

Response ID ANON-URZ4-5F7S-T

Submitted to Fast-track approval applications
Submitted on 2024-04-24 14:18:19

Submitter details

Is this application for section 2a or 2b?

2A

1 Submitter name

Individual or organisation name:
Siren Gold Limited

2 Contact person

Contact person name:
Victor Rajasooriar

3 What is your job title

Job title:
Managing Director & CEO

4 What is your contact email address?

Email:

s 9(2)(a)

5 What is your phone number?

Phone number:

s 9(2)(a)

6 What is your postal address?

Postal address:

Siren Gold Limited
PO Box 117
West Perth WA 6872

7 Is your address for service different from your postal address?

Yes

Organisation:
Siren Gold Limited

Contact person:

Phone number:

Email address:

Job title:

Please enter your service address:

Level 2, 41-43 Ord Street
West Perth
WA 6005

Section 1: Project location

Site address or location

Add the address or describe the location:

Reefton

File upload:

Pages from 2024.04.16 Siren Gold - Reefton location.pdf was uploaded

Upload file here:

No file uploaded

Do you have a current copy of the relevant Record(s) of Title?

Yes

upload file:

Binder1.pdf was uploaded

Who are the registered legal land owner(s)?

Please write your answer here:

REEFTON RESOURCES PTY LIMITED (NZBN 9429046648068).
REEFTON RESOURCES PTY LIMITED is 100% owned by Siren Gold Limited

Detail the nature of the applicant's legal interest (if any) in the land on which the project will occur

Please write your answer here:

REEFTON RESOURCES PTY LIMITED is 100% owned by Siren Gold Limited

Future works required for the project is the conversion of the exploration permit to a Mining tenement, so that additional funding can be obtained from Siren Gold (ASX:SNG) shareholders to further develop the project by carrying out a feasibility study and enter a phase of construction and eventual production of Gold and Antimony from the Reefton project.

Section 2: Project details

What is the project name?

Please write your answer here:

Reefton Gold and Antimony Project

What is the project summary?

Please write your answer here:

The Reefton Gold and Antimony Project (RP) represents a mature hard rock project of estimated 440 koz of gold and 9kt of antimony resource in Reefton area of the West Coast. The Project has the capacity to produce significant amount of Antimony which is a critical mineral and put Reefton in the World map as a supplier of this valuable mineral to the western world. New Zealand could go from a 0% producer to 4% of the worlds requirement.

What are the project details?

Please write your answer here:

The Reefton project (RP) represents a mature hardrock project of estimated 440 koz of gold and 9kt of antimony (511koz of gold equivalent) resource in Reefton area of the West Coast

Siren Gold has the potential for a number of underground mining operations similar to Federations Snowy River Project, feeding into a centralised processing facility.

It is an exploration project at this stage. A mining permit application is likely to made in 2-3 years' time for an underground mine/s beneath DOC estate to minimise or avoid surface effect on DOC land.

The RP has the potential to produce over 2Moz of gold and 100kt of antimony over a 20-year mine life with further exploration success.

The RP has the potential to produce over 100,000 oz of gold and 5,000t of antimony valued at \$450m per annum based on current prices (gold NZ\$3,300/oz and antimony NZ\$20,000/t).

It is estimated that a highly skilled workforce of over 250 people would be required in the mining and processing operations.

The RP would produce a gold-antimony concentrate (~70ktpa) which could be exported utilising existing roads and loading facility at Westport.

The RP could commence a mining and processing operation in 3-5 years subject to funding.

Describe the staging of the project, including the nature and timing of the staging

Please write your answer here:

Resource Drilling April 2024 to June 2025
Application of Mining Permit Jun-25
Resource definition drilling June 2025 to November 2025
Stakeholder engagement November 2025 to June 2026
Processing plant finalisation Mar-26
GR Engineering design for Plant April 2026 to June 2026
Feasibility Study completion July 2026 to November 2026
Siren Board Approval to Proceed Dec-26
Construction January 2027 to December 2027
UG Mining March 2027 to February 2028
Gold bar production Mar-28

What are the details of the regime under which approval is being sought?

Please write your answer here:

CMA – Mining permit application anticipated to be submitted 2-3 years. The RP includes 11 prospecting and exploration permits.

Land Access – private land.

CMA Land access – there is potential that the project may require a land access arrangement with DoC.
The RP has several access agreements with DOC for exploration activities, but none for mining.

RMA – Exploration activities are a permitted activity, so no resource consents are required. A suite of resource consents would be required to allow for mine development and mining activities.

If you seeking approval under the Resource Management Act, who are the relevant local authorities?

Please write your answer here:

CMA – Mining permit application anticipated to be submitted 2-3 years.

Land Access – private land.

CMA Land access – there is potential that the project may require a land access arrangement with DoC.

RMA – a suite of resource consents would be required to allow for mine development and mining activities.

What applications have you already made for approvals on the same or a similar project?

Please write your answer here:

CMA – The RP includes 11 prospecting and exploration permits.

CMA Land access – The RP has several access agreements with DOC for exploration activities.

RMA – exploration activities are a permitted activity, so no resource consents are required.

Is approval required for the project by someone other than the applicant?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Siren Gold Limited own 100% of the Reefton Project

If the approval(s) are granted, when do you anticipate construction activities will begin, and be completed?

Please write your answer here:

Processing plant finalisation Mar-26
GR Engineering design for Plant April 2026 to June 2026
Feasibility Study completion July 2026 to November 2026
Siren Board Approval to Proceed Dec-26
Construction January 2027 to December 2027
UG Mining March 2027 to February 2028

Section 3: Consultation

Who are the persons affected by the project?

Please write your answer here:

Department of Conservation (DoC) – Siren has several Access Arrangement (AA) that allows for exploration activities including drilling and camps.

Grey District Council (GDC) – Exploration is a permitted activity, so no approvals are required at this stage.

West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) – Exploration is a permitted activity, so no approvals are required at this stage.

Buller District Council (BDC)- Exploration is a permitted activity, so no approvals are required at this stage.

Iwi – Iwi have been consulted on all exploration permit and Access Agreements applications by Siren.

Detail all consultation undertaken with the persons referred to above. Include a statement explaining how engagement has informed the project.

Please write your answer here:

Grey District Council (GDC) – Siren has presented the project to the GDC mayor and CEO earlier this year.

West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) – Siren has presented to the WRRC CEO earlier this year and helped draft a briefing paper to the incoming ministers on Siren's project in Reefton.

Buller District Council (BDC) - Siren has presented the project to the GDC mayor and CEO earlier this year.

Department of Conservation (DoC) – Siren has several Access Arrangement (AA) that allows for exploration activities including drilling and camps and regularly meet with the DoC.

Iwi – Siren has meet with Ngai Tahu on several occasions. Iwi have been consulted on all exploration permit and Access Agreements applications by Siren.

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Describe any processes already undertaken under the Public Works Act 1981 in relation to the land or any part of the land on which the project will occur:

Please write your answer here:

Department of Conservation (DoC) – Siren has several Access Arrangement (AA) that allows for exploration activities including drilling and camps and regularly meet with the DoC.

Iwi – Siren has meet with Ngai Tahu on several occasions. Iwi have been consulted on all exploration permit and Access Agreements applications by Siren.

Section 4: Iwi authorities and Treaty settlements

What treaty settlements apply to the geographical location of the project?

Please write your answer here:

Iwi – Siren has meet with Ngai Tahu on several occasions.

Iwi have been consulted on all exploration permit and Access Agreements applications by Siren.

Siren is not aware of any iwi planning documents in relation to the project.

Siren is not aware of any Treaty of Waitangi Settlements over the permit area.

Are there any Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019 principles or provisions that are relevant to the project?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Are there any identified parcels of Māori land within the project area, marae, and identified wāhi tapu?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Is the project proposed on any land returned under a Treaty settlement or any identified Māori land described in the ineligibility criteria?

No

Has the applicant has secured the relevant landowners' consent?

Yes

Is the project proposed in any customary marine title area, protected customary rights area, or aquaculture settlement area declared under s 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 or identified within an individual iwi settlement?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Has there been an assessment of any effects of the activity on the exercise of a protected customary right?

No

If yes, please explain:

Upload your assessment if necessary:

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Section 5: Adverse effects

What are the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment?

Please describe:

An underground mine would have a small footprint relative to the mineral resource, of around 30 hectares. Land will be required for a processing plant, tailings storage facility, water management, temporary storage of waste rock, workshop, site and other facilities.

It is proposed that these facilities would be built on private farmland where possible with minimal disturbance for the likes of vent raises, of indigenous vegetation and habitat for indigenous species. It is possible there would be impacts on such provided for under s6, RMA. That said, our understanding is that any effects would not have irreversible consequences for affected biodiversity. Management of effects on biodiversity would follow the effects management or mitigation hierarchy: to avoid effects where possible, reduce effects where possible, then remedy effects (repair disturbance), and then mitigate effects (make effects less severe, eg vegetation replanting). In the event of residual effects, Siren would offset and / or compensate for those effects using established procedures, noting that such usually entail a composite package of measures, eg ecological surveys, offsite pest and weed control, and translocation of certain wildlife. Our aim is to achieve no net loss of biodiversity values from our activities, and preferably, a net gain, over time.

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Section 6: National policy statements and national environmental standards

What is the general assessment of the project in relation to any relevant national policy statement (including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement) and national environmental standard?

Please write your answer here:

The relevant NPSs cover freshwater management, and indigenous biodiversity.

The first favours the protection of certain freshwater values, eg wetlands, however, also provides a consenting pathway for certain minerals activities, including gold exploration and mining. The same considerations apply to the associated freshwater NES, which is regulation sitting under the NPS-FM.

The NPS for indigenous biodiversity is more challenging because of strict, and arguably unworkable criteria applying to mining projects to access a consenting pathway, particularly as regards s6 biodiversity. Siren understands that the Government intends to amend the NPS-IB to provide a consenting pathway following the mitigation hierarchy for projects that are regionally significant in terms of economic activity.

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Section 7: Eligibility

Will access to the fast-track process enable the project to be processed in a more timely and cost-efficient way than under normal processes?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The project is likely to meet the purpose of the Act and will provide significant economic benefits and/or significantly contribute to the growth, diversity and resilience of regional economies. Furthermore, seeking funding to explore and build the project with investor funding becomes a very straight

forward process.

What is the impact referring this project will have on the efficient operation of the fast-track process?

Please write your answer here:

The impact will be putting Reefton on the Global map as a producer of Antimony given its significance as a critical mineral. The project will benefit by investment funding coming into New Zealand to build this key infrastructure in a timely fashion.

Has the project been identified as a priority project in a:

Local government plan or strategy

Please explain your answer here:

Reefton council and community are supportive of the critical mineral strategy to benefit the community with growth and employment.

Will the project deliver regionally or nationally significant infrastructure?

National significant infrastructure

Please explain your answer here:

This is an opportunity to build a Processing hub and mining operation in Reefton, which could provide the western countries with a supply of Antimony which is of geopolitical significance. Reefton could produce 4% of the worlds needs.

Will the project:

contribute to a well-functioning urban environment

Please explain your answer here:

The project could be expected to

- Create local jobs and contribute to the regional economy.
- Generate gold and antimony exports.
- Generate Crown Minerals royalties.

Will the project deliver significant economic benefits?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The project could be expected to

- Create local jobs and contribute to the regional economy.
- Generate gold and antimony exports.
- Generate Crown Minerals royalties.

The RP has the potential to produce over 100,000 oz of gold and 5,000t of antimony valued at \$450m per annum based on current prices (gold NZ\$3,300/oz and antimony NZ\$20,000/t).

Will the project support primary industries, including aquaculture?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Additional mines will come on line when the processing hub has been established.

Will the project support climate change mitigation, including the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Underground mining is a low impact operation
Equipment will be mostly electric driven, supplied between Hydro and a solar farm

Will the project support adaptation, resilience, and recovery from natural hazards?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project address significant environmental issues?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The Globe Progress mine is currently a disturbed site and is approximately a few kilometres from the Reefton Project. There is a significant opportunity to place the processing plant in this disturbed area to mitigate future disturbance in a virgin environment.

Is the project consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The area is free of any future planning requirements

Anything else?

Please write your answer here:

Does the project includes an activity which would make it ineligible?

No

If yes, please explain:

Section 8: Climate change and natural hazards

Will the project be affected by climate change and natural hazards?

No

If yes, please explain:

Section 9: Track record

Please add a summary of all compliance and/or enforcement actions taken against the applicant by any entity with enforcement powers under the Acts referred to in the Bill, and the outcome of those actions.

Please write your answer here:

There has been no compliance or enforcement actions taken by the GDC, BDC, WCRC or EPA.

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Declaration

Do you acknowledge your submission will be published on environment.govt.nz if required

Yes

By typing your name in the field below you are electronically signing this application form and certifying the information given in this application is true and correct.

Please write your name here:

Victor Rajasooriar

Important notes