



Ass # 1001

Bull # 825

State # 429

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WESTERN

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

**CAWSE NICKEL PROJECT
50 KM NORTH-WEST OF KALGOORLIE (1001)**

CENTAUR MINING AND EXPLORATION LIMITED

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 made in the Consultative Environmental Review and in response to issues raised following public submissions; provided that the commitments are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement.

The consolidated environmental management commitments were published in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 825 (Appendix 4) and a copy 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.
- 2-2 Where, in the course of the detailed implementation referred to in condition 2-1, the proponent seeks to change the designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority 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.

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3 Proponent

These conditions legally apply to the nominated proponent.

- 3-1 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.

4 Tailings Storage Facility

The tailings storage facility should be managed to protect the environment and facilitate rehabilitation and decommissioning.

- 4-1 Within five years following commencement of the operation of the tailings storage facility, the proponent shall submit a report which includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- 1 a description of the development of the tailings storage facility;
- 2 details of the operation of the tailings storage facility and issues arising from and variations required to its operations; and
- 3 monitoring results,

to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority.

The reporting required by this condition shall be repeated thereafter at five-yearly intervals to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment.

Note: The Environmental Protection Authority will advise the Minister for the Environment on the need for further five-yearly reports.

5 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions should be addressed in the Environmental Management Plan.

- 5-1 At appropriate times, the proponent shall address, in the Environmental Management Plan to be prepared under commitment 1, the following additional matters relating to greenhouse gas emissions:

- 1 calculation of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the proposal (using the generally accepted methods);
- 2 indication of the measures adopted to limit greenhouse gas emissions for the project; and
- 3 estimation of the comparative greenhouse gas efficiency of the project (per unit of product and/or other agreed performance indicators) with the efficiency of other comparable projects producing a similar product;

to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection.

- 5-2 Consider entry (whether on a project specific basis, company wide arrangement or within an industrial grouping as appropriate) into the Commonwealth Government's "Greenhouse Challenge" voluntary co-operative agreement programme. The agreement would include, an inventory of emissions; opportunities for abating greenhouse gas emissions in the organisation; a greenhouse gas mitigation action plan; regular monitoring and reporting of performance; and independent performance verification.

6 Decommissioning

- 6-1 The proponent shall achieve the satisfactory decommissioning of the project, removal of plant and installations and rehabilitation of the site and its environs.

- 6-2 To achieve the objective of condition 6-1, within five years following commissioning, or at such later time considered appropriate by the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection, the proponent shall prepare a plan which:

- 1 describes the process for the decommissioning and rehabilitation of the project area;
- 2 provides for the long term management of ground and surface water systems affected by the tailings storage facility; and
- 3 provides for the development of a 'walk away' solution for the decommissioned mine pits, the process plant, the tailings dam, the process water ponds and all associated infrastructure,

to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Minerals and Energy and the Water and Rivers Commission.

Note: A 'walk away' solution means that the site shall either no longer require management at the time the proponent ceases operations, or if further management is deemed necessary, the proponent shall make adequate provision so that the required management is undertaken with no liability to the State.

- 6-3 The proponent shall implement the plan required by condition 6-2.

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.

Where the proponent demonstrates to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection that the environmental parameters of the proposal have not changed significantly, then the Minister may grant an extension not exceeding five years.

8 Compliance Auditing

To help determine environmental performance and compliance with the conditions, periodic reports on the implementation of the proposal are required.

- 8-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Performance and Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit programme prepared by the Department of Environmental Protection in consultation with the proponent.

Procedure

- 1 Unless otherwise specified, the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions contained in this statement and for issuing formal clearance of conditions.
- 2 Where compliance with any condition is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Note

The proponent is required to apply for a Works Approval and Licence for this project under the provisions of Part V of the Environmental Protection Act.

Hon Peter Foss QC MLC
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

21 OCT 1996

Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments

July 1996

**CAWSE NICKEL PROJECT
50 KM NORTH-WEST OF KALGOORLIE
(1001)**

CENTAUR MINING AND EXPLORATION LIMITED

PROPONENT COMMITMENTS (1001)

Environmental Management Plan

- 1 & 2 The proponent will prepare a staged Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the Cawse Nickel Project to the satisfaction of the EPA on advice from the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Minerals and Energy and other relevant government agencies.

The EMP will be developed in two separate stages as follows:

I. Project Construction EMP - To be submitted to the EPA prior to commencement of construction, and

II. Project Operation EMP - To be submitted to the EPA prior to commissioning.

The EMP will be developed in accordance with statutory conditions applied to the approved operations.

- 3 & 4 The proponent will implement the two stages of the abovementioned Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to the satisfaction of the EPA on advice from the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Minerals and Energy and other relevant government agencies.

- 5 The EMP will be reviewed and updated as required.

Drainage

- 6 The proponent will avoid disturbance to natural drainage lines, where possible.

- 7 & 8 Where this is not possible, the proponent will develop and implement a site drainage plan and monitoring programme, as part of both construction and operational stages of the Environmental Management Plan to manage and assess the impacts of modified drainage on vegetation. This will be to the satisfaction of the EPA.

Tailings storage

- 9 Details of the tailings storage facility management and monitoring programmes will be included in the operational stage of the Environmental Management Plan.

- 10 & 11 Prior to discharge of tailings, the proponent will install a series of monitoring bores adjacent to the tailings storage facility which will be monitored on a regular basis to detect any potential leakage of process water from the facility.

- 12 If leakage is detected, remedial work will be undertaken to the satisfaction of the Department of Environmental Protection and the State Mining Engineer.

Process water supply

- 13 & 14 The proponent will develop and implement management and monitoring

procedures, as part of both construction and operational stages of the Environmental Management Plan, to avoid potential impacts associated with the process water supply. These will include details of the water source, pipeline construction and management of potential leakage.

Disturbance to areas not required for project

- 15 & 16 The proponent will develop and implement procedures, as part of both construction and operational stages of the Environmental Management Plan, to avoid unnecessary disturbance to areas which are not required for mining, processing or infrastructure development.

Vegetation

- 17 & 18 The proponent will develop and implement procedures, as part of both construction and operational stages of the Environmental Management Plan, to avoid unnecessary disturbance to vegetation, especially significant associations, and flora.

Fauna species and habitats

- 19 & 20 The proponent will develop and implement procedures, as part of both construction and operational stages of the Environmental Management Plan, to avoid unnecessary disturbance to fauna species and habitats.

Rehabilitation programme

- 21 The proponent will develop a rehabilitation programme, as part of the operational stage of the Environmental Management Plan.
- 22 The rehabilitation programme will be implemented in the course of the operations and will be consistent with defined post-mining land use objectives.

Aboriginal Heritage

- 23 The proponent will comply with the provisions of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, 1972-1980.

Hazardous Materials Management

- 24 & 25 The proponent will develop and implement a Hazardous Materials Management Programme in accordance with requirements and to the satisfaction of the Department of Minerals and Energy.

Emissions

- 26 The proponent will monitor gaseous emissions from potential sources during commissioning of the processing plant and associated infrastructure to ensure that levels are below EPA specified criteria to the satisfaction of the Department of Environmental Protection.

- 27 The proponent will include details of potential emissions and pollution control equipment in a Works Approval application to the Department of Environmental Protection, if a decision is made to establish a hydrogen sulphide plant.
- 28 The proponent will specify emissions criteria in tender documents for the supply of equipment for the plant.
- 29 Compliance testing will be carried out by the proponent during the commissioning of the plant to confirm that the emissions from the plant equipment are within the specified limits. The commitment will be implemented to meet the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection.