

Attachment 2

For Public Notice via Internet

REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978*

Title of Proposal: **Bondi East Far North Mineral Sands Mine**

Proponent: **Iluka Resources Limited**

Description of Project:

It is proposed to mine parts of the northern section of the 'Bondi East' mineral sands deposit. The project site is located immediately to the north of the existing mine at Douglas, in western Victoria, which is mining the southern section of the 'Bondi East' deposit.

The mine will have a footprint of approximately 200 hectares. The areas proposed to be mined are: Area A located directly to the north of Little Young's State Forest and Area C to the north of Hobbs and Flynn Road. A haulage route of approximately 12 km in length is also proposed, which will be used to transport the ore to the Wet Concentrating Plant at the Douglas mine for processing. See attached map.

Decision:

The Minister for Planning has decided that an Environment Effects Statement (EES) is required for the Bondi East Far North Mineral Sands Mine as described in the referral accepted on 3 April 2009.

Reasons for Decision:

- The proposal has the potential to have significant impacts on biodiversity and ecological values, due to the extent of proposed vegetation clearance, associated habitat removal and fragmentation, as well as the quality of vegetation that would be affected.
- The potential for the proposal to have a significant cumulative impact on biodiversity values, taking into account the impacts associated with other mines in the region.
- In-depth assessment of potential impacts on the area's biodiversity and ecological values, as well as opportunities to avoid, minimise and offset these impacts, is needed, together with an assessment of other potential adverse environmental impacts, available mitigation measures and socio-economic benefits.

Date of Decision: 03 JUN 2009