

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

HERA MINE AND
FEDERATION MINE

16/05/2025



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Version	Date	Description	Author
V0.1	15/09/2023	Document created	Anna Darby
V0.2	15/09/2024	Document review	Anna Darby
V1.0	14/05/2025	Update to reflect changes from consent Modification 2	IEMA and Aurelia Metals

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Hera Resources Pty Ltd (Hera Resources), a wholly owned subsidiary of Aurelia Metals Limited (Aurelia), owns and maintains Hera Mine, an underground metalliferous mine, approximately 100km southeast of Cobar and 4km south of Nymagee in the central west of New South Wales (NSW). Hera Resources operated Hera Mine from 2014 until it entered care and maintenance in early 2023.

Hera Mine is a State Significant Development (SSD) and commenced operations in 2012 under the former *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) Part 3A Major Project Approval development consent MP10_0191, which has been modified six times.

The Federation Project (the Project) is an underground metalliferous mine located in central-western NSW, approximately 15 kilometres (km) south of the Nymagee township and 10km south of Hera Mine. High grade mineral deposits were discovered at the Federation Mine site in 2019 with subsequent drilling operations identifying a substantial gold-lead-zinc-copper-silver mineral resource.

Following the mineral discovery, an Exploration Decline Program was approved for a bulk sample and supporting infrastructure at the Federation Site in August 2021 by the Resources Regulator under Part 5 of the EP&A Act and Section 23A(4) of the *Mining Act 1992*.

Development consent ('the consent') for the Project (SSD 24319456) was granted on 2 March 2023 and has since been modified twice. Modification 1 was approved on 27 November 2023 regarding changes to biodiversity offset staging.

Modification 2 was approved on 27 March 2025 to allow options for:

- haulage between 7am and 10pm of up to 600ktpa of ore to Peak Gold Mine (PMG) for processing, throughout the life of mine;
- reclaim of tailings from the existing Hera Mine Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) for paste backfill at Federation Mine; and
- minor rearrangement of infrastructure at Federation Mine within the approved disturbance area, inclusive of new water tank.

The consent required that 'within 12 months of the date of physical commencement of development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must surrender development consent MP10_0191 for the Hera Gold Mine. The Hera Gold Mine consent was surrendered on 17 March 2025. The Project's consent includes the amalgamation of Hera Mine's development consent conditions with the consent conditions for the Project into a single consolidated consent for both Hera Mine and Federation Mine as well as connecting infrastructure, herein referred to as the Site. Within the Site, the consent authorises activities within the 'approved disturbance area'.

Key infrastructure approved via the consent for the Site is outlined in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Key Site Infrastructure

Project Element	Description
Mining Method	Underground mining via longitudinal retreat long hole stopping method.
Management of Waste Rock	During operations, waste rock is stored on designated pads or utilised for backfilling underground stopes. Post mining, potentially acid forming waste rock will be returned underground, and non-acid forming waste rock will be returned underground, used for backfilling the box cut or used for other rehabilitation purposes.
Processing Plant	<p>The existing processing plant includes a Run of Mine (RoM) pad, Waste Rock Emplacement (WRE), crushing, grinding and screening operations, gravity separation, and flotation circuits capable of processing up to 505 ktpa of ore.</p> <p>The new processing plant is anticipated to be commissioned early to mid-2024 at Hera Mine capable of processing 750 ktpa of ore once at full operational capacity. Key elements of the proposed processing plant include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three stages of crushing followed by ball milling with hydrocyclone classification; • gravity separation to recover gold from the milling circuit recirculating load, followed by cyanide leaching of the gravity concentrate; • sequential flotation to produce separate copper, lead and zinc concentrates; and • concentrate thickening and filtration. <p>Tailings thickening and filtration, and disposal by both underground paste backfill at Federation Mine and surface storage in the approved Hera Mine TSF.</p>
Management of Tailings	<p>Tailings will be either placed into the approved Tailings Storage Facility at Hera Mine or returned to Federation Mine for placement underground as paste backfill.</p> <p>The preferred backfill method at Federation Mine is cemented paste fill using tailings. The tailings paste plant will be located adjacent to the stoping footprint to allow gravity reticulation of tailings paste fill down dedicated boreholes and laterally through an underground paste distribution system.</p> <p>The shotcrete batch plant will be co-located with the tailings paste fill plant. This plant will provide an ongoing supply of shotcrete for ground support requirements underground and concrete for miscellaneous construction works.</p>
Power Generation	<p>The preferred option for power generation at Federation Mine will be by a gas plant at Hera Mine with power transferred by overhead powerlines. A proposed solar farm to be constructed at Hera Mine will offset gas requirements. An option for a solar farm and gas generators at Federation Mine is also being considered if separate power generation is the preferred option in which case transmission lines will not be required.</p> <p>The Federation Mine will initially be powered by diesel generators while new power generation capacity is constructed.</p>
General Infrastructure	Internal roads, ablutions block, administration buildings, workshop and stores, sewage treatment and treated effluent irrigation, diesel storage tanks, potable water treatment, waste rock storage, underground vents, sub station, paste plant, laydown area, topsoil stockpiles, ROM pad, box cut, magazines, haul roads, telecommunications tower, surface extraction areas, ventilation rises, access roads, heavy vehicle corridors, overhead transmission lines and concentrate stores.
Transport	Ore will be transported from Federation Mine to Hera Mine via Burthong Road and to Peak Mine via Priory Tank Road and Kidman Way. Tailings will be transported from Hera Mine to Federation Mine via Burthong Road. Concentrate will be transported via road from Hera Mine to Hermidale Siding with an average of approximately 12 vehicle trips per day at the peak of concentrate transport. At the peak of mining, concentrate, ore, and tailings transport is estimated to be an average of 61 vehicle trips (one-way movements) per day.

Project Element	Description
Water Management	<p>The processing plants generate the majority of Site's water demand. Water will primarily be sourced from underground workings and pumped to the surface. A network of production bores will also be established which will supplement the existing production bores.</p> <p>The maximum groundwater extraction forecast by the site water balance model is 530 megalitres per year (ML/year), which is within the existing licenced volume of 543 ML/year.</p> <p>Hera Mine</p> <p>The water management system at the Hera Site includes the diversion of clean water runoff around upslope areas of the site, the collection of water from disturbed areas and the discharge of water to Box Creek. The key elements of the Hera water management system include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean water runoff from undisturbed catchment areas within and upslope of the site. These flows may be diverted and discharged off site without treatment or licensing; • the dirty water management system which consists of a series of dirty water drains. Sediment Basin 1 and Sediment Basin 2 were used as dirty water storages during construction and have since been combined into a larger contaminated water storage which collects runoff from the processing plant area; and • raw water system supplied from production bores around the site. The production bores transfer water to the Back Tank (located beside Back Dam). Water from the Back Tank is transferred to the Feed Water Tank. The House Dam receives surface water from the clean water catchment and the House Bore (production bore). <p>Federation Mine</p> <p>A water management system will be implemented at the Federation Mine. Key elements include the diversion of clean water runoff around the mine, and the collection of water from disturbed areas and the underground. Dirty (sediment) water is captured in catch drains and collected in the sediment basin within the footprint of the Stormwater Retention Pond. Runoff from the PAF pads will drain to Lined Leach Ponds. Runoff from the box cut will report down the decline and be dewatered as part of the underground dewatering system to the Dewatering Pond. Water contained in the Lined Leach Ponds, Stormwater Retention Pond and Dewatering Pond will be recirculated for reuse within the Hera Mine water management system by the water pipeline between Federation Mine and Hera Mine.</p>
	<p>Linear infrastructure in the 23 m wide, 14.3 km long services corridor (see Figure 3) includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity transmission lines (if required) • Water pipeline • Access track • Tailings pipeline and return water line (potentially) • Communication infrastructure (potentially).

Ore from Federation Mine will be trucked to the Peak Mine during the first four years of operations. Federation Mine is expected to produce up to 6.95 million tonnes of ore over a 12-to-14-year period.

The regional locality of Site is shown **Figure 1** and a general site layout is in **Figure 2**. Detailed site layouts of Hera Mine and Federation Mine are shown in **Figure 3** and **Figure 4** respectively.

1.2. Purpose and Scope

This Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) was committed to in the EIS and has been developed to address Conditions B62 through B67 of SSD 24319456 (**Section 2.1**) and manage the potential Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts of the Site.

Figure 1: Regional Locality

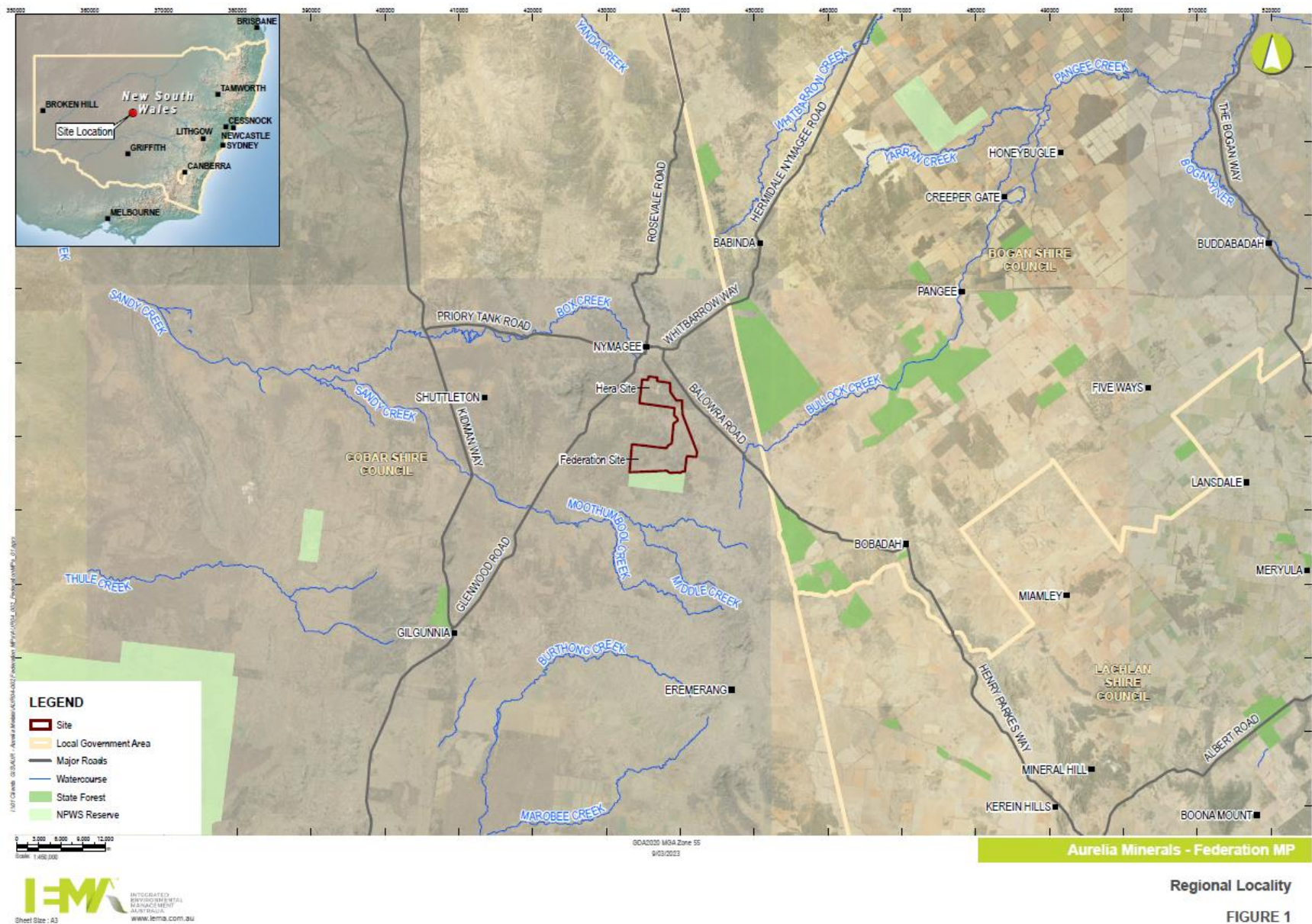


Figure 2: Site Layout

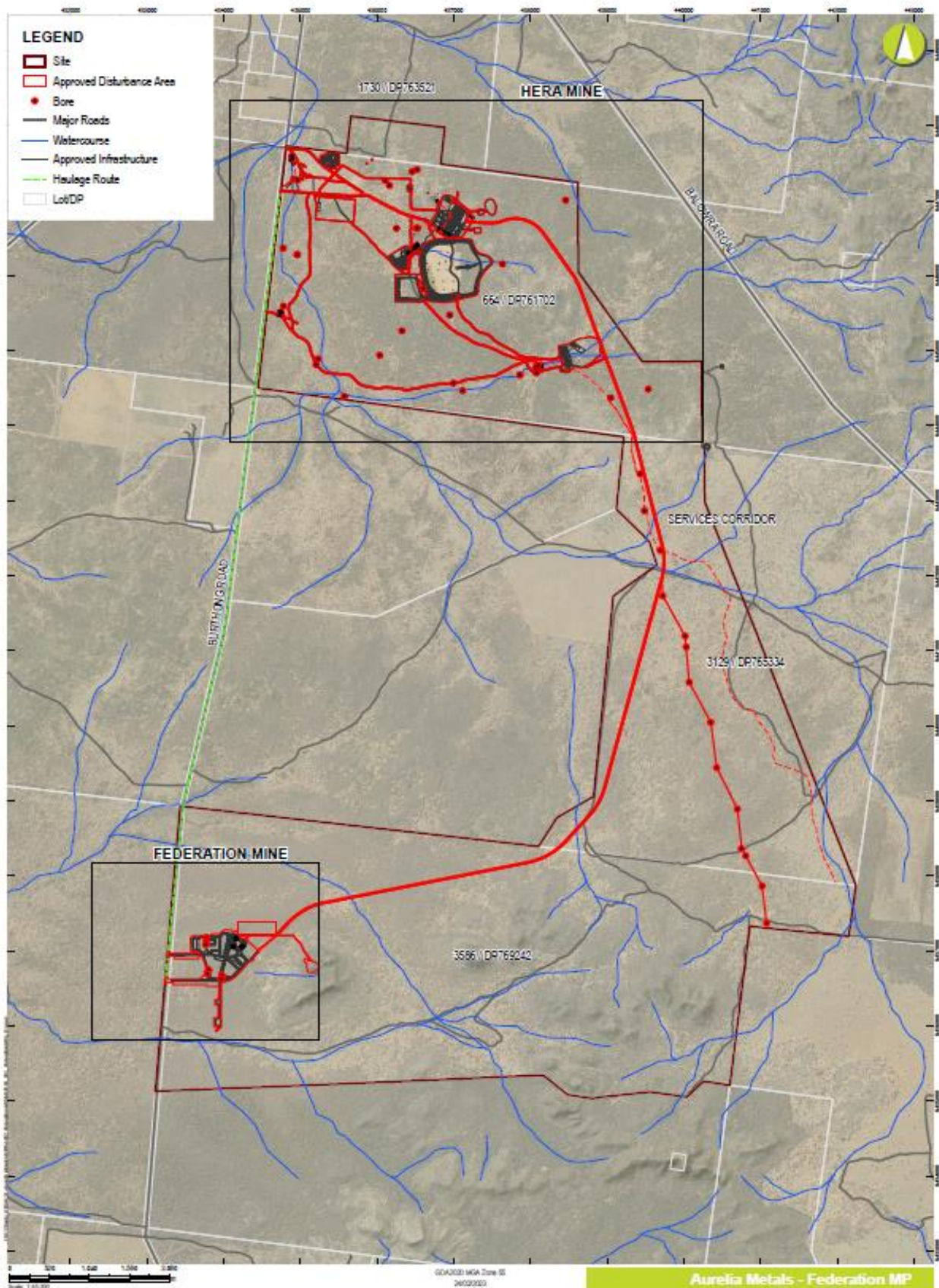
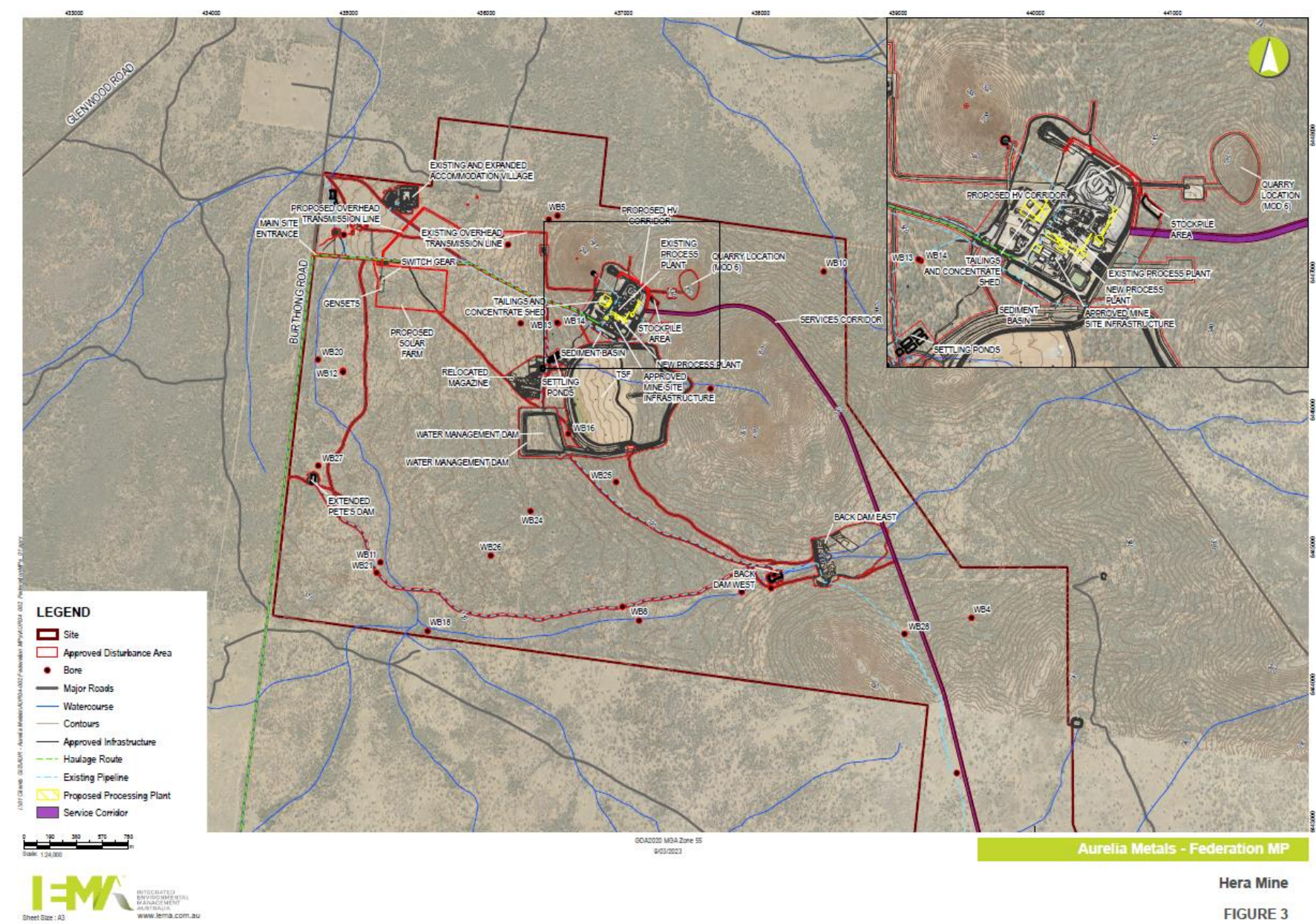
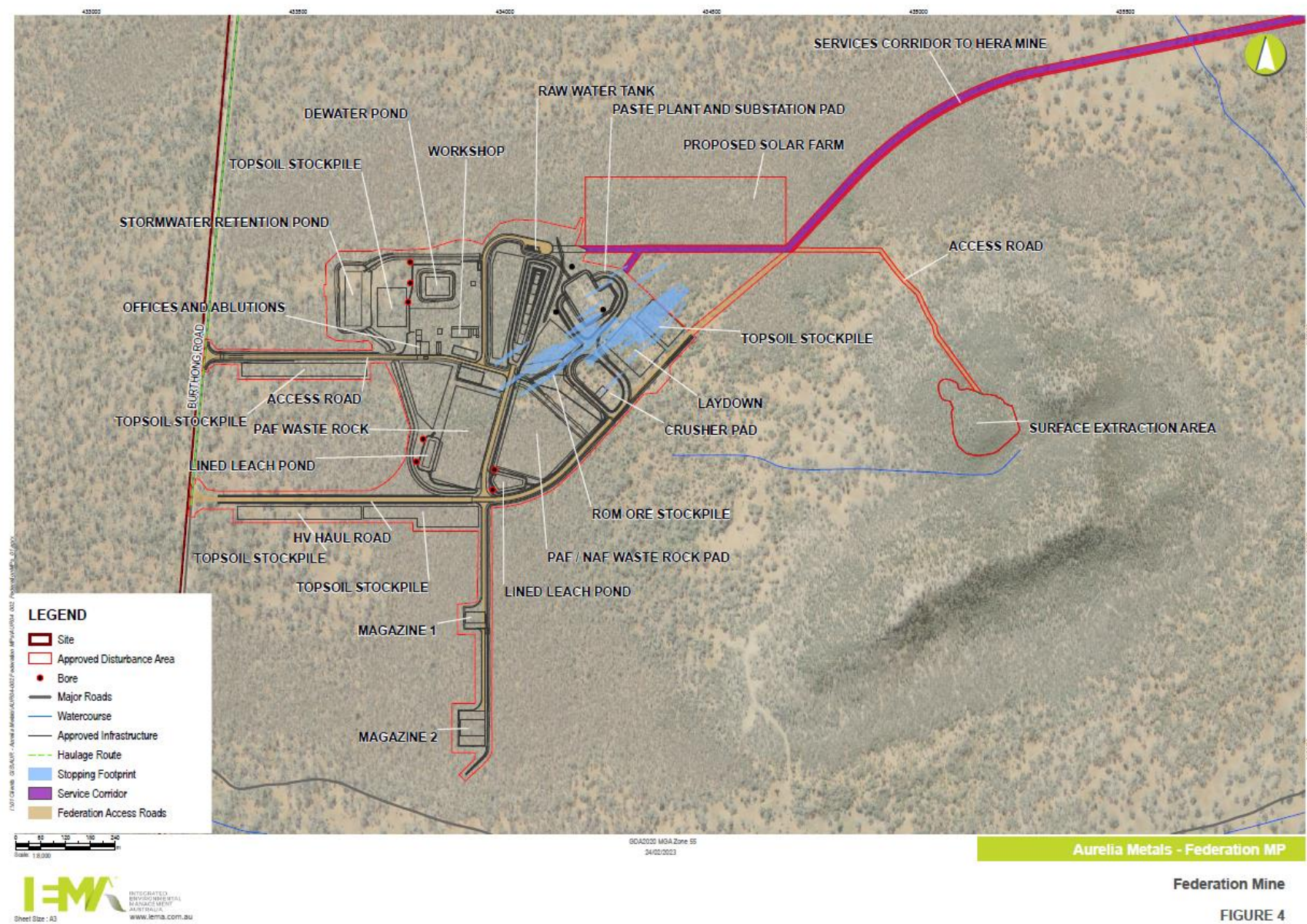


Figure 3: Hera Mine Layout



Hera Mine
FIGURE 3

Figure 4: Federation Mine Layout



2. LEGAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

2.1. SSD 24319456

SSD 24319456 stipulates the required criteria that the construction and operational activities of Site must comply with and sets out the core requirements of this CHMP. Relevant conditions associated with this approval and where they have been addressed in this document are reproduced in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Relevant SSD 24319456 Conditions

Condition No.	Condition	Where Addressed
HERITAGE		
Protection of Aboriginal Heritage		
B62	The Applicant must ensure that the development does not cause any direct or indirect impact on any identified Heritage item located outside the approved disturbance areas, beyond those predicted in the document/s listed in condition A2(c).	Section 4.3
B63	If suspected human remains are discovered on the site, then all work surrounding the area must cease, and the area must be secured. The Applicant must immediately notify NSW Police Force and Heritage NSW, and work must not recommence in the area until authorised by NSW Police Force and Heritage NSW.	Section 5.1 and Appendix B
B64	If any previously unknown Aboriginal object is discovered, or suspected to be within or adjacent to the approved disturbance area: (a) all work in the immediate vicinity of the object or place must cease immediately;	Section 5.2 and Appendix B
	(b) a 10 m buffer area around the object or place must be cordoned off; and	Section 5.2 and Appendix B
	(c) Heritage NSW must be contacted immediately.	Section 5.2 and Appendix B
B65	Work in the immediate vicinity may only recommence if: (a) the potential Aboriginal object is confirmed by Heritage NSW, in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, not to be an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal Place;	Section 5.2
	(b) the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan is revised to include the Aboriginal object and appropriate measures in respect of it; or	Section 5.2
	(c) The Planning Secretary is satisfied with the measures to be implemented in respect of the Aboriginal object and makes a written direction in that regard.	Section 5.2
B66	The Applicant must ensure that all known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places on the site and within any offset areas are properly recorded, and those records are kept up to date, in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) Register	Section 4.2 Section 4.3
B67	The Applicant must carry out ongoing consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties regarding the conservation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values.	Section 3.9
Management Plan Requirements		
C5	Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant: (a) summary of relevant background or baseline data;	Section 4

Condition No.	Condition	Where Addressed
	(b) details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions); (ii) any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and (iii) the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures; 	Section 2
	(c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the document/s listed in condition A2(c);	Section 5.2
	(d) a description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;	Section 5
	(e) a program to monitor and report on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) impacts and environmental performance of the development; and (ii) effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph (d); 	Section 6
	(f) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Section 7
	(g) a program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;	Section 12
	(h) a protocol for managing and reporting any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion or performance measure; (ii) complaint; or (iii) failure to comply with other statutory requirements; 	Section 9
	(i) public sources of information and data to assist stakeholders in understanding environmental impacts of the development; and	Section 9
	(j) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.	Section 9.1
	Note: The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.	

2.2. The Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 2013)

Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) has developed a set of principles and practices for the management of cultural heritage in Australia. Local government authorities including the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) have used the Burra Charter to guide their own heritage management documents. The charter promotes the conservation of places of cultural significance (Australia ICOMOS, 2013: 3). It placed an emphasis on understanding significance as the basis for managing the heritage values for a place, as well as the importance of consulting with community groups to achieve this understanding (Australia ICOMOS, 2013: 4, 8).

2.3. Native Title Act 1994

The *Native Title Act 1994* (NSW) was introduced to work in conjunction with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. Native title claims, registers and Indigenous Land Use Agreements are administered under the Act.

The Site is within the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan native title registered claim NC2012/001. The claim was entered on the Register of Native Title Claims on 12/04/2012.

2.4. National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) (NPW Act), the Director-General of the NPW is responsible for the care and protection of Aboriginal objects and places in NSW. An *Aboriginal object* means any deposit, object,

or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction and includes Aboriginal remains. An *Aboriginal place* is defined any place of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture as declared by the Minister.

Under Section 86 of the Act, a person must not harm an Aboriginal object or place. Penalties are in place for anyone who breaches these conditions or knowingly defaces or destroys an Aboriginal object or place without a permit. Section 5 of the NPW Act defines harm as “*an object or place includes any act or omission that--*

- (a) destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or*
- (b) in relation to an object--moves the object from the land on which it had been situated, or*
- (c) is specified by the regulations, or*
- (d) causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c)”.*

2.5. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The EP&A Act establishes the framework for cultural heritage values to be formally assessed in the land use planning and development consent process. The EP&A Act consists of three main parts of direct relevance to Aboriginal cultural heritage:

- Part 3 which governs the preparation of planning instruments
- Part 4 which includes the assessment requirements for each type of consents issued including SSD as detailed in Division 4.7
- Part 5 relates to activity approvals by governing (determining) authorities and the duty to consider the environmental impact.

The Site is a SSD, under Section 4.12(8) of the EP&A Act and Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*. The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces is the consent authority for the Project in accordance with Section 4.5 of the EP&A Act.

3. ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION

3.1. Overview

Consultation for the assessment stage of the Project was carried out by AREA with the local Aboriginal community according to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010* (DECCW 2010). For details of the consultation process, see the *Federation Project Aboriginal cultural Heritage Assessment and Archaeological survey report* (AREA 2022a) and *The Federation Project Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Report* (AREA 2022b).

The following sections describe the consultation process and the fieldwork components conducted with RAPs.

3.2. Stage 1 of Consultation

AREA contacted a range of organisations on 22 May 2020 to request potential Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) for consultation regarding the Project. The following organisations were contacted:

- Native Title Services Corporation Limited (NTS Corp)
- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
- Cobar Local Aboriginal Land Council (Cobar LALC)
- Cobar Regional Council
- Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (ALRA)
- Local Land Services – Cobar (LLS)
- National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT).

This process resulted in 13 potential RAPs for the Project. These potential RAPs were contacted with an invitation to consult regarding the Project. In addition, an advertisement was placed in the *Cobar Weekly* on 27 May 2020 requesting expressions of interest for consultation regarding the Project.

After Stage 1 of consultation seven individuals registered their interest, one name has been withheld at the request of the individual. At various stages between mid / late 2020 and mid-2021, Joshua Clarke, Shantelle Ohlsen, and Bradyn Davis registered to become RAPs.

In November 2020 AREA were notified that Condobolin LALC were active once again and requested to be included in the consultation process. Condobolin LALC have been involved in the consultation process since this time. A list of the RAPs is outlined in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Registered Aboriginal Parties

Contact	Organisation
Rena Clements	Cobar LALC
Elaine Olsen	Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants
Hilary Williams	Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants
Barry Williams	Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants
Peter Harris	Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants
Mark Saddler	Bundyi Cultural Tours
Joshua Clarke	Ngiyampaa traditional owner
Shantelle Ohlsen	Cobar LALC
Braydn Davis	Condobolin LALC
Louise Davis	Condobolin LALC
Isabel Goolagong	Condobolin LALC
Tim Gumbleton	RSM Australia Pty Ltd ¹

¹ Administrator appointed for Condobolin LALC

Contact	Organisation
Kira-Lea Dargin	Kira-Lea Design

3.3. Review of the Assessment Methodology

The RAPs were sent a request for cultural knowledge and were supplied more detailed information on 11 June 2020. No specific comments were received.

In September 2020 'the project' for the purpose of consultation with RAPs, was amended to the 'Aurelia Metals Projects' as the scope of the Project was altered. The name change reflected that there were additional smaller projects (related to Hera Mine) being managed under the one consultation process, not just limited to the Federation Project. The updated methodology was sent to all RAPs on 24 September 2020 asking for comments. No comments were received.

3.4. Fieldwork

Fieldwork for the Project has been undertaken in several stages. The following is a summary of the involvement of RAPs in fieldwork.

3.4.1. Exploration decline program cultural heritage survey

The Exploration Decline Program's surface infrastructure area and decline location includes parts of the Federation Site.

Fieldwork positions were offered to the Cobar LALC and the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants.

Cobar LALC was unable to provide site representatives. Hillary Williams, Barry Williams, and Peter Harris attended the survey on behalf of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants. The entire Federation Site was surveyed over two days from Saturday 13 to Monday 15 June 2020.

Two culturally modified trees (scarred), an isolated stone artefact, and a hearth were recorded during the survey. During this assessment the attendees requested, and were approved, an opportunity for resource gathering Mallee to construct didgeridoos and to harvest Quandong fruit (see **Section 3.4.4**).

3.4.2. Mod 6 surface extraction area and relocated magazine cultural heritage survey

The most recent modification to Hera Mine's planning consent (Mod 6) was approved in June 2021. Mod 6 included a surface extraction area and relocated magazine and is unrelated to the Project activities. However, it is described in this report as it includes areas within or near the Project area and is included in this consultation process. On 22 October 2020 the proposed location, at Hera Mine, of a surface extraction area and magazine were assessed with the two members of the Aboriginal Community, Shantelle Ohlsen (Cobar LALC) and Joshua Clarke (Ngiyampaa traditional owner on behalf of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants). Anna Darby and Phillip Cameron from AREA were also in attendance. Both locations were walked in transects.

No Aboriginal objects or areas of potential archaeological deposits were identified during the archaeological survey.

3.4.3. Services corridor

The Site's Services Corridor includes a water pipeline route between Hera Mine and the surface infrastructure area (referred to as the 'REF Pipeline Route' for the Exploration Decline Program). For the purposes of surveying, the REF Pipeline Route was expanded to include the proposed Services Corridor route for the Site.

The proposed Services Corridor was assessed on Friday 23 to Saturday 24 October and Tuesday 27 October 2020. The assessment occurred with two members of the Aboriginal Community, Shantelle Ohlsen (Cobar LALC) and Joshua Clarke (Ngiyampaa traditional owner on behalf of the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants). The alignment of the Services Corridor was altered within the Hera Mine portion to avoid Aboriginal sites recorded the previous day and was moved east. The new eastern alignment was assessed on Tuesday 27 October with Shantelle Ohlsen. Anna Darby and Phillip Cameron from AREA were also in attendance.

Six Aboriginal sites were recorded during the survey of the proposed Federation Services Route (one quarry, two open sites, and three culturally modified trees (scarred)) and have been recorded on the AHIMS database.

After the survey Shantelle Ohlsen and Joshua Clarke were registered as RAPs.

3.4.4. Federation Project cultural heritage survey

The archaeological survey of any previously unsurveyed sections of the Project area at the time of preparation of the ACHAR, (AREA 2021c), was conducted by Anna Darby from AREA, Braydn Davis from Condobolin LALC, and Peter Harris and Barry Williams from Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants over three days from 13 July to 15 July 2021.

Thirteen Aboriginal sites were recorded during the survey including seven culturally modified trees (scarred), five hearths and one rock water hole.

The attending site officers were given the opportunity to harvest Mallee trunks for the construction of didgeridoos. The position of Quandong trees were marked with a GPS for future resource gathering.

After the survey Braydn Davis became a RAP.

A secondary survey of the communications tower area was requested by the RAPs during the Aboriginal Focus Group Meeting (AFGM) and was conducted on 20 September 2021. This survey was conducted by Anna Darby from AREA, and Peter Harris from Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants. Condobolin LALC were unable to attend the survey.

3.4.5. EIS amendment cultural heritage survey

The archaeological survey for the amended EIS additional disturbance area, and surrounding areas, was conducted over two days from the 8 to 9 June 2022 by Anna Darby from AREA, Peter Harris, Janine Ohlsen, Krista Masarwa, and Edward Dutton from Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan Native Title Claimants. Condobolin LALC were unable to attend the survey. Three culturally modified trees (scarred) were recorded during the survey. The attending site officers were given the opportunity to harvest Mallee trunks for the construction of didgeridoos.

3.5. Aboriginal Focus Group Meeting

The RAPs were invited to attend an AFGM, held online on 2 September 2021. The aims of the AFGM were to present a summary of the Project (as described in the EIS) and the archaeological assessments, gain an understanding of the cultural values of the Project, come to an agreement on the management and mitigation measures, and identify the next steps and timeframes. The attendees for the meeting are outlined in **Table 4**.

Table 4: AFGM Attendees

Contact	Organisation
Amy Pagett	Acting CEO, Cobar LALC
Mark Saddler	Bundyi Cultural Tours
Joshua Clarke	Ngiyampaa traditional owner
Braydn Davis	Condobolin LALC
Louise Davis	CEO, Condobolin LALC
Isabel Goolagong	Board Member, Condobolin LALC
Tim Gumbleton	RSM Australia Pty Ltd ²

3.5.1. Primary outcomes of the AFGM

The following recommendations were agreed upon during the AFGM:

- The communications tower area was originally surveyed without representation from the RAPs (it was previously under different approvals) and would be re-surveyed by AREA and RAPs (re-survey completed 20 September 2021).
- The Cultural Heritage section of the Site online induction be reviewed by the RAPs.
- The ongoing maintenance and management of the Aboriginal sites be conducted by a member of the Condobolin LALC on a casual basis, for the lifetime of the mine.
- The continuation of onsite cultural heritage inductions conducted by the archaeologists and the RAPs.
- RAPs were pleased to hear that the locations and design of the Site were amended to avoid impact to Aboriginal sites.

3.6. Results from RAP Review of the ACHAR

A draft copy of the ACHAR was sent to the RAPs on the 15 October 2021 for a 28-day review period, with a reminder sent to all RAPs on the 3 November 2021. Mark Saddler requested copies of the Aboriginal site cards. The 13 Aboriginal site cards registered with AHIMS at the time of this report were forwarded to him. There were no other comments on the ACHAR prepared for the EIS.

3.7. Results from RAP Review of the ACHAR with EIS Amendment

A draft copy of the addendum ACHAR report was sent to the RAPs on 9 September 2022. One response was received from Mark Saddler, Bundyi Cultural Tours. The response is outlined in **Table 5**.

Table 5: RAP Review Response

Name	Comment	AREA's Response
Mark Saddler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questioned the experience of AREA's staff involved in the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phil Cameron replied Mark's email providing comment and answers to his questions

² Administrator appointed for Condobolin LALC

Name	Comment	AREA's Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disagreed with the findings of previous assessment conducted by OzArk and Appleton. Questioned the number of days allocated for the survey Questioned disturbance areas Asked why names were withheld throughout document Asked where collected items are going to be kept and will they be returned to country with a special ceremony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed up with a phone call and email.

3.8. RAP Review of this Aboriginal CHMP

A draft copy of this Aboriginal CHMP will be sent to the RAPs for consultation. This section will be reviewed and updated as required following the consultation.

3.9. Ongoing Consultation

Ongoing consultation and cooperation with the RAPs identified in **Table 3** is required under Condition B67. Consultation with RAPs must also be maintained during the construction program through provision of six-monthly progress updates to maintain currency of the consultation process. The organisation responsible for maintaining the consultation is Hera Resources. The six-monthly updates at a minimum should be an email sent by an appropriately qualified archaeologist in discussions with Hera Resources.

At every second community consultative committee (CCC) meeting Aboriginal community consultation should be an agenda item if Aboriginal people are represented on the committee.

Hera Resources may initiate meetings outside the six-month update. Face to face meetings or, if in-person meetings are unable to occur, online meetings will be required in the following instances:

- Prior to the commencement of works no less than six weeks before ground disturbance.
- Any ground disturbing activity which requires Aboriginal cultural heritage representation.
- Any unexpected finds or changes to the plans.
- Any activities not limited to ground disturbance, for example, welcome to countries; dedicating a place, object, or infrastructure to an Aboriginal person or place or; identified Aboriginal positions, apprenticeships etc.

Hera Resources will facilitate the meetings in conjunction with the archaeologist(s) for the purpose of open communication, the airing of any grievances, updating the RAPs, and passing along of positive comments and feedback. Hera Resources must provide an opportunity for online or digital platforms and implemented any agreed solutions.

RAPs can request an unscheduled meeting with Hera Resources to occur within six weeks, RAPs must allow Hera Resources 14 business days to respond to the request.

3.10. Review of this Aboriginal CHMP by NSW Heritage

A draft copy of this Aboriginal CHMP will be sent to NSW Heritage for consultation. This section will be reviewed and updated as required following the consultation.

4. BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

4.1. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

The archaeological record can provide evidence Aboriginal people have been present in Australia for approximately 60,000 years and provides evidence of a dynamic culture coupled with a long occupation of the land.

There is some debate as to the language group or nation in which the Site is located. According to Tindale (1974) the Site is along the boundary between the traditional lands of the Wongaibon (Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan) and Wiradjuri (**Figure 5**). Both groups had cultural ties with their neighbours and the shared country along the boundaries were used by other Aboriginal people in times of drought, for ceremony, for marriage or for trade.

4.1.1. Wongaibon (Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan)

The Wongaibon (Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan) language group lived in the dry region between the three rivers: the Darling-Barwon to the north, the Bogan River to the east, and the Lachlan River to the south (Beckett 1959; Beckett et al. 2003). They are often associated with the dry backcountry and only visited the Darling-Barwon and Bogan rivers in times of extreme drought (Beckett et al. 2003).

The Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan are the people who speak the Ngiyampaa language the Wangaaypuwan way. According to Smart et al (2000) they are the people who use the word wangaay for 'no' and puwan means 'having' or 'with'. This language can be more fully referred to as Ngiyampaa-Ngemba Wangaaypuwan which reflects the 'heavy tongue' spoken in the north and 'light tongue' spoken in the south. The Wailwan people to the east also use Ngiyampaa as the name of their language (NPWS. 2015). Within the Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan people there were local groupings recognised and named geographically according to the type of Country they occupied. The people who camped in the north around Mount Grenfell are Karulkiyalu or 'Stone Country' People. Other language groups are the Pilaarrkiyalu or 'Belah Tree' People in the south and the Nhiilyikiyalu or 'Nelia Tree' People to the west (**Figure 6**).

The Ngiyampaa people followed a matrilineal residence form of social organisation in which the men tended to live with their wives' and people with groupings corresponding to matrilineal totemic clans (Beckett et al. 2003). These clans were grouped into two matri-moieties (called Nilpungerra / Kilpungerra and Makungarra) and into further divided into four sections creating a two generational principle. For marriage the pairings were dependent on the thingkaa or 'meat' of the two matriclans marrying, the law in Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan being that you never married your own 'meat' (Beckett et al. 2003).

4.1.2. Wiradjuri

The Wiradjuri are the largest nation or tribal group in Australia inhabiting a widespread area which extended from the Great Dividing Range, west to the Macquarie, Lachlan and the Murrumbidgee rivers (Coe 1989). The Wiradjuri people lived in clan groups, consisting of extended family of around thirty men, women, and children, moving between different camp sites across the region. Each family group is thought to have made periodic journeys between the camps throughout an area of approximately 64 kilometres squared (BRC). They travelled for trade and to perform ceremonies to honour their ancestors, their dreaming, and their relationship with the land. The creator spirit Baiame was central to Wiradjuri spiritual life. The rivers would have provided valuable resources including duck, kangaroo, goannas, snakes, lizards, emus, possums, wallabies, and waterfowl. As well as various plants, roots, and vegetables (Gott 1983).

Figure 5: Tindale's map of Indigenous Australia, star indicates the indicative location of the Site (Source: AIATSIS)

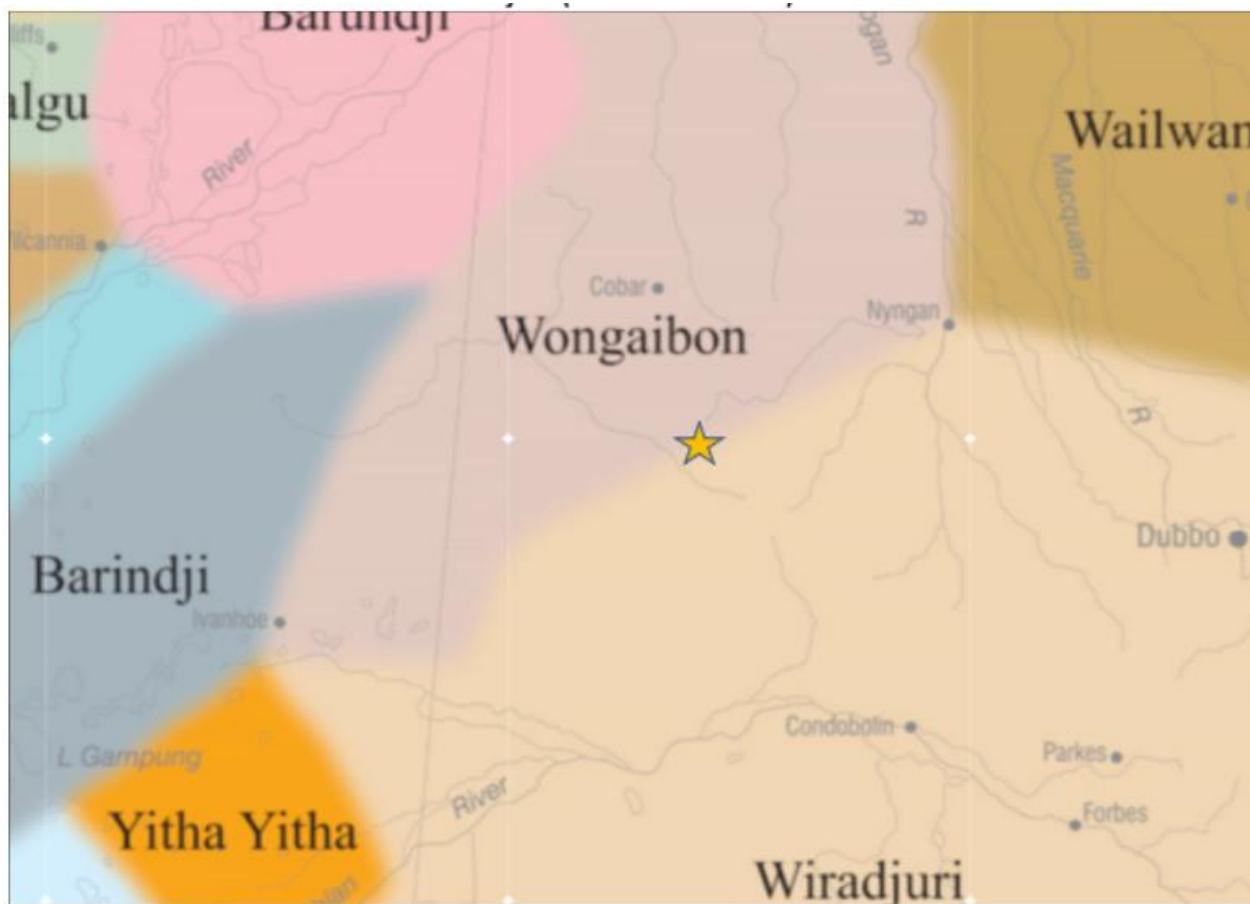
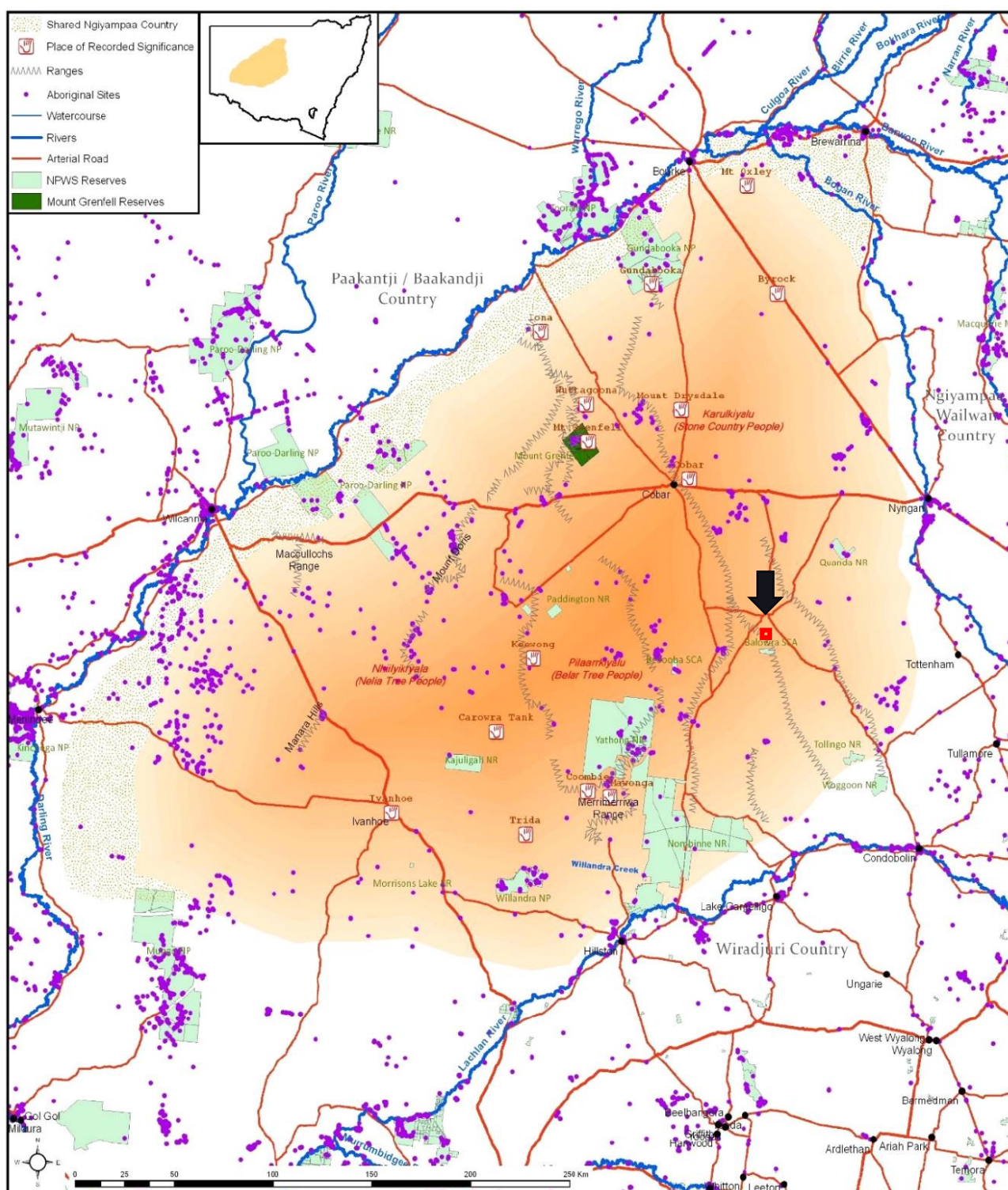


Figure 6: Map of Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan country, red box indicates the approximate location of the Project (Source: NPWS 2015)



4.2. Aboriginal Sites Recorded Within the Site

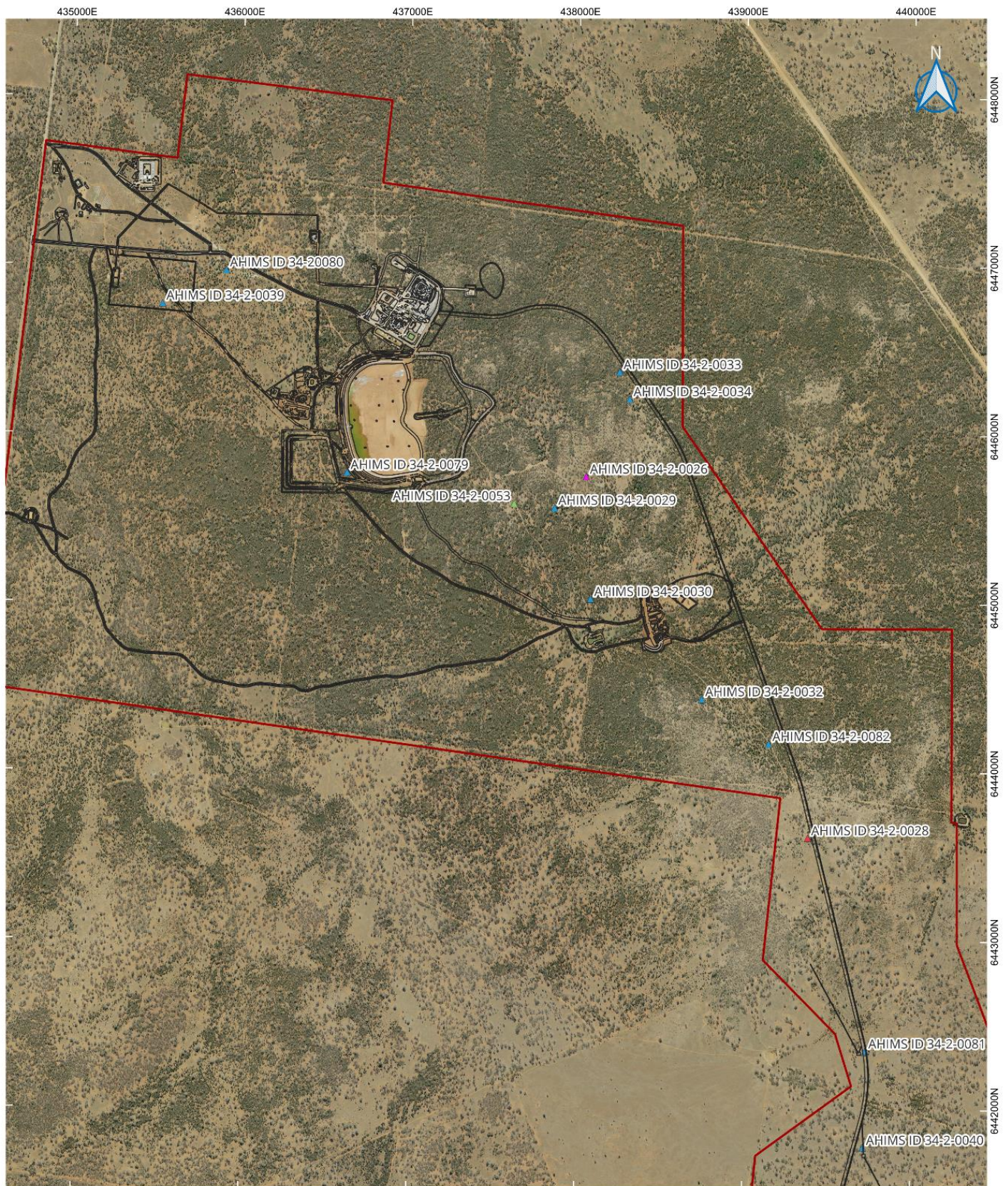
To date 34 Aboriginal sites have been recorded with the Site. **Table 6** outlines the Aboriginal sites recorded to date. The distribution of the Aboriginal sites is shown in **Figure 7** to **Figure 9**.

Table 6: Aboriginal Sites Recorded Within the Site

Name	Site Type	AHIMS ID	Report
The Peak CMT 6	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0039	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 7	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0040	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 8	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0041	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 9	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0042	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 10	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0043	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 11	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0044	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 12	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0045	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 13	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0046	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit CMT 14	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0047	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Hera CMT 15	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0079	Hera Life of Mine Geotechnical Investigation Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 202b1)
Federation Deposit CMT 16	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0083	No report
Federation Deposit H2	Hearth	AHIMS ID 34-2-0048	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)

Name	Site Type	AHIMS ID	Report
Federation Deposit H3	Hearth	AHIMS ID 34-2-0049	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit H4	Hearth	AHIMS ID 34-2-0050	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit H5	Hearth	AHIMS ID 34-2-0051	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Federation Deposit H6	Hearth	AHIMS ID 34-2-0052	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Peak Rock Water Hole 1	Resource and gathering	AHIMS ID 34-2-0053	The Federation Project Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and archaeological survey report (AREA 2022a)
Dominion Ground axe 01	Isolated artefact	AHIMS ID 34-2-0031	Hera Resources Exploration on the Dominion Prospect (AREA 2018)
Federation Deposit Scar Tree 1	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 38-2-0191	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
Federation Deposit Scar Tree 2	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 38-2-0188	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
Federation Deposit Isolate Find 1	Isolated artefact	AHIMS ID 38-2-0189	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
Federation Deposit H1	Hearth	AHIMS ID 38-2-0190	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
PIPE Aboriginal Quarry 01	Resource and gathering	AHIMS ID 34-2-0026	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
PIPE OS1	Artefact	AHIMS ID 34-2-0027	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021)
PIPE OS2	Artefact	AHIMS ID 34-2-0028	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
PIPE CMT1	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0029	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
PIPE CMT2	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0030	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
PIPE CMT3	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0032	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)

Name	Site Type	AHIMS ID	Report
PIPE CMT4	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0033	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 202a1)
PIPE CMT5	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0034	Federation Exploration Decline Program Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2021a)
Federation Deposit CMT 17	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-20080	The Federation Project Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (AREA 2022b)
Federation Deposit CMT 18	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0081	The Federation Project Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (AREA 2022b)
Hera CMT 19	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0082	The Federation Project Addendum Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (AREA 2022b)
Polyphemus CMT01	Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved)	AHIMS ID 34-2-0084	Hera Resources Pty Ltd Polyphemus Proposed Exploration Drilling Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (AREA 2022)



LEGEND

- Site
- Approved Disturbance Area
- Aboriginal sites
 - ▲ Aboriginal Resource and Gathering
 - ▲ Artefact
 - ▲ Culturally Modified Tree (carved or scarred)
 - ▲ Quarry

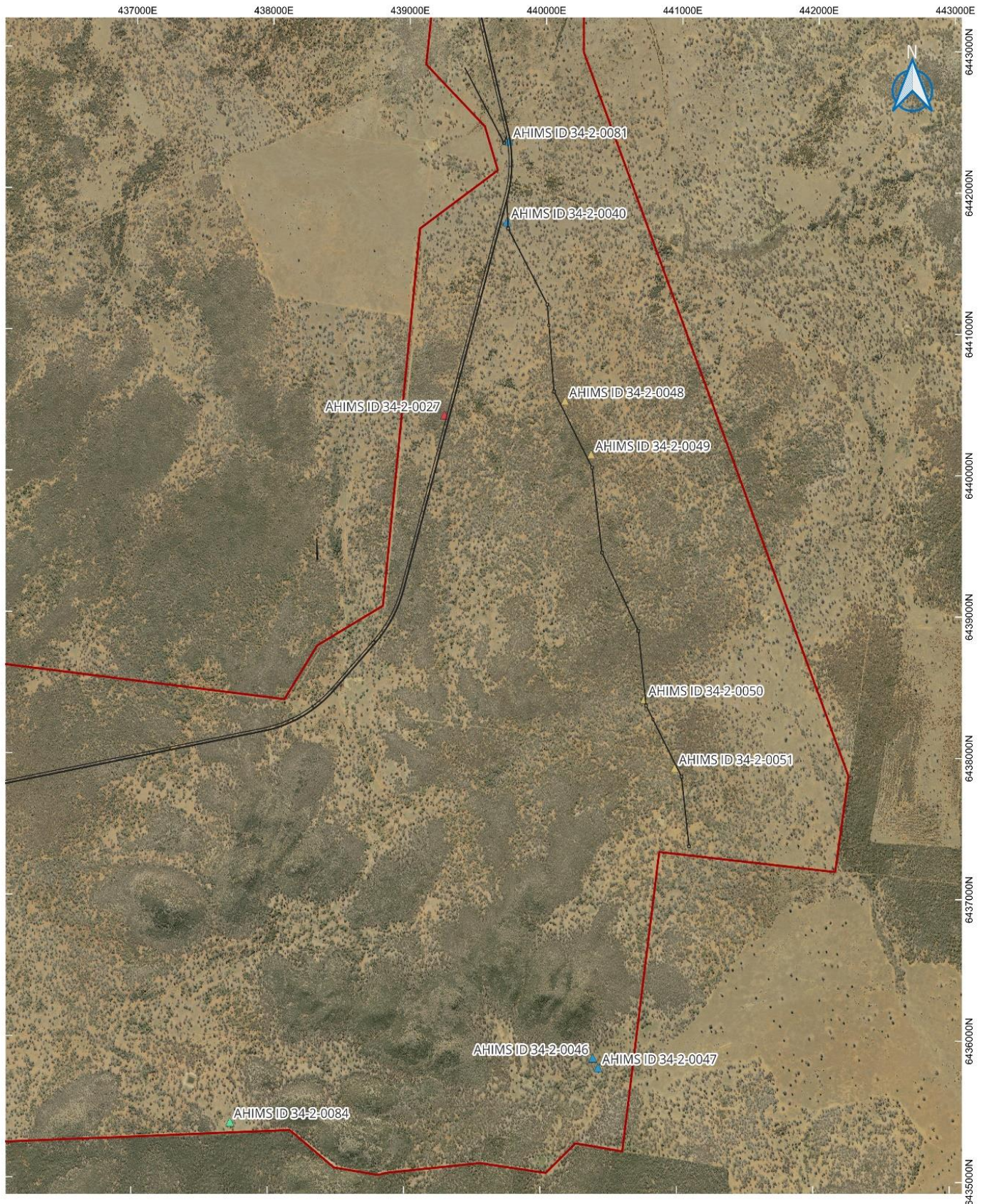
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21/04/2023

Aurelia Metals - Federation CHMP

Hera Mine Aboriginal sites

FIGURE 7

Scale 1 : 30,000



LEGEND

- | | |
|--|--|
| Site | Aboriginal sites |
| Approved Disturbance Area | ▲ Artefact |
| | ▲ Culturally Modified Tree (carved or scarred) |
| | ▲ Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved) |
| | ▲ Hearth |

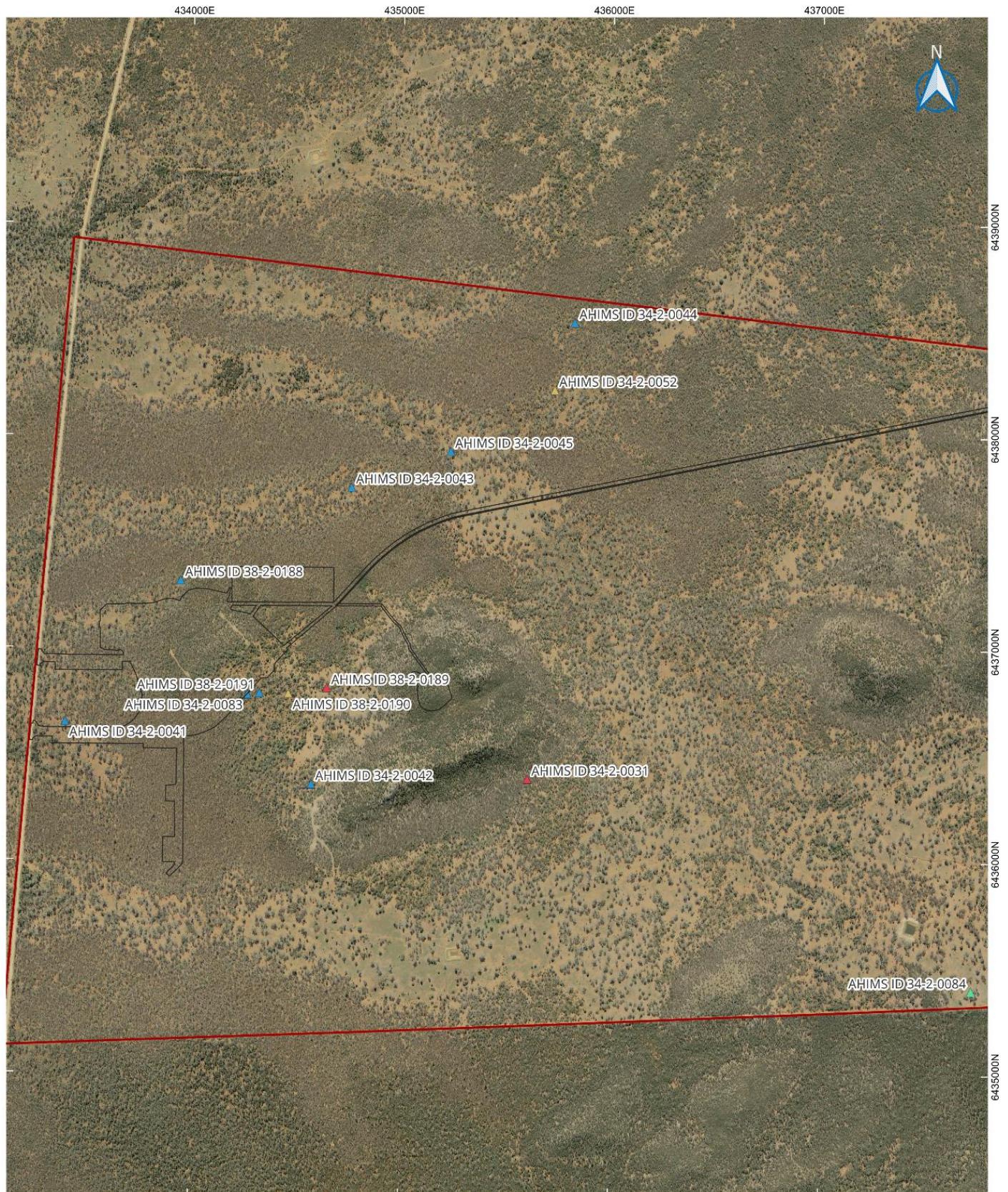
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Aurelia Metals - Federation CHMP

Aboriginal sites

FIGURE 8

Scale 1 : 30,000



LEGEND

- | | |
|--|--|
| Site | Aboriginal sites |
| Approved Disturbance Area | ▲ Artefact |
| | ▲ Culturally Modified Tree (carved or scarred) |
| | ▲ Culturally modified tree (scarred or carved) |
| | ▲ Hearth |

GDA94 MGA Zone 55
21/04/2023

Aurelia Metals - Federation CHMP

Aboriginal sites

FIGURE 9

Scale 1 : 30,000

3,000 m

4.3. Impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

A total of 34 Aboriginal sites have been recorded. All Aboriginal sites except for The Peak³ CMT 6 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0039) and Federation Deposit CMT18 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0081) will be avoided by the Site. The Peak CMT 6 is located within the Hera Mine solar farm area and will remain in situ surrounded by a 10 m buffer. Federation Deposit CMT18 is within the Services Corridor and will be avoided as far as reasonably practical but is likely to be at risk of inadvertent impact. The following Aboriginal sites are within 100 m of the Site active disturbance area (ADA) and will require management to avoid inadvertent impact:

- PIPE OS1
- PIPE OS2
- Federation Deposit Scar Tree 1
- Federation Deposit Scar Tree 2
- Federation Deposit H2
- Federation Deposit H3
- Federation Deposit H4
- Federation Deposit H5
- PIPE CMT 4
- PIPE CMT 5
- Federation Deposit CMT 7
- Federation Deposit CMT 8

Potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage by the Site are summarised in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Summary of Impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Site ID	Distance from the Site ADA
The Peak CMT 6 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0039)	Within the Project (Hera solar farm)
Federation Deposit CMT 7 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0040)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 8 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0041)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 9 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0042)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 10 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0043)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 11 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0044)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 12 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0045)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 13 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0046)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 14 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0047)	Further than 100 m
Hera CMT 15 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0079)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 16 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0083)	Within 100 m
Hera CMT 17 (AHIMS ID 34-20080)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit CMT 18 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0081)	Within the Project (Services Corridor)
Hera CMT 19 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0082)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit H2 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0048)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit H3 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0049)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit H4 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0050)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit H5 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0051)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit H6 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0052)	Further than 100 m
Peak Rock Water Hole 1 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0053)	Further than 100 m

³ “The Peak” refers to the name of the entire property given by the landholder which is now commonly referred to as ‘Hera’, the name of the mineral resource (mine boundary) and has no relationship to The Peak Gold Mine near Cobar.

Site ID	Distance from the Site ADA
Dominion Ground axe 01 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0031)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit Scar Tree 1 (AHIMS ID 38-2-0191)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit Scar Tree 2 (AHIMS ID 38-2-0188)	Within 100 m
Federation Deposit Isolate Find 1 (AHIMS ID 38-2-0189)	Further than 100 m
Federation Deposit H1 (AHIMS ID 38-2-0190)	Further than 100 m
PIPE Aboriginal Quarry 01 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0026)	Further than 100 m
PIPE OS1 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0027)	Within 100 m
PIPE OS2 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0028)	Within 100 m
PIPE CMT1 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0029)	Further than 100 m
PIPE CMT2 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0030)	Further than 100 m
PIPE CMT3 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0032)	Further than 100 m
PIPE CMT4 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0033)	Within 100 m
PIPE CMT5 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0034)	Within 100 m
Polyphemus CMT01 (AHIMS ID 34-2-0084)	Further than 100 m

5. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

5.1. Existing Management Measures at Hera Mine

A summary of the management measures existing at Hera Mine which are outlined in **Table 8**.

Table 8: Existing Cultural Heritage Management Measures at Hera Mine

Source	Control Procedure	Person Responsible
Unanticipated Aboriginal Objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Site rules, regulations and procedures are in force and take precedence for any activity undertaken on the Site. The Site will undergo an internal risk assessment process to determine a need for external parties to be contracted in for monitoring. This process includes Hera Mine environmental staff assessing the proposed area to be disturbed. All Site staff have received cultural heritage awareness induction. If the area to be disturbed has potential to possess an Aboriginal object, then an opportunity to participate in an assessment of the area to be disturbed will be made to the Cobar LALC (The other LALCs are out of their jurisdiction). If the Cobar LALC is unable to provide a sites officer, then reasonable effort will be used to contact RAPs. The area assessed will be walked in transects ensuring all land with potential to possess cultural heritage have been considered. Any Aboriginal object observed will have its coordinates recorded by GPS, photographs taken, and its attributes recorded i.e. type, material, length, width, height, % cortex and comments. At the end of the visual assessment the cultural heritage service provider will be required to complete and sign an Aboriginal heritage clearance form if no cultural heritage constraints are discovered or report the constraint to the Hera Mine environmental manager for further consideration before leaving the property. Each site recorded will be entered into the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management system (AHIMS) database. Management of the Site will occur through development of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) under the existing Mine approvals. A CHMP does not exist as no Aboriginal sites were recorded or discovered for the project, but if required it would be developed in consultation with the RAPs for the project. 	Environment Team
Surface disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface disturbance work will be monitored for unidentified Aboriginal objects and if any suspected Aboriginal sites, artefacts, or spiritual places are found during ground clearing construction activities or mining, all work in the vicinity will cease immediately. Surface disturbance is removal / manipulation of soil possessing of native vegetation in areas not covered by existing approvals or cultural heritage assessments. Advice is to be obtained from the Environment Team and the procedures above will be followed. 	Environment Team
Buffer Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A buffer of 20m x 20m will be established around the suspected item of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage significance. No unauthorised entry or earth disturbance will be allowed within this buffer zone until the area has been assessed. 	Environment Team

Source	Control Procedure	Person Responsible
Human remains (skeletal material)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When suspected human remains are exposed, all work is to cease immediately in the near vicinity of the location. An area of 50m x 50m will be cordoned off by temporary fencing around the exposed suspected human remains. Remains site - work can continue outside of this area as long as there is no risk of interference to the human remains or the assessment of human remains. Notify the Police at the earliest practicable time. Contact NSW EPA's Environment Line on 131 555. If the remains are Aboriginal remains, consult the Aboriginal stakeholders. Do not recommence work at the location until all legal requirements and the reasonable requirements of HNSW - ACH and the Aboriginal stakeholders have been adequately addressed. Activities will not recommence in the area of the find, until the relevant stakeholders have inspected the Site and permission has been given to continue with the activity. Use conveyors within the processing plant to transport crushed ore material. 	Environment Team

5.2. Additional Heritage Management Measures

Table 9 describes the measures to be taken to manage Aboriginal cultural heritage within the Site in accordance with the development consent SSD 24319456. These measures supersede any existing management measures (see **Table 8**).

Table 9: Heritage Management Measures for SSD 24319456.

Source	Management Measure	Person Responsible
Ground disturbance works not previously assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If changes are made to the proposed works which could impact locations outside of the Site, further archaeological investigation would be required. Survey of the disturbance area will be carried out by an appropriately skilled and experienced archaeologist in the company of sufficient Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) to provide information that will enable the cultural significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places on the proposed project area to be determined. Larger disturbance areas may require a greater number of RAPs to contribute to the survey effort. The survey is to be conducted in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (OEH 2011a). In the event Aboriginal sites are recorded during the survey and are within the impact area, artefact surface collection, analysis, reburial, and monitoring is to occur according to this Aboriginal CHMP. 	Environment Team
Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-identify with the assistance of a qualified archaeologist and the Aboriginal community any Aboriginal sites within 100 m of proposed impacts and install standard farm fencing and/or signage around each with a buffer of 10 m from the trunk of 	Environment Team

Source	Management Measure	Person Responsible
	<p>the culturally modified trees and 5 m from the boundaries of the open sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fencing to occur within six weeks of recording and prior to construction activities associated with the Project. 	
Aboriginal ancestral (human) remains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If at any time known or suspected Aboriginal ancestral remains (or any human remains) are identified the following procedure must be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All works must cease in the vicinity of the remains and immediate surrounds (20 m), the remains must be covered from view, secured from unauthorised trespass and Site supervisor or appropriate responsible person will be informed. The environmental manager or other nominated senior staff member will notify the NSW police on the same day of the find (as required for all human remains discoveries). If the remains are determined by NSW Police to be Aboriginal ancestral remains, Condolobin LALC, the Ngemba, Ngiyampaa, Wangaaypuwan and Wayilwan People and Heritage NSW must be informed. The mode of exhumation and repatriation of Aboriginal ancestral remains is to be as determined by the Aboriginal community. If the remains are historical and not of Aboriginal origin, NSW Heritage will be notified for further instruction. Works will not recommence until written approval is received. If the Aboriginal people with connection to local country are of the opinion that study of these ancestral remains or their archaeological context is desirable, then an archaeological program must be formulated for this purpose under their oversight. This may include forensic and osteological investigatory methods as deemed culturally appropriate by the local Aboriginal community. 	Environment Team, Aboriginal community
Unanticipated finds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with Condition B64 if any previous unknown Aboriginal object is discovered or expected within the Site. The construction locations should be observed by a suitably qualified archaeologist and RAPs prior to construction for the presence of potential heritage items. If unanticipated archaeological finds, such as objects and fabric that may indicate Aboriginal objects or places, are encountered during construction work, the unanticipated archaeological finds protocol provided in Appendix B of this report must be followed. Work in the immediate vicinity may only recommence: 	Environment Team, all Site personal

Source	Management Measure	Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If the potential Aboriginal object is confirmed by Heritage NSW, in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties, not to be an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal Place. – This Aboriginal CHMP is revised to include the Aboriginal object and appropriate measures in respect of it. – The Planning Secretary is satisfied with the measures to be implemented in respect of the Aboriginal object and makes a written direction in that regard. 	
Record of Aboriginal sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hera Resources must ensure that all known Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places on the Site and within any offset areas are properly recorded, and those records are kept up to date, in the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) Register. • The locations of the cultural heritage sites will be provided to the relevant supervisors responsible for the construction and operation of the Site. They will be informed that cultural heritage sites are protected under the NPW Act and no harm is to come to them. The presence of the cultural heritage sites will be made clear to the workforce as part of a Site induction. 	Environment Team
Ongoing consultation with the RAPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with Condition B67 Hera Resources must carry out ongoing consultation with the RAPs regarding the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values. • RAPs identified in Table 4 must be sent updates on the progress of the Project at key points in the Project timeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – At commencement of construction. – At midpoint of construction (or every six months if delayed); and – On commencement of operation. • These updates will include general information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Key construction goals and timelines. – Construction methods and strategies. – Project contacts and key staff; and – Opportunities for community engagement. • A record of all correspondence with RAPs must be maintained by appropriate levels of Project management. 	Environment Team
Artefact surface collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the Project is an SSD project an AHIP is not required. Collection of any surface artefacts impacted by the Project must be undertaken prior to the commencement of work. • Suitably qualified archaeologists will work in conjunction with RAPs to identify and retrieve the Aboriginal artefacts no less than six weeks before 	Environment Team

Source	Management Measure	Person Responsible
	<p>ground surface disturbing activities. Any artefacts impacted by the proposed works would be collected in appropriately labelled bags and their location would be recorded by GPS prior to removal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any previously-unrecorded Aboriginal sites would require assessment and further approval before possible surface collection could take place. The collected objects will be held at the temporary storage location and will be subject to recording and analysis in accordance with the methodology provided below. 	
Artefact analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis and documentation of the artefacts collected would be included in the reporting and submitted to the RAPs. Artefacts collected must not be removed from country but will be briefly analysed and recorded on site. Suitably qualified archaeologists will work in conjunction with the RAPs to undertake the analysis. 	Environment Team, suitably qualified archaeologist
Artefact Reburial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the surface collection the artefacts will be reburied on country outside the impact footprint. The location to be determined in conjunction with the RAPs and be undertaken in accordance with Requirement 26 of the suitable location in accordance with the Code of Practice of archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW. Reburial to be undertaken by the RAPs in conjunction with suitably qualified archaeologists and Hera Resources. 	Environment Team, suitably qualified archaeologist
Site Impact recording form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Aboriginal Site Impact Recording Form (ASIRF) must be completed following any impacts to identified sites in the Project as a result of archaeological salvage or Project construction. The ASIRF will be completed by the archaeologist/consulting company undertaking the artefact collection, reburial and analysis no more than six weeks after salvage activities. 	Environment Team, suitably qualified archaeologist
Access for relevant Aboriginal stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hera Resources will facilitate access to items of cultural heritage by relevant Aboriginal stakeholders upon written request. The Aboriginal stakeholder should allow no less than six weeks notification Hera Resources before expecting access. The groups or individuals requesting access must identify as belonging to the local region. Access is to be at a time suitable to Hera Resources and visitors will be always accompanied by Hera Resources staff. No items of Aboriginal cultural heritage are to be interfered with or removed by groups or persons visiting 	Environment Team

Source	Management Measure	Person Responsible
Heritage induction and cultural awareness training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff (personal and subcontractors) working within the Project must undergo Aboriginal cultural heritage inductions prior to carrying out any activities which may cause impact to Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places. Records of the inductions, in both physical and electronic, must be kept with appropriate backups by Hera Resources. • Aurelia's "Aurelia- First Nations Heritage" induction module contains a series of slides informing the inductee the possible types of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the Project area, their legislative protection, and the protocols in place if Aboriginal sites are uncovered. The module ends with a short quiz and is valid for three months. 	Environment Team

6. HERITAGE MONITORING PROGRAM

Monitoring will be undertaken to determine compliance with the SSD 24319456 the monitoring program of identified Aboriginal heritage items will be undertaken annually by appropriate Site staff to ensure Aboriginal cultural heritage values are maintained. The annual monitoring will include an inspection of each Aboriginal site, and include consideration of:

- Site condition
- weed control
- Fence condition, and
- Any evidence of impacts.

The monitoring form template can be found in **Appendix C**.

7. CONTINGENCY PLAN

Unpredicted Aboriginal cultural heritage impacts may include:

- Impacts to Aboriginal sites by people, plant or animals.

Where unpredicted impacts are identified, mitigation measures would be implemented. The corrective actions to be undertaken by Site in the event of unpredicted impacts are described in **Section 7.1**.

Impacts on Aboriginal sites is defined by Section 5 of the NPW Act and defines harm as “*an object or place includes any act or omission that--*

(a) destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or

(b) in relation to an object--moves the object from the land on which it had been situated, or

(c) is specified by the regulations, or

(d) causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c)”.

7.1. Trigger Action Response Plans

The Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) defines the minimum set of corrective actions that Federation must implement in response to unpredicted impacts or abnormal conditions (triggers). The trigger levels are determined based on regulatory requirements, previous monitoring and best practice management. The TARP is displayed in **Table 10**.

Table 10: Trigger Action Response Plan

Key Element	Trigger/Response	Condition Green	Condition Orange	Condition Red
	Trigger	Monitoring results show no impacts to Aboriginal sites	Monitoring indicates there is a potential for harm to occur to an Aboriginal site	Monitoring results show impact(s) to Aboriginal sites as defined by Section 5 of NPWS Act
An Aboriginal site has been impacted	Response	No response required. Continue Aboriginal cultural Monitoring Program.	Review adequacy of systems and processes to ensure best practice. AND Modify operations if applicable.	Complete incident investigation to determine the cause of the exceedance. AND Review effectiveness of mitigation measures. AND Modify operations if applicable. AND Notify relevant government agencies and impacted landowners in accordance with the procedure in the Management Plan. AND Consider whether a review of the Management Plan is required.

8. INCIDENT AND COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT

8.1. Incident and Non-compliance Protocol

Hera Resources will manage any heritage related incident or non-compliance at Site in accordance with the incident and non-compliance protocols found in the Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). In summary Hera Resources will, at the earliest opportunity:

- Take all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not recur
- Consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation (where relevant) and submit a report to the DPE describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action
- Implement remediation measures as directed by the Secretary, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, and
- Submit an incident report within seven days of the original notification.

8.2. Complaints Management

The Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) includes a detailed complaints management procedure. This subsection records the procedures that would be implemented following the receipt of a heritage related complaint.

Complaints can be directed to the Company via phone or email. These details are presented in **Table 11**.

Table 11: Contact Details for Complaints

Communication Method	Details
Email	community@hera@aureliametals.com.au
Telephone	1800 437 264

Following receipt of any Aboriginal heritage related complaint, Site would implement the following procedure:

1. The complaint will be reviewed to determine the nature, date and time of the complaint source.
2. Any relevant monitoring data for the period will be examined. The complainant will be contacted to discuss and attempt to resolve the complaint.
3. In the event that the complaint is resolved via Step 2, no further action would be taken. If not resolved, then supplementary monitoring may be undertaken within one month of the conclusion of Step 2 in accordance with the procedures identified in **Section 6**.
4. Should the review of the monitoring data indicate that no non-compliance of the relevant criteria was identified, this may be communicated to the complainant.
5. Should the review of monitoring data indicate that a non-compliance of the relevant criteria, Hera Resources will notify the relevant government agencies. In addition, the complainant may be notified if required.

If multiple complaints are received from the same individual(s) and Hera Resources can demonstrate compliance to the relevant criteria and previous efforts have been made to resolve their issues, then Hera Resources may limit their response to Step 1 and 2.

9. REPORTING

9.1. Annual Reporting

Hera Resources is required to prepare an Annual Review each year in accordance with Condition C10, which states:

By the end of September each year after the date of physical commencement of development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, a report must be submitted to the Department reviewing the environmental performance of the development, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This review must:

- (a) describe the development (including any rehabilitation) that was carried out in the previous financial year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the current financial year;*
- (b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the previous financial year, including a comparison of these results against the:*
 - (i) relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;*
 - (ii) requirements of any plan or program required under this consent;*
 - (iii) monitoring results of previous years; and*
 - (iv) relevant predictions in the document/s listed in condition A2(c);*
- (c) identify any non-compliance or incident which occurred in the previous financial year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to rectify the non-compliance and avoid reoccurrence;*
- (d) evaluate and report on compliance with the performance measures, criteria and operating conditions of this consent;*
- (e) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development;*
- (f) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and*
- (g) describe what measures will be implemented over the next financial year to improve the environmental performance of the development.*

Hera Resources must also submit an Annual Return in accordance with Condition R1.1 of EPL 20179 which states:

R1.1 The licensee must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return in the approved form comprising:

- 1. a Statement of Compliance,*
- 2. a Monitoring and Complaints Summary,*
- 3. a Statement of Compliance – Licence Conditions,*
- 4. a Statement of Compliance -Load based Fee,*
- 5. a Statement of Compliance -Requirement to Prepare Pollution Incident Response Management Plan,*
- 6. a Statement of Compliance – Requirements to Publish Pollution Monitoring Data; and*
- 7. a Statement of Compliance – Environmental Management Systems and Practices.*

At the end of each reporting period, the EPA will provide to the licensee a copy of the form that must be completed and returned to the EPA.

9.2. Incident Reporting

An incident is defined in the consent as:

An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance

Hera Resources will report any incidents in accordance with the protocol described in the EMS and Condition C8 of SSD 24319456. Condition C8 states:

The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development

application number and the name of the development if it has one) and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 6.

In summary, a written report will be provided which will include the following:

- Describes the date, time, and nature of the incident
- Identifies the case (or likely cause) of the incident
- Describes the action to date, and
- Describes the proposed measures to address the incident.

9.3. Non-Compliance Reporting

A non-compliance is defined in the consent as:

An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this consent.

Hera Resources will report any incidents in accordance with the protocol described in the EMS and Condition C9 of SSD 24319456. Condition C9 states:

The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance. A non-compliance notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.

Note: *A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.*

In summary, a written report will be provided within seven days which will include the following:

- Describes the date, time, and nature of the exceedance;
- Identifies the case (or likely cause) of the exceedance;
- Describes the action to date; and
- Describes the proposed measures to address the exceedance.

9.4. Independent Environmental Audit

Hera Resources will commission and provision for an Independent Environmental Audit in accordance with Conditions C12 and C13 which state:

C12 *Within one year of the date of physical commencement of development under this consent, and every three years after, unless the Planning Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant must commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audit must:*

- (a) be prepared in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (NSW Government 2020); and*
- (b) be submitted, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, within two months of undertaking the independent audit site inspection, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary.*

And.

C13 *In accordance with the specific requirements of the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (NSW Government 2020), the Applicant must:*

- (a) review and respond to each Independent Audit Report prepared under Condition C12 of this consent.*
- (b) submit a response to the Planning Secretary and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Audit Report.*
- (c) implement the recommendations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary; and*
- (d) make each Independent Audit Report and response to it publicly available no later than 60 days after submission to the Planning Secretary.*

10. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The roles and responsibilities for Hera Resources personnel in relation to this CHMP are listed in **Table 12**.

Table 12: Roles and Responsibilities

Position	Accountable Task
General Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the resources are available for the implementation of this Aboriginal CHMP. • Be accountable for the overall environmental performance of the Mine, including the outcomes of this Aboriginal CHMP. • Ensure operational hours are adhered to.
Environment Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the requirements of this Aboriginal CHMP are effectively implemented. • Ensure the results of all monitoring are recorded. • Ensure all internal and external reporting requirements are met. • Ensure all personnel undertaking works in relation to this management plan are trained and competent. • Update the Management Plan as required. • Undertake/organise, review, and analyse all monitoring data. • Ensure that any required actions arising from the detection of unexpected heritage items or human remains are reported to the relevant personnel for further action and ensure that the actions are effectively implemented. • Oversee the overall implementation of this HMP including the implementation of heritage training and the creation and maintenance of heritage training records. • Oversee and coordinate scheduled RAP communications. • Arrange appropriately trained personnel to inspect Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.
All Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and implement mitigation protocols as required in the Aboriginal CHMP and any other required measures during construction. • Undertake relevant training to implement the requirements of this Aboriginal CHMP. • All personnel are responsible for ensuring that heritage items to be retained are protected. • All site personnel to undertake environmental inductions which will include reference to the requirements of this Heritage Management Plan and the reporting process for unexpected finds.

11. TRAINING AND AWARENESS

All staff (personal and subcontractors) working within the Project must undergo Aboriginal cultural heritage inductions prior to carrying out any activities which may cause impact to Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places. Records of the inductions, in both physical and electronic, must be kept with appropriate backups by Hera Resources.

Aurelia's "Aurelia- First Nations Heritage" induction module contains a series of slides informing the inductee the possible types of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the Project area, their legislative protection, and the protocols in place if Aboriginal sites are uncovered. The module ends with a short quiz and is valid for three months.

The Environment Team shall be responsible for ensuring the appropriate Aboriginal cultural heritage quality management training is included in the induction.

12. REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT

This CHMP will be reviewed and revised as necessary in accordance with the requirements of Condition C6 of SSD 24319456 which states that reviews must be conducted:

Within three months of:

- (a) the submission of an incident report under condition C8.*
- (b) the submission of an Annual Review under condition C10.*
- (c) the submission of an Independent Environmental Audit under condition C12; or*
- (d) the approval of any modification of the conditions of this consent (unless the conditions require otherwise).*
- (e) notification of a change in development phase under condition A5; or*
- (f) a direction of the Secretary under condition A3 of Schedule 2*

the suitability of existing strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be reviewed by the Applicant.

As part of the review process Hera Resources will assess the adequacy of the plan to meet the requirements contained in the relevant statutory approvals and any opportunities for improvement. The assessment will include a review of data and related trends identified in the Annual Review, a consideration of recommendations from an Independent Environmental Audit and findings arising from any incident report. If required the plan will be updated in consultation with DPE and other relevant agencies.

13. REFERENCES

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- AREA. (2021b). *Hera Life of Mine Geotechnical investigation Aboriginal heritage Due Diligence assessment*. Report to Hera resources.
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- Beckett, J. (1959). *Further notes on the social organisation of the Wongaibon of western New South Wales*, reprinted from Oceania Vol XXIX No. 3, Sydney Australasian Medical Publishing Company Limited.
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- NSW Department of Environment Climate Change & Water (DECCW). (2011). *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*. NSW Office of Environment & Heritage.
- NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (DECCW). (2010). *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* NSW DECCW.
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services. (2015). *Mount Grenfell Historic Site, Proposed Mount Grenfell National Park and Part 11 Land Plan of Management*. NSW Office of Environment & Heritage
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APPENDIX A CONSULTATION

APPENDIX B

UNANTICIPATED FINDS PROTOCOL



Unanticipated Finds Protocol

The protocol to be followed in the event previously unrecorded or unanticipated Aboriginal object(s) are encountered during the proposed works is as follows:

- All ground surface disturbance in the area of the finds should cease immediately the finds are uncovered. With an appropriate buffer zone of at least 1
- 0 metres to allow for the assessment and management of the find. All site personal will be informed about the buffer zone with no further works to occur within the buffer zone.
- The Site supervisor will then inform the Mine Manager (0482 563 599) (02 6830 2265)
- If the finds are of human remains, the environmental manager or other nominated senior staff member will contact the NSW Police on the non-emergency line (02) 131 444.
- A Heritage specialist will be engaged to assess the Aboriginal place or object encountered, representative(s) from the registered the Aboriginal Stakeholders for the Project may also be engaged to assess the cultural significance of the place or object.
- If the Aboriginal heritage places or objects are found to be covered under the existing approvals to impact Aboriginal heritage within the Project area, works may continue to be conducted in accordance with mitigation measures and approval requirements.
- If the Aboriginal heritage places or objects are found to not be covered under the existing approvals to impact Aboriginal heritage within the Project area, works will not recommence at the heritage place or object until advised to do so by Heritage NSW.
- If the heritage place or object can be managed in situ, works at the heritage location will not recommence until appropriate heritage management controls have been implemented, such as protective fencing.
- For historic relics, work must cease in the affected area and the Heritage Council must be notified in writing (heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au). This is in accordance with Section 146 of the *Heritage Act 1977*.
- Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment may be required prior to the commencement of work in the area. At a minimum, any find should be recorded by an archaeologist.

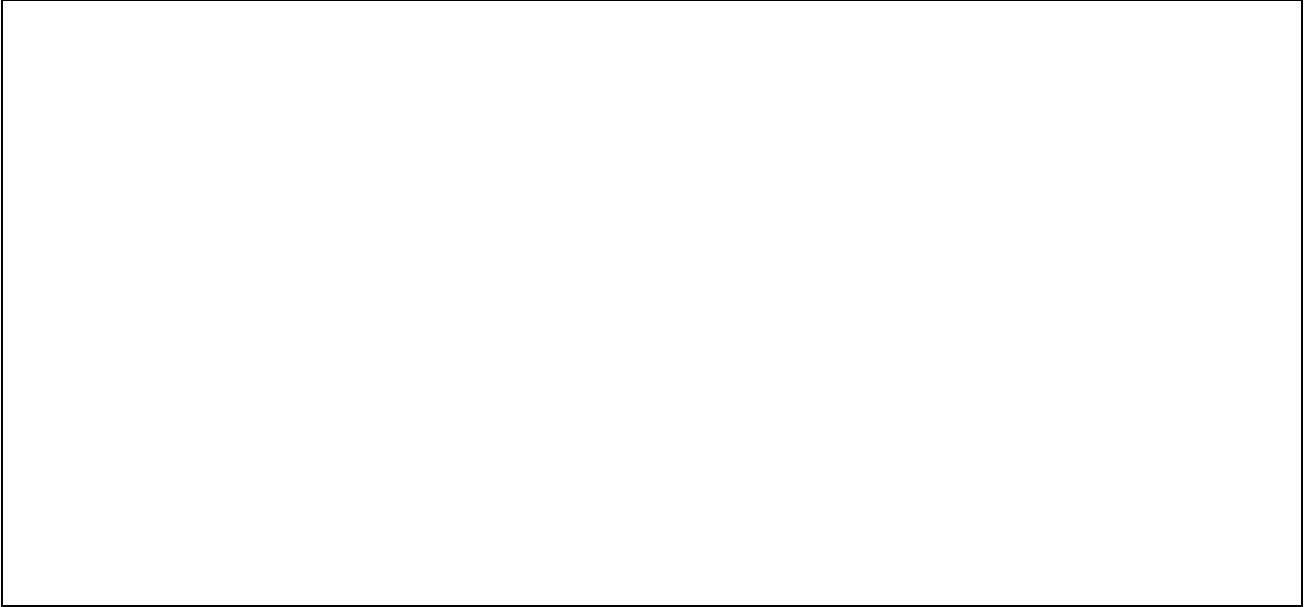
APPENDIX C ANNUAL HERITAGE MONITORING FORM

Aboriginal site:	AHIMS ID:	Inspector:	Date: / /
Harm to Aboriginal site ⁴ : [Y] [N]	Fence condition: [Excludes stock] [Requires repair]		Site type:



(d) causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c)

Photograph (South):

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a photograph taken from the south.

Photograph (West):

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a photograph taken from the west.

Notes:

Attachment C – Aboriginal Heritage Annual reporting form

Date: / /

1. Description of Aboriginal site

Details of Aboriginal site and surrounding area:

Fencing:

2. Description of harm (if applicable)

Has the Aboriginal site been inspected and been avoided by the proposal? If no, what harm has occurred to it? If it has been harmed, have you reported it to the environmental manager?

3. Future remediation work required

Signed:

Name:

Position:

Signature and certification

I / We declare and certify that the information in this monitoring report is true and correct.

Signature:	Signature:
Name:	Name:
Position:	Position:
Date: / /	Date: / /