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# MINERAL RESOURCES (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) ACT 1990

# SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 28(1)

# **EXPLORATION LICENCE - EL007799**

I, Stephen Adamthwaite, acting as the delegate of the Minister, grant to **Red Rock Australasia Pty Ltd** of **10 Webster Street, Ballarat Central, Victoria 3350** this exploration licence. This licence is granted under Section 25 of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990* (the Act) over the area described in the attached document plan.

This licence is effective for a term of **5** years from the date of registration.

This licence is subject to the following conditions and to the Schedule of Conditions attached:

- 1. The licensee must expend in connection with exploration of the land a minimum of the following:
  - **\$15,450** in the first year of the term of the licence,

\$15,600 in the second year of the term of the licence,

\$15,600 in the third year of the term of the licence,

\$15,600 in the fourth year of the term of the licence,

\$15,900 in the fifth year of the term of the licence,

unless this requirement is varied, or application of this requirement is suspended for a specified period, in accordance with the Act. The required expenditure may be varied on the second and fourth anniversaries (as applicable) of the licence grant if the area of the licence is decreased in accordance with section 38A of the Act.

2. The reporting date is **30 June** annually.

Signed by

Stephen Adamthwaite Director Statutory Authorisations

Date: 23 December 2022

	Date of Registration
	Time of Registration 10:31 am
(S	MINING REGISTRAR Mineral Resources ustainable Development) Act 1990

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# Schedule of Conditions

IMPORTANT NOTE: The conditions in this schedule address a wide range of exploration activities. You may not have approval for all the activities described. Work other than "low impact exploration" may only be undertaken in accordance with a work plan approved by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR).

For further information about compliance with licence conditions or requirements for work plans refer to the *Code of Practice for Mineral Exploration* and *Standard Work Plan Guidelines for Exploration* or *Area Work Plan Guidelines for Exploration* available at <u>www.earthresources.vic.gov.au</u> or at major DJPR offices.

# 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1.1. The program of work submitted with the licence application must be completed, in accordance with any schedule included in that program of work.
- 1.2. The program of work, including scheduling, may only be varied with the agreement of the Minister. This does not apply if the variation only involves work which is additional to that described in the program of work.
- 1.3. During the term of the licence, the Minister may request updated details of the proposed program of work to be provided by a specified date. The licensee must comply with any such request.

## 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1. The licensee must ensure that the relevant Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) Regional Manager is at all times aware of the appropriate contact person for activities conducted under an exploration licence.
- 2.2. Prior to commencing ground intrusive work or work involving the removal or damaging of native vegetation under the definition of low impact exploration the licensee must submit a rehabilitation bond to the satisfaction of the Minister
- 2.3. Where ground intrusive work or work involving the removal or damaging of native vegetation is carried out under the definition of low impact exploration the licensee must notify the Crown land manager (for works on Crown land) and the ERR Chief Inspector at least 7 days prior to the commencement of work. Notification must include:
  - Start date, and
  - Proposed ground intrusive work, and/or
  - Proposed removal or damaging of native vegetation, and
  - Location.

#### 3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

3.1. The licensee must identify their communities for the proposed operation and consult with the identified communities.

# 4. NATIVE VEGETATION AND FAUNA

4.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to avoid, minimise and/or offset the removal and disturbance of native vegetation and faunal habitats.

## 5. BOX-IRONBARK REGION

5.1. Where activities are proposed to be undertaken in a Box-Ironbark region, the licensee must undertake a preliminary assessment of vegetation and faunal habitats of areas of interest in that Box-Ironbark region to identify and mark areas or sites to be avoided in the exploration project.

#### 6. PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

6.1. Prior to commencing any work, the licensee must have public liability insurance that covers all work authorised under the licence and ensure the insurance is valid at all times while work occurs under the licence.

## 7. PUBLIC SAFETY ZONES

7.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise their impact on the operation of a Public Safety Zone.

#### 8. SOIL MANAGEMENT

8.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise impacts on the physical and biological health of soil.

### 9. PLANT DISEASES, WEEDS AND PEST ANIMALS

- 9.1. The licensee must ensure that all soil that is imported into the exploration licence area is free of disease and noxious weeds.
- 9.2. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise the spread of weeds, pest animals and plant diseases whilst undertaking exploration activities.
- 9.3. The licensee must adhere to any biosecurity protocols that have been adopted on private or Crown land.

## 10. WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC HABITAT

- 10.1. The licensee must design, install and maintain erosion and sediment controls to prevent erosion of areas of disturbed land and sedimentation of waterways.
- 10.2. Where exploration activities are being conducted in waters or on the banks of waterways with water in them, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to minimise sedimentation of the waterway.
- 10.3. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent contaminated runoff from entering receiving waterways.

#### 11. FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- 11.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent contamination of the environment by the release of fuels, lubricants and hazardous materials.
- 11.2. The licensee must ensure that spills of hazardous materials are cleaned up as quickly as practicable. Such spillage must not be cleaned up by hosing, sweeping or otherwise releasing such contaminant into waterways.
- 11.3. Within the Box-Ironbark region, the licensee must install trays or similar apparatus beneath machinery to protect the soil and vegetation from oil/fuel leaks or spills.

#### 12. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

- 12.1. The licensee must ensure Aboriginal cultural heritage is not harmed as a result of works undertaken within the licence area.
- 12.2. Within areas where ground intrusive works or the removal of native vegetation are proposed on Crown land in the Box-Ironbark region, an assessment of Aboriginal cultural heritage values must be undertaken.

#### 13. HERITAGE (NON-INDIGENOUS)

- 13.1. The licensee must ensure non-indigenous cultural heritage is not harmed as a result of works undertaken within the licence area.
- 13.2. Within areas where ground intrusive works or the removal of native vegetation are proposed on Crown land in the Box-Ironbark region, an assessment of non-indigenous cultural heritage values must be undertaken.

#### 14. FIRE PRECAUTION

14.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent the ignition and spread of fire.

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14.2. Prior to undertaking any exploration activities, the licensee must develop and implement a fire response and readiness plan.

#### 15. WASTE AND REDUNDANT EQUIPMENT

15.1. The licensee must ensure all waste generated on site is disposed of at an appropriate waste management facility.

### 16. CAMPING

- 16.1. The licensee may only establish campsites with the permission of the Crown land Manager or private land owner/occupier.
- 16.2. The licensee must select, establish and manage campsites to minimise risks to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.

#### 17. NOISE

- 17.1. Within the licensed area, the licensee must ensure that noise generated by exploration activities does not exceed limits set by the Environment Protection Authority, Victoria and the local council.
- 17.2. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to avoid causing nuisance noise.

#### 18. AIR EMISSIONS, DUST AND LIGHTING

18.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts as a result of the release of dust, odour and/or emission of light.

#### 19. LIVESTOCK, DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND CROPS

19.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts to livestock<sup>1</sup> and crops.

#### 20. GEOPHYSICAL AND GEOCHEMICAL SURVEYS AND GRIDLINES

- 20.1. In designing and constructing geophysical and geochemical surveys, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.
- 20.2. Prior to designing and constructing geophysical and geochemical surveys, the licensee must consult with the Crown land Manager and/or private land owner/occupier about the position of gridlines and geophysical lines.

#### 21. EXPLOSIVES

21.1. When using explosives or high electrical currents, all reasonable measures must be taken to prevent harm or disturbance to people, domestic animals, livestock and wildlife.

#### 22. TRACKS AND ROADS

- 22.1. In designing and constructing tracks and roads, the licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impact to the environment.
- 22.2. Prior to designing and constructing tracks and roads, the licensee must consult with the public land manager, responsible road authority and/or private landowner/occupier.
- 22.3. Prior to using a closed road the licensee must gain consent from the responsible road authority.
- 22.4. Prior to conducting ground intrusive exploration works on a road the licensee must gain consent form the responsible road authority.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> F<u>or the purpose of these conditions, bees are defined as livestock.</u> Exploration Licence – EL007799 Schedule 3 – Page 4 of 6

### 23. DRILL SITES, COSTEANS, TRENCHES AND BULK SAMPLING EXCAVATIONS

23.1. The licensee must take all reasonable measures to prevent adverse impacts of establishing costeans, drill holes, bulk sample excavations and trenches to the environment and/or the health and safety of people.

#### 24. DRILLHOLE OPERATIONS, CONSTRUCTION AND DECOMMISSIONING

- 24.1. The licensee must ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the impacts of drilling operations and that the operations are conducted in a manner that ensures protection of the environment, human health and amenity.
- 24.2. The licensee must prevent contamination of aquifers as a result of drilling operations.
- 24.3. The licensee must ensure that where a drillhole is to be left open overnight or longer, a temporary cap is fitted.
- 24.4. The licensee must ensure that accurate records of decommissioning procedures are kept to provide future reference, and to demonstrate to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions that the drillholes have been satisfactorily plugged and abandoned.

#### 25. UNDERGROUND EXPLORATION

- 25.1. The licensee must ensure that during underground exploration and development works, access shafts, adits and declines are made safe.
- 25.2. The licensee must ensure that on completion of underground exploration and development works, access shafts, adits or declines no longer required are permanently closed off and the site made safe for the public and wildlife.

#### 26. REHABILITATION

- 26.1. The licensee must ensure that disturbed areas are rehabilitated as soon as possible after the completion of exploration works.
- 26.2. The licensee must ensure that indigenous species used in rehabilitation are sourced from the local area, of local provenance and appropriate to the site's Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).

#### 27. REPORTING, MONITORING AND AUDITING

- 27.1. The licensee must implement a program for monitoring environmental impacts and rehabilitation.
- 27.2. The licensee must submit an Annual Report that includes:
  - A report about the environmental management of exploration activities including the results of any environmental audits conducted.
  - Quantity, area and type of native vegetation removed.
  - Details of current progressive rehabilitation activities.
  - A rehabilitation report detailing completed rehabilitation activities over that year.
- 27.3. The licensee must notify the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions as soon as practical of any environmental incident which results in:
  - An emission not authorised by licence, work authority or work plan.
  - Any deviations from conditions or environmental standards outlined for the site.
- 27.4. Within seven (7) days of an environmental incident, the licensee must prepare and forward a report to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions detailing the following information:
  - The cause, time and duration of the incident.
  - The native vegetation or threatened flora/fauna affected by the incident (if applicable).
  - The type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the incident.
  - Action taken by the licensee in relation to the incident.
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• Action taken to prevent any recurrence of the incident.

# 28. DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDS

- 28.1. The licensee must record activities undertaken and results arising from the environmental and rehabilitation monitoring program, any auditing undertaken and any complaints received.
- 28.2. The licensee must ensure that documentation generated through the environmental and rehabilitation monitoring program, auditing and any complaints received is appropriately stored and accessible to relevant personnel and is available upon request by an ERR Inspector.

