

Form

Referral of a proposal under s. 38 of the EP Act

PART A: PROPONENT AND REFERRER INFORMATION AND PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Referrer information

Who is referring this proposal?

Ausgold Exploration Proprietary Limited

☒ Proponent☐ Decision-making authority☐ Community member/third party**Name** Troy Collie

08/07/2026

Position

General Manager –
Planning, Environment and
Approvals

Organisation

Ausgold Exploration
Proprietary Limited

Email

tcollie@ausgoldlimited.com

Phone

0473 231 004

Address

Level 1, 307 Murray Street

Perth

WA

6000

Date

08/07/2026

Does the referrer request that the EPA treat any part of the
proposal information in the referral as confidential?☐ Yes☒ No*Provide confidential information in a separate attachment.*Does the referrer confirm that they consent to receive
correspondence electronically?☒ Yes☐ No

Referral declaration for proponent and Authorised representative:

I, Troy Collie declare that I am authorised to refer this proposal on behalf of Ausgold Exploration Pty
Ltd and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.

08/07/2026

Proponent information

Name of the proponent/s*Include Trading Name if relevant*

Ausgold Exploration Proprietary Limited

Australian Company Number(s)

☐

22 078 093 606

OR

Australian Business Number(s)

☒

Pre-referral discussions

Have you had pre-referral discussions with the EPA (including the EPA Services of DWER)? <i>If so, provide name, date, and overview of discussions.</i>	✓ Yes ☐ No See Section 1.3 of the Supporting Document.
Proposal information	
Proposal name	Katanning Gold Project.
What is the proposal? (Include general description in the Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal)	The Proposal is to construct and operate an open cut gold mine approximately 275 kilometres (km) southeast of Perth and 37 km northeast of Katanning, Western Australia (WA). The Proposal includes a Disturbance Footprint (DF) of up to 1,141.38 ha within a Mine Development Envelope (MDE) of 2,233.82 ha. Within the DF, clearing of up to 61.62 ha of vegetation is proposed, including approximately 49.97 ha of native vegetation over a 10-year life of mine. The annual total pit dewatering volume is estimated to be an average of 0.4 gigalitres per year (GL/yr) with a maximum of up to 0.9 GL/yr for a 10-year LoM. The Proposal includes activities on mining tenements within the MDE being: • Development and operation of Open Cut pits to depths above and below water table; • Haulage of ore from pits to a purpose-built processing plant; • Groundwater collection from mine pit sumps to facilitate mining below the water table and to supplement water supply to processing; • Surplus water management, including but not limited to mine water use, or ponds (including an integrated landform/TSF); • Mined materials management including, but not limited to, waste rock landforms, ROM high grade stockpiles, in-pit storage and low-grade ore stockpiles. • Storage of process waste (tailings) in an above ground Tailings Storage Facility, within an integrated waste landform; • Topsoil and subsoil stockpiles; and

	Linear and ancillary infrastructure to support mining, including access and haul roads, hybrid power plant (solar panels, BESS and LPG turbines), process water and slurry reticulation, offices and workshops etc. In November 2025, the Proposal was referred to the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Section 38 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (EP Act). The EPA determined that the Proposal would be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act at the level of Assessment on Referral Information (ARI), with additional information required under Section 40(2)(a) and a three-week public review period. The Proposal was also referred under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) and determined to be a Controlled Action. A request to amend the referred Proposal was submitted to the EPA under section 43A of the EP Act on 6 March 2026. The proposed refinements were developed in response to further land acquisition, stakeholder consultation and technical investigations undertaken by the Proponent following referral and these do not alter the fundamental nature or character of the Proposal. The EPA consented to the amendment on 20 April 2026. This referral (and associated documentation) has been prepared to satisfy those information requirements and to facilitate public consultation in accordance with the EPA's Environmental Impact Assessment (Part IV Divisions 1 and 2) Procedures Manual.
Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps, and figures in the appropriate format?	☒ Yes ☐ No
What type of proposal is being referred? <i>For significant amendment or derived proposal, provide the associated existing Ministerial statement number/s</i>	☒ significant proposal. <i>Choose which type of significant proposal</i> ☒ new proposal ☐ significant amendment (proposal only) ☐ significant amendment (conditions only) ☐ significant amendment (proposal and conditions) ☐ strategic proposal ☐ derived proposal ☐ proposals of a prescribed class ☐ proposal under an assessed planning scheme

For a proposal under an assessed planning scheme, provide the scheme number and name		
Proposal content: Complete the corresponding template (Proposal Content Document) from the Instructions and template: How to identify the content of a proposal for the type of proposal identified above. The completed form must be submitted with the referral.		
Alternatives	See Section 5 of the supporting information for alternatives considered.	
PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS		
Environmental factors		
What are the likely significant environmental factors for this proposal?	☐ Benthic Communities and Habitat ☐ Coastal Processes ☐ Marine Environmental Quality ☐ Marine Fauna ☒ Flora and Vegetation ☐ Landforms ☐ Subterranean Fauna ☐ Terrestrial Environmental Quality ☒ Terrestrial Fauna ☐ Inland Waters ☐ Air Quality ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions ☐ Social Surroundings ☐ Human Health	
For each of the environmental factors identified above, complete the following table, or provide the information in a supplementary report		
Potential environmental impacts – Flora and Vegetation		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Within the supporting information, see section 11.1 and 11.2.
2	Receiving environment	Within the supporting information, see section 11.3.
3	Likely environmental impacts	Within the supporting information, see section 11.4.
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Within the supporting information, see section 11.5.
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Within the supporting information, see section 11.6.
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Within the supporting information, see section 11.7.
Potential environmental impacts – Terrestrial Fauna		
1	EPA policy and guidance	Within the supporting information, see section 12.1 and 12.2.

2	Receiving environment	Within the supporting information, see section 12.3.
3	Likely environmental impacts	Within the supporting information, see section 12.4.
4	Application of the mitigation hierarchy, including other statutory decision-making processes	Within the supporting information, see section 12.5.
5	Assessment and significance of residual impacts	Within the supporting information, see section 12.6.
6	Likely environmental outcomes	Within the supporting information, see section 12.7.
Holistic impact assessment		
See section 14 of the supporting information.		
Cumulative environmental impact assessment		
See section 15 of the supporting information.		
Consultation		
See section 8 of the supporting information.		
Supporting documents		
Environmental Impact Assessment – Supporting Information • APPENDIX A s38 Referral Form • APPENDIX B Proposal Content Document • APPENDIX C Open Pit Definitive Feasibility Study 2025 • APPENDIX D Traffic Impact Assessment Report 2025 • APPENDIX E Preliminary Mine Closure and Rehabilitation Strategy 2025 • APPENDIX F Material Characterisation Report 2025 • APPENDIX G Hydrobiology Waterway Monitoring Plan 2026 • APPENDIX H Integrated Water Production and Management Report 2026 • APPENDIX I Stakeholder Engagement Management Plan • APPENDIX J Simply Stakeholders – Stakeholder Register • APPENDIX K Community Survey Results 2026 • APPENDIX L Social Impact Management Briefing Outcomes Report 2026 • APPENDIX M Corporate Community Engagement Policy • APPENDIX N Flora and Vegetation Report 2026 • APPENDIX O Threatened Ecological Communities Memo 2025 • APPENDIX P Targeted Flora Survey for Roycea pycnophylloides 2025 • APPENDIX Q Phytophthora Dieback Desktop Assessment 2026 • APPENDIX R Flora and Vegetation Management and Monitoring Plan 2026 • APPENDIX S Basic and Targeted Vertebrate Fauna Survey and Risk Assessment 2026 • APPENDIX T Targeted Assessment for Mygalomorph Spiders 2026 • APPENDIX U Terrestrial Fauna Monitoring and Management Plan 2025 • APPENDIX V Section 18 Consent		

• APPENDIX W Environmental Noise Assessment 2025 • APPENDIX X Visual Impact Assessment 2025 • APPENDIX Y Sub-Surface Materials Characterisation Report 2025 • APPENDIX Z Baseline Soil Assessment 2024 • APPENDIX AA Pre-Feasibility Study: Geochemical Characterisation of Waste Rock 2022 • APPENDIX BB Site Based Environmental Management Plan 2026 • APPENDIX CC Air Quality Report 2026 • APPENDIX DD Dust Management Plan 2026 • APPENDIX EE Greenhouse Gas Assessment Technical Report 2026 • APPENDIX FF Subterranean Fauna Report 2025 • APPENDIX GG Offset Strategy 2026	
Has the referrer provided survey information according to the Instructions and Form: IBSA Data Packages and/or the Instructions and form: IMSA Data Packages	☒ Yes ☐ No
Conclusion	
The Proposal has the potential, if unmitigated, to result in significant environmental impacts. However, the environmental impact assessment demonstrates that potential significant impacts are time-bound, localised and capable of being effectively managed through the application of the mitigation hierarchy. As a result, residual impacts are expected to be reduced to acceptable levels through application of the mitigation hierarchy. Notwithstanding this, some minor residual impacts to native vegetation and listed fauna remain, and offsets are proposed so that these impacts are appropriately compensated in accordance with Act requirements. An offset management strategy has been prepared and forms part of the documentation referred to the EPA.	

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS <u>FOR SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENTS ONLY</u>	
Type of significant amendment	☒ significant amendment to the approved proposal ☐ significant amendment to the implementation conditions ☐ significant amendment to both the proposal and the implementation conditions
Information of the approved proposal	
Combined effects of the approved proposal and significant amendment	
Analysis of existing implementation conditions	
Previous changes to the Proposal and or implementation conditions	
Compliance	
Environmental Performance	

Control of implementation of significant amendment	
---	--

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR A PROPOSAL UNDER AN ASSESSED SCHEME ONLY

What new environmental issues are raised by the proposal that were not assessed during the assessment of the planning scheme?	
How does the proposal not comply with the assessed scheme and/or the environmental conditions in the assessed planning scheme?	

PART B: ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FOR DERIVED PROPOSALS ONLY

Demonstrate how the proposal will meet the environmental outcomes defined through the assessment of the strategic proposal	
Provide an analysis of the existing implementation conditions of the related strategic proposal in relation to the derived proposal	

PART C: OTHER APPROVALS AND REGULATION

Decision-making authorities and their approvals

Provide a table list of the decision-making authorities, associated legislation or agreement regulating the activity and the specific approval required. (Example table at the end of form)	See section 6.2.4 of the supporting information.
Provide a summary of the statutory decision-making processes you consider can mitigate the potential impacts of the proposal on the environment. (Note: this should be a summary of the information provided in Part B section 2.4). (Example table at the end of form)	See section 6.2.4 of the supporting information.

Tenure and Local Government approvals

Location of proposal: a) street address, lot number, suburb, and nearest road intersection; or	894 Wolyaming Rd, Badgebup WA 6317. The Proposal is located in the Shire of Katanning, approximately 275 km southeast of
---	---

b) if remote, the nearest town and distance and direction from that town to the proposal site.	Perth in the Great Southern Region of WA. The Proposal is located 37 km northeast of the Katanning township within the Shire of Katanning.
Name of the Local Government Authority in which the proposal is located.	Shire of Katanning.
Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented? If yes, please provide details.	☐ Yes ☒ No
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	The current existing land use in the Proposal is farming/agricultural, with two State Reserves in close proximity: Wurgubup Rifle Range (Reserve 12423) and Woorgabup Nature Reserve (Reserve 24072). The Proposal is located on WA <i>Mining Act 1978</i> tenure held by Ausgold Exploration Pty Ltd and includes tenements: M 70/210, M 70/211, M 70/488, G 70/85, L 70/13, L 70/32, L 70/33, M 70/1426, M 70/1449, M 70/1451, M 70/1450, M 70/1427 and E 70/3952. It is noted that upon grant of M 70/1450, E 70/3952 will no longer form part of the MDE. At the time of writing, however, a portion of E 70/3952 remains included within the MDE. The Proposal includes a Disturbance Footprint of up to 1,141.38 hectares (ha) within a Mine Development Envelope (MDE) of 2,233.82 ha. Within the disturbance footprint, clearing of up to 61.62 ha of vegetation is proposed, including approximately 49.97 ha of native vegetation.
Does the proponent have the legal access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal? <i>If yes, provide details of legal access authorisations / agreements / tenure.</i> <i>If no, what authorisations / agreements / tenure is required and from whom?</i>	☒ Yes ☐ No
Commonwealth Government approvals	
Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	☒ Yes ☐ No

Has the proposed action been referred? If yes, when was it referred and what is the reference number (EPBC No.)?	☒ Yes ☐ No Date: 30/06/2025 - The Proposal was referred under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) and has been determined to constitute a Controlled Action under the preliminary documentation assessment pathway (EPBC 2025/10232). On 20 April 2026, the Proponent submitted a request to the DCCEEW under section 156A(1) of the EPBC Act to vary the approved action for the Katanning Gold Project (EPBC 2025/10232). On 19 May 2026, a delegate of the Minister determined, in accordance with section 156B of the EPBC Act, to accept the varied proposal.
If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action? If 'yes', check the appropriate box and provide the decision in an attachment.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Decision – controlled action ☐ Decision – not a controlled action
If the proposal is determined to be a controlled action, do you request that this proposal be assessed under a Bilateral Agreement or as an accredited assessment?	☐ Yes - Bilateral ☒ No ☐ Yes - Accredited
Is approval required from other Commonwealth Government/s for any part of the proposal? <i>If yes, describe.</i>	☐ Yes ☒ No Approval:
Decision-making authority referrals <u>ONLY</u>	
What approval/s, under your authority, are required for this proposal? <i>Please provide details.</i>	Refer to Section 6.1.2 of the supporting document.