

Form ESF4

Application to conduct exploration activities

For assessable prospecting operations

Mining Act 1992 and Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991

May 2018 | v2.5

More information

For help with lodging this application contact:

Resources Regulator

Environmental Sustainability Unit

Phone +61 2 4063 6666

minres.environment@planning.nsw.gov.au

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The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment or the user's independent advisor.

Privacy statement

This information is collected by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for the purposes of assessing an application for an authorisation/title or associated with an authority/title as required by the *Mining Act 1992*, *Mining Regulation 2016*, *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Regulation 2016*.

This information may also be used by the department to confirm applicant details in the event that subsequent applications are made, and may also be used to establish and maintain databases to assist the department with its work generally.

Except for purposes required by law, the information will not be accessed by any third parties in a way that would identify the person without the consent of that person.

The department may make the information in the Form and any supporting information available for inspection by members of the public, including by publication on the department's website or by displaying the information at any of its offices. If you consider any part of your application to be confidential, please provide that part in a separate addendum clearly marked "Confidential".

The department may also provide the information to other government agencies for the purposes of its assessment.

You may apply to the department to access and correct any information the department holds if that information is inaccurate, incomplete, not relevant or out of date.

When to use this form

Complete this form if you are applying for approval to conduct assessable prospecting operations in New South Wales.

You **do not** need to complete this form if you are conducting prospecting operations identified as exempt development under [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries\) 2007](#).

This form has been prepared and approved in accordance with the *Mining Act 1992*, *Mining Regulation 2016*, *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Regulation 2016*. The information requested in this form may not be specifically referenced in the *Mining Act 1992*, *Mining Regulation 2016*, *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Regulation 2016*, however, its inclusion in the approved form validates the authority of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, Resources Regulator (the department) to request it.

If there is insufficient room in the fields please provide the information as an attachment.

Important notes

Any information or template that is required to accompany this application should be lodged within **10 business days of the lodgement date**. Failure to supply the information within this timeframe may be considered as grounds for refusing the application according to [Schedule 1B, Clause 6\(d\)](#) of the *Mining Act 1992*.

If this application is lodged by any party other than the authority holder (ie. an agent), the department may seek confirmation of that authority and any limits of that authority (*Mining Act 1992* [Section 163F](#) and *Mining Regulation 2016* [Clause 97](#)).

The department may make the information in the form and any supporting information available for inspection by members of the public, including by publication on the department's website or by displaying the information at any of its offices. **If you consider any part of your application to be confidential, please provide that part in a separate addendum clearly marked "Confidential"**.

Before you complete this form

Please read the following guides before completing this form:

- [ESG5: Assessment Requirements for Exploration Activities](#).
- [ESG2: Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#)
- [Guideline for Agricultural Impact Statements at the Exploration Stage](#).

Exploration in exempted areas

Exempted areas are defined in the *Mining Act 1992* and the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* as lands set aside for public purposes. Exempted areas include travelling stock routes, road reserves, state forests, state conservation areas, public reserves/commons and land held under a lease for water supply.

The Minister's consent is required before the department can approve exploration activities in exempted areas.

This application cannot be processed until Ministerial consent has been obtained.

To apply for approval to prospect in an exempted area, contact the Titles Services office by phone: (02) 4063 6600 or email: titles.services@planning.nsw.gov.au

Exploration in State Conservation Areas

The [Office of Environment and Heritage](#) is responsible for management of [State Conservation Areas](#) (SCAs) under the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#). **This application cannot be processed until approval from the Office of Environment and Heritage has been obtained.** If you are applying to carry out activities in a State Conservation Area, you must first obtain the following before your application can be processed by the department:

- approval from the Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* ([Section 47J\(7\)](#))
- a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) approved by the Office of Environment and Heritage.

Requests for approval to prospect in a SCA are to be submitted to the relevant regional office of the [National Parks and Wildlife Service](#).

Surface Disturbance Notice

The conditions of some older authorities require authority holders to provide a Surface Disturbance Notice before carrying out exploration activities. This application is regarded as a Surface Disturbance Notice (SDN) for the notification of exploration activities.

How to submit this form

- **By email:** Send an electronic copy of the form including any attachments to minres.environment@planning.nsw.gov.au
- **By mail:** Mail your form and attachments to: Resources Regulator, Environmental Sustainability Unit, PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre NSW 2310.
- **In person:** Submit your application in person at the Department of Planning and Environment's Environmental Sustainability Unit, 516 High Street, Maitland, New South Wales. Office hours are 9.30am to 4.30pm.

How this application will be processed

Once your application has been registered and checked, it will be assessed by the department. The Minister for Resources (or their delegate) will consider the department's recommendation and all relevant information, and may propose to grant or refuse the application.

1 Authority details

Exploration licence (EL) or Assessment lease (AL) number	<input type="text"/>	Act	<input type="text"/>
Authority expiry date	<input type="text"/>		

2 Authority holder/s details

Provide the full name of authority holder/s and if applicable, the ACN or ARBN (for foreign companies).

Name	<input type="text"/>
ACN / ARBN	<input type="text"/>
Registered street address	<input type="text"/>
Postal address	<input type="checkbox"/> Same as above <input type="checkbox"/> Enter here if different

Name	<input type="text"/>
ACN / ARBN	<input type="text"/>
Registered street address	<input type="text"/>
Postal address	<input type="checkbox"/> Same as above <input type="checkbox"/> Enter here if different

Name	<input type="text"/>
ACN / ARBN	<input type="text"/>
Registered street address	<input type="text"/>
Postal address	<input type="checkbox"/> Same as above <input type="checkbox"/> Enter here if different

Additional authority holders

Provide the full name, ACN or ARBN (for foreign companies), registered street address and postal address details of additional authority holders.

<input type="text"/>

3 Contact for this application

Any correspondence relating to this application will be sent to this person.

Contact name	<input type="text"/>
Position held	<input type="text"/>
Company	<input type="text"/>
Postal address	<input type="text"/>
Phone (inc. area code)	<input type="text"/>
Mobile	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

Your preferred contact method

- Email (For companies – provide a generic company email address which is regularly monitored rather than an individual employee's email address.)
- Mail

4 Exempted areas

Exempted areas are defined in the *Mining Act 1992* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* as lands set aside for public purposes, which includes travelling stock routes, road reserves, state forests, state conservation areas, public reserves/commons and land held under a lease for water supply. Exempted areas require Ministerial consent – **this application cannot be processed until Ministerial consent has been obtained.**

4.1 Will the activity include prospecting in an exempted area?

- No. ▶ Go to **Question 5**
- Yes. ▶ Continue to **Question 4.2**

4.2 Prospecting in exempted areas

4.2.1 Minister's consent

Attach a copy of the Minister's consent to prospecting in exempted areas. To apply for approval to prospect in an exempted area, contact the Titles Services office by phone (02) 4063 6600 or email titles.services@planning.nsw.gov.au.

- I have attached a copy of the Minister's consent to prospect in an exempted area.

4.2.2 Identify exempted areas

Identify the exempted areas where prospecting activities will take place:

Insert a map in the field above or enter your text here

5 State Conservation Areas

If you are applying to conduct prospecting activities in a [State Conservation Area](#), **you must** obtain the approvals below (Question 5.2) before your application can be processed by the department. Requests for approval to prospect in a State Conservation Area are to be submitted to the relevant regional office of the [National Parks and Wildlife Service](#).

5.1 Will the activity include prospecting in a State Conservation Area?

- No. ▶ **Go to Question 6**
- Yes. ▶ **Complete Questions 5.2, 6, 8, 16, 17 and 18 only.**

5.2 Prospecting in a State Conservation Area

5.2.1 Minister's consent

If you are applying to carry out activities in a State Conservation Area, you must obtain approval from the Minister administering the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* ([Section 47J\(7\)](#)).

- I have attached a copy of the Minister's consent to prospect in a State Conservation Area.

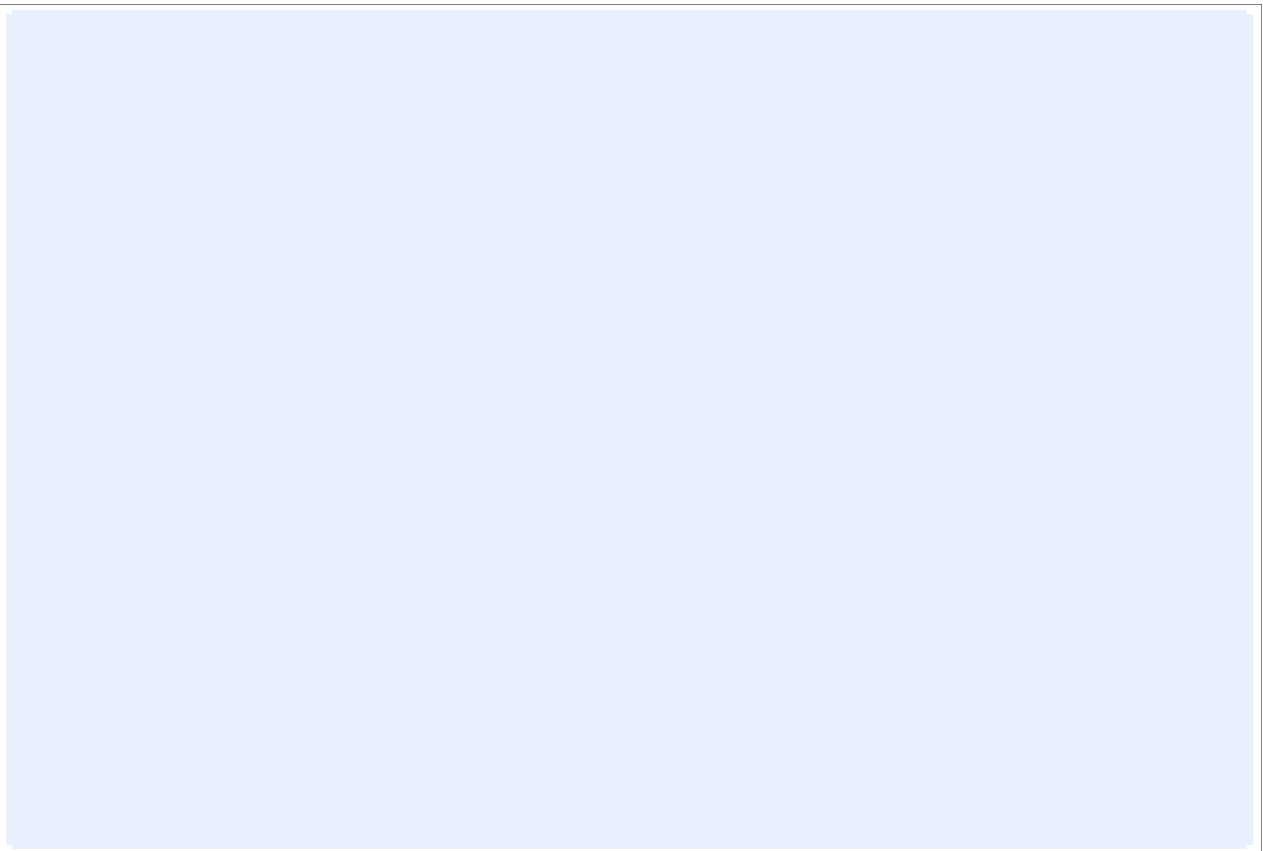
5.2.2 Review of Environmental Factors

The [Office of Environment and Heritage](#) manages State Conservation Areas under the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#). If you are applying to conduct prospecting activities in a State Conservation Area, you must provide the department with a [Review of Environmental Factors](#) which has been approved by the Office of Environment and Heritage.

- I have attached a copy of the Review of Environmental Factors approved by the Office of Environment and Heritage.

5.2.3 Identify the State Conservation Area

Identify the State Conservation Area/s where prospecting activities will take place.



Insert a map in the field above or enter your text here

6 New application or modification of approved exploration activities

To modify an already approved exploration activity, the modification must be substantially the same as the existing approval and have environmental impacts consistent with those already assessed and approved. Otherwise, a new application for the entire activity must be made.

6.1 Is this a new application for approval or an application to modify an existing approved activity?

<input type="checkbox"/>	New application for approval. Complete the details below, then go to Question 7 .
Project name	
Project location	
Brief description	<i>(example text) Three diamond drill holes, six in-ground sumps and X metres of new access tracks.</i>

OR

<input type="checkbox"/>	Modification of an approved application. Complete the details below, then continue to Question 6.2, 9, 16, 17 and 18 only .
Approved project or activity name	
Departmental reference and date of previous approval	
Reason for modification	

6.2 Modification of an approved application

Describe the modification to the approved application and the environmental impacts.

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7 Application type and assessment requirements

Environmental assessment requirements vary depending on whether a proposed activity is a 'Complying Exploration Activity' or a 'Non-Complying Exploration Activity'. Refer to Section 4 of [ESG5 Assessment Requirements for Exploration Activities](#) to determine whether a proposed activity is a Complying Exploration Activity or a Non-Complying Exploration Activity.

An activity can only be assessed under the Complying Exploration Activity pathway if all boxes in Questions 12 and 13 have been ticked as 'No' and none of the impact thresholds and criteria in Question 13 have been exceeded.

Petroleum exploration activities **are not** eligible to be assessed under the Complying Exploration Activity assessment pathway.

Select one application type and assessment pathway only.

Complying Exploration Activity (minerals or coal authorities only)

Complete all questions in this form, apart from **Questions 8, 10 and 15**.

Note: Information provided in this form regarding an activity which meets the Complying Exploration Activity criteria will be taken to be a Review of Environmental Factors for the purposes of any authority conditions which require the submission of a Review of Environmental Factors.

OR

Non-Complying Exploration Activity (minerals or coal authorities only)

Select one of the options below.

Option 1: Complete all questions in this form to provide a Targeted Review of Environmental Factors.

Option 2:

- Complete only **Questions 1–9** and **Questions 16–18** of this form
- Attach a Guideline Review of Environmental Factors prepared in accordance with [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

OR

Petroleum Exploration Activity (petroleum authorities)

- Complete only **Questions 1–9** and **Questions 16–18**
- Attach a Guideline Review of Environmental Factors prepared in accordance with [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

8 Agricultural Impact Statement

Under the [NSW Strategic Regional Land Use Policy](#), certain Non-Complying Exploration Activities must be accompanied by an Agricultural Impact Statement. When preparing an Agricultural Impact Statement, you should refer to the [Guideline for Agricultural Impact Statements at the Exploration Stage](#). An Agricultural Impact Statement may be included as part of a Guideline Review of Environmental Factors.

8.1 Project area location

Is any part of the project area located on, or within, 2 km of [Strategic Agricultural Land](#) or directly on [Land and Soil Capability Classes 1, 2 or 3](#)?

- Yes. Attach an Agricultural Impact Statement. ▶ **Go to Question 9**
- No. Continue to **Question 8.2**

8.2 Entire project area

8.2.1 Indicate where the entire project area is located

The entire project area is located (check one or multiple boxes)

- A. Within a [State Forest](#), [Nature Reserve](#) or [State Conservation Area](#) or
- B. on existing residential, village, business or industrial zoned land under a [Local Environment Plan](#) (LEP), or
- C. within an existing [mining lease](#), or
- D. on [Land and Soil Capability Classes](#) 7 or 8
- E. **and** 500 metres or further inside the boundary of the areas listed above.



If you **checked** boxes A or B or C or D (**and** then E above), go to **Question 9**

If **not**, continue to **Question 8.2.2**

8.2.2 Agricultural Impact Statement

If you **did not** check the relevant boxes in **Question 8.2.1**, you will need to attach an Agricultural Impact Statement.

- I have attached an Agricultural Impact Statement. Enter any additional comments below.

9 Site plan and location details

Attach site plans and/or maps at an appropriate scale showing the following (as relevant):

Note: The site plans and/or maps required here can be included in a Guideline Review of Environmental Factors.

- boundaries of the authority
- lot/DP numbers and boundaries
- topographic contours
- location of the proposed activity (including location of key features of the activity using MGA94 co-ordinates)
- layout of the proposed activity (using dimensions and alignments where appropriate)
- major regional features
- existing and proposed access tracks
- existing structures and infrastructure (including dimensions and alignments where relevant)
- nearby sensitive receptors (including residences, educational establishments, hospitals, places of worship, etc)
- location of Aboriginal and European heritage sites (including AHIMS search) (refer to **Question 10.11** and **10.10**, respectively)
- location of identified sensitive land (refer to **Question 12**)
- location of threatened species or ecological communities, or their habitats (refer to **Question 13.4**).

9.1 Identify the area

Identify the map sheet within which the activities are proposed (where relevant include block number/s and unit letter/s for mineral authorities and petroleum titles). These details are referenced on your authority conditions.

Name of map sheet	Block number	Unit letter/s

9.2 Site plan/s and map/s

List the site plans and maps you have attached to this application, including relevant plan/map title, dates, reference numbers.

	Reference No.	Name/title	Date
1			
2			
3			
4			

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	Reference No.	Name/title	Date
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
Add additional references and notes here			

9.3 Photographs of all sites to be disturbed

Attach photographs of all sites to be disturbed. List all the photographs attached, including relevant photograph titles, site locations and dates. Include a plan illustrating where the photographs were taken from and their aspect.

	Photo number /reference	Photo name/description
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Add additional references and notes here		

10 Site description and existing environment

For help answering this question, refer to Sections 1 and 2 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#). Spatial information regarding the site and existing environment can be viewed at the [NSW SEED environmental data portal](#).

10.1 Existing land uses

Provide details of existing land uses that may be affected by the proposed activity and any proposed changes (temporary or otherwise) to the current land use/s during the activity.

10.2 Sensitive receptor/s

Describe the location, type and distance to the nearest sensitive receptor/s (including residences, educational establishments, hospitals, places of worship).

10.3 Soil types and properties

Describe the soil types and properties (including susceptibility to compaction, erosion and dispersion; presence of acid sulfate soils and potential acid sulfate soils). Refer to [Strategic Agricultural Land Maps](#), [Land and Soil Capability Class Maps](#) and [Acid Sulfate Soils Maps](#).

10.4 Surface water sources

Provide details of the existing surface water sources in the area that are likely to be affected by the activity. Provide details of the **nearest** watercourse/s and the distance between the proposed disturbance area/s and the nearest watercourse/s.

10.5 Groundwater sources

Provide details of any existing groundwater sources that occur in the area that are likely to be affected by the activity.

10.6 Vegetation cover

Describe the vegetation cover type, density and condition.

10.7 Critical habitat/Area of outstanding biodiversity value

Provide details of any critical habitat/area of outstanding biodiversity value that is likely to be affected by the activity including:

- declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* as listed in the [Register](#) maintained by the Office of Environment and Heritage.
- areas declared as critical habitat under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* as recorded in the Department of Primary Industries [register of critical habitat](#).

10.8 Threatened species records search (wildlife and vegetation)

Attach copies of any relevant threatened species records kept by the Office of Environment and Heritage according to the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Refer to www.bionet.nsw.gov.au for this information. Ensure searches are relevant to the proposed disturbance areas.

- A copy of the NSW BioNet search is attached (refer to [NSW BioNet](#)).

10.9 Aquatic habitat species record search

Attach copies of any relevant [threatened and protected species records for aquatic habitats](#) kept by the Department of Primary Industries according to the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

- A copy of the threatened and protected species records for aquatic habitats search is attached.

10.10 Historic cultural or natural heritage items

10.10.1 Record searches

Attach copies of record searches for any historic cultural or natural heritage items that may be impacted by the activity. As a minimum, identify if any of the following are impacted. For any of the items below, only attach copies of **relevant** heritage searches.

- Items listed on the [World Heritage List](#)
- Items listed on the [Commonwealth Heritage List](#)
- Items listed on the [National Heritage List](#)
- [State Heritage Register](#)
- Items listed in the heritage schedule of an [environmental planning instrument](#), such as a local council's Local Environment Plan

10.10.2 Describe any items of historic cultural or natural heritage that may be impacted by the activity.

10.11 Aboriginal heritage sites

10.11.1 Describe the nearest Aboriginal sites or any sites that may be affected.

Describe the location, type and distance to the nearest Aboriginal heritage sites and any impact the proposed activity will have on Aboriginal heritage sites (Aboriginal objects and places).

10.11.2 AHIMS search

For exploration activities, the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974](#) requires you to exercise due diligence to check if Aboriginal sites will be harmed.

The Office of Environment and Heritage maintains the [Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System \(AHIMS\)](#) which you can use to undertake due diligence. The AHIMS includes:

- information about Aboriginal objects that have been reported to the Director General, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- information about Aboriginal Places which have been declared by the Minister for the Environment to have special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture
- archaeological reports.

Attach your [AHIMS](#) search to support that you have undertaken due diligence for this application.

I have attached a copy of the AHIMS search.

11 Description of the exploration activity

For guidance answering this question, refer to Section 3 [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.1 Activity description

Describe all stages of the activity, including before, during and after exploration, including rehabilitation. For drilling activities include drilling type, number of drill holes, drill hole depths and size of drill pads.

11.2 Exploration methods

Describe the exploration methods, including machinery and equipment to be used (including what equipment will be operating at any one time).

11.3 Total surface disturbance

Provide the total surface disturbance (in sqm/ha) for the proposed exploration program.

11.4 Earthworks or vegetation clearing

Detail any earthworks or vegetation clearing, including the re-use and disposal of cleared material (including use of spoil-on-site).

11.5 Timing and phasing of the activity

Describe the timing and any phasing of the activity (including anticipated commencement dates and anticipated completion dates for all activities).

11.6 Proposed sealing/suspension of drill holes/wells

Describe the proposed sealing/suspension of drill holes/wells, including details of any well head suspension, security, maintenance and monitoring programs.

11.7 Venting, flaring or re-use of gases

Describe any proposed venting, flaring or re-use of gases, including details of the system design and venting/flaring/re-use processes.

11.8 Access to exploration activities

Describe the means of access to the various exploration activities. Describe any upgrading of existing access tracks and any construction of new access tracks.

11.9 Ancillary activities

Provide details of any activities which are ancillary to the proposed exploration activities including requirements for water storage, ancillary infrastructure, temporary accommodation.

Note: Certain ancillary works and activities (such as accommodation camps and environmental assessment activities) do not constitute an 'exploration' or 'prospecting' activity under the Mining Act 1992 or the Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991 and therefore cannot be approved by the department. The authority holder should obtain their own advice, and/or make their own enquiries with the relevant local council, Crown Lands controlling authority or the landholder regarding separate consent or approvals required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and/or Local Government Act 1993.

11.10 Proposed hours of operation

Provide details of the proposed hours of operation.

11.11 On-site employee or contractor numbers

Provide an estimate of on-site employee or contractor numbers.

11.12 Surface water management

Describe how surface water will be managed (including water sources, water usage, water storage and water disposal/reuse).

Note: for guidance answering this question, refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.13 Groundwater management

Describe how groundwater will be managed (including water produced, stored and disposed of/reused during exploration).

Note: for guidance answering this question, refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.14 Waste and excess material management

Describe the type, quantities and management of any [waste](#) and excess materials (including drill cuttings, waste water, solid wastes, radioactive material, hazardous wastes, restricted wastes or special wastes).

Note: for guidance refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.15 Chemical management

Detail the handling, use, storage and transportation of any chemicals and hydrocarbons.

Note: for guidance refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2: Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.16 Noise management

Describe how noise will be managed to minimise impacts on any nearby sensitive receivers.

Note: for guidance refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2: Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

11.17 Air quality management

Describe how air quality will be managed, including measures to minimise impacts resulting from any dust generation, venting, flaring and fugitive emissions.

Note: for guidance refer to Section 3.5 of [ESG2: Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

12 Sensitivity of land to be disturbed

Advise whether the activity will occur on any of the types of land listed below (use the [SEED mapping portal](#) to view map layers). All sections must be completed. Explanatory notes are provided in Section 7.1 of [ESG5: Assessment Requirements for Exploration Activities](#) to assist authority holders in identifying land to which these location restrictions apply.

An activity can only be assessed under the Complying Exploration Activity assessment pathway if all boxes have been ticked as 'No'. Some of these areas are also 'exempted areas' under the *Mining Act 1992* and *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* (refer to **Question 4**).

If you answer 'yes' to any of the questions below, provide an assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.

12.1 Conservation areas

Land	Yes	No
Land reserved under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land acquired by the Minister for the Environment under Part 11 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land subject to a 'conservation agreement' under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land declared as an aquatic reserve under the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land declared as a marine park under the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land within State Forests set aside under <i>the Forestry Act 2012</i> for conservation values, including Flora Reserves or Special Management (and other) Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land reserved or dedicated under the <i>Crown Lands Act 1989</i> / <i>Crown Lands Management Act 2016</i> (as applicable) for the preservation of flora, fauna, geological formations or other environmental protection purposes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Land identified as wilderness or declared a wilderness area under the <i>Wilderness Act 1987</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land subject to a Biodiversity Banking and Offsets Scheme under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.2 Drinking water catchment protection areas

Land	Yes	No
Land declared to be a 'controlled area' or a 'special area' under the <i>Water NSW Act 2014</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land declared to be a 'special area' under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> or <i>Hunter Water Act 1991</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.3 Sensitive areas

Note: The upgrade or use of existing access tracks on waterfront land can still be assessed as a Complying Exploration Activity, refer to Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of [ESG5 Assessment Requirements for Exploration Activities](#).

Land	Yes	No
Land declared as area of outstanding biodiversity value under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or critical habitat under Part 7A of the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands of international significance listed under the Ramsar Wetlands Convention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land designated as a nationally important wetland in the Directory of Important Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal wetlands mapped under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Littoral rainforests mapped under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal zone as defined in the <i>Coastal Management Act 2016</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument as being of biodiversity significance or zoned for environmental conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waterfront land defined under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land with a slope greater than 18 degrees measured from the horizontal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.4 Land with potential for soil and water contamination

Land	Yes	No
Land mapped as Actual Acid Sulfate Soils (AASS) or Potential Acid Sulfate Soils (PASS) on the Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Maps for NSW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.5 Heritage protection areas (Aboriginal and European)

Land	Yes	No
Land declared as an Aboriginal place under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land listed on the World Heritage List, National Heritage List or Commonwealth Heritage List	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land, places, buildings or structures listed on the NSW State Heritage Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land identified in an environmental planning instrument (such as a State Environmental Planning Policy, Regional Environment Plan or Local Environment Plan) as being of Aboriginal or European heritage significance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.6 Critical Industry Clusters

Land	Yes	No
Land identified as Critical Industry Cluster under <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.7 Community land

Land	Yes	No
Public land classified as community land under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.8 Other areas

Land	Yes	No
Land identified on the authority as environmentally sensitive land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13 Impact thresholds and criteria

Provide details relating to the impact thresholds and criteria outlined below. These include cumulative impact thresholds from existing approved activities that have not yet been undertaken/rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the department. Explanatory notes are provided in Section 7.2 of [ESG5 Assessment Requirements for Exploration Activities](#) to assist authority holders in completing these details.

Note: An activity can only be assessed under the Complying Exploration Activity assessment pathway if all boxes have been ticked as 'no' and none of the impact thresholds and criteria have been exceeded. A previously approved/undertaken activity must be counted unless the department has acknowledged in writing that the area has been satisfactorily rehabilitated.

All questions, tick boxes and values must be completed - even if the value is zero.

13.1 Vegetation clearing

13.1.1 Will cumulative vegetation clearing and/or removal of tree canopy exceed more than 1,000 square metres in any single hectare?

(Note: Use a grid overlay of 1ha cells over the authority area for this calculation)

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Clearing proposed	<i>example text</i> Drill hole a - 400sqm per ha Drill hole b - 400sqm per ha	m ²
Clearing previously approved/undertaken	Within 1ha around drill hole a - 300sqm Within 1ha around drill hole b - 200sqm	m ²
Total Clearing (existing and proposed)	Within 1ha around drill hole a - 700sqm Within 1ha around drill hole b - 600sqm	m ²

13.1.2 Will cumulative vegetation clearing and/or removal of tree canopy exceed more than 1 hectare in any single unit of the authority (or every 250 hectares in the case of authorities which do not have units or do not align to unit boundaries)?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Clearing proposed	<i>example text</i> 0.08 ha	ha
Clearing previously approved/undertaken	0.05 ha	ha
Total Clearing (existing and proposed)	0.13 ha	ha

13.1.3 Will cumulative vegetation clearing and/or removal of tree canopy exceed more than 5 hectares in any single authority?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Clearing proposed	<input type="text" value="example text"/> <input type="text" value="0.08 ha"/>	ha
Clearing previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text" value="0.05 ha"/>	ha
Total Clearing (existing and proposed)	<input type="text" value="0.13 ha"/>	ha

13.2 Surface disturbance and excavations

13.2.1 Will cumulative surface disturbances exceed a total of 1 hectare within any single unit of an authority (or every 250 hectares in the case of authorities which do not have units or do not align to unit boundaries)?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Disturbance proposed	<input type="text"/>	ha
Disturbance previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text"/>	ha
Total disturbance (existing and proposed)	<input type="text"/>	ha

13.2.2 Will cumulative surface disturbance exceed a total of 5 hectares within any single authority?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Disturbance proposed	<input type="text"/>	ha
Disturbance previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text"/>	ha
Total disturbance (existing and proposed)	<input type="text"/>	ha

13.2.3 Will cumulative excavations exceed 200 cubic metres within any single unit of an authority (or every 250 hectares in the case of authorities which do not have units or do not align to unit boundaries)?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Excavations proposed	<input type="text"/>	m ³
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Excavations previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text"/>	m ³
Total excavations (existing and proposed)	<input type="text"/>	m ³

13.2.4 Will cumulative excavations exceed 1,000 cubic metres within any single authority?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Excavations proposed	<input type="text"/>	m ³
Excavations previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text"/>	m ³
Total excavations (existing and proposed)	<input type="text"/>	m ³

13.3 Extraction of groundwater (produced water)

13.3.1 Will cumulative extraction of groundwater from all exploration activities within the authority exceed 3 megalitres (ML) per year?

- Yes. Provide assessment of impacts by completing **Question 15**.
- No

Extraction proposed	<input type="text"/>	ML per year
Extraction previously approved/undertaken	<input type="text"/>	ML per year
Total extraction (existing and proposed)	<input type="text"/>	ML per year

13.4 Ecology

13.4.1 Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened species or their habitats?

- No. Continue to **Question 13.4.2**
- Yes. Provide assessment impacts by completing **Question 15** and any relevant details below (and attach copies as relevant) of any supporting documentation e.g. test of significance undertaken in accordance with the criteria set out in [Section 7.3](#) of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

13.4.2 Will the activity have a significant effect on threatened ecological communities or their habitats?

- No. Continue to **Question 13.4.3**

- Yes. Provide assessment impacts by completing **Question 15** and any relevant details below (and attach copies as relevant) of any supporting documentation e.g. test of significance undertaken in accordance with the criteria set out in [Section 7.3](#) of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

13.4.3 Will vegetation be removed as part of access track upgrade works in waterfront land?

- No. Go to **Question 13.5**
- Yes. Provide assessment impacts by completing **Question 15** and relevant details of vegetation removal.

13.5 Aboriginal heritage

13.5.1 Will the activity harm Aboriginal objects?

- No. Go to **Question 13.6**
- Yes. Provide assessment impacts by completing **Question 15** and any relevant details below (and attach copies as relevant) of any supporting documentation (e.g. any Aboriginal archaeological due diligence assessments undertaken in accordance with the [NSW Minerals Industry Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects](#) (NSW Minerals Council Ltd, 2010).

13.6 European heritage

13.6.1 Will the activity damage heritage items?

- No. Go to **Question 14**
- Yes. Provide assessment impacts by completing **Question 15** and any relevant details below (and attach copies as relevant) of any supporting documentation.

14 Compliance with Exploration Codes of Practice

[Exploration Codes of Practice](#) have been prepared by the department. The Codes of Practice are **only** applied to prospecting authorities granted, renewed or transferred in respect of applications received **after 1 July 2015**. Exploration activities undertaken pursuant to these titles must comply with the relevant Exploration Codes of Practice to be assessed under the Complying Exploration Activity pathway.

The Codes of Practice provide authority holders with information about the minimum performance requirements to ensure that exploration is undertaken to manage and minimise risks to the environment.

14.1 Does the authority include references to Category 1, Category 2 and Category 3 prospecting operations?

- Yes. Do not complete remainder of Question 14. (*Note: Compliance with the Exploration Codes of Practice is not required as the existing conditions of the authority will apply as the management controls*).
- No. Complete **Question 14.2**, to confirm that the proposed prospecting operations will comply with the relevant Exploration Codes of Practice.

14.2 Compliance requirements

Check the boxes to indicate that the proposed prospecting operations will comply with the relevant code.

Environmental management

Yes, the activity will be undertaken in accordance with the [Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management](#).

Rehabilitation

Yes, the activity will be undertaken in accordance with the [Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation](#).

Produced water management, storage and transfer

Yes, the activity will be undertaken in accordance with the [Exploration Code of Practice: Produced Water Management, Storage and Transfer](#). [Only relevant to prospecting operations where produced water will need to be stored on site (excluding the management of incidental groundwater mixed with drilling fluids that can be temporarily contained in drilling sumps or above ground tanks)].

Not applicable.

14.3 Further details

Provide any further details relating to the above management controls and Codes of Practice as required.

15 Targeted Review of Environmental Factors for Non-Complying Exploration Activities

Complete Question 15 below to provide a Targeted Review of Environmental Factors (REF). This information only needs to specify the potential environmental impacts associated with the departure(s) from the relevant Complying Exploration Activities location restriction, impact threshold/criteria or management control. This would generally be appropriate for activities that do not significantly depart from the Complying Exploration Activities criteria.

15.1 Physical and pollution impacts

For guidance refer to Section 4.1 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

15.1.1 Air impacts

Is the activity likely to impact on air quality? Consider air quality impacts:

- such as dust, smoke, odours, fumes, fugitive emissions, toxic or radioactive gaseous emissions with economic, health, ecosystem or amenity considerations
- through generation of greenhouse gas emissions or release of chemicals
- on nearby sensitive receptors.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.2 Water impacts

Is the activity likely to impact on water quality and/or water quantity? Consider impacts from:

- the use of surface or groundwater
- the storage of water
- changes to natural waterbodies, wetlands or runoff patterns
- aquifer interference including changes to inter-aquifer connectivity

ESF4 Application to conduct exploration activities

- changes to flooding or tidal regimes
- changes in surface and groundwater quality and quantity

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.3 Soil and stability impacts

Is the activity likely to impact on soil quality or land stability? Consider any:

- degradation of soil quality including contamination, salinisation or acidification
- loss of soil from wind or water erosion
- increased land instability with high risks from land slides or subsidence

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.4 Noise and vibration impacts

Is the activity likely to have noise or vibration impacts on nearby sensitive receptors?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.5 Coastal processes and hazards

Is the activity likely to affect coastal processes and hazards including those under projected climate change conditions?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.6 Hazardous substances and chemicals

Is the activity likely to result in impacts associated with the use, generation, storage or transport of hazardous substances or chemicals?

Consider any:

- use, storage or transport of hazardous substances
- use or generation of chemicals which may build up residues in the environment
- chemicals or radioactive material that will be reacted, returned to the surface or left in a drill hole or target formation.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.1.7 Wastes and emissions

Is the activity likely to result in any impacts to the environment resulting from the generation or disposal of gaseous, liquid or solid wastes or emissions?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2 Biological impacts

For guidance refer to Section 4.2 of [ESG2: Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

Fauna and flora (including impact on Threatened Species, or Ecological Communities or their Habitats) – for the purposes of [Section 7.3](#) of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, and in the administration of Sections 5.5 and 5.7 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the matters below must be taken into account in deciding whether there is likely to be a significant effect on threatened species, or ecological communities or their habitats.

This assessment of significance must be undertaken pursuant to the assessment guidelines issued and in force under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994. This assessment of the significance is the first step in considering potential impacts. When a significant effect is likely, a Species Impact Statement (SIS) prepared in accordance with the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994 may be required.

15.2.1 Vegetation

Is any vegetation to be cleared or modified (including vegetation of conservation significance)?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.2 Threatened species

Is the activity likely to have an adverse effect on the life-cycle of a threatened species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.3 Area of outstanding biodiversity value (AOBV)/Critical habitat

Is the activity likely to have an adverse effect on AOBV / critical habitat (either directly or indirectly)? (Refer to **Question 10.7**)

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.4 Endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community

Select as relevant:

- The activity is likely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.
- The activity is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.5 Habitat of a threatened species or ecological community

Select as relevant:

- The extent to which the habitat is likely to be removed or modified as a result of the activity will be significant.
- The area of habitat is likely to become fragmented or isolated from other areas of habitat as a result of the activity.
- The habitat to be removed, modified, fragmented or isolated is important to the long-term survival of the species, population or ecological community in the locality.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.6 Recovery plan or threat abatement plan

Is the activity consistent with the objectives or actions of any relevant plan?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.7 Declared area of outstanding biodiversity value

Is the activity likely to have an adverse effect on any declared area of outstanding biodiversity value (either directly or indirectly)?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.8 Key threatening process

Will the activity constitute or form part of a [key threatening process](#) or is likely to result in the operation of, or increase the impact of, a key threatening process?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.9 Barriers to movement

Does the activity have the potential to endanger, displace or disturb fauna or create a barrier to their movement?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.2.10 Ecological and biosecurity impacts

Select as relevant:

- The activity is likely to cause a threat to the biological diversity or ecological integrity of an ecological community.
- The activity is likely to create a biosecurity risk or introduce modified organisms into an area.
- The activity is likely to cause a bushfire risk.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.3 Resource use impacts

For guidance refer to Section 4.3 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

15.3.1 Community resources

Is the activity likely to degrade or significantly increase the demand for services and infrastructure resources?

Note: Infrastructure includes roads, power, water, drainage, waste management, educational, medical or social services.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to require any significant resource recycling or reuse schemes to reduce resource usage?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in any diversion of resources to the detriment of other communities or natural systems?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.3.2 Natural resources

Is the activity likely to disrupt, deplete or destroy natural resources?

Note: Natural resources include land and soil, water, air and minerals.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to disrupt existing activities (or reduce options for future activities)?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in the degradation of any area reserved for conservation purposes?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4 Community impacts

For guidance refer to Section 4.4 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

15.4.1 Social impacts

Is the activity likely to result in a change to the demographic structure of the community, including changes to workforce or industry structure of the area/region?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to have an environmental impact that may cause substantial change or disruption to the community, including loss of facilities, reduced links to other communities or loss of community identity?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in some individuals or communities being significantly disadvantaged?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in any impacts on the health, safety, privacy or welfare of individuals or communities because of factors such as air pollution, odour, noise, vibration and lighting?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in a change in the level of demand for community resources, including community facilities, community services and labour force?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.2 Economic impacts

Is the activity likely to have significant economic impacts? Consider any impacts that may:

- affect economic activity (positive or negative), particularly impacts which result in a decrease to net economic welfare
- result in a decrease in the economic stability of the community
- result in a change to the public sector revenue or expenditure base.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.3 Heritage impacts

Is the activity likely to cause impacts on localities, places, landscapes, buildings or archaeological relics of heritage significance?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.4 Aesthetic impacts

Is the activity likely to cause impacts on the visual or scenic landscape, including any venting or flaring of gas?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.5 Cultural impacts

Will the activity disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Will the activity affect known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity located in areas where landscape features indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Can harm to Aboriginal objects or disturbance of landscape features be avoided?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Will the activity affect areas subject to native title claims, indigenous land use agreements or joint management agreement?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.6 Land use impacts

Is the activity likely to result in major changes to land use, including any curtailment of other beneficial land uses?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

Is the activity likely to result in any significant property value impacts with land use implications?

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.4.7 Transportation impacts

Is the activity likely to result in any significant impacts on transportation? Consider any:

- substantial impacts on existing transportation systems (such as road, rail, pedestrian) which alter present patterns of circulation or movement
- impacts associated with direct or indirect additional traffic.

Impact level	Detail of impacts	Outline any management controls/mitigation measures
Select level...		

15.5 Matters of national environmental significance

For guidance refer to Section 4.5 of [ESG2 Guideline for preparing a Review of Environmental Factors](#).

Is the activity likely to impact on any of the following matters of national environmental significance under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*? Select as relevant:

- N/A
- Listed threatened species and communities
- Listed migratory species
- Ramsar wetlands of international importance
- Commonwealth marine environment
- World heritage properties
- National heritage places
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Nuclear actions
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development

Provide further details relating to any impacts on matters of national environmental significance.

16 Rehabilitation Cost Estimate

All authority holders are required to lodge a security deposit with the department to cover the Government's full costs in undertaking rehabilitation in the event of default by the authority holder. The Rehabilitation Cost Estimate is used by the department to help determine the amount of the security. Refer to [ESG1 Rehabilitation Cost Estimate Guidelines](#) and [Rehabilitation Cost Estimation Tool](#) for more information.

The scope of the Rehabilitation Cost Estimate must include the cost of fulfilling any rehabilitation liabilities or other obligations associated with on-going previously approved exploration activities on the authority, as well as proposed exploration activities subject to this application.

16.1 Is your application for a Complying Exploration Activity?

Yes. Go to **Question 16.2.**

No. Go to **Question 16.3.**

16.2 Will the cost of fulfilling any rehabilitation liabilities associated with the proposed Complying Exploration Activity, as well as any previously approved exploration activities on the authority, exceed \$10,000?

Yes. Go to **Question 16.3.**

No. Go to **Question 17.** No Rehabilitation Cost Estimate needs to be lodged.

16.3 Have you already lodged an RCE related to this application?

Yes. Provide the Rehabilitation Cost Estimate lodgement date and further details in text box below and **go to Question 17.**

No. Attach a Rehabilitation Cost Estimate which evidences how the estimate is derived and complete the fields below.

Select one of the options below to confirm the methodology

Department's Rehabilitation Cost
Schedule

Other

Current security held by the department

Total of this Rehabilitation Cost Estimate

17 Checklist of items included with this application (as applicable)

Item		Reference
Minister's consent to prospect in exempted areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 4
Minister's consent to prospect in a State Conservation Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 5
A Guideline Review of Environmental Factors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Questions 7 and 15
Agricultural Impact Statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 8
Site plan/maps showing location of activities and proposed site layout	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 9
Site photographs of the site/s prior to disturbance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 9
Copy of the NSW BioNet System search	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 10.8
Threatened species assessment of significance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Questions 10.8 and 13.4
Copy of threatened and protected species records for aquatic habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 10.9
Heritage database searches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Questions 9, 10.10 and 13.6
AHIMS search	<input type="checkbox"/>	Questions 9 and 10.11
Aboriginal heritage due diligence assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Questions 10.11 and 13.5
Rehabilitation Cost Estimate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 16
For agents only – evidence of appointment as agent by the authority holder/s	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 18
Other (list below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

17.1 Have you lodged all the required information with this form?

- Yes
- No. I will provide outstanding information within 10 business days of lodging this application. **Note:** processing of your application will not commence until all information is received and is considered administratively complete.

Describe the additional information to be provided.

18 Declaration

This form should be signed by the authority holder/s or an agent authorised to act on behalf of the authority holder/s.

I/We certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct. I/We understand that under [Part 5A](#) of the *Crimes Act 1900*, knowingly giving false or misleading information is a serious offence; and under [Section 378C](#) of the *Mining Act 1992*, any person who provides information that the person knows to be false or misleading is guilty of an offence, for which they may be subject to prosecution.

Declaration by authority holder/s

Authority Holder Name	
Position/title	
Date	
Signature	

Authority Holder Name	
Position/title	
Date	
Signature	

Authority Holder Name	
Position/title	
Date	
Signature	

OR

Declaration by agent authorised to act for this authority holder

Provide evidence of appointment by the authority holder.

Name	
Position/title	
Company Name	
Date	
Signature	

Office use only

Application received:

Time:

Date:

Received under delegation from the Secretary

Name

Signature

Document control

Authorised by: Director Environmental Sustainability

RM8 Reference: PUB17/652/DOI; V17/438-1/DOI

Amendment schedule

Date	Version #	Amendment
01 March 2016	2.0	New template
06 March 2016	2.1	Hyperlinks updated, minor edits
19 July 2016	2.2	Repeated note from Page 2 "Requests for approval to prospect in a SCA" at Q5
12 September 2016	2.3	Updated links to legislation; updated Q7 & Q8 clarifying that an AIS is not required for CEAs; clarifying Q15 for non-CEAs; amending Q16 so that a RCE is not required for CEAs where rehabilitation liability is less than \$10,000.
29 September 2017	2.4	Updated Department name; Updated hyperlinks and reference to new <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> ; changed "Common Exploration Activity" references to "Complying Exploration Activity"; Q10.8 – referenced new NSW BioNet search; Q11.1 – included explanatory note re. drilling hole details; Q13.1 – added explanatory note and example text to assist with calculations; Q14.2 – added explanatory note to explain when Produced Water Code applies; Q17 – updated checklist to reflect changes to NSW BioNet search; Q18 – "Company Name" added to Agent declaration.
28 May 2018	2.5	Updated hyperlinks to SEED environmental mapping portal; update to legislative changes being: <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979</i> ; <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018</i> , <i>Coastal Management Act 2016</i> and <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .