

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

MINUTES

The meeting was held on 5th March 2023 at Peak Gold Mines, Hilston Road, Cobar.

Meeting commenced at 4pm.

Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)

Julie Payne (Cobar Shire Council Representative)

Kay Stingemore (Community Representative)

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

Diana Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment Superintendent)

Matthew Nuttal (Peak Gold Mines, General Manager)

Mr West welcomed Matthew Nuttal to his first CCC meeting at Peak as the new General Manager.

1. Apologies

Mr West advised he had not received an apology or any contact from Robyn Floyd for several meetings, therefore he will advise the Department of Planning that she is no longer a member of the CCC.

2. Pecuniary and other interests

Nil

3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes of CCC meeting on 05 December 2022 were confirmed and arrangements are being made to have them 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.

October - December 2022 Highlights

Group safety and environment performance is steady amidst significant organisational change. Total recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) remains stable with a slight rise to 10.77 (Sep Q: 10.35). Mental health audit is to commence in March quarter to ensure appropriate actions are addressed during the organisational change.

Total Recordable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFR) rolling average has improved to 2.99 down from Sep Q of 4.03 due to fewer recordable events.

Performance Improvement - Peak

March quarter will benefit from cost control activities.

Very strong production and cost performance in December 2022 as a result of strong contractor management focus across the business.

Cost optimization has been a focus through the transition to owner mining model with most roles filled with workforce numbers approaching planned levels at the end of December. Biggest labour shortage is the trade sector which is still struggling in a post GFC phase.

The hours worked in the mining department reduced by 47% from June to December 2022 providing the platform for higher productivity and lower labour costs.

The delivery of the first of two new underground haul trucks has yielded an immediate 50% payload improvement compared to the demobilised trucks.

Work, Health and Safety – October - December 22

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

Random and scheduled Alcohol and Drug testing continued with over 439 tests undertaken. There were 12 non-negative results obtained.

Mines Rescue recruited 6 new members and the team completed Confined Space Recue, Advanced First Aid and Occupational Skillset.

Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) Training was conducted and completed.

Lead investigations continue on workers and periodic medicals are conducted on employees.

A total of 35 Critical Control Verifications were captured over the last quarter with 22 improvement actions created from these verifications.

Fire hazards audit was conducted and a 6 monthly systems review is underway.

Lag Indicators

October saw 1 recordable injury and 5 first aid injuries; November – 6 first aid injuries; and December – 3 first aid injuries and 1 restricted duties..

Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) remained steady with the 12-month rolling average at 10.89 & 8 individuals are being monitoring for Blood Led levels.

Social Licence to Operate – October - December 22

Community donations-

Numerous donations were made during the quarter. See presentation online for details.

Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives – October - December 22

There were no environmental incidents requiring notification during the period and one complaint was received during the period regarding blast vibration. The complaint received correlated to a PGM blast however monitoring data confirmed compliance with licence conditions.

Annual Environmental Management report was submitted to the Regulators.

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage management Plan for New Cobar Complex is out for consultation and the resubmitted Noise Management plan has been approved by the Department of Planning (DPE). The Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan and the Traffic Management Plan have both been submitted to DPE and approved.

Environmental Monitoring

There were no blast triggers recorded for the quarter. Depositional Dust Gauges results for December were rendered invalid due to collection delays, however all results were under the Environment protection Licence (EPL) limits.

Organisational renewal Program

A number of priorities were identified by the interim CEO including safety, operational delivery and cash management, Federation optimisation, Federation funding and Leadership renewal.

A strong focus is on lead indicators as the business moves through a period of change. Strong results were achieved in December 2022 with increased production, higher revenue and reduced mining costs. Funding solution for Federation is on track for end March 2023 quarter. A new Peak Mine general Manager has been appointed and a comprehensive search is underway for a new CEO.

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

Kay referred to the number of ducks deaths noted recently around Cobar and the wider region. Company representatives indicated they do not believe it is related to mining activities. There are a number of controls in place including nets over cyanide affected dams and water quality monitoring on site to measure cyanide levels in process related dams. The TSF is managed to reduce ponding and areas of ponded are detoxed.

Kay advised she had recently received comments from some community members which indicated a lack of understanding about the mines activities and believed a community update was warranted. Company representatives advised they will consider options.

Kay referred to changes planned for the Museum referred to at the June 2022 meeting. The phases are being reviewed and further discussion is needed as to the PGM involvement.

7. Community Engagement Opportunities

Kay drew members attention to the planned International Womans Year activities being planned.

8. General Business

Matthew indicated that the company planned to review its housing stock in Cobar with a plan to renovate and dispose as necessary. Details will be included in any planned community update.

Next Meeting

Monday 12 June 2023 commencing at 4pm.