

## ENVIRONMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Item	Details
<b>Meeting date &amp; time</b>	3 May 2023, 9.34am –10.53am
<b>Meeting location</b>	FGM Boardroom and online
<b>Present</b>	Jude Holt (Chair), Lance Faulkner (General Manager, Fosterville Gold Mine), Will Wettenhall (Environment and Community Manager, Fosterville Gold Mine), Trudi Jackson (Senior Community Advisor, Fosterville Gold Mine), Oliver Hickson (Senior Environment and Community Advisor, Fosterville Gold Mine), Patrick Harton (Senior Rehabilitation Specialist, Fosterville Gold Mine) Online, Natasha van Leeuwen (Environment and Community Advisor, Fosterville Gold Mine), Fran Crossan (EES Project Lead, Fosterville Gold Mine), Leigh Byrne (Community Officer, Fosterville Gold Mine), Steve Pugh (Senior Environment and Community Advisor, FGM), Melani Samaraweera (Environment and Community Officer, FGM), Aimee Sparnenn (EPA), Jacob McDonald (EPA), Rebecca Carlton (ERR), Lynley Strahan (GMW), Tim Norden (DEECA), Cr Greg Penna (Eppalock Ward, COGB), Frank Casimir (COGB), Ian Ralston (Community Representative).
<b>Absent</b>	N/A
<b>Apologies</b>	Judy Scott (ERR), Cr Julie Sloan (COGB)
<b>By invitation</b>	
<b>Observers</b>	Mohammed Ali (Vice President, Sustainability and Regulatory Affairs Agnico Eagle), Natasha Dombrowski, EP (Director, Environment and Sustainability, Agnico Eagle)

Item number	Agenda item
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, attendance and apologies</b>
1.1	Chairperson Jude Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>2</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country and introductions</b>
2.1	The Chairperson acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting was held – the Dja Dja Wurrung people, and paid respects to their Elder's past and present. Each attendee then introduced themselves and the capacities in which they were attending.
<b>3</b>	<b>Declaration of interests</b>
3.1	No conflicts of interest declared.
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes, actions and matters arising since last committee meeting</b>
4.1	Confirmation of minutes from meeting on 8 February 2022

	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed for accuracy.</p> <p><b>IT WAS RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the previous meeting on 8 February 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings:</p>								
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>MOVED:</b></td> <td>Ian Ralston</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>SECONDED:</b></td> <td>Greg Penna</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>AGAINST:</b></td> <td>NA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>OUTCOME:</b></td> <td>Carried unanimously</td> </tr> </table>	<b>MOVED:</b>	Ian Ralston	<b>SECONDED:</b>	Greg Penna	<b>AGAINST:</b>	NA	<b>OUTCOME:</b>	Carried unanimously
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<b>AGAINST:</b>	NA								
<b>OUTCOME:</b>	Carried unanimously								
<b>5</b>	<b>Information/project updates to ERC Members</b>								
5.1	<p><u><i>FGM Sustained Operations Project EES Update – as per presentation.</i></u></p> <p>Fran Crossan provided an update on the Sustained Operations Project EES and advised preparation of technical studies is ongoing, including field surveys, modelling, and reporting. Estimated timing for the completion of the documentation is Q2 2023, with public exhibition expected to occur in Q2/Q3 2023, depending on the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA's) review period.</p> <p>Ian Ralston asked what was involved in the Traffic Impact Assessment and would it consider increased traffic along Axedale–Goornong Road, as this is adding additional pressure to an already deteriorating road? Fran advised that the study encompasses this road and others located within the vicinity of FGM's operations.</p>								
<b>6</b>	<b>Update on actions arising from the previous minutes</b>								
6.1	<p>The actions arising from the previous meeting were reviewed.</p> <p><b>Action 202108-01</b> Waste management overview – <b>Carry over.</b></p> <p><b>Action 202308-04</b> Formalise responsibilities for the maintenance of Fosterville North Road and McCormicks Road – <b>Update provided.</b></p> <p>Will Wettenhall informed the committee that FGM are in the process of establishing an MOU with COGB to formalise the current arrangements. The draft MOU has been prepared by FGM and will be provided to COGB for their consideration. Frank Casmir asked if FGM have a time frame for the MOU to be finalised. Will Wettenhall advised that there is no specified time frame, but FGM are currently maintaining and will continue to maintain McCormicks Road.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>Action 202305-01</b></td> <td>Provide update to ERC regarding progress of MOU for maintenance of McCormicks Road</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Action 202302-01</b> Pink Tail Worm Lizard Survey – Summary of outcomes presented May 2023 - <b>Complete</b></p>	<b>Action 202305-01</b>	Provide update to ERC regarding progress of MOU for maintenance of McCormicks Road						
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<b>7</b>	<b>Pink Tail Worm Lizard (PTWL) Survey Presentation – Pat Harton</b>								
7.1	<p><i>As per presentation</i></p> <p>Rebecca Carlton asked what prompted FGM to undertake the PTWL survey? Will Wettenhall advised that the PTWL had been identified during a flora and fauna assessment completed in 2019, which was not unexpected as the PTWL is known to occur in the Sugarloaf Conservation Reserve. The PTWL is also a listed species under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 in Victoria and the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999. As the survey was undertaken in the Sugarloaf Conservation Reserve, which is outside the EES project area, the survey won't be used directly for the EES but some information will be used to inform the EES.</p> <p>Rebecca Carlton then asked what the next steps are beyond the study. Will Wettenhall advised</p>								

	<p>that the study made some recommendations around habit enhancement and preservation, however because the survey was undertaken on Crown Land, which is not managed by FGM, these will need consideration by the Crown Land manager.</p> <p>Tim Norden asked if the survey data will be entered into the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas. Will Wettenhall reaffirmed that FGM will reach out to the Crown Land manger to share the survey information and understand the best way to provide the information.</p> <p>Lynley Strahan asked if the PTWL is located under rocks and centralised in the one location. Pat Harton advised that the PTWL will follow ant colonies and these colonies are the key driver for the population's distribution. The PTWL will travel through the tunnels created by the ants as a primary mode of transportation.</p> <p>Tim Norden requested a deidentified copy of the report from the PTWL survey so that he could share this with the DEECA biodiversity division. Will Wettenhall confirmed that FGM would be able to facilitate this.</p>		
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<b>8</b>	<b>Official business on the agenda</b>		
8.1	Quarterly Environment and Community Report		
	<p><i>As per presentation</i></p> <p>Before commencing the Environment and Community Report, Will Wettenhall introduced two new members of the Environment &amp; Community team. Steve Pugh (Senior Environment &amp; Community Advisor – Sustainability and Quality) and Melani Samaraweera (Environment &amp; Community Officer).</p> <p>Rebecca Carlton requested an updated organisational chart for the FGM Environment and Community Department, which Will Wettenhall agreed to pass on to the ERC members. <b>(Action 202302-01)</b></p>		
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	<p><u>Environmental activities and incidents</u></p> <p><i>As per presentation</i></p> <p>Rebecca Carlton asked a question in reference to the recent ERR site visit and if FGM had completed a review of excess water management after the October 2022 rainfall events and if other water storages were a risk of generating odour. Will Wettenhall advised that the follow up incident report for the CIL Storm Dam odour event has yet to be completed as the focus has been on successfully treating the odour. There are some corrective actions to be worked through, which will be documented in the follow up incident report to be provided to ERR. Other water storages were considered low risk as there is higher water circulation or inputs, which reduces the likelihood of establishment of odour generating bacteria.</p> <p>Lynley Strahan asked for some additional detail regarding the bacteria used to treat the odour. Oliver Hickson advised it is a patented bacteria and has been released in a contained area. Will Wettenhall informed Lynley that Syntek Environmental were the contactors engaged to supply the bacteria and they specialise in bioremediation solutions. As part of the investigation into bioremediation treatment, FGM reached out to numerous organisations with large water storages, such as Coliban Water, to identify treatment options.</p>		

### Noise monitoring

#### *As per presentation*

Ian Ralston referred to the LFN noise abatement trial and asked if there have been any reductions in LFN. Lance Faulkner said that overall FGM believes we have been able to demonstrate with the abatement measures, that LFN measured offsite at 950rpm post abatement is similar to LFN measurements offsite pre-abatement at 400rpm.

Ian Ralston enquired if there had been any community feedback during the trial. Will Wettenhall advised that FGM did not receive any community complaints relating to noise throughout the trial. Jacob McDonald then advised that the EPA had received complaints during the trial period, and that the EPA is assessing their own monitoring data, FGM data and community reports.

Lance Faulkner informed ERC members that post trial FGM resumed operating the ventilation fans at 400rpm between midnight and 6am, in accordance with the Prohibition Notice requirements.

### Air quality monitoring

#### *As per presentation*

### Surface water monitoring

#### *As per presentation*

Rebecca Carlton summarised that the FW014 exceedance was the result of evaporation over summer and asked what has happened in previous summers?

Natasha van Leeuwen advised that due to the significant rainfall in October 2022, material mobilised in surface water runoff reported into the catchment dams, and this has increased the Arsenic concentrations in the water sampling results. Will Wettenhall then referred to the historic results from FWO14, which demonstrate that this is a seasonal phenomenon and explained that these are operational catchment dams that are designed to capture sediment laden run off from operational areas.

Lynley Strachan asked if sediment should be removed from the dam at this time of year. Will advised that this would only occur if the storage capacity of the dam was compromised. Will reiterated that FWO dams are internal catchment dams that are designed specifically to capture surface water runoff from overburden dumps. There is no risk of offsite release or impact to groundwater, and these catchment dams are an integral part of the Surface Water Management Plan. Lynley Strachan then made the point that even though these dams are operating as per expected, FGM are still reporting exceedances of water quality criteria. Will Wettenhall said that this may then be a conversation about what FGM report through the ERC and whether the reporting of water quality results from internal catchment dams, which are designed to capture sediment laden runoff, is something FGM should be reporting to the ERC?.

Ian Ralston referred to the graph for FWO14 and asked how far back the water quality results extend. Natasha confirmed the water quality results have been recorded since September 2013. Ian pointed out that there would have been an excess of surface water in 2016, when there was another flood event. Ian asked if the characteristics of the ground would have changed over time due to development at FGM? Will advised there would not have been any changes to the environment in this area. Will also pointed out that there was a spike in Arsenic concentrations in FOW14 December 2016, which would have corresponded to the 2016 flood events mentioned by Ian.

	<p>Will Wettenhall reinforced that after a significant rainfall event these results are consistent with other catchment dams used for the same purpose.</p> <p>Natasha van Leeuwen spoke about the Lead exceedance at SDD3 and explained this is likely an anomalous result and the southern diversion drain will be resampled during the next rainfall event. Rebecca Carlton asked if this testing will be out of cycle testing. Natasha van Leeuwen explained that testing can only be completed during a rainfall event when there is sufficient water flow in the Southern Diversion Drain.</p> <p><u>Groundwater monitoring</u> <i>As per presentation</i></p> <p><u>Community</u> <i>As per presentation</i></p> <p><u>Exploration Lease activities</u> <i>As per presentation</i></p>
8.2	Quarterly Operations Report
	Lance Faulkner presented on Q1 2023 operational results.
<b>9</b>	<b>Regulatory Update</b>
9.1	<p>EPA – Jacob McDonald asked how the TSF1 lift was progressing and if the continuous air quality monitors were still in operation. Will Wettenhall advised that TSF1 Raise 7 is ongoing and approaching the final stages of construction, with an estimated completion date in early June. Will also advised that the air quality monitors north and south of the TSF precinct have remained in place for the duration of the lift.</p> <p>Jacob McDonald then asked where the monitors would be relocated to after the TSF lift is complete. Will advised that after the TSF1 Raise 7 is completed, FGM intend to commence TSF4 Raise 2 and that the continuous air quality monitors would remain in the same location for that project. Jacob then asked if the additional monitors might be used at other locations onsite. Will clarified that FGM have a total of five continuous monitors, with the remaining three monitors located at the Hi Volume Air Sampler monitoring sites. FGM uses the two roaming continuous air quality monitors for proactive monitoring at operational areas, as required. At present, these monitors are best located at the TSF precinct whilst earthmoving activities are ongoing for the TSF embankment lifts.</p>
9.2	ERR – No update.
9.3	GMW – No update
9.4	DEECA – No update
9.5	COGB – No update
9.6	Community representative – No update

<b>10</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
10.1	<p>Jude Holt enquired about the vacated ERC community representative position. Trudi Jackson advised that FGM will readvertise the vacant positions prior to the next ERC meeting.</p> <p>Lance Faulkner then acknowledged Tim Harrington's service as a community representative on the Environment Review Committee over the past 25 years.</p> <p><i>"I would like to acknowledge Tim Harrington for his contribution to the Fosterville Environment Review Committee as a Community representative. The Community representatives are volunteers, who freely give up their time to participate on this ERC. That time is not just spent in these meetings and the associated site tours, but outside of this at the community meetings, technical presentations and the day in day out fielding of the many questions from the wider community about this operation and what we are doing.</i></p> <p><i>Given the length of Tim's continuous service as part of this committee the enormity of that contribution needs to be properly acknowledged. From the Company's viewpoint I'd like to thank Tim, on behalf of all past and present employees of Fosterville Gold Mine, for the part he has played and the contribution he has made to the Fosterville ERC. In my time as General Manager, Tim has generously spent time with me to develop my understanding of the site, its history and provided context to the questions that are asked.</i></p> <p><i>Again, I'd like to record my personal thanks. It is something that I've genuinely benefited from and I'm thankful for the time that Tim has afforded me and for the conversations."</i></p> <p>FGM has a frame, which Lance will present to Tim and his family when they visit site as a part of the 4 millionth ounce celebrations.</p>
10.2	The chairperson summarised the actions arising from this meeting, see schedule 1.
<b>11</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>
11.1	<p><b>Date/time:</b> 3 August 2022, 11:00am</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Boardroom, Fosterville, VIC, 3557</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>Meeting closure</b>
12.1	The meeting concluded at <b>10.53am</b> .

## SCHEDULE 1

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

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Action ref.	Action description	Assigned to	Due date
202108-01	Waste management overview	FGM	2023
202305-01	Provide update to ERC regarding progress of MOU for maintenance of McCormicks Road	COGB/FGM	2023
202305-02	Pink Tail Work Lizard Survey – Deidentified report to DEECA	FGM	2023
202305-03	FGM Environment & Community department organisational chart to be distributed to ERC members	FGM	August 2023