

19 September 2025

Permit and Licence Management
Via: Online Services

Dear Sir/Madam,

Environmental Authority P-EA-100421677 Amendment Application

Dennis Plant has lodged a mining lease application (ML100464) in the Clermont area for alluvial, colluvial and elluvial gold. The application is for a standard EA is to include this new mining lease. The applicant can comply with the *'Eligibility criteria and standard conditions for mining lease activities'*.

The following is an assessment of the likely impacts on the existing environmental values.

Under section 226A(1)(f) of the EP Act, the assessment of the likely impact of the proposed amendment on the environmental values must include:

- i. a description of the environmental values likely to be affected by the proposed amendment; and
- ii. details of any emissions or releases likely to be generated by the proposed amendment; and
- iii. a description of the risk and likely magnitude of impacts on the environmental values; and
- iv. details of the management practices proposed to be implemented to prevent or minimise adverse impacts; and
- v. if a PRCP schedule does not apply for each relevant activity - details of how the land the subject of the application will be rehabilitated after each relevant activity ceases.

Water:

- i. The area of ML100464 is located in the upper catchment of Miclere Creek and the Burdekin River Basin. The streams within the MLs are ephemeral and flow for short periods after rainfall. There are no permanent or semi-permanent waterholes within several kilometres.
- ii. The mining leases will be worked progressively for alluvial, elluvial and colluvial gold. Disturbance of the streams will be minimised during wet periods and dirty water and fine sediment releases is likely to be minimal.
- iii. Due to the small scale of the proposed mining activity (<1ha of mine disturbance) and the existence of significant historic mining activity, the impact to the existing environmental values is considered to be negligible.



- iv. The mine excavations will be limited to <1ha, open pits will be used to store run-off and mine tailings, overburden will be replaced, and vegetation is expected to re-establish quickly. Clearing of vegetation and mature trees will be minimised.
- v. The stages of mining for each area, in a typical 50 by 50 metre square excavation are as follows:
 - Excavate any topsoil and organic matter on surface and stack in an area away from the progression of excavations.
 - Excavate overburden ("waste") and stack typically on the side of the current excavation site. This will be used later in rehabilitation.
 - Excavate overburden until the top of the auriferous gravels.
 - Detect for nuggety gold in the auriferous gravels.
 - Excavate auriferous gravels and stack on the side and feed into the mobile dry plant if sufficiently mineralised.
 - Once all auriferous gravels are excavated in the current site, rehabilitate area with overburden waste.
 - Final trim and level ground before returning topsoil and pushing over cleared vegetation.
 - Stockpiled cleared vegetation is used as a surface protective cover for the completed rehabilitation and combined with preserved topsoil this has provided good seed supply and regrowth over the last few years in similar areas.

Groundwater:

- i. The mining leases are located within a metamorphosed sedimentary sequence known as Hurleys Metamorphics and the Scurvy Creek Meta-arenite. There are no registered water bores within 5kms of the mining lease area. There are no groundwater dependent ecosystems mapped in these areas.
- ii. There does not appear to be any significant groundwater resource in the area that can be impacted. The alluvial, colluvial and elluvial mining activity will be restricted to <10m below surface.
- iii. Impact to groundwater is considered to be negligible.
- iv. Mining activity will be restricted to <10m below ground level.
- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.

Wetlands:

- i. There are no wetland areas identified within several kilometres of the mining lease.
- ii. The mining leases will be worked progressively for alluvial, elluvial and colluvial gold. Disturbance of the streams will be minimised during wet periods and dirty water and fine sediment releases is likely to be minimal.
- iii. Impact to wetlands is considered to be not applicable.
- iv. No additional management practices are required to minimise impacts to wetlands.
- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.



Land:

- i. The Clermont Region historically produced over 400,000 ounces of gold from 1878 to 1956, mostly won from Permian and Tertiary deep leads. The areas have been extensively mined and disturbed by historic gold mining operations. To date, the most reliable areas of auriferous gravels are within and peripheral to the areas of old workings (diggings) that occur throughout the district. The vegetation of the ML areas is mapped as:
 - 11.11.1 (least concern) - *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leafed ironbark) woodland, often with *Acacia rhodoxylon* (Rosewood).
 - 11.11.2 (least concern) - *Acacia shirleyi* (Lancewood) or *A. catenulata* (Bendee) woodland to open forest.

The mining lease is located approximately 108 metres from Endangered Regional Ecosystem (ERE) 11.4.8/11.11.2 at its closest point on the western boundary. For this reason, the applicant is unable to comply with condition A13 as activities will be carried out within 1 km of a Category B environmentally sensitive area (ERE). The Category B ESA is mapped as:

- 11.4.8 (endangered) - *Eucalyptus cambageana* woodland to open forest with *Acacia harpophylla* or *A. argyrodendron* on Cainozoic clay plains
 - 11.11.2 (least concern) - *Acacia shirleyi* (Lancewood) or *A. catenulata* (Bendee) woodland to open forest.
- ii. The mining leases will be worked progressively for alluvial, elluvial and colluvial gold. Disturbance of the streams will be minimised during wet periods and dirty water and fine sediment releases is likely to be minimal. Dust will also be generated by the use of machinery.
 - iii. Due to the small scale of the proposed mining activity (<1ha of mine disturbance) and the existence of significant historic mining activity, the impact to the existing environmental values is considered to be negligible.
 - iv. The mine excavations will be limited to <1ha, open pits will be used to store run-off and mine tailings, overburden will be replaced, and vegetation is expected to re-establish quickly. Clearing of vegetation and mature trees will be minimised. An overburden bund will be used to separate the mine excavation from the mapped ERE to ensure any eroded material is retained and does not unduly affect the ERE. The mining disturbance will require 1ha of clearing before open cuts will be made into the alluvial/elluvial material with an excavator. The alluvial/elluvial material will be metal detected for larger nuggets and gold bearing material will be processed by mobile dry blower or small wet alluvial plant back into the open cut before placing overburden, topsoil and cleared vegetation as part of the rehabilitation process. Mining disturbance will leave a



buffer of 20m from the existing public road as requested by QPWS, with mining proceeding initially in a westerly direction from ML70438. Previously disturbed areas will be rehabilitated progressively and used as access as mining proceeds. Mining direction will be driven by gold grades with higher grade material processed initially and areas of low grade may not be processed at all. The maximum area of disturbance at any one time will not exceed 1ha for the mine open cuts and the associated stockpiled vegetation, overburden and topsoil. A mine camp is located on ML70438. Mining within 200m of the Category B ESA (denoted as pink shading in Figure 1) will only be conducted during the dry season from May to October and rehabilitation will be completed in these areas before 30th November each year.

- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.

Air:

- i. Air quality within a forested rural location is considered to have low levels of suspended particulates.
- ii. Dust and diesel particulates will be generated by the use of machinery.
- iii. Due to the small scale of the proposed mining activity (<1ha of mine disturbance) and the existence of significant historic mining activity, the impact to the existing environmental values is considered to be negligible.
- iv. The mine excavations will be limited to <1ha, open pits will be used to store run-off and mine tailings, overburden will be replaced, and vegetation is expected to re-establish quickly. Clearing of vegetation and mature trees will be minimised.
- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.

Acoustic:

- i. Background noise within a forested rural location is considered to be low. The surrounding land use is dominated by gold and coal mining activity. There are no sensitive receptors within several kilometres of the proposed activity.
- ii. Noise will be generated by the use of machinery.
- iii. Due to the small scale of the proposed mining activity and lack of sensitive receptors the impact to the existing environmental values is considered to be negligible.
- iv. Equipment will be regularly serviced and standard muffler systems maintained.
- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.

Waste:

- i. The Clermont Region historically produced over 400,000 ounces of gold from 1878 to 1956, mostly won from Permian and Tertiary deep leads. The areas have been extensively mined and disturbed by historic gold mining operations. Some of the



historic waste generated from these activities is occasionally present on and below the land surface.

- ii. Waste will be generated by:
 - a. machinery and equipment servicing,
 - b. general camp food and packaging
 - c. sewerage waste
- iii. Due to the small scale of the proposed mining activity waste generation will be minimal.
- iv. Waste management will be managed in accordance with the standard EA conditions.
- v. Rehabilitation will be undertaken as described above.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Rod Coe
Authorised Holders Representative

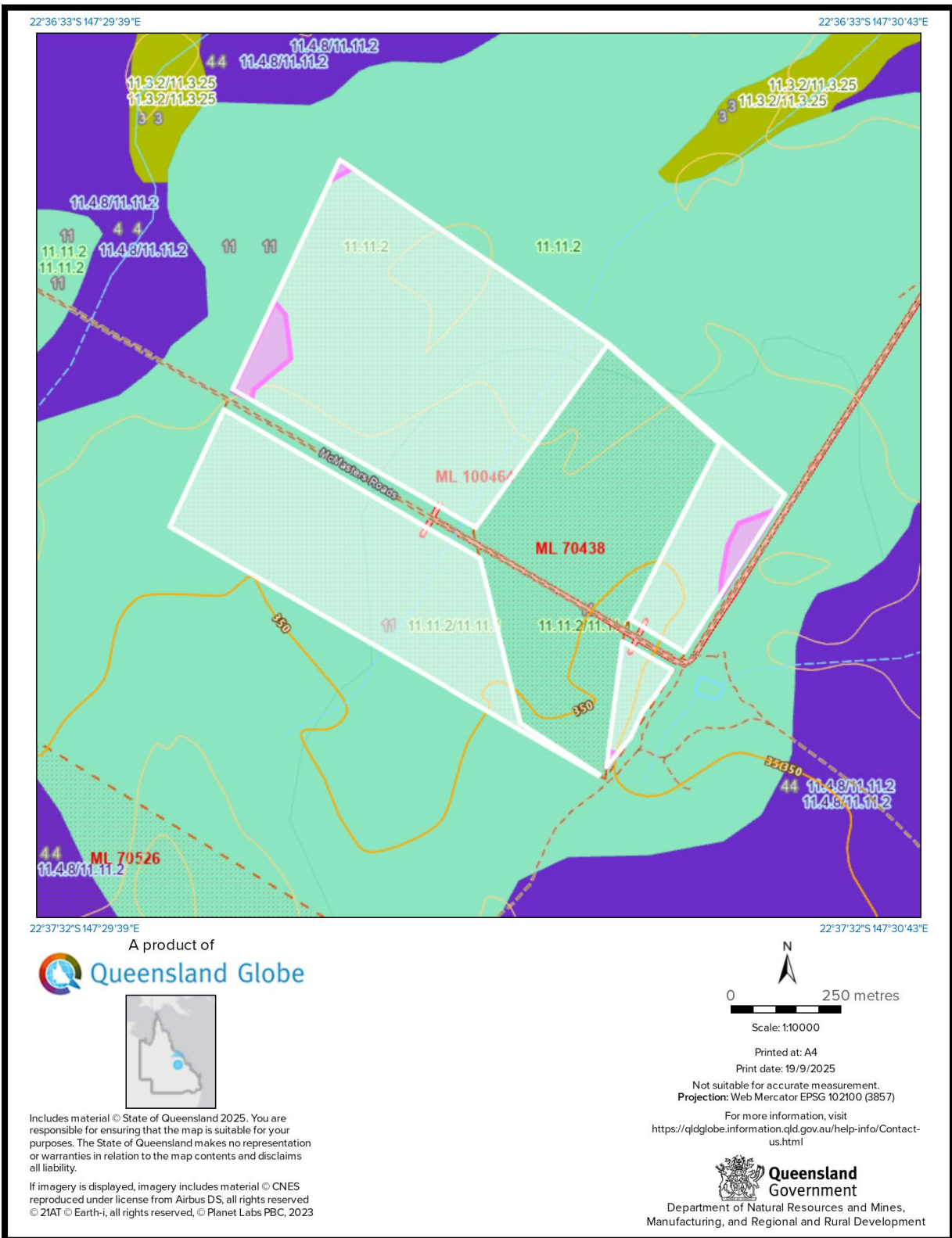


Figure 1 – shows the mining lease surface areas in white and buffer zones in pink

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