

MONTHLY REPORT

TO	Craig Maquet – Environmental Officer (Compliance)	COMPANY	Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI)
FROM	Shay Luck	OFFICE	Wulguru Technical Services Pty Ltd
EMAIL	shayla@wulgurutechservices.com.au	PHONE	+61 (0) 407 491 814
PROJECT TITLE	Transitional Environmental Program – Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade		
SUBJECT	Monthly Report – August		
DATE	2 September 2025	REF	2025.03004

1. Introduction

The Pajingo Gold Mine, operated by NQM Gold 2 Pty Ltd (NQM) is located approximately 50 km south, southeast (SSE) of Charters Towers in north Queensland across four mining leases (MLs); ML10215, ML10246, ML1575 and ML10370. The Project currently operates as an underground gold mine with approximately 400 employees and contractors employed over various rosters. To facilitate its workforce, the Project has two sewage treatment plants (STPs).

1.1. Context

NQM have initiated a program of works to upgrade both STPs to improve sewage treatment practices and ultimately reach compliance with the contaminant release limits authorised under the Project's Environmental Authority (EA), EPML00879413. NQM applied for a Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) with an accompanying Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to allow the upgrade works to be completed and to ultimately comply with the EA (Condition C14).

The TEP was approved on 2 June 2025 (MAN-E-100846113), with an end date of 27 February 2026. In accordance with the TEP and EMP, a monthly report must be provided to describe:

- A summary of actions against their relevant performance indicators;
- Any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of the relevant TEP conditions;
- A summary of monitoring results;
- Comparison of treated effluent sampling results against treated effluent contaminant release limits specified in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413;
- Issues encountered during the reporting period that could impact delivery timeframes and desired outcomes; and
- Actions taken to address any issues identified.

This monthly report is for the period of 1 August 2025 to 31 August 2025.

2. TEP Actions

A summary of the completion of actions against their relevant performance criteria is detailed in Table 1. During this reporting period, there were not any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of the relevant TEP conditions.

Table 1. Actions to achieve TEP objectives

Actions to achieve TEP objectives (including interim measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm)			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
TEP 1	Objective of the condition: The Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (the department) requires an appropriately qualified person/s (AQP) with relevant knowledge, skills, experience and resources to be engaged by NQM Gold 2 Pty Ltd to carry out the required actions. This aims to provide confidence to NQM Gold 2 Pty Ltd and the department that the actions are completed in accordance with specifications and relevant actions of this TEP.	Commencement of construction works.	An AQP has designed the STP for Vera and Mill. The AQP has been engaged for construction, and a purchase order has been issued for the construction of the Mill STP.
	Condition: Prior to the commencement of construction works, NQM must engage an appropriately qualified person/s (AQP) to design and construct sewage treatment plant (STP) upgrades for the Mill STP and Vera STP.		
	Performance indicator: NQM have engaged an AQP to design and construct the STP upgrades.		
TEP 2	Objective of the condition:	28/07/2025	

Actions to achieve TEP objectives (including interim measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm)			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
	Upgrade the Mill STP to decrease contaminant concentrations in treated effluent, returning the site to compliance with Condition C14 of EA EPML00879413. Condition: By 28 July 2025, NQM must install the AQP designed upgrade to the Mill STP. Works are to be completed in accordance with the Environmental Risk Assessment and Management Plan. Performance indicator: By 28 July 2025, the entity responsible [for example, third party contractor(s)] will have completed the installation of the upgrade at the Mill STP.		Construction has commenced and slab has been cast. A plumber was on site commencing the installation on the 29th of July 2025. Wrong parts were supplied; appropriate parts have been ordered and are awaiting delivery. A plumber will be on site continuing installation works of Mill STP on the 3rd of September 2025
TEP 3	Objective of the condition: Upgrade the Vera STP to decrease contaminant concentrations in treated effluent, returning the site to compliance with Condition C14 of EA EPML00879413. Condition: By 31 October 2025, NQM must install the AQP designed upgrade to the Vera STP. Works are to be completed in accordance with the Environmental Risk Assessment and Management Plan.	31/10/2025	Parts have been ordered and are awaiting delivery.

Actions to achieve TEP objectives (including interim measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm)			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
	Performance Indicator: By 31 October 2025, the entity responsible [for example, third party contractor(s)] will have completed the installation of the upgrade at the Vera STP.		

3. Monitoring

3.1. Treated Effluent Monitoring

During the TEP period, condition C17, that requires monthly monitoring to be undertaken, applies. During this reporting period, samples were collected on 29 July 2025 and 26 August 2025. Note that analysis from the sampling on 26 August 2025 has not yet been provided by the laboratory.

Once the upgrades have been commissioned, treated effluent sampling must be undertaken at the Vera and Mill STP each week for a period of one (1) month, or until effective operation of the STP is demonstrated, whichever timeframe is longer. Monitoring will then be undertaken monthly in accordance with Condition C17. All monitoring results of treated sewage effluent must be monitored for the parameters and compared against the release limits specified in Table C1 of the EA. This requirement has not been triggered yet.

Table 2. Treated effluent monitoring results –July/August 2025

Date	5 Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Total Suspended Solids	Nitrogen	Phosphorous	E-coli	pH
Units	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	Organisms/100ml	pH units
Release Limit	20	30	30	15	1000	6.0 – 9.0
Release Limit A Lode Dam	30	100	30	30	1000	5.5 – 9.0
Vera STP						
29/07/2025	21	13	127	19.4	~6	8.04
26/08/2025	Analysis results expected 03 September 2025.					
Mill STP						
29/07/2025	5	12	69.8	9.96	~4	7.64
26/08/2025	Analysis results expected 03 September 2025.					

Yellow indicates exceedances of Release Limit, orange indicates exceedances of Release Limit – A Lode Dam.

3.2. Treated Effluent Releases

For the duration of the TEP, if treated effluent contaminant concentrations are below the release limits in Table C1 of the EA, treated effluent may be released to the following locations:

- a) Within the nominated irrigation area identified in Table A1 of EPML00879413 or the A Lode Dam; or
- b) Scott Lode Pit; or
- c) Scott Lode Pit Seepage Collection Sump; or
- d) Other land for the purpose of dust suppression and/or firefighting; or
- e) Reused as part of the mining activities.

If treated effluent contaminant concentrations exceed the release limits in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413, treated effluent may be released to the following locations:

- f) Scott Lode Pit; or
- g) Scott Lode Pit Seepage Collection Sump.

During this reporting period, treated effluent was not compliant with the release limits specified in Table C1 of the EA. As such, treated effluent were released to the Scott Lode Pit.

4. Constraints

Table 3 details constraints encountered during this reporting period that impacted or have the potential to impact delivery timeframes and outcomes; and the actions taken to address these constraints.

Table 3. Project Constraints

Constraints	Actions Taken	Outcome
Ordered valves were not fit for purpose.	New valves have been ordered.	Project timeline has experienced a minor delay, plumber expected to be on site 3 September 2025 to finish installation works.

5. Summary

Actions are progressing as defined in the TEP. All monitoring conditions of the TEP and their compliance status during this reporting period are presented in Appendix A.

All reporting conditions of the TEP and their compliance status during this reporting period is presented in Appendix B.

The next monthly report will be provided prior to 1 October 2025.

Appendix A – TEP Monitoring Conditions

Monitoring			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
Monitoring 1	For the duration of the TEP, Condition C14 of EA EPML00879413 does not apply. To remove any doubt, Condition C17 of EA EPML00879413 continues to apply. Treated effluent sampling results collected in accordance with Condition C17 must be compared to contaminant release limits detailed in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413 for information and trend assessment purposes.	27/02/2026	Compliant – samples were collected on 29 July and 26 August.
Monitoring 2	For the duration of the TEP, Condition C15 of EA EPML00879413 does not apply. Instead, if treated effluent contaminant concentrations are below the release limits in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413, treated effluent may be released to the following locations: a) Within the nominated irrigation area identified in Table A1 of EPML00879413 or the A Lode Dam; or b) Scott Lode Pit; or c) Scott Lode Pit Seepage Collection Sump; or d) Other land for the purpose of dust suppression and/or firefighting; or e) Reused as part of the mining activities. If treated effluent contaminant concentrations exceed the release limits in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413, treated effluent may be released to the following locations: f) Scott Lode Pit; or g) Scott Lode Pit Seepage Collection Sump.	27/02/2026	Compliant – effluent was disposed to Scott Lode Pit.



Monitoring			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
Monitoring 3	Monitoring Mill STP Operation Upon completed installation of the Mill STP upgrade, you must monitor the operation of the STP. You must collect treated effluent samples from the Mill STP each week for a period of one (1) month or until effective operation of the STP is demonstrated, whichever timeframe is longer. Treated effluent samples are to be analysed for the following parameters: • 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) • Total suspended solids • Nitrogen • Phosphorus • E-coli • pH	28/08/2025 or Mill STP effective operation confirmed	Not triggered.
Monitoring 4	Monitoring Vera STP Operation Upon completed installation of the Vera STP upgrade, you must monitor the operation of the STP. You must collect treated effluent samples from the Vera STP each week for a period of one (1) month or until effective operation of the STP is demonstrated, whichever timeframe is longer. Treated effluent samples are to be analysed for the following parameters: • 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) • Total suspended solids • Nitrogen • Phosphorus • E-coli • pH	30/11/2025 or Vera STP effective operation confirmed	Not triggered.



Monitoring			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
Monitoring 5	You must undertake treated effluent sampling in accordance with Condition C17 of the EA EPML00879413 during the TEP.	27/02/2026	Compliant – samples were collected on 29 July and 26 August.
Monitoring 6	If a release occurs from Scott Lode Pit during the TEP period, in addition the parameters listed in Table E3 of EA EPML00879413 you must sample and analyse authorised release point RP 9 for the following parameters: • Dissolved oxygen • Total nitrogen • Total phosphorous • Faecal coliforms The results of samples collected from RP 9 are to be compared to the contaminant trigger levels and contaminant release limits in Table E3 of EA EPML00879413 for all parameters analysed.	27/02/2026	Not triggered.
Monitoring 7	All sampling must be completed by an AQP, in accordance with the department's Monitoring and Sampling Manual, and all laboratory analysis must be completed by a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory.	27/02/2026	Compliant – samples were collected on 29 July and 26 August.

Appendix B – Reporting Conditions

Reporting			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
Reporting 1	Monitoring and Status Report 1: By 1 July 2025, you must submit a Monitoring and Status Report to the department that contains the following information: a) A summary of the completion of the actions against their performance indicators for conditions TEP 1, TEP 2 and TEP 3; b) Any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of conditions described above; c) A summary of results for treated effluent sampling since the last report (Monitoring 3); d) Comparison of treated effluent sampling results against treated effluent contaminant release limits specified in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413; e) Issues encountered during the reporting period that could impact delivery timeframes and desired outcomes; f) Actions taken to address all issues identified in (e).	1/07/2025	Compliant, by this report.
Reporting 2	Monitoring and Status Report 2: By 1 September 2025, you must submit a Monitoring and Status Report to the department that contains the following information: a) A summary of the completion of the actions against their performance indicators for conditions TEP 2 and TEP 3; b) A summary of results collected in accordance with Monitoring 3; c) Any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of conditions described above;	1/09/2025	Compliant, by this report.



Reporting			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
	d) A summary of results for treated effluent sampling since the last report; e) Comparison of treated effluent sampling results against treated effluent contaminant release limits specified in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413; f) Issues encountered during the reporting period that could impact delivery timeframes and desired outcomes; g) Actions taken to address all issues identified in (f).		
Reporting 3	Monitoring and Status Report 3: By 3 November 2025, you must submit a Monitoring and Status Report to the department that contains the following information: a) A summary of the completion of the actions against their performance indicators for conditions TEP 3; b) A summary of results collected in accordance with Monitoring 4; c) Any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of conditions described above; d) A summary of results for treated effluent sampling since the last report; e) Comparison of treated effluent sampling results against treated effluent contaminant release limits specified in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413; f) Issues encountered during the reporting period that could impact delivery timeframes and desired outcomes; g) Actions taken to address all issues identified in (f).	3/11/2025	Not triggered.
Reporting 4	Monitoring and Status Report 4:	16/01/2026	Not triggered.

Reporting			
Condition Number	Condition	Completion Date	Status (as of 31 August 2025)
	By 16 January 2026, you must submit a Monitoring and Status Report to the department that contains the following information: a) A summary of results collected in accordance with Monitoring 4; b) Any exceptions to meeting the timeframes of conditions described above; c) A summary of results for treated effluent sampling since the last report; d) Comparison of treated effluent sampling results against treated effluent contaminant release limits specified in Table C1 of EA EPML00879413; e) Issues encountered during the reporting period that could impact delivery timeframes and desired outcomes; f) Actions taken to address all issues identified in (e).		
Reporting 5	Final TEP Report You must provide a final report describing how the objectives of the TEP were achieved to the department on or before 27 February 2026.	27/02/2026	Not triggered.
Reporting 6	You must notify the department within 24 hours of becoming aware of any failure to meet the prescribed actions by the completion date.	27/02/2026	Not triggered.