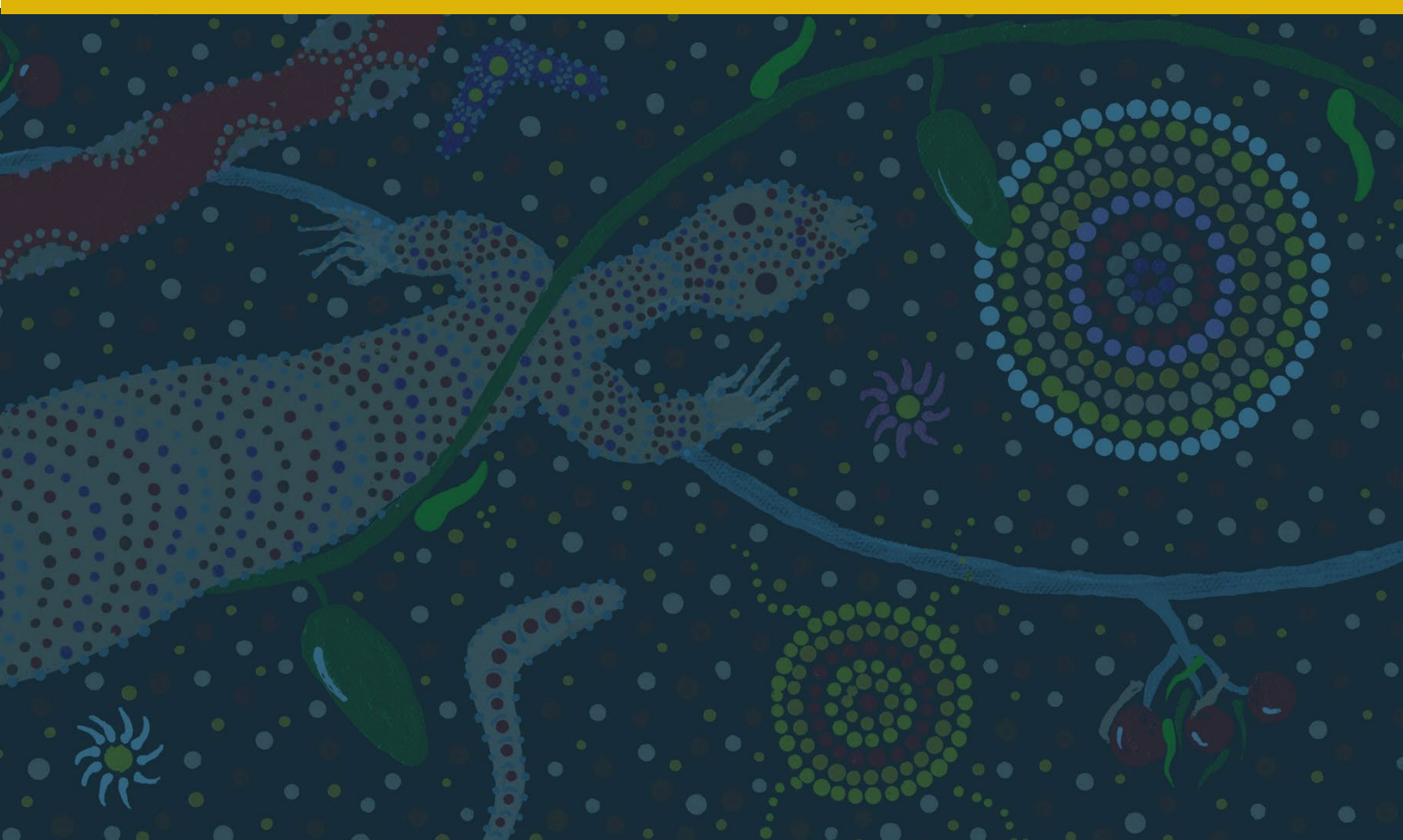




ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

FIMISTON OPERATIONAL AREA

UNEXPECTED FINDS PROCEDURE



1. PURPOSE

This procedure details the process for dealing with an unexpected finds during land clearing and any earthworks activities at KCGM (Northern Star). An unexpected find occurs when, despite planning and internal disturbance assessment processes, unexpected material is encountered. This material may include, but not restricted to, contamination, a buried entity, heritage or environmental values or human remains.

2. SCOPE

Despite detailed planning and preparation for project implementation, there is a possibility that clearing or ground disturbance activities may uncover unexpected material. This is particularly relevant in areas with large scale historic disturbance such as the KCGM operations.

The procedure is applicable to all activities relating to clearing and disturbance associated with any project that has the potential to have an unexpected find during clearing and construction of the project. This procedure supports activities on project areas. A ground disturbance permit is required for all clearing applicable to KCGM operations (Northern Star).

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Project Manager/ Superintendent	Ensure a Disturbance Permit Form (DPF) is obtained for the project prior to earthworks. Note the DPF assessment process checks for whether there are aboriginal or other areas of concern; whether the area has been surveyed by aboriginal groups and whether heritage monitors are required and/or areas needing exclusion fencing or flagging. Ensure this procedure is part of the project's induction process and ensure its implementation.
Project Supervisor	Ensure the procedure is reinforced to operators during pre-starts and other opportunities, in particular, if an area of concern is identified.
Operators, all project staff and contractors	Understand and implement this procedure.
Subject Matter Experts	Action the project teams request in a timely manner.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

FULL NAME	ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
Disturbance Permit Form	DPF	Written internal permission form for disturbance activities. A DPF allows clearing of an area and is subject to controls
Vicinity Permit		Electrical permit prior to digging
Western Australian Police Force	WA Police	
Northern Star	NSR	Northern Star Resources Pty Ltd

5. VERSION CONTROL

VERSION	DATE	DOCUMENT CHANGES
v1	30 July 2024	Current version of the procedure

6. PROCEDURE

In areas of concern, undertake earthworks in a cautious manner and if required include a spotter in the team. This will avoid the risk of spreading contamination or of disturbing items of cultural significance.

6.1 Types of unexpected finds

- Suspected human remains
- Items of potential cultural significance
- Asbestos or fibrous material
- Material with unnatural odours /oily material / chemical material
- Suspected historic tailings material
- Suspected radioactive material
- Man made inclusions (eg industrial waste, old rubbish tip)
- Unrecorded historic voids / boreholes
- Buried drums / tanks / pipelines or services

6.2 Management of Unexpected Finds

6.2.1 Unexpected Finds Protocol

In the event that an unexpected find is discovered, the following steps must be followed immediately:

1. Operator stops work.
2. Operator reports concern to Supervisor.
3. Supervisor inspects the area of concern and makes an initial assessment of the risk to the project team, the environment or heritage values and whether it is a potential Unexpected Find.
4. Supervisor notifies Project Superintendent.
5. Supervisor / Superintendent decide, with assistance from subject matter experts if required (see Supporting information in section 7 below), whether there is an Unexpected Find and/or any associated risk (safety or other) for the project team, the environment or heritage values.
6. If there is a potential Unexpected Find, the Supervisor decides whether to withdraw machinery from the location.
7. Supervisor demarcates potential Unexpected Find area with tape or bollards.
8. If there is an Unexpected Find, Supervisor continues with recommended actions in Section 6.3.
9. Project works can continue elsewhere.

6.3 Additional Actions required

	ACTIONS	DOCUMENTATION / ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP
Suspected Human Remains	Notify Safety Department (including security), Social Performance Department and Environment Department. The Safety Manager or representative will notify the General Manager and the Western Australian Police Force. <i>Follow the protocol outlined in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan</i>	Determine best course of action, in alignment with the requirements of applicable Acts and, if appropriate, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (see section 7). An appropriate lead person should be appointed to co-ordinate the process, of determining the most appropriate course of action, including seeking advice and consult with stakeholders (including legal, aboriginal representatives, the Registrar, the WA Police).
Items of potential Cultural Significance	Contact Social Performance and Environment Departments <i>Follow the protocol outlined in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan</i>	Determine best course of action, in alignment with the requirements of applicable Acts and, if appropriate, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (see section 7). An appropriate lead person should be appointed to co-ordinate the process, of determining the most appropriate course of action, including seeking advice and consult with stakeholders Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan and requirements of applicable acts (see section 7).
Item of potential ecological significance	Contact Environment Department for an assessment and recommendations – for example a suspected Mallee fowl mound	Determine best course of action; Use Mallee Fowl Procedure
Asbestos / fibrous material	Contact Safety Department (Hygiene) for an assessment and recommendations	Determine best course of action for the project / contamination risks
Unnatural odours /oily material / chemical material	Contact Environment Department or Metallurgists for an assessment and recommendations	Determine best course of action for the project / contamination risks; Sample if considered contaminated material, consider the risk of odour or chemical emissions Remediate and record as required

	ACTIONS	DOCUMENTATION / ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP
Buried drums / tanks / pipelines or services	Contact Environment Department or Engineering Projects for an assessment and recommendations If electric conduit is uncovered, contact Site Services	Determine best course of action for the project / contamination risks; Sample if considered contaminated material, consider the risk of odour or chemical emissions Remediate and record as required
Historic tailings material	Contact Environment or Rehabilitation Department for an assessment and recommendations	Determine best course of action for the project / contamination risks; Sample if considered contaminated material Remediate and record as required
Radioactive material	Contact Safety Department for an assessment and recommendations	Determine best course of action for the project / contamination risks

7. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

7.1 Human Remains

- Do not touch or move the remains;
- The discovery should be reported to the Western Australia Police Force, as required by the *Coroner's Act 1996*;
- If the remains are determined to be of Aboriginal origin, the Registrar at the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage must be notified;
- The requirements of the KCGM Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan should be followed.

7.2 Aboriginal Cultural Items

Most areas or large scale clearing require aboriginal monitors to be present during the clearing.
In General:

- Do not touch or move the items;
- The requirements of the KCGM Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) should be followed.

7.3 KCGM ACHMP requirements

Section 8 of the current version of the KCGM ACHMP (version 1.1) has the following protocol:

7.3.1 Aboriginal Skeletal / Ancestral Remains

Aboriginal skeletal/ancestral remains are of great significance to Aboriginal people, who feel strongly about the removal of remains from grave sites.

If a burial site or Aboriginal remains are found during ground disturbing activities at KCGM, the following actions will be taken:

1. All ground disturbing activities in the area will be stopped immediately and the site barricaded to prevent further access or disturbance;
2. The site Registered Manager and Social Performance and Environmental Department will be notified;
3. The police will be notified immediately, and a police investigation of the site is to occur. If it is necessary to disturb the remains for the purpose of identification, this will be undertaken by a forensic specialist or archaeologist under instruction of the police;
4. Upon notification that the remains are of Aboriginal ancestry and not a matter for further police involvement, the Registrar of Aboriginal Sites (DPLH) is to be notified. The Registrar will seek the

immediate involvement of relevant Aboriginal people;

5. The Registrar will record the burial site and place the site on the Register of Aboriginal Sites. An archaeologist may be required to conduct an assessment;
6. KCGM will consult with Traditional Owners and the DPLH to develop an appropriate action plan for the management of the remains and continued activity in the area. Often this can involve the removal and relocation of the remains to a suitable and safer location;
7. The location of the remains will be recorded in the internal heritage database;
8. An event report must be lodged through INX InControl highlighting the location of the site and a brief description.

7.3.2 Previously unidentified Aboriginal Site

If a previously unidentified Aboriginal site is found (for example, artefacts are uncovered) at KCGM, the following actions will be taken:

1. Ground disturbing activity in the area will be stopped. The site will be barricaded to prevent further inadvertent access or disturbance;
2. A heritage survey will be conducted by a suitably qualified consultant. Relevant Aboriginal people will be consulted where appropriate;
3. If the heritage survey determines that the area is not an Aboriginal site, work will recommence;
4. If the heritage survey determines that the area is an Aboriginal site, a report will be prepared; and submitted to the DPLH. The report will be prepared in accordance with the relevant template on the DPLH website;
5. KCGM will work with DPLH to ensure that the site is recorded and placed on the Register of Aboriginal Sites.

The KCGM ACHMP also provides guidance on reporting, salvage and relocation of Cultural Material.

7.4 Ex-pit voids

For ex-pit voids the following is recommended:

If a void is identified (standard void hazard procedure)

- Stay with the hazard (at a safe distance), and radio for help if you do not have the equipment to make the area safe
- Build a windrow around the hazard, at a 25m radius
- Use orange bollards or star picket and red/white tape to demarcate the hazard, at 25m radius

- If any ground cracking is evident do not approach
- Before exiting the machine, drive machinery away from the void
- Voids Department should be requested to conduct a visual assessment and provide advice

If a person or machine falls into a void / partially falls into a void

- REMAIN in the machine
- Radio the supervisor or other for assistance
- Implement standard void hazard procedure (as above)
- At no time should other people enter the 25m danger zone
- If the machine is partially in the void, attempt self extraction, using the bucket if possible, with assistance from a supervisor and spotter;
- If the machine is too far into a void/unable to self extract, immediately start the standard KCGM Emergency procedure by radioing or telephoning the Security Emergency number;
- Stay calm and wait for Emergency Response personnel.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

SUBJECT	RELATED DOCUMENTS
Voids	Ex pit void procedure
Aboriginal Remains / Culturally Significant Items	KCGM Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan
Ground Disturbance	Land Disturbance Procedure
Ground Disturbance	Disturbance Permit Form
Emergency	Emergency Response Plan