1. Proponent/Referrer Details			
Proponent ☒		Other relevant person/s ☐	
Name Brent Murdoch		**Signature** 	
Position	Director and General Manager	Organisation	Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd
Email	bmurdoch@mttodd.com.au		
Address	Street No. Level 1, 43 Cavenagh Centre	Street Name Cavenagh Street	
	Suburb Darwin	State NT	Postcode 0801
Does the referrer request that the NT EPA treat any part of the information in the referral as confidential? *Provide confidential information in a separate attachment*		☐ Yes ☒ No	
Title of the proposed significant variation		Mount Todd Project Referral for Significant Variation	
Name of the proponent/s (including Trading Name if relevant)		Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd	
Australian Company Number(s) ☐ OR Australian Business Number(s) ☐		ACN: 117 327 509 ABN: 12 117 327 509	
Contact for the proposed significant variation (if different from those providing notice/referral). *Include: name, physical address, phone, and email*			
Significant variation declaration: I, …**Brent D Murdoch**……, (*full name*) declare that I am authorised to provide notice of/refer this significant variation on behalf of ……**Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd**……, and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.			
2. Type of significant variation			
What type of proposal is being referred for a significant variation?		☒ proposed action ☐ strategic proposal ☐ proponent initiated EIS	
What stage in the environmental impact assessment process is your proposal currently in?		☐ during assessment ☐ after assessment report ☒ after environmental approval	
Have draft terms of reference and statement of reasons been included? If so, ensure they are attached to this notice/referral of significant variation.		☐ Yes ☒ No	
3. Content of the Original Proposal			
Describe the key characteristics of the original proposal, including detrimental environmental effects. Reference documents used to describe the contents of the original referral should be attached where relevant.		Table E.1 and Table 2 contain a summary of the approved project (original proposal) Reference documents include:	

Where relevant discuss compliance with the Environmental Approval to date. *Provide as an attachment to the form*	• The 2013 EIS (available at Environmental Impact Statement - Mt Todd Gold Mine) Environmental Approval to date: • Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Supplement • NT EPA Assessment Report 76 • EPBC Approval (EPBC 2014/7260) (Appendix A) • MTPA Care and Maintenance MMP approved in 2018 Authorisation 0331-04 V4 • MTPA Operational MMP submitted in 2022 (currently with DITT for assessment).
4. Content of the proposed significant variation to the Proposal	
Describe the key characteristics of the proposed significant variation and (see *Environmental Assessment Guidance - Referring a Significant Variation to the NT EPA*) *Provide as an attachment to the form*	See Section 3 of the Referral In summary, changes from the EIS include: • Extension of mine life • WRD extension • RP1 resize • Increase in capacity of water treatment plant • Batman Pit design • On-site camp (construction camp and permanent accommodation) • Light vehicle access roads • Onsite electrical power plant • Sorter rejects • Additional clearing
Have you provided electronic spatial data, maps and figures in the appropriate format?	☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Detrimental environmental effects of the proposed significant variation	
What are the environmental factors that could be significantly impacted by this proposed significant variation?	☐ Landforms ☐ Terrestrial environmental quality ☒ Terrestrial ecosystems ☐ Hydrological processes ☐ Inland water environmental quality ☐ Aquatic ecosystems ☐ Coastal processes ☐ Marine environmental quality ☐ Marine ecosystems ☐ Atmospheric processes ☐ Air quality ☐ Society and economy ☐ Culture and heritage

		☐ Human health
For each of the environmental factors identified above, complete the table at item 6 below, or provide the information in a supplementary report/appendix		
6. Potential environmental impacts – Terrestrial Ecosystems		
1	***Receiving environment*** – Describe the current condition of the receiving environment in relation to this factor.	The MTPA is a brownfield / disturbed site that has a history of gold mining dating back more than one hundred years. Mining infrastructure such as tailing storage facility (TSF1), waste rock dump (WRD), water storage areas and the remains of processing facilities remain on site. A care and maintenance program was implemented by the Northern Territory Government from 2000, and was continued by Vista Gold from 2006. The MTPA mineral leases sit within the 90,000 ha Yinberrie Hills Sites of Conservation Significance (SOCS) which is managed by Jawoyn Rangers and the NT government for nature conservation and Aboriginal land uses. The land tenure is Aboriginal freehold land. The MTPA is located in a region of mostly foothills located west of the western Arnhem Land sandstone massif. It is dominated by Darwin stringybark (*Eucalyptus tetrodonta*) and Darwin woollybutt (*E. miniata*) open forest, eucalypt woodlands, riparian vegetation and some patches of monsoon thicket. The MTPA experiences a tropical climate characterised by a hot, humid wet season from October to March, followed by a hot, dry season from April to September. The seasonal tropical climate results in alternating extremes of creek flows, from prolonged dry periods of no flows, to substantial flood events in the wet season. The MTPA is located within the Daly River Catchment. The Edith River is located directly to the south of the mine site and intersects MLN1127. The Edith River enters the Fergusson River approximately 15 km to the northwest of the mine site. The MTPA currently contains several water bodies associated with past mining activities. Additional detail of the receiving environment is available in the EIS and MMP.
2	***Potential impacts*** – Identify and assess the potential impacts of the action against the NT EPA objective for the environmental factor.	Potential impacts have been identified and are detailed under subheadings in Section 3 of the Referral.
3	***Mitigation*** – Describe the measures proposed to avoid, mitigate and manage the potential environmental impacts.	Mitigation measures have been identified and are detailed under subheadings in Section 3 of the Referral. Additional mitigation and management measures are detailed in the relevant Management Plans which are appended to the Referral.
4	***Assumptions*** - Describe any assumptions critical to your assessment.	See Section 5.4 of the Referral.

5	***Relevant policy and guidance / industry standards*** used in applying mitigation measures.	Guidelines for Assessment of Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity (NT EPA 2013a); Guidelines on Environmental Offsets and Associated Approval Conditions (NT EPA 2013b) Guidelines for the Siting, Design and Management of Solid Waste Disposal Sites (In the Northern Territory) (NT EPA 2013c); Land Clearing Guidelines, Northern Territory Planning Scheme (DEPWS 2021); Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry – Biodiversity Management (Australian Government 2016a); Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry – Cyanide Management: (Australian Government 2008); Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry – Tailings Management (Australian Government 2016c); Leading Practice Sustainable Development Program for the Mining Industry – Mine Rehabilitation (Australian Government 2016b); Light Pollution: Effects of Wildlife (DAWE 2021); Matters of National Environmental Significance, Significant impact guideline 1.1 (DotE 2013); National Environment Protection Council Act (NEPC Act).National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure (NEPM); NT EPA Environmental Factors and objectives: Environmental impact assessment general technical guidance (NT EPA 2021a); Requirements for Mining, Construction and Bush Camps *(Environmental Health Information Fact Sheet No. 700)* (NT Department of Health 2012); The Australia International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, The Burra Charter, 2013 (Burra Charter).
6	***Consultation*** – Outline the outcomes of consultation in relation to the potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigation.	See Section 5.3 of the Referral.
7	***Cumulative impact*** – of this action with other actions in the area.	See Section 5.5 of the Referral.
8	***Ecologically sustainable development*** – how have the principles been considered/applied?	See Section 5.6 of the Referral
9	***Residual impact*** – provide a statement of the expected residual impact to the environmental factor	See Section 5.7 of the Referral