

11 January 2024

Shaun Drabsch,
Chief Executive Officer - Department of
Industry, Tourism and Trade
GPO Box 4550
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Minister,

RE: INDEPENDENT MONITOR ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT 2023 – MCARTHUR RIVER MINE

McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd (MRM) references the Independent Monitor (IM) Annual Environmental Performance Audit Report 2023 dated December 2023 (IM Report), which covers the period 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023 (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 the implementation of management actions to reduce environmental risk.

The IM reported that MRM achieved a high level of compliance with the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) recommendations in *Assessment Report 86*, as well as conditions in Variation of Authorisation 0059 and Waste Discharge Licence 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 were in good health and the fish were safe to eat. This finding supports the conclusion reached by MRM and external experts in its recent annual environmental monitoring reports, that the NT EPA's overarching environmental outcome is being met.

The IM identified 23 (out of 610) 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, and were of no physical environmental consequence.

Notwithstanding this, 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 ongoing installation of dam liners, ongoing Northern Overburden Emplacement Facility (NOEF) rehabilitation trials, targeted sediment removal program, progress towards installation of additional water quality gauging stations and planting of over 120,000 tubestock, bringing the planting total to over 900,000. It is worth noting that since the end of the reporting period, McArthur River Mine has planted the one millionth tree, bush or grass on the McArthur River channel.

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 8287 or Adam.Hatfield@glencore.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Adam Hatfield
Manager – Business Strategy & External Relations
McArthur River Mining Pty Ltd