



The meeting was held on 1 March 2022 at Nymagee Community Centre, Austral Street, Nymagee.

Meeting commenced at 10.00 am.

#### Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)  
Des (David) Hill (Community Representative)  
Donna Cutting (Community Representative)  
Dolly Betts (Community Representative)  
Cr Peter Maxwell (Cobar Shire Council Representative)  
Mark Williams (Aurelia Metals Ltd, Environmental Superintendent, Hera Mine Project)  
Richard Oldham (Aurelia Metals Ltd, Approvals Manager)

#### 1 Apologies

Robert Walker (Aurelia Metals Ltd, General Manager, Hera Mine Project)  
Graeme Bourke (Bogan Shire Council Representative)

#### 2 Pecuniary and other interests

NIL

#### 3 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the CCC meeting of 1 March 2022 had been distributed via email and were accepted as a correct record.

#### 4 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Provision of an iPad for the Nymagee Library has now occurred. Cobar Shire Council VPA not distributed, questions arose as to whether it had been finalised by Council. Project funding guidelines to be discussed as part of the company presentation

#### 5 Correspondence

Emails from Jo Bates & Don Cameron tendering their resignation. Chair acknowledged their contribution and indicated he had thanked them very much.

#### 6 Company Report

The CCC presentation was presented and included an Acknowledgement of Country recognising the Ngiyampaa Nation as the traditional custodians.

Mark Williams provided highlights of the Aurelia Metals Group for the March Quarter.

### Performance

46% increase in Group copper production. Production has been impacted by ongoing labour shortages, significant rainfall and lower than planned gold grades at Peak. FY22 production guidance has been lowered from 112 koz to 104 koz of gold.

### Advancing Projects

Exciting progress as the Company breaks ground at Federation with first blast and excavation of the 22m deep box cut for exploration decline has commenced. Public exhibition of the Federation EIS has occurred. Transition to a new mix of contract and owner mining is progressing at Peak with the approval of the Great Cobar Complex.

### Growth

Federation continues to deliver outstanding exploration results. New assay results show strong copper mineralization and meaningful gold 300m below the existing Great Cobar Mineral Resource outline. Drilling in the Kairos deposit returns some of the best gold grades reported at the Peak Mine.

### Operating Snapshot

Operations impacted by tight labour market, COVID-19 related absenteeism and higher rainfall in NSW. Group gold production was lower at 21.8 koz due to feed grades at Peak and Dargues. Group copper production increased by 46% to 1.0 kt, with lead and zinc production of 5.6 kt and 7.2 kt. New operational initiatives will support growth projects and mine life extension.

### Work, Health and Safety – Jul 21 to Dec 21

12-month moving average for the Group Total recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRFIR) was 7.7 and the 12-month Total reportable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate was 2.4 which is a 73% decrease year to date.

“Spill the Beans” employee survey was finalised in December and results have been communicated to staff. And results will assist in continuous improvement of work force retention, performance, communications and safety. Overall, the message was positive but the company needs to improve on communications to staff. Random and scheduled alcohol and drug testing continued in the period with over 121 tests undertaken and zero non-negative results obtained. Alcohol testing is carried out for every employee coming to Hera and Federation sites. There were 2 non-negative results. Hera Emergency Response Trained (ERT) members are completing the NSW RFS online training to further their RFS qualifications. Cert 111 Mine Rescue scheduling for 10 more ERT members to complete by end of June 2022. Blood lead testing was carried out in March.

COVID-19 risk control measures and controls have continued across the site. All controls for site entry remained in place. Some positive cases were detected on site and where necessary people isolated and were supported by SODEXO with food provided to their rooms. In some cases, the isolation periods were for 14 days. COVID has had a significant impact on people available on shift as well as availability of critical mechanical spares and reagent supplies.

There were zero reportable injuries during the March quarter however there were 2 first aid injuries as a result of redundant scaffold. At the end of March, the combined Hera Mine 12 month TRIFR is steady and the 3 month TRIFR was zero.

## Social Licence to Operate

Labour was provided for 3 clean-ups in the Nymagee township and contributions were made towards the housing of local doctors. Hera Mine is a Platinum Sponsor of the Hermidale Future Farmers Program. This is a farming education program through the Hermidale Public School P&C. Aurelia Corporate is working on a company wide donations policy that will guide donations outside the VPA's. There will be no donations to individuals or businesses.

A desktop review was completed into the current groundwater status and future plans with 8 new targets developed to the south of Hera along Pete's run. In a new strategy, the hydrologists have recommended drilling an additional 100m below current levels targeting more porous rock and greater water pressure. An assessment was finalised into what opportunities are available to Hera in terms of the Nymagee mine water. The assessment provided methodologies to treat water but concluded that it would be only viable if there was no other water available or the mine needed to be de-watered for mining purposes. Treatment would be on site at Hera. It is not proposed to put any additional test bores in Nymagee at this stage.

## Environmental Incidents & Complaints – January – March 2022

There were no externally reportable Environmental incidents during the period. There were 2 internally 'company only' environmental incidents during the reporting period. One being a diesel spill at one of the bore generators following a fuel fitting failure. The area was cleaned up by sending the soil off site by licenced contractor. The second being a deceased kangaroo found on the access road. No complaints were received during the period.

## Environmental Initiatives – January – March 2022

Annual Environmental Protection Licence return was submitted during the period. There were several administrative non-compliances relating to bores being out of service at the time of sampling and one bore being blocked. There were no environmental non-compliances. Work is being finalised on the new Rehabilitation Management Plan for Hera under the new Guidelines issued by the resource regulator. Erosion control work was carried out on the bore access road utilising 'logs' made from coconut fibre. Weed spraying program continued with Bathurst Burr management being the priority.

A new environmental advisor is starting mid July 2022.

## Environmental Monitoring – January – March 2022

Blasting levels are well below limits. Improved ground cover continues helping in regard to air quality. The standing water limits remained static. Concentrate truck movements remain within the limits of approval under MOD 6.

## Federation Project

Richard Oldham, Aurelia Approvals Specialist provided an update on the Federation EIS which will require an Amendment Report. The changes largely relate to changes in surface infrastructure. A community information session on the Federation EIS Amendment report will be held in mid July.

## 7 **Matters which the Community Representatives wish to raise with the Mine Operator**

A request was made for Hera to investigate the potential / possibility of extending the communications 4G network at the mine to the village of Nymagee [ACTION]

## 8 Community Engagement Opportunities

Nil

## 9 General Business

Mark advised the speed limit near Federation had been reduced to minimise dust impacts on neighbouring residences.

## 10 Next Meeting

6 September 2022. Site Inspection to be planned. Meet at Camp site.