



Mining company fined for water pollution

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Peak Gold Mines operates 4 gold and copper ore mines in Cobar, NSW. During 10 different rainfall events in 2011 contaminated water was discharged from a tailings dam at Peak's copper-gold processing plant into a clean water drain. The contaminated water then flowed into surrounding bushland.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) prosecuted Peak for the offence of polluting waters in contravention of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (NSW) in the Land and Environment Court. The maximum penalty for the offence is \$1 million. Peak pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$50,000. Peak was also ordered to pay the EPA's costs of over \$55,000.

Click [here \(link is external\)](#) for further information.

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