



10 January 2025

Minister Burgoyne  
Minister for Department of Lands, Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Minister,

**RE: INDEPENDENT MONITOR ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT 2024 – MCARTHUR RIVER MINE**

McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd (MRM) references the Independent Monitor (IM) Annual Environmental Performance Audit Report 2024 and Annual Report Card, which covers the period 1 May 2023 to 30 April 2024 (the 'review period'). MRM appreciates the IM's detailed report and thoroughness of the environmental performance review. MRM acknowledges the important role that the IM continues to play in independently reviewing the environmental performance of MRM's operations and identifying priority areas for mitigation and management of potential impacts.

MRM is pleased to note that the IM found no significant environmental issues requiring urgent investigation or attention during the audit period, concluding that this was due to MRM's continued attention on key environmental risk areas and the implementation of management actions to avoid or reduce environmental risk.

The IM reported that MRM achieved a high level of compliance with the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) recommendations outlined in *Assessment Report 86*, as well as conditions outlined in Variation of Authorisation DML0059 and Waste Discharge Licence (WDL) 174. The IM considers MRM's environmental performance to be fundamentally linked to the level of compliance achieved against Authorisation and WDL conditions, which have been specifically designed to safeguard the environmental values of the McArthur River and protect the health of the McArthur River from potential impacts resulting from mining.

The IM reported that the McArthur River and its tributaries are considered to be in good health. This finding supports the conclusion reached by MRM and external experts in MRM's recent annual environmental monitoring reports, that the NT EPA's overarching environmental outcome is being met.

The IM identified 22 (out of 194) active conditions where MRM achieved part compliance. The part compliances were not considered to be of significant environmental issue or consequence such that they would require urgent investigation or attention. The majority of the part-compliances identified were of an administrative nature (e.g. relating to delays in submission of complete sets of monitoring data or quarterly construction progress reports for the Tailings Storage Facility), and were of no physical environmental consequence.

Notwithstanding, MRM has an action plan in place to address all Opportunities for Improvement associated with the part compliances ahead of the next IM review. These are tracked through MRM's Obligations Register.

Additionally, the IM noted a number of successes at the Mine during the reporting period, including the management of a record volume of water handled as a result of ex-Tropical Cyclone Megan. Water management measures included increased rate of treatment to facilitate additional approved controlled release, transfer of a large volume of water between existing storages to protect the integrity of storage structures, and ultimately transfer of water into the Open Pit (resulting in an extended shutdown period) in order to reduce the risk of uncontrolled release to the environment.

Should you require any additional information regarding the above, or if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss, please feel free to contact me on 08 8975 8179 or Lana.Treasure@glencore.com.au should you wish to arrange a meeting.

Yours sincerely,



**Lana Treasure**  
Manager – Health, Safety and Environment  
McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd