Dear Gopal

Esperanza Pit
Revised DSA and MRL application to DEHP

GHD understands that Birla Mount Gordon (BMG) has recently received notice from the Department of Environment and Protection (DEHP) of its decision to deny BMG increased DSA and MRL levels for the Esperanza Pit. The reasons for this decision are outlined in DEHP’s Notice of decision on review of an original decision Section 521(9) Environmental Protection Act 1994, dated 25 June 2013 (Notice of Decision). At the request of BMG, GHD has undertaken a review of the issues relating to items 43 – 73 of the Notice of Decision which underpin the decision. A summary of GHD’s review and is provided below in Table 2.

It is important to note, however, that GHD’s review has demonstrated that reduced DSA and MRL levels to those of the original amendment application are required. These are shown in Table 1 and as such it is understood that BMG will seek approval to these revised levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>DSA m AHD</th>
<th>MRL mAHD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original Application by BMG 14 January 2013</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>218.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response to DEHP, August 2013</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>216.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Table 2  Summary of GHD review of Notice of Decision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>GHD comment and reference for supporting information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>43 - 55</td>
<td>Addressed as part of GHD report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>No response required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>No response required.</td>
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<td>45</td>
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</table>
| 46     | Item 1 – GHD’s Report *Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013* (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) identifies the catchment areas adopted, the method of calculation and the confirmation by BMG surveyors.  
Item 2- The report has adjusted the catchments to allow that diversions by pump might be ineffective and the potential flows adjusted accordingly. |
<p>| 47     | GHD do not agree that the contributing catchment affects the dam break consequence or the Hazard category of the Esperanza Pit. However, our Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) has utilised the increased catchment areas as described above for reassessment of DSA and MRL |
| 48     | The issue discussed under this paragraph has been resolved in GHD’s Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) which now allows for the catchments of concern. |
| 49     | The issue discussed under this paragraph has been resolved in GHD’s Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) which now allows for the catchments of concern. |
| 50     | The issue discussed under this paragraph has been resolved in GHD’s Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) which now allows for the catchments of concern. |
| 51     | No response required. |
| 52     | The issue discussed under this paragraph has been resolved in GHD’s Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) which now allows for the catchments of concern. This has led to an increase in the MRL. |
| 53     | The MRL described in GHD’s Report <em>Esperanza Pit Hydraulic Performance Criteria and Spillway Assessment, July 2013</em> (GHD doc ref G:\42\17564\WP\110371.docx) relates to the required flood volume as the wave run-up method is deemed to be inappropriate and would be a lesser value. |
| 54     | Certification provided by Appendix E |</p>
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<td>No response required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>56 – 73.</td>
<td>Addressed in GHD’s Report Esperanza Pit DSA and MRL Revision Hydrogeological Response to DEHP Notice of Decision, dated August 2013 (GHD doc ref G:\32\16940WP\59841.docx. Refer reference in Table 1.0.</td>
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</tbody>
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Sincerely
GHD Pty Ltd

David Logan
Senior Project Manager
03 6210 0709