

Referral of a Proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority under Section 38 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

PURPOSE OF THIS FORM

Section 38 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) makes provision for the referral to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) of a proposal (significant proposals, strategic proposals and proposals under an assessed scheme) by a proponent, a decision making authority (DMA), or any other person.

The purpose of this form is to ensure that EPA has sufficient information about a proposal to make a decision about the nature of the proposal and whether or not the proposal should be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act. Information provided in the referral form must be brief (no more than 30 pages), sharp and succinct to achieve the purposes of this form.

This form does not prevent the referrer from providing a supplementary referral report. Should a referrer choose to submit a supplementary referral report please ensure the following.

- i. Information is short, sharp and succinct.
- ii. Attachments are below eight megabytes (8 MB) as they will be published on the EPA's website (exemptions apply) for public comment. To minimise file size, "flatten" maps and optimise pdf files.
- iii. Cross-references are provided in the referral form to the appropriate section/s in the supplementary referral report.

This form is to be used for all proposals¹ which can be referred to the EPA under section 38 of the EP Act; i.e. referrals from: **proponents** of proposals (significant proposals, strategic proposals, derived proposals, proposals under an assessed scheme); **DMAs** (significant proposals); and **third parties** (significant proposals).

This form is divided into several sections, including; Referral requirements and Declaration; Part A - Information of the proposal and proponent; and Part B Environmental Factors. Guidance on successfully completing this form is provided throughout the form and is also available in the EPA's *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Referral of a Proposal under s38 of the EP Act (EAG 16)*.

Send completed forms to

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority Locked Bag 10, East Perth WA 6892

or

Email: <u>Registrar@epa.wa.gov.au</u>

Enquiries

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority Locked Bag 10, East Perth WA 6892 Telephone: 6145 0800 Fax: 6145 0895 Email: <u>info@epa.wa.gov.au</u> Website: <u>www.epa.wa.gov.au</u>

¹ Please note that this form consolidates and replaces the following forms: Referral of a Proposal by the Proponent to the EPA under section 38(1) of the EP Act, Referral of a Proposal by a third party to the EPA under section 38(1) of the EP Act, and Referral of a development proposal to the EPA by the decision making authority.

Referral requirements and Declaration

The following section outlines the referral information required from a proponent, decision making authority and third party.

(a) Proponents

Proponents are expected to complete all sections of the form and provide GIS spatial data to enable the EPA to consider the referral. Spatial GIS data is necessary to inform the EPA's decision.

The EPA expects that a proponent will address Part B of the form as thoroughly as possible to demonstrate whether or not the EPA's objectives for environmental factors can be met.

If insufficient information is provided the EPA will request more information and processing of the referral will commence once the information is provided or the EPA decides to make a precautionary determination on the available information.

Proponent to complete before submitting form	
Completed all the questions in Part A (essential)	🛛 Yes 🗌 No
Completed all the questions in Part B	🖂 Yes 🗌 No
Completed all other applicable questions	🛛 Yes 🗌 No
Included Attachment 1 – any additional document(s) the proponent wishes to provide	🛛 Yes 🗌 No
Included Attachment 2 – confidential information (if applicable)	🖾 Yes 🗌 No
Enclosed an electronic copy of all referral information, including spatial data and contextual mapping but clearly separating any confidential information	🛛 Yes 🗌 No
Completed the Declaration	🖂 Yes 🗌 No
What is the type of proposal being referred? * a referred proposal seeking to be declared a derived proposal	 significant strategic derived* under an assessed scheme
Do you consider the proposal requires formal environmental impact assessment?	🛛 Yes 🗌 No
If yes, what level of assessment? API = Assessment of Proponent Information PER = Public Environmental Review	API Category A API Category B PER

NB: The EPA may apply an Assessment on Proponent Information (API) level of assessment when the proponent has provided sufficient information about:

- the proposal;
- the proposed environmental impacts;
- the proposed management of the environmental impacts; and
- when the proposal is consistent with API criteria outlined in the <u>Environmental Impact</u> Assessment (Part IV Division 1 and 2) Administrative Procedures 2012.

If an API A formal level of assessment is considered appropriate, please refer to Environmental Assessment Guideline No. 14 *Preparation for an Assessment on Proponent Information (Category A) Environmental Review Document EAG 14* (EAG14).

Declaration

I, Gavin Price (full name) declare that I am authorised on behalf of BHP Billiton from Ore (being the person responsible for the proposal) to submit this form and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.

		Name (print) p.p. Gavin Prile		
Position	Head of Environment	Organisation	BHP Billiton Iron	Ore
Email	Gavin.Price@bhpbilliton.com			
Address	125 St Georges Terrace			
	PERTH		WA	6000
Date	Date 12 January 2016			

(b) Decision-making authority

The EPA expects decision-making authorities to complete applicable sections of Part A of the form and provide the proponent an opportunity to provide additional information in Part B of the form where appropriate.

Wherever possible the DMA should obtain relevant spatial information from the proponent and provide this to the EPA with the referral.

DMA to complete before submitting form	
Completed all the questions in Part A (essential)	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Provided Part B to the proponent for completion	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Completed all other applicable questions	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Included Attachment 1 – any supporting information	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Enclosed an electronic copy of all referral information, including spatial data and contextual mapping	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Completed the below Declaration	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Do you consider the proposal requires formal environmental impact assessment?	🗌 Yes 🗌 No
What is the type of proposal being referred?	 significant proposal significant proposal under an assessed scheme

Declaration

I,, *(full name)* submit this referral to the EPA for consideration of the environmental significance of its impacts.

Signature		Name (print)		
Position		Organisation		
Email				
Address	Street No.	Street Name		
	Suburb		State	Postcode
Date				

(c) Third Party

Third parties are asked to have consideration for the Significance Test outlined in Part A Section 1.5 of this form before referring a significant proposal to the EPA. The EPA will only consider proposals that are likely, if implemented, to have a significant effect on the environment.

Third parties are to provide sufficient information to clearly identify the significant proposal, the proponent, and their reasons for referring the proposal. This can be done by completing as much of Part A of the form as possible, taking into consideration the information available. Third parties may wish to fill in Part B of the form to advance their own views of the significance of the environmental impacts and the need for EPA assessment.

In most cases the EPA will seek additional information from the proponent. This will be to confirm or amend the identity of the proponent, the proposal, and to allow the proponent opportunity to provide its views on the significance of the environmental impacts and the need for EPA assessment.

Third Party to complete before submitting form		
Complete all applicable questions in Part A and B	🗌 Yes	🗌 No
Completed the Declaration	🗌 Yes	🗌 No
Do you consider the proposal requires formal environmental impact assessment?	🗌 Yes	🗌 No

Declaration

I,, *(full name)* submit this referral to the EPA for consideration of the environmental significance of its impacts.

Signature		Name (print)		
Email				
Position		Organisation		
Address	Street No.	Street Name		
	Suburb		State	Postcode
Date				

PART A: Information on the proposal and the proponent

All fields of Part A must be completed by the proponent and/or decision-making authority for this document to be processed as a referral. Third party referrers are only expected to fill in the fields they have information for.

1 PROPONENT AND PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

1.1 The proponent of the proposal

Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
Name of the proponent	BHP Billiton Iron Ore, acting as manager and agent for the Mount Newman Joint Venture (NJV).
Joint Venture parties (if applicable)	 The NJV is comprised of the companies listed below with their respective interests: BHP Billiton Minerals Pty Ltd (ABN 93 008 694 782) 85% Itochu Minerals & Energy Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 84 008 702 761) 5%; and Mitsui-Itochu Iron Pty Ltd (ABN 44 009 256 259) 10%.
Australian Company Number(s)	4600870098
Postal Address (Where the proponent is a corporation or an association of persons, whether incorporated or not, the postal address is that of the principal place of business or of the principal office in the State)	Level 39 125 St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6000
Key proponent contact for the proposal Please include: name; physical address; phone; and email.	Mark Garrahy Manager Environmental Approvals BHP Billiton Iron Ore 125 St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6000 Phone: 6321 2181 Email: mark.garrahy@bhpbilliton.com
Consultant for the proposal (if applicable)	
Please include: name; physical address; phone; and email.	N/A

1.2 Proposal

Proposal is defined under the EP Act to mean a "project, plan, programme policy, operation, undertaking or development or change of land use, or amendment of any of the foregoing, but does not include scheme". Before completing this section please refer to <u>Environmental Protection</u> <u>Bulletin 17 – Strategic and derived proposals (EPB 17)</u> and <u>Environmental Assessment Guideline</u> for Defining the Key Characteristics of a proposal (EAG 1).

Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
Title of the proposal	Eastern Ridge Revised Proposal
What project phase is the proposal at?	 Scoping Feasibility Detailed design

Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
	Other
Proposal type More than one proposal type can be identified, however for filtering purposes it is recommended that only the primary proposal type is identified.	 Power/Energy Generation Hydrocarbon Based – coal Hydrocarbon Based – gas Waste to energy Renewable – wind Renewable – wave Renewable – solar Renewable – geothermal
	 Mineral / Resource Extraction Exploration – seismic Exploration – geotechnical Development
	 Oil and Gas Development Exploration Onshore – seismic Onshore – geotechnical Onshore – development Offshore – seismic Offshore – geotechnical Offshore – development
	 Industrial Development Processing Manufacturing Beneficiation
	 Land Use and Development Residential – subdivision Residential – development Commercial – subdivision Commercial – development Industrial – subdivision Industrial – development Agricultural – subdivision Agricultural – development Tourism
	 Linear Infrastructure Rail Road Power Transmission Water Distribution Gas Distribution Pipelines Water Resource Development Desalination

Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
	 Surface or Groundwater Drainage Pipelines Managed Aquifer Recharge
	 Marine Developments Port Jetties Marina Canal Aquaculture Dredging
	□ Other
Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
Description of the proposal – describe the key characteristics of the proposal in accordance with	In summary, the key components of the Proposal are listed below:
<u>EAG 1</u> .	The Proposal includes exploration and existing mining operations at Orebody 24, Orebody 25 and Orebody 32 and a proposed new satellite iron ore deposit at Orebody 25 West within a single Development Envelope, located approximately 3 km north-east of Newman. The Proposal includes the following:
	 a production rate of up to 45 Mtpa;
	 mining above the water table at Orebody 32, and below the water table at Orebody 25, Orebody 24 and Orebody 25 West;
	 dewatering of the below water table deposits and the disposal of surplus water volumes discharged to Ophthalmia Dam and associated infiltration and recharge ponds;
	 overburden backfilled in-pit or construction of ex-pit overburden storage areas;
	 ore processed and transported using existing ore handling plants, moveable crushers and existing rail infrastructure; and
	 construction and maintenance of ancillary infrastructure, conveyors, roads, service corridors and other associated activities to support exploration, mining, progressive rehabilitation and closure activities. The Proposal will involve clearing of up to
	3,820 ha (within a 4,267 ha Development

Proponent and/or DMA to complete		
	Envelope). Note 2,260 ha of this clearing	
	has already been approved under existing Ministerial Statements.	
Timeframe in which the proposal is to occur (including start and finish dates where applicable).	Parts of the Proposal are already operating as approved mining operations at Orebody 25, Orebody 24 and Orebody 32. BHP Billiton Iron Ore is seeking to commence construction of the new Orebody 25 West in mid-2016.	
	Based on current mine plans, rehabilitation of disturbed areas will be conducted progressively during the mine life with complete closure of the mine not expected to occur until 2055.	
Details of any staging of the proposal.	N/A (as above).	
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	The current land use is BHP Billiton Iron Ore exploration and mining activities under approved Ministerial Statements 712, 834 and 1018. The Proposal is located within Mineral Lease 244SA and subject to the <i>Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement Act</i> 1964 (Newman Agreement Act).	
	There are a number of underlying leases including:	
	 Special Leases N088235, I154279 and K858923 held by Mount Newman Joint Venture (pursuant to the Newman Agreement Act); and 	
	 Pastoral Lease N049724 held by BHP Billiton Minerals Pty Ltd and Pilbara Pastoral Company Pty Limited. 	
	The western boundary of the Development Envelope encroaches on the Great Northern Highway Road Reserve (Lot 176 and Lot 201 on DP 219293). No mining will occur on the Road Reserve and consent will be obtained from Main Roads Western Australia if any activities are required within this location.	
Have pre-referral discussions taken place with the OEPA?	Yes: Case Number CMS15065 10 March 2015 (Sally Bowman, Peter 	
If yes, please provide the case number. If a case number was not provided, please state the date of the meeting and names of attendees.	Tapsell).2 July 2015 (Sally Bowman, John Guld).	
	 5 November 2015 (Sally Bowman, Peter Tapsell, John Guld). 	
	 1 December 2015 (Draft Referral document submitted for comment to the OEPA and relevant DMAs). 	
DMA (Responsible Authority) to complete		
For a proposal under an assessed scheme (as	N/A	

Proponent and/or DMA to complete	
defined in <u>section 3 of the EP Act</u> , applicable only to the proponent and DMA) provide details (in an attachment) as to whether:	
 The environmental issues raised by the proposal were assessed in any assessment of the assessed scheme. 	
• The proposal complies with the assessed scheme and any environmental conditions in the assessed scheme.	

1.3 Strategic / derived proposals

Complete this section if the proposal being referred is a strategic proposal or you are seeking the proposal to be declared a derived proposal. Note: Only a proponent may refer a strategic proposal and seek a proposal to be declared a derived proposal.

Proponent to complete	
Is this referred proposal a strategic proposal?	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
Are you seeking that this proposal be declared a derived proposal?	🗌 Yes 🛛 No
If you are seeking that this proposal be declared a derived proposal, what is the Ministerial Statement number (MS #) of the associated strategic proposal?	MS #:

1.4 Location

Proponents and DMAs must provide spatial data. Please refer to <u>EAG 1</u> for more detail.

Proponent, DMA and Third Party to complete				
Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located.	Shire of East Pilbara			
Location:	Mineral Lease 244SA, located			
 a) street address; lot number; suburb; and nearest road intersection; or 	approximately 3 km north-east of Newman.			
b) if remote the nearest town; and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.				
 Have maps and figures been included with the referral (consistent with <u>EAG 1</u> where appropriate)? The types of maps and figures which need to be provided (depending on the nature of the proposal) include: maps showing the regional location and context of the proposal; and 	🖾 Yes 🗌 No			
 figures illustrating the proposal elements. 				
Proponent and DMA to complete				
Have electronic copies of spatial data been included with the referral?	🖾 Yes 🗌 No			
NB: Electronic spatial (GIS or CAD) data, geo-referenced and conforming to the following parameters:	The Proposal Development Envelope is included on the			
GIS: polygons representing all activities and named;	attached disc in ArcGIS format in			
 CAD: simple closed polygons representing all activities and named; 	MGA1994: Zone 50.			
• datum: GDA94;				
 projection: Geographic (latitude/longitude) or Map Grid of Australia (MGA); 				
 format: ESRI geodatabase or shapefile, MapInfo Interchange Format, Microstation or AutoCAD. 				

1.5 Significance test and environmental factors

Proponent, DMA and Third Party to complete				
What are the likely significant	Benthic Communities and Habitat			
environmental factors for this proposal?	Coastal Processes			
	Marine Environmental Quality			
	🗌 Marine Fauna			
	⊠ Flora and Vegetation			
	Landforms			
	🖂 Subterranean Fauna			
	Terrestrial Environmental Quality			
	🛛 Terrestrial Fauna			
	Hydrological Processes			
	Inland Waters Environmental Quality			
	Air Quality & Atmospheric Gases			

	Proponent, DMA and Third Party to complete		
 Amenity Heritage Human Health Offsets Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Having regard to the Significance Test (refer to Section 7 of the <i>EIA Administrative Procedures 2012</i>) in what ways do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment and warrant referral to the EPA? BHP Billiton Iron Ore has carried out an environmental impact assessment process to review the potential impacts of the Proposal on the environmental values of the area. Following this assessment, BHP Billiton Iron Ore is of the opinion that the Proposal meets the requirements of the significance test due to the potential residual impacts to the key factors. Refer to supporting documentation for details.	Having regard to the Significance Test (refer to Section 7 of the <i>EIA Administrative</i> <i>Procedures 2012</i>) in what ways do you consider the proposal may have a significant effect on the environment and	 Amenity Heritage Human Health Offsets Rehabilitation and Decommissioning BHP Billiton Iron Ore has carried out an environmental impact assessment process to review the potential impacts of the Proposal on the environmental values of the area. Following this assessment, BHP Billiton Iron Ore is of the opinion that the Proposal meets the requirements of the significance test due to the potential residual impacts to the key factors. Refer to 	

1.6 Confidential information

All information will be made publically available unless authorised for exemption under the EP Act or subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1992.

Proponent to complete			
Does the proponent request that the EPA treat any part of the referral information as confidential? Ensure all confidential information is provided in a separate attachment in hard copy.	Yes No A separate file labelled 'NOT PUBLIC' has been saved on the disc containing Appendix G – Eastern Ridge Mine Closure Plan		

2 REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

This section applies to the Local, State and Commonwealth regulatory considerations for the referred proposal.

2.1 Government approvals

2.1.2 State or Local Government approvals

DMA to complete	
What approval(s) is (are) required from you as a decision-making authority?	
Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented? If yes, please provide details.	🗌 Yes 🗌 No

2.1.2 Regulation of aspects of the proposal

Complete the following to the extent possible.

Proponent to complete	
Do you have legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal?	🛛 Yes 🗔 No
If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.	
If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?	The tenure is State Agreement Mineral Lease ML244SA under the Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement 1964.

Outline both the existing approvals and approvals that will be / are being sought as a part of this proposal.

Proponent to complete			
Aspects* of the proposal	Type of approval	Legislation regulating this activity	Which State agency /entity regulate this activity?
Groundwater Abstraction	5C Licence	RIWI Act 1914	DoW
Discharge	Works Approval and Licence	EP Act 1986 – Part V	DER

*e.g. mining, processing, dredging

2.1.3 Commonwealth Government *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* approvals

Refer to the <u>assessment bilateral agreement</u> between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Western Australia for assistance on this section.

Pro	Proponent to complete				
1.	Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	\Box Yes \boxtimes No If no continue to Part A section 2.1.4.			
2.	What is the status of the decision on whether or not the action is a controlled action?	 Proposal not yet referred Proposal referred, awaiting decision Assessed – controlled action Assessed – not a controlled action 			
3.	If the action has been referred, when was it referred and what is the reference number (Ref #)?	Date: Ref #:			
4.	If the action has been assessed, provide the decision in an attachment. Has an attachment been provided?	🗌 Yes 🗌 No			

Pre	oponent to complete		
5.	Do you request this proposal to be assessed under the bilateral agreement?	🗌 Yes	🗌 No

Complete the following to the extent possible for the Public Comment of EPBC Act referral documentation.

Proponent to complete			
6. Have you invited the public to comment on your referral documentation?	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
7. How was the invitation published?	newspaper 🗌 website		
8. Did the invitation include all of the following?			
(a) brief description of the action	Yes No		
(b) the name of the action	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(c) the name of the proponent	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(d) the location of the action	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
 (e) the matters of national environmental significance that will be or are likely to be significantly impacted 	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(f) how the relevant documents may be obtained	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(g) the deadline for public comments	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(h) available for public comment for 14 calendar days	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(i) the likely impacts on matters of national environmental significance	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(j) any feasible alternatives to the proposed action	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
(k) possible mitigation measures	Yes No		
9. Were any submissions received during the public comment period?	🗌 Yes 🗌 No		
10. Have public submissions been addressed? If yes provide attachment.	Yes No		

2.1.4 Other Commonwealth Government Approvals

Proponent, DMA and Third Party to complete				
Is approval requir Commonwealth C part of the propos	Government/s for any	\Box Yes \boxtimes No If yes, please complete the table below.		
Agency / Authority	Approval required	Application A lodged?		Agency / Local Authority contact(s) for proposal
		🗌 Yes	🗌 No	
		🗌 Yes	🗌 No	

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Please attach copies of any relevant information on the proposal, supporting evidence and / or existing environmental surveys, studies or monitoring information undertaken and list the documents below.

Propo	Proponent, DMA and Third Party to complete		
(1)	Referral supporting application document – Eastern Ridge Revised Proposal	BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd	The Environmental Referral Document meets the requirements of the EPA's Environmental Assessment Guideline No.14, <i>Preparation of an API-A</i> <i>Environmental Review Document</i> (EPA 2015).

PART B: ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

The purpose of Part B is to assist the EPA to determine the significance of the likely environmental impacts of the proposal in accordance with the EPA's *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Environmental factors and objectives* (EAG 8) and *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Application of a significant framework in the EIA process* (EAG 9). Referrers completing Part B should refer closely to EAG 8 and EAG 9.

The EPA has prepared <u>Referral of a Proposal under s38 of the EP Act EAG No.16 - Appendix A</u> (Appendix A) to assist in identifying factors and completing the below table. Further guidance can be found in the guidance and policy documents cited in Appendix A under each factor.

How to complete Part B

For each environmental factor, that is likely to be significantly impacted by the implementation of the proposal, make a copy of the table below and insert a summary of the relevant information relating to the proposal. The table can be broken down into more than one table per factor, if the need arises. For example the hydrological processes factor can be presented in two separate tables, one for surface water and one for groundwater, or similarly one for construction and one for operations.

For complex proposals a supplementary referral report can be provided in addition to the referral form. If this option is chosen the table must still be completed (summaries are acceptable) to assist the Office of the EPA with statistical reporting and filtering proposals for processing.

Proponents expecting an API level of assessment must provide information in accordance with the EPA's *Environmental Assessment Guideline for Preparation of an API-A environmental review document* (EAG 14).

For <u>each</u> of the significant environmental factors, complete the following table (Questions 1 - 10).

POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – FLORA AND VEGETATION		
1	Factor, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	Flora and Vegetation
2	EPA Objective, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	To maintain representation, diversity, viability and ecological function at the species, population and community level.
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	EAG 2 and EAG 51.

POTE	NTIAL KEY FACTOR – FLORA AND VEGETATION	
4	 Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including: anticipated level of public interest in the impact; consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has consulted with the OEPA and the DPaW regarding the proposed clearing of vegetation in 'Good' condition or above and the impacts to significant flora within the proposed Development Envelope. A Condition EMP has been developed documenting proposed management of residual impacts to flora and vegetation. Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral Document.
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment. <i>This may include: regional context; known</i> <i>environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to</i>	Details are provided in Table 7 of the supporting Referral Document.
6	<i>impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.</i> Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 7 of the supporting Referral Document.
7	Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed:	Details are provided in Table 7 of the supporting Referral Document.
	 Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether; Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact; 	
	 Rehabilitate – restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and 	
	 Offsets – actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity. 	

POTEN	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – FLORA AND VEGETATION		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 7 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to <u>EAG 9</u></i>	 meets the EPA's objective may meet the EPA's objective is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective 	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). <i>e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</i>	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	

POTE	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – SUBTERRANEAN FAUNA		
1	Factor, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	Subterranean Fauna	
2	EPA Objective, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	To maintain representation, diversity, viability and ecological function at the species, population and assemblage level.	
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	EAG 3 and EAG 54.	
4	 Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including: anticipated level of public interest in the impact; consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	 BHP Billiton Iron Ore has consulted with the OEPA, DPaW and the DoW regarding the potential impacts to the Ethel Gorge Aquifer Stygoboint Community (TEC). A Condition EMP has been developed documenting proposed management of residual impacts to subterranean fauna. Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral Document. 	
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment. <i>This may include: regional context; known</i> <i>environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to</i> <i>impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.</i>	Details are provided in Table 8 of the supporting Referral Document.	
6	Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 8 of the supporting Referral Document.	
7	 Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed: Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether; Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact; Rehabilitate - restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and Offsets - actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity. 	Details are provided in Table 8 of the supporting Referral Document.	

POTEN	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – SUBTERRANEAN FAUNA		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 8 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to EAG 9</i>	 meets the EPA's objective may meet the EPA's objective is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective 	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). <i>e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</i>	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	

POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – VERTEBRATE FAUNA		
1	Factor, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	Vertebrate Fauna
2	EPA Objective, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	To maintain representation, diversity, viability and ecological function at the species, population and assemblage level.
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	EAG 3 and EAG 56.
4	 Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including: anticipated level of public interest in the impact; consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has consulted with the OEPA and DPaW regarding the potential impacts to vertebrate fauna. Following the application of the mitigation hierarchy, BHP Billiton Iron Ore has modified the Development Envelope to avoid known locations of the Pilbara Olive Python habitat (specifically semi-permanent waterholes) where practicable. Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral Document.
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment. This may include: regional context; known environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.	Details are provided in Table 9 of the supporting Referral Document.
6	Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 9 of the supporting Referral Document.
7	 Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed: Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether; Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact; Rehabilitate – restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and Offsets – actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity. 	Details are provided in Table 9 of the supporting Referral Document.

POTEN	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – VERTEBRATE FAUNA		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 9 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to <u>EAG 9</u></i>	 meets the EPA's objective may meet the EPA's objective is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective 	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). <i>e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</i>	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	

POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – HYDROLOGICAL PROCESSES		
1	Factor, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	Hydrological Processes
2	EPA Objective, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	To maintain the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that existing and potential uses, including ecosystem maintenance, are protected.
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	EAG 8, DoW Operational Policy No 1 and No 5, WA water in Mining Guideline.
4	 Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including: anticipated level of public interest in the impact; consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has consulted with the OEPA and DoW regarding the potential impacts to hydrological processes. The Eastern Pilbara Water Resources Management Plan (EPWRMP) has been developed documenting proposed management of residual impacts to hydrological Processes. Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment. <i>This may include: regional context; known</i>	Document. Details are provided in Table 10 of the supporting Referral Document.
	environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.	
6	Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 10 of the supporting Referral Document.
7	 Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed: Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether; Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact; Rehabilitate – restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and Offsets – actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual 	Details are provided in Table 10 of the supporting Referral Document.
	benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity.	

POTEN	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – HYDROLOGICAL PROCESSES		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 10 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to <u>EAG 9</u></i>	 meets the EPA's objective may meet the EPA's objective is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective 	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). <i>e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</i>	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	

POTE	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – OFFSETS			
1	Factor, as defined in EAG 8	Offsets		
2	EPA Objective, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	To counterbalance any significant residual environmental impacts or uncertainty through the application of offsets.		
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	WA Environmental Offsets Policy (EPA 2011), WA Environmental Offsets Guidelines (WA Government 2014), Environmental Protection Bulletin No 1 – Environmental Offsets – Biodiversity (EPA 2010b).		
4	 Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including: anticipated level of public interest in the impact; 	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has reviewed the WA Environmental Offsets Guidelines (WA Government 20144) and discussed application of offsets with the OEPA.		
	 consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	BHP Billiton Iron Ore will address offsets in accordance with these guidelines. A completed Offsets Form is attached as Appendix K of the supporting Referral Document. Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral Document.		
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment.	Details are provided in Table 11 of the supporting Referral Document.		
	This may include: regional context; known environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.			
6	Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 11 of the supporting Referral Document.		
7	Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed:	Details are provided in Table 11 of the supporting Referral Document.		
	Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether;			
	• Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact;			
	 Rehabilitate – restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and 			
	 Offsets – actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity. 			

POTEN	POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – OFFSETS		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 11 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to EAG 9</i>	\boxtimes meets the EPA's objective	
		may meet the EPA's objective	
		is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	
		A completed Offsets form is attached as Appendix K.	

POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – REHABILITATION AND DECOMMISSIONING			
1	Factor, as defined in <u>EAG 8</u>	Rehabilitation and Decommissioning	
2	EPA Objective, as defined in EAG 8	To ensure that premises are decommissioned and rehabilitated in an ecologically sustainable manner.	
3	Guidance - what established policies, guidelines, and standards apply to this factor in relation to the proposal?	EAG 1, Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans (DMP and EPA 2011); Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry – Managing Acid and Metalliferous Drainage (DITR 2007) and EPA Involvement in Mine Closure (EPA 2013e).	
4	Consultation - outline the need for consultation and the outcomes of any consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts, including:	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has consulted with the DMP regarding closure and rehabilitation.	
	 anticipated level of public interest in the impact; consultation with regulatory agencies; and consultation with community. 	A Mine Closure Plan has been developed in consultation with the DMP that documents proposed rehabilitation and the closure strategy for Eastern Ridge operations.	
		Pre-referral discussions have been undertaken and a draft referral package (including the Mine Closure Plan) has been provided to DMAs. Details are provided in Table 4 of the supporting Referral Document.	
5	Baseline information - describe the relevant characteristics of the receiving environment.	Details are provided in Table 12 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	This may include: regional context; known environmental values, current quality, sensitivity to impact, and current level of cumulative impacts.		
6	Impact assessment - describe the potential impact/s that may occur to the environmental factor as a result of implementing the proposal.	Details are provided in Table 12 of the supporting Referral Document.	

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POTENTIAL KEY FACTOR – REHABILITATION AND DECOMMISSIONING			
7	Mitigation measures - what measures are proposed to mitigate the potential environmental impacts? The following should be addressed:	Details are provided in Table 12 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	Avoidance - avoiding the adverse environmental impact altogether;		
	• Minimisation - limiting the degree or magnitude of the adverse impact;		
	 Rehabilitate – restoring the maximum environmental value that is reasonably practicable; and 		
	 Offsets – actions that provide environmental benefits to counterbalance significant residual environmental impacts or risks of a project or activity. 		
8	Residual impacts – review the residual impacts against the EPA objectives.	Details are provided in Table 12 of the supporting Referral Document.	
	It is understood that the extent of any significant residual impacts may be hard to quantify at the referral stage. Referrers are asked to provide, as far as practicable, a discussion on the likely residual impacts and form a conclusion on whether the EPA's objective for this factor would be met if residual impacts remain. This will require:		
	 quantifying the predicted impacts (extent, duration, etc.) acknowledging any uncertainty in predictions; 		
	 putting the impacts into a regional or local context, incorporating knowable cumulative impacts; and 		
	 comparison against any established environmental policies, guidelines, and standards. 		
9	EPA's Objective – from your perspective and based on your review, which option applies to the proposal in relation to this factor? <i>Refer to <u>EAG 9</u></i>	 meets the EPA's objective may meet the EPA's objective is unlikely to meet the EPA's objective 	
10	Describe any assumptions critical to your conclusion (in Question 9). <i>e.g. particular mitigation measures or regulatory conditions.</i>	An implementation condition is suggested in Appendix J of the supporting Referral Document.	