

MINUTES OF MEETING
Cowal Gold Operations
Community Environmental Monitoring
and Consultative Committee (CEMCC)

Date: Wednesday 4 Sept 2024
Time: 9.02am, Forbes Shire Council Chambers.

Attendees:

Independent Chairperson: David Ross (LA)
Evolution: Greg Coase (GC), Renee Pettit (RP), Zach Murphy (ZM).
Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation: Ally Coe (AC), Nicole Smith (NS), Vicki Swadling (VS).
Community Members: Lucy Buttenshaw (LB)*, Bruce Dent (BD), Kate Dean (KD)*, Angus Stitt (AS).
Forbes Shire Council: Cr Brian Mattiske (BM)
Bland Shire Council: NA
Lachlan Shire Council: Cr Dennis Brady (DB)

Apologies: Chris Roylance (CR), Cr Elizabeth McGlynn.

**Attended meeting remotely*

ITEM	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Independent Chair, DR, opened the meeting at 9.02am. DR welcomed all in attendance and welcomed new meeting attendee ZM. ZM gave a short introduction and background of role at Evolution.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of Interest</p> <p>DR advised there were no changes to previous declarations by CEMCC members, nor to hers; Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning and receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council. BM declared interest around pipeline agreement in place with Evolution.</p>	
<p>3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes.</p> <p>The last meeting of the CEMCC was held 12 June at the Wiradjuri Condobolin Centre. The minutes were finalised and sent to the members with the presentation on 3 July 2024. There were two action items from that meeting:</p>	

1	Send Cowal Update digital edition to CEMCC members Complete
2	CEMCC members to provide DR feedback on chairing style.

All actions completed.

No other Business Arising from the previous minutes.

Minutes moved by DB
Seconded by GT.

4. Correspondence:

- 24/06/24 - Email to members with the draft minutes for review/comment.
- 03/07/24 – Email to members with finalised minutes.
- 09/08/24 – Email members with Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting.

5. Reports (See presentation for summary, photographs and monitoring graphs)

GC provided a detailed account of Cowal Gold Operations (CGO's) Environment Department's activities over the last quarter and a status of the underground project along with an update of the OPC.

- Legal Obligations.
- External ISO14001 Recertification Audit July 2024 – completed zero non-conformances and recertification issued in August
- Environmental Incidents:
All fauna deaths associated with misadventure.
- Air Quality:
Further trials have commenced regarding longer term dust mitigation. Dust control medium to be reapplied NTSF, with wind break control trails to be applied STSF. GC communicated dust mitigation techniques to be utilised.
- Blasting & Vibration:
9 blasts required further investigation of overpressure, after analysis, results were found to be likely related to localised environmental factors rather than blasting practices.
- Operational Noise:
Attended noise monitoring completed by Spectrum Acoustics from May 2024. No operational noise limits were exceeded at any location.
- Rainfall:
See graph.

Slide 4

Slide 5

Slide 6

Slide 7

Slide 8

Slide 10

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surface Water & Lake Water: Water level of Lake Cowal has remained steady since October 2023. ○ Groundwater: No complaints. ○ Fauna & Flora ○ Cyanide ○ Open Pit Continuation Project Update: Timeline presented. GC gave a quick broad overview around Biodiversity offsetting. ○ CGO Exploration Update: Geophysical survey completed October 2023 Drilling activities in the South Cowal area were completed. mid-January 2024. Surface geochemical surveying of the Western Corridor area was completed late January 2024 <p>RP provided details of community complaints and the activities and support undertaken by the Cowal Community and External Relations team in the previous quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Relations (Complaints, Sponsorships, Donations, Scholarships & Employee Achievements): One complaint received during last quarter: Resident of the UG accommodation village had entered nearby neighbours property causing damage. Contractor was disciplined in accordance with policy. Detailed CPP, Cowal Cares & Scholarship program update. Detailed further community engagement & investment. Celebrated EVN employee achievements. 	<p>Action 1: EVN to provide slide on EVN’s Biodiversity offsetting at next CEMCC meeting.</p> <p>Action 2: ZM to present exploration update in CEMCC March 2025 meeting.</p> <p>Action 3: CR team to provide documentation/presentation around assessment of CPP applications at next CEMCC meeting.</p>
<p>6. General Business</p> <p>DR gave CEMCC members five minutes to discuss chairing style of the meeting and provide feedback. CEMCC all agreed DR chairing style was well warmly welcomed. DR informed CEMCC that moving forward meeting would be more interactive and we would allow 90 minutes.</p>	
<p>7. Meeting Schedule for 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 27th of November Evolution Town Office 	

8. Meeting Closed – 10.14 am with DR thanking all for their attendance and contribution.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	EVN to provide include a slide on EVN's Biodiversity offsetting in next CEMCC meeting.	GC
2	EVN to provide exploration update in March 2025 CEMCC meeting.	ZM
3	EVN CR team to provide documentation/presentation around assessment of CPP applications.	RP/LR