



Evolution
MINING

Cowal

Evolution Mining (Cowal)
Pty Limited

ABN 75 007 857 598

Cowal Gold Operations

P +61 2 6975 4700

F +61 2 6975 4740

PO Box 210

West Wyalong NSW 2671

Registered Office

P +61 2 9696 2900

F +61 2 9696 2901

Level 24

175 Liverpool Street

Sydney NSW 2000

www.evolutionmining.com.au

07/10/2025

Planning Secretary
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Planning Secretary,

Re: Extension request for lodgement of conservation bond for Northern and Southern Offset Areas

Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited (Evolution) write to seek an extension to the timeframe permitted under Condition B52 of the State Significant Development Consent 42917792 (the Consent).

On 10 December 2024, the Director Resource Assessments granted development consent to Evolution in relation to the Cowal Gold Operations Open Pit Continuation (SSD-42917792). Evolution was issued the new Consent which included outstanding commitments from the existing DA 14/98 approval, specifically Condition 3.4(b) relating to the long-term protection of the Northern and Southern Offset Areas (NOA and SOA). This commitment is now detailed as Condition B47 of the Consent, and stated below.

“Within two years of commencing development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the offset areas identified in table 10 must be secured under a biodiversity stewardship agreement or alternative mechanism agreed by the Planning Secretary”.

Table 10: Summary of the Biodiversity Offset Areas - Cowal Gold Mine (DA14/98)

Offset Type	Minimum Size (ha)
Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	80
Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	260
Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)	100
Total	440

Note:

- To identify the areas referred to in table 10: refer to figure 2 in appendix 4.
- The Northern and Southern Offset Areas were established as land based offsets, prior to the commencement of the BC Act and the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects (OEH 2014), and therefore do not have a biodiversity credit obligation within the meaning of the BC Act. The offset areas are managed under the mine’s biodiversity management plan.

On 19 May 2025, Evolution formally commenced development under SSD 42917792.

In addition to Condition B47, Evolution are required to, “...offset areas that have not been secured via a biodiversity stewardship agreement, a conservation bond must be lodged with the department within 6 months of the approval of the biodiversity management plan referred to in condition B48, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, to ensure that the performance measures in the biodiversity management plan are implemented...”, as detailed by Condition B51 of the Consent. Evolution understands that the NOA and SOA be subject to these conditions of the Consent.

The Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) was assessed and approved by the Planning Secretary on 14 May 2025, determining that a conservation bond is required to be lodged by 14 November 2025 for the NOA and SOA areas.

Following the issue of the Consent, Evolution have been in consultation with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust and the Planning, Offsets and Threatened Species and Ecosystems (POTSE) Division, and have confirmed that these existing offset areas can be secured under a biodiversity stewardship agreement. Evolution have formally initiated this process with POTSE and are collating the necessary field data for the preparation of a Biodiversity Stewardship Site Assessment Report (BSSAR), to be submitted for the NOA and SOA areas. Evolution will continue to manage these areas in accordance with the BMP until the biodiversity stewardship agreement is executed.

To align with the approved timeline for the execution of a biodiversity stewardship agreement under Condition B47 of the Consent, Evolution would like to formally request an extension for the lodgement of a conservation bond for the NOA and SOA areas required under Condition B51, or other timeline agreed with by the Planning Secretary.

Please contact me if you require any further information in relation to this request.

Yours faithfully,



Mick Thomas
Superintendent – Environment

0418 672 137