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Our ref: EN2011/0048

Mr Frederick Earnest
President & CEO
Vista Gold Corp.
7961 Shaffer Parkway, Suite 5
LITTLETON COLORADO USA 80127

Attention: Mr Brent Murdoch General Manager Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd GPO Box 3449 DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Mr Earnest

RE: Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd – Mount Todd Gold Project – Assessment Report 76

I am writing to advise you that the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) has assessed the environmental impacts of the Mount Todd Gold Mine (the Project) under the *Environmental Assessment Act.* I have provided Assessment Report 76 (the Report) for the Project to the Northern Territory Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment (the Minister). The Minister is required to give a copy of the Report to the Minister for Mines and Energy (the responsible Minister), together with any written comments made by the Minister in relation to the Report.

A copy of the Report and Appendices is enclosed for your reference. The Report concluded that the Project can proceed, subject to a number of specific safeguards which are outlined in the Assessment Report.

Recommendations arising from the environmental assessment of the Project address methods to further identify, mitigate and manage environmental impacts, as far as possible. It is now critical to the achievement of acceptable environmental outcomes that the commitments made by Vista Gold Australia Pty Ltd and the recommendations made in the Report are followed through to implementation.

As the Project is a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), the Australian Government Minister responsible for the EPBC Act (the Australian Government Minister) will need to consider the Project for an approval decision. I have provided the Australian Government Minister with a copy of the Report to inform his consideration.

The NT EPA will publish a notice in relevant newspapers advising that the NT EPA has completed the environmental assessment process and advising where the Report is available. The Report will be published on the NT EPA website.

Any queries in relation to this matter should be directed to Ms Lisa Bradley, Manager Environmental Assessment, NT EPA on telephone (08) 8924 4136 or email Lisa.Bradley@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Hon. Gary Nairn

Member, Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

2 June 2014