

Private and confidential

Manager – Development Assessment Division
 Department of State Development, Infrastructure,
 Local Government and Planning
 PO Box 15009
 CITY EAST QLD 4002

18 January 2023

Dear Morag,

REQUEST TO AMEND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT INTEREST APPROVAL – RPI22/026 RIO TINTO WAGUNDA-GREVILLEA

On 06 May 2022 Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited (RTX) applied for a Regional Development Interest Approval (RIDA) to undertake exploration works within the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area (SEA).

The RIDA was granted to RTX on 29 August 2022 as per the below Table.

Area of Regional Interest	Location	Resource Activities	Area of disturbance of SEA (ha)
Gulf Strategic Environmental Area (SEA) Lot 4 on CPGY805051		Exploration drilling	2.1
		Exploration Camp	1
		Access Tracks	1.74
Total disturbance area of SEA			4.84ha

Pursuant to section 55 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act), RTX would like to respectfully request an amendment to RPI22/026. RTX would like to amend the definition of approved resource activities as per the Table below.

Current definition	Proposed definition
Exploration Drilling – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thirteen 40m x 40m drill sites, between 130m and 500m apart, with multiple sumps per drill site as needed for drilling Planned drill depths are up to 600m Drilling will be completed using a truck mounted combination rig, capable of completing both reverse circulation and diamond drilling 	No change.
Exploration Camp – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footprint of no more than 100m x 100m, to include a human waste disposal facility and 	No change.

<p>absorption trenches, transpiration beds or spray irrigation to dispose of grey water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All general waste will be collected and disposed of at a licenced general waste facility 	
<p>Access Tracks-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx.14 new tracks equalling 2.9 linear kilometres, approx. 4 to 6 m wide • A minimum disturbance approach to be taken, cleared with a small dozer with the blade of the dozer lifted clear of the ground to ensure root stock is preserved and large trees are navigated around where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx.14 new tracks equalling 2.9 linear kilometres, approx. 4 to 6 m wide. • A minimum disturbance approach to be taken, cleared with a small dozer (e.g., Caterpillar D6 or front loader) approximately 4 to 6m wide. The dozer will clear ground with a minimum disturbance approach, which is with the blade-up to preserve root stocks and going around larger trees wherever possible. Where this is not possible, blades down clearance will be used to clear vegetation and any outcropping rock. A rock breaker may be utilised if ground is hard or to re-open historic tracks that have degraded over time.

There will be no increase to the disturbance footprint nor any adverse impacts to the ecological values of the SEA due to the change in the definition of approved resource activities. The proposed amendment will be able to comply with the conditions of RPI22/026 and rehabilitation of the tracks will be achievable and will not create a lasting impact to the environment.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Should you have any questions, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me on (07) 3625 3042 or via email at Mathew.johannesen@riotinto.com.

Yours faithfully,



Mathew Johannesen
Principal Advisor – Land and Mineral Rights
Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited