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9 September 2024

Steve O'Donoghue
Director Resource Assessments
Energy, Resources and Industry
Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure

Sent by email to:
Stephen.Odonoghue@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Steve

**Re: Tomingley Gold Extension Project – SSD 9176045
Notification of Pre-commencement Activities**

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure of the intention to undertake pre-construction activities for the development of the San Antonio and Roswell (SAR) Mine for the Tomingley Gold Extension Project (SSD 9176045).

Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd (TGO) anticipates that commencement of a drilling program within the approved footprint of the SAR Open Cuts will occur during late Q3 or Q4 2024. The drilling program will be undertaken using a combination of Reverse Circulation drilling, requiring only minor ground disturbance and diamond drilling, using above ground sumps. The indicative location and extent of the drilling program is shown on **Figure A**.

The drilling program is considered to be a pre-construction activity as defined by SSD 917 6045 as '*...investigative or geotechnical drilling or excavation, minor clearing, minor access roads...*'.

Conditions B53 to B56 and Appendix 4 of SSD 9176045 identify the project stages for the purposes of biodiversity offsetting. The planned drilling program will be undertaken within Stages 1a and 1b. Biodiversity credits have been returned for Stage 1a. Under Condition B54A, biodiversity credits are required to be retired prior to disturbance that "*would impact on biodiversity values*" within the Stage 1b area.

The following controls will be implemented to ensure that drilling operations within the Stage 1b areas do not impact on biodiversity values (See **Figure A**).

1. Where located within land classified as Category 1 Land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* – undertake operations with standard environmental management and mitigation measures; or
2. Where located within land not classified as Category 1 Land – undertake operations within areas of prior disturbance or in a manner that would not impact on biodiversity values.
3. Prepare a report documenting conditions before and after drilling activities within Stage 1b to maintain records for compliance purposes.

If you have any further questions, or wish to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.



Yours sincerely

David Pritchard
Environment & Community Manager

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