



Application for Licence Amendment

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

Licence Number	L9242/2020/1
Licence Holder	Paddington Gold Pty Ltd
ACN	008 585 886
File Number	APP-0028683
Premises	<p>Golden Cities</p> <p>Mining tenements:</p> <p>M24/188, M24/251, M24/425, M24/557, L24/228, M24/564, M24/565, M24/616, L24/231 and M27/185</p> <p>As defined by the coordinates and map in Schedule 2 of the Revised Licence</p>
Date of Report	25 September 2025
Decision	Revised licence granted

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1. Decision summary

Licence L9242/2020/1 is held by Paddington Gold Pty Ltd (Licence Holder) for Golden Cities (the Premises), located within mining tenements M24/188, M24/251, M24/425, M24/557, L24/228, M24/564, M24/565, M24/616, L24/231 and M 27/185.

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 construction and operation of the Premises. As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L9242/2020/1 has been granted.

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 Application summary

On 21 April 2025, the Licence Holder submitted an application to the department to amend Licence L9242/2020/1 under section 59 and 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The following amendments are being sought:

- The addition of category 5 – processing and/or beneficiation of metallic or non-metallic ore and ore sorting equipment onto Licence L9242/2020/1.
- Amending the category 12 activity location to within mining tenements M24/565 and M24/616.
- Amending a typographical error in the tenements associated with the Licence. Tenement L24/288 is corrected to L24/228.

The addition of category 5 to Licence L9242/2020/1 will allow the ore sorting of material on the premises. The Licence Holder has proposed that the sorted material of economic value will be transported to Paddington Mill for processing and the uneconomical material will remain on-site and continue to produce road base and road surfacing on the premises. The material to be sorted and handled under category 5 remains the same as category 12; mineralised waste / waste rock.

The ore sorting equipment comprises of a self-contained unit that includes an X-Ray Transmission sensor (XRT) and colour camera to identify and separate the material of economic value from the waste rock (Figure 1). A belt or chute will connect the existing mobile crushing and screening equipment to the ore sorting unit. Once the material enters the sorter the XRT sensor and colour camera detect high-grade ore, and compressed air jets physically separate the high-grade ore from the waste rock.



Figure 1: XRT Sorter

An amendment to the current category 12 location has also been sought. The expanded location includes the current authorised area, and the cleared area currently used for a Run-of-Mine (ROM) within the prescribed premises boundary (Figure 2).

2.3 Other approvals

Certification from the Radiological Council was sought by the applicant for the X-ray Transmission Sensor. The Certificate of Registration [RX 102/2025 41137] was granted on 31 July 2025 by the Radiological Council and expires on 11 June 2028.

The Delegated Officer notes that the onus rests with the applicant to ensure compliance with all relevant regulatory bodies.



Figure 2: Amended category 5 and 12 areas within the prescribed premises boundary

This amendment is limited only to changes to Categories 5 and 12 activities from the existing Licence. No changes to the aspects of the existing Licence relating to Category 6 have been requested by the Licence Holder.

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

Table 1: Proposed design / throughput capacity changes

Category	Current design / throughput capacity	Proposed design / throughput capacity	Description of proposed amendment
5	N/A	1,000,000 tonnes per annual period	The addition of category 5 and ore sorting equipment.
6	7,000,000 tonnes per annual period	N/A	No changes to category 6 have been requested.
12	1,000,000 tonnes per annual period	N/A	Only a change to activity location has been requested for category 12.

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 construction and operation which have been considered in this Amendment Report are detailed in

Table 2 below.

Table 2 also details the proposed control measures the Licence Holder has proposed to assist in controlling these emissions, where necessary.

Table 2: Licence Holder controls

Emission	Sources	Potential pathways	Proposed controls
Construction			
Dust	Construction of ore sorting equipment Vehicle movements	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Trafficable areas will be wet down using a water cart when required. Activities will be limited during high wind periods.
Noise			No controls proposed by Licence Holder
Operation			
Dust	Operation of ore sorting equipment	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to health and amenity	Trafficable areas will be wet down using a water cart when required. Activities will be limited during high wind periods.
Noise			No controls proposed by Licence Holder
Sediment laden stormwater		Overland runoff potentially causing ecosystem disturbance or impacting surface water quality	Stormwater will be collected within existing V drains and spoon drains to limit sediment emissions to the environment.

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 3: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity below provides a summary of potential human and 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 3: Sensitive human and environmental receptors and distance from prescribed activity

Human receptors	Distance from prescribed activity
Broad Arrow Tavern	The Broad Arrow town site is located approximately 6.6 km south west of the premises – the Delegated Officer considers that this receptor is a sufficient distance from prescribed activities and will not be impacted by emissions or discharges.
Environmental receptors	Distance from prescribed activity

Threatened/Priority Fauna	<p>Five threatened species of fauna and five migratory species of birds were identified as potentially occurring within the project area following a targeted Fauna and Malleefowl Survey carried out in 2017.</p> <p>22 malleefowl mounds were located within the project area, two of which were found to be active. One is located 500m southwest of the proposed Jakarta pit. The other, which is classed as 'recently active' is located approximately 100m south of the proposed Jakarta pit. Both are outside of the Premises Boundary. Malleefowl are listed as vulnerable under the <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>.</p> <p>Targeted malleefowl surveys were undertaken in the Golden Cities Project area in 2017 and 2018. Active mounds are currently undertaken, and activities associated with works are not with 100 m of active or potentially active mounds. A Malleefowl Management Plan and associated reporting and mound marking procedures are in place.</p>
Groundwater	<p>Depth to groundwater varies significantly across the project area, ranging between 14 and 290 mbgl. Total dissolved solids (TDS) range between 27,700 mg/L to 84,200 mg/L and pH ranges from 5.9 – 8.6. The high salinity of the groundwater means it is only utilised for industrial (mining) purposes and has no other beneficial use.</p>

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 incomplete 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 4.

The Revised Licence L9242/2020/1 that accompanies this Amendment Report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the Premises i.e. ore sorting activities.

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

Table 4: Risk assessment of potential emissions and discharges from the Premises during construction and 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				
Construction								
Placement / construction of ore sorter and associated equipment including vehicle movements (reversing beepers).	Dust	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to Malleefowl	Surrounding native vegetation. Threatened/Priority fauna (Malleefowl) located within premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1	The 100 m buffer for Malleefowl mounds is considered industry standard associated with maintaining adequate surrounding vegetation and habitat and minimising indirect impacts (noise, dust and vibrations). The buffer distance is based on approved Malleefowl Management Plans by the EPA, and Ministerial Statements within similar vegetation associations to those at the Premises.
	Noise				C = Minor L = Slight Low Risk	Y	Noise emissions to be regulated under the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997	N/A
Operation								
Operation of ore sorter and associated equipment Vehicle movements	Dust	Air/windborne pathway causing impacts to Malleefowl	Surrounding native vegetation. Threatened/Priority fauna (Malleefowl) located within premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Moderate L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 5	The 100 m buffer for Malleefowl mounds is considered industry standard associated with maintaining adequate surrounding vegetation and habitat and minimising indirect impacts (noise, dust and vibrations). The buffer distance is based on approved Malleefowl Management Plans by the EPA, and Ministerial Statements within

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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				
								similar vegetation associations to those at the Premises.
	Noise				C = Minor L = Slight Low Risk	Y	Noise emissions to be regulated under the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997	N/A
	Sediment laden stormwater	Overland runoff potentially causing ecosystem disturbance/ impacts to native vegetation and potential impact to Malleefowl	Surrounding native vegetation. Threatened/Priority fauna (Malleefowl) located within premises boundary	Refer to Section 3.1	C = Minor L = Unlikely Medium Risk	Y	Condition 1	For noting: current conditions within the existing Licence appear adequate to mitigate potential stormwater emissions.

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 5 **Error! Reference source not found.** provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 5: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website 05 August 2025	None received	N/A
Local Government Authority (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder) advised of proposal 05 August 2025	No comment received	N/A
Marlinyu Ghoorlie Aboriginal Corporation advised of proposal 05 August 2025	No comment received	N/A
Licence Holder was provided with draft amendment on 5 September 2025	Comments received from applicant on 8 September requested an amendment to Table 1 of the Licence. This request was to change the requirement of the ore sorting equipment to be constructed on a graded concrete pad, to instead be constructed on an Earthwork pad.	The delegated officer notes and accepts this request.

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 6 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.

Table 6: Summary of licence amendments

Condition no.	Proposed amendments
Cover Page	Updated typographical error in mining tenement L24/228 and included category 5 prescribed premises description into the table on the cover page.
Licence History	Updated licence history to include the licence amendment for the addition of category 5 infrastructure and activities to the licence.
Condition 1	Condition 1 has been included, listing the infrastructure and equipment requirements for the construction / installation of the category 5 ore sorter.

Condition 2 and 3	Conditions 2 and 3 have been included which require the licence holder to submit an Environmental Compliance Report on the compliance with condition 1.
Condition 4	Condition 4 has been included in the licence to authorise operation of the ore sorter where the Environmental Compliance Report has been submitted to the CEO.
Condition 5 Table 2	The operational requirements of the ore sorting equipment have been added to Table 2. The location of the crushing and screening plant has also been updated in Table 2.
Condition 11 Table 6	Reporting requirements related to ore sorting activities have been added to Table 6.
Table 7	The definition of a 'suitably qualified engineer' has been added to the definitions table.
Figure 1	The description of Figure 1 has been amended.
Figure 2	Figure 2 has been added to the licence to display the amended category 12 and category 5 activity location.
Condition numbers	Condition numbers have been amended to reflect the above changes.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2015, *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2020, *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER 2020, *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.