

# GISTM Principle 15 – August 2025 Public Disclosure

Cortez Complex Cell 4 TSF



#### FACILITY LEVEL STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

The Cell 4 TSF is in Full Conformance with the GISTM.

#### **PRINCIPLE 15**

Publicly disclose and provide access to information about the tailings facility to support public accountability.

#### **REQUIREMENT 15.1**

A. For new tailings facilities for which the regulatory authorisation process has commenced. or that are otherwise approved by the Operator, the Operator shall publish and update, in accordance with Principle 21 of the UNGP, the following information:

Requirement 15.1 A is not applicable as this is an existing facility.

- B. For each existing tailings facility and in accordance with Principle 21 of the UNGP, the Operator shall publish and update at least on an annual basis, the following information:
  - A description of the tailings facility (information may be obtained from the output of Requirements 5.5 and 6.4)

Nevada Gold Mines LLC (NGM), a joint venture between Barrick Mining Corporation (Barrick) and Newmont Corporation (Newmont), owns and operates the Cell 4 Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) located at the Cortez complex site, approximately 50 kilometers southeast of Battle Mountain, Nevada, USA.

The Cell 4 TSF is described by the following details:

- Facility Operational Status: Operating.
- **Expansion Methods**: Staged construction, downstream raise method.
- Embankment Type: Ring dam facility contained by zoned embankments consisting of runof-mine waste rockfill with a geomembrane liner on the upstream face of the embankments.
- Basin: Geomembrane liner with a drainage system (above the liner) to capture and convey seepage to ancillary ponds which are pumped to the mill for reuse.
- Deposition start and expected end (year): 2013 2029.
- Tailings Storage Capacity: Conventional slurry tailings; 61 M tonnes planned ultimate storage; 48 M tonnes currently stored.

Full Conformance: All applicable requirements are met in full; or, all applicable requirements are met but the facility requires remedial works to conform to specific requirements (e.g. 4.7 or 5.7), for which basic engineering is complete, budgeted, and a construction schedule has been developed and approved by the Accountable Executive to complete remedial works as soon as reasonably practicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Facility-Level Conformance Definitions:

Partial Conformance: Some requirements are fully met, others are partially met or not met.

Non-Conformance: No applicable requirements are either partially or fully met.



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- Current Permitted Impoundment: Dam is constructed and permitted through Phase V (crest elevation 1,568 m).
- Current Maximum Embankment Height: 81 m.
- Supernatant Pool Configuration: Center pool with water pumped to the mill for reuse.
- Long-term closure plan: Embankments will be sloped, covered, and seeded to their final
  closure configuration. After tailings deposition has ceased and sufficient drain down has
  occurred, the impoundment area will be capped, covered, and seeded to form a stable
  landform. Once the cover is complete, a spillway will be developed to route meteoric water
  off the facility. Long term drain down will be passively managed in evaporation cells.
- 2. The Consequence Classification (Requirement 4.1)

#### Facility Consequence Classification

Current Classification	Classification used for Design
High (GISTM 2020)	Extreme (GISTM 2020)

3. A summary of risk assessment findings relevant to the tailings facility (Information may be obtained from the output of Requirement 10.1)

The Cell 4 TSF risk assessment was updated in September 2024, determined that no risk drivers exist for the facility, and confirmed that the measures implemented for the facility ensure the risk level is as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).

4. A summary of impact assessments and of human exposure and vulnerability to tailings facility credible flow failure scenarios (Information may be obtained from the output of Requirements 2.4 and 3.3)

The following is a summary of the material environmental, social, and critical facilities/infrastructure that may be impacted in the unlikely event of a catastrophic tailing's facility failure. For each aspect, the table provides a summary of the nature of the potential impacts and vulnerabilities. The assessment of human exposure and vulnerability was completed utilizing information from previous dam breach and downstream inundation analysis, and Emergency Action Plans (EAP).

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#### Summary of Potentially Material Impacts

Aspects	Impact description	Mitigation Measure(s)
Environmental	A release could impact local areas of habitat for species of special interest resulting in insignificant loss of habitat. Tailings is unlikely acid-generating, but metals concentrations may pose risk to the environment until mitigation is completed following a release.	Developing and implementing recovery and rehabilitation plan
Public Infrastructure	Off-site impacts could cause disruption of some grazing allotments and agricultural land, blockage of a Cortez Canyon Road (public road), and reduce public access to recreation. Losses to recreational access and infrequently used transportation routes within the potential inundation area are assumed to be temporary. Electrical and water utilities for Crescent Valley community may experience short-term outages, and water sources for Crescent Valley may have water quality impacts.	Follow up Emergency Action Plan structure, coordinate emergency access and road closure plans with local authorities and utility providers. Heavy equipment needed will be located close to site and kept available.
Health, Social & Cultural	There are no known community welfare or assets, or significant recreational sites within the potential inundation area. Significant disruption of business, service or social dislocation are not expected. There are multiple cultural resources sites within the potential inundation area. Risks to health from exposure to tailings are assumed to be temporary if exposure controls are implemented following a breach.	Emergency Action Plans to provide warning. Ground-truth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible cultural resources sites.
Economic	Agricultural plots east of the TSF may be inundated. No other immediate, direct negative offsite impacts are identified.	The Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan will be initiated. This will address the immediate needs of communities and the environment. Implement long term recovery plan incorporating sustainable land uses practices, ecosystem restoration, and biodiversity conservation measures into the restoration plan.

## 5. A description of the design for all phases of the tailings facility lifecycle including the current and final height (Information may be obtained from the output of Requirement 5.5)

The Cells 4 TSF is a full-ring embankment contained by zoned embankments constructed with runof-mine waste rock and a geomembrane liner over the upstream embankments and within the basin. The embankment dams were downstream raised over stages.

The supernatant pool configuration is a center pool to promote tailings beach development upstream of the embankments. Sufficient flood storage and freeboard is maintained to contain the inflow design flood and mitigate against unintentional releases (i.e., zero-discharge facility with no constructed spillway). Seepage through tailings reports to the underdrain system above the



geomembrane liner, comprising of a drainage blanket and a perforated piping system. The underdrain system and seepage reports to the ancillary ponds via gravity flow.

Stormwater runoff from the upgradient area north of the facility is directed around the northeastern edge of the facility into native drainages east of the TSF. No stormwater runs onto the facility.

The underlying geology of the facility consists generally of Tertiary to Quaternary volcanic, lacustrine and alluvial sediments predominant of the region. The foundation soils are layered sequences of dense to very dense granular slightly silty, to silty gravels and sands with occasional layers of silt and clay.

Each stage of the tailing facility has been engineered, and the design and construction of the facility was overseen by a qualified engineer and the appointed Engineer of Record. The table below summarizes the historical stages of construction.

#### Stages of Dam Construction

Construction Stage	Completion Date	Crest Elevation (m)	Significant Design Changes
Phase I Starter Configuration	April 2013	1,525	
Phase II	November 2015	1,539	
Phase III	October 2018	1,555	Converted to a center pool to shift water away from the embankments.
Phase V Ultimate Configuration	May 2023	1,568	

6. A summary of material findings<sup>2</sup> of annual performance reviews and dam safety review (DSR), including implementation of mitigation measures to reduce risk to ALARP (Information may be obtained from output of Requirements 10.4 and 10.5);

#### Summary of *Material Findings* and Mitigation Measures

Reference	Material Findings Summary	Mitigation Measures to Meet ALARP
2023 DSR <sup>3</sup>	No material findings	Not applicable.
2024 DSI <sup>4</sup>	No material findings	Not applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Material findings are findings that have a high probability of becoming or actual dam safety issues that require immediate attention and are considered immediately dangerous to life, health or the environment, a significant regulatory enforcement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> DSR: Dam Safety Review.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> DSI: Dam Safety Inspection.



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7. A summary of material<sup>5</sup> findings of the environmental and social monitoring programme including implementation of mitigation measures (Requirement 7.5)

There have been no material incidents or findings from the environmental and social incidents monitoring programme.

- 8. A summary version of the tailings facility EPRP for facilities that have a credible failure mode(s) that could lead to a flow failure event that:
- Informed by credible flow failure scenarios from the tailings facility breach analysis;
- Includes emergency response measures that apply to project affected people as identified through the tailings facility breach analysis and involve cooperation with public sector agencies; and
- Excludes details of emergency preparedness measures that apply to the Operator's assets, or confidential information (Requirements 13.1 and 13.2);

An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) has been developed specifically for the Cell 4 TSF to meet regulatory requirements as set forth by the Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) Dam Safety Program. The EAP describes procedures for reporting and responding to a wide range of potential adverse events and includes a notification flowchart (see below) to ensure stakeholders and responders are informed promptly and engaged in event response.

The EAP is a subset of an overall Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) developed and maintained for the Cortez Mine Site. The EAP and EPRP are both reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect changes in site conditions, NGM's responsible personnel, available resources, and contractors who may be engaged in an emergency response.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> An incident is considered material if it:

a) Causes significant negative impact on human health or the environment:

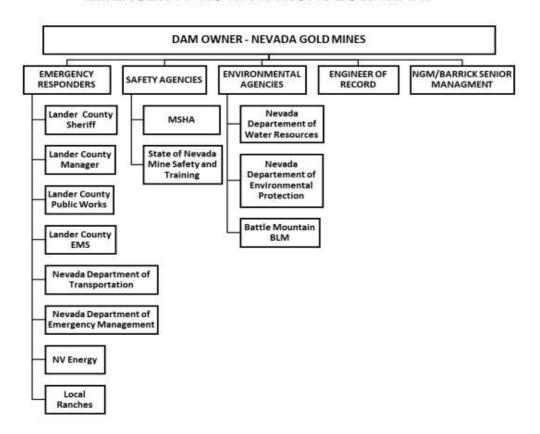
b) Extends onto publicly accessible land and has the potential to cause significant adverse impact to surrounding communities, livestock

c) Results in a breach of license conditions, the convention between the mine and government, or a violation of environmental regulations and standards or constitute releases above Reportable Quantities (RQs) any of which is immediately reportable to the government by law or other statute; or

d) Results in a release of cyanide (above 0.5 mg/l of WAD cyanide, confirmed by a certified third-party laboratory as above detection limit) to any surface water that leaves the site boundaries or any groundwater aquifer (whether on or off-site).

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#### **EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART**



#### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

Dam Owner / Process Manager:

- 1. Verify and assess emergency conditions.
- Determine evacuation plan and secure dam plan and implement through Dispatch and Environmental manager.
- 3. Notify other participating emergency management agencies (internal support provided by Site Emergency Response Team, Security, and Carlin Emergency Response Team. External support provided by the Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Department.)
- 4. Provide condition status reports to participating emergency management agencies.
- 5. Take action to prevent/minimize loss of life and damage to environment due to an emergency.
- 6. Make assessments and coordinate mitigative repair actions.

#### Control Room and Site Response Team:

- 1. Initiate evacuation plan and emergency response plan.
- 2. Evacuate and secure inundation area.
- 3. Issue announcements over mine radios on all channels for all personnel.
- Coordinate with Emergency Services to perform rescue operations to minimum loss of life.
- 5. Perform environmental containment actions to minimize environmental damage.

#### Regulatory Agencies:

- 1. Receive condition status reports from Dam Owner.
- Notify Public within Crescent Valley, if required.
- 3. Conduct evacuation from inundation areas, if required.
- 4. Render assistance to Lander County, as necessary.
- 5. Render assistance to Dam Owner, as necessary



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#### 9. Dates of most recent and next independent reviews (Requirement 10.5)

#### Dates of Independent Reviews

Review Type	Latest Review	Previous Review
IGRB <sup>6</sup>	October 2024	September 2022
DSR <sup>7</sup>	December 2023	April 2019

10. Annual confirmation that the Operator has adequate financial capacity (including insurance to the extent commercially reasonable) to cover estimated costs of planned closure, early closure, reclamation, and post-closure of the tailings facility and its appurtenant structures (Requirement 10.7)

Barrick has sufficient financial resources to meet its business requirements for the foreseeable future, including capital expenditures, working capital requirements, interest payments, environmental rehabilitation, securities buyback and dividends.

For additional information refer to Barrick Annual Report 'Financial Position and Liquidity' (page 97) and 'Contractual Obligations and Commitments' table (page 99).

#### **Barrick Annual Report**

C. Provide local authorities and emergency services with sufficient information derived from the breach analysis to enable effective disaster management planning (Information may be obtained from the output of Requirement 2.3)

#### List of Documents Shared with Local Authorities and Emergency Services

Local Authority or Emergency Services	Document
Bureau of Land Management	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Nevada Division of Water Resources	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Nevada Department of Emergency Management	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Nevada Department of Transportation	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Nevada Highway Patrol	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
National Weather Service	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Lander County (Battle Mountain)	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Lander County Sheriff	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
Lander County EMS	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed
NV Energy	EPRP, EAP – Updated annually as needed

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> IGRB: Independent Geotechnical Review Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> DSR: Dam Safety Review.

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#### **REQUIREMENT 15.2**

Respond in a systematic and timely manner to requests from interested and affected stakeholders for additional information material to the public safety and integrity of a tailings facility. When the request for information is denied, provide an explanation to the requesting stakeholder.

Barrick is committed to the timely response to requests for additional information material to the public safety and integrity of their TSFs from interested and affected stakeholders. In the event that specific information cannot be shared with the requesting stakeholder, an explanation will be provided. Information on Barrick's Tailings Management policy and our Social Performance Policy can be found at the following links:

**Tailings Management Policy** 

Social Performance Policy

#### **REQUIREMENT 15.3**

Commit to cooperate in credible global transparency initiatives to create standardised, independent, industry-wide and publicly accessible databases, inventories or other information repositories about the safety and integrity of *tailings facilities*.

Barrick is committed to global transparency around the public safety and integrity of our TSFs. A link to Barrick's Tailings Management Policy can be found here.

**Tailings Management Policy** 



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#### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

Certain information contained in Barrick's Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management ("GISTM") tailings disclosure ("GISTM Disclosure"), including any information as to the design and operation of Barrick's tailings facilities and Barrick's sustainability strategy and vision, projects, plans or future technical, or operating performance constitutes "forward-looking statements". All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. The words "target", "plan", "project", "develop", "estimate", "potential", "may", "will", "likely", "unlikely", "can", "could", "would" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. In particular, this GISTM Disclosure contains forward-looking statements including, without limitation, with respect to: the results of Barrick's annual performance and dam safety reviews and related mitigation measures for the Cell 4 Tailings Storage Facility ("Cell 4 TSF"); the results of Barrick's tailings facility breach analysis and inundation studies including human exposure and vulnerability to flow failure scenarios, disaster management planning and emergency preparedness; and estimated costs associated with Cell 4 TSF.

Forward-looking statements are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by the company as at the date of this Response in light of management's experience and perception of current conditions and expected developments, are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. Known and unknown factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements and information. Such factors include, but are not limited to: operating or technical difficulties in connection with mining or development activities, including geotechnical challenges, tailings dam and storage facilities failures; physical and transition risks related to climate change, including extreme weather events and resource shortages; risk of loss due to acts of war, terrorism, sabotage and civil disturbances; changes in national and local government legislation, taxation, controls or regulations and/or changes in the administration of laws, policies and practice; political or economic development in Nevada, United States, or other countries in which Barrick does or may carry on business in the future; timing of receipt of, or failure to comply with, necessary permits and approvals; our ability to maintain relationships with public sector agencies and the communities surrounding the Cell 4 TSF; contests over access to water, power and other required infrastructure; and disruptions in the maintenance or provision of required infrastructure and information technology systems. In addition, there are risks and hazards associated with the business of mineral exploration, development and mining, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected formations, pressures, cave-ins and flooding. Many of these uncertainties and contingencies can affect our actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf of, Barrick. Readers are cautioned that forwardlooking statements are not guarantees of future performance.

All of the forward-looking statements made in this GISTM Disclosure are qualified by these cautionary statements. Specific reference is made to the most recent Form 40-F/Annual Information Form on file with the SEC and Canadian provincial securities regulatory authorities for a discussion of some of the factors underlying forward-looking statements and the risks that may affect Barrick's ability to achieve the expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements contained in this Response.

Barrick disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.