

DEPARTMENT *of*
INFRASTRUCTURE,
ENERGY *and* RESOURCES

MINERAL RESOURCES TASMANIA

23 October 2006

Mr Michael Raetz
for Mr Terry Lees

Copper Strike Limited
Level 9
356 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Enquiries: Barry Williams
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Your Ref:
Our Ref: 6BW050:GM EL 35/2004

Dear Mr Raetz

**DIAMOND DRILLING PROGRAM
EXPLORATION LICENCE EL 35/2004**

Thank you for your application dated 11 September 2006, received here on the 26 September 2006 regarding approval to undertake a helicopter assisted drilling program on EL 35/2004 in the vicinity of Lake Margaret.

From the application and subsequent correspondence I understand that the proposal consists of:

- A single helicopter assisted diamond drill site east of the Lake Margaret Township.
- Drill crew access will be via 4WD track to the pump-house shed and then a one kilometre walk along existing tracks and gridlines.

Advice from the Mineral Exploration Working Group describes the following significant values within the work program area:

Geomorphology

- West coast Range (vulnerability 5)
- Western Tasmanian Blanket Bogs (vulnerability 2)

Flora

- The drill site is located adjacent to a threatened native vegetation community, these communities are subject to new legislation.

Fauna

- Threatened fauna habitat is present for the eastern and spotted-tailed quolls, the wedge-tailed eagle and white-bellied sea-eagle.

Other issues

- High biophysical naturalness
- Natural landscapes (National Estate Value A2)

It is unlikely that the work program as described will have a significant impact on the values described above.

I can confirm that approval is granted for the work program as submitted subject to the following conditions.

All work is to be carried out in accordance with the Mineral Exploration Code of Practice, with particular attention to the following points:

- All equipment taken in to the sites is to be thoroughly cleaned and free from 'foreign' soil/mud. Continued *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (Pc) hygiene measures are to be applied throughout the duration of the program.
- Any fuels and all hydrocarbons are to be adequately safeguarded from spills.
- Adequate fire fighting equipment is to be kept on hand, sufficient to suppress any fires that may be reasonably anticipated as a result of your activity.
- Copper Strike Limited personnel shall oversee all site-works including any track clearing.
- Disturbance to the natural vegetation will be kept to an absolute minimum and peripheral disturbance to neighbouring vegetation shall be avoided.
- No clearing is permitted in the threatened native vegetation community located adjacent to the work area. A plan showing the location of the threatened native vegetation is attached, for your information.
- In addition to the requirements detailed in your application, all return water from drilling will be pumped/recycled from a holding tank back to the mixing/mud tank as described by David Gatehouse in an email dated 5 October 2006.
- Hydro Tasmania must be consulted prior to entering onto land vested in Hydro Tasmania.
- As far as practical efforts are to be made in order to discourage others from utilising any access that is created as a result of these exploration activities.
- Any deviation from the work program as described should be reported prior to proceeding.
- This approval is for the work program as it relates to the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995* (S.29) and Schedules A and B of the Mineral Exploration Code of Practice.

Please contact myself on (03) 6233 8469 or Senior Geologist, Mr John Pemberton on (03) 6233 8371, with any comments or if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Barry Williams
ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFICER

Encl.

cc. Mr Terry Reid, Senior Ranger, Parks and Wildlife Service, PO Box 21
QUEENSTOWN TAS 7467