

## NOTICE OF DECISION TO ACCEPT SIGNIFICANT VARIATION

This notice of decision is made under regulation 168 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020 (EP Regulations)

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<b>Name of proposed action</b>	Rustlers Roost and Quest 29 Open-cut Mine Redevelopment
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<b>Proponent</b>	Primary Gold Ltd
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<b>NT EPA reference</b>	EP2021/005
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<b>Description of proposed action</b>	To recommence open-cut gold mining across two mine sites located in the Mount Bundey region, approximately 100 km south east of Darwin, via the Arnhem Highway.
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<b>Nature of the variation</b>	<p>Mining</p> <p>The key changes to the proposal include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• nominal increased rate of production from 3 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) up to 5 Mtpa</li><li>• an 22% increase in the disturbance footprint from 319.4 hectares (ha) to 389.4 ha</li><li>• new location for the accommodation camp (within the Toms Gully mine mineral lease)</li><li>• increased tailings volume from 3 million tonnes per year (Mt/year) to 4 Mt/year and expansion of the tailings storage facility</li><li>• inclusion of an additional waste rock dump (WRD) and expansion of the existing southern WRD over the historic WRD</li><li>• waste rock disposal volume increase from 29.71 Mt for the life-of-mine (LOM) to 74.3 Mt</li><li>• expanded main pit and two new pits at the Rustlers Roost site</li><li>• new mine laydown area and landfill</li><li>• new location for the administration facility</li></ul>
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- estimated water demand increase from 3.3 gigalitres per year (GL/year) to 6.5 GL/year
- anticipated LOM increase from 7 to 10 years.

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**Person authorised to make decision** Paul Purdon  
Executive Director Environmental Assessment and Policy  
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security  
Delegate of the NT EPA under section 36 of the *Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012*

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**Decision** To accept the above named **notice of a significant variation of a proposed action** in accordance with regulation 166 of the EP Regulations

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**Signature**



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**Date of decision** 26 August 2021

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