



Notice

30 April 2026

BHP Nickel West Pty Ltd 2025 asset management system review

The Economic Regulation Authority has published the 2025 asset management system review report and the post-review implementation plan for [BHP Nickel West Pty Ltd's](#) water services licence WL52.

BHP owns and operates drinking water and sewerage infrastructure in the township of Leinster in the northern Goldfields. Leinster provides accommodation for BHP employees and their families, as well as contracting companies and government agencies that support the town. BHP supplies the water and sewerage services in the town free of charge.

As BHP suspended its Western Australian nickel operations in October 2024, its mine is under care and maintenance, with a reduced number of residents in Leinster.

The ERA's decision

The ERA considers that BHP has an effective asset management system and decided to maintain the review period at 36 months. The next review will cover the period 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2028.

Review findings

The assessment of the 58 asset management system effectiveness criteria that make up the 12 processes prescribed in the ERA's 2025 *Audit and Review Guidelines: Water Licences* found six deficiencies. The auditor rated 49 of the 58 criteria as A1, the highest rating.

The deficiencies were all in the asset management plan, which requires review and updating to ensure it remains current. However, it is noted that the services and assets have remained unchanged since the previous review, reducing the risk of having not reviewed the AMP recently.

The auditor made two recommendations to address the deficiencies. The post-review implementation plan states that BHP will address the recommendations by 31 December 2027.

The ERA's assessment of the review findings

BHP has a well-established asset management system, which continues to be rated effective by independent auditors. The review did not identify any material concerns with BHP's asset management system.

The ERA considers that, while the ratings for the asset management plan and asset creation and acquisition require some improvement, BHP has maintained appropriate procedures and controls to operate and maintain the water supply and sewerage infrastructure.

Given that BHP's operations are under care and maintenance and Leinster's population is significantly reduced, and BHP intends to review the temporary suspension of its mine by February 2027, it will implement the auditor's recommendations after it has made a decision on the mine.

Further information

General enquiries

Alex Kroon

Ph: 08 6557 7989

info@erawa.com.au

Media enquiries

Ph: +61 428 859 826

media@erawa.com.au