

Community Consultative Committee Minutes

The meeting was held on 10 December 2024 at Recreation Room, Hera Village, Nymagee.

Meeting commenced at 10 am.

Present at the Meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)
Des (David) Hill (Community Representative)
Bev Ellison (Community Representative)
Mark Williams (Aurelia Metals Ltd, Environmental Superintendent, Hera/Federation Mine)
Travis Carter (Aurelia metals Ltd, Federation Mine Manager)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the country on which the meeting is being held and also acknowledged Elders past, present and emerging and all First Nations persons present.

The Chair welcomed Travis Carter, Federation Mine Manager to the meeting.

1 Apologies

Malcolm Harris (Community Representative)

2 Pecuniary and other interests

NIL

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the CCC meeting of 20 August 2024 had been distributed via email and were accepted as a correct record.

4 Business Arising from Previous Meeting

The updated Traffic Management Plan is now available on the Project website.

5 Correspondence

NIL

6 Company Report

The CCC presentation was presented and included an Acknowledgement of Country

recognising the Ngiyampaa Nation as the traditional custodians.

Federation Project

Key Dates of Interest:

- Stage 2 Civil works have been finalised. This has completed the Rom pad, paste plant area and the heavy vehicle access road.
- The commissioning of the power station upgrade, known as Stage B has occurred. This has enabled the commissioning of the primary ventilation fans for the underground.
- Mining officially commenced on 15 November 2024 and notice was given to DPHI as required under the SSD consent.
- Ore transport between federation and Peak commenced on 20th November 2024. Trucking is occurring under a temporary permit from TfNSW.
- Kidman Way upgrade works are set to commence at Priory Tank Road on 15 February 2025 and then move on to the Peak intersection with works scheduled for completion end of March 2025, weather permitting.

Wet Weather Impacts

- As reported at the last meeting wet weather continues to complicate operations. Works have been completed on the 230 megalitre (ML) water management dam with the plastic liner going through final testing. This will provide an immediate storage for 170ML of water from Federation. The dam was meant to be completed in September however wet weather caused a delay with completing the liner welding and testing.

Mine Development

- The company has executed a 3 year contract with Redpath for mining activities. Redpath will ramp up operations with additional personnel and equipment. Initially the project planned to transition to “owner operator” once the decline development was complete.
- Heavy vehicle access to federation together with boom gates has been completed.

Environment and Community

Modification 2 to the Federation Project has been placed on exhibition by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) which closed on 5 December 2024.

The MOD 2 detail provided at the last meeting is seeking approval to modify the project approval:

- To increase the amount of ore trucked to the Peak mine
- To increase trucking numbers and increase trucking hours from 7pm to 10pm
- To recover tailings from Hera Mine tailings storage facility to paste backfill at Federation Mine

Comments provided by CCC members were included in the submission of the modification.

Priorities and improvement initiatives

- New ground water monitoring network being installed at Federation in accordance with

the Water management Plan to assess ground water draw down impacts are as modelled.

- As mining has now officially commenced, the next CCC meeting will include the previous 3 months environmental data as was the case when Hera was operational.

Complaints

- 1 complaint was received regarding rocks on the road between the Federation Mine and the Peak Mine. The rocks appeared to be ore from the mine.

Non-Compliance

- 1 non-compliance was reported to DPHI, the EPA and the Resources Regulator. It was observed that ore was being transported outside the approved hours – leaving the site earlier than 7am.
- Action taken: The trucking was suspended for a day with operating requirements and quality control being reinforced to the contractor and truck drivers. The road was also checked for rocks between Federation and Peak.

Company Strategy

Copies of the following were tabled for information:

- Presentation made at the AGM mapping out the future strategy, and
- Cobar Basin Optimisation Update as announced to the ASX.

Exploration

- Nymagee Mine is the current focus for exploration. Drill rig at Nymagee will move back to Federation for 2 drill sites at Federation and moved back to Nymagee around April 2025.
- The Cobar Basin Exploration Summary from the AGM:
 - FY 24 in review.
 - 43km drilled; \$12 million invested;
 - Chesney & Jubilee North
 - Federation & Nymagee
 - Queen Bee and other regional targets.

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

Des requested signs be erected on Priory Tank Road and Kidman Highway advising school bus travel times.

ACTION: Aurelia to discuss with Cobar Shire Council

8 Community Engagement Opportunities

Nil

9 General Business

Travis Carter advised CCTV has been installed in the Village car park and common areas and

Village Rules are being rolled out.

Site tour to be planned for the next CCC meeting.

Anita Burcher from the “Four Corners” property expressed interest in joining CCC. Chair to follow up.

Chair to follow up representation from Cobar and Bogan Shire Councils.

10 Next Meeting

Tuesday 18 February 2025 TBC