

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

The meeting was held on 13 May 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)

Diana Barnes (Peak Gold Mines, Environment Superintendent)

Sara Waak (Peak Gold Mines, Graduate Environmental Officer)

Chris Bruce (Community Representative)

Matthew Nuttall (General Manager Cobar Region))

Angus Wyllie (General Manager, Cobar Region, as at 3 June 2024)

Opening the meeting Mr West advised changes to the Executive Leadership Team that will support the Cobar Regional Model and the end of the life of mine at Dargues.

Matthew Nuttall, General Manager Cobar Region, will step down from his leadership role and leaving the Company mid-September.

Effective 3 June 2024, General Manager Dargues, Angus Wyllie will transfer to the role of General Manager Cobar Region. This will encompass the mining and operational activities at Peak and Federation.

Neal Valk, Acting General Manager Dargues will resume full responsibility for the closure at Dargues.

### **1. Apologies**

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

Matthew and Angus briefly attended the meeting for introductions before retiring to attend an Executive meeting.

## 2. Pecuniary and other interests

Nil

3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – Minutes of CCC meeting on 19 February 2024 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 – January - March 2024

Peak development rates increased to 777 metres providing optionality and contingency for production.

Ore mined increased for a fifth consecutive quarter to 148kt and mining unit cost were up to A\$134/t. impacted by shaft support works and unplanned mobile maintenance costs.

AISC reduced to A\$3,492/oz, compared to the previous Q of A\$2,054/oz, due to timing of concentrate sales.

High grade stopes are now planned in JunQ and sale of stocks from MarQ is forecast to result in higher gold and base metal sales, significantly reducing AISC A\$/oz.

### Work, Health and Safety – January - March 2024

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

The Group 12-month moving average Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) showed a minor increase and Recordable Environmental Incident Frequency Rate (REIFR) recorded a minor decrease.

The majority of injuries in FY24 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 recordable environmental incidents for the quarter.

Positive activity:

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

Mines Rescue recruited a further 4 new members.

Mines rescue team prepared for the Victorian mines rescue competition in Ballarat but unfortunately the competition was cancelled on day1 due to an incident at a local mine. The training in preparation for the competition will remain invaluable to the team.

Planning is underway to for more medical functions to be provided in house with the assistance of on-site paramedics.

There has been an increase in Emergency Management capabilities by purchasing new Fire Fighting truck for Peak and Federation sites. The ERT team were also outfitted with new critical PPE such as overalls, helmets and boots.

#### Critical Control Verifications

A total of 92% Critical Control Verifications were captured over the quarter and improvement Actions were created from these verifications.

First Aid Room consumables audit was conducted, and compliance register reviews are underway.

#### 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 medical equipment to assist with providing comprehensive medical functions within Aurelia.

A realignment project is continuing with a rewrite of the end-to-end process for Blood Lead Management.

Peak is continuing to work with 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, Developing ERT capabilities, installation of escape ladderways, improving communications and pollution incident response management training.

#### Social Licence to Operate – January – March 2024

Community donations for the quarter were reported to numerous local organisations including Cobar Lady Golf Open, Cobar Race club, junior basketball, mens shed wing4kids, outback science and engineering challenge, Cobar War Memorial.

See presentation online for full details.

Committee members thanked Aurelia for their community donations.

#### Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives – January – March 2024

There were no complaints received during the quarter.

#### Environmental Incident - update

The netted dam a tear in the dam liner has been repaired. The dam is not back in service as the netting has not been re-installed. Water is currently being diverted to the tailings dam. The EPA has been notified but no response received.

## Environmental Monitoring

No blasts exceeded the blast vibration limit triggers. Percentage of blasts exceeding 5mm/s during FY2024 up to end March is 0.28% which is below the 5% EPL limit.

Depositional Dust Gauges results for January – March 2024 were all under the EPL limits. As was previously noted, and the levels of insoluble solids in March 2024 for GC2 were due to frogs in the containers. All other results were under EPL limits.

## March 2024 Quarter Highlights include:

- Balance sheet strength to progress growth.
- Federation project remains on track for first stope ore Q1 FY25.
- Operational performance continues to improve, and
- Exploration continues to deliver exciting results.

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. Currently awaiting WAD approvals from RMS. Priory Tank Road and Burthong Road intersection works are completed.

## 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 and closure is proposed as soon as possible.

Shaft 18 headframe is collapsing and has been fenced off.

Provision will be made for tourist vehicles to turn in the interim. The museum has ceased promoting it.

Changes to the Peak carpark are proposed to better accommodate the ore road trains movements coming onsite.

## New Occidental REF

The REF has been submitted to the Resources Regulator in February 2024 for a bulk sample of the Northern and Southern New Occidental Tailings to assess the quality of the material and future rehabilitation pathways. The Northern Stack bulk sample has been approved. The Southern Stack bulk sample has not yet been approved.

## New Water Pipeline

Peak is proposing a water pipeline from Great Cobar to Peak along the western side of the highway to be able to better manage water balances at the various sites. It is at an early planning stage. Kay indicated there will be a number of heritage issues to be considered.

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

Kay asked if there was any progress on the Towser Hut. Diana indicated Aurelia were reviewing potential pathways.

Julie queried if there was any progress on local incentives for employees. Diana advised the incentives available for local employees is being reviewed internally.

Diana advised Aurelia is looking at providing rooms for employees at the the Crossroads Motel as the Miners Camp is at capacity. This would have the added benefit for Cobar that the people at Crossroads Motel would have easy access to town for shopping, social and sport activities.

Chris advised he understood stood down Endeavour staff were looking for vacant properties in town and asked if Aurelia had properties that may be available. Diana advised that the Peak housing stock was full at present, with those properties that are vacant requiring significant renovation. Diana took an action to provide an update on the Peak housing stock [ACTION]

Julie renewed her call for to see if Peak were interested to undertake a mural on the water tank. Aurelia has not progressed this request due to other CAPEX priorities.

Suzie asked for employee numbers update. Diana took this as an action for the next meeting [ACTION]

## 7. Community Engagement Opportunities

Aurelia has agreed to support the printing of new tourism flyers.

## 8. General Business

Julie raised the question about how PGM provides incentives to employees to attract new employees.

Note Outstanding Action from the February meeting:

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

## Next Meeting

2024 CCC meeting schedule:

Monday 19 August 2024 and Monday 25 November 2024.