



Cowal Gold Project – Addendum to the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

On 23 June 2009, Barrick submitted an application to the Department of Planning to modify the Cowal Gold Project Development Consent that included the introduction of a saline groundwater supply borefield within ML 1535 to diversify the water supply sources for the Cowal Gold Mine. The application to modify the Development Consent was approved by the Minister for Planning on 28 August 2009 under Section 96(1A) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (EP&A Act).

This addendum to the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan has been prepared to reflect the approved modification to the Development Consent.

COWAL GOLD PROJECT
ADDENDUM TO THE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN



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ADDENDUM Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

1. Insert a new Section 4 as follows:

4. EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL SYSTEMS – SALINE GROUNDWATER SUPPLY BOREFIELD (ML 1535)

A saline groundwater supply borefield will be developed within ML 1535 to diversify the water supply sources for the site.

In accordance with Consent Condition 4.4A, the pipelines from the saline groundwater supply borefield to the site will be:

- constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Office of Water of the NSW Department of the Environment, Climate Change and Water; and
- laid in such a way that it will not impede the passage of fish or other animals, interfere with flood behaviour or the passage of boats and vehicles.

4.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

4.1.1 Details of Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Systems

A small area of the lakebed of Lake Cowal will be disturbed for the saline groundwater supply borefield and associated pipeline. This disturbance will not involve the removal of native trees, given that trees are absent from this area (FloraSearch, 2008). Further, this area has been previously cleared for livestock grazing and, in some areas, cropping (*ibid.*).

The design and installation of the pipeline to the saline groundwater supply borefield within Lake Cowal will be consistent with the policy detailed in the *Guidelines for controlled activities: Laying pipes and cables in watercourses* (Department of Water and Energy, 2008). In particular, in undertaking the works associated with the installation of the pipeline, Barrick will:

- minimise disturbance to soil and vegetation communities (i.e. no native trees would be removed for the saline groundwater supply borefield given that trees are absent from this area; further, this area has been previously cleared for livestock grazing and, in some areas, cropping);
- maintain existing/natural hydraulic, hydrologic, geomorphic and ecological functions of Lake Cowal; and
- rehabilitate disturbed areas post installation as appropriate (Section 8).

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures implemented during the construction of the borefield and pipeline as well as ongoing monitoring and maintenance will be similar to those described for the Bland Creek palaeochannel borefield and pipeline (Section 4).

4.1.2 Details of Permanent Erosion and Sediment Control Systems

As the pipeline will be laid on the ground surface (i.e. above ground level) in a V-drain for potential spill containment, no permanent erosion and sediment controls are necessary.

4.2 OPERATIONAL PHASE

4.2.1 Details of Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Systems

The temporary erosion and sediment control systems installed for the construction phase (Section 4.1.1) will remain in place until such time as the pipeline corridor is rehabilitated as appropriate.

4.2.2 Details of Permanent Erosion and Sediment Control Systems

In accordance with Consent Condition 4.4A, the water supply pipeline will also be installed with an automatic shut down device so water pumping is immediately stopped in the event of any pipe rupture. The water supply will not be restarted until the rupture is located and repaired. The saline groundwater supply borefield will be operated when it is not inundated by Lake Cowal. Such a system will negate the risk of any potential impacts on lake water quality (Gilbert and Associates, 2008).

2. Revise section numbering for Sections 4 to 13 to be Sections 5 to 14.
3. Insert the following references into new Section 14:

Department of Water and Energy (2008) *Guidelines for Controlled Activities: Laying Pipes and Cables in Watercourses*.

FloraSearch (2008) *Cowal Gold Mine E42 Modification Flora Assessment*.

Gilbert and Associates Pty Ltd (2008) *Cowal Gold Mine E42 Modification Hydrological Assessment*.