

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

The meeting was held on 11 December 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)

Suzie Wells (Community Representative)

Matthew Nuttall (Peak Gold Mines, General Manager)

Diana Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment Superintendent)

Sara Waak (Peak Gold Mines, Graduate Environmental Officer)

Mr West opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcome new community member Suzie Wells.

1. Apologies

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

Laura Newton (Peak Gold Mines, Environment & Community Advisor)

2. Pecuniary and other interests

Nil

- 3. Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes of CCC meeting on 4 September were confirmed and arrangements are being made to have them uploaded to the company website.

4. Correspondence

NIL

5. Terms of Reference

Mr West referred to the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) tabled for consideration at the previous CCC meeting. Members agreed no changes were required and that it could be signed.

6. 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)

Performance Improvement – Peak – April 2023 – June 23

Peak development rates more than doubled to 723 metres and are on track to continue increasing.

Ore production increased by 19% and development rates will support increases in future quarters.

Cost reduction initiatives are gaining traction resulting in the unit mining cost down to A\$127/t.

Gold production increased to 8.6oz (Jun Q was 6.4oz) due to higher grade and volume ore processed.

AISC reduced to A\$1,584/oz, compared to the June Q of A\$1,614/oz.

Work, Health and Safety – July - October 23

There was one recordable injury in July and another in early November.

The Group 12-month moving average Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) and Recordable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFR) continued to decline which was a pleasing result.

Positive activity:

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

Mines Rescue recruited 5 new members and the team completed Fire and Hazmat, Road Crash rescue and Advanced First Aid.

A Fire Truck for ERT response has been purchased and will provide further support to local mines and the community.

Periodic Medical have been conducted on Employees as part of an ongoing program.

There has been an increase in Emergency Management capabilities by purchasing new Fire Response equipment, Vertical rescue equipment, Breathing Apparatus and 90% of ERT members are competent in Cert111 Emergency response.

Critical Control Verifications

A total of 90% Critical Control Verifications were captured over the quarter and improvement Actions were created from these verifications.

Fatal Hazards Audit has been conducted and a 6 monthly Systems review is underway.

Health and Safety

A review of health and emergency medical/first aid capability has been completed. Implementation of key priorities is in progress with reviewing & sourcing of new emergency response packs, clinic consumables/equipment & occupational health testing equipment.

A realignment project is underway with a rewrite of the end-to-end process for injury management reporting 7 procedures.

Peak is working with the Dargues and Federation site to align key management systems including Risk Reviews, Emergency Management, Health and Hygiene Monitoring, Heat Stress Management, Alcohol and Drugs, Blood Lead Management, Medicals, Spirometry, Audiometric, Functional Assessments and Injury return to Work management.

Social Licence to Operate – July - October 2023

Community donations for the quarter were reported to numerous local organisations including Little Athletics, Cobar Public School, Cobar Swimming Club, Cobar Triathlon Squad, Buckwaroon Landcare group, Cobar Business Association, Cobar High School, Cobar Roosters, Festival of the Miner's Ghost, Cobar Swimming Club, Cobar Youth Council, Copper City Men's Shed, Iron Ring Committee, Cobar Lady Golf Open and the Sandy Creek Fire brigade.

See presentation online for details.

Members urged PGM to publicise the community donations program as there is a good message of community support.

Kay paid special thanks for the support of the festival of the Miner's Ghost which was a great success and the mining expo went well.

Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives – July - October 2023

There were 3 complaints received during the quarter. Two were regarding blast vibration and one regarding stock on Peak land. Monitoring data received from blast monitors confirmed compliance with licence conditions. As blasting gets closer to the surface communicate of blast events will increase.

The stock owner was contacted by Peak staff who assisted in the retrieval of his stock.

On 7 August 2023 the Peak Mine was honoured to receive the 'Environmental Excellence Award' at the 2023 Minerals Council HESC Awards dinner. The award recognises the mine's Recordable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFER) reporting framework.

Aurelia Managing Director and Chief Executive in accepting the award highlighted its benefits for mining companies who take the protection and management of the environment very seriously.

Environmental Incident

As part of undertaking maintenance of a netted dam a tear in the dam liner was found. Investigations are being conducted to see whether any environmental effects have occurred. There are 3 ground water monitoring sites below the dam that will be monitored.

Environmental Monitoring

No blasts exceeded the blast vibration limit triggers. Depositional Dust Gauges results for November 2022 – October 2023 were all under the EPL limits. As was previously noted the December 22 results were rendered invalid due to collection delays, and the levels of insoluble solids in Feb/March 2023 for GC2 were due to frogs in the containers.

Organisational renewal Program

Highlights include:

- Federation project restarted and on schedule.
- Continued lower unit costs at Peak.
- Positive exploration results demonstrate prospectivity, and
- The company has a strong cash position.

Road access upgrades at Peak / Kidman Way intersection will begin mid to late Q1 2024 as required under the Federation Approval. All licences and approvals and construction will be managed by the Federation team.

New Occidental Tailings

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) will be submitted to the Resources Regulator early in 2024 for a bulk sampling of the Northern and Southern New Occidental Tailings. The New Occidental site was a legacy of the acquisition of Peak Gold Mines by Aurelia.

The purpose is to assess the quality of the material and future rehabilitation pathways. The REF allows sampling of 20,000 T from each stack. Haulage will be undertaken during daylight hours via internal roads.

Kay questioned the reason why this was being undertaken. Matt explained that the tailings will degrade over time and therefore the rehabilitation pathway is required.

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

Julie renewed her call for to see if Peak were interested to undertake a mural on the water tank.

Kay thanked Peak for their support of the Festival of the Miner's Ghost and Christmas parade and highlighted that nominations were now being called for Australia Day awards.

8. Community Engagement Opportunities

Kay advised the Museum redevelopment was still happening but needed to be kept within budget.

CSA and Aurelia are hosting a film crew in August 2024 for the production of a new film promoting the mining industry in Cobar for Stage 2 of the Museum redevelopment.

Kay indicated she still needed more knowledge about the status of the Mining Lease in regard to the Towser's Huts project.

Kay thanked PGM for the new signage at the Fort Bourke Hill and advised the Miners Memorial is available WHS activities by mining companies.

9. General Business

Julie raised the question about how PGM provides incentives to employees to live in Cobar. Matt outlined the company has a number of incentives including a \$20,000 home purchase grant after a probation period in addition to rewards offered to people who live locally. A package of incentives will be outlined at the next CCC meeting.

PGM has restarted their apprenticeship program with 4 apprentices being engaged.

Mr West advised he has managed the scheduling of the 2024 meetings to align closer to the end of quarterly reporting.

Next Meeting

2024 CCC meeting schedule:

Monday 19 February 2024 commencing at 4pm.

Monday 13 May 2024; Monday 19 August 2024 and Monday 25 November 2024.