

Hera Resources Pty Ltd Community Consultative Committee Minutes

The meeting was held on 5 September 2023 at Recreation Room, Hera Village, Nymagee.

Meeting commenced at 10.00 am.

Present at the Meeting:

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

1 Apologies

Leon Jimenez-Sarta (Community Representative)
Cr Peter Maxwell (Cobar Shire Council Representative)
Michelle Tracey (Federation Project Director)

Mr West advised that a nomination had been sent to Robert Chambers to join the CCC.
Mark Williams advised that Michelle Tracey has been appointed as Project Director for the Federation Project while it is in the development phase.

2 Pecuniary and other interests

NIL

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the CCC meeting of 13 June 2023 had been distributed via email and were accepted as a correct record.

4 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

NIL

5 Correspondence

Mr West tabled draft Terms of Reference (ToR). The Department of Planning following a review of the CCC Guideline requires CCCs to prepare ToR for the SSD Project

6 Company Report

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

Financial Year 2023 – Aurelia Metals Limited

FY 23 represented a year of significant change for Aurelia. A number of initiatives were implemented which contributed to an improved operating performance in the second half of FY23. A new CEO and Managing Director has been appointed. A new financing facility with Trafigura has been finalised with a \$40m equity raise completed and the existing debt facility has been repaid in full.

Continued drive for improved safety culture with a 41% reduction in the Group Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR), improved Reportable Environmental Incidents Frequency Rate (REIFR) and the awarding of the Environmental Excellence award at the NSW Minerals Council HSEC Awards.

Federation Project

Previously announced that Aurelia Metals Limited has secured a funding solution for the Federation Project. The new capital structure has allowed for the restart of development, with the remobilisation of the mining contractor commencing in July 2023 with works recommencing in August 2023.

Key Dates of Interest (as at 13 June 2023- Updated):

- Redpath Mining Contractors remobilisation recommence Mid – July 2023; **decline restarted early August 2023.**
- Hera to Peak and Burthong Road Upgrades **starting September 2023**
- Relocation of Mining Offices Hera to Federation January 2024 (**now September 2024**)
- Stage 2 infrastructure (RO Plant, Sewerage System and Server Room) February 2024
- Federation Workshop, wash bay, truck fill point June 2024
- Redpath Contract Decline complete August 2024
- Conversion of existing Hera Workshop into Truck Workshop October 2024
- Owner Operator Transition complete November 2024

As previously announced the Hera site is on care and maintenance with no mining or exploration activities occurring.

The Federation Project successfully restarted, and the decline development is ramping up to meet

development targets.

The Project team is in place, currently 40-50 people. Michelle Tracey has been appointed as the Project Director and a General Manager will be appointed when production activities commence.

Substantial procurement activity is underway for long lead time items such as the raisebore contract and ventilation.

The first 3 months of work includes the decline development, as well as sumps and the stockpile. It will be a single heading development, with ventilation and power being supplied down the decline from the surface.

There will be road upgrade works undertaken at the Priory Tank Road intersection along with road upgrade works at the northern and southern ends of Burthong Road. A Federation site access road will be constructed at the Burthong Road intersection.

Recruitment has commenced for the mining team.

A Rehabilitation Management Plan has been submitted for Hera by the end of the year.

Environment and Community

Priorities include continuing to provide input to the drafting of the new Federation Management Plans to ensure the outcomes are practical and feasible. This activity is critical to the timely commencement of construction and mining operations.

Consolidation and repurposing of the Hera environmental monitoring equipment is being undertaken to meet the needs of the Federation project (ie dust, noise and blast monitoring equipment)

Since May there have been 2 complaints about dust, 1 from the Tailing Storage Facility and 1 from dust on Burthong Road.

An E-Bam real time dust monitor has been relocated between the Tailings Storage Facility and the 2 nearest dwellings to the south east of the site. This will enable capturing accurate information on whether dust from the TSF is impacting the residences.

A water cart is being deployed for dust suppression on Burthong Road. There was a period of miscommunication and watering of the road lapsed. This has been addressed and will be ongoing until the road is bitumen sealed.

Exploration

Exploration around Federation is to recommence. A new rig is coming on site in September 2023. The new rig will create less disturbance by using heavy rubber matting instead of road base in the set up and will reduce the rehabilitation requirements.

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

See General Business

8 Community Engagement Opportunities

Nil

9 General Business

Des Hill sought clarification regarding unspent funds within the Cobar Shire Council VPA. Mark Williams advised he will check and advise.

Des asked if the company was still developing corporate guidelines for community grants. Mark advised it has been dropped. Discussion around funds provided to individuals and what monitoring was in place. Mark advised the commercial team monitored these grants.

Des Hill sought advice about existing exploration tenements in the area. Mark Williams will provide the information.

Donna Cutting acknowledged and thanked Hera for the CWA grant and the support of the Flower Show.

10 Next Meeting

12 December 2023 commencing at 10.00am