

# SHEET 1 – RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this information sheet is to:

- summarise the status and the key findings of the resource development program to date; and
- invite feedback on the draft environment effects statement (EES) scoping requirements relating to resource development.

## Status of study program

Study	Consultant	Status
Soils, agriculture and rehabilitation	Yet to be awarded	Ongoing
Traffic and transport impact assessment	TrafficWorks	About to commence
Socioeconomic impact assessment	EMM	Commencing
Hazard and risk assessment	Yet to be awarded	Ongoing
Radiation impact assessment	Yet to be awarded	Proposed
Landscape and visual impact assessment	Urbis	Ongoing
Noise impact assessment	AECOM	Ongoing
Vibration impact assessment	Yet to be awarded	Proposed
Air quality impact assessment	ERM	Ongoing
Energy and greenhouse gas assessment	Yet to be awarded	Proposed
Groundwater impact assessment	Jacobs	Ongoing
Surface water and impact assessment	Golder	Ongoing



## Key findings to date

Australia has some of the most valuable rare earth mineral deposits in the world; these include the WIM100 deposit. This deposit contains high-value rare earth elements, including neodymium, dysprosium, praseodymium and terbium. These elements are highly sought-after in the renewable energy market and for other green technologies.

The Wimmera Project offers an opportunity to source, process and refine rare earths in Victoria. The Wimmera Project will enable Australia to offer a safe, secure, sustainable supply of rare earth minerals. The establishment of a rare earth mine and processing plant will also open the market for Australia to expand/develop various independent supply chains in componentry production.



*Public comments are invited on the draft scoping requirements in relation to matters that should be investigated and documented in the environment effects statement (EES) process for the proposed Wimmera Project.*

*The draft scoping requirements are open for public comment until midnight on 31 March 2020.*

*Any comments received will be considered by DELWP during the finalisation of the scoping requirements and will be treated as public documents. Your comments also will be considered by the proponent in the preparation of the EES. Personal details and identifying features (eg names, addresses and contact details) will be removed before your submission is shared with Iluka Resources Limited. You must provide written consent for DELWP to provide your name and address to Iluka Resources Limited.*

Comments should be emailed to:  
[environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au)

Written comments can also be posted to:

Impact Assessment Unit, Planning  
Department of Environment, Land, Water  
and Planning  
PO Box 500, EAST MELBOURNE, VIC  
8002

*To discuss the draft EES scoping requirements with Iluka or for more information please contact Iluka:*

Phone: 1800 305 993

Visit: [www.iluka.com/engage/wimmera](http://www.iluka.com/engage/wimmera)

Email: [wimmeraproject@iluka.com](mailto:wimmeraproject@iluka.com)

*Drop in: Wimmera community drop-in centre at Horsham Real Estate office Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30 am–2.30 pm or by appointment*

The proposed Wimmera Project will help diversify the narrow employment base in the Horsham region, which is currently focussed on the agriculture sector.

A socioeconomic impact assessment will be undertaken to assess the Project's direct and indirect impacts on the region's economy and social well-being.

The EES will also assess Project-related impacts on amenity and environmental quality, including water, biodiversity, visual amenity, air quality, noise, vibration, radiation, hazards and risks, traffic and transport, and agricultural use of the land. The assessments will be informed by the baseline monitoring results and will include a particular focus on potential impacts on the land within the mine layout development envelope and the immediate vicinity. These are covered in information sheets 2–7.

In parallel with the EES assessments, Iluka is undertaking a wide range of investigations on the geological, mining, processing, commercial and environmental aspects of the Project as part of the pre-feasibility study (PFS). This will determine the Project's commercial feasibility, including consideration of future fluctuations in commodity prices. It will consider a range of mining, processing and refining methods to efficiently extract the resource in a manner that minimises environmental impacts and maximises socioeconomic benefits.

Subject to decision by the Iluka Board, the PFS will be followed by the detailed feasibility study (DFS) that will confirm and advance the Project design and estimate the cost of the Project with an accuracy of  $\pm 15\%$ . The DFS is scheduled to be completed by 2022 and will be followed by a decision by the Iluka Board whether to proceed with development of the Project.

## Draft EES scoping requirements

The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has released the draft EES scoping requirements for the Wimmera Project and is seeking public comment. These scoping requirements will guide the technical assessments that will be undertaken as part of the preparation of the EES for the Wimmera Project.

The draft EES scoping requirements are available here: [www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/wimmera-mineral-sands](http://www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/wimmera-mineral-sands)

