Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Amendment Report

Application for Licence Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence Number	L6079/1988/13
Licence Holder	Newcrest Mining Limited
ACN	005 683 625
File Number	DER2013/001097-1
Premises	Telfer Gold Mine Mining Leases: G45/1, G45/2, G45/3, G45/4, L45/99, L45/106, L45/110, L45/622, M45/6, M45/7, M45/8, M45/9, M45/10, M45/11, M45/33, M45/203, M45/204, M45/205, M45/206, M45/207, M45/208, M45/209, M45/210, M45/211, M45/249, M45/631, M45/632, M45/633, M45/709, M45/710, M45/720, M45/721, M45/722 and M45/772 TELFER WA 6762 As defined by the Premises maps attached to the Revised Licence
Date of Report	2 October 2024
Decision	Revised licence granted

Lauren Edmands

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A/SENIOR MANAGER, RESOURCE INDUSTRIES
an officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

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1. Decision summary

Licence L6079/1988/13 is held by Newcrest Mining Limited (Licence Holder) for the Telfer Gold Mine (the Premises), located approximately 210 km east of the town of Nullagine in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

This Amendment Report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during the operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L6079/1988/13 has been granted.

The Revised Licence has been granted in a new format with existing conditions being transferred, but not reassessed, to the new format.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Amendment Report, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents.

2.2 Amendment summary

On 12 July 2024, the Licence Holder submitted an application (Talis 2024) to the department to amend Licence L6079/1988/13 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The application originally sought the following amendments:

- Increase the volume and rate of dewatering discharge to Pit 13, which increases the design capacity of Category 6 from 1,766,000 tonnes per annual period to 2,840,000 tonnes per annual period. Refer to Table 1 below and section 2.2.1.
- Convert the current temporary tailings decant water pipeline from the process plant to the process water ponds at Dump Leach (DL) 237 into a permanent pipeline.
- Correction regarding monitoring bore HB250 - refer to section 2.2.3 under monitoring bore HB250.

On 26 August 2024, the Licence Holder advised the department that the temporary tailings decant water pipeline would no longer be used and proposed to construct a new pipeline. The amendment scope therefore considers the construction of the new pipeline instead of the original request outlined in the second dot point above. Refer to section 2.2.2 for further information.

Table 1 below outlines the proposed changes to the existing Licence.

Table 1: Proposed design capacity changes

Category	Current design capacity	Proposed design capacity	Description of proposed amendment
5	26,000,000 tonnes per annual period	No change	No change
6	1,766,000 tonnes per annual period	2,840,000 tones per annual period	Increase of 1,074,000 tonnes per annual period to be disposed to Pit 13 (see Table 2 below)

Category	Current design capacity	Proposed design capacity	Description of proposed amendment
7	12,000,000 tonnes per annual period	No change	No change
12	200,000 tonnes per annual period	No change	No change
52	158.2 megawatts (natural gas)	No change	No change
54	907 cubic metres per day	No change	No change
57	40,000 tyres	No change	No change
63	2,500 tonnes per annual period	No change	No change
64	10,000 tonnes per annual period	No change	No change
73	9,000 cubic metres in aggregate	No change	No change

2.2.1 Increase in mine dewater discharged to Pit 13 (Category 6)

Under normal operations, groundwater from the open pit operations is pumped to the raw water dams, and is then used in the processing plant.

The Licence Holder is currently authorised to discharge mine dewater from West Dome pits (pits 8 and 9) to Lake 11 and Pit 13.

Lake 11:

The disposal of excess dewater from the West Dome pits (during excessive rainfall and mill shutdowns) to be discharged to Lake 11 (a series of disused gravel pits) was assessed and authorised under an amendment to L6079/1988/13 granted 4 December 2017 (L6079/1988/13 Amendment Notice 1).

L6079/1988/13 Amendment Notice 1 states "*The disposal of pit water to Lake 11 is expected to occur four times a year. A total of up to 940,000 tonnes could be discharged each year if the maximum capacity of Lake 11 (235,000 tonnes) was reached those four times*."

There are no changes to the disposal of dewatering water to Lake 11 under this licence amendment.

Pit 13:

The disposal of up to 826,000 tonnes per annual period of dewatering water from the West Dome pits to be discharged to Pit 13 was assessed and authorised under an amendment to L6079/1988/13 granted 7 June 2022 (L6079/1988/13 Amendment Report).

Under this licence amendment the Licence Holder is requesting to increase the permitted dewatering volumes into Pit 13 as shown in Table 2, which will provide flexibility in discharge location between Lake 11 and Pit 13.

Table 2: Existing Category 6 dewater disposal and proposed changes

Facility	Currently approved	Proposed	Difference
Lake 11	940,000 tonnes per annual period Four events at 235,000 tonnes per event	940,000 tonnes per annual period Four events at 235,000 tonnes per event	No change
Pit 13	826,000 tonnes per annual period	1,900,000 tonnes per annual period	1,074,000 tonnes per annual period
Total =	**1,766,000 tonnes per annual period**	**2,840,000 tonnes per annual period**	**1,074,000 tonnes per annual period**

Under the 7 June 2022 amendment, *L6079/1988/13 Amendment Report* (section 3.3) for Pit 13 states the following:

- The total available capacity of Pity 13 is 1,910,000 m^3, allowing for a 2 m freeboard. Intermittent storage of mine water to the pit of up to 826,000 m^3 per year is estimated to use up to 24% of the pit's capacity.
- Under the proposed mine water storage scenario of 826,000 m^3 per year, Klohn Crippen Berger (KCB) has modelled the following:
    - The predicted maximum stored water volume at any one time is estimated to be 461,000 m^3;
    - The pit is predicted to take approximately 9 months to drain into the aquifer after the final storage event;
    - Groundwater mounding is estimated to extend approximately 1.5 km south-west, 0.75 km north-east and 1.3 km north-west and south-east. Outside of the pit footprint, the maximum predicted water table mound is not expected to rise above 20 m below ground level; and
    - Infiltrating water will migrate up to 1km away from the pit after one year following the storage event.

The water storage assessment completed by KCB in 2021 based the calculations on a discharge rate of between 29 and 159 litres per second (L/s).

In April 2024, KCB provided a technical memorandum to the Licence Holder that reviewed the 2021 report to assess the viability of increasing the discharge rate to 250 L/s. The 250 L/s discharge rate corresponds with the minimum dewatering requirement to maintain a dry pit to allow continuation of operation.

Based on the 2024 assessment, the following was concluded:

- Pit 13 has the potential to store the proposed transfer volumes;
- Drain down will take approximately 17 months following cessation of the transfer; and
- Increased groundwater levels because of the transfer (1m magnitude) are predicted to extend approximately 1.5 km from Pit 13, which is of similar distance to the previous scenarios considered in 2021.

The current water quality of the dewater in comparison to that of Pit 13 (sampled in 2021) is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Pit 13 water quality compared to dewater quality

		Pit 13 water quality				Dewater quality	
Parameter	**Unit**	**HB489 03/06/2021**	**HB490 19/05/2021**	**HB491 02/06/2021**	**HB493 02/06/2021**	**22 May 2024**	**22 June 2024**
Electrical Conductivity	µS/cm	2890	3570	3800	850	-	-
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1890	2760	2330	478	4510	5220
Total Recoverable Hydrocarbons	mg/L	-	-	-	-	<0.1	<0.1
Aluminium	mg/L	0.007	0.096	0.011	<0.005	<0.01	<0.01
Antimony	mg/L	0.0004	0.0033	<0.0002	<0.0002	-	-
Arsenic	mg/L	0.005	0.0012	0.012	0.0074	0.005	0.006
Cadmium	mg/L	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.00005	<0.0001	0.0001
Chloride	mg/L	579	768	722	107	1850	2080
Chromium	mg/L	0.004	0.002	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.001	<0.001
Cobalt	mg/L	0.0024	0.0081	0.0031	0.001	-	-
Copper	mg/L	<0.0005	0.0012	0.0028	0.0016	0.027	0.034
Iron	mg/L	0.3	1.94	0.05	<0.002	<0.05	<0.05
Lead	mg/L	<0.0001	0.0003	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.001	<0.001
Magnesium	mg/L	85	86	96	31	128	147
Manganese	mg/L	0.941	4.45	0.707	0.455	0.461	0.497
Mercury	mg/L	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
Molybdenum	mg/L	0.0222	0.0104	0.0071	0.0016	0.002	0.002
Nickel	mg/L	0.018	0.0107	0.0063	0.0016	0.012	0.017
Selenium	mg/L	0.0005	0.0017	0.0026	<0.0002	<0.01	<0.01
Sodium	mg/L	347	509	562	80	911	1050
Thallium	mg/L	<0.00002	<0.00002	0.00002	0.00016	-	-
Zinc	mg/L	0.002	0.06	0.007	0.008	0.035	0.036
Weak Acid Dissociable Cyanide	mg/L	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment associated with the increase in dewater discharged to Pit 13.

2.2.2 Tailings decant pipeline from Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) 8

The Premises currently has a pipeline in operation that transfers water from the Process Water Pond at the processing facility to the DL 237 stormwater ponds.

The installation of the pipeline was carried out in April 2024 under section 75 of the EP Act due to a failure in the structural integrity of TSF7 wall. Excess water needed to be removed from the TSF and the Process Water Pond did not have the capacity to contain the volume of water that was decanted.

The department issued Environmental Protection Notice (EPN) 202405-1 under section 65 of the EP Act on 24 June 2024 to the Licence Holder. Under EPN 202405-1 the Licence Holder was required to:

- *Install all necessary pumping infrastructure to connect TSF7 and TSF8 to the existing leach dump facilities.*
- *Dewater TSF7 and TSF8 until seepage of water from embankments has ceased.*
- *Deposit of decant water from TSF7 and TSF8 into existing leach dump facilities 5 (DL5) and leach dump facility 273 (DL 237) as defined in licence L6079/1988/13.*

The Licence Holder originally requested (Talis 2024) to make the pipeline permanent to allow decant water to be removed as quickly as possible from the TSFs as and when required. Stating that connecting the TSF decant ponds to the DL 237 stormwater ponds provides an alternative option to having the water remain on the TSF if the volume to be decanted exceeds the requirement of the processing facility and capacity of the decant ponds. This situation could arise if a shutdown and a storm event occur simultaneously.

The Licence Holder is now proposing (Newmont 2024c) a new pipeline as the pipeline commissioned as part of the section 75 was a mash up of existing pipework of varying age, thicknesses and size put together to take water in an emergency situation off TSF7.

The new decant pipeline from TSF8 will as shown in Figure 1 -

- Link TSF8 to the Process Water Pond at the processing plant area (normal operating strategy);
- Link TSF8 to DL 5 stormwater pond; and
- Link TSF8 to DL 237 stormwater ponds (in times of heavy rainfall or shutdowns).

Valving will be installed to allow decant water to be sent to the locations listed above.

The Licence Holder has stated that the new pipeline route has a number of benefits including:

- Linking TSF8 with DL 237, DL 5 and the Process Water Pond allows decant to be moved between the three facilities to improve water management.
- Leaving the existing line from TSF7 in place to ensure it can be dewatered in times of high rainfall events.
- Reducing interactions with the mining fleet during both the construction and operation.

To note: the red line (in Figure 1) is the pipeline constructed under the section 75. This will be put back into its previous use once the new pipeline (blue and yellow lines) is constructed.

Refer to section 3 for the risk assessment associated with the tailings decant pipeline from TSF8.

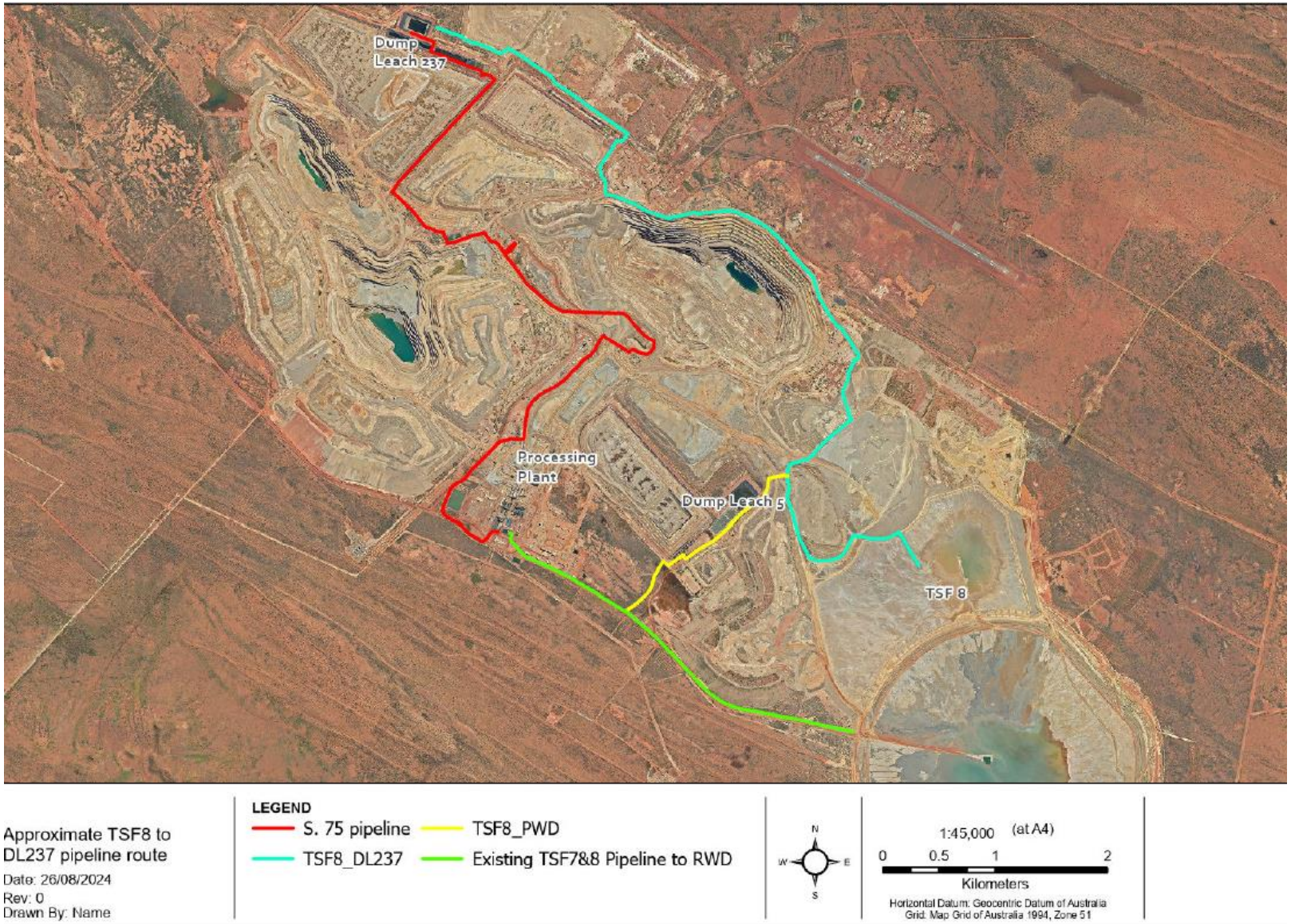

Figure 1: TSF8 decant water pipeline route

2.2.3 Other amendments

Monitoring bore HB250:

The Licence Holder has stated that monitoring bore HB250 was one of four monitoring bores decommissioned during the construction of TSF8. Following an amendment to licence L6079/1988/13 (granted 7 June 2022) three of the bores were removed but HB250 was erroneously left in the licence.

During this licence amendment, reference to HB250 in Condition 34 (previous Condition 3.6.1) has been removed.

Premises details:

During this licence amendment the following changes have been made to the prescribed premises boundary:

- Removal of L45/100 as this tenement has been declared 'dead'; and
- Inclusion of tenements M45/721, M45/722 and M45/772.

The above tenements to be included are held by Newcrest Mining Limited.

Expiry date:

During this licence amendment, the expiry date has been extended by a 10 year period. From 11 October 2024 until the 11 October 2034 in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Licence duration* (DER 2016).

Construction requirements:

During this licence amendment construction requirements for the mobile batching plant; installation of vibrating wire piezometres (VWP) around pit lake 13; and Pit 13 dewatering pipeline have been removed from Condition 16, Table 7 (previous Condition 1.3.15).

The Licence Holder provided compliance documentation for the mobile batching plant (aka paste / batch plant) to the department on 08 January 2024 (Newmont 2024a).

Operational requirements for the paste / batch plant have been included under Condition 10 during this licence amendment.

The Licence Holder provided compliance documentation for Pit 13 to the department on 12 March 2024 (Newmont 2024b).

Operational requirements for Pit 13 have been included under this licence amendment. Including:

- A freeboard limit under Condition 10; and
- Groundwater monitoring bores constructed at Pit 13 are now defined in Condition 34.

2.3 Part IV of the EP Act

The Premises was constructed in 1975 and was operated until November 2000, when the project was placed into care and maintenance. A proposal to recommence and expand the mining operations at Telfer Gold Mine was approved under Part IV of the EP Act in 2002 (Bulletin 1059).

Ministerial Statement (MS) 606 was published on 01 October 2002 and provides regulatory requirements for the following aspects:

- Flora and fauna – clearing and loss of habitat;
- Dewatering and borefield operation – drawdown effects on groundwater resources and stygofauna;

- Greenhouse gas emissions – from mining and processing;
- Acid mine drainage – management of potentially acid forming waste rock; and
- Mine closure – planning for closure and integration with existing facilities.

The above requirements of MS 606 have not been duplicated within this Amendment Report or Licence L6079/1988/13.

3. Risk assessment

The department assesses the risks of emissions from prescribed premises and identifies the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a Risk Event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

3.1 Source-pathways and receptors

3.1.1 Emissions and controls

The key emissions and associated actual or likely pathway during premises operation which have been considered in this Amendment Report are detailed in Table 4 below. Table 4 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 4: Licence Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Tailings decant pipeline from TSF8			
Decant water from TSF8	Leaks and / or ruptures of pipeline	Discharges to land along pipeline route	Pipelines to be: • Constructed according to Australian Standards AS/NZS 2033, 4129, 4130 and 4131 for polyethylene pipes. • Located within corridors with scour pits to contain spillage during maintenance and in the event of spillage. • Fitted with automated pressure / volume flow sensors to detect loss of pressure in the pipelines; or equipped with automatic cut-outs in the event of a pipe failure.
	Leaks and / or ruptures of pipeline (continued from row above)	Discharges to land along pipeline route (continued from row above)	

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Decant water from TSF8	Overtopping of stormwater ponds DL 5 and DL 237; and Process Water Pond	Discharges to land from the overtopping of stormwater ponds and Process Water Pond	DL 237 stormwater ponds 2, 3 and 7 have capacities of 60 ML, 85 ML and 208 ML respectively. Under the International Cyanide Management Code, of which the Licence Holder is audited against triennially, a freeboard in containment infrastructure must be managed to contain rain events. The water levels of the DL 237 ponds will be managed internally by the Licence Holder, with probabilistic water balance models completed by an external specialist prior to each wet season to ensure capacities are available to store a 1 in 100 year event. In the event the ponds are nearing capacity - flows from the decant water pond can be stopped and excess water will remain on the TSF until such a time when the ponds regain additional capacity.
	Liner failure	Seepage	All ponds are high density polyethylene (HDPE) lined to achieve a permeability of at least $<10^{-9}$ m/s or equivalent and have been designed to accommodate a 1 in 50 year 72 hour rainfall event.
Increase in mine dewater discharged to Pit 13			
Mine dewater (brackish to saline)	Increase in mine dewater discharged to Pit 13 from 826,000 to 1,900,000 tonnes per year	Seepage	Six groundwater monitoring wells installed around Pit 13.
		Discharges to land from overtopping	2 m freeboard maintained.
Mine dewater (brackish to saline)	Increase in mine dewater discharged to Pit 13 from 826,000 to 1,900,000 tonnes per year	Discharges to land via pipeline leaks / ruptures	*Newmont 2024b* states: • At two locations containerised magnetic flowmeters are installed. • The flow from both flow metres is transmitted to the mine control system where the flows are compared in real time. If there is any discrepancy between the two flows an alarm is raised and the pumps supplying

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
			the pipeline are tripped (to cease flow). Following a pump trip the pipeline is fully inspected to determine if a leak is present. • Located within a dedicated corridor.

3.1.2 Receptors

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020), the Delegated Officer has excluded employees, visitors and contractors of the Licence Holder's from its assessment. Protection of these parties often involves different exposure risks and prevention strategies, and is provided for under other state legislation.

Table 5 below provides a summary of potential environmental receptors that may be impacted as a result of activities upon or emission and discharges from the prescribed premises *(Guideline: Environmental siting* (DWER 2020)).

Table 5: Environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Groundwater Premises located within the Canning-Kimberley Groundwater Area proclaimed under *Rights in Water and Irrigation (RIWI) Act 1914*.	<u>Groundwater quality</u> Section 3.2 of the *Pit 13 Storage Water Assessment* states groundwater quality is brackish with a total dissolved solid (TDS) concentration ranging from 1,600 mg/L to 2,600 mg/L. The TDS of the available pit dewatering samples vary from 3,500 mg/L to 5,000 mg/L. Groundwater monitoring results from the Premises from the "Groundwater monitoring summary" (GWL 150758) 2022 borefield monitoring review indicated groundwater quality in the area as neutral to slightly alkaline at pH 6.5 – 8.5, salinity ranged from the underground operation at around 17.8 and 27.5 micro siemens per centimetre (mS/cm) and the salinity around the West Dome ranges between 3.1 to 4.1 mS/cm. <u>Depth to groundwater</u> The water table is approximately 8 m below the base of Pit 13. The groundwater gradient is very flat and directed to the southwest.
Surface water	There are no major or minor waterbodies located at the Premises. Minor ephemeral drainage lines are present in the surrounding area; however, drainage is relatively undefined and limited to drainage lines receiving surface water runoff following periods of heavy rainfall.
Priority flora	Populations of *Goodenia hartiana:* Priority 2 Flora are known to occur in and adjacent to the Premises.

Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Threatened or priority fauna	Five Threatened or Priority species have been recorded in the Premises area or vicinity, including one Threatened species listed under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), one Other Specially Protected species, one Internationally protected species, and two Priority species listed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA): • *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby) (Vulnerable – EPBC Act) • *Falco peregrinus* (Peregrine Falcon) (Other Specially Protected – *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act)) • *Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift) (Migratory – EPBC & BC Act) • *Dasycercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) (Priority 4 – DBCA) • *Notoryctes caurinus* (Northern Marsupial Mole) (Priority 4 – DBCA)
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage – Register (Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage)	Njuri Hills (site no. 12015) Sub surface cultural material; Artefacts / Scatter; Camp; Painting Approximately 4 km from Pit 13; 5 km from DL 237 and 7 km from DL 5.

3.2 Risk ratings

Risk ratings have been assessed in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) for those emission sources which are proposed to change and takes into account potential source-pathway and receptor linkages as identified in Section 3.1. Where linkages are in-complete they have not been considered further in the risk assessment.

Where the Licence Holder has proposed mitigation measures/controls (as detailed in Section 3.1), these have been considered when determining the final risk rating. Where the Delegated Officer considers the Licence Holder's proposed controls to be critical to maintaining an acceptable level of risk, these will be incorporated into the licence as regulatory controls.

Additional regulatory controls may be imposed where the Licence Holder's controls are not deemed sufficient. Where this is the case the need for additional controls will be documented and justified in Table 6.

The Revised Licence L6079/1988/13 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises.

The conditions in the Revised Licence have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015).

Table 6. Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during operation

Risk Event					Risk rating[1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions[2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Licence Holder's controls**				
Operation								
Tailings decant pipeline from TSF8 to the Process Water Pond, DL 237 and DL 5 stormwater ponds	Decant water from TSF8	Discharges to land from leaks and / or ruptures of pipeline causing impacts to vegetation health and associated reliant fauna	Vegetation along pipeline route Priority flora Threatened and priority fauna	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	During this amendment, the following conditions have been updated / included for the TSF8 pipeline: • Condition 16: construction requirements for the pipeline from TSF8. • Conditions 41, 43 and 44 requirements to undertake an audit; submit a compliance document following construction of the pipeline from TSF8; and re-certify any material defects. Conditions on existing licence L6079/1988/13 relating to: • Condition 1: requirement to recover or remove and dispose of spills outside an engineered containment system. • Condition 9: requirement to ensure all above-ground pipelines are equipped with telemetry; or equipped with automatic cut-outs; or provided with secondary containment. • Condition 13: requirement for twice daily visual inspections of tailings decant water return pipelines.	N/A.
		Overtopping of Process Water Pond and DL 237 and DL 5 stormwater ponds impacting vegetation in vicinity of ponds	Adjacent vegetation Priority flora Threatened and priority fauna	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	No additional conditions imposed. Conditions on existing licence L6079/1988/13 relating to: • Condition 1: requirement to recover or remove and dispose of spills outside an engineered containment system. • Condition 10: requirement to maintain a minimum freeboard of 300 mm on all ponds.	N/A

Risk Event					Risk rating[1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions[2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	**Potential emission**	**Potential pathways and impact**	**Receptors**	**Licence Holder's controls**				
Tailings decant pipeline from TSF8 to the Process Water Pond, DL 237 and DL 5 stormwater ponds	Decant water from TSF8	Seepage to groundwater from a liner failure of the Process Water Pond and DL 5 and DL 237 stormwater ponds resulting in groundwater contamination	Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Rare **Medium Risk**	Y	No additional conditions imposed. Conditions on existing licence L6079/1988/13 relating to: • Condition 1: requirement to recover or remove and dispose of spills outside an engineered containment system. • Condition 10: requirement for a HDPE liner to achieve a permeability of at least 10^{-9} m/s or equivalent.	N/A
Increase in mine dewater discharged to Pit 13	Mine dewater (brackish to saline)	Seepage of mine dewater through base and walls of Pit 13 impacting vegetation health and potentially contaminating groundwater	Adjacent vegetation Groundwater	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	No additional conditions imposed. Conditions on existing licence L6079/1988/13 relating to: • Condition 15: design capacity limit for Pit 13. • Condition 23: Pit 13 authorised to accept dewatering water from West Dome pits. • Condition 31: monitoring of the volume and quality of the water discharged to Pit 13. • Condition 34: limits and triggers for the standing water level for Pit 13. • Condition 35 and 36: reporting of corrective actions for any exceedances of a limit or management action trigger.	N/A
		Discharges to land from overtopping of Pit 13 impacting vegetation health	Adjacent vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Rare **Medium Risk**	Y	During this amendment, condition 10 has been updated to include Pit 13 and the requirement to maintain a minimum 200 mm freeboard.	N/A
		Discharges to land from pipeline leaks and / or ruptures impacting vegetation health	Adjacent vegetation	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely **Medium Risk**	Y	No additional conditions imposed. Conditions on existing licence L6079/1988/13 relating to: • Condition 9: requirement to ensure all above-ground pipelines are equipped with telemetry; or equipped with automatic cut-	N/A

Risk Event					Risk rating[1] C = consequence L = likelihood	Licence Holder's controls sufficient?	Conditions[2] of licence	Justification for additional regulatory controls
Source/Activities	Potential emission	Potential pathways and impact	Receptors	Licence Holder's controls				
							outs; or provided with secondary containment. • Condition 13: requirement for daily (if operational) visual inspections of the Pit 13 dewatering pipeline.	

Note 1: Consequence ratings, likelihood ratings and risk descriptions are detailed in the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020).

Note 2: Proposed Licence Holder's controls are depicted by standard text. **Bold and underline text** depicts additional regulatory controls imposed by department.

4. Consultation

Table 7 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 7: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) advised of proposal on 09 August 2024	DEMIRS responding on 06 September 2024 stating the following: • DEMIRS understands that the licence amendment relates primarily to increase to the volume and rate of dewatering discharge to Pit 13. • DEMIRS can confirm that approval to use Pit 13 for water storage has been granted (Reg ID 99969). • DEMIRS does not have any comments to provide or issues regarding the following to points: ○ Convert the current temporary tailings decant water pipeline from the process plant to the process water ponds at Dump Leach 237 into a permanent pipeline; an ○ An administrative correction to the licence regarding monitoring bore HB250.	Noted.
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 19 September 2024	The Licence Holder provided comments on 25 September 2024. Refer to Appendix 1.	Refer to Appendix 1.

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this Amendment Report, the Delegated Officer has determined that a Revised Licence will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 8 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the Revised Licence as part of the amendment process.

Note: Refer to Appendix 1 for additional updates to the Revised Licence following the draft amendment being provided to the Licence Holder on 19 September 2024.

Table 8: Summary of licence amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Registered business address	Updated in line with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC).
Duration	Expiry date extension for a 10 year period – from 11/10/2024 until 11/10/2034 (refer to section 2.2.3 under Expiry date).
Premises details	Removal of L45/100 and inclusion of M45/721, M45/722 and M45/772 (refer to section 2.2.3 under Premises details).
Prescribed premises category description	Increase in design capacity for Category 6 from 1,766,000 tonnes per annual period to 2,840,000 tonnes per annual period (refer to section 2.2.1).
Contents	Removal of Contents in line with new licence format.
Licence history	Removal of reference to associated works approvals. Administrative updates.
Introduction	Removal of Introduction in line with new licence format.
Interpretation	Inclusion of the Interpretation in line with new licence format.
General and Definitions	Previous Conditions 1.1.1 to 1.1.4 now covered under Interpretation. Definitions now located in Table 19 of licence.
Conditions and Table numbers	All conditions and Table numbers updated throughout.
Condition 3 (previous Condition 1.3.2)	Updated to define Figures in Schedule 1 associated with the infrastructure. Inclusion of 'other than tyres' for Inert Waste Type 2 at the Class II Landfill as tyres are buried within the Inert Landfill on the Premises. Conditions relating to the burial of tyres moved under the Inert Landfill requirements.
Condition 9 (previous Condition 1.3.8)	Removal of the term 'environmentally hazardous substances' and replaced with 'mine dewatering water, process water, tailings and decant water' to define what is within the above-ground pipelines.
Condition 10 (previous Condition 1.3.9)	Table updated to include the infrastructure location. Freeboard for TSF8 now covered under this condition. It was previously within the inspection of infrastructure requirements (previous Condition 1.3.12). Inclusion of operational requirements for Pit 13 (refer to section 2.2.3 under Construction requirements). Inclusion of process water / decant water from TSF8 associated with DL 237 and DL 5 stormwater ponds (refer to section 2.2.2). Inclusion of operational requirements for the Paste / batch plant (refer to section 2.2.3 under Construction requirements). Administrative updates.
Condition 13 (previous Condition 1.3.12)	Removal of reference to 'confirm minimum 300 mm' for TSF freeboard, as this is now covered under Condition 10 for TSF8. The Licence Holder is still required to undertake visual inspections daily to ensure freeboard is maintained.

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Condition 15 (previous Condition 1.3.14)	Design capacity for Category 6 increased; and volume of water to Pit 13 stipulated.
Condition 16 (previous Condition 1.3.15)	Removal of construction requirements for the Mobile batching plant; Installation of vibrating wire piezometres (VWP) around pit lake 13; and Pit 13 dewatering pipeline as this infrastructure has been constructed and compliance documentation submitted. Refer to section 2.2.3 under Construction requirements. Inclusion of construction requirements for the Pipeline from TSF8. Refer to section 2.2.2.
Previous Conditions 1.3.16, 1.3.17, 1.3.18 and 1.3.20	Removed, these conditions are now covered by new conditions 41, 42, 43 and 44.
New Condition 18	Inclusion of Condition 18 to allow the Licence Holder to operate the infrastructure / equipment associated with Condition 16 once compliance documentation is submitted.
Condition 23 (previous Condition 2.3.1)	Reference to Figures included. Removal of reference to ‘pits 8 and 9’ and reference to ‘West Dome’ included.
Condition 31 (previous Condition 3.3.1)	Emission point reference updated to specify where the sample is taken from.
Condition 33 (previous Condition 3.5.1)	Reference to Figures included.
Condition 34 (previous Condition 3.6.1)	Inclusion of the groundwater monitoring bores installed at Pit 13. Reference to Figures included.
Previous Condition 4.1.1	Removed, in line with new licence format.
New Conditions 38, 39 and 40	Included in line with new licence format.
Previous Conditions 4.1.2 and 4.1.3	Removed in line with new licence format. Previous Condition 4.1.2 is now covered under new Condition 45. Previous Condition 4.1.3 is now covered under new Condition 38.
New Conditions 41, 43 and 44	Inclusion of conditions for compliance documentation submission.
New Condition 45	Replaces previous Condition 4.1.2.
New Condition 46	Replaces previous Condition 4.2.1. Table updated to align condition and table numbering. Table updated to specify in more detail the requirements the Licence Holder must provide within the Environmental Report for each condition.
Definition	Updated as required.

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Schedule 1: Maps	Updated as required.
Schedule 2: Notification forms	Updated to latest version.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2016, *Guidance Statement: Licence duration*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. DER 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
4. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.
5. L6079/1988/13 available at Licences and works approvals search - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (der.wa.gov.au).
6. L6079/1988/13 Amendment Notice 1 available at Licences and works approvals search - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (der.wa.gov.au).
7. L6079/1988/13 Amendment Report, granted 7 June 2022 available at Licences and works approvals search - Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (der.wa.gov.au).
8. Newmont Australia (Newmont) 2024a, *DWER Licence L6079/1988/13 Construction Compliance Report*, dated 08 January 2024 (DWER reference: DWERDT888642).
9. Newmont 2024b, *DWER Licence L6079/1988/13 – Construction Compliance Report – Pit 13*, dated 01 March 2024 (DWER reference: DWERDT919591).
10. Newmont 2024c, Email titled "*Licence amendment*" received from Mitch McGrath, dated 26 August 2024 (DWER reference: A2306003).
11. Talis Consultants Pty Ltd (Talis) 2024, *Telfer Gold Mine – Application for Licence Amendment, Attachment 8 – Supporting Information* (Project Number: TE24065), prepared for Newcrest Mining Ltd, 28 June 2024 (DWER reference: A2299170).

Appendix 1: Summary of Licence Holder's comments on risk assessment and draft conditions

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
Amendment Report		
Amendment Report: Section 2.2.	"Convert the current temporary tailings decant water pipeline from the process plant to the process water ponds at Dump Leach (DL) 237 into a permanent pipeline. Refer to section 2.2.2." This should be: "Construct a new permanent pipeline from the Tailings Decant water pipeline to Dump Leach (DL)5 and DL 237 to replace the temporary pipeline from the process water pond to DL237. Refer to section 2.2.2."	The department has modified the wording in section 2.2 to note that the original amendment request was to convert temporary tailings decant water pipeline into a permanent pipeline, which was then superseded by the Licence Holder's request to construct a new pipeline.
Licence		
Licence History	The Licence Holder is requesting the wording - "Convert the current temporary tailings decant water pipeline from the process plant to the process water ponds at Dump Leach (DL) 237 into a permanent pipeline" To read – "Construct a new permanent pipeline from the Tailings Decant water pipeline to Dump Leach (DL)5 and DL 237 to replace the temporary pipeline from the process water pond to DL237."	The department has updated the wording to – Construct a new permanent pipeline from the TSF 8 tailings decant water pipeline to stormwater ponds at Dump Leach (DL) 5 and DL 237 to replace the temporary pipeline from the process water pond to DL237.
Condition 3, Table 1	The Licence Holder agrees that it makes sense to move tyre disposal specifics to under 'Inert Landfill' rather than the 'Class II Landfill". However, it could be setting up compliance issues if the Licence Holder now says no tyres at all within the Class II Landfill, where there has never been this restriction in the past. Some tyres are likely to end up in skip	The department has made the requested change.

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
	bins etc. The Licence Holder has requested the wording be changed from 'other than tyres' to 'other than bulk tyre disposal' for Inert Waste Type 2 at the Class II Landfill.	
Condition 9	The Licence Holder has stated that "this is not consistent to how other raw water lines are constructed/managed around site. Happy for the wording to be 'Pit 13 discharge line' rather than 'mine dewatering water'".	The department has updated this condition as shown below: The Licence Holder must ensure that all above-ground pipelines containing process water; tailings; decant water; and the Pit 13 discharge line are either:
Condition 13, Table 4	The Licence Holder has requested that the frequency of visual inspections on the Pit 13 dewatering pipeline be reduced from 'twice daily if operational' to 'daily if operational' due to the telemetry set ups with automatic cutoffs.	The department has made the requested change.
Condition 16, Table 7 for the TSF 8 tailings decant pipeline	The Licence Holder has stated: b) pump stations will be located as per an engineered design based on pump pressure needed, so a pump station may not be required at that point. Can it be changed to 'valving installed to allow water to be directed to either processing plant, DL5 or DL237' or similar. e) should be the same as clause 9 and could either refer to clause 9 or be exactly the same for consistency. The pipelines either: (a) equipped with telemetry; or (b) equipped with automatic cut-outs in the event of a pipe failure; or (c) provided with secondary containment sufficient to contain any spill for a period equal to the time between routine inspections.	The department has updated this condition as shown below: a) To stormwater ponds at DL 5 and DL 237 at the locations shown in Schedule 1, Figure 12. b) Valving installed to allow water to be directed to either the Process Water Pond, DL 5 or DL 237. c) Pipelines constructed according to Australian Standards AS/NZS 2033, 4129, 4130 and 4131 for polyethylene pipes. d) Located within corridors with scour pits to contain spillage during maintenance and in the event of spillage. e) Equipped with telemetry; or equipped with automatic cut-outs in the event of a pipe failure; or provided with secondary containment sufficient to contain any spill for a period equal to the time between routine inspections.

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder's comment	Department's response
Condition 31, Table 13	The Licence Holder has stated that L1 has been replaced with 'Administration WWTP sample tap'. However, L1 is still referenced throughout rest of document.	L1 is identified under condition 23, Table 11 as the Irrigation Area (i.e. the authorised emission point) that receives treated wastewater from the Administration WWTP. Condition 31, Table 13 refers to the monitoring of emissions to land. As the sample is taken at the WWTP (sample tap) rather than the Irrigation Area the sample tap has been referenced instead.
Condition 46, Table 17 for monitoring of ambient groundwater	The Licence Holder has asked if this is now an industry wide push to use contaminated sites framework for groundwater assessments? Some of the specifics are a step change to what we'd typically do, am I right in thinking that this requirement would come into effect for FY25 AER rather than FY24.	The changes made to this reporting requirement is in line with the department's Industry Regulation Conditions Library for groundwater monitoring report requirements. As the Environmental Report is due for submission on 30 October 2024, it is not necessary for the Licence Holder to meet this requirements for the upcoming report, but it will be a requirement for the Environmental Report to be submitted 30 October 2025.