



Katanning Gold Project Selected for New Priority Approvals Program

Ausgold Limited (ASX: AUC) (Ausgold or Company) is pleased to provide the following update in relation to permitting activities at its 100%-owned Katanning Gold Project in south-west Western Australia:

- The Katanning Gold Project (**KGP** or **Project**) has been selected to enter the Priority Approvals Program led by the Government of Western Australia's Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (**DWER**). The program enables cross-sectoral management of approvals across State government agencies.
- This week, the formal lodgement of a Section 38 *Environmental Protection Act* referral for the Project has been made to Western Australia's Environmental Protection Authority.
- The Federal Government's Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (**DCCEEW**) will formally assess the KGP by 'Assessment on Preliminary Documentation'.

Western Australian Priority Approvals Program

The Government of Western Australia has recently established the Priority Approvals Unit to co-ordinate the permitting path for projects deemed to be significant for the development of Western Australia. The program seeks to assist proponents through every stage of the State's approvals assessment process, including by facilitating parallel processing of applications through different State agencies via an appointed senior Case Manager as a single point of contact.

The KGP is located on predominantly cleared, freehold land, carries relatively low technical risk, and has significant potential to enhance and diversify the Great Southern economy. Thus, the project provided compelling grounds for selection under this newly formulated State Government program. Acceptance into the WA Priority Approvals program is timely, given the Company has this week lodged with Western Australia's Environmental Protection Authority a Section 38 *Environmental Protection Act* referral for the KGP. The referral is a key WA approval required for the development of the KGP.

Ausgold would like to acknowledge the role of the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) for their assistance in the Company being selected for the Priority Approvals Program for the KGP.

Federal Permitting Process

Significant progress has been made over recent months with the Federal Government's permitting process. The initial detailed referral application to the Federal Government's lead agency, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, was made on 30 June 2025.

Following the initial referral, the KGP is being assessed by DCCEEW at a level of 'Assessment on Preliminary Documentation'. As one of DCCEEW's lower level, less complex types of assessments, it is consistent with a proposal having impacts that will likely be medium or short-term, or recoverable.

As part of the assessment process, DCCEEW has requested further fauna survey work on some project-adjacent and district bushland for enhanced planning of mitigation strategies. Ecological survey crews have been active collecting the requested information in recent weeks over the spring season so that Ausgold can respond to DCCEEW's request by Q1 CY2026.

Ausgold General Manager Permitting and Approvals, Troy Collie stated:

"We are extremely pleased to have been invited into WA's Priority Approvals Program. This is an important initiative, and we applaud the Government of Western Australia for the introduction of cross-sectoral facilitation to expedite processing of applications. We certainly see the KGP as a high-profile project and we welcome it being deemed a priority. This new measure, together with significant progress achieved at the Federal level in recent months, supports our goal of making a Final Investment Decision in the June quarter of next year."

Upcoming Catalysts

Q4 CY2025	Initial assay results from the recently commenced 44,000 metre drilling campaign
Q4 CY2025	Finalisation of recently announced workforce accommodation site lease
Q2 CY2026	Award of key construction contracts
Q2 CY2026	Mandate Project Financier(s)
Q2 CY2026	Final Investment Decision

The Board of Directors of Ausgold Limited approved this announcement for release to the ASX.

For further information please visit Ausgold's website or contact:

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