



Ass #	787
Bull #	712
State #	335

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**GOLD MINE IN 'C' CLASS NATURE RESERVE 18584
RUTHERFORD'S REWARD MINE, WESTONIA (787)**

RUTHERFORD RESOURCES PTY LTD

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

1 Proponent Commitments

The proponent has made a number of environmental management commitments in order to protect the environment.

- 1-1 In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments (which are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement) made in the Consultative Environmental Review and in response to issues raised following public submissions. These commitments are consolidated in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 712 as Appendix 1. (A copy of the commitments is attached.)

2 Implementation

Changes to the proposal which are not substantial may be carried out with the approval of the Minister for the Environment.

- 2-1 Subject to these conditions, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposal shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposal. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

3 Remnant Vegetation and Conservation Values

- 3-1 The proponent shall limit disturbance to areas generally conforming with those shown in the Consultative Environmental Review for clearing or the installation of facilities.
- 3-2 The proponent shall confine potential impacts from saline waters to those process areas and supply lines, as generally shown in the Consultative Environmental Review, by appropriate containment structures.

4 Environmental Management Programme

- 4-1 Prior to completion of site preparation (Stage 1), the proponent shall prepare an Environmental Management Programme developed to the requirements of the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Department of Minerals and Energy to achieve the requirements of condition 3.

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This programme shall include consideration of, but not necessarily be limited to:

- 1 a rehabilitation plan setting out location and sequence of planned activities;
 - 2 operational procedures (eg. area demarcation, topsoil management, overburden/waste management, plant disease hygiene and weed control);
 - 3 completion criteria for determination of rehabilitation standards; and
 - 4 brief progress reports which will outline the environmental management procedures undertaken up to the completion of site preparation (Stage 1) and up to the completion of mining and processing (Stage 2).
- 4-2 The proponent shall implement the Environmental Management Programme required by condition 4-1.

5 Decommissioning

The satisfactory decommissioning of the project, removal of the equipment and installations and rehabilitation of the site and its environs is the responsibility of the proponent.

- 5-1 At least six months prior to decommissioning, the proponent shall prepare a final decommissioning and rehabilitation plan to the requirements of the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Department of Minerals and Energy.
- 5-2 The proponent shall implement the plan required by condition 5-1.

6 Proponent

These conditions legally apply to the nominated proponent.

- 6-1 No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister for the Environment has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.

7 Time Limit on Approval

The environmental approval for the proposal is limited.

- 7-1 If the proponent has not substantially commenced the project within five years of the date of this statement, then the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment shall determine any question as to whether the project has been substantially commenced. Any application to extend the period of five years referred to in this condition shall be made before the expiration of that period, to the Minister for the Environment by way of a request for a change in the condition under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act. (On expiration of the five year period, further consideration of the proposal can only occur following a new referral to the Environmental Protection Authority.)

8 Compliance Auditing

In order to ensure that environmental conditions and commitments are met, an audit system is required.

- 8-1 The proponent shall prepare periodic "Progress and Compliance Reports", to help verify the environmental performance of this project, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Authority.

Procedure

- 1 The Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for verifying compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, with the exception of conditions stating that the proponent shall meet the requirements of either the Minister for the Environment or any other government agency.
- 2 If the Environmental Protection Authority, other government agency or proponent is in dispute concerning compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, that dispute will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Kevin Minson MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

12 JAN 1994

Environmental Management Commitments

**GOLD MINE IN 'C' CLASS NATURE RESERVE 18584
RUTHERFORD'S REWARD, WESTONIA (787)**

RUTHERFORD RESOURCES PTY LTD

The proponent has made the following commitments. With each commitment the responsibility for carrying out the work and the definition of completion are given.

Number/
CER Section. Commitment.

1. 5.2 The operation will be designed to disturb the smallest possible area of the Nature Reserve, and as many facilities and activities as possible will be located outside the Nature Reserve.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: integral part of the design of the project.

2. 5.2 Before and during clearing, seed of as many species as possible with long-lived seed will be collected from the site, and all vegetation and topsoil will be conserved.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

3. 5.2 Cyanide and caustic soda will be transported and handled in accordance with established regulations.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: Department of Minerals and Energy.

4. 5.3 The existing access track will be used rather than the precise path of L77/92 to avoid the need to knock down trees and widen the track unnecessarily, and existing tracks will be used within the Nature Reserve with minimal upgrading.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

5. 5.3 Any pipes carrying salt water will be inspected routinely to detect leaks which might damage vegetation.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: Department of Minerals and Energy.

6. 5.3 The main fuel storage will be outside the Nature Reserve.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: Department of Minerals and Energy.

7. 5.3 Rubbish disposal will be outside the Nature Reserve.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: Department of Minerals and Energy.

8. 5.4 The process water will be treated and flushed out of the heap by leaching with fresh water.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: Department of Minerals and Energy.

9. 5.4 The land will be returned to slopes compatible with the original topography, and all topsoil and vegetation will be returned.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

10. 5.4 Seed collected from before mining and subsequently from adjacent areas will be applied, and hand planting of seedlings will be used if necessary.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

11. 5.4 The regenerating vegetation will be monitored and remedial actions taken as required.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

12. 5.4 A quantitative study of the vegetation will be carried out, once approval to mine has been obtained, to determine completion criteria for rehabilitation in consultation with CALM.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

13. 5.4 Rehabilitation will extend to the existing access track, and all pre-existing drill holes on the Nature Reserve will be capped and buried, and all pre-existing drill lines on the Nature Reserve will be blocked.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

14. 7. The site will be rehabilitated to the original vegetation in accordance with pre-determined success criteria.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

15. 7. The land clearing will be carried out in summer when Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo is not breeding to ensure that there is no direct impact on the population.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

16. 7. The introduction of weeds and dieback will be controlled by cleaning vehicles and restricting the entry of most vehicles to the Nature Reserve.

Responsibility for action: proponent.

Regulatory authority: CALM.

17. The proponent will pay to CALM the amount of \$15,000 one month after the commencement of production, such monies to be used by CALM to increase the conservation estate in the Shire of Westonia or for other appropriate activities.

Responsibility for action: CALM to initiate.

Regulatory authority: CALM.