

## Submission on the Notice of Significant Variation

### Primary Gold Pty Ltd – Rustlers Roost and Quest 29 Open-cut Mine Redevelopment

This submission is made under section 51 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019* and Regulation 171 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

**Government authority:** Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA / the Authority)

Section of Referral	Theme or issue	Comment
Original referral	Previous comments by the Authority	The Authority submitted comments on the original referral which are still relevant to the varied proposal.
Terms of Reference	Culture and heritage factor	<p>The Authority considers that the changes to the proposal do not change the significance of potential impacts to environmental (cultural) values associated with Aboriginal sacred sites. The final terms of reference for an environmental impact statement do not include the culture and heritage factor.</p> <p>The Authority considers that potential impacts to cultural values associated with sacred sites can be avoided through the following two primary mechanisms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. compliance with a valid Authority Certificate for the proposed works, and</li> <li>2. the application of appropriate mechanisms to avoid/mitigate impacts to water (hydrological processes and water quality) and aquatic ecosystems that could affect downstream sacred sites.</li> </ol>
Original referral section 2.2.2	Aboriginal heritage / sacred sites	<p>The original referral stated that the proponent will seek a new Authority Certificate prior to the commencement of the proposed action.</p> <p>The Authority confirms it has recently received an application for an Authority Certificate that covers the whole proposal area (as varied). It covers the whole of MLN1083 (Rustlers Roost mine), ML29783 (Quest 29 mine), ML29814 (part of Toms Gully mine site / location of proposed accommodation camp), and the proposed haul road. The Authority will liaise with the applicant directly regarding matching the Authority Certificate application to the works outlined in the referral and Notice of Significant Variation.</p>