Questions

Q1. Please provide the address of the project site.

Address of the project site: Western Australia, Commonwealth of Australia

Q2. Please provide a brief explanation of the project.

Acquisition and development of the iron mine in the Pilbara region of Australia

Q3. Is it a new project to be implemented or a project that has been implemented? If it has been implemented, has it received a serious complaint from local residents or a directive for improvement, a stop-work order, a project suspension order, etc., from a local environmental authority?

- ■ New project to be implemented
- ☐ Project that has been implemented (with a complaint)
- ☐ Project that has been implemented (without a complaint)
- ☐ Other ( )

Q4. Do the laws or regulations of the country where the project will be implemented require the project to conduct environmental and/or social impact assessments (such as an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA))? If so, have they been conducted or planned?

- ☐ Required (Assessments done)
- ■ Required (Assessments in progress or being planned)
- ☐ Not Required
- ☐ Other ( )

Q5. If environmental and/or social impact assessments have been conducted, have they been approved in accordance with the environmental and social impact assessment system of the country where the project will be implemented? If so, please also specify the date of the approvals and the name of the authorities.

- ☐ Approved (without condition(s))
- ☐ Approved (with condition(s))
- ■ Under approval process
- ☐ Other ( )

Date of Approvals : _____

Name of Authorities : _____

Q6. Are there any environmental permits required other than environmental and/or social impact assessments? If so, have they been obtained? Also, if required, please specify the name of the permits.

- ☐ Obtained
- ■ Required, but not obtained yet
- ☐ Not required
- ☐ Other ( )

Name(s) of required permit(s) :

Permit / authorization	Legislation	Purpose
Section 26D licence	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (WA)	To construct dewatering and water supply bores to abstract groundwater
Section 5C licence	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (WA)	To extract groundwater and manage significant volumes of water proposed to be taken from the several water sources and bores.
Section 11/17/21A Permit	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (WA)	To interfere or with, obstruct or divert a watercourse.

Permit / authorization	Legislation	Purpose
Prescribed premises works approvals and /or licences	*Environment Protection Act 1986* (WA) , Part V, Division 3.	Various aspects of operations, such as processing of ore, mine dewatering, screening of materials, certain putrescible landfill and bulk storage of chemicals.
Dangerous goods licence	*Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* (WA)	Storage and handling of hazardous materials during construction
Section 16 authorisation	*Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA)	To enter, excavate, examine or remove anything from an Aboriginal site
Section 18 authorisation	*Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA)	Consent to certain uses when impact is unavoidable
Section 40 authorisation	*Biodiversity Conversation Act 2016* (WA)	To take or disturb threatened flora or fauna species.
Mining proposal	*Mining Act 1978* (WA)	For any mining related disturbance within the project tenements outside the State Agreement Area
Programme of Work	*Mining Act 1978* (WA)	To undertake ground disturbing activities with mechanized equipment on mining tenement.
Approval under Rhodes Ridge State Agreement	*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972*	An authority under Part IV of the EP Act is a pre-condition to the approval by the Minister of a proposal under clause 6.02 of the Rhodes Ridge State Agreement.

Q7. Will the project be specified after JBIC made a funding commitment (as in the case of a two-step loan, where sub-projects cannot be specified at the time of a funding commitment)?

(No)

If "Yes", please disregard the following questions.
If "No", please go to Q8.

Q8. Will JBIC's funding be used to serve as support for international balance of payments or to be used for the provision of goods or services that does not involve installation or implementation in particular sites or regions, as in the case of export/import or lease of machinery or equipment that is not connected with a particular project?

(No)

If "Yes", please disregard the following questions.
If "No", please go to Q9.

Q9. Are there any environmentally sensitive area(s) shown below in or near the project site(s)?

(Yes)

If "Yes", please mark the applicable items and go to Q10. (To be updated)
If "No", please go to Q10.

- ■ (1) National parks, nationally-designated protected areas (coastal areas, wetlands, areas for ethnic minorities or indigenous peoples, and cultural heritage, etc., designated by national governments)
- □ (2) Forests with important ecological value (including primary forests and natural forests in tropical areas)

☐ (3) Habitats with important ecological value (including coral reefs, mangrove wetlands, and tidal flats)
■ (4) Habitats of rare species requiring protection under domestic legislation, international treaties, etc.
☐ (5) Areas in danger of large-scale salt accumulation or soil erosion
☐ (6) Areas with a remarkable tendency towards desertification
■ (7) Areas with unique archaeological, historical or cultural value
■ (8) Areas inhabited by ethnic minorities, indigenous peoples, or nomadic peoples with traditional ways of life (including areas which are used for cultural and spiritual purposes) and other areas with special social value

Q10. Does the project involve the following characteristics?

(Yes)

If "Yes", please specify their scale and go to Q11.
If "No", please go to Q12.

☐ (1) Involuntary resettlement or loss of means of livelihood
(Number of affected people:)
■ (2) Groundwater pumping (Scale: maximum of 80 gigalitres per annum (Stage 1)
■ (3) Land reclamation, land development, and land clearing (
- Land clearing scale: up to 14,850 ha land clearance (Stage 1).

NB: up to 111,000 ha of native vegetation exists within the areas of the mining tenements for the broader Project, but future clearance areas have not been confirmed for future development stages)

☐ (4) Logging (Scale: ha)

Q11. Under the environmental and social impact assessment system of the country where the project will be implemented, do the applicable characteristics (1) – (4) of Q10 above and their scale serve as the basis for executing an ESIA for the project?

☐ Yes, they do ■ No, they do not
☐ Other ( )

Q12. Is the project likely to have a significant social impact, including human rights?

(No)

If "Yes", please describe the impacts and go to Q13.
If "No", please go to Q13.

☐ Likelihood of a significant impact on human rights ( )
☐ Other ( )

Q13. Will JBIC's funding or NEXI's insurable value be equal to or less than 5% of the total project cost, or will JBIC's funding or NEXI's insurable value be equal to or less than SDR 10 million? (If the funding or insurable value is additional to a project that has been supported by JBIC or NEXI, please add up the previous funding or insurable value and the funding or insurable value being considered to apply for this time.)

(No)

If "Yes", please disregard the following questions.
If "No", please go to Q14.

Q14. Is the project for capital investment or working capital in a project that has been implemented and does it involve no material change in output or function (as in the case of maintenance of the existing facilities, non-expansionary renovation project, and acquisition of rights and interests without additional capital investment)?

(No)

If "Yes", please disregard the following questions.
If "No", please go to Q15.

Q15. Is the project in any of the following sectors?

(Yes)

If "Yes", mark the applicable sectors and go to Q16.
If "No", please disregard the following question.

- ■ (1) Mining
- ☐ (2) Oil and natural gas development
- ☐ (3) Pipelines
- ☐ (4) Iron and steel (projects that include large furnaces)
- ☐ (5) Non-ferrous metals smelting and refining
- ☐ (6) Petrochemicals (manufacture of raw materials; including complexes)
- ☐ (7) Petroleum refining
- ☐ (8) Oil, gas, and chemical terminals
- ☐ (9) Paper and pulp
- ☐ (10) Cement plants (including a greenfield quarry)
- ☐ (11) Manufacture and transport of toxic or poisonous substances regulated by international treaties, etc.
- ☐ (12) Thermal power
- ☐ (13) Nuclear power
- ☐ (14) Hydropower, dams, and reservoirs
- ☐ (15) Power transmission and distribution lines involving large-scale involuntary resettlement, large-scale logging, or submarine electrical cables
- ☐ (16) Roads, railways, and bridges
- ☐ (17) Airports
- ☐ (18) Ports and harbors
- ☐ (19) Sewage and wastewater treatment having sensitive characteristics or located in sensitive areas or their vicinity
- ☐ (20) Waste management and disposal
- ☐ (21) Agriculture involving large-scale land-clearing or irrigation
- ☐ (22) Forestry
- ☐ (23) Tourism (construction of hotels, etc.)

Q16. Please provide information on the scale of the project (project area, area of plants and buildings, production capacity, amounts of power generation, etc.). In addition, pleased explain whether an environmental and/or social impact assessment is required on account of the large scale of the project in the country where the project will be implemented.

Information on scale of the Project

The key aspects of the scale of the current stage (Stage 1) of the Project are contained in the referral made for the Project under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (**EPBC Act**) on 13 May 2024 (see hyperlink here). Future stages of the Project are not yet been formally proposed or assessed by environmental regulators.

The EPBC Act referral supporting document provides the following information about the scale of Stage 1 of the

Project:

- **Project area:** 61,415.99 ha total project area. Total disturbance footprint of 14,877.60 ha.
- **Area of plant and equipment:** Not confirmed at this stage. Rhodes Ridge is currently considering three plant scenarios (dry only, dry to wet and wet only). Additionally, a primary crusher and potentially an initial dry crushing and screening plant may be required.
- **Area of buildings:** Not known at this time.
- Production Capacity: 40 to 50 Mtpa (Stage 1) to over 100 Mtpa (future stages)
- **Tailings storage:** up to 6 mtpa for stage 1, with a cumulative tailings of 150 mt (25 year life of mine).
- **Groundwater abstraction:** up to 50 GL/a surplus.
- **Emissions:**
  - Scope 1 peak emissions: approximately 370,000 t CO2-e,
  - Scope 2 peak emissions: approximately 160,000 t CO2-e
  - Scope 3 peak emissions: approximately 70,000,000 t CO2-e.

Environment/social impact assessment required

An environmental impact assessment will be required under Part IV of the *Environment Protection Act 1986* (WA) as the Project is 'likely to have a significant effect on the environment'.

As part of this assessment, the Western Australian Environment Protection Authority (**EPA**) will consider social surroundings, as outlined in the EPA's assessment guidance note (hyperlink here).

A social impact assessment of the Project is likely to be included in the Part IV environmental impact assessment as the environmental assessment of Stage 1 of the project proceeds. Future stages of the Project will also require separate environmental assessment, but these future stages have not been applied for or formally proposed.