



# Open Day action!

After a three year break, we held our popular Open Day on 4 March and were thrilled to welcome over 1,300 visitors through the gates.

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## Update from the General Manager

From the desk of Lance Faulkner,  
Fosterville Gold Mine's General Manager.

Welcome to the first edition of the Fosterville Gold Mine Community Newsletter for 2023. It has been a very busy start to the year, with a numerous events and activities both on and off site.

### Another successful Vacation Work Program

Late last year we welcomed 22 university students to site as a part of our 2022/2023 Vacation Work program. The program aims to provide students with practical, hands-on experience in their chosen field; as well as the opportunity for participants to build networks within the industry and with one another.

At the conclusion of the program students were invited to deliver a presentation reflecting on their three months onsite. The students said that they found the program very valuable and were inspired by the diversity of careers on offer. We feel privileged to have played a part at the start of their employment journey in the resource industry.

### Recognising apprentices

In addition to our Vacation Work program developing pathways in the resource industry, Fosterville has a long established Apprenticeship program providing a nationally recognised trade qualification and career pathway.

Currently we offer apprenticeships as a Light Vehicle Mechanic, Diesel Fitter, Electrician (Fixed Plant and Surface Maintenance area) and Mechanical Fitter.

Max A'Vard, from our Mobile Maintenance team, recently won the Bendigo TAFE Apprentice of the Year Award – Heavy Vehicles. Max joined Fosterville Gold Mine in June 2019 as part of the Light Vehicles maintenance crew before switching to Heavy Vehicles.

We not only congratulate Max on his achievement but celebrate all our apprentices who have completed their apprenticeships to become fully qualified trades people.

### International Women's Day

On 8 March we celebrated International Women's Day across our business globally. It not only provided an opportunity to recognise the contribution, impact and achievements of women but also look to the future and how we can increase our efforts on gender equality. Fosterville employees also attended the AusIMM International Women's Day event in Melbourne, where our Director of Environment and Government Relations, Felicia Binks, shared some thoughts on the importance of diversity and inclusion to Agnico Eagle.

### Open Day

On Saturday 4 March we held our first Open Day since 2019 (see overleaf for the full story) with more than 1,300 visitors coming to site. Thanks very much to everyone involved for sharing their knowledge with visitors and facilitating a range of different activities including bus tours, equipment displays, gold panning and activities for children that made the day such a huge success.

We would also like to sincerely thank the Axedale Events Committee for putting on a delicious BBQ and all our business partners who contributed to the success of the Open Day.

### Four millionth ounce of gold poured!

On Saturday 18 March Fosterville Gold Mine reached another significant milestone producing our four millionth ounce of gold. I would like to acknowledge everyone who has contributed to the success of Fosterville Gold Mine over the past 19 years. Without the combined effort from everyone over this journey, reaching a significant milestone like this would not have been achievable.



The Fosterville processing plant is one of the world's leading BIOX systems and has achieved record recoveries since it was first commissioned back in 2005. Through ongoing innovation our team continues to ensure we remain a world class facility that is at the forefront of cutting-edge technology.

### Planning our future

Work around the Fosterville Gold Mine Sustained Operations Project continues (update on pages 6 and 7) and we will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses but if you have any questions regarding our future operations please reach out at any time.

As always, the Fosterville Community team is available to community members if there are any concerns or questions about our day-to-day operations.

From top to bottom:

- › FGM Vacation Students 2022-2023.
- › Max is pictured here with Damien Cowan (left) Mobile Maintenance Foreperson and Damien Bilsborow (right) Director, Health and Safety.
- › FGM Staff attended the AusIMM International Women's Day event in Melbourne on 8 March.
- › Leslie Riddell from our Environment and Community team, shows off one of FGM's gold bars at the Open Day.







# Open Day action

On March 4 2023 FGM was excited to once again welcome visitors to our site for the 2023 Open Day. It was a beautiful sunny day and we appreciate the many attendees – some of whom travelled from Melbourne – taking the time to come to our site to learn more about our operation and our plans for the future.

There were a range of activities for the young and young at heart, including face painting, bling your hard hat, navigating the smoke room, gold panning, gold bar display and an opportunity to be issued with a Fosterville Gold Mine ID Tag.

For the adults there was a range of equipment displays, mining technology displays and various information stands with our passionate staff sharing their knowledge about processing, geology, exploration, careers in mining and more.

The wonderful team from Axedale Quickshears were kept busy for the entire day providing a BBQ lunch for all our visitors.

Based on survey feedback, the most popular activity, was the guided bus tour of our surface operations.

*Overall, it was a fantastic day out, only made possible by an amazing team effort.*

We are looking forward to doing it all again next year!

Overall, it was a fantastic day out, only made possible by an amazing team effort. We would particularly like to thank our, business partners – including ISH24, Delecca's, Deepcore Drilling, Redpath, Goldfields Revegetation, Hoares Bros – and the Axedale Quickshears crew.

“ Had a great day – so interesting and so impressed by how friendly and cheerful the staff were. Was wonderful to see everyone so enthusiastic about their jobs – it seems like a great place to work and what an asset to the local economy. Well done and thanks for a fabulous day.

Marion



“ Fantastic day out! My eldest daughter couldn't believe how many females work there. Think it may be a career in a few years.

Stacey





# Addressing scoping requirements for the EES

The FGM Sustained Operations Project team, together with lead consultants AECOM are preparing the documentation required for the Environment Effects Statement (EES) to adequately address the scoping requirements in consultation with the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and other regulatory agencies.

## We remain at the preparation stage

The preparation stage involves undertaking technical assessments to assess potential impacts of the project. Once the technical reports and EES chapters are drafted, they are reviewed by the various regulatory agencies known as the Technical Reference Group (TRG).

The TRG provides feedback on the technical reports, which is then distributed to the technical specialists to consider and update their reports. This feedback loop continues until the regulators are satisfied that the reports meet the scoping requirements.

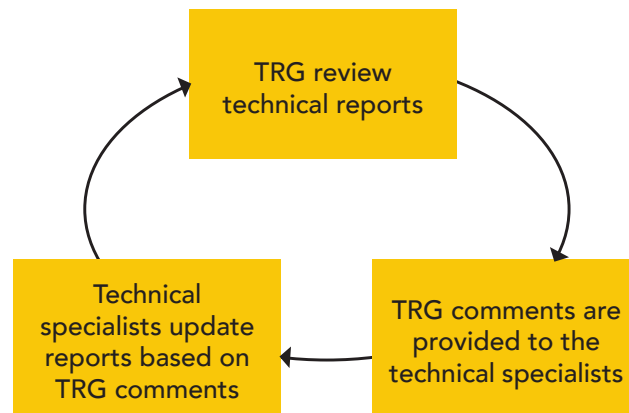
DTP manage the EES process, when DTP are satisfied with the EES content, the technical reports are issued to the Minister for Planning for consideration, prior to the public review phase. The minister must sign off on the EES content before it is released for public review.

The results of the technical assessments will be made available for public review in the following formats:

- › Technical reports – Provides the technical details and full assessment
- › EES chapters – Provide a succinct summary in lay person terms to explain the technical information.

All project components already exist at FGM, the only new proposed project component is Aquifer Recharge. As technology develops FGM will implement methods that are to industry standard whilst meeting current regulations or going above and beyond in areas where possible to ensure the best outcome for the environment and community.

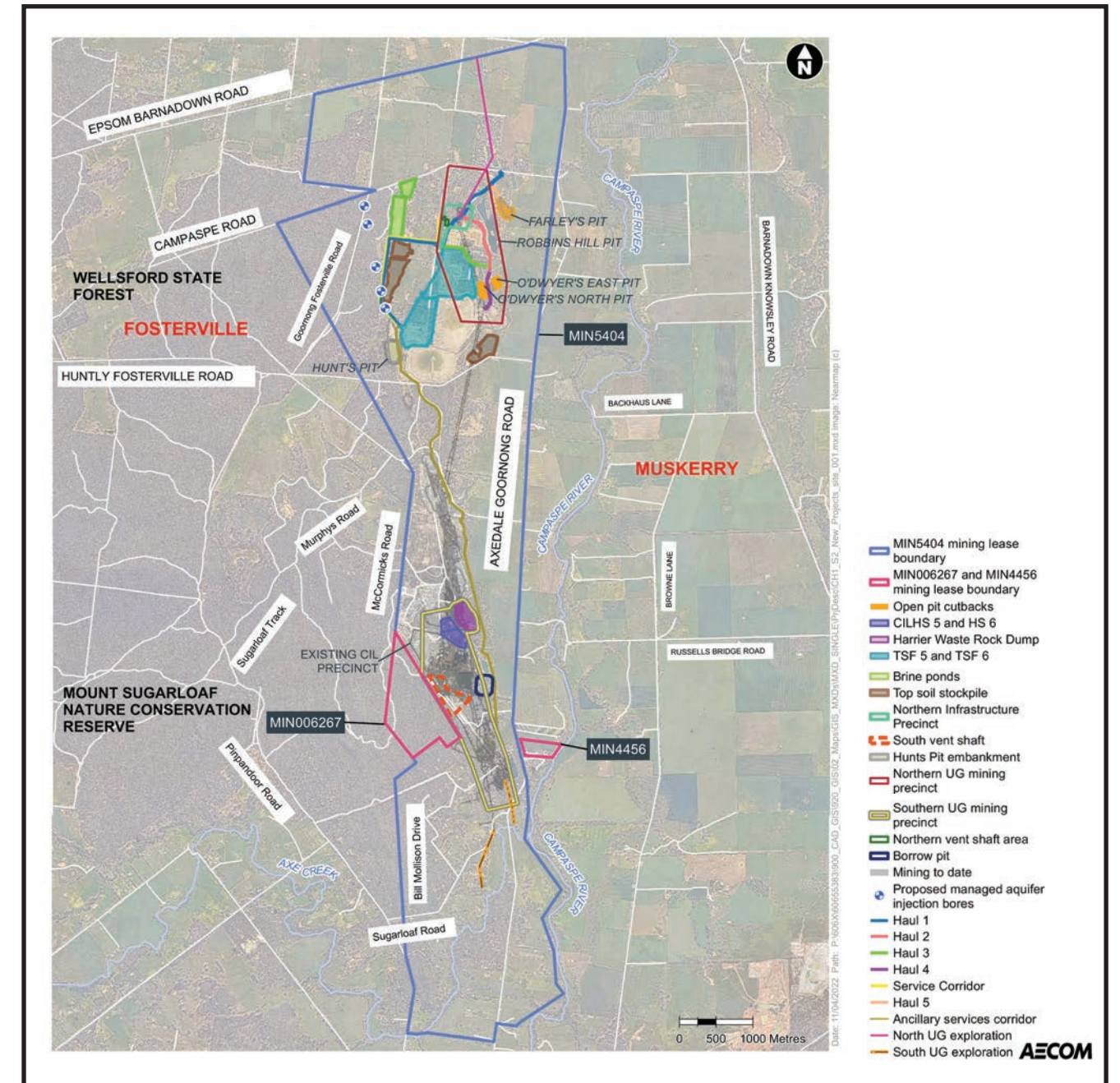
Technical assessment are being carried out on the project components shown on the map on page 7.



## WE ARE CURRENTLY HERE

Final scoping requirements were issued by the Minister for Planning in September 2022. These provided the final scoping for the EES. The FGM Sustained Operations Project team, together with lead consultants AECOM are now preparing the required documentation.

REFERRAL	Project referred to Minister for Planning
DECISION	Minister's decision on the need for an EES
SCOPING	Scoping requirements for EES studies and report set by Minister
PREPARING THE EES	Proponent prepares the EES
PUBLIC REVIEW	Exhibition of EES and lodgement of submissions
ASSESSMENT	Minister's Assessment of environmental effects
INFORMING DECISIONS	Decision makers consider the Assessment



As was reported in the previous issue the following technical assessments are being undertaken:

1. Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment
2. Historic heritage impact assessment
3. Air quality / Greenhouse gas emissions impact assessments
4. Ecology impact assessment
5. Geotechnical impact assessment
6. Groundwater impact assessment
7. Ground vibration impact assessment
8. Landscape and visual impact assessment
9. Land use planning impact assessment
10. Noise impact assessment
11. Surface water impact assessment
12. Traffic impact assessment
13. Social impact assessment
14. Economic impact assessment

## Want to know more?

Visit the FGM Sustained Operations Project Virtual Consultation Room (VRC): [fgm.consultation.ai](https://fgm.consultation.ai)



FGM Sustained Operations Project



# Noise abatement projects are continuing

FGM continues to operate in compliance with all EPA notices issued in relation to low frequency noise emissions from the premises. This includes operating the surface ventilation fans at the reduced speed of 400 rpm between the hours of midnight and 6:00am every day, a modification that has reduced levels of LFN (and consequently the risk of harm to human health and/or the environment) as far as reasonably practicable, which has been accepted by the EPA Victoria.

During the quarter, work progressed on the following noise abatement projects and modifications to the surface ventilation system:

- › Completed the installation of additional fan motor enclosure abatement, including bespoke acoustic cladding and louvres.
- › Implemented fan speed offset modifications to alter the character of low frequency noise emissions from the ventilation system.
- › Progressed trial bench testing of highly conceptual infrasonic resonance silencers.

With approval from EPA Victoria, FGM commenced a trial in late January to assess the performance of the additional attenuation projects and modifications made to the surface ventilation system to-date. The additional abatement works and modifications implemented to-date include:

- › Modifications to the deflectors installed on the surface ventilation structure.
- › Modifications to the number and spacing of the ventilation fan silencers to address the potential risk of regenerative LFN.
- › Installation of additional fan motor enclosure abatement, including bespoke acoustic cladding and louvres.

The trial permits the operations of the surface ventilation system at speeds above 400 rpm between the hours of midnight and 6:00am to evaluate the performance of low frequency noise abatement measures. Throughout the trial period, FGM provided routine updates to EPA Victoria. An assessment of the performance trial will be completed at the conclusion of the program to evaluate the effectiveness of additional abatement controls at reducing low frequency noise levels as far as reasonably practicable.

In parallel, FGM continues to investigate low frequency noise abatement options that have been previously presented to the EPA and community, which include:

- › The installation of new fans underground, and
- › Modifications to the current surface ventilation system.

FGM is committed to being a responsible member of the local community, and our highest priority is the health and wellbeing of our people and our neighbours.

## Our commitment to engagement

FGM appreciates the level of concern some community members have regarding FGM's operations, which is why we are committed to meaningful and open engagement, and the provision of evidence-based information. On occasion information from our engagement activities or materials can be misrepresented, resulting in misleading information being relayed by others within the community.

If you come across information which concerns you, or you have questions you'd like answered regarding our operational activities and future plans, we encourage you to reach out directly to the FGM Community Team. We will do our best to answer your questions and provide you with accurate information to assist your knowledge and understanding.



Above: Installation of fan motor enclosure abatement

Left: Installed fan motor enclosure acoustic louvres



Andrea San Diego was thrilled to go 1.3km underground on her first day at FGM.

# Vacation Work Program gets the thumbs-up

FGM offers its Vacation Work Program over the Summer break that allows students to gain hands-on experience in the mining industry. Andrea San Diego, a third year Environmental Engineering student from RMIT, participated in the program this year. Andrea has a unique background, coming from a family of five who migrated from the Philippines to Echuca in 2010. Here she shares her experience of the program and how it has impacted her career aspirations.

## Where are you from, and how did you learn about the Vacation Work Program at Fosterville?

I am originally from Echuca and moved to Melbourne to study. I found out about the Vacation Work Program through the university. I do a lot of trips between Melbourne and Echuca and I couldn't believe I had been driving past the mine all this time and didn't even realise.

I was curious to see what a gold mining company in my local area was about. So, I read up on FGM's website and found that many of their values align with mine, so I decided to apply.

## Why did you choose to study Environmental Science?

I went through a long process of trial and error with my courses. I came from a professional dance background studying marketing, and neither felt right. Finally, I had to ask myself what I cared about and cross it over with what I was good at. I knew I was good at maths and science. I knew that I cared about the environment and was keen to make a change. I also knew that I was a problem solver. All of those together pointed in the direction of environmental engineering.

## How did you find your time at FGM?

I have loved my time at FGM, my favourite aspect of the program has been meeting the people that work here. Seeing their pathways and how they came to where they are now has been quite inspirational.

Witnessing how the mine site operates has been astounding and not at all what I expected. On my first day, I was able to go to the lowest point of the mine at 1.3 km below the surface. We focused on minimising the risk to biodiversity, humans and the environment. I was part of collating a Health and Environment Management Plan for a pipeline installation for the site's wastewater treatment plan.

## What are your plans for the future?

In the future, I would love to continue this environmental protection or rehabilitation pathway. Having this role has opened my eyes to the mining industry and how much environmental engineering can impact. With two years of my studies left, I hope to get a job in the industry while studying. I am not entirely sure where I am headed, but being part of the program has given me a boost in my career, which I am grateful for.



# Proactive Climate Action: Our Commitment to a Sustainable Future

Agnico Eagle recognises climate change as a serious environmental concern for all of society. As a sustainability leader in the global mining industry, we aim to be a climate action leader too.

## Our Approach

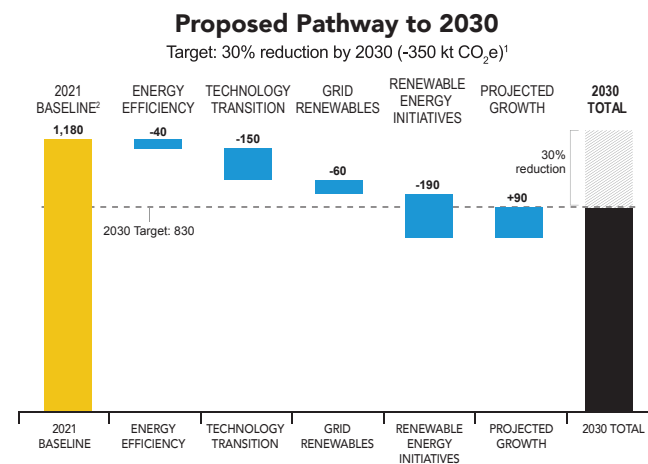
We do this by executing a disciplined strategy that is focused on proactively working to reduce emissions as quickly as feasible, preparing the company for a low-carbon economy, and regularly and transparently communicating our climate-related progress and performance, and the risks and opportunities we can reasonably foresee. Agnico Eagle is committed to continue to take the action necessary to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

“Climate change is one of society’s greatest challenges and as a sustainability leader in the global mining industry, we also aim to be a climate action leader. The risks associated with a changing climate have never been clearer and we understand the importance of managing these risks to build a better business, capitalize on future opportunities and communicate effectively with our stakeholders. We hold ourselves accountable to high ESG standards and have strategies in place to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.”

Ammar, Al Joundi  
President and CEO

## Our Commitment

Agnico Eagle is committed to be Net-Zero by 2050 in absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions and, to this end, it has set an interim carbon reduction target of 30% of 2021 Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. This will be achieved by focusing on energy efficiency, technology transition, grid renewables, renewable energy initiatives.



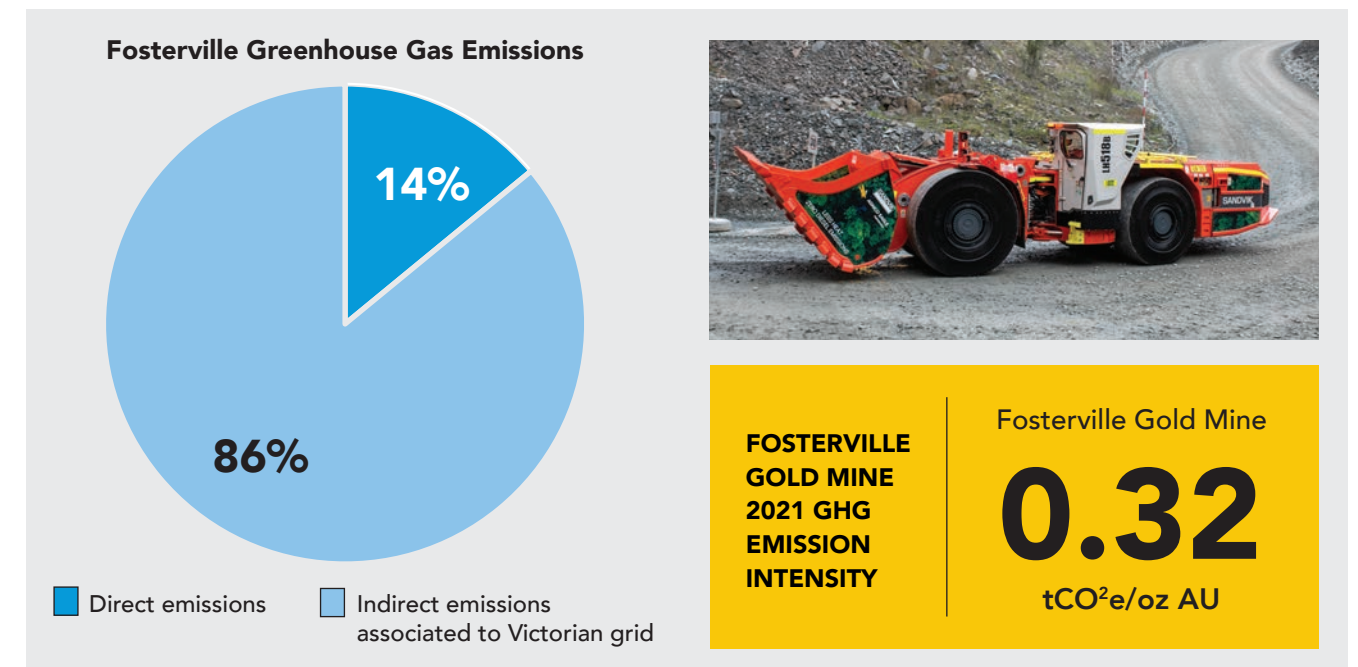
## Fosterville Gold Mine

Our Fosterville Gold Mine operation is also committed to further reducing its greenhouse gas contribution. It is already among the lowest quartile in greenhouse gas emission intensity Australia for gold mines.

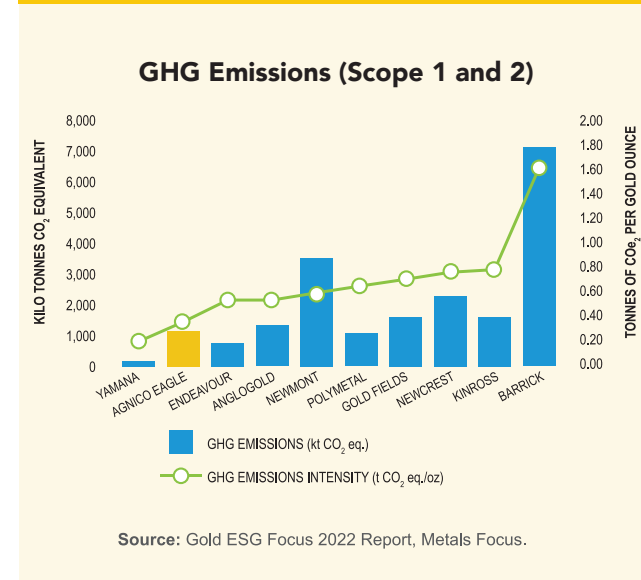
Fosterville’s total Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions are 164,859 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Only 14% of these total emissions (23,110 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) are direct emissions from the site. The remaining 141,749 tCO<sub>2</sub>e are resulting from the electricity consumption associated to the Victorian Electricity Grid which is predominantly coal powered.

Although already a low emitter, Fosterville Gold Mine continues to work at further reducing its greenhouse gas contribution through modernising various aspects of the mine. To date, the mine had implemented VentSim which reduces the energy demand used by the ventilation aspects of the mine.

Fosterville is also proud to become the first mine on Australia’s East Coast and only the second in the country to take delivery of the new Sandvik Battery Electric Loader. Featuring advanced Lithium-Iron Phosphate battery technology, Sandvik LH518B produces zero underground exhaust emissions and emits significantly less heat than its diesel counterparts.



## Among the Lower Emitters of the Gold Space



## Decarbonize

Find solutions to reduce carbon emission at our locations that balance our climate ambitions with our financial framework.

Includes: Electrification, Operational Efficiency

## Innovate

Invest in innovative solutions that will scale and increasingly reduce our emissions over time and reduce our reliance on offsets.

Includes: Renewable fuels, grid shift, future technologies

## Offset

Invest in offsets for any emissions that can’t be reduced directly through low-carbon solutions that are high quality and deliver community co-benefits.

Includes: Carbon offset sourcing strategy focused on locally meaningful action alongside high-integrity credits

To read more about our strategy, we welcome you to visit our website for more information and our Climate Action Report.

<https://www.agnicoeagle.com/English/sustainability/Addressing-Climate-Change/default.aspx>

## NOTES

1. Emission reductions are rounded to the nearest ten thousand; total reduction may not sum due to rounding. Includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions only; Scope 3 emissions excluded. Chart may not include all potential growth which will need to be accounted for in reduction of emission as well. Does not include Canadian Malartic Mine. Additional projects or areas of focus may be identified. Some initiatives require collaboration with others which makes the amount of reduction before 2030 uncertain. The values shown for reduction are an approximation based on our current status.

2. Baseline will be updated if there is a change greater than +/- 10% to our Scope 1 and 2 or 3 baseline year emissions as a result of a major change in calculation methodology or a change in company profile (divestments/ acquisitions).

3. [https://www.csaglobal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Greenhouse-Emissions-in-Gold-Mining\\_Sam-Ulrich\\_October\\_2020.pdf](https://www.csaglobal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Greenhouse-Emissions-in-Gold-Mining_Sam-Ulrich_October_2020.pdf)

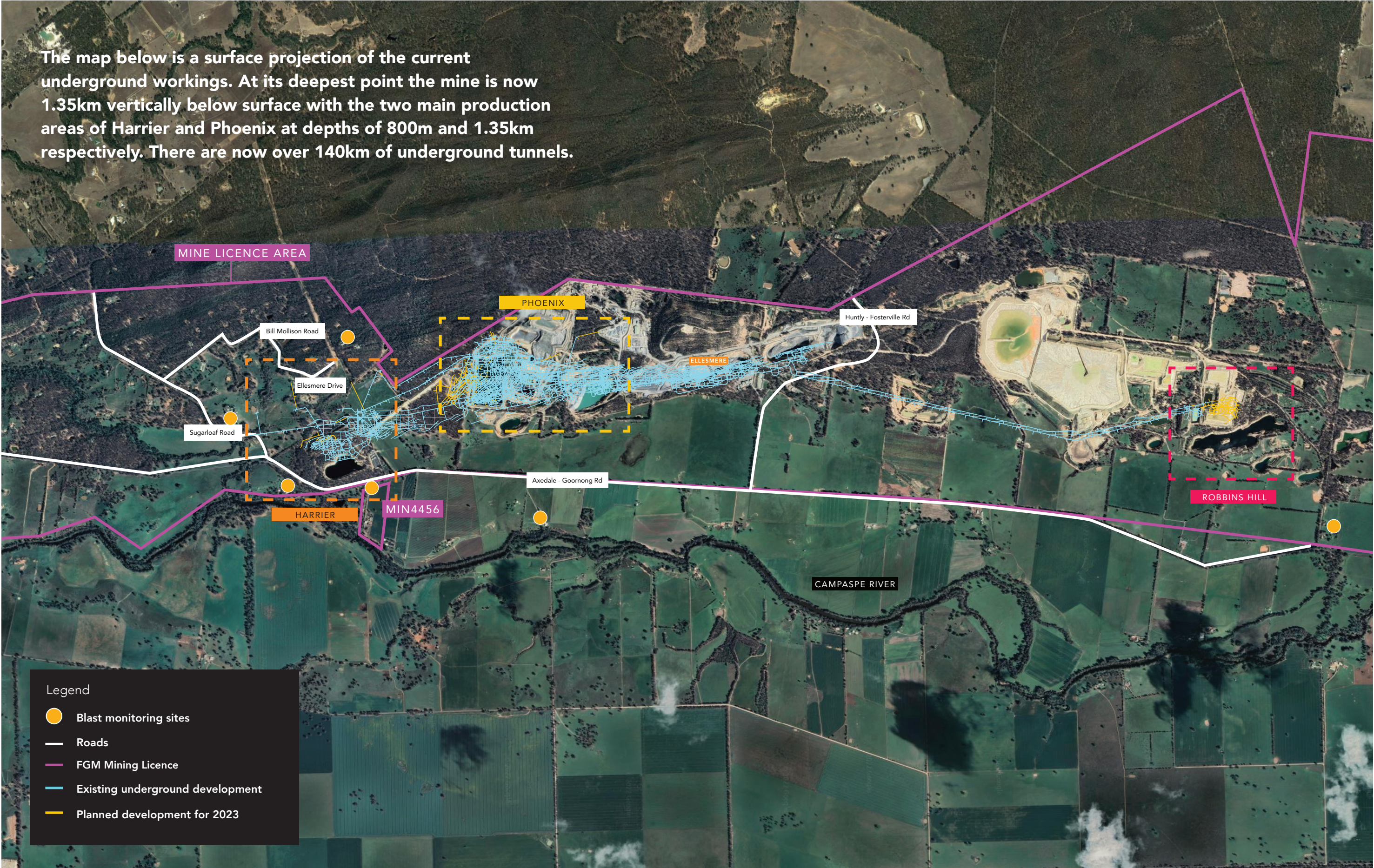
## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this document constitute forward-looking statements or forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable securities laws and are referred to herein as “forward-looking statements”. Such statements include, without limitation, statements regarding the Company’s future plans in the areas of climate change action, including targets for GHG reductions and the plans to achieve those targets, sustainable development and the environment. Many factors, known and unknown, could cause the actual results to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward looking statements. Such statements reflect the Company’s views as at the date of this document and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements. For a detailed discussion of such risks and other factors that may affect the Company’s ability to achieve the expectations set forth in the forward-looking statements contained in this report, please see the Company’s Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2021 filed with Canadian securities regulators on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). Other than as required by law, the Company does not intend, and does not assume any obligation, to update these forward-looking statements.



# Mine development update

The map below is a surface projection of the current underground workings. At its deepest point the mine is now 1.35km vertically below surface with the two main production areas of Harrier and Phoenix at depths of 800m and 1.35km respectively. There are now over 140km of underground tunnels.







# The facts about FGM’s approach to rehabilitation

FGM takes its responsibility to the environment seriously. We understand that mining activities can significantly impact the land and surrounding areas, and we strive to minimise this impact as much as possible. One way we achieve this is through our comprehensive rehabilitation plan.

The Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 and its associated Regulations provide the framework for our rehabilitation planning process for mining projects in Victoria. Earth Resources Regulation approves our Rehabilitation Plan as part of the Work Plan for Mining Licence MIN5404. This plan is prepared following the relevant regulatory guidelines and is routinely reviewed and updated as part of our ongoing operations.

**What’s included in FGM’s Rehabilitation Plan?**

The plan includes detailed information on proposed post-mining land uses and landforms, rehabilitation objectives, closure criteria, stakeholder engagement, and post-rehabilitation risks. It encompasses all aspects of our site, from underground workings to surface infrastructure, and outlines our commitment to safe, stable, and sustainable landforms and rehabilitation outcomes.

**Post-mining rehabilitation concepts and objectives**

Our post-mining rehabilitation concepts aim to return most of our site to a similar vegetation function and structure as before our mining operations. This means returning agricultural land to agricultural land use, be that grazing or cropping, and revegetating areas where native vegetation previously existed to self-sustaining native forests. We also take opportunities to increase the number of indigenous species and link up biodiversity corridors, where possible.

Feature	Vegetation	End use
Open pit lakes	Native vegetation and pasture	Agriculture/recreation
Backfilled pits	Pasture	Agriculture
Waste rock dumps	Native vegetation	Ecological
Tailings storage facilities	Native vegetation and pasture	Ecological/agriculture
Drainage line and stormwater dams	Native vegetation and pasture	Ecological/agriculture

### FGM’s Rehabilitation Plan objectives

#### Biodiversity

- › Create sustainable landforms.
- › Restore hydrological function.
- › Establish stable and erosion-resistant landforms.
- › Enhance soil profile.
- › Prioritise vegetation cover.
- › Revive native flora systems.
- › Increase indigenous tree numbers.
- › Improve fauna abundance and diversity.

#### Health and Social

- › Respect and enhance indigenous cultural values.
- › Consult stakeholders for post-closure outcomes and land uses.
- › Collaborate with stakeholders to ensure appropriate outcomes are incorporated into the plan.
- › Develop visually blending landforms.

#### Land Repurposing

- › Establish appropriate land tenure prior to relinquishment.
- › Remove site infrastructure except as agreed with the future land manager.
- › Reinstate or provide access to private or public land as agreed with stakeholders.
- › Construct safe and stable landforms for ongoing use.
- › Develop sustainable pasture systems.
- › Minimise post-closure site maintenance requirements.

**What are the stages of mine closure and how does the Rehabilitation Plan guide each phase?**

There are several stages to mine closure that our site progresses through on the way to rehabilitation and relinquishment of the tenement. Our Rehabilitation Plan details the works required at each phase and nominates specific milestones, known as completion criteria, that must be met at certain closure phases.

Development and implementation of our Rehabilitation Plan is an iterative process that is progressively updated throughout the life of the mine. As our operation evolves and our technical understanding grows, further detail is incorporated into the plan and the rehabilitation outcomes. Although detailed design for some aspects of the site can only occur after mine closure, our forward works schedule tracks progress toward developing the required technical understanding and feasibility.

As part of our ongoing operations, we rehabilitate disturbed areas no longer utilised by the mine, including pit backfilling, landform contouring, and revegetation. An example of our commitment to progressive rehabilitation is the Rehe’s Pit backfilling and rehabilitation project.

#### How do I find out more?

Please contact the FGM Community Team via the details on the back page of this newsletter.





# Grants to help improve our region's bushfire readiness

At Fosterville Gold Mine, we are incredibly proud of the CFA Bushfire Readiness Grants Program. In the Summer of 2019/20, the devastating bushfires that raged throughout Australia were a stark reminder of why preparing for such events is vital, and inspired us to create a special grants program to support the region's CFA's to make improvements towards their future bushfire readiness.

This grants program was open to CFA brigades within a 20km radius of FGM and they were encouraged to apply for grants that would help each brigade address their specific needs.

After a comprehensive review process, grants totalling over \$400,000 were awarded. It is fantastic to report that almost half of these projects have already been completed or are nearing completion, leaving the brigades better prepared for future fires and other disasters.

This grant program bears testament to our continuing and dedicated commitment to the region by providing support to agencies, such as the CFA, that come to our aid during the most challenging times.

Over the coming months we will be sharing some of the good news stories about each of the local CFA brigades which FGM supported on our social media pages and website, so be sure to keep an eye out for them.



Top: Strathfieldsaye Fire Brigade's extension begins, providing space for future urban appliances with drive-through bay, turnout room, storage area and room to maintain their Breathing Apparatus.

Left: The Huntly CFA, was awarded a grant to purchase and custom fit out a 4WD double cab ute support vehicle which enables progressive hoselay, allowing firefighters to access hard-to-reach fires quickly and efficiently. Huntly CFA is believed to be the first brigade in Australia to implement this system. Volunteers participated in a training session to familiarise themselves with the vehicle.

## Celebrating healthy choices in schools

Since 2020, FGM has sponsored the Bendigo Sports Star Healthy Schools Awards, which celebrates the commitment of our local schools' to promote health and wellbeing. This year, Kangaroo Flat Primary School and Goornong Primary School were recognised for their innovative programs designed to improve the health and wellbeing of students.

Kangaroo Flat principal Kim Saddlier said the school has a number of health and wellbeing initiatives in place that look to positively impact change in the dietary and physical health of its students.

"We are now expanding that to include families to come in and have cooking classes with our canteen manager and that has been quite a success," she said.

"As sponsors, Fosterville Gold Mine loves being able to support schools in our region to encourage healthy living," explained our General Manager, Lance Faulkner, who presented the award on the night.

The Bendigo Sports Star Awards have been a prominent sporting event since its inception in March 1965 and is recognised as one of Australia's longest-standing sports awards programs.



Congratulations to Kangaroo Flat Primary Primary School (left) who won the award, as well as Goornong Primary School (right) who were runners up in the category.



## Encouraging life-long learning



Congratulations to Joe Deane, a trainee at Bendigo Foodshare, who is this year's recipient of Fosterville Gold Mine's scholarship for the LEAD Loddon Murray 2023 Community Leadership Program. Joe is passionate ensuring that everyone has access to food relief when they need it and is looking forward to using what he learns from the program to continue supporting those struggling to make ends meet. Joe is pictured above with Trudi Jackson (left) and Wendy Campbell from the Environment and Community team.



We were excited to see Shee Lay Bo Pell win the Fosterville Gold Mine Inspirational Student of the Year Award at Bendigo TAFE Industry Excellence Awards in March. Overcoming significant barriers as a refugee and young mother, Shee Lay is pursuing her dream of helping people and graduated with a Certificate III in Pathology Collection. Shee Lay is pictured with Felicity Adcock, FGM Engagement and Development and Damien Bilsborow, Director of Health and Safety.



# Making a difference through the Community Partnerships Program

Agnico Eagle Australia is committed to creating a positive legacy, by supporting organisations that help communities become sustainable, thriving and diverse.

Through its Community Partnerships Program (CPP) which started in 2021, Agnico Eagle has already made significant contributions to a number of valuable community organisations which align with the programs objectives.

The following three projects are some of the CPP's recent funding recipients which Agnico Eagle Australia feels privileged to have supported:

## YO Bendigo's Youth Take Over Loddon Campaspe Initiative

The Youth Take Over Loddon Campaspe initiative aims to provide valuable opportunities for young people to learn and develop new skills. Late last year program interns were invited to participate in a project to develop their filmmaking skills by creating a promotional video for the Minerals Council of Australia's Victorian Mine Rescue Competition, to be used to promote future competitions.

Under the guidance of filmmaker Leonie Van Eyk, the interns learned about interview techniques, framing, exposure, and camera gear set-up in the lead-up to the shoot. They then applied their newfound skills and knowledge to film the competition and edit the footage to create a short documentary.

## headspace Bendigo Work & Study Program

Agnico Eagle Australia has supported headspace Bendigo's Work & Study Program, which allows young people to access education and gain valuable work experience. Shianne recently began her journey towards a brighter future as part of the program. Shianne's determination and commitment to her studies have been impressive, and we are excited to see her progress as she embarks on The Victoria Pathways Certificate at Bendigo TAFE.

It is through collaborations like these that we can support the next generation of leaders and contribute to the long-term sustainability and prosperity of the region.

## MADCOW's Homeless Project in Hargreaves Street

Make A Difference Change Our World (MADCOW) were thrilled to receive a significant contribution to their Homeless Project in Hargreaves Street which will assist with the relocation of the MADCOW op shop, the expansion of the homeless kitchen, the creation of an activity space, and the provision of additional services like laundry and washing.

With the cost of living pressures, rental market, and housing shortage leading to more people accessing homelessness services, the need for services provided by MADCOW has become increasingly important.



Top: The Youth Take Over Loddon Campaspe initiative  
Left: Shianne  
Right: MADCOW homeless support manager Fiona Mummery is excited to see the organisation's renovation project commence.  
Picture by Darren Howe.



## Environment & Community Snapshot – Q4 2022

Each quarter, the FGM Environment and Community team provide a detailed report to the Environment Review Committee. Please find below the key information and highlights from the Q4 report for 2022.

### Activities update

Key environmental and community activities completed during Q4 2022 include:

#### Environmental activities:

- › Inspections, monitoring and follow up response after significant rainfall events and flooding in October.
- › Continued acoustic support for the surface ventilation fans low frequency noise abatement program.
- › Completed Pink Tailed Worm Lizard field survey – Stage 2.
- › Completed hydroseeding of ROM pad wall.
- › Submitted annual National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting scheme report.

#### Community engagement activities:

- › Q3 ERC meeting and site tour.
- › Community Grants allocations and presentation (Round 2 2022).
- › Hosted students from St. Josephs College Echuca as a part of the MCA school tours program.
- › Significant community engagement presence at Elmore Field Days and Eaglehawk Children's Festival.
- › Gold Industry Group education session delivered to Eppalock & Lightning Reef Primary School.
- › Assisted with flood response and recovery efforts in Echuca, Rochester, and Newbridge.
- › Publication of Q4 FGM Community newsletter.
- › Announcement of flood recovery funding for Rochester community.



The endangered Pink-tailed Worm-lizard found within the Mt Sugarloaf Nature Conservation Reserve.



Goldpanning was once again a big hit at the Elmore Field Days.



It was all smiles at the announcement of FGM's flood recovery funding for Rochester.





## Environmental monitoring update

### Noise monitoring

Attended noise monitoring was conducted at noise monitoring sites in accordance with the 2022 noise monitoring schedule. Equivalent sound level (Leq) was measured using a calibrated noise meter for a period of 30 minutes at each monitoring location for compliance assessment, with peaks, lulls and field observations noted.

During Q4 2022, FGM conducted 152 compliance noise monitoring sessions, no exceedances above the respective noise limits for the day, evening and night-periods were recorded.

### Groundwater monitoring

During Q4 2022, there were five groundwater quality exceedances:

- › The October and November samples from BGL59 recorded Arsenic concentrations of 0.066 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.024mg/L. Historical Arsenic concentrations at BGL59 have consistently exceeded the ANZECC guideline and are generally quite variable.
- › The October sample from BGL97 recorded an Antimony concentration of 0.037 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.009 mg/L. BGL97 is a background monitoring bore located outside of FGM's operational zone of influence.
- › The October sample from BGL95 recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.174 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.024 mg/L. BGL95 was resampled in November and December and both samples returned Arsenic concentrations below the ANZECC guideline.
- › The December sample from BGL91 recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.066 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.024 mg/L. BGL91 was installed in 2019 and has limited and variable data. Consequently water quality conditions within the bore have not yet been established.

FGM's groundwater monitoring data is routinely reviewed by a third-party hydrogeologist and incorporated into the site hydrogeological model. These exceedances were presented in detail during the February ERC meeting for external comment, and do not present a risk to community or the environment. These bores will continue to be monitored to identify any emerging trends that require further investigation.

### Air quality monitoring

**Depositional dust monitoring:** All depositional dust monitoring results were compliant during Q4 2022.

**HVAS monitoring:** All HVAS monitoring results were compliant during Q4 2022.

### Surface water monitoring

During Q4 2022, there were two surface water quality exceedances:

- › The December sample from FWO14, an internal run-off collection dam, recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.915mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.5mg/L. Changes to water chemistry in internal run-off collection dams are to be expected following the mobilisation of surface material during periods of high rainfall, as observed throughout Q4 2022.
- › The October sample from FWO9, an internal run-off collection dam, recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.521 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.5mg/L. In response to this result, FGM installed additional Additional erosion and sediment controls (i.e., coir logs) have been placed in the vicinity of FWO9 drainage lines to intercept surface water runoff and sediment reporting to the dam.

These surface water sites will continue to be monitored to identify any emerging trends that require further investigation.



Sediment and erosion control measures installed at FWO9.

### Ground vibration monitoring

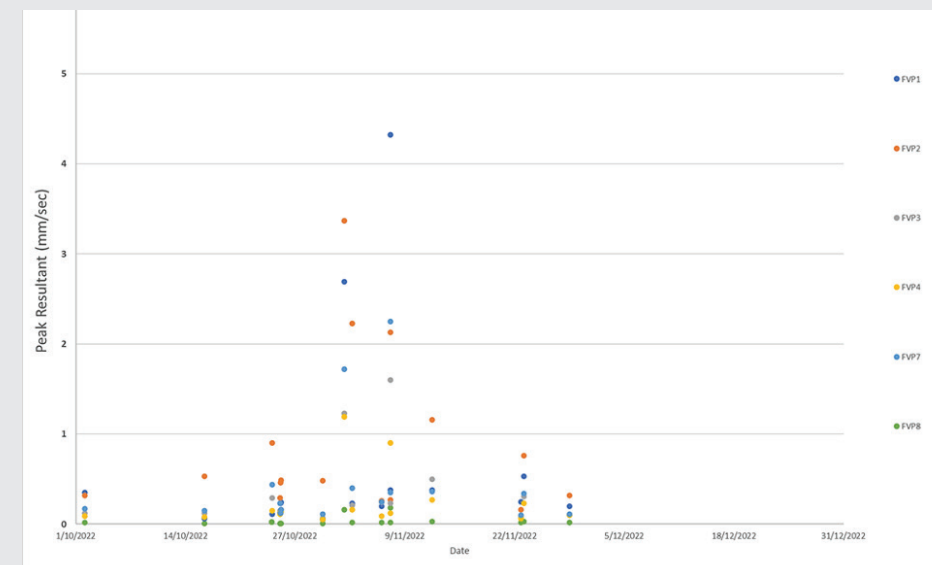
Blast and ground vibration monitoring is undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard Explosives AS 2187.2:2006 – Storage and Use – Use of Explosives.

FGM's ground vibration limits are:

- › The maximum level of ground vibration must not exceed 5 mm/s on more than 5% of blasts fired within a 12-month period.
- › The maximum level of ground vibration must not exceed 10 mm/s at any time.

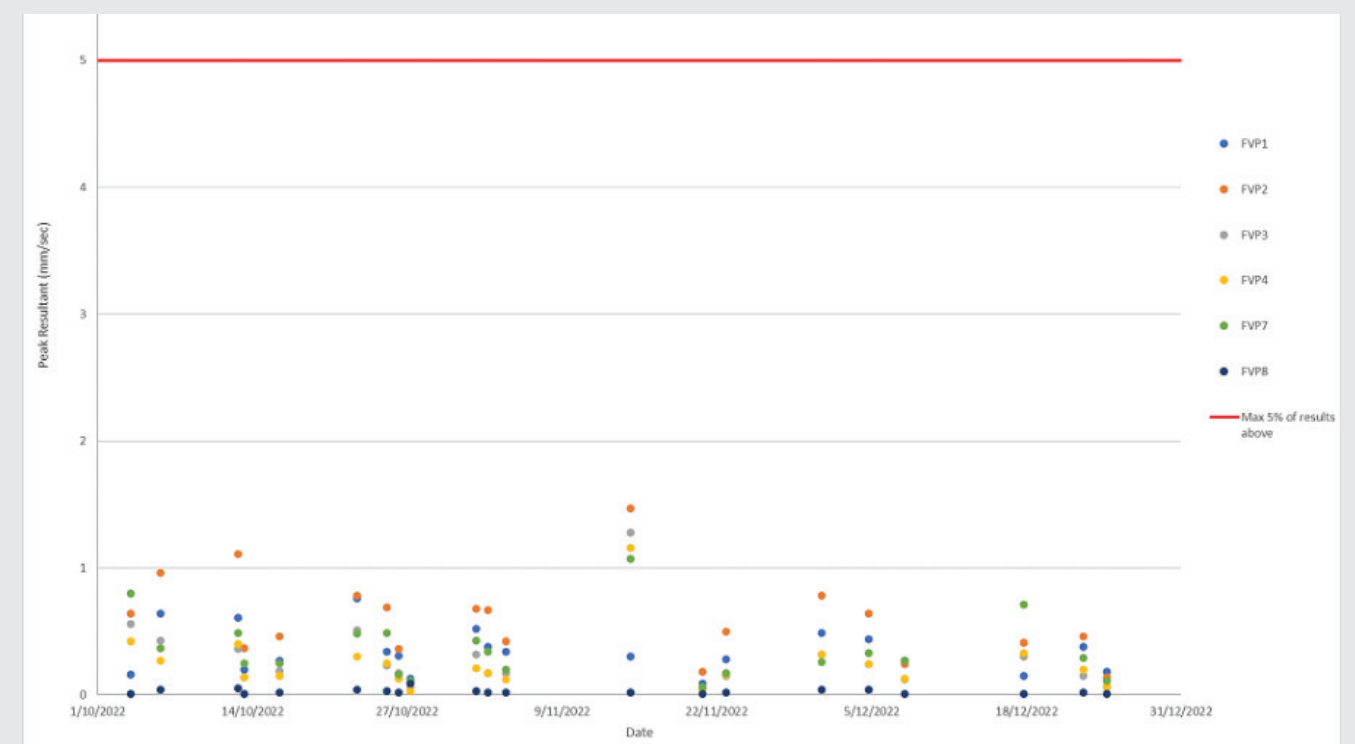
During Q4 2022, there were a total of 18 production firings and 346 development firings. All ground vibration results were well below regulatory blasting limits during the reporting period.

Mine induced seismicity is a phenomenon whereby mining activity redistributes the existing stress regime underground. The stress release may be felt or heard as vibration or a rumble on the surface. There were 16 mine-induced seismic events that were detected by the surface vibration monitoring network during the quarter.



Left: Seismic ground vibration monitoring results for October - December 2022.

Below: Blasting ground vibration monitoring results for October - December 2022.





## Social responsibility update

The fourth quarter of 2022 was full of many great events and community activities which FGM was pleased to support.

### Sponsorships and donations

During Q4 2022, contributions were made to the following organisations as part of FGM's sponsorships and donations program.

- › Great Cycle Challenge - Donation for Cancer Research.
- › Announcement of flood recovery funding for Rochester community.
- › Bendigo Foodshare – Running costs for Foodshare vans.
- › Bendigo Toyota Golf Day – Charity Golf Day.
- › Bendigo Tennis Association – Sponsorship of the Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre.
- › Bendigo Ford Fun Run – Sponsorship of the 10km Event.
- › Axedale Quick Shears – Sponsorship of the 2023 Quick Shears Event.
- › Bendigo Pride Festival – Platinum Sponsor of the Festival and Glamaganza Ball.
- › Bendigo Northern District Community Enterprise – Sponsorship of the 2023 Huntly Family Fun Day.
- › Rochester Community House – Sponsorship of the Rochester Community Christmas Party.
- › Eaglehawk Community House – Sponsorship of the Eaglehawk Family Fun Day.



Bendigo Foodshare and FGM E&C Team in front of the 'Goldy' van.



It was great to see around two dozen staff take part in the Bendigo Ford Fun Run, with FGM as sponsors of the 10km race.



It was such fun to be able to introduce all those who attended the Axedale Quick Shears event to one of our Jumbo drills.



We had a great day out with everyone at the Bendigo Pride Festival "Pride in the Park" event.

## Environment and community performance

### Community complaints

During Q4 2022, FGM received a total of twenty-seven community complaints from ten different landholders and/or community groups.

**Blasting ground vibration** 18\*

Eighteen complaints relating to ground vibration from blasting, including four combined complaints relating to blasting and seismicity, were received from six different landholders. All of these complaints were related to FGM production firings. Investigations confirmed all results were well below ground vibration limits.

**Mine-induced seismicity** 10\*

Ten community complaints relating to ground vibration from mine-induced seismicity, including four combined complaints, were received from eight landholders and were associated with two separate events. Information relating to the events, including the results from FGM's underground seismic monitoring system, was provided to landholders.

**Noise** 3

Three community complaints received relating to noise from two different landholders. The complaints were investigated and there was no evidence of increased mine-related noise or atypical operational activities during the timeframes nominated by the landholders. This information was provided in a response to the landholder and regulators.

\*Four combined complaints relating to blasting and mine induced seismicity

### Environmental incidents

There were eight environmental incidents recorded during Q4 2022 including one high risk event.

Offsite release of Class B recycled water caused by wilful public vandalism (multiple bullet holes) in the Epsom pipeline. The spill was identified and contained to the immediate area. The spill was immediately plugged, and the bullet holes have since been repaired. The event was reported to regulator's (ERR and EPA) accordingly.

### Regulatory and engagement notices

FGM continues to operate in compliance with the EPA remedial notices issued in relation to low frequency noise (LFN) emissions from the premises in Nov/Dec 2021.



Notice	Issue date	Status
EPA Prohibition Notice 00001694	29/11/2021	In effect – Restrictions to surface drill rig operating hours remain in effect.
EPA Prohibition Notice 00001711-1	03/12/2021	In effect – Modifications to surface ventilation system operating conditions applied and remain in effect.

Summary of EPA Remedial Notices



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Fosterville Gold Mine



### OUR COMMITMENT TO ENGAGEMENT

FGM appreciates the level of concern some community members have regarding FGMs operations, which is why we are committed to meaningful and open engagement, and the provision of evidence-based information. On occasion information from our engagement activities or materials can be misrepresented, resulting in misleading information being relayed by others within the community.

If you come across information which concerns you, or you have questions you'd like answered regarding our operational activities and future plans, we encourage you to reach out directly to the FGM Community Team. We will do our best to answer your questions and provide you with accurate information to assist your knowledge and understanding.

## Sign up for SMS blast notifications

**Blasting is an essential part of the gold mining process.**

As FGM's underground mine advances, nearby residents may feel ground vibration from some firings. We monitor ground vibration using a network of blast monitors (geophones) to ensure we are compliant with the vibration limits detailed in FGM's Mining Licence.

In order to keep the community informed, FGM has implemented an SMS Blast Notification System which sends residents SMS notifications in advance of planned production firings.

FGM usually undertakes production firings between 6:30am-7am and 6:30pm-7pm. However independent development firings may also be conducted at other times.



To receive blast notifications please contact the **Community Team** via the **contact details below**.

## Contact Us

If you wish to receive this newsletter via email or would like to be removed from the distribution list contact us below.

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Agnico Eagle Fosterville acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land we live and work on, the Dja Dja Wurrung and the Taungurung Peoples of the Kulin Nation, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.