



Notification of

**REFERRAL DECISION AND DESIGNATED PROPONENT – controlled action
Goschen Mineral Sands and Rare Earths Project, Vic (EPBC 2018/8291)**

This decision is made under section 75 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

proposed action	To develop and operate a mine and associated infrastructure, to extract and process heavy mineral sands and rare earths, approximately 20 km south of Swan Hill, Victoria [See EPBC Act referral 2018/8291].
decision on proposed action	<p>The proposed action is a controlled action.</p> <p>The project will require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed.</p>
relevant controlling provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ramsar wetlands (sections 16 & 17B)• Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)• Nuclear actions (sections 21 & 22A)
designated proponent	<p>VHM EXPLORATION PTY LTD</p> <p>ABN 58 601 004 102</p>
assessment approach	The project will be assessed under the assessment bilateral agreement with Victoria.
Decision-maker	
Name and position	<p>James Barker</p> <p>Assistant Secretary</p> <p>Assessments and Governance Branch</p>
Signature	
date of decision	19/12/18