



Independent Environmental Audit DA 14/98 Mod 16, SSD 10367, EPL 11912, ML 1535 & 1791

Evolution Mining Cowal Gold Operations

26 May 2022

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Independent Environmental Audit DA 14/98 Mod 16, SSD 10367, EPL 11912, ML 1535 & 1791

Evolution Mining Cowal Gold Operations



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AHD	Australian Height Datum
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
AR	Annual Review or Annual Return
BMP	Blast Management Plan or Bushfire Management Plan
BOMP	Biodiversity Offset Management Plan
CEMCC	Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee
CMP	Cyanide Management Plan
CWMP	Compensatory Wetland Management Plan
DA	Development Application
DPE/DP&E	NSW Department of Planning and Environment
DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries (formally NSW Department of Industry)
DRE	NSW Department of Industry, Division of Resource and Energy
DRG	NSW Division of Resources & Geoscience
DSC	NSW Dams Safety Committee
EHS	Environment, Health & Safety
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMS	Environmental Management System or Environmental Management Strategy
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPL	Environmental Protection Licence
ERM	Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESCMP	Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan
FFMP	Flora and Fauna Management Plan
HMP	Heritage Management Plan
HMMP	Hazardous Materials Management Plan
IACHMP	Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management Plan
IEA	Independent Environmental Audit
LMP	Land Management Plan
ML	Mining Lease
MOD	Modification (in respect of DA)
MOP	Mining Operations Plan

MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NMP	Noise Management Plan
RMP	Rehabilitation Management Plan
SSMP	Soil Stripping Management Plan
TMP	Transport Management Plan
TSF	Tailings Storage Facilities
VPA	Voluntary Planning Agreement
WMP	Water Management Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Environmental Resource Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) was engaged by Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd (Evolution Mining) to undertake an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Cowal Gold Operation near West Wyalong, New South Wales. The purpose of the audit was to assess compliance with the requirements of the following approvals:

- Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) Ministers' Conditions of Approval (CoA) for the consolidated Development Consent Development Application (DA) 14/98 (MOD 16) dated 30 September 2021;
- State Significant Development Application 10367 dated 30 September 2021;
- Environmental Protection Licence 11912 dated 6 May 2021;
- Mining Lease (ML) 1535 dated 13 June 2003; and
- ML 1791 dated 20 June 2019.

The audit was undertaken in accordance with the prescriptions outline in the document "Independent Audit – Post Approval Requirements" (NSW DPIE 2020).

The number of non-compliances with the statutory conditions and implementation of the management plans is summarised in the Table below:

Summary of Compliance

Consent or Licence	Compliance (C)	Non-Compliant (NC)	Not Triggered (NT)
DA 14/98 Mod 16	71 (68.3%)	7 (6.7%)	26 (25.0%)
SSD 10367	32 (55.2%)	2 (3.4%)	24 (41.4%)
EPL 11912	48 (85.6%)	1 (1.8%)	7 (12.5%)
ML 1535	34 (81.0%)	0	8 (19.0%)
ML 1791	8 (100%)	0	0

An action response table will be developed by Evolution Mining addressing all audit findings and will be submitted to the DP&E separately to this report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Environmental Resource Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) was engaged by Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd (Evolution Mining) to undertake an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Cowal Gold mine near West Wyalong, New South Wales (NSW). The purpose of the audit was to assess compliance with the requirements of the following approvals:

- Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) Ministers' Conditions of Approval (CoA) for the consolidated Development Consent Development Application (DA) 14/98 (MOD 16) dated 30 September 2021;
- State Significant Development Application 10367 dated 30 September 2021;
- Environmental Protection Licence 11912 dated 6 May 2021;
- Mining Lease (ML) 1535 dated 13 June 2003; and
- ML 1791 dated 20 June 2019.

Under Condition 9.2(a) of the DA, Evolution Mining is required to commission an IEA by the end of July 2016, and every 3 years thereafter. Further, under Condition C11 of the SSD, Evolution Mining is required to commission an IEA within one year from the date of the commencement of the development (20 October 2021) and every 3 years thereafter.

The audit was undertaken in accordance with the prescriptions outlined in the document "Independent Audit – Post Approval Requirements" (NSW DPIE 2020).

This report documents the audit, and sets out the audit purpose, methodology, findings, and recommendations and opportunities for improvement. The audit was conducted between 11 and 13 April 2022 and included document review and a site visit.

1.2 Audit Team and Timing

Dr. Toivo Zoete (lead auditor) and Mr. Mark Gethings (support auditor) undertook the site visit and were approved by the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) to conduct the audit (refer to correspondence from the DP&E at Appendix A). Qualifications and experience of these personnel is as follows:

Toivo Zoete – Lead Auditor

- Qualifications: BSc (Hons), MAppSc (Hons), PhD, CEnvP, EMS 14001 Lead Auditor (2015) (Exemplar)
- Experience: Toivo is a Principal Consultant within ERM's Sustainable Mining Team. He is an environmental professional with 30 years' experience in a range of environmental studies, including mine closure, environmental audits, environmental impact studies, ecological assessments, among others in Australia, the Asia Pacific region, and Algeria. Relevant projects have included audits for mining and upstream CSG development (compliance and ISO 140001 certification), EIAs for resource and infrastructure developments, and numerous projects in NSW (including compliance audits). He has provided expert evidence at several Land and Environment Court cases in NSW.

Mark Gethings – Auditor

- Qualifications: BSc (Hons)
- Experience: Mark is an Environmental Consultant within ERM's Mergers & Acquisitions and Operational Performance team, based in Sydney, Australia. Mark has over six years' experience in the Environmental Consulting, Environmental Management and Sustainability Advisory. Mark

specialises in Environmental compliance/risk and sustainability consulting. Mark has undertaken numerous Environmental, sustainability compliance and due diligence audits across a range of industries, provided environmental and sustainability advisory over multiple large infrastructure projects and acted as environmental conditions of approval compliance manager for various infrastructure projects.

The independent environmental audit was conducted on 11, 12 and 13 April 2022.

1.3 Audit Objectives

The objectives of ERM's audit were to:

- Assess the environmental performance of the project and assess whether it is complying with the requirements in the Conditions of Approval Development Consent DA 14/98 (MoD 13), State Significant Development SSD-10367, Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 11912, Mining Lease (ML) 1535 and Mining Lease (ML) 1791 (including any assessment, plan or program required under these approvals);
- Review the adequacy of any approved strategy, plan, or program required under the abovementioned consents/approvals;
- Identify opportunities for improved environmental management and recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the project, and/or any assessment, plan or program required under the above approvals; and
- Consult with the relevant agencies such as Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E), NSW Environment Protection Agency (EPA), NSW Division of Resources and Geoscience (DRG), NSW Department of Primary Industry Water (DPI Water), Bland Shire Council (BSC) and the Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee (CEMCC).

1.4 Scope of Works

The environmental compliance status for all subject areas contained within the DA 14/98, SSD 10367, EPL 11912 and ML 1535&1791 was assessed for the audit period of 1 May 2019 to 13 April 2022. The subject areas are listed in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1: Subject Areas

DA 14/98	
■ General	■ Air, Blast, Noise and Visual Impact Management
■ Mine Management	■ Transport Management
■ Heritage, Flora and Fauna and Land Management	■ Additional Procedures
■ Water Management	■ Environmental Management, Auditing and Reporting
■ Hazardous Materials and Tailings Management	■
SSD 10367	
■ Administrative Conditions	■ Visual
■ Limits of Consent	■ Waste
■ Public Infrastructure	■ Dangerous Goods
■ Water	■ Rehabilitation

■ Subsidence Management	■ Social
■ Transport	■ Environmental Management, Reporting, and Auditing

EPL 11912

■ A1 What the licence authorises and regulates;	■ O5 Waste management;
■ A2 Premises or plant to which this licence applies;	■ O6 Other operating conditions;
■ A3 Other activities;	■ M1 Monitoring records;
■ A4 Information supplied to the EPA;	■ M2 Requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged;
■ P1 Location of monitoring/discharge points and areas;	■ M3 Testing methods - concentration limits;
■ L1 Pollution of waters;	■ M4 Weather monitoring;
■ L2 Concentration limits;	■ M5 Recording of pollution complaints;
■ L3 Waste;	■ M6 Telephone complaints line;
■ L4 Noise limits;	■ M7 Blasting;
■ L5 Blasting;	■ R1 Annual return documents;
■ L6 Potentially offensive odour;	■ R2 Notification of environmental harm;
■ O1 Activities must be carried out in a competent manner;	■ R3 Written report; and

ML 1535

■ Notice to Landholders	■ Roads
■ Working Requirements	■ Trees and Timber
■ Reports	■ Resource Recovery
■ Licence to Use Reports	■ Indemnity
■ Confidentiality	■ Security
■ Terms of the non-exclusive licence	■ Mine Safety Management Plan
■ Safety	■ Mining, Rehabilitation, Environmental Management Process (MREMP) Mining Operations Plan (MOP)
■ Rehabilitation	■ Annual Environmental Management Report (AMER)
■ Prevention of Soil Erosion and Pollution	■ Blasting
■ Transmission lines, Communication lines and Pipelines	■ Use of Cyanide
■ Fences, Gates	■ Control of Operations

ML 1791

■ Notice to Landholders	■ Environmental Incident Report
■ Rehabilitation	■ Security
■ Mining Operations Plan and Annual Rehabilitation Report	■ Cooperation Agreement
■ Non-Compliance Reporting	■ Prescribed Dam

The site visit concentrated on the assessment of the effectiveness of the Evolution Mining's environmental management measures and adequacy of performance.

1.4.1 *Temporal Period Covered by the Audit*

The audit covers the period 1 May 2019 to 13 April 2022.

1.5 Limitations

This disclaimer, together with any limitations specified in the report, apply to this report and its use.

This report was prepared in accordance with the contracted scope of services for the specific purpose stated and subject to the applicable cost, time and other constraints. In preparing this report, ERM relied on: (a) client/third party information which was not verified by ERM except to the extent required by the scope of services, and ERM does not accept responsibility for omissions or inaccuracies in the client/third party information; and (b) information taken at or under the particular times and conditions specified, and ERM does not accept responsibility for any subsequent changes.

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2. AUDIT METHODOLOGY

2.1 Selection and Endorsement of Audit Team

Prior to the commencement of the audit, approval of nominated audit personnel was sought from the DP&E. These were approved as per letter from the DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 28 March 2022 (attached in Appendix A). Declarations of Independence are included in Appendix B.

2.2 Scope Consultation and Development

2.2.1 Agencies Consulted

The scope was developed in consultation with Evolution Mining and external stakeholders, including the following:

- Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E);
- NSW Division of Resource and Geoscience (DRG);
- NSW Department of Primary Industry Water (DPI Water);
- Bland Shire Council (BSC);
- NSW Environment Protection Agency (EPA); and
- Independent Chairperson (IC) of the CEMCC (as appointed by DP&E).

In each case, an email was sent to representatives of each agency requesting feedback on those issues considered most relevant by their department at the time of the audit.

2.2.2 Summary of Consultation Results

The Terms of Reference were submitted to the agencies and stakeholders on 29 March 2022 to obtain feedback and draw attention to any key issues, within the agreed scope of the audit.

- DP&E responded approving the audit team and noting that the Terms of Reference met the requirements of the IEA. Further to this, DP&E requested areas of focus to include works/activities undertaken in accordance with general layout, water management, water take, water discharges, water performance measures, traffic management/vehicle movements, monitoring around the underground works (Lake Cowal), management of the tailings dam redevelopment (IWL), aboriginal heritage management, rehabilitation, compliance/management/monitoring of heights levels of tailings, emplacement areas, stockpiles, status of offsets/retiring of biodiversity credits, compliance with operating hours, compliance VPAs, links between the two consents and status of management plans for the past 3 years consistent with Schedule 2 Condition 5 (review/revision).
- The NSW Division of Resource and Geoscience responded with the requests:
 - Review relevant mining leases and exploration licences as agreed with Resources Regulator
 - Undertake an assessment of compliance against the conditions of title related to environmental management
 - Verify that there is a current Mining Operations Plan (MOP) in place and it has been approved by the Regulator – review compliance against any conditions of approval of the MOP
 - Undertake a critical review of the MOP, including an assessment of its compatibility with the description of operations contained in the planning approval. In particular:

- Review the rehabilitation strategy as outlined in the MOP to determine if it is consistent with the Project Approval in terms of progressive rehabilitation schedule; and proposed final land use(s)
 - Review the rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria as outlined in the MOP to determine if they have been developed in accordance with the proposed final land use(s) as outlined in the Project Approval
 - Review the development and implementation of any rehabilitation monitoring programs to assess performance against the nominated objectives and completion criteria – verified by reviewing monitoring reports and rehabilitation inspection records
 - Determine if a rehabilitation care and maintenance program has been developed and implemented based on the outcomes of monitoring program – verified by reviewing Annual Rehabilitation Programs or similar documentation
 - Confirm that mining operations are being conducted in accordance with the approved MOP (production, mining sequence etc.), including within the designated MOP approval boundary – to be verified by site plans and site inspection
 - Confirm that rehabilitation progress is consistent with the approved MOP as verified by site plans and a site inspection. This should include an evaluation against rehabilitation targets and whether the final landform is being developed in accordance with conceptual final landform in the Project Approval
 - Based on a visual inspection, determine if there are any rehabilitation areas that appear to have failed or that have incurred an issue that may result in a delay in achieving the successful rehabilitation outcomes
 - Note observations where rehabilitation procedures, practices and outcomes represent best industry practice, and a copy of the audit be sent upon completion.
- DPI Water responded and communicated that there was nothing specific that they required addressing in the audit.
 - Bland Shire Council responded that there were no major specific concerns held by Council in relation to the mine. The Council stated that they are aware that Evolution Mining has a good track record when it comes to environmental management of this particular site and Council would urge the continuance of this vigilance as well as Evolution’s continuing liaison with the surrounding property owners particularly relating to any noise issues.
 - NSW EPA responded confirming that there are no current concerns or specific audit topics of focus required.
 - The CEMCC Independent Chairperson advised that they have not received any specific items from members for inclusion in the audit.

Consultations are addressed in the relevant sections of the report.

2.3 Audit Process

2.3.1 Process Summary

The independent audit was conducted against each Condition of Approval contained within the DA 14/98, SSD 10367, EPL 11912 and ML 1535 & 1791. The independent audit process included:

- Off-site planning for the site audit;
- Collection of relevant background documentation;
- An opening meeting;

- Collecting audit evidence through information gathering, observations and interviews;
- Site inspections;
- A close out meeting;
- Evaluating audit documentation and rating compliance of each condition requirement as per the below classification; and
- Compiling this audit report.

2.3.2 Opening Meeting

The opening meeting was held at the Cowal Gold mine site offices on 11 April 2022. The opening meeting was attended by auditors Dr. Toivo Zoete and Mr. Mark Gethings, and Evolution Mining personnel Mr. Simon Coates, Ms. Grace Derrick, Ms. Tammy Rawson, Mr. Taavi Huni, and Mr. Shaune Finn. Evolution Mining personnel functions are described in Section 2.3.6.

2.3.3 Audit Evidence and Site Inspection

Interviews and discussions were held in accordance with an agreed audit schedule. Site inspections were undertaken by Mr. Toivo Zoete and Mr. Mark Gethings on 11, 12 and 13 April 2022 and included observations of internal and external areas of the site (Table 2-1).

Table 2-1: Site Inspection

Elements of the Site Inspected	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water storage and stormwater dams, internal tracks, ROM Pad, stockpiles and storages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Up-catchment diversion system – stilling basin and outfall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Perimeter waste rock emplacement, lake protection bund, and temporary isolation bund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Weather station area, explosives storage (from a distance)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rehabilitation areas, including trial areas on northern waste rock emplacement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Machinery workshops, washdown and refuelling areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Site perimeter and flora protection areas located within site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The active mining pit (viewed from top of southern waste rock emplacement)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A walkthrough of the processing plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Emergency response building and equipment and fauna care facilities

Access was not granted to the pit and to the Integrated Waste Landform (IWL) for safety reasons. However, for the current stage of the development, there were no particular items that required inspection within the pit or IWL, and thus lack of access to these has not affected the outcomes of the audit.

Ms. Grace Derrick, Mr Simon Coates, and Ms Tammy Rawson provided assistance with collecting audit evidence by providing ERM with appropriate documentation for each approval condition before the audit, over the course of the three-day visit, and in the weeks following the completion of the audit.

2.3.4 Closing Meeting

The closing meeting was conducted on 13 April, 2022 and included a discussion of preliminary audit findings. Dr. Toivo Zoete and Mr. Mark Gethings of ERM and Ms. Grace Derrick, Mr. Simon Coates, Mr Shaune Finn of Evolution Mining attended.

2.3.5 Audit Report

A summary of all non-compliances and IEA recommendations arising as a result of the IEAs, are included in Section 4.3 of this report. Detailed compliance tables are presented in Appendix C. ERM note the audit report is based on objective evidence.

Evolution Mining is required to submit a copy of this independent audit report to the DP&E, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the independent audit report. As per the letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining dated 28 March 2022, Evolution Mining is to submit a copy of the audit report to the Secretary within three months of commencing the audit.

2.3.6 Site Personnel Interviewed

Access was granted to all personnel requested for interview. The following Evolution Mining personnel were interviewed during the course of the audit:

- Mr. Simon Coates (Environment Superintendent);
- Ms. Grace Derrick (Environmental Advisor);
- Ms. Tammy Rawson (Senior Environmental Advisor);
- Mr Shaune Finn (Sustainability Manager);
- Mr Taavi Huni (Environmental Officer);
- Mr Dino Bertolini (Metallurgy Superintendent);
- Mr. Nigel Johnston (Leading Hand – Mining Maintenance); and
- Mr. Nathan Wheeldon (Emergency Response Coordinator).

2.3.7 Meaning of Compliance Status Descriptors

2.3.7.1 Compliance Classification

Findings resulting from an assessment of audit evidence were classified as follows, in accordance with the “Independent Audit – Post Approval Requirements” (NSW DPIE 2020):

- Compliant (C): The auditor has collected sufficient verifiable evidence to demonstrate that all elements of the requirement have been complied with within the scope of the audit.
- Non-compliance (NC): The auditor has determined that one or more specific elements of the conditions or requirements have not been complied with within the scope of the audit.
- Not Triggered (NT) – A requirement has an activation or timing trigger that has not been met during the temporal scope of the audit being undertaken (may be a retrospective or future requirement), therefore an assessment of compliance is not relevant.
- Note: A statement of fact, where no assessment of compliance is required.

3. SITE DESCRIPTION

3.1 Site Context

The subject property is located approximately 38 kilometres north-east of West Wyalong and 350 kilometres west of Sydney in New South Wales (NSW), Australia. The land immediately adjacent to and surrounding the Cowal Gold Operation consists of Lake Cowal and farming land. Evolution Mining has purchased a number of properties surrounding the mining lease to help reduce the number of private residences that could be potentially impacted by the mining activities.

3.2 Operations

3.2.1 Current Operations

The Cowal Gold Operation is an open pit mining operation with production from a number of different faces within the single pit, which will have a depth of approximately 453m by July 2022 and an approved extent of 131 ha. Mining is carried out with a company-owned fleet of mining equipment. Ore is hauled by truck from the pit face to either a stockpile area or directly fed into the onsite primary crusher and processed through the processing plant. The site includes three waste rock emplacements and a number of other ancillary aspects including workshops, offices, laydown areas, as well as soil and ore stockpiles. Two tailings storage facilities are currently being incorporated into a single large Integrated Waste Landform (IWL).

Under DA 14/98 Mod 16 and SSD 10367, Evolution Mining received approval in 2021 to develop an underground mining operations and related works, including a paste fill plant, box cut, offices and workshops.

At the time of the audit (11-13 April 2022), the only construction activities associated with the underground mine were associated with the decline portal and early civil works associated with the past plant construction and offices. No other construction had commenced.

3.2.2 Future Operations

The key future operations activity is the construction and operation of the proposed underground mine. It is intended that the open cut operation would cease within the 2025-2026 timeframe, once the underground mine is operational. Future activities to operationalise the underground mine include construction of:

- Completion of Galway and Warraga declines;
- Lateral and vertical underground development (load and haul activities, ventilation, services, second egress);
- Paste plant;
- Mining Infrastructure Area (MIA) upgrades; and
- Various rearrangements of existing operational facilities (including continued construction of the IWL).

It is intended that, subject to approval of key management plans, construction of the above elements would commence before the end of the current Mining Operations Plan term (July 2022).

4. AUDIT FINDINGS

4.1 Summary of Compliance

The scope of this audit includes assessing compliance against DA 14/98 Mod 16, SSD 10367, EPL 11912, and ML 1535 & 1791. Detailed Compliance Tables for each of these are provided in Appendix C. Table 4-1 provides a summary of the findings. This table excludes “Note” findings on statements or facts in the consents, where no assessment of compliance is required.

Table 4-1: Summary of Compliance

Consent or Licence	Compliance (C)	Non-Compliant (NC)	Not Triggered (NT)
DA 14/98 Mod 16	71 (68.3%)	7 (6.7%)	26 (25.0%)
SSD 10367	32 (55.2%)	2 (3.4%)	24 (41.4%)
EPL 11912	48 (85.6%)	1 (1.8%)	7 (12.5%)
ML 1535	34 (81.0%)	0	8 (19.0%)
ML 1791	8 (100%)	0	0

4.2 Notices, Orders, Penalty Notices or Prosecutions

No notices, orders, penalty notices, or prosecutions associated with the consents and licences audited have been issued to Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd during the audit period according to interviews with the Environment Superintendent and Environmental Advisor.

4.3 Non-Compliance Details

Non-Compliances identified over the audit period are listed in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2: Non-Compliances

Condition Reference Number	Condition	Details of Non-Compliance	Recommended Actions												
DA 14/98 Condition 1.2d	<p>Unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must comply with the operating hours in Table 1.1.</p> <p><i>Table 1.1: Operating hours</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress</td> <td>7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supplementary IWL activities</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)</td> <td>7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lake Cowal Road realignment construction</td> <td>No activities on Sundays or public holidays</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All other activities</td> <td>24 hours a day, 7 days a week</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Hours	Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress	7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week	Supplementary IWL activities		Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)	7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday	Lake Cowal Road realignment construction	No activities on Sundays or public holidays	All other activities	24 hours a day, 7 days a week	<p>Evolution Mining notified DPIE on 15 October 2021 of a Non-Compliance due to an incursion from the Northern Waste Rock Emplacement Site soil stockpiles (a 24/7 operation) into the IWL area out of IWL operating hours (7am – 6pm, 7 days a week). Due to delays caused by wet weather and other causes, approval was sought to extend the IWL operating hours to 24/7, DPIE approval of which was received 7 February 2022.</p> <p>The auditor was informed that works on the site are primarily undertaken internally by Evolution Mining, resulting in full control of operating hours.</p>	-
Activity	Hours														
Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress	7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week														
Supplementary IWL activities															
Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)	7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday														
Lake Cowal Road realignment construction	No activities on Sundays or public holidays														
All other activities	24 hours a day, 7 days a week														
DA 14/98 Condition 2.4c	<p>Rehabilitation Management Plan</p> <p>The Applicant must prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the development under the Mining Act 1992. The plan must:</p>	<p>Most of the requirements in this condition are addressed in both the Rehabilitation Management Plan (Sept 2017) and the Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022), except for:</p>	<p>Update the Rehabilitation Management Plan to address all of the requirements in this condition.</p>												

Condition Reference Number	Condition	Details of Non-Compliance	Recommended Actions
	<p>(i) describe how the rehabilitation of the site would be integrated with the biodiversity offset strategy for the development;</p> <p>(ii) include geotechnical analysis and review of ongoing open pit development, the management of the integrated waste and continued monitoring of the lake protection bund;</p> <p>(iii) include detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the rehabilitation of the site, and triggering remedial action (if necessary);</p> <p>(iv) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent, and address all aspects of rehabilitation including mine closure, final landform (including final voids) and final land use;</p> <p>(v) include a program to monitor, and report on the effectiveness of the measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria; and</p> <p>(vi) build to the maximum extent practicable on the other management plans required under this consent.</p> <p>Note: The Rehabilitation Management Plan may be combined with a Mining Operations Plan, or similar plan, required under the mining lease granted for the development.</p>	<p>(ii) include geotechnical analysis and review of ongoing open pit development, the management of the integrated waste and continued monitoring of the lake protection bund;</p> <p>No such analyses and descriptions are provided in either plan.</p>	
<p>DA 14/98 Condition 3.1a</p>	<p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) prepare and implement a Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with Bland District Historical Society, BSC, and Lake Cowal landholders/residents and address non-indigenous cultural heritage issues associated with the development;</p> <p>(ii) prepare and implement an Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with Heritage NSW, the Local Aboriginal Land</p>	<p>As per the previous IEA, both the Heritage Management Plan (2003) and the Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan (2003) are based on out-of-date conditions. It also needs to be updated with respect to the mine owner's name and departmental names.</p>	<p>Heritage Management Plan and Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan to be updated to align with current conditions and name changes.</p>

Condition Reference Number	Condition	Details of Non-Compliance	Recommended Actions										
	<p>Council, a consultant archaeologist, any other stakeholders identified by Heritage NSW; include a Chance Finds Protocol and identify future salvage, excavation and monitoring of any archaeological sites within the site prior to and during development, and to address Aboriginal cultural heritage issues; and</p> <p>(iii) retain a Cultural Heritage Officer approved by the West Wyalong Local Aboriginal Land Council who is to be available on site during construction earthworks.</p>												
<p>DA 14/98 Condition 3.4a</p>	<p>The Applicant shall implement the biodiversity offset strategy summarised in Table 2, shown conceptually in Appendix 3, and described in detail in the EIS to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p> <p><i>Table 2: Northern and Southern Offsets</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Minimum Size</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)</td> <td>80 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)</td> <td>260 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)</td> <td>100 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>440 ha</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	Minimum Size	Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	80 ha	Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)	260 ha	Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)	100 ha	Total	440 ha	<p>The Biodiversity Offset Strategy is contained within the Biodiversity Management Plan. The area requirements outlined in Table 1 of this plan for each of the three offset areas are at variance with the equivalent area requirements of the current condition, although the total area required for offsets is identical (440ha).</p> <p>The mine owner's name and departmental names will also need to be updated.</p>	<p>The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan to be updated to reflect current offset area requirements, owner's name, and departmental names.</p>
Area	Minimum Size												
Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	80 ha												
Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)	260 ha												
Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)	100 ha												
Total	440 ha												
<p>DA 14/98 Condition 4.4a SSD Condition B9a</p>	<p>The Applicant must prepare a Water Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>a. be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;</p>	<p>Table 1 in the Water Management Plan provides information on compliance of this Plan with this Condition. No information is provided neither in this table nor elsewhere whether this Plan.</p>	<p>Future versions of the Plan to document qualifications and endorsement.</p>										

Condition Reference Number	Condition	Details of Non-Compliance	Recommended Actions										
		<p>was prepared in the manner as per this requirement.</p> <p>This Plan was conditionally approved by the DPIE in correspondence to Evolution Mining 15 April 2022.</p>											
DA 14/98 Condition 5.3a	The Applicant shall ensure that cyanide levels of the aqueous component of the tailings slurry stream do not exceed: 20mg CNWAD/L (90 percentile over six months), and 30mg CNWAD/L (maximum permissible limit at any time), at the process plant.	<p>CNWAD/L levels exceeded the 20mg level on two occasions, including 13 February 2020 (notification C02325-2020) and 7 July 2021 (notification REF-NO-3899). Close-out schedules as documented in the Incident Investigation reports were completed prior to the audit.</p> <p>While the 2021 Annual Review and published Environmental Monitoring document report on the 2021 incident, no mention is made of the 2020 incident in the same 2020 documents.</p>	Ensure all non-compliances are documented in Annual Reviews										
L2.4	<p>Water and/or Land Concentration Limits</p> <p>POINT 48</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Unit of measure</th> <th>50 percentile concentration limit</th> <th>90 percentile concentration limit</th> <th>3DGM concentration limit</th> <th>100 percentile concentration limit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)</td> <td>milligrams per litre</td> <td></td> <td>20</td> <td></td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Pollutant	Unit of measure	50 percentile concentration limit	90 percentile concentration limit	3DGM concentration limit	100 percentile concentration limit	Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre		20
Pollutant	Unit of measure	50 percentile concentration limit	90 percentile concentration limit	3DGM concentration limit	100 percentile concentration limit								
Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre		20		30								
DA 14/98 Condition 9.1c	<p>Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs</p> <p>Within 3 months of:</p> <p>(i) the submission of an annual review under condition 9.1(b) above;</p> <p>(ii) the submission of a non-compliance or incident notification under condition 9.3(a) or 9.3(b) below;</p> <p>(iii) the submission of an audit under condition 9.2 (a) below;</p> <p>(iv) the approval of any modification to the conditions of this consent; or</p> <p>(v) a direction of the Planning Secretary under condition 1.1(b) of this consent;</p>	<p>No specific register is currently maintained by Evolution Mining to support the review timeframe as specified in this requirement.</p> <p>However, the Environment Superintendent advised the auditor that the mine site has moved from the</p>	Register to be created to track, plan reviews.										

Condition Reference Number	Condition	Details of Non-Compliance	Recommended Actions
	<p>the suitability of existing strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be reviewed by the Applicant.</p> <p>If necessary, to either improve the environmental performance of the development or cater for a modification or comply with a direction, the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be revised, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Where revisions are required, the revised document must be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review.</p> <p>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</p>	<p>InForm system, which enables notification to individuals (in isolation) about tasks to be completed with respect to the obligations register, to the InControl system, which provides notification to management resulting in greater oversight, thereby assisting in ensuring that tasks are completed on time.</p>	
<p>SSD Condition B21</p>	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <p>(e) monitor and report on the effectiveness of the waste minimisation and management measures in the Annual Review referred to in condition C9.</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the 2021 Annual Review: No report on the effectiveness of the waste minimisation and management measures could be found.</p>	<p>Future Annual Review should report on waste minimisation measures</p>

4.4 Previous Audit Action Plan

The previous EIA was undertaken by Mr. Oliver Moore and Ms. Wei-Lin Chen Yi Mei of Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd. The findings of that EIA included nine Non-Compliances (including Non-Compliances and Administrative Non-Compliances). The details of the findings and responses as outlined in the letter from Evolution Mining to the DP&E, dated 3 July 2019 are provided in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3 Previous IEA Findings: Summary of Actions against Non-Compliance and Administrative Non-Compliance

Approval Instrument/Condition	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Evolution Response	Timeframe	2022 Compliance status
Action Plan for IEA Recommendations – Development Consent (DA 14/98)					
Condition 1.3	NC	CGO to secure building certificate for stores warehouse.	Evolution is currently in consultation with Bland Shire Council in relation to obtaining a building certificate for the store warehouse structure. This action is currently ongoing.	December 2019, subject to Bland Shire Council approval timeframes.	C
Condition 3.4(d)	ANC	CGO to continue to proactively engage with DP&E to confirm Biodiversity Offset and Conservation Bond, as the date for securing the bond has passed this is an ANC. As at the 2019 audit, CGO were still awaiting response from DP&E in advance of next steps.	Evolution notes that as per the extension granted by the DP&E on 5 July 2017, the biodiversity offset areas were required to be secured and the conservation bond lodged by 31 October 2017. In this regard, it is noted that the VPA has been submitted and is currently with the DP&E for execution. Evolution is awaiting further correspondence from DE&E in this regard.	Awaiting DPE response on VPA.	C

Approval Instrument/Condition	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Evolution Response	Timeframe	2022 Compliance status
Condition 5.5	NC	Ensure batteries are stored in a designated bunded area until the new waste battery storage area has been established and deemed appropriate for storage. The auditor acknowledges that at the time of the audit, the new battery waste storage area was in the process of being constructed.	Evolution has commissioned a new waste battery storage area and deemed it appropriate for use. The area is now fully functional with all relevant employees and contractors aware of the storage process going forward.	Complete	C
Condition 6.5 (b)	NC	Review placement of lighting and reaffirm requirements with night shift supervisors.	<p>Evolution has taken measures to ensure that all employees and contractors responsible for the lighting plant are aware of their obligations under the Development Consent (DA 14/98).</p> <p>As part of the process in moving and setting lighting plants on site, operators are required to assess the light direction of the plant to avoid nuisance to people using the surrounding roads and landowners.</p>	Complete	C

Approval Instrument/Condition	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Evolution Response	Timeframe	2022 Compliance status
Action Plan for IEA Recommendations – Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 11912)					
Condition L4.1	ANC	The EPL prescribes noise monitoring limits which are no longer applicable. The EPL should be updated to reflect MOD14 conditions.	Environment Protection Licence No. 11912 was recently varied to reflect the revised approval conditions in relation to Modification 14. The EPL 11912 was issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority on 27 June 2019.	Complete	C
Condition O2.2	NC	Ensure that contractor induction includes key environmental policies and training which adequately establishes CGO's requirements (i.e. spill management).	All contractors and employees at the CGO are required to undertake a site based induction, as well as completing general environmental awareness training. A gap analysis has been undertaken to ensure that all Pybar and BK Hire contractors that had not yet completed the general environmental awareness training at the time of the audit have been schedules to complete this training.	Complete	C

Approval Instrument/Condition	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Evolution Response	Timeframe	2022 Compliance status
Condition O2.2	NC	Ensure batteries are stored in a designated bunded area until the new waste battery storage area has been established and deemed appropriate for storage. Appropriately sized containment should be provided for ICBs. The auditor acknowledges that at the time of the audit, the new battery waste storage area was in the process of being constructed.	Battery storage is as per previous comments for DA 14/98 Condition 5.5 above. Appropriate IBC storage has been established in the form of a concrete apron. All IBCs are now stored on apron to avoid any incidental spillage to ground.	Complete	C
Action Plan for IEA Recommendation – Management Plans					
DA 14/98 Condition 3.1 (a)	ANC	A detailed review and update of the HMP should be conducted to ensure the document aligns with current approval requirements.	As a result of the approval of Modification 14, the HMP has been revised. This plan is currently updated based on feedback from the Department and will be submitted along with the other environmental management plans.	Complete	NC
EPL 11912 Condition L3.1	ANC	The HWCMP has not been updated to reflect this commitment. Given the draft HMMP is scheduled to replace the HWCMP, it should also be updated to reflect this commitment.	Evolution recognises that waste management on site must comply with the conditions of EPL 11912. Notwithstanding, Evolution considers that this is not relevant to this audit	-	C

Approval Instrument/Condition	IEA Finding	IEA Recommendation	Evolution Response	Timeframe	2022 Compliance status
			report, as this is draft document that was not yet finalised at the time of the audit.		
EPL 11912 Condition L3.2	ANC	As per L3.1, the draft HMMP should be updated to address waste management requirements stipulated within the EPL.	This is not relevant to this audit report, as this is a draft document that was not yet finalised at the time of the audit.	-	C

4.5 Environmental Management Plans

The auditor has undertaken a review of Evolution Mining's management plans for the Cowal Gold mine, and inspected on site, where possible, the implementation of these management plans.

In particular the auditor has reviewed the below management plans:

- Air Quality Management Plan
- Biodiversity Offset Management Plan
- Blast Management Plan
- Compensatory Wetland Management Plan
- Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan
- Cyanide Management Plan
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
- Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan
- Flora and Fauna Management Plan
- Hazardous Materials Management Plan
- Heritage Management Plan
- Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan
- Land Management Plan and Addendum
- Mine Operations Plan
- Noise Management Plan
- Rehabilitation Management Plan
- Transport Management Plan
- Water Management Plan

Overall, Evolution Mining is generally achieving compliance against these plans and is implementing the outlined control measures.

Evolution Mining has submitted a number of management plans for consultation and review to relevant authorities, with a number pending approval from the DP&E. The resubmission of management plans was conducted to align with the introduction of DA 14/94 Modification 16 and SSD 10367. Until such time as these are approved, mine activities are in accordance with the currently approved plans.

Details of all non-compliances, administrative non-compliances, observations and ERM recommendations arising as a result of the review of the management plans, are included in the Compliance Tables in Appendix C.

4.6 Environmental Performance

4.6.1 Rehabilitation

4.6.1.1 Performance

According to the Annual Reviews, the total area of disturbance increased from 1,360ha in 2019 to 1668ha in 2020, remaining at 1668ha in 2021. Of this, 153ha is reported to be under preparation or

under active rehabilitation for each of these years. Additional tables provided in the Annual Reviews add detail to the status of each domain within the mine site. However, it is unclear how the numbers in these tables add up to the number stated in the introductory text of the Rehabilitation sections of the Annual Reviews.

According to advice from the Environment Adviser, there have been some inconsistencies in the way rehabilitation has been classified, mapped and reported historically. For example, some reports have included the Upper-catchment Diversion System in this figure, whereas it has been excluded from others. In recent years, a large area of rehabilitation has been lost to construction of the IWL, which incorporates the previously rehabilitated bases of the Northern and Southern Tailings Storage Facilities. The realignment of the Upper-catchment Diversion System has also removed an area from the rehabilitation total.

In Summary, Evolution Mining is preparing the spatial data submission under the Rehabilitation Reforms, which will include updated areas of rehabilitation, broken up into progress categories. This will be used as the source for annual reporting going forward. According to the Environment Adviser, as of May 2022, the areas under rehabilitation are as shown in Table 4-4.

Table 4-4: Rehabilitation areas

Category	Area (ha)
Landform establishment	11.9
Ecosystem and land use establishment	146.9
Ecosystem and land use development	21.2
Total land under rehabilitation	180.0

According to the Mining Operations Plan, there will be no new rehabilitation works being carried out during the Mining Operations Plan term (ending July 2022), as no new areas will be opening up for rehabilitation.

No rehabilitation is yet completed and certified at the site. Areas currently under rehabilitation on the mining leases include:

- Temporary Isolation Bund (shaped, topsoiled and revegetated with native and exotic grass species including scattered aquatic species such as Lignum [*Duma florulenta*], Rush [*Eleocharis* sp.] and River Red Gum [*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*]) (Figure 4-1);
- Lake Protection Bund (shaped and lower batter rock armoured, topsoiled and revegetated with native and exotic grass species including scattered aquatic species such as Lignum, Rush sp. and River Red Gum);
- Up-Catchment Diversion System (rehabilitated and under maintenance – re-disturbed though Modification 14 re-alignment);
- Perimeter Waste Rock Emplacement – lower and majority of upper outer batter slopes (shaped, rock armoured and topsoiled [with gypsum] with revegetation including native and exotic grass species establishing across majority of rehabilitation areas) (Figure 4-2);
- Southern Waste Rock Emplacement – lower, mid and upper outer batter slopes of western, southern and eastern sections (shaped, rock armoured and topsoiled [with gypsum] with revegetation including native and exotic grass species establishing across rehabilitation areas) (Figure 4-3); and

- Northern Waste Rock Emplacement – northern lower, mid and upper outer batter slopes (shaped, rock armoured and topsoiled [with gypsum] with revegetation including native and exotic grass species establishing across north-eastern extent of rehabilitation area and plantings of Eucalypt and Acacia species within the rehabilitation trial areas).

Small sections of the Waste Rock Emplacements have been re-disturbed in recent years. This has been captured in the latest update of spatial data for the Rehab Reforms.

During the site visit significant shaping, forming and rehabilitation works were observed, as well as observation of previously rehabilitated areas demonstrating stable and established revegetation areas generally in accordance with the listing of current rehabilitation areas above (with the exception of the Bland Creek Palaeochannel, which was not inspected during the site visit).



Figure 4-1: Lake Cowal frontage with Lignum and She-oak rehabilitation



Figure 4-2: Perimeter Waste Rock Emplacement rehabilitation



Figure 4-3: Southern Waste Rock Emplacement rehabilitation with trial areas

4.6.1.2 Comparison with EIS Predictions

The Post Mining Land Use is described in Section 4.2 of the EIS for Modification 16:

“As described in the CGO’s Flora and Fauna Management Plan (FFMP) and consistent with the CGO’s rehabilitation objectives, rehabilitation of ML 1535 disturbance areas will aim to enhance and expand wildlife habitat values within ML 1535 and around Lake Cowal. CGO also recognises that the former land use within ML 1535 included grazing of cleared and semi-cleared areas of predominantly native pastures by livestock. Therefore it is proposed that at lease relinquishment, land use within ML 1535 would include fenced rehabilitation areas with grazing excluded and areas suitable for agricultural production including commercial and recreational fishing of lake areas or managed grazing by livestock (refer to Figure 4.1).

Evolution-owned land outside ML 1535 (with the exception of the Compensatory Wetland and Northern and Southern Offset Areas) would continue to be used for farming/agricultural production by Evolution and/or licensees that sign agreements to conduct agricultural activities on Evolution-owned land”

Thus, ML 1535 would have a mixture of vegetative covers, but including areas of woody vegetation, in accordance land cover prior to mining, and to provide wildlife habitat values. While occasional shrubs and trees were observed during the site inspection, most vegetation rehabilitated areas consisted of grass or herblands.

The auditor observed an area containing rehabilitation trials, with a number of treatments resulting in enhanced outcomes in terms of the rehabilitation objectives, indicating potential for improvement (e.g. Figure 4-4). Treatments included application of topsoil of varying depth, varied planting methods (for example, seeding, tubestock, seeding in established grassland versus on fresh topsoil, application of soil ameliorants).

According to the 2021 Annual Review, the trials indicate that the application of seed directly onto freshly prepared rehabilitation areas that have a rocky soil surface resulted in higher seedling establishment. The results also indicate that successful seedling establishment can also be obtained in areas where exotic grasslands have already become established, however deep ripping prior to seeding is likely to be critical. Improved seedling establishment occurred where dead leaf litter and rocks provided more stable surfaces and germination microsites. Although the rocky sites produced higher seedling densities, all seeding trial sites contained a density and diversity of shrub species which was comparable to the local woodlands on the hills and ridges, however eucalypt establishment was poor.

Future rehabilitation on the waste rock emplacements should aim to replicate the community diversity and composition of the woodlands occurring on hills using a more refined seed mix. Completion targets are not likely to be met due to poor eucalypt establishment and regeneration of the surviving shrub seedlings will be critical in the longer-term. According to the Environmental Advisor accompanying the audit team during the site inspection, Evolution Mining intends to increase the content of woody vegetation in these areas by seeding and/or planting of woody species in the near future, while rehabilitation methods would be modified to effect a greater shrub and tree content in future rehabilitation land.

During the site visit, no rehabilitation was observed on ML 1791. This area is currently only used to stockpile topsoil and subsoil for later use in rehabilitation. Areas surrounding the stockpiles were well vegetated by the grasslands established prior to the uptake of ML 1791 by Evolution Mining.



Figure 4-4: Northern Waste Rock Emplacement trial area (est. 2012)

4.6.2 Water

The Cowal Gold Operation site consists primarily of a closed catchment that is designed to not result in any releases from the site. This is achieved through the lake protection bund and the site perimeter bund that prevents external water from entering site and ensuring all runoff from within the site is captured in the internal drainage catchment system. An inspection of the site demonstrated that these controls were in place and functioning. According to the 2019-2021 Annual Reviews, all surface water monitoring of these controls were undertaken in accordance with the conditions and found to be within relevant criteria, without reportable incidents.

Evolution Mining also undertakes a regime of groundwater monitoring. All groundwater monitoring results were found to be within relevant criteria, and no reportable incidents occurred.

There were no cyanide detections in the groundwater monitoring network from 2013 to 2018. During the 2019 reporting period, total cyanide was detected above the default guideline value of 0.007 mg/L on 15 October 2019 at two bores east of the Integrated Waste Landform. These bores were resampled on 25 October 2019 and results were below the laboratory detection limit. No cyanide was detected in groundwater sampling in the subsequent years of the audit period.

4.6.3 Air

4.6.3.1 Performance

The CGO operates a network of deposited dust gauges and a High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS). The HVAS samples Total Suspended Particles (TSP) from which PM10 is calculated.

While there were several dust deposition exceedances during the audit period. None of these were considered to be related to mine activity. Most were related to regional dust storms arising from drought conditions over 2019, early 2020, and on 15 December 2021, and extensive bushfire smoke in the region over January 2020. Two additional exceedances not recorded during dust storms were deduced to be from activities other than mining activities on the basis that predominant winds were from directions other than the mine site during the time of deposition (Zephyr Environmental 2022). Therefore, no exceedances are ascribed to the mine site and mine activities over the audit period.

Otherwise, site observations included progressive stabilisation, active road sealant application, as well sealed main access roads, limiting disturbance where practicable with current stage of works and water cart wetting down of haul roads.

4.6.3.2 Comparison with EIS Predictions

Pacific Environment Limited's (2013) modelling predicted the Coniston residence (i.e. the location of the HVAS [hv1]) as the receiver with the highest predictions for 24-hour average PM10, annual average PM10, TSP and depositional dust. Table 4-5 summarises the 2019-2022 monitoring results (sourced from Annual Reviews and published Environmental Monitoring) for 24-hour average PM10, annual average PM10, TSP and depositional dust and the predicted results at Coniston in comparison with the relevant Development Consent air quality impact assessment criteria for 24 hour and annual average PM10, TSP and depositional dust.

Table 4-5: Summary of Predicted PM10, TSP and Dust Deposition at HV1

Emission parameter	2019	2020	2021	2022 (21 Jan data only)	Predicted result at Coniston1	Development consent air quality criteria
Maximum 24-Hour Average PM10	53.2 µg/m ³	44.8 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³		28.8 µg/m ³	50 µg/m ³
Annual Average PM10	22 µg/m ³	14.5 µg/m ³	12.5 µg/m ³		3.7 µg/m ³	25 µg/m ³
TSP	64 µg/m ³	44.0 µg/m ³	31.3 µg/m ³	57.4 µg/m ³	3.9 µg/m ³	90 µg/m ³
Depositional Dust	5.6 g/m ² /month	1.9 g/m ² /month	1.3 g/m ² /month		0.16 g/m ² /month	4 g/m ² /month

4.6.4 Blast

4.6.4.1 Performance

During the audit period real time blast monitoring was undertaken and recorded for each of the site's blast events.

Examination of the Annual Reviews and Published Environmental Monitoring Data by the auditor indicates that there were a number of airblast overpressure exceedances over the audit period. Most of these were related to localised environmental factors, such as wind, with few related to the blasting. These were within the allowable exceedances specified within Table 6 of the DA14/98 Mod 16 Consent.

There were two complaints related to blasting, including 2 September 2019 and 28 November 2019. In both instances, an investigation by the Evolution Mining Senior Advisor – Social Responsibility

found that the over pressure and vibration were well under the compliance limits and there were no exceedances. There have been no claims that buildings and/or structures were damaged.

The Blast Management Plan provides for a range of management measures to minimise the impacts of blasting (e.g. Table 5 in this Plan). No exceedances (within the allowable limits) were recorded during the audit period (to Jan 2022) providing evidence that the management measures are implemented.

4.6.4.2 Comparison with EIS Predictions

According to the 2019-2021 Environmental Reviews, blasting monitoring results during the audit period are consistent with the predictions detailed in the EIS for Modification 16:

- No exceedance of the air blast overpressure level of 120 dB(L) or ground vibration level of 10 mm/s at any residence on privately-owned land at any time.
- Not more than 5% of the total number of blasts at any residence on privately-owned land exceeding the air blast overpressure levels or ground vibration levels Monday to Saturday during the day, evening, night or on Sundays and public holidays.
- 100% of ground vibration levels were compliant with licence conditions.
- Blast induced overpressure impacts were compliant within licence conditions.

4.6.5 Noise

4.6.5.1 Performance

Attended noise monitoring is undertaken at quarterly intervals in accordance with the Noise Management Plan and the NSW Noise Policy. Monitoring occurs at the Laurel Park, Bramboyne, Lakeview, Lakeview III, The Glen, Caloola and Foxam Downs II properties surrounding the Cowal Gold mine. The results of this monitoring demonstrated compliance with the noise impact assessment criteria at each of the monitoring locations.

Examination of the noise monitoring reports and the Annual Reviews by the auditor indicate that there have been no exceedances of the criteria listed in Table 8 of the DA14/98 Mod 16 Consent.

4.6.5.2 Comparison with EIS Predictions

Table 4-6 summarises the 2019-2022 maximum monitoring results recorded (sourced from Annual Reviews and published Environmental Monitoring) with relevant Consent Criteria and SLR's (2013) predicted LAeq(15 minute) noise levels during day/evening/night-time at strong inversion (1800-0700 hours) at two properties close to the Cowal Gold mine that were monitored for noise on a quarterly basis over the audit period.

Table 4-6: Summary of Actual and Predicted Intrusive LAeq(15 minute) Noise Levels

Property	2019	2020	2021	Predicted result at property	Development consent noise criteria
Bramboyne	Max 30	Max 32	Max 29	36	35
The Glen	Max 30	Max 25	Max 29	36	37

4.7 Complaints

A review of the Complaints Register for the audit period shows 20 complaints have been received from May 2018 to April 2022. Investigations for each complaint have not showed any exceedances of the Conditions of Approval / EPL conditions limits. The complaints are summarised below:

2019:

- One complaint related to blasting vibrations.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to Contractor calling to house without prior notice.
- One complaint related to a contractor truck hitting a power line.
- One complaint related to noise and lights from operations.
- One complaint related to works being carried out outside a demarcated area.

2020:

- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to an Evolution Mining Employee Speeding in the community.
- One complaint related to noise from operations.
- One complaint related to noise and lights from operations.
- One complaint related to excessive water in and around bore 4 pump station from heavy rains.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.

2021:

- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to noise and lights from operations.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.
- One complaint related to related to community issue regarding contractor vehicle parking.

2022:

- None recorded

A review of the complaints register, describes that the primary topics for complaints in the audit period related to vibration from blasting, noise and lighting, and community/vehicle complaints. Investigations into these complaints have not indicated any breaches of licence limits or Conditions of Approval in the Development Consent.

CGO's complaints register is published on their website and regularly updated with the latest monthly data.

All complaints received are recorded in Evolution Mining's Incident Register, along with all of the mine's recorded incidents.

4.8 Incidents

The mine uses the InControl system to track and monitor Incident Notifications, allowing management to review and manage all incidents and then determine whether external notification is required.

A total of 306 environmental incidents are recorded in the audit period register, primarily the incidents being injury or fatalities to wildlife on site, minor spills of water, fuel and/or slurry, and some exceedances of cyanide levels.

On 7 July 2021, 35ppm of Weak Acid Dissociable (WAD) cyanide in the processing plant at the Tailing's Hopper exceeded the 30ppm license limits.

Timeline of events:

- 6 AM at shift change the WAD cyanide levels on the Cynoprobe started increasing. Operators were made aware of high PH observed following mill start up at 10 pm the previous night and was monitoring closely;
- 6-6:35 am The Cynoprobe was flushed to eliminate potential erroneous readings – Carous acid was being dosed in the tails hopper;
- At 6:35 am a T2 sample was taken (40 min turnaround) Result 35 ppm;
- The mill shut down sequence was engaged while waiting for the result of the T2 – with the milling circuit shut down at 7 am;
- 7 am onwards the tails flow was diluted and a reading at 8:45 returned 12.8 ppm;
- Samples were also collected form the IWL decant solution which returned a value of 3.9 ppm; and
- The mill was down while first investigating the cause and developing an action plan to prevent.

The root cause of this incident was the lime dosing pinch valve tuning parameters were not set up during commissioning to manage a crash stop scenario. Operational response to elevated cyanide levels completed as per CGO Cyanide Management Plan, including shutdown, Caros acid dosing and dilution.

Measures implemented:

- Completed functional description of desired logic conditions for lime dosing valve;
- Added logic conditions for lime dosing valve to switch off under zero flow from thickener and if pH in FTL is > 10;
- Established network infrastructure to enable FTL Centum licence to be utilized; and
- Ensure all installations and processes added to existing plant and structures during the underground construction project have had a formal risk assessment and management of change documentation completed before commissioning can commence.

As per DA 14/98 requirement 5.3 (a) and 5.3 (d), Evolution Mining notified the environment line of the 35ppm of WAD cyanide in the processing plant. The EPA reference number for the incident is Ref: 3899.

No environmental material harm was caused by this incident. However exceedances of conditions from the Development Consent (DA 14/98) and the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 11912) occurred.

4.9 Evidence Collected through Site Inspection and Interviews

Evidence collected through inspection and interviews for each condition is provided in the Compliance Tables in Appendix C. A listing of areas inspected and people interviewed is provided in Sections 2.3.3 and 2.3.6, respectively.

4.10 Opportunities for Improvement

A range of opportunities for improvement are provided by the 2019-2021 Annual Reviews. For example, the 2021 Annual Review reports on key recommendations provided by the Annual Air Quality Monitoring Review – 2021 (Zephyr Environmental 2022) are summarised as follows:

- Retain the continuous PM10 monitoring at the HVAS site to enable comparison of datasets.
- Implement PM2.5 monitoring co-located with the TSP HVAS and continuous PM10, prior to the commencement of UG mining production.
- Rationalise the dust deposition gauge network, reducing it to four gauges at locations DG01, DG09, DG14 and McLintocks Shed.

Other opportunities for improvement are provided by in the Rehabilitation sections of the Annual Reviews. As noted in Section 4.6.1 above, there are findings resulting from the rehabilitation trials that should be applied to both previously rehabilitated and newly rehabilitated surfaces in order to establish a self-sustaining ecosystem corresponding with rehabilitation objectives and the nominated post-mining land use for the site.

With respect to observations made during the present audit, it can be added that the large stockpile of woody debris observed in the south-western corner of the mine site should be spread over the rehabilitated surface to provide further wildlife habitat diversity within these environments. Some of the more solid stems among the debris may also be suitable for insertion vertically into rehabilitated surfaces as stags for birds. Stems with hollows would be particularly desirable for this purpose, as these could potentially be used as roosting trees by birds and/or bats initially, and potentially by other arboreal fauna once a forested habitat develops surrounding these stags.

4.11 Key Strengths

The Cowal Mine site appears to be a well managed site, largely in compliance with the conditions. Non-compliances encountered during the present audit are mainly related to out-of-date use of departmental names and other administrative issues within the active Management Plans for the site. Evidence was sighted that these out-of-date plans are being updated in consultation with agencies and key stakeholders. In this respect, a key strength of the project is its engagement with the local community. The audit consultation response from Bland Shire Council is testament to this, with Council stating that “they aware that Evolution Mining has a good track record when it comes to environmental management of this particular site and Council would urge the continuance of this vigilance as well as Evolution’s continuing liaison with the surrounding property owners particular relating to any noise issues”. While there have been complaints about noise over the audit period, these appear to have been amicably resolved, without repeat complaints.

Another strength will be the recently implemented use of the INX In-Control system. As noted in the previous audit (2019), triggers for updating plans, strategies and programs at that time maintained by individuals through diary entries. The opportunity has been taken through the implementation of the INX In-Control system to maintain a centralised register allowing site management overview to ensure updates are not missed.

APPENDIX A AUDIT TEAM APPROVAL



Mr Simon Coates
Superintendent - Environment and Approvals
Cowal Gold Operations
EVOLUTION MINING (COWAL) PTY LIMITED
Lake Cowal Road
Lake Cowal New South Wales 2671

28/03/2022

Dear Mr Coates

**Cowal Gold – DA 14/98 and SSD 10367
2022 Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) team approval request**

I refer to your request (DA14/98-PA-23) submitted on 14 March 2022 to the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) for the Secretary's approval of suitably qualified persons to undertake the 2022 Independent Environmental Audit (audit) and prepare the audit report for Cowal Gold Mine in accordance with Condition 9. 2 (a) of DA14/98 (as modified) and C11 of State Significant Development (SSD 10367).

The Department has reviewed the nominations and information you have provided and is satisfied that these experts are suitably qualified and experienced. In accordance with Condition 9.2 (a) of DA14/98 and C11 of SSD 10367 and the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements, the Secretary has agreed to the following audit team from Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd (ERM) to undertake the audit and prepare the audit report:

- Mr Tovia Zoete (Lead Auditor/Ecology)
- Mr Mark Gethings (Support Auditor)
- Ms Heather McKay (Project Manager)
- Mr Oliver Moore (Technical Review)
- Mr Mark Lord (Rehabilitation) and
- Ms Sophia Barkla (Back-up support auditor).

Please ensure this correspondence is appended to the audit report. This approval is conditional on the audit team members being independent of the project.

The audit must be prepared, undertaken and finalised in accordance with the conditions of both consents and Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements. Failure to meet these requirements will require revision and resubmission. Audit team may also wish to consider the AS/NZS ISO 19011 Australian/New Zealand Standard: Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing.

The Department reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits.

Notwithstanding the agreement for the above listed audit team for this Project, each respective project approval or consent requires a request for the agreement to the auditor or audit team be



Department of Planning and Environment

submitted to the Department, for consideration of the Secretary. Each request is reviewed and depending on the complexity of future projects, the suitability of a proposed auditor or audit team will be considered.

Within three months of commencing the audit, Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd is to submit a copy of the audit report to the Secretary together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report and a timetable to implement the recommendations. Prior to submitting the audit report to the Secretary, it is recommended that Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd review the report to ensure it complies with the relevant consent conditions.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me on 0429400261 or at compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. O'Reilly", enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Katrina O'Reilly
Team Leader - Compliance
Compliance
As nominee of the Planning Secretary

APPENDIX B DECLARATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

Declaration of Independence - Auditor	
Project Name	Cowal Gold Mine
Consent Number	DA 14/98 and SSD 10367
Description of Project	Cowal Open Cut Mine and Underground Project
Project Address	Cowal Lake Road, West Wyalong, NSW 2671
Proponent	Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited
Date	23 March 2022

I declare that:

- i. I am not related to any proponent, owner, operator or other entity involved in the delivery of the project. Such a relationship includes that of employer/employee, a business partnership, sharing a common employer, a contractual arrangement outside an Independent Audit, or that of a spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child
- ii. I do not have any pecuniary interest in the project, proponent or related entities. Such an interest includes where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain (other than being reimbursed for performing the audit) or loss to the auditor, or their spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- iii. I have not provided services (not including independent reviews or auditing) to the project with the result that the audit work performed by themselves or their company, except as otherwise declared to the Department prior to the audit;
- iv. I am not an Environmental Representative for the project; and
- v. I will not accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit from auditee organisations, their employees or any interested party, or knowingly allow colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent

approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and

b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Proposed Auditor	Toivo Zoete
Signature	
Qualification	PhD
Company	Environmental Resources Management (Australia) Pty Ltd

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

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b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Proposed Auditor **Mark Gethings**

Signature *Mark Gethings*

Qualification **BSc Environmental Management BSc Urban Planning**

Company **Environmental Resources Management**

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

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Consent Number	DA 14/98 and SSD 10367
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Proponent	Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited
Date	23 March 2022

I declare that:

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b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Proposed Auditor	Sophie Barkla
Signature	
Qualification	BSc (Hons)
Company	Environmental Resources Management (Australia) Pty Ltd

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

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Consent Number	DA 14/98 and SSD 10367
Description of Project	Cowal Open Cut Mine and Underground Project
Project Address	Cowal Lake Road, West Wyalong, NSW 2671
Proponent	Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited
Date	23 March 2022

I declare that:

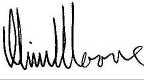
- i. I am not related to any proponent, owner, operator or other entity involved in the delivery of the project. Such a relationship includes that of employer/employee, a business partnership, sharing a common employer, a contractual arrangement outside an Independent Audit, or that of a spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child
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b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Proposed Auditor	Oliver Moore
Signature	
Qualification	BSc MSc
Company	Environmental Resources Management (Australia) Pty Ltd

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Independence Form Template

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Consent Number	DA 14/98 and SSD 10367
Description of Project	Cowal Open Cut Mine and Underground Project
Project Address	Cowal Lake Road, West Wyalong, NSW 2671
Proponent	Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited
Date	24 March 2022

I declare that:


- i. I am not related to any proponent, owner, operator or other entity involved in the delivery of the project. Such a relationship includes that of employer/employee, a business partnership, sharing a common employer, a contractual arrangement outside an Independent Audit, or that of a spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child
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b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Proposed Auditor	Heather McKay
Signature	
Qualification	BEng MSc
Company	Environmental Resources Management (Australia) Pty Ltd

APPENDIX C COMPLIANCE TABLES

1. DA 14/98
 2. SSD 10367
 3. EPL 11912
 4. ML 1535
 5. ML 1791
-

Document details	
Document title	Table C1 – DA1498
Document subtitle	Consolidated Consent
Project No.	061147
Date	26 May 2022
Version	1.0
Author	Toivo Zoete
Client Name	Evolution Mining - Cowal Gold

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
1. General					
1.1 Adherence to terms of DA, EIS, etc.					
a.	The Applicant must carry out the development: (i) generally in accordance with the EIS; and (ii) in accordance with the conditions of this consent; and (iii) in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary made under condition 1.1(b); Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 2	Note	Refer to detailed findings of this audit.	Note	
b.	Consistent with the requirements in this consent, the Planning Secretary may make written directions to the Applicant in relation to: (i) the content of any strategy, study, system, plan, program, review, audit, notification, report or correspondence submitted under or otherwise made in relation to this consent, including those that are required to be, and have been, approved by the Planning Secretary; and (ii) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in any such document referred to in paragraph (a).	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.	No written directions received.	NT	
c.	The conditions of this consent and directions of the Planning Secretary prevail to the extent of any inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between them and the document/s listed in condition (a)(i). In the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between any of the document/s listed in condition (a)(i), the most recent document prevails to the extent of the inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict.	Note	Note	Note	
1.2 Limits on Consent					
a.	The Applicant may only carry out mining operations until 31 December 2040. <i>Note: Under this consent, the Applicant is required to rehabilitate the site and perform additional undertakings to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary and Resources Regulator. Consequently, this consent will continue to apply in all other respects other than the right to conduct mining operations until the rehabilitation of the site and these additional undertakings have been carried out satisfactorily.</i>	Note	Note	Note	
b.	The Applicant must not: (i) process more than 9.8 million tonnes of ore on site in a calendar year; and (ii) crush more than 150,000 tonnes of waste rock for use as gravel road base in a calendar year.	Evolution Mining Metallurgic Reconciliation Data. 2021 Annual Review (Table 3), containing production summary data 2018-2021, including gravel road base crushed.	Mill throughput was 8.36 Mtpa (2019), 8.31 Mtpa (2020), and 8.72 Mtpa (2021). Mill throughput for January-March 2022 (latest data) was 1.99 Mtpa. Gravel road base crushed reported in the Annual Reviews was 102,470 t (2020) and 43,717 t (2021). No gravel road base was produced in 2019.	C	
c.	The Applicant shall comply with the following maximum heights: (i) Northern Rock Emplacement - 308 m AHD; (ii) Southern Rock Emplacement - 283 m AHD; (iii) Southern Tailings Storage Facility – 248.4 m AHD; (iv) Northern Tailings Storage Facility – 240.5 m AHD; (v) Perimeter Rock Emplacement - 233 m AHD; (vi) Mineralised Material Stockpile - 320 m AHD; and	Correspondence from Simon Eyles, Senior Surveyor at Evolution Mining confirming heights	Current heights of the various landforms are as below, in compliance with the requirements of this condition: Northern Rock Emplacement - 308 m AHD Southern Rock Emplacement - 273m AHD Southern Tailings Storage Facility – 243m AHD Northern Tailings Storage Facility – 240.5 m AHD Perimeter Rock Emplacement - 223m AHD	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations												
	(vii) Integrated Waste Landform - 246 m AHD.		Mineralised Material Stockpile - 288m AHD Integrated Waste Landform - 239m AHD														
d.	<p>Unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must comply with the operating hours in Table 1.1.</p> <p><i>Table 1.1: Operating hours</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress</td> <td>7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supplementary IWL activities</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)</td> <td>7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lake Cowal Road realignment construction</td> <td>No activities on Sundays or public holidays</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All other activities</td> <td>24 hours a day, 7 days a week</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Hours	Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress	7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week	Supplementary IWL activities		Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)	7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday	Lake Cowal Road realignment construction	No activities on Sundays or public holidays	All other activities	24 hours a day, 7 days a week	<p>Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.</p> <p>Correspondence sent by Evolution Mining to DPIE 15 October 2021.</p> <p>Correspondence received from DPIE dated 7 February 2022, approving work to be undertaken at IWL 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week.</p>	<p>Evolution Mining notified DPIE on 15 October 2021 of a Non-Compliance due to an incursion from the Northern Waste Rock Emplacement Site soil stockpiles (a 24/7 operation) into the IWL area out of IWL operating hours (7am – 6pm, 7 days a week). Due to delays caused by wet weather and other causes, approval was sought to extend the IWL operating hours to 24/7 on a permanent basis, DPIE approval of which was received on 7 February 2022.</p> <p>The auditor was informed that works on the site are primarily undertaken internally by Evolution Mining, resulting in full control of operating hours.</p> <p>Both the Lake Cowal Road re-alignment and the Lake Cowal water supply pipeline were completed early 2020. No complaints were received in relation to these operating hours for these works.</p>	NC	Historic NC. No further action required.
Activity	Hours																
Construction of Tailings Storage Facility lifts or rock buttress	7 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week																
Supplementary IWL activities																	
Construction of Lake Cowal water supply pipeline (excluding construction at the western side of Lake Cowal)	7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday 8 am to 1 pm, Saturday																
Lake Cowal Road realignment construction	No activities on Sundays or public holidays																
All other activities	24 hours a day, 7 days a week																

1.3 Structural Adequacy

	<p>The Applicant shall ensure that all new buildings and structures on site, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA.</p> <p><i>Note: Under Part 4A of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates (where applicable) for the proposed building works. Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development.</i></p>	<p>Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor was informed that no new buildings were constructed during audit period.</p>	NT	
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1.4 Demolition

	<p>The Applicant shall ensure that all demolition work undertaken on site is carried out in accordance with AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures, or its latest version.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor was informed that no buildings were demolished during audit period.</p>	NT	
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1.5 Protection of Public Infrastructure

	<p>Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant shall:</p> <p>(a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and</p> <p>(b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.</p> <p><i>Note: This condition does not apply to any damage to roads caused as a result of general road usage.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Cowal Gold MoU on Road Maintenance, dated 14 March 2013.</p> <p>Deed of Variation to the Cowal Gold Mine MoU on Road Maintenance, dated 26 May 2020.</p>	<p>A variation to the Cowal Gold MoU on Road Maintenance was agreed on by three Shire Councils (Bland, Forbes, Lachlan) to change the name from Barrick to Evolution Mining and to clarify and amend the process associated with the contributions to the Road Fund. The variation confirms the annual contribution of \$150,000 having regards to CPI commencing 2020/2021 financial year.</p>	C	
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1.6 Operation of Plant and Equipment

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	The Applicant shall ensure that all plant and equipment used on site, or to monitor the performance of the development, is maintained and operated in a proper and efficient manner.	Interview with Environment Advisor, Leading Hand Mining Maintenance Auditor observations.	The auditor observed that pre-starts are conducted on all mobile vehicles each day through Evolution Pre-Start App. The auditor was provided a demonstration of the preventative maintenance process at the Mobile Plant Workshop. The weather monitoring station was observed by the auditor. No non-compliances have been recorded due to equipment down time.	C	

1.7 Staging, Combining and Updating Strategies, Plans or Programs

a.	With the approval of the Planning Secretary, the Applicant may: (i) prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a staged basis (if a clear description is provided as to the specific stage and scope of the development to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of the stage to any future stages and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program); (ii) combine any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (if a clear relationship is demonstrated between the strategies, plans or programs that are proposed to be combined); (iii) update any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (to ensure the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent are updated on a regular basis and incorporate additional measures or amendments to improve the environmental performance of the development); and (iv) combine any strategy, plan or program required by this consent with any similar strategy, plan or program required by other consents for the Cowal Gold Operations.	Review of Evolution Management Plans. Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Correspondence from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 8 October 2021.	The Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme is being combined with the revised Water Management Plan (March 2022) conditionally approved by DPIE at the time of audit (see Condition 4). The Water Management Plan was revised to reflect outcomes of the Underground Development Project EIS and Mod 16. Evolution Mining has a time table for updating management plans to accommodate development of the underground mine (as per SSD 10367), as outlined in the letter to DPIE 8 October 2021.	C	
b.	If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged or updated without consultation being undertaken with all parties required to be consulted in the relevant condition in this consent.	Noted	Note	Note	
c.	If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged without addressing particular requirements of the relevant condition of this consent if those requirements are not applicable to the particular stage.	Noted	Note	Note	

1.8 Dispute Resolution

	In the event that the Applicant and the BSC or any Government agency, other than the Department, cannot agree on the specification or requirements applicable under this consent, the matter shall be referred by either party to the Planning Secretary for resolution. The Planning Secretary's determination on the dispute shall be final and binding on the parties.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	The auditor was informed that no disputes relevant to this condition have arisen during the audit period.	NT	
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2. Mine Management

2.1

Deleted.

2.2 Ore, Waste and Concentrate Production

	The Applicant shall not transport ore or other excavated materials not required for either construction or maintenance works from other mines or locations to the mine site without the written approval of the relevant councils.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Evolution Mining Metallurgic Reconciliation Data.	The auditor was informed that no ore or excavated material was received on site during the audit period. No additional ore or excavated material entered on the Evolution Mining Metallurgic Reconciliation Data spreadsheet.	NT	
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2.3 Mine and Public Safety

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	The Applicant shall secure the mine site as described in the EIS. The fence for the mining lease boundary shall be designed to minimise the impact on water birds and aquatic species.	Auditor observations.	The auditor observed that the perimeter fence is in place. Environment Superintendent confirmed that weekly perimeter fence checks occur to monitor impact on wildlife. The perimeter fence is not electrified. Within the Lake Cowal, the perimeter was observed to be marked with buoys. The auditor observed signs showing daily Fire Danger, HazChem, and mustering points at the entrance to the mine site.	C	

2.4 Rehabilitation

a.	<p><u>Rehabilitation Objectives</u></p> <p>The Applicant must rehabilitate the site in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining leases(s) associated with the development under the Mining Act 1992. The rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation objectives described in the EIS (and shown conceptually in the figure in Appendix 3), as amended by the approved rehabilitation strategy (see condition 3.8) and must comply with the objectives in Table 1.</p> <p><i>Table 1: Rehabilitation objectives</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th> <th>Objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mine site (as a whole)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, stable and non-polluting - Final landforms designed to incorporate micro-relief and integrate with surrounding natural landforms - Constructed landforms are to generally drain to the final void - Minimise long term groundwater seepage zones - Minimise visual impact of final landforms as far as is reasonable and feasible </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final void</td> <td> Minimise to the greatest extent practicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the size and depth of final void - the drainage catchment of final void - risk of flood interaction for all flood events up to and including the Probable Maximum Flood - To be permanently separated from Lake Cowal by the Lake Protection Bund - Highwall to be long-term stable - Minimise the ongoing runoff from clean areas into the final void </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surface infrastructure</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be decommissioned and removed, unless Resources Regulator agrees otherwise </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agriculture</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restore or maintain land capability generally as described in the EIS </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rehabilitation areas and other vegetated land</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restore ecosystem function, including maintaining or establishing self-sustaining ecosystems </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Objective	Mine site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe, stable and non-polluting - Final landforms designed to incorporate micro-relief and integrate with surrounding natural landforms - Constructed landforms are to generally drain to the final void - Minimise long term groundwater seepage zones - Minimise visual impact of final landforms as far as is reasonable and feasible 	Final void	Minimise to the greatest extent practicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the size and depth of final void - the drainage catchment of final void - risk of flood interaction for all flood events up to and including the Probable Maximum Flood - To be permanently separated from Lake Cowal by the Lake Protection Bund - Highwall to be long-term stable - Minimise the ongoing runoff from clean areas into the final void 	Surface infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be decommissioned and removed, unless Resources Regulator agrees otherwise 	Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restore or maintain land capability generally as described in the EIS 	Rehabilitation areas and other vegetated land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restore ecosystem function, including maintaining or establishing self-sustaining ecosystems 	<p>Advice from Environmental Adviser.</p> <p>Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022).</p> <p>Annual Report 2019-2021</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 01 October 2021, stating approval of Mining Operations Plan.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation objectives of Table 1 of these conditions are in accordance with Table 9 of the 2021-2022 MOP. DA1498-Mod-Conditions Appendix 3 conforms with Figure 4C (Final Landform and Land Use) of the 2021-2022 MOP. DRG approved the MOP in October 2021.</p> <p>According to the 2021 Annual Review, 109.6ha of land is under active rehabilitation (up from 46ha in 2020), with an additional 12ha being prepared for rehabilitation.</p> <p>According to the Environmental Adviser, as of May 2022, the total area under rehabilitation is 180ha.</p> <p>Results of rehabilitation monitoring are provided in the Annual Reviews. The 2021 Annual Review notes that stability and the provision of micro habitats through application of leaf litter and rocks is important for germination. Trials were undertaken using different growth media, seeding and planting applications.</p> <p>During the site visit, the auditor observed that rehabilitated areas contained good vegetation cover, without evidence of significant erosion in the areas visited.</p>	C	<p>Oversow or plant shrubs and trees species within rehabilitated areas currently primarily containing ground cover to improve ecosystem functioning and establishment of self-sustaining ecosystem.</p> <p>Install coarse woody debris to increase micro habitats and improve wildlife habitat within rehabilitated areas.</p>
Feature	Objective																
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure public safety - Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure 				
b.	<p><u>Progressive Rehabilitation</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall rehabilitate the site progressively as soon as reasonably practicable following disturbance. All reasonable and feasible measures must be taken to minimise the total area exposed for dust generation at any time. Interim stabilization and rehabilitation strategies shall be employed when areas prone to dust generation cannot be permanently rehabilitated.</p> <p><i>Note: It is accepted that some parts of the site that are progressively rehabilitated may be subject to further disturbance at some later stage of the development.</i></p>	<p>Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022).</p> <p>Annual Report 2019-2021</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>Progressive rehabilitation is addressed in the Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022). Areas rehabilitated are provided in the Annual Reviews, including area estimated to be rehabilitated in the following year.</p> <p>Significant areas under active rehabilitation were observed by the auditor during the site visit.</p> <p>The auditor observed water trucks wetting the road surfaces to prevent the generation of dust during the audit site visit. Temporary erosion and sediment control structures were observed in areas with temporary bare ground not yet rehabilitated.</p>	C	
c.	<p><u>Rehabilitation Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant must prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the development under the Mining Act 1992. The plan must:</p> <p>(i) describe how the rehabilitation of the site would be integrated with the biodiversity offset strategy for the development;</p> <p>(ii) include geotechnical analysis and review of ongoing open pit development, the management of the integrated waste and continued monitoring of the lake protection bund;</p> <p>(iii) include detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the rehabilitation of the site, and triggering remedial action (if necessary);</p> <p>(iv) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent, and address all aspects of rehabilitation including mine closure, final landform (including final voids) and final land use;</p> <p>(v) include a program to monitor, and report on the effectiveness of the measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria; and</p> <p>(vi) build to the maximum extent practicable on the other management plans required under this consent.</p> <p>: The Rehabilitation Management Plan may be combined with a Mining Operations Plan, or similar plan, required under the mining lease granted for the development.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Rehabilitation Management Plan (Sept 2017)</p> <p>Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022).</p> <p>Annual Report 2019-2021</p> <p>Letter from DPI Water to Evolution Mining, dated 6 September 2017, stating approval of Rehabilitation Management Plan.</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 01 October 2021, stating approval of Mining Operations Plan.</p>	<p>Most of the requirements in this condition are addressed in both the Rehabilitation Management Plan (Sept 2017) and the Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022), except for:</p> <p>(ii) include geotechnical analysis and review of ongoing open pit development, the management of the integrated waste and continued monitoring of the lake protection bund;</p> <p>No such analyses and descriptions are provided in either plan.</p> <p>As noted under 2.4 a. above, the rehabilitation undertaken to date has resulted in a good vegetative cover. Opportunities for rehabilitation improvement are provided in the Annual Reviews.</p>	NC	Update the Rehabilitation Management Plan to address all of the requirements in this condition.

2.5 Security Deposits and Bonds

	Security deposits and bonds will be paid as required by Resources Regulator under mining lease approval conditions.	Correspondence from DRG to Evolution Mining, dated 15 January 2019, confirming receipt of security certificate.	Security deposits paid.	C	
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3. Heritage, Flora and Fauna and Land Management

3.1 Heritage Management

a.	<p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) prepare and implement a Heritage Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with Bland District Historical Society, BSC, and Lake Cowal landholders/residents and address non-indigenous cultural heritage issues associated with the development;</p>	<p>Heritage Management Plan (Sept 2003)</p> <p>Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan (Sept 2003)</p>	<p>As per the previous IEA, both the Heritage Management Plan (2003) and the Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan (2003) are based on out-of-date conditions. It also needs to be updated with respect to the mine owner's name and departmental names.</p>	NC	Heritage Management Plan and Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan to
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(ii) prepare and implement an Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with Heritage NSW, the Local Aboriginal Land Council, a consultant archaeologist, any other stakeholders identified by Heritage NSW; include a Chance Finds Protocol and identify future salvage, excavation and monitoring of any archaeological sites within the site prior to and during development, and to address Aboriginal cultural heritage issues; and</p> <p>(iii) retain a Cultural Heritage Officer approved by the West Wyalong Local Aboriginal Land Council who is to be available on site during construction earthworks.</p>	<p>Previous IEA (June 2019). Annual Reviews 2019-2021</p> <p>Correspondence from Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources to Cowal Gold Mine, Reference: S97/01796 September 2003, containing approval of Heritage Management Plan</p>	<p>The auditor noted summaries of the Plans implementation activities in the Annual Reviews, including due diligence inspections with archaeologists and Aboriginal community representatives at the IWL, exploration drill pads, and roads; salvage activities; and maintenance works at Lake Cowal homestead.</p> <p>Payment records to West Wyalong NSW Aboriginal Land Council and Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation indicate attendance by Cultural Heritage Officer during clearing operations.</p>		be updated to align with current conditions and name changes
b.	The Applicant shall monitor the effectiveness of measures outlined in the Heritage Management Plan and Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. A summary of the monitoring results is to be published annually on the Applicant's website for the development.	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Evolution Mining payment records for West Wyalong NSW Aboriginal Land Council (2019-2020) and Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation (2020-2022).</p>	Heritage and Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management activities, the effectiveness of control strategies, and monitoring outcomes are reported on in the Annual Reviews, which are published on the Evolution Mining website.	C	
c.	The Applicant must ensure that no harm occurs to any Aboriginal objects within the site unless an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit has been issued by Heritage NSW under section 90 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> .	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>INX Environmental Incidents Extract.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Completed Ground Disturbance Permits.</p>	<p>No Heritage and Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Management related entries were observed in the INX Environmental Incidents Register by the auditor.</p> <p>A sample of completed Ground Disturbance Permits (GDP) were examined by the auditor, including GDP for expansion of geology compound (2/9/2021), diamond drilling from lake barge (25/1/2022), sub-soil and top soil stockpiles extension (24/1/2021). These showed a range of measures undertaken to prevent harm to Aboriginal objects. These include mapping, pegging and demarcating of sensitive areas, surveying, risk assessments, completion of permits to dig, completion of regulatory approval (if required), completion of surface and sub-surface cultural clearance, taking of salvaged items to keeping place.</p>	C	

3.2 Flora and Fauna Management

a.	<p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) minimise the removal of trees and other vegetation from the mine site and restrict any clearance to the areas occupied by the mine activity, buildings and paved surfaces, and those areas necessary for fire control in accordance with BSC's requirements, and have regard to the draft Mid-Lachlan Regional Vegetation Management Plan (or its final version);</p> <p>(ii) not disturb the area of Belah Woodland as identified in Appendix 4; and</p> <p>(iii) not disturb the area of Weeping Myall Open Woodland as identified in Appendix 4.</p>	<p>Flora and Fauna Management Plan (May 2015).</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the Flora and Fauna Management Plan (May 2015) describing the Remnant Vegetation Enhancement Programme and the Vegetation Clearing Protocol, referring in both to the Mid-Lachlan Regional Vegetation Management Plan. The Vegetation Clearing Protocol contains strategies to prevent unnecessary clearing of vegetation.</p> <p>The auditor visually inspected both the Belah Woodland and the Weeping Myall Open Woodland. They were observed to be fenced off, and suitably signposted to prevent unauthorised disturbance.</p>	C	
b.	<p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Flora and Fauna Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with DPI Fisheries and BCS, and cover the mining lease area and monitoring of bird breeding areas as identified by the Applicant in consultation with BCS. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:</p> <p>(i) methods for monitoring daily and seasonal fauna usage of tailings dams and IWL (eg. species, number, location, habits), and whether deaths or other effects or incidents are</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Flora and Fauna Management Plan (May 2015).</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the Flora and Fauna Management Plan: It addresses all of the requirements of this condition, although the departments and other authority names will need to be updated due to recent name changes of these entities.</p> <p>The auditor verified that Six Monthly Fauna Usage of Tailings Dams Reports were prepared and submitted.</p>	C	Flora and Fauna Management Plan to be updated with recent name changes.

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>occurring. Usage of the tailings dams and IWL shall be reported to the BCS on a six monthly basis, unless otherwise directed by the Planning Secretary;</p> <p>(ii) development of a protocol for the reporting of any cyanide related native fauna deaths on the mining lease to the BCS, DRE, Resources Regulator, CEMCC and in the case of fish, DPI Fisheries. Cyanide related native fauna deaths must be reported as per this protocol within 24 hours (or next working day) following confirmation of the death being cyanide related. The Applicant shall maintain a record of cyanide related native fauna deaths this record must be published in the Annual Review and annually on the Applicant's website for the development;</p> <p>(iii) provision for fauna autopsy facilities to enable the cause of any deaths to be quickly determined. The protocol required in sub clause (ii) above shall also detail collection and autopsy of fauna. This shall include but not be limited to collection and recording procedures, autopsy procedures and laboratory tests;</p> <p>(iv) provision of contingency measures for reducing cyanide levels in the tailings dams and IWL in the event it is established that fauna deaths are occurring from cyanide in tailings dam and IWL water;</p> <p>(v) development of effective mechanisms to keep fauna and avifauna away from the tailings storages, which shall include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising the area of open water in the tailings dams and IWL; • fencing to prevent both medium and large fauna, terrestrial and amphibians, from entering the area. Mesh will have holes no greater than 5cm in diameter; • making the area non-conducive to the establishment of wildlife habitats, as far as possible; • use of netting where practical; and • use of current best practice methods for avifauna deterrence; <p>(vi) development of plans for the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife that may become bogged/sick/trapped in the tailings dams and IWL or elsewhere within the mining lease area;</p> <p>(vii) methods to conserve and enhance wildlife values around Lake Cowal, within the mine lease area, including: protection and enhancement of existing retained habitats;</p> <p>(viii) provision to continue fauna and flora, fish, and aquatic invertebrate monitoring of the Lake Cowal region as documented in the EIS including investigation of fauna deaths off site if requested by the Planning Secretary where it is considered the deaths are attributable to activities on the site;</p> <p>(ix) details to relocate any threatened species and/or its habitat away from disturbed areas that are created by mine operations. This will include placement and maintenance of suitable types and numbers of artificial roosting boxes for bats such as the Greater Long-eared Bat and other animals (eg birds/possums) in undisturbed areas of the mine site; and</p> <p>(x) details of monitoring the mine's impacts particularly on birdlife in bird breeding areas identified by the Applicant in consultation with BCS, threatened fauna and flora, and fish and aquatic invertebrates around Lake Cowal, and outline contingency measures should impacts be identified as occurring.</p>	<p>Previous IEA (June 2019).</p> <p>Six Monthly Fauna Usage of Tailings Dams Reports (Dec 2019, June 2020, Dec 2020, Sept 2021, Feb 2022).</p> <p>INX Environmental Incidents Extract.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Waterbird Monitoring Reports (Aug 2019, Jan 2020, Nov 2020, March 2021, Aug 2021, Oct 2021, Jan 2022)</p> <p>Weed Surveying Reports (Feb 2020, Aug 2020, Dec 2020, Nov 2021, Feb 2022)</p> <p>Compensatory Wetland and Fish Investigation (2022).</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p> <p>Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 21 March 2016, containing approval of the Flora and Fauna Management Plan.</p>	<p>The auditor noted that no cyanide related fauna deaths were found on the incidence register and none were recorded in the Annual Reviews.</p> <p>The auditor inspected the site's fauna care facilities and carcass fridges as holding facilities prior to transport to veterinary laboratory.</p> <p>The auditor observed high fencing with lower fine mesh surrounding the mine site designed to keep wildlife out of the IWL area.</p> <p>The auditor reviewed a range of fauna monitoring reports, including for waterbirds, weeds, and fish.</p>		
c.	<p>The Applicant shall implement a Threatened Species Management Protocol for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, which will include provisions for targeted searches prior to construction and proposed mitigation measures where threatened flora or fauna species are found.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor</p> <p>Flora and Fauna Management Plan (May 2015).</p>	<p>The auditor noted that the Threatened Species Management Protocol in accordance with this conditions is contained in the Flora and Fauna Management Plan.</p> <p>No reported disturbance within the reporting period for threatened species.</p>	C	
d.	<p>The Applicant shall monitor the effectiveness of measures outlined in the Flora and Fauna Management Plan and Threatened Species Protocol to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. A summary of these monitoring results shall be published annually on the Applicant's website for the development.</p>	<p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the Annual Reviews for the auditing period, which contains a report on effectiveness of plans and protocol. Annual Reviews are available on the Evolution Mining website.</p>	C	
3.3 Compensatory Wetland Management Plan					
	<p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Compensatory Wetland Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with BCS and DPI Fisheries, Lake Cowal Landowners Association, and Lake Cowal Environmental Trust, and detail compensation measures for the loss of 120 hectares of wetland, through the enhancement of at least the equivalent area of existing wetland within the mine lease area during operation and following closure of the mine. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:</p>	<p>Compensatory Wetland Management Plan (Sept 2003)</p> <p>Correspondence from Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources to Cowal Gold Mine, Reference: S97/01796 September 2003, containing approval of</p>	<p>A review of the Compensatory Wetland Management Plan by the auditor indicates that while the Plan addresses the requirements of this condition, it will need to be updated with respect to owner's name, and departmental name changes.</p>	C	<p>The Compensatory Wetland Management Plan to be updated to align with current departmental name changes.</p>

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		Compensatory Wetland Management Plan			
a.	a definition of wetland which shall be all land up to the high water mark of Lake Cowal recognising that river red gum habitat is below high water mark;	Compensatory Wetland Management Plan (Sept 2003)	Section 3 of the Compensatory Wetland Management Plan provides the definition of wetland.	C	
b.	measures to manage the enhanced wetlands without adversely impacting adjoining private properties; and	Compensatory Wetland Management Plan (Sept 2003)	Section 7 of the Compensatory Wetland Management Plan provides a range of measures to manage wetlands.	C	
c.	measures to improve habitats for wildlife including waterbirds, fish, aquatic organisms etc, in the wetlands covered by the plan.	Compensatory Wetland Management Plan (Sept 2003)	Sections 6 of the Compensatory Wetland Management Plan provides a range of measures to improve habitats for a range of relevant wildlife.	C	

3.4 Biodiversity Offset Strategy

a.	<p>The Applicant shall implement the biodiversity offset strategy summarised in Table 2, shown conceptually in Appendix 3, and described in detail in the EIS to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p> <p><i>Table 2: Northern and Southern Offsets</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Minimum Size</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)</td> <td>80 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)</td> <td>260 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)</td> <td>100 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>440 ha</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	Minimum Size	Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	80 ha	Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)	260 ha	Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)	100 ha	Total	440 ha	<p>Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (May 2015)</p> <p>Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 10 September 2015, containing approval of the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Biodiversity Offset Strategy is contained within the Biodiversity Management Plan. The area requirements outlined in Table 1 of this plan for each of the three offset areas are at variance with the equivalent area requirements of the current condition, although the total area required for offsets is identical (440ha).</p> <p>The mine owner's name and departmental names will also need to be updated.</p>	NC	The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan to be updated to reflect current offset area requirements, owner's name, and departmental names.
Area	Minimum Size														
Northern Offset Area (Enhancement Area)	80 ha														
Southern Offset Area (Enhancement Area) (including 230 ha Mod 11 extension)	260 ha														
Southern Offset Area (Revegetation Area)	100 ha														
Total	440 ha														
b.	<p>By the end of July 2015, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant shall make suitable arrangements for the long term protection of the biodiversity offset areas in Table 2 to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Certificates of Title of Lots:</p> <p>8 on 753097 (Northern Offset Area)</p> <p>2 on 549106, 18, 19, 64 on 753083 (Southern Offset Area)</p>	<p>Certificates of Title were reviewed by the auditor, showing that the relevant lots were purchased by the mine, before the current audit period.</p>	NT											
b1.	<p>Within two years of commencing the construction of activities associated with Modification 14, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must secure the offset areas listed in Table 2.1 (or alternative offset areas with comparable ecological values as agreed in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary) by entering into a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement(s), in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary.</p> <p><i>Table 2.1: Land based offsets – Modification 14</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Minimum Size</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Offset Area 3</td> <td>88 ha</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	Minimum Size	Offset Area 3	88 ha	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining dated 14 October 2021.</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE dated 18 October 2021.</p>	<p>In response to a request from Evolution Mining (dated 14 October 2021), the DPIE provided an extension of time allowed to secure the land based offsets of Table 2.1, as documented in the letter from DPIE dated 18 October 2021.</p> <p>In the letter, the DPIE notes that it "has consulted with the BCT, which has confirmed that Evolution Mining has been engaging with that agency regarding options for meeting the offset liability for PCT 250. The Department acknowledges that this process may still take some time and Evolution Mining is unlikely to be in a position to lodge the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement before 31 October 2021. The Department considers an extension of time until 31 October 2022 is reasonable".</p>	NT							
Area	Minimum Size														
Offset Area 3	88 ha														

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations																								
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Offset Area 4</td> <td>157 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Offset Area 5</td> <td>39.5 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Offset Area 6</td> <td>202 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>486.5 ha</td> </tr> </table> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify the areas referred to in Table 2.1 see the figure in Appendix 3. • By entering a Stewardship Agreement, the Applicant will be required to develop a management plan for each of these offset areas and provide in perpetuity up-front funding to implement agreed management measures. Therefore, management of these offset areas does not need to be incorporated into the Biodiversity Management Plan required under condition 3.4(c) or conservation bond required under condition 3.4(d) below. 	Offset Area 4	157 ha	Offset Area 5	39.5 ha	Offset Area 6	202 ha	Total	486.5 ha																				
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b2.	<p><u>Retirement of Credits</u></p> <p>Within two years of commencing the construction of activities associated with Modification 14, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of a number and class specified in Tables 2.2 and 2.3 below to the satisfaction of BCS.</p> <p>The retirement of credits must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and can be achieved by:</p> <p>(i) acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016;</p> <p>(ii) making payments into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund; and</p> <p>(iii) funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the threatened entity impacted by the development, consistent with the 'Ancillary rules: Biodiversity conservation actions'.</p> <p>Table 2.2: Ecosystem Credit Requirements</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>PCT ID</th> <th>Credits Required</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Weeping Myall Open Woodland</td> <td>26</td> <td>109</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inland Grey Box – White Cypress Pine Woodland</td> <td>82</td> <td>816</td> </tr> <tr> <td>River Red Gum Forest</td> <td>249</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Belah Woodland</td> <td>55</td> <td>193</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dwyer's Red Gum – White Cypress Pine – Currawang Woodland</td> <td>185</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highly Modified Derived Grasslands</td> <td>250</td> <td>2,532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>-</td> <td>3,687</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 2.3: Species Credit Requirements</p>	Area	PCT ID	Credits Required	Weeping Myall Open Woodland	26	109	Inland Grey Box – White Cypress Pine Woodland	82	816	River Red Gum Forest	249	19	Belah Woodland	55	193	Dwyer's Red Gum – White Cypress Pine – Currawang Woodland	185	18	Highly Modified Derived Grasslands	250	2,532	Total	-	3,687	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining dated 14 October 2021.</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE dated 18 October 2021.</p>	<p>In response to a request from Evolution Mining (dated 14 October 2021), the DPIE provided an extension of time allowed to retire the biodiversity credits in Table 2.2, as documented in the letter from DPIE dated 18 October 2021 (see also above under b1.).</p>	NT	
Area	PCT ID	Credits Required																											
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations				
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Area	Credits Required								
Superb Parrot	7								
b3.	<p>The Applicant must use the ecosystem and species credits generated by the establishment of Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements for the offset areas in Table 2.1 to retire the biodiversity credit requirements of the development under condition 3.4(b2) of Schedule 2 of this consent, unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary.</p> <p><i>Note: If there is a surplus in credits following establishment of the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement(s), then these remaining credits will be held by the Applicant for future use.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining dated 14 October 2021.</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE dated 18 October 2021.</p>	<p>In response to a request from Evolution Mining (dated 14 October 2021), the DPIE provided an extension of time allowed to secure the land based offsets of Table 2.1 and retire the biodiversity credits in Table 2.2, as documented in the letter from DPIE dated 18 October 2021 (see also above under b1.).</p>	NT					
c.	<p><u>Biodiversity Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Biodiversity Offset Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must be prepared in consultation with BCS and include:</p> <p>(i) a description of the short, medium, and long term measures that would be implemented to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implement the biodiversity offset strategy; • manage the remnant vegetation in the offset areas; and • integrate the implementation of the biodiversity offset strategy to the greatest extent practicable with the rehabilitation of the site; <p>(iii) detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the biodiversity offset strategy, and triggering remedial action (if necessary);</p> <p>(iv) a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing the quality of existing vegetation and fauna habitat in the biodiversity offset areas; • creating native vegetation and fauna habitat in the biodiversity offset areas; • maximising the salvage of resources from the disturbance areas on site, including the vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial use in the biodiversity offset areas; • collecting and propagating seed; • controlling weeds and feral pests; • controlling erosion; • managing any grazing; • controlling access; and • bushfire management; 	<p>Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (May 2015)</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan indicating that it complies with the requirements, although departmental names will need to be updated.</p> <p>The Non-Conformance of the Biodiversity Offset Strategy, contained within the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan, is addressed under 3.4a above.</p>	C	<p>The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan to be updated to reflect current offset area requirements, owner’s name, and departmental names.</p>				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(v) a seasonally-based program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria;</p> <p>(vi) a description of the potential risks to successful implementation of the biodiversity offset strategy, and the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate against these risks; and</p> <p>(vii) details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan.</p>				
d.	<p><u>Conservation Bond</u></p> <p>By the end of July 2015, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant shall lodge a Conservation Bond with the Department to ensure that the biodiversity offset strategy summarised in Table 2 is implemented in accordance with the performance and completion criteria in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan. The sum of the bond shall be determined by:</p> <p>(i) calculating the full cost of implementing the biodiversity offset strategy (other than land acquisition costs); and</p> <p>(ii) employing a suitably qualified and experienced person to verify the calculated cost to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p> <p>The calculation of the Conservation Bond must be submitted to the Department for approval at least 1 month prior to the lodgment of the bond.</p> <p>If the offset strategy is completed generally in accordance with the completion criteria in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, the Planning Secretary will release the bond.</p> <p>If the offset strategy is not completed generally in accordance with the completion criteria in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan, the Planning Secretary will call in all, or part of, the conservation bond, and arrange for the completion of the relevant works.</p> <p><i>Note: Alternative funding arrangements for long-term management of the biodiversity offset strategy, such as provision of capital and management funding as agreed by BCS as part of a Biobanking Agreement or transfer to conservation reserve estate can be used to reduce the liability of the conservation and biodiversity bond. The sum of the bond may be reviewed in conjunction with any revision to the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to DPIE dated 14 October 2021, requesting further extension to meet requirements specified in Condition 3.4 (b1, b2).</p> <p>Correspondence from DP&E Biodiversity Conservation Trust to Evolutions Mining, dated 29 October 2021, stating approval of application and acceptance of payment.</p> <p>BCF Purchase Order transcript.</p>	Conservation bond has been paid.	C	

3.5 Prevention of Soil Erosion

The Applicant shall prepare and implement the following plans to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary:

a.	<p>an erosion and sediment control management plan for the site which shall include, but not be limited to:</p> <p>(i) details of temporary and permanent sediment and erosion control systems to be used during both mine construction and operation, including for earthworks associated with landscaping;</p> <p>(ii) details of salinity management; and</p> <p>(iii) a program for reporting on the effectiveness of the sediment and erosion control systems and performance against objectives contained in the approved erosion and sediment control management plan, and EIS; and</p>	<p>Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan (April 2022).</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 6 April 2022, containing approval of Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan addresses all of the requirements in this Condition.</p> <p>Annual Reviews provide summaries of performance outcomes. There were no significant sediment movements or erosion of contained water storages, waste rock emplacements, lake protection bund and, for most of the time, the temporary isolation bund. Minor rilling in the waste emplacements and drains were remediated by scaling and reshaping.</p> <p>Over the 2021 year, there was significant rainfall, resulting in some ponding, which was managed using draining techniques. Lake Cowal filled, resulting in some erosion on the temporary isolation bund due to wave action. These will be repaired when water levels recede. Water levels were still high at the time of audit site inspection. No significant erosion was observed by the auditor.</p>	C	
b.	<p>a soil stripping management plan for the site which shall include, but not be limited to:</p> <p>(i) details of the management of soil stockpiles, soil stripping techniques and scheduling;</p>	<p>Soil Stripping Management Plan (March 2016).</p>	<p>The 2016 version of the Soil Stripping Management Plan still refers to Barrick as the owner. While the statutory requirements</p>	C	Soil Stripping Management Plan to be updated with

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	(ii) any further requirements of Resources Regulator; and (iii) a program for reporting on the effectiveness of the soil stripping methods and performance against objectives contained in the soil stripping management plan, and EIS.	Annual Reviews 2019-2021. Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 21 March 2016, containing approval of the Soil Stripping Management Plan.	addressed in this Plan are as per current conditions, departmental names need to be updated. Annual Reviews note that areas for soil stripping were minimised to reduce soil exposure, and limited to areas required for future mining operations.		current owner and departmental names

3.6 Bushfire Management

The Applicant shall:

a.	ensure the development is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site; and	Interview with Environment Superintendent, Environment Advisor, and Emergency Response Coordinator. Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (Oct 2020). Auditor observations.	The Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan provides a list of major on-site fire fighting equipment, which includes 2x Mitsubishi Canter Dual Cab pumpers with 1000Lt capacity each and 2x fire trailers with 1000L capacity each. These were observed by the auditor within the emergency block on site.	C	
b.	assist the RFS and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.	Interview with Environment Superintendent, Environment Advisor, and Emergency Response Coordinator. Local Area Agreement between Evolution Mining and NSW Rural Fire Service Bland Temora Zone (June 2016)	The auditor viewed the Local Area Agreement that Evolution Mining has with the NSW RFS to assist one another with fire incidences. In interview with Environment Superintendent, the auditor heard that there was a request mid 2021 from the NSW RFS to assist with a fire on the Lake Cowal foreshore, but the fire was extinguished by the time the Evolution Mining Crew arrived.	C	

3.7 Land Management

The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Land Management Plan for all its land holdings to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with BCS, DPIE Water, DPI Agriculture and BSC, be consistent with the Flora and Fauna Management Plan, provide for proper land management including, but not limited to:

a.	pastures and remnant vegetation management;	Land Management Plan (October 2003). Addendum to the Land Management Plan (May 2015). Auditor observations. Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 21 March 2016, containing approval of the Land Management Plan Addendum.	The Land Management Plan needs to be updated with current ownership and departmental names. This Plan refers to a superseded Condition 3.2 requiring this Plan to be revised/updated at least every five years. There has been no approved update since the October 2003 version. Otherwise, the Land Management Plan addresses this requirement in Sections 4 and 5. Areas of Belah and Wilga within the mine site inspected by the auditor during the site visit appeared to be in good health and well fenced off.	C	s.
b.	control of vermin and noxious weeds as required by the Local Lands Services, BSC and other relevant authorities;	As for 3.7 a.	This requirement is addressed in Sections 6 and 7 of the Land Management Plan.	C	
c.	integration of the latest versions of the Jemalong Land and Water Management Plan and the Lake Cowal Land and Water Management Plan; and	As for 3.7 a.	This requirement is addressed in Section 2 of the Land Management Plan.	C	
d.	feral animal control.	As for 3.7 a.	This requirement is addressed in Section 7 of the Land Management Plan.	C	.

3.8 Rehabilitation Strategy

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	The Applicant shall develop a strategy for the long term land use of the site on decommissioning of the mine site. The strategy shall include, but not be limited to: appropriate land uses within the site, which may include areas for conservation, agriculture or recreation, long term management of the area, environmental impacts of any uses and maintenance of necessary drainage characteristics and other features provided on the site. The strategy for long term land use of the site shall be submitted by Year 7 of mining operations or five years before mine closure, whichever is the sooner, in consultation with Resources Regulator, DPI Agriculture, DPIE Water, BCS, BSC, CEMCC, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Rehabilitation Management Plan (September 2017). Letter from DPI Water to Evolution Mining, dated 6 September 2017, stating approval of Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Given that commencement of mining was in 2005, and closure is not planned before 2040, 2012 was the year by which time the Rehabilitation Strategy was to be submitted. The RMP contains Section 3.2 Long-term Land Use Strategy, containing the required information. This Plan needs to be updated with respect to departmental names, and consultation needs to be undertaken with DPI Agriculture.	C	The Rehabilitation Management Plan needs to be updated with current departmental names.

4. Water Management

4.1 Water Supply

a.	The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply. (b) The Applicant must report on water extracted from the Cowal Gold Operations each year (direct and indirect) in the Annual Review, including water taken under each water licence. <i>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain all necessary water licences for the development, including during rehabilitation and post mine closure.</i>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Water Management Plan (March 2022). Annual Reviews 2019-2021. Site Water Tracker.	The auditor learned from the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan (March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit, subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal. The auditor's review of this Plan noted that it provides a water balance (Table 8) showing inflows and outflows during dry, median, and wet conditions. Potential yearly inflows (including existing water licence allocations) exceed yearly outflows under each scenario. The auditor's review of the 19-2021 Annual Reviews noted that tables showing entitlements and water extractions under each Water Licence are provided. The Site Water Tracker indicates that the maximum daily water usage from the Bland Creek Paleochannel over the period 1 July 2007 – 31 March 2022 was 12.85 ML, less than the maximum 15 ML/day specified in Water Licence 31864.	C	
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4.2 Compensatory Water Supply

a.	The Applicant must provide a compensatory water supply to any landowner of privately-owned land whose rightful water supply is adversely and directly impacted (other than an impact that is minor or negligible) as a result of the Cowal Gold Operations, in consultation with DPIE Water, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	CGO utilises the Site Online Water Tracker to monitor water consumption. The auditor was advised that if an exceedance of external water consumption is triggered, CGO would notify the DPIE in the first instance and conduct an investigation to understand the circumstances surrounding the exceedance. Following this, CGO would approach landowners directly to request whether the landowner would like to seek compensation as per the CoA. The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that no adverse impacts (trigger exceedances) as per this condition have occurred over the auditing period.	NT	
b.	The compensatory water supply measures must provide an alternative long term supply of water that is equivalent, in quality and volume, to the loss attributable to the Cowal Gold Operations. Equivalent water supply should be provided (at least on an interim basis) as soon as practicable after the loss is identified, unless otherwise agreed with the landowner.	As for 4.2 a.	As for 4.2 a.	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
c.	If the Applicant and the landowner cannot agree on whether the loss of water is attributed to the Cowal Gold Operations or the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.	As for 4.2 a.	As for 4.2 a.	NT	
d.	If the Applicant is unable to provide an alternative long term supply of water, then the Applicant must provide compensation, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	As for 4.2 a.	As for 4.2 a.	NT	
e.	<p>However, conditions 4.2(a) to 4.2(d) do not apply if the Applicant has a compensatory water agreement with the owner/s of the land and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Management Plan (see condition 4.4) is required to include trigger levels for investigating potentially adverse impacts on water supplies. • The burden of proof that any loss of water supply is not due to mining impacts rests with the Applicant. • For the avoidance of doubt, the Applicant is not required to provide compensatory water supplies under this consent if equivalent compensatory water supplies are provided under the consent for the Underground Mine Development. 	As for 4.2 a.	As for 4.2 a.	NT	

4.3 Water Management Performance Measures

a.	<p>The Applicant must ensure that the Cowal Gold Operations complies with the performance measures in Table 2.4.</p> <p><i>Table 2.4: Water management performance measures</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th> <th>Performance Measure</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Water management – General</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise water recycling, reuse and sharing opportunities • Minimise the need for make-up water from external supplies, particularly the use of higher quality water used by other land users • Design, install, operate and maintain water management infrastructure in a proper and efficient manner • Minimise risks to the receiving environment and downstream water users </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aquifers</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negligible impacts to alluvial and fractured rock aquifers caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - negligible change in groundwater levels beyond those predicted; - negligible change in water quality beyond those predicted; - negligible impact to other groundwater users; and - no exceedance of the minimal impact considerations in the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Performance Measure	Water management – General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise water recycling, reuse and sharing opportunities • Minimise the need for make-up water from external supplies, particularly the use of higher quality water used by other land users • Design, install, operate and maintain water management infrastructure in a proper and efficient manner • Minimise risks to the receiving environment and downstream water users 	Aquifers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negligible impacts to alluvial and fractured rock aquifers caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - negligible change in groundwater levels beyond those predicted; - negligible change in water quality beyond those predicted; - negligible impact to other groundwater users; and - no exceedance of the minimal impact considerations in the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme (July 2018)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 15 April 2022, stating conditional approval of Water Management Plan.</p>	<p>The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan (March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit, subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal. Water related monitoring is provided for in the Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme. It is to be combined with the Water Management Plan as an Appendix.</p> <p>Section 4.2.2 of the Plan provides a hierarchy of water use preferences in accordance with Table 2.4 of this condition and the Monitoring Programme outlines monitoring procedures to measure performance with respect to surface and groundwater and biological parameters.</p> <p>The Annual Reviews provide a summary of the performance outcomes each year. The 2021 Annual Review is the only Annual Review available that is subject to this condition, as this condition came in force in September 2021. The 2021 Annual Review reports that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - groundwater levels within the bore field are well above the prescribed trigger levels and little reduction below the pre-mining level at distances greater than approximately 2km from the mine pit centre. - groundwater quality changes outside the mine pit are in accordance with natural variability, including climatic variability. - Lake Cowal water level has fluctuated in accordance with climatic conditions, with the lake dry during February 2019 and February 2020, and it is currently filled. - Lake Cowal water quality levels are below or marginally above ANZECC and ARMCANZ (2000) default trigger values for surface water (lakes), with heavy metal readings similar to historical data, and pH and EC within the range previously recorded. - During the January fish 2022 survey, deleterious impacts of phytoplankton blooms were observed at Lake Cowal, 	C	
Feature	Performance Measure										
Water management – General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise water recycling, reuse and sharing opportunities • Minimise the need for make-up water from external supplies, particularly the use of higher quality water used by other land users • Design, install, operate and maintain water management infrastructure in a proper and efficient manner • Minimise risks to the receiving environment and downstream water users 										
Aquifers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negligible impacts to alluvial and fractured rock aquifers caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - negligible change in groundwater levels beyond those predicted; - negligible change in water quality beyond those predicted; - negligible impact to other groundwater users; and - no exceedance of the minimal impact considerations in the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy 										

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations	
	Lake Cowal and other surface water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negligible impacts to Lake Cowal and other surface water resources caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> negligible change in lake volume; negligible change in surface water quality; and negligible impact to other surface water users 		<p>including numbers of deceased goldfish, yabbies (Cherax sp.), and ducks. No dead native fish species were recorded. Large algal blooms in January 2022 are likely the result of a combination of high summer water temperatures, low flows and increased nutrient and sediment run-off following a prolonged period where Lake Cowal and its surrounds have been dry. As the fish community in January 2022 was similar to previous surveys and the fish caught showed no evidence of poor health, it is expected that the majority of the fish community remains unharmed from the large algal blooms observed. No other impacts due to mining activities were implicated.</p>		
	Borefields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement all reasonable and feasible measures to ensure that extraction of groundwater from the borefields does not result in exceedances of established mitigation trigger response levels Negligible impact to other groundwater users caused by the extraction of water from the borefields by the Applicant 		<p>Auditor observations during the site visit indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Up-Catchment Diversion System is installed and functioning. Internal Catchment Drainage System is installed and functioning. Temporary Isolation and Lake Protection Bunds providing flooding separation from the lake is installed and functioning. Chemicals and hydrocarbons are stored in bunded areas. 		
	Up-Catchment Diversion System (UCDS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise, as far as reasonable and feasible, the diversion of all clean water around disturbed areas 				
	Internal Catchment Drainage System (ICDS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storages are suitably designed, installed and maintained to ensure no discharge of mine water or sediment-laden water outside the ICDS Storages are suitably designed, installed and maintained to minimise the migration of pollutants due to discharges within the ICDS Storages are suitably designed, installed and maintained to minimise permeability, and prevent or minimise the migration of pollutants due to seepage 				
	Flood mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, install and maintain the lake isolation system to exclude exchange of water between the ICDS and Lake Cowal for all flood events up to and including the Probable Maximum Flood Negligible change to off-site flood regime, including flows, levels, storage capacity or velocities 				
	Chemical and hydrocarbon storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemical and hydrocarbon products to be stored in bunded areas in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard 				
	Groundwater dependent ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negligible environmental consequences to groundwater dependent ecosystems Negligible environmental consequences to fish and aquatic habitat 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
4.4 Water Management Plan					
The Applicant must prepare a Water Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:					
a.	be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 15 April 2022, stating conditional approval of Water Management Plan.</p>	The Water Management Plan does not provide any information whether this Plan was prepared in the manner as per this requirement.	NC	Future updates of this Plan to specify author qualifications and experience.
b.	be prepared in consultation with DPIE Water, EPA, FSC, DPI Fisheries, DSNSW and Resources Regulator;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EPA, dated 1 Dec 2021 - NSW Resource Regulator, dated 16 Dec 2021 - DSNSW, dated 22 Feb 2022 - DPE Water (undated dated) - DPI Fisheries, dated 3 Dec 2021 - FSC, dated 23 March 2022 	Consultation correspondence sighted by auditor.	C	
c.	be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing any construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development and/or Modification 16 as described in the EIS, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 15 Apr 2022, stating conditional approval of Water Management Plan.</p>	<p>The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan (March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit (April 2022), subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal.</p> <p>No construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development had commenced at the time of the conditional approval during the auditor's site visit.</p>	C	
d.	<p>include a:</p> <p>(i) Site Water Balance that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • includes details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o predicted inflows and outflows; o sources and security of water supply, including contingency planning for various climate scenarios and allocations; o preferential water supply to prioritise internal and poorer quality water supplies over external and higher quality water supplies; o measures to ensure that average extraction of water from the borefields does not exceed the relevant performance measures in Table 2.4; o water use and management; o any off-site water transfers; and 	<p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme (July 2018)</p>	The auditor reviewed the Water Management Plan and the to be appended Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Program, indicating the all requirements of this condition are addressed in the Plan.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>o reporting procedures, including the annual preparation of an updated site water balance; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigates and implements all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise water use; <p>(ii) Surface Water Management Plan, that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed baseline data on surface water flows and quality in Lake Cowal and other waterbodies (including Bland Creek and Sandy Creek) that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations; • a detailed description of the water management system, including the; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Up-Catchment Diversion System; o Internal Catchment Drainage System; and o Lake Isolation System; • detailed objectives and performance criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts associated with the Cowal Gold Operations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the water management system; o downstream surface water flows and quality; o downstream flooding impacts; o water supply for other water users; and o lake, stream and riparian health; • a program to monitor and evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o compliance with the relevant performance measures in Table 2.4 and the performance criteria established above; o the effectiveness of the water management system; o surface water flows and quality, stream and riparian health in Lake Cowal and other waterbodies (including Bland Creek and Sandy Creek) that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations; o downstream flooding impacts; o stability of the Lake Isolation System; and o impacts on water users; • reporting procedures for the results of the monitoring program; and • a plan to respond to any exceedances of the performance measures or performance criteria, and mitigate any adverse surface water impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations, including contingency strategies for addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o any discharge of pollutants from on-site water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas (including pipelines and borefield infrastructure); and o any identified impacts to Lake Cowal and other waterbodies; <p>(iii) Groundwater Management Plan, that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed baseline data on groundwater levels, yield and quality in the region that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations, including privately-owned groundwater bores and groundwater dependent ecosystems; • a detailed description of the groundwater management system, including measures to ensure that long term average extraction from the borefields remains within the levels predicted in the EIS and/or below applicable trigger levels; • detailed objectives and performance criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts associated with the Cowal Gold Operations for: 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the groundwater management system; o local and regional aquifers; o groundwater users bores; o groundwater inflows to the mining operations; o seepage/leachate from water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void; and o groundwater dependent ecosystems; • a program to monitor and evaluate: o compliance with the relevant performance measures listed in Table 2.4 and the performance criteria established above; o the effectiveness of the groundwater management system; o groundwater inflows to the mining operations; o any localised enhanced groundwater inflows associated with faults or other structures; o seepage/leachate from water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void, including migration over the short and long term; o background changes in groundwater yield/quality against mine-induced changes; o impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local and regional aquifers; - Lake Cowal and other waterbodies; - groundwater supply of potentially affected landowners; - groundwater dependent ecosystems; and • reporting procedures for the results of the monitoring program; and • a plan to respond to any exceedances of the performance measures or performance criteria, and mitigate any adverse groundwater impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations, including contingency strategies for addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o seepage/leachate of pollutants from on-site water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void; o any localised enhanced groundwater inflows associated with faults or other structures; o any exceedance of trigger levels at the borefields; and (iv) a program to validate the water balance and groundwater model for the Cowal Gold Operations every 3 years, and compare against monitoring results with modelled predictions. <p><i>Note: The groundwater monitoring program should provide for additional nested monitoring bores within Lake Cowal, as recommended by DPIE Water in its advice to the Department dated 29 April 2021, and by the independent groundwater expert engaged by the Department (advice dated 20 May 2021).</i></p>				
e.	The Applicant must implement the Water Management Plan as approved by the Planning Secretary	<p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Water Management Plan (July 2018)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p>	Evidence of Implementation of the Water Management Plan (July 2018, March 2022), such as monitoring results, is provided in the annual environmental performance summaries of the Annual Reviews.	C	

5. Hazardous Materials and Tailings Management

5.1 Waste Rock Emplacement and Management

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	The Applicant shall construct and manage the waste rock emplacement as set out in the EIS, and to the satisfaction of Resources Regulator.	Mine Operations Plan September 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 Mine Operations Plan 1 September 2021 – 2 July 2022 Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 01 October 2021, stating approval of Mining Operations Plan.	The Mine Operations Plans prepared in consultation with the Department of Resources and Geosciences and approved by the DPIE demonstrating approval of construction and management of emplacements during the MOP term.	C	
5.2 Tailings Emplacement and Management					
	The Applicant shall:				
a.	construct the tailings dams and IWL to the requirements of Resources Regulator, EPA and DSNSW and in consultation with DPIE Water; and	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Detailed Design Report – Cowal Gold Mine IWL Stage 1 - 3 (Aecom 2019 - 2021). Mine Operations Plan September 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 Mine Operations Plan 1 September 2021 – 2 July 2022 Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 01 October 2021, stating approval of Mining Operations Plan.	The Detailed Design Report for the IWL and Addendum were prepared with reference to the DSC (2012) Guidance Sheet DSC3F: Tailings Dams by the Dam safety Committee NSW. The Mine Operations Plan which covers the IWL was approved by the DPIE demonstrating approval of construction and management of the IWL during the MOP term. The auditor was informed by the Environment Superintendent that no comments were received by DPIE Water on the design of the IWL.	C	
b.	construct and compact the floor of the tailings dams and IWL to ensure an equivalent permeability of no more than 1×10^{-9} m/s over a thickness of 1 metre.	Detailed Design Report – Cowal Gold Mine IWL Stage 1 - 3 (Aecom 2019 - 2021). Letter of commissioning IWL Stage 1A, 1B, 2 (Aecom 2020 – 2021).	The Detailed Design Report for the IWL and the letter of commissioning reviewed by the auditor indicate compliance with this condition.	C	
5.3 Cyanide Management					
a.	<u>Cyanide levels</u> The Applicant shall ensure that cyanide levels of the aqueous component of the tailings slurry stream do not exceed: 20mg CNWAD/L (90 percentile over six months), and 30mg CNWAD/L (maximum permissible limit at any time), at the process plant.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Evolution Mining Incidence Investigations 13 February 2020 and 7 July 2021. Correspondence from EPA to Evolution Mining acknowledging notification 7 July 2021. Correspondence internal to Evolution Mining documenting notification to EPA of incident 13 February 2020 Annual Reviews 2019-2021. Published Environmental Monitoring Reports 2019-Jan 2022.	CNWAD/L levels exceeded the 20mg level on two occasions, including 13 February 2020 and 7 July 2021, as documented in Incidence Investigations and notifications to the EPA. Recommendations are provided in the internal Incident Investigations to prevent re-occurrence of the incidents. While the 2021 Annual Review and published Environmental Monitoring document report on the 2021 incident, no mention is made of the 2020 incident in the same 2020 documents. The 2020 documents should be updated and the updates should be uploaded on the company website.	NC	Historic NC – no further action required. Ensure all non-compliances are documented in Annual Reviews

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		Evolution Mining Incident Investigation reports 13 February 2020 and 7 July 2021.			
b.	<p>Cyanide Management The Applicant shall prepare and implement a cyanide management plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan is to be prepared in consultation with Resources Regulator, EPA and DPIE Water and include monitoring and reporting on cyanide use on the site. The plan shall make provision for, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) containing cyanide contaminated waters entirely within the mine site; (ii) maintaining weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide levels at the process plant to the levels stated in condition 5.3(a); (iii) contingency measures for cyanide reduction. 	<p>Cyanide Management Plan (March 2020)</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 7 July 2020, containing approval of the Cyanide Management Plan</p>	Auditor review of the Cyanide Management Plan indicated that the Plan addresses all the requirements of this condition.	C	
c.	<p>Wildlife Deaths In the event of wildlife deaths occurring due to cyanide, review of cyanide levels shall occur by the EPA in consultation with the Applicant and Resources Regulator. Any decision to require cyanide reduction shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of the number of fauna deaths, the species involved, antecedent condition of species, methods employed at the time to prevent use of tailings dams by fauna, and antecedent climatic and surface water conditions of the Lake and surrounding area. The Applicant shall notify the CEMCC of any reductions in cyanide levels as soon as practicable.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>INX Environmental Incidents Extract.</p>	While there were wildlife deaths over the audit period, none of these were related to cyanide poisoning. Hence, this condition is not triggered.	NT	
d.	<p>Cyanide Monitoring The Applicant shall prepare and implement a cyanide monitoring program for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The plan must be prepared in consultation with EPA and Resources Regulator, and shall include, but not be limited to, provision for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) monitoring of CNWAD levels of the aqueous component of the tailings slurry stream at the process plant twice daily or as otherwise directed by the Planning Secretary, with any increases above 20mg CNWAD/L to be assessed daily to ensure compliance and reported in the Annual Review, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary. If the CNWAD levels of 30mg/L are exceeded in the liquid at any time, discharge to the tailings dams shall cease until CNWAD levels can be achieved below the levels stated in condition 5.3(a) and such exceedance shall be reported to the EPA within 24 hours; (ii) monitoring CNWAD levels in the decant water of the tailings dams twice daily or as otherwise directed by the Planning Secretary; (iii) an on site laboratory for quickly establishing CNWAD levels in the liquid at the process plant and in the decant ponds for monitoring purposes; (iv) on-line monitoring of CN(FREE) at locations where employees are operating; (v) establishing a monitoring regime for detection of cyanide movement beneath and adjacent to the tailings impoundments. <p>A summary of the cyanide monitoring results shall be provided on the Applicant's website for the development on a regular basis, or as directed by the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Cyanide Management Plan (March 2020).</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Published Environmental Monitoring Reports 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	The Cyanide Management Plan contains prescriptions for cyanide monitoring. Evidence of monitoring is provided in the Annual Reviews and published Environmental Monitoring Reports.	C	

5.4 Hazards Management

Note: The development consent conditions under 5.4(a)-(f) are related to offsite risk to people and the biophysical environment. The safety of all persons and operations on site is the responsibility of Resources Regulator under the Mines Inspection Act and Dangerous Goods Act.

a.	<p>Pre-Construction Studies The Applicant shall prepare and submit for the approval of the Planning Secretary, the studies set out under subsections 5.4(a)(i) to 5.4(a)(iii) (the pre-construction studies), at least one month prior to the commencement of construction of the proposed development, (except for construction of those preliminary works that are outside the scope of the hazard studies), or within such further period as Planning Secretary may agree. Construction, other than of preliminary works, shall not commence until approval has been given by the Planning Secretary and, with respect to the fire safety study, approval has also been given by the Commissioner of the NSW Fire Brigades.</p> <p>(i) Fire Safety Study This study shall cover all aspects detailed in the Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 2, "Fire Safety Study Guidelines" and the New South Wales</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	<p>Construction of the development occurred prior to the current audit period.</p> <p>No underground mining structures have yet been constructed.</p>	NT	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>Government's "Best Practice Guidelines for Contaminated Water Retention and Treatment Systems". The study shall also be submitted for approval to the New South Wales Fire Brigades.</p> <p>The study should, in particular, address the fire related issues associated with the storage and use of Ammonium Nitrate, Sodium Isobutyl Xanthate, and Cyanide.</p> <p>(ii) <i>Hazard and Operability Study</i></p> <p>The study is to be chaired by an independent qualified person approved by the Planning Secretary prior to the commencement of the study. The study shall be carried out in accordance with the Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 8, "HAZOP Guidelines". The HAZOP shall in particular address the monitoring, control, alarm and shutdown systems associated with xanthate and cyanide process streams.</p> <p>(iii) <i>Final Hazard Analysis</i></p> <p>The analysis should be prepared in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6, "Guidelines for Hazard Analysis"</i>.</p>				
b.	<p><u>Pre-Commissioning Studies</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall prepare and submit for the approval of the Planning Secretary the following studies (the pre-commissioning studies), no later than two months prior to the commencement of commissioning of the proposed development, or within such period as the Planning Secretary may agree. Commissioning shall not commence until approval has been given by the Planning Secretary.</p> <p>(i) <i>Transport of Hazardous Materials</i></p> <p>The study comprises arrangements covering the transport of hazardous materials including details of routes to be used for the movement of vehicles carrying hazardous materials to or from the proposed development. The study shall be carried out in accordance with the Department's draft "Route Selection" guidelines. Suitable routes identified in the study shall be used except where departures are necessary for local deliveries or emergencies.</p> <p>The study should also address (1) the issues associated with spills, cleanup procedures, training of clean-up teams, communication, and liaison with organisations such as the fire brigades, District Emergency Management Coordinator (and Committee), Local Emergency Management Committee(s), and state emergency services; (2) inspection and monitoring procedures for chemicals such as explosives, xanthates and cyanides prior to commencement of a trip, to verify the integrity of the packaging; and (3) measures to be taken to ensure that the temperature of the materials does not rise above safe levels.</p> <p>(ii) <i>Emergency Plan</i></p> <p>A comprehensive emergency plan and detailed emergency procedures for the proposed development. This plan shall include detailed procedures for the safety of all people outside of the development who may be at risk from the development. The plan should be in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 1, "Industry Emergency Planning Guidelines"</i>, and include procedures for spillage, cleanup, control and protection, and rescue of wildlife during the emergency.</p> <p>(iii) <i>Safety Management System</i></p> <p>A document setting out a comprehensive safety management system, covering all operations on-site and associated transport activities involving hazardous materials. The document shall clearly specify all safety related procedures, responsibilities and policies, along with details of mechanisms for ensuring adherence to procedures. Records shall be kept on-site and should be available for inspection by the Planning Secretary upon request. The safety management system should be developed in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 9, "Safety Management"</i>.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Note under Condition 5.4 (d).</p> <p>Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan – Surface (Oct 2020)</p> <p>Emergency Response Control Plan: Underground (Feb 2021)</p> <p>Flora and Fauna Management Plan (May 2015)</p>	<p>Commissioning of the development occurred prior to the current audit period.</p> <p>The underground mining has not yet been commissioned.</p> <p>As per the note under Condition 5.4 (d), the Hazardous Materials Management Plan is to replace the requirements of Condition 5.4 (b) I and ii.</p> <p>Auditor review of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan – Surface and the Emergency Response Control Plan: Underground indicates that these plans address the requirements of Condition 5.4 (b) iii, with the exception of procedures for rescue of wildlife during the emergency. These are provided in the Flora and Fauna Management Plan.</p>	C	
c.	<p><u>Hazard Audit</u></p> <p>Twelve months after the commencement of operations of the proposed development or within such further period as the Planning Secretary may agree, the Applicant shall carry out a comprehensive hazard audit of the proposed development and submit a report of the audit to the Planning Secretary.</p> <p>The audit shall be carried out at the Applicant's expense by a duly qualified independent person or team approved by the Planning Secretary prior to commencement of the audit. Further audits shall be carried out every three years or as determined by the Planning Secretary and a report of each audit shall within a month of the audit be submitted to the Planning Secretary. Hazard audits should be carried out in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 5, "Hazard Audit Guidelines"</i>.</p>	<p>Hazard Audit Report for Evolution Mining Pty Limited, Cowal Gold Operations, NSW (Shewring 2019).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining on 24 July 2019, stating the Department's satisfaction with the Hazard Audit.</p>	<p>The auditor sighted the Hazard Audit dated 7 May 2019. The next Hazard Audit is due May 2022 (outside this audit period).</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
d.	<p><u>Transport of Hazardous Materials</u> The Applicant must prepare and implement a Hazardous Materials Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(i) be prepared in consultation with Forbes, Bland and Lachlan councils, TfNSW, EPA, DPIE Water and Resources Regulator;</p> <p>(ii) be consistent with the International Cyanide Management Code for the Manufacture, Transport and Use of Cyanide in the Production of Gold; and</p> <p>(iii) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sodium cyanide and other toxic chemicals are stored and handled on the site in accordance with AS/NZ 4452 – The Storage and Handling of Toxic Substances; • the transportation of hazardous materials to or from the site on the local road network shown in Appendix 7 is undertaken in accordance with the Department’s Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 11 – Route Selection and the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail – current version; and • detail the emergency procedures for the development consistent with the Department’s Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 1 – Emergency Planning. <p>The Applicant must implement the approved Hazardous Materials Management Plan for the development.</p> <p>Note: The approved Hazardous Materials Management Plan shall replace the pre-commissioning studies required by conditions 5.4(b)(i) and (ii) and the Hazardous Waste and Chemical Management Plan required by condition 5.7 of Schedule 2 of this consent.</p>	<p>Hazardous Materials Management Plan (2020)</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 21 October 2020, containing approval of the Hazardous Materials Management Plan.</p>	<p>A review of the Hazardous Materials Management Plan by the auditor indicates that while the Plan addresses the requirements of this condition, it will need to be updated with current departmental names.</p>	C	The Hazardous Materials Management Plan needs to be updated with current departmental names.

5.5 Domestic Waste

	The Applicant shall dispose of all solid waste and putrescible matter from the site to the satisfaction of BSC.	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor was informed that solid waste and putrescible matter removal is contracted to JR Richards, for disposal in an appropriate Bland Council Facility.</p> <p>During the site visit, the auditor observed that all rubbish and waste matters were stored in waste bins or other appropriate containers under appropriate conditions.</p>	C	
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5.6 Sewage and Associated Waste Management

	The Applicant shall install the site sewage treatment facility, and dispose of treated sewage and sullage to the satisfaction of BSC and EPA, and in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health.	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor was informed that treated sewage and sullage removal is contracted to JR Richards, for disposal in an appropriate Bland Council Facility.</p> <p>The auditor verified the existence of the sewage treatment facility on the mine site during the site visit.</p>	C	
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5.7 Asbestos and Other Hazardous or Toxic Waste Management

	The Applicant shall prior to commencement of construction works prepare a Hazardous Waste and Chemical Management Plan as set out in section 6.4.1 of the EIS in consultation with EPA and BSC, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	Note under Condition 5.4 (d).	As per the note under Condition 5.4 (d), the Hazardous Materials Management Plan is to replace the requirements of Condition 5.7.	NT	
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6. Air, Blast, Noise and Visual Impact Management

6.1 Air Management

a.	<p><u>Impact Assessment Criteria</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that all reasonable and feasible avoidance and mitigation measures are employed so that particulate matter emissions generated from the Cowal Gold Operations do not cause exceedances of the criteria listed in Tables 3, 4 and 5 at any residence on privately-owned land.</p> <p><i>Table 3: Long term impact assessment criteria for particulate matter</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Averaging Period</th> <th>^dCriterion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pollutant	Averaging Period	^d Criterion				<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Interpretation and Discussion of 2019 Air Quality Monitoring Results (Stephen Cattle 2019)</p>	<p>While there were several dust deposition exceedances during the audit period. None of these were considered to be related to mine activity. Most were related to regional dust storms arising from drought conditions over 2019, early 2020, and on 15 December 2021, and extensive bushfire smoke in the region over January 2020. Two additional exceedances not recorded during dust storms were deduced to be from activities other than mining activities on the basis that predominant winds were from directions other than the mine site during the time of deposition (Zephyr Environmental 2022). Therefore, no exceedances are</p>	C	
Pollutant	Averaging Period	^d Criterion									

No	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	Total suspended particulate (TSP) matter	Annual	^a 90 µg/m ³	Interpretation and Discussion of 2020 Air Quality Monitoring Results (Stephen Cattle 2020) Annual Air Quality Monitoring Review – 2021 (Zephyr Environmental 2022).	ascribed to the mine site and mine activities over the audit period.		
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	Annual	^a 25 µg/m ³					
Particulate matter < 2.5 µm (PM _{2.5})	Annual	^a 8 µg/m ³					
<i>Table 4: Short term impact assessment criterion for particulate matter</i>							
Pollutant	Averaging Period	^dCriterion					
Particulate matter < 10 µm (PM ₁₀)	24 hour	^a 50 µg/m ³					
Particulate matter < 2.5 µm (PM _{2.5})	24 hour	^b 25 µg/m ³					
<i>Table 5: Long term impact assessment criteria for deposited dust</i>							
Pollutant	Averaging Period	Maximum increase in deposited dust level	Maximum total deposited dust level				
^c Deposited dust	Annual	^b 2 g/m ² /month	² 4/g/m ² /month				
<p><i>Notes to Tables 3-5:</i></p> <p><i>a Cumulative impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the Cowal Gold Operations plus background concentrations due to all other sources).</i></p> <p><i>b Incremental impact (i.e. incremental increase in concentrations due to the Cowal Gold Operations on its own).</i></p> <p><i>c Deposited dust is to be assessed as insoluble solids as defined by Standards Australia, AS/NZS 3580.10.1:2003: Methods for Sampling and Analysis of Ambient Air - Determination of Particulate Matter - Deposited Matter - Gravimetric Method.</i></p> <p><i>d Excludes extraordinary events such as bushfires, prescribed burning, dust storms, fire incidents or any other activity agreed by the Planning Secretary.</i></p>							
b.	<p><u>Operating Conditions</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) implement best management practice to minimise the off-site odour, fume, spontaneous combustion and dust emissions of the Cowal Gold Operations;</p> <p>(ii) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the release of greenhouse gas emissions from the Cowal Gold Operations;</p> <p>(iii) minimise any visible off-site air pollution generated by the Cowal Gold Operations;</p> <p>(iv) minimise the surface disturbance on the Cowal Gold Operations;</p> <p>(v) minimise the air quality impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations during adverse meteorological conditions and extraordinary events (see noted above under Tables 3-5); and</p> <p>(vi) carry out regular monitoring to determine whether there is compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>			<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Air Quality Management Plan (Feb 2015)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>Auditor review of the Air Quality Management Plan indicates that Sections 7.1-7.4 of this Plan address requirements i-v of this condition. Section 6 addresses requirement vi.</p> <p>Over the audit period, there were no exceedances relating to air quality other than those noted in the response to Condition 6.1 (a). There were also no complaints relating to air quality over this time, as per the community complaints summaries in the Annual Reviews.</p> <p>No visible off-site air pollution was noted by the auditor during the site visit.</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
c.	<p><u>Air Quality Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement an Air Quality Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(i) be prepared in consultation with the EPA;</p> <p>(ii) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant air quality criteria and operating conditions of this consent:</p> <p>(iii) include an air quality monitoring program that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluates and reports on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the effectiveness of the air quality management system; compliance with the air quality criteria; compliance with the air quality operating conditions; and • defines what constitutes an air quality incident, and includes a protocol for identifying and notifying the Department and relevant stakeholders of any air quality incidents. 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Air Quality Management Plan (Feb 2015).</p> <p>Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 18 Feb 2016, containing approval of Air Quality Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Air Quality Management Plan should be updated to include updated names of mine owner.</p> <p>All of the requirements in this condition are addressed by this Plan.</p>	C	<p>The Air Quality Management Plan should be updated to include updated names of mine owner and departmental names.</p>

6.2 Meteorological Monitoring

	<p>For the life of the development, the Applicant shall ensure that there is a meteorological station in the vicinity of the site that complies with the requirements in the <i>Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales</i> guideline.</p>	<p>Automatic Weather Station Annual Report 2019-2021.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p> <p>Correspondence from Sentinel to Evolution Mining, dated 18 May 2022, stating compliance of meteorological station with guideline.</p>	<p>A weather station was observed during the audit with results available online. Annual Reports provide data collected.</p> <p>Correspondence from the supplier of the meteorological station (Sentinel) indicates this station is in compliance with the <i>Approved Methods for Sampling of Air Pollutants in New South Wales</i> guideline.</p>	C	
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6.3 Blast Management

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations																				
a.	<p><u>Impact Assessment Criteria</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that blasting on site does not cause any exceedance of the criteria in Table 6.</p> <p><i>Table 6: Blasting impact assessment criteria</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location & Time</th> <th>Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))</th> <th>Ground vibration (mm/s)</th> <th>Allowable exceedance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Residence on privately-owned land - Anytime</td> <td>120</td> <td>10</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during day</td> <td>115</td> <td>5</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during evening</td> <td>105</td> <td>2</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday at night, Sundays and public holidays</td> <td>95</td> <td>1</td> <td>5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>However, these criteria do not apply if the Applicant has a written agreement with the relevant owner to exceed the limits in Table 6, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p>	Location & Time	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance	Residence on privately-owned land - Anytime	120	10	0%	Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during day	115	5	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months	Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during evening	105	2	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months	Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday at night, Sundays and public holidays	95	1	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Blast Management Plan (Jan 2015).</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Published Environmental Monitoring Data 2019-Jan 2022.</p> <p>Letter from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 10 Dec 2015, containing approval of Blasting Management Plan</p>	<p>Examination of the Annual Reviews and Published Environmental Monitoring Data by the auditor indicates that there were a number of airblast overpressure exceedances over the audit period. Most of these were related to localised environmental factors, such as wind, with few related to the blasting and were within the allowable exceedances specified within Table 6 of this condition.</p>	C	
Location & Time	Airblast overpressure (dB(Lin Peak))	Ground vibration (mm/s)	Allowable exceedance																						
Residence on privately-owned land - Anytime	120	10	0%																						
Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during day	115	5	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months																						
Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday during evening	105	2	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months																						
Residence on privately-owned land – Monday to Saturday at night, Sundays and public holidays	95	1	5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months																						
b.	<p><u>Blasting Frequency</u></p> <p>The Applicant may carry out a maximum of 1 blast a day for the Open Cut Operations on site. This condition does not apply to blasts required to ensure the safety of the mine or its workers.</p> <p><i>Note: For the purposes of this condition a blast refers to a single blast event, which may involve a number of individual blasts fired in quick succession in a discrete area of the mine.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Published Environmental Monitoring Data 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	<p>Examination of the Published Environmental Monitoring Data by the auditor indicates that there have been two blasts on several days during the audit period, shortly after one another. It is understood that this reflects the practice of spacing pre-split and production blasts to reduce the potential for cumulative overpressure impact on the immediate surrounds of Lake Cowal. This is regarded to represent a single blast event, as allowed for by this condition.</p>	C																					
c.	<p><u>Property Investigations</u></p> <p>If the owner of any privately-owned land claims that buildings and/or structures on his/her land have been damaged as a result of blasting on the site, and the Planning Secretary agrees an independent investigation of the claim is warranted, then within 2 months of receiving this claim the Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, whose appointment is acceptable to both parties to investigate the claim; and</p> <p>(ii) give the landowner a copy of the property investigation report.</p> <p>If this independent property investigation confirms the landowner's claim, and both parties agree with these findings, then the Applicant shall repair the damage to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p> <p>If there is a dispute over the selection of the suitably qualified, experienced and independent person, or the Applicant or the landowner disagrees with the findings of the independent property investigation, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Monthly Complaints Registers 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	<p>There were two complaints related to blasting, including 2 September 2019 and 28 November 2019. In both instances, an investigation by the Evolution Mining Senior Advisor – Social Responsibility found that the over pressure and vibration were well under the compliance limits and there were no exceedances.</p> <p>There have been no claims that buildings and/or structures were damaged.</p>	NT																					

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
d.	<p><u>Operating Conditions:</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) implement best management practice to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the safety of people and livestock in the areas surrounding blasting operations; • protect public or private infrastructure/property in the surrounding area from damage from blasting operations; and • minimise the dust and fume emissions of any blasting; <p>(ii) operate a suitable system to enable the public to get up-to-date information on the proposed blasting schedule on site; and</p> <p>(iii) carry out regular monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent,</p> <p>to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Blast Management Plan (Jan 2015)</p> <p>Published Environmental Monitoring Data 2019-Jan 2022.</p> <p>Evolution Mining Cowal Gold website (https://evolutionmining.com.au/compliance/#cowalpart)</p>	<p>The Blast Management Plan provides for a range of management measures to minimise the impacts of blasting (e.g. Table 5 in this Plan). No exceedances (within the allowable limits) were recorded during the audit period (to Jan 2022) providing evidence that the management measures are implemented.</p> <p>Blasting monitoring data are provided in the Published Environmental Monitoring Data provided on the company website.</p> <p>The Blasting Management Plan Section 4.3 outlines the blast schedule. A telephone number is provided which enables the public to obtain up-to-date information on blasting.</p>	C	
e.	<p><u>Blast Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Blast Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(i) be prepared in consultation with the EPA;</p> <p>(ii) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the blast criteria and operating conditions of this consent; and</p> <p>(iii) include a monitoring program for evaluating and reporting on compliance with the blasting criteria and operating conditions of this consent.</p>	<p>Blast Management Plan (Jan 2015)</p> <p>Correspondence from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 10 December 2015, approving Blast Management Plan</p>	<p>The approved Blast Management Plan includes all the necessary information to satisfy this condition.</p>	C	

6.4 Noise Management

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations												
a.	<p>Acquisition Upon Request</p> <p>Upon receiving a written request for acquisition from the owner of any land listed in Table 7, the Applicant shall acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in condition 8.3.</p> <p><i>Table 7: Land subject to acquisition upon request</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Westella</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westlea</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Note: To interpret the location referred to Table 7, see the map in Appendix 6.</i></p>	Westella	Westlea	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	<p>Westlea was purchased August 2018 outside the audit period. No request related to this condition has been received over the audit period.</p>	NT											
Westella																	
Westlea																	
b.	<p><u>Additional Noise Mitigation</u></p> <p>Upon receiving a written request from the owner of the residences listed in Tables 7 and 7A, the Applicant shall implement additional noise mitigation measures (such as double-glazing, insulation, and/or air conditioning) at the residence in consultation with the landowner. These measures must be reasonable and feasible, and directed towards reducing the noise impacts of the development on the residence.</p> <p>If within 3 months of receiving this request from the owner, the Applicant and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p> <p><i>Table 7A: Land subject to mitigation upon request</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lakeview III</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Note: To interpret the location referred to Table 7A, see the map in Appendix 6.</i></p>	Lakeview III	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Quotes and Purchase Order (17 April 2020) for installation of air conditioning equipment and installation</p>	<p>Upon receiving a request, noise mitigation measures were implemented in the form of the installation of air conditioning equipment at two residences at Lakeview.</p> <p>There has been no disagreement on these measures.</p>	C												
Lakeview III																	
c.	<p><u>Impact Assessment Criteria</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that the noise generated by the Cowal Gold Operations does not exceed the noise impact assessment criteria in Table 8 at any residence on privately-owned land.</p> <p><i>Table 8: Noise Impact Assessment Criteria dB(A)</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Land</th> <th>Day/Evening/Night L_{Aeq} (15 min)</th> <th>Night L_{AF} max</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lakeview III</td> <td>38</td> <td rowspan="4">52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Glen</td> <td>37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lakeview, Foxman Downs II</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All other privately-owned land</td> <td>35</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: To identify the land referred to in Table 8, see the map in Appendix 6.</i></p> <p>Noise generated by the Cowal Gold Operations is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements and exemptions (including certain meteorological conditions) of the <i>Noise Policy for Industry</i> (EPA, 2017). The noise enhancing meteorological conditions determined by monitoring at the meteorological station required under condition 6.2 and as defined in Part D of the <i>Noise Policy for Industry</i> (EPA, 2017) apply to the noise criteria in Table 8.</p> <p>However, these criteria do not apply if the Applicant has an agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p>	Land	Day/Evening/Night L _{Aeq} (15 min)	Night L _{AF} max	Lakeview III	38	52	The Glen	37	Lakeview, Foxman Downs II	36	All other privately-owned land	35	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Attended Noise Monitoring (Spectrum Acoustics 2019 – Feb 2022).</p>	<p>Examination of the noise monitoring reports and the Annual Reviews by the auditor indicate that there have been no exceedances of the criteria listed in Table 8 of this condition.</p>	C	
Land	Day/Evening/Night L _{Aeq} (15 min)	Night L _{AF} max															
Lakeview III	38	52															
The Glen	37																
Lakeview, Foxman Downs II	36																
All other privately-owned land	35																

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
d.	<p><u>Operating Conditions</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) implement best management practice, including all reasonable and feasible mitigation measures, to minimise the operational, low frequency, and road noise of the development, including mitigation measures to:</p> <p>(ii) minimise the noise impacts of the development during meteorological conditions when the noise limits in this consent do not apply; and</p> <p>(iii) carry out regular attended monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent,</p> <p>to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Noise Management Plan (March 2022)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Attended Noise Monitoring (Spectrum Acoustics 2019 – Feb 2022).</p>	<p>The Noise Management Plan provides for the implementation of noise mitigation measures in Section 8 of this Plan.</p> <p>Attended noise monitoring has been undertaken over the audit period by Spectrum Acoustics, as evidenced by their reports sighted by the auditor.</p>	C	
e.	<p><u>Noise Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Noise Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <p>(i) be prepared in consultation with the EPA, and submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing any construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development and/or Modification 16 as described in the EIS, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise;</p> <p>(ii) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the noise criteria and operating conditions in this consent; and</p> <p>(iii) include a monitoring program that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluates and reports on: <p>compliance with the noise criteria in this consent; and</p> <p>compliance with the noise operating conditions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defines what constitutes a noise incident, and includes a protocol for identifying and notifying the Department and relevant stakeholders of any noise incidents. 	<p>Noise Management Plan (March 2022)</p> <p>Correspondence from the DP&E on 17 March 2022 notifying Evolution Mining that the Noise Management Plan has been approved.</p>	<p>The Noise Management Plan was approved by the DP&E on 17 March 2022. This Plan addresses all the requirements of this condition.</p>	C	

6.5 Visual Management

a.	<p><u>Additional Visual Impact Mitigation</u></p> <p>Upon receiving a written request from the owner of any residence on privately-owned land which has, or would have, significant direct views of the mining operations and infrastructure on-site during the development, the Applicant shall implement additional visual impact mitigation measures (such as landscaping treatments or vegetation screens) to reduce the visibility of the mining operations and infrastructure from the residences on the privately-owned land.</p> <p>These mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible, and must be implemented within a reasonable timeframe.</p> <p>If the owner of the residence and the Applicant cannot agree whether there are significant direct views from the residence, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p> <p>If within 3 months of receiving this request, the Applicant and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The additional visual impact mitigation measures must be aimed at reducing the visibility of the mining operations on site from affected residences, and do not require measures to reduce the visibility of the mining operations from other locations on the affected properties.</i> • <i>The additional visual impact mitigation measures do not necessarily have to include the implementation of measures on the affected property itself (i.e. the additional measures could involve the implementation of measures outside the affected property boundary that provide an effective reduction in visual impacts).</i> 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Complaint Registers 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	<p>Summaries of community complaints are provided in the Annual Reviews. Two complaints regarding lighting occurred over the audit period, including 24 April 2019 and 19 March 2021. The first occasion was a combined light and noise complaint, leading to installation of noise mitigation. No further complaints were received from this landholder. The second occasion was mitigated by slight movement of mine lighting.</p>	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
b.	<p><u>Operating Conditions</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(i) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the visual and off-site lighting impacts from the Cowal Gold Operations;</p> <p>(ii) ensure no fixed outdoor lights shine directly above the horizontal or above the building line or any illuminated structure;</p> <p>(iii) ensure no in-pit mobile lighting rigs shine directly above the pit wall and other mobile lighting rigs do not shine directly above the horizontal;</p> <p>(iv) ensure that all external lighting at the Cowal Gold Operations complies with relevant Australian Standards including Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting, or its latest version; and</p> <p>(v) take all reasonable and feasible measures to shield views of mining operations and associated equipment from users of public roads and privately-owned residences, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Complaint Registers 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	As per the response under Condition 6.5 (a), Evolution Mining has implemented measures to address off-site lighting impacts.	C	

7. Transport Management

7.1 Road Transport

a.	<p><u>Mine site access road</u></p> <p>The Applicant shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the preferred mine access road routes as described in the EIS are the only routes used by employees and contractors travelling to and from the mine site.</p> <p><i>Note: The preferred and alternate transport routes are shown in Appendix 7.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	All staff with the exception of management are required to travel to work on CGO buses which operate on preferred access roads described in the EIS. Preferred routes are outlined to management.	C							
b.	<p><u>Lake Cowal Road Realignment</u></p> <p>The Applicant must design and construct the Lake Cowal Road realignment in consultation with BSC and in accordance with the <i>Austrroads Guide to Road Design</i> (as amended by TfNSW supplements).</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Minutes of meetings between Evolution Mining and representatives of Bland Shire Council, Lachlan Shire Council, and Forbes Shire Council, discussing inter alia the Lake Cowal Road alignment, dated 13 August 2019, 11 February 2020, and 25 August 2020.</p> <p>Transport Management Plan (Jan 2022)</p> <p>See also response to Condition 1.5.</p>	Minutes of meetings between Evolution Mining and surrounding Councils during the construction of the Lake Cowal Road Realignment (MOD 14) provide evidence of ongoing consultation with Bland Shire Council.	C							
c.	<p><u>Road Upgrades</u></p> <p>Prior to using the proposed mine access routes shown in Appendix 7, the Applicant must fund the road upgrades detailed in Table 9, to the satisfaction of the applicable roads authority and in accordance with the <i>Austrroads Guide to Road Design</i> (as amended by TfNSW supplements), unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary.</p> <p><i>Table 9: Road upgrades – Modification 14</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Upgrade requirements</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bena Street between Wamboyne Road and Burcher Road</td> <td>Localised widening of Bena Street and Lake Cowal Road on approach to Wamboyne Road to allow vehicles to pass in the vicinity of the intersection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wamboyne Road between Blow Clear Road and Bena Street</td> <td>Maintenance of guide posts</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Location	Upgrade requirements	Bena Street between Wamboyne Road and Burcher Road	Localised widening of Bena Street and Lake Cowal Road on approach to Wamboyne Road to allow vehicles to pass in the vicinity of the intersection	Wamboyne Road between Blow Clear Road and Bena Street	Maintenance of guide posts	See response to Condition 1.5.	See response to Condition 1.5.	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations																				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lake Cowal Road at the intersection with Bonehams Lane and the Mine Access Road</td> <td>Install give way markings across Lake Cowal Road at the intersection with Bonehams Lane and the Mine Access Road</td> </tr> <tr> <td>90-degree bend in Bonehams Lane</td> <td>Improve signage at the bend with chevron alignment markers or similar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bonehams Lane at Blow Clear Road</td> <td>Install give way markings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blow Clear Road on approach to Wamboyne Road</td> <td>Replace the non-compliant crossroad warning sign with a give way ahead (W3-2) sign</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wamboyne Road at its intersection with Blow Clear Road</td> <td>Upgrade the pavement for left turns from Wamboyne Road onto Blow Clear Road and upgrade intersection signage and line marking</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wamboyne Road (north) at its intersection with Wamboyne Road (southwest) and Fitzgerald Road</td> <td>Install give way signs and line marking across Wamboyne Road (north) at its intersection with Wamboyne Road (southwest) and Fitzgerald Road and replace the non-compliant sight board</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wamboyne Road at its intersection with Bena Street and Lake Cowal Road</td> <td>Install give way signs and line marking</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lonerigans Lane at Blow Clear Road</td> <td>Install give way signs and line marking</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lonerigans Lane on its immediate approach to Blow Clear Road</td> <td>Seal for approximately 20 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bodells Lane on its immediate approach to Newell Highway</td> <td>Seal for approximately 20 m</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Note: The proposed mine access routes referred to in this condition are the 'Condobolin – Sealed Network' route and 'Forbes – High Water Level' route shown in Appendix 7.</i></p>	Lake Cowal Road at the intersection with Bonehams Lane and the Mine Access Road	Install give way markings across Lake Cowal Road at the intersection with Bonehams Lane and the Mine Access Road	90-degree bend in Bonehams Lane	Improve signage at the bend with chevron alignment markers or similar	Bonehams Lane at Blow Clear Road	Install give way markings	Blow Clear Road on approach to Wamboyne Road	Replace the non-compliant crossroad warning sign with a give way ahead (W3-2) sign	Wamboyne Road at its intersection with Blow Clear Road	Upgrade the pavement for left turns from Wamboyne Road onto Blow Clear Road and upgrade intersection signage and line marking	Wamboyne Road (north) at its intersection with Wamboyne Road (southwest) and Fitzgerald Road	Install give way signs and line marking across Wamboyne Road (north) at its intersection with Wamboyne Road (southwest) and Fitzgerald Road and replace the non-compliant sight board	Wamboyne Road at its intersection with Bena Street and Lake Cowal Road	Install give way signs and line marking	Lonerigans Lane at Blow Clear Road	Install give way signs and line marking	Lonerigans Lane on its immediate approach to Blow Clear Road	Seal for approximately 20 m	Bodells Lane on its immediate approach to Newell Highway	Seal for approximately 20 m				
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d.	<p><u>Transport Management Plan</u></p> <p>The Applicant must prepare a Transport Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must be prepared in consultation with TfNSW, Forbes, Bland and Lachlan councils and be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing any construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development and/or Modification 16 as described in the EIS, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise. The plan must include:</p> <p>(i) details of the transport routes to be used for development-related traffic, including roads to be used during construction of the pipeline duplication (as shown in Appendix 7);</p> <p>(ii) a protocol for undertaking dilapidation surveys to assess the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing condition of local roads along the approved transport routes prior to any development-related construction works; and • condition of local roads along these transport routes following any development-related construction works; <p>(iii) a protocol for the repair of any local roads identified in the dilapidation surveys to have been damaged during development-related construction works;</p> <p>(iv) detailed plans and implementation schedules for the road upgrades specified in Table 9 of Schedule 2 of this consent;</p> <p>(v) detailed plans of the pipeline duplication and Lake Cowal Road realignment, as these works relate to impacts on local roads;</p> <p>(vi) details of the measures that would be implemented to minimise traffic safety issues and disruption to local users of the transport routes during construction and operation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • measures to manage development-related traffic, including vehicles associated with the pipeline construction, road realignment and gravel haulage campaigns; • measures to encourage the use of the employee shuttle bus service; • temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage; • notifying the local community about development-related traffic impacts; • minimising potential for conflict with school buses and other motorists as far as practicable; • scheduling of haulage vehicle movements to minimise convoy length or platoons; • responding to local climate conditions that may affect road safety such as fog, dust, wet weather; • responding to any emergency repair or maintenance requirements; and • a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles; <p>(vii) a driver's code of conduct that addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • travelling speeds; 	<p>Transport Management Plan (Jan 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 11 April 2022, approving the Transport Management Plan.</p>	<p>The Transport Management Plan contains all the required information under this Condition.</p>	C																					

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • driver fatigue; • procedures to ensure that drivers adhere to the designated transport routes; and • procedures to ensure that drivers implement safe driving practices; (viii) a complaints handling procedure; and (ix) a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of the implementation of the measures in this plan. <p>The Applicant must implement the approved Transport Management Plan for the development.</p>				
8. Additional Procedures					
8.1 Notification of Landowners/Tenants					
a.	<p>By the end of September 2014, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant shall notify in writing the owners of:</p> <p>(i) the land listed in Table 7 that they have the right to ask the Applicant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acquire their land at any stage during the development; and • install additional noise mitigation measures at any residence on their land; <p>(ii) any residence on privately-owned land which has, or would have, significant direct views of the mining operations and infrastructure on-site during the development, that they have the right to ask the Applicant to implement additional visual impact mitigation measures (such as landscaping treatments or vegetation screens) to reduce the visibility of the mining operations and infrastructure from the affected residences on the land.</p>	Note	Condition precedes audit period	NT	
b.	<p>As soon as practicable after obtaining monitoring results showing:</p> <p>(i) an exceedance of any relevant criteria in this consent, the Applicant shall notify the affected landowners in writing of the exceedance, and provide regular monitoring results to the landowner until the development is again complying with the relevant criteria; and</p> <p>(ii) an exceedance of the relevant air quality criteria in this consent, the Applicant shall send a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet entitled "Mine Dust and You" (as may be updated from time to time) to the affected landowners and/or existing tenants of the land.</p>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	While there have been some exceedances with regards to dust (see response to Condition 6.1 (a)), these were recorded on land owned by Evolution Mining, and therefore no landowner notification is triggered by these exceedances.	NT	
8.2 Independent Review					
	<p>If an owner of privately-owned land considers the development to be exceeding the criteria in this consent, then he/she may ask the Planning Secretary in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the development on his/her land.</p> <p>If the Planning Secretary is satisfied that an independent review is warranted, then within 2 months of the Planning Secretary's decision, the Applicant shall:</p>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	There have been no requests relating to this condition over the audit period.	NT	
a.	<p>commission a suitably qualified, experienced and independent expert, whose appointment has been approved by the Planning Secretary, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consult with the landowner to determine his/her concerns; • conduct monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant impact assessment criteria in condition 6 of this consent; and • if the development is not complying with these criteria then: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o determine if more than one mine or development is responsible for the exceedance, and if so the relative share of each mine or development regarding the impact on the land; and o identify the measures that could be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant criteria; and 	As for Condition 8.2 above.	As for Condition 8.2 above.	NT	
b.	give the Planning Secretary and landowner a copy of the independent review.	As for Condition 8.2 above.	As for Condition 8.2 above.	NT	
8.3 Land Acquisition					
a.	<p>Within 6 months of receiving a written request from a landowner with acquisition rights, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner based on:</p> <p>(i) the current market value of the landowner's interest in the property at the date of this written request, as if the property was unaffected by the development, having regard to the:</p>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	There have been no requests relating to this condition over the audit period.	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing and permissible use of the land, in accordance with the applicable planning instruments at the date of the written request; and • presence of improvements on the property and/or any approved building or structure which has been physically commenced at the date of the landowner's written request, and is due to be completed subsequent to that date, but excluding any improvements that have resulted from the implementation of any additional noise and/or visual mitigation measures under this consent; <p>(ii) the reasonable costs associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relocating within the same local government area, or to any other local government area determined by the Planning Secretary; • obtaining legal advice and expert advice for determining the acquisition price of the land, and the terms upon which it is to be acquired; and <p>(iii) reasonable compensation for any disturbance caused by the land acquisition process.</p> <p>However, if at the end of this period, the Applicant and landowner cannot agree on the acquisition price of the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p> <p>Upon receiving such a request, the Planning Secretary shall request the President of the NSW Division of the Australian Property Institute to appoint a qualified independent valuer to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) consider submissions from both parties; (2) determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, having regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (i)-(iii) above; (3) prepare a detailed report setting out the reasons for any determination; and (4) provide a copy of the report to both parties. <p>Within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the independent valuer's determination.</p> <p>However, if either party disputes the independent valuer's determination, then within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, they may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for review. Any request for a review must be accompanied by a detailed report setting out the reasons why the party disputes the independent valuer's determination. Following consultation with the independent valuer and both parties, the Planning Secretary shall determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land, having regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (i)-(iii) above, the independent valuer's report, the detailed report of the party that disputes the independent valuer's determination and any other relevant submissions.</p> <p>Within 14 days of this determination, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the Planning Secretary's determination.</p> <p>If the landowner refuses to accept the Applicant's binding written offer under this condition within 6 months of the offer being made, then the Applicant's obligations to acquire the land shall cease, unless the Planning Secretary determines otherwise.</p>				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
b.	The Applicant shall pay all reasonable costs associated with the land acquisition process described in condition 8.3(a) above.	As for Condition 8.3 (a) above.	As for Condition 8.3 (a) above.	NT	
c.	If the Applicant and landowner agree that only part of the land shall be acquired, then the Applicant shall also pay all reasonable costs associated with obtaining Council approval for any plan of subdivision (where permissible), and registration of the plan at the Office of the Registrar-General.	As for Condition 8.3 (a) above.	As for Condition 8.3 (a) above.	NT	

9. Environmental Management, Auditing and Reporting

9.1 Environmental Management

a.	<p><u>Environmental Management Strategy</u> The Applicant shall prepare and implement an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval by the end of October 2014, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise; (ii) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development; (iii) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development; (iv) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development; (v) describe the procedures that would be implemented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; • receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; • resolve any disputes that may arise; • respond to any non-compliance; • respond to emergencies; and (vi) include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; and • a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development. 	<p>Environmental Management Strategy (Dec 2021).</p> <p>Correspondence from the DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 11 April 2022, stating approval of the Environmental Management Strategy.</p>	The Environmental Management Strategy as approved by the DPIE on 11 April 2022 addresses all the requirements of this condition.	C	
b.	<p><u>Annual Review</u> By the end of March each year, or as otherwise agreed with the Planning Secretary, the Applicant shall review the environmental performance of the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This review must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) describe the development that was carried out in the previous calendar year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the next year; (ii) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the previous calendar year, which includes a comparison of these results against the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria; • the monitoring results of previous years; and • the relevant predictions in the EIS; (iii) identify any non-compliance over the last year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to ensure compliance; (iv) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development, including the ongoing interaction between the Cowal Gold Mine and Lake Cowal; (v) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and (vi) describe what measures will be implemented over the next year to improve the environmental performance of the development. 	Annual Reviews 2019-2021.	The auditor reviewed Annual Reviews for the 2019-2021 years, provided on the Evolution Mining Cowal Gold website (https://evolutionmining.com.au/compliance/#cowalpart). These Reviews address all the requirements of this condition.	C	
c.	<p><u>Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs</u> Within 3 months of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the submission of an annual review under condition 9.1(b) above; (ii) the submission of a non-compliance or incident notification under condition 9.3(a) or 9.3(b) below; (iii) the submission of an audit under condition 9.2 (a) below; (iv) the approval of any modification to the conditions of this consent; or 	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	<p>No specific register is currently maintained by Evolution Mining to support the review timeframe as specified in this requirement.</p> <p>However, the Environment Superintendent advised the auditor that the mine site has moved from the InForm system, which enables notification to individuals (in isolation) about tasks to be completed with respect to the obligations register, to the</p>	NC	Register to be created to track, plan revisions.

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(v) a direction of the Planning Secretary under condition 1.1(b) of this consent; the suitability of existing strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be reviewed by the Applicant.</p> <p>If necessary, to either improve the environmental performance of the development or cater for a modification or comply with a direction, the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be revised, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Where revisions are required, the revised document must be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review.</p> <p><i>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</i></p>		<p>InControl system, which provides notification to management resulting in greater oversight, thereby assisting in ensuring that tasks are completed on time.</p>		
d.	<p><u>Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee</u></p> <p>(i) The Applicant shall establish and operate a Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee (CEMCC) for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This CEMCC must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be comprised of an independent chair and at least 2 representatives of the Applicant, 1 representative of BSC, 1 representative of the Lake Cowal Environmental Trust (but not a Trust representative of the Applicant), 4 community representatives (including one member of the Lake Cowal Landholders Association); • be operated in general accordance with the Department's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines: State Significant Projects (2019 or its latest version); and • monitor compliance with conditions of this consent and other matters relevant to the operation of the Cowal Gold Operations during the term of the consent. <p><i>Note: The CEMCC is an advisory committee. The Department and other relevant agencies are responsible for ensuring that the Applicant complies with this consent.</i></p> <p>(ii) The Applicant shall establish a trust fund to be managed by the Chair of the CEMCC to facilitate the functioning of the CEMCC, and pay \$2000 per annum to the fund for the duration of gold processing operations. The annual payment shall be indexed according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) at the time of payment. The first payment shall be made by the date of the first Committee meeting. The Applicant shall also contribute to the Trust Fund reasonable funds for payment of the independent Chairperson, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</p> <p>(iii) At least four years prior to mine closure the Applicant shall, in consultation with the CEMCC, identify and discuss post-mining issues, particularly in relation to reduced employment and consequent impacts on West Wyalong, and develop a mine workforce phase out plan. This plan shall be reviewed and updated in consultation with the CEMCC at the commencement of the final year of mining operations.</p> <p>(iv) The Applicant shall, in consultation with the CEMCC, develop appropriate strategies to support activities which promote special interest tourism related to the co-existence of mining and the Lake Cowal environment.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Charter of the Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee Dec 2011.</p> <p>CEMCC meeting minutes 2019-2022.</p> <p>Purchase Order dated 31 Dec 2021 to Bland Shire Council for CEMCC Independent Chair.</p> <p>Purchase Order to quarterly payment to the Lake Cowal Foundation Ltd.</p>	<p>The CEMCC was consulted in advance of this audit and their input recorded and addressed. The auditor reviewed the CEMCC meeting minutes and payment by Evolution Mining to the Bland Shire Council.</p> <p>The auditor sighted a Purchase Order for a quarterly payment to the Lake Cowal Foundation for the operation of the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre, including ecotourism facility.</p>	C	

9.2 Independent Auditing and Review

a.	<p><u>Independent Environmental Audit</u></p> <p>(i) By the end of July 2016, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Planning Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the Cowal Gold Operations. This audit must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be prepared in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020 or as amended from time to time); • be led and conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts (including ecology and rehabilitation experts, and in field's specified by the Planning Secretary) whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary; • be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies, BSC and the CEMCC; • assess whether the development complies with the relevant requirements in this consent, and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent; and • recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any strategy, plan or program required under this consent. <p>(ii) Deleted.</p>	This audit	This audit has been conducted to meet his condition.	C	
b.	deleted				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
9.3 Notification					
a.	<p><u>Incident Notification</u> The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one) and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 8.</p>	<p>Correspondence from EPA to Evolution Mining dated 7 July 2021 acknowledging receipt of report on cyanide exceedance (EPA Ref 3899) (Non-Compliance)</p> <p>INX In Control system notification 7 July 2021 re slurry</p> <p>Correspondence internal at Evolution Mining referring to cyanide exceedance notification to EPA (notification C02325-2020).</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to EPA, dated 13 July 2021, with further details of cyanide exceedance on 7 July 2021.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to NSW EPA dated 15 July 2020 providing a letter to the EPA providing further details of a slurry spill notified to EPA on 8 July 2020 EPA (Ref C10443).</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to DP&E, dated 13 July 2021, with notification of elevated CNWAD readings, with attached correspondence to EPA.</p>	<p>The auditor has viewed examples of incident notifications and reports to the EPA as well as an example of notification to DPIE, regarding cyanide exceedances. These notifications and reports address all the requirements of this condition.</p> <p>The mine uses the InControl system to track and monitor Incident Notifications, allowing management to review and manage all incidents and then determine whether external notification is required.</p>	C	
b.	<p><u>Non-Compliance Notification</u> The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance. A non-compliance notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance. <i>Note: A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.</i></p>	As for Condition 9.3 (a) above.	As for Condition 9.3 (a) above. The cyanide exceedance was a non-compliance. The notification to DPIE occurred by email (under Mod 15) with further details of the nature of the occurrence sent within one week of the occurrence.	C	
9.4 Access to Information					
The Applicant shall:					
a.	<p>make the following information publicly available on its website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the EIS; (ii) current statutory approvals for the development; (iii) approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent; (iv) a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; (v) a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis; (vi) minutes of CEMCC meetings; (vii) the last five annual reviews; (viii) any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and (ix) regular reporting on the environmental performance of the development, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this consent; (x) any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and 	https://evolutionmining.com.au/cowal/	The Evolution Mining Cowal Gold website was reviewed by the auditor, indicating that it addresses all the requirements of this condition	C	

TABLE C1 – DA1498
Consolidated Consent

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
b.	Keep this information up to date, To the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	As for Condition 9.4 (a) above.	As for Condition 9.4 (a) above.	C	

Document details	
Document title	Table C2 SSD 10367
Document subtitle	State Significant Development
Project No.	0641147
Date	26 May 2022
Version	1.0
Author	Toivo Zoete
Client Name	Evolution Mining - Cowal Gold

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
State Significant Development 10367					
Administrative Conditions					
Obligation to Minimise Harm to the Environment					
A1.	In addition to meeting the specific performance measures and criteria established under this consent, the Applicant must implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent, and if prevention is not reasonable and feasible, minimise, any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction and operation of the development, and any rehabilitation required under this consent.		Refer to the detailed findings of this audit	Note	
Terms of Consent					
A2.	The development may only be carried out: (a) in compliance with the conditions of this consent; (b) in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary made under condition A3; (c) generally in accordance with the EIS; and (d) generally in accordance with the Development Layout.	Note	Note	Note	
A3.	Consistent with the requirements in this consent, the Planning Secretary may make written directions to the Applicant in relation to: (a) the content of any strategy, study, system, plan, program, review, audit, notification, report or correspondence submitted under or	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.	No written directions received.	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>otherwise made in relation to this consent, including those that are required to be, and have been, approved by the Planning Secretary; and</p> <p>(b) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in any such document referred to in paragraph (a).</p>				
A4.	<p>The conditions of this consent and directions of the Planning Secretary made under condition A3 prevail to the extent of any inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between them and the document/s listed in condition A2(c). In the event of an inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict between any of the document/s listed in condition A2(c), the most recent document prevails to the extent of the inconsistency, ambiguity or conflict.</p>	Note	Note	Note	
Notification of Commencement					
A5.	<p>The Applicant must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of each of the following phases of development, at least two weeks before that date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) commencement of development under this consent; (b) commencement of construction under this consent; (c) commencement of mining operations under this consent; (d) cessation of mining operations (i.e. mine closure); and (e) any period of suspension of mining operations (i.e. care and maintenance). 	<p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 5 October 2021, advising dates of development (20 October 2021) and Construction (20 October 2021).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 2 April 2022, acknowledging receipt of letter outlining intention to commence construction upon approval of relevant management plans</p>	Letters sighted by auditor.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
A6.	If the development is to be further staged, the Department must be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of each stage, of the date of commencement and the development to be carried out in that stage.	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.	No further staging is proposed to date.	NT	

Limits of Consent

Mining Operations

A7.	<p>Mining operations may be carried out on the site within the approved disturbance area until 31 December 2040.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under this consent, the Applicant is required to decommission and rehabilitate the site and carry out other requirements in relation to mining operations. Consequently, this consent will continue to apply in all respects other than to permit the carrying out of mining operations until the rehabilitation of the site and other requirements have been carried out to the required standard. • Mining operations and rehabilitation are also regulated under the Mining Act 1992. 	Note	Note	Note	
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Identification of Approved Disturbance Area

A8.	Within three months of commencement of development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must provide to the Department a survey plan (or spatial files in format agreed by the Planning Secretary) of the boundaries of the approved disturbance areas.	Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 22 Dec 2021, acknowledging receipt of survey plan	The survey plan was submitted within three months of commencement of development under this consent.	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Planning Agreement					
A9.	<p>Within 6 months of the date of commencement of development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must enter into a PA with BSC in accordance with:</p> <p>(a) Division 7.1 of Part 7 of the EP&A Act; and</p> <p>(b) the terms of the Applicant's offer to BSC in Appendix 4.</p>	<p>Correspondence from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 3 March 2022, confirming receipt of Planning Agreement between Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd and Bland Shire Council</p>	<p>A Planning Agreement between Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd and Bland Shire Council has been prepared and was submitted to DP&E.</p>	C	
A10.	<p>If there is any dispute between the Applicant and BSC in regards to condition A9 then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	<p>The auditor was informed that no dispute has arisen in relation to Condition A9 to date.</p>	C	
Community Consultative Committee					
A11.	<p>The Applicant must operate of the Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee (CEMCC) established under DA 14/98 for the Cowal Gold Operations. The CEMCC must be operated in accordance with the Department's <i>Community Consultative Committee Guidelines: State Significant Projects (2019)</i> during the life of the development, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CEMCC is an advisory committee only. In accordance with the Guidelines, the Committee should comprise an independent chair and appropriate representation from the Applicant, BSC and the local community. 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Charter of the Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee Dec 2011.</p> <p>CEMCC meeting minutes 2019-2022.</p> <p>Purchase Order dated 31 Dec 2021 to Bland Shire Council for CEMCC Independent Chair.</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the CEMCC meeting minutes and payment by Evolution Mining to the Bland Shire Council, providing evidence that the CEMCC is operated by Evolution Mining.</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Evidence of Consultation					
A12.	<p>Where conditions of this consent require consultation with an identified party, the Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) consult with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document for approval; and (b) provide details of the consultation undertaken to the Planning Secretary, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the outcome of that consultation, matters resolved and unresolved; and ii. details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Applicant and how the Applicant has addressed the matters not resolved. 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan (March 2022)</p> <p>Correspondence from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 16 March 2022, approving the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan.</p>	<p>In the preparation of Management Plans required under conditions of this consent, consultation is undertaken, as submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval of the those Plans. As an example, the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan notes consultation undertaken in Section 2.1 of that Plan, while the approval letter by DP&E for this Plan acknowledges that adequate consultation has been undertaken.</p>	C	
Staging, Combining and Updating Strategies, Plans or Programs					
A13.	<p>With the approval of the Planning Secretary, the Applicant may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a staged basis (if a clear description is provided as to the specific stage and scope of the development to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 8 October 2021.</p> <p>Noise Management Plan (March 2022).</p>	<p>Evolution Mining notified the DPIE of its intention to stage preparation of a number of management plans. It also notified the DPIE of its intention to integrate existing management plans prepared for surface</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>the stage to any future stages and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program); (b) combine any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (if a clear relationship is demonstrated between the strategies, plans or programs that are proposed to be combined); (c) update any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (to ensure the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent are updated on a regular basis and incorporate additional measures or amendments to improve the environmental performance of the development); and (d) combine any strategy, plan or program required by this consent with any similar strategy, plan or program required by other consents for the Cowal Gold Operations subject to common, shared or related ownership or management.</p>	<p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 17 March 2022, stating approval of the Noise Management Plan.</p>	<p>facilities and the exploration decline with those required under the SSD conditions. An example is the (integrated) Noise Management Plan (March 2022).</p>		
A14.	<p>If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged without addressing particular requirements of the relevant condition of this consent if those requirements are not applicable to the particular stage.</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Note</p>	<p>Note</p>	
A15.	<p>If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged or updated without consultation being undertaken with all parties required to be consulted in the relevant condition in this consent.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 8 October 2021, stating reasons for foregoing further consultation.</p>	<p>Evolution Mining prepared the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan without consultation being undertaken with all parties required to be consulted. The reason given is that the previous consultation undertaken in relation to accommodation application</p>	<p>C</p>	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		<p>Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 16 March 2022, approving the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan.</p>	<p>process, including public consultation and exhibitions, were complete and that no new information was available for release since these consultations.</p> <p>The Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan was approved by the DP&E.</p>		

Public Infrastructure

Protection of Public Infrastructure

A16.	<p>Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by carrying out the development; and</p> <p>(b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.</p> <p>Note: This condition does not apply to any damage to roads caused as a result of general road usage or otherwise addressed by contributions made by the Applicant to the relevant Council or to damage subject to compensation under the Mining Act 1992.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	<p>No public infrastructure is known to have been impacted deleteriously by the underground development works to date.</p>	NT	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Demolition					
A17.	All demolition must be carried out in accordance with <i>Australian Standard AS 2601-2001 The Demolition of Structures</i> (Standards Australia, 2001), or its latest version.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Auditor observations.	The auditor was informed that no buildings were demolished during audit period.	NT	
Structural Adequacy					
A18.	All new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, that are part of the development must be constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA. Notes: <i>Under Part 6 of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the proposed building works.</i> Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development.	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser. Auditor observations.	The auditor was informed that no new buildings were constructed during audit period.	NT	
Operation of Plant and Equipment					
A19.	All plant and equipment used on site, or to monitor the performance of the development must be: maintained in a (a) proper and efficient condition; and (b) operated in a proper and efficient manner.	Interview with Environment Advisor, Leading Hand Mining Maintenance	The auditor observed that pre-starts are conducted on all mobile vehicles each day through Evolution Pre-Start App. The auditor was provided a demonstration of the preventative maintenance	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			<p>process at the Mobile Plant Workshop.</p> <p>The weather monitoring station was observed by the auditor. No non-compliances have been recorded due to equipment down time.</p>		
Compliance					
A.20	The Applicant must ensure that all of its employees, contractors (and their sub-contractors) are made aware of, and are instructed to comply with, the conditions of this consent relevant to activities they carry out in respect of the development.	<p>Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>All employees are subject to the induction process, which outlines relevant requirements in accordance with these conditions.</p> <p>The site leadership team is informed/reminded of the conditions via fortnightly Round Table meetings.</p>	C	
Applicability of Guidelines					
A21.	References in the conditions of this consent to any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy are to such guidelines, protocols, Standards or policies in the form they are in as at the date of inclusion (or later update) of the condition.	Note	Note	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
A22.	However, consistent with the conditions of this consent and without altering any limits or criteria in this consent, the Planning Secretary may, in respect of ongoing monitoring and management obligations, agree to or require compliance with an updated or revised version of such a guideline, protocol, Standard or policy, or a replacement of them.	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.	No notifications have been received from the Planning Secretary in relation to this condition to date.	NT	
Crown Land					
A23.	The Applicant must consult with DPIE Crown Lands prior to undertaking development on Crown Land or Crown Roads. Notes: • Under section 265 of the Mining Act 1992, the Applicant is required to enter into a compensation agreement with DPIE Crown Lands prior to undertaking any mining operations or related activities on Crown land or Crown roads within a mining lease. • Under section 141 of the Mining Act 1992, the Applicant is required to enter into an access arrangement with DPIE Crown Lands prior to undertaking any prospecting operations on Crown land or Crown roads within an exploration licence.	Interviews with Environment Superintendent and Environmental Adviser.	No development relating to this consent has been undertaken in Crown Land or on Crown Roads to date.	C	
Specific Environmental Conditions					
Water					
Water Supply					
B1.	The Applicant must ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		<p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Site Water Tracker.</p>	<p>(March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit, subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal. The auditor's review of this Plan noted that it provides a water balance (Table 8) showing inflows and outflows during dry, median, and wet conditions. Potential yearly inflows (including existing water licence allocations) exceed yearly outflows under each scenario.</p> <p>The auditor's review of the 19-2021 Annual reports noted that tables showing entitlements and water extractions under each Water Licence are provided.</p> <p>The Site Water Tracker indicates that the maximum daily water usage from the Bland Creek Paleochannel over the period 1 July 2007 – 31 March 2022 was 12.85 ML, less than the maximum 15 ML/day specified in Water Licence 31864.</p>		
B2.		Annual Reviews 2019-2021.	The auditor's review of the 19-2021 Annual Reviews	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>The Applicant must report on water extracted from the Cowal Gold Operations each year (direct and indirect) in the Annual Review, including water taken under each water licence.</p> <p><i>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain all necessary water licences for the development, including during rehabilitation and post mine closure.</i></p>		<p>noted that tables showing entitlements and water extractions under each Water Licence are provided.</p>		
Compensatory Water Supply					
B3.	<p>The Applicant must provide a compensatory water supply to any landowner of privately-owned land whose rightful water supply is adversely and directly impacted (other than an impact that is minor or negligible) as a result of the Cowal Gold Operations, in consultation with DPIE Water, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	<p>CGO utilises the Site Online Water Tracker to monitor water consumption. The auditor was advised that if an exceedance of external water consumption is triggered, CGO would notify the DPIE in the first instance and conduct an investigation to under the circumstances surrounding the exceedance. Following this, CGO would approach landowners directly to request whether the landowner would like to seek compensation as per the CoA.</p> <p>The auditor learned from the Environment Superintendent that no adverse impacts (trigger exceedances) as per this</p>	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			condition have occurred over the auditing period.		
B4.	The compensatory water supply measures must provide an alternative long term supply of water that is equivalent, in quality and volume, to the loss attributable to the Cowal Gold Operations. Equivalent water supply should be provided (at least on an interim basis) as soon as practicable after the loss is identified, unless otherwise agreed with the landowner.	As for B3.	As for B3.	NT	
B5.	If the Applicant and the landowner cannot agree on whether the loss of water is attributed to the Cowal Gold Operations or the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.	As for B3.	As for B3.	NT	
B6.	If the Applicant is unable to provide an alternative long term supply of water, then the Applicant must provide compensation, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.	As for B3.	As for B3.	NT	
B7.	However, conditions B3 to B6 do not apply if the Applicant has a compensatory water agreement with the owner/s of the land and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement. Notes: • The Water Management Plan (see condition B9) is required to include trigger levels for investigating potentially adverse impacts on water supplies. • The burden of proof that any loss of water supply is not due to mining impacts rests with the Applicant.	As for B3.	As for B3.	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the avoidance of doubt, the Applicant is not required to provide compensatory water supplies under this consent if equivalent compensatory water supplies are provided under the consent for the open cut operations. 				

Water Management Performance Measures

B8.	<p>The Applicant must ensure that the Cowal Gold Operations complies with the performance measures in Table 1.</p> <p>Table 1: Water management performance measures</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Feature</th> <th>Performance Measure</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Water management – General</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise water recycling, reuse and sharing opportunities Minimise the need for make-up water from external supplies, particularly the use of higher quality water used by other land users Design, install, operate and maintain water management infrastructure in a proper and efficient manner Minimise risks to the receiving environment and downstream water users </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aquifers</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negligible impacts to alluvial and fractured rock aquifers caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Performance Measure	Water management – General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise water recycling, reuse and sharing opportunities Minimise the need for make-up water from external supplies, particularly the use of higher quality water used by other land users Design, install, operate and maintain water management infrastructure in a proper and efficient manner Minimise risks to the receiving environment and downstream water users 	Aquifers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negligible impacts to alluvial and fractured rock aquifers caused by the Cowal Gold Operations beyond those predicted in the EIS, including: 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme (July 2018)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan (March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit, subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal. Water related monitoring is provided for in the Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme. It is to be combined with the Water Management Plan as an Appendix.</p> <p>Section 4.2.2 of the Plan provides a hierarchy of water use preferences in accordance with Table 1 of this condition and the Monitoring Programme outlines monitoring procedures to measure performance with respect to surface and</p>	C	
Feature	Performance Measure										
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - negligible change in groundwater levels beyond those predicted; - negligible change in water quality beyond those predicted; - negligible impact to other groundwater users; and - no exceedance of the minimal impact considerations in the <i>NSW Aquifer Interference Policy</i> 										
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations				
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Chemical and hydrocarbon storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical and hydrocarbon products to be stored in bunded areas in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard. 								
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			stored in bunded areas.		
Water Management Plan					
B9.	The Applicant must prepare a Water Management Plan for the Cowal Gold Operations to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:				
a.	be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 15 April 2022, stating conditional approval of Water Management Plan.</p>	The Water Management Plan does not provide any information whether this Plan was prepared in the manner as per this requirement.	NC	Future updates of this Plan to specify author qualifications and experience.
b.	be prepared in consultation with DPIE Water, EPA, FSC, DPI Fisheries, DSNSW and Resources Regulator;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EPA, 1 Dec 2021 - NSW Resource Regulator, dated 16 Dec 2021 - DSNSW, dated 22 Feb 2022 - DPE Water (undated dated) - DPI Fisheries, dated 3 Dec 2021 - FSC, dated 23 March 2022 	Consultation correspondence sighted by auditor.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
c.	be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing any construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development and/or Modification 16 as described in the EIS, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise;	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Correspondence from DPIE dated 15 Apr 2022, informing Evolution Mining of conditional approval of Water Management Plan.</p>	<p>The auditor was advised by the Environment Superintendent that the Water Management Plan (March 2022) was conditionally approved by DPIE during the audit visit (April 2022), subject to details on the installation of two monitoring bores within Lake Cowal.</p> <p>No construction works associated with the Underground Mine Development had commenced at the time of the conditional approval during the auditor's site visit.</p>	C	
d.	<p>include a:</p> <p>(i) Site Water Balance that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ predicted inflows and outflows; ○ sources and security of water supply, including contingency planning for various climate scenarios and allocations; ○ preferential water supply to prioritise internal and poorer quality water supplies over external and higher quality water supplies; ○ measures to ensure that average extraction of water from the borefields does not 	<p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme (July 2018)</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the Water Management Plan and the to be appended Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Program, indicating the all requirements of this condition are addressed in the Plan.</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>exceed the relevant performance measures in Table 1;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ water use and management; ○ any off-site water transfers and reporting procedures, including the annual preparation of an updated site water balance; and • investigates and implements all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise water use; <p>(ii) Surface Water Management Plan that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed baseline data on surface water flows and quality in Lake Cowal and other waterbodies (including Bland Creek and Sandy Creek) that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations; • a detailed description of the water management system, including the; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Up-Catchment Diversion System; ○ Internal Catchment Drainage System; and ○ Lake Isolation System; • detailed objectives and performance criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts associated with the Cowal Gold Operations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the water management system; ○ downstream surface water flows and quality; ○ downstream flooding impacts; 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ water supply for other water users; and ○ lake, stream and riparian health; • a program to monitor and evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ compliance with the relevant performance measures in Table 1 and the performance criteria established above; ○ the effectiveness of the water management system; ○ surface water flows and quality, stream and riparian health in Lake Cowal and other waterbodies (including Bland Creek and Sandy Creek) that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations; ○ downstream flooding impacts; ○ stability of the Lake Isolation System; and ○ impacts on water users; • reporting procedures for the results of the monitoring program; and • a plan to respond to any exceedances of the performance measures or performance criteria, and mitigate any adverse surface water impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations, including contingency strategies for addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ any discharge of pollutants from on-site water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>infrastructure and processing areas (including pipelines and borefield infrastructure); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ any identified impacts to Lake Cowal and other waterbodies; <p>(iii) Groundwater Management Plan, that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● detailed baseline data on groundwater levels, yield and quality in the region that could be affected by the Cowal Gold Operations, including privately-owned groundwater bores and groundwater dependent ecosystems; ● a detailed description of the groundwater management system, including measures to ensure that long term average extraction from the borefields remains within the levels predicted in the EIS and/or below applicable trigger levels; ● detailed objectives and performance criteria, including trigger levels for investigating any potentially adverse impacts associated with the Cowal Gold Operations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the groundwater management system; ○ local and regional aquifers; ○ groundwater users bores; ○ groundwater inflows to the mining operations; 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ seepage/leachate from water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void; and ○ groundwater dependent ecosystems; • a program to monitor and evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ compliance with the relevant performance measures listed in Table 1 and the performance criteria established above; ○ the effectiveness of the groundwater management system; ○ groundwater inflows to the mining operations; ○ any localised enhanced groundwater inflows associated with faults or other structures; ○ seepage/leachate from water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void, including migration over the short and long term; ○ background changes in groundwater yield/quality against mine-induced changes; ○ impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ local and regional aquifers; 				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lake Cowal and other waterbodies; ▪ groundwater supply of potentially affected landowners; and ▪ groundwater dependent ecosystems; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reporting procedures for the results of the monitoring program; and • a plan to respond to any exceedances of the performance measures or performance criteria, and mitigate any adverse groundwater impacts of the Cowal Gold Operations, including contingency strategies for addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ seepage/leachate of pollutants from on-site water storages, tailings dams, emplacements, infrastructure and processing areas, and final void; ○ any localised enhanced groundwater inflows associated with faults or other structures; ○ any exceedance of trigger levels at the borefields; and <p>(iv) a program to validate the water balance and groundwater model for the Cowal Gold Operations</p>				

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>every 3 years, and compare against monitoring results with modelled predictions.</p> <p><i>Note: The groundwater monitoring program should provide for additional nested monitoring bores within Lake Cowal, as recommended by DPIE Water in its advice to the Department dated 29 April 2021, and by the independent groundwater expert engaged by the Department (advice dated 20 May 2021).</i></p>				
B10.	The Applicant must implement the Water Management Plan as approved by the Planning Secretary.	<p>Water Management Plan (March 2022).</p> <p>Water Management Plan (July 2018)</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p>	Evidence of Implementation of the Water Management Plan (July 2018, March 2022), such as evidence of monitoring, is provided in the annual environmental performance summaries of the Annual Reviews.	C	
Subsidence Management					
Paste Fill					
B11.	The Applicant may only use consolidated paste fill material to backfill stopes.	Note	Note	Note	
B12.	The Applicant must ensure material used to backfill stopes maintains long term stope stability and results in negligible environmental harm.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No stoping has been undertaken to date.	NT	
B13.	The Applicant must prepare a report to confirm that the paste fill material meets the performance measures in Condition B12. The report must:	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	The auditor was informed by the Environment Superintendent that a	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(a) be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person/s whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;</p> <p>(b) set technical specifications for the paste fill material production and clarify its physical and leaching characteristics;</p> <p>(c) include a program for the ongoing testing of the paste fill material to ensure it meets the set technical specifications and performance measures; and</p> <p>(d) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to backfilling stopes with consolidated paste fill material.</p>		report is being prepared in relation to this condition.		
Subsidence Monitoring Program					
B14.	The Applicant must not mine stopes above 80 m AHD, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No stoping has been undertaken to date.	NT	
B15.	The Applicant must prepare a Subsidence Monitoring Program, which has been prepared in consultation with the Resources Regulator, that includes: <p>(a) a detailed description of ongoing subsidence monitoring;</p> <p>(b) detailed baseline data for subsidence monitoring above the Underground Mine Development and data to assist with the management of risks associated with stope overbreak or failure;</p> <p>(c) in-situ stress measurement;</p> <p>(d) detailed measures and controls that would be implemented to avoid and/or minimise subsidence,</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 18 March 2022, outlining program for delivery of management plans.</p>	Evolution Mining informed DPIE that a letter has been sent in relation to this condition to appoint suitably qualified persons, contract engaged, draft expected following test work in July and October 2022.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	through management of risk associated with stope overbreak and/or stope failure; (e) a risk assessment and trigger action response plan (TARP) to identify and manage stope instability; (f) a contingency plan and adaptive management process; and (g) validation of subsidence predictions to assess and analyse the subsidence effects and resulting impacts under the program and any ensuing environmental consequences.				
B16.	Within two years of commencement of the development and every three years thereafter, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must prepare a report detailing the results of the monitoring program.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	At the time of the audit, the period post commencement of the development is less than two years.	NT	
B17.	The Applicant must implement the Subsidence Monitoring Program as approved by the Planning Secretary.	As per B15 above	As per B15 above	NT	
Transport					
Road Upgrades					
B18.	The Applicant must construct a Basic Right Turn within the Newell Highway at its intersection with West Plains Road: (a) in accordance with the relevant Austroads guidelines, Australian Standards and TfNSW specifications, to the satisfaction of TfNSW; (b) at no cost to TfNSW; and	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	Evolution Mining has engaged with Bland Shire Council, but work in relation to this condition has not yet commenced. It	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	(c) prior to commencement of mining operations, unless otherwise agreed by the Planning Secretary.		is expected to commence in the next few months.		
B19.	If there is any dispute between the Applicant and TfNSW in implementing these requirements, then any of the parties may refer the matter to the Planning Secretary for resolution.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No dispute has arisen in relation to this condition to date.	NT	

Visual

Visual Amenity and Lighting

B20.	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take all reasonable steps to minimise the visual and off-site lighting impacts of the development and shield public views of the development; (b) ensure no fixed outdoor lights shine directly above the horizontal or above the building line or any illuminated structure; (c) ensure no in-pit mobile lighting rigs shine directly above the pit wall and other mobile lighting rigs do not shine directly above the horizontal (except where required for emergency safety purposes); (d) ensure that all external lighting associated with the development complies with relevant Australian Standards including the latest version of <i>Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting</i>; and (e) ensure that the visual appearance of all new buildings, structures, facilities or works which are visible from outside the site (including 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Complaint Registers 2019-Jan 2022.</p>	<p>Evolution Mining has implemented measures to address off-site lighting impacts. No complaints have been received in relation to this condition to date.</p> <p>As part of the process in moving and setting lighting plants on site, operators are required to assess the light direction of the plant to avoid nuisance to people using the surrounding roads and landowners.</p>	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	paint colours and specifications) is aimed at blending as far as possible with the surrounding landscape.				

Waste

B21.	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take all reasonable steps to minimise the waste generated by the development; (b) classify all waste in accordance with the <i>Waste Classification Guidelines</i> (EPA, 2014); (c) dispose of all waste at appropriately licensed waste facilities; (d) manage on-site sewage treatment and disposal in accordance with the requirements of BSC; and (e) monitor and report on the effectiveness of the waste minimisation and management measures in the Annual Review referred to in condition C9. 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Annual Reviews 2021</p> <p>Auditor observations.</p>	<p>All employees are subject to the induction process which outlines the requirements in relation to this condition. The auditor observed bins in various locations on the site that provide for segregation of different types of waste. JR Richards is the appointed contractor to remove waste and sewage sludge from the site and dispose of it appropriately in Bland Shire Council facility.</p> <p>The auditor reviewed the 2021 Annual Review: No report on the effectiveness of the waste minimisation and management measures could be found.</p>	NC	<p>Future Annual Review should report on waste minimisation measures</p>
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Dangerous Goods

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
B22.	<p>The Applicant must ensure that the storage, handling, and transport of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) dangerous goods is done in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards, particularly AS1940 and AS1596, and the Dangerous Goods Code; and (b) explosives are managed in accordance with the requirements of the Resources Regulator. 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Hazardous Materials Management Plan (Oct 2020).</p> <p>Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 18 March 2022, outlining program for delivery of management plans.</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 21 October 2020, containing approval of the Hazardous Materials Management Plan.</p> <p>Dangerous Goods Register</p>	<p>The Hazardous Materials Management Plan contains measures and procedures relating to the storage, handling, and transport of dangerous goods, including diesel and reagents (AS1940), LP gas (AS1596), and explosives.</p> <p>The Hazardous Materials Management Plan was prepared in consultation with the Department of Resources and Geosciences, and was approved by DPIE.</p> <p>The Hazardous Materials Management Plan was reviewed as a result of the MOD 16 and SSD approval, without any modifications required, and was submitted for consultation with agencies 17/03/2022.</p> <p>A Dangerous Goods Register is kept, as inspected by the auditor.</p>	C	

Rehabilitation

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations										
Rehabilitation Objectives															
B23.	<p>The Applicant must rehabilitate the site in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining leases(s) associated with the development under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i>. The rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation objectives described in the documents listed in condition A2(c) (and shown conceptually in Figure 1 in Appendix 3), and must comply with the objectives in Table 2.</p> <p>Table 2: Rehabilitation objectives</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Feature</th> <th>Objective</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Stopes</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled with paste fill material Safe and stable Negligible surface subsidence in the long term </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Box Cut</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled and rehabilitated </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surface infrastructure</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be decommissioned and removed, unless Resources Regulator agrees otherwise </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure public safety Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Feature	Objective	Stopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled with paste fill material Safe and stable Negligible surface subsidence in the long term 	Box Cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled and rehabilitated 	Surface infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be decommissioned and removed, unless Resources Regulator agrees otherwise 	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure public safety Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure 	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No opportunities for rehabilitation have presented to date, as the development has only recently commenced.	NT	
Feature	Objective														
Stopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled with paste fill material Safe and stable Negligible surface subsidence in the long term 														
Box Cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backfilled and rehabilitated 														
Surface infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be decommissioned and removed, unless Resources Regulator agrees otherwise 														
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure public safety Minimise adverse socio-economic effects associated with mine closure 														

Rehabilitation Management Plan

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
B24.	<p>The Applicant must prepare and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the development under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i>. The plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) include detailed performance and completion criteria for evaluating the performance of the rehabilitation of the site, and triggering remedial action (if necessary); (b) describe the measures that would be implemented to ensure compliance with the relevant conditions of this consent, and address all aspects of rehabilitation including mine closure, final landform (including final voids) and final land use; and (c) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of the measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria. <p>Note: <i>The Rehabilitation Management Plan may be combined with a Mining Operations Plan, or similar plan, required under the mining lease granted for the development.</i></p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Mine Operation Management Plan (1 Sept 2021 – 2 July 2022).</p> <p>Rehabilitation Management Plan (Sept 2017)</p> <p>Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 01 October 2021, stating approval of Mining Operations Plan.</p> <p>Letter from DPI Water to Evolution Mining, dated 6 September 2017, stating approval of Rehabilitation Management Plan.</p>	<p>The current approved Mining Operation Management Plan contains the information required under this condition for the current stage of development, as per auditor review.</p>	C	
Social					
Construction Workforce Accommodation					
B25.	<p>The Applicant must prepare a Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be prepared in consultation with BSC, FSC and LSC; (b) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing construction; 	<p>Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan (March 2022)</p> <p>Correspondence from DP&E to Evolution Mining, dated 16 March 2022, approving the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan.</p>	<p>The approved Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan contains the information required under this condition.</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	(c) provide details of the construction workforce numbers, including local and non-local workers, for all stages of construction; and (d) demonstrate that the construction workforce can be suitably housed.				
B26.	The Applicant must implement the Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan as approved by the Planning Secretary.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor. Evolution Mining Lake Cowal Gold website	The E & S Superintendent informed the auditor that the Underground Project director has been notified that this Plan has been approved. No construction of any camps has yet been undertaken. The Plan is listed on the company website.	NT	

Environmental Management, Reporting and auditing

Environmental Management

Environmental Management Strategy

C1.	The Applicant must prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This strategy must: (a) be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval prior to commencing construction under this consent;	Environmental Management Strategy (Dec 2021). Letter from DPIE to Evolution Mining, dated 11 April 2022, stating approval of the Environmental Management Strategy.	Review by the auditor indicates that all information required by this condition is included.	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development; (c) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development; (d) set out the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development; (e) set out the procedures to be implemented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; ii. receive, record, handle and respond to complaints; iii. resolve any disputes that may arise during the course of the development; iv. respond to any non-compliance and any incident; and v. respond to emergencies; and (f) include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. references to any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; and ii. a clear plan depicting all the sites where monitoring is to be carried out under the conditions of this consent. 				
C2.	The Applicant must implement the Environmental Management Strategy as approved by the Planning Secretary.	Environmental Management Strategy (Dec 2021). Evolution Mining Lake Cowal Gold website.	As an example of the implementation of the EMS, Evolution Mining maintains a company website listing a range of project information, as provided for in Section 8 of	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			the Environmental Management Strategy.		
Adaptive Management					
C3.	<p>The Applicant must assess and manage development-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of the criteria and performance measures in this consent. Any exceedance of these criteria or performance measures constitutes a breach of this consent and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation.</p> <p>Where any exceedance of these criteria or performance measures has occurred, the Applicant must, at the earliest opportunity:</p> <p>(a) take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not reoccur.</p> <p>(b) consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation (where relevant) and submit a report to the Department describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and</p> <p>(c) implement reasonable remediation measures as directed by the Planning Secretary.</p>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No exceedances have been recorded relating to this condition to date.	NT	
Management Plan Requirements					
C4.	<p>Management plans required under this consent must be prepared in accordance with relevant guidelines, and include where relevant:</p> <p>(a) summary of relevant background or baseline data;</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 18 March 2022, outlining</p>	Evolution Mining is currently reviewing a range of plans to accommodate current consent requirements, as	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(b) details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, licence or lease conditions); ii. any relevant limits or performance measures and criteria; and iii. the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the development or any management measures; <p>(c) any relevant commitments or recommendations identified in the document/s listed in condition A2(c);</p> <p>(d) description of the measures to be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures and criteria;</p> <p>(e) a program to monitor and report on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. impacts and environmental performance of the development; and ii. effectiveness of the management measures set out pursuant to paragraph (d); <p>(f) contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;</p> <p>(g) program to investigate and implement ways to improve the environmental performance of the development over time;</p>	<p>program for delivery of management plans.</p>	<p>communicated to the DPIE in response to a Request for Information by the DPIE in the letter of 18 March 2022. No material change is required and consultation is being undertaken for the majority of the plans. Several plans have also already been approved by the Department. These include, for example, the Environmental Management Strategy, Water Management Plan, Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan, as noted under response to previous conditions in this audit.</p>		

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>(h) a protocol for managing and reporting any:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. incident, non-compliance or exceedance of any impact assessment criterion or performance measure; ii. complaint; or iii. failure to comply with other statutory requirements; <p>(i) public sources of information and data to assist stakeholders in understanding environmental impacts of the development; and</p> <p>(j) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.</p> <p><i>Note: The Planning Secretary may waive some of these requirements if they are unnecessary or unwarranted for particular management plans.</i></p>				
Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs					
C5.	<p>Within three months of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the submission of an incident report under condition C7; (b) the submission of an Annual Review under condition C9; (c) the submission of an Independent Environmental Audit under condition C11; or (d) the approval of any modification of the conditions of this consent (unless the conditions require otherwise); (e) notification of a change in development phase under condition A5; or (f) a direction of the Secretary under condition A3 of Schedule 2 	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Letter from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 18 March 2022, outlining program for delivery of management plans.</p>	<p>In response to acquiring the present consent, Evolution Mining has undertaken a review of required management plans, as documented in the letter to the DPIE of 18 March 2022.</p> <p>No specific register is currently maintained by Evolution Mining to support the review timeframe as specified in this requirement.</p> <p>However, the mine site has moved from the InForm</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	the suitability of existing strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be reviewed by the Applicant.		<p>system, which enables notification to individuals (in isolation) about tasks to be completed with respect to the obligations register, to the InControl system, which provides notification to management resulting in greater oversight, thereby assisting in ensuring that tasks are completed on time.</p> <p>No directions of the Secretary have been received.</p>		
C6.	<p>If necessary, to either improve the environmental performance of the development or cater for a modification or comply with a direction, the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent must be revised, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Where revisions are required, the revised document must be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within six weeks of the review.</p> <p><i>Note: This is to ensure strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis and to incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</i></p>	As for C5 above	As for C5 above	C	

Reporting and Auditing

Incident Notification

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
C7.	The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one) and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 5.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No incidents related to the underground development have occurred to date.	NT	
Non-Compliance Notification					
C8.	The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance. A non-compliance notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance. <i>Note: A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.</i>	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	No non-compliances related to the underground development have occurred to date.	NT	
Annual Review					
C9.	By the end of March each year after the date of commencement of development under this consent, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, a report must be submitted to the Department reviewing the environmental performance of the	Annual Review 2021	Auditor review indicates that the Annual Review contains the information	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>Cowal Gold Operations, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This review must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) describe the development (including any rehabilitation) that was carried out in the previous calendar year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out over the current calendar year; (b) include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the previous calendar year, including a comparison of these results against the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria; ii. requirements of any plan or program required under this consent; iii. monitoring results of previous years; and iv. relevant predictions in the document/s listed in condition A2(c); (c) identify any non-compliance or incident which occurred in the previous calendar year, and describe what actions were (or are being) taken to rectify the non-compliance and avoid reoccurrence; (d) evaluate and report on compliance with the performance measures, criteria and operating conditions of this consent; (e) identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development; (f) identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies; and (g) describe what measures will be implemented over the next calendar year to improve the 		<p>required under this condition.</p>		

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	environmental performance of the development.				
C10.	Copies of the Annual Review must be submitted to BSC and made available to the CEMCC and any interested person upon request.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	At the date of the audit (11-13 April 2022, the 2021 Annual Review had just been completed. The Environment Superintendent informed the auditor that the Annual Review was sent to the DP&E for comment. Once DP&E's comments (if any) have been responded to, the Annual Review will be uploaded on the Evolution Mining website, and sent to the CEMCC and BSC.	NT	
Independent Environmental Audit					
C11.	<p>Within one year of the date of commencement of development under this consent, and every three years after, unless the Planning Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant must commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. The audit must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be led by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent auditor whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary; (b) be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of 	This audit	This audit. Given the early stages of the development, assessment of environmental performance and adequacy of approved strategies, plans or programs cannot yet be audited.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>experts (including any expert in field/s specified by the Planning Secretary) whose appointment has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary;</p> <p>(c) be carried out in consultation with the relevant agencies and the CEMCC;</p> <p>(d) assess the environmental performance of the development and whether it is complying with the relevant requirements in this consent, water licences and mining leases for the development (including any assessment, strategy, plan or program required under these approvals);</p> <p>(e) review the adequacy of any approved strategy, plan or program required under the abovementioned approvals and this consent;</p> <p>(f) recommend appropriate measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development and any assessment, strategy, plan or program required under the abovementioned approvals and this consent; and</p> <p>(g) be conducted and reported to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>				
C12.	<p>Within three months of commencing an Independent Environmental Audit, or other timeframe agreed by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must submit a copy of the audit report to the Planning Secretary, and any other NSW agency that requests it, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report, and a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations. The recommendations must be implemented to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>	This audit	Given that this consent was issued less than one year prior to this audit (11-13 April 2022), no audit against this consent has been undertaken other than the present one.	NT	

Monitoring and Environmental Audits

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
C13.	<p>Any condition of this consent that requires the carrying out of monitoring or an environmental audit, whether directly or by way of a plan, strategy or program, is taken to be a condition requiring monitoring or an environmental audit under Division 9.4 of Part 9 of the EP&A Act. This includes conditions in respect of incident notification, reporting and response, non-compliance notification, compliance report and independent audit.</p> <p>For the purposes of this condition, as set out in the EP&A Act, “monitoring” means monitoring of the development to provide data on compliance with the consent or on the environmental impact of the development, and an “environmental audit” means a periodic or particular documented evaluation of the development to provide information on compliance with the consent or the environmental management or impact of the development.</p>	Note	Note	Note	
Access to Information					
C14.	<p>Within three months of the date of commencement of development under this consent, until the completion of all rehabilitation required under this consent, the Applicant must:</p> <p>(a) make the following information and documents (as they are obtained, approved or as otherwise stipulated within the conditions of this consent) publicly available on its website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the document/s listed in condition A2(c); ii. all current statutory approvals for the development; 	https://evolutionmining.com.au/cowal/	The Evolution Mining Cowal Gold website was reviewed by the auditor, indicating that it addresses all the requirements of this condition	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. all approved strategies, plans and programs required under the conditions of this consent; iv. minutes of CEMCC meetings; v. regular reporting on the environmental performance of the development in accordance with the reporting requirements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this consent; vi. a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, reported in accordance with the specifications in any conditions of this consent, or any approved plans and programs; vii. a summary of the current phase and progress of the development; viii. contact details to enquire about the development or to make a complaint; ix. a complaints register, updated monthly; x. the Annual Reviews of the development; xi. audit reports prepared as part of any Independent Environmental Audit of the development and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit report; and xii. any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and <p>(b) keep such information up to date, to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.</p>				

Document details	
Document title	Table C3 – EPL 11912
Document subtitle	Environment Protection Licence (EPL)
Project No.	0641147
Date	26 May 2022
Version	1.0
Author	Toivo Zoete Mark Gethings
Client Name	Evolution Mining

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations																		
A1 What the licence authorises and regulates																							
A1.1	<p>This licence authorises the carrying out of the scheduled activities listed below at the premises specified in A2. The activities are listed according to their scheduled activity classification, fee-based activity classification and the scale of the operation. Unless otherwise further restricted by a condition of this licence, the scale at which the activity is carried out must not exceed the maximum scale specified in this condition.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Scheduled Activity</th> <th>Fee Based Activity</th> <th>Scale</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete works</td> <td>Concrete works</td> <td>0 – 13000 m³ annual production capacity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Crushing, grinding or separating</td> <td>Crushing, grinding or separating</td> <td>> 2000000 T annual processing capacity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extractive activities</td> <td>Land-based extractive activity</td> <td>> 2000000 - -1T annual capacity to extract, process or store</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mineral processing</td> <td>Mineral processing</td> <td>> 2000000 T annual processing capacity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mining for minerals</td> <td>Mining for minerals</td> <td>> 5000000 T annual production capacity</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scheduled Activity	Fee Based Activity	Scale	Concrete works	Concrete works	0 – 13000 m ³ annual production capacity	Crushing, grinding or separating	Crushing, grinding or separating	> 2000000 T annual processing capacity	Extractive activities	Land-based extractive activity	> 2000000 - -1T annual capacity to extract, process or store	Mineral processing	Mineral processing	> 2000000 T annual processing capacity	Mining for minerals	Mining for minerals	> 5000000 T annual production capacity	Copy Evolution Mining Metallurgic Reconciliation Data 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 (thus far)	The auditor notes CGO does not operate a concrete batching plant and is otherwise within these limits.	C	
Scheduled Activity	Fee Based Activity	Scale																					
Concrete works	Concrete works	0 – 13000 m ³ annual production capacity																					
Crushing, grinding or separating	Crushing, grinding or separating	> 2000000 T annual processing capacity																					
Extractive activities	Land-based extractive activity	> 2000000 - -1T annual capacity to extract, process or store																					
Mineral processing	Mineral processing	> 2000000 T annual processing capacity																					
Mining for minerals	Mining for minerals	> 5000000 T annual production capacity																					
A1.2	The licensee may carry out scheduled development works necessary for the activity of mineral processing to be undertaken at the premises.	Note	Noted	Note																			
A2 Premises or plant to which this licence applies																							
A2.1	<p>The licence applies to the following premises:</p> <p>Premises Details</p> <p>COWAL GOLD PROJECT, 38KM NORTH EAST OF WEST WYALONG</p> <p>LAKE COWAL ROAD</p> <p>WEST WYALONG</p> <p>NSW 2671</p> <p>PREMISES INCLUDES THE LAND DEFINED BY MINING LEASE NO. 1535</p> <p>AND MINING LEASE NO. 1791.</p>	Note	Noted	Note																			
A3 Other Activities																							

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations					
A3.1	<p>This licence applies to all other activities carried on at the premises, including:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Ancillary Activity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chemical Storage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contaminated soil treatment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sewage treatment system</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste disposal (application to land)</td> </tr> </table>	Ancillary Activity	Chemical Storage	Contaminated soil treatment	Sewage treatment system	Waste disposal (application to land)	Noted	Noted	Note	
Ancillary Activity										
Chemical Storage										
Contaminated soil treatment										
Sewage treatment system										
Waste disposal (application to land)										

A4 Information supplied to the EPA

A4.1	<p>Works and activities must be carried out in accordance with the proposal contained in the licence application, except as expressly provided by a condition of this licence.</p> <p>In this condition the reference to "the licence application" includes a reference to:</p> <p>a) the applications for any licences (including former pollution control approvals) which this licence replaces under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 1998; and b) the licence information form provided by the licensee to the EPA to assist the EPA in connection with the issuing of this licence.</p>	Mine Operations Plan (July 2021)	The EPL applications are prepared reflecting the EIS and Mine Operations Plan. Activities are carried out in accordance with the MOP - revision 2021.	C	
A4.2	<p>For the purposes of condition A4.1, the licence application includes:</p> <p>a) Development Consent Cowal Project; b) Cowal Gold Project - Environmental Impact Statement; c) List of initial development activities associated with the construction of the Cowal Gold Project; d) Cowal Gold Project - Species Impact Statement (Appendix A in Vol 2 of the Cowal Gold Project EIS). e) Modifications to the Cowal Gold Project approved by the Department of Planning.</p>	Note	Noted	Note	

P1 Location of monitoring/discharge points and areas

P1.1	<p>The following points referred to in the table below are identified in this licence for the purposes of monitoring and/or the setting of limits for the emission of pollutants to the air from the point.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Air</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>EPA identification no.</th> <th>Type of Monitoring Point</th> <th>Type of Discharge Point</th> <th>Location Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Dust monitoring</td> <td></td> <td>Dust gauge located approximately 1km west of ML1535 boundary, labelled as "McLintock's Shed" in Figure 4 titled 'Air</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	EPA identification no.	Type of Monitoring Point	Type of Discharge Point	Location Description	1	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located approximately 1km west of ML1535 boundary, labelled as "McLintock's Shed" in Figure 4 titled 'Air	<p>Monitor Pro (EHS) Environmental Monitoring Data 2018 – 2022 2022 Environmental Monitoring Schedule Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p>	All locations (and associated data) recorded in monitoring data.	C	
EPA identification no.	Type of Monitoring Point	Type of Discharge Point	Location Description										
1	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located approximately 1km west of ML1535 boundary, labelled as "McLintock's Shed" in Figure 4 titled 'Air										

Item	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
			Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
2	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located south of the southern waste emplacement, labelled as "Site Office" in Figure 4 Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
3	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located approximately 5.5km east of ML1535 boundary, labelled as "DG6" in Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
4	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located approximately 3.5km south of ML1535 boundary, labelled as "DG9" in Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
5	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located within ML1535 and north of the open pit, labelled as "Site 52" in Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
6	Dust monitoring		Dust gauge located approximately 3.5 km north of ML1535 boundary, labelled as 'DG1' in Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
49	TSP monitoring		High volume sampler located approximately 3.5 km north of ML1535 boundary, labelled as 'HV1' in Figure 4				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
				titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' of the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".				
P1.2	The following utilisation areas referred to in the table below are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring and/or the setting of limits for any application of solids or liquids to the utilisation area.				Note	Noted	Note	
P1.3	The following points referred to in the table are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring and/or the setting of limits for discharges of pollutants to water from the point.				<p>Monitor Pro (EHS)</p> <p>Environmental Monitoring data:</p> <p>2018</p> <p>2019</p> <p>2020</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.</p> <p>Correspondence from Evolution Mining to DPIE, dated 8 October 2021.</p>	<p>Monitoring of surface ambient locations has been undertaken at all sites for the duration of the audit period.</p> <p>This condition outlines the monitoring locations in accordance with "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan" dated March 2022". The Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme is being combined with the revised Water Management Plan (March 2022) conditionally approved by DPIE at the time of audit (see Condition 4 of DA). The Water Management Plan was revised to reflect outcomes of the Underground Development Project EIS and Mod 16.</p>	C	
Water and Land								
EPA identification no.	Type of Monitoring Point	Type of Discharge Point	Location Description					
12	Stormwater quality monitoring		Northern waste emplacement contained water storage labelled as "D1" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".					
13	Stormwater quality monitoring		Southern waste emplacement contained water storage labelled as "D4" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".					
14	Ambient water quality monitoring		Surface water point within Lake Cowal labelled as "P1" in Figure 14 titled 'Regional Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".					
15	Ambient water quality monitoring		Surface water point within Lake Cowal labelled as "P2" in Figure 14 titled 'Regional Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".					
16	Ambient water quality monitoring		Surface water point within Lake Cowal labelled as "P3" in Figure 14 titled 'Regional Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".					

Item	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
17	Ambient water quality monitoring		Surface water point within Lake Cowal labelled as "B1" in Figure 14 titled 'Regional Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
18	Ambient water quality monitoring		Surface water point within Lake Cowal labelled as "B6" in Figure 14 titled 'Regional Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
19	Groundwater Quality Monitoring		Piezometer located up gradient of southern tailings storage labelled as "P555A-R" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
26	Groundwater Quality Monitoring		Piezometer located near the process plant area labelled as "PP03" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
27	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located near the process plant area labelled as "PP04" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
30	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage labelled as "P417A" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
31	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage labelled as "P417B" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
32	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of northern tailings storage labelled as "P418A" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535				

Item	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
			Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
33	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of northern tailings storage labelled as "P418B" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
36	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB1A" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
38	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB3A" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
40	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB5A" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
41	Northern waste emplacement leachate quality monitoring		Exact site to be determined upon commencement of waste rock dump.				
42	Southern waste emplacement leachate quality monitoring		Exact site to be determined upon commencement of waste rock dump.				
43	Perimeter waste emplacement leachate quality monitoring.		Exact site to be determined upon commencement of waste rock dump.				
48	Water quality monitoring point	Water quality monitoring point	Automated sampler at the process plant labelled as "Monitoring Point 48" on Figure 1 "Monitoring Location for CNwad levels in Tailings Slurry Stream at the Process Plant" submitted to the DECCW on 3-12-2010 held on file LIC07/2610-08				

Item	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
52	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB1B" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
53	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB3B" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
54	Groundwater quality monitoring		Pit dewatering bore labelled as "PDB5B" in Figure 13 titled 'ML 1535 Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan".				
57	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL06A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations – ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
58	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL06B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
59	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL05A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
60	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located down gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL05B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
61	Groundwater quality monitoring		Piezometer located up gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL04A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
62	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL04B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
63	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL03A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
64	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of southern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL03B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
65	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of northern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL02A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
66	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of northern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL02B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
67	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of northern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL01A" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
68	Groundwater quality monitoring			Piezometer located up gradient of northern tailings storage facility labelled as "IWL01B" in Figure 12 titled 'Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Locations - ML 1535' in the 'Cowel Gold Operations Water Management Plan'.				
P1.4	The following points in the table are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring of weather parameters at the point.					Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.2.	C	

Item	Assessment Requirement			Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	EPA identification no.	Type of Monitoring Point	Location Description		A weather station was observed during the audit with results available online. Annual Reports provide data collected.		
	7	Weather analysis	Weather monitoring station labelled as "Cowal Gold Mine Meteorological Station" on Figure 4 titled 'Air Quality Monitoring Sites' in the "Cowal Gold Operations Air Quality Management Plan".		Some additional tipping buckets have been installed in the audit period to increase risk management.		

L1 Pollution of Waters

L1.1	Except as may be expressly provided in any other condition of this licence, the licensee must comply with section 120 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor.	Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 4.3	C	
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L2 Concentration Limits

L2.1	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified in the table\ below (by a point number), the concentration of a pollutant discharged at that point, or applied to that area, must not exceed the concentration limits specified for that pollutant in the table.	Note	Noted. Refer to statement for condition L2.4.	Note													
L2.2	Where a pH quality limit is specified in the table, the specified percentage of samples must be within the specified ranges.	Note	Noted. Refer to statement for condition L2.4.	Note													
L2.3	To avoid any doubt, this condition does not authorise the pollution of waters by any pollutant other than those specified in the table\.	Note	Noted. Refer to statement for conditions L1.1 and L2.4.	Note													
L2.4	Water and/or Land Concentration Limits POINT 48	Monthly Trends and Data (Processing) Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor Hazardous Materials Management Plan (2020) Annual Reviews 2019-2021. Published Environmental Monitoring Reports 2019, 2021, 2022. Evolution Mining Incidence Investigations 13 February 2020 and 7 July 2021.	CNWAD/L levels exceeded the 20mg level on two occasions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13th Feb 2020 7th July 2021 These are documented in Incident, Investigations and notifications to the EPA. Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 5.3(a)	NC													
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Unit of measure</th> <th>50 percentile concentration limit</th> <th>90 percentile concentration limit</th> <th>3DGM concentration limit</th> <th>100 percentile concentration limit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)</td> <td>milligrams per litre</td> <td></td> <td>20</td> <td></td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pollutant	Unit of measure	50 percentile concentration limit	90 percentile concentration limit	3DGM concentration limit	100 percentile concentration limit	Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre		20		30				
Pollutant	Unit of measure	50 percentile concentration limit	90 percentile concentration limit	3DGM concentration limit	100 percentile concentration limit												
Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre		20		30												

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations								
		Correspondence from EPA to Evolution Mining acknowledging notification 7 July 2021.											
L3 Waste													
L3.1	<p>The licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste to be received at the premises except the wastes expressly referred to in the table attached to this condition. Any waste received at the premises is subject to the limits or conditions, if any, contained in the column titled 'Other Limits' in the table below. This condition does not limit any other conditions in this licence.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Code</th> <th>Waste</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Other Limits</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N/A</td> <td>General solid waste Liquid waste</td> <td>Drilling mud, drilling cuttings or drilling waste that has been generated by the licensee or licensee's contractor during exploration activities.</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Code	Waste	Description	Other Limits	N/A	General solid waste Liquid waste	Drilling mud, drilling cuttings or drilling waste that has been generated by the licensee or licensee's contractor during exploration activities.	N/A	<p>Hazardous Materials Management Plan (2020)</p> <p>Auditor Observations</p>	<p>The HMMP stipulates that waste is not permitted to be received at site from off site.</p>	C	
Code	Waste	Description	Other Limits										
N/A	General solid waste Liquid waste	Drilling mud, drilling cuttings or drilling waste that has been generated by the licensee or licensee's contractor during exploration activities.	N/A										
L3.2	<p>Licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste generated outside the premises to be received at the premises for storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal or any waste generated at the premises to be disposed of at the premises, except as expressly permitted by the licence.</p>	<p>Hazardous Materials Management Plan (2020)</p> <p>Auditor Observations</p>	<p>No non compliances of waste management practices were observed during the site inspection.</p>	C									
L3.3	<p>For the purposes of condition L3.2:</p> <p>a) Effluent, waste rock, and tailings generated at the premises are not defined as "waste".</p> <p>b) Waste generated at the premises described in Attachment A 'Cowal Gold Project Proposed Bioremediation Facility' of the licence variation application supplementary material received by DECC on 16 June 2008 and classified as general solid waste (putrescible) in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008) is permitted by this licence to be disposed of at the premises. Disposal of this waste must be undertaken in accordance with the methods described in Attachment A of the licence variation application supplementary material received by DECC on 16 June 2008, and the Cowal Gold Project - Hazardous Waste and Chemical Management Plan.</p> <p>c) Waste generated at the premises described in Attachment B 'Cowal Gold Project Proposed Trash Screen Oversize Waste Management' of the licence variation application supplementary material</p>	<p>Hazardous Materials Management Plan (2020)</p> <p>August 2007 Variation to EPL 11912</p> <p>Buried Waste Register</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the EPL variation which confirms the inclusion of the waste types listed in L3.2 and including methods to manage listed waste.</p> <p>The auditor reviewed August 2007 Variation to EPL 11912 and noted authorisation to dispose of solid waste (specifically bio-remediated waste) and the monitoring of solid waste prior to disposal in pit. Monitoring has previously not been conducted and commenced at the beginning of April 2018.</p> <p>During the audit period no disposal of Trash Screen Oversize waste was conducted.</p> <p>The auditor notes waste tyres disposed of in the dump are tracked on the Buried Waste Register which links through to the CGO's GIS system and GPS mapped accordingly.</p>	C									

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	<p>received by DECC on 16 June 2008 and classified as general solid waste (putrescible) in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008) is permitted by this licence to be disposed of at the premises. Disposal of this waste must be undertaken in accordance with the methods described in Attachment B of the licence variation application supplementary material received by DECC on 16 June 2008, and the Cowal Gold Project - Hazardous Waste and Chemical Management Plan.</p> <p>d) Waste generated at the premises described in Attachment D 'Cowal Gold Project Proposed On-site Waste Management' of the licence variation application supplementary material received by DECC on 16 June 2008 and classified as general solid waste (putrescible) and/or general solid waste (non-putrescible) in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008) is permitted by this licence to be disposed of at the premises.</p> <p>e) Waste generated at the premises as described in Attachment A 'Cowal Gold Mine Proposed On-Site Waste Tyre Management' of the licence variation application supporting documentation received by the DECC on the 4 February 2009 and classified as special waste in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC 2008) is permitted by this licence to be disposed at the premises. Disposal of this waste must be undertaken in accordance with the conditions of this licence and within the waste rock emplacements only.</p>				

L4 Noise limits

L4.1	<p>Noise generated from the premises must not exceed criteria outlined in Table 1 at any residence on privately owned land, as shown on the plan Appendix 6 of the Cowal Gold Mine development consent DA 14/98, as modified on 4 October 2018.</p> <p>Table 1.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Day/Evening/Night dB(A) LAeq(15 minutes)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lakeview III</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Glen</td> <td>37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lakeview, Foxham Downs II</td> <td>36</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Location	Day/Evening/Night dB(A) LAeq(15 minutes)	Lakeview III	38	The Glen	37	Lakeview, Foxham Downs II	36		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.4(c)	C	
Location	Day/Evening/Night dB(A) LAeq(15 minutes)												
Lakeview III	38												
The Glen	37												
Lakeview, Foxham Downs II	36												

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Any other privately owned residence</td> <td>35</td> </tr> </table> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The noise impact assessment criteria do not apply if the Licensee has an agreement with the owner/s of the relevant residence or land to generate higher noise levels, and the Licensee has advised the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in writing of the terms of the agreement. The noise impact assessment criteria do not apply to property and land subject to acquisition upon request as identified in Table 7 of Development Consent DA 14/98. <p>Note: LAeq means the equivalent continuous noise level – the level of noise equivalent to the energy-average of noise levels occurring over a measurement period.</p>	Any other privately owned residence	35				
Any other privately owned residence	35						
L4.2	Noise generated from the premises is to be monitored and measured in accordance with the relevant requirements and exemptions of the "NSW Industrial Noise Policy".		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.4(c) Examination of the noise monitoring reports and the Annual Reviews by the auditor indicate that there have been no exceedances of the criteria listed in the "NSW Industrial Noise Policy and in Table 1 of EPL L4.1"	C			
L4.3	The noise criteria identified in condition L4.1 apply under meteorological conditions of temperature inversion conditions of up to 8.0°C/100 metres and wind speed up to 1 metre per second measured at 10 metres above ground level. The 1 metre per second drainage-flow wind applies where the development is at higher altitude than the residential receiver, with no intervening higher ground. The noise criteria identified in condition L4.1 do not apply during: a) periods of rain or hail; b) average wind speeds at microphone height that exceed 5 metres per second; or c) average wind speeds that exceed 3 metres per second measured at 10 metres above ground level.		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.4 A weather station was observed during the audit with results available online. Annual Reports provide data collected. Examination of the noise monitoring reports and the Annual Reviews by the auditor indicate that there have been no exceedances of the criteria listed in the "NSW Industrial Noise Policy and in Table 1 of EPL L4.1"	C			
L4.4	Attended monitoring is to be used to evaluate compliance with conditions L4.1 to L4.3.		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.4	C			
L4.5	Monitoring is to be carried out quarterly unless otherwise directed by the Secretary of NSW Department of Planning and Environment.		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.4	C			
L5 Blasting							
L5.1	The overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 120 dB (Lin Peak) at any time at any noise sensitive locations. Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded.		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.3a	C			

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
L5.2	<p>The overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 115dB (Lin Peak) Monday to Saturday during the day for more than five per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>The overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 105dB (Lin Peak) Monday to Saturday during the evening for more than five per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>The overpressure level from blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 95dB (Lin Peak) Monday to Saturday at night or on Sundays and public holidays (24 hours) for more than five per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded.</p> <p>Note: The blasting impact assessment criteria do not apply if the Licensee has an agreement with the owners/s of the relevant residence or land to generate higher overpressure levels, and the Licensee has advised the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in writing of the terms of the agreement.</p>		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.3a	C	
L5.3	<p>Ground vibration peak particle velocity from the blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 10 mm/sec at any time. Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded.</p>		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.3a	C	
L5.4	<p>Ground vibration peak particle velocity from the blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 5 mm/sec Monday to Saturday during the day for more than five per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>Ground vibration peak particle velocity from the blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 2 mm/sec Monday to Saturday during the evening for more than five per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>Ground vibration peak particle velocity from the blasting operations at the premises at residences on privately owned land, when measured at the locations defined in condition M7.1 must not exceed 1 mm/sec Monday to Saturday at night and on Sundays and public holidays (24 hours) for more than five</p>		Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.3a	C	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	<p>per cent of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months.</p> <p>Error margins associated with any monitoring equipment used to measure this are not to be taken into account in determining whether or not the limit has been exceeded.</p>				
L6 Potentially offensive odour					
L6.1	<p>No condition of this licence identifies a potentially offensive odour for the purposes of section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.</p> <p>Note: Section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, provides that the licensee must not cause or permit the emission of any offensive odour from the premises but provides a defence if the emission is identified in the relevant environment protection licence as a potentially offensive odour and the odour was emitted in accordance with the conditions of a licence directed at minimising odour.</p>	Note	Noted	Note	
O1 Activities must be carried out in a competent manner					
O1.1	<p>Licensed activities must be carried out in a competent manner.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <p>a) the processing, handling, movement and storage of materials and substances used to carry out the activity; and</p> <p>b) the treatment, storage, processing, reprocessing, transport and disposal of waste generated by the activity.</p>	<p>Audit report findings</p> <p>Auditor observations</p>	<p>Management Plans are in place for CGO activities. These are prepared to achieve operations in a competent manner and include; Air Quality Management Plan, Blast Management Plan, Noise Management Plan, Water Management Plan, Hazardous Materials Management Plan.</p>	C	
O2 Maintenance of plant and equipment					
O2.1	<p>All plant and equipment installed at the premises or used in connection with the licensed activity:</p> <p>a) must be maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and</p> <p>b) must be operated in a proper and efficient manner.</p>	<p>Audit report findings</p> <p>Auditor observations</p>	<p>Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 1.6</p>	C	
O2.2	<p>All persons associated with the licensee including employee's, agents' licensee, contractors and subcontractors must be advised of their responsibilities and liabilities under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.</p>	<p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor</p> <p>Site Inductions</p> <p>Training Records</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the training matrix, all persons working on site are required to be inducted to the site which includes reference the POEO Act and incident reporting. The EPL is made available to all site personnel and a hard copy is maintained by the Environment Superintendent and within the security office.</p>	C	
O3 Dust					

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
O3.1	Activities occurring in or on the premises must be carried out in a manner that will minimise the generation, or emission from the premises, of wind-blown or traffic generated dust.	Air Quality Management Plan February 2015	Refer to Appendix C: CoA DA 14/98 condition 6.1(a).	C	
O4 Waste management					
O4.1	The waste rock emplacements areas and the perimeter waste emplacement must be located on a base drainage control zone with a minimum slope towards the open pit of 1 (vertical):200 (horizontal) and be designed to ensure all seepage from beneath the waste rock emplacement areas and the perimeter waste emplacement is directed towards the open pit.	Mine Operations Plan (MOP) July 2021	Waste rock emplacements are designed and constructed in accordance with the MOP and RMP. These documents specifically reference requirements of EPL Condition O4.1.	C	
O4.2	The tailings storage facilities, integrated waste landform and contained water storage facilities must have a basal barrier or impermeable liner with an equivalent permeability of 1x10 ⁻⁹ metres per second over a thickness of 1 metre.	Geotechnical Investigation Report by SNC Lavalin Australia 18 December 2003	Report states that "the permeability of the upper 5m transported clay overburden has been determined to be very low (between 6x 10 ⁻¹⁰ and 1 x 10 ⁻⁸ cm/sec)" for the TSF, which satisfies the condition when converted to metres per second.	C	
Other operating conditions					
O5.1	All above ground storage facilities containing flammable and combustible liquids must be bunded in accordance with Australian Standard AS 1940-2004.	Environmental Bund Inspection Audit Report 2019	All external reports completed by Extrin get implemented into monthly checks carried out as part of the PM schedule. A five (5) year maintenance schedule is implemented after the audits, with areas prioritised based on the results. The shortcomings identified can be rectified with maintenance activities conducted under the guidance of the existing or revised CGO Procedures and Specifications.	C	
M1 Monitoring Records					
M1.1	The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by this licence or a load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in this condition.	Note	Noted	Note	
M1.2	All records required to be kept by this licence must be: a) in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form; b) kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place; and c) produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.	Monitoring records review https://evolutionmining.com.au/cowal/	Monitoring records are legible and published on CGO website, going back to 2012.	C	
M1.3	The following records must be kept in respect of any samples required to be collected for the purposes of this licence: a) the date(s) on which the sample was taken;	Selection of sampling records (electronic)	Auditor reviewed a selection of sampling records and each recorded the required details.	C	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations																																
	b) the time(s) at which the sample was collected; c) the point at which the sample was taken; and d) the name of the person who collected the sample.																																				
M2 Requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged																																					
M2.1	For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1. The licensee must use the sampling method, units of measure, and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns.	Environmental Monitoring Data 2018 – 2022	The auditor has reviewed the monitoring data for the period and CGO is undertaking monitoring in accordance with condition.	C																																	
M2.2	<p>Air Monitoring Requirements</p> <p>POINT 1,2,3,4,5,6</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Units of measure</th> <th>Frequency</th> <th>Sampling Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Particulates – Deposited Matter</td> <td>Grams per square metre per month</td> <td>Monthly</td> <td>AM-19</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>POINT 49</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Units of measure</th> <th>Frequency</th> <th>Sampling Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total suspended particles</td> <td>micrograms per cubic metre</td> <td>Weekly</td> <td>Special Method 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method	Particulates – Deposited Matter	Grams per square metre per month	Monthly	AM-19	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method	Total suspended particles	micrograms per cubic metre	Weekly	Special Method 1	<p>Annual Reviews 2019-2021.</p> <p>Interpretation and Discussion of 2019 Air Quality Monitoring Results (Stephen Cattle 2019)</p> <p>Interpretation and Discussion of 2020 Air Quality Monitoring Results (Stephen Cattle 2020)</p> <p>Annual Air Quality Monitoring Review – 2021 (Zephyr Environmental 2022).</p> <p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor</p>	<p>Monitoring undertaken monthly at Points 1 to 6 for deposited dust.</p> <p>Two additional exceedances not recorded during dust storms were deduced to be from activities other than mining activities on the basis that predominant winds were from directions other than the mine site during the time of deposition (Zephyr Environmental 2022). Therefore, no exceedances are ascribed to the mine site and mine activities over the audit period.</p>	C																	
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method																																		
Particulates – Deposited Matter	Grams per square metre per month	Monthly	AM-19																																		
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method																																		
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M2.3	<p>Water and/ or Land Monitoring Requirements</p> <p>POINT 12,13</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Units of measure</th> <th>Frequency</th> <th>Sampling Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Conductivity</td> <td>microsiemens per centimetre</td> <td>Special Frequency 2</td> <td>In situ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>pH</td> <td>pH</td> <td>Special Frequency 2</td> <td>In situ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total suspended solids</td> <td>milligrams per litre</td> <td>Special Frequency 2</td> <td>Representative sample</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>POINT 14,16</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pollutant</th> <th>Units of measure</th> <th>Frequency</th> <th>Sampling Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Alkalinity</td> <td>Milligrams per litre</td> <td>Quarterly</td> <td>Representative sample</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antimony</td> <td>Milligrams per litre</td> <td>Quarterly</td> <td>Representative sample</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arsenic</td> <td>Milligrams per litre</td> <td>Quarterly</td> <td>Representative sample</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method	Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Special Frequency 2	In situ	pH	pH	Special Frequency 2	In situ	Total suspended solids	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 2	Representative sample	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method	Alkalinity	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample	Antimony	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample	Arsenic	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample	<p>Environmental Monitoring Data 2018 – 2022</p> <p>Meteorological Monitoring Report for June 2018, January 2019 and May 2020 by Sentinel.</p> <p>Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor</p>	<p>All monitoring required by this condition has been completed as per the required frequencies and all relevant parameters were monitored.</p>	C	
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method																																		
Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Special Frequency 2	In situ																																		
pH	pH	Special Frequency 2	In situ																																		
Total suspended solids	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 2	Representative sample																																		
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method																																		
Alkalinity	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample																																		
Antimony	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample																																		
Arsenic	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample																																		

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	Cadmium	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Conductivity	Milligrams per centimetre	Special Frequency 1	In situ				
	Copper	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Lead	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Molybdenum	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Nickel	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	pH	pH	Special Frequency 1	In situ				
	Selenium	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total suspended solids	Milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample				
	Zinc	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	POINT 15,17,18							
	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method				
	Alkalinity (as calcium carbonate)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Antimony	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Arsenic	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Cadmium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Monthly	In situ				
	Copper	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Lead	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Molybdenum	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Nickel	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	pH	pH	Monthly	In situ				
	Selenium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	Total suspended solids	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Zinc	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
POINT 19,26,27,30,31,32,33								
	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method				
	Alkalinity (as calcium carbonate)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Antimony (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Arsenic (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Cadmium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Calcium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Monthly	In situ				
	Copper (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Other Approved Method 1				
	Iron (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Lead (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Magnesium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Manganese (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Molybdenum (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Nickel (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	pH	pH	Monthly	In situ				
	Potassium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Selenium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	Sodium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Standing Water Level	milligrams per litre	Monthly	Inspection				
	Sulfate	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total dissolved solids	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total Hardness	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Zinc (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	POINT 36,38,40,52,53,54							
	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method				
	Antimony (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Arsenic (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Cadmium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Calcium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Chloride	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Monthly	In situ				
	Copper (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Iron (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Lead (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Magnesium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Manganese (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Molybdenum (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Nickel (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	pH	pH	Monthly	In situ				
	Potassium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Selenium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Sodium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Standing Water Level	metres	Monthly	Inspection				
	Sulfate	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total dissolved solids	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total Hardness	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Zinc (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	POINT 41,42,43							
	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method				
	Alkalinity (as calcium carbonate)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Antimony (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Arsenic (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Cadmium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Calcium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Chloride	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Conductivity	microsiemens per centimetre	Monthly	In situ				
	Copper (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Iron (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Lead (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Magnesium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				

Item	Assessment Requirement				Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	Manganese (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Molybdenum (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Nickel (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	pH	pH	Monthly	In situ				
	Potassium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Selenium (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Sodium	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Sulfate	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total dissolved solids	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Total Hardness	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	Zinc (dissolved)	milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample				
	POINT 48							
	Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method				
	Cyanide (total)	milligrams per litre	Weekly	Other Approved Method 2				
	Cyanide (weak acid dissociable)	milligrams per litre	2 times daily during discharge	Other Approved Method 3				
M2.4	For the purposes of the table(s) above <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Frequency 1 means "the collections of samples weekly and following rainfall events of 20mm or greater in a 24 hour period". • Special Frequency 2 means "the collection of samples monthly and following rainfall events of 20mm or greater in a 24 hour period". • Special Method 1 means "the collection and analysis of samples generally in accordance with AS/NZS 3580.9.3:2015". • Other Approved Method 1 means "methods based on 22nd Ed. APHA 4500-CN Method O (or most contemporary APHA methods for analysing WAD cyanide), or as otherwise approved under EPL Condition M3.2". 				Note	Noted	Note	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations															
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Approved Method 2 means "methods based on 22nd Ed. APHA 4500-CN Method B, C, E and/or O (or most contemporary APHA methods for analysing total cyanide), or as otherwise approved under EPL Condition M3.2". • Other Approved Method 3 means "methods based on 22nd Ed. APHA 4500-CN Method B, C, E, I and/or O (or most contemporary APHA methods for analysing WAD cyanide), or as otherwise approved under EPL Condition M3.2". • Monitoring at points 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 is not required when the monitoring site is dry or if the water level of Lake Cowal is at or below 204.5 metres Australian Height Datum or when the monitoring site is unable to be accessed safely. Monitoring is required to recommence when the outcome of a risk assessment determines a low or acceptable risk associated with the monitoring site. • Monitoring at points 36, 38, 40, 52, 53 & 54 is not required where a piezometer is lost or destroyed as a result of mine growth. 																			
M3 Testing methods – concentration limits																				
M3.1	<p>Monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant emitted to the air required to be conducted by this licence must be done in accordance with:</p> <p>a) any methodology which is required by or under the Act to be used for the testing of the concentration of the pollutant; or</p> <p>b) if no such requirement is imposed by or under the Act, any methodology which a condition of this licence requires to be used for that testing; or</p> <p>c) if no such requirement is imposed by or under the Act or by a condition of this licence, any methodology approved in writing by the EPA for the purposes of that testing prior to the testing taking place.</p>	Air Quality Management Plan February 2015	The methodologies and approvals of such are outlined in the Air Quality Management Plan February 2015.	C																
M3.2	<p>Subject to any express provision to the contrary in this licence, monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant discharged to waters or applied to a utilisation area must be done in accordance with the Approved Methods Publication unless another method has been approved by the EPA in writing before any tests are conducted.</p> <p>Note: The Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2010 requires testing for certain purposes to be conducted in accordance with test methods contained in the publication "Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in NSW".</p>	Note	Noted	Note																
M4 Weather monitoring																				
M4.1	For each monitoring point specified in the table below, the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the parameters specified in Column 1. The licensee must use the sampling method, units of measure, averaging period and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns.	Sentinel Datasight Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	All parameters required are monitored, with real time monitoring data available.	C																
<p>POINT 7</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>Units of measure</th> <th>Frequency</th> <th>Averaging period</th> <th>Sampling method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rainfall</td> <td>millimetres</td> <td>Continuous</td> <td>24 hour</td> <td>AM-4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wind Speed at 10 metres</td> <td>metres per second</td> <td>Continuous</td> <td>15 minute</td> <td>AM-2 & AM-4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Parameter	Units of measure	Frequency	Averaging period	Sampling method	Rainfall	millimetres	Continuous	24 hour	AM-4	Wind Speed at 10 metres	metres per second	Continuous	15 minute	AM-2 & AM-4
Parameter	Units of measure	Frequency	Averaging period	Sampling method																
Rainfall	millimetres	Continuous	24 hour	AM-4																
Wind Speed at 10 metres	metres per second	Continuous	15 minute	AM-2 & AM-4																

Item	Assessment Requirement					Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	Wind Direction at 10 metres	Degrees	Continuous	15 minute	AM-2 & AM-4				
	Temperature at 2 metres	degrees Celsius	Continuous	15 minute	AM-4				
	Temperature at 10 metres	degrees Celsius	Continuous	15 minute	AM-4				
	Sigma theta at 10 metres	degrees	Continuous	15 minute	AM-2 & AM-4				
	Solar Radiation	Watts per square metre	Continuous	15 minute	AM-4				
	Additional requirements								
	- Sitting	-	-	-	AM-1 & AM-4				
	- Measurement	-	-	-	AM-2 & AM-4				
M5 Recording of Pollution Complaints									
M5.1	The licensee must keep a legible record of all complaints made to the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee in relation to pollution arising from any activity to which this licence applies.					CGO Monthly Complaint Register	The auditor reviewed CGO's complaints register and two records of complaints regarding light pollution with a neighbour was recorded during the audit period. This issue was reviewed and considered closed out.	C	
M5.2	The record must include details of the following: a) the date and time of the complaint; b) the method by which the complaint was made; c) any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect; d) the nature of the complaint; e) the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and f) if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.					Note	Noted. Refer to statement for condition M5.1. All complaints sighted during the audit contain: a) the date and time of the complaint; b) the method by which the complaint was made; c) any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect; d) the nature of the complaint; e) the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and	Note	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
			f) if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.		
M5.3	The record of a complaint must be kept for at least 4 years after the complaint was made.	CGO Monthly Complaint Register	The detailed record of complaints published on the website date back to July 2014 with Annual Reviews published on the website recording a summary of complaints back to 2010.	C	
M5.4	The record must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.	Note	Noted	Note	
M6 Telephone Complaints Line					
M6.1	The licensee must operate during its operating hours a telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises or by the vehicle or mobile plant, unless otherwise specified in the licence.	https://evolutionmining.com.au/contact-details/	Community Relations Enquiries line (02 6975 3454) provided on Evolution website. The line is 24 hours and directs emails to the Environment Superintendent. The auditor tested the system during the audit.	C	
M6.2	The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.	https://evolutionmining.com.au/contact-details/	Community Relations Enquiries line (02 6975 3454). The line is 24 hours and directs emails to the Environment Superintendent. The auditor tested the system during the audit.	C	
M6.3	The preceding two conditions do not apply until 3 months after: the date of the issue of this licence.	Note	Noted	Note	
M7 Blasting					
M7.1	To determine compliance with condition(s) L5.1, L5.2, L5.3 and L5.4: a) Airblast overpressure and ground vibration levels must be measured at near by residences labelled as "BM01", "BM02", "BM03" and "BM08.1" on Figure 3 titled 'Blast Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowel Gold Operations Blast Management Plan" dated January 2015 for all blasts carried out on the premises; and (b) Instrumentation used to measure the airblast overpressure and ground vibration levels must meet the requirements of Australian Standard AS 2187.2-2006. (c) Monitoring at blast monitor BM01 is not required when the monitoring site is unable to be accessed safely. Monitoring is required to recommence when the outcome of a risk assessment determines a low or acceptable risk is associated with accessing the monitoring site.	Blast Management Plan January 2015	Similarly, to EPL condition P1.3. This condition outlines the monitoring locations in accordance with "Figure 3 titled 'Blast Monitoring Locations' in the "Cowel Gold Operations Blast Management Plan" dated January 2015". The BMP is currently being revised and as such this condition may need to be reviewed to align with any changes to the BMP.	C	
R1	Annual return documents				
R.1.1	The licensee must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return in the approved form comprising: 1. a Statement of Compliance,	Annual Returns	The auditor reviewed Annual Returns for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. The Annual Returns meet the requirements of this condition.	C	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
	<p>2. a Monitoring and Complaints Summary,</p> <p>3. a Statement of Compliance - Licence Conditions,</p> <p>4. a Statement of Compliance - Load based Fee,</p> <p>5. a Statement of Compliance - Requirement to Prepare Pollution Incident Response Management Plan,</p> <p>6. a Statement of Compliance - Requirement to Publish Pollution Monitoring Data; and</p> <p>7. a Statement of Compliance - Environmental Management Systems and Practices.</p> <p>At the end of each reporting period, the EPA will provide to the licensee notification that the Annual Return is due.</p>				
R1.2	An Annual Return must be prepared in respect of each reporting period, except as provided below.	Annual Returns	The auditor reviewed Annual Returns for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. The Annual Returns meet the requirements of this condition.	C	
R1.3	<p>Where this licence is transferred from the licensee to a new licensee:</p> <p>a) the transferring licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on the date the application for the transfer of the licence to the new licensee is granted; and</p> <p>b) the new licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the date the application for the transfer of the licence is granted and ending on the last day of the reporting period.</p>	NSW EPA Public Record	The auditor notes the EPL has not been surrendered or revoked during the audit period.	NT	
R1.4	<p>Where this licence is surrendered by the licensee or revoked by the EPA or Minister, the licensee must prepare an Annual Return in respect of the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on:</p> <p>a) in relation to the surrender of a licence - the date when notice in writing of approval of the surrender is given; or</p> <p>b) in relation to the revocation of the licence - the date from which notice revoking the licence operates.</p>	NSW EPA Public Record	The auditor notes the EPL has not been surrendered or revoked during the audit period.	C	
R1.5	The Annual Return for the reporting period must be supplied to the EPA via eConnect EPA or by registered post not later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period or in the case of a transferring licence not later than 60 days after the date the transfer was granted (the 'due date').	NSW EPA Public Record	The Annual Return has been supplied to the EPA within the required period.	C	
R1.6	The licensee must retain a copy of the Annual Return supplied to the EPA for a period of at least 4 years after the Annual Return was due to be supplied to the EPA.	Note	Noted	Note	
R1.7	<p>Within the Annual Return, the Statements of Compliance must be certified and the Monitoring and Complaints Summary must be signed by:</p> <p>a) the licence holder; or</p> <p>b) by a person approved in writing by the EPA to sign on behalf of the licence holder.</p>	Annual Returns	The auditor reviewed signed Annual Returns.	C	
R1.8	The results of the blast monitoring required by condition M7.1 must be submitted to the EPA at the end of each reporting period.	Annual Returns	All blast monitoring data is publicly available on CGO's website and submitted to the EPA.	C	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
		https://evolutionmining.com.au/cowal/ Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	Blast monitoring exceedances are all outlined in the Annual reviews.		
R1.9	The licensee must report any exceedance of the licence blasting limits to the regional office of the EPA as soon as practicable after the exceedance becomes known to the licensee or to one of the licensee's employees or agents. Note: The term "reporting period" is defined in the dictionary at the end of this licence. Do not complete the Annual Return until after the end of the reporting period. Note: An application to transfer a licence must be made in the approved form for this purpose.	Environmental Monitoring Data 2018 – 2022	Not triggered during audit period. Previous recorded exceedances have been attributable to "local environmental factors" and not CGO activities.	NT	
R2	Notification of environmental harm				
R2.1	Notifications must be made by telephoning the Environment Line service on 131 555.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	See EPL R2.2 below.	C	
R2.2	The licensee must provide written details of the notification to the EPA within 7 days of the date on which the incident occurred. Note: The licensee or its employees must notify all relevant authorities of incidents causing or threatening material harm to the environment immediately after the person becomes aware of the incident in accordance with the requirements of Part 5.7 of the Act.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	The auditor has viewed examples of incident notifications and reports to the EPA regarding cyanide exceedances and a slurry spill. These notifications and reports address all the requirements of this condition. The mine uses the InControl system to track and monitor Incident Notifications, allowing management to review and manage all incidents and then determine whether external notification is required.	C	
R3	Written report				
R3.1	Where an authorised officer of the EPA suspects on reasonable grounds that: a) where this licence applies to premises, an event has occurred at the premises; or b) where this licence applies to vehicles or mobile plant, an event has occurred in connection with the carrying out of the activities authorised by this licence, and the event has caused, is causing or is likely to cause material harm to the environment (whether the harm occurs on or off premises to which the licence applies), the authorised officer may request a written report of the event.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	No requests made by the EPA.	NT	
R3.2	The licensee must make all reasonable inquiries in relation to the event and supply the report to the EPA within such time as may be specified in the request.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	No requests made by the EPA.	NT	

Item	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance	Recommendations
R3.3	The request may require a report which includes any or all of the following information: a) the cause, time and duration of the event; b) the type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the event; c) the name, address and business hours telephone number of employees or agents of the licensee, or a specified class of them, who witnessed the event; d) the name, address and business hours telephone number of every other person (of whom the licensee is aware) who witnessed the event, unless the licensee has been unable to obtain that information after making reasonable effort; e) action taken by the licensee in relation to the event, including any follow-up contact with any complainants; f) details of any measure taken or proposed to be taken to prevent or mitigate against a recurrence of such an event; and g) any other relevant matters.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	No requests made by the EPA.	NT	
R3.4	The EPA may make a written request for further details in relation to any of the above matters if it is not satisfied with the report provided by the licensee. The licensee must provide such further details to the EPA within the time specified in the request.	Interview with Environment Superintendent and Environment Advisor	No requests made by the EPA.	NT	
G1	Copy of licence kept at the premises or plant				
G1.1	A copy of this licence must be kept at the premises to which the licence applies.	Site observations	The EPL is made available to all site personnel and a hard copy is maintained by the Environment Superintendent and within the security office.	C	
G1.2	The licence must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	Noted. No request was made during audit period.	NT	
G1.3	The licence must be available for inspection by any employee or agent of the licensee working at the premises.	Site observations	The EPL is made available to all site personnel and a hard copy is maintained by the Environment Superintendent and within the security office.	C	

Document details	
Document title	Table C4 – Mining Lease 1535
Document subtitle	Mining Lease
Project No.	0641147
Date	22 May 2022
Version	1.0
Author	Toivo Zoete Mark Gethings
Client Name	Evolution Mining

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Mining Lease Conditions 1535					
Notice to Landholders					
1.	<p>Within a period of three months from the date of grant/renewal of this lease or within such further time as the Minister may allow, the lease holder must serve on each landholder of the land a notice in writing indicating that this lease has been granted/renewed and whether the lease includes the surface. An adequate plan and description of the lease area must accompany the notice.</p> <p>If there are ten or more landholders affected, the lease holder may serve the notice by publication in a newspaper circulating in the region where the lease is situated. The notice must indicate that this lease has been granted/renewed; state whether the lease includes the surface and must contain an adequate plan and description of the lease area.</p>	Note	Noted	Note	
Working Requirement					
4.	<p>The lease holder must:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that at least 135 competent people are efficiently employed on the lease area on each week day except Saturday or any week day that is a public holiday, OR</p> <p>(b) Expend on operations carried out in the course of prospecting or mining the lease area, an amount of</p>	Interview with Environmental Manager	CGO employ a total of approximately 550 (600) across four crews on a back to back two shift roster. As such on any given day approximately 300 employees are employed on the lease area each week day.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>not less than \$2, 400,000 during each year of the term of this lease.</p> <p>The Minister may at any time or times after a period of 2 years from the date of grant/renewal of this lease by instrument in writing served on the lease holder, increase or decrease the expenditure required or the number of people employed.</p>				
Reports					
6.	<p>The lease holder shall provide, within a period of twenty-eight days after each anniversary of the date this lease has effect or at such other date as the Director-General may stipulate, of each year, a progress report(s) to the satisfaction of the Director-General containing the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Full particulars, including results, interpretation and conclusions of all exploration conducted during the twelve months period; (b) Details of expenditure incurred in conducting that exploration; (c) A summary of all geological findings acquired through mining ore development evaluation activities; (d) Particulars of exploration proposed to be conducted in the next twelve months period; (e) All plans, maps, sections and other data necessary to satisfactorily interpret the reports. 	<p>MEG ML 1535 Annual Report 2019, 2020, 2021</p> <p>Annual Environmental Reviews 2019, 2020, 2021</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed the annual reports to the DPI which also satisfy this requirement which is submitted on an annual basis of March every year. The auditor reviewed that the reports were submitted within the required time frame to MEG.</p> <p>These are also made available on the CGO website.</p> <p>The Annual Reviews satisfy the requirements of the condition.</p>	C	
Licence to Use Reports					
7a.	<p>The lease holder grants to the Minister, by way of non-exclusive license, the right in copyright to public, print, adapt and reproduce all exploration reports lodged in</p>	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	any form and for the full duration of copyright.				
7b.	The non-exclusive license will operate as a consent for the purpose of section 365 of the Mining Act 1992.	Note	Noted	Note	
Confidentiality					
8a.	All exploration reports submitted in accordance with the condition of this lease will be kept confidential while the lease is in force except in cases where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The lease holder has agreed that specified reports may be made non-confidential: or ii. Reports deal with exploration conducted exclusively on areas that have ceased to be part of the lease. 	Note	Noted	Note	
8b.	Confidentiality will be continued beyond the termination of a lease where an application for a flow-on title was lodged during the currency of the lease. The confidentiality will last until the flow on title or any subsequent flow-on title, has terminated.	Note	Noted	Note	
8c.	The Director-General may extend the period of confidentiality.	Note	Noted	Note	
Terms of the non-exclusive licence					
9.	The terms of the non-exclusive copyright licence granted under condition 7(a) are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Minister may sub-licence others to publish, print, adapt and reproduce but not on-licence reports. (b) the Minister and any sub-licensee will acknowledge the lease holder's and 	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>any identifiable consultant's ownership of copyright in any reproduction of the reports, including storage of reports onto an electronic database.</p> <p>(c) the lease holder does not warrant ownership of all copyright works in any report and, the lease holder will use best endeavours to identify those parts of the report for which the lease holder owns the copyright.</p> <p>(d) there is no royalty payable by the Minister for the licence.</p> <p>(e) if the lease holder has reasonable grounds to believe that the Minister has exercised his rights under the non-exclusive copyright licence in a manner which adversely affects the operations of the lease holder, that licence is revocable on the giving of a period of not less than three months' notice.</p>				
Safety					
11.	<p>Operations must be carried out in a manner that ensures the safety of persons or stock in the vicinity of the operations. All drill hole shafts and excavations must be appropriately protected, to the satisfaction of the Director-General, to ensure that access to them by persons and stock is restricted. Abandoned shafts and excavations opened up or used by the lease holder must be filled in or otherwise rendered safe to a standard acceptable to the Director-General.</p>	<p>Safety and Health Management Plan July 2021</p> <p>Interview with Environment Superintendent</p>	<p>Stock is excluded for the mining licence.</p> <p>CGO maintains a safety management system that addresses the protection requirements for excavations and holes.</p> <p>CGO currently don't have any abandoned shafts or</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			excavations on their mining lease.		
Rehabilitation					
12a.	<p>Land disturbed must be rehabilitated to a stable and permanent form suitable for a subsequent land use acceptable to the Director-General and in accordance with the Mining Operations Plan so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no adverse environmental effect outside the disturbed area and that the land is properly drained and protected from soil erosion. • the state of the land is compatible with the surrounding land and land use requirements. • The landforms, soils, hydrology and flora require no greater maintenance than that in the surrounding land. • In cases where revegetation is required and native vegetation has been removed or damaged, the original species must be re-established with close reference to the flora survey included in the Mining Operations Plan. If the original vegetation was not native, any re-established vegetation must be appropriate to the area and at an acceptable density. • The land does not pose a threat to public safety 	<p>Rehabilitation Management Plan September 2017</p> <p>Mining Operations Plan July 2021</p> <p>Topsoil Stockpile Map</p>	<p>Rehabilitation is progressed against the MOP and RMP in accordance with this condition.</p> <p>Topsoil is managed in stockpiles which are recorded / logged on a top soil register.</p> <p>The auditor reviewed GIS map of topsoil and subsoil locations which includes locations and volumes stored. Further the auditor observed topsoil stockpiles in situ with detailed signage during site tours.</p>	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
12b.	Any topsoil that is removed must be stored and maintained in a manner acceptable to the Director-General	Rehabilitation Management Plan September 2017 Mining Operations Plan July 2021 Topsoil Stockpile Map (2022)	Rehabilitation is progressed against the MOP and RMP in accordance with this condition. Topsoil is managed in stockpiles which are recorded / logged on a top soil register. The auditor reviewed GIS map of topsoil and subsoil locations which includes locations and volumes stored. Further the auditor observed topsoil stockpiles in situ with detailed signage during site tours.	C	
13	The lease holder must comply with any direction given by the Director-General regarding stabilisation and revegetation of any mine residues, tailings or overburden dumps situate on the lease area.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No direction received during the audit period.	NT	
Prevention of Soil Erosion and Pollution					
14.	Operation must be carried out in a manner that does not cause or aggravate air pollution, water pollution (including sedimentation) or soil contamination or erosion, unless otherwise authorised by a relevant approval, and in accordance with an accepted Mining Operations Plan. For the purpose of this condition, water shall be taken to include any watercourse, waterbody or groundwaters. The lease holder must observe and perform any instructions given by the Director-General in this regard.	Mining Operations Plan July 2021	MOP is implemented as well as a number of other management plans that ensure pollution from CGO's activities is within approved criteria.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Transmission lines, Communications lines and Pipelines.					
15	Operations must not interfere with or impair the stability of efficiency of any transmission line, communication line, pipeline or any other utility on the area without the prior written approval of the Director-General and subject to any conditions he may stipulate.	Interview with Environment Superintendent Site tour observations	CGO work with Essential Energy to maintain clearance of easements when required to operate within lease area. No interference with transmission lines was observed or recorded in this audit period.	C	
Fences, Gates					
16a.	Activities on the lease must not interfere with or damage fences without the prior written approval of the owner thereof or the Minister and subject to any conditions the Minister may stipulate.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	When Lake Cowal is receding in water volume, damage to fences is discussed with land holders to ensure that damage is rectified.	C	
16b.	Gate with the lease area must be closed or left open in accordance with requirements of the landholder.	Site tour observations Interview with Environment Superintendent		C	
Roads					

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
17a.	Operation must not affect any road unless in accordance with an accepted Mining Operations Plan or with the prior written approval of the Director-General and subject to any conditions he may stipulate.	Interview with Environment Superintendent Cowal Gold Mine MoU on Road Maintenance	Refer to CoA DA 14/98 condition 1.5(a)	C	
17b.	The lease holder must pay to the local council, the Department of Land and Water conservation of the Roads and Traffic Authority the cost incurred in fixing and damage to roads caused by operations carried out under the lease, less any amount paid or payable from the Mine Subsidence Compensation Fund.	Interview with Environment Superintendent Cowal Gold Mine MoU on Road Maintenance	Refer to CoA DA 14/98 condition 1.5(a)	C	
18.	Access tracks must be kept a minimum and be positioned so that they do not caused any unnecessary damage to the land. Temporary access track must be ripped, topsoiled and revegetated as soon as possible after they are no longer required for mining operations. The design and construction of access tracks must be in accordance with specifications fixed by the Department of Land and Water Conservation.	Interview with Environment Superintendent Site tour observations	No new access tracks have been developed since the previous audit. The Site Environment team advised that there is no space to develop new tracks, and existing tracks are the only ones that are being used. No seeding of past access tracks has occurred at this time, and site management noted that all current access tracks are permanent over the life of the mine.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			No access tracks outside of ML area and CGO owned properties.		
Trees and Timber					
19a.	The lease holder must not fell trees, strip bark or cut timber on the lease without the consent of the landholder who is entitled to the use of the timer, or if such a landholder refused consent or attaches unreasonable conditions to the consent, without the approval of a warden.	Vegetation Clearance Protocol 2018 Interview with Environment Superintendent	Tree felling has only occurred within the lease area. CGO maintain a Vegetation Clearance Protocol, revised in 2018 which considers this condition. No timber from land outside the lease area is utilised on site.	C	
19b.	The lease holder must not cut, destroy, ringbark or remove any timber or other vegetative cover on the lease area except such a directly obstructs or prevents the carrying on of operations. Any clearing not authorised under the Mining Act 1992 must comply with the provision of the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997.	Vegetation Clearance Protocol 2018 Interview with Environment Superintendent	Tree felling has only occurred within the lease area. CGO maintain a Vegetation Clearance Protocol, revised in 2018 which considers this condition. No timber from land outside the lease area is utilised on site.	C	
19c.	The lease holder must have any necessary licence from the Forestry Commission of New South Wales before using timber from any Crown Land within the lease area.	Vegetation Clearance Protocol 2018	Tree felling has only occurred within the lease area. CGO maintain a Vegetation	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		Interview with Environment Superintendent	Clearance Protocol, revised in 2018 which considers this condition. No timber from land outside the lease area is utilised on site.		
Resource Recovery					
21a.	Notwithstanding any description of mining methods and their sequence or of propose resources recovery contained within the Mining Operations Plan, if at any time the Director-General is of the opinion that minerals which the lease entitles the lease holder to mine and which are economically recoverable at the time are not being recovered from the lease area, or that any such mineral which are being recovered are not being recovered to the extent which should be economically possible or which for environmental reasons are necessary to be recovered, he may give notice in writing the lease holder requiring the holder recover such minerals.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	
21b.	The notice shall specify the minerals to be recovered and the extent to which they are to be recovered, or the objective in regard to resource recovery, but shall not specify the processes the lease holder shall use to achieve the specified recovery.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	
21c.	The lease holder must, when request by the Director-General, provide such information as the Director-General may specify about the recovery of the mineral resources of the lease area.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
21d.	No such notice shall be issued by the Director-General unless the matter has firstly been thoroughly discussed with and a report to the Director-General has incorporated the views of the lease holder.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	
21e.	The lease holder may object to the requirements of any notice issued under this condition and on receipt of such an objection the Minister shall refer it to a Warden for inquiry and report under Section 334 of the Mining Act, 1992.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	
21f.	After considering the Warden's report, the Minister shall decide whether to withdraw modify or maintain the requirements specified in the original notice and shall give the lease holder written notice of the decision. The lease holder must comply with the requirements of this notice.	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No notice received during the audit period.	NT	
Indemnity					
22.	The lease holder must indemnify and keep indemnified the Crown from and against all actions, suits, claims and demands of whatsoever nature and all costs, charges and expenses which may be brought against the lease holder or which the lease may incur in respect of any accident or injury to any person or property which may arise out the construction, maintenance or working of any workings not existing or to be made by the lease holder within the lease area or in connection with any of the operations notwithstanding all other conditions of this lease shall in all respects have been observed by the lease holder or that any such accident or injury shall arise from any act or thing which the lease holder may be licenced or compelled to do.	Insurance Certificate	CGO maintains bonds as required and discussed against conditions in this audit in addition to Professional Liability Insurance.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Security					
23a.	<p>Securities as indicated below must be lodged with the Minister by the lease holder for the purpose of ensuring the fulfilment by the lease holder of his obligation under this lease. If the lease holder fails to fulfil any one or more of such obligations the said sum may be applied at the discretion of the Minister towards the costs of fulfilling such obligations. For the purpose of this clause the lease holder shall be deemed to have failed to fulfil the obligations of this lease if he fails to comply with any condition or provision hereof, any provision of the Act or regulations made thereunder or any condition or direction imposed or given pursuant to a condition or provision hereof or any provision of the Act regulation made thereunder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. An amount \$250,000 must be lodged prior to the gran of a lease, and ii. A further amount of \$11,750,000 must be lodged prior to the commencement of any construction activities. 	Correspondence from DRG to Evolution Mining, dated 15 January 2019, confirming receipt of security certificate.	Security deposits paid.	C	
23b.	<p>The lease holder must provide the security required by sub-clause (a) hereof in one of the following forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cash, ii. A security certificate in such form and given by such surety as may from time to time be approved by the Minister. 	Correspondence from DRG to Evolution Mining, dated 15 January 2019, confirming receipt of security certificate.	Security deposits paid.	C	
Mining and Safety Management Plan					

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
24.	Prior to the commencement of any construction activities on the lease area and as required by the Director-General the lease holder must prepare a Mine Safety Management Plan to ensure the Mines Inspection General Rule 2000 is adhered to.	Safety and Health Management Plan 07 July 2021	Outside of audit period. CGO has current safety management plan in place.	C	

Mining Rehabilitation, Environmental Management Process (MREMP)

Mining Operations Plan

25.1	<p>Mining operation including mining purposed, must be conducted in accordance with a Mining Operation Plan (the Plan) satisfactory to the Director-General, The Plan together with environmental conditions of development consent and other approvals will form the basis for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ongoing mining operations and environmental management and (b) ongoing monitoring of the project. 	<p>Mining Operations Plan September 2021</p> <p>Correspondence with DP&E</p> <p>Letter from DP&E: Mining Lease No. 1535, Mining Act 1992, Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited, Approval of Mining Operations Plan 01 October 2021</p>	<p>The auditor reviewed correspondence with DP&E CGO – Mining Operations Plan (September 2021 – July 2022, dated 01 October 2021 detailing the amendment to the current MOP, confirming the MOP has been prepared in accordance with Condition 25 of the ML 1535 and Condition 2.1 of DA 14/98. The update reflects minor changes to the MOP and includes details that the site MOP will be replaced by rehabilitation management plans post July 2022 subject to department approvals of the new mine SSD.</p> <p>DRG approved the MOP in October 2021.</p>	C	
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No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
25.2	The plan must be prepared in accordance with the Director-General's guidelines current at the time of lodgement.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
25.3	<p>A plan must be lodged with the Director-General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) prior to the commencement of mining and milling of ore; (b) subsequently as appropriate prior to the expiry of any current Plan; and (c) in accordance with any direction issued by the Director-General. 	Same as above	Same as above	C	
25.4	<p>The plan must present a schedule of proposed mine development for a period of up to seven (7) years and contain diagrams and documentation which identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) area(s) propose to be disturbed under the Plan; (b) mining and rehabilitation method(s) to be used and their sequence; (c) areas to be used for disposal of tailings/waste; (d) existing and proposed surface infrastructure; (e) flora and fauna management plan for the mine; (f) progressive landscape and rehabilitation management plan including schedules; (g) areas of particular environmental, ecological, archaeological and cultural sensitivity and measures to protect these areas; 	Same as above	Same as above	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (h) soil stripping management plan; (i) surface and ground-water management systems including monitoring (including integrated erosion and sediment controls); (j) proposed resource recovery; (k) management plan for the construction and operation of the tailing dam; (l) environmental monitoring program listing the location of monitoring points, frequency of monitoring and parameters to be monitored; and (m) where the mine will cease extraction during the term of the Plan, a closure plan including final rehabilitation objectives/methods and post mining land use/vegetation. 				
25.5	The Plan when lodged will be reviewed by the Department of Mineral Resources.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
25.6	The Director-General may with two (2) months of the lodgement of a Plan, require modification and re-lodgement.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
25.7	If a requirement in accordance with clause (6) is not issued with two (2) months of the lodgement of a Plan, the lease holder may proceed with implementation of the Plan.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
25.8	During the life of the Mining Operations Plan, proposed modifications to the Plan must be lodged with the	Same as above	Same as above	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	Director-General and will be subject to the review process outline in clause (5) – (7) above.				
25.9	<p>i. An initial Mining Operations Plan must be submitted prior to the commencement of Constructing on the site and include the following to the satisfaction of the Director-General and in conformity with the requirement of the department of Infrastructure Planning and Natural resources and the Dams Safety Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Plans to construct and maintain the site water management structures, namely the temporary perimeter bund, lake protection bund, up-catchment diversion systems and internal catchment drainage system; b. Measures to manage and dispose of water that may be captured behind the temporary bund during construction of the bund; c. The program for reporting on the site water management structures. <p>ii. The lease holder must construct and maintain the lake protection bund and other site water management structures as detailed in clause (9)(i) above.</p>	Same as above	Same as above	C	
Annual Environmental Management Report					
26.1	Within 12 months of the commencement of mining operations and thereafter annually or, at such other times as may be allowed by the Director-General, the	Annual Environmental	The auditor reviewed Annual Reviews which were prepared by 30 July in 2020, July 30	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	lease holder must lodge an Annual Environmental Management Report (AEMR) with the Director-General	Reviews 2019, 2020, 2021	2021, and prepared by March 2022 and made available on the CGO website. The Annual Reviews satisfy the requirements of the condition.		
26.2	<p>The AEMR must be prepared in accordance with the Director-General's Guidelines current at the time of reporting and contain a review and forecast of performance for the preceding and ensuing twelve months in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the accepted Mining Operations Plan; (b) development consent requirements and conditions; (c) Environmental Protection Authority and Department of Land and Water Conservation licences and approvals; (d) Any other statutory environmental requirements; (e) Details of any variations to environmental approvals applicant to the lease area; and (f) Where relevant, progress towards final rehabilitation objectives. 	Same as above	Same as above	C	
26.3	After considering an AEMR the Director-General may, by notice in writing, direct the lease holder to undertake operations, remedial actions or supplementary studies in the manner and within the period specified in the notice to ensure that operations on the lease area are conducted in accordance with sound mining and environmental practice.	Same as above	Same as above	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
26.4	The lease holder shall, as and when directed by the Minister, cooperate with the Director-General to conduct and facilitate review of the AEMR involving other government agencies and the local council.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
Blasting					
27a.	<u>Ground Vibration</u> The lease holder must ensure that the ground vibration peak particle velocity generated by any blasting within the lease area does not exceed 10 mm/second and does not exceed 5 mm/second in more than 5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months at any dwelling or occupied premises as the case may be, unless determined otherwise by the Environment Protection Authority.	CoA DA14/98	Refer to CoA DA14/98 condition 6.3(a)	C	
27b.	<u>Blast Overpressure</u> The lease holder must ensure that the blast overpressure noise level generated by any blasting within the lease area does not exceed 120 dB (linear) and does not exceed 115 dB (linear) in more than 5% of the total number of blasts over a period of 12 months, at any dwelling or occupied premises, as the case may be, unless determined otherwise by the Environment Protection Authority,	Same as above	Same as above	C	
Use of Cyanide					
28.	The lease holder must not use cyanide or any solution containing cyanide for the recovery of minerals on the lease area without the prior written approval of the	CoA DA14/98	CGO is authorised under its CoA DA14/98 to utilise cyanide during the leaching process.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	Minister and subject to any conditions he may stipulate.		Refer to Annex B1: CoA DA14/98 condition 5.3		
Control of Operations.					
29.	<p>(a) If an Environmental Officer of the Department believes that the lease holder is not complying with any provision of the Act or any condition of this lease relating to the working of the lease, he may direct the lease holder to: -</p> <p>i) cease working the lease; or</p> <p>ii) cease that part of the operation not complying with the Act or conditions;</p> <p>until in the opinion of the Environmental Officer the situation is rectified.</p> <p>(b) The lease holder must comply with any direction given. The Director-General may confirm, vary or revoke any such direction.</p> <p>(c) A direction referred to in this condition may be served on the Mine Manager.</p>	Interview with Environment Superintendent	No written direction made during the audit period.	NT	

Document details	
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Author	Toivo Zoete Mark Gethings
Client Name	Evolution Mining

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
Mining Lease Conditions 2013					
Notice to Landholders					
1.	<p>Within a period of three months from the date of grant/renewal of this mining lease, the lease holder must serve on each landholder a notice in writing indicating that this mining lease has been granted/renewed and whether the lease includes the surface. A plan identifying each landholder and individual land parcel subject to the lease area, and a description of the lease area must accompany the notice.</p> <p>If there are ten or more landholders, the lease holder may serve the notice by publication in a newspaper circulating in the region where the lease is situated. The notice must indicate that this lease has been granted/renewed; state whether the lease includes the surface and must contain a plan and description of the lease area. If a notice is made under condition 1(b), compliance with condition 1(a) is not required.</p>	Note	Noted	Note	
Rehabilitation					
2.	Any disturbance resulting from the activities carried out under this mining lease must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the Minister.	<p>Rehabilitation Management Plan September 2017</p> <p>Mining Operations Plan July 2021</p>	Rehabilitation is progressed against the MOP and RMP in accordance with this condition.	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
		Topsoil Stockpile Map	<p>Topsoil is managed in stockpiles which are recorded / logged on a top soil register.</p> <p>The auditor reviewed GIS map of topsoil and subsoil locations which includes locations and volumes stored. Further the auditor observed topsoil stockpiles in situ with detailed signage during site tours.</p>		
Mining Operations Plan and Annual Rehabilitation Report					
3a.	The lease holder must comply with an approved Mining Operations Plan (MOP) in carrying out any significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, ancillary mining activities and prospecting. The lease holder must apply to the Minister for approval of a MOP. An approved MOP must be in place prior to commencing any significant surface disturbing activities, including mining operations, ancillary mining activities and prospecting.	<p>Mining Operations Plan September 2021</p> <p>Correspondence with DP&E</p> <p>Letter from DP&E: Mining Lease No. 1535, Mining Act 1992, Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited, Approval of Mining Operations Plan 01 October 2021</p>	The auditor reviewed correspondence with DP&E CGO – Mining Operations Plan (September 2021 – July 2022, dated 01 October 2021 detailing the amendment to the current MOP, confirming the MOP has been prepared in accordance with Condition 25 of the ML 1535, Condition 3 of the ML 1791 and Condition 2.1 of DA 14/98. The update reflects minor changes to the MOP and includes details that the site MOP will be replaced by rehabilitation management plans post July 2022 subject to	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
			<p>department approvals as part of the new mine SSD.</p> <p>DRG approved the MOP in October 2021.</p>		
3b.	<p>The MOP must identify the post mining land use and set out a detailed rehabilitation strategy which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. identifies areas that will be disturbed; ii. details the staging of specific mining operations, ancillary mining activities and prospecting; iii. identifies how the mine will be managed and rehabilitated to achieve the post mining land use; iv. identifies how mining operations, ancillary mining activities and prospecting will be carried out in order to prevent and or minimise harm to the environment; and v. reflects the conditions of approval under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>; • the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>; and • any other approvals relevant to the development including the conditions of this mining lease. 	Same as above	Same as above	C	
3c.	The MOP must be prepared in accordance with the <i>ESG3: Mining Operations Plan (MOP) Guidelines September 2013</i> published on the Division's website .	Same as above	Same as above	C	
3d.	The lease holder may apply to the Minister to amend an approved MOP at any time.	Same as above	Same as above	C	
3e.	<p>It is not a breach of this condition if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the operations which, but for this condition 3(e) would be a breach of condition 3(a), were necessary to comply with a lawful order or direction 	Same as above	Same as above	C	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>given under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>, the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>, the <i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013</i> and <i>Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014</i> or the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>; and <i>Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017</i></p> <p>ii. the Minister had been notified in writing of the terms of the order or direction prior to the operations constituting the breach being carried out.</p>				
3f.	<p>The lease holder must prepare a Rehabilitation Report to the satisfaction of the Minister. The report must:</p> <p>i. provide a detailed review of the progress of rehabilitation against the performance measures and criteria established in the approved MOP;</p> <p>ii. be submitted annually on the grant anniversary date (or at such other times as agreed by the Minister); and</p> <p>iii. be prepared in accordance with any relevant annual reporting guidelines published on the Division's website.</p> <p><i>Note: The Rehabilitation Report replaces the Annual Environmental Management Report.</i></p>	Same as above	Same as above	C	
Non-Compliance Reporting					
4a.	The lease holder must notify the Department upon becoming aware of any breaches of the conditions of this mining lease or breaches of the Act or Mining Regulation 2016;	Note	Noted	Note	
4b.	Notifications under condition 4(a) must be provided in the form specified on the Department's website within seven (7) days of the mining lease holder becoming	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	aware of the breach.				
Environmental Incident Report					
5.	The lease holder must provide environmental incident notifications and reports to the Secretary no later than seven (7) days after those environmental incident notifications and reports are provided to the relevant authorities under the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> .	Note	Noted	Note	
Security					
7.	The lease holder is required to provide and maintain a security deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations of all or any kind under the mining lease, including obligations of all or any kind under the mining lease that may arise in the future. The amount of the security deposit to be provided has been assessed by the Minister at \$10,000.	Correspondence from DP&E Mining Lease No. 1791, Mining Act 1992, Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited – Notice of assessment for security Deed of Security Deposit Bond	Currently the required security to be given and maintained is \$10,000.00 as at 13 April 2022. CGO currently holds 1 security deposit bond to satisfy bond requirements for ML 1791.	C	
Cooperation Agreement					
8.	The lease holder must make every reasonable attempt, and be able to demonstrate its attempts, to enter into a cooperation agreement with the holder(s) of any overlapping title(s). The cooperation agreement should address but not be limited to issues such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> access arrangements; 	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> operational interaction procedures; dispute resolution; information exchange; well location; timing of drilling; potential resource extraction conflicts; and rehabilitation issues. 				

Special Conditions

Prescribed Dam					
9a.	Notwithstanding any Mining Operations Plan, the lease holder must not mine within any part of the lease area which is within the notification area of the Cowal Northern Tailings Dam without the prior written approval of the Minister and subject to any conditions he may stipulate.	Note	Noted	Note	
9b.	Where the lease holder desires to mine within the notification area he must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. at least twelve (12) months before mining is to commence or such lesser time as the Minister may permit, notify the Minister of the desire to do so. A plan of the mining system to be implemented must accompany the notice; and ii. provide such information as the Minister may direct. 	Note	Noted	Note	
9c.	The Minister must not, except in the circumstances set out in sub-paragraph (ii), grant approval unless sub-paragraph (i) of this paragraph has been complied with. This sub-paragraph is complied with if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the Dams Safety Committee as constituted by Section 7 of the Dams Safety Act 1978 and the owner of the dam have been notified in writing of the desire to mine referred to in paragraph (B). 	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<p>ii. the notifications referred to in clause (a) are accompanied by a description or plan of the area to be mined.</p> <p>iii. the Director General has complied with any reasonable request made by the Dams Safety Committee or the owner of the dam for further information in connection with the mining proposal.</p> <p>iv. the Dams Safety Committee has made its recommendations concerning the mining proposal or has informed the Minister in writing that it does not propose to make any such recommendations; and</p> <p>v. where the Dams Safety Committee has made recommendations the approval is in terms that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in accordance with those recommendations; or • where the Minister does not accept those recommendations or any of them – in accordance with a determination under sub-paragraph (ii) of this paragraph. <p>vi. Where the Minister does not accept the recommendations of the Dams Safety Committee or where the Dams Safety Committee has failed to make any recommendations and has not informed the Minister in writing that it does not propose to make any recommendations, the approval shall be in terms that are, in relation to matters dealing with the safety of the dam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • as determined by agreement between the Minister and the Minister administering the <i>Dams Safety Act 1978</i>; or • in the event of failure to reach such agreement - as determined by the Premier. 				
9d.	The Minister, on notice from the Dams Safety Committee, may at any time or times:	Note	Noted	Note	

No	Assessment Requirement	Reference/ Evidence	Comments	Compliance Status	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. cancel any approval given where a notice pursuant to Section 18 of the Dams Safety Act 1978 is given. <li>ii. suspend for a period of time, alter, omit from or add to any approval given or conditions imposed. 				

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