# **Amendment Report**

# **Application for Licence Amendment**

#### Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Licence Number** L4496/1988/11

**Licence Holder** Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd

**ACN** 090 642 809

**File Number** DER2017/002073-1

Premises Meekatharra Gold Operations

G51/9, L20/75, L51/18, L51/51, L51/78, L51/79, M20/12, M20/45, M20/68, M20/70, M20/71, M20/73, M20/77, M20/107, M20/214, M20/219, M20/249, M20/421, M51/6, M51/12, M51/31, M51/33, M51/35, M51/39, M51/53, M51/62, M51/75, M51/92, M51/96, M51/132, M51/190, M51/199, M51/200, M51/203, M51/209, M51/211, M51/233, M51/236, M51/237, M51/254, M51/320, M51/321, M51/374, M51/393, M51/437, M51/438, M51/439, M51/440, M51/459, M51/483, M51/485, M51/486, M51/491, M51/492, M51/493, M51/494, M51/495, M51/575, M51/581, M51/654, M51/668, M51/669, M51/670, M51/671, M51/672, M51/757, M51/784, M51/788, M51/793, M51/794, M51/795, M51/819, M51/820, M51/824

and M51/834

MEEKATHARRA WA 6642

As defined by the Premises map attached to the Revised

Licence

Date of Report 23 June 2023

**Decision** Revised licence granted

#### MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

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

# **Table of Contents**

1.	Deci	Decision summary1							
2.	Scop	oe of as	sessment	1					
	2.1	Regul	atory framework	1					
	2.2	Applic	ation summary	1					
		2.2.1	Dewatering of South Junction Pit	1					
		2.2.2	Removal of landfill construction requirements from Table 7 of Licence	e5					
		2.2.3	Expiry date extension	6					
		2.2.4	Other amendments	6					
3.	Risk	assess	sment	6					
	3.1	Sourc	e-pathways and receptors	6					
		3.1.1	Emissions and controls	6					
		3.1.2	Receptors	7					
	3.2	Risk ra	atings	10					
4.	Cons	sultatio	n	12					
<b>5</b> .									
	5.1	Summ	nary of amendments	12					
Refe	erence		·						
			lication validation summary						
•			•						
Table	e 1: W	ater qua	lity results for the Pits	4					
			older controls						
Table	e 3: Re	elevant n	nonitoring schedule from GWOS	7					
			ental receptors and distance from prescribed activity						
Table	e 5. Ri	sk asses	ssment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises durin	ıg					
-			on						
			of licence amendments						
		,							
Figu	re 1: S	outh Jur	nction discharge options	2					
			nts and drainage lines						

# 1. Decision summary

Licence L4496/1988/11 is held by Big Bell Operations Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for the Meekatharra Gold Operations (the Premises).

This Amendment Report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L4496/1988/11 has been granted.

The Revised Licence issued as a result of this amendment supersedes the existing Licence previously granted in relation to the Premises.

# 2. Scope of assessment

## 2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Amendment Report, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <a href="https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents">https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents</a>.

## 2.2 Application summary

On 4 April 2023, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L4496/1988/11 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- Dewatering of South Junction Pit into Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit (refer to section 2.2.1);
- Removal of construction requirements (Table 7 of L4496/1988/11) for the putrescible, inert type 1, and type 2 landfill locations (refer to section 2.2.2); and
- Extension to the existing expiry date of 30/09/2023 to 30/09/2033 (refer to section 2.2.3).

There will be no change to the existing design capacity of categories 5, 6, 52, 54, 63, 64 and 87 previously approved under the Licence as a result of this amendment.

#### 2.2.1 Dewatering of South Junction Pit

The Licence Holder is proposing to dewater South Junction Pit to facilitate the safe expansion of underground activities from under Bluebird North Pit to under South Junction Pit.

Dewatering of South Junction Pit is required and will be discharged into either Romsey Pit or Mystery Pit as shown by Figure 1. Once dewatered, underground mining will be undertaken enabling further resource development.

Approximately 995,963 m³ of water is to be abstracted from South Junction Pit. Water will be transferred via a single pass in pit (diesel or electric) pontoon pump and "relocated to one of the two discharge locations" (Westgold 2023c) via a high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipeline. It is estimated that dewatering the contained volume would be achieved over a 136 day period.

Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit are located approximately 2 km and 3.5 km respectively, north north-west of South Junction Pit. Transfer for water between the pits will require the installation of a 2 - 2.5 km pipeline and a 3.5 - 4 km pipeline through previously disturbed areas within the premises boundary.

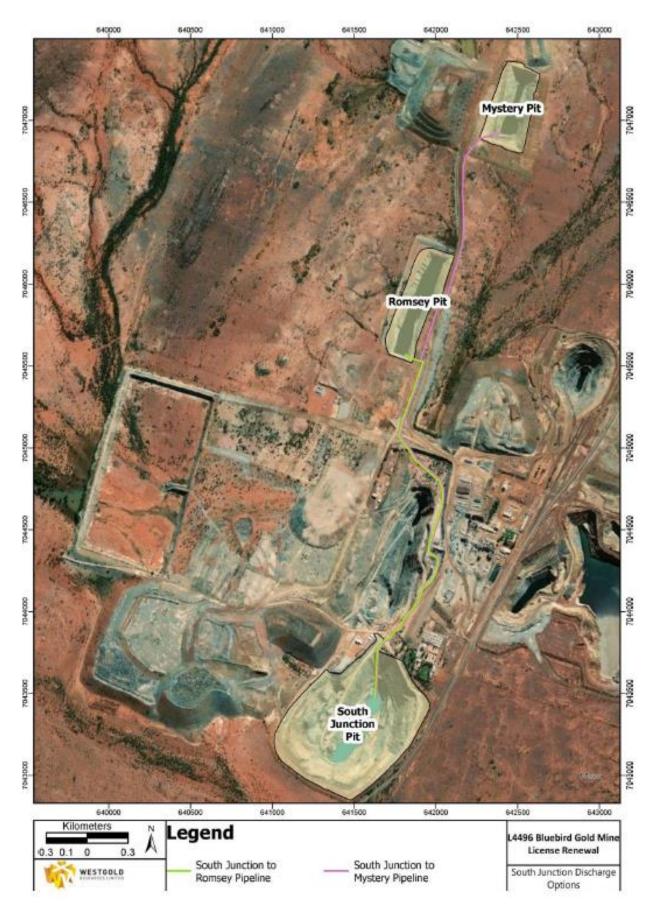


Figure 1: South Junction discharge options

South Junction Pit is currently active with the portal for access to Bluebird underground mine and as a water source for underground operations. Water from underground is recirculated back into South Junction Pit for later use and is high in sediment content as a result. South Junction pit water is saline, alkaline and dominated by sodium chloride ions.

Romsey Pit is currently used as a source of water for processing operations and for dust suppression. The pits current water volume is 286,536 m³ with a remaining capacity of 1,561,813 m³. Romsey Pit water is brackish, alkaline and dominated by sodium chloride ions.

Mystery Pit is currently inactive. The pits current water volume is 78,354 m³ with a remaining capacity of 2,977,334 m³. Mystery pit water is highly saline, alkaline and dominated by sodium chloride ions.

Water quality results for South Junction Pit, Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit are shown in Table 1 (Westgold 2023b).

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment associated with this activity.

**Table 1: Water quality results for the Pits** 

Parameter	Triggers	South Junction Pit				Romsey Pit			Mystery Pit	
	ANZECC	Min	Med	Max	Min	Med	Max	Min	Med	Max
	Livestock									
	Limits									
TDS	2,500	5,600	7,293	8,600	722	1,400	5,300	30,700	38,000	45,000
EC	3,730	7,800	11,000	14,355	1,142	2,450	8,000	47,000	50,686.5	59,000
рН	-	7.87	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.55	8.8	8.1	8.4	8.5
As	0.5	0.47	0.67	0.74	0.012	0.04	0.21	0.17	0.185	0.21
HCO₃	-	180	190	210	99	115	210	390	450	530
Cd	0.01	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Ca	1,000	160	200	260	19	51	160	140	160	180
CO <sub>3</sub>	-	5	6	7	3	6.5	14	15	35	49
Cl	-	2,200	2,800	3,300	210	530	2,000	15,000	17,000	21,000
Cr	1	0.004	0.006	0.007	0.001	0.001	0.004	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Со	1	0.025	0.065	0.11	0.001	0.003	0.018	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Cu	1	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	0.001	0.0025	0.004	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
F	-	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Fe	-	0.01	0.012	0.014	0.006	0.006	0.006	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05
Pb	0.1	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Mg	-	360	490	540	37	98	360	1,900	2,200	2,600
Mn	-	0.014	0.015	0.018	0.003	0.017	0.021	0.037	0.0625	0.16
Hg	0.002	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005
Ni	1	0.017	0.0275	0.055	0.001	0.002	0.009	0.014	0.014	0.014
NO <sub>3</sub>	400	21	88	160	0.2	2.45	55	0.53	1.65	2.5
NO <sub>2</sub>	30	0.19	1.7	3.7	0.05	0.175	0.3	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2
K	-	32	38	48	5.8	10.25	25	140	165	180
Se	0.02	0.013	0.018	0.038	0.002	0.005	0.017	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Na	-	1,100	1,400	1,700	120	275	900	7,800	9,150	10,000
SO <sub>4</sub>	1,000	1,200	1,500	1,700	95	295	1,200	6,000	6,500	9,500
Hardness	-	1,900	2,500	2,800	200	520	1,900	8,200	9,550	11,000
Zn	20	0.015	0.03	0.047	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05

With the exception of pH, all parameter units are mg/L

#### 2.2.2 Removal of landfill construction requirements from Table 7 of Licence

The Licence Holder has requested (Westgold 2023b) the removal of construction requirements (Table 7 of L4496/1988/11) for the putrescible, inert type 1, and type 2 landfill locations to cease the requirement to provide a construction compliance report to the CEO of the department for every trench constructed within previously approved landfill areas.

The Licence Holder has proposed that all future landforms constructed will be:

- Within an existing waste rock landform;
- Within an approved landfill area;
- Above the water table:
- Within the existing mining footprint; and
- Approximately 12 km away from sensitive receptors.

The department has made the following changes to Table 7 of Licence L4496/1988/11:

- Removal of construction requirements for the Class I inert landfill located at the Surprise Waste Rock Dump. Compliance reports for this infrastructure were received on 13/11/2020 (Westgold 2020), 03/09/2021 (Westgold 2021c), 04/05/2022 (Westgold 2022) and 17/02/2023 (Westgold 2023a) meeting the compliance reporting conditions.
- Removal of construction requirements for Paddy's Flat Class I inert landfill.
   Compliance reports for this infrastructure were received on 13/11/2020 (Westgold 2020), 03/05/2021 (Westgold 2021a), 29/06/2021 (Westgold 2021b), 04/05/2022 (Westgold 2022) and 17/02/2023 (Westgold 2023a) meeting the compliance reporting conditions.
- Removal of construction requirements for Reedy Project Area Class 1 landfill.
   Compliance report for this infrastructure was received on 24/11/2021 (Westgold 2021d) meeting the compliance reporting conditions.
- Removal of construction requirements for the South Junction/Ascot Waste Rock Dump putrescible landfill. The department received correspondence (Westgold 2023d) stating that the compliance report (Westgold 2023a) "should have included the two landfill trenches located on the Ascot/South Junction Waste Dump. The Ascot/South Junction Waste Rock Dumps landfill trenches are referred to on site as Bluebird Underground & Bluebird Lab landfills. These sites were included in the compliance inspection conducted by a suitable qualified person, however, were not referenced in the compliance document submitted in February 2023. At the time of the assessment the landfill trenches were considered compliant and meet the construction requirements within table 7 of Licence L4496/1998/11."
  - The department sighted the email (Westgold 2023d) which was signed off by a Contract Geotechnical Engineer.
- Removal of construction requirements for the WRL tyre disposal areas. Compliance report for this infrastructure was received on 13/11/2020 (Westgold 2020) meeting the compliance reporting conditions.

No additional controls have been added to the licence for the management of waste. Landfill requirements are adequately covered under Table 4 (Management of waste) and Table 5 (Cover requirements) of Licence L4496/1988/11.

During this amendment, Licence L4496/1988/11 has been updated to reference the Figure/s associated with the locations of these landfills for ease of reference.

#### 2.2.3 Expiry date extension

Westgold 2023b estimated the operating period of the project as 10 years. Based on this and in accordance with the *Guidance Statement: Licence Duration* (DER 2016) the department has changed the expiry date from 30/09/2023 to 30/09/2033.

#### 2.2.4 Other amendments

During this amendment, the following changes have also been made:

- Inclusion of tenements L51/79 and M51/654 (Westgold 2023c);
- Removal of tenements M51/462, M51/463, M51/564, M51/666, M51/800 and M51/801.
   These tenements are showing a status of "dead" on Mineral Titles Online (Westgold 2023c);
- Condition numbering format updated; and
- Reference to Schedule 1, Figures within the Tables made (where applicable).

Refer also to section 5.1.

## 3. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway, and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a Risk Event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

## 3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

#### 3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises operation which have been considered in this Amendment Report are detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

**Table 2: Licence Holder controls** 

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls					
Construction								
Dust	Construction / laydown of dewatering pipeline Vehicle movements	Air / windborne pathway	Water trucks made available and utilised when required.  No receptors present and pipeline will be located within previously disturbed mine areas.  No further assessment required.					
Operation	Operation							
Rupture of pipeline	Operation of	Direct	HDPE pipeline					

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
causing saline water discharge	dewatering pipeline	discharge	<ul><li>Flow meter installed</li><li>Pipeline monitored to detect pipeline failures</li></ul>
			Pipeline located within previously disturbed mine areas
			Pipeline located within a V drain to limit movement
Seepage through the pits walls to groundwater	Discharge of saline to hypersaline water to mine voids (Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit)	Mounding of groundwater	Monitoring undertaken as per the Groundwater Operating Strategy (GWOS) refer to Table 3.
Overtopping of pit/s	Wysiciy Fil)	Direct discharge	Freeboard of 500 mm maintained

Table 3: Relevant monitoring schedule from GWOS

Parameter	Relevant Sample Sites	Relevant Pit Locations	Operations			
	Siles	Locations	Frequency	Timing		
Abstraction Volume	Open pits	South Junction	Monthly	End of Month		
Field pH, EC and TDS	Representative monitoring bores	South Junction, Romsey, Mystery	Quarterly	December, March, June, September		
Abstraction and discharge points comprehensive analysis	Pit water abstraction and discharge points	South Junction, Romsey, Mystery	Annually	March		

#### 3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors, and contractors of the Licence Holder's from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 4 below provides a summary of potential environmental receptors that may be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises (Guideline: Environmental siting (DWER 2020)).

Table 4: Environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Groundwater	Water from underground is recirculated back into South Junction Pit for later use and is high in sediment content as a result. South Junction pit water is saline, alkaline and dominated by sodium chloride ions.
	Saline to hypersaline (generally less than 500 mAHD).
	Regional water table ranges in depth from 5 m to 45 m, depending on topography.
	Regional groundwater flow is south toward Lake Annean.
Drainage lines	Several drainage lines in the vicinity of Yaloginda that are likely to have developed deep bases of alluvial sediments. These drainage lines are generally only active during rainfall events.
	There are no permanent surface water sources in the area.
	Two major drainage lines of the 12 Mile Creek (north branch and west branch) flow in a southerly direction, eventually joining with other tributaries that contain water flowing towards Lake Annean (located approximately 25 km south-west of the two pits).

To note: A flood protection barrier was installed at the northern end of Bluebird pit prior to 1996 and was raised to about 480 mAHD to prevent flood water from Catchments A and B from flowing into the pit. Refer to Figure 2.

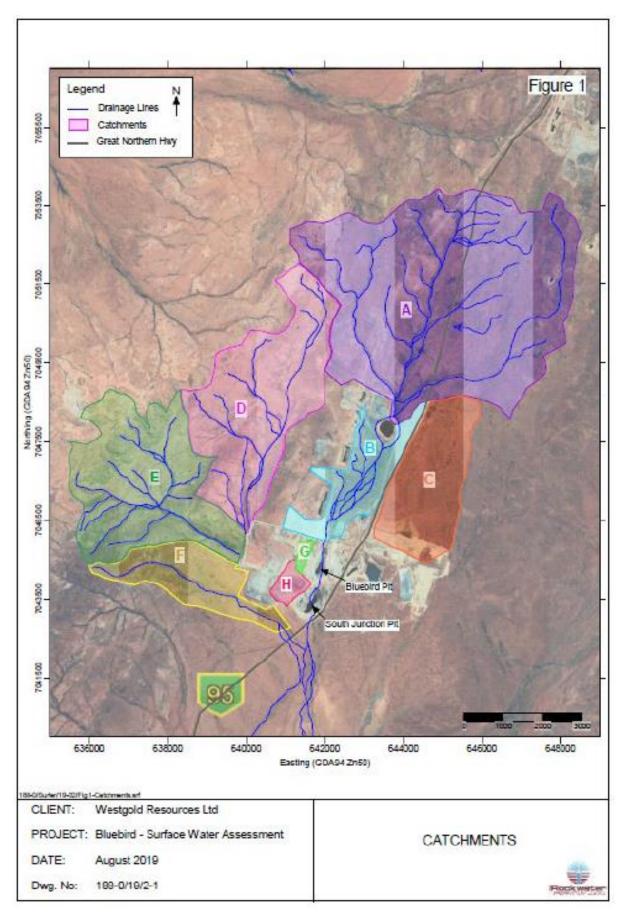


Figure 2: Catchments and drainage lines

## 3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for those emission sources which are proposed to change and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are incomplete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the Licence Holder has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 3.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the Delegated Officer considers the Licence Holder's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the licence as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the Licence Holder's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 5.

The Revised Licence L4496/1988/11 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises.

The conditions in the Revised Licence have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Table 5. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during operation

Risk Event			Risk rating <sup>1</sup>	Licence		Justification for			
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors Licence Holder's controls		C = consequence L = likelihood	Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions <sup>2</sup> of licence	additional regulatory controls	
Operation									
Operation of dewatering pipeline	Rupture of pipeline causing saline water discharge	Direct discharge impacting soil and vegetation	Soil and vegetation Drainage lines	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely <b>Medium Risk</b>	Y	Condition 4 on existing Licence relating to inspection of dewatering discharge pipelines.  During this amendment, Condition 10 has been updated to include dewatering pipeline from South Junction pit to Romsey pit and Mystery pit construction requirements.  The Licence Holder will be required to submit a compliance report following the construction of this pipeline in accordance with conditions 12 and 13.	N/A	
Discharge of saline to	Seepage through the pits walls to groundwater	Mounding of groundwater impacting vegetation	Soil and vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Possible Medium Risk	Puring this amendment, Condition 21 has been updated to include the monitoring of the volume of mine dewatering from South		N/A	
hypersaline water to mine voids (Romsey pit and Mystery pit)	Overtopping of pit/s	Direct discharge soil and vegetation Soil and vegetation		Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Junction Pit to Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit.  Condition 30 – Reporting dewatering volumes in the Annual Environmental Report.	N/A	

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the Guideline: Risk assessments (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed Licence Holder's controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

#### 4. Consultation

Table 6 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

**Table 6: Consultation** 

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) advised of proposal on 12/05/2023	No comments received.	N/A.
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 16/06/2023	Licence Holder responded on 20/06/2023 and waived the remaining consultation period.	N/A.

## 5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Amendment Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that a Revised Licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

## 5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 7 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Licence as part of the amendment process.

**Table 7: Summary of licence amendments** 

Condition no.	Proposed amendments			
Registered business address Updated as per the Application Form.				
DWER file number	Updated as per department records.			
Duration	Extended for an additional 10 years from 30/09/2023 until 30/09/2033.			
Premises details	Premises name changed from Bluebird Gold Mine to Meekatharra Gold Operations in line with the Application Form.  Tenements L51/79 and M51/654 have been included; and tenements			
	M51/462, M51/463, M51/564, M51/666, M51/800 and M51/801 removed (refer to section 2.2.4).			
Condition numbering	Updated throughout the licence.			
Condition 1	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each of the containment infrastructure.			
Conditions 5, 11 and 13	Condition numbering updates only.			

Condition no.	Proposed amendments						
Condition 6	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of the landfill areas and tyre disposal areas.						
Condition 10	Figure numbering updated.						
	Removal of construction requirements for the Class I inert landfill; Paddy's Flat Class I inert landfill; Reedy's Project Area Class 1 landfill; South Junction/Ascot Waste Rock Dump putrescible landfill; and WRL tyre disposal areas (refer to section 2.2.2).						
	Inclusion of construction requirements for the dewatering pipeline from South Junction pit to Romsey pit and Mystery pit.						
Previous condition 2.1.1	Deleted. Reporting of limits is conditioned under condition 34.						
Condition 14	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each of the emissions to land.						
Condition 15	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each of the emissions to surface water.						
Condition 16	Administrative updates to emission point references so they align with the Figures.						
Condition 21	Inclusion of requirement to monitor volume of mine dewater from South Junction pit to Romsey pit and Mystery pit.						
Condition 23	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each monitoring point.						
Condition 26	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each monitoring point.						
Condition 27	Inclusion of reference to Figure/s, which depicts the location of each monitoring point.						
Condition 28	Included as per the current licence format.						
Condition 29	Included as per the current licence format.						
Previous condition 4.1.2	Removed and replaced with condition 29.						
Previous condition 4.1.3	Removed and replaced with condition 28.						
Condition 30	Condition numbering updated.						
	Removal of reference to condition 3.6.1 (as there isn't one).						
Condition 31	Included as per the current licence format.						
Condition 32	Included as per the current licence format.						
Condition 34	Updated to include the conditions that have limits.						

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Figures	Numbering updated; removal of previous Figure 19 – Paddy's Flat Sewerage Infrastructure; and inclusion of Figure 26 for the South Junction pit dewatering pipeline route.

## References

- 1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 2. DER 2016, Guidance Statement: Licence duration, Perth, Western Australia.
- 3. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
- 4. DWER 2020, Guideline: Risk Assessments, Perth, Western Australia.
- 5. Westgold Resources Limited (Westgold) 2020, Email correspondence titled L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance Reports (Yaloginda and Paddy's Flat Landfill Facilities), received 13 November 2020 (DWERDT366773).
- 6. Westgold 2021a, Email correspondence titled *L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance landfill trench*, received 03 May 2021 (DWERDT446598).
- 7. Westgold 2021b, Email correspondence titled *L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance landfill trench*, received 29 June 2021 (DWERDT471814).
- 8. Westgold 2021c, Email correspondence titled *L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance landfill trench*, received 03 September 2021 (DWERDT500470).
- 9. Westgold 2021d, Email correspondence titled *L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance Landfill Trench*, received 24 November 2021 (DWERDT530464).
- 10. Westgold 2022, Email correspondence titled *L4496/1988/11 Construction Compliance Paddy's Flat and Bluebird landfill trench*, received 04 May 2022 (DWERDT598750).
- 11. Westgold 2023a, Email correspondence titled RE: Notification :L4496/1988/11 Prescribed Premises Construction Compliance Documents Partial Compliance, received 17 February 2023 (DWERDT733852).
- 12. Westgold 2023b, *Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd Meekatharra Gold Operations Supporting Document Renewal and Amendment L4496/1986/11*, March 2023 (A2168650).
- 13. Westgold 2023c, *RE: L4496 Amendment questions prior to validation*, received 02 May 2023 (A2172998).
- 14. Westgold 2023d, *RE: Notification : Proposed Amendment to Licence L4496/1988/11*, received 20 June 2023 (DWERDT795446).

# **Appendix 1: Application validation summary**

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMA	ARY					
Application type						
A mandra ant to line and	57	Current licence number:	L4496/1988/11			
Amendment to licence		Relevant works approval number:		N/A		
Date application received		04 April 2023				
Applicant and Premises details						
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)		Big Bell Gold Opera	tions Pty Ltd (ACN 09	0 642 80	09)	
Premises name		Bluebird Gold Mine Operations)	(to be changed to Mee	ekatharra	a Gold	
Premises location	M20/68, M20/70, M2 M20/219, M20/249, M51/35, M51/39, M5 M51/199, M51/233, M51/236, M51/374, M51/393, M51/459, M51/469, M51/504, M51/575, M51/581, M51/668, M51/784, M51/788, M51/784,	118, L51/51, L51/78, L520/71, M20/73, M20/73, M20/73, M20/73, M20/73, M51/62, M51/75, M51/93, M51/200, M51/203, M51/237, M51/254, M51/437, M51/438, W51/485, M51/486, W51/523, M51/539, W51/491, M51/670, M51/671, M51/793, M51/794, W51/834, M51/53 and WA 6642	7, M20/1 /12, M5 2, M51/9 151/209, 51/320, I 151/439, 151/492, 151/569, 51/654, 51/672, I 151/795,	07, M20/214, 1/31, M51/33, 16, M51/132, M51/211, M51/321, M51/440, M51/493, M51/572, M51/757, M51/819,		
Local Government Authority		Shire of Meekatharra				
Application documents						
HPCM file reference number:		DER2017/002073-1				
Key application documents (additional to application form):		Attachment 1A Proof of occupier status – tenement extracts Attachment 1B_Authority to Act Attachment 2_L4496 Amendment Premises Maps Attachment 3B_L4496 Amendment Supporting Document Attachment 7A_L4496 Amendment Siting and Location Attachment 10_Licence amendment fee calculator				
Scope of application/assessment						
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.		<ul> <li>Dewatering of South Junction Pit into Romsey Pit and Mystery Pit.</li> <li>Removal of putrescible, inert type 1 and type 2 land locations from Table 7 of the licence to cease the requirement to provide a construction compliance report the CEO of the department for every trench constructed within previously approved landfill areas.</li> <li>Extension to the existing expiry date of 30/09/2023 30/09/2033.</li> </ul>			d type 2 landfill e to cease the apliance report to ench constructed	

#### Category number/s (activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises)

#### Table 1: Prescribed premises categories

Prescribed premises category and description	Assessed production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)
Category 5: Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore	2,500,000 tonnes per annual period	No change
Category 6: Mine dewatering	5,953,000 tonnes per annual period	No change
Category 52: Electric power generation	21 MW in aggregate	No change
Category 54: Sewage facility	150 m <sup>3</sup> /day	No change
Category 63: Class I inert landfill site	3,000 tonnes per annual period	No change
Category 64: Class II putrescible landfill site	1,000 tonnes per annual period	No change
Category 84: Electric power generation	15.2 MW in aggregate	No change

## Legislative context and other approvals

Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Referral decision No:  Managed under Part V □  Assessed under Part IV □
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes □ No ⊠	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes □ No ⊠	Reference No:
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Certificate of title □ General lease □ Expiry: Mining lease / tenement ☒ Expiry: Other evidence □ Expiry:
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes □ No □ N/A ⊠	Approval: Expiry date: If N/A explain why? Mining tenure
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	CPS No: N/A No clearing is proposed.

Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes □ No ⊠	Application reference No: N/A Licence/permit No: N/A No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes ⊠ No □	Licence/permit No: Nannine/ Aladdin: GWL205844 Baileys: GWL207576 Paddy's Flat: GWL207249 Yaloginda: GWL156252 Reedy: GWL156252
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Name: East Murchison  Type: Proclaimed Groundwater Area  Has Regulatory Services (Water) been consulted?  Yes □ No □ N/A ☒  Regional office: Mid-West Gascoyne
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes ⊠ No □	Name: Meekatharra Water Reserve Priority: P1  Are the proposed activities/ landuse compatible with the PDWSA (refer to WQPN 25)?  Yes □ No □ N/A ☒  The pits under assessment are not within the PDWSA.
Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004, State Agreement Act xxxx)	Yes ⊠ No □	Mining Act 1978 - REG ID 82182: Bluebird Underground Project Mining Proposal and Mine Closure Plan  Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004.
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes □ No ⊠	N/A
Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003?	Yes □ No ⊠	Classification: N/A Date of classification: N/A