Section 5

Draft Statement of Commitments

PREAMBLE

The draft Statement of Commitments presented in this section has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and presents a compilation of the actions and the initiatives the Proponent commits to implement if the proposed Dargues Reef Gold Project is approved. These commitments are designed to effectively manage, mitigate, guide and monitor the Project through its various phases.

The Environmental Assessment has identified a range of environmental, social and management outcomes and measures, all required to avoid or reduce the environmental and social impacts of the project. The draft Statement of Commitments reflects these desired outcomes, action and timing of commitments that would be undertaken to achieve the outcomes.

All parties involved in the design, establishment and operational phases of the project will be required to undertake their components of work in accordance with these commitments.

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Table 5.1
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

<table>
<tr><th>Desired Outcome</th><th>Action</th><th>Timing</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">1 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT</td></tr>
<tr><td>Compliance with all conditional requirements in all approvals, licences and leases.</td><td>1.1 Comply with all commitments recorded in Table 5.1.
1.2 Comply with all conditional requirements included in the:
• Project Approval;
• Environment Protection Licence;
• Mining Lease(s); and
• any other approvals.</td><td>Continuous and as required.</td></tr>
<tr><td>All operations conducted in accordance with all relevant documentation.</td><td>1.3 Undertake all activities in accordance with the accepted Mining Operations Plan, environmental procedures, safety management plan and/or site-specific documentation.</td><td>Continuous and as required.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">2 AREA OF ACTIVITIES</td></tr>
<tr><td>All approved activities are undertaken generally in the location(s) nominated on the figures shown in Sections 2 and 4.</td><td>2.1 Mark, and where appropriate, survey the boundaries of the areas of proposed disturbance.
2.2</td><td>Prior to the commencement of the relevant activity.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">3 OPERATING HOURS</td></tr>
<tr><td>All operations are undertaken within the approved operating hours.</td><td>3.1 Undertake all activities, where practicable, in accordance with the following operating hours.
<table>
<tr><th>Activity</th><th>Proposed Hours of Operation</th></tr>
<tr><td>Vegetation clearing and topsoil stripping</td><td rowspan="2">Daylight hours</td></tr>
<tr><td>Construction operations – Box cut</td></tr>
<tr><td>Construction operations – Remainder</td><td rowspan="4">24 hours per day</td></tr>
<tr><td>Underground mining operations</td></tr>
<tr><td>Maintenance operations</td></tr>
<tr><td>Processing operations</td></tr>
<tr><td>Transportation operations</td><td rowspan="2">7:00am to 10.00pm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rehabilitation operations</td></tr>
</table></td><td>Continuous and as required.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">4 NOISE AND BLASTING</td></tr>
<tr><td>Noise generated by operational activities does not exceed DECCW nominated criteria nor significantly impacts on neighbouring landowners and/or residents.</td><td>Site Establishment Noise Controls
4.1 Ensure all bulk earthworks strictly adhere to standard construction hours of operation, namely 7:00am to 6:00pm.</td><td>Continuous during site establishment operations.</td></tr>
</table>

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
4 NOISE AND BLASTING (CONT)		
Noise generated by operational activities does not exceed DECCW nominated criteria nor significantly impacts on neighbouring landowners and/or residents.	4.2 Maintain the on-site road network to limit body noise from empty trucks travelling on internal roads.	Continuous during site establishment operations.
	4.3 Maintain an open dialogue with the surrounding community and neighbours to ensure any concerns over noise or vibration are addressed.	
	Operational Noise Controls 4.4 Place and operate the crusher within an enclosure engineered to achieve a noise reduction of at least 12dB.	Prior to and continuous during mining operations.
	4.5 Ensure that the grinding circuit is rubber lined.	
	4.6 Place and operate the ventilation fan at least 10m below ground level rather than at the surface. The interim ventilation fan would be placed within the deepest section of the box cut until the final fan is commissioned. The interim fan may be retained as a backup ventilation system in the event of failure of the final fan.	
	4.7 Construct a noise bund of at least 5m high along the southern and western edges of the ROM pad.	
	4.8 Undertake noise monitoring at the residences most likely to be affected by noise generated by the Project.	Continuous during mining operations.
	4.9 Prepare a Noise Management Plan prior to the commencement of mining activities which would incorporate the specific details of all noise controls and provide measures to address noise criteria exceedances and/or complaints should they occur.	Prior to commencement of mining operations.
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	**Transport Noise Controls and Operational Procedures** 4.10 Ensure strict adherence to hours of operation, identified in **Table 2.11**.	Continuous during transportation operations.
	4.11 Ensure, where practicable, that all Project employees and contractors enter and exit the Project Site in a courteous manner and without causing undue traffic noise.	
	4.12 Prepare and implement a Drivers Code of Conduct and ensure that all drivers of heavy vehicles that regularly access the Project Site sign and comply with the code.	Prior to commencement of transportation operations.
Achieve compliance with all ANZECC Blasting Guidelines.	**Blasting Controls** 4.13 Ensure that all blasts are designed by a suitably qualified and experienced blasting engineer or shotfirer and that each blast has an MIC of no greater than 105kg (until such time that a site law is developed which will allow for more precise predictions of blast emissions).	Continuous during mining operations.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
4 NOISE AND BLASTING (CONT)		
All activities are undertaken in such a manner as to reduce the noise level generated and minimise impacts on surrounding landholders and/or residents.	**Other Noise and Vibration Controls** 4.14 Ensure that equipment with lower sound power levels is used in preference to more noisy equipment.	Continuous during mining operations.
	4.15 Maintain an open dialogue with the surrounding community and neighbours to ensure any concerns over noise or vibration are addressed.	
5 ECOLOGY		
Management of disturbance within the Project Site to minimise impact on fauna of conservation value.	5.1 Ensure that, with the exception of minor disturbance associated with, installation of water pipelines and management of existing tracks, no surface disturbing activities are being undertaken within areas of Ribbon Gum Forest and Fragmented Ribbon Gum Forest. No native vegetation over 3m high would be removed.	Continuous during site establishment operations.
Maintenance and improvement of the biodiversity value of the Project Site and surrounding areas.	5.2 Avoid the use of phosphate-based fertiliser in pasture areas to encourage the regeneration of native grasses.	Continuous during the life of the Biodiversity Strategy.
	5.3 Manage grazing operations, including stocking rates and fencing, in a manner to sustain and facilitate the spread of native grass species.	
	5.4 Fence all areas of Ribbon Gum Forest and Fragmented Ribbon Gum Forest and exclude stock from those areas.	
	5.5 Ensure that areas of habitat suitable for the Majors Creek Leek Orchid are appropriately identified and fenced and access restricted. Ensure no disturbance occurs within the fenced areas.	
	5.6 Prepare a management plan to ensure that Common Wombat are not harmed during establishment of the tailings storage facility. This plan may include the following. – Mark all wombat burrows prior to the commencement of ground disturbing activities. – Commence ground disturbing activities on the upper slopes of creek banks a few days before disturbing the identified hollows to allow individual wombats time to vacate their burrows at night when equipment is not operating. – Inspect all burrows to ensure that common wombats have vacated the proposed area of disturbance. Any remaining wombats would be relocated in consultation with local wombat experts.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
5 ECOLOGY (CONT)			
Maintenance and improvement of the biodiversity value of the Project Site and surrounding areas.	5.7	Continue the existing weed and pest control program, with particular focus on managing Broom and Blackberry within the southern section of the Project Site.	
	5.8	Ensure that dead fallen and standing timber are not removed or disturbed to preserve fauna habitat.	
	5.9	Implement fully the Biodiversity Strategy described in Section 2.15, including ensuring that the strategy would be implemented in perpetuity.	
Maintenance and improvement of the biodiversity value of the Project Site and surrounding areas.	5.10	Prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan in consultation with the relevant government agencies and surrounding community within 12 months of receipt of the project approval. That plan would: – specify biodiversity-related actions to be undertaken during the life of the Project and for several years after the site has been decommissioned; – incorporate the above commitments; – describe management of the proposed biodiversity area; – describe the proposed revegetation and amelioration program, including identification of areas to be revegetated/ameloriated and the species to be used; and – involve, where practicable, local community groups in management of biodiversity with in the Project Site.	Within 12 months of commencement of mining operations.
6 GROUNDWATER			
Mitigate potential adverse impacts to surrounding groundwater users.	6.1	Undertake consultation with the owners of bores that are predicted to be adversely impacted by the Project to ensure that those impacts are adequately mitigated or the owners compensated. Options include deepening or redrilling and re-equipping the existing bores or providing additional water from another source to compensate for the reduced groundwater supply.	Prior to commencement of mining operations.
	6.2	Monitor groundwater levels in surrounding, privately-owned bores on request. The Proponent would ensure that all landholders in the vicinity of the anticipated zone of groundwater drawdown are briefed on the anticipated impacts and that an appropriate monitoring program is negotiated. In addition, a similar offer would be made to all other land owners with bores in the vicinity of the Project Site.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
6 GROUNDWATER (CONT)			
Compensate for anticipated reduced groundwater discharges to surface water.	6.3	Release water source primarily from the harvestable rights dams at the rates identified in **Table 4.20** into Majors Creek at the confluence of Majors and Spring Creeks. These environmental discharges are to continue from the commencement of mining operations until 2 years after the cessation of dewatering operations.	From commencement of mining operations until 2 years after the cessation of dewatering operations.
	6.4	Negotiate an appropriate arrangement with the owners of Lot 210, DP755934 to allow construction or equipping of a bore to access groundwater within the Snobs workings.	Prior to construction of that bore and extraction of water.
Confirm the accuracy of the groundwater model and anticipated impacts.	6.5	Undertake a review of the numerical groundwater model. In the event that the actual impacts are significantly greater than those presented in AGE (2010), then the Proponent would consult with NOW in relation the revised modelling results and would develop appropriate management and mitigation measures to address those impacts.	Within 2 years of the commencement of mining operations.
Minimisation of groundwater contamination.	6.6	Store all hydrocarbon and chemical products within a bunded area complying with the relevant Australian Standard.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	6.7	Refuel all equipment within designated, sealed areas of the Project Site, where practicable.	
	6.8	Undertake all maintenance works involving hydrocarbons, where practicable, within designated areas of the Project Site such as the maintenance workshop.	
	6.9	Direct all water from wash-down areas and workshops to oil/water separators and containment systems.	
	6.10	Ensure all hydrocarbon and chemical storage tanks are either self-bunded or bunded with an impermeable surface and a capacity to contain a minimum 110% of the largest storage tank capacity.	
	6.11	Design and construct the tailings storage facility as described in Section 2.7 and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant government agencies. Key design parameters would be as follows. – Construct the floor and walls of the tailings storage facility in a manner that would achieve a permeability of less than 1x10-9m/sec. – Ensure that the tailings storage facility embankment is keyed into the underlying material in a manner that would prevent down slope migration of potentially contaminated groundwater from the facility.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
6 GROUNDWATER (CONT)		
Minimisation of groundwater contamination.	– Place residue uniformly around the perimeter of the tailings storage facility via several slurry spigots. – Construct seepage collection structures at the foot of the tailings storage facility embankment and ensure that any captured seepage is pumped back to the tailings storage facility. – Install piezometers at the base of the tailings storage facility embankment and monitor these regularly to assess the integrity of the facility (see Section 4.5.6).	Continuous during the life of the Project.
7 SURFACE WATER		
Appropriately document Surface Water, Sediment and Erosion management measures.	**General Management and Mitigation Measures** 7.1 Prepare a detailed Surface Water, Sediment and Erosion Control Plan, including a description of surface water management structures and procedures to ensure that the criteria identified in Section 4.4.3 and any additional criteria included in the Environment Protection Licence or project approval, assuming that they are granted, are achieved.	Prior to commencement of mining operations.
Minimise the volume of water required to be used for mining-related purposes	7.2 Ensure that the site access road is treated using chemical dust suppressants or similar to ensure that regular watering is not required.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
Minimisation of erosion and sedimentation.	**Erosion and Sediment Control Measures** 7.3 Ensure that best-practice erosion and sediment control measures as identified in Landcom (2004) and DECC (2008) are implemented during both the construction and operational stages of the Project.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	7.4 Construct appropriate sediment basins of sufficient size to contain a five-day, 75th percentile rain depth of 18mm during construction of the Project and a 20-day, 90th percentile rain depth of 73.7mm during operation of the Project.	
	7.5 Ensure that sediment basins have a minimum of 0.6m of freeboard and a spillway that is sized and lined for stability in a 100-year annual recurrence interval (ARI) rain event.	
	7.6 Ensure that water discharged from the sediment basins has a total suspended sediment concentration of less than 50g/L. SEEC (2010a) notes that achieving this commitment may require flocculation.	
	7.7 Ensure that accumulated water within sediment basins is removed from the basins within 5 days of the end of a rain event.	
	7.8 Ensure that water within the sediment basins is not used for mining-related activities unless the volume of the sediment basins have been included in the harvestable right calculations.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
7 SURFACE WATER (CONT)			
Minimisation of erosion and sedimentation.	7.9	Ensure that the upper limit of the Sediment Storage Zone, as defined in Landcom (2004), is identified with a peg and accumulated sediment removed as required.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	7.10	Ensure that surface water flows are diverted away from disturbed areas and that potentially sediment-laden flows from disturbed areas are diverted to sediment basins. All diversion structures would be sized and lined for stability in a 10-year ARI time-of-concentration rain event during construction of the Project and the 20-year ARI time-of-concentration rain event during operation of the Project.	
Minimisation of erosion and sedimentation.	7.11	Ensure that disturbed areas are stabilised through the use of vegetation or artificial covers to achieve a long-term C-factor of 0.05 (equivalent to 70% grass cover). Where such areas are to be subjected to channelized water flows, they should be stabilised within 10 days of completion of construction and before they convey any flows.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	7.12	Inspect all surface water control structures at least quarterly and following any rainfall event of more than 10mm in 24-hours to ensure their adequacy and identify where remedial action is required.	
	7.13	Ensure that all roads within the Project Site are constructed in accordance with DECC (2008b).	
	7.14	Construct table drains along the sides of roads within the Project Site, with regular turn-out drains constructed at-grade approximately every 50m.	
	7.15	Continue to maintain and upgrade, as required, the existing soil conservation measures in areas of active and stabilised gullying.	
Prevention of contamination of surface waters.	**Water Quality Measures**		
	7.16	Ensure that the tailings storage facility is effectively sealed to prevent leakage.	Prior to the commencement of processing operations.
	7.17	Ensure that potential surface water run on onto the tailings storage facility is diverted around the facility using a surface water diversion structured designed to effectively convey the 100-year ARI, time-of-concentration flow from the upstream catchment.	
	7.18	Ensure that all fuel and chemical storage, delivery and handling areas are appropriately sealed and bunded and that overflow pipes are installed in a manner that would minimise the potential for pollution in the event of overfilling.	Continuous during the life of the Project.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
8 ABORIGINAL HERITAGE			
Site activities are undertaken without impacting upon any Aboriginal heritage items.	8.1	Re-identify Sites GT0S1 & GT0S2 in the field with the assistance of a suitably qualified archaeologist and community representative(s). A fence a minimum of 15m on all sides of the artefact would then be erected, access to the fenced area would be restricted and appropriate signage would be displayed.	Prior to the commencement of site establishment operations.
Site activities are undertaken without impacting upon any Aboriginal heritage items.	8.2	Identify all other sites on plans held by the Environmental Manager and Mine Surveyor and activities in the vicinity of those sites would be prohibited. Those sites would not be fenced to limit the potential for inappropriate identification and disturbance of the sites.	Prior to the commencement of site establishment operations.
	8.3	If items of suspected Aboriginal heritage significance are identified throughout the life of the Project, the following procedures would be implemented. – **Step 1 -** No further earth disturbing works would be undertaken in the vicinity of the suspected item of Aboriginal heritage significance. – **Step 2 -** A buffer of 20m x 20m would be established around the suspected item of Aboriginal heritage significance. No unauthorised entry or earth disturbance would be allowed with this buffer zone until the area has been assessed. – **Step 3 -** A qualified archaeologist or the DECCW would be contacted to make an assessment of the discovery. Mitigation procedures would then be developed and implemented based on the assessment.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	8.4	If, throughout the life of the Project, suspected human remains are identified, the following procedures would be implemented. – **Step 1 -** the suspected skeletal remains would not be touched or disturbed. – **Step 2 -** A buffer zone of 50m x 50m would be established around the suspected remains and all work in the vicinity of the suspected remains would be suspended until the area has been assessed. – **Step 3 -** The NSW Police and the DECCW would be contacted to make an assessment of the discovery. If appropriate, mitigation procedures would then be developed in consultation with the registered stakeholders.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
9 NON ABORIGINAL HERITAGE		
Site activities are undertaken without impacting upon any significant non-Aboriginal heritage items.	9.1 Identify on plans held by the Environmental Manager and Mine Surveyor, where relevant, all identified sites and ensure that activities in the vicinity of those sites are appropriately managed.	Prior to the commencement of site establishment operations.
Site activities are undertaken without impacting upon any significant non-Aboriginal heritage items.	9.2 If items of suspected non-Aboriginal heritage significance are identified throughout the life of the Project, the following procedures would be implemented. – **Step 1 -** No further earth disturbing works would be undertaken in the vicinity of the suspected item of non-Aboriginal heritage significance. – **Step 2 -** A buffer of 20m x 20m would be established around the suspected artefact. No unauthorised entry or earth disturbance would be allowed with this buffer zone until the area has been assessed. – **Step 3 -** A qualified archaeologist would be contacted to make an assessment of the discovery. Mitigation procedures would then be developed and implemented based on the assessment.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
10 TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION		
Achieve safe and efficient transport operations.	**Site Access Road** 10.1 Ensure horizontal alignment complying with the maximum grades and changes of grade outlined in the Australian Standards for Off-Street Commercial Vehicle Facilities. Maximum vertical grades would be approximately 10%.	During site establishment operations.
	10.2 Grade the gravel surface of the road treated with chemical suppressants to minimise dust generation.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	10.3 Construct the road layout to ensure that all vehicles would enter and exit the site in a forward direction.	During site establishment operations.
	Operational Controls 10.4 Load all heavy vehicles transporting concentrate using a front-end loader fitted with a bucket load indicator. All vehicles would be loaded in a manner that would ensure that they were not overloaded.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	10.5 Establish a speed limit of 40km/hr on the site access road and 20km/hr in the operational sections of the Project Site.	During site establishment operations.

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
10 TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION (CONT)			
Achieve safe and efficient transport operations.	10.6	Ensure all regular heavy vehicle movements associated with the Project are scheduled for between 7:00am and 6:00pm, where practicable. Furthermore, the movement of heavy vehicles to and from the Project Site would, where practicable be avoided during the hours of 7.00am to 8.30am and 3.00pm to 5.00pm on school days to avoid potential conflict with the local school bus services.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
Achieve safe and efficient transport operations.	10.7	Develop and enforce a Code of Conduct for all drivers for all heavy vehicles that travel to and from the Project Site regularly. The Code of Conduct would stipulate safe driving practices must be maintained at all times and nominate the maximum vehicle speed on Majors Creek Road of 80km/hr for heavy vehicles travelling to and from the Project Site. The code would also include specific requirements for practices to be adopted during periods of fog, such use of headlights / fog lights and adopting vehicle speeds appropriate to the conditions as required.	During site establishment operations.
	10.8	Investigate immediately any complaints received and substantiated incidents acted on decisively, which could include the banning the offending driver(s) from the Project Site.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
	Road Upgrades		
	10.9	Provide centreline road marking along the full length of Majors Creek Road between the Araluen Road and Majors Creek immediately, irrespective of whether project approval is granted. This will assist drivers using Majors Creek Road to drive on the left of the centreline at all times, particularly those times of low visibility, and will assist in maintaining road safety.	During site establishment operations.
	10.10	Provide signage/delineation and appropriate barriers such as guardrails at the culverts on Majors Creek Road at 4.4km and 4.9km from the intersection of Majors Creek Road and Araluen Road, as well as at the bridge structure over Honeysuckle Creek. The Proponent has committed to completing this road upgrade prior to the commencement of the operational phase of transport operations.	During site establishment operations.
	10.11	Provide pavement widening on curves and crests on Majors Creek Road at the following chainages, as measured from the intersection of Majors Creek road and Araluen Road.	
	Road Maintenance		Prior to the commencement of transportation operations.
	10.12	Formalise a Section 94 Contributions Plan for on going road maintenance with Palerang Council	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
11 AIR QUALITY AND ENERGY			
Site activities are undertaken without exceeding DECCW air quality criteria or adversely impacting upon surrounding receivers.	11.1	Implement "best practice" management for pollution control.	Continuous during the life of the Project.
12 VISUAL AMENITY			
Limit the visibility of operational areas from nearby residences and Majors Creek Road.	12.1	Construct and revegetate a 5m high bund on the southern and western edge of the ROM pad as soon as practicable after the commencement of mining operations. This bund, together with the southern and western faces of the ROM pad, would be temporarily covered with soil material and revegetated with appropriate species as soon as practicable after completion to ensure that the visual impact of the ROM pad and bund is minimised to the greatest extent practicable.	During site establishment operations
	12.2	Ensure progressive reshaping and rehabilitation of areas that are no longer required for mining related purposes.	During progressive rehabilitation operations.
	12.3	Continuation of the existing tree planting program to limit views of the Project Site from areas to the southwest, south and southeast of the Project Site.	During progressive rehabilitation operations.
	12.4	Construction of the processing plant and other infrastructure within the Project Site from non-reflective, neutral-coloured material.	During site establishment operations.
	12.5	Selection and placement of permanent and temporary lights such that the lights – do not impact on the vision of motorists using the Newell Highway; – do not point towards surrounding residences; or – minimise the 'loom' created by the lights.	
	12.6	Consider any reasonable request by a potentially affected resident for assistance to create a visual screen adjacent to their residence through planting of fast growing vegetation and/or landscaping where such a screen would effectively reduce the visual impact of the Proponent's activities during the life of the Project.	Continuous during the life of the Project
13 SOILS AND LAND CAPABILITY			
Maintenance of soil value for rehabilitation and minimisation of soil loss through erosion.	13.1	Strip soil materials to the depths identified in Table 2.2.	During site establishment operations.
	13.2	Strip soil materials only when they are moderately moist to preserve soil structure.	
	13.3	Stockpile topsoil and subsoil materials separately.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
13 SOIL AND LAND CAPABILITY (CONT)			
Maintenance of soil value for rehabilitation and minimisation of soil loss through erosion.	13.4	Construct soil stockpiles as low, flat, elongated mounds on slopes of less than 1:10 (V:H). Topsoil stockpiles would be less than 2m high and subsoil stockpiles would be less than 3m high.	During site establishment operations.
	13.5	Ensure that soil stockpiles achieve a 70% vegetative cover within 10 days of formation.	
Maximising the potential for successful rehabilitation of disturbed sections of the Project Site	13.6	Place soil material in areas to be rehabilitated in the same stratigraphic order in which they were removed. SEEC (2010b) note that topsoils of one soil landscape unit may be mixed with topsoils soils of the other landscape unit. Similarly, subsoils of one soil landscape unit may be mixed with subsoils soils of the other landscape unit.	During rehabilitation operations.
Minimise the potential for erosion and sedimentation	13.7	Ensure that ground disturbing activities are limited to the period from 1 March to 30 November, unless measure identified in Landcom (2004) and DECC (2008) are implemented, including ensuring that soils are not exposed during any period when the three-day weather forecast suggests rain is likely.	During site establishment operations.
	13.8	Ensure that slope lengths are no longer than 80m.	
	13.9	Ensure that run-on from upslope is diverted away from disturbed areas.	
14 SOCIO-ECONOMIC			
Maximise the positive impacts and minimise any actual or perceived adverse impacts on the social fabric or facilities available to the community surrounding the Project Site.	14.1	Engage each of the communities surrounding the Project Site in regular dialogue in relation to the proposed and ongoing operation of the Project and maintain an "open door" policy for any member of those communities who wishes to discuss any aspect of the Project.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	14.2	Proactively and regularly consult with those residents most likely to be adversely impacted by the Project, particularly those within the Majors Creek Community.	
	14.3	Continue to support community organisations, groups and events, as appropriate, and review any request by a community organisation for support or assistance throughout the life of the Project. Particular emphasis would be placed on providing support to those organisations, groups or events that service the communities in Majors Creek, Araluen or Braidwood.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action		Timing
14 SOCIO-ECONOMIC (CONT)			
Maximise the positive impacts and minimise any actual or perceived adverse impacts on the social fabric or facilities available to the community surrounding the Project Site.	14.4	Form and maintain a Community Consultative Committee (CCC), including representative members of the community and Palerang Council. It is noted that the Proponent has previously consulted with the Majors Creek Community Liaison Committee. The Proponent would continue to do so, either as part of the CCC or separately.	
	14.5	Regularly brief the CCC and wider community on activities within the Project Site and seek feedback in relation to Project-related impacts whether actual or perceived. In addition, seek advice in relation the most appropriate manner in which to provide assistance to the community in an effective, fair and equitable manner.	
	14.6	Advertise and maintain a community complaints telephone line.	
	14.7	Give preference when engaging new employees, where practicable, to candidates who are part of the Majors Creek, Araluen or Braidwood communities over candidates with equivalent experience and qualifications based elsewhere and ensure that the mining and other contractors do so as well.	
	14.8	Encourage the involvement of the local Aboriginal community in the workforce.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	14.9	Encourage and support participation of locally based employees and contractors in appropriate training or education programs that would provide skills and qualifications that may be of use to encourage and further develop economic activity within the surrounding communities following completion of the Project.	
	14.10	Give preference, where practicable, to suppliers of equipment, services or consumables located within the Palerang LGA.	
	14.11	Assist community members and others, as appropriate, to establish complimentary businesses within the Palerang LGA where those businesses would provide a benefit to the community through increased economic activity or development.	
	14.12	Assist Palerang Council to promote and encourage economic development that would continue beyond the life of the Project.	
	14.13	Ensure that infrastructure and services installed for the Project, including the electricity transmission facilities, road improvements and water supply bores, remain available for alternative uses during and/or following completion of the Project.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
14 SOCIO-ECONOMIC (CONT)		
Maximise the positive impacts and minimise any actual or perceived adverse impacts on the social fabric or facilities available to the community surrounding the Project Site.	14.14 Encourage and support, in consultation with the local community, the provision of services to the community. These may include health, education, transportation and other services.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	14.15 Prepare and implement a *Property Vegetation Plan* as described in Section 2.15, including continued management of weeds, pests and bushfire risks on land held by the Proponent in consultation with surrounding landowners.	
	14.16 Ensure that the land capability of those sections of the final landform to be used for agricultural purposes is similar to the current land capability.	
15 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING		
Ongoing monitoring and reporting of Project-related environmental impacts.	**Noise** 15.1 Present the results of the monitoring program in the Annual Environmental Management Report that would be prepared for the Project to ensure that noise and vibration impacts associated with the Project are managed appropriately.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	15.2 Prepare a monitoring program, which would be developed in consultation with the Department of Planning, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and the local community, and include the following elements.	
	– Noise compliance monitoring would be undertaken during both the daytime and night time periods during the site establishment phase.	
	– Routine noise compliance monitoring would be conducted on a quarterly basis during the first two years of the operational stage of the Project. The frequency of ongoing monitoring would be determined based.	
	– Suitable monitoring locations would include R107, R31, R30, R27 and R34 which are the closest locations surrounding the Project Site and compliance at these locations would imply compliance at more distance receivers.	
	Ecology 15.3 Ensure that the following ecology-related monitoring is undertaken during the life of the Project. The results of the monitoring program would be reported in each Annual Environmental Management Report prepared for the Project.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
15 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING (CONT)		
Ongoing monitoring and reporting of Project-related environmental impacts.	– Ensure that searches for Major's Creek Leek Orchid are undertaken during the flowering period for the orchid, both within suitable habitat areas within the Project Site and within the Majors Creek Cemetery.	
	– Ensure that all areas undergoing rehabilitation are be monitored on a 6 monthly basis to determine the success or otherwise of the management, mitigation and ameliorative measures and the rehabilitation programs.	
	– Establish a set of photographic reference points and ensure that photographs are taken at six monthly intervals to document activities within the Project Site, including weed control and revegetation actions.	
	Groundwater	
	15.4 Quarterly monitoring of groundwater levels in the bores, exploration holes and workings identified in **Table 4.21** using manual methods.	
	15.5 Continuous monitoring of groundwater levels in 8 bores/exploration holes using an automated standing water level monitor to determine the groundwater response following rainfall events.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	15.6 Quarterly monitoring in the field of pH, temperature and EC of groundwater in the bores, exploration holes and workings identified in **Table 4.21**.	
	15.7 Six monthly monitoring in the laboratory of groundwater in the bores, exploration holes and workings identified in **Table 4.21** for the following parameters. – Alkalinity. – Major cations and anions. – Nutrients – (ammonia, nitrate, nitrite). – Metals – (iron, lead, chromium, cadmium, zinc, arsenic, copper and nickel).	
	15.8 Continuous monitoring of the volumes of all water pumped or permitted to flow around the Project Site using inline meters. This would include water pumped or permitted to flow: – from the Dargues Reef Mine to the surface and visa versa; – from the harvestable rights dams; – from the historic workings; and – to and from the tailings storage facility.	
	15.9 Review of all data on receipt against previous monitoring results. Where the review indicates a sudden or unexpected change, then further investigations would be initiated.	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
15 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING (CONT)		
Ongoing monitoring and reporting of Project-related environmental impacts.	15.10 Undertake a formal assessment of the groundwater model within two years of the commencement of mining operations to ensure that the observed groundwater data matches the expected groundwater impacts.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
	15.11 Annual analysis of monitoring data and trends in the site's Annual Environmental Management Report.	
	Surface Water 15.12 Undertake surface water at the following locations (**Figure 4.3**). – Location 1 – Majors Creek upstream of the confluence of Spring & Major's Creek. – Location 2 – Majors Creek downstream of the confluence of Spring & Major's Creek. – Location 3 – downstream of the tailings storage facility. It is noted that this sampling location would be incorporated into the Tailings Management Plan. – Location 4 – Spring Creek downstream of main Project infrastructure and sediment basin outlets. – Discharge point for the compensatory flows.	
	15.13 Undertake sampling quarterly for the following Field measurements. – Field pH. – Field Electrical Conductivity. – Dissolved Oxygen. – Oxidation Reduction Potential. – Temperature. Laboratory analysis. – pH. – Electrical Conductivity. – Total Suspended Solids. – Major cations i.e. sodium, potassium, calcium. – Major anions i.e. chloride and sulphate. – Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (organic nitrogen plus ammonia nitrogen). – Total Oxidized Nitrogen (also referred to as NOx-N = nitrate + nitrite nitrogen forms). – Ammonia Nitrogen. – Total Phosphorus and Reactive Phosphorus. – Metalloids (aluminium, arsenic, total iron and filterable iron, zinc).	

Table 5.1 (Cont'd)
Draft Statement of Commitments for the Dargues Reef Gold Project

Desired Outcome	Action	Timing
15 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING (CONT)		
Ongoing monitoring and reporting of Project-related environmental impacts.	**Air Quality** 15.14 Implement an Air Quality Monitoring Program in consultation with DECCW and the surrounding Community. Given the relatively low level of impact associated with the Project, it is anticipated that this would be restricted to the installation and management of several dust deposition gauges surrounding the Project Site.	Prior to, during and following the life of the Project.
16 DOCUMENTATION		
Ensure Appropriate documentation of the proposed mining-related activities.	16.1 The Proponent would prepare the following documentation.	
	– Mining Operations Plan. – Noise Management Plan. – Traffic Management Plan. – Noise and Vibration Monitoring Program. – Groundwater Monitoring Program. – Air Quality Monitoring Program.	Prior to the commencement of site establishment operations.
	– Biodiversity Management Plan. – Property Vegetation Plan.	Within 12 months of commencement of mining operations.

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