

Public record pursuant to s39(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal Title: Recommencement of Operations at Norseman Gold Project

Proposal Location: Shire of Dundas

Case Number: CMS 17971

Date referral received: 25-03-2021

Date more information received: 13-09-2021

Referrer: Ngadju Conservation Aboriginal Corporation **Proponent:** Pantoro South Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on: Flora and Vegetation from the clearing of 331 ha of native vegetation, Terrestrial Fauna from the clearing of habitat and from collision, Social Surroundings from potential impact to cultural heritage sites, Inland waters from dewatering and discharge onto Lake Cowan and Lake Dundas.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	47
Assess: a) Referral information	0
b) Environmental review - no public review	0
c) Public environmental review	16
<i>Total submissions:</i>	63

Decision: s. 39A – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act.

Explanation of decision:

The EPA considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposal are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment. The proposal is a recommencement of past activities that have been historically managed and regulated through other processes. In response to concerns raised during the public comment period, the proponent removed the new Cobbler pit from the referral and this decision does not allow mining in this area. The proponent has also committed to developing a cultural heritage management plan in consultation with the Native Title Holders. The EPA notes that the emissions and discharges associated with the proposal can be regulated through an Environmental Protection Licence issued under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. The proponent must also comply with existing Groundwater Licence (GWL61134(6)) allowing the abstraction of 6,500,000 kL per annum. The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety have advised that clearing can be managed through a Clearing Permit which will include a requirement to undertake pre-clearance surveys for Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*).

Appeals: This decision is appealable. Appeals close on 04-10-2021. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.



Professor Mathew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 20 September 2021