

Public Notice

Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act) – Section 42

Draft terms of reference for an environmental impact statement (EIS) – Proposed Galalar Silica Sand Project

DIATREME RESOURCES LIMITED (Diatreme) proposes to develop the Galalar Silica Sand Project. The proposed project would be located at Cape Bedford, 20 kilometres north of Cooktown and 20 km east of Hope Vale in eastern Cape York. The project site falls within EPM 17795 (approximately 486 km²) on MLA 100235 (approximately 525 ha). Maps of the proposed project are available in the Initial Advice Statement on the Queensland Government website at www.qld.gov.au (search for Galalar EIS).

The project proposes a new open-cut silica sand mine with onsite washing, gravity separation and stockpiling of the product. Up to 950,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of silica sand would be mined, producing up to an estimated 750,000 tpa of low iron silica. The proposed mine life is 15 years.

The product would be transported via truck and then barged to a transshipping location for export to overseas markets. Two options for barge loading and transfer facilities are being considered, at nearby Nob Point or Cooktown via the Endeavour River. Both will require construction of barge loading infrastructure and for Nob Point, an access road from the mine. Possible transshipping locations have been identified off Nob Point or within the Port of Cape Flattery port limits for the Nob Point export option or within or just beyond the Port of Cooktown port limits for the Cooktown export option.

On 14 January 2020 Diatreme submitted a voluntary EIS application, which was approved by the Department of Environment and Science (the department) on 5 March 2020.

The project is a controlled action (EPBC/2020/8626) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The controlling provisions are sections 12 and 15A (world heritage properties), sections 15B and 15C (national heritage places), sections 18 and 18A (listed threatened species and communities), sections 20 and 20A (listed migratory species), sections 23 and 24A (a commonwealth marine area), sections 24B and 24C (Great Barrier Reef marine park) of the EPBC Act. The EIS process will assess potential impacts of the project on the controlling provisions consistent with the bilateral agreement (section 45 of the EPBC Act) between the Commonwealth and Queensland governments for the purposes of the Commonwealth Government's assessment under part 8 of the EPBC Act.

Diatreme submitted the draft terms of reference (TOR) for an EIS for the proposal to the department on 3 July 2020.

The **draft TOR**, this public notice and a description of the project is available online on the Queensland Government's website at www.qld.gov.au (search for Galalar EIS), by contacting the proponent's project hotline on 1800 512 189, or emailing manager@diatreme.com.au

Written comments

The department's chief executive invites written comments from any person in relation to the draft TOR, within the comment period from 27 July 2020 to close of business 14 September 2020. Please address written comments to:

The Chief Executive
Department of Environment and Science
Attention: The EIS Coordinator (Proposed Galalar Silica Sand Project)
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Written comments can also be emailed to eis@des.qld.gov.au

Privacy Statement

The department is collecting the information provided in comments for consideration in the EIS process. All comments (including names and addresses) will be provided to the proponent as required under section 44 of the EP Act, so that they may consider them and provide a response to the department. This consultation is a public process, and any comments you provide may be published (including online) and may be transmitted outside of Australia. You may wish to bear this in mind when providing your comments. Your information will not be disclosed by the department to any other parties unless authorised or required by law.

When the EIS is released, public submissions will be invited. For further information about the EIS process for this proposal, contact the EIS coordinator on 13QG0V (13 74 68) or email eis@des.qld.gov.au.



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