

## Mining, Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resource Extraction

### Background

The Shire of Broome does not approve or regulate mining, petroleum or geothermal energy resource projects, however at times may be requested to provide comment or engage with proponents or the State in this regard. The Policy has been prepared to guide the Shire's response and position in the event proponents or the State request comment or engagement with the Shire or Council.

### Policy Objective

- To support the expansion of industry, and sustainable industry, that helps deliver economic prosperity to its residents, whilst ensuring every effort is undertaken to make sure that the initial assessment as well as compliance and monitoring of any Mining, Petroleum and Geothermal activities carried out are at a level that is compatible with the amenity of the natural and built environment and that of the Shire's residents.
- To promote that any activities associated with mining or the extraction of petroleum and geothermal energy resources are to be thoroughly assessed, monitored and managed effectively by the appropriate agencies and to ensure local economic, environmental and social values are enhanced and developed.
- To provide for the Shire to undertake an advocacy role on behalf of the community when being consulted by the State Government and resource companies with regard to future proposals within the Shire and potential benefit to the community. This advocacy role includes encouraging proponents to be as transparent as possible with the project information.

### Policy Statement

- 1.1 The Shire of Broome supports the extraction of natural resources including mining and petroleum and geothermal energy resources where:
  - a.) Measures are implemented to deliver positive economic benefits to the local economy and programs that would deliver positive outcomes to the community;
  - b.) The impacts on Shire Infrastructure are adequately compensated for in the immediate and future life of that infrastructure and that any additional infrastructure required is adequately provided by the proponent;
  - c.) Due regard is given to the purpose and objectives of the relevant zone/reserve under Local Planning Scheme No 6 and aims to ensure the proposal is compatible with these and surrounding uses;

- d.) The potential impacts on the public health and drinking water areas have been considered by the relevant authorities and related approvals granted for the activities to be conducted; and
  - e.) Environmental and cultural matters have been taken into account by the relevant authorities and related approvals granted for the activities to be conducted.
  - f.) Proponents fully disclose environmental and groundwater data to the community.
- 1.2 The Shire of Broome accepts the process undertaken by the Department of Mines and Petroleum and/or the proponent with respect to consultation with the relevant people directly affected with regards to land use rights and or compensation.
- 1.3 The Shire of Broome accepts the positions and assessment processes of the relevant regulatory bodies including the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Environmental Protection Authority, Department of Health, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Department of Environment and Energy (Federal), Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and Department of Aboriginal Affairs with regard to the following aspects of the proposals:
- i). potential impacts on the public health (as considered in 1.1 d.);
  - ii). potential impacts on drinking water areas (as considered in 1.1 d.);
  - iii). potential environmental implications have been taken into account and best practice mitigation strategies adopted (as considered in 1.1 e.);
  - iv). potential impacts upon agricultural land and food production; and
  - v). potential impacts on areas of Aboriginal heritage and cultural significance (as considered in 1.1 e.)).
- 1.4 The Shire of Broome seeks annual presentations from the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, including a questions and answer session, on its monitoring and compliance of onshore gas, oil and mining operations in the Shire. There presentations will be open to the public.
- 1.5 The Shire of Broome requests a full environmental impact assessment by the EPA of onshore gas proposals which includes assessment of impacts to surface and groundwater.

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