



TOMINGLEY
GOLD OPERATIONS PTY LTD
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Alkane Resources Ltd)

ABN: 53 149 040 371

Tomingley Gold Mine Submissions Report

Project Approval No. 09_0155

Modification 4



Prepared by:

R.W. CORKERY & CO. PTY. LIMITED

March 2020

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Prepared for:

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Ref No. 616/39

March 2020



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CONTENTS

	Page
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 SCOPE.....	1
1.2 DOCUMENT FORMAT	2
2. ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS.....	3
3. ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE EXHIBITION	4
4. RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS	5
4.1 DAMS SAFETY NSW	5
4.2 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT – RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS	5
4.3 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT – WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR (NRAR)	11
4.4 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY	12
5. UPDATED EVALUATION OF MERITS.....	13
5.1 NEED FOR THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION	13
5.2 ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	13
5.3 STATUTORY CONSIDERATION	13
5.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	13
5.5 ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS	13
6. REFERENCES.....	14

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Submissions Received.....	15
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FIGURES

Figure 1 Approved Site Layout.....	6
Figure 2 Revised Final Landform and Land Use	8

TABLES

Table 1 Submissions Summary	3
Table 2 Summary – RSF Water Levels – Trigger Action Response Plan	10



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE

This *Modification Report* has been prepared by RW Corkery & Co. Pty. Limited on behalf of Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd (the Proponent) to support the application to modify Project Approval (PA) 09_0155 for the Tomingley Gold Mine (the Proposed Modification). The Tomingley Gold Mine (the Mine) is located immediately to the south of the village of Tomingley in central western NSW. The Mine is operated by Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Alkane Resources Ltd (Alkane).

PA 09_0155 has been modified three times previously as follows.

- MOD 1 (November 2013) - to adjust a range of commitments made during the original application which were no longer appropriate.
- MOD 2 (April 2015) – to permit enhancement of the approved and constructed amenity bund and a cut back of the approved Caloma 1 Open Cut.
- MOD 3 (July 2019) – to permit establishment of the Caloma 2 Open Cut, underground extraction from the Caloma 1 and 2 deposits and amendments to waste rock, surface water and soil management.

The Proposed Modification seeks consent for the construction of Stages 7 to 9 of the Residue Storage Facility. This would require the following.

- An increase in the capacity of the Residue Storage Facility from approximately 6.57Mt to approximately 8.93Mt.
- An increase in the approved maximum elevation of the Residue Storage Facility of 6m from 280.5m AHD to 286.5m AHD.
- An increase in the approved footprint of the Residue Storage Facility from approximately 50ha to approximately 55ha.

The Proposed Modification also seeks consent for the importation of waste rock and a bulk sample from the proposed underground exploration drive to the south of the Mine Site, and use of the Mine Site and associated infrastructure to support underground exploration operations south of the Mine Site.

No other changes to the approved Mine are proposed.

The application to modify PA 09_0155 was made under Section 4.55(2) of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*. The Modification Report was placed on public exhibition until 10 March 2020.

1.2 DOCUMENT FORMAT

This document has been compiled generally in accordance with the draft document *Preparing a Submissions Report - Guidance for State Significant Projects* dated June 2019 and includes in six sections with three appendices.

- Section 1: Introduces the scope and format of this document and the assessment process to date.
- Section 2: Presents an analysis of submissions categorised according to the issues raised.
- Section 3: Provides a summary of the actions undertaken since the exhibition period to address the issues raised in submissions.
- Section 4: Provides a detailed response to the issues raised in submissions.
- Section 5: Presents an evaluation of the merits of the Project, drawing upon the relevant responses to the issues raised in submissions.
- Section 6: References.

A single appendix is attached to this document presenting a copy of all submissions received

2. ANALYSIS OF SUBMISSIONS

Table 1 presents a summary of the submissions received during the exhibition period and the issues raised in each submission. A full copy of all submissions received in relation to the Proposed Modification is provided in **Appendix 1**.

During the exhibition period, nine submissions were received. Of these, four agencies indicated that they had no comment on the Proposed Modification and one indicated support.

There were no submissions from the public regarding the Proposed Modification.

Table 1
Submissions Summary

Submitter	Reference ID	No Comment	Support	Comments								
				General Comments	Noise	Water		Biodiversity	Rehabilitation	Amenity	Social	Economic
						Surface Water	Groundwater					
Dams Safety NSW	SE-122168	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DPIE	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DPIE - Water and NRAR	SE-121857	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Environment Protection Authority	SE-121855	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Division of Resources & Geoscience	SE-121813	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biodiversity and Conservation Division	SE-121731	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DPI - Agriculture	SE-121814	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DPIE - Crown Lands	SE-121807	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Narromine Shire Council	SE-122814	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		4	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

3. ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE EXHIBITION

No actions in relation to the Proposed Modification were undertaken during or since the exhibition period. It is noted, however, that the Proponent has continued to progress the following Projects (see also Section 1.2.3 of the Modification Report).

- Surface mineral exploration – Drilling has continued on the San Antonio Prospect, with the Maiden Mineral Resource expected to be made available in late March or early April 2020.
- Underground mineral exploration – An application for approval under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* was submitted to the Resources Regulator in November 2019. The Resources Regulator requested additional consultation in late December 2019 and the Proponent, having completed that consultation, resubmitted the *Review of Environmental Factors* on 8 March 2020. A determination of that application is awaited.
- SAR Project –design and environmental studies for this project are ongoing.

4. RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

4.1 DAMS SAFETY NSW

Recommendation

Tomingley Mine notifies Dams Safety NSW of the proposed significant change to the RSF in writing before any significant change to the configuration of the dam. See Dams Safety Regulation 2019 Part 6 — 21.

Response

The Proponent will notify Dams Safety NSW of the proposed significant change to the RSF in writing before any significant change to the configuration of the dam as per Dams Safety Regulation 2019 Part 6-21.

Recommendation

Tomingley continues monitoring the safety of the RSF:

- *Monitoring blast vibration (PPV) at the dam embankment*
- *Limit blast vibration (PPV) at the RSF embankment to < 50mm/s*
- *Monitoring seepage from the RSF*
- *Monitor ground movement of the embankment*

Response

The Proponent will continue to monitor blast vibration (PPV) at the dam embankment, seepage from RSF and ground movement of the embankment. Blast vibration (PPV) at the RSF embankment will continue to be limited to < 50mm/s.

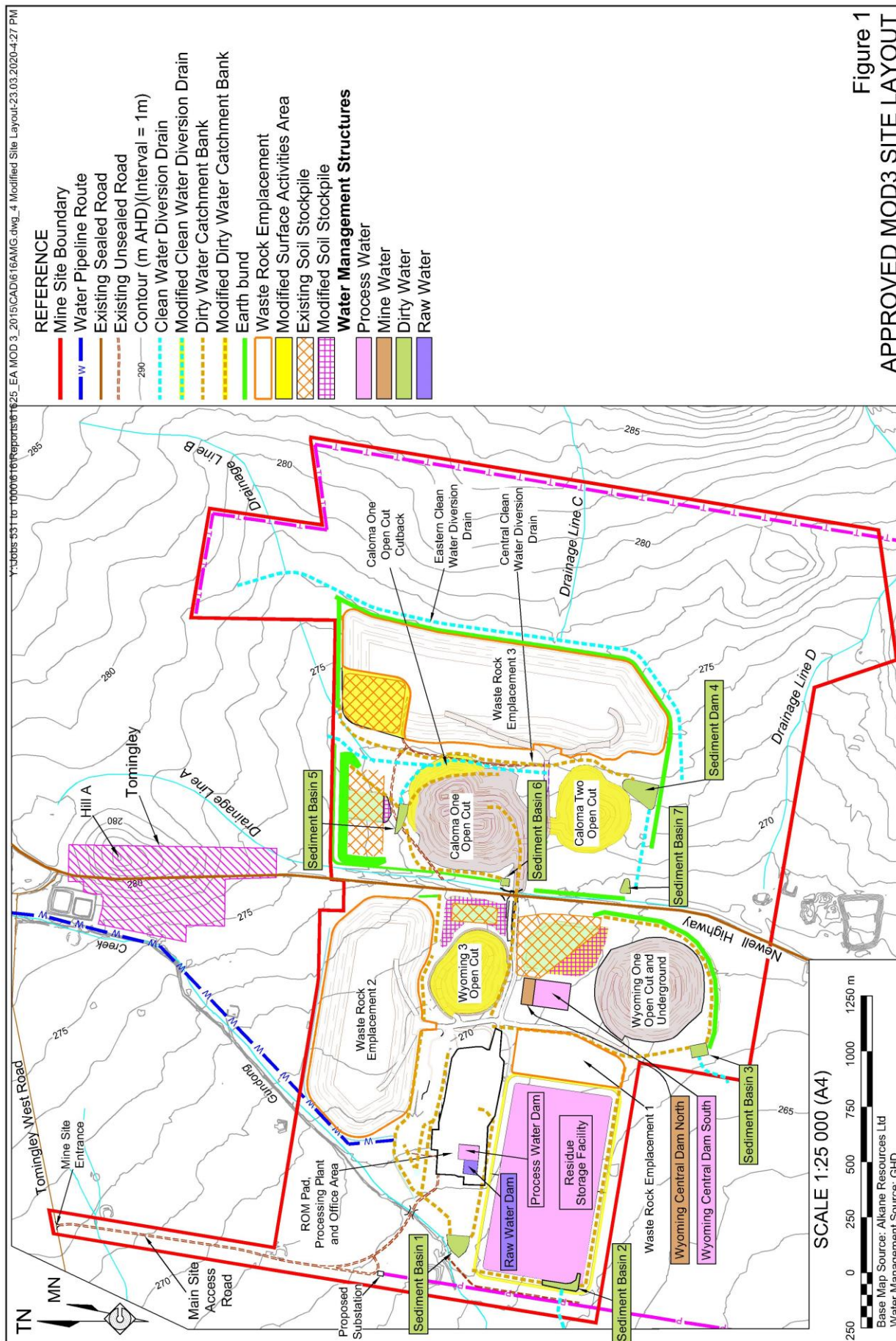
4.2 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT – RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS

Representative Comment(s)

Please provide an updated Figure 2 of the Modification Report to reflect all the currently approved infrastructures, and include all the surface water structures (for both processed water and mine water)

Response

Figure 1 presents the approved site layout, including water management structures.



Representative Comment(s)

Please confirm if the rehabilitation plan map included in the project approval is still current.

Response

Appendix 6 of PA 09_0155 displays the approved indicative final landform and land use following rehabilitation of the Mine Site. The rehabilitation strategy outlined in this plan remains current. **Figure 2** presents a revised version of this plan taking into account the slightly increased footprint of the Residue Storage Facility.

Representative Comment(s)

The RSF area in the original application was 42 ha. Please clarify when it was increased to 50 ha and why the GHD (2019) RSF concept design refers to 40.5 ha for the RSF area (section 2.1).

Response

Modification 3 included an extension to the approved Residue Storage Facility to permit a downstream lift for Stage 3 of the Residue Storage Facility. The 40.5ha area identified in Section 2.1 of GHD (2019) refers to the aerial extent of the tailings, not to the overall footprint of the Residue Storage Facility itself. Aerial survey dated May 2019 identifies that the as constructed footprint of the Facility is approximately 50ha.

Representative Comment(s)

Section 2.2.2 of the Modification Report: 'The approved Residue Storage Facility includes six lifts or Stages, with each constructed using upstream lifts, namely construction of the subsequent lift on previously deposited residue'. However, MOD3 approval involved downstream construction. Please clarify why the Modification Report referred to upstream method in the previous stages of the RSF lifts.

Response

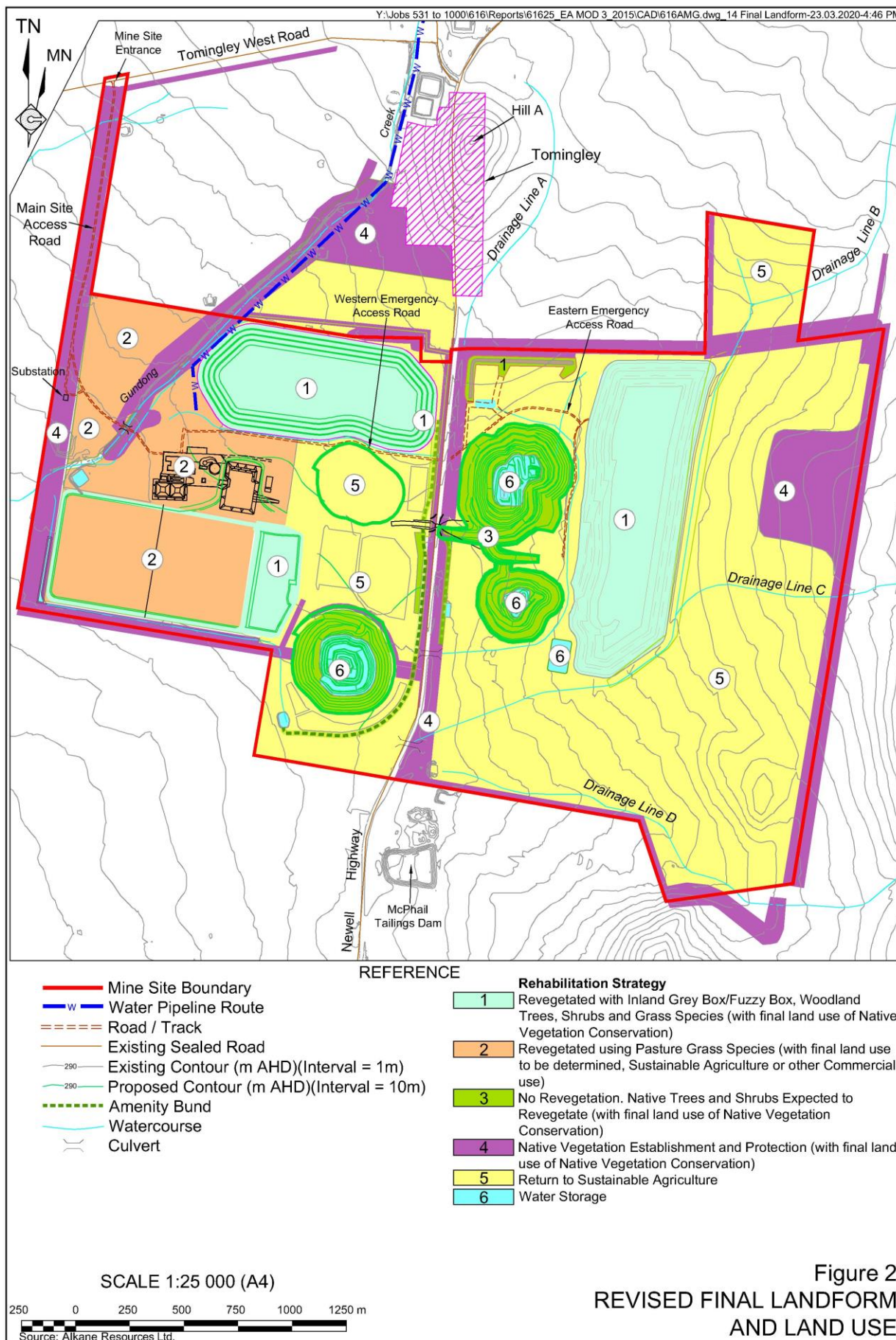
Reference to all lifts being upstream lifts in the Modification Report was an error. Stage 3 included the use of a downstream lift. The construction methods of previous stages is not a matter that is relevant to the current application.

Representative Comment(s)

The Modification Report states that material within the project's WREs or on-going mining operations would be used for construction of the modified RSF. Please clarify about the 'mining operation' and the type of material that would result from this operation.

Response

The ongoing mining operations referenced in Section 2.2.3 is the approved mining operation and the material that would be produced is waste rock, the composition of which is consistent with existing waste rock with the Mine Site.



Representative Comment(s)

Please provide the capacities/volumes of the Wyoming central dam and processed water pond (individually).

Response

The capacities of water management structures within the Mine Site are detailed in the approved Water Management Plan as follows.

- Wyoming Central Dam North – 17.4ML.
- Wyoming Central Dam South – 162.5ML.
- Process Water Dam – 9.2ML.

Representative Comment(s)

Section 2.2.5 of the Modification Report: 'In summary, GHD (2019) determined that even under 95th percentile wet rainfall years, the volume of water within the process water system would remain very substantially under the maximum capacity of approximately 575ML'. Please provide the reference for the 575 ML, which was not stated in the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report.

Response

As indicated, Section 2.2.5 of the Modification Report refers to a maximum capacity of approximately 575ML. This approximate maximum capacity is based on Figure 5-1 in Section 5 of GHD (2019) which indicates (via dashed pink line) that the total combined physical water storage capacity of the Residue Storage Dam (110ML) and the Residue Storage Facility.

Representative Comment(s)

Section 7.1 of the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report: 'Any excess water would be pumped to the Residue Storage Dam (RSD), previously known as Wyoming Central Dam (WCD), or to one of the unfilled open pits in an emergency situation'. The Modification Report does not make reference to the emergency plan. Please provide background information about the emergency plan.

Response

Emergency procedures relating to water management at the Mine Site are detailed in the approved *Water Management Plan*. Table 8-4 of the Plan provides a Trigger Action Response Plan for the management of water with regards to RSF operation. **Table 2** provides a summary of the relevant water level management triggers and responses.

Table 2
Summary – RSF Water Levels – Trigger Action Response Plan

Stage	Trigger	Action	Response
Normal	-	1. Captured water is decanted back to Process Water Dam.	-
Stage 1	Volume of water on RSF surface is greater than 50% of total capacity.	1. Increase pump rate of transfers to Process Water Dam or transfer water to Wyoming Central Dam – South.	1. Increase inspection frequency. 2. Undertake a round of groundwater monitoring.
Stage 2	Volume of water on RSF surface is greater than 80% of total capacity.	1. Alert Mine and Operations Manager. 2. Dewatering to any suitable open cut pit or available storage.	1. Undertake round of water quality assessment. 2. Increase inspection frequency. 3. Notify Dam Safety Committee. 4. Undertake a round of groundwater monitoring.

Representative Comment(s)

Please confirm that no changes would be made to the current surface water structures and management methods following this modification application.

Response

No significant changes to existing surface water structures and management methods are currently proposed. Changes to surface water structures and management methods may be required following the preparation of the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) for the Proposed Modification (see Section 4.1.5). The ESCP would be submitted to the Department for approval prior to the commencement of works.

Representative Comment(s)

Section 2.2.6 of the Modification Report refers to sections 3 and 4 of GHD 2019 report. Please clarify is this is the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report. If so, sections 3 and 4 are not relevant to the seepage analysis; this analysis is presented in section 6.

Response

The Proponent acknowledges this error and confirms that Section 6 of GHD (2019) presents the relevant information regarding seepage analysis which was relied upon in the Modification Report.

Representative Comment(s)

Please clarify about the 'tonnage' that is referred to in a number of places in the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report. For example: LOM tonnage and reduced tonnage.

Response

Life of Mine (LOM) tonnage refers to the expected tonnage of tailings material generated by the Mine based on the mine schedule and anticipated extraction and processing rates. The cumulative storage requirements for LOM tailings are detailed in Table 7-1 of GHD (2019) and Table 5 of the Modification Report. It is anticipated that the proposed stages 7 to 9 lifts would increase the capacity of the RSF to permit storage of an additional 2.36Mt of tailings residue.

The term “reduced tonnage” in Section 10 of GHD (2019) should be read as ‘reduced rate of tailing production’ associated with the fact that underground mining rates, and therefore processing rates, would be lower than during open cut mining operations.

Representative Comment(s)

Please clarify about the total number of residences in Tomingley Village. Modification Report refers to 30 residences, but it is not clear what this number is (i.e. whether it is the total number of neighbours, sensitive receivers or the total residences in the village). How many of the residences are sensitive receivers or adjoin the project site?

Response

Section 6.7.1 of the Modification Report indicates that the Proponent understands that approximately 30 people live in the village of Tomingley. This number refers to the total number of residents rather than the total number of sensitive receivers. The project site is located immediately south of Tomingley Village and therefore all residences within the village are considered to be sensitive receivers.

As outlined in Section 6.2.1 of the Modification report, a noise assessment (SLR, 2011) was prepared for the original Project Approval. As shown in Figure 9 of the Modification Report, this assessment grouped all residences in Tomingley Village within groups C and D for noise impact assessment purposes. Monthly noise monitoring undertaken at the Mine assesses compliance with the relevant noise impact criteria for all residences in Tomingley.

4.3 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT – WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACCESS REGULATOR (NRAR)

Representative Comment(s)

The proponent should ensure that potential impacts due to the proposed ground disturbance are managed within the requirements of the guideline, Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom 2004) and the current Water Management Plan for the project.

Response

The proponent commits to the preparation of an *Erosion and Sediment Control Plan* specific to Stages 7 to 9 and ground disturbance associated with the Proposed Modification. In addition, as required by Condition 5 of Schedule 5 of PA09_0155, the *Water Management Plan* would be reviewed and if necessary revised within 3 months of determination of the application.

4.4 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Representative Comment(s)

Prior to starting construction of the Stage 7 TSF wall lift, the applicant must develop an erosion and sediment control plan specific to the stage 7 to 9 TSF wall lifts.

Response

The Proponent commits to preparing an Erosion and Sediment Control specific to stage 7 to 9 TSF wall lifts and surface disturbance associated with the RSF. The ESCP will be submitted to the Department and to the EPA for approval prior to the commencement of works associated with the proposed Modification.

Representative Comment(s):

The proponent must:

- a) Minimise the waste generated by the project.*
- b) Ensure that all waste generated by the project is appropriately stored, handled and disposed of,*
- c) Ensure that all waste accepted at the premises is wholly permitted by the issued Environment Protection License; and*
- d) Manage on-site sewage treatment disposal in accordance with the requirements of Council, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.*

Response

Consistent with current practice, the Proponent would minimise waste generated by the Project and manage all waste in accordance with the relevant site management plans, approvals and licences. As the purpose of the Propose Modification is to increase the capacity of the approved RSF, it is in the financial and ongoing interest of the Proponent to minimise waste generation in order to maximise the utility and longevity of the RSF.

The Proponent would also ensure that EPL 20169 would be amended to permit acceptance of waste rock from the proposed exploration decline.

Finally, the Proponent notes that there no modifications to the proposed sewage management systems proposed.

5. UPDATED EVALUATION OF MERITS

5.1 NEED FOR THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION

The Proponent anticipates that up to approximately 2.96Mt of ore may be processed between 1 July 2019 and 31 December 2022. The approved Residue Storage Facility had at 1 July 2019, a remaining capacity for approximately 1.02Mt of residue, a shortfall of approximately 1.94Mt. The Proposed Modification would provide additional storage for approximately 2.36Mt of residue.

In the absence of the Proposed Modification, mining operations would cease in mid-2020, approximately two and a half years prior to the approved end of Mine life. This would result in the loss of economic and other benefits described in Table 4 of the Modification Report ceasing at an earlier date than necessary.

5.2 ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The assessment of Ecologically Sustainable Development presented in Section 7.2 of the Modification Report remains unchanged in light of the submissions received.

5.3 STATUTORY CONSIDERATION

There are no additional statutory considerations arising out of the submissions received.

5.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

With the exception of the responses provided in Section 4, all other considerations outlined in Section 7 of the Modification Report remain unchanged as a result of the submissions received.

5.5 ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS

The EPA and DPIE – Water & NRAR requested that an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan covering Stages 7 to 9 of the RSF and associated ground disturbance associated with the Proposed Modification be prepared. The Proponent has committed to the preparation of the requested Plan in accordance with *Managing Urban Stormwater* and would provide a draft copy of that Plan to the Department and the EPA for approval prior to the commencement of work associated with the Proposed Modification.

6. REFERENCES

GHD Pty Ltd (2019). *Residue Storage Facility Stage 7-9 Concept Design*, prepared for Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd, December 2019

Landcom (2004). *Managing Urban Stormwater*, March 2004

SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (2011). *Noise and Blasting Assessment*, prepared for Alkane Resources Ltd, September 2011

Appendix 1

Submissions Received

(Total No. of pages including blank pages = 12)



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Mr Michael Sutherland
General Manager NSW
Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd
PO Box 59
TOMINGLEY NSW 2869

13/03/2020

Dear Mr Sutherland

**Tomingley Gold Project – Proposed Modification 4 (MP09_0155 MOD 4)
Response to Submissions**

The exhibition of the proposed modification to Tomingley Gold Project concluded on 10 March 2020.

The Department requests that you prepare and submit a Submissions Report detailing your response to issues raised in submissions. All the submissions can be viewed on the Department's website: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/>.

Please note that the Department's Resources Regulator (RR) is finalising its advice, and you will be notified of this submission when available.

In addition, the Department has identified some issues regarding some aspects of the proposed modification that require clarification (see **Attachment 1**).

The Department requests that you provide a written response to all submissions and issues raised by Monday 30 March 2020.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Mandana Mazaheri on 02 9995 5093.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S O'Donoghue'.

Stephen O'Donoghue
Director
Resource Assessments
as delegate for the Planning Secretary

Enclosed: Attachment 1

Attachment 1

Matter	Consideration
Figures and maps	- Please provide an updated Figure 2 of the Modification Report to reflect all the currently approved infrastructures, and include all the surface water structures (for both processed water and mine water) - Please confirm if the rehabilitation plan map included in the project approval is still current.
RSF	- The RSF area in the original application was 42 ha. Please clarify when it was increased to 50 ha and why the GHD (2019) RSF concept design refers to 40.5 ha for the RSF area (section 2.1). - Section 2.2.2 of the Modification Report: <i>'The approved Residue Storage Facility includes six lifts or Stages, with each constructed using upstream lifts, namely construction of the subsequent lift on previously deposited residue'</i>. However, MOD3 approval involved downstream construction. Please clarify why the Modification Report referred to upstream method in the previous stages of the RSF lifts. - The Modification Report states that material within the project's WREs or on-going mining operations would be used for construction of the modified RSF. Please clarify about the 'mining operation' and the type of material that would result from this operation.
Water	- Please provide the capacities/volumes of the Wyoming central dam and processed water pond (individually). - Section 2.2.5 of the Modification Report: <i>'In summary, GHD (2019) determined that even under 95th percentile wet rainfall years, the volume of water within the process water system would remain very substantially under the maximum capacity of approximately 575ML'</i>. Please provide the reference for the 575 ML, which was not stated in the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report. - Section 7.1 of the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report: <i>'Any excess water would be pumped to the Residue Storage Dam (RSD), previously known as Wyoming Central Dam (WCD), or to one of the unfilled open pits in an emergency situation'</i>. The Modification Report does not make reference to the emergency plan. Please provide background information about the emergency plan. - Please confirm that no changes would be made to the current surface water structures and management methods following this modification application.
General	- Section 2.2.6 of the Modification Report refers to sections 3 and 4 of GHD 2019 report. Please clarify is this is the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report. If so, sections 3 and 4 are not relevant to the seepage analysis; this analysis is presented in section 6. - Please clarify about the 'tonnage' that is referred to in a number of places in the GHD (2019) RSF concept design report. For example: LOM tonnage and reduced tonnage. - Please clarify about the total number of residences in Tomingley Village. Modification Report refers to 30 residences, but it is not clear what this number is (i.e. whether it is the total number of neighbours, sensitive receivers or the total residences in the village). How many of the residences are sensitive receivers or adjoin the project site?



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

Our ref: DOC20/137162
Your ref: MP09_0155-Mod-4

Ms Mandana Mazaheri
Team Leader
Planning and Assessment Group
mandana.mazaheri@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mandana,

Subject: Tomingley Gold Mine SSD Modification 4 – increased RSF capacity.

Thank you for your email dated 17 February 2020 to the Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD) inviting comments on Tomingley Gold Mine SSD Modification 4 – increased Residue Storage Facility (RSF) capacity.

BCD understands that the proposal seeks to modify Project Approval 09_0155 which involves construction of Stages 7 to 9 of the RSF. This would require an increase in the:

- capacity of the RSF from approximately 6.57 million tonnes (Mt) to approximately 8.93 Mt
- approved maximum elevation of the RSF of 6 metres from 280.5 metres to 286.5 metres
- approved footprint of the RSF from approximately 50 hectares to 55 hectares.

It is understood that there will be no further impact to biodiversity or cultural heritage as the increased footprint of the Residue Storage Facility occurs on previously cleared and disturbed land.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Helen Knight, Conservation Planning Officer, via helen.knight@environment.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6883 5327.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Renee Shepherd'.

Renee Shepherd
Acting Senior Team Leader Planning North West
Biodiversity and Conservation Division

26 February 2020



DIVISION OF RESOURCES & GEOSCIENCE ADVICE RESPONSE

Dr Mandana Mazaheri
Energy & Resource Assessments - Planning & Assessment Division
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

mandana.mazaheri@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mandana

Project: Tomingley Gold Project – Modification 4
Stage: Advice on Modification Report
Development Application: MP09_0155-Mod-4

I refer to your correspondence dated 17 February 2019 inviting the Division of Resources & Geoscience to provide comments on the Tomingley Gold Project – Modification 4 (the Project) Modification Report submitted by Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd (the Proponent).

The relevant units internal to the Division have been consulted in generating this advice. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Planning & Assessment Division and the Proponent should be aware that matters pertaining to rehabilitation, environmental impacts of final landform design, subsidence, subsidence management, mine operator and safety are not assessed by the Division. Reference should be made to the response from the NSW Resources Regulator on these matters.

In view of the constraints outlined in the Proponent's Modification Report and based on the information currently available, the Division considers the Project satisfies section 3A objects of the *Mining Act 1992* and the requirements of clause 15 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007. The Project allows for the continued efficient development and utilisation of mineral resources which will continue to foster significant social and economic benefits.

The Division has determined that should the project be approved, efficient and optimised resource outcomes can be achieved, and any identified risks or opportunities can be effectively regulated through the conditions of mining authorities issued under the *Mining Act 1992*.

The Division requests to review the draft conditions of approval before finalisation and any granting of development consent.

For further enquiries on this matter, please contact the Assessment Coordination Unit – Resource Assessments on 02 4063 6534 or assessment.coordination@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Adam W. Banister
**Senior Advisor Assessment Coordination
Resource Operations
Division of Resources & Geoscience**
27 February 2020

for
Stephen Wills
**Executive Director Resource Operations
Division of Resources & Geoscience**



Our reference: SF20/14084; DOC20/135643-3
Contact : Mr Joshua Loxley; (02) 6883 5326

Resource and Energy Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mandana Mazaheri

2 March 2020

Dear Ms Mazaheri

Tomingley Gold Mine – Modification 4 – MP09_0155

I refer to your email to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) dated 17 February 2020, seeking comment regarding the Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd's (the applicant) Modification 4 to MP09_0155 (the proposal) for the Tomingley Gold Mine, Tomingley (the Premises).

As requested, the EPA has reviewed the modification report and supporting information for the proposal dated February 2020 and has provided recommend conditions of approval and general comments in **Attachment A**.

The EPA understands that the Proposed modification will include the following;

1. Construction of Stages 7 to 9 of the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), comprising an additional 2.36Mt of capacity and in increase in height of 6m.
2. Importation of waste rock and bulk samples from the proposed underground exploration area to the south of the mine, and infrastructure to support underground exploration operations south of the premises.

The EPA notes that the proposal will require a variation to Environment Protection Licence 20169 pursuant to the to commence receiving exploration waste, and to change the discharge point location at the TSF. If the modification is approved, the applicant will need to apply separately to the EPA to vary the licence.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Joshua Loxley at the Central West (Dubbo) Office of the EPA on (02) 6333 3800 or via e-mail to central.west@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DMcGregor'.

DUNCAN MCGREGOR
Acting Unit Head Central West Region
Environment Protection Authority

Enclosed: Attachment A

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(from outside NSW)

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Attachment A

Tomingley Gold Mine – Modification 4 – MP09_0155
EPA comments and recommended conditions of consent

Surface Water

The Modification report discusses that the premises' existing water management plan will be utilised to manage surface water during the construction of the TSF wall lifts. The EPA notes that the proposed stage 7 to 9 TSF wall lifts will increase the facility's footprint by 5ha.

The Modification Report relies on the premises' existing water management plan and surface water management structures at the premises, but does not address potential sediment and erosion issues created by increasing the footprint of the TSF, stockpiling material in laydown areas, or construction vehicle movements.

Recommended condition of consent:

1. *Prior to starting construction of the stage 7 TSF wall lift, the applicant must develop an erosion and sediment control plan specific to the stage 7 to 9 TSF wall lifts.*

Waste

The modification report seeks consent for the importation of waste rock and one or more bulk samples from the proposed underground exploration drive to the South of the premises. It also seeks to use the premises and associated infrastructure to support those underground exploration operations.

The EPA notes that the proposed waste to be transported and disposed of at the premises will be the result of associated exploration activities undertaken by the applicant and Alkane Resources Ltd. The exploration activities will occur outside the boundaries of Environment Protection Licence 20169.

The applicant does not propose to accept any other waste than that from exploration activities associated with the mine.

Recommended condition of consent:

1. *The proponent must:*
 - a) *Minimise the waste generated by the project,*
 - b) *Ensure that waste generated by the project is appropriately stored, handled and disposed of,*
 - c) *Ensure that all waste accepted at the premises is wholly permitted by the issued Environment Protection Licence; and*
 - d) *Manage on-site sewage treatment disposal in accordance with the requirements of Council, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.*



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

OUT20/1975

Mandana Mazaheri, PhD
A/Team Leader
Energy, Resources & Compliance Division
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Mandana.Mazaheri@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Mazaheri

**Tomingley Gold Mine (09_0155) MOD 4 - Increased RSF Capacity
Modification Report**

I refer to your email of 17 February 2020 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

The following recommendation is provided by DPIE Water and NRAR. Please note Crown Lands, the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) – Fisheries and DPI - Agriculture all now provide a separate response directly to you.

Post Approval

- The proponent should ensure that potential impacts due to the proposed ground disturbance are managed within the requirements of the guideline, *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction* (Landcom 2004) and the current Water Management Plan for the project.

Any further referrals to DPIE – NRAR & Water can be sent by email to:
landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Any further referrals to (a) Crown Lands; (b) DPI – Fisheries; and (c) DPI – Agriculture can be sent by email to: (a) lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au;
(b) ahp.central@dpi.nsw.gov.au; and (c) landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au respectively.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sfrancis'.

Simon Francis
Senior Project Officer, Assessments
Water – Strategic Relations
3 March 2020

NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
Level 49 | 19 Martin Place | Sydney NSW 2000
landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au ABN: 72 189 919 072





Dams Safety

9th March, 2020

Mandana Mazaheri,
A/Team Leader
Energy, Resources & Compliance Div,
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
PO Box 39, Sydney NSW, 2001
Mandana.Mazaheri@planning.nsw.gov.au

Our ref: 10.121.146
Your ref: MP 09 0155 MOD 4

Dear Mandana,

Tomingley Gold Mine (MP 09_0155) MOD 4 Application to Modify Development Consent

Dams Safety NSW has reviewed the modification application for Tomingley Gold Mine (MP 09_0155) MOD 4 and has the following comments.

The Tomingley Notification Area has been delineated around the Tomingley Residue Storage Facility (RSF). This modification will increase the height of the embankments by 6m in three stages. Capacity of the RSF will increase to approximately 8.93Mt and the footprint will increase from approximately 50ha to approximately 55ha.

The dam has been assigned a consequence category of 'Significant' largely due to the toxicity of the impounded tailings which contain cyanide in addition to toxic heavy metals such as arsenic.

It is not proposed to change the approved mining operations, which entail open cut and underground operations.

Dams Safety NSW is currently regulating the safety of Tomingley's RSF under dam safety conditions within Tomingley's Mining Lease. Regulation includes monitoring of - seepage, subsidence and movement of the embankment, blast vibrations registering on the embankments and dam inspections.

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Postal: Dams Safety NSW
Locked Bag 5123
Parramatta NSW 2124
Australia

Address:
Level 11
10 Valentine Avenue
Parramatta NSW 2150

Phone: (02) 9842 8073
http: www.damsafety.nsw.gov.au
email: info@damsafety.nsw.gov.au

ABN 55 079 703 705

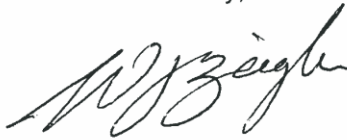


RECOMMENDATIONS

- Tomingley Mine notifies Dams Safety NSW of the proposed significant change to the RSF in writing before any significant change to the configuration of the dam. See Dams Safety Regulation 2019 Part 6 – 21.
- Tomingley continues monitoring the safety of the RSF:
 - Monitoring blast vibration (PPV) at the dam embankment
 - Limit blast vibration (PPV) at the RSF embankment to < 50mm/s
 - Monitoring seepage from the RSF
 - Monitor ground movement of the embankment

If you have any queries in this regard please contact Bill Ziegler on 9842 8077 or bill.ziegler@damsafety.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully,



Bill Ziegler
Manager Mining Projects



27 March 2020

Mandana Mazaheri
Team Leader
Resource Assessments
Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Submitted via the Planning Portal

Dear Mandana

**Re: Tomingley Gold Mine MOD4
MP 09_0155**

Thank you for providing the submission from the Resources Regulator dated 26 March 2020 in relation to the above application to modify MP 09_0155. The following provides a response to each of the matters raised by the Resources Regulator. Text drawn from the Resources Regulator correspondence is presented below in italics.

The Mining Act Inspectorate within the Resources Regulator has responsibility for providing strategic advice for environmental issues pertaining to the proposed project in so far as they relate to or affect rehabilitation. Based on the review of the EIS, the Regulator advises the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment that it has no specific comments.

Noted

The proponent has acknowledged that a revised Mining Operations Plan (MOP) is required to be in place prior to the commencement of the activities nominated in the Modification. As part of the submission of the MOP, the Resources Regulator will seek clarification of the aspects outlined below in relation to the construction, operation and rehabilitation of the Residue Storage Facility.

- *Characterisation of geochemical and physical properties of embankment construction material. Controls to be implemented to ensure embankment construction material is suitable from a geochemical perspective and to achieve the required permeability.*
- *Deposition strategy to maximise consolidation during operation.*

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First Floor, 12 Dangar Road, PO Box 239, BROOKLYN NSW 2083
Telephone: (02) 9985 8511 Email: brooklyn@rwcorkery.com

Orange Office:

62 Hill Street, ORANGE NSW 2800
Telephone: (02) 6362 5411 Email: orange@rwcorkery.com

Brisbane Office:

Suite 5, Building 3, Pine Rivers Office Park, 205 Leitchs Road, BRENDAL QLD 4500
Telephone: (07) 3205 5400 Email: brisbane@rwcorkery.com

- *Further information on final capping material performance and consideration of risks specific to the use of capping for the final landuse.*
- *Further information on the final landform design performance requirements and consideration of risks specific to final land use.*

Noted. The requested information will be presented with the amended MOP.

I trust that this provides you with the information that you require at this stage. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information.

Yours sincerely



Mitchell Bland
Managing Director/Principal

