

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

The meeting was held on 2 December 2021 at the Golf Club, Cobar.

Meeting commenced at 4.05pm.

Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)

Julie Payne (Cobar Shire Council Representative)

Kay Stingemore (Community Representative)

Craig Thomas (General Manager, Peak Gold Mines)

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

Jonathon Thompson (Aurelia Metals Ltd, Group Manager, Environment)

1. Apologies

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

2. Pecuniary and other interests

Nil

- 3. Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes of CCC meeting on 3 June 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)

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.

Work, Health and Safety – Jul21 to Sept 21

The site has introduced a Fatal Hazard Critical Control Verification activity and these activities have been incorporated in current site activities such as workplace inspections, Planned Task Observations (PTO) and Safe Act Observation's (SAO).

There have been increased visible leadership interactions across the business with the site achieving compliance to our internal lead indicator program of 98% average for November.

The site has introduced a "war on dust" program aimed at ensuring PGM can maintain compliance across site through dust reduction. The program has been introduced to support a broader industry approach to reduce silica and lead dust levels.

All Supervisors now have to undertake a minimum training to the level of RIIWHS301D to conduct safety and health investigations.

High Potential Risk Incidents (HPRI) improvements are to be treated as positive reporting actions tracked for each HPRI via monthly reporting and reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team.

The health monitoring program for employees' health and fitness has been updated and compulsory alcohol testing continues for all workers entering the site.

There has been an increase in mines rescue members and Certification III in Emergency Response and Rescue onsite training continues for team members.

COVID-19 risk control and verification measures have been updated on site and controls have been reinforced, particularly where workers have travelled from hot spot and lockdown areas. Rapid Antigen Testing is done for all workers on their first shift back.

Aurelia Metals Pandemic Management Plan has been reinforced across the site as well as the implementation of the 'Contact Harold' contact monitoring system onsite. This operates similar to the COVIDSafe App introduced by the Australian Government.

Total Reportable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) Improvement Plan is applying more stringent investigations and actions endeavouring to prevent recurring incidents. This includes regular monitoring of all actions through the internal incident reporting system and more stringent management of the NSW Resource Regulator notices.

No reportable injuries were recorded for the quarter.

Social Licence to Operate

Donations were made to the Cobar Arts Council for their annual exhibition, Cobar High School and Cobar Public School for their annual presentation days, Cobar Roosters to support their uniforms, registration and travel costs, Ngalii Preschool for classroom items, Copper City Men's Shed for a new timber thicknesser, Lilliane Brady Village for a generator, 14 Lodes of Gold books were donated to the Great Cobar Museum, St Johns Primary School for an Honour Board, Cobar Weekly as the Major Sponsor of the Christmas Light Competition, Great Cobar Museum for the reopening event and assisted in the judging of the Annual Arts Exhibition.

Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives

There were no environmental incidents requiring notification to the regulator during the period.

Two complaints were received during the period in regard to blast vibration. One complaint on 12 July correlated with a blast event however, monitoring confirmed compliance with licence conditions, the second complaint on 28 July did not align with the PGM blast schedule.

The Pollution Incident Response Management Plan has been updated in June and is available on the website. The Annual Return for Environmental Protection Licence 3596 was submitted to the government in August. The National Pollution Inventory Report was submitted in September, the

Aurelia National Greenhouse Gas and Energy Report, Annual Environmental Management Report and an Environment Indicators Survey were submitted in October, together with a revised Rehabilitation Cost Estimate.

Operations Update

Development Consent for the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) lifts, Queen Bee waste rock transport and surface exploration within mining lease areas was approved by Cobar Shire Council on 13 July 2021.

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

New Cobar Complex

The New Cobar Complex Project EIS was on exhibition by the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE) for a period of 28 days (25 February – 24 March 2021). During the exhibition period there were:

- 10 Public Submissions (5 supported; 4 objected and 1 comment)
- 2 organisations, and
- 16 public authorities.

Details are available on the DPIE Major Projects website. Peak Mines is currently preparing a Responses to Submissions (RTS). Peak Mines hope to have received Draft Consent Conditions for their review prior to Christmas however, this will be pending advice from DPIE. After approval of the Development Consent conditions, managements Plans will have to be prepared and submitted to the relevant government agencies for approval prior to commencement of mining activities, however exploration work is still being undertaken.

Action from Previous meeting

Question was raised regarding a portion of land owned by PGM at the Miners Heritage Park. PGM has reviewed and tabled a map at the meeting identifying the location of these sites.

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

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

A question from the community - Is access to Towser's Huts possible? Peak Mine advised there are safety issues associated with access but will review and report to the next meeting. ACTION Carried Forward.

Kay Stingemore advised the NSW Government has approved funding for Stage 2 of the Museum upgrade and a storage area will be needed for items currently stored in the Coach House.

7. General Business

Garry West noted the resignation of Russell Vincent due to him leaving the district and advised a new member is in the process of being appointed by DPIE and this person will join the CCC in 2022

Next Meeting

The Chairperson canvassed members response to moving the CCC meetings in 2022 to the first Tuesday in March 2022. There was general agreement.

2022 schedule of meetings: 1 March, 7 June, 6 September and 6 December.