



GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

EPA REFERRAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

May 2016

Revision history:

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Contents

List of Figures.....	1-2
Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1-1
1.1 Background.....	1-2
1.2 Purpose and Scope	1-2
1.3 Proponent Details.....	1-3
1.4 Location and Land Tenure	1-4
1.5 Project Schedule.....	1-7
Chapter 2: Project Description	1-1
2.1 Project Overview	2-1
2.2 Key Proposal Characteristics	2-1
2.3 Proposed Land Disturbance	2-1
2.4 Pipeline Corridor Alignment.....	2-1
2.5 Construction Aspects.....	2-7
Chapter 3: Existing Environment.....	2-1
3.1 Studies and Investigations.....	3-1
3.2 Regional Setting.....	3-11
3.3 Climate.....	3-11
3.4 Geology.....	3-12
3.5 Landform and Soils	3-12
3.6 Hydrogeology	3-17
3.7 Surface Hydrology	3-17
3.8 Flora and Vegetation	3-17
3.9 Terrestrial Fauna and Habitat.....	3-26
3.10 Social Environment.....	3-32
3.11 Fire Regimes	3-33
3.12 Air Quality and Noise.....	3-33
Chapter 4: Identification Of Environmental Factors	3-1
Chapter 5: Stakeholder Consultation	4-1
5.1 Stakeholder Identification.....	5-1
5.2 Consultation	5-3
Chapter 6: EPA Principles	5-1
Chapter 7: Project Environmental Assessment Requirements	6-1
Chapter 8: Conclusion	7-2

Chapter 9: References	8-1
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List of Figures

FIGURE 1-1	LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.....	1-5
FIGURE 1-2:	TENEMENT PLAN.....	1-6
FIGURE 2-1:	CONCEPTUAL GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT LAYOUT OVERVIEW	2-2
FIGURE 2-2:	CONCEPTUAL GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT LAYOUT GRUYERE AREA.....	2-3
FIGURE 2-3:	CONCEPTUAL GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT LAYOUT MIDDLE AREA.....	2-4
FIGURE 2-4:	CONCEPTUAL GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT LAYOUT LAVERTON AREA	2-5
FIGURE 2-5:	CONCEPTUAL GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT LAYOUT OPTION A AND B.....	2-6
FIGURE 2-6:	EXAMPLE OF A CONSTRUCTION RIGHT OF WAY	2-8
FIGURE 2-7:	EXAMPLE OF HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILLING.....	2-10
FIGURE 3-1:	MONTHLY MEAN RAINFALL, EVAPORATION AND TEMPERATURE DATA FOR YAMARNA (19767 – 98) (BoM 2016)....	3-12
FIGURE 3-2:	MAP OF SOIL LANDSCAPE SYSTEMS WITHIN THE WHITE CLIFFS ROAD SURVEY AREA.	3-16
FIGURE 3-3:	PRIORITY FLORA LOCATIONS RECORDED BY BOTANICA CONSULTING IN RELATION TO THE GAS PIPELINE SURVEY AREA .	3-25
FIGURE 4-1:	ASSESSMENT OF LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT IMPACT BY FACTOR.....	4-14

List of Tables

TABLE 1-1:	GGPP TENEMENT SUMMARY.....	1-3
TABLE 1-2:	GGPP TENEMENT SUMMARY.....	1-4
TABLE 1-3:	PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE GGPP.....	1-7
TABLE 2-1:	KEY PROPOSAL CHARACTERISTICS	2-1
TABLE 2-2:	DISTURBANCE FOOTPRINT FOR THE GGPP	2-1
TABLE 3-1:	SUMMARY OF BASELINE SURVEYS UNDERTAKEN FOR AND ASSOCIATED WITH THE GGPP	3-2
TABLE 3-2:	SOIL LANDSCAPE SYSTEMS WITHIN THE WHITE CLIFFS ROAD SURVEY AREA	3-14
TABLE 3-3:	<i>SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS FOR THE VEGETATION AND FLORA SURVEY</i>	3-18
TABLE 3-4:	SUMMARY OF VEGETATION COMMUNITIES AND AREA WITHIN THE WHITE CLIFFS ROAD SURVEY AREA.....	3-19
TABLE 3-5:	MAIN TERRESTRIAL FAUNA HABITATS WITHIN THE GGPP	3-27
TABLE 3-6:	CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANT SPECIES AT THE GRUYERE GOLD PIPELINE PROJECT	3-28
TABLE 4-1:	ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS BY THE GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.....	4-2
TABLE 4-2:	SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	4-11
TABLE 5-1:	KEY STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.....	5-1
TABLE 6-1:	GRUYERE GAS PIPELINE PROJECT – PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	6-1

Chapter 1: Introduction

May 2016

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Gold Road Resources (Gold Road) proposes to award a contract to a gas transportation provider to construct and operate a 220 km high pressure gas pipeline (the Gruyere Gas Pipeline Project - GGPP) from the existing Eastern Goldfields Pipeline (EGP) south of Laverton to connect to Gold Road's proposed Gruyere Gold Project. The Gruyere Gas Pipeline via a delivery / meter station will transport natural gas to be used to power mine site operations (Figure 1-1). Gold Road will not be the owner or operator of the gas pipeline. The EGP is owned and operated by APA Operations Pty Ltd (APA).

This project involves the construction of the GGPP and associated infrastructure including a permanent access track that runs the full 220 km length of the pipeline, the delivery / meter station, a gas off take and treatment station, a main line valve (from the EGP), upstream compressor station and temporary construction camp for construction personnel. As the high pressure gas pipeline will be buried, the majority of the environmental disturbance will be rehabilitated following initial construction.

1.2 Purpose and Scope

This document has been prepared to support referral of the proposal to the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in accordance with EAG 1 (EPA 2012), EAG 6 (EPA 2013), EAG 8 (EPA 2015), EAG 9 (EPA 2015a) and EAG 16 (EPA 2015b). The document is intended to inform and assist in determining the appropriate environmental assessment and approval pathway for the proposed GGPP under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act)*. The information provided within it is consistent with the *Environmental Impact Assessment (Part IV Division 1 and 2) Administrative Procedures 2012*. EPA guidelines and policies that are relevant to this proposal (including study specific guidelines) are presented in Table 1-1 and Section 3.1 and 4. The document describes the proposed GGPP and the environmental setting, aspects and factors associated with the proposal.

Gold Road makes this EPA Referral recognising the potential for environmental impact of the proposal and to establish the requirements for environmental assessment and approval.

It should be noted that the GGPP is independent of the proposed Gruyere Gold Project and the approvals being sought for that project.

Gold Road has decided not to refer the GGPP under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*. Gold Road considers that implementation of the GGPP represents a low risk to matters of 'National Environmental Significance' and therefore the GGPP does not require assessment under the *EPBC Act*.

Table 1-1: GGPP Tenement Summary

Topic	Applicable Policy	Document Section	Rational in Meeting Policies and Guidelines
Preparation of Environmental Referral Document	<i>Environmental Assessment Guideline for Defining the Key Characteristics of a Proposal</i> (EAG 1) (EPA 2012).	Section 2.2 Section 2.2	Section 2.2 identifies the key characteristics of a proposal as required in EAG 1.
	<i>Environmental Assessment Guideline for Referral of a Proposal under s38 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (EAG16) (EPA 2015b).	Referral Form and this Supporting Document	The Referral Form and this Supporting Document follows the content and applicability of EAG 16.
	<i>Environmental Assessment Guideline for Environmental Principles, Factors and Objectives</i> (EAG 8) (EPA 2015).	Section 4	The content of Section 4 describes the key environmental principles, factors and objectives relating to the Gruyere Gas Pipeline Project and how these have been derived.
Significance Framework	<i>Environmental Assessment Guideline for Application of a Significance Framework in the Environmental Impact Assessment Process</i> (EAG9) (EPA 2015a).	Section 4	The works presented in Section 4 of this Supporting Document are based on the application of management and mitigating measures in order to demonstrate that the EPA objectives applicable to each Environmental Factor are likely to be achieved.

1.3 Proponent Details

The manager and proponent of the GGPP is Gold Road. Gold Road is a company incorporated in Australia and has shares listed on the ASX (GOR). Gold Road is the owner of all tenements associated with the GGPP.

All compliance and regulatory requirements regarding this assessment document should be forwarded by email, fax, post or courier to the following address:

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1.4 Location and Land Tenure

The start of the GGPP will begin at the Gruyere Gold Project mine site within M38/1267. From this point the pipeline will run along a common route in a south westerly direction to join White Cliffs Road. The pipeline will then run within the White Cliffs Road reserve for approximately 170 km until approximately two km south of Laverton. This accounts for approximately 75% of the pipeline length. For the remaining 25% of the pipeline route where it will join into the existing EGP, there are two options under consideration. The two options being considered begin about 2 km south of Laverton and are:

- Option A - travels in a south westerly direction to joining into the EGP where a hot-tap will be required. This is a distance of approximately 20 km.
- Option B – runs parallel to the Mt Weld Road for 29 km before turning south west to join the EGP where a hot-tap will be required. This is a distance of approximately 3.2 km.

The pipeline route including the options is shown in (Figure 1-1).

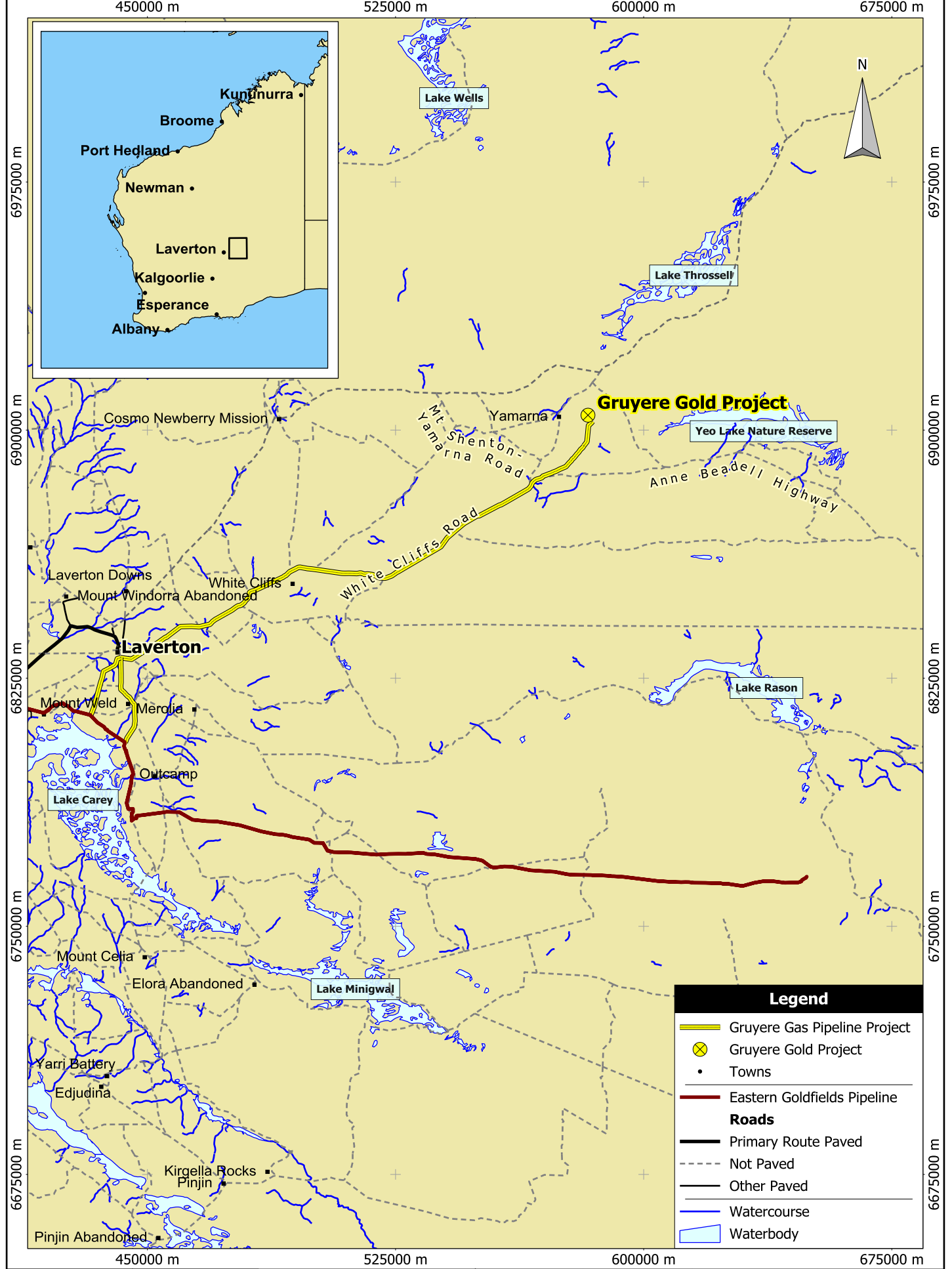
The pipeline will traverse two pastoral leases (White Cliffs Station and Yamarna Station) within the existing White Cliffs Road road reserve, as well as a number of exploration and mining licenses. Access agreements will be in place to enable land access.

There is a single Native Title claim group (Native Title Claim WC2008/005 registered on 6 August 2009) along the proposed alignment. The area of land subject to this claim is the last 44 km that crosses the Yamarna pastoral lease (owned by Gold Road). A 'Yamarna Pastoral Lease Heritage Project Agreement' and the 'Yamarna Project Agreement' was made in 2004 between Gold Road and Harvey Murray as applicant for and on behalf of the Cosmo Newberry Claim Group which governs exploration activities inside the Pastoral Lease. A Mining Agreement is currently being negotiated with the Claimant Group. Final grant of tenure for the Miscellaneous Licence is subject to signing the in-principle Mining Agreement currently being finalised for the Gruyere Gold Project (which covers associated infrastructure including the gas pipeline project). This agreement was signed on 3 May 2016, however at date of writing this document L38/245 was still pending. No other Native Title claimant groups exist for the remainder of the pipeline alignment.

All tenements subject to the GGPP are listed in Table 1-2. A tenement plan is present in Figure 1-2.

Table 1-2: GGPP Tenement Summary

Tenement	Area (ha)	Grant Date	Expiry Date
L38/245	1,989.7	Pending	Pending
M38/1267	6,845.5	05/05/2016	04/05/2037



Legend

- Gruyere Gas Pipeline Project
- ⊗ Gruyere Gold Project
- Towns

Roads

- Eastern Goldfields Pipeline
- Primary Route Paved
- - - Not Paved
- Other Paved

- Watercourse
- Waterbody

Scale: 1:1500000
 Original Size: A4
 Grid: Australia MGA94 (51)

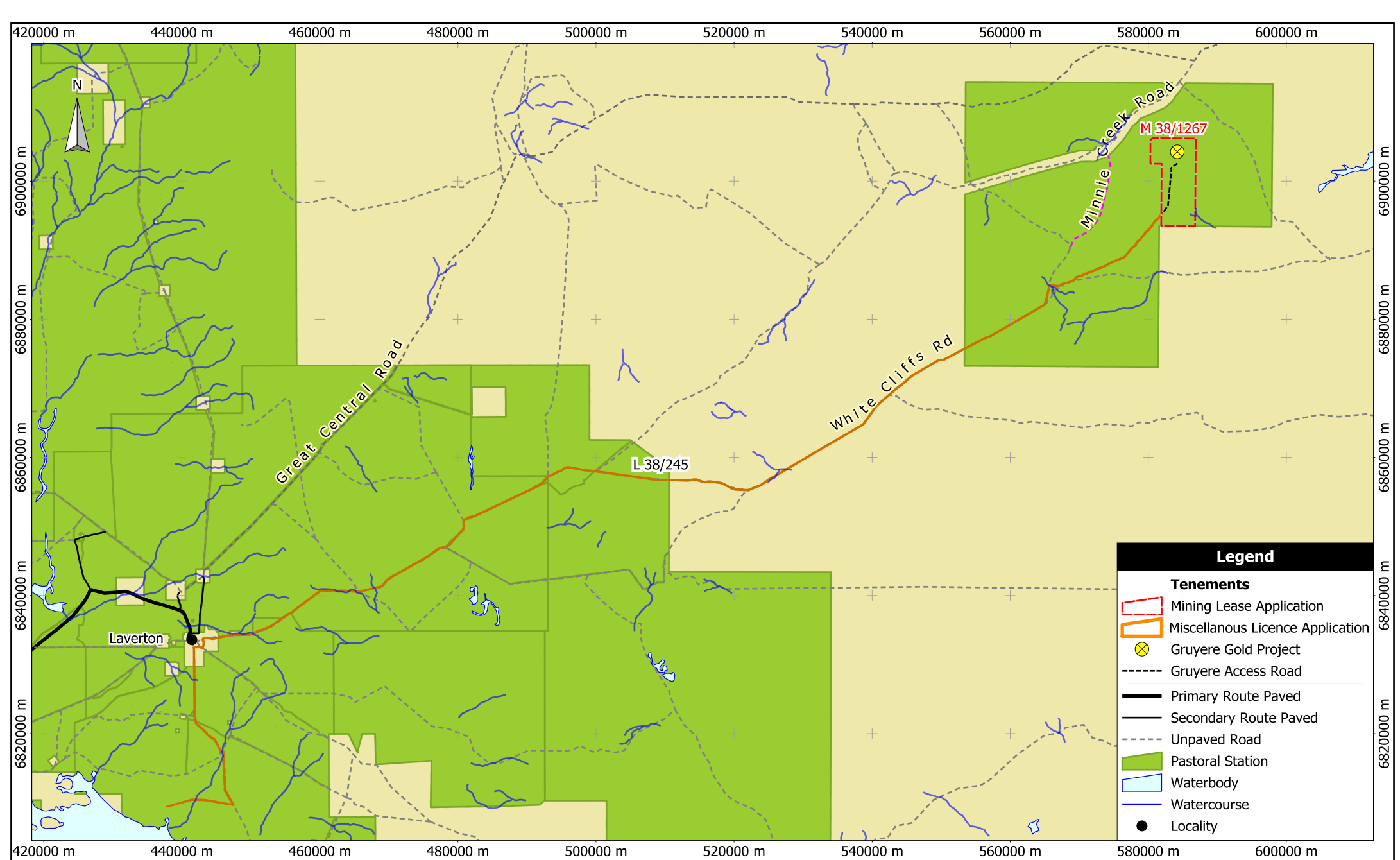
0 40 km

Gold Road Resources Limited
 Gruyere Gold Project
 EPA Referral

Figure 1.1
Location of the proposed
Gruyere Gas
Pipeline Project

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Legend	
Tenements	
	Mining Lease Application
	Miscellaneous Licence Application
	Gruyere Gold Project
	Gruyere Access Road
<hr/>	
	Primary Route Paved
	Secondary Route Paved
	Unpaved Road
	Pastoral Station
	Waterbody
	Watercourse
	Locality

Scale: 1:700000
 Original Size: A4
 Grid: MGA94(51)

0 10000 m

Gold Road Resources Limited
 Gruyere Gas Pipeline Project
 EPA Referral

Figure 1.2
Tenement Plan

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1.5 Project Schedule

Subject to obtaining the necessary approvals and other external factors, the proposed schedule for the GGPP is described in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3: Proposed Schedule for the GGPP

Project Description	Schedule
Contract award to pipeline provider	Q2 2016
Commence Detailed Design	Q3 2016
Consent to Construct and Construction Environment Plan (CEP)	Q1 2017
Pipeline Construction	Q2-Q3 2017
Consent to Operate (including Commissioning)	Q4 2017
Commence Commissioning	Q1 2018
First gas to the Gruyere Gold Project power station	Q2 2018

Construction is anticipated to be progressive during the six month construction period, with multiple starting points. Construction teams will be located at Laverton to work eastward, and at Gruyere to work westward. It may also be necessary for an additional construction team to commence midway between the two, to facilitate project completion as per the indicative schedule.