



Licence

Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V

Licensee: Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited

Licence: L8490/2010/2

Registered office: Level 2, 159 Adelaide Terrace
EAST PERTH WA 6004

ACN: 087 360 996

Premises address: Barnicoat Gold Plant
Mining tenement M38/318 and M38/1042
Whitecliffs Road
LAVERTON WA 6440
as depicted in Schedule 1.

Issue date: Thursday, 12 December 2013

Commencement date: Friday, 27 December 2013

Expiry date: Wednesday, 26 December 2018

Prescribed premises category

Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987*

Category number	Category description	Category production or design capacity	Approved premises production or design capacity
05	Processing or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore	50,000 tonnes or more per year	1,500,000 tonnes per annual period

Conditions

This Licence is subject to the conditions set out in the attached pages.

Date signed: 4 February 2016

.....
Tim Gentle

Manager Licensing – Industry Regulation (Resources Industries)
Officer delegated under section 20
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*



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Introduction

This Introduction is not part of the Licence conditions.

DER's industry licensing role

The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) is a government department for the state of Western Australia in the portfolio of the Minister for Environment. DER's purpose is to advise on and implement strategies for a healthy environment for the benefit of all current and future Western Australians.

DER has responsibilities under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (the Act) for the licensing of prescribed premises. Through this process DER regulates to prevent, control and abate pollution and environmental harm to conserve and protect the environment. DER also monitors and audits compliance with works approvals and licence conditions, takes enforcement action as appropriate and develops and implements licensing and industry regulation policy.

Licence requirements

This Licence is issued under Part V of the Act. Conditions contained within the Licence relate to the prevention, reduction or control of emissions and discharges to the environment and to the monitoring and reporting of them.

Where other statutory instruments impose obligations on the Premises/Licensee the intention is not to replicate them in the licence conditions. You should therefore ensure that you are aware of all your statutory obligations under the Act and any other statutory instrument. Legislation can be accessed through the State Law Publisher website using the following link:

<http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/default.html>

For your Premises relevant statutory instruments include but are not limited to obligations under the:

- *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* – these Regulations make it an offence to discharge certain materials such as contaminated stormwater into the environment other than in the circumstances set out in the Regulations.
- *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004* - these Regulations place obligations on you if you produce, accept, transport or dispose of controlled waste.
- *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* – these Regulations require noise emissions from the Premises to comply with the assigned noise levels set out in the Regulations.

You must comply with your licence. Non-compliance with your licence is an offence and strict penalties exist for those who do not comply.



Licence holders are also reminded of the requirements of section 53 of the Act which places restrictions on making certain changes to prescribed premises unless the changes are in accordance with a works approval, licence, closure notice or environmental protection notice.

Licence fees

If you have a licence that is issued for more than one year, you are required to pay an annual licence fee prior to the anniversary date of issue of your licence. Non payment of annual licence fees will result in your licence ceasing to have effect meaning that it will no longer be valid and you will need to apply for a new licence for your Premises.

Ministerial conditions

If your Premises has been assessed under Part IV of the Act you may have had conditions imposed by the Minister for Environment. You are required to comply with any conditions imposed by the Minister.

Premises description and Licence summary

Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited (Focus) owns and operates the Barnicoat Gold Plant which is situated on mining leases M38/318 and M38/1042 and is located approximately 9.5 kilometers (km) east of Laverton within the Shire of Laverton. The Barnicoat Gold Plant occupies an area of approximately 301.91ha, all of which has been subjected to pre-existing disturbance. The Barnicoat Gold Plant was placed in care and maintenance on 18 July 2009 and remains this way throughout the licence renewal process.

The Barnicoat gold plant processes ore acquired using conventional open pit mining methods. The process consists of:

- crushing and screening;
- grinding and classification;
- leaching and adsorption; and
- gold recovery and carbon regeneration.

Waste tailings generated from the processing stages are disposed of via in-pit disposal in the Cock of the North and West pits. Previously, the Barnicoat plant had a maximum processing capacity of 700,000 tonnes per annum. Refurbishments of the plant covered by works approval W4267/2006/1 increased the annual throughput up to about 1 to 1.5 million tonnes.

The Laverton region is characterised by gently undulating terrain of low relief with prominent hills consisting of greenstone outcrops.

The groundwater table within the Barnicoat Laverton Gold Project area ranges between 32 and 42 metres below the surface across the project area. Groundwater quality ranges from brackish (TDS 4,300mg/L to saline (TDS 25,300mg/L). To date a slow rise in groundwater levels has been detected in monitoring bores immediately adjacent to the TSF and a low weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide concentration in one bore on the western side of the storage. Focus maintains a number of monitoring bores around the in-pit TSF. The in-pit TSF has not been utilised since July 2007.

In 2004 a new proposed public drinking water source area (PDWSA) was developed which included the area used for the Barnicoat gold plant. The boundaries have since been redrawn to ensure the Barnicoat Gold Plant sits outside of the PDWSA. The Barnicoat gold plant is now approximately 5.7km away from the closest boundary of the PDWSA. The Laverton town water supply is currently sourced from the Wedge pit and Beasley Creek wellfields. The Barnicoat gold project area is located approximately 13km from the Wedge pit wellfield and 16.5km from the Beasley Creek wellfields.

There are no surface waters such as rivers, creeks or lakes within the region. Skull Creek is the largest intermittent drainage line in the general area and is located approximately 1km north of the tailings storage facility (TSF).



A number of flora species listed under Federal and State legislation as being of conservation significance potentially may occur within the project area. A database search was conducted by MBS Environmental (2008) for plant species listed under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* that may occur within the area including Declared Rare Flora (DRF), Priority Flora and Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs).

This Licence is the result of an amendment application to reduce the frequency of standing water level monitoring from monthly to quarterly. The Licence has also been updated to the most recent version at this time.

The licences and works approvals issued for the premises since 13 September 2000 are:

Instrument log		
Instrument	Issued	Description
L4396/5	13/09/2000	New Application for the operation of a heap leach facility, Carbon In Leach and disposal of tailings. This licence lapsed in October 2001.
L8134/2006/1	02/03/2007	New application to operate the refurbished Barnicoat Gold Plant. Licence expired April 2008.
L8248/2008/1	31/07/2008	New application. Licence expired due to non-payment of the fees.
L8490/2010/1	24/12/2010	New application
L8490/2010/1	10/01/2013	Licence amendment
L8490/2010/2	12/12/2013	Licence renewal and amendment to REFIRE format.
L8490/2010/2	04/02/2016	Licence amendment to reduce standing water level monitoring frequency and to update into version 2.9

Severance

It is the intent of these Licence conditions that they shall operate so that, if a condition or a part of a condition is beyond the power of this Licence to impose, or is otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid, that condition or part of a condition shall be severed and the remainder of these conditions shall nevertheless be valid to the extent that they are within the power of this Licence to impose and are not otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid.

END OF INTRODUCTION

Licence conditions

1 General

1.1 Interpretation

1.1.1 In the Licence, definitions from the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* apply unless the contrary intention appears.

1.1.2 For the purposes of this Licence, unless the contrary intention appears:

'Act' means the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

'annual period' means the inclusive period from 1 July until 33 June in the following year;

'AS/NZS 5667.1' means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.1 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance of the Design of sampling programs, sampling techniques and the preservation and handling of samples*;



'**AS/NZS 5667.11**' means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.11 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance on sampling of groundwaters*;

'**averaging period**' means the time over which a limit is measured or a monitoring result is obtained;

'**CEO**' means Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation;

'**CEO**' for the purpose of correspondence means;

Director General

At the following address:

Department Administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
Locked Bag 33
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850
Telephone: (08) 9333 7510
Facsimile: (08) 9333 7550
Email: info@der.wa.gov.au

'**freeboard**' means the distance between the maximum water surface elevations and the top of retaining banks or structures at their lowest point;

'**Licence**' means this Licence numbered L8490/2010/2 and issued under the Act;

'**Licensee**' means the person or organisation named as Licensee on page 1 of the Licence;

'**NATA**' means the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia;

'**NATA accredited**' means in relation to the analysis of a sample that the laboratory is NATA accredited for the specified analysis at the time of the analysis;

'**Premises**' means the area defined in the Premises Map in Schedule 1 and listed as the Premises address on page 1 of the Licence;

'**quarterly**' means the 4 inclusive periods from 1 March to 31 May, 1 June to 31 August, 1 September to 30 November and 1 December to 28 February in the following year;

'**Schedule 1**' means Schedule 1 of this Licence unless otherwise stated;

'**Schedule 2**' means Schedule 2 of this Licence unless otherwise stated;

'**spot sample**' means a discrete sample representative at the time and place at which the sample is taken; and

'**usual working day**' means 0800 – 1700 hours, Monday to Friday excluding public holidays in Western Australia.

1.1.3 Any reference to an Australian or other standard in the Licence means the relevant parts of the the standard in force from time to time during the term of this Licence.

1.1.4 Any reference to a guideline or code of practice in the Licence means the version of that guideline or code of practice in force from time to time, and shall include any amendments or replacements to that guideline or code of practice made during the term of this Licence.

1.1.5 Nothing in the Licence shall be taken to authorise any emission that is not mentioned in the Licence, where the emission amounts to:
(a) pollution;



- (b) unreasonable emission;
- (c) discharge of waste in circumstances likely to cause pollution; or
- (d) being contrary to any written law.

1.2 Premises operation

1.2.1 The licensee shall not discharge to the Cock of the North pit or West pit tailings storage facilities when total freeboard is within 3 metres of the natural surface of the pits.

2 Monitoring

2.1 General monitoring

2.1.1 The licensee shall ensure that:

- (a) all water samples are collected and preserved in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.1;
- (b) all surface water sampling is conducted in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.4, AS/NZS 5667.6 or AS/NZS 5667.9 as relevant;
- (c) all groundwater sampling is conducted in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.11; and
- (d) all laboratory samples are submitted to a laboratory with current NATA accreditation for the parameters to be measured.

2.1.2 The licensee shall ensure that:

- (a) monthly monitoring is undertaken at least 15 days apart;
- (b) quarterly monitoring is undertaken within the specified months in condition 3.8.1

2.1.3 The licensee shall ensure that all monitoring equipment used on the premises to comply with the conditions of this licence is calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

2.1.4 The licensee shall, where the requirements for calibration cannot be practicably met, or a discrepancy exists in the interpretation of the requirements, bring these issues to the attention of the Director accompanied with a report comprising details of any modifications to the methods.

2.2 Ambient environmental quality monitoring

2.2.1 The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 2.2.1 according to the specifications in that table and record and investigate results that do not meet any target specified.

Table 2.2.1: Monitoring of ambient groundwater quality					
Monitoring point reference and location	Parameter	Limit	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
MB1, MB2, MB3, MB4, MB5A, MB6, MB8	Standing water level*	4	m(mbgl)	Spot sample	Quarterly during care and maintenance
	pH	-	-	Spot sample	Quarterly
	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	-	mg/L	Spot sample	Quarterly
	Weak Acid Dissociable Cyanide (WAD-CN)	-	mg/L	Spot sample	Quarterly



*Standing water level shall be determined prior to collection of water quality samples

2.2.2 The licence shall take the specified management action outlined in Table 2.2.2 in the case of an exceedance of any target in Table 2.2.1.

Table 2.2.2: Management actions		
Monitoring point reference	Event	Management action
MB1, MB2, MB3, MB4, MB5A, MB6, MB8	Upon becoming aware of any exceedance of the limit in Table 3.8.1.	The licensee shall cease discharge to the Cock of the North Pit or West pit and implement a seepage recovery plan to reduce SWL.

3 Information

3.1 Records

3.1.1 All information and records required by the Licence shall:

- (a) be legible;
- (b) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and subsequent amendments remain legible or are capable of retrieval;
- (c) except for records listed in 5.1.1(d) be retained for at least 6 years from the date the records were made or until the expiry of the Licence or any subsequent licence; and
- (d) for those following records, be retained until the expiry of the Licence and any subsequent licence:
 - (i) off-site environmental effects; or
 - (ii) matters which affect the condition of the land or waters.

3.1.2 The Licensee shall complete an Annual Audit Compliance Report indicating the extent to which the Licensee has complied with the conditions of the Licence, and any previous licence issued under Part V of the Act for the Premises for the previous annual period.

3.1.3 The Licensee shall implement a complaints management system that as a minimum records the number and details of complaints received concerning the environmental impact of the activities undertaken at the Premises and any action taken in response to the complaint.

3.2 Reporting

3.2.1 The Licensee shall submit to the CEO an Annual Environmental Report within 90 calendar days after the end of the annual period. The report shall contain the information listed in Table 3.2.1 in the format or form specified in that table.

Table 3.2.1: Annual Environmental Report		
Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Format or form¹
-	Summary of any failure or malfunction of any pollution control equipment and any environmental incidents that have occurred during the annual period and any action taken	None specified
3.8	Monitoring data and any additional collected data required by condition 3.8.	None specified
	Assessment and discussion of any short term and long term trends in the monitoring data.	None specified
	Assessment and discussion of the monitoring data collected against any limits set in this Licence	None specified



	Identify any monitoring data that have exceeded those limits. Provide the assessment and discussion on why the exceedances occurred. Present the action that will be taken by the Licensee to prevent recurrence of such exceedances and remedy the limit exceedance.	None specified
3.1.2	Compliance	AACR
3.1.3	Complaints summary	None specified

Note 1: Forms are in Schedule 2

3.3 Notification

3.3.1 The Licensee shall ensure that the parameters listed in Table 3.3.1 are notified to the CEO in accordance with the notification requirements of the table.

Table 3.3.1: Notification requirements			
Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Notification requirement¹	Format or form²
2.1.1	Breach of any limit specified in the licence	Part A: No later than 5pm of the next usual working day. Part B: As soon as practicable	N1
2.2.1 and 2.2.2	SWL (mbgl)	Within six months of becoming aware that exceedance of the limit has occurred the licensee shall design and implement a groundwater recovery plan which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring data and any additional collected data required by condition 3.8; • when and in how many bores the limit could not be met; • any significant environmental impacts; • assessment and discussion of any short term and long term trends in the monitoring data; • assessment and discussion of the monitoring data collected against any limits or targets set in this licence • strategies to achieve the groundwater level including predicted increases in groundwater recovery and any additional recovery bores or trenches required; • predicted timeframes to achieve the groundwater level limit; and • strategies to ensure the target will be met in the future. 	None specified
-	Intention for the site to recommence normal operations from care and maintenance status	At least 30 calendar days prior to site recommencing operations	None specified



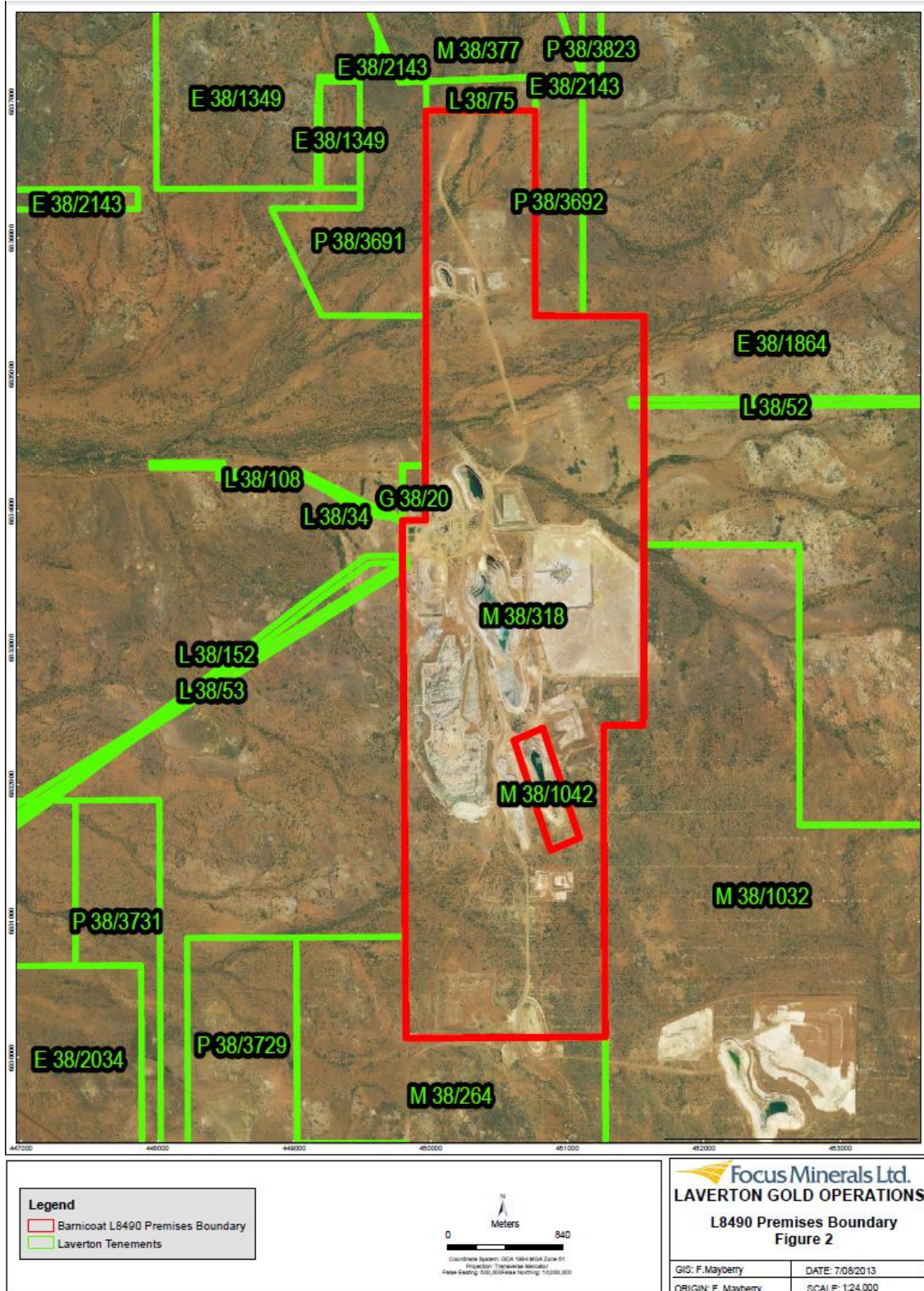
- Note 1: Notification requirements in the Licence shall not negate the requirement to comply with s72 of the Act
- Note 2: Forms are in Schedule 2



Schedule 1: Maps

Premises map

The Premises is shown in the map below. The red line depicts the Premises boundary.





Map of monitoring points

The locations of the monitoring points defined in Table 2.2.1 are shown below.





Schedule 2: Reporting & notification forms

These forms are provided for the proponent to report monitoring and other data required by the Licence. They can be requested in an electronic format.

ANNUAL AUDIT COMPLIANCE REPORT PROFORMA

SECTION A LICENCE DETAILS

Licence Number:	Licence File Number:
Company Name:	ABN:
Trading as:	
Reporting period: _____ to _____	

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. Were all conditions of the Licence complied with within the reporting period? (please tick the appropriate box)

Yes Please proceed to Section C

No Please proceed to Section B

Each page must be initialled by the person(s) who signs Section C of this Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR).

Initial:



SECTION B
DETAILS OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH LICENCE CONDITION.

Please use a separate page for each Licence condition that was not complied with.

a) Licence condition not complied with:	
b) Date(s) when the non compliance occurred, if applicable:	
c) Was this non compliance reported to DER?:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to DER verbally Date _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to DER in writing Date _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No
d) Has DER taken, or finalised any action in relation to the non compliance?:	
e) Summary of particulars of the non compliance, and what was the environmental impact:	
f) If relevant, the precise location where the non compliance occurred (attach map or diagram):	
g) Cause of non compliance:	
h) Action taken, or that will be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of the non compliance:	
i) Action taken or that will be taken to prevent recurrence of the non compliance:	

Each page must be initialled by the person(s) who signs Section C of this AACR

Initial:



SECTION C

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION

This Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR) may only be signed by a person(s) with legal authority to sign it. The ways in which the AACR must be signed and certified, and the people who may sign the statement, are set out below.

Please tick the box next to the category that describes how this AACR is being signed. If you are uncertain about who is entitled to sign or which category to tick, please contact the licensing officer for your premises.

If the licence holder is		The Annual Audit Compliance Report must be signed and certified:
An individual	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the individual licence holder, or by a person approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation to sign on the licensee's behalf.
A firm or other unincorporated company	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
A corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by affixing the common seal of the licensee in accordance with the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> ; or by two directors of the licensee; or by a director and a company secretary of the licensee, or if the licensee is a proprietary company that has a sole director who is also the sole company secretary – by that director, or by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
A public authority (other than a local government)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
a local government	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the chief executive officer of the licensee; or by affixing the seal of the local government.

It is an offence under section 112 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* for a person to give information on this form that to their knowledge is false or misleading in a material particular. There is a maximum penalty of \$50,000 for an individual or body corporate.

I/We declare that the information in this annual audit compliance report is correct and not false or misleading in a material particular.

SIGNATURE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME:
(printed) _____

NAME:
(printed) _____

POSITION: _____

POSITION: _____

DATE: ____/____/____

DATE: ____/____/____

SEAL (if signing under seal)



Licence: L8490/2010/2
 Form: N1

Licensee: Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited
 Date of breach:

Notification of detection of the breach of a limit.

These pages outline the information that the operator must provide.
 Units of measurement used in information supplied under Part A and B requirements shall be appropriate to the circumstances of the emission. Where appropriate, a comparison should be made of actual emissions and authorised emission limits.

Part A

Licence Number	
Name of operator	
Location of Premises	
Time and date of the detection	

Notification requirements for the breach of a limit	
Emission point reference/ source	
Parameter(s)	
Limit	
Measured value	
Date and time of monitoring	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop the emission	



Part B

Any more accurate information on the matters for notification under Part A.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to prevent a recurrence of the incident.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to rectify, limit or prevent any pollution of the environment which has been or may be caused by the emission.	
The dates of any previous N1 notifications for the Premises in the preceding 24 months.	

Name	
Post	
Signature on behalf of Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited	
Date	



Decision Document

Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V

Proponent: Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited

Licence: L8490/2010/2

Registered office: Level 2, 159 Adelaide Terrace
EAST PERTH WA 6004

ACN: 087 360 996

Premises address: Barnicoat Gold Plant
Mining tenement M38/318 and M38/1042
Whitecliffs Road
LAVERTON WA 6440

Issue date: Thursday, 12 December 2013

Commencement date: Friday, 27 December 2013

Expiry date: Wednesday, 26 December 2018

Decision

Based on the assessment detailed in this document the Department of Environment Regulation (DER), has decided to issue an amended licence. DER considers that in reaching this decision, it has taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the Licence and its conditions will ensure that an appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Decision Document prepared by: Fiona Sharpe
Licensing Officer

Decision Document authorised by: Tim Gentle
Delegated Officer



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1 Purpose of this Document

This decision document explains how DER has assessed and determined the application and provides a record of DER's decision-making process and how relevant factors have been taken into account. Stakeholders should note that this document is limited to DER's assessment and decision making under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Other approvals may be required for the proposal, and it is the proponent's responsibility to ensure they have all relevant approvals for their Premises.

2 Administrative summary

Administrative details		
Application type	Works Approval <input type="checkbox"/> New Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Licence amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Works Approval amendment <input type="checkbox"/>	
Activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises	Category number(s)	Assessed design capacity
	5	1,500,000 tonnes per annual period
Application verified	Date: 29/12/2015	
Application fee paid	Date: N/A	
Works Approval has been complied with	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Compliance Certificate received	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Commercial-in-confidence claim	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Commercial-in-confidence claim outcome		
Is the proposal a Major Resource Project?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Was the proposal referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Part IV of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referral decision No: Managed under Part V <input type="checkbox"/>



		Assessed under Part IV <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the proposal subject to Ministerial Conditions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Department of Water consulted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes include details of which EPP(s) here.		
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, include details here, eg Site is subject to SO ₂ requirements of Kwinana EPP.		

3 Executive summary of proposal and assessment

Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Limited (Focus) owns and operates the Barnicoat gold plant which is situated on mining leases M38/318 and M38/1042 and is located approximately 9.5 kilometers (km) east of Laverton within the Shire of Laverton. The Barnicoat Gold Plant occupies an area of approximately 301.91ha, all of which has been subjected to pre-existing disturbance. The Barnicoat Gold Plant was placed in care and maintenance on 18 July 2009 and remains this way.

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5.7km away from the closest boundary of the PDWSA. The Laverton town water supply is currently sourced from the Wedge pit and Beasley Creek wellfields. The Barnicoat gold project area is located approximately 13km from the Wedge pit wellfield and 16.5km from the Beasley Creek wellfields.

There are no surface waters such as rivers, creeks or lakes within the region. Skull Creek is the largest intermittent drainage line in the general area and is located approximately 1km north of the tailings storage facility (TSF).

A number of flora species listed under Federal and State legislation as being of conservation significance potentially may occur within the project area. A database search was conducted by MBS Environmental (2008) for plant species listed under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* that may occur within the area including Declared Rare Flora (DRF), Priority Flora and Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs).

No landforms of significant fauna habitat such as ridges, ranges or caves are found within the project area. The nearest known threatened fauna is located approximately 5km north of the project area.

This partial Decision Document is the result of an amendment to reduce the frequency of standing water level monitoring from monthly to quarterly. The Licence has also been updated to the most recent version at this time. DER has considered whether the risk profile of emissions and discharges from the premises has significantly changed since the previous licence was granted. As the site has remained in care and maintenance since 2009, no changes have occurred and therefore, DER has not amended conditions relating to emissions and discharges other than associated with the monitoring frequency. A condition has been included for Focus to notify DER of intentions for the site to recommence normal operations. At that time, there may be a need to re-assess potential emissions and discharges associated with processing.



4 Decision table

All applications are assessed in line with the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* and DER's Operational Procedure on Assessing Emissions and Discharges from Prescribed Premises. Where other references have been used in making the decision they are detailed in the decision document.

DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L = Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
General conditions	No conditions	General conditions have been removed as they are considered redundant and not sufficiently clear or certain.	N/A
Fugitive emissions	No conditions	Existing fugitive emissions have been removed in this amendment as they are not risk-based. The substantive offences of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> provide enforceable prohibitions for dust emissions that result in pollution or environmental harm.	General provision of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>
Ambient quality monitoring	L2.2.1	<p>Ambient groundwater monitoring is included in condition 2.2.1. Focus Minerals has requested the frequency for standing water level (SWL) be reduced from monthly to quarterly, in line with all other parameters. As the site has been in care and maintenance since 2009, there are currently no staff located in Laverton to conduct monitoring at a monthly frequency. Since 2012, water levels have remained steady and generally range between 30 and 60 mbgl, indicating no cause for concern in reducing monitoring to quarterly.</p> <p>The previous licence version had a standing water level <u>target</u> of 6 mbgl. This has now been changed to a <u>limit</u> of 4 mbgl. Targets are deemed not enforceable and have been removed in accordance with DERs Guidance Statement <i>Setting Conditions</i> October 2015. The 4 mbgl limit has been imposed due to the risk of rising hypersaline groundwater which would impact shallow rooted vegetation. Reporting conditions regarding breaches of limit are included in the information section of the Licence.</p>	<p>Applicant supporting documentation</p> <p>General provision of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i></p>



DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L= Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
Information	L3	Notification requirements that are not substantially different from s72 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> have been removed from the notification table. A requirement for Focus to notify DER of intentions to recommence operation has been added. Focus are required to notify DER at least 30 calendar days prior to recommencement.	N/A
Licence Duration	N/A	The Licence expires 26 December 2018 and this has not been changed during this amendment. This expiry date has been set in accordance with DER's Guidance Statement on Licence Duration.	N/A



5 Advertisement and consultation table

Date	Event	Comments received/Notes	How comments were taken into consideration
07/01/2016	Proponent sent a copy of draft instrument	Minor administrative comments received regarding numbering.	Numbering corrected.



6 Risk Assessment

Note: This matrix is taken from the DER Corporate Policy Statement No. 07 - Operational Risk Management

Table 1: Emissions Risk Matrix

Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Almost Certain	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme
Unlikely	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High
Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High