

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (INCORPORATING NEW COBAR COMPLEX PROJECT CCC)

MINUTES

The meeting was held on 3 June 2021 at the Peak Gold Mines, Hillston Road, Cobar.

Meeting commenced at 4.05pm.

Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair) Julie Payne (Community Representative) Kay Stingemore (Community Representative) Russell Grant (Community Representative) Chris Bruce (Community Representative) Craig Thomas (General Manager, Peak Gold Mines) Greg Brown (Peak Gold Mines, Acting Environment and Social Responsibility Advisor) Laura Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment and Social Responsibility Officer) as Observer

1. Apologies

Garry Ryman (Cobar Shire Council, Director of Planning & Environmental Services)

2. Pecuniary and other interests

NIL

3. Minutes of Last Meeting – Minutes of CCC meeting on 4 March 2021 were confirmed and were uploaded to the company website.

4. Correspondence

NIL

5. Company Presentation

A presentation was provided detailing the environmental performance of the Peak Mine operations. (A copy will accompany the final minutes and be placed on the company website)

Environmental Monitoring

All blasts were within limits.

Three complaints were received regarding blasting vibration in March from December 2021 and one regarding ambient noise from drilling. Complaints are categorised into notifications and complaints.

Dust monitoring at both the mine and town gauges continue to show the annualised depositional dust results are compliant with licence conditions and declining.

Peak Gold Mines has seen a significant reduction in the recordable injury rate compared to this time last year.

There were 5 recordable injuries in the December 2020 quarter but were all low impact injuries. First quarter 2021 data has not been updated. The lead indicator program at Peak Gold Mines requires the completion of workplace observations and inspections which has had a positive impact on workplace health and safety.

Recordable injuries are Medical Treatment, Restricted Duties and Lost Time injuries.

Raw water usage continues to fluctuate and is under constant review.

The Resources Regulator completed a review of documentation and a site inspection regarding landform establishment at Peak Gold Mines on 3 June 2021. This visit was part of the audit process in relation to rehabilitation.

New Cobar Complex

The New Cobar Complex Project EIS was on exhibition by the DPIE for a period of 28 days (25 February – 24 March 2021). During the exhibition members of the public, government departments and community groups submitted comments to DPIE and they are available on the DPIE Major Projects website. Peak Gold Mines is currently preparing a Response to Submissions (RTS) to be submitted to the department. DPIE will then complete its assessment of the project in accordance with relevant legislation and prepare an Assessment Report. The Minister for Planning will make a determination on the Project including a notice explaining the reason for the decision.

Tailings Storage Facility – Life of Mine Approval

Greg Brown provided a refresh of the Life of Mine application that has been lodged with Cobar Shire Council. (See presentation) Cobar Shire Council is still to make a determination on the Project.

6. Matters which Community Representatives wish to raise with the mine operator

Has a headstone been discovered at Queen Bee? Company took the question on notice and will report to the next CCC meeting. ACTION PGM reported that there is a new owner of the property and an access agreement is currently being negotiated. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD

The Cobar Miners Memorial opening will be held on 19 June 2021 at the Cobar Miners Heritage Park.

Is access to Towser's Huts possible? PGM advised there are safety issues associated with access but will review and report to the next meeting. ACTION

Question was raised regarding a portion of land owned by PGM at the Miners Heritage Park. PGM will review and report to the next meeting. ACTION

7. General Business

A Round of donations to the Cobar community were advertised during February 2021 and a Donations Committee Meeting was held on 24 March 2021. The following organisations were successful:

- Cobar Senior Rugby League
- Cobar Junior Rugby League
- Cobar Netball Association
- Cobar Arts Council
- Cobar Lady Golfers
- Cobar Clay Target Club
- Cobar & District Union Club
- Cobar Miners Race Club
- Cobar Public School
- Cobar High School
- Cobar Debutante Ball
- Cobar Bowmens Club
- Cobar Show Society
- Cobar Swimming Club
- Cobar Mens Shed.

Next Meeting

2 September 2021 commencing at 3pm with a site inspection of the New Cobar Complex.

Meeting Closed: 5.05pm