

Date: 10 September 2025
RE: **APP-0028706 - Amendment - L9362/2022/1 - Request for additional information**

Norton Gold Fields (Norton) has prepared this document to provide the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation with supporting information for the recent amendment application of Licence 9362/2022/1.

CATEGORY 5 ACTIVITIES

1. What infrastructure is currently authorised for Category 5 production under the licence and what the throughput of each piece of infrastructure to demonstrate how the current throughput of 5MTPA is being made.

Binduli North Dry Plant – Cat 5 (L9362/2022/1)

The current category 5 ore crushing and screening plant (Dry Plant) was authorised under Works Approval W6504/2021/1 before being added to Licence L9362/2022/1 for a production capacity of 5 MTPA. The Dry Plant infrastructure includes a three staged crushing circuit comprising:

- Primary crusher: Metso C160 (or similar) **(Item 1 of Figure 1)**
- Secondary crusher: Sandvick CH890i (or similar) **(Item 1 of Figure 1)**
- Primary screen **(Item 2 of Figure 1)**
- High Pressure Grinding Rolls: CITIC HPGR 20/13 (or similar) **(Item 3 of Figure 1)**
- Agglomerator **(Item 4a of Figure 1)**

All components have a capacity of up to 5MTPA.

2. What infrastructure is to be included in the amendment for Category 5 and the throughput of each piece to demonstrate how the increase of 2MTPA is being made.

Mobile Crusher/Feeding Plant (Binduli ROM) – Cat 5 (proposed L9362 amendment)

A mobile crushing and feeding plant will be included in the current Licence amendment for category 5. The mobile crushing plant will be located on the Binduli North ROM. This plant will be the start of the ore crushing process. The ore will be crushed through the mobile crushing plant, after which the crushed ore will be fed into the already licence existing Binduli North Dry Plant via the Primary crusher feed bin.

The proposed installation and operation of a mobile crushing/feeding circuit being added under Cat 5 aims to provide greater processing capacity, efficiency, operational flexibility and cost savings for the operation. The addition of the extra crushing and feeding circuit will increase the dry plant operation capacity and provide Norton with an alternative feeding mechanism to the current dozer/loader feed approach. It will reduce travel time between the ROM pad and the dry plant and allow for better utilisation of the plant's capacity thereby increasing its throughput to 7Mtpa.

3. Which works approvals apply to each piece of the infrastructure referred to in the dot point above.

Binduli North Dry Plant – Cat 5 (L9362/2022/1)

The existing Binduli North Dry Plant was constructed under Works Approval W6504/2022/1, which was granted to Norton Gold Fields on 22/07/2021. The Dry Plant was included in Binduli's Licence L9362/2022/1 application, which was granted on 29/03/2023.

Mobile Crushing and Screening Plant (Binduli ROM) – Cat 5 (proposed L9362 amendment)

Norton Gold Fields contractor Integrate Sustainability reached out to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 7/04/2025 regarding the addition of the Binduli ROM mobile ore crushing and screening plant to Binduli North's Licence 9362/2022/1.

Norton expressed the belief that the additional plant/equipment and capacity increase does not alter the environmental risk associated with the proposed activity, given that category 5 activities are already licenced.

DWER Resources Industries Manager Christine Pustkuchen responded on 7/04/2025 stating that the department agreed that a licence amendment application would be suitable for the proposed additional Category 5 equipment and increase of approved throughput. A copy of Norton's initial request and correspondence with DWER has been included in **Attachment 1** of this document and in this RFI's supporting information folder.

4. When were compliance reports provided for the infrastructure referred to in the above two dot points.

No compliance report has been provided for the ROM Pad mobile crushing and screen plan refer to point 3 for additional information.

5. Are Norton intending to incorporate the additional crushing and screening plant authorised for installation under W2873/2025/1 in the licence with this amendment? Is the increased throughput (2.5MTPA) approved under W2873/2025/1 to the licence or only 2MTPA?

Ore Screening Plant – Cat 5 (W2873/2025/1)

A secondary screening infrastructure authorised under Works Approval 2873/2025/1 is an additional plant operating within the already existing and licenced Binduli North Dry Plant (**Item 4b of Figure 1**). The screen does not operate separate of the Dry Plant. Ore moves through the primary and secondary crushers, to the primary screen, then to the HPGR and then agglomerator **or** screen. The screen authorised under W2873 is located south of the Agglomerator.

Final crushed ore from the existing high-pressure grinding rollers (HPGR) will be transported by a fixed conveyor and fed to an agglomerator feed head chute. 50% of ore will be fed to the agglomerator bin and 50% will be diverted to the agglomerator bypass conveyor, then directed to the screening circuit line.

The amended licence capacity increase is not related to the screen authorised under W2873 but instead related to additional of the Binduli ROM mobile crushing and feeding plant (point 3).

Norton are to confirm if the mobile crushing and screening plant referred to in the letter is the crushing and screening plant currently authorised for Category 12 activities in the licence. If this is the same plant, please provide an explanation of the increased throughput from 800,000 TPA (as assessed and authorised for the plant when it is in use for Category 12) to 2MTPA (the increased throughput applied for through this amendment).

Mobile Crushing and Screening Plant (Binduli ROM) – Cat 5 (proposed L9362 amendment)

The mobile crushing and screening plant at the Binduli ROM is new additional equipment, separate to the Licenced Category 12 equipment. It was not indicated within the further information letter that the proposed mobile crushing and screening plant was the already licenced Category 12 equipment. Refer to point 3 for authorisation of the new Binduli ROM mobile crushing and screening plant.

CATEGORY 7 ACTIVITIES

7. The crushing and screening plant that are the source of the crushed ore being added to the heap leach.

The 6MTA Dry Plant will send ore to the heap leach pads. As mentioned in section 2, the introduction of the Binduli ROM mobile crushing and screening plant will increase the entire Dry Plant capacity to 7MTPA.

Approximately 50% of the ore moved through entire Dry Plant is diverted to the secondary screen currently authorised on W2873/2025/1 and stockpiled. The other 50% moves to the agglomerator before being conveyed to the heap leach.

Currently, as per W2873/2025/1, 2.5MTPA of ore is diverted to the screen. Once the screen is added to Binduli L9362, approximately 3.5MTPA will be diverted to the screen. 1MTPA of this screened ore is transported to Paddington for processing. The remaining 2.5MTPA is conveyed to the heap leach. Only 1MTPA is transported out of the Dry Plant processing circuit, and the remaining 6MTPA is conveyed to the heap leach.

The mobile crushing and screening plant authorised under W2992/2025/1 has a production capacity of 2MTPA. The ore processed through this plant will be directly deposited onto the heap leach via dump trucks. The recent licence amendment of category 7 production capacity has anticipated the addition of ore processed through the mobile crushing and screening plant (W2992).

8. The approvals relevant to the above crushing and screening plant.

Existing Dry Plant: W6504/2021/1, now authorised under L9362.

Secondary screening plant: W2873/2025/1.

Mobile crushing and screening plant: W2992/2025/1.

ROM Mobile Crushing and Screen: No works approvals direct addition to the licence (refer to point 3)

9. The expected timeframes of the throughput increasing

5MTPA to 7MTPA: September 2025.

10. How the stages of the heap leach will be completed and operated.

Ore from the Dry Plant is currently being heaped onto Stage 2 via conveyors and grasshoppers. Once the first lift is complete, ore will continue to be heaped to four lifts. Once complete, and stage 3 of the heap leach is constructed as per Works Approval W650/2022/1 and compliant, ore from the Dry Plant will be stacked on Stage 3 cells.

Ore crushed through the 2MTPA mobile crushing plant (W2992) will be directly tipped by truck onto an unoccupied and designated cells of stage 2.

Table 1: Existing Licences and Works Approvals related to the Binduli operations and relevancy to categories 5 and 12

Instrument	Category	Assessed production capacity	Mining Tenements	Compliance documents	Existing infrastructure
L9362/2022/1	Category 5	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period	Mining tenements M26/115, M26/243, M26/387, M26/420, M26/430, M26/445, M26/446, M26/447, M26/474, M26/629 and M26/833	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary crusher: Metso C160 (or similar) Secondary crusher: Sandvick CH890i (or similar) Primary screen (not subject to Binduli DWER approvals) High Pressure Grinding Rolls: CITIC HPGR 20/13 (or similar) Agglomerator (not subject to Binduli DWER approvals)
	Category 12	800,000 tonnes per annual period			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terex Finlay J1175 Jaw Crusher (x2); Terex Finlay C1550 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay C1545 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay C1540 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay 693 Double Deck Screen; Terex Finlay 696 Triple Deck Screen; R230 McCloskey Reclaimer; and Telestack TC624 Track Stacker/Radial Stockpiler; <p>Not related to recent Licence amendment</p>
	Category 7 (Stage 1)	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 1 Heap Leach (cells 1-5)
W6504/2021/1	Category 5	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant – 29/11/2022 (ECR) (A2141758) Activity authorised under Licence L9362/2022/1 	-
	Category 12	925,000 tonnes per annual period		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant – 14/01/2022 (ECR) (A2078293) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile crushing plant no longer exists. This plant was never added to Licence 9362/2022/1. Plant

Instrument	Category	Assessed production capacity	Mining Tenements	Compliance documents	Existing infrastructure
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity authorised under Licence L9362/2022/1 	was used temporarily/not past Time Limited Operations.
	Category 7 (Stages 1 to 3)	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 1 (cells 1-5) only – ECR 27 - June 2022 - compliant Stage 2 (cells 6 - 7) only – ECR -28 March 2024 (compliance assessment pending) Stage 2 (cells 6-7) only – environmental commissioning – 19 September 2024 (compliance assessment pending) Stage 2(cells 8 – 15 only) – ECR - Compliant - 21 February 2025 (APP-0026983) Stage 2 (cells 8-15 only) – Environmental commissioning – 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 2 (cells 6-15) Heap Leach Related to recent Licence amendment

Instrument	Category	Assessed production capacity	Mining Tenements	Compliance documents	Existing infrastructure
				Compliant - 6 January 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TLO expiring 16 September 2025 – CEO initiated amendment to extend TLO 	
W6730/2022/1	Category 12	800,000 tonnes per annual period	Part of Mining tenements M26/446 and M26/447	Compliant – 20/02/2025 – TLO report (APP-0026720)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terex Finlay J1175 Jaw Crusher (x2); Terex Finlay C1550 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay C1545 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay C1540 Cone Crusher; Terex Finlay 693 Double Deck Screen; Terex Finlay 696 Triple Deck Screen; R230 McCloskey Reclaimer; and Telestack TC624 Track Stacker/Radial Stockpiler; Infrastructure and activity added to licence on 27/09/2025. Not related to recent licence amendment.
W2873/2025/1	Category 5	2,500,000 tonnes per annual period	Part of mining tenements: M26/447	ECR submitted to EO 16/07/2025 (APP-002995)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landsky Flip-flow Screen ECR was submitted to Environment Online on 16/07/2025 (APP-0029952) Not related to recent licence amendment.
W2992/2025/1	Category 5	2,000,000 tonnes per annual period	Part of mining tenements M26/446 and M26/447	ECR pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Crusher - MetsoNW120 (or equivalent) capable of up to 2MTPA Secondary Crusher - Metso330GPS (or equivalent) Secondary Screen - 200-CR-0022 - Nordberg CVB2060-4 (or equivalent) Tertiary Crusher - Metso330GPS (or equivalent) Tertiary Screen - 200-CR-0022 - Nordberg CVB2060-4 (or equivalent) Auxiliary plant and equipment Related to recent licence amendment

Table 2: New throughput and proposed throughput under each Instrument

Instrument	Category	Assessed production capacity currently in the instruments	Proposed throughput	How will the proposed throughput for Category 5 and 7 be achieved by the <u>existing approvals</u> (To be filled)	How will the proposed throughput for Category 5 and 7 be achieved by the <u>existing and proposed new Infrastructure</u> (To be filled)
L9362/2022/1	Category 5	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period	7,000,000 tonnes per annual period	Prior agreement and approval from DWER (dated 7/04/2025)	Binduli North ROM mobile crushing, existing Binduli Dry Plant crushing and screening plant.
	Category 7	5,000,000 tonnes per annual period	8,000,000 tonnes per annual period	L9362/2022/1.	Binduli North ROM mobile crushing, existing Binduli Dry Plant crushing and screening plant.
				Prior agreement and approval from DWER (dated 7/04/2025)	Binduli North ROM mobile crushing and screening plant.
				W2992/2025/1	2MTPA mobile crushing and screening plant

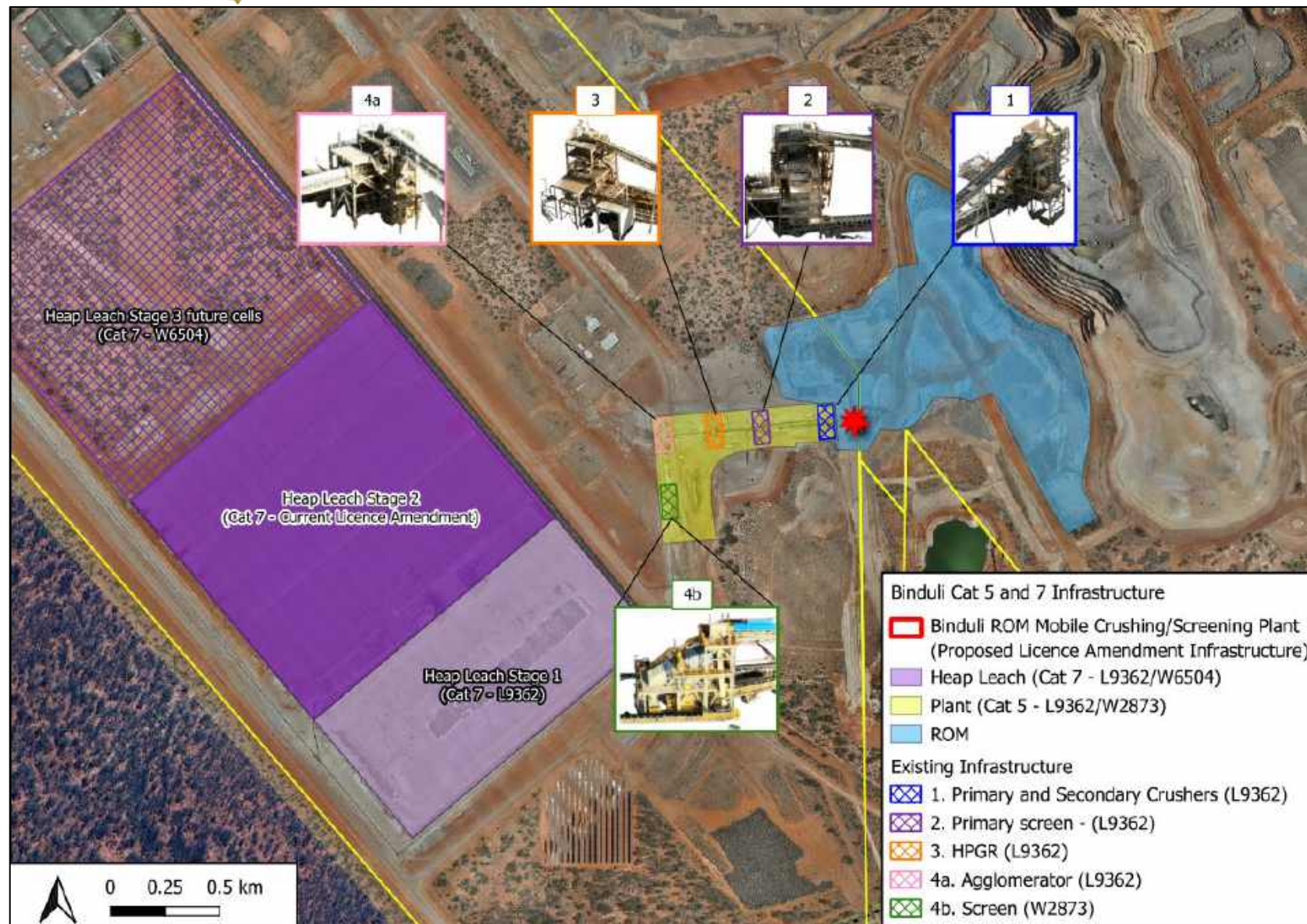


Figure 1. Binduli North Category 5 and 7 Infrastructure

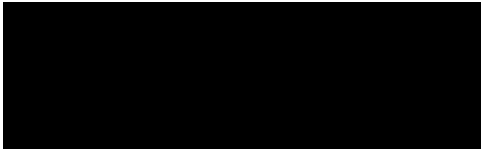


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Norton understands the recent Binduli Licence amendment incorporates a number of changes that could be confusing to people not as familiar with the site. Norton believes it would be in both the Department's and Norton's best interest to hold a brief meeting to clarify and address the items in the RFI, via teams call or face to face.

Should further clarification or information be required, please do not hesitate to contact Norton's environmental team at environment@padgold.com.au.

Best Wishes,



Environmental Advisor
Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd