximately 500 m from the boundary of the Activity Area (refer to **Figure 2** below).
Species of conservation significance	The Basin Creek catchment is listed as an important location for the Giant Velvet Worm (*Tasmanipatus barretti*) which is listed as Rare under the TSPA.

Proposed infrastructure

Major equipment	Equipment is existing and no new plant or machinery is proposed. Equipment used on site includes rock drill, excavator, excavator with rock breaker, wheel loader, mobile crusher, mobile screener, and various on-road truck and trailer combinations.
Other infrastructure	A relocatable crib hut, amenities block, carparking, security gate and access road are located on the site. No new infrastructure is proposed.

Inputs

Water	Water for dust suppression is sourced from a series of site water tanks.
Energy	Fuel will be used to operate machinery on site.
Other raw materials	None.

Wastes and emissions

Liquid	Stormwater runoff from extraction and stockpile areas.
Atmospheric	Dust from internal and external traffic, and blow-off from stockpiles.
Solid	General refuse including food scraps, paper and packaging.
Controlled wastes	Waste engine oil and lubricants to be removed each day. Relocatable toilet for sanitary waste. Waste from the toilet will be held in a holding tank and periodically pumped out for offsite disposal.
Noise	Noise from ripping, blasting, drilling, crushing and screening, and internal and external traffic.

Greenhouse gases	Greenhouse gases will be emitted through the operation of mobile plant, trucks and associated activities requiring fossil fuels. Greenhouse gas emissions also arise directly from blasting and indirectly by the production and transport of explosives.

Construction and operations

Proposal timetable	Dianas Basin Quarry is an existing quarry with ongoing operations. Upon approval of a permit the site would continue to operate with increased extraction and processing following upgrades to the existing sediment control infrastructure.
Quarrying method	Hard rock will be extracted from outcrops primarily using ripping techniques. Particularly hard substrate may be won using drill and blast. Product will be run through a primary crusher then the secondary crusher and screener circuit. The quarry plan and longitudinal section are shown in **Figure 3** and **Figure 4** below.
Operating hours (ongoing)	0700 to 1900 hours Monday to Friday 0800 to 1700 hours Saturday Blasting is proposed on weekdays 1000 to 1400 hours only

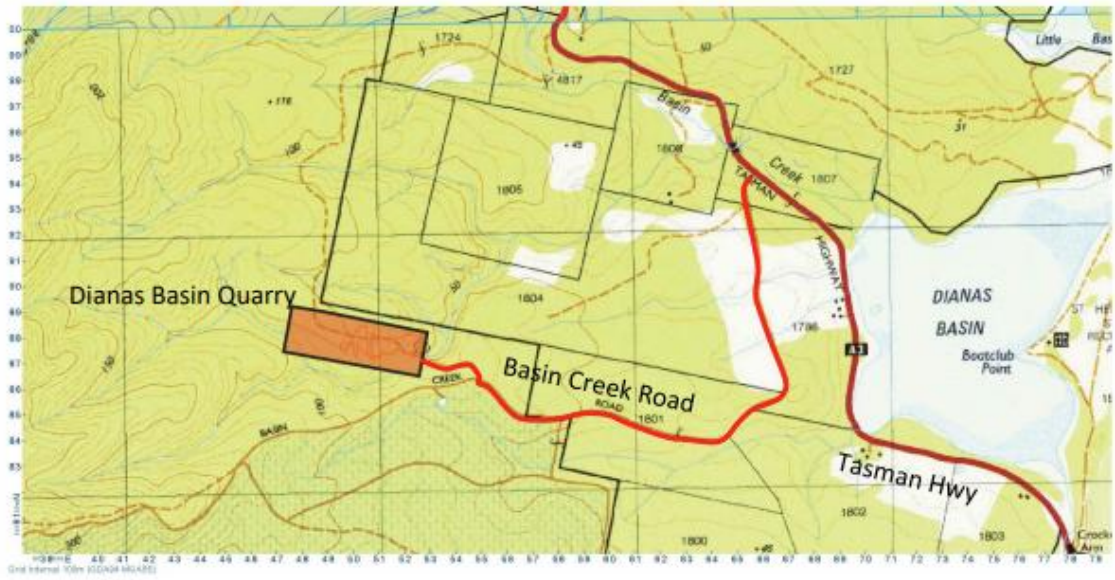


Figure 1: Location Map (Figure 1 of the EER)

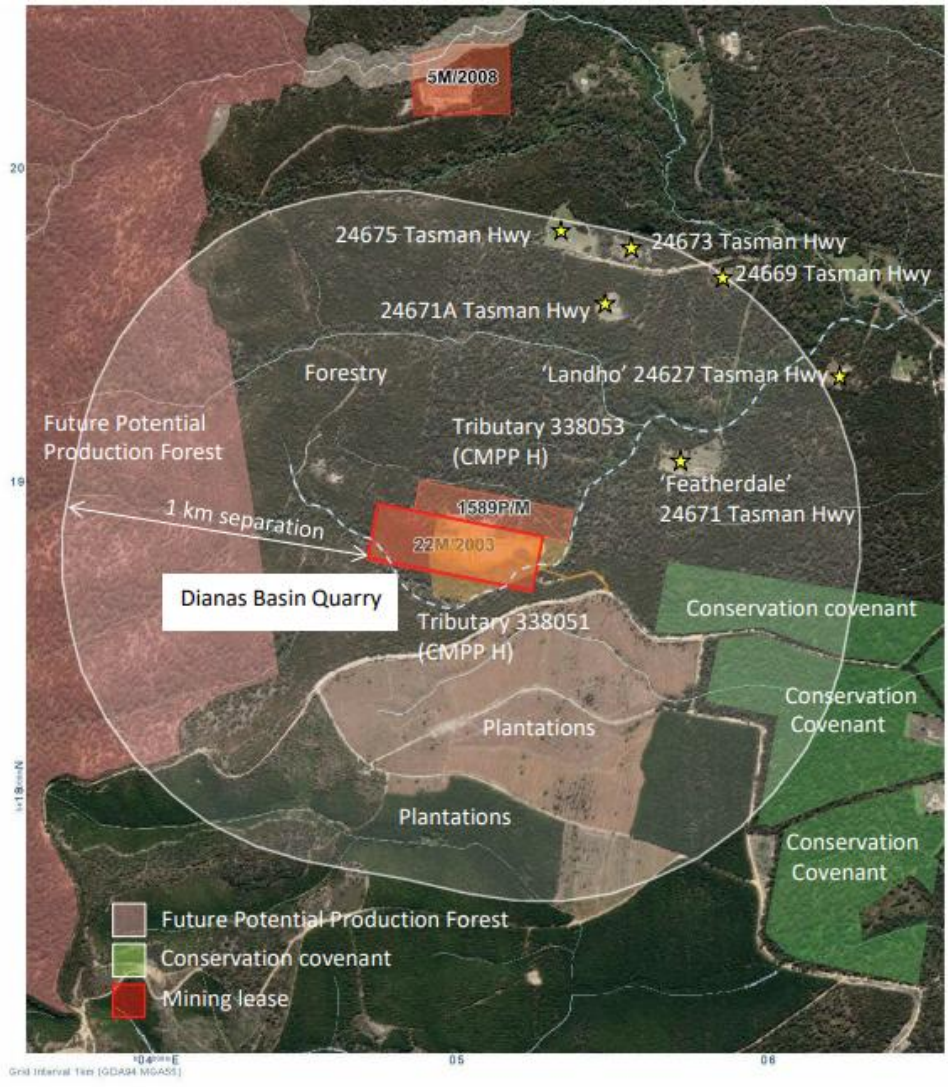


Figure 2: Quarry and surrounds, including nearest sensitive receptors (Figure 2 of EER)

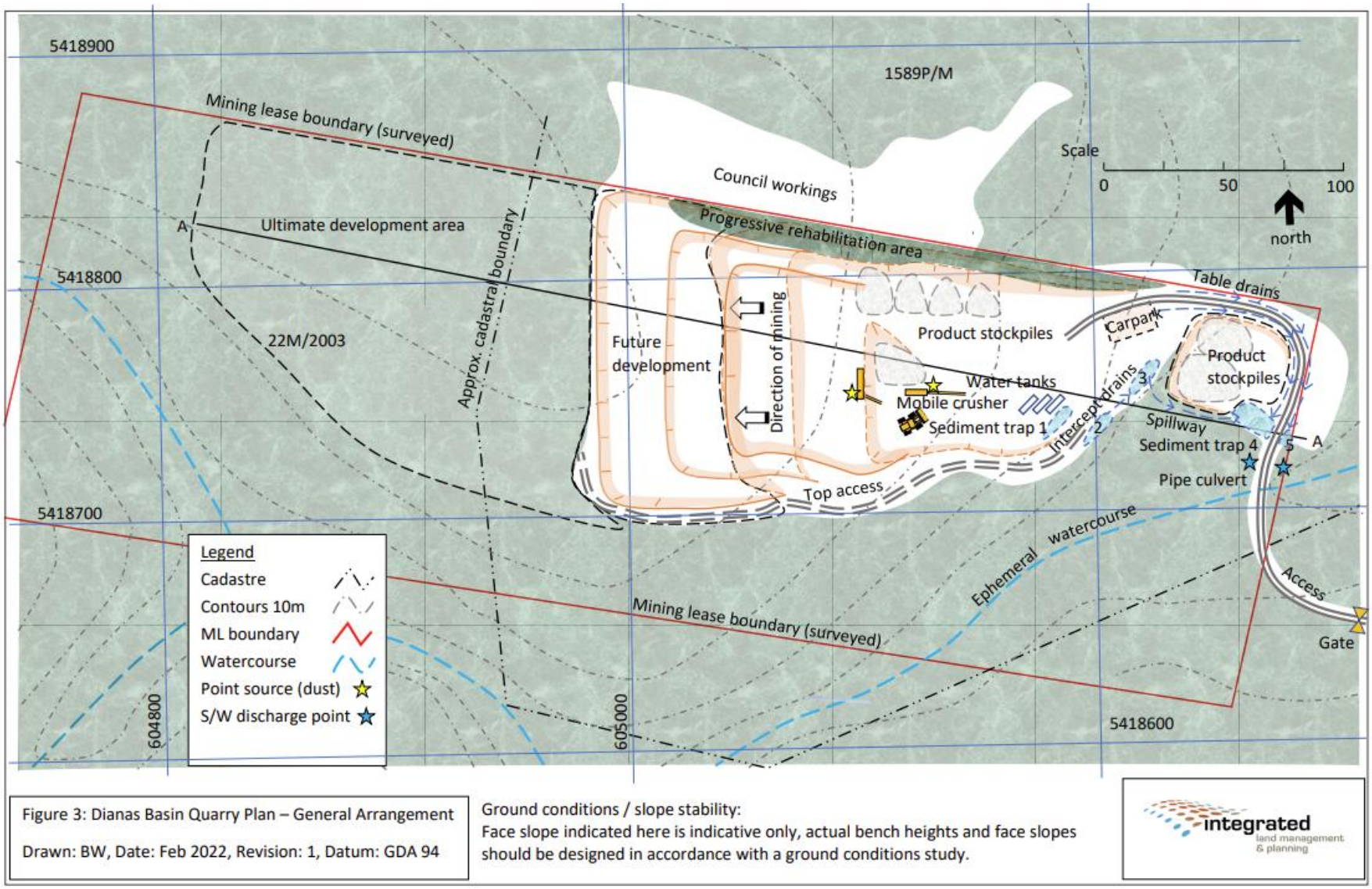


Figure 3: Quarry plan (Figure 3 of the EER) showing the Activity Area (labelled Mining lease boundary) and the Operational Area (including the future and ultimate development areas)

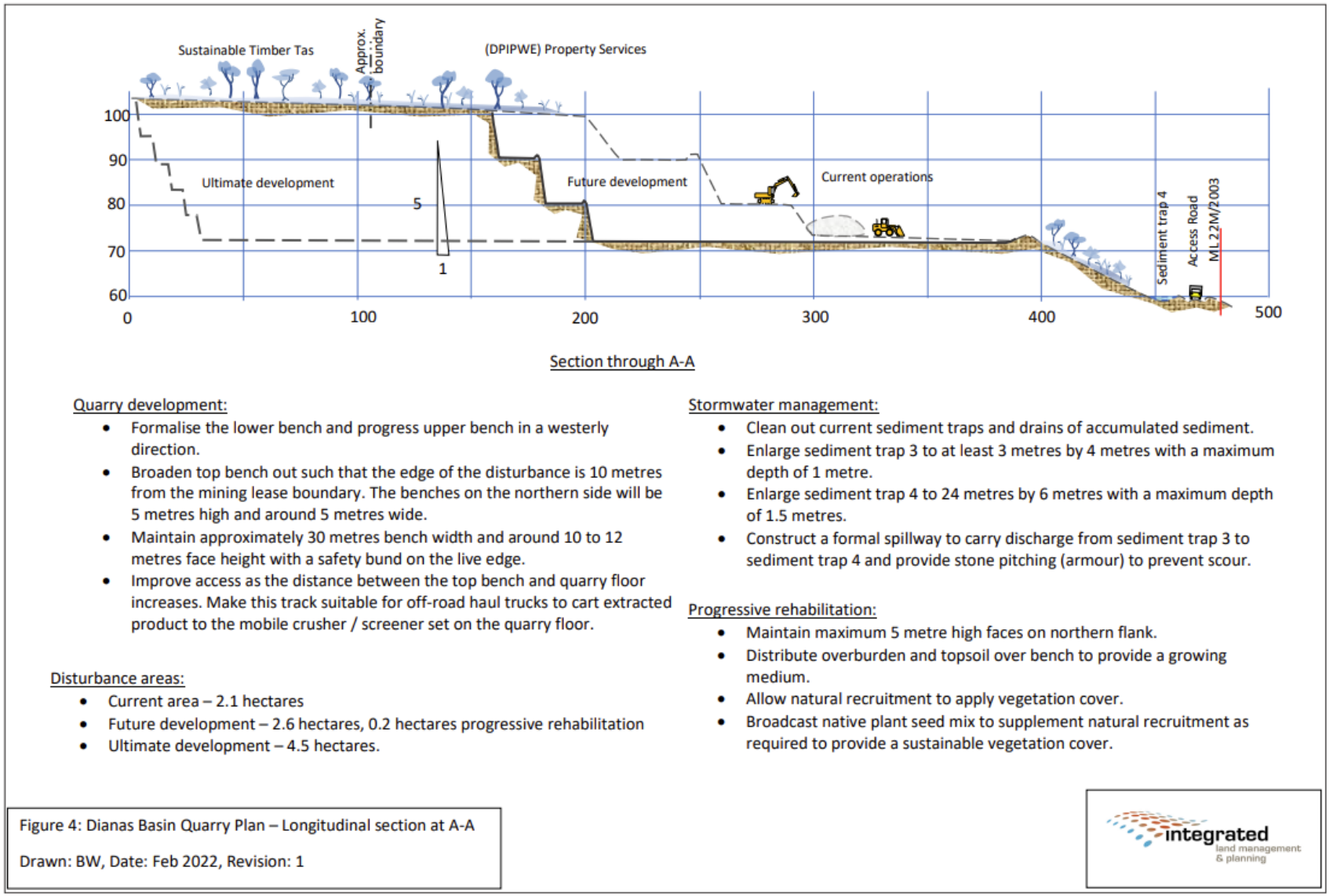


Figure 4: Quarry plan cross section (Figure 4 of the EER)

4. Project Rationale and Alternatives

The EER states the Tasman Highway is listed for extensive upgrades in coming years and these works will continue to generate demand for rock for pavement base and sealing aggregates. The EER states the quarry is ideally located to service construction contracts on the Tasman Highway north and south of Dianas Basin as a major component of project costs involve cartage.

The EER details that if the quarry continues to operate with its existing production limit of 20,000 m^3 per annum, it would effectively be excluded from tendering for substantial contracts. The EER also states that the supply of road materials out of quarries at Campbell Town, Launceston or south of Bicheno would also cause an increase in heavy vehicles on the Tasman Highway over a larger distance and increase wear and tear on the road system.

5. Public and Agency Consultation

No public submissions were received during the public consultation period.

During the assessment process, the proposal was also referred to several government agencies with an interest in the proposal. Comments were received from:

- Conservation Assessments Section, Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas)
- Mineral Resources Tasmania, Department of State Growth
- Department of State Growth
- Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania, NRE Tas
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania

Appendix 1 of this report contains a summary of the agency comment received during the public consultation period.

6. Evaluation of Environmental Issues

The following environmental issues are considered relevant to the proposal and have been evaluated in this section:

1. Air Quality
2. Water Quality
3. Noise Emissions and Vibration
4. Natural Values
5. Weed and Disease Management
6. Waste Management, Dangerous Goods and Environmentally Hazardous Substances
7. Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

General conditions

The following general conditions will be imposed on the activity:

G1 Activity Area

G2 Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents

G3 Incident response

G4 Proposed change to activity

G5 Change of responsibility

G6 Change of ownership

G7 Complaints register

G8 Quarry Code of Practice

G9 Amendment of required plans and reports

6.1 Issue 1: Air quality

6.1.1 Potential impacts

Quarrying activities can produce dust which may create environmental nuisance or harm beyond the Activity Area boundary if not appropriately managed. Dust can originate from blasting, excavation, crushing, screening, disturbed topsoil, material stockpiles, loading and carting of product, and movement of equipment and vehicles on and offsite.

The quarry is in a location dominated by forestry, with rural and residential use to the north and northeast. Areas of private conversation reserve are located to the east.

There are 6 sensitive receptors within approximately 1 km of the Activity Area, with the nearest sensitive receptor 'Featherdale' 24671 Tasman Highway, being approximately 500 m from the Activity Area boundary (refer to **Figure 2** and **Table 1**).

Table 1: Nearest Sensitive Receptors (Information taken from Table 6 of the EER)

Sensitive Receptor (residential address)	Separation distance (m)
'Featherdale' 24671 Tasman Highway	500
24671A Tasman Highway	755
24673 Tasman Highway	950
24675 Tasman Highway	955
24669 Tasman Highway	1,000
'Landho' 24627 Tasman Highway	1,050

Wind direction is predominantly north westerly in the mornings with north easterly and westerlies dominant in the afternoons.

6.1.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER states the following management measure to mitigate the generation of dust and emissions:

- Trafficked surfaces on the quarry floor, benches and haul roads will be maintained in good condition and clean.
- Drop distances between buckets and hoppers and trays and off conveyor chutes will be kept to a minimum.
- Trays carrying product off site will be loaded so the maximum height of the load does not exceed the height of the sides of the tray or alternatively will have covers fitted.
- The operator will deploy a water cart on days where weather conditions are especially dry and windy.

6.1.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations or agency submissions were received in relation to air quality.

6.1.4 Evaluation

Dust emissions are expected to increase with the proposed capacity increase as there will be additional movements of vehicles and machinery and an increase in the amount of ripping, drilling and blasting.

It is considered unlikely that dust from activities on site will result in a nuisance to surrounding landowners, given mitigation measures, the prevailing wind direction and proximity to sensitive receptors.

The EER details that water can be sourced from a series of on-site water tanks for dust suppression.

The proposed management measures for the capacity increase are considered appropriate. To ensure the mitigation measures continue to be implemented, standard conditions **A1**, **A2**, **A3** and **A4** are imposed to reduce the risk of dust emissions creating environmental nuisance or harm.

Standard condition **A1** requires that dust emissions must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of the Activity Area. Standard condition **A2** requires that any vehicles carrying loads containing material which may blow or spill, must be equipped with effective control measures to prevent the escape of the materials from the vehicles when they leave the Activity Area or travel on public roads. Standard condition **A3** requires dust emissions from areas of the Activity Area used by vehicles be controlled by dampening or other effective measures. Standard condition **A4** requires that any dust produced by the operation of crushing and/or screening plant must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance using methods such as water sprays, dust extraction equipment or enclosures.

Blast fumes are not considered to be a risk given that blasting will be conducted by a qualified blasting contractor, and the distance and topography between where blasting will occur and the nearest sensitive receptor.

Given the information provided in the EER and the conditions imposed as detailed above, it is considered the potential dust emissions generated by the proposed activity can be adequately managed to minimise the potential for environmental nuisance or harm.

6.1.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

A1 Control of dust emissions

A2 Covering of vehicles

A3 Dust emissions from traffic areas

A4 Control of dust emissions from crushing and screening plant

6.2 Issue 2: Water quality

6.2.1 Potential impacts

Quarrying activities have the potential to be sources of pollutants (e.g. sediments, fuel/oil, and other chemical spills) that may impact surface and groundwater quality if not managed appropriately. These include crushing, screening, carting of material, stockpile creation, weed management, and refueling/maintenance of vehicles, plant and equipment.

The maximum disturbed area will increase from the current 2.1 ha (noting that only 1 ha is currently permitted) to 4.7 ha, to accommodate stockpiles and truck maneuvering.

The Activity Area is situated at the top of a low ridge with natural watercourses located on the northern and southern side. The sides of the quarry fall away steeply to a gully with a natural watercourse on the southern side.

The EER details the current sediment control infrastructure that includes table drains and several sediment traps.

6.2.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER details that the quarry development plan includes retaining a hard edge on the southern side topped with a haul road, preventing any discharge from disturbance entering the gully directly.

The EER states that to account for the increase in maximum disturbed area associated with the capacity increase, the sediment infrastructure will be improved to provide more detention capacity. The initial sediment traps (labelled sediment traps 1 and 2 on **Figure 3**) will be cleaned out to restore design capacity. Sediment trap 3 will be enlarged to provide extra capacity and have a formalised spillway with rock pitching to armour and reduce flow velocity. Sediment trap 3 will discharge through the spillway to an enlarged sediment trap 4 (refer to **Figure 3**).

The EER includes one management measure: that the existing sediment control infrastructure will be enhanced to contain the expected flow from a 5% Annual Exceedance Probability (1 in 20-year) event.

6.2.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations or agency submissions were received in relation to water quality.

6.2.4 Evaluation

The proposal includes upgrades to the existing sediment control infrastructure which are considered appropriate for the type and scale of extraction proposed. To reflect the management measures proposed in the EER, standard condition **SW1** requires construction and maintenance of perimeter cut-off drains or bunds with sufficient capacity to retain run-off from a 1 in 20-year rainfall event. Standard condition **SW2** specifies design and maintenance requirements for settling ponds to ensure the capacity of the ponds does not diminish. Standard condition **SW3** requires measures to ensure solids entrained in stormwater are retained in the Activity Area, and that any polluted stormwater discharged from the Activity Area is collected and treated to the extent necessary to prevent environmental harm or nuisance

The potential for water quality to be impacted is also mitigated by standard condition **DC1**, which requires topsoil to be separated and protected from erosion and disturbance and standard condition **DC2** which requires progressive rehabilitation such that open surfaces vulnerable to erosion are minimised (see also Issue 7: Decommissioning and Rehabilitation).

Based on the information provided, and the standard conditions imposed as detailed above, it is considered the potential environmental risks to downstream water quality can be adequately managed to ensure that environmental harm or nuisance is not caused by the capacity increase of the quarry.

6.2.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

SW1 Perimeter drains or bunds

SW2 Design and maintenance of settling ponds

SW3 Stormwater

DC1 Stockpiling of surface soil

DC2 Progressive rehabilitation

6.3 Issue 3: Noise emissions and blasting

6.3.1 Potential impacts

Noise emissions from quarrying activities have the potential to cause environmental nuisance to neighbouring properties. Such activities include vegetation removal, ripping, drilling, blasting, crushing, screening, material carting and use of ancillary equipment.

The EER details that the activity uses fully mobile equipment to extract and process the source rock and gravel including a wheel loader, two excavators, crusher bucket, mobile impact crusher and mobile screen. The current product processing area is located on the existing quarry floor, with the crusher/screener set up between 8 m and 12 m above the quarry floor.

The nearest sensitive receptor is 'Featherdale' 24671 Tasman Highway, being approximately 500 m from the Activity Area boundary. The EER states that the quarry is located within a working production forest with fully forested land between the quarry and neighbouring residences (refer to **Figure 2** and **Table 1**).

According to the EER the current average traffic movements are 8 per day, increasing to a proposed average of 20 traffic movements per day. The traffic from the quarry travels along a private access road onto Basin Creek Road before joining the Tasman Highway. Basin Creek Road is unsealed for most of the transport length, with only the 200 m from the junction with the Tasman Highway sealed.

The EER states that drilling and blasting will only be required infrequently (up to 2 blasts per year), when the source rock resists ripping with the excavator.

6.3.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER states the following management measures:

- All equipment will be recent models and fully maintained with proprietary silencers fitted.
- The quarry floor, haul roads and access road will be maintained free of ruts and potholes to ensure traffic noise is minimised.
- Operators will ensure that drop distances are minimised and vehicles and equipment maintain slow speeds.
- The current hours of operation (0700 to 1900 hours Monday to Friday, 0800 to 1600 hours Saturday and no operations on Sundays or public holidays gazetted statewide) will continue with blasting restricted to 1000 to 1600 hours Monday to Friday.
- The high wall between the quarry floor and noise generating activities and residences to the north will be retained for current and future development to provide noise attenuation.
- Fully certified professional drilling and blasting contractors will be utilised for all blasting. All blasts will be monitored, and any exceedance will be reported to the EPA.
- Trucks delivering product from the quarry will be advised to refrain from using engine brakes in close proximity to residences on Basin Creek Road.

6.3.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations or agency submissions were received in relation to noise emissions.

6.3.4 Evaluation

Hours of operation will continue to be limited to daytime only, which are in keeping with the acceptable standard outlined in the Quarry Code of Practice (QCP). Standard condition **N1**, which defines quarry operating hours and is inclusive of associated heavy vehicle movements, is required to reduce the risk of noise related impacts on nearby residents. No public complaints related to noise from the existing activity have been received to date. As the capacity increase is not proposing to add any new equipment on-site, is in a screened location and hours of operation will continue to be limited to daytime only, environmental nuisance is not expected. Standard condition **N2** maintains the current noise emission levels. If noise complaints are received, standard condition **N3** requires these to be reported to the Director within 24 hours to ensure any community concerns are promptly addressed. Standard condition **N4** requires a noise survey on request from the Director to enable monitoring of compliance with noise emission limits. Standard condition **N5** provides standard noise survey methods and reporting requirements for any survey required under standard condition **N4**.

The proponent intends to undertake up to 2 blasts per year, with the blasts being monitored to ensure that the emission limits stipulated in the QCP are not exceeded.

Standard condition **B1** requires that all residents within a 1 km radius of the activity must be notified at least 24 hours before blasting is due to occur. To limit the potential for nuisance from blasting activities, blasting will be restricted to between 1000 and 1600 hours Monday to Friday under standard condition **B2**. Condition **B3** specifies monitoring requirements and standard condition **B4** imposes blasting noise and vibration limits specified in the QCP. Condition **B5** includes reporting to the Director should any exceedances occur.

Given the mitigating factors described above, it is considered the potential environmental risks associated with noise and blasting can be adequately managed to ensure that environmental nuisance is not caused by the operation of the quarry.

6.3.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

N1 Operating hours

N2 Noise emission limits

N3 Noise complaints

N4 Noise survey requirements

N5 Noise Survey Method and Reporting

B1 Notification of blasting

B2 Blasting times

B3 Blast monitoring

B4 Blasting – noise and vibration limits

B5 Notification blast exceedances

6.4 Issue 4: Natural values

6.4.1 Potential impacts

Activities associated with the operation of a quarry have the potential to disturb, injure or kill threatened fauna or flora species and vegetation communities if not managed correctly. Vehicle and machinery movements associated with quarry operations increase the risk of native roadkill.

A Natural Values Assessment (Attachment 3 of the EER) has been conducted for the quarry to inform the EER. This included a desktop review and field survey to verify the findings of the desktop assessment.

The Activity Area supports the following TASVEG[1] mapping units: *Eucalyptus sieberi* forest and woodland not on granite and extra-urban miscellaneous. These vegetation types are not threatened vegetation communities under the NCA. No flora or fauna listed as threatened under the TSPA or the EPBC Act were observed within the Activity Area. However, the Natural Values Assessment found that the survey area (Mining Lease 22M/2003) supports potential habitat to some degree for the following species listed threatened species:

- *Sarcophilus harrisii* (Tasmanian devil);
- *Dasyurus maculatus* subsp. *maculatus* (spotted-tailed quoll);
- *Dasyurus viverrinus* (eastern quoll);
- *Tasmanipatus barretti* (giant velvet worm);
- *Aquila audax* subsp. *fleayi* (wedge-tailed eagle); and
- *Tyto novaehollandiae* subsp. *castanops* (masked owl).

An increase in nighttime traffic associated with the capacity increase could lead to an increased incidence of roadkill impacting threatened fauna species including quolls and the Tasmanian devil.

6.4.2 Management measures proposed in EER

No management measures proposed.

6.4.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations were received in relation to natural values.

Conservation Assessments (CAS) advised that based on the information extracted from the Natural Values Assessment and the habitat to be cleared, it is anticipated that the proposal is unlikely to impact on threatened natural values and no further action is recommended.

Sustainable Timbers Tasmanian (STT) commented that the if any threatened flora, fauna or Aboriginal Heritage sites are encountered during works, the proponent must contact the relevant authority immediately and implement an appropriate management plan.

[1] TASVEG is a comprehensive digital map of Tasmania's vegetation.

6.4.4 Evaluation

Based on the conclusions of the Natural Values Assessment and advice from CAS is it considered that the proposed capacity increase is unlikely to impact on threatened natural values. The quarry operating hours are predominantly limited to daylight hours with limited night-time traffic in winter only, reducing the risk of roadkill.

Conditions relating to weeds and diseases (see Issue 5: Weed and Disease Management), and waste management and hazardous substances (see Issue 6: Waste Management, Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances) are also considered relevant and will help manage any potential risks to natural values on and off the Activity Area.

6.4.5 Conditions

No conditions are required.

6.5 Issue 5: Weed and disease management

6.5.1 Potential impacts

The movement of vehicles, plant, and equipment has the potential to introduce or spread weeds and diseases to, from or around the Activity Area if not managed appropriately. Product stockpiles can also be contaminated with weeds or diseases which may then be transported to other areas if not managed appropriately.

The Natural Values Assessment (Attachment 3 of the EER) included a weed, pest and pathogens assessment. No plant species classified as declared weeds within the meaning defined in the *Biosecurity Act 2019* and subordinate regulations were detected in the survey area (Mining Lease 22M/2003). One environmental weed, *Pinus radiata* (radiata pine) was detected and is localised to the west of the existing quarry.

No evidence of the presence of *Phytophthora cinnamomic* (Pc) was detected within the Activity Area and the assessment found the Activity Area is most likely Pc free. No evidence of myrtle wilt or myrtle rust was detected. The proposed development area of the Activity Area does not support particular habitats conducive to frog chytrid disease.

6.5.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER details that all machinery will be thoroughly cleaned, inspected and certified before being mobilised to site, in accordance with the *Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines* (Weed and Disease Guidelines)[2].

The EER states one management measure to minimise weed and disease impacts, that the quarry's existing weed management plan will be amended to include the removal of the radiata pine trees on the west of the existing quarry.

6.5.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations were received in relation to weed and disease management.

STT commented that results of annual weed inspections must be submitted to the relevant landowner for review and record-keeping.

6.5.4 Evaluation

While the EER states that there is no symptomatic field evidence of pathogens within the Activity Area, washing down of equipment coming onto the site is appropriate to ensure that the Activity Area remains

[2] Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (2015). Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines - Preventing the spread of weeds and diseases in Tasmania. (Eds.) Karen Stewart and Michael Askey-Doran. Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Hobart, Tasmania.

free of diseases. Condition **OP1** which requires that, prior to entering the Activity Area, machinery must be washed down in accordance with the Weed and Disease Guidelines. Standard condition **OP2** requires the Activity Area to be kept substantially free of weeds.

6.5.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

OP1 Machinery washdown

OP2 Weed management

6.6 Issue 6: Waste management, dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous substances

6.6.1 Potential impacts

Solid wastes from the activity could cause environmental nuisance or harm if not suitably stored or disposed of. Inappropriate storage, handling and disposal of environmentally hazardous substances including fuels and oils, has the potential to contaminate soil, surface water and groundwater.

The EER identified three waste streams from the operation, being general refuse (i.e. litter from lunches and other amenities), waste generated through breakdowns or routine maintenance on machinery, and sanitary waste from the relocatable toilet facility.

Explosives will not be stored onsite. The blasting contractor will retain responsibility for explosives and will bring to the Activity Area only those required for the planned shot. The blasting contractor will also be fully accredited and insured for the transport and handling of explosives.

Use of hazardous substances, particularly liquids, will be required at the quarry. Fuel, oils and lubricants are used to operate and maintain machinery. The EER details that mobile equipment will be refuelled using a utility mounted refuelling facility. Lubricants, engine oil and hydraulic fluid for daily maintenance will continue to be stored in on a bunded pallet within a relocatable storage shed.

It is also anticipated that the weed management program will likely use herbicides that will be used and/or stored within the Activity Area.

6.6.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER states the following management measure for solid waste:

- Spares or waste generated through breakdowns or routine lubrication will be retained in work utilities and taken off-site at the end of each working day.
- Litter emanating from lunches and other amenities will be retained in enclosed containers and periodically disposed of to an approved disposal facility.
- Waste from the toilet will be held in a holding tank and periodically dumped to a designated dump point.

The EER also includes one management measure for environmentally hazardous substances, that a hydrocarbon spill kit will be retained on site for immediate deployment should a spill occur during refuelling. Hydrocarbon mats will be retained on site to clean up any leaks from machinery that may occur.

6.6.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations or agency submissions were received in relation to waste management, dangerous goods and environmentally hazardous substance.

6.6.4 Evaluation

The proposed management of solid wastes is considered appropriate**.** No specific waste management conditions are considered necessary.

In line with the management measure proposed, standard condition **H1** requires appropriate spill kits to be kept within the Activity Area and maintained in a functional condition.

Standard conditions **H2** and **H3** require hazardous materials to be contained and managed appropriately to prevent contamination of soil, groundwater and waterways.

6.6.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

H1 Spill kits

H2 Storage and handling of hazardous materials

H3 Handling of hazardous materials – mobile

6.7 Issue 7: Decommissioning and rehabilitation

6.7.1 Potential impacts

Temporary or permanent cessation of quarrying operations have the potential to cause ongoing impacts to the environment if rehabilitation is not managed appropriately. Rehabilitation is necessary to ensure the long-term stability of the Activity Area, prevent erosion and sedimentation, reduce uncontrolled dust emissions, and minimise the potential for establishment of weeds, diseases or pathogens.

According to the EER, the quarry has approximately 20 years of full production in reserves. It is intended for the quarry development to continue in a slot arrangement.

The maximum disturbed area will increase from the current 2.1 ha (of which only 1 ha is currently permitted) to 4.7 ha to accommodate stockpiles and truck maneuvering.

6.7.2 Management measures proposed in EER

The EER details that the northern flank of the quarry will be retained as a high wall with benches which will be available for progressive rehabilitation. Overburden and topsoil will be spread over these benches to encourage natural recruitment of native vegetation. A limited seeding and planting program will be introduced to supplement natural recruitment as required to formulate a sustainable vegetation cover to these benches and commence screening the exposed faces.

The EER states that once all the marketable materials have been recovered, the main areas of focus for decommissioning and rehabilitation will include:

- Faces will be reduced to a maximum height of 5 m.
- All machinery, sheds and equipment will be removed from the site.
- Remaining overburden and topsoil stockpiles will be spread across the floor of the quarry.
- The sediment traps will be cleaned out and the spoil used in rehabilitation works.
- The quarry access road and any side tracks and hard stands will be ripped to facilitate infiltration.
- Native plant seed mix will be broadcast over recontoured slopes, quarry floor and benches.
- The access road will be secured against unauthorised entry.

Until such time as the site is considered rehabilitated, the proponent will continue to monitor the following aspects of rehabilitation:

- Emerging weeds.
- Sediment basins will be inspected for capacity.
- Planting and natural recruitment revegetation.

6.7.3 Public and agency comment

No public representations were received in relation to decommissioning and rehabilitation.

STT commented that the mining lease area must be subject to ongoing rehabilitation throughout the duration of the works.

6.7.4 Evaluation

The proposed focus for decommissioning and rehabilitation outlined in the EER is considered appropriate.

Although the current maximum disturbed area is 2.1 ha, only 1 ha is permitted under the current Permit. Condition **OP3** sets an operational area to set the expectations around where extraction and materials handling associated with the activity can be conducted. The proponent will be required to provide accurate mapping (in the form of a shapefile) of the operational area within three months of the permit conditions taking effect. This is to address current minor inconsistencies with the southern boundary of the proposed operational area between the submitted quarry plan, submitted shapefiles and access requirements.

Standard condition **DC1** requires surface soils to be removed before opening new areas of the quarry and stockpiled separately for future use in rehabilitation. Furthermore, the stockpiles must be protected from erosion and other disturbance.

Standard condition **DC2** requires that worked out or disused areas of the activity area must be rehabilitated concurrently with other extractive activities occurring within the activity area in accordance with the QCP and sets the maximum area of disturbed land allowed within the Activity Area at any given time at 4.7 ha.

Standard conditions **DC3** and **DC4** set out the requirements for when either temporary suspension or permanent cessation of quarrying activities are proposed. Permanent cessation also triggers standard condition **DC5** which requires submission of a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) for the Director's approval. Standard condition **DC6** sets out the broad steps that must be undertaken upon permanent cessation of the activity, including implementation of an approved DRP. Standard condition **DC7** requires the activity to cease following decommissioning and rehabilitation.

6.7.5 Conditions

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

OP3 Operational Area

DC1 Stockpiling of surface soil

DC2 Progressive rehabilitation

DC3 Temporary suspension of activity

DC4 Notification of cessation

DC5 DRP requirements

DC6 Rehabilitation following cessation

DC7 Activity to cease following decommissioning and rehabilitation

7. Report Conclusions

This assessment has been based on the information provided by the proponent, North East Excavations (Tas) Pty Ltd, in the permit application and the case for assessment (the EER).

This report incorporates specialist advice provided by EPA scientific and regulatory staff, NRE Tas, and other government agencies.

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 proposal has been undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles; and
3. the proposal is capable of being managed in an environmentally acceptable manner such that it is unlikely that the RMPS and EMPCS objectives would be compromised, provided that the Permit Conditions - Environmental No. 10824 appended to this report is issued and served and its requirements are duly complied with.

The environmental conditions in Appendix 3 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 environmental conditions, adopted:

Cindy Ong

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

Acting under delegation from the Board of the Environment Protection Authority

Date: 5 November 2025

9. References

DPIPWE (2015) Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines - Preventing the spread of weeds and disease in Tasmania.

Environment Protection Authority (2017) Quarry Code of Practice 3rd Edition, EPA Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania.

Integrated Land Management and Planning (2022) North East Excavations (Tas) Pty Ltd – Dianas Basin Quarry Capacity Increase – Envrionmental Effects Report (dated 25 February 2022), Lindisfarne, Tasmania

10. Appendices

Appendix 1 Summary of public and agency submissions

Appendix 2 Table of proponent management measures

Appendix 3 Permit conditions – Environmental No: 10824

Appendix 1: Summary of agency comments

Table 1: Matters raised during public consultation period

Agency	Comments and Issues	Further Information Requested
Sustainable Timbers Tasmania (STT)	In relation to the land tenure parcel managed by STT, STT provided comments and requirements in relation to the proposal including compensation for loss of production areas; traffic management; special values and permits; weed management; threatened species management; and rehabilitation. STT confirmed that STT holds a current access licence with the proponent for access to the quarry from Basin Creek Road, valid through to 2029.	No further information requested. Although several comments are related to issues covered by the EPA Board, the comments are in relation to the requirements of STT as the land manager (separate to the EPA Board). STT comments have been provided to the proponent.

Appendix 2: Table of proponent management measures

Table 2: Proponent management measures (Part D of EER)

Number	Proposed measure	Timeframe
1	A water cart will be employed on days where adverse weather conditions cause unacceptable dust emissions.	As required
2	The existing sediment control infrastructure will be enhanced to contain the expected flow from a 5% Annual Exceedance Probability event.	On issue of a permit
3	The high wall between the quarry floor and noise generating activities and residences to the north will be retained to provide noise attenuation.	At all times
4	A fully certified professional drilling and blasting contractors will be utilised for all blasting. All blasts will be monitored, and any exceedance will be reported to the EPA.	During blasting
5	A hydrocarbon spill kit will be retained on site ready for immediate deployment should a spill occur during refuelling. Hydrocarbon mats will be retained on site to clean up any leaks from machinery that make occur.	At all times
6	The quarry's existing weed management plan will be amended to include the removal of the radiata pine trees on the mining lease area.	On issue of a permit
7	Trucks delivering product from Dianas Basin Quarry will be advised to refrain from using engine brakes in close proximity to residences on Basin Creek Road.	At all times
8	The operator will periodically observe the following environmental aspects of the Dianas Basin Quarry operation: • Sediment traps for accumulated sediment. • Airborne dust in dry and windy weather. • Presence of weeds anywhere around the quarry workings. Corrective action will be initiated where observation reveals a potential environmental issue.	Periodically

Appendix 3: Permit Conditions – Environmental No: 10824

PERMIT PART B
PERMIT CONDITIONS - ENVIRONMENTAL No. 10824

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

Activity: **The operation of a quarry and materials handling (ACTIVITY TYPE: Crushing, grinding, milling or separating into different sizes (rocks, ores or minerals))**
DIANAS BASIN QUARRY, BASIN CREEK ROAD
ST HELENS TAS 7216

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: **BREAK O'DAY**
Permit Application Reference: **DA 096/2025**
EPA file reference: **21/1562**

Date conditions approved: 06 November 2025

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.

Table Of Contents

Attachments

Schedule 1: Definitions

In this Permit Part B:-

50,000 cubic metres is considered equivalent to 80,000 tonnes.

Aboriginal Relic has the meaning described in section 2(3) of the *Aboriginal Heritage 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.

Activity Area means the area to be used for the Activity when these conditions take effect, as depicted in Attachment 1.

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

Best Practice Environmental Management or '**BPEM**' has the meaning described in Section 4 of EMPCA.

Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control means the document with this title by the International Erosion Control Association, dated November 2008, and any amendment to or substitution of this document.

Control Location (Noise) means a location chosen to represent the general ambient sound without contribution from noise sources at the activity.

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

DRP means Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan.

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.

EPA Board means the Board of the Environment Protection Authority established under section 13 of EMPCA and includes a delegate or person authorised in writing by the EPA Board to exercise a power or function on the EPA Board's behalf.

Maximum Disturbed Area means the area disturbed to facilitate the activity and includes but is not limited to; vegetation disturbance, soil disturbance, access roads, hardstand, working area, vehicle parking and infrastructure (i.e. buildings, site office, sheds etc).

Noise Sensitive Premises means residences and residential zones (whether occupied or not), schools, hospitals, caravan parks and similar land uses involving the presence of individual people for extended periods, except in the course of their employment or for recreation.

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.

Planning Authority means the Council(s) for the municipal area(s) in which the Activity Area is situated.

Pollutant has the meaning ascribed to it in section 3 of EMPCA.

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 runoff as a consequence of a rainfall event, whether surface flow, piped flow, or flow within conduits, including any contaminants collected by the water during its passage.

Weed means a plant species that has, or is likely to have, an adverse impact on the environment because of the introduction, spread or increase in population size of the species in an area; and includes a declared weed as defined in the *Biosecurity Act 2019* and subordinate regulations.

Weed and Disease 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.

Schedule 2: Conditions

Maximum Quantities

Q1 Regulatory limits

1 The activity must not exceed the following limits :

1.1 50,000 cubic metres per year of rocks, ores or minerals processed.

1.2 50,000 cubic metres per year of rocks, ores or minerals extracted.

General

G1 Activity Area

The activity must be confined to the Activity Area.

G2 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 within the Activity Area, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with these conditions to the extent relevant to their work.

G3 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.

G4 Proposed change to activity

1 The person responsible must notify the Director in writing prior to implementing any change to the activity authorised by this document that may cause or increase the emission of a pollutant or which may result in environmental harm or environmental nuisance (even temporarily). A change includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

1.1 an increase in the discharge of a pollutant, or the location of its discharge.

1.2 the construction, installation, alteration or removal of any structure or equipment used in the course of carrying out the activity.

1.3 any clearance of native vegetation or earthworks.

1.4 a change in the quantity or characteristics of materials used in carrying out the activity.

2 The notification must be in an approved form and include the following:

2.1 details of the proposed change;

2.2 an assessment of the environmental impacts that may result from the change;

2.3 any relevant approvals held by the person responsible; and

2.4 any advice from the relevant planning authority to the effect that approval is not required.

3 The person responsible must provide additional information as requested by an Authorized Officer.

4 The proposed change must not be implemented until the Director has confirmed in writing that they are satisfied that no other approval or variation of this document is required.

5 For the avoidance of doubt, a notification of a proposed change under this provision is not required if the proposed change is part of a referral to the EPA Board for assessment under sections 24, 25, 27 or 27AA of EMPCA.

G5 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 who will become the person responsible for the activity, before such cessation.

G6 Change of ownership

If the owner of the Activity Area 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 Activity Area, the person responsible must notify the Director in writing of the change or intended change of ownership.

G7 Complaints register

1 A public complaints register must be maintained. 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 retained for a period of at least 3 years.

G8 Quarry Code of Practice

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

G9 Amendment of required plans and reports

1 The plans and reports required by these conditions must be amended to address any matter required by the Director, as advised by notice in writing.

2 Amended plans and reports must be resubmitted within the timeframe that the Director specifies.

Atmospheric

A1 Control of dust emissions

Dust emissions from within the Activity Area must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of the Activity Area.

A2 Covering of vehicles

Vehicles carrying loads containing material which may blow or spill must be equipped with effective control measure to prevent the escape of the materials from the vehicles when they leave the Activity Area or travel on public roads.

A3 Dust emissions from traffic areas

Dust emissions from areas of the Activity Area used by vehicles must be limited or controlled by dampening or by other effective measures.

A4 Control of dust emissions from crushing and screening plant

1 Dust produced by the operation of all crushing and/or screening plant must be controlled by the use of one or more of the following methods to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance:

1.1 the installation of fixed water sprays at all crushers and/or screening plant and at all necessary points where processed material changes direction due to belt transfer;

1.2 the installation of dust extraction equipment at all crushers and/or screening plant and at all necessary points where processed material changes direction due to belt transfer;

1.3 the enclosure of the crushing and/or screening plant and the treatment of atmospheric emissions by dust extraction equipment; or

1.4 any other method that has been approved in writing by the Director.

<u>Blasting</u>

B1 Notification of blasting

All residents within a 1 km radius of the activity must be notified on each occasion prior to blasting within the Activity Area. This notification must be given at least 24 hours before such blasting is due to occur. In the event that the blast(s) cannot take place at the time specified, the responsible person must advise all those residents within 1 km of the activity of the revised time at which blasting will take place.

B2 Blasting times

Blasting within the Activity Area 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.

B3 Blast monitoring

1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, blast monitoring must be undertaken for each blast that occurs within the Activity Area.

2 Blast monitoring must be carried out at location(s) agreed in writing by the Director.

3 Blast monitoring records must be maintained for a period of at least two years.

B4 Blasting - noise and vibration limits

1 Blasting within the Activity Area must be carried out in accordance with blasting best practice environmental management (BPEM) principles, and must be carried out such that, when measured at the curtilage of any residence (or other noise sensitive premises) in other occupation or ownership, airblast overpressure and ground vibration comply with the following:

1.1 for 95% of blasts in a consecutive 12-month period, airblast overpressure must not exceed 115dB (Lin Peak);

1.2 airblast overpressure must not exceed 120dB (Lin Peak);

1.3 for 95% of blasts in a consecutive 12-month period, ground vibration must not exceed 5mm/sec peak particle velocity; and

1.4 ground vibration must not exceed 10mm/sec peak particle velocity.

2 All measurements of airblast overpressure and peak particle velocity must be carried out in accordance with the methods set down in *Technical basis for guidelines to minimise annoyance due to blasting overpressure and ground vibration*, Australian and New Zealand Environment Council, September 1990.

B5 Notification blast exceedances

1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, in the event that ground vibration caused by a blast exceeds 5 mm/sec peak particle velocity and/or air blast over pressure exceeds 115 dB(Lin Peak), the Director must be notified within 24 hours of the blast.

2 If ground vibration and/or airblast overpressure caused by a blast exceeds the limits imposed by these conditions, a report must be submitted to the Director within seven days of the blast exceedance. The report must include, but is not limited to, details of meteorological conditions immediately preceding and at the time of the blast, the blast design, drilling hole configuration, stemming height, explosive type(s), initiation systems and a summary of the investigation outlining the likely cause.

Decommissioning And Rehabilitation

DC1 Stockpiling of surface soil

Prior to commencement of extractive activities on any portion of the Activity Area, surface soils must be removed in that portion of the Activity Area to be disturbed by the conduct of the activity and stockpiled for later use in rehabilitation of the Activity Area. 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 Activity Area must be rehabilitated concurrently with extractive activities on other sections of the Activity Area. 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 is 4.7 hectares.

DC3 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 the Activity Area must be managed and monitored by the person responsible for the activity to ensure that emissions from the Activity Area do not cause serious environmental harm, material environmental harm or environmental nuisance.

3 If required by the Director, a Care and Maintenance Plan for the activity must be submitted to the Director for approval, by a date specified in writing by the Director. This requirement will be deemed to be satisfied only when the Director indicates in writing that the submitted document adequately addresses the requirements of this condition.

3.1 The plan must be prepared in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Director.

3.2 Once approved the person responsible must act in accordance with the approved Care and Maintenance Plan.

3.3 The person responsible may apply to the Director to vary or substitute the Care and Maintenance Plan. Any variation or substitution of the plan approved by the Director, by notice in writing, replaces the earlier approval with effect from the date specified in the notice.

4 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, if the activity on the Activity Area has substantially ceased for 2 years, decommissioning of the activity and rehabilitation of the Activity Area must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of these conditions as if the activity has permanently ceased.

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 DRP requirements

1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) for the activity must be submitted for approval to the Director within 30 days of the Director being notified of the planned cessation of the activity. The DRP must be prepared in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Director. This requirement will be deemed to be satisfied only when the Director indicates in writing that the submitted document adequately addresses the requirements of this condition.

2 The person responsible may apply to the Director to vary or substitute the DRP. Any variation or substitution of the plan approved by the Director, by notice in writing, replaces the earlier approval with effect from the date specified in the notice.

DC6 Rehabilitation following cessation

1 Following permanent cessation of the activity, and unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, the Activity Area must be rehabilitated including:

1.1 stabilisation of any land surfaces that may be subject to erosion;

1.2 removal or mitigation of all environmental hazards or land contamination, that might pose an ongoing risk of causing environmental harm; and

1.3 decommissioning of any equipment that has not been removed.

2 Where a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) has been approved by the Director, decommissioning and rehabilitation must be carried out in accordance with that plan.

3 The person responsible may apply to the Director to vary or substitute the DRP. Any variation or substitution of the plan approved by the Director, by notice in writing, replaces the earlier approval with effect from the date specified in the notice.

DC7 Activity to cease following decommissioning and rehabilitation

1 Following written notification by the Director confirming the completion of decommissioning of the Activity and rehabilitation of the Activity Area in accordance with these conditions:

1.1 the Activity must not recommence; and

1.2 the Person Responsible is not required to undertake monitoring, reporting and/or notification condition requirements relating to the activity, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Director.

Hazardous Substances

H1 Spill kits

Spill kits appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled within the Activity Area must be kept in appropriate locations and maintained in a functional condition 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 within the Activity Area must be:

1.1 stored within maintained and functional 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 Activity Area in a manner that is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm;

1.2.2 to groundwater;

1.2.3 to waterways; or

1.2.4 beyond the boundary of the Activity Area.

H3 Handling of hazardous materials - mobile

1 Where mobile containment of environmentally hazardous materials is utilised for the fuelling or servicing of mobile or fixed plant within the Activity Area, all reasonable measures must be implemented to prevent unauthorised discharge, emission or deposition of pollutants:

1.1 to soils within the boundary of the Activity Area in a manner that is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm;

1.2 to groundwater;

1.3 to waterways; or

1.4 beyond the boundary of the Activity Area.

2 Reasonable measures may include spill kits, spill trays/bunds or absorbent pads, and automatic cut-offs on any pumping equipment.

Noise Control

N1 Operating hours

1 Unless otherwise approved by the Director, activities associated with the extraction of rock, gravel, sand, clay or minerals, and loading of product, and screening/crushing must not be undertaken outside the hours of 0700 hours to 1900 hours on weekdays and 0800 hours to 1600 hours on Saturdays.

2 Notwithstanding the above paragraph, activities must not be carried out on Sundays, and public holidays that are observed Statewide (Easter Tuesday excepted).

N2 Noise emission limits

1 Noise emissions from the activity when measured at any noise sensitive premises in other ownership and expressed as the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level must not exceed:

1.1 45 dB(A) between the hours of 0700 and 1900 (Day time); and

1.2 40 dB(A) between the hours of 1900 and 2200 (Evening time); and

1.3 35 dB(A) between the hours of 2200 and 0700 (Night time).

2 Where the combined level of noise from the activity and the normal ambient noise exceeds the noise levels stated above, this condition will not be considered to be breached unless the noise emissions from the activity are audible and exceed the ambient noise levels by at least 5 dB(A).

3 The time interval over which noise levels are averaged must be 10 minutes or an alternative time interval specified by the Director.

4 Measured noise levels must be adjusted for tonality, impulsiveness, modulation and low frequency in accordance with the Tasmanian *Noise Measurement Procedures Manual*.

5 All methods of measurement must be in accordance with the Tasmanian *Noise Measurement Procedures Manual*, issued by the Director.

N3 Noise complaints

In the event that a noise complaint is received in relation to the Activity Area, the complaint must be reported to the Director within 24 hours.

N4 Noise survey requirements

Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, a noise survey must be completed where the Director is of the opinion that a noise survey must be completed within a specified timeframe.

N5 Noise Survey Method and Reporting

1 Noise surveys must be undertaken in accordance with a survey method approved in writing by the Director, as may be amended from time to time with written approval of the Director.

2 Without limitation, the survey method must address the following:

2.1 measurements must be carried out at day, evening and night times (where applicable) at each location; and

2.2 measurement locations, and the number thereof, must be specified, with one location established as a control location (noise).

3 Measurements and data recorded during the survey must include:

3.1 operational status of noise producing equipment and throughput of the activity;

3.2 subjective descriptions of the sound at each location;

3.3 details of meteorological conditions relevant to the propagation of noise; and

3.4 the equivalent continuous (L_{eq}) and L_1, L_{10}, L_{50}, L_{90} and L_{99} A-weighted sound pressure levels measured over a period of 10 minutes or an alternative time interval specified by the Director.

4 A noise survey report must be forwarded to the Director within 30 days from the date on which the noise survey is completed

5 The noise survey report must include the following:

5.1 the results and interpretation of the measurements required by these conditions;

5.2 a map of the area surrounding the activity with the boundary of the Activity Area, measurement locations, and noise sensitive premises clearly marked on the map;

5.3 any other information that will assist with interpreting the results and whether the activity is in compliance with these conditions and EMPCA; and

5.4 recommendations of appropriate mitigation measures to manage any noise problems identified by the noise survey.

Operations

OP1 Machinery washdown

Prior to entering the Activity Area, machinery must be washed in accordance with the Weed and Disease Guidelines, or any subsequent revisions of that document.

OP2 Weed management

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

OP3 Operational Area

1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, within three (3) months of these conditions taking effect, the person responsible must provide the Director with GPS coordinates and a digital shapefile defining the outer edge of the Operational Area of the Activity, generally consistent as depicted in Attachment 2 (including existing, future and ultimate development areas).

1.1 This requirement is not considered to be met until written acceptance of the provided GPS coordinates and shapefile of the Operational Area is issued by the Director.

2 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director extraction and materials handling must be confined to the Operational Area as approved in writing under Condition OP3(1.1).

3 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, within six (6) months of these conditions taking effect, the boundaries of the Operational Area as approved in writing under OP3(1.1) must be delineated with fence posts, star pickets, tree markers or similar. Boundary marking must be undertaken by a suitably qualified person.

3.1 Boundary marking required by this condition must be maintained.

Stormwater Management

SW1 Perimeter drains or bunds

1 Perimeter cut-off drains, or bunds, must be constructed at strategic locations within the Activity Area 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, or bunds, remains within the Activity Area. 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 *Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control* or similar.

2 Drains, or bunds, 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.

SW2 Design and maintenance of settling ponds

1 Sediment settling ponds must be designed and maintained in accordance with the following requirements:

1.1 ponds must be designed to successfully mitigate reasonably foreseeable sediment loss which would result from a 1 in 20 year storm event;

1.2 discharge from ponds must occur via a stable spillway that is not subject to erosion;

1.3 all pond walls must be stable and treated with topsoil and vegetated or otherwise treated in such a manner as to prevent erosion; and

1.4 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 Activity Area by surface run-off.

SW3 Stormwater

1 Polluted stormwater that will be discharged from the Activity Area 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 Activity Area 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 Activity Area.

3 All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that solids entrained in stormwater are retained within the Activity Area. Such measures may include appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds or detention basins.

Schedule 3: Information

Legal Obligations

LO1 EMPCA

The activity must be conducted in accordance with both the conditions in this document and the obligations of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA) and subordinate regulations. The conditions of this document do not replicate legislated obligations; therefore, you should ensure you are aware of your obligations under EMPCA and subordinate regulations.

LO2 Aboriginal relics requirements

1 Aboriginal relics, objects, sites, places and human remains regardless of whether they are located on public or private land, are protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*.

2 Unanticipated discoveries of Aboriginal heritage must be reported to Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania on **1300 487 045** as soon as possible.

LO3 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.

Other Information

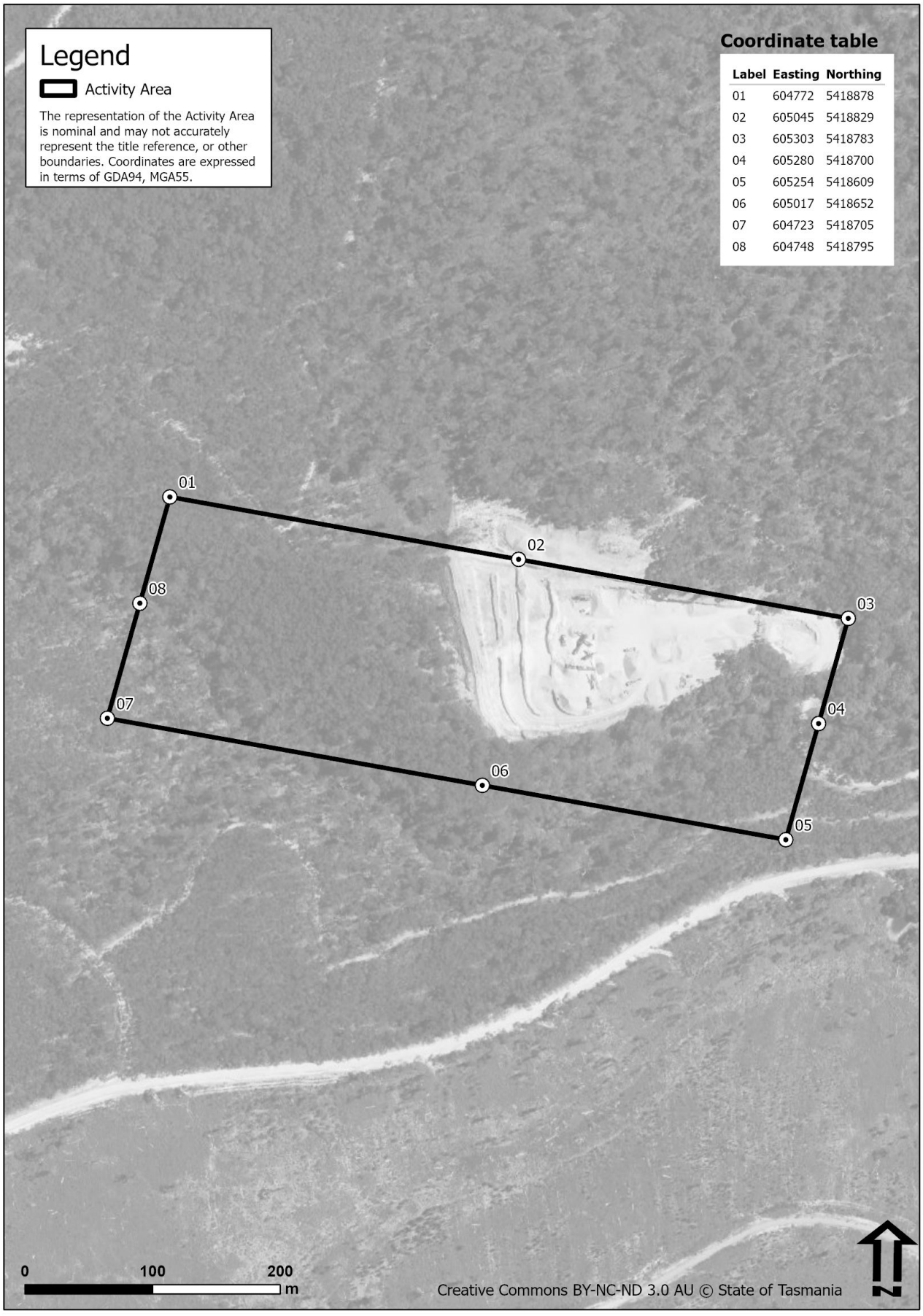
OI1 Notification of incidents under section 32 of EMPCA

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).

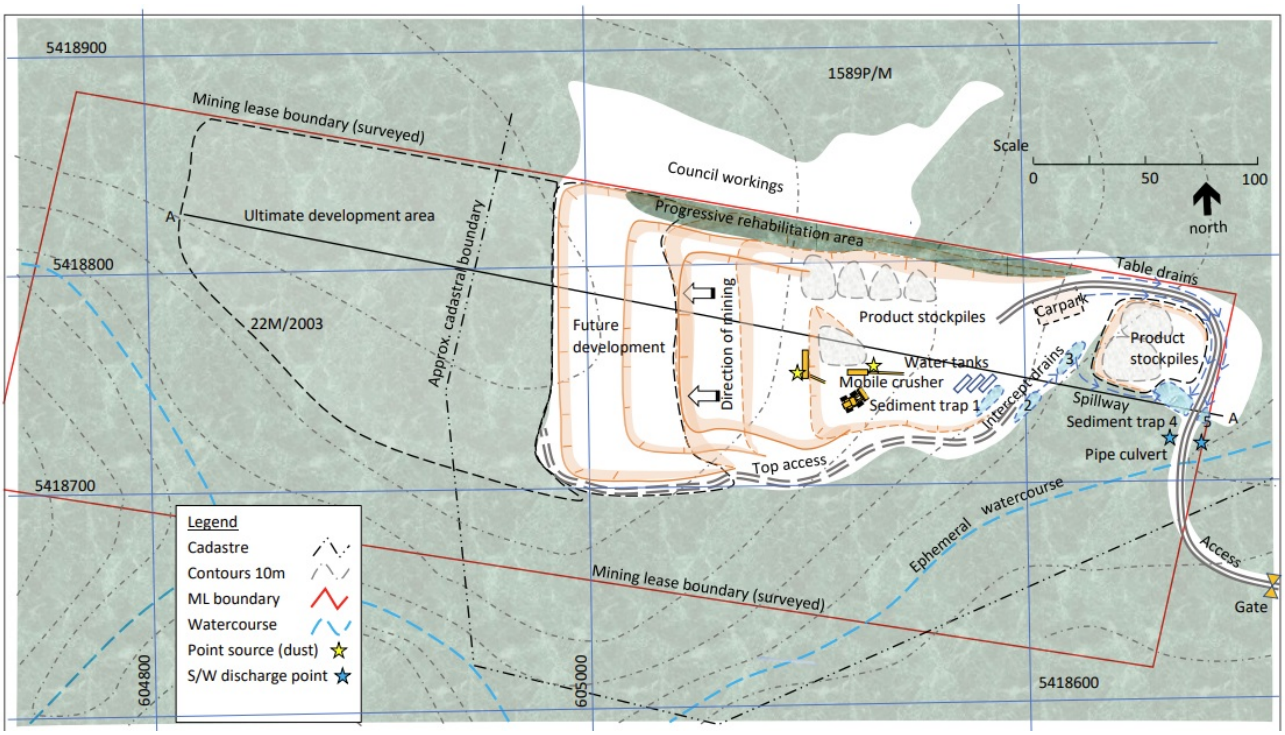
OI2 Release of Relevant Information

Under the provisions of section 23AA of EMPCA relevant information relating to monitoring of environmental impacts required under these conditions may be subject to publishing or public release by the Director.

Attachment 1: Activity Area



Attachment 2: Site Map



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY