



## **PART C – Specific Concerns**

### **GUIDELINES FOR AN**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **ON THE PROPOSED MCARTHUR RIVER MINE EXPANSION**

## **1 SPECIFIC CONCERNS OF THE PROJECT**

*In addition to the requirement of Part B of the guidelines, the following issues have been raised, during the public consultation period on these guidelines, as project specific issues that will need to be addressed within the draft EIS. These issues are by no means the only issues of concern with the project, and the proponent should not limit studies and assessments to these concerns alone.*

### **River diversion and weir**

The diversion of the McArthur River and Barney Creek and the weir on the Glyde River have raised concerns about downstream impacts on the McArthur River as far down as the estuary and into the Gulf of Carpentaria.

1. Changes to environmental flows in the McArthur River.
2. Impacts on sacred sites caused by the diversion of the McArthur River.
3. Effects on activities and uses such a recreational fishing.
4. Are there alternatives to the weir on the Glyde River for water supply and storage, eg offstream storage with wet season harvest.

### **Lead in tailings**

Given that the mine will only produce zinc, concerns have been raised about the high lead content in the tailings.

1. Will any special design or provision be made for the future extraction of lead and also silver from the tailings storage facility?
2. Stability of the tailings storage facility to ensure no future failure and downstream contamination of the McArthur River, both during operations and following decommissioning of the mine.

**Decommissioning and pit water.**

Management of the water in the pit and its quality once the mine has been decommissioned were also of concern.

**Social and economic implications**

Issues raised included the interaction of the current mining operation with the local community, including employment and enterprise development possibilities.