

# Public Submission Cover Sheet

Mining Proposal and/or Management Plan

## BIRD-IN-HAND GOLD PROJECT

USE THIS FORM AS: A cover sheet to accompany a written submission

Terramin Australia Ltd and Terramin Exploration Pty Ltd (together known as 'Terramin') is proposing development of an underground gold mine near Woodside and the processing of ore at existing facilities located at the Angas Zinc Mine in Strathalbyn.

On 21 June 2019, Terramin submitted applications for a mining lease and a miscellaneous purposes licence. The submission of applications for the Bird in Hand Gold Project by Terramin has initiated a comprehensive technical assessment of those applications by the South Australian Government under the *Mining Act 1971* which includes a period of statutory public consultation.

*Written submissions are invited from members of the public on these applications.*

## Making a Submission

We value the community's input, information provided in submissions is vital to the assessment processes.

Please follow the steps below to make an effective submission.

1. **Review Terramin's application for an ML and/or MPL**, available at [http://energymining.sa.gov.au/bird\\_in\\_hand\\_gold\\_project\\_consultation](http://energymining.sa.gov.au/bird_in_hand_gold_project_consultation)

2. **Decide whether or not to include personal information in your submission**

South Australian Government agencies ensure the protection of personal information by adhering to the South Australian Department of the Premier and Cabinet [Information Privacy Principles Instruction \(http://dpc.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/pubimages/Circulars/PC012\\_Privacy\\_0.pdf\)](http://dpc.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/pubimages/Circulars/PC012_Privacy_0.pdf).

When you make a written submission, that submission becomes a public record. Your written submission will be provided to the applicant and will be published on the DEM website. This includes:

- the content of your submission and any attachments - including any personal information about you which you have chosen to include in those documents.

If you wish for your personal information to be withheld, **you must**:

- request that your name and contact details be withheld from publishing by ticking the relevant box in the form below; and
- **not include** personal or identifying information in your submission or attachments.

We will not accept offensive, threatening, defamatory or other inappropriate material.

3. **Make a submission**

To make a written submission, please use this **cover sheet** to accompany your written submission. Your submission can be provided in any written form, including a letter or email.

Alternatively, make an online submission by accessing the DEM website and following the instructions.

[http://energymining.sa.gov.au/bird\\_in\\_hand\\_gold\\_project\\_consultation](http://energymining.sa.gov.au/bird_in_hand_gold_project_consultation)

**Provide your written submission to government using any of the following methods:**

By mail to:  
Mining Regulation  
Attn: Business Support Officer  
GPO Box 320  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

By email to: [DEM.MiningRegRehab@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEM.MiningRegRehab@sa.gov.au)

## Public submission

### Section A: Contact details

Please complete the following information. Your contact details will be used by the South Australian government to acknowledge your submission. Those marked with an asterisk '\*' are mandatory. **Anonymous submissions will not be accepted.**

Title	[Mr ]		
*Name	[Andrew ]	*Surname	[Nugent ]
Organisation	[ ]		
*Street / PO Box	[150 Pfeiffer Rd ]		
*Town / Suburb	[Woodside ]	[SA ]	[5244 ]
		*State	*Postcode
*Email address (mandatory for electronic submissions)	[communications@birdinhand.com.au]	Telephone	[ ]
Submission date	[27/09/2019 ]		

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### Section B: Privacy

Please select **one** of the following options:

I understand that my submission, **including my personal contact details**, will be published on the DEM website and provided to the applicant.

**OR**

I understand that my submission will be published on the DEM website and provided to the applicant, **but** I require that the government **withholds my name and contact details**. I understand that it is **my responsibility** to ensure personal information is not included in the body of my submission, any footers or headers or any attachments.

## **Coexistence is simply not possible.**

As a local resident, a parent, a business owner and an employer, I am writing to express my complete opposition to the Mining Lease Application made by Terramin for the proposed Bird in Hand Gold mine at Woodside in the Adelaide Hills.

Terramin's argument for approval is based on the often-repeated mantra that a working gold mine can somehow coexist in an established horticultural and residential area. This is absolutely absurd.

They are proposing to operate a mine immediately adjacent to productive vineyards, next door to businesses which rely on a 'clean, green' environment, and just 400 meters from my home. It is obviously and totally incongruent and unacceptable.

The proposed mine will bring constant noise, dust and heavy traffic. It will, without doubt, negatively impact the lives of residents and make the area far less attractive to visitors and tourists who now come from around Australia and around the world.

Its untried hydrology poses a very significant threat to the local water table, putting at risk any number of existing business including successful and productive farms and wineries.

The proposed mine will also be a net economic negative to the region, as its presence will drive down tourism, see local businesses close or dwindle and reduce investment in existing, sustainable enterprises.

For Terramin, 'coexistence' means they will chase profit and everyone else will suffer.

My wife and I moved to Woodside in 1997. We've raised my three children here in an amazing rural setting. We love this area and this community.

But if Terramin is allowed to open a mine within metres of my boundary fence, we will have little choice but to move. Our daily life will be too damaged to stay.

In preparing the site, Terramin drilled a well which gave a clear indication the level of noise that will be routinely made during the mine's operation which – crucially – is planned to run 24/7.

The reality is the noise will be intolerable, with my family and I suffering a constant aural assault even if levels stay below the EPA mandated limits.

Terramin has admitted there will also be issues with dust, coming from the mining operations and the trucks carrying the ore.

And the trucks themselves will compound the damage, operating every day on the roads surrounding my house. They add to the noise, they add to the dust and they must certainly decrease safety on roads my family uses daily.

Terramin has pointed out that similar trucks are already used in the area, but these are intermittent and centred on harvest time – they are not day-in and day-out as Terramin is proposing.

Real estate agents, experts in the Hills region, are on record saying house and land prices in the area will fall if the mine is approved.

How is such an intrusion, such a reduction in amenity, a reduction in asset value, supposed to be acceptable? The answer is – it's not.

I am proud to have built a very successful business at Woodside. Over the past two decades Bird in Hand Winery has gone from producing a few dozen bottles in an old shed, to a world-class operation which delivers almost 90,000 cases of wine each year with exports to 15 countries.

Crucially, we also receive 20,000 visitors annually which make us one of the jewels in the Adelaide Hills. We attract people from around Australia and across the globe for our wines, our restaurant, weddings and live music etc. This creates jobs and injects significant money into the local economy.

However, these visitor numbers will certainly be under threat if Terramin is granted approval. The ambiance of our site is absolutely vital to our offering. Why would people visit a winery next door to a mine – which you will be able to see and hear – when there are so many other destinations on offer?

The trucks which take away Terramin's ore will also take away tourists.

How can I "comfortably coexist" with a business which is damaging my business?

My wife and I want to leave our Bird in Hand Winery to our children, so they can pass it on to their children. We want to be here for generations. All that is at risk because a mine wants to be here for a few years.

The State Government talks repeatedly of South Australia becoming the wine capital of the world with the Adelaide Hills being a jewel in the crown, but who thinks tourists are going to accept trucks, dust and noise?

The truth is that, as an established international brand, Bird in Hand Winery does not have to operate out of Woodside. We can move, and we may well have to, but how is that fair to us, our loyal staff and the people of Woodside?

Of course, Terramin's plans don't just threaten Bird in Hand Winery. They threaten a much wider region.

Terramin's untried and untested plan to re-inject ground water back into the local aquifer risks primary production across the region. Experts have shown the aquifer is far more complicated than Terramin is suggesting and could well result in a permanent change in the local water table and/or salinity levels.

If Terramin gets it wrong, they get to walk away. Everyone else will be left to pick up the pieces.

To risk a thriving local economy based on agricultural, horticultural, viticultural and tourism worth \$169.1 million in gross state product in just one year by 2020/21 for a short-term, unproven mining operation which may generate \$183 million over its entire lifespan is madness.

It shouldn't even be considered.

To coexist there has to be trust and there has to be good faith, but Terramin in pursuing this approval has already – repeatedly – shown it is not a good neighbour.

Concerned residents and business owners from across the area have repeatedly asked Terramin for detailed information on a range of key issues, and the company has refused to provide answers or been evasive.

This includes specifics on how they are going to manage the crucial aquifer recharge (which they have never attempted before), the final look of the mine and how it will impact neighbouring properties, and the size and type of heavy trucks which would be used to transport the ore.

Further, Terramin is the only organisation or individual to oppose plans for a \$30 million upgrade to facilities at Bird in Hand Winery which would create another 50 long-term jobs.

It would be funny if it wasn't so serious – a company which wants to start a short-term gold mine which threatens a successful, peaceful, rural area, has the gall to oppose a development by an existing, long-term business which will only bring additional benefits to the region.

Indeed, Terramin has already damaged Woodside. Valuable investment and the associated jobs have been put on hold over the past five years because of the uncertainty generated by their push. How can anyone involved in horticulture make any plans when the fundamental element of their business – water – is in doubt?

This must come to an end, and there is only one sensible and logical decision. No mine.

To repeat; as a local resident, a parent, a business owner and an employer, I am completely opposed the Mining Lease Application made by Terramin for the proposed Bird in Hand Gold mine.

I don't want to have to move my family. I don't want to have to move my business. But coexistence with such a neighbour is simply not possible.