030



MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

State #

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

KALGOORLIE TAILINGS RETREATMENT PROJECT

ANGLO AMERICAN PACIFIC LIMITED

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The proponent shall adhere to the proposal as assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority and shall fulfil the commitments made in the Public Environmental Report (copy of commitments attached).
- 2. Prior to clearing of the tailings storage site, the proponent shall consult with the Department of Conservation and Land Management, particularly regarding the salvaging of sandalwood.
- 3. Prior to commissioning, the proponent shall ensure that provision is made (to the satisfaction of the Minister for Environment) for the replacement of an area of greenbelt, equivalent to that which would be removed by the proposal, to maintain the environmental amenity in the vicinity of Kalgoorlie and Boulder.
- 4. Prior to commissioning, adequate mechanisms shall be in place to ensure that the replacement area of greenbelt has appropriate security of tenure, purpose and management, to the satisfaction of the Minister for Environment.

Barry Hodge MLK MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

1. General

Appoint a rehabilitation/environmental officer responsible for all monitoring programmes, revegetation trials and liaison with CALM.

2. Mined Tailings Dumps

- Restore about 300 ha, staged to follow monitor station moves.
- Restoration Programme (to be carried out only with the permission of all underlying tenement holders):
 - (1) Characterize soil, cross-rip and cover with 35 40 mm nickel slag, or equivalent.
 - (2) Leave to leach for at least two years.
 - (3) Construct wind rows of planting medium and conduct revegetation trials.
 - (4) In the event that revegetation is unsuccessful, cover with waste rock or equivalent, as dust and erosion protection.

3. New Tailings Storage

- . Salvage timber and stockpile topsoll.
- Construct an underdrainage system to return scepage to the plant.
- . Maintain freeboard at all times to contain a Probable Maximum Precipitation of 860 mm, plus wave action.
- Progressively flatten the outer embankments and cover with at least 1 m of waste rock or equivalent to create a final slope of 1:4, or flatter. Cover with a layer of topsoil and mulch, and conduct revegetation trials.
- . Maintain a maximum slope length of 30 m by constructing 5 m berms on the outer slope.
- In the event that revegetation on the outer embankments is unsuccessful, armour with further waste rock or equivalent, as erosion protection.
- Rehabilitate the top surface upon decommissioning by cross-ripping and covering with nickel stag or equivalent to minimize dust and enhance leaching. The surface will then be either revegetated or armoured, depending on the results of revegetation trials.
- Monitor the tailings storage throughout the project life, and commission independent and qualified consultants to review the following data recorded by the proponent to reassess the operational procedures:
 - (1) Pressure heads in embankments and foundation.
 - (2) Settlement of embankments.
 - (3) Return water quantity and quality.
 - (4) Strength of tailings in embankments.
 - (5) Survey of embankment and beach levels.
 - (6) Dust levels, including one year of baseline measurement.
 - (7) Groundwater levels and quality in bores downstream of storage, including one year of baseline measurement.
 - (8) Bird activity.

4. Water Supply

- Maximize return water from tailings storage.
- . Bury water supply pipelines.
- . Minimize clearing of pipeline track by following existing easements and cleared lines as far as possible.
- . Divert pipeline around large trees, wherever possible.
- . Replace and rake soil to promote natural regrowth following pipeline installation.
- . Construct sumps to contain water discharged during drilling and testing, and at scour valves.
- . Design abstraction rates to minimize the effect on adjacent groundwater users.
- . Monitor and assess the performance of the aquifer throughout the project life.

5. Social

- . Provide employment for about 67 persons.
- . Provide additional housing.

6. Project Closure

. The rehabilitation programme will be completed and the project sites will be cleared of debris when the project closes.