TR-1: Standard form for notification of major holdings

NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR HOLDINGS (to be sent to the relevant issuer <u>and</u> to the FCA in Microsoft Word format if possible)¹

1a. Identity of the issuer or the underlying issuer of existing shares to which voting rights are attached:	ting shares to which voting rights are at-	
1b. Please indicate if the issuer is a non-UK issuer (please mark with an "X" if appropriate)		
Non-UK issuer		
2. Reason for the notification (please mark the app	ropriate box or boxes with an "X")	
An acquisition or disposal of voting rights		Х
An acquisition or disposal of financial instruments		
An event changing the breakdown of voting rights		
Other (please specify) ⁱⁱⁱ :		
3. Details of person subject to the notification ob	igation [™]	I.
Name	Van Eck Associates Corporation	
City and country of registered office (if applicable)	New York, NY USA	
4. Full name of shareholder(s) (if different from 3.)		
Name	ESB Pension Fund GDX VanEck Gold Miners ETF VanEck Global Resources Fund VanEck Natural Resources ETF International Investors Gold Brighthouse Global Natural Resources SLOAN GRF VanEck VanEck Global Mining UCITS ETF VanEck Gold Miners UCITS ETF VanEck Global Resources UCITS VanEck VIP Global Gold Fund VE VIP Global Resources Fund VanEck Africa Index ETF VanEck Junior Gold Miners UCITS ETF	
City and country of registered office (if applicable)		

5. Date on which the threshold was crossed or reached ^w :		14/11/2023			
6. Date on which issuer notified (DD/MM/YYYY):		15/11/2023			
7. Total positions of person(s) subject to the notif			cation oblig	ation	
	% of voting rights at- tached to shares (to- tal of 8. A)	through fina me	ing rights ancial instru- ents 3 1 + 8.B 2)	Total of both in % (8.A + 8.B)	Total number of voting rights of issuer
Resulting situation on the date on which threshold was crossed or reached	10.0841%			10.0841%	246,091,680
Position of previous notification (if applicable)	9.6388%			9.639%	246,692,320

8. Notified details of the resulting situation on the date on which the threshold was crossed or reached

A: Voting rights attached to shares

Class/type of shares	Number of voting rights ^{ix}		% of voting rights	
ISIN code (if possible)	Direct (Art 9 of Directive 2004/109/EC) (DTR5.1)	Indirect (Art 10 of Directive 2004/109/EC) (DTR5.2.1)	Direct (Art 9 of Directive 2004/109/EC) (DTR5.1)	Indirect (Art 10 of Directive 2004/109/EC) (DTR5.2.1)
GB00BL6K5J42	24,816,118		10.0841%	
SUBTOTAL 8. A	24,816,118		10.0841%	

B 1: Financial Instruments according to Art. 13(1)(a) of Directive 2004/109/EC (DTR5.3.1.1 (a))				
Type of financial instrument	Expiration date ^x	Exercise/ Conversion Period ^{xi}	Number of voting rights that may be acquired if the instrument is exercised/converted.	% of voting rights
		SUBTOTAL 8. B 1		

	B 2: Financial Instruments with similar economic effect according to Art. 13(1)(b) of Directive 2004/109/EC (DTR5.3.1.1 (b))				
Type of financial instrument	Expiration date ^x	Exercise/ Conversion Pe- riod ^{xi}	Physical or cash settlement ^{xii}	Number of voting rights	% of voting rights
	ı	1	SUBTOTAL 8.B.2		

9. Information in relation to the person subject to the notification obligation (please mark the applicable box with an "X")	
Person subject to the notification obligation is not controlled by any natural person or legal entity and does not control any other undertaking(s) holding directly or indirectly an interest in the (underlying) issuer ^{xiii}	
Full chain of controlled undertakings through which the voting rights and/or the financial instruments are effectively held starting with the ultimate controlling natural person or legal entity ^{xiv} (please add additional rows as necessary)	Х

Name∞	% of voting rights if it equals or is higher than the notifiable threshold	% of voting rights through financial instruments if it equals or is higher than the notifiable threshold	Total of both if it equals or is higher than the notifiable threshold
ESB Pension Fund GDX	0.09535		0.09535%
VanEck Gold Miners ETF	5.69420		5.69420%
VanEck Gold Miners ETF (AU)	0.12849		0.12849%
VanEck Global Resources Fund	0.17030		0.17030%
VanEck Natural Resources ETF	0.00169		0.00169%
International Investors Gold	0.58711		0.58711%
Brighthouse Global Nat- ural Resources	0.17343		0.17343%
SLOAN GRF VanEck	0.00898		0.00898%
VanEck Global Mining UCITS ETF	0.05064		0.05064%

VanEck Gold Miners UCITS ETF	0.33141	0.33141%
VanEck Global Resources UCITS	0.00466	0.00466%
VanEck VIP Global Gold Fund	0.04170	0.04170%
VE VIP Global Resources Fund	0.07103	0.07103%
VanEck Africa Index ETF	0.02295	0.02295%
VanEck Junior Gold Miners ETF	2.48471	2.48471%
VanEck Junior Gold Miners UCITS ETF	0.21745	0.21745%

10. In case of proxy voting, please identify:		
Name of the proxy holder	Glass Lewis	
The number and % of voting rights held	24,816,118 shares and 10.0841% voting rights	
The date until which the voting rights will be held	Open	

11. Additional information ^{xvi}		

Place of completion	Tampa, FL, USA
Date of completion	15 November 2023