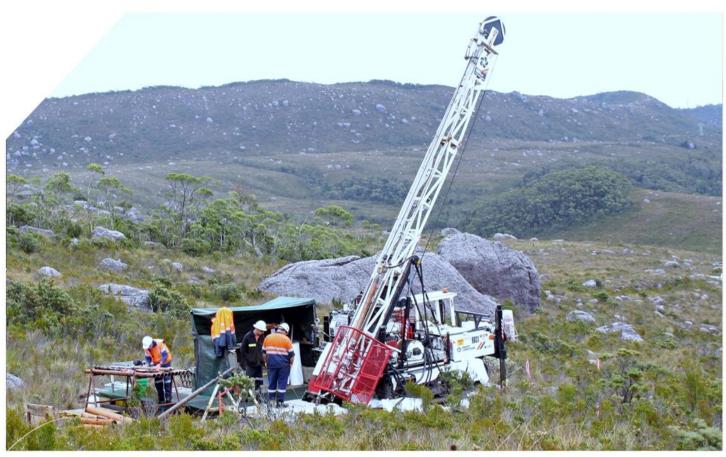
Program Guidelines









Contents

Expl	oration Drilling Initiative Program Round 10 - 2024	2
I.	Aim	2
2.	Eligibility criteria	3
3.	Timeframes	3
4.	Application process	3
4.1	Proposal structure	4
F	PART I – Eligibility Check	4
F	PART 2 - Applicant Details	4
F	PART 3 - Location and Timing	4
F	PART 4 - Summary Drilling Program	4
F	PART 5 - Project Rationale	5
F	PART 6 - Project Management	5
F	PART 7 – Stakeholder Engagement	5
4.2	Additional plans, sections and diagrams	5
4.3	Proposal submission and format	6
5.	Important funding information	6
6.	Proposal assessment	6
8.	Document guidelines and assessment criteria	7
9.	Project description - technical assessment criteria	7
9.1	Proposal Documentation	8
9.2	Economic and Technical Merit	8
9.3	Promotes Greenfield Projects	8
9.4	Targeting Critical Minerals	8
9.5	Promotes Collaboration and/or New Exploration Technology	8
9.6	Applicant's Performance History	8
10.	Report submission and further information	9
10.	.I Final drilling project report	9
10.	.2 Sample Submission	9
10.	.3 Variation in program	9
10.	.4 Reduction in program	10
10.	.5 Confidentiality	10
11.	Grant payments	10
12.	Taxation and financial implications	10

Acquittal	0		
I How to acquit a grant	10		
2 Failure to complete an acquittal	H		
Administration and contact details	.		
l Note	H		
Publicity of grant assistance	ı		
Right to information	11		
Confidentiality	11		
Personal information protection	12		
Disclosure	12		
Disclaimer	12		
ENDIX I: Definitions and legal parameters of proposals	13		
APPENDIX 2: Conditions of acceptance for successful applicants			
	How to acquit a grant		

Exploration Drilling Initiative Program Round 10 - 2024

1. Aim

In 2018 a co-funded Government – Industry Drilling Program was implemented for the first time by the Tasmanian State Government, through the Exploration Drilling Grant Initiative (*EDGI*). Initial funding of \$2 million over four years was made available and since 2021 a further \$3.0 million has been committed, to extend the program to 2028. The *EDGI* program is administered by Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) in the Department of State Growth. The aim is to provide a stimulus to greenfields exploration in Tasmania, especially for minerals included on the 2024 Australian Critical Minerals list.

Ninety eight grants have been awarded for the first eight rounds of *EDGI* and MRT is now seeking proposals from applicants for a tenth round of projects. These will be undertaken during 2024/25 and be completed by May 2025.

Since the fifth round, *EDGI* has considered applications from mining leases, in addition to those on exploration and retention licences. This will remain the case for the tenth round. *EDGI* will continue to preferentially fund high-quality, technically, and economically sound projects that promote innovative exploration or new exploration concepts and technology.

From Round 8 the Government contribution to each successful project increased and is capped at \$70,000 for drilling costs, plus an additional \$20,000 if helicopter support is required. Targeting of critical minerals has also been included as one of the technical selection criteria.

As the scheme is discretionary, successful applicants must agree to release to open file new information from the drilling after a maximum confidentiality period of six months from the end of their project.

Since Round 6, applications have only accepted online, through the MRT website.

2. Eligibility criteria

For any queries about the eligibility criteria, contact the Program Manager by emailing info@mrt.tas.gov.au or phoning 03 6165 4800.

Applicants may be asked to supply documentation to support their eligibility claims, as part of the application process, or as part of an audit process.

Multiple applications can be submitted by the same applicant.

Applicants who can apply:

- 1. Must hold an Exploration Licence, Special Exploration licence, Retention Licence or Mining Lease covering the proposed project's location. However, consideration will be given to those proposals with an Exploration Licence Application, where a recommendation to grant has been made to the Minister, but only if the licence will be granted in a reasonable time frame.
- 2. The program is open to all types of entities which hold the tenement and license or lease. Joint applicants must lodge a written instrument with MRT.
- **3.** Applicants that are natural persons must be aged over 18 years. The applicant does not need to be a natural person. However, an applicant that is a natural person must be aged over 18 years.

Must be registered for tax purposes in Australia with an active Australian Business Number (ABN).

3. Timeframes

Important dates* for the tenth round of EDGI funding are:

Description	Date/time
Program opens	24 July 2024, 2:00pm
Program applications close	30 August 2024, 2:00pm
Applicants notified (estimated date)	Week starting 23 September 2024
Reporting date: latest date for final reports	16 May 2025, 5:00pm
Funding Agreement end date	13 June 2025

^{*}Dates may be subject to change.

No applications will be accepted after the closing date.

During the assessment process MRT may, at its discretion, require further information to support or clarify an application. This information must be provided within three working days, unless otherwise advised. Failure to provide further requested information within the timeframe may result in the application being unsuccessful.

4. Application process

Applications for EDGI grant funding must now be completed and lodged online, using a web-based application form. The Department of State Growth uses an online grants management system called SmartyGrants. This system is easy to use and accessible via mobile phones, tablets, laptops, and personal computers.

Applicants without internet access should contact the Program Manager to discuss alternative methods for applying (see the contact details provided in Section 2).

Prepare your Project Proposal using these Guidelines, particularly the instructions below, with the Application Form at: https://stategrowthtas.smartygrants.com.au/EDGI-10

.

- I. Applicants should read the guidelines carefully before starting an application. The application form is designed to help structure applicants' responses to the eligibility and assessment criteria.
- 2. This is a competitive, merit-based process. Meeting the eligibility criteria will not automatically result in a successful grant.
- 3. After registering with SmartyGrants, you will receive a password by email to access, complete and lodge your application. The application is stored online, and you can save and return to it at any time up to the Closing Date. Additional plans and sections can also be uploaded and attached to your application.
- 4. There will be no opportunity to change an application or provide further information to support it once it has been submitted. Applicants should, therefore, ensure that all supporting documentation provided is accurate and is attached correctly before submitting.
- 5. Following the submission of the application via SmartyGrants, applicants will receive an automatic receipt of their application. This receipt will include details of the application and a unique application ID.
- 6. Applications will be assessed by an assessment team constituted by departmental employees and external experts.
- 7. Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application once considered by the assessment panel.

4.1 Proposal structure

Applicants may submit more than one Proposal. However, all drill holes presented for *EDGI* funding for a single prospect or target should be included in one Proposal. Projects should not be split into multiple proposals using arbitrary or non-geological boundaries in order to maximise funding.

Refer to the following information for completion of the EDGI Application Form:

PART 1 – Eligibility Check

You will be asked to acknowledge your eligibility to apply for an EDGI Grant.

PART 2 - Applicant Details

- Include all current company contact details.
- Listed companies should ensure the Registered Office is the same as provided to the stock exchange.
- If the Applicant is not the registered tenement holder, reference the type of relationship (e.g. Joint Venture, Farm-out, or Assignment).

PART 3 - Location and Timing

- Note the commodities being sought.
- Indicate the tenement numbers linked with the Project Proposal. Note all licence / lease holders and their share of the tenements.
- Provide the best estimate of the proposed starting date and length of the project.

PART 4 - Summary Drilling Program

- List the key components of the proposed drilling program and estimated costs itemised into:
 - o mobilisation, site access and drill pad preparation
 - direct drilling

- drill sample assays
- o spectral measurements of drill samples
- o down hole geophysical logging
- helicopter support (if applicable)
- o specify the total project cost and the amount of funding sought (maximum of up to \$70,000 plus an additional \$20,000 if helicopter support is required).

PART 5 - Project Rationale

Summary Project Description

• A short summary description should highlight the key components of the project, including the target area or mineralised system, commodity, primary aim and expected outcomes.

Exploration Model and Geological Context

• This should provide an overview of the geological setting of the project area as well as details of the geological model being applied. The review should be supported by relevant maps, cross sections, geochemical data and/or geophysical models.

Previous Work

• Provide a review of past work which has been used to define the target. In particular, this should include any historic and recent drilling.

Proposed Drilling Program

 Should provide the reasoning behind the proposed program and details of proposed drilling method, hole collar location (include MGA94 coordinates), orientation, proposed depth, and predictive geology. Attach additional summary maps and diagrams as required.

Program Objectives and Results

• Discuss the specific geoscientific objectives to be tested, how the program adds to geological knowledge and the data and results to be presented as part of the final report.

PART 6 - Project Management

Environmental Impact Information

 Summarise the likely environmental effects of the drill program and the proposed rehabilitation and timing. Note that full details of likely environmental impacts will also be required in the Work Program Application that needs to be lodged with and approved by MRT before drilling can commence.

Project Risk Management

A summary of any potential risks associated with the proposal such as drilling logistics, potential
difficult drilling conditions, rig availability, site access, tenement approvals, personnel, funding etc.

PART 7 – Stakeholder Engagement

If access to private property is required indicate the progress of any engagement with the landowner.

4.2 Additional plans, sections and diagrams

Reference all supporting plans, sections, and diagrams in the EDGI Application Form and upload them with the application. Ensure all supporting information is legible and easily printed or copied.

4.3 Proposal submission and format

Completed Application Forms must be submitted using the web-based application.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure their Proposal has been received by the Closing Date. Acknowledgment, using the contact email provided, will automatically be made on lodgement of each Proposal.

Proposals must comprise:

- the completed web-based Application Form
- appended digital maps, sections and images which can be in PDF or JPG format
- digital drill hole location files can be appended in MS Excel or Mapinfo formats.

It is *highly recommended* that in order to make the assessment process smoother, all sections of the Application Form are complete.

5. Important funding information

An Applicant must only apply the Grant Funding for the purpose of the Project.

Grant Funding may be applied to the following items:

- direct drilling costs (see Appendix I for excluded costs)
- helicopter costs, but only where a remote location or environmental sensitivities necessitate rig mobilisation and support by helicopter, up to a maximum of \$20,000.

Grant Funding for successful proposals will not exceed 50% (capped at \$AUD 70,000) of the total direct drilling costs (excluding helicopter costs). Additional helicopter support costs up to \$AUD 20,000 are available.

Grant Funding is provided GST exclusive, i.e., a grant for \$50,000 will be invoiced as \$50,000 + 10% GST (total invoice amount of \$55,000).

Final Grant Funding will be determined during the assessment process and appear in the Funding Agreement. Final payments will not exceed the agreed amount.

Applicants should, prior to submitting a proposal, ensure that they familiarise themselves and be prepared to abide by the attached Legal Parameters of Proposals (Appendix I) and the Conditions of Acceptance for Successful Applicants (Appendix 2).

6. Proposal assessment

All proposals will be assessed by a panel comprising MRT Staff (2), an independent industry representative and a Centre for Ore Deposit and Earth Sciences (CODES) – University of Tasmania representative.

The panel will use predefined assessment criteria (key points in Section 9) to evaluate and rank all proposals received. If clarification of a proposal is deemed necessary by the panel, applicants may be invited to provide additional information. The panel will make recommendations to the Minister for Business, Industry and Resources, or an authorised delegate, who will have final discretion on the Projects that are approved.

On completion of the assessment process, all applicants will be notified of their success or failure to win Grant Funding via email.

7. Appealing a decision

Grounds for appeal are:

- the persons making the decision had a direct or indirect financial interest in the outcome of the application
- the preparation of the application was affected adversely by incorrect advice provided by a staff member of the Department of State Growth
- the persons making the recommendations discriminated against the applicant on irrelevant grounds, such as cultural, religious, or linguistic background, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability.

All requests must be in writing and should be addressed to the Program Manager using the contact details provided in Section 10).

Your request must be received within 28 days from the date of the Department of State Growth notifying you of the decision about your application.

8. Document guidelines and assessment criteria

Project Proposals must be submitted in digital format, using the online *EDGI* Application Form accessed through the MRT website and uploading supporting documentation where required.

Grant Funding is only supplied for project cost items listed in Section 5.

Drilling cost estimates should be exclusive of GST, where the Applicant is registered for GST and is entitled to claim an Input Tax Credit on GST costs. Applicants not registered for GST should include GST in their drilling cost estimate.

Project timelines for the Proposal must be realistic to ensure completion of drilling and delivery of the final report to MRT by no later than the Reporting Date specified in Section 3 (above).

The earliest possible public release of *EDGI* Drilling results is required. All results, including access to drill sample material, together with contents of the successful proposals, will be made open file after a maximum confidentiality period of six (6) months, commencing after receipt of the final report.

9. Project description – technical assessment criteria

The Round 10 *EDGI* Drilling Program will preferentially fund high quality, technically and economically sound projects that promote innovative exploration targets or new exploration concepts and technology. Drilling targeting any category of mineable minerals defined under the *Mineral Resources Development Act* 1995 is eligible.

The assessment committee will consider all projects but give a higher weighting to those that, in the opinion of the committee, are greenfields and lower weighting to those proposals that are clearly nearmine exploration. As in previous rounds, resource definition, appraisal or development drilling will not be eligible.

Proposals should address the Assessment Criteria listed below, although it is <u>not</u> expected that all proposals will conform to every criterion.

9.1 Proposal Documentation

- All parts of the application form are completed.
- The Proposal is clear, and concise.
- Images are clear and decipherable.
- Images have sufficient labelling information.
- The Proposal includes a suitably annotated geological plan and predictive cross section showing the geochemical, geophysical, or geological targets to be drilled, with drill hole traces shown.

9.2 Economic and Technical Merit

- Contains sufficient supporting scientific evidence for target generation, plus an assessment of previous exploration data.
- Regional and geological context is documented, including an assessment of deposit style in relation to this context.
- Tests an innovative, soundly based ore deposit or geological model.

9.3 Promotes Greenfield Projects

- Addresses knowledge gaps or uncertainties in the state's geological information (e.g. stratigraphy, age, structural relationships, geophysical target resolution).
- Proposed drill targets are in a poorly explored area.
- Potentially stimulates new mineral discoveries and enhances Tasmania's mineral prospectivity.

9.4 Targeting Critical Minerals

• The commodities being targeted are listed on the 2024 Australian Critical Minerals list. This list is available at: www.ga.gov.au/scientific-topics/minerals/critical-minerals

9.5 Promotes Collaboration and/or New Exploration Technology

- Provides potential opportunities for additional collaboration and data gathering with government and academic research partners.
- Validates innovative applications of credible exploration technologies or techniques.
- Uses a style of drilling that maximises information gain.
- Tests new geophysical and/or geochemical models, methods, or applications.
- Includes petrophysical, spectral or down hole geophysical measurement.

9.6 Applicant's Performance History

- Compliance with licence / lease conditions, including reporting requirements, expenditure commitments and completion of agreed work programs.
- Compliance with the Work Program Approvals process.
- Compliance with the Mineral Exploration Code of Practice, additional environmental conditions, and rehabilitation requirements.
- Compliance with procedures and protocols regarding exploration activities on private land.
- Compliance with the conditions of previous grants under the EDGI program.

10. Report submission and further information

10.1 Final drilling project report

The Applicant must provide a Final Drilling Project Report to qualify for payment of the Grant Funding. All reporting must be in accordance with the reporting requirements detailed in the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995 and* conform to the standard format for Mineral Tenement reports described in the MRT Reporting Guidelines, available at: MRT Reporting Guidelines

The Final Drilling Project Report must be received on, or prior to **5pm on 16 May 2025** (Reporting Date) and reports should be submitted by email (to info@mrt.tas.gov.au) but individual emails must be <20 Mb for submission by this method.

Alternatively, final reports can be submitted on USB or CD/DVD by mail to:

The Project Manager Exploration Drilling Grant Initiative Mineral Resources Tasmania PO Box 56 Rosny Park, TAS, 7018

The Final Drilling Project Report must include the following information:

10.1.1 - All geoscientific information relevant to and arising from the Project, including:

- geological, geophysical, and geochemical information relating to targeting of the drill holes
- geological logs of the drill holes
- all geochemical analyses and petrological descriptions from the drill holes
- any spectral data from the drill holes
- any geophysical data from the drill holes
- any drill core photography.

10.1.2 - A description of all site work and rehabilitation associated with the Project, including:

- a description of completed rehabilitation undertaken
- a description of future or scheduled rehabilitation work
- representative photographs showing results of rehabilitation, including before and after photographic images of all drill sites.

10.1.3 - Details of the submission of drilling samples to the MRT Mornington Core Library.

10.2 Sample Submission

All drill core and/or drill cutting samples are to be lodged with the MRT Mornington Core Library before or on the Final Reporting date, unless previously agreed to in writing by the Principal. Full details of the drill core and drill cutting requirements and submission process can be found on the MRT website at: MRT Drill Sample Submission and Delivery Guidelines

10.3 Variation in program

Applicants wishing to vary their proposed program after having been awarded *EDGI* program funding must inform MRT before drilling begins, as program changes may affect grant amounts and/or eligibility for the program.

Major program changes are required to be reviewed by the assessment panel, to ensure the modified program still meets the assessment criteria and overall eligibility for *EDGI* program funding.

10.4 Reduction in program

If the Applicant has not fully completed the proposed program at the time of final report submission, the Department of State Growth may reduce the final grant amount payable.

10.5 Confidentiality

The earliest possible public release of co-funded drilling results is required. All results, including access to drill sample material, together with contents of the successful proposals, will be made Open File after a maximum confidentiality period of six (6) months, commencing on receipt of the Final Report.

11. Grant payments

Applicants will be asked for their bank account details to process grant payments. This bank account must be in the same name as the individual, business or organisation that applied for the grant. Applicants may be asked to provide a copy of their bank statement or a letter from their bank to confirm their bank account details.

Providing incorrect bank account details may result in funds being paid to an incorrect account. These funds will need to be returned to us before we attempt another grant payment. This process may result in significant delays in funding being received. Additionally, we cannot guarantee that funds paid to an incorrect bank account will be returned to us.

If a grant recipient provides false or misleading information, they may be required to return some or all of the funds to the department.

12. Taxation and financial implications

Grants distributed under the program attract GST. Grant payments to successful applicants, who are registered for GST, are increased to compensate for the amount of GST payable. Where GST applies to the grant funding, a valid tax invoice must be supplied by the successful applicant to the department.

The receipt of funding from this program may be treated as income by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

It is strongly recommended that, prior to submitting an application, potential applicants seek independent advice from a tax advisor, financial advisor and/or the ATO, about the possible tax implications for receiving the grant.

If you are an individual (not a business) or you do not have an Australian Business Number (ABN) you may be required to complete a 'Statement by a supplier not quoting an ABN'. Refer to the ATO website for more information: www.ato.gov.au/forms/statement-by-a-supplier-not-quoting-an-abn/

Information on invoices can be found on our Business Tasmania website www.business.tas.gov.au/manage a business/invoices

13. Acquittal

An acquittal is a statement made by a grant recipient, confirming that the grant funding was used as per the funding agreement. Unless otherwise stated, it is a requirement that all Department of State Growth grants are acquitted.

13.1 How to acquit a grant

An acquittal form will be provided to recipients through SmartyGrants, asking for information about the activities and expenditure relating to the grant.

For this program, the evidence required to meet the conditions for payment constitutes acquittal of the grant. These conditions are:

- 1. lodgement of drill core at the MRT Mornington Core Library
- 2. acceptance by the MRT of the Final Drilling Project Report, containing all technical information (correctly presented) that is directly relevant to the drilling project
- 3. acceptance of the drilling contractor's invoice(s) for the drilling
- 4. acceptance of the daily records of the drillers, to justify what has been invoiced, if applicable
- 5. acceptance of the invoice(s) for helicopter charter, if applicable.

The department may ask recipients to provide a Statement of Expenditure certified by an independent, professional auditor. In this situation the recipient will be responsible for the cost of obtaining the certified Statement of Expenditure. Evidence such as quotations, invoices, receipts, statements, reports, etc., may also be required to support the acquittal.

13.2 Failure to complete an acquittal

Failure to lodge a valid acquittal by the due date will result in the recipient being required to return the funding to the department. In this situation the department will invoice the recipient.

14. Administration and contact details

The program will be administered by the Department of State Growth on behalf of the Crown in the Right of Tasmania. Contact info@mrt.tas.gov.au or the EDGI Program Manager on 03 6165 4800.

14.1 Note

All applicants must take care to provide true and accurate information. Any information that is found to be false or misleading may result in action being taken and grant funds, if already provided, will be required to be repaid to the department.

15. Publicity of grant assistance

The Department of State Growth disburses public funds and is therefore accountable for the distribution of those funds. As part of the accountability process, the department may publicise the level of financial assistance, the identity of the recipient, the purpose of the financial assistance, and any other details considered by the department to be appropriate. Applicants wishing to make public announcements regarding their success in obtaining an EDGI grant, must have the form and substance of their announcement approved in writing by Mineral Resources Tasmania.

16. Right to information

Information provided to the Department of State Growth may be subject to disclosure in accordance with the *Right to Information Act 2009*.

17. Confidentiality

The Tasmanian Government may use and disclose the information provided by applicants for the purposes of discharging its respective functions under the Program Guidelines and otherwise for the purposes of the program and related uses. The department may also use information received in applications and during the delivery of the project for reporting purposes.

18. Personal information protection

Personal information will be managed in accordance with the Personal Information Protection Act 2004.

This information may be accessed by the individual to whom it related, on request to the Department of State Growth. A fee for this service may be charged.

19. Disclosure

The following applies to all successful applicants:

- Despite any confidentiality or intellectual property right subsisting in the grant funding agreement or deed, a party may publish all or any part of the grant funding agreement or deed without reference to another party.
- Please note that all obligations under the Personal Information Protection Act 2004 (Tas) or the Privacy Act 1988 (Cwlth) still apply.

20. Disclaimer

Although care has been taken in the preparation of this document, no warranty, express or implied, is given by the Crown in Right of Tasmania, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information it contains.

The Crown in Right of Tasmania accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage that may arise from anything contained in or omitted from or that may arise from the use of this document, and any person relying on this document and the information it contains does so at their own risk absolutely.

The Crown in Right of Tasmania does not accept liability or responsibility for any loss incurred by an applicant that are in any way related to the program.

APPENDIX 1: Definitions and legal parameters of proposals

Definitions

- "Agreement" means the Grant Deed signed by the Tasmanian Government and the Project Applicant.
- "Applicant" means the company, institution or individual submitting a proposal.
- "Closing Date" means 30 August 2024, the last day to submit a proposal.
- "The department" means the Department of State Growth.
- "Direct drilling cost" means the drilling contractor invoiced costs associated with the completing the hole. It does not include:
- Mobilisation and demobilisation
- Access and drill site preparation
- Field staff costs
- Supervising geology costs
- Driller's accommodation, meals, or toilet facilities
- "Finishing Date" means 13 June 2025, the end of the Funding Agreement.
- "Conditions For Proposals" means the requirements set forth in these Project Proposal Guidelines for the preparation of a proposal.
- "Grant Funding" means monies distributed to a successful Applicant on completion of the Project.
- "MRT" means Mineral Resources Tasmania.
- "Principal" means the Minister for Business, Industry and Resources.
- "Project" means the work undertaken by the successful Applicant as defined in the Proposal.
- "Proposal" means the documentation prepared and submitted to the Principal in an application for Grant Funding.
- "Reporting Date" means 16 May 2025, the final date for report, data, and drill core and/or cutting submission.
- "Web-based application" means the SmartyGrants portal on the MRT website.

Legal parameters

- I. Subject to Item 2 below, contents of all proposals will remain confidential, except for the licence / lease location of the successful proposals. All successful proposals will be made public on release of the Final Report. Unsuccessful proposals will remain confidential unless the Applicant consents to their release.
- 2. Although the Principal understands the need to keep commercial matters confidential in appropriate circumstances, the Principal reserves the right to disclose some or all of the contents of the proposal as a consequence of a constitutional convention or in order that the relevant Minister may answer questions raised in the Tasmanian Parliament, keep Parliament informed or otherwise discharge the Minister's duties and obligations to Parliament and to advise the Governor, Parliament and/or the Tasmanian Government. Any condition in a proposal that purports to prohibit or restrict the Minister's right to make such disclosures cannot be accepted. Confidentiality of proposals is also subject to the *Right to Information Act* 2009.
- 3. If you do not accept certain aspects of these Parameters of Proposals, state which Parameters you do not accept and what you suggest as an alternative. If no such statement is made the Principal will assume that you have accepted all Conditions.
- 4. Reservation of Rights The Principal reserves the right to:
 - a) Amend the Proposal Closing and Successful Proposals Announcement Dates
 - b) Amend the Conditions For proposals at any time prior to the Closing Date for proposals, provided that the amendment is notified to prospective Applicants

- c) Clarify any aspect of a proposal after the Closing Date for proposals but before the evaluation of a proposal
- d) Seek the advice of external consultants to assist the Principal in evaluation or review of Proposals
- e) Abandon the process, whether before or after the receipt of proposals.
- 5. The Principal is not obliged to accept any proposal.
- 6. The Principal may consider or accept (at the Principal's sole discretion) any proposal including without limitation a late proposal or the proposal of an Applicant who has failed to submit a proposal in accordance with these Project Proposal Guidelines.
- 7. No acceptance of a proposal will be effective to constitute a contract or to create any legitimate expectation on the part of the Applicant unless a formal written contract is executed by both parties.
- 8. Prior to accepting a proposal the Principal may request that you provide additional information, including but not limited to, evidence of your economic capacity and financial stability.
- 9. The Principal will notify Applicants if this process has been abandoned. The Principal is not obliged to give any reasons for its selection, or the abandonment of this process.
- 10. If you submit a proposal, the Principal, when considering the proposal will expect that you satisfy the following criteria:
 - a) You have the necessary skills, knowledge, and experience to comply with the Conditions for Proposals and to undertake the proposed drilling project and,
 - b) You have fully informed yourself of all facts and conditions of all things relating to the Project Proposal Guidelines.
- 11. Applicants are responsible for the cost of preparing and submitting their proposal and all other costs arising out of the process.

APPENDIX 2: Conditions of acceptance for successful applicants

The following principles will apply to management of successful EDGI Program - Round 10 projects.

- I. Applicants wishing to make public announcements regarding their success in obtaining an *EDGI* grant, must have the form and substance of their announcement approved in writing by Mineral Resources Tasmania.
- 2. Management of the projects will be undertaken by the project Applicants and/or operational nominees. All liabilities associated with the project remain with the Applicant.
- 3. Proposals will be subject to a Grant Deed to be prepared by the Department of State Growth in consultation with Tasmanian Crown Solicitors Office. Applicants will be provided with a draft Grant Deed and have a period of fourteen (14) days to respond.
- 4. A Final Grant Deed (2 copies) will be prepared and forwarded to the Applicant for execution within ten (10) days. Both copies are then to be returned to Mineral Resources Tasmania for the Department's execution.
- 5. An Applicant must only apply the Grant Funding for the purpose of the Project.
- 6. Where actual direct drilling costs for a completed project are less than the estimate in the Proposal, *EDGI* may adjust and provide Grant Funding in proportion to the ratio of funding requested and the actual total direct drilling cost, up to the maximum amount allowed.
- 7. Drilling must be conducted in accordance with the Mineral Exploration Code of Practice and comply with any additional environmental conditions, rehabilitation requirements and relevant land access requirements.
- 8. Payment will be made on lodgement of drill core at the MRT Mornington Core Library and acceptance of the Final Drilling Project Report, containing all technical information (correctly presented) that is directly relevant to the drilling project.
- 9. Details of the Final Drilling Project Report and all deliverables will be defined in the *EDGI* Program Round 10, 2024 Grant Deed between the successful Applicant and the Crown or Grantor.
- 10. EDGI Funding cannot be included as part of company Mineral Tenement expenditure commitments.
- 11. Any cost over-runs in direct drilling costs are the Applicant's responsibility.

