



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

# LEAD AGENCY PROJECTS

AUGUST 2017



The Lead Agency Framework (Resource Sector) is under review with a view to streamlining and improving service delivery.

The review is expected to be completed 4Q 2017.

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) Lead Agency Projects Program Coordinator can be contacted on 9222 3896.

Project	Project coordinator Contact officer (s)	Project approval information
<p>Gold Road Resources / Gold Fields Ltd</p> <p><b>Gruyere Gold JV Project</b></p>	<p>Ian Mitchell David Crabtree</p>	<p>The Gruyere Gold Project is located 150km east of Laverton in the Yamarna Greenstone Belt, a newly discovered (August 2014) gold region. The Gruyere deposit has an estimated Mineral Resource (measured, Indicated and Inferred) of 3.5 million ounces of gold. A feasibility study, including metallurgical, geotechnical, environmental and mining studies, was completed in October 2016.</p> <p>The proposal was referred to the EPA, 2 March 2016, and the Minister for Environment approved the project. The Mining Proposal and Mine Closure Plan were approved by former Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) in February 2017. Construction of the accommodation village (Stage 1 &amp; 2) was completed in May 2017. Construction of the processing plant is planned to be completed end 2018 with first gold production in first quarter 2019. Construction of a 198km gas pipeline from the Eastern Goldfields Pipeline (servicing the Tropicana Gold Mine) to the Gruyere mine site is planned. A 45Mw gas fired power station will also be constructed.</p>
<p>Sheffield Resources</p> <p><b>Thunderbird Mineral Sands Project</b></p>	<p>Graham Cobby Brian Lloyd</p>	<p><b>Sheffield Resources</b> is developing a globally significant high grade mineral sands deposit located on the Dampier Peninsula mid-way between Broome and Derby. It is estimated to have a mine life of more than 40 years. A definitive feasibility study (DFS) is in progress. The project proposal was referred to the EPA in Nov 2015. A State and Commonwealth agency site visit was conducted 30–31 August 2016. The Thunderbird PER was lodged with the OEPA on 14 November 2016. Former DMP and DoW provided project briefings to Broome and Derby Shire Councillors, Chambers of Commerce and the general public 27–30 March 2017. On 15 June 2017, the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) announced they supported the grant of a Mining Lease for the project. Following this announcement an appeal was lodged by a claimant group in relation to an earlier NNTT good faith decision in Sheffield's favour. In the interim, Sheffield has applied for a Minor and Preliminary Works permit to progress preliminary works.</p>
<p>First Quantum Minerals Ravensthorpe Nickel</p> <p><b>Shoemaker-Levy Project</b></p>	<p>Rosemarie de Bari Jessica Allen</p>	<p>Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation (RNO) is owned and operated by First Quantum Minerals (FQM) Nickel Australia Nickel Pty Ltd. It is located 35kms east of the town of Ravensthorpe and 155kms west of Esperance. The project involves a mine expansion into the Hale-Bopp (North West pit) ore body and an infrastructure corridor to provide access between the Shoemaker-Levy deposit and the existing processing plant. There are complex approval issues within a high value biodiversity environment.</p> <p>Subject to EPA Ministerial statement 633. Referred to the EPBC Act 1 August 2016 and WA EPA 15 August 2016. The Environmental Scoping Document endorsed by EPA 16 March 2017. On 9 August First Quantum Minerals announced the Ravensthorpe mining operation would be put into care and maintenance until nickel prices improve.</p> <p>DMIRS and FQM will continue to work together to progress the required approvals to access the Shoemaker – Levy deposit to ensure any future recommencement of operations is not delayed.</p>

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Hastings Technical Metals  <b>Yangibana Rare Earth Project</b>	Phil Boglio	<p>The Yangibana Rare Earth Project is located 270kms east-north-east of Carnarvon in the Shire of Upper Gascoyne. The project proposes to extract and process rare earth element (REE) ore from four mining pits. The proposal includes mining above and below the ground water table, on-site processing of ore and associated infrastructure. The REE deposit includes Neodymium, Praseodymium, Dysprosium and Terbium used in in many advanced technologies, such as high performance magnets, electric vehicles, wind turbines, robotics and digital devices.</p> <p>The project was referred to the EPA on 30 January 2017 and is being assessed as a Public Environmental Review (PER).</p>
<b>"South West Hub" CCS Project</b>	Dominique Van Gent Martin Burke	<p><b>A Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Project</b> wherein DMIRS is responsible for investigating the potential to store CO<sub>2</sub> in the Lesueur Sandstone Formation of the Southern Perth Basin (on the Swan Coastal Plain in the Shires of Harvey and Warooa). The project has been allocated funding under the Australian Government's CCS Flagships program to progress investigations of the suitability of the Lesueur. Activity has included a 2D seismic (2011) a stratigraphic well (February–March 2012), a complex 3D seismic that mapped 2115km<sup>2</sup> (2014) and a further three wells in early to mid-2015. The results to date demonstrate a large injection target formation of sandstone at a depth of 1,500 metres to 3,000 metres and a shale/palaeosol complex that could act as a further containment layer. Analysis and modelling of the more than 2km of core and electronic data is currently underway. A community consultative committee was established in August 2011. Comprehensive information can be found at <a href="http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ccs">www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ccs</a>.</p>
Chevron Australia Pty Ltd  <b>Thevenard Island Decommissioning Project</b>	Walter Law Denis Wills	<p>Chevron is responsible for the decommissioning of all offshore and onshore production, processing and export facilities on Thevenard Island (TVI) located approximately 25km offshore from the town of Onslow, Western Australia. Following an application from Chevron Australia Pty Ltd, former DMP provided consent on 22 January 2014 to the licensees to cease to operate the four licenced pipelines. Petroleum recovery operations ceased in April 2014 and all facilities are being cleaned of petroleum residue. Decommissioning of offshore petroleum wells started this year. Offshore facilities decommissioning is scheduled over 2017–18. Onshore decommissioning, remediation and rehabilitation is scheduled for 2018–20 in accordance with the preliminary TVI Field Decommissioning and Rehabilitation (D&amp;R) Plan. Chevron is yet to submit its revised D&amp;R Plan that meets the statutory requirements for decommissioning including removal of onshore and offshore facilities from its petroleum licences areas.</p>