



Statement No.

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT;
LABOUR RELATIONS

000505

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

**MT CHARLOTTE GOLD MINE - REWARD AND NORTHERN OREBODY
OPEN PITS AND FLOOR PILLARS, KALGOORLIE**

Proposal: A gold mining operation comprising mining of the two open pits for the Reward Orebody and Northern Orebody and their associated floor pillars and including backfilling operations within the two pits. The proposal involves some underground blasting, but no surface blasting. Rehabilitation is also included in the proposal, which is further documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proponent: Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines Pty Ltd

Proponent Address: PMB 27, Kalgoorlie WA 6430

Assessment Number: 1191

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 919

The proposal to which the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority relates may be implemented subject to the following conditions and procedures (See note 1 regarding noise requirements.):

1 Implementation

- 1-1 Subject to these conditions and procedures, the proponent shall implement the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.
- 1-2 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is substantial, the proponent shall refer the matter to the Environmental Protection Authority.

Published on

31 MAY 1999

- 1-3 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

2 Proponent Commitments

- 2-1 The proponent shall implement the consolidated environmental management commitments documented in schedule 2 of this statement.
- 2-2 The proponent shall implement subsequent environmental management commitments which the proponent makes as part of the fulfilment of conditions and procedures in this statement.

3 Environmental Management System

- 3-1 In order to manage the environmental impacts of the project, and to fulfil the requirements of the conditions and procedures in this statement, prior to commencement of work related to this proposal, the proponent shall demonstrate to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection that there is in place an environmental management system which includes the following elements:

- 1 An environmental policy and corporate commitment to it;
- 2 Mechanisms and processes to ensure:
 - (1) planning to meet environmental requirements;
 - (2) implementation and operation of actions to meet environmental requirements;
 - (3) measurement and evaluation of environmental performance; and
- 3 Review and improvement of environmental outcomes.

- 3-2 The proponent shall implement the environmental management system referred to in condition 3-1.

4 Community Consultation Plan

- 4-1 In order to manage the potential environmental impacts of the proposal on the community, including the aboriginal community, prior to ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall develop a Community Consultation Plan to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection.

This Plan shall form part of the Environmental Management System to which the proponent is committed under commitment 2, and shall include:

- 1 a company consultation statement for the proposal, including a commitment to liaison with proposal stakeholders;
- 2 a summary of consultation objectives, including identification of stakeholders;

- 3 details of the implementation and operation of stakeholder consultation;
 - 4 methods of measurement and evaluation of stakeholder consultation performance;
 - 5 systems for review and improvement of the stakeholder consultation process and outcomes; and
 - 6 all elements of the community consultation and information programme to which the proponent is already committed (commitment 8).
- 4-2 The proponent shall implement the Community Consultation Plan required by condition 4-1.
- 4-3 The proponent shall make the Community Consultation Plan required by condition 4-1 publicly available, to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority.

5 Noise

- 5-1 To manage noise emissions from the Mt Charlotte to Firmiston haul road, prior to productive mining, the proponent shall construct a noise reduction barrier, to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 5-2 During work related to this proposal, the proponent shall maintain the effectiveness of the noise reduction barrier required by condition 5-1.

6 Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan

- 6-1 At least three months prior to concluding productive mining, the proponent shall prepare a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan for the proposal, to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Minerals and Energy.

This Plan shall address:

- 1 removal or, if appropriate, retention of plant and infrastructure, if any;
 - 2 rehabilitation of all disturbed areas to a standard suitable for agreed new land uses; and
 - 3 identification of contaminated areas, including provision of evidence of notification to relevant statutory authorities.
- 6-2 The proponent shall implement the Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan required by condition 6-1 until such time as the Minister for the Environment determines that decommissioning and rehabilitation are complete.
- 6-3 The proponent shall make the Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan required by condition 6-1 publicly available, to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority.

7 Work Practices

- 7-1 Prior to commencement of work related to this proposal, the proponent shall prepare a written prescription for employee and contractor work practices covering rock haulage, road safety, blasting, earthmoving, as well as noise and dust control, to ensure that work practices are carried out at the level of international best practice, to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Minerals and Energy.
- 7-2 The proponent shall ensure that all works and operations comply with the prescription referred to in condition 7-1.

8 Proponent

- 8-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment under section 38(6) or (7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 is responsible for the implementation of the proposal until such time as the Minister for the Environment has exercised the Minister's power under section 38(7) of the Act to revoke the nomination of that proponent and nominate another person in respect of the proposal.
- 8-2 Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister referred to in condition 8-1 shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the proposal in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.
- 8-3 The proponent shall notify the Department of Environmental Protection of any change of proponent contact name and address within 30 days of such change.

9 Commencement

- 9-1 The proponent shall provide evidence to the Minister for the Environment within two years of the date of this statement that the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 9-2 Where the proposal has not been substantially commenced within two years of the date of this statement, the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment will determine any question as to whether the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 9-3 The proponent shall make application to the Minister for the Environment for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposal beyond two years from the date of this statement at least six months prior to the expiration of the two year period referred to in conditions 9-1 and 9-2.
- 9-4 Where the proponent demonstrates to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority that the environmental parameters of the proposal have not changed significantly, then the Minister may grant an extension not exceeding two years for the substantial commencement of the proposal.

10 Compliance Auditing

- 10-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Performance and Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit program prepared in consultation between the proponent and the Department of Environmental Protection.

10-2 Unless otherwise specified, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions, procedures and commitments contained in this statement and for issuing formal written advice that the requirements have been met.

10-3 Where compliance with any condition, procedure or commitment is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Note

- 1 Other than condition 5 and proponent commitments on noise contained in schedule 2, noise levels and most other conditions relating to noise are subject to the operation of an approval pursuant to Regulation 17 of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997.


CHERYL EDWARDES (Mrs) MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

31 MAY 1999

Schedule 1

Definition of the Proposal (Assessment No. 1191)

The proposal is to mine two pits adjacent to Mt Charlotte underground gold mine in Kalgoorlie. These pits will uncover the floor pillars of the Reward and Northern Orebodies (ROB and NOB), which are the areas where the orebodies come to the surface. The underground portions of these and adjacent orebodies have already been mined as far as is possible from underground.

Once they are uncovered, the implosion of these floor pillars is to be initiated from underground. The ore from the open pits will be hauled to the ore stockpile at the Fimiston processing plant via an existing haulage route parallel to the existing overland conveyor. Ore from the floor pillars is to be hauled to the Fimiston processing plant via the existing decline which runs below the surface from Mt Charlotte to the Fimiston Open Pit.

The underground voids exposed by the removal of the two floor pillars are then to be backfilled with waste rock to stabilise the ground around Mt Charlotte. There will be no surface blasting associated with the proposal. The noise bund and road construction, surface mining, blasting and surface ore recovery will be completed within twelve months. Post-mining rehabilitation is part of the proposal.

Table 1 - Key Proposal Characteristics

Element	Description
Life of project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 (Road & Bund Construction) • Phase 2 (Mining of pits) • Phase 3 (Mining of floor pillars) • Phase 4 (Backfilling) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • about 2 months • about 8 months • about 2 months
Size of ore reserves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 • Phase 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 740,000 tonnes. • 910,000 tonnes.
Area of disturbance (including access)	6.55 Hectares
Major components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROB and NOB pits • ROB and NOB floor pillars 	See below. Project uses existing crushing, tailings facilities and infrastructure.
Time of operation	0700 to 1700, Monday to Friday, excluding Public Holidays.
Waste rock disposal from pits	Backfill for underground voids.
Transportation requirements during the project (including backfill) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 • Phase 2 • Phase 3 • Phase 4 	Greater part of the ore (pillars) - Sam Pearce Decline. Remaining portion (open pits) - Mt Charlotte to Fimiston haul road. Backfill via Mt Charlotte - Fimiston haul road. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 420 truck cycles per week • 950 truck cycles per week • Backfilling from outside Mt Charlotte • Backfilling from outside Mt Charlotte

Note: The proponent is already permitted under the conditions of their permits from the Department of Minerals and Energy to haul waste rock for backfilling of pits adjacent to Mt Charlotte. This waste rock haulage has taken place in the past and will proceed after the mining of this proposal has been completed and until the underground voids have been filled.

**CONSOLIDATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
COMMITMENTS**

27 May 1999

**MT CHARLOTTE GOLD MINE - REWARD AND
NORTHERN OREBODY OPEN PITS AND FLOOR
PILLARS, KALGOORLIE (1191)**

Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines Pty Ltd

Summary of Proponent's Commitments

Schedule 2

Mt Charlotte Gold Mine ROB & NOB Pits and Floor Pillars - Assessment no. 1191

Commitment (Who/What)	Objective (Why)	Action (How/Where)	Timing (When)	Whose Advice (to Whom)	Measurement Criteria (Audit verification)
1. The provisions of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> and the <i>Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997</i> as they apply to proposal will be complied with.	To ensure that the amenity of residential and business areas are not unduly affected by noise from the operations.	Mining will only occur between 0700 hours and 1700 hours, Monday to Friday. Noise bunding will be constructed along the sides of the main works. Employees and contractors will receive formal induction and training covering procedures for noise control.	Operating Phase Prior to works commencing	DEP Part V	Part IV Performance and Compliance Report
2. An approved Environmental Management System will be implemented.	Ensure the sound environmental management of the project and its impacts.	Prepare operational procedures which address the relevant conditions and commitments of the project including: 1. noise; 2. vibration from blasting; 3. dust; 4. blasting gases; 5. flyrock; and 6. public safety.	Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities associated with the proposal.	DEP Part V	Part IV Performance and Compliance Report
3. Noise levels adjacent to the operations will be monitored.	To ensure neighbouring residents and businesses are not unduly affected by mining noise.	Continual noise monitoring will occur at a location between the operations and Williamstown.	During works	DEP Part V	Part IV Performance and Compliance Report
4. Short-duration high-intensity noise impacts will be minimised.	To ensure neighbouring residents and businesses are not unduly affected by high intensity noise.	Rock breakers will be used near the base pits and in periods of the day when high levels of ambient noise prevail to reduce the contrast.	During works	DEP Part V	Part IV Performance and Compliance Report

Summary of Proponent's Commitments

Mt Charlotte Gold Mine ROB & NOB Pits and Floor Pillars - Assessment no. 1191

Schedule 2

Commitment (Who/What)	Objective (Why)	Action (How/Where)	Timing (When)	Whose Advice (to Whom)	Measurement Criteria (Audit verification)
<p>5. An industry best practice Mining Plan will be prepared and implemented for the underground mining of the ROB and NOB crown pillars.</p>	<p>To reduce potential impacts from blast vibration, fly rock and blast gases.</p>	<p>Recognised experts in underground mining methods including the State Mining Engineer will be consulted to develop and approve an underground mining method for the crown pillars in the proposal.</p> <p>Research and modelling will be undertaken by industry experts in underground blasting practice during the course of the proposal to ensure impacts from the crown pillar mining are equal to or less than those for the two 'one off' underground pillar blasts described in the Environmental Review document.</p> <p>Underground pillar blasting will be conducted so that vibration from a single blast does not exceed 10 millimetres per second peak particle velocity (PPV).</p> <p>Underground pillar blasting will be advertised in advance and will occur at specified times.</p> <p>Vibration of underground pillar blasts will be monitored.</p>	<p>During works and prior to undertaking drilling, blasting and mining of the crown pillars.</p>	<p>Dept of Minerals & Energy Mines Safety and Inspection Regulations 1995 DEP Part V</p>	<p>Part IV Performance and Compliance Report on "Crown Pillar Blasting and Mining Plan" and on vibration PPV limit.</p>

Summary of Proponent's Commitments

Mt Charlotte Gold Mine ROB & NOB Pits and Floor Pillars - Assessment no. 1191

Schedule 2

Commitment (Who/What)	Objective (Why)	Action (How/Where)	Timing (When)	Whose Advice (to Whom)	Measurement Criteria (Audit verification)
<p>6. Production of dust from mining operations will be monitored and managed to reduce its impact.</p>	<p>To ensure that the amenity of residential and business areas is not unduly affected by dust from the operations.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water trucks and water cannons will water areas that could form dust, including haul roads, mining areas and pillar blast areas. 2. Mining will be scheduled so as to avoid the drier periods. 3. During potential periods of dust formation, visual checks for dust will be made on a regular basis. 4. Options will be examined for modifying the existing on-line wind monitoring system so as to trigger a warning for wind conditions that might lead to dusty conditions. 5. The site superintendent shall take action to control dust levels or suspend mining activity in response to complaints or where it is viewed that dust levels may have adverse effects. 6. For the pillar blasts, dust formation will be minimised through implementation of quality control procedures during hole drilling and charging. 7. As no surface blasting will occur, physical methods including ripping and use of rock breakers will be employed. 8. Use of fresh water for dust suppression where impact on vegetation (existing or future) may occur. 9. Employees and contractors will receive formal induction and training covering procedures for dust control. 10. A high-volume dust monitor will regularly monitor dust levels over 24-hour intervals at a location between the operations and the Williamstown area. 	<p>Prepare plan prior to works, implement during works.</p>	<p>Proponent advice to DEP Goldfields regional office of its methods of dust control and these will be subject to DEP inspection.</p>	<p>Part IV Performance and Compliance Report.</p>

Summary of Proponent's Commitments

Schedule 2

Mt Charlotte Gold Mine ROB & NOB Pits and Floor Pillars - Assessment no. 1191

Commitment (Who/What)	Objective (Why)	Action (How/Where)	Timing (When)	Whose Advice (to Whom)	Measurement Criteria (Audit verification)
7. Mechanisms will be administered to record and respond to public concerns or complaints.		A public 'Hotline' will be maintained to enable local residents to register concerns. A register of complaints will be maintained. Procedures will be maintained to ensure prompt problem resolution should issues arise.	During works	DEP Part V	Public complaints register shall be reviewed in Part IV Performance and Compliance Report
8. A public consultation and information programme will be implemented.	To keep the public informed about key aspects of the proposal.	Information will be provided to the Williamstown Residents' Committee and other interested parties and feedback will be sought. Information articles will be published in local newspapers. Company and relevant contract personnel will be kept informed of plans and procedures for the project. Information will be disseminated to and/or meetings will be held with representatives from the Williamstown Residents' Committee, Williamstown residents, relevant trade unions, local print, radio and television media, company personnel, Kalgoorlie-Boulder community representative bodies, DEP, DoME, Western Power, DRD, Water Corporation, CALM, local and state politicians as required.	During works	DEP Part V	Copies of information to be provided to DEP, Perth. Log of information events to be in Part IV Performance and Compliance Report
9. All runoff will be retained within the site, with the exception of extreme rainfall events and will direct runoff away from the pits.	To ensure that areas adjacent to the mine are not contaminated by site runoff and the pits are not inundated with water compromising the safety of the pit.	Mt Charlotte water drainage systems will be modified to incorporate new hardstand and road areas into existing drainage network.	During construction and preparatory works	DEP Part V	Proponent to advise in writing of any improvements needed. DEP inspection will follow. Part IV Performance and Compliance Report

Key to abbreviations:

DEP	Department of Environmental Protection	DRD	Department of Resources Development
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority	CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
DoME	Department of Minerals and Energy	KCGM	Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines Pty Ltd, the proponent.