



## Office of Environment & Heritage

Your reference:  
Our reference:  
Contact:

MP10\_0054 MOD 2  
DOC13/38408  
Jackie Taylor  
(02) 6229 7089

Alice Smith  
Planning Officer  
Mining Projects  
Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY 2001

Dear Ms Smith

### **Re: Modification to the Dargues Reef Gold Project (10\_0054 MOD 2)**

I refer to your emails of 30 July and 7 August 2013 to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) seeking comments regarding the proposed modification to the approved Dargues Reef Gold Project (MP 10\_0054) and apologise for the delay in responding.

OEH have previously provided comments, in relation to both Aboriginal Heritage and Biodiversity matters, direct to RW Corkery & Co Pty Limited regarding the proposed modification on 18 July 2013. A copy of these comments have been attached in Appendix 2 of the *Environmental Assessment for Dargues Gold Mine Modification 2* (dated July 2013)

OEH has subsequently considered the documentation provided by your Department for the proposed modification and has the additional comments to make:

#### Aboriginal Heritage

OEH still has concerns in relation to the adequacy of the 2010 *Aboriginal Heritage Assessment* as it is not clear as to which areas were assessed during the original survey nor is it clear as to the extent of the recorded Aboriginal sites. Given the scale of some of the maps and figures within the Environmental Assessment and Archaeological Assessment Report; it is difficult to determine the exact locations of the two Aboriginal sites (GT OS2 and GT OS4) that are mapped on, or close to, the modified transmission line route within the revised project footprint, hence OEH's concerns regarding ensuring Aboriginal objects within these sites are not harmed during the construction of the proposed transmission line. OEH recommends that these sites and any other sites (such as GT OS1) located within close proximity to Project activities be re-located in the field to ensure the proposed exclusion fencing is adequately erected to avoid any potential impacts.

OEH suggests that monitoring of all recorded Aboriginal sites, at regular periods, be included within the Statement of Commitments and Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP) to ensure the sites remain adequately fenced and are not being indirectly impacted by Project activities.

In relation to the AHMP; OEH advises that it has not previously been with a copy of the final AHMP (dated February 2012) for input into the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). OEH has subsequently obtained a copy from the following link:

[http://darguesreef.com.au/images/Management\\_Plans/aboriginal%20heritage.pdf](http://darguesreef.com.au/images/Management_Plans/aboriginal%20heritage.pdf) so as to adequately consider the proposed modification in relation the archaeological background.

Following a review of the AHMP; OEH recommends the *Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan: Dargues Reef Gold Project, Braidwood* (dated February 2012) be updated to include the additional site GT-IS06 recorded in 2011 within Figure 1 on page 6, Tables 2 and 3 on page 8, the Induction text on page 28 and Figure 4 on page 29.

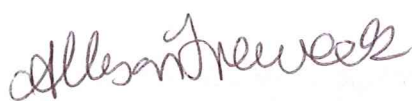
#### Biodiversity

OEH notes that the proponent has considered the advice provided on 18 July 2013 in relation to ensuring activities are undertaken in accordance with the 'AS4970-2009 *Protection of trees on development sites*' to avoid affecting the health of the any trees and has committed to revising the Statement of Commitments.

OEH has reviewed the remainder of the modified footprint and is of the view that there will be no additional impacts on biodiversity other than those addressed in the original approval.

If you wish to discuss any of the above matters further please contact Martin Henery (02) 6229 7062 for biodiversity issues and Jackie Taylor on (02) 6229 7089 for Aboriginal heritage issues.

Yours sincerely

 3/9/13

**ALLISON TREWEEK**  
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**Office of Environment and Heritage**