NSW GOVERNMENT

Resources Regulator

FWP0001925

IRON CLAD GOLD MINE FORWARD PROGRAM

Monday 29 June 2026 to Thursday 28 June 2029

Summary

Detail	
Mine	Iron Clad Gold Mine
Reference	FWP0001925
Forward program commencement date	Monday 29 June 2026
Forward program end date	Thursday 28 June 2029
Forward program revision (if applicable)	
Contact	Karinne Moss
Mining leases	GL 5828 (1906)
Project location	Waratah Minerals Limited
Date of submission	Thursday 27 August 2026
Document URL *Security reminder: Please exercise caution before opening external links. If a link appears suspicious, avoid clicking it and report it to the Resources Regulator.*	https://waratahminerals.com/

Important

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Three-year forecast - surface disturbance activities

Project description

Waratah Minerals acquired the Iron Clad Gold Mine on 3 July 2026. GL 5828 consists of a single tenement located approximately 31.8km west-southwest of Orange and is adjacent to the town of Cargo, with a total area of 10.11 hectares. GL 5828 was granted on 29 June 1964 and continues to be valid. Since its acquisition of the mine, Waratah Minerals has conducted desktop studies of historic data which indicated the presence of gold mineralization bearing strong similarities to Waratah's nearby Consols discovery, where high-grade gold mineralization associated with potassic alteration occurs down-dip and down-plunge from surface mine workings at the margin of the Cargo Intrusive Complex. There have been limited on-ground exploration activities, limited only to environmental monitoring, during the reporting period as resources were directed primarily towards facilitating the renewal of GL 5828 and its transfer to Waratah Minerals.

Description of surface disturbance activities

Exploration activities

In order to recommence mining activities, approximately 25,000m of drilling is required to adequately define a Mineral Resource (Inferred and Indicated) under the current JORC industry standard at the Iron Clad Gold Mine, from the surface to a depth of 500m. This drilling will be the subject of an APO application and will be conducted on a nominal 50m by 50m grid spacing and all geological features relating to ore grade and grade continuity, hardness, grindability and metallurgical factors relating to the extraction of gold and copper will be categorised. This drilling will be conducted by contracting companies and the technical aspects managed by Waratah. The estimation process will be conducted by an external Resource Geologist - Competent Person. During this time, mine surveyors will define the extents of previous mining and mine access to ensure future mining can be conducted safely. In addition, Waratah intends to conduct bulk sampling (subject to approval under the Mining Act) during this period to assess and inform a metallurgical flow sheet design.

Construction activities

Nil planned for the next three years.

Mining schedule

Mining development method and sequencing and general mine features.

Nil planned for the next three years.

Areas identified for emplacements, the sequencing of emplacements, construction, and management.

Nil planned for the next three years.

Processing infrastructure activities and the location of tailings facilities and schedule for emplacement.

Nil planned for the next three years.

Waste disposal and materials handling operations.

Putrescible waste will be transported in suitable vessels (skips, plastic bags, etc) to the Cargo Waste Management Facility. Contaminated soils, waste hydrocarbons and drill cuttings will be disposed of at a suitably licenced facility.

Key production milestones

MATERIAL	UNIT	YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3
Stripped topsoil (if applicable)	(m^3)	0	0	0
Rock/overburden	(m^3)	0	0	0
Ore	(Mt)	0	0	0
Reject material[1]	(Mt)	0	0	0
Product	(Mt)	0	0	0

[1]This includes coarse rejects, tailings and any other wastes resulting from beneficiation.

Three-year rehabilitation forecast

Rehabilitation maintenance and corrective actions

The site is lightly forested with native and exotic groundcovers. This will be monitored and corrective action (seeding, weed control) will be completed as required.

Rehabilitation schedule

Environmental monitoring and maintenance of existing conditions will be ongoing. Rehabilitation of future exploration drill sites will be completed progressively as each hole is finished.

Completion of rehabilitation

It is expected that approximately 10 to 20 exploration drill holes will be completed each year and these will be progressively rehabilitated. The first applications for rehabilitation submissions are expected to be lodged in 2028.

Progressive mining and rehabilitation statistics

Three-yearly forecast cumulative disturbance and rehabilitation progression

	Forecast	UNIT	YEAR1	YEAR2	YEAR3
A1	**Total disturbance footprint - surface disturbance**	(ha)	0.65	0.65	0.65
B	**Total active disturbance**	(ha)	0	0	0
P	**Total new area of land proposed for active rehabilitation**	(ha)	0	0	0

Attachment 1 - Reporting Definitions

REPORTING CATEGORY		DEFINITION
A	**Total disturbance footprint - surface disturbance**	All areas within a mining lease that either have at some point in time or continue to pose a rehabilitation liability due to surface disturbance activities. The total disturbance footprint is the sum of the total active disturbance, decommissioning, landform establishment, growth medium development, ecosystem and land use establishment, ecosystem and land use development and rehabilitation completion (see definitions below). Underground mining operations should not include the footprint of underground mining areas/subsidence management areas in the total disturbance footprint.
B	**Total active disturbance**	Includes on-lease exploration areas, stripped areas ahead of mining, infrastructure areas, water management infrastructure, sewage treatment facilities, topsoil stockpile areas, access tracks and haul roads, active mining areas, waste rock emplacements (active/unshaped/in or out-of-pit), tailings dams (active/unshaped/uncapped) and temporary stabilised areas (e.g. areas sown with temporary cover crops for dust mitigation and temporary rehabilitation).
C	**Rehabilitation - land preparation**	Includes the sum of all disturbed land within a mining lease that have commenced any, or all, of the following phases of rehabilitation - decommissioning, landform establishment and growth medium development. Refer to the glossary of terms in this document for the definition of these phases of rehabilitation.
D	**Ecosystem and land use establishment**	Includes the area which has been seeded/planted with the target vegetation species for the intended final

REPORTING CATEGORY		DEFINITION
		land use. However, vegetation has not matured to a stage where it can be demonstrated that it will be sustainable for the long term and or require only a maintenance regime consistent with target reference/analogue sites. Typically, rehabilitation areas would be in this phase for at least two years (and usually more) before rehabilitation can be classified as being in the ecosystem and land use development phase. This phase does not apply to infrastructure areas that are being retained as part of final land use for the site.

Attachment 2 - Definitions

WORD	DEFINITION
Active	In the context of rehabilitation, land associated with mining domains is considered 'active' for the period following disturbance until the commencement of rehabilitation.
Active mining phase of rehabilitation	In the context of rehabilitation, the active mining phase of rehabilitation constitutes the rehabilitation activities undertaken during mining operations such as salvaging and managing soil resources, salvaging habitat resources, and native seed collection. This phase also includes management actions taken during operations to manage risks to rehabilitation and enhance rehabilitation outcomes such as selective handling of waste rock and management of tailings emplacements.
Analogue site	In the context of rehabilitation, an analogue site is a 'reference site' that represents an example of the defining characteristics (such as vegetation composition and structure or agricultural productivity) of the final land use. Characteristics of analogue sites can be assessed to develop the rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria for final land use domains.
Annual rehabilitation report and forward program	As described in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Annual reporting period	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Closure	A whole-of-mine-life process, which typically culminates in the relinquishment of the mining lease. It includes decommissioning and rehabilitation to achieve the approved final land use(s).
Decommissioning	The process of removing mining infrastructure and removing contaminants and hazardous materials.
Decommissioning Phase of Rehabilitation	Activities associated with the removal of mining infrastructure and removal and/or remediation of contaminants and hazardous

WORD	DEFINITION
	materials. In the context of the rehabilitation management plan this phase of rehabilitation may also include studies and assessments associated with decommissioning and demolition of infrastructure or works carried out to make safe or 'fit for purpose' built infrastructure to be retained for future use(s) following lease relinquishment.
Department	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.
Disturbance	See Surface Disturbance.
Disturbance area	An area that has been disturbed and that requires rehabilitation. This may include areas such as on-licence exploration areas, stripped areas ahead of mining, infrastructure areas, water management infrastructure, sewage treatment facilities, topsoil stockpile areas, access tracks and haul roads, active mining areas, waste emplacements (active/unshaped/in or out-of-pit), tailings dams (active/unshaped/uncapped), and areas requiring rehabilitation that are temporarily stabilised (i.e. managed to minimise dust generation and/or erosion).
Domain	An area (or areas) of the land that has been disturbed by mining and has a specific operational use (mining domain) or specific final land use (final land use domain). Land within a domain typically has similar geochemical and/or geophysical characteristics and therefore requires specific rehabilitation activities to achieve the associated final land use.
Ecosystem and Land Use Development	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the activities to manage maturing rehabilitation areas on a trajectory to achieving the approved rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria. For vegetated land uses this phase may include processes to develop characteristics of functional self-sustaining ecosystems, such as nutrient recycling, vegetation flowering and reproduction, and increasing habitat complexity, and development of a productive, self-sustaining soil profile.

WORD	DEFINITION
	This phase of rehabilitation may include specific vegetation management strategies and maintenance such as tree thinning, supplementary plantings and weed management.
Ecosystem and Land Use Establishment	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the processes to establish the approved final land use following construction of the final landform. For vegetated land uses this rehabilitation phase includes establishing the desired vegetation community and implementing land management activities such as weed control. This phase of rehabilitation may also include habitat augmentation such as installation of nest boxes.
Exploration	Has the same meaning as that term under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007.
Final landform and rehabilitation plan	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Final land use	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Form and way	Means the form and way approved by the Secretary. Approved form and way documents are available on the department's website.
Growth Medium Development	This phase of rehabilitation consists of activities required to establish the physical, chemical and biological components of the substrate required to establish the desired vegetation community (including short lived pioneer species). This phase may include spreading the prepared landform with topsoil and/or subsoil and/or soil substitutes, applying soil ameliorants to enhance the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the growth media, and actions to minimise loss of growth media due to erosion.
Habitat	Has the same meaning as that term under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Fisheries Management Act 1994 (as

WORD	DEFINITION
	relevant).
Indicator	An attribute of the biophysical environment (e.g. pH, topsoil depth, biomass) that can be used to approximate the progression of a biophysical process. It can be measured and audited to demonstrate (and track) the progress of an aspect of rehabilitation towards a desired completion criterion (i.e. defined end point). It may be aligned to an established protocol and used to evaluate changes in a system.
Land	As defined in the Mining Act 1992.
Landform Establishment	This phase of rehabilitation consists of the processes and activities required to construct the final landform. In addition to profiling the surface of rehabilitation areas to the approved final landform profile this phase may include works to construct surface water drainage features, encapsulate problematic materials such as tailings, and prepare a substrate with the desired physical and chemical characteristics (e.g. rock raking or ameliorating sodic materials).
Large mine	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Lease holder	The holder of a mining lease.
Life of mine	The timeframe of how long a mine is approved to mine, from commencement to closure.
Mine rehabilitation portal	Means the Resources Regulator's online portal that lease holders must use (via a registered account) to: ▪ upload rehabilitation geographical information system (GIS) spatial data ▪ develop rehabilitation GIS spatial data (using online tracing functions) ▪ generate rehabilitation plans and rehabilitation statistics using the map viewer and Rehabilitation Key Performance

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	Indicator functionalities. Data submitted to the mine rehabilitation portal is collated in a centralised geodatabase for use by the Resources Regulator to regulate rehabilitation performance of lease holders.
Mining area	As defined in the Mining Act 1992.
Mining domain	A land management unit with a discrete operational function (e.g. overburden emplacement), and therefore similar geophysical characteristics, that will require specific rehabilitation treatments to achieve the final land use(s).
Mining land	As defined in the Mining Act 1992.
Native vegetation	Has the same meaning as that term under section 60B of the Local Land Services Act 2013.
Overburden	Material overlying coal or a mineral deposit.
Performance indicator	An attribute of the biophysical environment (for example pH, slope, topsoil depth, biomass) that can be used to demonstrate achievement of a rehabilitation objective. It can be measured and audited to demonstrate (and track) the progress of an aspect of rehabilitation towards a desired completion criterion, that is, a defined end point. It may be aligned to an established protocol and used to evaluate changes in a system.
Phases of rehabilitation	The stages and sequences of actions required to rehabilitate disturbed land to achieve the final land use. The phases of rehabilitation are: ▪ active mining ▪ decommissioning ▪ landform Establishment ▪ growth medium development ▪ landform Establishment ▪ ecosystem and land use establishment

WORD	DEFINITION
	▪ ecosystem and land use development
Progressive rehabilitation	The progress of rehabilitation towards achieving the approved rehabilitation completion criteria. This may be described in terms of domains, phases, performance indicators and rehabilitation completion criteria.
Rehabilitation Completion	The final phase of rehabilitation when a rehabilitation area has achieved the approved rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria for the final land use. Rehabilitation areas may be classified as complete when the Resources Regulator has determined in writing that the relevant rehabilitation obligations have been fulfilled following submission of *Form ESF2 Rehabilitation completion and/or review of rehabilitation cost estimate application* by the lease holder.
Rehabilitation Completion criteria	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation cost estimate	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation management plan	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation objectives	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation risk assessment	As defined in the Mining Regulation 2016.
Rehabilitation schedule	The defined timeframes for progressive rehabilitation set out in the forward program.
Relevant stakeholders	Means any persons or bodies who may be affected by the mining operations, including rehabilitation, carried out on the lease land, and includes:

WORD	DEFINITION
	▪ the relevant development consent authority ▪ the local council ▪ the relevant landholder(s) ▪ community consultative committee (if required under the development consent) or equivalent consultative group ▪ affected land holder(s) ▪ government agencies relevant to the final land use ▪ affected infrastructure authorities (electricity, telecommunications, water, pipeline, road, rail authorities) ▪ local Aboriginal communities, and ▪ any other person or body determined by the Minister to be a relevant stakeholder in relation to a mining lease.
Risk	The effect of uncertainty on objectives. It is measured in terms of consequences and likelihood (AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009).
Secretary	The Secretary of the department.
Security deposit	An amount that a mining lease holder is required to provide and maintain under a mining lease condition, to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under the lease (including obligations that may arise in the future).
Surface disturbance	Includes activities that disturb the surface of the mining area, including mining operations, ancillary mining activities and exploration.
Tailings	A combination of the fine-grained solid material remaining after the recoverable metals and minerals have been extracted from the mined ore, and any process water[2].
Waste	Has the same meaning as that term under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*.

[2]Commonwealth of Australia (DITR), 2007. Tailings Management.