



Your ref:
Our ref: DMO 13224
Enquiries: Penny Woodberry
Phone: 1300 762 982
Fax: (08) 6364 7001
Email: info@dwer.wa.gov.au

Native Title Services Goldfields (Perth Office)
PO Box 3007
East Perth WA 6892

Dear Sir/Madam

This letter is the formal notice of classification of a known or suspected contaminated site in which you have an interest. This constitutes the notice the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) is legally obliged to give under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003* (the Act), which came into effect on 1 December 2006.

The Act was set up to record and manage contaminated sites in Western Australia, in order to protect people's health and the environment. Please note that contamination does not necessarily mean that an area is unsafe to live or work in – for example, it may be limited to groundwater, and only becomes an issue to be managed if a groundwater bore was being considered.

This notice explains why the site has been classified, what restrictions, if any, have been placed on the use of the site and how you can appeal the classification. In some cases, this notice may include other lots which also form part of the classified site, in addition to the lot in which you have an interest.

If, after reading this letter, you have any further queries, please contact the department on 1300 762 982 (Contaminated Sites Information Line).

NOTICE OF A CLASSIFICATION OF A KNOWN OR SUSPECTED CONTAMINATED SITE GIVEN UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE *CONTAMINATED SITES ACT 2003*

The site detailed below (**the site**), consisting of 1 parcel(s) of land, was reported to the CEO of the department as a known or suspected contaminated site and has been classified under the Act:

- Lot 1 on Survey-Strata Plan 57117 as shown on certificate of title 2734/776, known as 22 Palmerston Street, South Kalgoorlie WA 6430

This notification is being sent to you in accordance with section 15(1) of the Act on the grounds that you, as the recipient, are one or more of the following:

- (a) owner of the site (contact details sourced from the current certificate of title);
- (b) occupier of the site;
- (c) relevant public authority;
- (d) person who, in the CEO's opinion, there is particular reason to notify;
- (e) person who made the report under section 11 or 12; and
- (f) person who, in the CEO's opinion, may be responsible for remediation of a site classified as *contaminated – remediation required*.

Site Classification

Category of site classification: Possibly contaminated - investigation required

Date of site classification: 18/03/2026

Reasons for classification: This site was reported to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) under section 11 of the 'Contaminated Sites Act 2003' (the Act), which commenced on 1 December 2006. The site has been classified under section 13 of the Act based on information submitted to the department by February 2026.

The site comprises a residential property. A primary school is located across the road to the east.

The site was reported because it had been used for the refining of unprocessed gold ore (similar to mineral processing) and a container of mercury was broken in the backyard. Mercury and arsenic were found to remain present in soil following clean up of the mercury spill, and also in soil near the shed in the backyard. Mineral processing has the potential to cause contamination, as specified in the guideline 'Assessment and management of contaminated sites' (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 2021).

Soil sampling was carried out at the site in January 2026 following clean up of the mercury spill.

The investigations carried out were limited and were not intended to meet the standard required as outlined in the department's contaminated sites guidelines and the 'National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999' (the NEPM). However, mercury was found to be present in soils at concentrations exceeding Health Investigation Levels for residential land with accessible soil, as published in the NEPM.

These concentrations were found to be present near the ramp leading off the backyard patio where the mercury spill occurred, and also near the shed in the backyard which is understood to have been used for gold ore processing. Arsenic concentrations did not exceed the relevant assessment levels, however, were found to be elevated at the same locations compared to other areas of the site.

The department understands that advice has been provided by the Shire of Kalgoorlie Boulder in relation to remediating possible mercury and arsenic contamination of the residence.

Groundwater quality has not been investigated. However, based on regional depth to groundwater, potential impacts to groundwater are currently considered to be low. Potential impacts to groundwater will be reconsidered as further information becomes available.

Concentrations of contaminants exceed adopted assessment levels for residential use. Therefore, a tier 1 screening risk assessment indicates that further investigation is required to determine the risk to human health, the environment, and environmental values.

As the site has only been partially investigated, a comment cannot be made on the suitability of the site as a whole for any land use.

There are grounds to indicate possible contamination of the site and further investigations and risk assessment are required to determine the risk to human health, the environment, and environmental values has not been carried out. Therefore, the site is classified as 'possibly contaminated - investigation required'.

When the results of further soil investigations are submitted to the department, these will be reviewed, and the site may be reclassified.

The department, in consultation with the Department of Health, has classified this site based on the information available to the department at the time of classification. It is acknowledged that the contamination status of the site may have changed since the information was collated and/or submitted to the department, and as such, the usefulness of this information may be limited.

In accordance with Department of Health advice, if groundwater is being, or is proposed to be abstracted, the department recommends that analytical testing should be carried out to determine whether the groundwater is suitable for its intended use.

Other Relevant Information:

Additional information included herein is relevant to the contamination status of the site and includes the department's expectations for action that should be taken to address potential or actual contamination described in the Reasons for Classification.

Action Required:

This site is considered to be high priority for action to be taken to address contamination, as described below.

Access to areas of bare soil in the back yard is required to be restricted as a matter of priority (including to any family pets), for example through restricting access to the backyard, or paving or covering of these areas. Any processed or unprocessed ore, mercury, equipment or other materials used for ore processing remaining at the site, including in the backyard shed are required to be removed. Advice from the Shire of Kalgoorlie Boulder, such as for cleaning of the residence, is to continue to be followed.

Further soil investigations are required to adequately delineate and characterise the nature and extent of contamination at the site. A risk assessment is required to determine potential risk to human health.

A schedule for carrying out the actions required is to be provided to the department in writing by no later than the end of May 2026. Timeframes in the schedule should meet the department's expectations for action at high priority sites, as published in section 8.3 of 'Identification, reporting and classification of contaminated sites in Western Australia' (Department of Environment Regulation, June 2017).

Investigations and reporting are to be carried out in accordance with the department's contaminated sites guidelines and the NEPM.

General Information

The nature and extent of contamination and any restrictions on the use of the land, if applicable, are listed in Attachment A.

Information relating to the classification of the site is also available by submitting a request for a summary of records (using Form 2) to: Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Locked Bag 10, Joondalup DC, WA 6919. A fee of \$44 currently applies for a Basic Summary of Records. Forms are available from <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments/departments-of-water-and-environmental-regulation/contaminated-sites>.

In some instances the department has had to classify sites based on historical information. A site may be re-classified at any stage when additional information becomes available, for example where a new investigation or remediation report completed in accordance with the department's '[Contaminated Sites Guidelines](#)' and the *National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999*, is submitted to the department. The current site classification is the classification most recently conferred on the site.

Memorials

In accordance with section 58(1) of the Act, the department will lodge a memorial with the Registrar of Landgate, recording the classification against the site's Certificate(s) of Title. Parcel(s) without a registration number or certificate of title will not have a memorial lodged against them until a

certificate of title has been created. Once complete, confirmation of the lodgement of the memorial(s) will be forwarded to the following people:

- (a) each owner,
- (b) Western Australian Planning Commission;
- (c) CEO of the Department of Health;
- (d) Local Government Authority;
- (e) relevant scheme authority.

Given that memorial(s) will be lodged against the site, the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) may not approve the subdivision of the land under Section 135 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, or the amalgamation of that land with any other land without seeking, and taking into account, the advice of the department as to the suitability of the land for subdivision or amalgamation. Furthermore, a responsible authority (e.g. Local Government Authorities) may not grant approval under a scheme for any proposed development of the land without seeking, and taking into account, advice from the department as to the suitability of the proposed development.

Appealing the Site Classification

All site classifications given by the department are appealable. However, only certain people can lodge a valid appeal. The people who can lodge a valid appeal varies, depending on the classification category, as detailed in Fact Sheet 4: *Site classifications and appeals*. Appeals need to be lodged in writing with the Contaminated Sites Committee at Level 18, Millgreen Complex, 197 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000, within **45 days** of being given this notification. The appeal should set out the appellant's relationship to the site, and must include the grounds and facts upon which it is based. An appeal fee (currently \$66) applies.

To find out more about the appeal process, see the Contaminated Sites Committee website at <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/contaminated-sites-committee> or contact the office of the Committee on (08) 6364 7264.

For further information on all aspects of site classification, please refer to Fact Sheet 4 and the 'Contaminated Sites Guidelines', which are available from the department's website at <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-water-and-environmental-regulation/contaminated-sites> or by contacting the Contaminated Sites Information Line on 1300 762 982.

Yours sincerely

Chek Cher

Chek Cher, Manager

CONTAMINATED SITES REGULATION
Delegated Officer under section 91
of the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*

18/03/2026

Enc. Attachment A – Nature and Extent and Restrictions on Use.

[Fact Sheet 4: Site classifications and appeals](#)
[Fact Sheet 5: Buying and selling contaminated land](#)

ATTACHMENT A – Nature and Extent and Restrictions on Use

- LOT 1 ON SURVEY-STRATA PLAN 57117

Nature and Extent: Metals (such as mercury and arsenic) are present in soil beneath the site.

Restriction on Use: Please refer to Reasons for Classification for further information on the potential contamination present at the site.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

DMO13224 22 Palmerston St South Kalgoorlie



Legend

Notes

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Disclaimer:

While the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has made all reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the data in this map, the department accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies, and persons relying on the map do so at their own risk.



Map Center Coordinates: -30.76391010117867° N, 121.47608901017038° W