CHARLES HULL CONTRACTING

PROJECT:
Earthwork Services for RDA
Stage 15, 16, 17 and 18

CLIENT:
Newmont Australia

Location:
The Newmont Boddington Gold (NBG) operation was built on an existing mine lease and is now one of Australia's largest gold mines. Boddington is a drive-in-drive-out operation (1 hour and thirty minutes from Perth) with accommodation available at the site camp or the nearby town of Boddington.

START DATE:
06/09/2021

END DATE:
31/05/2025

This contract consists of four stages, from Stage 15 to Stage 18. Each stage is approximately 12 months long, though the duration may vary based on the placement quantity for each stage. The scope remains consistent across all stages with the below key activities:

- Annual embankment construction raises,
- Tailings pipeline removal and reinstatement,
- Ramp access construction,
- Buttress construction,
- Concrete toewell raise,
- General road and maintenance tasks
- Liner installations,
- Development and management of borrow areas,
- And other miscellaneous works as specified in the engineering scopes.

SUMMARY
The scope of works changed significantly over the course of the contract. The client revised the engineering technical specifications, which introduced tighter tolerances on the finished works and increased the time required for execution. Additionally, due to a shortage of B Zone materials, we were directed to use clay-like materials instead—an alternative that was more time-consuming to construct.

There was also a substantial increase in the volume of buttress fill compared to the original contract, requiring us to mobilise additional plant and equipment. At peak, we had up to 30 trucks on site to meet the demanding milestones and manage the increased workload.

Despite facing challenges midway through the project, we regained lost time and successfully completed the contract 9 days ahead of schedule.