

14 November 2011

The Hon. Robin Chapple MLC  
Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region  
41 Havelock Street  
West Perth WA 6005



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BY:.....

Dear Mr Chapple,

**Change to Anketell Port proposal for Environmental Assessment (EPA Assessment No. 1794)**

API Management Pty Ltd (API) is the proponent for the West Pilbara Iron Ore Project (WPIOP), an iron ore mining and export operation based on a number of resources located on the western fringe of the Hamersley Ranges, south of Pannawonica, Western Australia. The project involves the development of a series of open-cut mines, a railway and port facilities at Anketell Point.

The establishment and operation of the mining area and associated infrastructure, and construction of a transport corridor has been subject to an environmental assessment by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The EPA released its report recommending environmental approval of the mine and rail components of WPIOP under the EP Act on 3 August 2011, and the outcome of the Commonwealth's assessment under the EPBC Act is expected in the near future.

The Proposal for establishment and operation of a deepwater port including iron ore stockpiling, transfer and ship loading facilities at Anketell Point is subject to a separate environmental assessment under the EP Act and EPBC Act. The Public Environmental Review (PER)/draft Public Environment Report (draft PER) for this Proposal was released for public review and submissions in December 2010.

API acknowledges the submission made by you on its Anketell Port PER/draft PER published in December 2010, has summarised the issues raised in your submission and prepared a response to these issues for the consideration of EPA and SEWPaC in the assessment of the Proposal.

This letter is to inform you of several changes that have been made to the design of the Proposal.

The PER released in December 2010 described a multi-user port design based on two terminals providing an ultimate iron ore export capacity in the order of 350 Mtpa (these terminals were conceptually shown in Figure 1.4 of the PER/draft PER). The PER described in detail Stage 1 of the Anketell Port development, which included a terminal to be constructed by API utilising Dixon Island to provide for, with one exception, the export of up to a nominal 115 Mtpa of iron ore. The exception was the requirement to establish two additional ship berths (i.e berths '3' and '4') which would involve additional dredging. In the PER, API discussed its view that the 115 Mtpa capacity provided for the foreseeable early demand for port export facilities by API (45 Mtpa) and other potential users. The construction of the "Future Terminal" (by others at a suitable future stage) would be required to achieve an ultimate port export capacity of 350 Mtpa.

The public submission period for the API PER closed in February 2011. In the months following the State Government embarked on a strategic planning exercise for the Anketell area to which API contributed substantial data arising from its studies of the site over the previous four years and relevant feedback from public submissions on the PER/Draft PER. In June 2011, a draft Anketell Port and Strategic Industrial Area

Port Master Plan (Port Master Plan) prepared by the Dampier Port Authority, was communicated to API and other interested parties by the Department of State Development.

The port design adopted in the Port Master Plan comprises a single large causeway stepping directly off the mainland along the conceptual alignment of the "Future Terminal" shown in API's published PER/draft PER. The Port Master Plan envisages two export terminals would ultimately be constructed off this one causeway.

API has evaluated the Port Master Plan in detail giving particular attention to the capital cost of the design, port operability and efficacy, the nature of public comment on the API PER and the implications for environmental and other government approvals for the port. Through the Anketell Port PER, API is seeking environmental approval for the proposed multi-user port on behalf of the State (and all potential users). After careful consideration API has agreed to pursue environmental assessment and approval of the port design described in the Port Master Plan, which has necessitated amendments to the proposal described in its PER. These amendments can be addressed through the environmental assessment processes under Section 43A of the EP Act and Section 156A of the EPBC Act.

The key changes to the Proposal arising from alignment with the Port Master Plan are:

1. Removal of proposed causeway between the mainland and Dixon Island, infrastructure on Dixon Island and causeway and terminal extending seaward from Dixon Island.
2. Construction of a modified causeway/breakwater from the mainland at the location of the 'Future terminal' described in API PER/draft PER, and associated adjustments to the shipping channel and turning basins.
3. Adjustment and extension to the proposed rail alignment entering the port area; and
4. Minor adjustments to onshore and offshore development envelopes.

Figure 1, attached, shows the revised Proposal design in relation to the published PER design.

API interpreted your submission on the PER published in December 2010 to objecting to the proposed use of Dixon Island for the project due to the potential impact on its environmental, geological and heritage values.

The amendments to the Proposal to avoid disturbance to Dixon Island (along the lines of the suggestion made in your submission) would appear to remove the concerns you raised.

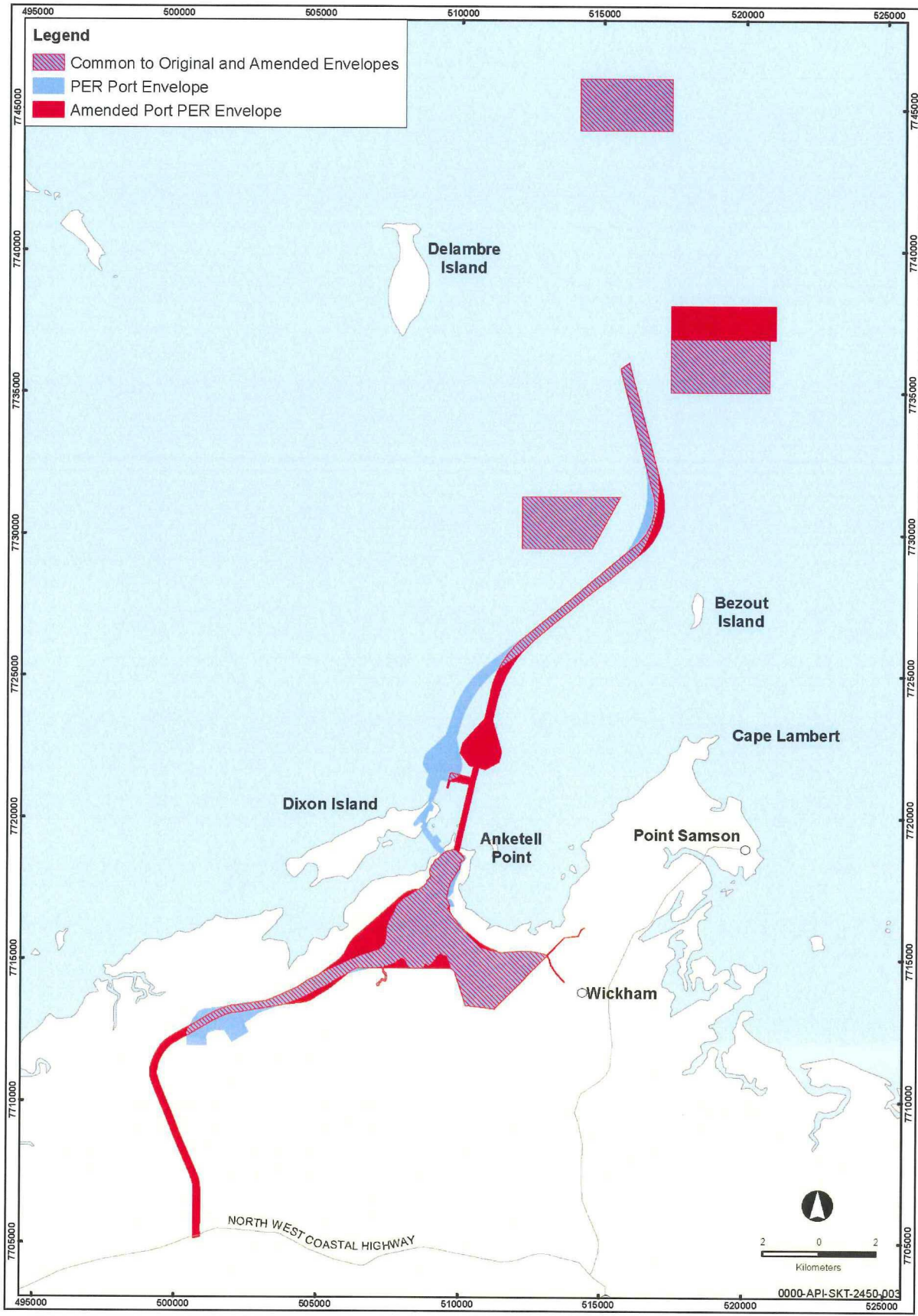
API will be making the document that describes in detail the Proposal amendments and our response to submissions on the PER (December 2010) available on our website ([www.apijv.com.au](http://www.apijv.com.au)) until Friday 16 December 2011.

If you are interested in any further information or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Jackie Boyer (6430 2635) or Spencer Shute (6430 2642).

Yours sincerely



**Piers Goodman**  
**Manager Environment and Community**



**Figure 1 Overview of original and amended Port PER envelopes**