



## **PEAK GOLD MINES COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (INCORPORATING NEW COBAR COMPLEX PROJECT CCC) MINUTES**

The meeting was held on 27 June 2022 at Peak Gold Mines, Hilston Road, Cobar.

Meeting commenced at 4pm.

### **Present at the Meeting:**

Garry West (Independent Chair)

Kay Stingemore (Community Representative)

Julie Payne (Cobar Shire Council Representative)

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

Craig Thomas (General Manager, Peak Gold Mines)

Diana Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment Superintendent)

Laura Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment and Social Responsibility Officer)

Bishal Ghimire (Peak Gold Mines, Environment and Social Responsibility Graduate)

Ellie Evans (Senior Environmental Scientist, EMM Consulting) by VC

### **1. Apologies**

Robyn Floyd (Community Representative)

Greg Brown (Peak Gold Mines, Environment and Social Responsibility Advisor)

### **2. Pecuniary and other interests**

Nil

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes of CCC meeting on 1 March 2022 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)

Acknowledgement of Country recognising the Ngiyampaa Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet and pay respects to Elders both past and present.

### March Quarter Highlights

#### 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 – Jan – Mar 22

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.

Lead indicator activity by departments for the period was at full practical compliance.

Three Critical Control Verification program compliance was on track.

Work is ongoing around a “war on dust” program with 3 real time monitors on site and scheduled fit testing is commencing aimed at ensuring PGM can maintain compliance across site through dust reduction.

Random and scheduled Alcohol and Drug testing continued with over 251 tests undertaken. There were 2 non-negative results obtained.

Blood lead level collection monthly update. 5 BLMP were issued. Training on-site includes Working at Heights and Entry of Confined Space, Gas testing and Lead indicators. 5 ERT students completed the Confined Space Rescue and response Statement of Obtainment. Incident Management training was completed by supervisors and superintendent.

COVID-19 risk control continued with modifications. COVID vaccination clinics were advertised and the WHS department staff are now qualified to perform Rapid Antigen tests.

‘Contact Harold’ contact monitoring system onsite has continued as a Bluetooth based system.

Medical treatment was required for an operator who sustained a laceration to left hand whilst exiting a truck and for an operator who slipped landing on a sharp rock causing a laceration to his forearm. A restricted work injury was sustained to an operator who injured the right inside forearm while emptying HQ core tube.

Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) remained steady with the 12 month rolling average at 5.72, the year to date at 6.19 and the month average at 25.02.

#### Social Licence to Operate – Jan – Mar 22

Community donations-

Cobar Arts Council \$2,000; Cobar Camels & 2,500; Cobar High School \$5,000; Cobar Miners Race Club \$5,000; Cobar Netball Association \$2,000; Cobar Show \$6,000; Cobar Swimming Club \$3,456; Cobar Junior Rugby Club \$2,000; Ngalii Preschool \$2.71 and Science & Engineering Challenge \$3,000.

#### Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives – Jan – Mar 22

There were no environmental incidents requiring notification during the period.

Four complaints were received during the period regarding blast vibration. All complaints received correlated to PGM blasts and monitoring data confirmed compliance with licence conditions.

#### Operations Update – Jan – Mar 22

Environmental monitoring reports are available on the Aurelia website indicating compliance with licence conditions. Raw water usage continues to be closely monitored.

### New Cobar Complex

Exploration drilling continues to focus on extending orebody at depth and has yielded excellent grades. The deepest drillhole to date has intersected significant copper mineralisation more than 300m down of previous drilling.

Condition B21 of the New Cobar Complex Project Development Consent requires the preparation of an Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan (AQGHGMP) by a suitably qualified expert in consultation with the EPA, NSW Health, and the Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC), endorsed by DPE.

The Management Plan must describe the mitigation measures to ensure compliance with air quality criteria, best practice measures being used, and air quality impacts are minimised.

The objectives of the Plan are to reduce potential air quality impacts on sensitive receptors and ensure operations will comply with regulatory requirements. The Plan applies to all emissions as a result of PGM operations such as vent emissions from underground workings and dust emissions from above ground activities.

The draft plan includes best practice mitigation measures for air quality and greenhouse gas management.

The air quality mitigation measures include dust mitigation measures that may include watering of operational areas and haul roads, management of material stockpile sizes.

Greenhouse gas mitigation measures include optimised mine design to reduce travel measures, use of efficient and well-maintained equipment and use of energy efficient lighting and ventilation systems where practical.

Condition B17 sets out the Development Consent air quality criteria that PGM are to use 'reasonable and feasible avoidance and mitigation measures' to ensure those criteria are met.

The draft plan includes details of PGM's proposed air quality monitoring network, spanning the Peak and New Cobar complexes, and locations close to the town centre.

The draft plan sets out how Trigger Action response Plans (TARPs) are used to respond to exceedances of air quality criteria, who is notified and what if any activities will be modified or ceased until the criteria is no longer exceeded.

The draft plan also describes the reporting and notification procedures, corrective actions and review and revision of procedures where necessary.

CCC members as part of the consultation process are requested to review and comment within 2 weeks, on the draft plan which once approved will be available on the Project website.

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

Kay Stingmore checked that the gate at Golden Walk at the mine site was open.

Kay Stingmore sought clarification whether fossicking is permitted in the Cobar area. Generally it was agreed there were no designated areas for fossicking.

Kay Stingmore requested assistance from PGM with the movement of goods following the reopening. [ACTION]

Kay Stingmore asked if it would be possible to recommence the “fireworks in the open cut” event. PGM took as an action to consider the request. [ACTION]

Kay Stingmore advised that when phase 2 & 3 of the Museum changes are finalised interpretation signage of the dust monitor would be useful and access will also need to be reviewed. [ACTION]

Kay Stingmore asked if any more copies of “Loades of Gold” book were available as the Museum only has one copy left. [ACTION]

Chris Bruce asked if there had been a final decision made to change to the 14 day roster. PGM advised it is still under consideration.

- A question from the community - can Towser’s Huts be relocated or replicated? Members to think about how this might be achieved. [ACTION]

- a question from the community about potential health effects and the quality of rainwater from air quality impacts resulting from the expanded operations. PGM advised as part of the EIS a Human Health Risk Assessment was undertaken which found that the increased emissions from the project are not predicted to negatively impact the air quality environment in Cobar.

## General Business

NIL

## Next Meeting

Monday 5 September 2022 commencing at 4pm.