



McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report

Prepared for LFB Resources NL
October 2022





MCPHILLAMYS GOLD PROJECT

AMENDMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The McPhillamys Gold Project (MGP) mine site is located 8 kilometres north-east of Blayney in the Central West of New South Wales (NSW). The MGP would include the development and operation of an open cut gold mine and supporting infrastructure over a 15-year project life.

LFB Resources NL, a 100% owned subsidiary of Regis Resources Limited (Regis) is the applicant for the MGP.

Regis submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Environmental Impact Statement* (Regis, 2019) (the EIS) for assessment under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* in 2019 and subsequently in 2020, submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report* (Regis, 2020b) (the 2020 Amendment Report) to incorporate project changes proposed in response to the submissions received on the EIS.

Regis submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report* (Regis, 2022) (the May 2022 Amendment Report) in May 2022 to incorporate project changes proposed in response to particular comments raised by the Department of Planning and Environment–Water regarding the mine site water management system, and to reflect the outcomes of ongoing consultation with landholders at the mine site and along the water supply pipeline.

The water supply pipeline described in the May 2022 Amendment Report included two alignment options (the northern and southern alignment options).

Regis has now progressed the water supply pipeline design and associated landholder consultation to the point that it can confirm the northern alignment option is the preferred alignment option.

Regis therefore proposes to amend the MGP to remove the non-preferred water supply pipeline alignment option (i.e. the southern alignment option) from the MGP.

This amendment also includes administrative changes to the Development Application area.

No other changes to the MGP described in the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports would be required.

Overall, the proposed amendments would not result in any additional environmental impacts associated with the northern option of the water supply pipeline beyond those assessed in the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports. Environmental impacts associated with the southern option of the water supply pipeline would no longer be relevant to the MGP.

Accordingly, the conclusion in the EIS and the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports that the MGP is, on balance, considered to be in the public interest of the State of NSW remains unchanged.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND

The McPhillamys Gold Project (MGP) mine site is located 8 kilometres (km) north-east of Blayney in the Central West of New South Wales (NSW) (Figure 1-1).

The MGP would include the development and operation of an open cut gold mine and supporting infrastructure, including a water supply pipeline, over a 15-year project life.

LFB Resources NL (ABN 90 073 478 574), a 100% owned subsidiary of Regis Resources Limited (Regis) is the applicant for the MGP. The contact details for LFB Resources NL as well as the NSW head office in Blayney are as follows:

LFB Resources NL
Level 2, 516 Hay Street
Subiaco WA 6008

NSW Head Office
57 Adelaide Street
Blayney NSW 2799

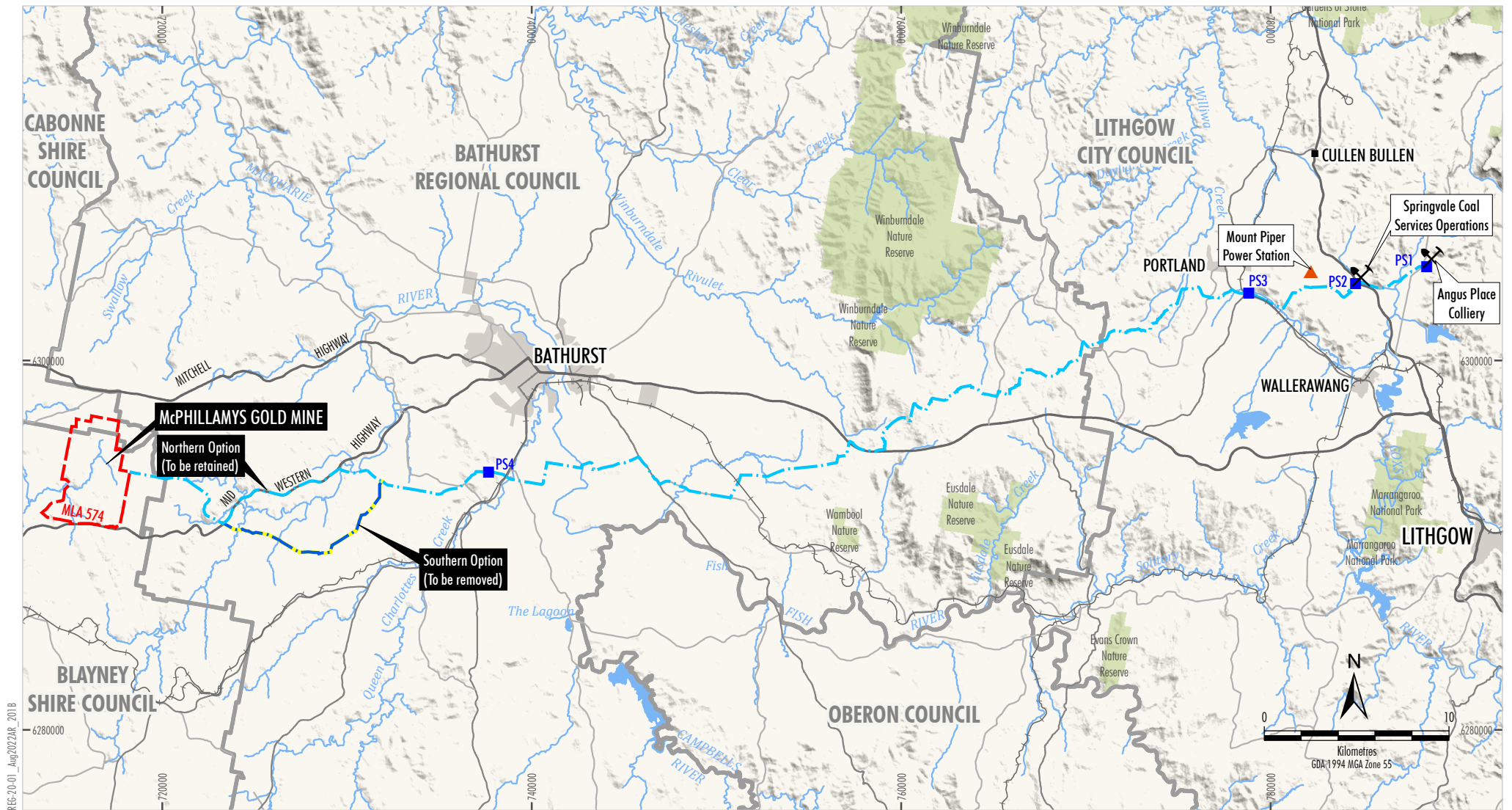
The water supply pipeline includes two alignment options (the northern and southern alignment options). This Amendment Report has been prepared for the MGP by Regis to confirm the preferred water supply pipeline alignment option and remove the non-preferred water supply pipeline alignment option from the MGP (Section 3.2) and describe administrative changes to the Development Application area (Section 3.3).

LFB Resources NL seeks the agreement of the consent authority pursuant to clause 55AA of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (EP&A Regulation) to amend its State significant development application for the MGP (SSD-9505) in the manner described in this Amendment Report. The EP&A Regulation was repealed with effect from 1 March 2022 but continues to apply to the MGP State significant development application because of clause 3 of Schedule 6 to the EP&A Regulation.

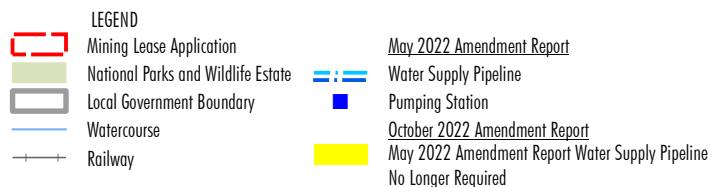
1.2. SUMMARY OF THE MCPHILLAMYS GOLD PROJECT

The MGP would consist of the following key components (Figure 1-1):

- mine site, including:
 - open cut pit;
 - a carbon-in-leach ore processing facility;
 - waste rock emplacement;
 - tailings storage facility (TSF);
 - site water management system;
 - other ancillary infrastructure (including workshop and administration buildings); and



Source: NSW Spatial Services (2020); Regis (2022)



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McPHILLAMYS GOLD PROJECT

Regional Location

Figure 1-1

- water supply infrastructure, including:
 - a water supply pipeline to transfer water from Centennial's Angus Place Colliery and Springvale Coal Services Operations and Energy Australia's Mount Piper Power Station to the MGP;
 - four pumping station facilities;
 - a pressure reducing system; and
 - a communication system.

1.3. EXISTING ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTS

Regis submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Environmental Impact Statement* (Regis, 2019) (the EIS) for assessment under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) in 2019. The MGP was publicly exhibited from 12 September 2019 to 24 October 2019. During this period, government agencies, organisations and members of the public were invited to provide submissions on the EIS to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

In 2020, Regis submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Submissions Report* (Regis, 2020a) (the Submissions Report) to the DPE in response to the submissions received on the EIS. The *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report* (Regis, 2020b) (the 2020 Amendment Report) was also submitted with the Submissions Report to incorporate project changes proposed in response to the submissions received on the EIS. Government agencies, organisations and members of the public were invited to provide submissions on the 2020 Amendment Report to the DPE.

Regis submitted the *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report* (Regis, 2022) (the May 2022 Amendment Report) in May 2022 to incorporate project changes proposed in response to comments raised by the DPE-Water regarding the mine site water management system, and to reflect the outcomes of ongoing consultation with landholders at the mine site and along the water supply pipeline.

1.4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The water supply pipeline described in the May 2022 Amendment Report included two alignment options (the northern and southern alignment options) (Figure 1-1).

Regis has now progressed the water supply pipeline design and associated landholder consultation to the point that it can confirm the northern alignment option is the preferred water supply pipeline alignment option. Regis therefore proposes to amend the MGP to remove the southern alignment option of the water supply pipeline.

This amendment also includes administrative changes to the Development Application area.

1.5. STRUCTURE OF THE AMENDMENT REPORT

This Amendment Report has been prepared in consideration of the *State Significant Development Guidelines – preparing an amendment report* (Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment [DPIE], 2021). The structure of the document is as follows:

- Section 1 Provides an introduction to the MGP, an overview of the existing assessment documents and the amendments to the MGP by the EIS and the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports.
- Section 2 Details the strategic context of the amended MGP.
- Section 3 Provides a detailed description of the amended MGP.
- Section 4 Details the statutory context of the amended MGP.
- Section 5 Describes the engagement undertaken in relation to the amended MGP.
- Section 6 Details the assessment of impacts of the amended MGP.
- Section 7 Provides an evaluation of the amended MGP merits.
- Section 8 Lists the documents referenced in the Amendment Report.

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The strategic context of the MGP, which includes the benefits of the MGP to NSW and the region, is provided in Sections 3 and 39 of the EIS and Section 3 of the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports. Given the minor nature of the proposed amendments to the MGP, there would be no change to the strategic context of the MGP.

3. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS

3.1. OVERVIEW

The proposed amendments to the MGP include the removal of the non-preferred water supply pipeline alignment option from the MGP (Section 3.2) and minor administrative changes to the Development Application area (Section 3.3).

The proposed amendments would not change or increase the following key components of the MGP:

- project life;
- tenements;
- mining method and rate;
- processing method and rate;
- waste rock and tailings management;
- water management system;
- water supply source or demand;
- hours of operation;
- workforce; or
- rehabilitation.

Table 3-1 provides a summary of the amended MGP compared to the MGP as presented in the May 2022 Amendment Report.

The Project Description (Appendix B of the May 2022 Amendment Report) has been updated to incorporate the proposed amendments and is provided as Appendix A.

3.2. AMENDMENT TO THE WATER SUPPLY PIPELINE

Regis has progressed the water supply pipeline design and associated landholder consultation to the point that it can confirm the northern alignment option is the preferred alignment option.

Regis therefore proposes to amend the MGP to remove the southern alignment option of the water supply pipeline (Figure 1-1).

Table 3-1
Project Summary Comparison Table

MGP Component	Summary of the MGP as Presented in the May 2022 Amendment Report	Summary of the Amended MGP
Project Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 years comprising construction, mining, and rehabilitation phases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Tenements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MLA 574 and MLA 613¹. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Mining Method and Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conventional ore cut mining methods at up to 8.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of ore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Processing Method and Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon-in-leach gold processing plant processing up to 7 Mtpa of ore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Product Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Product gold transported off-site via road. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Waste Rock Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste rock placed in a waste rock emplacement up to height of 1,065 metres Australian Height Datum (m AHD) (1,075 m AHD including microrelief). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Tailings Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tailings deposited in an engineered TSF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Site Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary access to mine site via a new intersection off the Mid-Western Highway. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Water Management System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The objective of water management system is to control runoff from construction and operational areas while diverting up-catchment water around these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply pipeline (northern and southern options) to transfer water from Angus Place Colliery, Springvale Coal Services and Mount Piper Power Station. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of a southern option of the water supply pipeline. Other components unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Electricity Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent mains power supplied via a new electricity transmission line (subject to separate approval). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Operating Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction: 710 full time equivalents. Operation: 320 full time equivalents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressive rehabilitation in accordance with the rehabilitation strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged from the May 2022 Amendment Report.

¹ MLA 613 was formerly known as MLA 595.

3.3. ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO THE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION AREA

The following administrative changes to the Schedule of Lands described in the May 2022 Amendment Report are proposed:

- removal of lots associated with the southern option of the water supply pipeline that would no longer be part of the MGP;
- update lots as a result of recent property subdivisions; and
- other administrative changes.

The revised Schedule of Lands is provided in Appendix B.

4. STATUTORY CONTEXT

The statutory approvals required for the MGP, as outlined in Section 4 of the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports, are unchanged by the proposed amendments to the MGP.

Further discussion of the relevant legislation (including the EP&A Regulation and relevant State Environmental Planning Policies) applicable to the amended MGP is addressed in Appendix C.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

5.1. RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

5.1.1. DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Regis has undertaken regular consultation with DPE regarding the MGP and has consulted with the DPE with respect to the proposed amendments in this Amendment Report.

5.2. COMMUNITY

Regis will provide a briefing on the proposed amendments to the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) during a CCC meeting arranged for late October 2022.

5.3. OTHER MGP CONSULTATION

Regis will continue to consult with relevant stakeholders regarding the MGP, including through:

- consultation with relevant councils;
- consultation with nearby landholders;
- consultation with local community groups;
- community newsletters distributed within the Blayney LGA via post and email;
- adverts published in local newspapers (fortnightly);
- maintenance of Regis website containing all CCC minutes, community newsletters, MGP updates and environmental assessment documentation; and
- local office located in the main street of Blayney which is open to the public.

6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Regis has undertaken a review of the potential environmental impacts of the amended MGP to identify key potential environmental aspects requiring additional assessment compared to the potential impacts presented in the EIS and the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports.

No additional environmental impacts for the northern option of the water supply pipeline beyond those assessed in the EIS and the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports would occur as a result of the proposed amendments to the MGP (Table 6-1). Environmental impacts associated with the southern option of the water supply pipeline are no longer relevant to the MGP.

An updated table of the proposed MGP mitigation and management measures to reflect the proposed amendments to the MGP is provided in Appendix D.

**Table 6-1
Summary of Key Potential Environmental Impacts of the Amended MGP**

Environmental Aspect	Key Potential Environmental Issues/Impacts	Section Addressed
Biodiversity	<p>The amended MGP would not change the potential impacts associated with the northern option of the water supply pipeline presented in the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports.</p> <p>The impacts associated with the southern option of the water supply pipeline are no longer relevant to the MGP.</p>	N/A
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage		
Historic Heritage		
Amenity		
Land and Agricultural Resources		
Groundwater		
Surface Water		
Road Transport		
Greenhouse Gas		
Visual		
Economic Effects		
Social and Community Infrastructure		
Hazards and Risks		

7. AMENDED MCPHILLAMYS GOLD PROJECT JUSTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

In summary, when compared to the EIS and the 2020 and the May 2022 Amendment Reports, the proposed amendment would (as described in Section 3):

- remove the southern option of the water supply pipeline; and
- make minor updates to the Schedule of Lands in Appendix A of the May 2022 Amendment Report;

The proposed amendments would not result in any additional environmental impacts associated with the northern option of the water supply pipeline beyond those assessed in the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports.

Accordingly, the conclusion in the EIS and the 2020 and May 2022 Amendment Reports that the MGP is, on balance, considered to be in the public interest of the State of NSW remains unchanged.

8. REFERENCES

Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (2021). *State Significant Development Guidelines – preparing an amendment report.*

Regis Resources Limited (2019). *McPhillamys Gold Project Environmental Impact Statement.*

Regis Resources Limited (2020a). *McPhillamys Gold Project Submissions Report.*

Regis Resources Limited (2020b). *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report.*

Regis Resources Limited (2022). *McPhillamys Gold Project Amendment Report.*