



Northern
Territory
Government

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE

(Pursuant to section 74 of the Water Act)

Licence Details

Licence Number: **WDL178-4**

Commencement Date: 23 December 2014

Expiry Date 31 October 2016

Licensee Details

Legal Entity Name: Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd

ABN: 12 117 327 509

ACN: 117 327 509

Registered Business Address: 1/4 Manning Road
DOUBLE BAY
NSW 2028

Postal Address: PO Box 1467
DOUBLE BAY
NSW 2028

Contact Person: Brent Murdoch

Position Title: Director and General Manager

Contact Details: b/h: 08 8941 9105
Mobile: 0488 100 314
Fax: 08 8992 9011
bmurdoch@mttodd.com.au

Location of Premises

Name: Mt Todd Gold Project

Address: Mining Lease Numbers MLN1070, 1071 and 1127
Jatbula Road
KATHERINE
NT 0851

Telephone Numbers: b/h: 08 8975 4297
a/h: 08 8975 4533

24 hour emergency response

Contact Person: Mount Todd Site Manger

Telephone Numbers: b/h: 08 8975 4297 (Office), 08 8976 7132 (House)
Mobile: 0488 100 314 (General Manager in Darwin)

Licensed Activity

Discharge of waste water from the Mount Todd mine site
(Mineral Leases MLN1070, 1071 and 1127), being:
• Treated waste water from retention pond RP3 to Edith River
via Batman Creek and Stow Creek.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INFORMATION ABOUT THIS LICENCE	3
Definitions of Terms.....	3
Responsibilities of Licensee	3
Duration of Licence.....	4
Amendment, Modification or Revocation of Licence (section 93 of the Act).....	4
Public Register	4
Supporting Guidelines and Documents	4
Environment Protection Objectives (Part 4 of the WMPCA) and Beneficial Use Declaration (section 73 of the Act)	4
Environmental Interests.....	5
Cultural Interests	5
LICENCE CONDITIONS.....	6
ADMINISTRATIVE	6
OPERATIONAL	6
DISCHARGES AND EMISSIONS	7
MONITORING	10
RECORDING AND REPORTING	10
VERIFICATION OF THE DILUTION ALGORITHM.....	11
END OF LICENCE CONDITIONS.....	12
DEFINITIONS.....	13
APPENDIX 1 - LOCATION OF AUTHORISED DISCHARGE AND SAMPLING SITES.....	15
APPENDIX 2 - SURFACE WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	16
APPENDIX 3 - SITE SPECIFIC TRIGGER VALUES AT SW4	25
APPENDIX 4 - INVESTIGATION AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSE TO WATER QUALITY INCIDENTS IN THE EDITH AS MEASURED AT SW4	26
APPENDIX 5 - ANNUAL RETURN	27

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

INFORMATION ABOUT THIS LICENCE

Definitions of Terms

- A section on the definition of terms used in this Licence can be found at the end of this Licence.
- Terms used in the waste discharge licence which are defined in the *Water Act* (the Act) have the meaning given in that Act unless specifically indicated otherwise.

Responsibilities of Licensee

- It is an offence under the Act, if the holder of a waste discharge licence contravenes or fails to comply with the conditions of a waste discharge licence.
- In addition to the conditions set out in this Licence, general responsibilities of Licensees are set out in the Act, and under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* and associated regulations.
- Licensees must comply at all times with the requirements of these Acts and all other applicable laws.
- Except as expressly provided for in this Licence, the Licensee must not:
 - cause environmental harm either directly or indirectly;
 - allow waste to come into contact with water; or
 - allow water to be polluted.
- Without limiting the conditions of this Licence, in conducting the Activity, the Licensee must do all things reasonable and practicable to:
 - prevent or minimise the likelihood of pollution occurring as a result of, or in connection with, the Activity;
 - prevent or minimise the likelihood of environmental harm occurring as a result of, or in connection with, the Activity;
 - effectively respond to pollution and the risk of pollution occurring as a result of, or in connection with, the Activity;
 - effectively respond to environmental harm and the risk of environmental harm occurring as a result of or in connection with the Activity; and
 - as far as practicable:
 - avoid and reduce waste produced as a result of, or in connection with the Activity;
 - increase the re-use and recycling of waste;
 - effectively manage waste disposal; and
 - apply the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Duration of Licence

- This Licence will remain in force until its expiry date, it is surrendered by the Licensee, or until it is suspended or revoked by the Controller of Water Resources.

Amendment, Modification or Revocation of Licence (section 93 of the Act)

- As set out in section 93 of the Act, the Controller of Water Resources may, by notice:
 - amend or modify the terms and conditions of a licence;
 - revoke a licence; or
 - suspend a licence.

Public Register

- A copy of this Licence will be placed on a register in accordance with section 95 of the Act.
- The register is publicly available for viewing on the NT EPA website.
- A copy of the Annual Return and any additional plans as required by this Licence will be placed on the register.

Supporting Guidelines and Documents

- This Licence has been developed based on the information provided by the Licensee in the following documentation:
 - Application for Waste Discharge Licence 22 August 2014;
 - Vista Gold Discharge Plan Revision 3, December 2014;
 - Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd, Mount Todd Gold Project Mining Management Plan 2013-2017, Section 6 Water Management Plan;
 - Mt Todd Macroinvertebrate and Sediment Monitoring Report, 2013-2014 Wet Season; and
 - Vista Gold Australia Mt Todd WDL178 Licence Report October 2014.

Environment Protection Objectives (Part 4 of the WMPCA) and Beneficial Use Declaration (section 73 of the Act)

- An Environment Protection Objective (EPO) is a statutory instrument to establish principles on which:
 - a) environmental quality is to be maintained, enhanced, managed or protected;
 - b) pollution, or environmental harm resulting from pollution, is to be assessed, prevented, reduced, controlled, rectified or cleaned up; and
 - c) effective waste management is to be implemented or evaluated.
- Beneficial Use Declaration (BUD) is a legislated process that reduces the effects of water pollution and assists in the protection and management of water. The community decides

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

how a particular water body should be used by choosing on one or more Beneficial Use categories.

- The following EPOs and BUDs are relevant to this Licence:
 - Declared Water Quality Objective for the Edith River Surface Water: Aquatic Ecosystem Protection (Gazette Reference G23 11 June 1997).

Environmental Interests

- This section highlights sensitivity of the surrounding land use and environment associated with the location of the approved activity that represents an interest to the Northern Territory Government and the community:
- Sites of Conservation Significance
 - SOCS Number 30, Yinberrie Hills; and
 - SOCS Number 3, Daly River Middle Reaches.

Cultural Interests

- The mining lease and discharges are located on aboriginal land under Freehold Aboriginal title to Barnjarn Aboriginal Corporation.
- Sites of Aboriginal significance including registered and recorded Aboriginal sacred sites may exist in the immediate vicinity of and downstream from the Mount Todd mine site.
- It is the Licensee's responsibility to contact the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority and ensure that any Authority Certificates required as a result of conducting the licensed activity are obtained and complied with.
- Further specific advice on any cultural requirement or implication of the licenced activity should be sought from the Northern Land Council and the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.

LICENCE CONDITIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 24 hours if there are changes to the details of the 24-hour emergency contact as provided on page one of this Licence.
2. The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 14 days if there are changes to the Licensee details shown on page one of this Licence.
3. The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 14 days after ceasing to conduct the activity to which this Licence relates.
4. The Licensee must notify the NT EPA prior to making any operational change that will cause, or is likely to cause, an increase in the potential for environmental harm, environmental nuisance, material environmental harm or serious environmental harm.
5. The Licensee must ensure a copy of this Licence is available at all times:
 - 5.1. on the Licensee's Australian internet website; and
 - 5.2. at the Location.
6. Where this Licence requires the provision of any notice, document or other correspondence to the NT EPA, the relevant contact is:

Pollution Control, NT EPA.

Physical Address: Level 2 Darwin Plaza, 41 Smith Street Mall, Darwin NT 0800.

Postal Address: GPO Box 3675, Darwin NT 0801.

Email: polution@nt.gov.au

7. All notices, documents or other correspondence required to be provided pursuant to this Licence must be provided in electronic form unless otherwise specified as a condition of this Licence.
8. The Licensee must, on request, provide to the NT EPA any data relevant to this Licence, in such a form and after any interpretative analysis as requested by the NT EPA.

OPERATIONAL

9. The Licensee must, without limiting any other condition of this Licence in conducting the Activity do all things reasonable and practicable to ensure the Activity does not adversely affect the Declared Beneficial Uses and Objectives as declared from time to time, including those applying to:
 - Edith River Surface Water.
10. The Licensee must develop and implement a Communication Plan by 30 January 2015 which includes a strategy for communicating with members of the public who are likely to have a real interest in or be affected by the Activity.
11. The Licensee must ensure a copy of the Communication Plan is available on the Licensee's

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Australian internet website by 30 January 2015.

12. The Licensee must maintain a log of each complaint, made in relation to the Activity, to any persons involved in the Activity. The log must include details of the following:
 - 12.1. the date and time of the complaint;
 - 12.2. the contact details of the complainant if known, or where no details are provided a note to that effect;
 - 12.3. the nature of the complaint;
 - 12.4. the nature of events giving rise to the complaint;
 - 12.5. prevailing weather conditions at the time of the complaint;
 - 12.6. the action taken in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and
 - 12.7. if no action was taken, why no action was taken.
13. The Licensee must implement and comply with the Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd Discharge Plan, Revision 3, dated December 2014 (the Discharge Plan) as provided to the NT EPA.
14. The Licensee must submit any proposed revision of the Discharge Plan (other than typographical changes or revisions to formatting or referencing) to the NT EPA.
15. If there is any discrepancy between the Discharge Plan and this Licence, this Licence takes precedence.
16. The NT EPA may, by notice in writing, require the Licensee to revise, amend and/or resubmit any report or plan required to be submitted under this Licence. Any report or plan including any revision amendment or resubmission of the report or plan is not effective until accepted by the NT EPA.

DISCHARGES AND EMISSIONS

17. This Licence authorises waste water to be discharged from the authorised discharge points identified in Table 1.
18. The Licensee must not discharge waste water to the Edith River from Retention Pond RP1 and/or Retention Pond RP7 unless there is imminent danger of waste water overtopping the retention pond walls:
 - 18.1. as a result of abnormal rainfall intensity or duration that has reduced storage capacity to a level predicted to be insufficient to contain site water;
 - 18.2. all actions in accordance with the Discharge Plan to minimise the need to discharge have been undertaken to the satisfaction of the NT EPA; and
 - 18.3. the Licensee has received written approval (can be email) for discharge from RP1 and/or RP7 from the NT EPA.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Table 1 – Authorised discharge points

Discharge Point	Description	Latitude	Longitude
RP3	Treated waste water from Batman Pit to Batman Creek, which flows to Stow Creek then Edith River.	-14.14033°	132.10266°
RP1 siphons	Waste water from waste rock dump seepage facility, discharged via siphons A and B to Burrell Creek, which flows to Edith River.	-14.16366°	132.10737°
RP1 overflow weir	Waste water from waste rock dump seepage facility, discharged via overflow weir to West Creek, which flows to Edith River.	-14.16348°	132.10451°
RP7	Wastewater from the tailings storage facility, discharged via the decant pond overflow weir to Horseshoe Creek, which flows to the Edith River	-14.13502°	132.12439°

19. Prior to any discharge from RP3, the Licensee must determine the dilution required to achieve the water quality objectives defined in condition 21. The dilution must be determined:
 - 19.1. in accordance with the Vista Gold Dilution Algorithm, based on chemistry of the water to be discharged from RP3 as specified in the Discharge Plan; or
 - 19.2. as directed by the NT EPA.
20. The Licensee must as soon as practicable notify the NT EPA by email to pollution@nt.gov.au prior to commencing a discharge to the Edith River.
21. The water quality objectives to be met at monitoring site SW4 for this licence period are:
 - 21.1. for aquatic ecosystem toxicants, maintenance of 80% level of species protection; and
 - 21.2. protection of water suitable for stock drinking and agricultural use.
22. Waste water monitoring locations are defined in Table 2 and Appendix 1.
23. The Licensee must apply site specific trigger values (SSTVs) specified in Appendix 3 at sampling location SW4 and must ensure:
 - 23.1. water quality parameters measured at SW4 do not exceed greater or equal to two times the SSTV for any single measurement; and
 - 23.2. the rolling seven day 80th percentile of measurements for each water quality parameter does not exceed the SSTV.
24. When water quality at monitoring point SW4 does not comply with condition 23.1 the Licensee must:
 - 24.1. cease discharge of waste water; and
 - 24.2. implement the Vista Gold investigation process defined in Appendix 4.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

25. When water quality at monitoring point SW4 does not comply with condition 23.2 the Licensee must:
 - 25.1. increase dilution of the waste water; and
 - 25.2. implement the Vista Gold investigation process defined in Appendix 4.
26. Waste water at the monitoring point SW4 and the Edith River downstream of the mine site discharge must not:
 - 26.1. contain any visible matter, floating oil and grease or petroleum hydrocarbon sheen or scum, or litter or other objectionable matter;
 - 26.2. cause or generate odours which would adversely affect the use of surrounding waters;
 - 26.3. cause algal blooms;
 - 26.4. cause visible change in the behaviour of fish or other aquatic organisms;
 - 26.5. cause mortality of fish or other aquatic organism;
 - 26.6. cause adverse impacts on plants; and
 - 26.7. cause adverse impacts to drinking water.
27. At any time the NT EPA may direct the Licensee to cease discharge from a waste water source and the Licensee must:
 - 27.1. immediately comply with the NT EPA direction to cease discharge; and
 - 27.2. comply with any further direction of the NT EPA.

Table 2 – Water quality monitoring locations

Monitoring Location	Description	Latitude	Longitude
SW2	Edith River. Non-impacted reference site bridge on Edith Falls Road. Northern side of the stream to avoid discharge from Phillips Creek.	-14.171945°	132.119898°
SW13	Stow Creek. Non-impacted reference site.	-14.156052°	132.129894°
SW4	Edith River. Discharge monitoring site.	-14.170669°	132.098347°
SW10	Edith River. Downstream reference site. At causeway of Old Stuart Highway.	-14.184637°	132.030369°
RP1	Waste Rock Seepage dam.	-14.163064°	132.107228°
RP3	Batman Pit.	-14.140328°	132.102662°
RP7	Tailings Storage Facility.	-14.127635°	132.117427°

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

MONITORING

28. The licensee must for all monitoring sites listed in Table 2:
 - 28.1. install, maintain and provide appropriate identification signage so that they are easily identifiable at all times; and
 - 28.2. maintain safe access and egress, as is reasonably practicable.
29. Water quality sampling and collection of field environmental data must be carried out in accordance with the sampling schedule prescribed in Appendix 2.
30. The licensee must ensure that all water samples and field environmental data are representative of the conditions at the time of sampling and are collected in accordance with recognised Australian Standards and guidelines (e.g. AS/NZS 5667, ANZECC/ARMCANZ).
31. The Licensee must ensure that all water samples used for reporting are analysed by a laboratory with current N.A.T.A. certification for the analysis specified (or equivalent quality control).
32. For each sample required to be collected by this Licence, the following information must be recorded and retained:
 - 32.1. the date(s) on which the sample was taken;
 - 32.2. the time(s) at which the sample was collected;
 - 32.3. the point(s) at which the sample was taken;
 - 32.4. the name of the person who collected the sample;
 - 32.5. the chain of custody forms relating to the sample(s);
 - 32.6. the field measurements and/or analytical results for the sample; and
 - 32.7. laboratory QA/QC documentation.
33. The Licensee must prepare and submit a monitoring plan to the NT EPA by 31 March 2015. The monitoring plan must:
 - 33.1. describe the methods used to measure the likely impact(s) of changes in water quality, sediment quality, biota quality and aquatic ecology in the Edith River over timeframes and spatial scales relevant to the waste water discharges from the Mount Todd mine site; and
 - 33.2. consider comments provided by the NT EPA.

RECORDING AND REPORTING

34. All records required to be kept by this Licence must be in a legible format.
35. The Licensee must keep records of all non-compliances with this Licence.
36. The Licensee must as soon as practicable and in any case within 24 hours notify the NT EPA of non-compliances with this Licence, by emailing pollution@nt.gov.au.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

37. Non-compliance notifications required under condition 36 must identify:
 - 37.1. circumstances leading up to the non-compliance;
 - 37.2. the risk to the environment from the non-compliance;
 - 37.3. what actions the Licensee will undertake to mitigate any environmental harm resulting from the non-compliance; and
 - 37.4. what corrective actions the Licensee will undertake to ensure the non-compliance does not occur again.
38. The Licensee must immediately and in any case within 24 hours notify the NT EPA of any potential or actual environmental harm or pollution by contacting the Pollution Hotline on telephone number 1800 064 567 and emailing pollution@nt.gov.au.
39. The Licensee must submit a Monitoring Report to the NT EPA by 31 August for each year of the Licence. The Monitoring Report must:
 - 39.1. be prepared in accordance with requirements for a Monitoring Report as per NT EPA *Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Environmental Issues*;
 - 39.2. include a tabulation of all monitoring data required as a condition of this Licence, including surface water, discharge, sediment and biological monitoring;
 - 39.3. include a trend analysis and interpretation of all monitoring data required as a condition of this Licence;
 - 39.4. include long term trend analysis to demonstrate any environmental impact associated with the Activity over a minimum period of four years; and
 - 39.5. contain a summary of the discharge events that exceeded the SSTVs during the reporting period.
40. The Licensee must complete the Annual Return supplied at Appendix 5 and provide it to the NT EPA by 31 August for each year of the Licence.

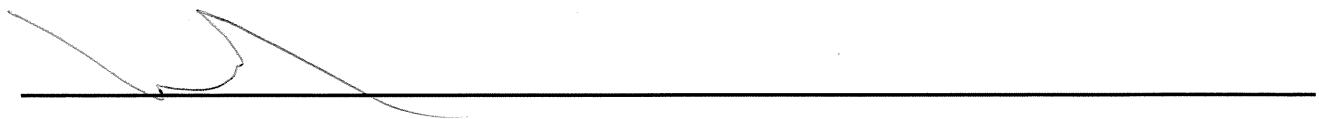
VERIFICATION OF THE DILUTION ALGORITHM

41. The Licensee must verify the dilution predicted by the Dilution Algorithm. Verification of the Dilution Algorithm must:
 - 41.1. be carried out in accordance with the Discharge Plan; and
 - 41.2. consider comments provided by the NT EPA.
42. The Licensee must provide a report to the NT EPA on results of verifying the Dilution Algorithm within 10 business days of receiving laboratory results.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

END OF LICENCE CONDITIONS

This Licence is not valid unless signed below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William John Freeland". It is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

William John Freeland

Delegate for the Controller of Water Resources

Dated the 23/12/2014

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

DEFINITIONS

All terms in the Licence which are defined in the *Water Act* have the meaning given in those Acts unless otherwise or further defined in this section.

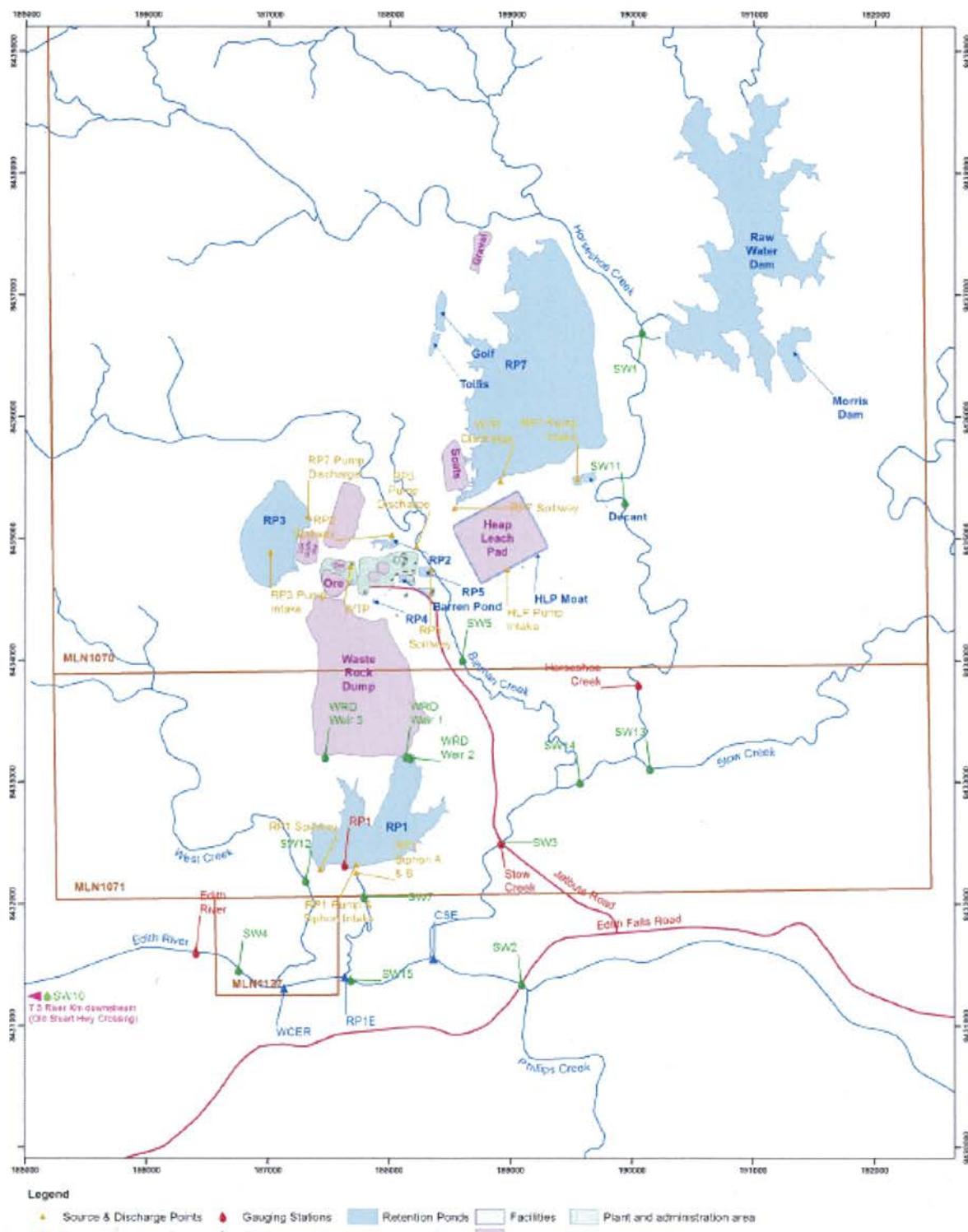
'Act'	means the Northern Territory of Australia <i>Water Act</i> .
'Activity'	means the activity licensed under this Licence described as Licensed activity on page 1 of this Licence. The definition does not in any way limit the meaning of the term given in the Act.
'ANZECC'	means Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council.
'ARMCANZ'	means Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand.
'Australian Drinking Water Guidelines'	means the National Health and Medical Research Council and Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council, National Water Quality Management Strategy, Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 6, Published by Commonwealth of Australia, 2011.
'Business Day'	means a day not Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday in Darwin or Katherine, Northern Territory.
'Beneficial Use'	means the uses of water specified in section 4(3) of the <i>Water Act</i> .
'Dilution Algorithm'	means the linear regression defined under the Vista Gold Discharge Plan (section 4). Linear regression to predict the dilution of waste water with Edith River water that is required to achieve 80% species protection at sampling point SW4, using the concentration of sulfate, aluminium, copper, nickel and zinc in the waste water.
'Dilution Factor'	means the minimum volume in litres of receiving water (Edith River at SW4) into which one litre of waste water (from RP1, RP3 or RP7; or combination relevant to multiple source discharge) can be added without causing the specified percentage species level of protection (80%) to be exceeded in the receiving water.
'Discharge Plan'	means the Vista Gold Australia Discharge Plan Revision 3, dated December 2014.
'Incident'	has the meaning described in section 14 of the <i>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act</i> .
'Location'	means location of premises as described on page 1 of this Licence.
'N.A.T.A.'	means quality control accreditation for the measurement/analysis under the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia.
'Non-Compliance'	means any failure by the Licensee to comply, in whole or in part, with any condition of this Licence regardless of the duration of the non-

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

	compliance.
'NT EPA'	means Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority.
'Records'	means any written information as requested as a condition of this Licence. Any logs, registers or other documents.
'SSTV'	means site specific water quality trigger values.
'Sites of Conservation Significance'	means any site listed at: http://www.nretas.nt.gov.au/environment-protection/conservation/data_resources
'Waste water source'	means waters in the following retention ponds located at the Mount Todd Gold Mine site: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RP1 - Waste Rock Seepage Dam• RP3 - Batman Pit• RP7 - Tailings Storage Facility.
'Wet season'	means the period commencing 1 December and ending 31 March.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

APPENDIX 1 - LOCATION OF AUTHORISED DISCHARGE AND SAMPLING SITES



Any person monitoring, testing or analysing water must take reasonable care to ensure that their actions do not cause damage to the environment or other persons or property. Accurate results beyond the intended purpose of reference use. This map is provided without any warranty of any kind whatsoever, either express or implied.

APPENDIX 2 - SURFACE WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
Sampling Site Description	Retention Pond - Waste rock waste water source	Batman Pit	Retention pond - tailings storage facility	Non-impacted reference site - Edith River at bridge on Edith Falls Road - northern bank	Non-impacted reference site - Stow Creek	Monitoring test site - Edith River downstream of RP1 siphon	Reference site - Edith River at old Stuart Highway causeway
Environmental Field Data							
Daily site rainfall	Rain	mm	Field measure	M	D	D	M
Daily site evaporation	Evap	mm	Field measure	M	D	D	D
Daily maximum air temperature	T _{max}	°C	Field measure	M	D	D	M
Daily minimum air temperature	T _{min}	°C	Field measure	M	D	D	M
Pumping rate	Discharge Rate	m ³ /s	Field measure	D	D	N/A	N/A

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1	RP3	RP7	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
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Longitude	-14.163064°	-14.140328°	-14.127635°	-14.171945°	-14.156052°	-14.170669°	-14.184637°
Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Cumulate Discharge Volume		m ³	Calculation	D	D	N/A	N/A
River flow		m ³ /s	Calculation	N/A	N/A	D	N/A
River height	Gauge height	m	Field measure	N/A	N/A	D	D
Sampling depth		m	Field measure	M	D	M	M
Dissolved oxygen	DO	% saturation	Field measure	M	D	M	D
Water Temperature	T _{water}	°C	Field measure	M	D	M	D
Electrical conductivity	EC	µS/cm	Field & lab measure	M	D	M	D

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1	RP3	RP7	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
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Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
pH	pH	pH units	Field & lab measure	M	D	D	M
Redox potential	pE	mV	Field measure	M	D	D	D
Metals and metalloids							
Aluminium	Al	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Aluminium	Al	µg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	D	M
Antimony	Sb	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Arsenic	As	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
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Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Cadmium	Cd	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Cobalt	Co	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Copper	Cu	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Chromium	Cr	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Iron	Fe	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	D	M
Iron	Fe	µg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	M	M

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
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Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Lead	Pb	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Magnesium	Mg	mg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Manganese	Mn	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Mercury	Hg	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Molybdenum	Mo	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
Sampling Site Description	Retention Pond - Waste rock waste water source	Batman Pit	Retention pond - tailings storage facility	Non-impacted reference site - Edith River at bridge on Edith Falls Road – northern bank	Non-impacted reference site - Stow Creek	Monitoring test site - Edith River downstream of RP1 siphon	Reference site - Edith River at old Stuart Highway causeway
Longitude	-14.163064°	-14.140328°	-14.127635°	-14.171945°	-14.156052°	-14.170669°	-14.184637°
Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Nickel	Ni	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Silver	Ag	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Zinc	Zn	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Nutrients							
Total Nitrogen	TN	µg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	M	D
Total phosphorus	TP	µg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	M	D

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
Sampling Site Description	Retention Pond - Waste rock waste water source	Batman Pit	Retention pond - tailings storage facility	Non-impacted reference site - Edith River at bridge on Edith Falls Road – northern bank	Non-impacted reference site - Stow Creek	Monitoring test site - Edith River downstream of RP1 siphon	Reference site - Edith River at old Stuart Highway causeway
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Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Organic carbon (total)	TOC	mg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	M	D
Major Ions							
Bicarbonate	HCO ₃ ⁻	mg/L	Filtered (0.45μm) in field	M	D	M	D
Calcium	Ca	mg/L	Filtered (0.45μm) in field	M	D	M	D
Chloride	Cl	mg/L	Filtered (0.45μm) in field	M	D	M	D
Sodium	Na	mg/L	Filtered (0.45μm) in field	M	D	M	D

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
Sampling Site Description	Retention Pond - Waste rock waste water source	Batman Pit	Retention pond - tailings storage facility	Non-impacted reference site - Edith River at bridge on Edith Falls Road – northern bank	Non-impacted reference site - Stow Creek	Monitoring test site - Edith River downstream of RP1 siphon	Reference site - Edith River at old Stuart Highway causeway
Longitude	-14.163064°	-14.140328°	-14.127635°	-14.171945°	-14.156052°	-14.170669°	-14.184637°
Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Potassium	K		Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Sulphate	SO ₄ ²⁻	mg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	M	D	M	D
Total Dissolved Solids	TDS	mg/L	Calculated	M	D	M	D
Other							
Unfiltered Alkalinity (acid neutralising capacity)	as CaCO ₃	mg/L	Unfiltered	M	D	M	D

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Sampling Site ID	RP1 ¹	RP3	RP7 ¹	SW2	SW13	SW4	SW10
Sampling Site Description	Retention Pond - Waste rock waste water source	Batman Pit	Retention pond - tailings storage facility	Non-impacted reference site - Edith River at bridge on Edith Falls Road – northern bank	Non-impacted reference site - Stow Creek	Monitoring test site - Edith River downstream of RP1 siphon	Reference site - Edith River at old Stuart Highway causeway
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Latitude	132.107228°	132.102662°	132.117427°	132.119898°	132.129894°	132.098347°	132.030369°
Parameter	Abbrev.	Units	Sample Type	Frequency			
Hardness	Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	Filtered	M	D	M	D
Total Suspended Solids	TSS	mg/L	Unfiltered (residue remaining 0.45 µm)	M	D	M	D
Total Cyanide	HCN	mg/L	Unfiltered	M	M	M	M
WAD Cyanide ³	WAD CN	mg/L	Unfiltered	M ²	M ²	M ²	M ²

Key:

1: Frequency of monitoring retention ponds applies when a retention pond is discharging. e.g. if RP3 is discharging and RP1 and RP7 are not discharging, monthly monitoring is not required for RP1 and RP7.

2: WAD Cyanide analysis is required if the result of monthly Total CN analysis (by APHA 4500-CN-C) is greater than 0.004mg/L. WAD Cyanide analysis must then be conducted on the same day as the analysis for Total CN.

N/A: Not applicable. NR: Not required. D: Daily when discharging and one week after the cessation of discharge and once during the period of first flush, otherwise monthly testing as per Vista Gold Surface Water Monitoring Standard Operating Procedure. M: Once per month.

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

APPENDIX 3 - SITE SPECIFIC TRIGGER VALUES AT SW4

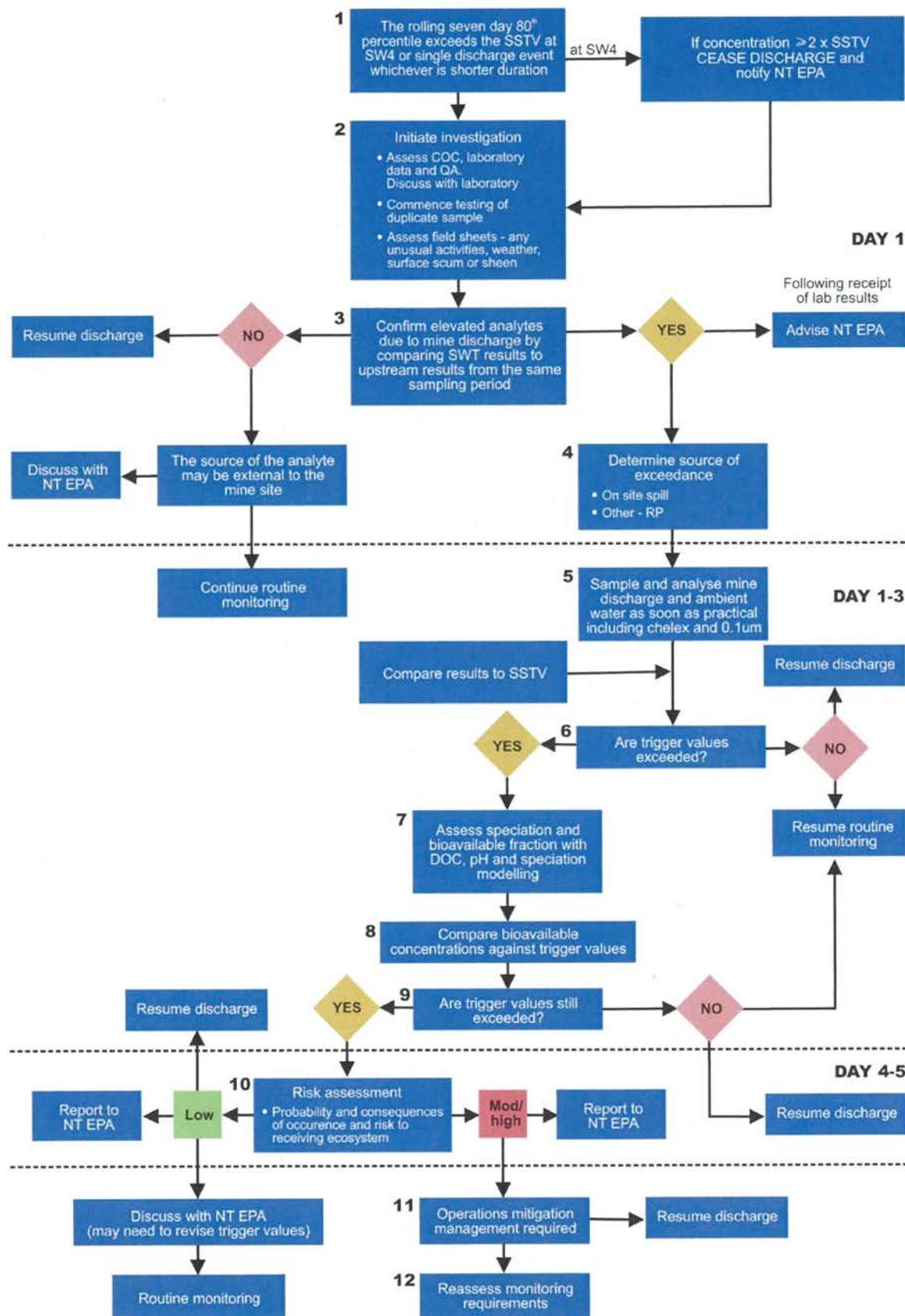
Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Edith River Ambient Water Quality (80th percentile of reference site dataset)	ANZECC Water Quality Guideline for 80% species protection	SSTV at Monitoring Site SW4
pH	pH units	Field and laboratory	6.66	6.0 - 8.0	< 6.0 or > 8.0
Electrical conductivity	µS/cm	Field and laboratory	26.5	NG	> 250
Dissolved oxygen	% saturation	Field	92.5	85-120	< 85 or > 120
Sulfate	mg/L	Unfiltered	<1	NG	> 129
Bicarbonate	mg/L	Unfiltered	12.3	NG	> 319
Chloride	mg/L	Unfiltered	2	NG	> 64
Magnesium	mg/L	Unfiltered	0.66	NG	> 2.5
Total cyanide	µg/L	Unfiltered	BDL	7.0	> 7.0
Aluminium	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	35.9	150	> 150
Cadmium	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	BDL	0.8	> 0.8
Cobalt	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	BDL	90	> 2.5
Copper	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	BDL	2.5	> 2.5
Iron	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	328	300	> 300
Lead	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	BDL	9.4	> 9.4
Manganese	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	18.5	3600	> 3600
Nickel	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	BDL	17	> 17
Zinc	µg/L	Filtered (0.45µm) in field	4.55	31	> 31

NG No guideline.

BDL Below analytical detection

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

APPENDIX 4 - INVESTIGATION AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSE TO WATER QUALITY INCIDENTS IN THE EDITH AS MEASURED AT SW4



WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

APPENDIX 5 - ANNUAL RETURN

LICENCE NUMBER	
REPORTING PERIOD	

Please email a copy of your completed AACR to pollution@nt.gov.au

1. Licence Details

ALL Licensees must check their Licence Details are correct.

If there are changes to any of these details you must advise the NT EPA by submitting a Change of Contact Details Form.

2. Compliance with Licence Conditions

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	LICENCE CONDITIONS		
	ADMINISTRATIVE		
1.	The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 24 hours if there are changes to the details of the 24-hour emergency contact as provided on page one of this Licence.		
2.	The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 14 days if there are changes to the Licensee details shown on page one of this Licence.		
3.	The Licensee must notify the NT EPA within 14 days after ceasing to conduct the activity to which this Licence relates.		
4.	The Licensee must notify the NT EPA prior to making any operational change that will cause, or is likely to cause, an increase in the potential for environmental harm, environmental nuisance, material environmental harm or serious environmental harm.		
5.	The Licensee must ensure a copy of this Licence is available at all times:		
	5.1. on the Licensee's Australian internet website; and		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	5.2. at the Location.		
6.	Where this Licence requires the provision of any notice, document or other correspondence to the NT EPA, the relevant contact is:		
	Pollution Control, NT EPA.		
	Physical Address: Level 2 Darwin Plaza, 41 Smith Street Mall, Darwin NT 0800.		
	Postal Address: GPO Box 3675, Darwin NT 0801.		
	Email: pollution@nt.gov.au		
7.	All notices, documents or other correspondence required to be provided pursuant to this Licence must be provided in electronic form unless otherwise specified as a condition of this Licence.		
8.	The Licensee must, on request, provide to the NT EPA any data relevant to this Licence, in such a form and after any interpretative analysis as requested by the NT EPA.		
	OPERATIONAL		
9.	The Licensee must, without limiting any other condition of this Licence in conducting the Activity do all things reasonable and practicable to ensure		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	the Activity does not adversely affect the Declared Beneficial Uses and Objectives as declared from time to time, including those applying to:		
	• Edith River Surface Water.		
10.	The Licensee must maintain and implement a Communication Plan which includes a strategy for communicating with members of the public who are likely to have a real interest in or be affected by the Activity.		
11.	The Licensee must ensure a copy of the Communication Plan is available on the Licensee's Australian internet website.		
12.	The Licensee must maintain a log of each complaint, made in relation to the Activity, to any persons involved in the Activity. The log must include details of the following:		
	12.1. the date and time of the complaint;		
	12.2. the contact details of the complainant if known, or where no details are provided a note to that effect;		
	12.3. the nature of the complaint;		
	12.4. the nature of events giving rise to the complaint;		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	12.5. prevailing weather conditions at the time of the complaint;		
	12.6. the action taken in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and		
	12.7. if no action was taken, why no action was taken.		
13.	The Licensee must implement and comply with the Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd Discharge Plan, Revision 3, dated December 2014 (the Discharge Plan) as provided to the NT EPA.		
14.	The Licensee must submit any proposed revision of the Discharge Plan (other than typographical changes or revisions to formatting or referencing) to the NT EPA.		
15.	If there is any discrepancy between the Discharge Plan and this Licence, this Licence takes precedence.		
16.	The NT EPA may, by notice in writing, require the Licensee to revise, amend and/or resubmit any report or plan required to be submitted under this Licence. Any report or plan including any revision amendment or resubmission of the report or plan is not effective until accepted by the NT EPA.		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
DISCHARGES AND EMISSIONS			
17.	This Licence authorises waste water to be discharged from the authorised discharge points identified in Table 1.		
18.	The Licensee must not discharge waste water to the Edith River from Retention Pond RP1 and/or Retention Pond RP7 unless there is imminent danger of waste water overtopping the retention pond walls:		
	18.1. as a result of abnormal rainfall intensity or duration that has reduced storage capacity to a level predicted to be insufficient to contain site water;		
	18.2. all actions in accordance with the Discharge Plan to minimise the need to discharge have been undertaken to the satisfaction of the NT EPA; and		
	18.3. the Licensee has received written approval (can be email) for discharge from RP1 and/or RP7 from the NT EPA.		
19.	Prior to any discharge from RP3, the Licensee must determine the dilution required to achieve the water quality objectives defined in condition 21. The dilution must be determined:		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	19.1. in accordance with the Vista Gold Dilution Algorithm, based on chemistry of the water to be discharged from RP3 as specified in the Discharge Plan; or		
	19.2. as directed by the NT EPA.		
20.	The Licensee must as soon as practicable notify the NT EPA by email to pollution@nt.gov.au prior to commencing a discharge to the Edith River.		
21.	The water quality objectives to be met at monitoring site SW4 for this licence period are:		
	21.1. for aquatic ecosystem toxicants, maintenance of 80% level of species protection; and		
	21.2. protection of water suitable for stock.		
22.	Waste water monitoring locations are defined in Table 2 and Appendix 1.		
23.	The Licensee must apply site specific trigger values (SSTV/s) specified in Appendix 3 at sampling location SW4 and must ensure:		
	23.1. water quality parameters measured at SW4 do not exceed greater or equal to two times the SSTV for any single		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	measurement; and		
23.2.	the rolling seven day 80 th percentile of measurements for each water quality parameter does not exceed the SSTV.		
24.	When water quality at monitoring point SW4 does not comply with condition 23.1 the Licensee must:		
	24.1. cease discharge of waste water; and		
	24.2. implement the Vista Gold investigation process defined in Appendix 4.		
25.	When water quality at monitoring point SW4 does not comply with condition 23.2 the Licensee must:		
	25.1. increase dilution of the waste water; and		
	25.2. implement the Vista Gold investigation process defined in Appendix 4.		
26.	Waste water at the monitoring point SW4 and the Edith River downstream of the mine site discharge must not:		
	26.1. contain any visible matter, floating oil and grease or petroleum hydrocarbon sheen or scum, or litter or other objectionable matter;		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	26.2. cause or generate odours which would adversely affect the use of surrounding waters;		
	26.3. cause algal blooms;		
	26.4. cause visible change in the behaviour of fish or other aquatic organisms;		
	26.5. cause mortality of fish or other aquatic organism;		
	26.6. cause adverse impacts on plants; and		
	26.7. cause adverse impacts to drinking water.		
27.	At any time the NT EPA may direct the Licensee to cease discharge from a waste water source and the Licensee must:		
	27.1. immediately comply with the NT EPA direction to cease discharge; and		
	27.2. comply with any further direction of the NT EPA.		
	MONITORING		
28.	The licensee must for all monitoring sites listed in Table 2:		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	28.1. install, maintain and provide appropriate identification signage so that they are easily identifiable at all times; and		
	28.2. maintain safe access and egress, as is reasonably practicable.		
29.	Water quality sampling and collection of field environmental data must be carried out in accordance with the sampling schedule prescribed in Appendix 2.		
30.	The licensee must ensure that all water samples and field environmental data are representative of the conditions at the time of sampling and are collected in accordance with recognised Australian Standards and guidelines (e.g. AS/NZS 5667, ANZECC/ARMCANZ).		
31.	The Licensee must ensure that all water samples used for reporting are analysed by a laboratory with current N.A.T.A. certification for the analysis specified (or equivalent quality control).		
32.	For each sample required to be collected by this Licence, the following information must be recorded and retained:		
	32.1. the date(s) on which the sample was taken;		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	32.2. the time(s) at which the sample was collected;		
	32.3. the point(s) at which the sample was taken;		
	32.4. the name of the person who collected the sample;		
	32.5. the chain of custody forms relating to the sample(s);		
	32.6. the field measurements and/or analytical results for the sample; and		
	32.7. laboratory QA/QC documentation.		
33.	The Licensee must prepare and submit a monitoring plan to the NT EPA by 31 March 2015. The monitoring plan must:		
	33.1. describe the methods used to measure the likely impact(s) of changes in water quality, sediment quality, biota quality and aquatic ecology in the Edith River over timeframes and spatial scales relevant to the waste water discharges from the Mount Todd mine site; and		
	33.2. consider comments provided by the NT		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	EPA.		
RECORDING AND REPORTING			
34.	All records required to be kept by this Licence must be in a legible format.		
35.	The Licensee must keep records of all non-compliances with this Licence.		
36.	The Licensee must as soon as practicable and in any case within 24 hours notify the NT EPA of non-compliances with this Licence, by emailing pollution@nt.gov.au .		
37.	Non-compliance notifications required under condition 36 must identify:		
	37.1. circumstances leading up to the non-compliance;		
	37.2. the risk to the environment from the non-compliance;		
	37.3. what actions the Licensee will undertake to mitigate any environmental harm resulting from the non-compliance; and		
	37.4. what corrective actions the Licensee will undertake to ensure the non-compliance does not occur again.		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
38.	The Licensee must immediately and in any case within 24 hours notify the NT EPA of any potential or actual environmental harm or pollution by contacting the Pollution Hotline on telephone number 1800 064 567 and emailing pollution@nt.gov.au .		
39.	The Licensee must submit a Monitoring Report to the NT EPA by 31 August for each year of the Licence. The Monitoring Report must:		
	39.1. be prepared in accordance with requirements for a Monitoring Report as per NT EPA Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Environmental Issues;		
	39.2. include a tabulation of all monitoring data required as a condition of this Licence, including surface water, discharge, sediment and biological monitoring;		
	39.3. include a trend analysis and interpretation of all monitoring data required as a condition of this Licence;		
	39.4. include long term trend analysis to demonstrate any environmental impact associated with the Activity over a minimum period of four years; and		
	39.5. contain a summary of the discharge		

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENCE 178-4

Condition Number	Condition	How/Evidence How have you achieved compliance with the Licence Condition?	When (Date)
	events that exceeded the SSVs during the reporting period.		
40.	The Licensee must complete the Annual Return supplied at Appendix 5 and provide it to the NT EPA by 31 August for each year of the Licence.		
	VERIFICATION OF THE DILUTION ALGORITHM		
41.	The Licensee must verify the dilution predicted by the Dilution Algorithm. Verification of the Dilution Algorithm must:		
	41.1. be carried out in accordance with the Discharge Plan; and		
	41.2. consider comments provided by the NT EPA.		
42.	The Licensee must provide a report to the NT EPA on results of verifying the Dilution Algorithm within 10 business days of receiving laboratory results.		

3. Summaries

Complaints Record

Number of complaints recorded by the licensee during the reporting period (as required by condition 12 of the licence)	
Summary of complaints	
Summary of outcomes	

Notifications of potential or actual environmental harm or pollution

Number of events recorded by the licensee during the reporting period (as required by condition 37 of the licence)	
Summary of events	
Summary of outcomes	

Signature and Certification

This declaration must only be signed by a person(s) with the legal authority to sign it. The ways in which the application may be signed, and the people who may sign the application, are set out in the categories below.

If the licence holder is:	Tick	The application must be signed and certified by one of the following:
An individual		The individual.
A partnership		A partner.
A company		The common seal being affixed in accordance with the <i>Corporations Act</i> , or
		Two directors, or
		A director and a company secretary, or
		If a proprietary company that has a sole director who is also the sole company secretary – by that director.
A public authority		The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the public authority, or
		By a person delegated to sign on the public authority's behalf in accordance with its legislation (Please note: a copy of the relevant instrument of delegation must be attached to this application).

I/We hereby declare that the information provided in this Annual Audit and Compliance Report and accompanying documents is to the best of my/our knowledge, true and correct.

Signature		Signature	
Name (printed)		Name (printed)	
Position		Position	
Date		Date	
Seal (if signing under seal):			