# Works Approval

Works approval number W6864/2023/1

Works approval holder Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd

**ACN** 090 642 809

**Registered business** 

address

Level 6, 200 St Georges Terrace

Perth, WA 6000

**DWER file number** DER2023/000732

**Duration** 26/02/2024 to 26/02/2027

**Date of issue** 26/02/2024

Premises details

Cue Gold Operations – Big Bell Project

Coodardy Road, Cue, WA 6640

Mining tenements M20/17, M20/99, M20/192, L20/21, L20/39, L20/40, L20/41, L21/14, M20/252, M20/307, M20/333, M20/418, M20/435, G20/1, G20/2, G20/3, G20/11, M20/103, M20/171, M20/202, M20/21, M20/22, M20/354, M20/78, M20/104, M20/256, M20/297, M20/301

|     | bed premises category description<br>ale 1, Environmental Protection Regulations 1987)               | Assessed design capacity |
|-----|--|--------------------------|
| •   | ry 5: Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic emises on which –                      | 850,000 tonnes per annum |
| (a) | Metallic or non-metallic ore is crushed, ground, milled or otherwise processed; or                   |                          |
| (b) | Tailings from metallic or non-metallic ore are reprocessed; or                                       |                          |
| (c) | Tailings or residue from metallic or non-metallic ore are discharged into a containment cell or dam. |                          |

This works approval is granted to the works approval holder, subject to the attached conditions, on 26 February 2024, by:

**Timothy Moran** 

A/MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

an officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)

# Works approval history

| Date             | Reference number | Summary of changes      |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 26 February 2024 | W6864/2023/1     | Works approval granted. |

# Interpretation

In this works approval:

- (a) the words 'including', 'includes' and 'include' in conditions mean "including but not limited to", and similar, as appropriate;
- (b) where any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning;
- (c) where tables are used in a condition, each row in a table constitutes a separate condition:
- (d) any reference to an Australian or other standard, guideline, or code of practice in this works approval:
  - (i) if dated, refers to that particular version; and
  - (ii) if not dated, refers to the latest version and therefore may be subject to change over time;
- (e) unless specified otherwise, any reference to a section of an Act refers to that section of the EP Act; and
- (f) unless specified otherwise, all definitions are in accordance with the EP Act.

**NOTE:** This works approval requires specific conditions to be met but does not provide any implied authorisation for other emissions, discharges, or activities not specified in this works approval.

# Works approval conditions

The works approval holder must ensure that the following conditions are complied with:

## **Construction phase**

## Infrastructure and equipment

- **1.** The works approval holder must:
  - (a) construct the infrastructure.
  - (b) in accordance with the corresponding design and construction requirements; and
  - (c) at the corresponding infrastructure location as set out in Table 1.

**Table 1: Design and construction requirements** 

|    | Infrastructure                      | Design and construction requirements  | Infrastructure location           |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Big Bell Paste Plant                | <ul> <li>Paste plant to be installed at the<br/>location indicated by Figure 1 in<br/>Schedule 1.</li> </ul>  | As shown in Schedule 1, Figure 1. |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>Paste plant sized for a maximum<br/>production rate of 100 m<sup>3</sup>/hr.</li> </ul>  |                                   |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>General layout of the paste plant to<br/>be in accordance with Figure 2 in<br/>Schedule 1.</li> </ul>  |                                   |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>Reagent mixing and handling areas<br/>to be housed within bunded areas.</li> </ul>   |                                   |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>Earthen windrows to be installed<br/>around the tailings run-of-mine<br/>(ROM) pad to divert uncontaminated<br/>stormwater away from the area.</li> </ul>  |                                   |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>Stormwater diversion infrastructure<br/>to be constructed to divert surface<br/>water flows around the paste plant<br/>operating area.</li> </ul>  |                                   |
| 2. | Paste Plant process water pipelines | <ul> <li>Process water pipeline to be<br/>installed at the location depicted in<br/>Figure 3, Schedule 1.</li> </ul>  | As shown in Schedule 1, Figure 3. |
|    |                                     | <ul> <li>Process water pipeline to be<br/>equipped with telemetry or automatic<br/>cut-outs in the event of a pipe failure;<br/>or provided with secondary<br/>containment sufficient to contain any<br/>spill for a period equal to the time<br/>between routine inspections.</li> </ul> |                                   |

### **Compliance reporting**

- 2. The works approval holder must within 30 calendar days of an item of infrastructure or equipment required by condition 1 being constructed:
  - (a) undertake an audit of their compliance with the requirements of condition 1;
  - (b) prepare and submit to the CEO an Environmental Compliance Report on that compliance.
- **3.** The Environmental Compliance Report required by condition 2, must include as a minimum the following:
  - (a) certification by a suitably qualified geotechnical or civil engineer that the items of infrastructure or component(s) thereof, as specified in condition 1, have been constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements specified in condition 1.
  - (b) as constructed plans and a detailed site plan for each item of infrastructure or component of infrastructure specified in condition 1; and
  - (c) be signed by a person authorised to represent the works approval holder and contains the printed name and position of that person.

## **Environmental commissioning phase**

## **Environmental commissioning requirements**

- 4. The works approval holder may only commence environmental commissioning of the Big Bell Paste Plant infrastructure listed in condition 1 once the Environmental Compliance Report has been submitted for that infrastructure in accordance with condition 3 of this works approval.
- **5.** Any environmental commissioning activities undertaken for an item of infrastructure specified in Table 2 may only be carried out:
  - (a) in accordance with the corresponding commissioning requirements; and
  - (b) for the corresponding authorised commissioning duration

**Table 2: Environmental commissioning requirements** 

| Infrastructure       | Commissioning requirements  | Duration  |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Big Bell Paste Plant | <ul> <li>Testing operation of plant<br/>components with tailings, reagents,<br/>water, and air under changing<br/>process conditions.</li> </ul>  | For a period not exceeding 30 calendar days in aggregate. |
|                      | <ul> <li>Dust suppression to be undertaken<br/>to ensure effectiveness.</li> </ul>  |   |
|                      | <ul> <li>Any spills or leaks of saline water,<br/>tailings, chemicals, or hydrocarbons<br/>outside of containment structures to<br/>be contained and cleaned up<br/>immediately.</li> </ul> |   |

### **Environmental commissioning report**

- 6. The works approval holder must submit to the CEO an Environmental Commissioning Report within 14 calendar days of the completion date of environmental commissioning of the Big Bell paste plant infrastructure specified in condition 5, Table 2.
- 7. The works approval holder must ensure the Environmental Commissioning Report required by condition 6 of this works approval includes the following.
  - (a) a summary of the environmental commissioning activities undertaken, including timeframes, amount of tailings processed and amount of bore water used.
  - (b) a review of the works approval holder's performance and compliance against the conditions of this works approval; and
  - (c) where they have not been met, measures proposed to meet the manufacturer's design specifications and the conditions of this works approval, together with timeframes for implementing the proposed measures.

## **Time limited operations phase**

#### Commencement and duration

- 8. The works approval holder may commence time limited operations for the Big Bell Paste Plant infrastructure as specified in condition 1 where the Environmental Commissioning Report for that stage of infrastructure as required by condition 6 has been submitted by the works approval holder.
- **9.** The works approval holder may conduct time limited operations for the Big Bell Paste Plant infrastructure constructed as specified in condition 1:
  - (a) for a period not exceeding 180 calendar days from the day the works approval holder meets the requirements of condition 8 for that item of infrastructure: or
  - (b) until such time as a Licence for that item of infrastructure is granted in accordance with Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, if one is granted before the end of the period specified in condition 9(a).

### Time limited operations requirements and emission limits

**10.** During time limited operations, the works approval holder must ensure that the premises infrastructure and equipment listed in Table 3 and located at the corresponding infrastructure location is maintained and operated in accordance with the corresponding operational requirement set out in Table 3.

Table 3: Operational requirements during time limited operations

| Infrastructure       | Operational requirements   | Infrastructure location                 |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Big Bell Paste Plant | Storage and handling of reagents<br>(binder and flocculant) and<br>reclaimed tailings shall be managed<br>to ensure dust emissions are<br>minimized. | As shown within<br>Schedule 1, Figure 1 |
|                      | Stormwater is to be managed so contaminated or potentially contaminated stormwater is captured to prevent release into the                           |   |

| Infrastructure                                     | Operational requirements  | Infrastructure location                 |
|--|---|---|
|  | environment.  |   |
| Big Bell paste plant water pipeline                | Pipelines to be inspected daily to confirm integrity.   | As shown within Schedule 1, Figure 3    |
| Existing Big Bell tailings storage facility (TSF1) | The reclamation of tailings from<br>TSF1 shall be managed by routine<br>dust suppression to ensure dust<br>generation is minimised. | As shown within<br>Schedule 1, Figure 1 |
|  | <ul> <li>Any spills of tailings outside of TSF1<br/>shall be contained and cleaned up<br/>immediately.</li> </ul>                   |   |

### **Compliance reporting**

- 11. The works approval holder must submit to the CEO a report on the time limited operations within 30 calendar days of the completion date of time limited operations or 60 calendar days before the expiration date of the works approval, whichever is the sooner.
- **12.** The works approval holder must ensure the report required by condition 11 includes the following:
  - (a) a summary of the time limited operations, including timeframes, amount of tailings processed and amount of bore water used;
  - (b) a review of performance and compliance against the conditions of the works approval; and
  - (c) where the manufacture's design specifications and the conditions of this works approval have not been met, what measures will the works approval holder take to meet them, and what timeframes will be required to implement those measures.

## **Records and reporting (general)**

- 13. The works approval holder must record the following information in relation to complaints received by the works approval holder (whether received directly from a complainant or forwarded to them by the Department or another party) about any alleged emissions from the premises:
  - (a) the name and contact details of the complainant, (if provided);
  - (b) the time and date of the complaint;
  - (c) the complete details of the complaint and any other concerns or other issues raised; and
  - (d) the complete details and dates of any action taken by the works approval holder to investigate or respond to any complaint.
- **14.** The works approval holder must maintain accurate and auditable books including the following records, information, reports, and data required by this works approval:
  - (a) the works conducted in accordance with condition 1:
  - (b) any maintenance of infrastructure that is performed in the course of complying with condition 10.
  - (c) complaints received under condition 13.

- **15.** The books specified under condition 14 must:
  - (a) be legible;
  - (b) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original version(s) and any subsequent amendments remain legible and are capable of retrieval;
  - (c) be retained by the works approval holder for the duration of the works approval; and
  - (d) be available to be produced to an inspector or the CEO as required.

# **Definitions**

In this works approval, the terms in Table 4 have the meanings defined.

**Table 4: Definitions** 

| Term                                     | Definition   |  |
|--|--|--|
| annual period                            | a 12-month period commencing from 1 January until 1 January of the immediately following year.   |  |
| books                                    | has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.  |  |
| CEO                                      | means Chief Executive Officer.   |  |
|  | CEO for the purposes of notification means:  |  |
|  | Director General Department administering the Environmental Protection Act 1986 Locked Bag 10 Joondalup DC WA 6919 info@dwer.wa.gov.au   |  |
| Department                               |  |  |
| Department                               | means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> and designated as responsible for the administration of Part V Division 3 of the EP Act.   |  |
| discharge                                | has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.  |  |
| emission                                 | has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.  |  |
| environmental commissioning              | means the sequence of activities to be undertaken to test equipment integrity and operation, or to determine the environmental performance, of equipment and infrastructure to establish or test a steady state operation and confirm design specifications. |  |
| Environmental<br>Commissioning<br>Report | means a report on any commissioning activities that have taken place and a demonstration that they have concluded, with focus on emissions and discharges, waste containment, and other environmental factors.   |  |
| Environmental<br>Compliance Report       | means a report to satisfy the CEO that the conditioned infrastructure and/or equipment has been constructed in accordance with the works approval.   |  |
| EP Act                                   | Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA).  |  |
| EP Regulations                           | Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 (WA).  |  |
| premises                                 | the premises to which this licence applies, as specified at the front of this licence and as shown on the premises map (Figure 1) in Schedule 1 to this works approval.  |  |

| Term                     | Definition  |
|--------------------------|---|
| prescribed premises      | has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.   |
| time limited operations  | refers to the operation of the infrastructure and equipment identified under this works approval that is authorised for that purpose, subject to the relevant conditions. |
| works approval           | refers to this document, which evidences the grant of the works approval by the CEO under section 54 of the EP Act, subject to the conditions.                            |
| works approval<br>holder | refers to the occupier of the premises being the person to whom this works approval has been granted, as specified at the front of this works approval.                   |

#### \_\_\_\_\_

## **END OF CONDITIONS**

# **Schedule 1: Maps**

# **Premises map**

The boundary of the prescribed premises is shown in the map below (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the prescribed premises

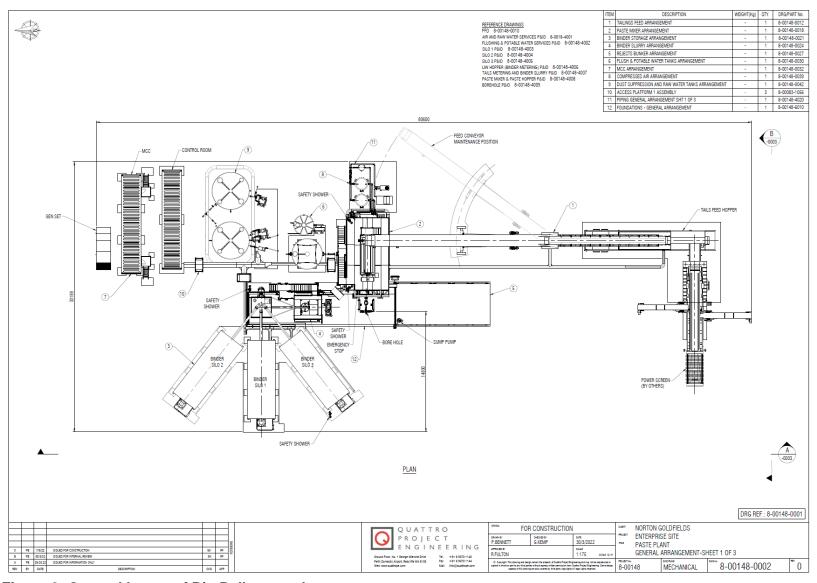


Figure 2: General layout of Big Bell paste plant



Figure 3: Location of process water pipelines