

Annual Audit Compliance Report Form

Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V Division 3

Once completed, please submit this form either via email to info@dwer.wa.gov.au, or to the below postal address:

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Locked Bag 10
Joondalup DC WA 6919

Section A – Licence details			
Licence number:	L8337/2009/2	Licence file number:	2012/006861
Licence holder name:	St Barbara Limited		
Trading as:	St Barbara Limited		
ACN:	009165066		
Registered business address:	Level 10, 432 St Kilda Road, Melbourne VIC 3004		
Reporting period:	01/09/2019 to 31/08/2020		

Section B – Statement of compliance with licence conditions
Did you comply with all of your licence conditions during the reporting period? (please tick the appropriate box)
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> section C; section D (if required); and sign the declaration in Section F.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – please complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> section C; section D (if required); section E; and sign the declaration in Section F.

Section C – Statement of actual production	
Provide the actual production quantity for this reporting period. Supporting documentation is to be attached.	
Prescribed premises category	Actual production quantity
5. Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore	745,748 t
73. Bulk storage of chemicals, etc	392.8 m ³ fixed bulk, <500 m ³ aggregate

Section D – Statement of actual Part 2 waste discharge quantity	
Provide the actual Part 2 waste discharge quantity for this reporting period. Supporting documentation is to be attached.	
Prescribed premises category	Actual Part 2 waste discharge quantity
6. Mine Dewatering	498,261 kL
52. Electric power generation: premises (other than premises within category 53 or an emergency or standby power generating plant) on which electrical power is generated using fuel.	12.19 MWh
89. Class II putrescible landfill site.	~2,202 t

Section E – Details of non-compliance with licence condition			
Please use a separate page for each condition with which the licence holder was non-compliant at a time during the reporting period.			
Condition no:	1.2.2	Date(s) of non-compliance:	14/01/2020 - 15/01/2020
Details of non-compliance:			
<p>The Gwalia Deeps Mine exhausts air from the mine workings via a ventilation rise (VR6A) with associated ventilation infrastructure incorporating mist eliminators to remove aerosolised groundwater from the exhaust air stream. The condensate is directed to a catchment pond, where from it is pumped to Tower Hill Pit in accordance with condition 1.2.2 of Prescribed Premise Licence L8337/2009/2.</p> <p>Commissioning activities saw the three VR6 fans commence simultaneous operation on day shift of the 14/01/2020. With the operation of three fans, water inflow into the catchment pond from the mist eliminators increased. At that stage of commissioning, the pumping infrastructure from the catchment pond to the Tower Hill Pit had not been installed, so a water truck was organised to keep the level of the dam at a manageable level.</p> <p>Overnight between 14/01/2020 to 15/01/2020, condensate flow into the catchment pond exceeded expected volumes (possible due to heavy rainfall) and the capacity of the catchment pond, resulting in an overflow to the hardstand area via the designed dam spillway. The water discharged to the hardstand area eroded and breached the secondary containment resulting in discharge of the saline condensate to the environment.</p>			
What was the actual (or suspected) environmental impact of the non-compliance?			
<p>NOTE – please attach maps or diagrams to provide insight into the precise location of where the non-compliance took place.</p> <p>The discharge from the catchment pond secondary containment flowed to an area of approximately 0.3528 ha of native vegetation and ephemeral drainage lines. As the discharge occurred during rainfall, it combined with surface flows resulting in a gradual decline in salinity along the flow extent (Figure 1, Plate 1-2). The combined flows became sub-brackish at approximately 500 m down gradient from the catchment pond.</p> <p>Ongoing ground based vegetation photo monitoring, and aerial vegetation monitoring initially conducted two weeks post-event and again eight months after the release event, has determined that significant vegetation impacts have not occurred (Appendix A). It is considered that the rainfall that occurred concurrently with the release event ameliorated the potential for associated vegetation impacts.</p>			
Cause (or suspected cause) of non-compliance:			
<p>The VR6A fans were commissioned on day shift of the 14/01/2020. At this stage of commissioning, pumping infrastructure from the catchment pond to the Tower Hill Pit had not been installed and instead a water truck was organised to manage the level of the pond. Inflows from the mist eliminators and rainfall over the night shift period exceeded the expected volumes, resulting in an overflow.</p>			
Action taken to mitigate any adverse effects of non-compliance and prevent recurrence of the non-compliance:			

Section E – Details of non-compliance with licence condition

The following actions were undertaken following the event:

- Earthworks were conducted to repair the secondary containment embankment.
- Water cart facilitated pumping of the catchment pond to bring back to freeboard level.
- Onsite pump apparatus was re-tasked to accelerate commissioning timeline of the catchment pond water transfer line.
- The impact area was mapped and photo monitoring points set up to assess long-term vegetation impacts.
- Installation of catchment pond high-level alarm linked to 24 hour monitoring system (Citech)
- Aerial vegetation monitoring was commissioned to characterize emergent vegetation impacts. This work was conducted in two rounds; two weeks after the release event, with a follow up survey eight months post-event.
- Photo monitoring of the flow path.

Was this non-compliance previously reported to DWER?

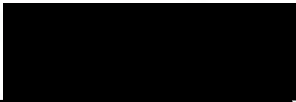
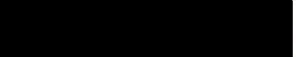

☒ Yes, and

☐ Reported to DWER verbally

Date: / /

☒ Reported to DWER in writing

Date: 16/01/2020

Section F – Declaration			
I / We declare that the information in this Annual Audit Compliance Report is true and correct and is not false or misleading in a material particular ¹ .			
I / We consent to the Annual Audit Compliance Report being published on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) website.			
Signature ² :		Signature:	
Name: (printed)		Name: (printed)	
Position:		Position:	
Date:	29/10/2020	Date:	
Seal (if signing under seal):			

¹ It is an offence under section 112 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* for a person to give information on this form that to their knowledge is false or misleading in a material particular.

² AACRs can only be signed by the licence holder or an authorised person with the legal authority to sign on behalf of the licence holder.