

Tailings Storage Facility Options Assessment

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Executive Summary

This report presents the assessment of four future tailings storage facility (TSF) options for the Rasp Mine. The TSF options are sized for 10 years of storage capacity from mid-2021, when storage capacity in the Blackwood Pit TSF (following a scheduled raise) is expected to be consumed.

The four options considered are:

- <u>Kintore Pit TSF:</u> In-pit tailings storage following closing of the decline portal by the construction of three plugs in the decline and access ramp tunnels, and construction of an underdrain over the pit floor and below the tailings fill. An embankment would be constructed on the pit crest in the later years of its operation to optimise the tailings storage capacity.
- <u>Site 8 TSF:</u> Located approximately 6.5 km to the east of the mine. The TSF would be formed by construction of a cross-valley embankment and up-valley discharge of tailings from the embankment. The site has a large catchment area that represents approximately 2% of the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment. A headwater diversion dam and outfall pipe would be constructed to limit stormwater flows into the tailings storage area. Part of the TSF appears to lie within the property of the "Clevedale Station". located to the east.
- Site 10 TSF: Formed by construction of perimeter embankments and a tailings delivery causeway into the storage area for central discharge of tailings. Supernatant water and rainfall runoff would be managed in Decant Dams located outside of the tailings storage area. The potential requirement for private land acquisition is unknown.
- Site 11 TSF: Located approximately 5 km to the south-east of the mine. The TSF would be formed by construction of a perimeter embankment and a tailings delivery causeway into the storage area for central discharge of tailings. Supernatant water and rainfall runoff would be managed in a decant dam located outside of the tailings storage area. The site is located in area of homesteads and acquisition of land would be required.

A cost summary table for the options assessment is presented over page. The capital costs for each option (inclusive of closure works), are summarised below and show development of the Kintore Pit TSF to be the most favourable, since the cost for development of an off-site TSF is likely to be prohibitively high.

Kintore Pit TSF: \$6.7M

Site 8 TSF: \$71.3M

Site 10 TSF: \$61.0M

Site 11 TSF: \$57.0M

Background to the high costs are provided below:

- Long distances for tailings delivery: This results in additional estimated costs of between \$2M and \$3.5M for the pumps and the length of the robust pipelines required for the expected conditions.
- Relatively higher embankment fill volumes and long distance for hauling mine waste from the mine to the respective offsite TSF sites for embankment construction. This results in additional estimated costs of between \$9M and \$18M, relative to the Kintore Pit option. Further work could be undertaken to identify less costly fill material alternatives, however the costs are still likely to be relatively high.
- The potential requirement to install a geosynthetic liner over the tailings storage footprint to manage potential risks associated with seepage. (Sites 8, 10 and 11 lie within the catchment of Stephens Creek Reservoir the townships water supply). Lining of the impoundment areas results in additional estimated costs of between \$22M and \$24M for these options, inclusive of associated contingencies.





Relatively large tailings surface areas for placement of a cover layer at closure and the long distance for hauling waste rock to form the cover layer. On the basis that a 0.5 m thick layer of rockfill may be required at closure to manage the risk of tailings erosion, the additional direct costs are in the order of \$11.5M to \$13.5M for the offsite TSF options.

Item	Cost estimate (\$Million)					
nem	Kintore Pit	Site 8	Site 10	Site 11		
Preliminaries	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3		
Closure of mine workings (Kintore Pit only), construction of plugs and seepage management	1.7	0.3	0.5	0.4		
Tailings and return water pumps, pipelines and access roads	1.7	6.1	5.4	4.8		
TSF perimeter embankments & tailings delivery causeways	0.5	18.6	10.6	9.4		
Water management embankments and diversions	0.0	1.6	0.7	0.6		
TSF seepage barrier works	0.2	19.8	19.8	19.3		
Decant Dam seepage barrier works	0.0	0.0	1.9	1.5		
Spillways and gravity decant structures	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3		
Closure works	0.8	14.3	12.9	12.3		
Sub-total	5.3	61.0	52.3	48.8		
Engineering Services	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.8		
Contingency	0.9	9.3	8.0	7.4		
Total	6.7	71.3	61.1	57.0		



September 2017 Report No. 1776899-005-R-Rev0



Table of Contents

1.0	INTRO	DUCTION	1
2.0	OUTLI	NE OF THIS REPORT	1
3.0	BACK	GROUND	1
	3.1	Blackwood Pit TSF	1
	3.2	Previous options assessments	2
4.0	SITING	S ASSESSMENT	2
5.0	SITE C	HARACTERISTICS	3
	5.1	Climate	3
	5.2	Design rainfall data	3
	5.3	Regional drainage	
	5.4	Terrain, geology and other conditions	
	5.4.1	Site 8	
	5.4.2	Site 10	
	5.4.3	Site 11	
	5.4.4	Kintore Pit	
	5.5	Seismicity	
6.0		NS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
0.0			
	6.1	Tailings delivery and storage parameters	
	6.2	Tailings storage layout types	
	6.3	TSF embankment raise type	
	6.4	Dam safety regulations and guidelines	
	6.4.1	Overview	7
	6.4.2	Consequence category	
	6.4.3	Flood management	
	6.5	EMBANKMENT GEOMETRY	٤
7.0	CONC	EPT DESIGNS FOR TSF OPTIONS	9
	7.1	General	9
	7.2	Drainage catchments	12
	7.3	Tailings delivery	13
	7.4	Tailings deposition and rate of rise	13





	7.5	Embankment characteristics	14
	7.6	Surface water management layout and characteristics	14
	7.6.1	Overview	14
	7.6.2	Flood sizing assessment	15
	7.7	Construction	16
	7.7.1	Embankment and causeway materials	16
	7.7.2	Geosynthetic liner	16
	7.8	Seepage management	16
	7.9	Kintore Pit decline and waste rock	16
	7.9.1	Management of waste rock	16
	7.9.2	Closing of decline portal	17
	7.10	Dust management	18
	7.10.1	Overview	18
	7.10.2	Construction period	18
	7.10.3	Operation period	18
	7.11	Closure strategy	18
8.0	QUANT	TITIES AND COST ESTIMATES	19
	8.1	Quantities	19
	8.2	Items and rates	19
	8.3	Preliminaries	19
	8.4	Engineering services	19
	8.5	Contingency	20
	8.6	Exclusions	20
	8.7	Summary	20
9.0	ОРТІОІ	NS RANKING ASSESSMENT	22
10.0	FUTUR	E WORK	23
	10.1	Kintore Pit	23
	10.1.1	Risk assessment	23
	10.1.2	Filter tailings assessment	23
	10.2	Property titles and land acquisition	23
	10.3	Geotechnical investigation	
	10.4	Preliminary and Detailed designs	
	10.5	Construction documentation	
	-		





11.0 CLOSI	NG	23
TABLES		
Table 1: Sun	nmary of rainfall intensity-frequency-duration data	3
Table 2: Sun	nmary of potential tailings deposition arrangements	6
Table 3: Sun	nmary of freeboard criteria for a 'High' consequence category	7
Table 4: ANG	COLD flood storage and spillway design criteria for a 'High' consequence category	7
Table 5: Sun	nmary of LoM tailings storage options	9
Table 6: Sun	nmary of tailings storage and catchment areas	12
Table 7: Sun	nmary of tailings delivery characteristics	13
Table 8: Tail	ngs storage area and rate of rise	13
Table 9: Sun	nmary of embankment characteristics	14
Table 10: Su	mmary of water dam embankment characteristics	15
Table 12: Su	mmary of capital costs, without geosynthetic liner installation over the storage impoundments	21
Table 13: Ra	nking aspects and importance weightings	22
Table 14: Op	tions Ranking	22
FIGURES		
Figure 1	Regional area plan No.1 – Initial TSF Options – 21 Mt Case	
Figure 2	Regional area plan No.2 – Shortlisted TSF Options – 7 Mt Case	
Figure 3	Rasp Mine – General Layout	
Figure 4	Kintore Pit – Tailings Storage Facility – General Layout	
Figure 5	Kintore Pit – Tailings Storage Facility – Typical Cross Sections – 1 of 2	
Figure 6	Kintore Pit – Tailings Storage Facility – Typical Cross Sections – 2 of 2	
Figure 7	Site 8 – Tailings Storage Facility – Catchment Layout	
Figure 8	Site 8 – Tailings Storage Facility – General Layout	
Figure 9	Site 8 – Tailings Storage Facility – Typical Cross Sections	
Figure 10	Site 10 – Tailings Storage Facility – General Layout	
Figure 11	Site 10 – Tailings Storage Facility – Typical Cross Sections	
Figure 12	Site 11 – Tailings Storage Facility – General Layout	
Figure 13	Site 11 – Tailings Storage Facility – Typical Cross Sections	





APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Commentary on TSF sites for 30 year storage case

APPENDIX B

Layouts, site visit observations and technical considerations

APPENDIX C

Cost estimates - detailed breakdown

APPENDIX D

Options ranking matrix

APPENDIX E

Important Information



1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd (BHOP) with a life of mine (LoM) tailings storage options assessment for the Rasp Mine. It presents four options to provide storage of approximately 7 million dry tonnes (Mdt) of tailings over 10 years. Commencement of deposition in the new TSF will be from about mid-2021, when the Blackwood Pit TSF, with the scheduled raise implemented, is expected to reach its storage capacity.

2.0 OUTLINE OF THIS REPORT

This report is structured as follows:

- Section 3.0 Background overview of existing TSF, including average tailings dry density
- Section 4.0 Siting assessment overview of site selection process and basis for shortlisted sites
- Section 5.0 Site characterisation climate data, topography and subsurface conditions
- Section 6.0 Options assessment criteria overview of target storage capacity, storage layout types and regulated design criteria
- Section 7.0 Options summary descriptive summaries of the tailings storage and water management concept design layout for each of the shortlisted options
- Section 8.0 Quantities and cost estimates summary of key construction quantities and cost estimates for each option
- Section 9.0 Options ranking assessment comparative ranking of options based capital cost and impact aspects
- Section 10.0 Future work outline of next stages of work to develop the preferred option to detailed design and construction.

Supporting information is provided in appendices as follows:

- Appendix A Commentary on TSF sites for 30 year storage case
- Appendix B Layouts, site visit observations and technical considerations (letter of 10 August 2017)
- Appendix B Cost estimates detailed breakdown
- Appendix C Options ranking matrix

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 Blackwood Pit TSF

The Rasp Mine commenced operation in 2012 and since this time tailings has been deposited in the Blackwood Pit TSF at a rate of approximately 570,000 dry tonnes per year. Based on the current forecast tailings deposition rate and a scheduled raise, the Blackwood Pit is expected to reach its storage capacity in 2021. The raise design for the Blackwood Pit was completed by Golder Associates Pty Ltd (Golder) in November 2016 (Ref.1654895-009-R-Rev0) and was approved by the NSW Dam Safety Committee (DSC) in January 2017.

Tailings slurry is thickened by a high-rate thickener to an average solids concentration of approximately 65% by weight. The average dry density for tailings deposited in the Blackwood Pit is approximately 1.5 t/m³, as measured by BHOP based on comparison of topographical surveys and corresponding tailings tonnage for the period between surveys.



3.2 Previous options assessments

A scoping study for tailings storage options within consolidated mine lease 7 (CML 7) was completed by Golder in 2007 (Ref.077611001/031R). The study considered a raise to an old TSF next to Mt Hebbard, in-pit storage in the Blackwood Pit, and in-pit storage in the Old BHP Pit. The Blackwood Pit provided the most efficient storage potential and was subsequently developed to receive tailings.

4.0 SITING ASSESSMENT

Nine potential sites for a new TSF were initially identified within a 10 km radius of the Rasp Mine (and around the periphery of the Broken Hill township). These sites are presented on Figure 1 and were identified based on topographical data and the potential to store up to 21 Mdt of tailings, i.e. for a potential 30 year extension of the mine life.

An option to decommission the Kintore Pit for in-pit storage of tailings was also put forward by BHOP for consideration. An active decline portal is located at the base of the pit and access ramp tunnels underlie the pit floor. A new decline or shaft would be required if the Kintore Pit is to be adopted for tailings storage. A table summarising initial screening commentary on the potential TSF sites and the Kintore Pit is presented in Appendix A. Sites on the western side of the township were ruled out based on the likely prohibitive costs associated with tailings delivery, due to the circuitous and long pipeline distance that would be required. Other sites were ruled out based on recognisable land acquisition constraints due to existing infrastructure.

Based on the siting assessment for the 21 Mdt storage case, it was proposed that the following sites be shortlisted for further consideration:

- Site 7
- Site 8
- Site 9
- Kintore Pit

The Kintore Pit was identified as having capacity for storage of approximately 8 years of tailings production, with a potential 2 year extension by constructing a partial perimeter embankment on the pit rim. Preliminary layouts were prepared for the shortlisted sites and were visited by representatives of BHOP and Golder on 25 July 2017.

On the basis that there may be land acquisition and permitting constraints with accessing some of the proposed new TSF sites and to provide a comparative study of offsite TSFs with the Kintore Pit, the assessment criteria was modified to consider TSFs with capacity for 7 Mdt of tailings, i.e. for approximately 10 years of storage. Additional sites were identified during the site visit that would provide capacity for the smaller tonnage case and which do not have undue land acquisition and permitting constraints. A letter summarising site observations and the additional sites was prepared by Golder in mid-August 2017 and is included as Appendix B. Following discussions with BHOP the following sites were shortlisted for preparation of concept design layouts for tailings storages and costing assessment:

- Site 8
- Site 10
- Site 11
- Kintore Pit

These sites are presented in regional plan on Figure 2. An enlarged plan showing indicative tailings delivery and return water pipeline routes is presented on Figure 3.





5.0 SITE CHARACTERISTICS

5.1 Climate

The climate of Broken Hill is semi-arid and the site experiences hot summers and cold winters, with mean daily maximum temperature exceeding 32°C in January and approximately 15°C in July.

Rainfall is spread throughout the year and there is no notable temporal distribution of average rainfall for Broken Hill, although rainfall is more likely during the cooler months of the year. During the hotter summer months, rainfall is associated with storm activity, whilst during the winter months rainfall is influenced by low pressure systems in the Southern Ocean. The average annual rainfall for Broken Hill is approximately 260 mm. This is based on data from the Patton Street weather station (ID 047007), located within a few hundred metres of the mine site.

Mean annual evaporation data for the Stephens Creek Reservoir weather station (ID 047031) is approximately 2580 mm. This station is located approximately 16 km to the north of the mine. Climate statistics for the region indicate that mean annual evaporation exceeds precipitation by a factor of approximately 10, although this factor varies from approximately 16 in December and January to approximately 3 in June.

For TSF design, the climate presents optimum conditions for drying and desiccation of tailings, provided that the rate of rise for tailings deposition is relatively low. The rate of rise for each TSF option is addressed in Section 7.4. The combination of low rate of rise and high evaporative conditions provide suitable conditions for upstream raise construction during operation. The high evaporative conditions will also limit the extent of water management during operation.

5.2 Design rainfall data

Rainfall intensity-frequency (IFD) data for the site, obtained from the BOM website¹ is presented in Table 1. Rainfall intensity for probable maximum precipitation (PMP) events were estimated using the Generalised Short Duration Method² and rainfall intensity for events between the 1 in 100 annual exceedance probability (AEP) and the PMP were estimated by interpolation.

Table 1: Summary of rainfall intensity-frequency-duration data

	Rainfall intensity (mm/hour) for Annual Exceedance Probabilities and the PMP								
Duration (hours)	1 in 2 AEP (50%)	1 in 5 AEP (20%)	1 in 10 AEP (10%)	1 in 20 AEP (5%)	1 in 50 AEP (2%)	1 in 100 AEP (1%)	1 in 1,000 AEP (0.1%)	1 in 10,000 AEP (0.01%)	РМР
1	18.8	26.2	30.9	36.9	44.9	51.3	82.1	119.2	270.0
2	11.6	16.2	19.1	22.9	27.9	31.9	51.4	75.4	175.0
3	8.6	12.0	14.2	17.0	20.8	23.8	38.4	56.2	130.0
6	5.1	7.2	8.5	10.2	12.5	14.4	23.8	35.4	85.0
12	3.0	4.3	5.1	6.1	7.5	8.7	13.9	20.0	43.3
24	1.8	2.5	3.0	3.6	4.5	5.2	8.2	11.4	22.1
48	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.1	2.6	3.0	4.7	6.6	13.5
72	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1	3.3	4.6	9.4

² The Estimation of Probable Maximum Precipitation in Australia, Generalised Short-Duration Method (GSDM). Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology, June 2003.



BOM (2016). Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology. Retrieved October 10, 2016, from http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_047007_All.shtml

The key values for the options assessment are:

- The rainfall intensity for 1 in 100 AEP event i.e. 2.1 mm/hour. The intensity over 72 hours results in a rainfall depth of 151 mm. This parameter is used to assess the Extreme Storm Storage Allowance for decant dam sizing for Sites 10 and 11, as also for sizing the headwater diversion dam for Site 8, discussed further in Sections 6.4.3 and 7.6.
- The rainfall intensity for 1 in 10,000 AEP event i.e. 4.6 mm/hour. The intensity over 72 hours results in a rainfall depth of 334 mm. This parameter is used for the Environmental Containment Freeboard for the Kintore Pit raise, discussed further in Sections 6.4.3 and 7.6.

Note, the rainfall intensity for the 1 in 10,000 AEP events and PMP events will be used for future sizing of spillways (outside the scope of this report).

5.3 Regional drainage

The Broken Hill area spans across two large regional catchments: one draining to the north-east towards the Stephens Creek Reservoir which supplies potable water to Broken Hill, and another draining south along Pine Creek. Both catchments are part of the broader Lower Darling Catchment area. The divide between the two catchments, in the area Broken Hill township and the Rasp Mine, follows an approximate north-west to south-east alignment and passes through the Rasp Mine. Sites 8, 10 and 11 fall within the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment and the Kintore Pit lies approximately on the divide. The Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment³ has a total area of approximately 51,300 ha. Drainage catchment areas for each TSF site are summarised in Section 7.2.

5.4 Terrain, geology and other conditions

5.4.1 Site 8

Ridges are located along the eastern and western margins of Site 8, with outcrops of metamorphosed igneous rock visible at the western abutment of this site. The outcropping rock is likely to be Thorndale Gneiss based on the observed crystalline texture and reference to a regional geological map for Broken Hill⁴.

The Site 8 TSF is located in a valley with an ephemeral watercourse. The gradient of the side slopes ranges between 1% and 10% and the gradient along the watercourse is approximately 0.5% to 1.0% in the tailings storage area. In the area just downstream of the proposed TSF embankment, the watercourse was approximately 25 m wide and 1 m deep and incised into clayey soil. This soil is interpreted to be of alluvial origin, in general agreement with the regional geological map that indicates colluvial and alluvial sediments of Quaternary age.

Photographs for the outcropping rock and the watercourse through Site 8 are included in the letter presented in Appendix B.

5.4.2 Site 10

The terrain in the area of the proposed Site 10 TSF gently slopes to the north-west at gradients of between 0.7% and 2%. It is located immediately to the west of Site 8. A railway is located approximately 1 km to the west of the western margin of the proposed TSF perimeter. Embankments for the storage area would abut against the same ridge described above for Site 8. A photograph of the storage area is included in Appendix B.

5.4.3 Site 11

Rock outcrops were not identified within the area of the Site 11 TSF. Regional geological mapping also indicates the presence of Thorndale Gneiss in this area. A general view of the Site 11 TSF area is included in Appendix B.



³ Signage at the Stephens Creek Reservoir states a catchment area of 513 km² (i.e. 51,300 ha).

⁴ Anderson et al. (1970) Broken Hill 1:250,000 Geological Series Sheet SH 54-14, 1st Edition.

5.4.4 Kintore Pit

The Kintore Pit is approximately 210 m deep relative to a minimum rim elevation of RL 310 m on the southern perimeter. A waste rock stockpile has been formed over the southern portion of the pit. The volume of the stockpile based on comparison of topographical surveys before and after placement is approximately 450,000 m³.

Pit wall excavations have exposed tailings within an old storage in the northern batter, as well as old timber supports from crushed relict mine workings. Adits and shafts to old workings are present in the batters on each side of the pit, including behind the waste rock stockpile.

A wedge failure has occurred in the eastern batter of the pit where the intersection of discontinuity planes in the rock slope have day-lighted in the batter slope. Failure of the wedge occurred in recent years following a period of heavy rainfall.

Access to the current underground workings is provided by a decline and access ramp tunnel system with the decline portal located at the base of the pit and into the toe of the western batter slope. The lower slopes of the western batter above and around the decline portal have been stabilised by cable anchors and shotcrete (and/or fibrecrete). A plan of the decline and access ramps in the Kintore Pit area is presented in Figure 4. This shows the decline branching at about 160 m length with one ramp continuing to the northern mine workings and one turning back under the pit floor and connecting to the southern mine workings.

Mine records provided by BHOP show old mine workings below the pit base, as shown in plan (Figure 4) and cross section (Figure 5). The minimum rock cover thickness to the old workings is approximately 10 m and to the access ramp tunnels is about 15 m.

5.5 Seismicity

The Broken Hill area is a region of low seismicity. The 2012 Australian Earthquake Hazard Map⁵ (the Map) shows the site peak ground accelerations (PGAs) for the 1 in 500 annual exceedance probability (AEP) event to be in the range of 0.01g to 0.02g, the 1 in 2 500 AEP event to be in the range of 0.03g to 0.06g, and the 1 in 10 000 AEP event to be in the range of 0.10g to 0.20g.

Note, seismicity is not considered further for the surface TSF options but is considered for the conceptual design of plugs for the access ramps at Kintore Pit. Seismicity will be considered in future preliminary or detailed designs of any surface TSF options. Based on the relatively low seismicity of the region (and semi-arid climate and relatively low rate of rise for the TSF options), upstream raising of embankments is considered feasible for possible TSF at Sites 8, 10 and 11, should any of these sites be taken to a preliminary and/ or detailed design stage.

6.0 OPTIONS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

6.1 Tailings delivery and storage parameters

The following parameters are adopted for concept design layouts:

Maximum tailings deposition rate: 700,000 dry tonnes per year

Average slurry solids concentration: 65%

Average beach slope (based on Blackwood Pit TSF performance): 1.5%(Note)

Average dry density (based on Blackwood Pit TSF performance): 1.5 t/m³

Note, a flat beach slope is adopted for the Kintore Pit for concept design based on the relative small storage area.



⁵ Burbidge, D. R. (2012). The 2012 Australian Earthquake Hazard Map. Record 2012/71. Canberra: Geoscience Australia.

6.2 Tailings storage layout types

A summary of potential deposition arrangements and commentary on their applicability to the TSF sites is presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of potential tailings deposition arrangements

Tailings discharge arrangement	Comments on applicability
Central discharge	Applicable to the Site 10 and 11 TSFs based on the relatively flat and broad terrain. Not applicable to Site 8 TSF due to the long and irregular shape of the valley, i.e. central discharge would result in multiple surface depressions that would require water management. Not applicable to the Kintore Pit as it is a deep pit, i.e. not practical to establish and raise a central deposition point.
Down-valley discharge	Considered for the Site 8 TSF (a valley site), however, not applicable due to the predicted beach slope and the relatively flat terrain, i.e. it is not possible to beach tailings down the valley, as the beach slope exceeds the valley drainage gradient.
Up-valley discharge	Applicable to the Site 8 TSF only due to the valley shaped terrain. Discharge from the embankment would form a beach slope in an up-valley direction, with a supernatant pond located at the upstream end of the storage area.
Perimeter discharge	Applicable to the Kintore Pit. Not practical at the Site 8 TSF due to similar problems of the down-valley discharge method. Not practical for Sites 10 and 11 TSFs, also due to the gently sloping terrain and inability to beach tailings over the required distance from all side of a perimeter embankment layout. Reduction of the solids concentration could be considered to achieve a flatter beach slope, however, this central discharge method provides a similarly small footprint and a significantly lower embankment fill requirement.
Partial perimeter discharge	Applicable to Kintore Pit, resulting in a pond location at one side of the pit. Similar constraints to perimeter discharge for the other sites.

The following tailings deposition arrangements are adopted for the TSF options:

- <u>Kintore Pit TSF:</u> Perimeter discharge. Flat tailings beach adopted for concept design based on an expected high rate of rise. Note, early stage discharge will be via the pit ramp.
- Site 8 TSF: Up-valley discharge, with a 1.5% average tailings beach slope.
- Site 10: TSF: Central discharge, with a 1.5% average tailings beach slope.
- Site 11: TSF: Central discharge, with a 1.5% average tailings beach slope.

6.3 TSF embankment raise type

The following embankment raise methods can be considered for TSFs:

- Downstream raise construction, where each raise is constructed in a downstream direction, over the initial embankment and onto the ground surface in the downstream area.
- Upstream raise construction construction onto the tailings surface.
- Centreline raise construction partial construction onto the tailings surface and onto the ground surface downstream of the initial embankment.

This options assessment does not consider sub-staging of embankment construction, i.e. it conservatively assumes a single tailings storage embankment is constructed for the 10 year storage life. On this basis, the volumes presented in Section 7.4 are representative of the total volume of fill for start-up and downstream raise construction. Sub-staging and the potential for reductions in fill quantities by upstream or centreline raising will be assessed as part of preliminary and/ or detailed design for the preferred option(s).



6.4 Dam safety regulations and guidelines

6.4.1 Overview

Dam safety of tailings dams in NSW is regulated by the NSW Dam Safety Committee (DSC). The DSC provide guidance sheets with design criteria and in general, are based on the Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) tailings dam guidelines of 2012.

6.4.2 Consequence category

The robustness of the design measures, including the extent of seismic load resistance and water management measures are governed by the dam safety consequence category for the facility. The Kintore Pit, once raised is likely to be assigned a 'High' consequence category, similar to that assigned to the Blackwood Pit raise. At the other sites, the consequence category may be lower due to a relatively lower risk to human life. However, for the purpose of concept design criteria for water management, it is assumed all facilities will be classified as 'High'. The consequence category would be reviewed for the preferred site that is adopted for further design work.

6.4.3 Flood management

A summary of the relevant freeboards for a 'High' consequence category facility under DSC guidelines are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of freeboard criteria for a 'High' consequence category

DSC Criteria	Design event / minimum freeboard
Environmental Containment Freeboard ^(Note)	1 in 10,000 AEP, 72-hour event
Tailings Operational Freeboard	500 mm
Total Freeboard	1 in 10,000 AEP, critical duration event
Pond Recovery Time (7 days)	1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event

Note: Adopted for the Site 8 TSF and the Kintore Pit, where flood storage is on the tailings surface.

A summary of relevant freeboards for a 'High' consequence category facility under ANCOLD guidelines are presented in Table 4.

Table 4: ANCOLD flood storage and spillway design criteria for a 'High' consequence category

ANCOLD criteria	Design event	Wave Freeboard Allowance
Extreme Storm Storage Allowance	1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event	n/a
Spillway capacity	At least 1:100,000 AEP, critical duration, suggested PMF	Wave run-up for 1:10 AEP wind event with 1:100,000 design flood

n/a = not applicable

Note: The spillway design assessment for the TSF considers wind events up to 1:50 AEP in combination with the design flood event.

The Environmental Containment Freeboard (ECF) represents the required flood storage capacity between the tailings beach and the spillway elevation. This criteria is adopted for the Site 8 TSF and the Kintore Pit. For the central discharge layouts where water storage will be external to the tailings storage area, the Extreme Storm Storage Allowance is adopted.

The Operational Freeboard represents the vertical distance between the elevation of the tailings beach adjacent to the embankment and the embankment crest elevation. The Operational Freeboard is required to reduce the risk of tailings spillage from the facility.



NA.

TSF OPTIONS ASSESSMENT

The Total Freeboard represents the storage capacity between the tailings surface and the crest of the containment embankments, including consideration of the operational water pond. The Total Freeboard is specified to ensure a facility has the capacity to safely manage runoff from an extreme storm event by a combination of storage and spillway discharge.

Pond Recovery Time represents the duration in which the design flood storage event is removed from the water storage area, to reinstate flood storage capacity, in readiness for a subsequent event.

For the purpose of concept design layouts for the options, the following criteria area adopted:

- Freeboard of 500 mm at the embankments for the Site 8, 10 and 11 TSFs. This addresses the Operational Freeboard.
- Freeboard of 1.5 m at the embankments for the Kintore Pit, to allow for flood storage on the tailings surface and spillway freeboard.
- Decant Dam storage capacity for the estimated runoff from the 1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event for the Site 10 and 11 TSFs. This addresses the 'Extreme Storm Storage Allowance and is considered appropriate for the runoff shedding layouts at these sites. The Decant Dams are sized for an operational pond volume of 5000 m³ plus the estimated runoff for the 1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event, with 1 m of freeboard to allow for an emergency spillway.
- No Decant dam will be provided for the Site 8 TSF, as the pond will be on the tailings surface, at the upstream end of the storage. A Headwater Diversion Dam and outfall pipe is included to reduce runoff into the storage area. The Headwater Diversion Dam is nominally sized for the 1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event and 2 m of freeboard to allow for an emergency spillway (for a relatively large catchment area).
- For the Kintore Pit, the Decant Dam that will be constructed for the Blackwood Pit TSF raise will be utilised.

6.5 EMBANKMENT GEOMETRY

The embankment geometry adopted for the concept design layouts at the Site 8, 10 and 11 TSFs is:

Crest width: 6 m

Upstream and downstream slopes: 3H:1V^(Note)

Note: A batter slope of 3H:1V is conservatively adopted for both upstream (to facilitate safe liner installation) and downstream embankment slopes for stability and ultimate closure profile.

For the Kintore Pit perimeter embankment, the following geometry is adopted:

Crest width: 6 m

Upstream and downstream slopes: 2.5H:1V^(Note)

Note: 2.5H:1V is adopted for both upstream and downstream slopes based on stability assessments undertaken for the Blackwood Pit embankments, area constraints and due to the works being located within the mine lease area.

The tailings deposition causeway geometry adopted for the Site 10 and 11 TSFs is:

Crest width: 6 m

Side slopes: 2H:1V





7.0 CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR TSF OPTIONS

7.1 General

A summary of the proposed tailings storage options are presented in Table 5. The options are presented on layout plans and sections on Figures 4 to 13. Quantities and cost estimates for each option, including embankment fill and potential areas for geosynthetic liners are addressed in Section 7.11. Technical considerations for sourcing of embankment fill materials and the potential requirement for a geosynthetic liner at each of sites are addressed in Section 7.7.

Table 5: Summary of LoM tailings storage options

Option	Description	Figures
	Decommissioning of the Kintore Pit provides an opportunity for in-pit tailings storage. Tailings deposition would be via a perimeter main and spigots. Partial perimeter discharge would allow for some degree of control on the pond location during the later stages of operation. During early years of operation, the rate of rise would be relatively high and by the end of filling the rate of rise would approach approximately 3.8 m/year.	
	The use of the Kintore Pit as a TSF requires closing the decline portal, managing old workings and recent mine workings southwards beneath the pit. Old workings and the access ramps are within 10 to 15 m of the base of the pit. Based on available information, it may not be possible to safely access the old working and to manage risks associated with collapse into these areas.	
Kintore Pit	Unreinforced concrete plugs will be formed at the decline portal and also at two locations in the access ramps to prevent uncontrolled flow of seepage water into the mine workings or access ramps and to contain tailings within the pit footprint. The indicative location and extent of the proposed plugs are shown on Figure 4.	
	Geotechnical investigations will be required to assess rock conditions in the old workings and access ramps beneath the pit to inform the detailed design of the plugs. A risk assessment will also be required for of the plug design and safety of the current workings downstream of the plugs if this option progresses to detailed design.	4, 5 & 6
	The waste rock stockpile located in the southern area of the pit would be left in place to limit the cost of double handling this material. By approximately Year 7, construction of an embankment at the Pit rim would be required to extend the storage life of the Pit for the required 10 years of storage capacity.	
	A geosynthetic liner would be installed on the upstream slope of the embankment to manage the seepage that would be expected from the tailings and associated surface water.	
	The potential for raises of the storage area by extending and raising the embankment is not considered practical beyond Year 10 due to the relatively small gain in storage volume per unit of embankment fill.	





Option	Description	Figures
	The TSF basin will be formed by constructing a cross valley embankment and discharging tailings up-valley from the embankment. An ephemeral watercourse drains along the valley floor to the Stephens Creek Reservoir. The embankment has a crest length of approximately 1.7 km for the final layout and the catchment area formed by the embankment, without consideration to diversion drains, is approximately 1024 ha. This represents approximately 2% of the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment.	
	The site is located approximately 6.5 km to the east of the processing plant and approximately 2 km north of Menindee Road. Tailings delivery and return water pipelines would extend over an approximate distance of 9.5 km from and to the processing plant, requiring crossings at the railway line and Menindee Road. The railway is located downstream of the TSF, at a distance of approximately 4.5 km to the north.	
	Tailings deposition would occur from the upstream crest of the embankment, with beach slopes forming in an upstream direction, resulting in a supernatant pond at the upper area (head) of the valley. The maximum beach length from the embankment crest by the end of filling, is approximately 900 m and the rate of rise approaches 0.6 m/year by the end of filling.	
Site 8 TSF	Intermittent ponding of supernatant water and rainfall runoff is expected to occur in the depression at the southern end of the storage. A small pump access ramp will be formed along the edge of the watercourse and water would be pumped back to the processing plant for reuse in the mill.	7, 8 & 9
	To reduce runoff into the tailings storage from the large upstream catchment area, a headwater diversion dam would be constructed upstream of the tailings storage area. This dam closes a catchment area of approximately 642 ha, i.e. approximately 60% of the total TSF catchment area. The dam shown on the layout is sized to store the estimated runoff from a 1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour rainfall event. Water would be released via an outfall pipe located along the watercourse through the tailings impoundment area and below the foundation of the TSF embankment.	
	Due to its location within the Stephens Creek Reservoir, it is likely that a geosynthetic liner would be required over the tailings impoundment area and the upstream slope of the embankment. The requirement for a liner would be subject to groundwater impact assessments and/or minimum regulatory requirements.	
	Based on a fence line through this site, it is likely that the eastern part falls within the Clevedale Station property. Land acquisition may therefore be a constraint with this site.	





Option	Description	Figures
	A central discharge layout formed by a main embankment around the western side and a small saddle dam on the eastern side. The layout represents a "race-track" shape and deposition would be via a causeway that extends along the main axis, forming a spine in the middle of the storage area for tailings deposition.	
	The site is located approximately 5 km to the east of the processing plant and approximately 2 km to the north of Menindee Road. Tailings delivery and return water pipelines would extend over an approximate distance of 8.5 km from and to the processing plant, requiring crossings at the railway line and Menindee Road. At its nearest, the railway is located 300 m to the north-west.	
Site 10 TSF	The layout would shed supernatant water and rainfall runoff to the periphery. Further refinement to the layout would allow for drainage to nominated gravity decant structures, where water would be discharged to externally located Decant Dams. Decant Dams are sized for management of the "Extreme Storm Storage Allowance" under ANCOLD guidelines.	40.044
	Due to the siting of the TSF and alignment of the embankments, the drainage catchment is relatively small at approximately 110 ha. This area would be further reduced to approximately 95 ha by construction of a low height bund between the embankments on the southern side.	10 & 11
	The accumulation of water in the Decant Dams would be intermittent due the relatively high evaporation. Water that does pond in these dams would be pumped back to the processing plant for reuse in the mill.	
	Due to its location within the Stephens Creek Reservoir, it is likely that a geosynthetic liner would be required over the tailings impoundment area, the Decant Dam impoundments and the upstream slope of the respective storage embankments. The requirement for a liner would be subject to groundwater impact assessments and/or minimum regulatory requirements.	
	There are no apparent land acquisition constraints, however, this would be subject to review of title boundaries for the area.	





Option	Description	Figures
	The TSF basin is formed by a central discharge layout enclosed by a "horse shoe" shaped embankment around the northern side. Similar to the Site 10 TSF, the layout represents a "race-track" shape and deposition would be via a causeway that extends along the main axis, forming a spine in the middle of the storage area for tailings deposition.	
	The site is located approximately 5 km to the south-east of the processing plant and 1 km to the south of Menindee Road. Tailings delivery and return water pipelines would extend over an approximate distance of 7.5 km from and to the processing plant. The TSF is positioned between existing houses and is immediately to the south of a motocross track. The Decant Dam extends over the motocross track area. Acquisition of private property would be required for development of a TSF at this site, including the areas where the houses are situated to provide a suitably safe buffer around the facility.	
Site 11 TSF	The layout would shed supernatant water and rainfall runoff to the periphery. Further refinement to the layout would allow for drainage to a gravity decant structure, where water would be discharged to an externally located Decant Dam. The Decant Dam is sized for management of the "Extreme Storm Storage Allowance" under ANCOLD guidelines.	12 & 13
	Due to the siting of the TSF and alignment of the embankments, the drainage catchment is relatively small at approximately 100 ha. A low height bund would be formed at the southern side to further reduce the drainage catchment.	
	The accumulation of water in the Decant Dam would be intermittent due to relatively high evaporation. Water that does pond in the dam would be pumped back to the processing plant for reuse in the mill.	
	Due to its location within the Stephens Creek Reservoir, it is likely that a geosynthetic liner would be required over the tailings impoundment area and the upstream slope of the embankment. The requirement for a liner would be subject to groundwater impact assessments and/or minimum regulatory requirements.	

7.2 Drainage catchments

A summary of tailings storage areas and catchment areas for each site is presented in Table 6. Descriptions of the terrain, including watercourses is provided in Section 5.4.

Table 6: Summary of tailings storage and catchment areas

Site	Tailings storage footprint (ha)	Tailings storage catchment area ^(Note 1) (ha)	Catchment area to tailings storage area ratio	TSF catchment area as a percentage of the Stephens Creek Catchment area
Kintore Pit(Note 2)	12.5	14	1.1	n/a
8 ^(Note 3)	80	1025	12.8	2%
10 ^(Note 4)	82	110	1.3	0.2%
11 ^(Note 5)	79	101	1.3	0.2%

n/a = not applicable



Table 6 Notes:

- 1. Excluding Decant Dam catchment areas (for Site 10 and 11 TSF) and including Headwater Diversion Dam catchment area (for Site 8).
- 2. Catchment area mostly defined by the pit rim. Relatively small external catchment area.
- Site is located over a watercourse that ultimately drains into the Stephens Creek Reservoir. A catchment diversion would be required if this option is to be developed.
- 4. Relatively small external catchment area due to the site being located off watercourses.
- 5. Relatively small external catchment area of Site 11 due to it being located at the head of a watercourse.

7.3 Tailings delivery

A review of tailings delivery distance and static head difference between the processing plant and the TSF site locations shows that a pipe with 200 mm internal diameter is sufficient to deliver tailings to the respective sites, under turbulent flow conditions. A summary of pump and pipe requirements for each option is presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Summary of tailings delivery characteristics

Site	Tailings delivery distance (km)	Maximum static head (m)	Internal pipeline diameter	Centrifugal pump pressure (kPa)	Number of 6/4 pumps in stages
Kintore Pit	2.5	13	200	990	1
8	9.5	-35	200	3160	3
10	8.5	-38	200	2615	3
11	7.5	-24	200	2465	3

The cost estimates presented in Section 8.0 allow for:

- One standby pump for each option.
- Ultra-High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (UHMWPE) lined steel pipe. This pipe is consider durable against high temperatures and vandalism.

Each pipeline for the offsite TSF would be installed within a bunded corridor to manage potential leaks. An across road will be developed adjacent to the tailings delivery pipeline corridor.

7.4 Tailings deposition and rate of rise

A summary of the final tailings area and the rate of rise for each option is summarised in Table 8.

Table 8: Tailings storage area and rate of rise

Site	Final storage area (ha)	Rate of rise at end of filling (m/year)
Kintore Pit	12.5	3.7
8	80	0.6
10	82	0.6
11	79	0.6

The rate of rise at the Kintore Pit is relatively high at approximately 3.7 m/year by the end of filling. The potentially much higher rate of rise during early years could be addressed by a period of overlapping operation with the Blackwood Pit TSF.



The rate of rise at Sites 8, 10 and 11 is considered suitable for upstream raise consideration should substaging or expansion of these sites be considered. The concept design layouts are based on single stage construction.

7.5 Embankment characteristics

A summary of embankment layout characteristics for the TSF options are presented in Table 9.

Table 9: Summary of embankment characteristics

Site	Embank. Crest elevation (RL m)	Maximum embank. height ^(Note 1) (m)	Maximum embank. length (km)	Embank. volume (m³)	Causeway crest (RL m)	Causeway volume (m³)	Storage ratio ^(Note 2)
Kintore Pit	322	5	0.7	60,000 ^(Note 3)	n/a	n/a	83
8	287.5	16	1.7	812,000	n/a	n/a	6
10	277 ^(Note 4)	12	3.3	335,000	284.5	145,000	10
11	290 ^(Note 4)	9	2.4	347,000	299	80,000	12

n/a = not applicable

Notes:

- 1. Measured at the downstream side.
- 2. Ratio of tailings storage volume to total volume of embankment and causeway fill.
- 3. Assumes Little Kintore Pit (located on southern side of the Kintore Pit is initially filled with waste rock.
- 4. Embankment crest elevation would be variable following further design, to achieve drainage to the decant facilities.

7.6 Surface water management layout and characteristics

7.6.1 Overview

Water management requirements vary between the options. An overview of the water management approach for each option is outlined below and key characteristics for embankments are summarised in Table 10.

- <u>Kintore Pit TSF:</u> supernatant water and stormwater that accumulates in the pit would be transferred by pumping to existing water management dams on the mine site.
- Site 8 TSF: supernatant water will be transferred via pumping from a pond that would form against natural ground and the tailings beach at its upstream toe. A small causeway would be used for pump access. To limit the extent of rainfall runoff into the tailings storage area, a Headwater Diversion Dam would be formed upstream of the tailings storage area. An outfall pipe would be installed to allow for the passive release of water to a point downstream of the TSF embankment. Emergency spillways would be provided at both the TSF and Diversion Dam embankments to safely discharge extreme rainfall events.
- Site 10 TSF: Decant Dams would be formed to the west and to the east of the tailings storage area, to collect water that is discharged via gravity decant systems and emergency spillways in the event of large rainfall events. Diversion drains would be formed either side of the Decant Dam impoundment areas, to limit runoff flows into the Decant Dams.
- Site 11 TSF: A Decant Dam would be formed to the north of the tailings storage area, to collect water that is discharged via a gravity decant system and emergency spillway in the event of large rainfall events. Diversion drains would be formed either side of the Decant Dam impoundment, to limit runoff flows into the Decant Dam.





A summary of Decant Dam and Headwater Diversion Dam characteristics for the TSF options are presented in Table 10.

Table 10: Summary of water dam embankment characteristics

Site	Dam type	Embank. Crest elevation (RL m)	Maximum embank. height ^(Note 1) (m)	Maximum embank. length (m)	Embank. fill quantity (m³)	
Kintore Pit	Not required – assumed use of Decant Dam constructed for the Blackwood Pit TSF raise					
8	Headwater Diversion Dam	281.5	4.0	950	41,400	
10	Decant Dam - west	265.0	2.5	520	11,000	
10	Decant Dam – east	274.5	4.5	470	12,400	
11	Decant Dam	281.5	3.0	750	23,000	

Return water pumps and pipes are sized based on extraction of flood water. Extraction from the Decant Dam and supernatant pond areas via 280 mm diameter HDPE pipe and two centrifugal pumps. The pump and pipe for each option is sized based on return of up to 60 L/sec. This rate is representative of removal of the Extreme Storm Storage Allowance volume from the Site 10 and 11 Decant Dams, within a 7 day period. The sizing of the Decant Dams is discussed in Section 7.6.2, below.

7.6.2 Flood sizing assessment

Flood storage capacity in the Kintore Pit TSF will be provided over the tailings surface and will be sufficient for the Environmental Containment Freeboard. This design criteria represents a 1 in 10,000 AEP, 72-hour rainfall event, equivalent to a rainfall depth of 334 mm. For an approximate catchment area of approximately 14 ha, the estimated volume of rainfall for is approximately 47,000 m³. Over a tailings storage of approximately 12.5 ha, this represents a pond depth of approximately 400 mm. The design freeboard of 1.5 m satisfies this storage volume and allows for spillway freeboard.

Flood storage capacity in the Site 8 TSF area is large, exceeding the estimated runoff volume from a 1 in 10,000 AEP 72-hour event.

The Decant Dams for Sites 10 and 11 are sized on the basis of containing the 'Extreme Storm Storage Allowance'. For a 'High' consequence category, this represents a 1 in 100 AEP, 72-hour event. The rainfall depth for this event is approximately 136 mm. For estimated initial losses of 15 mm and 30% runoff of rainfall thereafter, approximately 41 mm depth of rainfall would reach the Decant Dam.

- Site 10 TSF: For the 110 ha catchment area, the combined flood storage capacity for the west and east Decant Dams is estimated to be 35,000 m³. Allowing for an operational pond volume of 5,000 m³, the combined storage capacity requirement is approximately 40,000 m³.
- <u>Site 11 TSF</u>: For the 101 ha catchment area, the flood storage capacity for the Decant Dams is estimated to be 31,000 m³. Allowing for an operational pond volume of 5,000 m³, the combined storage capacity requirement is approximately 36,000 m³.

Emergency spillways have not been sized at this concept design stage. Allowances for spillways are, however, included in the cost estimates presented in Section 8.0.



7.7 Construction

7.7.1 Embankment and causeway materials

The concept designs for each option are based on utilisation of waste rock from stockpiles at the Rasp Mine. In the event that an offsite TSF were considered, further work could be undertaken to identify potentially lower cost sources of materials, i.e. from borrow pits adjacent to or within the TSF locations.

Consideration of a staged construction approach would allow for the potential use of tailings as a low cost embankment construction material.

Based on observation of the outcropping rock along the western margins of the Site 8 TSF (and eastern margin of the Site 10 TSF), sourcing rockfill from quarries is likely to represent a higher cost due to the requirement for drill and blast.

7.7.2 Geosynthetic liner

A robust geomembrane liner would be provided for the TSF options to allow for a potentially rough subgrade and UV exposure until it is ultimately covered by tailings deposition. Cost estimates presented in Section are based on supply and installation of a bituminous geomembrane liner. A LLDPE geomembrane liner is proposed for upstream slope of the embankment for the Kintore Pit TSF, similar to the design for the Blackwood Pit TSF.

7.8 Seepage management

An underdrain is proposed for the Kintore Pit to reduce the pore water pressures in the tailings at the base of the pit. This measure will improve consolidation of the tailings in the early stages of tailings deposition and also reduce possible seepage from the base of the pit into the old workings and the existing decline and access ramp system. The drain will comprise a layer of aggregate placed over the pit floor to collect and drain seepage water towards the decline portal. Some reshaping of the pit floor would initially be required to create a cross fall to the portal area. A seepage outlet pipe would be installed through the concrete plug at the portal entrance and also through the northern ramp plug to facilitate discharge of tailings seepage water into the northern workings where it would be removed by the existing mine dewatering system.

Should BHOP require that the volume of seepage water into the mine workings be reduced the design and installation of a filter press plant may be considered to increase the density of the tailings at the plant (and reduce the volume of seepage water). This approach may be considered as part of future design work. (Refer Section 10.0)

For the Site 8, 10 and 11 TSFs, a seepage collection drain would be installed at the upstream toe of the TSF embankment for collection and discharge of seepage water. Discharge would be via outfall pipes through the foundation of the embankment, or alternatively via extraction pipes installed at the upstream face of the embankment.

7.9 Kintore Pit decline and waste rock

7.9.1 Management of waste rock

Removal of the waste rock stockpile prior to commencement of tailings deposition is not considered practical due to the cost of double handling if relocating it outside of the pit, and the lack of an alternative site within the mine lease area. Future waste rock placement is likely to be in the Old BHP Pit and also the Little Kintore Pit could be used for future waste rock placement. Some of the stockpiled rock may be suitable for use in the underdrain but would need to be screened to achieve the required particle size distribution. Screening and spreading of waste rock is not considered in the cost estimate presented in Section 8.0.





7.9.2 Closing of decline portal

A preliminary design has been prepared to plug the decline and access ramp tunnels. Three unreinforced concrete parallel sided monolithic concrete plugs are proposed, one to close the portal and one each in the access ramps leading to the current northern and southern workings and located under the pit wall slopes.

The rock face at the portal exterior and initial segment of decline is stabilised using cable anchors, mesh and shotcrete. It is assumed that rock excavations in access ramp tunnels are similarly supported.

A plug design guideline⁶ was used to assess the minimum length required for plugs based on tailings placed into the pit to a maximum elevation of RL 320 m. The guideline incorporates input from a number of international design guides and published design criteria, including recommended factors of safety. Conceptual designs were prepared considering punching shear failure along the concrete/rock interface contact or through the rock mass, possible deep beam failure, hydraulic jacking of the rock surrounding the plug and hydraulic gradient and leakage of seepage water around the plug. The potential effect of a seismic event with an acceleration of 0.2g was also assessed.

Limited geotechnical information was available for the rock materials in the decline and access ramp tunnels or of significant geological structures within or crossing the pit. Conservative rock properties were therefore used in the analyses which are equivalent to a moderate to weak rock which is moderately jointed and with a Rock Mass Rating of 41.

The decline and access ramp tunnels connect to the current working areas to the north and south of the pit and the plugs must therefore provide protection against hydraulic pressure from seepage water from the tailings and also against a mud flow resulting from liquefaction of the tailings, either by a crown pillar collapse into the old workings and then into the access tunnels, or from the maximum design earthquake.

The analyses indicate a minimum plug length incorporating the recommended factors of safety of 20 m. Since the access ramp tunnels extend under the pit floor it is proposed that northern and southern plugs are located under or beyond the pit crests, where no old workings overlie the plugs. The portal and northern plugs are proposed to be formed by constructing barricades across the tunnel faces and filling with concrete transported through the decline tunnel. The southern plug will be located about 700 m from the decline portal and it is proposed that the plug is formed between barricades in the tunnel with concrete placed through a borehole drilled from surface to intersect the access ramp tunnel. Since the tunnel gradient is shallow the designs include measures for grouting the gap between the top of the concrete fill and the underside of the tunnel roof.

For this conceptual design it is proposed that the portal decline plug should be 20 m long and the northern and southern plugs should be 30 m long.

Additional geotechnical investigations will be required for preparation of preliminary and detailed design of the plugs. Investigations will include collection of RMR data for rock in the decline and ramp tunnels, detailed mapping of rock joints and geological structures at the proposed plug sites, and consideration of the likely condition and stability of old workings in the vicinity of the ramp tunnels and plugs. Depending on the results of these analyses it may be necessary to install additional rock support at the plug sites or to change the plugs to hitched (keyed) or possibly tapered configurations.

⁶ Golder Associates Ltd(2006) "Plug Design Guidelines Applied to Mining Closure" The Peru Mineral Resources Reform Project, document 03-111 Plug _Guidelines_ April 18_V3 2006



7.10 Dust management

7.10.1 Overview

Dust management measures are likely to be required for each option due to their proximity to the township, homesteads and livestock stations.

7.10.2 Construction period

The risk of dust generation during construction is expected to be minimal as the proposed embankment materials predominantly comprise rockfill which will be watered during placement and compaction. Dust modelling has been carried out by others for the existing Blackwood Pit TSF to assess the potential for dust generation. To further reduce the potential for generation of dust during construction, the following measures would be adopted.

- Routine water spraying along proposed haulage routes from the waste rock stockpile to the embankment construction site using a water cart and dribble bar.
- Application of water during placement of rockfill layers at the embankments via water cart after spreading and during compaction.

The cost of dust suppression during construction is included in the earthwork rates for embankment fill placement.

7.10.3 Operation period

Following periods of discharge areas of tailings beach will slowly dry, changing from wet to moist conditions. A dust suppression system including reticulated sprinklers and use of a crusting agent, similar to that proposed for the Blackwood Pit TSF, could be considered for each of the offsite TSF options where continued drying of the tailings beach has the potential to result in a dust generating surface. Due to the relatively high rate of rise at the Kintore Pit, dust suppression is not likely to be required at the tailings surface is expected to stay relatively wet.

The cost of dust suppression measures are not included in the cost estimates for the options at this stage. Dust suppression measures are expected to be a relatively low cost item compared and fall well within the cost contingency allowance.

7.11 Closure strategy

Closure of a TSF requires management of the following:

- Safety providing a final surface which does not expose the public to chemical and physical hazards.
- Stability ability to remain stable over an extended period beyond closure, e.g. withstand large earthquakes and flood events, as well as continuous erosion forces from air and water.
- **Seepage and groundwater** limiting rainfall infiltration that may lead to transportation of contaminants either to groundwater and/or surface water bodies.
- **Erosion and sediment load** resistance to wind and water energy which may degrade the final surface and result in transportation of sediments to the external environment.
- **Aesthetics** ability to blend into the natural environment and support intended end land uses.

For concept design, a 500 mm thick cover of rockfill is proposed to limit erosion of the tailings surface at closure. The potential requirement for a low permeability barrier in the cover system would be subject to further work at detailed design based on the geochemical properties of the tailings.

Tailings delivery pipelines, return water pipelines and decant systems would be decommissioned. Additional rockfill would also be placed at the downstream slope of the TSF embankment for reshaping. For concept design, an average 1 m thick layer of waste across the downstream slope of the embankment is adopted.





8.1 Quantities

8.2 Items and rates

A summary of items and rates for the TSF works, including closure, is presented in Appendix A. The rates have been established on the basis of recent Golder projects in regional NSW. For waste rock haulage, rates vary according to haulage distance. The following haulage distances have been considered:

Kintore Pit: 1.5 km
 Site 8: 9 km
 Sites 10 and 11: 7.5 km

8.3 Preliminaries

Preliminaries include the following:

- Site establishment and disestablishment.
- On site and off site overheads.
- Construction management and supervision, including development of:
 - Safe work method statements
 - Construction drainage management plan
 - Other project related documentation.
- Travel, accommodation and meal costs for the contractor, assuming they are mobilised from outside of the Cobar township

The cost of preliminaries is estimated at \$250,000 and covers both initial construction and closure works. It assumes mobilisation of a contractor based in Broken Hill.

8.4 Engineering services

Engineering services will be required to prepare and undertake the following:

- Geotechnical investigation
- Detailed design
- Construction tender documents
- Construction Quality Assurance (daily level 1 supervision of geosynthetics installation and periodic inspections and hold point inspections by the Design Engineer)
- Survey (set-out, control and pickup for progress payments and final as-constructed survey)

Engineering services are estimated as follows, based approximately on the extent of embankment fill placement and area for liner installation if required.

Kintore Pit TSF: \$500,000
 Site 8 TSF: \$1,000,000
 Sites 10 and 11 TSF: \$800,000





8.5 Contingency

A contingency is included in the cost estimates to allow for unforeseen events that may impact on the works for each option. The cost of contingency is estimated at 15% of the direct construction costs for both the TSF development and closure works.

8.6 Exclusions

The following have been excluded from the cost estimate:

- Cost of land acquisition
- Cost of developing a new decline or shafts in the event that the Kintore Pit TSF option is developed
- Cost of dam safety monitoring installation
- TSF operating costs, including tailings delivery and return water pump operation and general TSF management and maintenance costs.
- Post closure monitoring and maintenance
- Net present value and inflation discounting.

8.7 Summary

A summary of the capital cost estimates for the options, inclusive of closure works are presented in Table 11. A summary of the costs excluding geosynthetic liner installation over the impoundment areas of Sites 8, 10 and 11 is presented in Table 12. The costs for Sites 8, 10 and 11 are seven to ten times higher than the estimated cost for the Kintore Pit TSF.





Table 11: Cost estimates for TSF options – capital only

Item	Cost estimate				
nem	Kintore Pit	Site 8	Site 10	Site 11	
Preliminaries	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	
Closure of mine workings and construction of plugs (Kintore Pit), seepage management	\$1,745,000	\$255,000	\$495,000	\$360,000	
Tailings and return water pumps, pipelines and access roads	\$1,675,000	\$6,060,000	\$5,375,000	\$4,750,000	
TSF perimeter embankments & tailings delivery causeways	\$500,000	\$18,610,000	\$10,575,000	\$9,395,000	
Water management embankments and diversions	\$0	\$1,625,000	\$710,000	\$630,000	
TSF seepage barrier works	\$225,000	\$19,820,000	\$19,795,000	\$19,295,000	
Decant Dam seepage barrier works	\$0	\$0	\$1,855,000	\$1,530,000	
Spillways and gravity decant structures	\$150,000	\$100,000	\$375,000	\$250,000	
Closure works	\$770,000	\$14,275,000	\$12,875,000	\$12,345,000	
Sub-total	\$5,315,000	\$60,995,000	\$52,305,000	\$48,805,000	
Engineering Services	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	
Contingency	\$870,000	\$9,300,000	\$7,965,000	\$7,440,000	
Total	\$6,685,000	\$71,295,000	\$61,070,000	\$57,045,000	

Table 12: Summary of capital costs, without geosynthetic liner installation over the storage impoundments

ltem	Cost estimate				
	Kintore Pit	Site 8	Site 10	Site 11	
Total direct construction costs (excluding geosynthetic liner over impoundment area)	\$5,315,000	\$42,630,000	\$31,675,000	\$29,145,000	
Engineering Services (approximately 5% of construction costs)	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	
Contingency (approximately 15% of construction and engineering costs)	\$870,000	\$6,470,000	\$4,825,000	\$4,445,000	
Total	\$6,685,000	\$49,600,000	\$37,000,000	\$34,090,000	





9.0 OPTIONS RANKING ASSESSMENT

A ranking matrix was prepared based on a weighted assessment of capital costs and potential impacts, as summarised in Table 13. Relative scores (1 to 5, with 1 being the least favourable) for each aspect were assigned to each option to generate a percentage outcome. The ranking matrix is presented in Appendix D and the results are summarised in Table 14. The results show the Kintore Pit TSF option to be the most favourable, based on both cost and impacts.

Table 13: Ranking aspects and importance weightings

Aspect	Description	Applied weighting
Capital Costs Overall Importance	 Land Acquisition Cost of acquiring land that would be developed for tailings and associated water management. Tailings Delivery and Return Water, Access Roads Cost of additional tailings delivery pipeline installation and associated pumping costs. 	15% 15%
Ranking = 50%	 Embankment Construction Costs associated with material borrow, foundation preparation, and construction. Liner Installation Costs associated with supply and installation of a geosynthetic liner over the TSF and Decant Dam impoundment areas. 	30% 40%
	Total	100%
	 Social Perceptions / Constraints This aspect considers the potential issues associated with local land holders surrounding the proposed TSF and permitting constraints that may be imposed. Dam Break Risk 	20%
Impacts Overall Importance Ranking = 50%	This aspect considers the people, infrastructure and environment effected in the unlikely event of a dam failure. Environmental - dust	35%
	This aspect considers the potential for dust generation during construction and operation. Environmental – groundwater and surface water This aspect considers the potential impact on groundwater and	20% 25%
	surface water, particularly with respect to potential impact on the Stephens Creek Reservoir – Broken Hill's water supply	
	Total	100%

Table 14: Options Ranking

Option	Relative total (%)	Overall ranking
Kintore Pit TSF	73	1
Site 8 TSF	45	4
Site 10 TSF	56	2
Site 11 TSF	50	3



10.0 FUTURE WORK

10.1 Kintore Pit

10.1.1 Risk assessment

A risk assessment should be undertaken for the Kintore Pit TSF, if this option is progressed. The assessment should include a review of recent and old workings through and adjacent to the Pit to identify appropriate design controls.

10.1.2 Filter tailings assessment

Installation of a filter plant to further dewater the tailings would provide benefits associated with less supernatant water and associated seepage risks as well as a higher average dry density and higher storage potential. Consideration should be given to assessing the feasibility of a filter press plant, if the Kintore Pit option is progressed. Note, filter tailings is not considered viable for the offsite TSFs based on the long haulage distance.

10.2 Property titles and land acquisition

A review of property titles and the cost of land acquisition should be undertaken, if any of the offsite TSFs are to be considered further.

10.3 Geotechnical investigation

If any of the offsite TSFs are to be considered further, a geotechnical investigation may identify areas of clay soil, suitable for borrow pit development to win embankment fill. The investigation would also focus on the foundation areas of the proposed embankments. It would include excavation of test pits for borrow pit and foundation investigation and drilling of boreholes for deeper foundation and hydrogeological assessment.

If the Kintore Pit TSF option is to be considered further additional geotechnical investigations are required to provide parameters for design of the decline and access ramp plugs. These investigations should include *in situ* mapping of exposed rock surfaces in the decline and access ramps at the plug locations, measurement of the unconfined compressive strength of the rock, mapping of joint orientations and roughness, and assessment of Rock Mass Rating and mass permeability. Structural geological assessments will include review of faulting and geological structures (including old workings) in the pit and in the rock above and around the plugs and assessment of crown pillar stability in areas where old workings are in close proximity to the plugs.

10.4 Preliminary and Detailed designs

If required by BHOP a preliminary design of one or two preferred options may be prepared, for selection of the final option. This would have the advantage of refining the designs of a surface TSF and of the Kintore pit option (if it is to be considered further) and allowing time for discussions of plugs and associated risks with the regulator, without delaying the preparation of an alternative TSF design. Alternatively BHOP may decide to proceed to directly to a detailed design of the preferred option to optimise the proposed design measures and associated costs. The design report would be submitted to the DSC, the mines department as well as the State environmental regulators for approval. For the Kintore Pit, the design report for the DSC may be delayed for some years into operation, until such a time that the embankment construction is required.

10.5 Construction documentation

Design drawings, technical specification, schedule of quantities and construction quality assurance plan would be prepared following completion of the design to facilitate the tender process.

11.0 CLOSING

This report presents concept level designs and cost estimates for TSF options for a 10 year extension to the Rasp Mine operation beyond mid-2021. The reader's attention is drawn to the Important Information presented in Appendix E.





Report Signature Page

GOLDER ASSOCIATES PTY LTD

David Accadia Associate Brian Wrench Principal

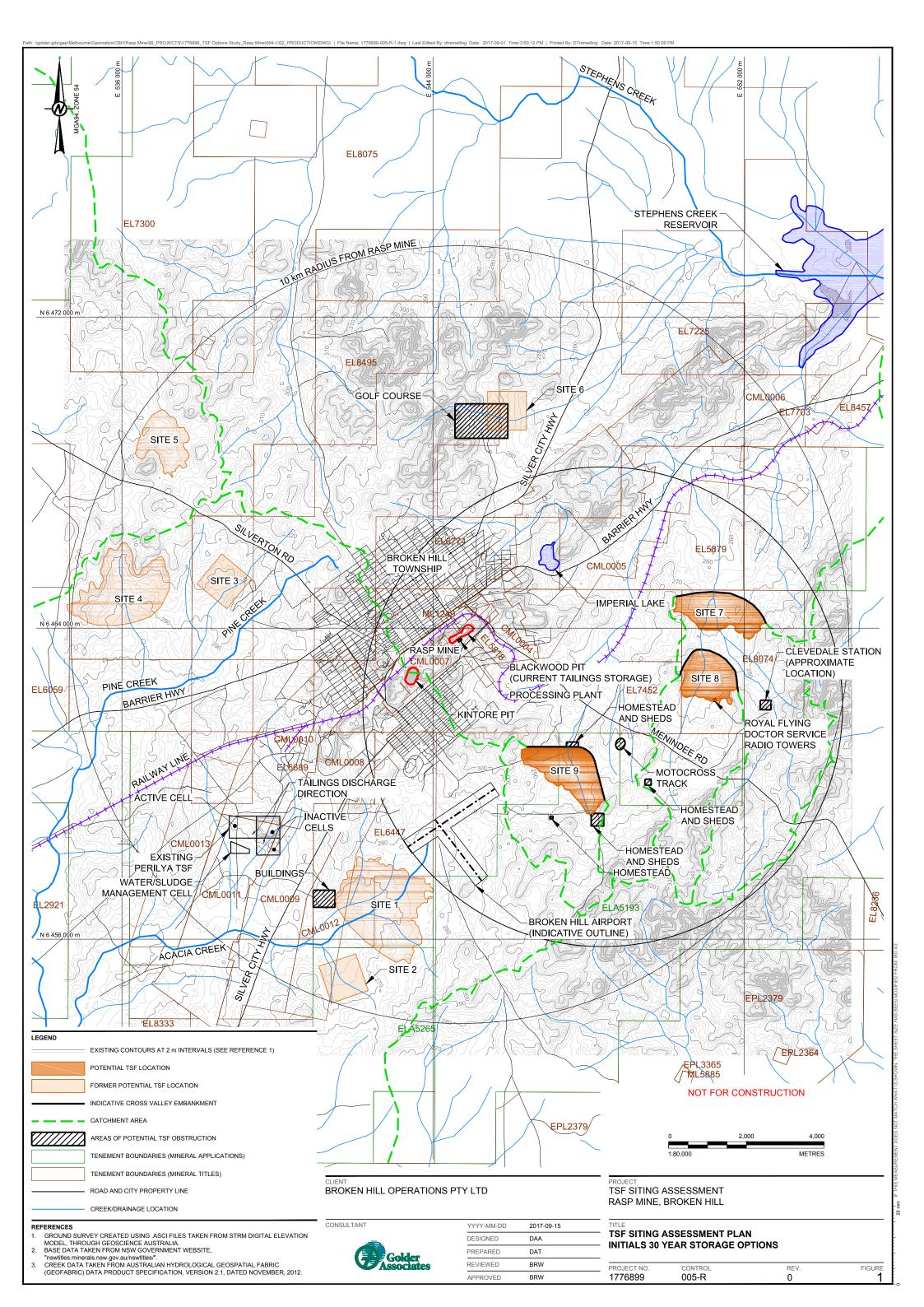
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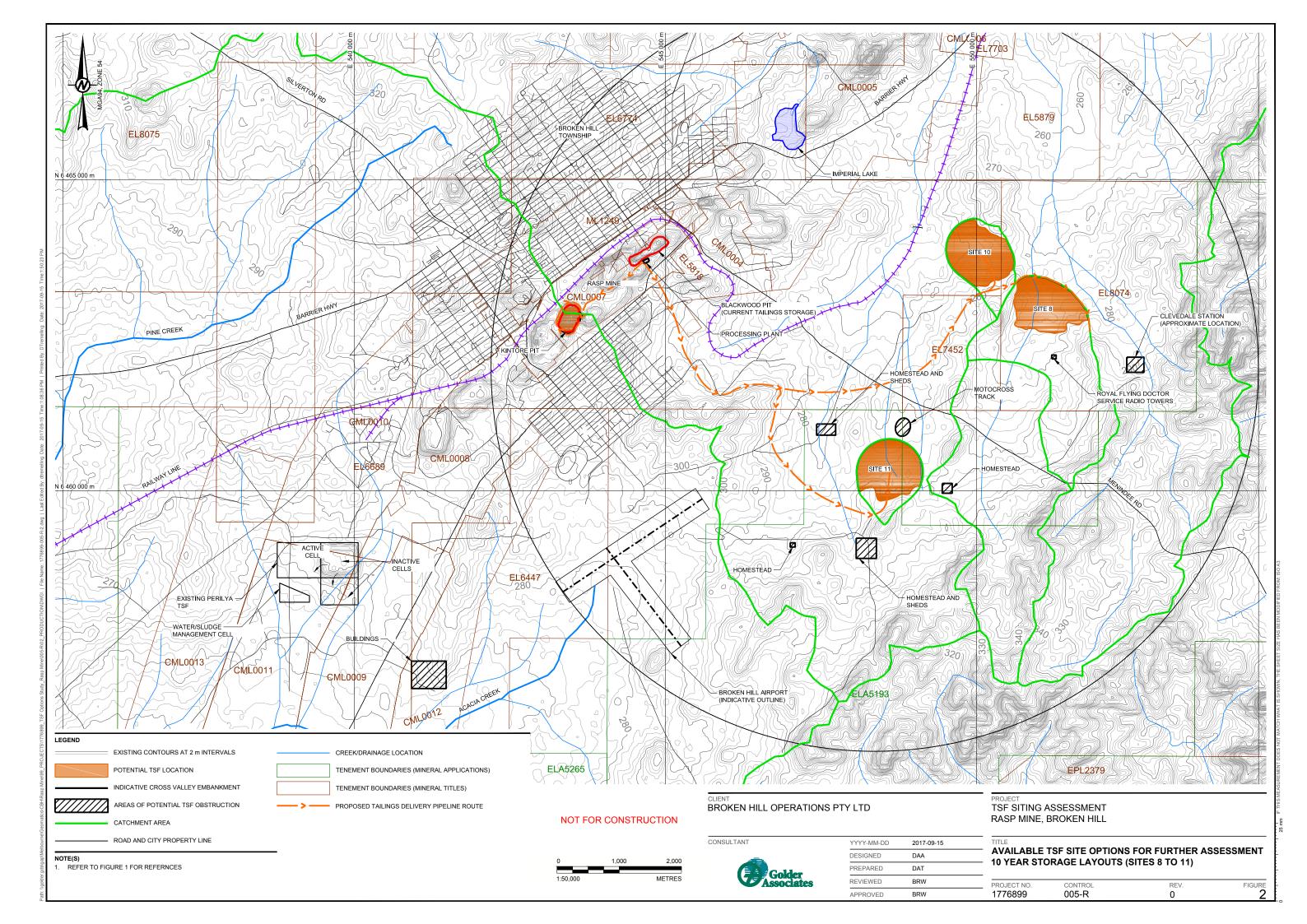
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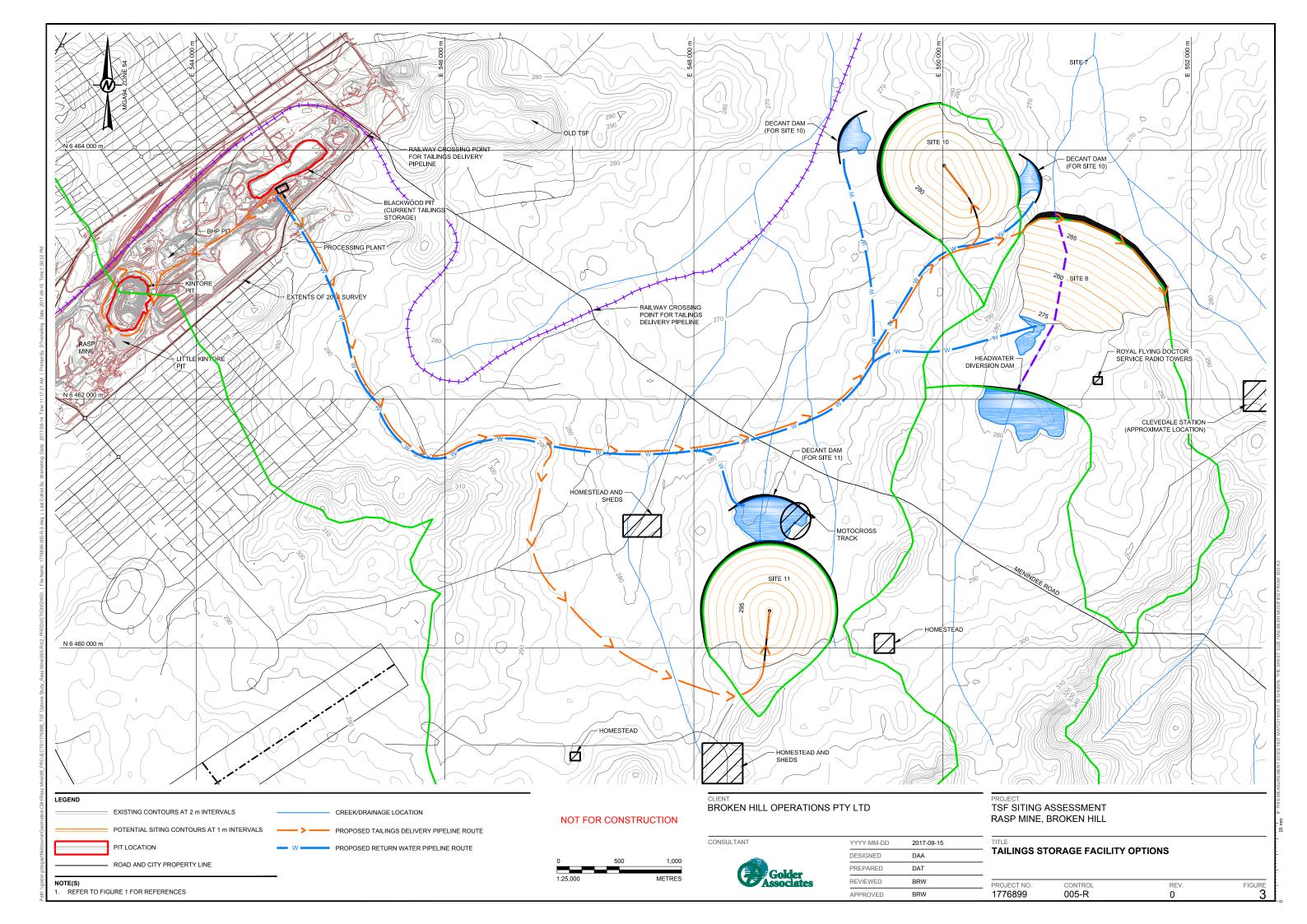
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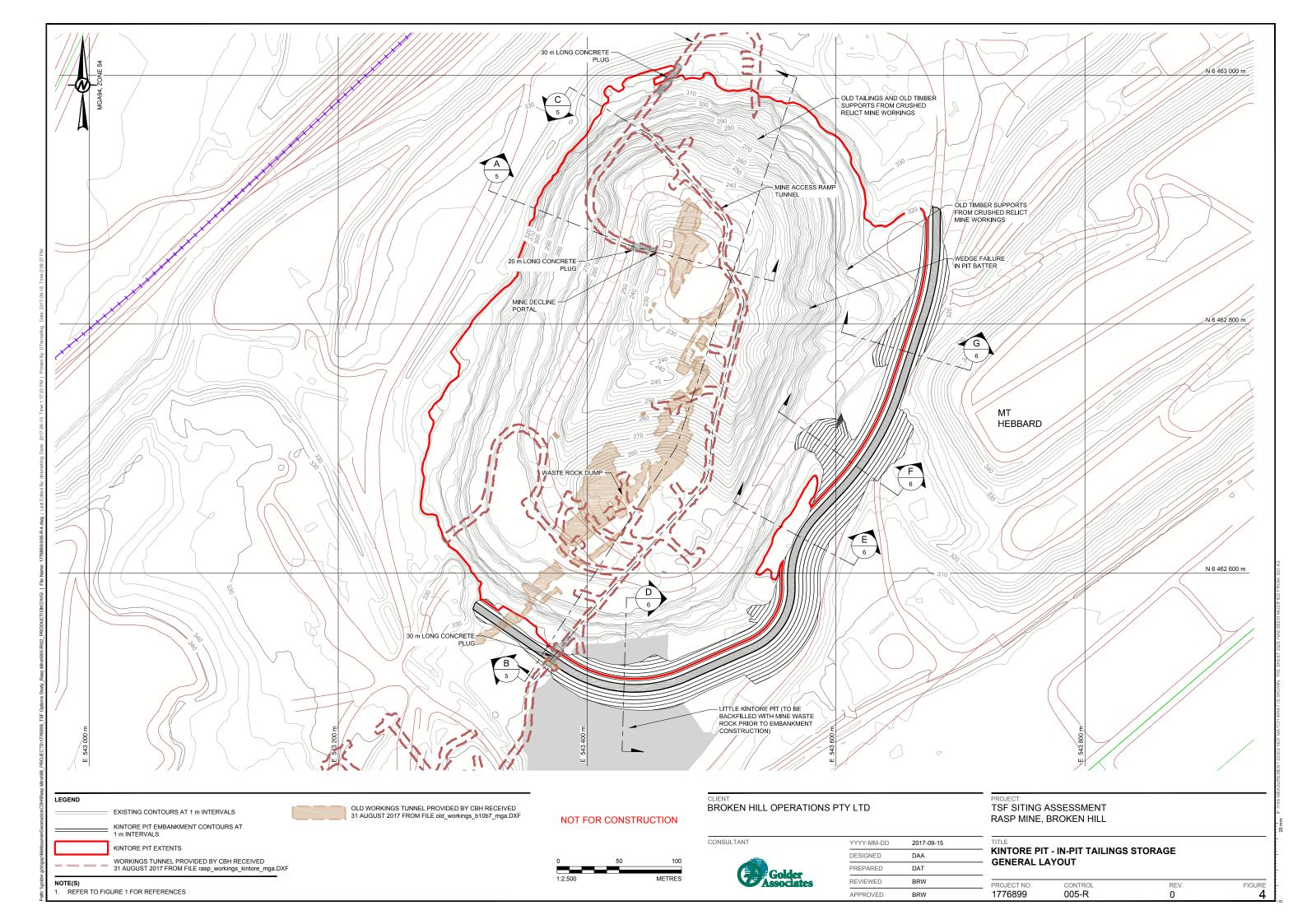
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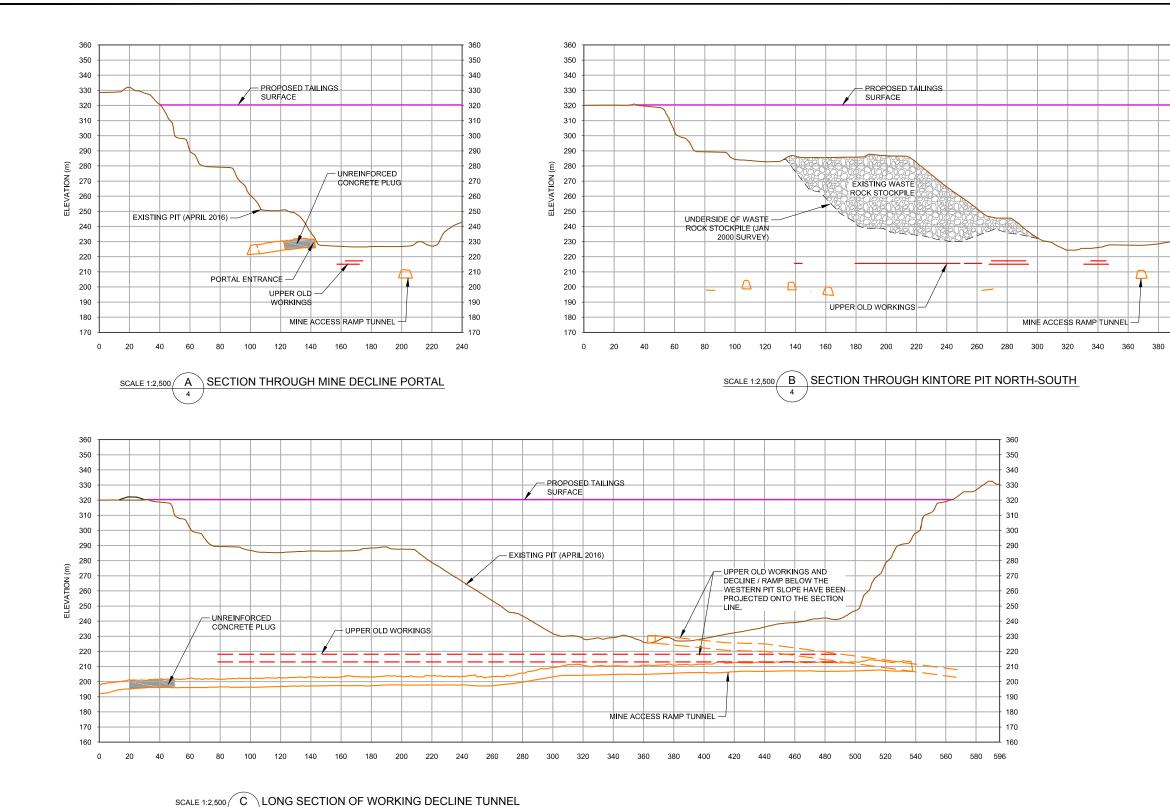












NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

- EXISTING PIT (APRIL 2016)



BROKEN HILL OPERATIONS PTY LTD

D TSF SITING ASSESSMENT RASP MINE, BROKEN HILL

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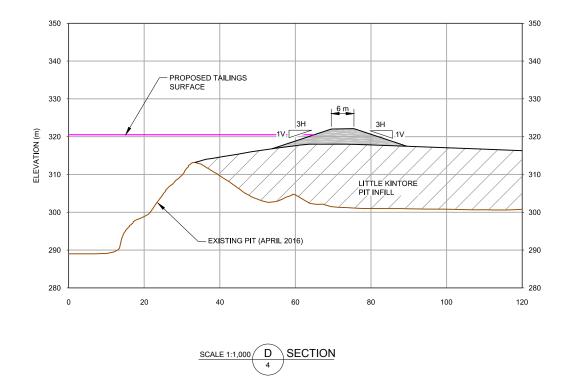
Golder Associates

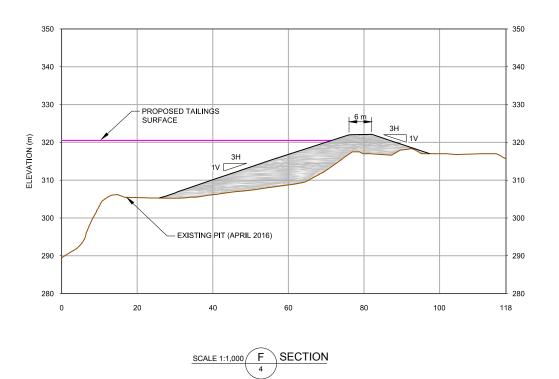
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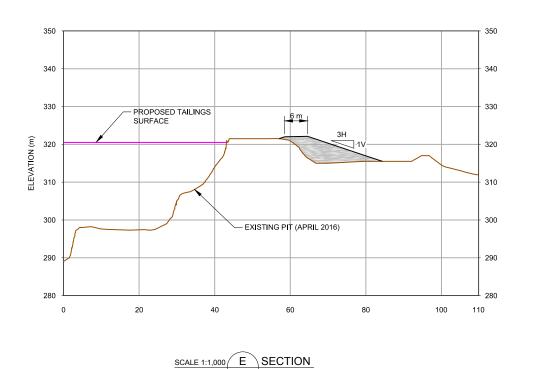
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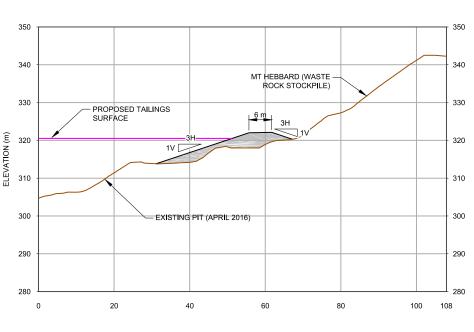
KINTORE PIT - IN-PIT TAILINGS STORAGE SECTIONS
SHEET 1

PROJECT NO.	CONTROL	REV.	FIGURE
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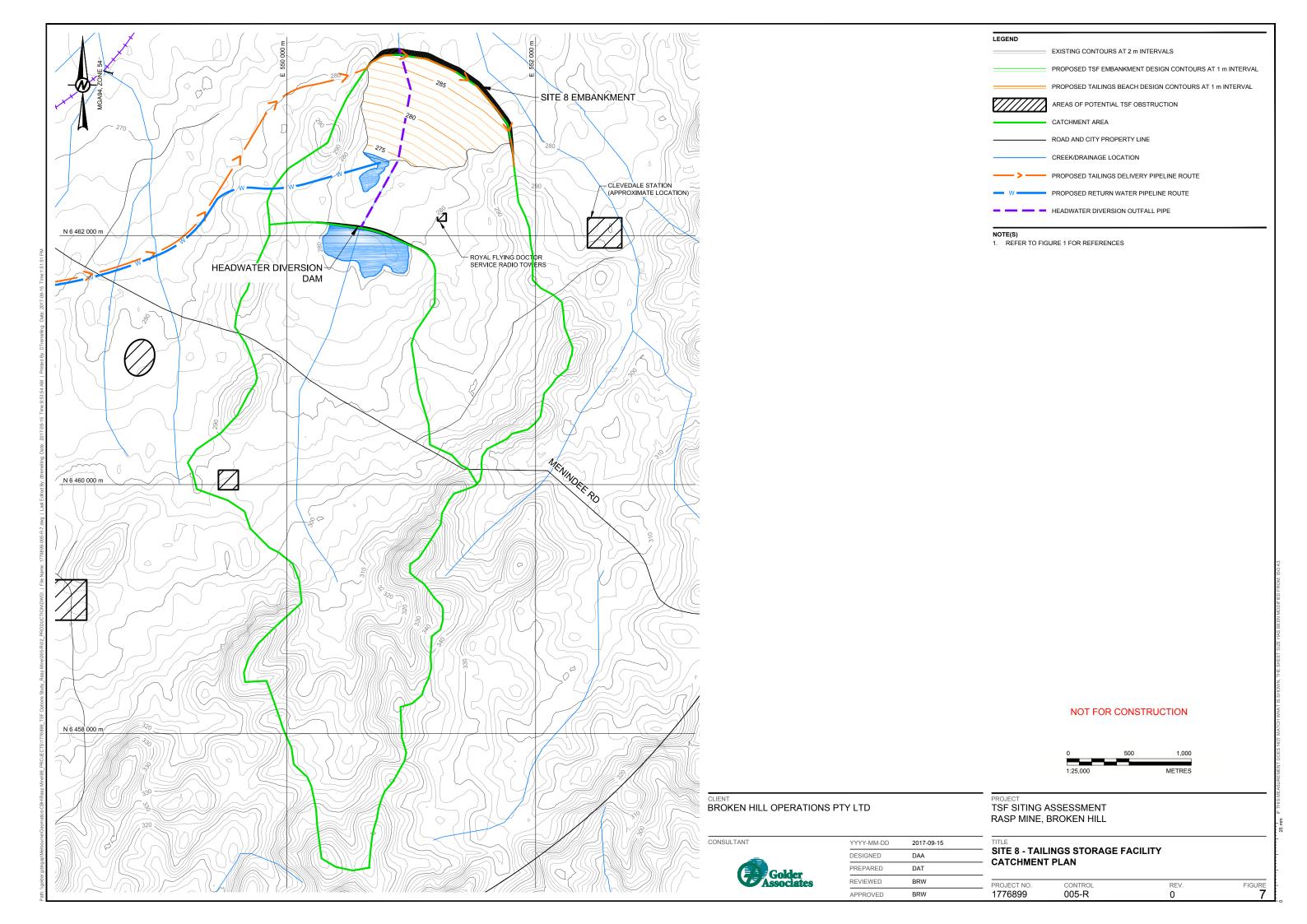
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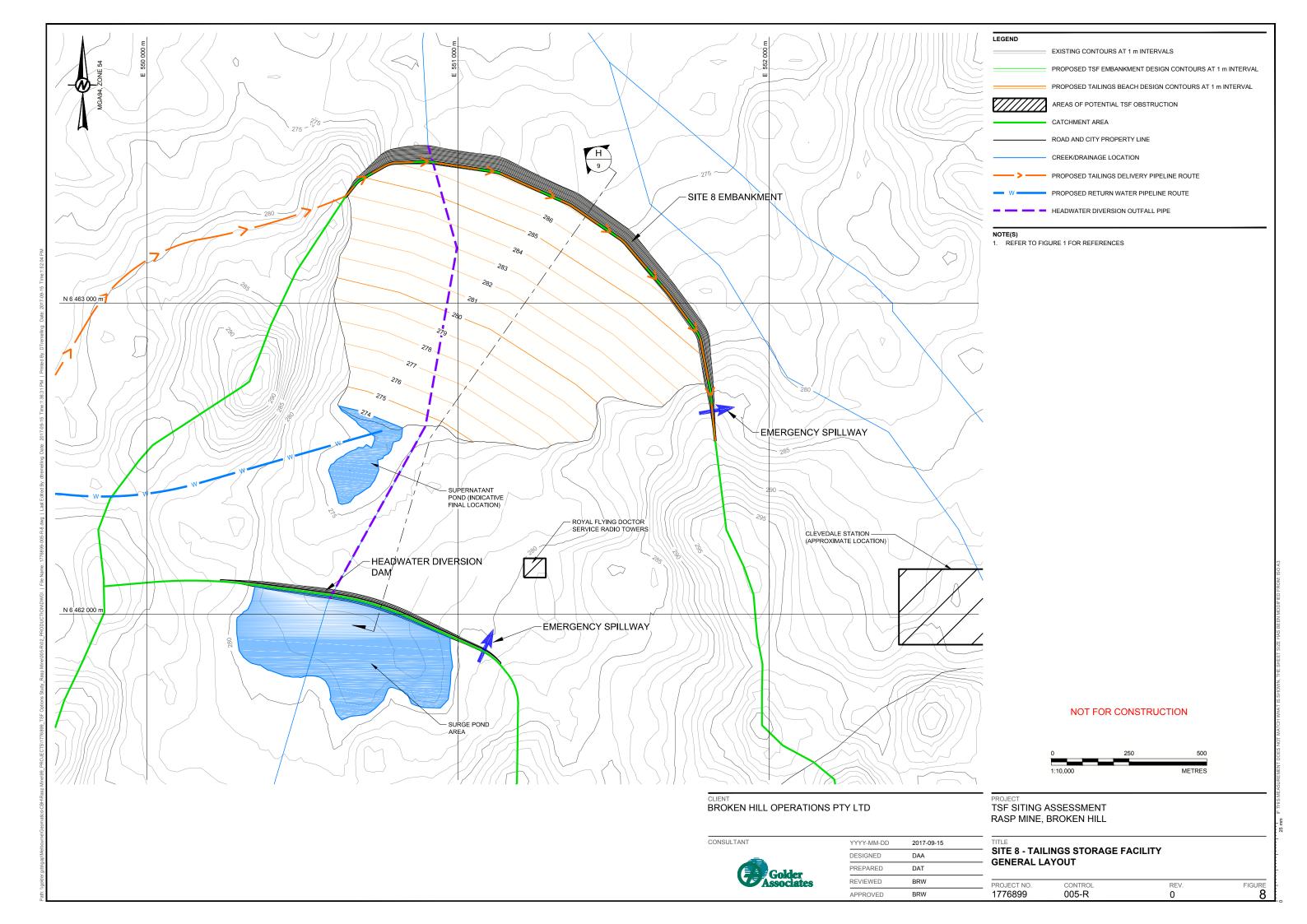
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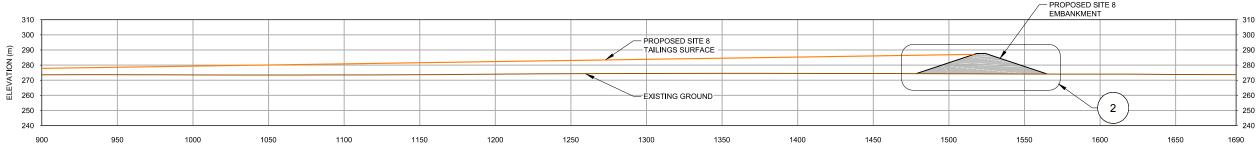
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TSF SITING ASSESSMENT RASP MINE, BROKEN HILL

KINTORE PIT - IN-PIT TAILINGS STORAGE SECTIONS SHEET 2

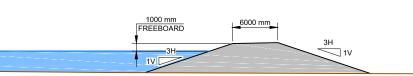
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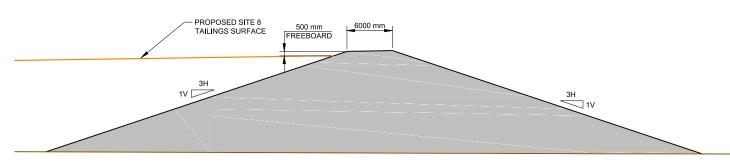








SCALE 1:500 1 TYPICAL HEADWATER DIVERSION DAM DETAIL



SCALE 1:500 2 TYPICAL EMBANKMENT DETAIL

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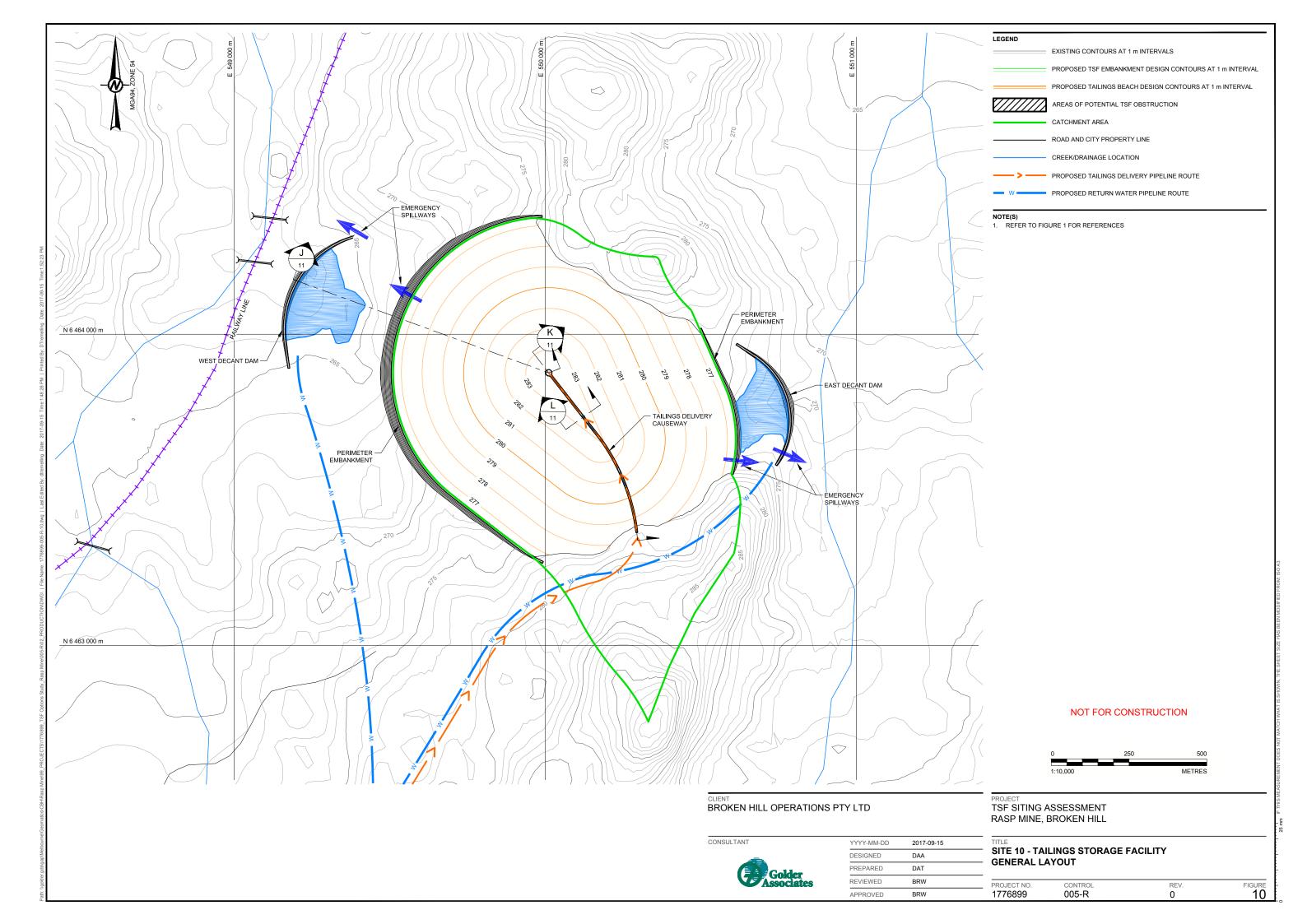
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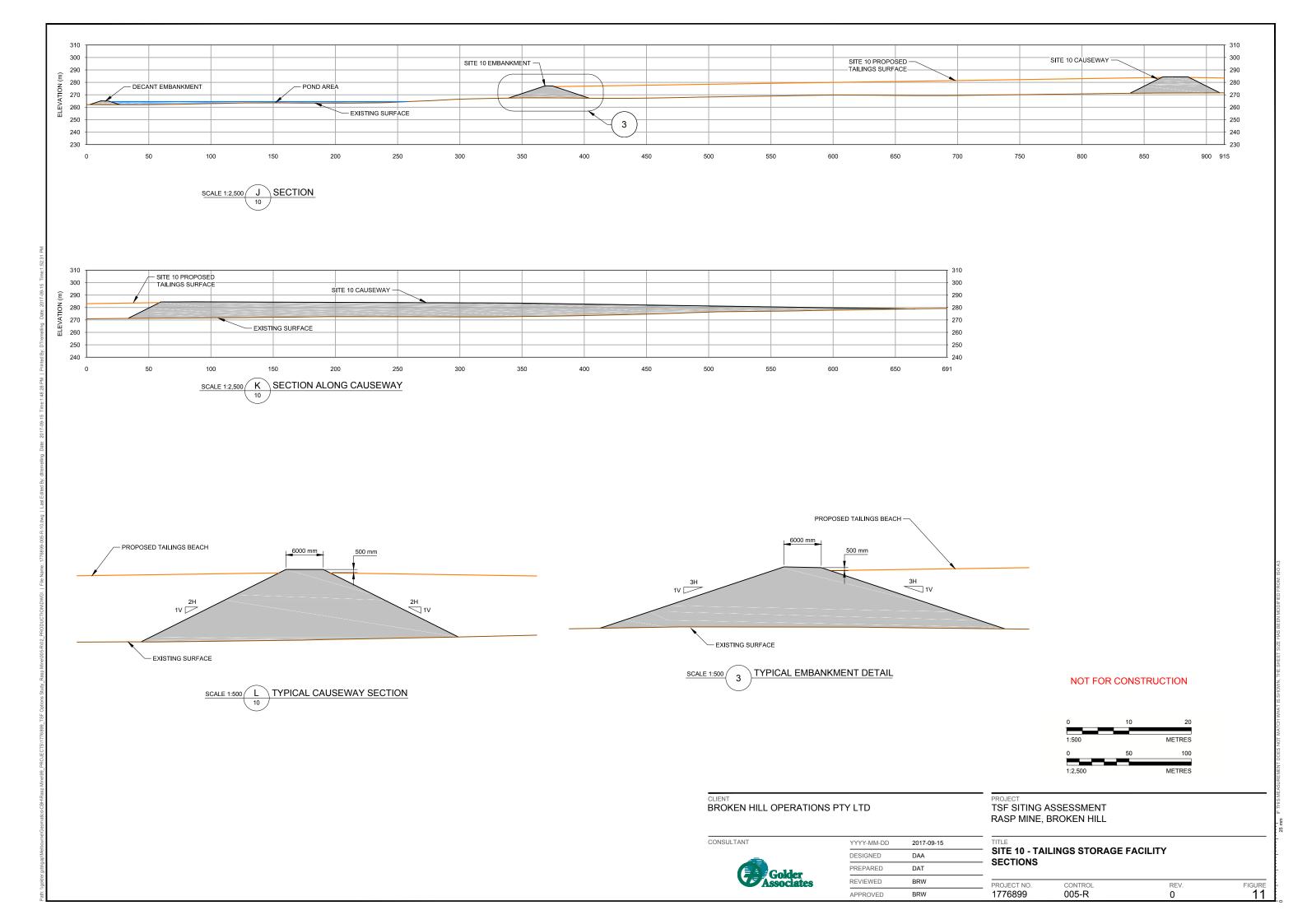
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TSF SITING ASSESSMENT
RASP MINE, BROKEN HILL

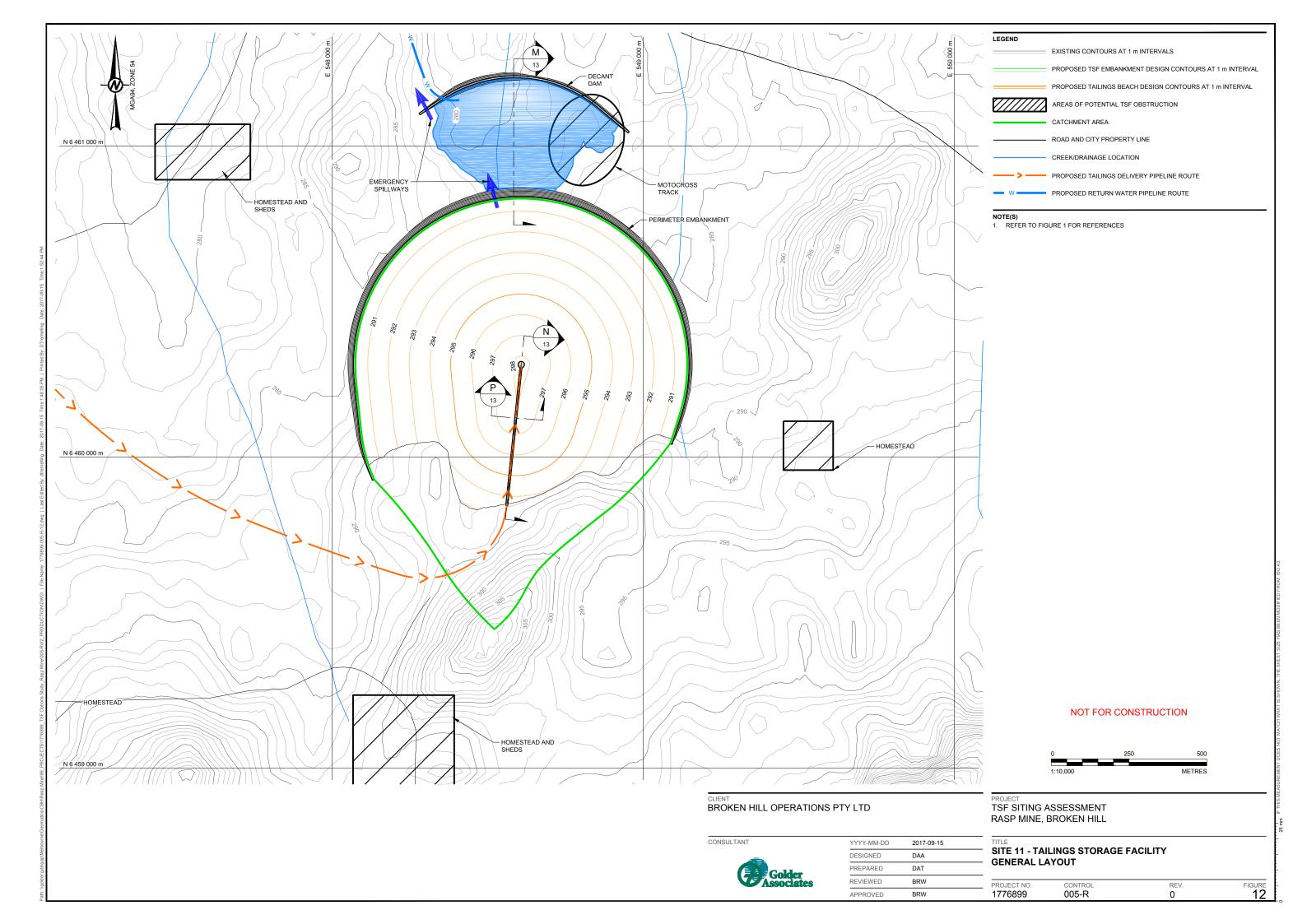
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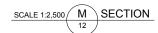
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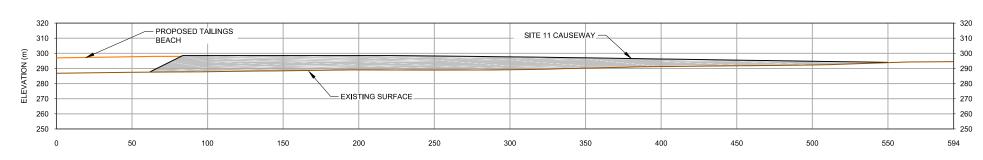
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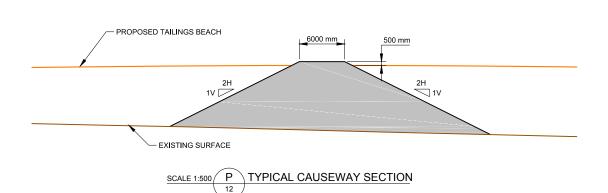


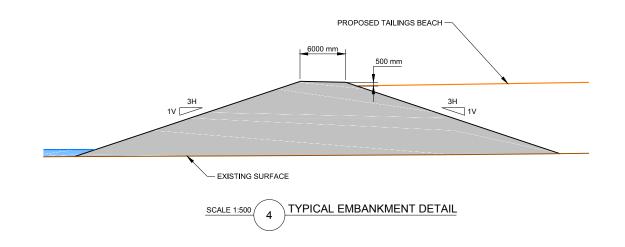




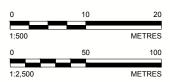


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PROJECT TSF SITING ASSESSMENT RASP MINE, BROKEN HILL

SITE 11 - TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY
SECTIONS

- PROJECT NO. CONTROL REV. FIGURE 1776899 005-R 0 13



APPENDIX A

Commentary on TSF sites for 30 year storage case





APPENDIX A

Initial screening commentary on potential TSF sites

Table 1: Summary of screened sites and status for further assessment, based on 30 year storage case

Site No.	Location description	Comments and status for further assessment
1	South of Broken Hill township, to the east of Silver City Highway and to the south-west of the airport, in a valley formed by Acacia Creek and within the Pine Creek catchment.	Site is located on well-developed private property with extensive man-made wetlands and a number of dwellings. Not suitable for further assessment due to extent of development and the perception that it is a high value
2	South of Broken Hill township, to the east of Silver City Highway, south-west of Site 1, located within a small valley formed by a tributary to Acacia Creek.	farm.
3	West of Broken Hill township between Silverton Road and the Barrier Highway, located within in a small valley formed by a tributary to Pine Creek.	Access to the site not possible due to fencing. Tailings delivery / return water pipeline distance around the township would be in the order of 12 km. Not suitable for further assessment due to long distance from the mine and associated high costs for pipeline installation and operational pumping.
4	West of Broken Hill township between Silverton Road and the Barrier Highway, located within in a small valley formed by a tributary to Pine Creek, to the west of Site 3.	Tailings delivery / return water pipeline distance around the township would be in the order of 14 km. Similar to Site 3, not suitable for further assessment due to long distance from the mine.
5	North-west of Broken Hill township and to the north of Silverton Road, located within in a small valley that drains to the north-west.	Tailings delivery / return water pipeline distance around the township would be in the order of 13 km. Similar to Sites 3 and 4, not suitable for further assessment due to long distance from the mine.
6	North-north-east of the Broken Hill township, to the west of Silver City Highway in a broad valley formed by a tributary to Stephens Creek.	Site is located in the area of the Broken Hill Golf Course. Not suitable for further assessment due to extent of development.
7	East of both the Broken Hill township and the railway line, in a valley formed by a tributary to Stephens Creek Reservoir. Located to the north of Site 8.	Close proximity to the mine (approximately 7 km) with no significant impediments. Site suitable for further assessment.
8	East of both the Broken Hill township and the railway line and to the north of the Menindee Road, in a valley formed by a tributary to Stephens Creek Reservoir.	Close proximity to the mine (approximately 6.5 km) with no significant impediments. Site suitable for further assessment.
9	South-east of the Broken Hill township, and south of the railway line and Menindee Road, in a valley formed by a tributary to Stephens Creek Reservoir. Located to the north-east of the airport.	Two homesteads located at the periphery of the site. Acquisition of the properties considered feasible. Close proximity to the mine (approximately 4 km). Site suitable for further assessment.





APPENDIX A

Initial screening commentary on potential TSF sites

Site No.	Location description	Comments and status for further assessment
-	Kintore Pit, Rasp Mine site.	Decline portal at the base of pit to be closed with appropriate measures. Closing methods to be considered for the base and batters of the pit to limit uncontrolled seepage from deposited tailings. Consideration to be given to removal of waste rock located in the southern area and a potential embankment near the pit rim to maximise tailings storage potential. Tailings storage assessments have not been undertaken to date. Site suitable for further assessment.

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APPENDIX B

Layouts, site visit observations and technical considerations





10 August 2017

Reference No. 1776899-004-L-Rev0

Ian Pattison Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd

RASP MINE – NEW TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY OPTIONS ASSESSMENT – SUMMARY OF LAYOUTS, SITE OBSERVATIONS, TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND PATH FORWARD

Dear Ian

This letter summarises site observations and discussions held at the mine between representatives of Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd (BHOP) and Golder Associates Pty Ltd (Golder) on Tuesday 25 July 2017 for prospective new tailings storage facility (TSF) sites near the Rasp Mine. It presents information for the initially considered layouts for 30 years of tailings storage capacity and on alternative layouts for approximately 10 years of capacity.

Background

A TSF site screening assessment was presented by Golder in three emails issued between 30 May 2017 and 7 June 2017 (Figures Ref.1776899-001-T-Rev0 to Rev2) for sites with capacity to store approximately 14 Mm³ of tailings, i.e. 30 years at approximately 700,000 dry tonnes per annum with an average dry density of 1.5 t/m³. Commencement of deposition in the new TSF would be from about mid-2021, when the Blackwood Pit, with the scheduled raise implemented, is expected to reach its storage capacity.

A total of nine potential new TSF sites were initially identified within a 10 km radius of the Rasp Mine (and around the periphery of the Broken Hill township). These sites were initially visited by representatives of BHOP and then subsequently shortlisted during a teleconference with Golder on 26 June 2017. BHOP also put forward the option of using the Kintore Pit for tailings storage. A table summarising the initial comments on these options was presented in a variation letter for additional assessment (Ref.1776899-002-L-Rev1, dated 3 July 2017). The sites that were shortlisted and subject to observation during the site visit of 25 July 2017 are:

- Site 7
- Site 8
- Site 9
- The Kintore Pit

Preliminary layout plans for the above TSF sites were prepared by Golder and issued to BHOP on 24 July 2017 (Ref. 1776899-003-T-RevA). A storage assessment for the Kintore Pit has indicated that it has storage capacity of approximately 3.8 Mm³. Assuming a dry density of 1.5 t/m³ this could result in capacity for 5.7 million dry tonnes of tailings, i.e. for approximately 8 years of storage life. With a perimeter raise around the southern side of the pit, it is possible that this layout can provide storage for up to approximately 10 years of tailings production.



On the basis that there may be some constraints with accessing a new TSF site and to provide a comparative study of offsite TSFs with the Kintore Pit, direction was provided by BHOP on 25 July 2017 to consider off-site TSF layouts with a capacity of 10 years, including "turkey nest" style layouts for perimeter discharge or central discharge. These layouts become practical for the shorter storage life with respect to the terrain that would otherwise be a constraint for a longer storage life. The 30 year layouts are summarised in this letter to capture assessments and site observations completed to date. Smaller layouts for 10 years of storage will be progressed following feedback by BHOP of the information presented herein.

TSF layout characteristics

30 year storage options

The layouts for Sites 7 to 9 considered up-valley discharge from a cross valley embankment arrangement. A 1.5% beach slope was adopted based on current performance in the Blackwood Pit. A summary of key layout characteristics for Sites 7 to 9, for 30 years of storage capacity, is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of site layout characteristics – valley storage sites – 30 year scenario

Site	Final storage area (ha)	Catchment area (ha)	Maximum embank. height (m)	Maximum embank. length (km)	Tailings storage volume (Mm³)	Embank. volume (Mm³) ^(Note)	Storage ratio
7	177	1637	20	2.7	14.1	1.67	8.4
8	148	1024	24	2.6	13.9	1.78	7.8
9	201	824	20	3.0	14.4	n/m	n/m

Note: n/m = not modelled at this stage due to homesteads located within the footprint area and associated land access constraints.

10 year storage options

An in-pit storage assessment for the Kintore Pit based on topographical data of 25 April 2016 and without a raise to the rim, shows that there is capacity to store approximately 3.9 Mm³ of tailings, assuming an average dry density of 1.5 t/m³. This potential option requires the existing mine decline at the bottom of the pit be closed. This volume assumes that the waste rock stockpiled in the southern area of the pit remains in place or is spread over the pit floor prior to commencement of tailings deposition. Comparison of the aerial topographical survey of January 2000 with the drone topographical survey of April 2016 indicates that approximately 350,000 m³ of waste rock was placed up until April 2016. Discussions held with representatives of BHOP on site suggest that a further 100,000 m³ of waste rock has since been placed. On this basis the potential storage capacity as at late July 2017 is approximately 3.8 Mm³.

A summary of layout characteristics for the Kintore Pit is presented in Table 2. The characteristics consider storage to the existing lowest elevation at the pit rim RL 310 m, and is presented in Layout A. The layout provides 8 years of capacity, assuming an average dry density of 1.5 t/m³). Layout B includes a raise with embankment crest to RL 315 m and results in 9 years of capacity. A third layout with raise embankment crest at RL 320 m (Layout C) provides 10 years of storage capacity.

Table 2: Layout characteristics for the Kintore Pit storage options

Site	Storage area (ha) (Note 1)	Area at base of pit (ha)	Maximum depth (m)	Maximum storage elevation (RL m)	Length and width at pit rim (m × m)	Tailings storage capacity (m³) ^(Note 2)
Kintore Pit – Layout A	10.5	0.8	212	310	440 x 260	3.8
Kintore Pit – Layout B	11.3	0.8	217	315	450 x 300	4.4
Kintore Pit – Layout C	11.7	0.8	222	320	470 x 280	4.9

Notes:

- 1. The catchment area is marginally larger than the storage area.
- 2. Storage volume allows for reduction due to approximate volume of waste rock placed between April 2016 and late July 2017.



With consideration of the smaller target storage capacity, it becomes practical to also consider sites that are constructed as a "turkey nest" for perimeter discharge or centrally discharged tailings. Potential sites of this type, selected based on relatively gently sloping terrain, i.e. in the range of 2% to 0.7% and located off watercourses (or at the head of watercourses), are marked on Figures 5 and 6 and include:

- Site 10 located to the south-west of Site 7 (and north-west of Site 8)
- Site 11 located to the east of Site 9

Note, these sites are shown as square shaped, with base dimensions of 650 m \times 650 m (42 ha footprint area) with the assumption that they will be operated for perimeter discharge and be formed to a maximum height of approximately 15 m, i.e. providing capacity for approximately 4.7 Mm³. The shape would be formed by a perimeter embankment that is progressively upstream raised, e.g. similar to the existing Perilya TSF.

Summary of observations and technical considerations

Overview

Observations were undertaken for the sites initially sized for 14 Mm³ of tailings storage capacity, i.e. a 30 year storage scenario. The following sections summarise site observations and technical considerations for these sites as well as comments for a smaller footprint area, i.e. for the 10 year storage scenario.

Terrain and geology

Sites 7 and 8 (and area of Site 10)

Ridges are located along the eastern and western margins of Site 7 and 8. Site observations made at the western abutments of each of these sites noted rocky outcrops of metamorphosed igneous rock – likely to be Thorndale Gneiss based on the crystalline texture and reference to a regional geological map for Broken Hill¹.

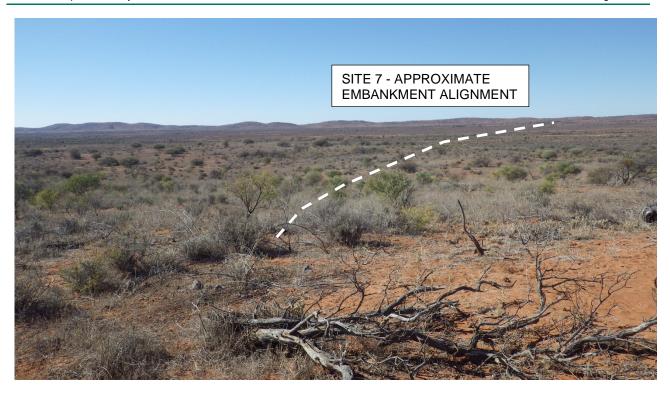
Site 7 comprises two valleys with ephemeral watercourses and Site 8 is located further upstream on one of these valleys. At one location between the two storage areas, the watercourse was approximately 25 m wide and 1 m deep and incised into clayey soil. This soil is interpreted to be of alluvial origin, in general agreement with the regional geological map that indicates colluvial and alluvial sediments of Quaternary age.

An area that may be suited to a "turkey nest" arrangement was identified to the west of Sites 7 and 8 (and to the east of the railway line). This is marked as Site 10 on Figure 5. The terrain in this area gently slopes to the north-west at gradients of between 2% and 0.7%.

Selected photographs for Sites 7, 8 and 10 are presented below.



¹ Anderson et al. (1970) Broken Hill 1:250,000 Geological Series Sheet SH 54-14, 1st Edition.



Photograph 1: Site 7, looking east from the western abutment area of the 30 year layout, reference point S7-01



Photograph 2: Site 7, western abutment - view of outcropping rock, reference point S7-01



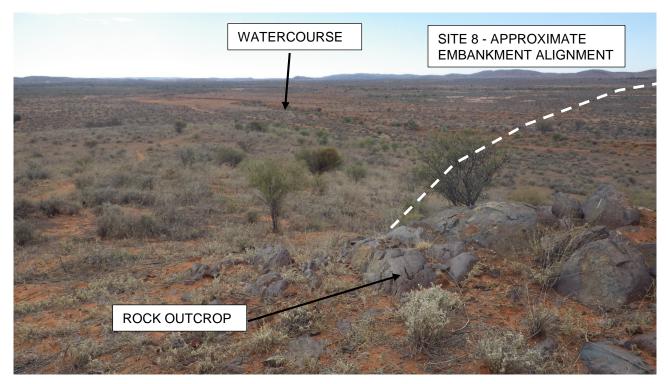
Photograph 3: View of watercourse between Sites 7 and 8







Photograph 5: View of watercourse bank, between Sites 7 and 8



Photograph 6: Site 8, looking east from the western abutment area of the 30 year layout, reference point S8-02



Photograph 7: Site 8, view of topographical saddle on western side of storage area, looking north-north-west from reference point S8-01



Photograph 8: Site 8, view of topographical high point on western side of the storage area, looking south from reference point S8-01





Photograph 9: View of the Site 10 area, looking north-west from reference point S8-02

Site 9 (and area of Site 11)

Geological outcrops were not observed within the area of Site 9. Regional geological mapping also indicates the presence of Thorndale Gneiss in this area. A general view of the Site 9 area is shown below. Note, general access around this area was constrained by fence lines.



Photograph 10: General view of the area to the south-east of Site 9, looking west



Kintore Pit

The Kintore Pit is approximately 210 m deep (relative to a rim elevation of RL 310 m). Old tailings is exposed in the northern batter, as well as old timber supports from crushed relict mine workings. Adits and shafts to old workings are noted by BHOP as being present in the batters on each side of the pit, including behind the waste rock stockpile.

A wedge failure has occurred in the eastern batter of the pit where the intersection of discontinuity planes in the rock slope have day-lighted in the batter slope. Failure of the wedge occurred in recent years following a period of heavy rainfall.

The lower slopes of the western batter to the side of and above the decline portal are lined with shotcrete (and/or fibrecrete).

BHOP indicated that removal of the waste rock is not considered practical due to the cost of double handling if relocating it outside of the pit, and the lack of space for relocating the waste rock within the mine lease area. BHOP representatives suggested the old BHP pit and potentially also the Little Kintore Pit could be used for future waste rock placement. It is therefore likely that existing waste rock stockpiled in the pit will be spread across the floor area, once the decline portal is closed.

As noted on Figure 4, the lowest elevation at the pit rim is on the southern side. A notch is present at this location, as shown in Photograph 14.

BHOP representatives noted the depth below the pit base to underground workings is less than 100 m and possibly as little as 40 m. Review of information on the layout of underground workings would be required before further consideration is given to developing the Pit for tailings storage. The location of underground working relative to old adits and shafts in the side of the pit would also need to be assessed. (refer 'Seepage management' section).



Photograph 11: Kintore Pit, view of northern side, including old tailings in batter



Photograph 12: Kintore Pit, view of eastern batter, showing area of wedge failure



Photograph 13: Kintore Pit, view of waste rock stockpile from base of pit, looking south along eastern batter



Photograph 14: Kintore Pit, view of southern batter from the top of the waste rock stockpile



Observations and comments on the decline portal are provided in the section titled 'Kintore Pit decline portal'.

Land access

Sites 7 and 8

The eastern abutments to Sites 7 and 8 were not accessible due to a fence line around the "Clevedale" station (refer Figure 2 for location of the station). This station on the eastern side of these sites may present a constraint to development of a TSF. Title boundaries in the area of Sites 7 and 8 remain to be assessed.

Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) radio receiver towers also exist at the south-east margin of the larger storage area for Site 8, i.e. they would be outside of the footprint for the 10 year layout. The towers are fenced off and include water tanks (under small shelters) and solar panels. These towers and private ownership of the eastern side of the valley area may present a constraint to development of a TSF at this site.





Photograph 15: RFDS radio towers

Photograph 16: RFDS radio towers - tanks and solar panels

Site 9 (and Site 11)

Homesteads are located at the margins of the Site 9. Further information is required on the title extents of for these homesteads and other potential titles in the area. Refer 'Path forward' section.







of Site 9, looking west

Embankment construction

Development of a TSF at any of Sites 7, 8 and 9 would require construction of an embankment across a valley that drains to the Stephens Creek Reservoir. Maximum embankment heights at each site for the 30 year layouts are noted in Table 1, with heights ranging between 20 m and 24 m for the 30 year scenario. Embankment heights for the 10 year case are yet to be assessed.



Embankment lengths of up to 2.7 km (Site 7) would be required to close off the relatively broad valley systems.

Tailings deposition and rate of rise

Sites 7 to 9

Tailings deposition for these sites would be via discharge from the embankment, i.e. up-valley discharge. An average beach slope of 1.5% is adopted for the layouts. Beach lengths of up to approximately 1 km and 1.2 km are expected for Sites 7 and 8 respectively (for the 30 year scenario).

Sites 10 and 11

Tailings deposition for these sites would be via discharge from the perimeter embankment or via a causeway to the central area. Discharge at a lower solids concentration may be required to maintain relatively shallow beach gradients, required to maximise storage capacity. Alternatively a longer beach may be developed for higher solids content tailings, with a water retaining embankment on one side of the TSF.

Beach lengths of up to 300 m are expected in the early stages and will progressively diminish as the TSF is raised.

Kintore Pit

Tailings deposition to the Kintore Pit would be via perimeter discharge, with potentially saturated conditions due to the relatively short beach lengths and the relatively high rate of rise. The rate of rise will progressively reduce as the pit is filled. Towards the end of filling when the tailings storage area is approximately 10 ha, the rate of rise will approach approximately 5 m/year. The higher rate of rise may also result in a lower dry density compared to what is currently achieved in the Blackwood Pit TSF.

Water management

Sites 7 to 9

Development of a TSF at these sites would occur in a sub-catchment to the regional drainage catchment of the Stephens Creek Reservoir. Without consideration to diversion drains, the TSF catchment areas represent the following proportions of the larger Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment² (total area of 51,300 ha)

- Site 7: 3.2%
- Site 8: 2%
- Site 9: 1.6%

Note, the 10 year storage scenarios at Sites 7 to 9 are expected to result in similar catchment areas to the 30 year storage areas, due to a consistent embankment alignment.

The up-valley discharge arrangement would result in runoff water (tailings slurry supernatant and/or rainfall) being managed at some distance for the storage embankment, thereby reducing risks associated with water ponding adjacent to embankments. A causeway would be formed into the storage area from the southern side of the storages for pump extraction of water for return to the processing plant. The pump would be retreated along the causeway as the tailings beach rises. Alternatively, a gravity decant system could be considered, with inlets that are progressively raised in the pond area and an outfall pipe to an externally located decant dam. In this instance the outfall pipe would be installed through the foundation of the impoundment and the embankment. The gravity decant system represents higher capital cost than the retreating pump option.



² Signage at the Stephens Creek Reservoir states a catchment area of 513 km² (i.e. 51,300 ha).

The depression formed at the upper end of the respective valley sites by the sloping tailings beach represents significant flood storage capacity, thereby negating the need for a stormwater management dam outside of the tailings storage area. Note, a small seepage collection pond may be required downstream of the TSF embankment if any of these sites were developed.

Sites 10 and 11

These sites represent closed storages, i.e. with no external catchment. They are also all located within the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment, however, with a much smaller footprint area. The footprint area of each of these sites represents approximately 0.1% of the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment.

Water management capacity on the surface of a perimeter discharge TSF would be substantial, obviating the need for an external decant dam. For a central discharge facility, an external decant dam would be required due to the runoff shedding layout.

Kintore Pit

The Kintore Pit is a closed system and has no impact on the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment, i.e. it does not represent a change to the current regional hydrogeological condition.

Seepage management

Sites 7 to 11

Development of a TSF at any of the sites within the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment may require a geosynthetic liner over the tailings impoundment area, to manage perceptions associated with the TSF being located with a town water supply catchment. The smaller area of Sites 10 and 11 (~42 ha) is favourable relative to the larger areas of Sites 7 to 9.

Kintore Pit

The Kintore Pit (and a large proportion of the Rasp Mine site, including the Blackwood Pit TSF) is also located in the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment, however, as it represents an existing disturbed area with underground mine development and includes provisions to retain a 1 in 100 annual exceedance probability (AEP) rainfall event.

Seepage mitigation measures would be required to manage both the fractured rock exposed in the batters of the pit, as well as the old workings. This may be in the form of shotcrete, progressively applied to the batters as tailings accumulates in the pit.

Consideration could be given to developing a vertical borehole from the pit base to an upper level of the underground mine, for connection to a seepage collection system at the base of the pit. The potential development of a horizontal hole across to Shaft 7 for discharge of seepage water is not considered practical due to the approximate 1 km distance between it and the pit and high potential for old mine voids along the alignment. There may, however, be a suitable underground route for drainage of seepage to Shaft 7.

Dam break risk and consequence category considerations

If a TSF was developed within the Stephens Creek Reservoir catchment site, it is likely to attract a "High" consequence category due to the potential risk to the town water supply dam. Some of the TSF locations would also pose a risk to the railway line and Menindee Road.

Use of the Kintore Pit would initially represent an "in-pit" tailings storage layout and would therefore not be classified as a dam. As the pit is filled and a requirement to form an embankment at the pit rim arises, it would then be classified as a dam. Similar to Blackwood pit TSF raise, the raised TSF is likely to attract a "High" consequence category.



Tailings delivery and return water pipeline routes

Sites 7 and 8

For Sites 7 and 8, tailings delivery corridors of approximately 10.4 km and 7.9 km would be required. The alignment for tailings delivery and return water pipelines would cross the railway line twice to get to the respective TSF location. Crossings could be achieved with directional drilling through the railway embankment to avoid significant disruption to the railway line. To avoid railway line crossings, a more circuitous routes could be considered). Further assessment of the proposed alignments (all sites – including Sites 10 and 11) is required with respect to road, property, powerline easements, etc.

Site 9

The length of the tailings delivery corridor for Site 9 is approximately 5.9 km and railway crossings are not required.

Sites 10 and 11

Pipeline routes for Sites 10 and 11 will follow the general alignments of those presented for Sites 7 to 9.

Kintore Pit

Similar to the Blackwood Pit, tailings deposition to the Kintore Pit would only require relatively short lengths (approximately 1.4 km between plant and pit without consideration to the ring main distance) of tailings delivery and return water pipelines.

Kintore Pit decline portal

For the Kintore Pit to be used for tailings storage, the decline portal would need be closed and a new portal be established. Sterilisation drilling in the Kintore Pit is likely to occur prior to its development as a TSF.

The decline portal at the base of the Kintore Pit is approximately 5.2 wide and 7 m high. The gradient of the decline quickly drops away beyond the portal. Review of information on the underground workings and the decline is required as part of further assessment on the technical feasibility of using the Kintore Pit for tailings storage. (Refer *'Path forward'* section below)

Steel cables and fibrecrete have been applied for ground support inside the decline. BHOP noted that this support extends approximately 100 m in from the portal.





Photograph 19: View of decline portal

Photograph 20: View down decline from portal

Water use efficiency

Consideration could be given to installation of a filter press plant to dewater the tailings prior to placement in the pit or off-site TSFs. Filtered tailings typically results in tailings dewatered to the point that it is no longer practical to pump. If adopted, the plant would be located adjacent to the pit/TSF and filtered tailings could be deposited via conveyor and then spread by dozer and compacted. The capital and operating cost of a filter plant and transportation to the TSF could be considered in future assessments, subject to the technical viability of filtering the tailings, and the economics of such a system.



Application of filter tailings may also have advantages with respect to limiting seepage and associated collection measures. The cost of seepage collection measures are, however, likely to be cheap compared to implementation of a filter press plant and associated transportation and earthwork requirements.

Note, assessment of filter tailings is not proposed as part of the current scope of work for life of mine TSF options.

Path forward

Following the results of the initial screening assessment and the site visit, further assessment of TSF layouts for 10 years of tailings storage capacity is proposed. The sites selected for further assessment area:

- Kintore Pit in-pit tailings storage
- Site 8 cross valley embankment storage, noting that this site provides an opportunity for variable storage volume requirement. It is selected over Site 7 due to its smaller catchment area and is selected over Site 9 as it represents a more efficient storage layout and does not appear to be as constrained by homesteads.
- Site 10 perimeter discharge or central discharge layout. Identified as being suitable due it being in an area of relatively gently sloping terrain, located off a watercourses and without apparent title constraints (subject to further review).
- Site 11 perimeter discharge or central discharge layout. Identified as being suitable due to it having a relatively short and direct tailings delivery and return water pipeline route. Site development may be constrained by adjacent homesteads and associated titles. Some flexibility exists to move the layout within the general area south of Menindee Road, subject to title constraints.

The following information is required to progress the assessment of in-pit storage in the Kintore Pit:

- Updated topographical data for the Kintore Pit. We understand an aerial drone survey was undertaken in early July 2017 and the data is being processed.
- Mapping of underground workings beneath and around the Kintore Pit, include details of the upper level
- Mapping of the Kintore Pit decline portal, including details of the dimensions and the gradient from the portal.
- Details of the underground workings near the pit and their connection to Shaft 7.
- Details on the type and extent of ground support and geotechnical conditions in the entrance area of the decline.

To progress the assessment of Sites 8, 10 and 11, information is required on the title boundaries. We request that this information be obtained by BHOP from the local council. Publically sourced topographical data will continue to be used for the assessment of these sites.

Closing

We trust this letter provides an appropriate summary of available information, site observations and basis for selection of the sites for further assessment. Please contact us if you would like to discuss. We will proceed with the assessment following confirmation of the selected sites and provision of the requested data.



GOLDER ASSOCIATES PTY LTD

David Accadia Associate

DAA/FWG

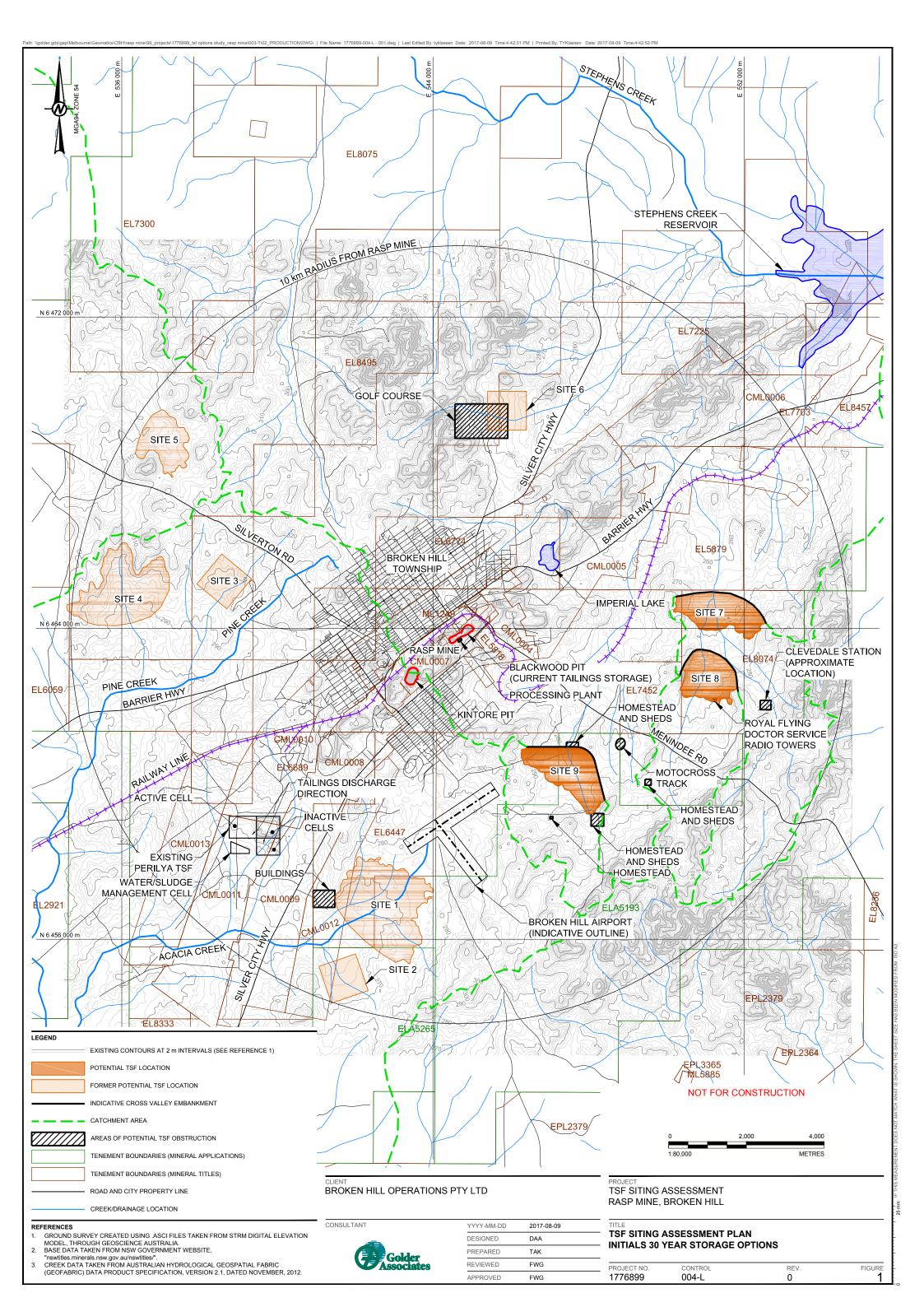
Fred Gassner Principal

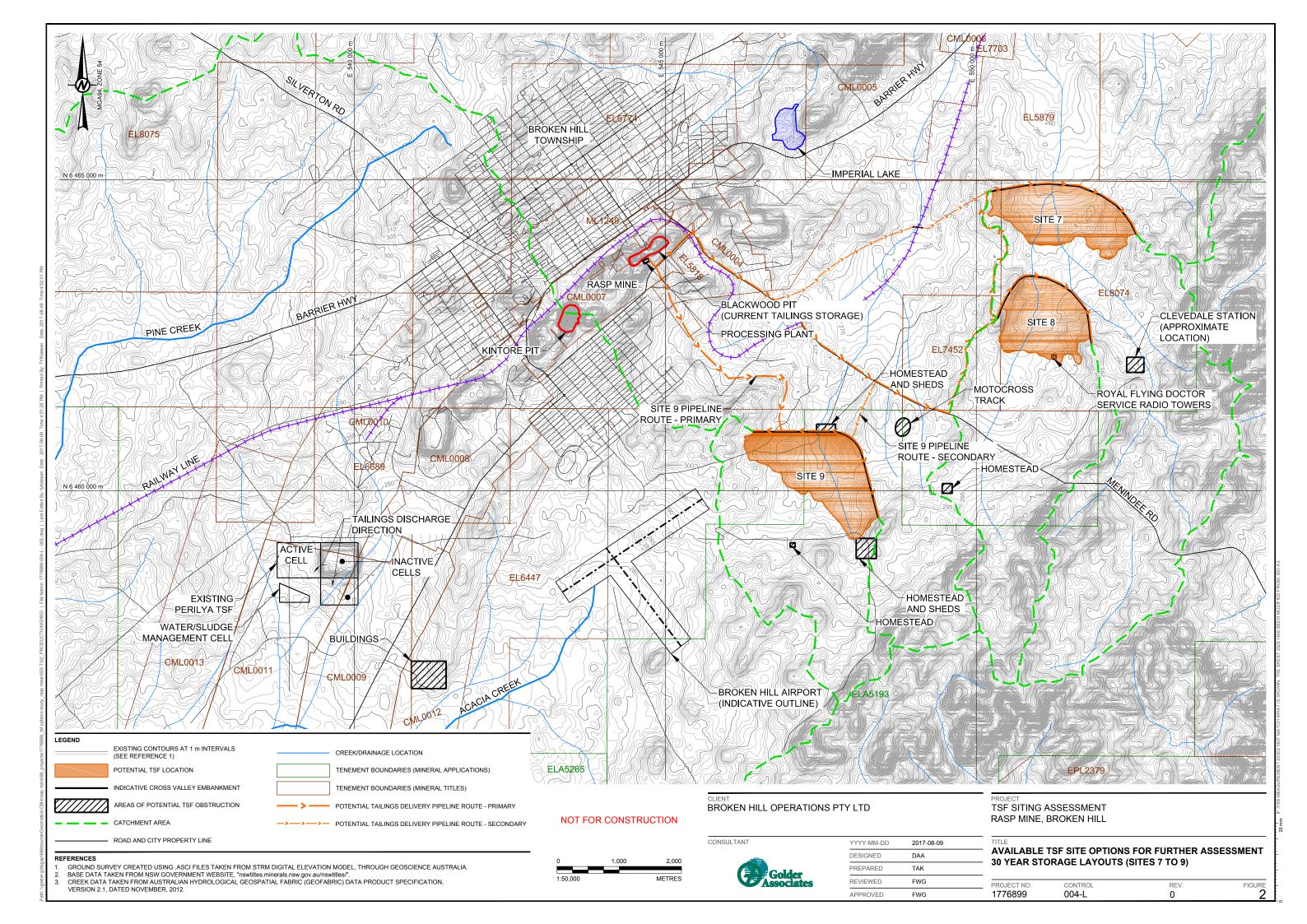
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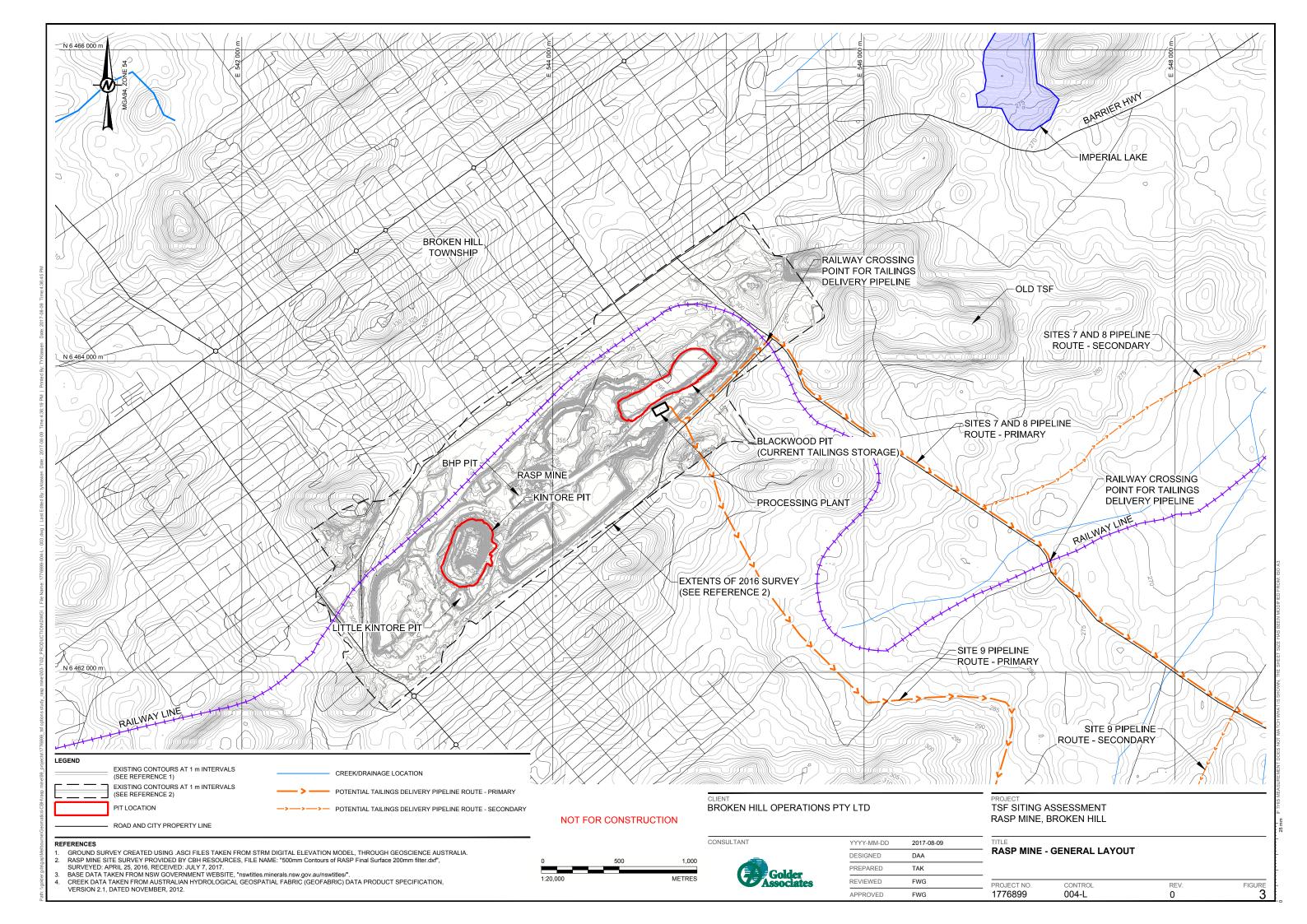
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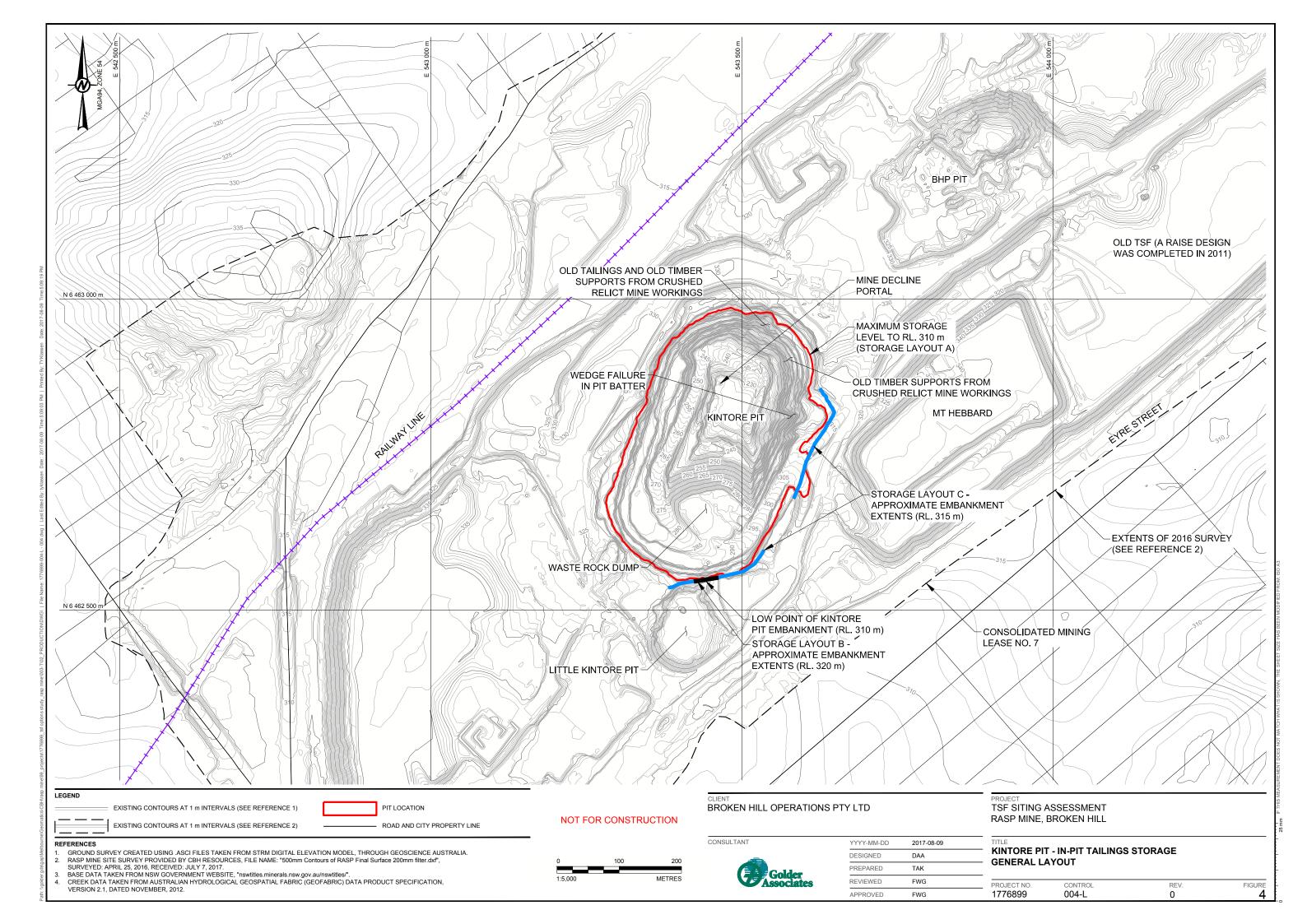
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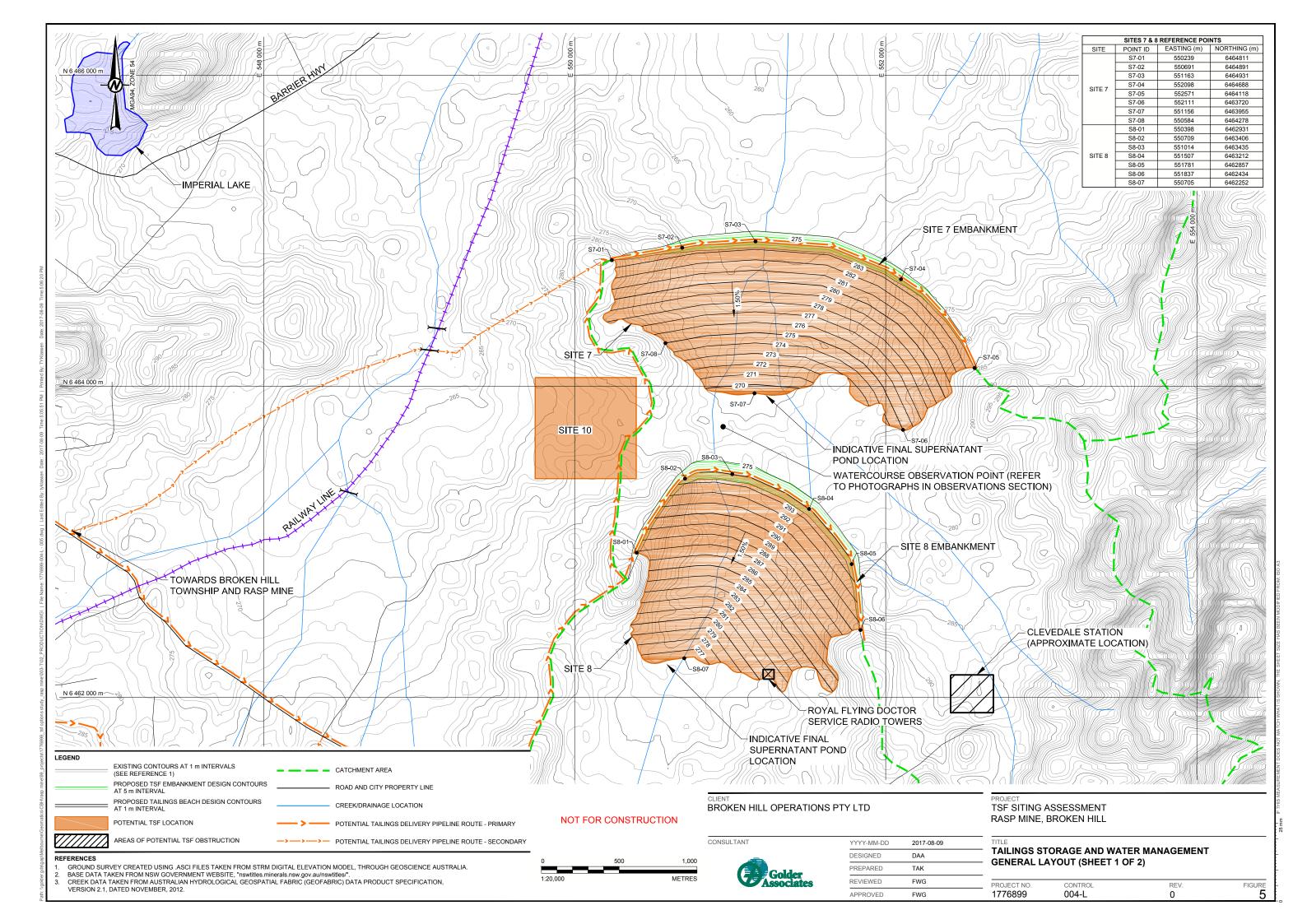


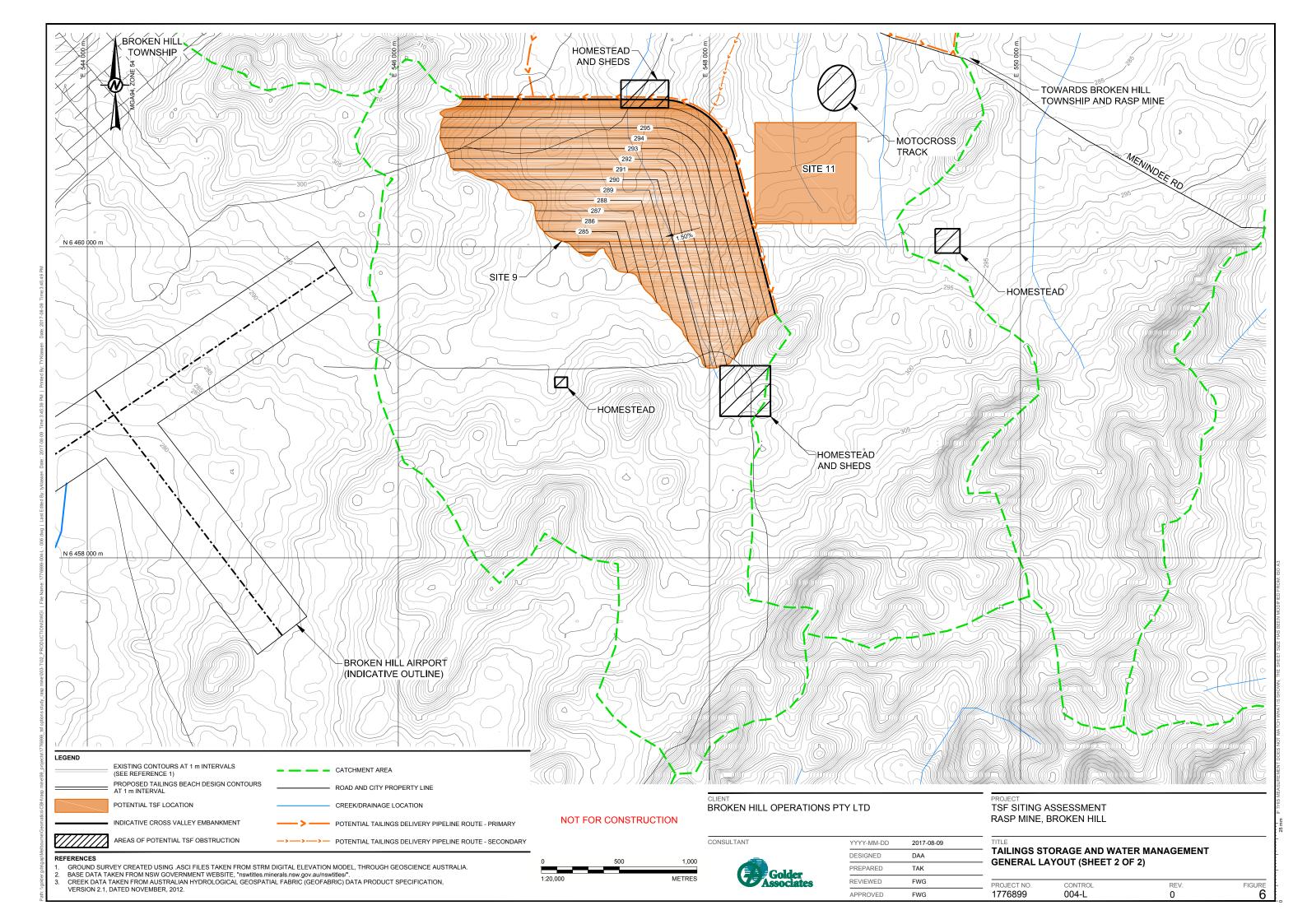














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APPENDIX C

Cost estimates - detailed breakdown



		Γ	Kint	tore Pit	S	ite 8	Sit	te 10	S	ite 11
Description	<u>Unit</u>	Rate	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
Preliminaries - mobilisation, demobilisation and preparation of safe work method										
statements	Item	\$250,000.00	1	\$250,000	1	\$250,000	1	\$250,000	1	\$250,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$250,000		\$250,000		\$250,000		\$250,000
Tailings pumps and pipelines										
Supply and install tailings delivery pumps at thickener underflow.	Item	\$80,000.00	2	\$160,000	4	\$320,000	4	\$320,000	4	\$320,000
Supply 200 mm ID, UHMWPE lined steel pipeline for tailings delivery	m	\$225.00	2,500	\$562,500	9,500	\$2,137,500	8,250	\$1,856,250	7,250	\$1,631,250
Install tailings delivery pipeline, inclusive of road and rail crossings, supports, bunded corridor,										
etc.	m	\$200.00	2,500	\$500,000	9,500	\$1,900,000	8,250	\$1,650,000	7,250	\$1,450,000
Supply and install return water pump, inclusive of access ramp.	Item	\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000	2	\$100,000	2	\$100,000	2	\$100,000
Supply and install DN280 diameter, HDPE pipeline for return water, inclusive of road and rail										
crossings, supports, bunded corridor, etc.	m	\$200.00	2,000	\$400,000	8,000	\$1,600,000	7,250	\$1,450,000	6,250	\$1,250,000
Develop access roads between Menindee Road and TSF.	m	\$200.00	-	\$0	3,000	\$600,000	3,000	\$600,000	2,000	\$400,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$1,675,000		\$6,060,000		\$5,375,000		\$4,750,000
Tailings delivery causeways										
Embankment Construction										
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the	,									
embankment. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$20.88	0	\$0	0	\$0	145,000	\$3,026,875	80,100	\$1,672,088
Wearing Course and Safety Bunds										
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer.	m ³	ć25.20		60		ćo	4 000	627.405	450	644.440
Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	1,080	\$27,405	450	\$11,419
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A), haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance										
7.5 km.	m ³	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	2,400	\$60,900	1,000	\$25,375
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)		Ψ20.00	Ť	\$0		\$0		\$3,115,000		\$1,710,000
Perimeter Embankment - Earthworks				70		70		73,113,000		ψ1,7 10,000
Foundation Preparation		1		 						
Clear debris within the embankment footprint	m ²	ćo 20	20.400	Ć4 000		ćo	0	ćo		ćo
·		\$0.20	20,400	\$4,080	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Clear and grub embankment footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	102,200	\$51,100	73,000	\$36,500	81,500	\$40,750
Excavate topsoil/subsoil from within embankmnet footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles. Assumed 150 mm thickness and average haulage distance of 1 km.	m ²	62.50		ć0	45.220	ć52.655	40.050	¢20.225	42.225	ć 42 7 00
		\$3.50	0	\$0	15,330	\$53,655	10,950	\$38,325	12,225	\$42,788
Scarify, moisture condition and compact embankment footprint to a nominal 400 mm depth.	m ²	\$2.20	0	\$0	102,200	\$224,840	73,000	\$160,600	81,500	\$179,300
Embankment Construction					_					
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the	m ³	\$7.98	59,400	\$473,715	0	\$0	0	\$0	١	\$0
embankment. Average haulage distance 1.5 km. Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the	111	\$7.90	39,400	\$475,715	-	ŞÜ	· ·	ŞU	0	ŞU
embankment. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$20.88	0	\$0	0	\$0	334,500	\$6,982,688	347,000	\$7,243,625
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the	_									. ,
embankment. Average haulage distance 9 km.	m ³	\$22.35	0	\$0	811,500	\$18,137,025	0	\$0	0	\$0
Wearing Course and Safety Bunds										
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer.	3	440.40		4-105		40		40		4.0
Average haulage distance 1.5 km.	m ³	\$12.48	576	\$7,186	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	2,970	\$75,364	2,160	\$54,810
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),		Ψ23.30	⊢	ΨÜ	·	γo	2,370	\$73,304	2,100	751,010
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer.										
Average haulage distance 9 km.	m ³	\$28.60	0	\$0	1,530	\$43,758	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance	3	A.A.				4-				4
1.5 km.	m ³	\$12.48	1,280	\$15,968	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	6,600	\$167,475	4,800	\$121,800
I O KIII.		723.30		γU	J	γU	0,000	7101,713	4,000	7121,000

			Kint	ore Pit	S	ite 8	Si	te 10	S	ite 11
<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	Cost	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Cost</u>	Qty	<u>Cost</u>
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance	m ³	\$28.60	0	\$0	3,400	\$97,240	0	\$0	0	\$0
9 km. Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)	111	\$20.00	U	\$500,000	3,400	\$18,610,000	0	\$7,460,000	-	\$ 7,685,000
Decant Dam and Headwater Diversion Dam Embankment - Earthworks				\$500,000		\$18,610,000		\$7,460,000		\$7,085,000
					-	_			_	
Foundation Preparation	2	<u> </u>		 	_	 	_		_	
Clear debris within the embankment footprint	m ²	\$0.20	0	\$0	41,300	\$8,260	16,450	\$3,290	14,400	\$2,880
Clear and grub embankment footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	41,300	\$20,650	16,450	\$8,225	14,400	\$7,200
Excavate topsoil/subsoil from within embankmnet footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles. Assumed 150 mm thickness and average haulage distance of 1 km.	m ²	\$3.50	0	\$0	6,195	\$21,683	2,468	\$8,636	2,160	\$7,560
Scarify, moisture condition and compact embankment footprint to a nominal 400 mm depth.	m ²	\$2.20	0	\$0	41,300	\$90,860	16,450	\$36,190	14,400	\$31,680
Embankment Construction	111	72.20	0	ŞŪ	41,300	390,800	10,430	\$30,190	14,400	\$31,080
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the										
embankment. Average haulage distance 1.5 km.	m^3	\$7.98	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the embankment. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$20.88	0	\$0	0	\$0	23,400	\$488,475	23,000	\$480,125
Excavate NAF/PAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and compact at the	2									
embankment. Average haulage distance 9 km.	m^3	\$22.35	0	\$0	41,400	\$925,290	0	\$0	0	\$0
Wearing Course and Safety Bunds										
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer.	m ³	642.40		ćo.		60		ćo		ćo
Average haulage distance 1.5 km. Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),	m	\$12.48	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m^3	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	891	\$22,609	675	\$17,128
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A), haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form a 150 mm thick wearing course layer.										
Average haulage distance 9 km.	m^3	\$28.60	0	\$0	1,890	\$54,054	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),										
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance	m ³	642.40		ćo.		60		ćo		ćo
1.5 km.	m	\$12.48	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A), haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance										
7.5 km.	m^3	\$25.38	0	\$0	0	\$0	1,980	\$50,243	1,500	\$38,063
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, crush and screen (to produce Unit 4A),		, , , ,		, ,			,,,,,,	, = = ,	,,,,,,	, ,
haul, place and compact at embankment crest to form safety bunds. Average haulage distance	2									
9 km.	m ³	\$28.60	0	\$0	851		0	\$0	0	\$0
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$0		\$1,145,000		\$620,000		\$585,000
Stormwater diversion works										
Supply and install 315 mm diameter HDPE outfall pipe for catchment diversion dam, extending through TSF impoundment and embankment foundation. (Site 8 only)	m	\$300.00	0	\$0	1,600	\$480,000	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate diversion drains for Decant Dam storage areas. (Sites 10 and 11 only)	m	\$50.00	0	\$0	0	\$0	1,800	\$90,000	900	\$45,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$0		\$480,000		\$90,000		\$45,000
Seepage Barrier Works - Tailings Storage Facility										
Foundation Preparation										
Clear and grub impoundment footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	798,400	\$399,200	822,000	\$411,000	793,700	\$396,850
Grade impoundment area to form subgrade for geosynthetic liner.	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	798,400	\$399,200	822,000	\$411,000	793,700	\$396,850
Install subgrade layer on upstream slope of the embankment for geosynthetic liner.	m ²	\$4.00	8,600	\$34,400	56,100	\$224,400	34,200	\$136,800	40,000	\$160,000
Liner installation										
Supply and install geosynthetic liner system on the upstream slope of the embankment, including all overlaps, joins and anchor trenches as required.	m²	\$22.00	8,600	\$189,200	56,100	\$1,234,200	34,200	\$752,400	40,000	\$880,000
Supply and install geosynthetic liner system on the impoundment area, including all overlaps,				, ,		1				
joins and anchor trenches as required.	m ²	\$22.00	0	\$0	798,400	\$17,564,800	822,000	\$18,084,000	793,700	\$17,461,400
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$225,000		\$19,820,000		\$19,795,000		\$19,295,000
Seepage Barrier Works - Decant Dam										
Foundation Preparation										
Clear and grub impoundment footprint, inclusive of haulage to nominated stockpiles	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	0	\$0	75,000	\$37,500	61,000	\$30,500

			Kint	tore Pit	S	ite 8	Sit	te 10	Si	ite 11
<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Rate</u>	Qty	<u>Cost</u>	Qty	Cost	<u>Qty</u>	Cost	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Grade impoundment area to form subgrade for geosynthetic liner.	m ²	\$0.50	0	\$0	0	\$0	75,000	\$37,500	61,000	\$30,500
Install subgrade layer on upstream slope of the embankment for geosynthetic liner.	m ²	\$4.00	0	\$0	0	\$0	5,000	\$20,000	4,900	\$19,600
Liner installation										
Supply and install geosynthetic liner system on the upstream slope of the embankment,										
including all overlaps, joins and anchor trenches as required.	m ²	\$22.00	0	\$0	0	\$0	5,000	\$110,000	4,900	\$107,800
Supply and install geosynthetic liner system on the impoundment area, including all overlaps,	m ²	¢22.00		Ġ0		ćo	75.000	¢4.650.000	64.000	ć4 242 000
joins and anchor trenches as required.	m	\$22.00	0	\$0 ¢0	0	\$0	75,000		61,000	\$1,342,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$0		\$0		\$1,855,000		\$1,530,000
Spillways and decant structures	1	¢50,000,00	1	¢50,000		ćo	1.5	Ć7F 000	1	¢50,000
Install gravity decant structure.	Lump sum	\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000	0	\$0	1.5	\$75,000	1	\$50,000
Install emergency spillway at TSF embankment.	Lump sum	\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000	1	\$100,000	1.5	\$150,000	1	\$100,000
Install emergency spillway at Decant Dam.	Lump sum	\$100,000.00	0	\$0	0	\$0	1.5	\$150,000	1	\$100,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$150,000		\$100,000		\$375,000		\$250,000
Portal and Seepage Management Systems							-		-	
Kintore Pit Supply and place 20MPa unreinforced concrete to construct 3 plugs in the Decline and Access							-		-	
ramps	m ³	\$750.00	1.500	\$1,125,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Install boreholes (2 no) from surface to Access ramp to transport concrete to form plugs	Lump sum	\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Supply and pump grout to complete filling of plugs against tunnel sidewalls and roof	Lump sum	\$150,000.00	1	\$150,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Earnip Sann	7130,000.00		\$130,000	, , ,	, , o	ľ	, , o	l	ΨŪ
Supply and install rockbolts and other reinforcement measures for closing of the decline.	Lump sum	\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Close old mine workings exposed in the Kintore Pit	Lump sum	\$100,000.00	1	\$100,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Supply and install layer of nominal XX mm diameter drainage aggregate in base of the Kintore	2									
Pit.	m ³	\$40.00	4,200	\$168,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Install drainage outlet pipe through decline portal plug.	Lump sum	\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<u>Sites 8, 10 and 11</u>										
Supply and install seepage collection drain at upstream toe of the embankment, inclusive of										
perforated 160 mm diameter HDPE pipe, drainage aggregate and filter geotextile.	m	\$150.00	0	\$0	1,700	\$255,000	3,300	\$495,000	2,400	\$360,000
Supply and install seepage collection sump and extraction system.	Lump sum	\$2,000.00	0	\$0	1,700	\$2,000	1.0	\$2,000	2,400	\$2,000
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)	Lump sum	72,000.00	-	\$1,745,000		\$255,000	1.0	\$495,000		\$360,000
Closure works				71,743,000		7233,000		Ş433,000		4300,000
Decommission tailings delivery pumps and pipelines and return water pumps and pipelines.	Luman aum	¢100,000,00	1	¢100.000	0	ćo	1.5	¢150,000	1	¢100.000
		\$100,000.00	0	\$100,000	0	\$0	1.5	\$150,000	1	\$100,000
Decommission gravity decant structure.	Lump sum	\$5,000.00		\$0		ćo	4.5	ć7F 000		ć50.000
Upgrade spillways for capacity to pass the Probably Maximum Flood. Excavate select NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal	Lump sum	\$50,000.00	0	\$0	0	\$0	1.5	\$75,000	1	\$50,000
1 m thick layer over the downstream embankment slope and reshape to form the closure profile.										
Average haulage distance 1.5 km.	m ³	\$6.23	62,400	\$388,440	0	\$0	0.0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate select NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal										·
1 m thick layer over the downstream embankment slope and reshape to form the closure profile.	2									
Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$19.13	0	\$0	0	\$0	411,000.0	\$7,860,375	396,850	\$7,589,756
Excavate select NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal										
1 m thick layer over the downstream embankment slope and reshape to form the closure profile. Average haulage distance 9 km.	m ³	\$22.35	0	\$0	399,200	\$8,922,120	0.0	\$0	۱	\$0
Decommission/demolish the Decant Dam / Headwater Diversion Dam	Lump sum	\$50,000.00	1	\$50,000	0	\$0	1.5	\$75,000	1	\$50,000
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal 0.3 m	Lump sum	\$30,000.00	1	\$30,000	0	90	1.5	\$75,000	1	\$30,000
thick layer over the tailings surface. Average haulage distance 1.5 km.	m ³	\$6.23	37,440	\$233,064	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal 0.3 m	2									
thick layer over the tailings surface. Average haulage distance 7.5 km.	m ³	\$19.13	0	\$0	0	\$0	246,600	\$4,716,225	238,110	\$4,553,854
Excavate NAF waste rock from stockpiles at the mine, haul, place and spread a nominal 0.3 m	m ³	622.25		, ćo	220 520	¢E 252 272		60		ćo
thick layer over the tailings surface. Average haulage distance 9 km.	m	\$22.35	0	\$0	239,520	\$5,353,272	0.0	\$0	U	\$0
Sub total (\$AUD, rounded to nearest \$5000)				\$770,000		\$14,275,000		\$12,875,000		\$12,345,000
Cost Summary			_	AF 24F 222		ACO COT 222	_	ÁF2 225 222	\vdash	440.000.000
Construction Costs			_	\$5,315,000		\$60,995,000	_	\$52,305,000	\vdash	\$48,805,000
Engineering Services - Design and Construction QA			-	\$500,000		\$1,000,000		\$800,000		\$800,000
Contingency (15% of Construction and Engineering Services costs)				\$870,000		\$9,300,000		\$7,965,000		\$7,440,000
Total (excluding GST)				\$6,685,000		\$71,295,000		\$61,070,000		\$57,045,000



APPENDIX D

Options ranking matrix



Score 5 4 4 5	0.75 0.6	Site	0.3 0.45	Score 3 3.5	0.45 0.525	Score 2	Product 0.3
5 4 4	0.75	2	0.3	3	0.45	2	
4	0.6	3					0.3
4	0.6	3					0.3
4	0.6	3					0.0
4	1.2		0.45	3.5	0.525		
		1.5			0.020	3.5	0.525
5			0.45	2.5	0.75	2.5	0.75
	2	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.6
	4.55		1.8		2.325		2.175
	91%		36%		47%		44%
	9170		4				3
	I		4		2		3
2	0.4	2	0.4	3	0.6	2.5	0.5
1.5	0.525	3.5	1.225	3.5	1.225	3	1.05
4	0.8	3	0.6	3.5	0.7	2.5	0.5
		0	0.5		0.75	2	0.75
4	2.725	2	2.725	3	3.275	3	0.75 2.8
	550/		550/		000/		500/
	3		3		1		56% 2
	700/		450/		500/		F00/
	73% 1		45% 4		56% 2		50% 3
	4	4 1 2.725 55% 3	4 1 2 2.725 55% 3	4 1 2 0.5 2.725 2.725 55% 55% 3 3	4 1 2 0.5 3 2.725 2.725 55% 55% 3 3 73% 45%	4 1 2 0.5 3 0.75 2.725 2.725 3.275 55% 55% 66% 3 3 1 73% 45% 56%	4 1 2 0.5 3 0.75 3 2.725 2.725 3.275 55% 55% 66% 3 3 1 73% 45% 56%



APPENDIX E

Important Information





IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS REPORT

The document ("Report") to which this page is attached and which this page forms a part of, has been issued by Golder Associates Pty Ltd ("Golder") subject to the important limitations and other qualifications set out below.

This Report constitutes or is part of services ("Services") provided by Golder to its client ("Client") under and subject to a contract between Golder and its Client ("Contract"). The contents of this page are not intended to and do not alter Golder's obligations (including any limits on those obligations) to its Client under the Contract.

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This Report has been prepared in the context of the circumstances and purposes referred to in, or derived from, the Contract and Golder accepts no responsibility for use of the Report, in whole or in part, in any other context or circumstance or for any other purpose.

The scope of Golder's Services and the period of time they relate to are determined by the Contract and are subject to restrictions and limitations set out in the Contract. If a service or other work is not expressly referred to in this Report, do not assume that it has been provided or performed. If a matter is not addressed in this Report, do not assume that any determination has been made by Golder in regards to it.

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Golder accepts no responsibility for and makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of the information provided to it by or on behalf of the Client or sourced from any third party. Golder has assumed that such information is correct unless otherwise stated and no responsibility is accepted by Golder for incomplete or inaccurate data supplied by its Client or any other person for whom Golder is not responsible. Golder has not taken account of matters that may have existed when the Report was prepared but which were only later disclosed to Golder.

Having regard to the matters referred to in the previous paragraphs on this page in particular, carrying out the Services has allowed Golder to form no more than an opinion as to the actual conditions at any relevant location. That opinion is necessarily constrained by the extent of the information collected by Golder or otherwise made available to Golder. Further, the passage of time may affect the accuracy, applicability or usefulness of the opinions, assessments or other information in this Report. This Report is based upon the information and other circumstances that existed and were known to Golder when the Services were performed and this Report was prepared. Golder has not considered the effect of any possible future developments including physical changes to any relevant location or changes to any laws or regulations relevant to such location.

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Any uncertainty as to the extent to which this Report can be used or relied upon in any respect should be referred to Golder for clarification.



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