



# Notice

11 February 2021

## BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd

### Licence application

The Economic Regulation Authority is seeking public comment on an application by BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd for a water services licence to supply drinking water to customers in Newman, which is approximately 455 kilometres south of Port Hedland in the Pilbara. Customers of BHP Billiton Iron Ore include the Water Corporation who supply the town of Newman, commercial customers in the Mine Services Industrial Area, the Alinta Energy power station and the Shire of East Pilbara's wastewater treatment plant. There is also a standpipe adjacent to BHP Billiton Iron Ore's water treatment plant for customers who cart water to site.

The service is already in place and operational. BHP Billiton Iron Ore is applying to comply with the requirements of the *Water Services Act 2012*.

A summary of the [licence application](#) is available on the ERA website.

Under section 11(1)(a) of the Water Act, the ERA must grant a licence if it is satisfied that the applicant:

- has, and is likely to retain;
- or
- will acquire within a reasonable time after the grant, and is then likely to retain,

the financial and technical resources to undertake the activities authorised by the licence.

Section 11(1)(b) of the Act states that the ERA must grant a licence if it is satisfied that it would not be contrary to the public interest to do so. Section 46 of the Act requires the ERA to take into account environmental and public health considerations (to the extent it considers them relevant) when considering section 11(1)(b).

In addition, section 26 of the *Economic Regulation Authority Act 2003* requires the ERA to consider certain matters when performing all its functions. These include:

- promoting regulatory outcomes in the public interest
- the long-term interests of consumers
- encouraging investment
- the business interests of investors and service providers
- promoting a fair and competitive market

- preventing abuse of market power
- promoting transparent decision-making processes through public consultation.

### **Invitation for submissions**

The ERA invites interested parties to make submissions on the licence application.

Submissions close 4:00 pm (WST) Wednesday, 3 March 2021.

Submissions should be lodged online using the form on our website  
[www.erawa.com.au/consultation](http://www.erawa.com.au/consultation).

### **Further information**

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