

Our ref: OUT22/3211

Department of

State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning

Alisa Wilkinson Group Sustainability Manager Ravenswood Gold

e-mail: alisa.wilkinson@ravenswoodgold.com

3 August 2022

Dear Ms Wilkinson

Requirement notice

RPI22/027 Ravenswood Gold – Ravenswood Gold Mine (Given under s44 of the Regional Planning Interests Act 2014 (RPI Act))

I refer to your application received on 20 July 2022 for a regional interests development approval (RIDA) under section 29 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act) for resource activity: mining activities associated with the Ravenswood Gold Mine project. The application seeks approval for resource activities within the priority living area (PLA).

Application details

Applicant Ravenswood Gold

Project Ravenswood Gold - Ravenswood Gold Mine

Site Details

Real property description Refer to **Attachment A**

Area of regional interest PLA

Proposed PLA disturbance area 766 ha

Local government area Charters Towers Regional Council

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000 PO Box 15009 City East Queensland 4002 Australia **Telephone** 13 QGOV (13 74 68) **Website** www.dsdilgp.qld.gov.au

ABN 25 166 523 889

Public notification requirement

Pursuant to section 34(2) of the RPI Act, the application requires notification. In accordance with section 35 of the RPI Act, you are required to publish a notice about the application in the way prescribed in section 13 of the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 (RPI Regulation) and, where not the owner of the land, give the owners of the land notice about the application.

Public notification must commence within 10 business days of providing the information required to assist in the assessment of the application.

The notification period is 15 business days, with the closing day being the day that is after the end of the notification period. The approved form for public notification is available on the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning's website at https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-issues-and-interests/areas-of-regional-interest

You are also referred to the RPI Act Statutory Guideline 06/14 Public notification of assessment applications at https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-06-14-notification-requirements-under-rpi.pdf for further information.

Information requirement

Further information is required to assist in the assessment of the application against the assessment criteria contained in the RPI Act and RPI Regulation.

The further information required in detailed in **Attachment B**.

The period in which the information must be provided is a maximum of three months from the date of this notice. An extension to this period may be requested if necessary.

Another requirement notice may be given if, for example, the response to this requirement notice does not provide sufficient information to assess and decide the application, or in response to matters raised in a submission.

If you require any queries, please contact Ms Morag Elliott, Manager, Planning Group, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, by telephone on (07) 3452 7653 or by email at morag.elliott@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

Phil Joyce

Director

Development Assessment Division

Planning Group

Enc Attachment A Attachment B

ATTACHMENT A

Real property description

Subject lots on plan

Lot 10 SP266614	Lot 1 MPH32554	Lot 3 MPH25920
Lot 113 MPH25920	Lot 1 MPH35636	Lot 3 R16236
Lot 114 MPH25920	Lot 1 MPH4670	Lot 400 OL88
Lot 115 MPH25920	Lot 1MPH4707	Lot 4 MPH25920
Lot 116 MPH25920	Lot 1 Lot MPH4711	Lot 4 SP266614
Lot 116 R16210	Lot 1 MPH4714	Lot 51 MPH25920
Lot 117 MPH25920	Lot 1 MPH4720	Lot 52 MPH25920
Lot 117 R16210	Lot 1 R16230	Lot 53 MPH25920
Lot 118 R16210	Lot 1 R16235	Lot 58 MPH25920
Lot 119 R16210	Lot 1 SP264429	Lot 59 MPH25920
Lot 11 MPH25920	Lot 1 SP273486	Lot 60 MPH25920
Lot 12 SP151652	Lot 201 R16210	Lot 61 MPH25920
Lot 13 SP310549	Lot 202 R16210	Lot 6 SP266614
Lot 14 GS696	Lot 203 R16210	Lot 71 MPH25920
Lot 16 SP266614	Lot 20 MPH25919	Lot 72 MPH25920
Lot 17 SP335513	Lot 20 SP310550	Lot 73 MPH25920
Lot 180 MPH25918	Lot 21 MPH25919	Lot 74 MPH25920
Lot 18 SP266614	Lot 22 GS43	Lot 75 MPH25920
Lot 18 SP310550	Lot 22 MPH25919	Lot 76 MPH25920
Lot 19 SP266614	Lot 22 SP266614	Lot 9 SP266614
Lot 1 AP15923	Lot 23 SP266614	
Lot 1 AP3534	Lot 24 SP266614	
Lot 1 MPH14402	Lot 2 MPH25920	
Lot 1 MPH25920	Lot 2 MPH31120	
Lot 1 MPH25957	Lot 2 R16229	
Lot 1 MPH31120	Lot 2 SP310549	
	Lot 382 OL77	

ATTACHMENT B

Information required for assessment against PLA criteria – Schedule 2, Part 3 of the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014

1. **Issue:**

The Assessment Report dated July 2022 (Supporting report) provided in support of the application states at s2.4 Proposed Activities that 'The total area the subject of this Application is 766 hectares (ha), as depicted at Figure 4 - Proposed Disturbance Footprint. Exempt resource activities were authorised on commencement of the PLA over the vast majority of the RIDA Area (approximately 651 ha). The RIDA Area also includes a further 115 hectares of additional disturbance, which is required to carry out the Activities.)'.

It is not clear whether the RIDA is being sought for:

proposed resources activities with a total proposed PLA disturbance area of 766 ha

or

 proposed resource activities with a total proposed PLA disturbance area of 115 ha.

Actions:

- (a) Confirm whether the RIDA is being sought for:
 - (i) proposed resources activities with a total proposed PLA disturbance area of 766 ha or
 - (ii) proposed resource activities with a total proposed PLA disturbance area of 115 ha.

Note: If a resource activity is deemed by a proponent to be an 'exempt resource activity' in accordance with the relevant provisions under the RPI Act, a RIDA is not required.

- (b) Confirm that the lots identified in Attachment A are the lots on which the resource activities for which a RIDA is sought are located.
- (c) Provide an amended Figure 4 which includes:
 - (i) the location of all proposed resource activities, including associated infrastructure within the proposed PLA disturbance area, for example, the location of any proposed tailings dam and future operations of the existing tailings dam, internal roads and access points to the site, processing plant and rehabilitation areas
 - (ii) the PLA and lot boundaries
 - (iii) a legend.

2. Issue:

The Supporting report states at s2.4 Proposed Activities that 'Ravenswood Gold proposes to continue the operation of Ravenswood Mine in accordance with the activities authorised under the MLs and EA (Activities)'.

No further information is provided regarding the proposed resource activities for which a regional interest development approval (RIDA) is sought, or details provided regarding the activities authorised under the mining leases (MLs) and environmental authority (EA) referred to.

Actions:

- (a) Provide a detailed explanation of the resource activities being proposed in the PLA.
- (b) Provide a table identifying:
 - (i) all proposed resource activities for which a RIDA is sought and a definition of each for the proposed resource activity, including all associated infrastructure
 - (ii) the proposed PLA surface disturbance area associated with each proposed resource activity including all associated infrastructure.
- (c) Provide copies or extracts of the MLs and EA referred to, which detail the authorised activities.

3. **Issue:**

Responses in Table 1 Prescribed solution (a) at Schedule 1 of the Supporting report regarding whether the proposed activities may adversely impact on development certainly include that:

- d) 'The Activities will not increase the cost of planned development as the Activities are a continuation of the existing mine operations
- e) 'The Activities will not cause further damage or otherwise affect existing infrastructure.'
- f) 'The Activities will not result in additional demand on existing infrastructure or services.'
- g) 'The proximity of the Ravenswood Mine to the Ravenswood township means that Ravenswood Gold operates to strict environmental standards as set out in the EA in order to mitigate impacts and protect residents from nuisance and disturbance from the mining operation ...'There will be no noticeable change to the amenity of the PLA generally or on land in the immediate vicinity of the Ravenswood Mine.'

Actions:

- (a) Detail any additional infrastructure required (if any) to expand the mine and how the Charters Towers Regional Council (CTRC) will not be burdened by additional infrastructure including long term maintenance and depreciation on the infrastructure.
- (b) Explain the current agreements with CTRC and what additional demand will be on this infrastructure.
- (c) Provide extracts of the EA referred to in order to demonstrate that the proposed resource activities will not negatively impact on the amenity of the PLA and on land in the immediate vicinity.

4. Issue:

Responses in Table 1 Prescribed solution (a) at Schedule 1 of the Supporting report regarding the potential impact of the proposed activities on amenity include that:

- a) 'Approving this application would cause an immaterial impact on the PLA and surrounding activities due to the history of the Ravenswood Mine and township, combined with location and continuation of existing operations and ancillary activities. The Activities comprise the continuation of the existing predominant land use, together with some incremental changes to footprint.'
- b) 'The landscape has been extensively modified by historical mining activities in Ravenswood ...Given the degree of existing land disturbance and current land use, the Activities are in line with the predominant character of the surrounding are.'
- c) 'The Activities will not change the volume or nature of traffic on the roads in the PLA as the activities are a continuation of the existing mine operations'
- d) 'Activities will have an immaterial impact on the existing linkages between various parts of the PLA and the mine will continue to co-exist with the town'
- e) 'Given the nature of the Activities, there will be no material change to the outlook from key vistas, nearby sensitive uses, or public facilities and tourist attractions.'
- g) 'The Activities will have no or negligible noticeable effects on the visual prominence of the site or further impact on landscape values or visual amenity'
- h) 'The Activities will not result in a material change to the existing landscape'.

Actions:

Provide information regarding:

- (a) the 'incremental changes to the footprint' proposed, and extent of these changes to the proposed PLA disturbance area.
- (b) the proposed resource activities and their locations to demonstrate their nature and scale and the extent, if any, of their intrusion on the character of the area or additional modifications to the landscape.
- (c) any changes to the volume or nature of traffic on the roads in the PLA as a result of, for example, additional employees or additional haulage trucks to cater for the expansion of the mine, and if so, any additional loading on infrastructure and proposed measures to address this.
- (d) the location of the proposed resource activities so as to demonstrate that the proposed resource activities not impact on the existing linkages between various parts of the PLA, for example, between residential areas and employment areas
- (e) the nature and location of the proposed resource activities within the PLA so as to demonstrate that there will be:
 - (i) no material change to the outlook from key vistas, nearby sensitive uses, or public facilities and tourist attractions
 - (ii) no or negligible noticeable effects on the visual prominence of the site or further impact on landscape values or visual amenity
- f) any proposed landscaping and enhancements.

5. **Issue:**

Responses in Table 2: Prescribed solution (b) at Schedule 1 of the Supporting report regarding community benefits and opportunities of the proposed resource activities include that:

- 'i. Upgrades are being made to three intersections ... '
- ii. Ravenswood Gold continues to contribute to the improvement of public infrastructure ..'
- 'iii. Ravenswood Gold supports the Ravenswood Restoration and Preservation Association ... Other coordinated project between the mine and the town have included installation of audio signs ...'

Actions:

- (a) Identify the intersection upgrades and extent, including partnerships, ongoing maintenance and depreciation of the asset, and how these intersection upgrades are being undertaken in response to impacts of the proposed resource activities on the volume or nature of traffic on the roads in the PLA.
- (b) Confirm which contributions are constructed or existing assets and which are proposed, so as to demonstrate that the carrying out of the proposed resource activities subject of the RIDA is likely to result in community benefits and opportunities.

6. **Issue:**

The Supporting Report does not provide information relating to proposed rehabilitation /restoring of disturbance areas in the PLA once the proposed resource activities are decommissioned.

Actions:

Provide information regarding proposed rehabilitation/restoration of disturbance areas in the PLA once the proposed resource activities are decommissioned.