### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION LICENCE

Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 – Section 15(5)

Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) (Mineral Industries) Regulations 2019 – Regulation 22(1)

and Schedule 1

## 1. Name and address of applicant(s):

Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd C/-PO Box 563, East Maitland NSW 2323

### 2. Contact details of applicant (for map and other information requests):

Belinda Ingram. Ph: 0428 158 374. E: vic@amets.com.au

**3. Applicant's Website (see notes)** Further information about this application is available: <a href="https://www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/">www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/</a> and <a href="https://www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/">www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/<a href="https://www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/">www.am

## 4. Details of the application:

**Application number:** EL008839

Locality of the land to which the application relates: Heathcote and Argyle

Approximate area of the application (Graticular Sections): 26

**Date of the application:** 7 November 2025 **Term the licences are applied for:** 5 years

Outline of the proposed programs of work: Desktop studies, geological modelling, GPS mapping,

drilling

## 5. Objections and Comments:

Any person may object or comment to a licence being granted by:

- a. putting the objection or comment in writing; and
- b. including the grounds on which it is made

Objections or comments must be lodged within 21 days after the latest date on which the application was advertised and can be lodged online or posted to:

The Minister for Energy and Resources c/- Manager Licensing

Resources Victoria

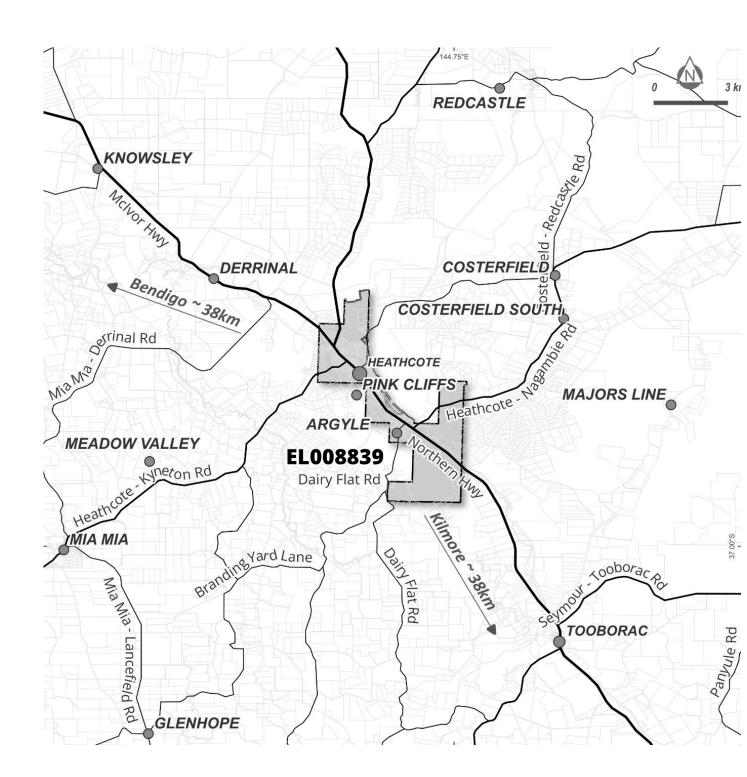
PO Box 500, East Melbourne Victoria 8002

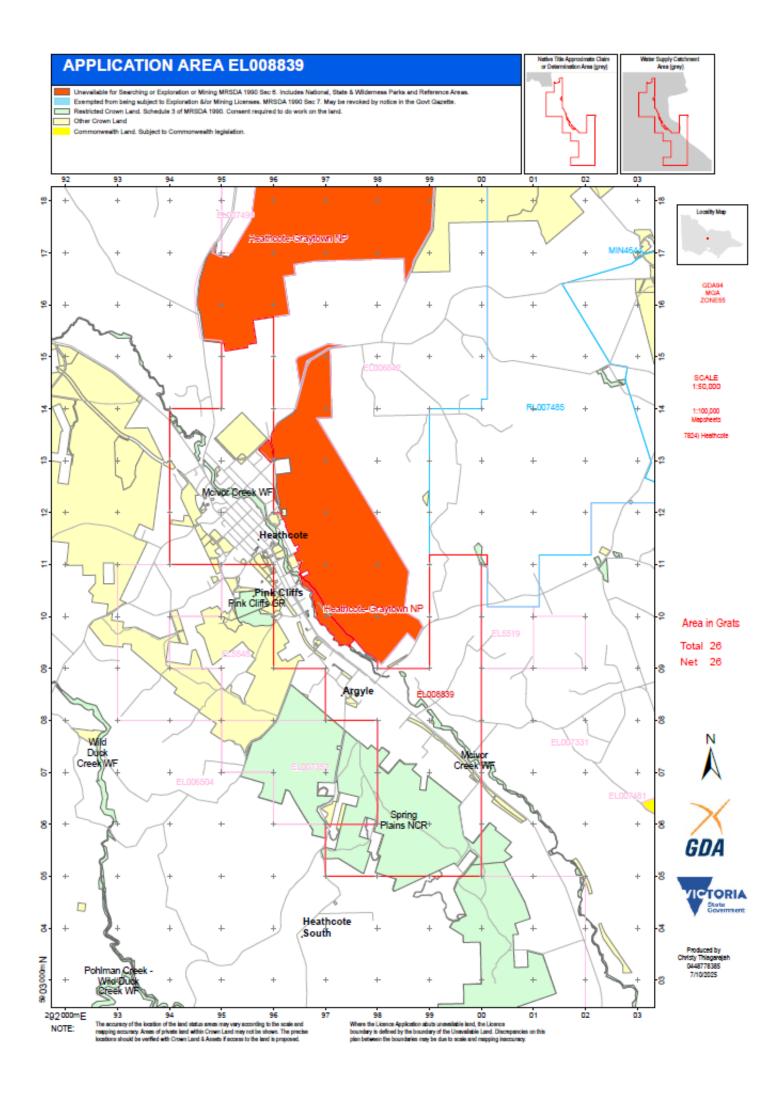
It is recommended that objections or comments are lodged online to ensure timely consideration: <a href="https://rram.force.com/ObjectionSubmission">https://rram.force.com/ObjectionSubmission</a>

Enquiries can be made by writing to the Manager Licensing at the above address or phoning Resources Victoria on 136 186.

## 6. Other Statutory Requirements:

- a. Subject to other requirements being satisfied, an exploration licence, if granted, entitles the holder of the licence to explore and search for minerals in the relevant land, but does not entitle the holder to undertake mining.
- b. Further information regarding the statutory requirements that must be complied with prior to work being undertaken on a licence, including landowner and occupier consent requirements, is available on the department's Community & Land Use page: https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use





## **Work Program**

#### YEAR 1

- accumulating information of past work
- reconnaissance for ground checking, familiarisation, and geochemical signature definition,
- stream sediment, rock and soil sampling geochemistry.
- landowner or Crown land manager access negotiations where appropriate.

#### **YEAR 2 - 3**

- Detailed rock and soil geochemistry.
- GPS mapping & reconnaissance to locate prospective drill target areas.
- Drilling using low impact portable percussion drill rig for scout drilling

### **YEAR 3 - 5**

- further infill geochemical sampling and mapping
- extension or deeper drilling of the most prospective targets with sampling and assaying
- 3D modelling

## **Environment Strategy**

All rehabilitation will be carried out as soon as is practicable after exploration activities have taken place and in line with the current Guidelines for environmental management in exploration and mining.

Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd will ensure all staff and contractors are aware of all site-specific environmental sensitivities, such as weeds and endangered flora and fauna and will act accordingly.

Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd are committed to minimising or where possible avoiding environmental impact and will work in accordance with the Guidelines as determined by the Victorian Government and will facilitate effective rehabilitation of all disturbed areas.

No wetlands, waterways or lakes will be impacted by exploration activities.

# **Community Engagement Plan**

In general terms, Southern Star Gold's community engagement plan is broadly based on the following:

Identify individuals or groups which may be impacted by the operations on the licence. This would involve the compilation of a list of adjacent landowners, persons living on or in the vicinity of the licence and other community groups which may be impacted by the operations. Groups such as the Victorian Farmers Federation or the local Field Naturalists Club, Government Departments, Federal, State or local, and other government bodies such as CMA's who have a particular interest in the land on which the licence is situated should also form part of the consultation group.

It will be necessary to identify the expectations or attitudes of these groups and individuals. Often a direct face to face approach is the best way to engage many members of the community. Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd will assess the impact of their operation on these individuals and groups. Following the consultation, the full impact would be assessed by guidelines provided by the Department.

An assessment will be made following the consultation as to what level of community input and involvement can be achieved. There are likely to be a range of matters which may need to be considered. Ideally, many of the ideas and suggestions will be mutually beneficial to both Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd and the local community. Matters such as working hours or attitudes to working on days of high fire danger or working on hot and windy days may be matters which the local community could have views which need to be considered by the licensees.

Any contact or complaint will be noted in a complaints book, and Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd will promptly make suitable arrangements to contact the complainant. Where possible, the matter would be settled between the two parties, but the local Inspector or the Mining Warden may be requested to assist in resolving any issue or meditating on the matter. Such interaction with the community will be used to identify any issues that may be arising from the operations on the licence and will attempt to accommodate the views of the stakeholders in dealing with any such issues.

The community is welcomed for their interest and input into ensuring that there are minimum adverse effects to the amenity of the area, or the impact on the expectation of the community for the peaceful enjoyment of their local environment.

Southern Star Gold Pty Ltd is mindful of the need to maintain these exceptionally good community relations and to ensure that the channels of communication between the licence holder and the community in which it operates are kept open. All discussion with the community is based on mutual trust and respect.