



MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT;
LABOUR RELATIONS

Statement No.

000551

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

WALLABY GOLD MINE, LAKE CAREY, SHIRE OF LAVERTON

Proposal: The Wallaby Gold Mine is located on the shore of Lake Carey, a naturally occurring saline wetland approximately 27 kilometres south-west of Laverton. The Wallaby Gold Mine Project includes development of an open-cut gold mine, waste rock dumps and infrastructure to support mining on the northern shoreline of the lake. Gold ore produced at the mine will be transported via overland conveyor to an existing processing plant with tailings placed in both an extended and a new tailings storage facility. Dewatering with some discharge to Lake Carey will occur. The general arrangement of the Wallaby project and key characteristics of the proposal are documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proponent: Placer (Granny Smith) Pty Limited

Proponent Address: PO Box 33, LAVERTON WA 6440

Assessment Number: 1348

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 981

The proposal to which the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority relates may be implemented subject to the following conditions and procedures:

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.
- 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.

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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 Proponent

- 3-1 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.
- 3-2 Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister referred to in condition 3-1 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.
- 3-3 The proponent shall notify the Department of Environmental Protection of any change of proponent contact name and address within 30 days of such change.

4 Commencement

- 4-1 The proponent shall provide evidence to the Minister for the Environment within five years of the date of this statement that the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 4-2 Where the proposal has not been substantially commenced within five 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.
- 4-3 The proponent shall make application to the Minister for the Environment for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposal beyond five years from the date of this statement at least six months prior to the expiration of the five year period referred to in conditions 4-1 and 4-2.
- 4-4 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 five years for the substantial commencement of the proposal.

5 Compliance Auditing

- 5-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit program prepared in consultation between the proponent and the Department of Environmental Protection.

- 5-2 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.
- 5-3 Where compliance with any condition, procedure or commitment is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Note

- 1 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.


CHERYL EDWARDES (Mrs) MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- 9 AUG 2000

Schedule 1

The Proposal

The proposal involves the development of the Wallaby gold deposit by open-cut mining to provide gold ore to the existing Placer (Granny Smith) Pty Limited processing plant. The mine, located on the northern shoreline of Lake Carey, has an expected life of 8 years and includes a waste rock dump, mining support infrastructure such as workshops and administration facilities. Dewatering with some discharge to Lake Carey will occur. The gold ore crushed at the minesite will be transported by overland conveyor to an existing processing plant located approximately 11 kilometres east north-east of the mine. The capacity of the processing plant will be expanded from 4.5 to 5 million tonnes per annum. Tailings from the processing plant will be disposed of into both an expanded and a new tailings storage facility located near to the processing plant. The general arrangement of the Wallaby Gold Mine proposal is shown in Figure 1.

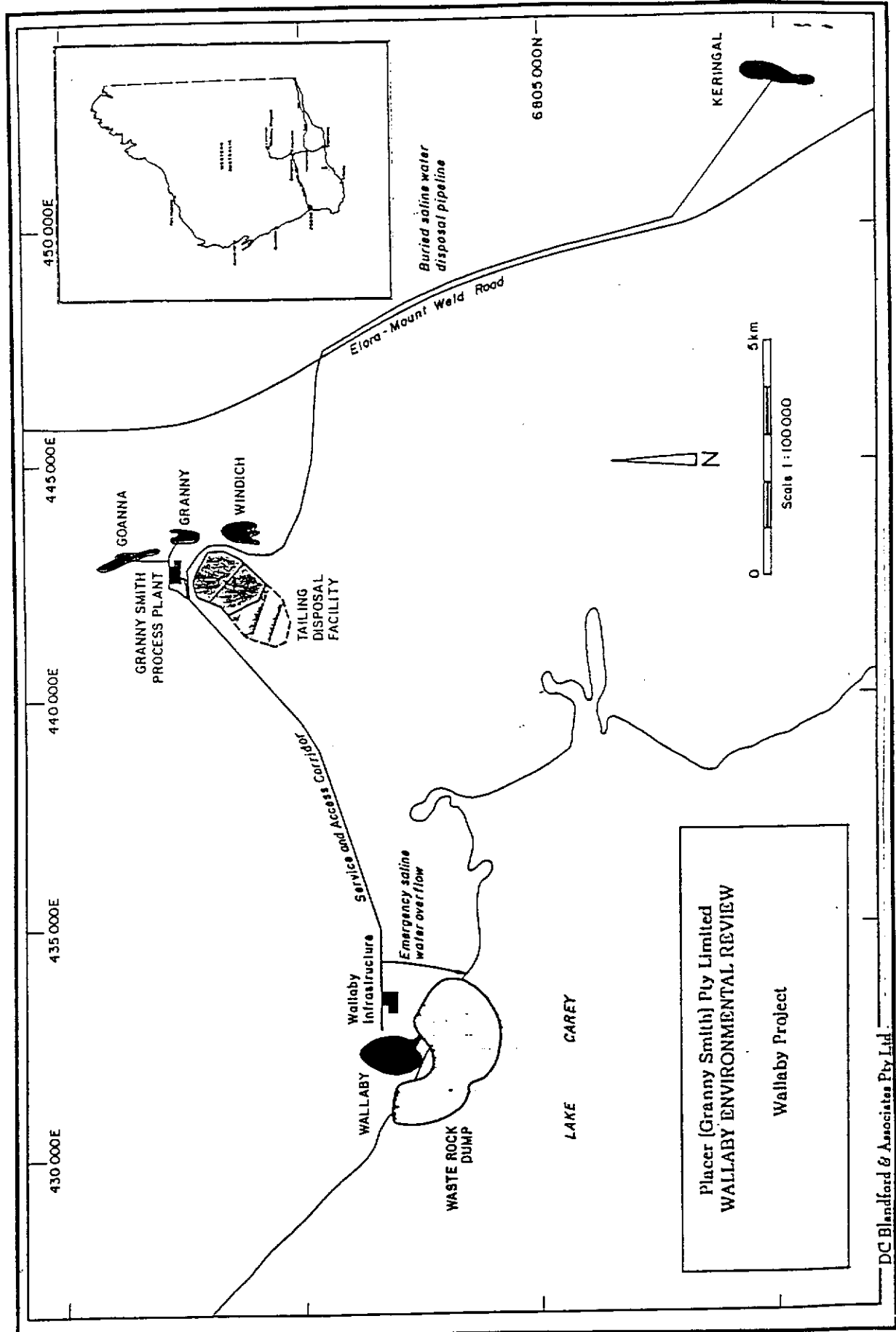
Key Characteristics Table

Project Element	Description
Life of the Project	Approximately ten years (including rehabilitation)
Type of Operation	Open- cut pit
Final Pit Size	Estimated 1,000 metres (east-west), 1,300 metres (north-south), 340 metres deep covering 120 hectares
Pit Location	11 kilometres west south-west of the Granny Smith process plant on the northern shore of Lake Carey
Mining Rate	Approximately 100-150,000 tonnes per day
Ore Transport	11 kilometre long overland conveyor
Processing: Location; Technology.	Existing Granny Smith process plant with upgraded capacity from 4.5 million tonnes per annum to 5 million tonnes per annum Carbon-in-pulp
Solid Waste Materials: Dump location; Dump area; Total waste volume.	Partly on land but the majority on Lake Carey Approximately 550 hectares Approximately 400 million tonnes

Tailing: Capacity; Annual volume.	Total storage available is approximately 60 million tonnes (Current tailing storage facility plus a new storage cell) Approximately 5.0 million tonnes
Water Supply: Source; Maximum volume required; Maximum annual requirement.	Existing Mount Weld Borefield and Windich Pit 0.75 cubic metres per tonne of ore processed 3.15 million cubic metres.
Pit Dewatering: Maximum rate; Minimum rate; 8-year average rate; Total volume abstracted.	480 litres per second 165 litres per second 245 litres per second 62 million cubic metres
Hypersaline Groundwater Disposal	Average 165 litres per second disposal to mined-out pits and discharge to Lake Carey surface at an average rate of 80 litres per second
Hypersaline Groundwater Quality	Average 250,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids
Greenhouse gas emissions life of project (10 years)	Approximately 2 million tonnes of CO ₂
Access and Services Corridor: Length; Width; Total area; Components.	11 kilometres approximately 82 metres approximately 90 hectares Power transmission line, conveyor, emergency haul road, raw and potable water pipelines, distribution pipeline for hypersaline groundwater

Figure attached

Figure 1. The General Arrangement of the Wallaby Gold Mine



Placer (Granny Smith) Pty Limited
WALLABY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
 Wallaby Project

DC Blandford & Associates Pty Ltd

Figure 1. The General Arrangement of the Wallaby Gold Mine Project

**Proponent's Consolidated Environmental Management
Commitments**

June 2000

**WALLABY GOLD MINE
LAKE CAREY, SHIRE OF LAVERTON (1348)**

PLACER (GRANNY SMITH) PTY LIMITED

Schedule 2: Proponent's Environmental Management Commitments – Wallaby Gold Mining Project

No.	Topic	Objective	Action	Timing	Advice	Reporting of Compliance
1	Environmental Management Program (EMP)	To minimise environmental impacts on the Wallaby Project Area.	<p>(1.1) Finalise the EMP as detailed in Volume II of the WER and submit to the relevant statutory authorities for review and modification as appropriate.</p> <p>(1.2) Implement the EMP and update as necessary following an annual review prepared by the proponent and reviewed by the relevant statutory authorities.</p> <p>(1.3) Modify the EMP as appropriate.</p>	<p>1.1 Pre-construction</p> <p>1.2 During construction and operation</p> <p>1.3 When environmental objectives are not being met</p>	CALM DME WRC	AER
2	Hypersaline water management	To minimise the impact of abstraction and disposal of hypersaline groundwater on the receiving environment	<p>(2.1) Finalise the management plan for the abstraction and disposal of hypersaline groundwater and submit to statutory authorities for review and modification as appropriate. The plan shall address the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the relevant commitments of the proponent included in the EMP and environmental monitoring program; 2) the siting and management of pipelines carrying hypersaline groundwater; 3) disposal of groundwater in mined-out pits; 4) disposal of groundwater at 80 L/s to Lake Carey; 5) water balance and water quality monitoring program for mined-out pits; 6) further studies into evaporation enhancement in the mined-out pits; and 7) investigations into the fate of saline water discharged to Lake Carey. <p>(2.2) Implement the management plan for the abstraction and disposal of hypersaline groundwater.</p> <p>(2.3) Modify the management plan to achieve environmental objectives if monitoring indicates requirements are not being met.</p>	<p>2.1 Pre-construction</p> <p>2.2 During construction and operation</p> <p>2.3 When environmental objectives are not being met</p>	CALM DME WRC	AER
3	Access and services corridor	To minimise environmental impacts on vegetation through drainage control, and to protect fauna habitats.	<p>(3.1) Finalise the management plan for the access and services corridor and submit to statutory authorities for review and modification as appropriate. The plan shall address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the relevant commitments of the proponent included in the EMP and environmental monitoring program; 2) construction and operation of the corridor to protect native vegetation; 3) construction and operation of the corridor to maintain surface drainage; and 4) construction and operation of the corridor to enable fauna to traverse the corridor and the maintenance of fauna habitat. <p>(3.2) Implement the access and services corridor management plan.</p>	<p>3.1 Pre-construction</p> <p>3.2 During construction and operation</p>	DME CALM	AER

No.	Topic	Objective	Action	Timing	Advice	Reporting of Compliance
4	Waste Rock Dump	To construct a waste rock dump that blends with the local landscape and that is stable in the long-term, to minimise erosion and to minimise impacts on the saline wetland habitat of Lake Carey.	<p>(3.3) Modify the management plan to achieve environmental objectives if monitoring indicates requirements are not being met.</p> <p>(4.1) Prepare a management plan for the waste rock dump that will address the following: 1) the relevant commitments of the proponent included in the EMP and environmental monitoring program; 2) material characteristics; 3) cover treatments; 4) use of growth media; 5) drainage control; 6) rehabilitation methods; 7) rehabilitation monitoring; 8) performance criteria; and 9) completion criteria.</p> <p>(4.2) Implement the waste rock dump management plan.</p> <p>(4.3) Modify the management plan to achieve environmental objectives if monitoring indicates requirements are not being met.</p>	<p>3.3 When environmental objectives are not being met</p> <p>4.1 During construction</p>	DME CALM	AER
5	Mine closure and decommissioning	To return the areas disturbed by mining to a defined final landuse.	<p>(5.1) Prior to construction, the proponent will finalise its preliminary mine closure and decommissioning plan that is included in the WER. The plan shall address the following: 1) a description of project components; 2) rationale for siting plant and infrastructure and conceptual plans for their removal, and if appropriate, retention; 3) conceptual rehabilitation plans for all disturbed areas and a process to agree on end landuse(s); 4) management of noxious materials to avoid the creation of contaminated areas; and 5) description of the process to agree on completion criteria and performance criteria including a time-line in which they will be developed.</p> <p>(5.2) At least six months prior to the anticipated date of decommissioning or at a time agreed with the DEP, the proponent shall prepare a final decommissioning plan designed to ensure that the site is left in a suitable condition. This final plan shall address: 1) removal, or if appropriate, retention of all plant and infrastructure; 2) rehabilitation of all disturbed areas to a standard suitable for the agreed new land use(s); and</p>	<p>5.1 Pre-construction</p> <p>5.2 At least six months prior to the anticipated date of decommissioning or at a time agreed with the DEP.</p>	DME WRC CALM	AER

No.	Topic	Objective	Action	Timing	Advice	Reporting of Compliance
			3) Identification of contaminated areas including provision of evidence of notification to relevant statutory authorities. (5.3) Implement the mine closure and decommissioning strategy.	5.3 During operations and decommissioning phase.		

Abbreviations: 1. Annual Environmental Report (AER) 2. Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) 3. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
 4. Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) 5. Wallaby Environmental Review (WER) 6. Water and Rivers Commission (WRC)