



Native Title Services Goldfields (Perth Office)
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Our ref: DMO 3511
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Dear Sir/Madam

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), was classified by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003 (the Act) on 05/03/2020 as '*Possibly contaminated - investigation required*':

- LOT 221 ON PLAN 217615 as shown on certificate of title LR3098/969 known as 221 Goldfields Hwy, South Boulder WA 6432

Following the submission and subsequent review of additional information the site has been reclassified.

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 Re-Classification

Category of site classification: Possibly contaminated - investigation required

Date of site classification: 24/03/2026

Reasons for classification: This site was reported to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) as per reporting obligations 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 October 2021.

The site comprises two waste treatment facilities which are located on Lot 221 Goldfields Highway Boulder. Western Resource Recovery operate a facility which manages solid wastes and treats liquid waste in the northern portion of Lot 221, and the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder operate the South Boulder Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on the remainder of the site. The WWTP accepts municipal and septage liquid wastes.

The site was originally reported because it has been used as a WWTP and a solid and liquid waste treatment facility (WRR) for at least 20 years. The site was reported again because a contamination assessment carried out for the WRR found hydrocarbons (such as from petrol, diesel or oil) in soil and hydrocarbons, per-and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (such as from PFAS-containing waste) and metals in groundwater. Waste disposal sites and wastewater treatment are land uses which have the potential to cause contamination, as specified in the guideline 'Assessment and management of contaminated sites' (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 2021).

The department notes that reporting of routine groundwater monitoring to date have been submitted to comply with respective Part V 'Environmental Protection Act 1986' licence conditions and were not intended to satisfy the department's contaminated sites guidelines and the 'National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999' (NEPM).

WRR

Soil and groundwater investigations were carried out at the WRR between 2019 and 2021.

Hydrocarbons (such as from petrol, diesel or oil) were found to be present in soils at concentrations exceeding Ecological Screening Levels for commercial and industrial land, as published in the NEPM. Per-and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (such as from PFAS-containing waste) were found to be present in soils at concentrations exceeding the ecological exposure guideline values, as published in 'PFAS National Environmental Management Plan Version 3.0' (Heads of EPAs Australia and New Zealand, March 2025) (NEMP).

Cyanide, metals (such as nickel), monocyclic aromatic and total recoverable hydrocarbons and nutrients (ammonia, total nitrogen, nitrate and total phosphorus) were found to be present in groundwater at concentrations exceeding assessment levels for non-potable use of groundwater, as published in the guideline 'Assessment and management of contaminated sites' (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 2021) derived from Australian Drinking Water Guideline (Aesthetic) levels, and/or exceeding Water Quality Australia's default guideline values for the protection of freshwater ecosystems.

PFAS were found to be present in groundwater at concentrations exceeding health-based guidance values for recreational water quality and guideline values for freshwater ecosystems, as published in the NEMP.

The cyanide-impacted groundwater is present as a localised plume in the north-eastern portion of the WRR premise.

The hydrocarbon-impacted groundwater is present as a plume in the vicinity of the WRR treatment infrastructure and appears to be confined to the centre of the WRR premises.

A Site Management Plan (dated August 2019) for the WRR outlines interim management measures to protect human health from soil and groundwater contamination.

WWTP

No soil investigations have been undertaken at the site and the condition of soil beneath the site is unknown.

Routine groundwater monitoring carried out to date contains insufficient technical information to enable an assessment of contamination.

Both Facilities

The lateral and vertical extent of groundwater impacted by metals, nutrients and PFAS at the WRR, WWTP and off-site has not been delineated.

No surface water or sediment investigations have been undertaken at the site and the condition of surface water and sediment at the site is unknown.

Concentrations of contaminants exceed adopted assessment levels for commercial/industrial land use and/or ecological investigation levels. 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 soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment have not been fully investigated, and a risk assessment 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'.

A memorial stating the site's classification has been placed on the certificate of title and will notify any interested parties of the contamination status of the site. When the results of further soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment 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.

Based on the available information, contamination present on this site appears likely to extend beyond the site boundary to the adjacent land. Should further investigations confirm that the contamination of the site is consistent with the definition of a "source site" specified in Part 1, Section 3 of the Act, in accordance with Regulation 31(1)(b) of the Contaminated Sites Regulations 2006, any reports or information submitted to the department that are relevant to the investigation, assessment, monitoring or remediation of a source site will be required to be accompanied by a mandatory auditor's report (MAR) prepared by an accredited contaminated sites auditor.

Action Required:

This site is considered to be high priority for action to be taken to address contamination, as described below, that the department expects to be carried out by the person(s) responsible for both facilities.

A schedule for carrying out the actions required is to be provided to the department in writing by no later than 1 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 Water and Environmental Regulation, February 2025).

The department should be advised of the engagement of an environmental consultant and/or an accredited contaminated sites auditor by no later than 1 May 2026.

An environmental risk assessment is required to determine the risk to the environment and/or any environmental value from contaminants including potential discharges to downstream ephemeral streams at the site.

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

PFAS investigations and assessment are also to be carried out in accordance with the 'PFAS National Environmental Management Plan Version 3.0' (Heads of EPAs Australia and New Zealand, March 2025).

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-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), the department has already lodged memorial(s) against the Certificate(s) of Title relating to the site.

Given that the memorial(s) lodged against the site will remain, 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

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Chek Cher, Manager

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

27/03/2026

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

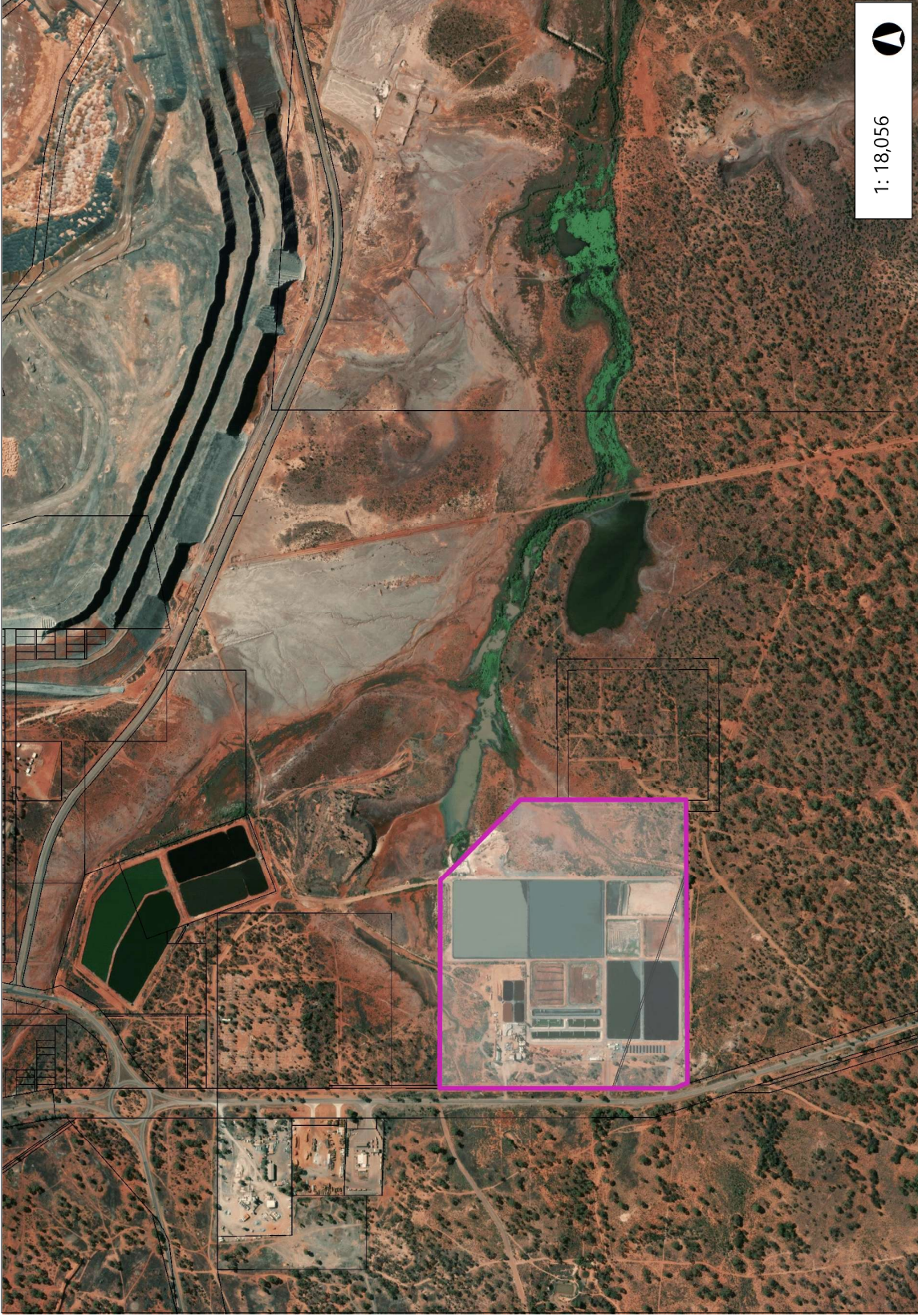
- LOT 221 ON PLAN 217615

Nature and Extent: Hydrocarbons and Per- and poly fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) (such as from fire-fighting foams/PFAS-containing waste) are present in surface soils in isolated locations in the Western Resource Recovery portion of the site, which is located in the northern portion of the site.

Cyanide, ethylbenzene and total recoverable hydrocarbons are present in groundwater in the Western Resource Recovery portion of the site, which is located in the northern portion of the site. Metals (such as nickel and manganese), nutrients (such as ammonia, total nitrogen, nitrates and total phosphorous) and PFAS are present in groundwater beneath the site.

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

Site Map - DMO 3511



1: 18,056



0.9 Kilometers



0.9

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
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This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.
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Notes

Author:
Recipient:

Legend

□ Cadastre (LGATE_218) - SLIP

