

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

The meeting was held on 19 February 2024 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)

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

Sara Waak (Peak Gold Mines, Graduate Environmental Officer)

Jonathon Thompson (Aurelia Metals, Group Manager, Sustainability)

Mr West opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country

1. Apologies

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

2. Pecuniary and other interests

Nil

3. Minutes of Last Meeting – Minutes of CCC meeting on 11 December 2023 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)

Performance Improvement – Peak – October – December 2023

Peak development rates increased to 743 metres providing optionality and contingency for production.

Ore mined increased for a fourth consecutive quarter and mining unit cost were lower at A\$123/t which is a reduction from the previous quarter.

AISC reduced to A\$2,054/oz, compared to the previous Q of A\$1,584/oz, with lower base metals production due to sequence.

High grade stopes are now planned in Q2 FY24 which will increase base metal production and lower AISC.

Aurelia has implemented a Cobar Region Leadership model to enable efficiencies and synergies. The Peak Leadership Team are now the Cobar Region Leadership team covering Peak, New Cobar Project, Hera and the federation Project.

Work, Health and Safety – October -December 2023

There were no recordable injuries in October – December 2023 quarter.

The Group 12-month moving average Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) continued to decline and Recordable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFR) recorded a minor increase. The majority of injuries have been slips, trips and hand injuries. Safety performance improvement remains a key action. Fatal risk prevention is a high priority with monthly reviews to reinforce safety.

There were no environmental incidents recorded for the quarter.

Positive activity:

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

Mines Rescue recruited a further 5 new members and the team completed Fire Hazmat and Road Crash Rescue.

The Fire Truck purchased for ERT response is now onsite.

Periodic Medicals continue to be 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 75% of ERT members are competent in Cert111 Emergency response.

Critical Control Verifications

A total of 95% 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 continues.

Health and Safety

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

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

Peak is continuing to work with the Dargues and Federation sites 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 – October to December 2023

Community donations for the quarter were reported to numerous local organisations including Cobar High School & Public School, Tindarey Bushfire Brigade, Copper City Mens Shed, Cobar RSL sub Branch for Cobar Cenotaph renovation, Cobar Junior Soccer Club, & Cobar Show Society.

See presentation online for details.

Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives – October - December 2023

There were no complaints received during the quarter.

Environmental Incident

The netted dam a tear in the dam liner has been repaired. Investigations found no obvious signs of seepage or environmental impact which suggests that minimal volumes of water were lost through the tear. The dam is not back in service as the netting has not been re-installed. Water is currently being diverted to the tailings dam.

Environmental Monitoring

No blasts exceeded the blast vibration limit triggers. Percentage of blasts exceeding 5mm/s during FY2024 up to December 23 is 0.21% which is below the 5% EPL limit.

Depositional Dust Gauges results for January 2023 to December 2023 were all under the EPL limits. As was previously noted, and the levels of insoluble solids in Feb/March 2023 for GC2 were due to frogs in the containers. All other results were under EPL limits.

December 2023 Quarter Highlights include:

- Federation project remains on track for first stope ore.
- Further improvements delivered at Peak.
- Exploration continues to deliver exciting results, and
- The company has a strong operating cash flow funding growth.

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.

Golden Walk

The Golden Walk at Peak has been a tourist attraction for many years however it requires a major upgrade due to dated material and public safety.

Peak has found multiple tourist vehicles on site despite increased signage and information given to tourist via the Museum.

Shaft 18 headframe is collapsing and has been fenced off. The view from the viewing platform is substandard as use of the land at Peak has increased.

With federation ore being processed at Peak, there will be an increased number of heavy vehicles using the Peak access road increasing vehicle interaction risks.

Peak is looking to close the Golden Walk. Discussions are proposed with Council and the Museum and other stakeholders about possible relocation of suitable items. No firm date for closure but expected within the next 2-6 months.

Peak will continue to fund other community projects to increase tourism in Cobar.

CCC members welcomed the proposed discussions and ongoing tourism funding.

New Occidental Tailings

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) was submitted to the Resources Regulator in February 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.

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

Kay questioned whether passing lanes were to be installed as a result of the increased truck movements from Federation to Peak. Matthew advised that turn-out lanes are proposed at the various intersections but no other passing lanes on local roads or the highway are proposed or required from the project consent.

Kay questioned if the VPA with Cobar Shire Council was adequate to maintain the condition of the roads. Matthew advised the VPA covers local roads but not Kidman Way which is a highway under State control. Funds will be available via both the VPA and increased royalties for road maintenance.

Kay asked if there was drone footage of Great Cobar?

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

7. Community Engagement Opportunities

Charity Ball is proposed prior to ANZAC Day, support is requested.
Concrete footings at the Cenotaph are in need of work prior to ANZAC Day. Peak to investigate help.

Interpretive signs on Federation Walk are currently under way by the Museum as they are deteriorating and may need replacing.

8. General Business

Julie raised the question about how PGM provides incentives to employees to attract new employees. Matt outlined the company has an incentive after they pass the probationary period.

A package of incentives will be outlined at the next CCC meeting. [ACTION]

Julie acknowledged Peak efforts to curtail water usage during Council's recent outage.

Next Meeting

2024 CCC meeting schedule:

Monday 13 May 2024 commencing at 4pm.

Monday 19 August 2024 and Monday 25 November 2024.