Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Annual Compliance Report

EPBC Approval: 2012/6422

Project: Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project, WA

Report period: 1 January – 31 December 2020

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1 Description of activities

EPBC approval number: 2012/6422			
Project name:	Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project, WA		
Approval holder:	Mount Bruce Mining Pty Limited		
Approval holder's Australian Business Number:	78 008 714 010		
Approved action:	To construct and operate the Koodaideri Iron Or Mine and Infrastructure Project in the centra Pilbara region, WA		
Location of the project:	Central Pilbara region, WA		
Reporting period:	1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020		
Report preparation date:	30 April 2021		
Implementation phase(s) during reporting period: Construction			

2 Audit table

Details of compliance with each condition under EPBC approval 2012/6422 are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table: EPBC 2012/6422 - Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project, WA

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
1	Within 10 days after the commencement of the action , the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of the commencement of the action .	Compliant	Email advice on 28 March 2019 from Peter Royce, Principal Advisor – State Agreements and Approvals, to EPBCmonitoring@environment.gov.au advising commencement of Action on 19 March 2019.
			Our Ref: RTIO-HSE-0332183 - Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project - pdf of letter from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) confirming official commencement of the action (as reported to DotEE by MBM on 28 March 2019) and outlining future reporting requirements under EPBC 20166422 - letter dated 1 April 2019.
2	For the better protection of the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Northern Quoll, Olive Python (Pilbara subspecies) and Hamersley Lepidium, the approval holder must comply with: a. conditions 6-1, 6-2, (<i>Terrestrial Fauna – Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</i>) of the Western Australian Approval;	Compliant	The approval holder has notified the Western Australian regulator of the following conditions of Ministerial Statement 999, with an assessment of compliance still outstanding.
	 b. conditions 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, 7-11, (Terrestrial Fauna – Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat) of the Western Australian Approval; c. conditions 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, 8-4, 8-5, 8-6 (Terrestrial Fauna – Northern Quoll Management Plan) of the Western Australian Approval; d. condition 9-1 (Flora – Hamersley Lepidium (Lepidium catapycnon)) of the Western Australian Approval; and e. conditions 11-1, 11-2, 11-3, 11-4, 11-5, (Flora and Hydrological Processes – Koodaideri Spring Adaptive Management Plan) of the Western Australian Approval. 		Condition 7.8: After receipt of written advice from the CEO that the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat Management Plan satisfies conditions 7-5 and 7-6, the proponent shall implement the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat Management Plan. Monitoring and maintenance of PLNB monitoring equipment was not conducted during H1 2020 due to COVID restrictions. Upon returning to site, manual downloads revealed equipment failure of the Gudai-Darri (Koodaideri) Spring Gorge echolocation monitoring station.
			Condition 8.4: Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities within 50 metres of the mapped Northern quoll foraging and denning habitat required by condition 8-3(2), unless otherwise agreed by the CEO, the proponent shall

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
			implement the approved plan required by condition 8.1. A reference site was not used for Northern Quoll trapping during the 2020 (August only) survey. Condition 11.2: The proponent shall implement the Koodaideri Spring Adaptive Management Plan prepared as part of Assessment 1933, dated May 2014 and continue implementation until otherwise agreed by the CEO. Quarterly digital canopy photography (DCP) within vegetation unit D38 has not been completed. DCP was completed in Q1 and Q4 of 2020 only.
3	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing as soon as practicable and within no more than seven business days of any variation, modification, suspension, reinstatement, extension, revocation, invalidity and/or similar change to the Western Australian Approval or part thereof.	Compliant	Variation, modification, suspension, reinstatement, extension, revocation, invalidity and/or similar change to the Western Australian Approval or part thereof has not occurred within the reporting period.
4	To offset the residual impacts of the action on the Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Northern Quoll and Olive Python (Pilbara subspecies, the approval holder must provide funding to a conservation offset fund, as approved in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must obtain the approval of the Minister prior to commencement of payments. The funding shall be paid every two years. The first payment will be due by 30 June in the second year following the commencement of the action. The amount of funding to be paid will be calculated and reported as follows: a. AUD \$3000 (excluding GST) per hectare of native vegetation cleared within the K75W and K58W pits. b. AUD \$3000 (excluding GST) per hectare of suitable habitat for Northern Quoll and Olive Python (Pilbara subspecies) removed outside of the K75W and K58W pits. c. The real value of contributions described in this condition will be maintained through indexation to the Perth Consumer Price Index (CPI), with the first adjustment to be applied to the first contribution. d. The approval holder shall prepare and submit an impact reconciliation report for approval of the Minister. The first report will be due by 30 April in the second year following the commencement of the action.	Not Required	The first Impact Reconciliation Report and payment is due in 2021.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	The impact reconciliation report shall be submitted every two years by 30 April. e. The impact reconciliation report shall: i. require the approval holder to submit spatial data identifying the areas of native vegetation cleared during the previous two years to 30 April; ii. require the approval holder to submit spatial data identifying the areas of suitable habitat for Northern Quoll and Olive Python (Pilbara subspecies) removed during the previous two years; iii. include the methodology for calculating the amount of funding that is required to be contributed to a conservation offset fund pursuant to the requirements of condition 4.		
5	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any non-compliance with any condition of this approval as soon as practicable and within no later than seven business days of the detection of the non-compliance. The notice provided to the Department under this condition must specify: a. the condition of this approval which the approval holder has potentially breached b. the nature of the non-compliance c. when and how the approval holder became aware of the non-compliance d. how the non-compliance will affect the action e. how the non-compliance will affect the anticipated impacts of the action, in particular how the non-compliance will affect the impacts on listed threatened species and ecological communities f. the measure that the approval holder has taken and will take to address the impacts of the non-compliance on listed threatened species and ecological communities and rectify the non-compliance g. the time by when the approval holder will rectify the non-compliance.	Compliant	There were no non-compliances during the reporting period.
6	The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, and make them available upon request to the Department . Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act , or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits may be posted on the Department 's website. The results of audits may also be publicised thorugh the general media.	Compliant	The approval holder maintains accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval and will make them available upon request to the Department .

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments	
7	By 30 April of each year after commencement of the action , the approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The compliance reports must remain on the approval holder's website for a minimum of 12 months (beginning on the date of publication).	Compliant	The approval holder published the 2019 EPBC 2016/6422 Koodaideri Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project compliance report on the below website on 30 April 2020, which addressed compliance with each of the conditions of this approval. https://www.riotinto.com/search/documents#main-search_e=0&main-search_sxatags=koodaideri Note: link will not go to document and a search for Gudai-Darri (Koodaideri) in the 'Operation*' section will be required.	
8	Upon the direction of the Minister , the approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister . The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to be the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister .	Not Applicable	An independent audit of compliance was not required during the reporting period.	
9	If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not undertaken substantial commencement of the action, then the approval holder must not undertake substantial commencement of the action without the written agreement of the Minister .	Compliant	Letter and evidence was submitted by the approval holder on 28 February 2020 demonstrating substantial implementation of the proposal (our ref: RTIO-HSE-0342118).	
10	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister , the approval holder must publish all management plans and/or reports referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each management plan and/or report must be published on their website for a minimum of 12 months (beginning on the date of publication) within 1 month after being approved. The approval holder must notify the Department within 5 business days of publishing the management plan and/or report on their website, and the management plan and/or report must remain on their website for the period this approval has effect.	Compliant	All management plans and/ or reports referred to in these conditions of approval have been published on the Rio Tinto website: https://www.riotinto.com/search/documents#main-search_e=0&main-search_sxatags=koodaideri Note: link will not go to document and a search for Gudai-Darri (Koodaideri) in the 'Operation*' section will be required.	

3 New environmental risks

There are no new environmental risks that have become apparent during the reporting period.

4 Declaration of accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

