

Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)
Part IV Ministerial Statement
Compliance Assessment Report

Ministerial Statement: 1023

Proposal: Argyle Diamond Mine, Underground Project

Report period: 1 January – 31 December 2021

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1 Proposal and proponent details

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| Proposal Title: | To extend the Argyle Diamond Mine operations to develop an underground diamond mine and associated infrastructure – Shire of Wyndham – East Kimberley |
| Statement Number: | 1023 (365) |
| Proponent Name: | Argyle Diamonds Limited |
| Proponent's Australian Business Number: | 36 009 102 621 |

2 Statement of compliance details

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Reporting Period: | 1 January to 31 December 2021 |
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| Implementation phase(s) during reporting period: | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pre-construction | <input type="checkbox"/> | Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> | Operation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Decommissioning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| Were all implementation conditions and/or procedures of the Statement complied with within the reporting period? | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

3 Audit table

Details of compliance with each condition under Ministerial Statement 1023 and each Key Characteristic are presented in Table 1 and Table 2 respectively. As per condition 7-2 of Ministerial Statement 365, compliance reporting for this statement is included as part of the environmental reporting obligations pursuant to the *Diamonds (Argyle Diamonds Mines Joint Venture) Agreement Act 1981*.

Table 1 Audit table for Ministerial Statement 1023: Argyle Diamond Mine, Underground Project

| Audit Code | Subject | Requirement | How | Evidence | Phase | Timeframe | Status | Further Information |
|------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|---------|--|--------|---|
| 1023: M1-1 | Proposal Implementation | When implementing the proposal, the proponent shall not exceed the authorised extent of the proposal as defined in Table 2 in Schedule 1, unless amendments to the proposal and the authorised extent of the proposal have been approved under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> . | As documented and described in Schedule 1 of the Statement subject to the conditions and procedures of the Statement. | Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Ongoing | C | Refer to Table 2 |
| 1023: M2-1 | Contact Details | The proponent shall notify the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of any change of its name, physical address or postal address for the serving of notices or other correspondence within twenty-eight (28) days of such change. Where the proponent is a corporation or an association of persons, whether incorporated or not, the postal address is that of the principal place of business or of the principal office in the State. | As required, submit correspondence to the CEO informing of applicable change. | Relevant correspondence to the CEO if/when required | Overall | Ongoing | NR | No change required during the report period |
| 1023: M3-1 | Compliance Reporting | The proponent shall prepare, submit and maintain a Compliance Assessment Plan to the CEO at least six (6) months prior to the Compliance Assessment Report required by condition 3-6. | Prepare a compliance assessment plan (CAP) and compliance audit table (CAT- this document) in accordance with OEPA guidelines. | Compliance Assessment Plan (CAP), Compliance Audit Table (CAT) and correspondence indicating the submission of the CAP and CAT to the CEO | Overall | Submit the CAP and CAT to the CEO on or before 17 May 2016. | CLD | Submission of CAP and CAT on 17 May 2016. Approval of CAP and CAT received 7 June 2016. IFS #1082089. |
| 1023: M3-2 | Compliance Reporting | The Compliance Assessment Plan shall indicate: the frequency of compliance reporting; the approach and timing of compliance assessments; the retention of compliance assessments; the method of reporting of potential non-compliances and corrective actions taken; the table of contents of Compliance Assessment Reports; and public availability of Compliance Assessment Reports. | Prepare a compliance assessment plan (CAP) and compliance audit table (CAT- this document) in accordance with OEPA guidelines. | Compliance Assessment Plan (CAP) and Compliance Audit Table (CAT) | Overall | Submit the CAP and CAT to the CEO on or before 17 May 2016. | CLD | Submission of CAP and CAT on 17 May 2016. Approval of CAP and CAT received 7 June 2016. IFS #1082089. |
| 1023: M3-3 | Compliance Reporting | After receiving notice in writing from the CEO that the Compliance Assessment Plan satisfies the requirements of condition 3-2 the proponent shall assess compliance with conditions in accordance with the Compliance Assessment Plan required by condition 3-1. | Annual review of compliance and update of this Audit Table ("Status" and "Further Information" columns). | Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Submit CAR on or before 31 March annually, reporting on the previous calendar year (1 January – 31 December) | CLD | 2020 CAR - CDM.04-0000-NH-REP-00010 |
| 1023: M3-4 | Compliance Reporting | The proponent shall retain reports of all compliance assessments described in the Compliance Assessment Plan required by condition 3-1 and shall make those reports available when requested by the CEO. | Maintain compliance assessment plans (CAP) and compliance assessment reports (CAR) in the Proponent's document management system. Compliance assessments will be made publicly available as per the requirements of the OEPA's Post Assessment Guideline 4 – "Making Information Publicly Available", published August 2012. | Correspondence outlining submissions and the ability to meet requests of the CEO | Overall | As requested by the CEO | C | All documents stored in the Proponent's Document Management System: IFS/Sharepoint CAP - #1080213 2016 CAR - #1089033 2017 CAR - #1092613 2018 CAR - #1093869 2019 CAR - CDM.04-0000-NH-REP-00006 2020 CAR – CDM.04-0000-NH-REP-00010 2021 CAR - CDM.04-0000-NH-REP-00010 |

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| | | | | | | | | No requests for reports were received during the report period. |
| 1023: M3-5 | Compliance Reporting | The proponent shall advise the CEO of any potential non-compliance within seven (7) days of that non-compliance being known. | Written correspondence to the CEO, notifying of any potential non-compliance with the conditions of Ministerial Statement 1023. | Written correspondence to the CEO, notifying of any potential non-compliance with the conditions of Ministerial Statement 1023 | Overall | Within seven days of the potential non-compliance being known | C | Due to breach of contract with the previous telemetry contractor following a site visit in August 2020, continuous telemetry data was unable to be acquired. Attempts to contact the company were unsuccessful and an alternate contractor was engaged to maintain the system and recover data wherever possible. As of 12 February 2021, it was clear that data could not be acquired. DWER was notified on 17 February 2021. See section 4.1.2.2 for a detailed explanation. |
| 1023: M3-6 | Compliance Reporting | The proponent shall submit to the CEO the Compliance Assessment Reports addressing compliance in the previous calendar year. The first Compliance Assessment Report shall be submitted twelve (12) months from the date of issue of this Statement and then annually, or as agreed in writing by the CEO. The Compliance Assessment Report shall: be endorsed by the proponent's chief executive officer or a person delegated to sign on the chief executive officer's behalf; include a statement as to whether the proponent has complied with the conditions; identify all potential non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; be made publicly available in accordance with the approved Compliance Assessment Plan; and indicate any proposed changes to the Compliance Assessment Plan required by Condition 3-1. | Prepare and submit a Statement Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) annually, in accordance with the requirements of M3-6. Compliance Assessment Reports (CAR) will be made publicly available as per the requirements of the OEPA's Post Assessment Guideline 4 – <i>"Making Information Publicly Available"</i> , published August 2012. | Compliance Assessment Report (CAR). Correspondence showing ability to meet requests for relevant records. | Overall | Submit first CAR on or before 31 March 2016 addressing the period from the issue date of Ministerial Statement 1023 to 31 December 2015. Thereafter, submit CAR annually on or before 31 March to report on the previous calendar year (1 January – 31 December). Public availability requests to be completed within seven days of the Argyle HSE Superintendent receiving the request. | C | Approval from OEPA received 7 June 2016 to combine the report period from Statement issue date (17 November 2015) to 31 December 2016 and report submission due 31 March 2017. IFS #1082089. 2021 CAR report submitted by 31 March 2022. No requests for reports were received during the report period. |
| 1023: M4-1 | Public Availability of Plans and Reports | Subject to condition 4-2, within a reasonable time period approved by the CEO of the issue of this Statement and for the remainder of the life of the proposal, the proponent shall make publicly available, in a manner approved by the CEO, all environmental plans and reports required under this Statement. | Requested environmental plans and or reports will be made publicly available as per the requirements of the OEPA Post Assessment Guideline 4 – <i>"Making Information Publicly Available"</i> , published August 2012. | Correspondence showing ability to meet requests for relevant records. | Overall | Public availability requests to be completed within seven days of the Argyle Environment department receiving the request, subject to condition M4-2. | NR | No requests for environmental plans or reports were received during the report period. |
| 1023: M4-2 | Public Availability of Plans and Reports | If any parts of the plans and reports, referred to in condition 4-1 contains particulars of: a secret formula or process; or confidential commercially sensitive information; | As required by condition M4-2, correspondence to the CEO will be provided for approval to not make the information requested under condition M4- 1 publicly available. | As required, correspondence to the CEO | Overall | As required | NR | No requests for environmental plans or reports were received during the report period. |

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| | | the proponent may submit a request for approval from the CEO to not make those parts of the plans or reports publicly available. In making such a request the proponent shall provide the CEO with an explanation and reasons why those parts of the plans or reports should not be made publicly available. | | | | | | |
| 1023: M5-1 | Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme | The proponent shall update the Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme, to the requirements of the CEO, within six (6) months of the date of issue of this Statement. The Environmental Management Programme shall consist of the following Environmental Management Plans: Water (Groundwater and Surface Water) Acid Rock Drainage Air Quality Flora and Vegetation Fauna (Terrestrial, Subterranean and Aquatic) Non Mineral Waste Hazardous Waste Materials and Contamination Control Weed Management and Noise and Vibration Each Environmental Management Plan shall include: the specific environmental objectives and criteria for each environmental factor; the management measures to be applied to avoid and minimise the environmental impacts of the proposal; monitoring methods to measure the performance of management actions against trigger criteria and threshold criteria; and trigger level management actions and contingency actions to mitigate impacts. | Update the 'Environmental Management Programme' as detailed in M5-1. | Environmental Management Programme (EMP), and correspondence indicating the submissions of the EMP to the CEO | Overall | Submit the Environmental Management Programme to the CEO on or before 17 May 2016. | CLD | EMP submitted 17 May 2016 and approved 8 September 2016 (IFS #1049951. EPA – AC05- 2016-0007). Closure EMP submitted 18 August 2021 and is currently awaiting approval. |
| 1023: M5-2 | Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme | The Proponent shall implement the most recent approved Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme and continue implementation until otherwise agreed by the CEO. | Implement the 'Environmental Management Programme' as detailed in M5-1. | Environmental Management Programme (EMP) with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Environmental Management Programme implemented from CEO approval date and ongoing throughout project. | C | All objectives within EMP conducted since approval date. Refer to Table 3. |
| 1023: M5-3 | Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme | Revisions to the Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme may be approved by the CEO. | Revise the 'Environmental Management Programme' as detailed in M5-1 as required. | Environmental Management Programme (EMP) revisions, and correspondence indicating the submissions of the EMP revisions to the CEO | Overall | As required | CLD | EMP Rev4 was approved by DWER on 28 May 2020. |
| 1023: M5-4 | Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme | The proponent shall implement the most recent approved revisions of the Argyle Diamond Environmental Management Programme required by condition 5-1. | Implement the 'Environmental Management Programme' as detailed in M5-1. | Environmental Management Programme (EMP) with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Environmental Management Programme implemented from revision approval date and ongoing throughout Project. | C | Actions within EMP conducted since approval date. Refer to Table 3. |

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|------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|--|-----|---|
| 1023: M6-1 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | The objective of the Wesley Springs Management Plan is to ensure the proposal is implemented in a manner such that the integrity of surface water ecosystems (flow regimes, water quality and ecosystem health) are maintained. | Implement the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Ongoing | C | Actions within the Wesley Springs MP conducted since approval date. There have been no exceedances of trigger or threshold values. Refer to Table 3. |
| 1023: M6-2 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | The proponent shall update the Wesley Springs Management Plan, in consultation with the Department of Water, to the requirements of the CEO, within 12 months of the date of issue of this Statement to demonstrate the requirements of condition 6-1 have been met. | Update the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan, and correspondence indicating the submissions to the CEO | Overall | Submit the Wesley Springs Management Plan to the CEO on or before 17 November 2016. | CLD | Wesley Springs MP revision submitted Feb 2016 (IFS #284330, EPA - 1AC05-2016-0847). |
| 1023: M6-3 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | The updated version of the Wesley Springs Management Plan shall include the following measures: a response strategy, including appropriate response actions, in the event that condition 6-1 has not been met; a risk assessment of potential unacceptable impacts of the proposal on Wesley Springs; an update of existing mathematical models of the proposal's potential impacts on Wesley Springs; and trigger levels for commencement of the response strategy referred to in condition 6-3(1) in the event of unacceptable environmental impacts of the proposal on Wesley Springs. | Update the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan, and correspondence indicating the submissions to the CEO | Overall | Ongoing | CLD | Wesley Springs MP revision submitted Feb 2016 (IFS #284330, EPA - 1AC05-2016-0847). |
| 1023: M6-4 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | The proponent shall implement the most recent approved Wesley Springs Management Plan and continue implementation until otherwise agreed by the CEO. | Implement the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Ministerial Statement Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Wesley Springs Management Plan implemented with CEO approval June 2018; ongoing implementation | C | Actions within the Wesley Springs MP conducted since approval date. There have been no exceedances of trigger or threshold values. Wesley Springs Management plan requires continuous monitoring of groundwater levels. Due to breach of contract with the previous telemetry contractor following a site visit in August 2020, continuous telemetry data was unable to be acquired. Attempts to contact the company were unsuccessful and an alternate contractor was engaged to maintain the system and recover data wherever possible. Some data was able to be recovered and manual water levels were collected from bores in the meantime. See section 4.1.2.2 for a detailed explanation. Refer to Table 3. |

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|------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|---------|--|---|--|
| 1023: M6-5 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | Revisions to the Wesley Springs Management Plan may be approved by the CEO. | Revise the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan revisions, and correspondence indicating the CEO approval | Overall | As required | C | Wesley Springs MP revision (EMP Rev 4) submitted to the OEPA Oct 2016 (IFS #1049951, EPA - 1AC05-2016-0847). Approved May 2020. |
| 1023: M6-6 | Wesley Springs Management Plan | The proponent shall implement the most recent approved revisions of the Wesley Springs Management Plan required by condition 6-1. | Implement the 'Wesley Springs Management Plan' as detailed in M6-3. | Wesley Springs Management Plan with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Wesley Springs Management Plan implemented from revision approval date and ongoing throughout project. | C | Refer to Table 3. |
| 1023: M7-1 | Rehabilitation and Decommissioning | The proponent shall ensure that the mine is decommissioned and rehabilitated in an ecologically sustainable manner. | Prepare and implement the Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan, as detailed under M7-2. | Argyle Diamonds Mine Closure Plan with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Ongoing | C | A revised Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan (MCP) has been submitted for CEO approval (August 2021) following extensive stakeholder engagement. Closure EMP submitted 19 August 2021 and is currently awaiting approval. |
| 1023: M7-2 | Rehabilitation and Decommissioning | The proponent shall implement the proposal in accordance with the "Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan, Argyle Diamonds Limited, December 2014", or subsequent revisions approved by the CEO. | Implement the Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan | Annual reviews of the implementation and subsequent performance against the Argyle Diamonds Mine Closure Plan within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) | Overall | Ongoing | C | A revised Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan (MCP) has been submitted for CEO approval; the MCP includes updates on remediation activities and performance to date. |
| 1023: M7-3 | Rehabilitation and Decommissioning | The Mine Closure Plan required by condition 7-2, and its subsequent revisions, shall: when implemented, manage the implementation of the proposal to meet the requirements of condition 7-1; be prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans, May 2015 (Department of Mines and Petroleum and Environmental Protection Authority) or its revisions; and be prepared to the requirements of the CEO on advice of the Department of Mines and Petroleum. | Prepare and implement the Argyle Diamonds Mine Closure Plan, as detailed under M7-2, in accordance with DMP and OEPA guidelines. | Argyle Diamonds Mine Closure Plan with annual reviews of implementation and subsequent performance within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR). Correspondence indicating implementation of DMP advice. | Overall | Ongoing | C | A revised Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan (MCP) that adheres to Guidelines has been submitted for CEO approval (August 2021); the MCP includes updates on remediation activities and performance to date. |
| 1023: M7-4 | Rehabilitation and Decommissioning | The proponent shall implement the most recent approved revisions of the Mine Closure Plan required by condition 7-2. | Implement revisions to the Mine Closure Plan if/when required following approval from the CEO | Annual reviews and subsequent performance against the Argyle Diamonds Mine Closure Plan within the Compliance Assessment Report | Overall | Ongoing | C | A revised Argyle Diamond Mine Closure Plan (MCP) has been submitted for CEO approval (August 2021); the MCP includes updates on remediation activities and performance to date. |

Table 2 Notes

- Phases that apply in this table: Pre-Construction, Construction, Operation, Decommissioning and Overall.
- Code prefixes: M = Minister's condition, P = Proponent's commitment.
- Acronyms: CAP = Compliance Assessment Plan; CEO = Chief Executive Officer of DWER; OEPA = Office of the Environmental Protection Authority, DWER = Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.
- Compliance Status: C = Compliant, CLD = Completed, PNC = Potentially non-compliant, NC = Non – compliant, NR = Not required at this stage.

Table 3 Key Characteristics for Ministerial Statement 1023: Argyle Diamond Mine, Underground Project

| Element | Authorised Extent | Status | Further information |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------|---|
| Mining depth | Maximum of 675 metres | C | 480 Meters |
| Major project components | Temporary ore and waste stockpiles; Dewatering system; Tails storage facility (TSF2); Reclaim pond (RCP3). | C | TSF2 and RCP3 not constructed |
| Total ore production | Stage 1 – 60Mt (approximately) Stage 2 – 37Mt (approximately) | C | Stage 1 – 36Mt Stage 2 – Not Constructed |
| Ore processing | Through existing processing plant at around 8Mtpa for Stage 1 and 4.5Mtpa for Stage 2 | C | Stage 1 – Approximately 5.7Mt Stage 2 – Not constructed |
| Total waste rock over project life | 4.3Mt (approximately) | C | 1.16Mt |
| Dewatering requirements | Up to 9GL/a | C | No dewatering during reporting period |
| Crater area | Mostly within the existing open pit and waste rock dump area | C | Aerial photo available on request |
| Tailings | 100Mt (approximately) | C | 35.4Mt |
| TSF2 area of disturbance | Up to 126ha | NR | Not constructed |
| RCP3 area of disturbance | Up to 133ha | NR | Not constructed |
| Under ground mine water requirements | 700kL/day | C | 0 kL/day – Mine Closure Ceased Water Use December 2020 |
| Processing water requirements | 12,000 – 22,000kL/day | C | 0 kL/day – Mine Closure Ceased Water Use December 2020 |
| Water supply | From dewatering operations, Gap Dam, Upper Limestone, Creek Waste Rock Dump Seepage Retention Dam, Reclaim Ponds, and if necessary, Lake Argyle. | C | Water flow schematic available on request. Lake Argyle rarely used for processing water |
| Power supply | Ord Hydroelectric Scheme, with the deficit to be provided by the onsite diesel power station. | C | 7,802MWh |

4 Management and monitoring commitments of key environmental factors

The below information summarises the commitments made within the Environmental Management Programme associated with the Key Environmental Factors identified in Ministerial Statement 1023: Argyle Diamond Mine, Underground Project.

4.1 Environmental Management Program

4.1.1 Management and monitoring commitments

The below table summarises the management and monitoring commitments associated with Environmental Management Program required by Ministerial Statement 1023.

Table 4: Management and monitoring commitments associated with the Environmental Management Plan

| Objectives | Condition environmental outcome and threshold and trigger criteria set in the EMP | Status |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Groundwater To maintain the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that existing and potential uses, including ecosystem maintenance, are protected;</p> <p>To maintain the quality of groundwater and surface water, sediment and biota so that the environmental values, both ecological and social, are protected.</p> | <p>Groundwater Trigger criterion: Groundwater quality criterion (EC = >2,800µS/cm, pH = <6.5 or >8.5, TRH = n/a) Groundwater depth >40m Threshold criterion: Groundwater quality criterion (EC = >3,500µS/cm, pH = <6.0 or >9.0, TRH = >0.5mg/L) Groundwater depth >50m</p> <p>Surface water Trigger criterion: Discharge water quality criterion (EC = >2,800µS/cm, pH = <6.9 or >8.6, Mg = >240mg/L, Sulfate = >1,520mg/L, Nitrate = >96mg/L, TDS = >1,840mg/L, Nickel =>0.12mg/L) Threshold criterion: Discharge water quality criterion (EC = >3,500µS/cm, pH = <6.5 or >9.0, Mg = >300mg/L, Sulfate = >1,900mg/L, Nitrate = >120 mg/L, TDS = >2,300mg/L, Nickel =>0.15mg/L)</p> | <p>Environmental outcome achieved.</p> |
| <p>Acid Rock Drainage To maintain the quality of groundwater and surface water, sediment and biota so that the environmental values, both ecological and social, are protected.</p> | <p>Trigger criterion: As per surface water above Threshold criterion: As per surface water above</p> | <p>Environmental outcome achieved.</p> |
| <p>Fauna To maintain representation, diversity, viability and ecological function at the species, population and assemblage level.</p> | <p>Trigger criterion: As per groundwater and surface water above >3 preventable terrestrial fauna death per month Threshold criterion: As per groundwater and surface water above >5 preventable terrestrial fauna death per month</p> | <p>Environmental outcome achieved.</p> |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Weed Species To maintain representation, diversity, viability and ecological function at the species, population and community level.</p> | <p>Trigger criterion: Occurrence of a non-significant exotic species not previously found on site A coverage increase of >25% of a previously recorded Declared plant species Threshold criterion: Occurrence of a Declared exotic species not previously found on site A coverage increase of >50% of a previously recorded Declared plant species</p> | <p>Environmental outcome achieved. Note: <i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i> (Rubber Vine) continued to be present in 2021, Refer to section 4.1.2.1 below for details.</p> |
| <p>Wesley Springs To ensure the proposal is implemented in a manner such that the integrity of surface water ecosystems (flow regimes, water quality and ecosystem health) are maintained.</p> | <p>Trigger criterion: Surface water quality criterion (EC = >2,800µS/cm, pH = <6.5 or >8.6, TDS = >1,840mg/L) Groundwater depth >40m Threshold criterion: Surface water quality criterion (EC = >3,500µS/cm, pH = <6.0 or >9.0, TDS = >2,300mg/L) Groundwater depth >50m</p> | <p>Environmental outcome achieved.</p> |

4.1.2 Results, analysis, and interpretation

4.1.2.1 Weed Species

Cryptostegia grandiflora (*C. grandiflora*, Rubber Vine) was discovered on the Argyle Diamond Mine (ADM) lease in 2019. *C. grandiflora* is a declared pest in Western Australia with a rating of “Prohibited – s12 (C2 Prohibited)” by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD). DPIRD issued ADM a Pest Control Notice (PCN) under Section 31 of the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act in 2019 and 2020. The seed viability for Rubber Vine is multiple years, therefore it was expected that rubber vine would be recurring on the ADM lease and DPIRD indicated that PCN's were likely to be issued annually.

ADM is committed to ongoing eradication of this species on the ADM lease and, following the outcome of the 2020 PCN inspection, ADM engaged a professional weed management contractor to conduct an extended survey and control program along Limestone Creek, from the edge of the mine footprint to the lease boundary in April/May 2021, as requested by DPIRD.

An Eradication Plan has been developed for this species as part of the closure Weed Action Strategy Plan. Formal weed surveys will continue to be performed every 2 years during closure execution and area inspections by Traditional Owner rangers have been implemented.

4.1.2.2 Wesley Spring Groundwater Depth Monitoring

The EMP for MS1023 includes a Wesley Springs Management Plan (EMP5) that requires continuous measurement of groundwater depth at nine bores. A bore census was conducted in 2019 reducing the number of bores monitored to 7 as WB1S and WB7D were dry and blocked respectively. This change was submitted to DWER as part of the Closure EMP in August 2021. No dewatering operations were undertaken between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021 therefore, no impacts to Wesley Spring and Matsu Valley have occurred.

The environmental monitoring bores at Wesley Spring have been monitored for water level at set frequencies upon commencement of the Underground Project in 2005. The impact modelling completed on the Underground Project has determined that Wesley Spring and the surrounding area would not be affected by the Underground Project's dewatering activities. Wesley Spring groundwater level is currently monitored in via continuous telemetry in seven bores (WB1D-R, WB2S, WB4D, WB5S, WB6D, WB57S and WB59D).

As reported in the 2020 MS1023 CAR, a tender process was undertaken in early 2021 to engage a new telemetry contractor. The contract was awarded in April 2021 and the Contractor was mobilized to site in July 2021 to install continuous groundwater loggers at the 7 nominated groundwater bores in Wesley Springs. The upgrade allows for real time remote monitoring of groundwater levels. Prior to the engagement of the new contractor, data was logged continuously at each station and manually downloaded periodically.