

MINUTES OF MEETING

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

Date: Wednesday 27 November 2024
Time: 9.00am, Evolution Town Office, West Wyalong.

Attendees:

Independent Chairperson: David Ross (LA)
 Evolution: Greg Coase (GC), Renee Pettit (RP).
 Community Members: Lucy Buttenshaw (LB), Angus Stitt (AS).
 Forbes Shire Council: Cr Brian Mattiske (BM), Chris Roylance (CR)
 Bland Shire Council: Cr Holly Brooks (HB)
 Lachlan Shire Council: Cr Dennis Brady (DB)

Apologies:

Ally Coe (AC), Nicole Smith (NS), Vicki Swadling (VS),
 Bruce Dent (BD), Kate Dean (KD),

**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 HB. HB 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; as Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, DR receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council.</p> <p>BM declared interest around pipeline agreement in place with Evolution. HB declared her role as President of Hearts of Gold Committee.</p>	
<p>3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes.</p> <p>The last meeting of the CEMCC was held 4 Sept at the Forbes Shire Council. The minutes were finalised and sent to the members with the presentation on 24 September 2024.</p> <p>There were three action items from that meeting:</p>	

1	EVN to provide include a slide on EVN's Biodiversity offsetting in next CEMCC meeting. Completed	
2	EVN to provide exploration update in March 2025 CEMCC meeting. Ongoing	
3	EVN CR team to provide documentation/presentation around assessment of CPP applications. Completed	
No other Business Arising from the previous minutes.		
Minutes moved by AD. Seconded by BM		
4. Correspondence:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPC approval process documentation. 		
5. Reports (See presentation for summary, photographs and monitoring graphs)		
<p>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. Including new edition Exploration Map, Sustainability principles, Safety Data & Environmental Incidents.</p> <p>DR commended Evolution on Sustainability Practices, observing that very few organisations seek to truly integrate sustainability into their practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depositional Dust, Bore locations, Air Quality Monitoring and Dust Mitigation 		Slide 9-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality: Further trials have commenced regarding longer term dust mitigation. Dust control medium to be reapplied to NTSF, with wind break control trails to be applied to STSF. GC communicated dust mitigation techniques to be utilised. 		Slide 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		Slide 13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Noise: Attended noise monitoring completed by Spectrum Acoustics from May 2024. No operational noise limits were exceeded at any location. 		Slide 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rainfall: See graph. 		Slide 15

<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 ○ Biodiversity Offsets and Management ○ Waste Management ○ Open Pit Continuation Project Update: Timeline presented. GC gave a quick broad overview around Biodiversity offsetting. <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. ○ CPP Assessment Overview ○ Share Value Project Overview ○ One complaint received during last quarter: Dust event Resident raised concerns over increased dust over the IWL. Dust Mitigation Management communicated. 	<p>Slide 16</p> <p>Slide 18</p> <p>Slide 19</p> <p>Slide 20-22</p> <p>Slide 23</p>
<p>6. General Business</p> <p>CR – International Mens Day Forbes. Touched on Legacy project support for local hospitals.</p> <p>DR observed that the topic of the mine “leaving a legacy” had come up on several occasions during the meeting. He informed members that meetings in 2025 don’t always have to be the traditional committee-style meeting that they may be used to. Instead, on big picture matters like legacies, he invited members to think about some future meetings could be more workshop in nature to ensure that members and the mine got as much out of the meetings as possible. DR is keen to hear more from members as to what they might like to focus on in 2025.</p>	<p>ACTION 1: DR to contact CEMCC members to discuss desired outcomes or interests for 2025 meetings.</p>
<p>7. Meeting Schedule for 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 25 January 2025 - Lake Cowal Conservation Centre 	
<p>8. Meeting Closed – 10.57 am with DR thanking all for their attendance and contribution.</p>	

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	EVN to provide exploration update in February 2025 CEMCC meeting.	ZM
2	Independent Chair to contact CEMCC members to discuss desired outcomes or interests for 2025 meetings	DR