



## Hera Resources Pty Ltd Community Consultative Committee Minutes

The meeting was held on 6 September 2022 at Recreation Room, Hera Village, Nymagee.

Meeting commenced at 10.00 am.

### Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)  
Bev Ellison (Community Representative)  
Des (David) Hill (Community Representative)  
Donna Cutting (Community Representative)  
Graeme Bourke (Bogan Shire Council Representative)  
Leon Jimenez-Sarta (Community Representative)  
Mark Williams (Aurelia Metals Ltd, Environmental Superintendent, Hera Mine)

### 1 Apologies

Dolly Betts (Community Representative)  
Robert Walker (Aurelia Metals Ltd, General Manager, Hera Mine Project)  
Cr Peter Maxwell (Cobar Shire Council Representative)

**Members were escorted on a site inspection of Federation at the commencement.**

### 2 Pecuniary and other interests

NIL

### 3 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the CCC meeting of 28 June 2022 had been distributed via email and were accepted as a correct record.

### 4 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

NIL

### 5 Correspondence

NIL

### 6 Company Report

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

#### April – June 2022 Group Highlights Performance

Gold production for FY22 below FY21. Output has been impacted by lower-than-expected workforce availability and with site specific interruption. One-off year-end impacts to costs due to purchase of mobile fleet for move to owner operator at Peak, and settlement of Hera treatment charges.

#### Advancing Projects

Development consent received for New Cobar Complex, including Great Cobar. Federation exploration decline surface works and box cut activities nearing completion. Redpath on site for development of the Federation exploration decline. Federation approval remains on track for late FY23.

#### Adapting the business

Capital discipline critical in assessment of options for growth as well as operating and cost discipline ensuring margin on every tonne. Outcomes of the Federation Feasibility Study and maiden Ore Reserve, Mineral resource and Ore Reserve Update, Guidance and Outlook due during Quarter 1 FY23.

Q4 injury rate performance driven predominately by hand-related incidents with contract partners prompting intervention with a focus on contractor performance and improving awareness of individual actions with tools and techniques. Internal environmental compliance audits conducted at all sites resulted in self-reporting of minor non-compliances and an uptick in the Reportable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFR).

#### Hera Mine

Metal production aligned with mined ore delivery.

#### Performance

Reduction in ore processed was caused by lower ore mined production attributable to ground support rehabilitation requirements, loader availability and labour shortages. Production flexibility was limited by tightly constrained stoping sequence. Gold grade and recovery were lower by 12% and 8% respectively, resulting in gold production of 3.4koz (March Q: 4.7koz). Reduction in lead and zinc milled grades (16% and 19% respectively) and ore processed led to lower bas metal production. First stope production in the Upper Hays deposit expected to be accessed SepQ FY23.

#### Priorities

Additional underground loader and spare parts have been mobilized. Recruitment of mining roles in conjunction with crewing for Federation exploration decline development. The Upper Hays stope production is to provide an extra mining front. A geotechnical inspection program to adapt ground support regime.

#### Work, Health and Safety – April – June 2022

Random and scheduled Alcohol and Drug testing continued during the period. 121 drug tests undertaken with zero non-negative result. Alcohol testing is carried out for every employee coming to Hera and the Federation sites. There were 2 non-negative results obtained. Zero non-negative drug tests, 1 contractor with non-negative BAC level and was removed from site.

A new road crash rescue vehicle has been delivered for Nymagee.

COVID – 19 RAT testing undertaken of all persons coming to site was ongoing for the period. The requirement to wear masks has been removed and restrictions in meal area have also been removed. There have been some positive COVID cases on site and where necessary people have been isolated on site and supported by SODEXO with food provided to their rooms.

#### Lag Indicators

One recordable and 2 notifiable incidents were reported. At the end of June the combined Hera Mine 12 month Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) was 11.7

#### Social Licence to Operate

Labour was provided for clean-ups in the Nymagee township together with a big focus on weed spraying. Contributions were made towards housing of local doctors and support was provided to the Nymagee CWA RFDS initiative with \$6,000 being allocated towards bed, screen and a defibrillator.

Support was provided to the Nymagee Gymkhana - \$5,000 towards hire of ablutions. Hera Mine attended the Nyngan Ag Expo supporting the Hermidale Future Farmers Fund.

#### Water Solutions

A new bore in the Rookery Fault is operational and producing around 3.5 – 4 l/s which is an excellent result. It is not proposed to put any additional test bores in Nymagee at this stage.

#### Environmental Incidents & Complaints – April – June 2022

There was one externally reportable Environmental Incident during the period, where a pipe to the UG thickener burst filling the pipe bund with slurry. There was one internal incident during the period. Contaminated water leaking from an air regulator valve in the pipeline and spilling from the bund onto clean area.

There were 3 complaints received during the period. Two related to dust on Burthong Road and one related to the condition of Burthong Road. Dust suppression options are being reviewed and are considered a high priority. The issue of dust in the Nymagee village was raised but it was not assessed to be mine related.

#### Environmental Initiatives – April – June 2022

New Rehabilitation Management Plan has been prepared under the new Guidelines issued by the Resources Regulator. A weed spraying program has been undertaken with Scotch and Saffron Thistle being prevalent. A program has commenced to investigate removal of excess poly pipe from the site for recycling.

A new Environmental Advisor, Tanvir Islam has commenced at Hera and will work opposite swings to the Environmental Superintendent, resulting in full time environmental coverage.

## Environmental Monitoring – April – June 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 approved limits.

## Federation Project

The site inspection noted work shops and offices have been delivered and are in place and the Decline is progressing although the project timing has been delayed due to additional shot-creting and bolting being required to manage Geotech conditions. The Paste plant is being constructed.

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

Nil

## **8 Community Engagement Opportunities**

Nil

## **9 General Business**

Concern was raised about an incident where the Cobar / Condobolin Road was closed due to wet weather however vehicles were still traversing the road. It was not known if they were mine workers but the company response to employees was appreciated.

## **10 Next Meeting**

6 December 2022 commencing at 10.00am