



# Gala parade gold!

Shimmering with brilliance, the Gold Mirror Futuristic Femmes captivated the crowd at Bendigo's Gala Parade on Easter Sunday. But, that was only one part of the fun that was a fantastic weekend ...

Continued on pg. 6

### Learn all about

Mine Induced Seismicity

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### Improving safety

New Cyanide Spurge System

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### 25 years of service

Thanks to Tim Harrington

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### \$16,000 raised

Axedale Golf Day was a winner

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## Update from the General Manager

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

Welcome to the second edition of the Fosterville Gold Mine Community Newsletter for 2023. It has been another busy quarter with some significant milestones for the operation.

### Celebrating the Four millionth ounce of gold

We hosted several events onsite in May to celebrate the pouring of our four millionth ounce of gold in March. We were very fortunate to share the celebration with four members of the Agnico Eagle executive team from Toronto, along with some past employees. The four million-ounce milestone is an extraordinary achievement made possible by the combined efforts, skill and expertise of everyone involved at Fosterville over the last 19 years.

### Future Careers Opportunities

During May, we participated in two careers expos aimed at bringing awareness of the vast array of employment opportunities within the mining industry to school leavers.

The Trades Fit: Young Women in Trades and Tech Expo, held in Melbourne, is an annual event that demonstrates the exciting world of trade and tech industries and the rewarding, well-paid career opportunities they can provide to young women. Hosted by the Department of Education, Victoria, for female and non-binary students in years 9-12, this is the second year we have participated, with fantastic feedback from those in attendance.

The Tomorrow Bound Careers Expo, held in Bendigo, is a local careers expo that showcases a variety of careers, training and employment opportunities available in the Greater Bendigo region, with a particular focus on growing industries with an increasing demand for skilled workers. There were over 2000 students in attendance, and we were proud to be a part of this great Bendigo event again.

There is no doubt that we have some exceptional women working at Fosterville Gold Mine, and we thank them for sharing their knowledge and experience to encourage the next generation of women in mining.

During June, we were also excited to finalise the recruitment of four new apprentices, three new diesel mechanic apprentices and one electrical apprentice, and we look forward to watching their journey as they become skilled tradespeople over the next four years.

### Greater Bendigo Climate Summit

The Greater Bendigo Climate Summit dedicated to fostering collaboration and inspiring climate action in our region was held at Bendigo's Ulumbarra Theatre from the 26-27 May. The event was attended by Agnico Eagle and Fosterville Gold Mine personnel, and as one of the major partners of the Bendigo Climate Collaboration, we were pleased to be participating.

The summit provided a platform for diverse voices and experts to come together and discuss pressing climate issues. It all started with a summit launch on Friday, where Agnico Eagle VP of Sustainability and Regulatory Affairs Mohammed Ali participated in a thought-provoking roundtable discussion with partner organisations.

Agnico Eagle was honoured to be one of the major partners of this transformative experience, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to sustainability and fostering positive change in our community.



Top: Ion Hann (VP Australian Operations), Mohammed Ali (VP Sustainability and Regulatory Affairs), Natasha Dombrowski (Director Environment and Sustainability); Carol Plummer (EVP Operational Excellence), Lance Faulkner and Jason Allaire (VP Health, Safety, Social Affairs and People).

### Rochester recovery continues

We recently met with the Rochester Community House and Recreation Reserve Committee to check in and see how the recovery efforts are going.

Although the immediate crisis has passed, the community remains in need, with many residents now facing the reality of a cold winter living in caravans, campers and, in some cases, tents. Over the last few weeks, we have donated over 120 blankets and items to the Rochester Community House, with all blankets distributed to the community within 24 hours.

We are determined to continue to offer support and assist the community where we can, with the recovery expected to take many more years.

### Planning our future

Work on the Fosterville Gold Mine Sustained Operations Project continues (update on pages 4 and 5), and we will continue to keep the community informed as the Environment Effects Statement process progresses. If you have any questions regarding our future operations please reach out anytime.

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



Josephine Robinson (Rock Mechanics Engineer), Jess Mitrovic (Underground Operator), Amber Chilcott (Human Resources Advisor). Front row from far left: Klara Johansson-Cranfield (Graduate Geologist), Felicity Adcock (Engagement and Development).

Rodney Carter (Dja Dja Wurrung CEO), Mohammed Ali (VP Sustainability & Regulatory Affairs), Cr Margret O'Rourke (City of Greater Bendigo Eppalock Ward) at the Bendigo Climate Summit.



# Sustained Operations Project update

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

We remain in the preparation stage of the EES, which is an extensive process. Various regulatory agencies, including the Technical Reference Group (TRG), are reviewing the technical reports and EES chapters.

The EES process is managed by DTP, which collaborates with the TRG to ensure that all EES information addresses the scoping requirements.

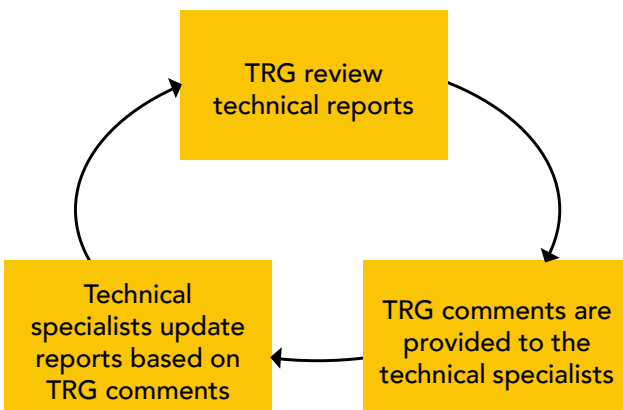
Once DTP are satisfied with the EES content, it will be issued to the Minister for Planning to consider and sign-off before it is released for public review.

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

- › Technical reports – Providing the technical details and full assessments; and
- › EES chapters – Providing succinct summaries in layperson terms to explain the technical information.

Nearly all project components already exist at FGM except for Aquifer Recharge which is the only new proposed project component.

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.



## Community Engagement

There are many ways to stay informed and involved:

- › Sign up to email updates  
fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com or ask a question through our website
- › Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
- › Look out for updates via newsletters, email and our website.
- › Request a one-on-one meeting with a member of the FGM Environment and Community team.
- › Visit the Virtual consultation room:  
<https://fgm.consultation.ai/>

Once the preparation phase is complete, DTP and FGM will provide at least two weeks notice of the EES documentation release and the commencement of the public review period.

## WE ARE CURRENTLY HERE

The FGM Sustained Operations Project team, together with lead consultants AECOM are now preparing the required documentation to address the scoping requirements.

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



# Low frequency noise update

**In late 2021, following an investigation into noise within and beyond the boundaries of FGM's premises, the EPA Victoria issued FGM with remedial notices in relation to LFN from the surface ventilation system.**

Commencing in December 2021, FGM operated the primary surface ventilation fans at the reduced speed of 400 RPM between the hours of midnight and 6:00am every day. The EPA accepted this modification to have effectively reduced the levels of LFN (and consequently the risk of harm to human health and/or the environment) as far as reasonably practicable.

Since December 2021, FGM has progressed with a comprehensive program of investigations and modifications to minimise the risk of LFN from the surface ventilation system. FGM engaged expert ventilation engineers, acoustic engineers, and the ventilation fan manufacturer to develop additional attenuation solutions on the surface ventilation system at the targeted frequencies.

The following modifications have been made to the surface ventilation system:

- › 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.
- › Procurement and installation of additional fan motor abatement enclosure, including bespoke acoustic cladding and louvres.
- › Implementation of a fan speed offset to significantly alter the character of the LFN emissions at the target frequencies.

## Performance, evaluation and response

With approval from the EPA, FGM completed an evaluation trial during February and March 2023 to assess the performance of the additional LFN attenuation measures and modifications to the surface ventilation system. The evaluation included a detailed acoustic assessment of LFN at the nearest receptors and a survey of MIN5404 southern landholders to seek feedback.

A report detailing the modifications and results of the acoustic assessment was then provided to the EPA.

On 29 May 2023, following a thorough review, the EPA revoked the prohibition notice on FGM's surface ventilation system, confirming that compliance with the notice requirements had been achieved.

The notice revocation means the restrictions to fan speed between midnight and 6.00am have now been removed, therefore on 8 June 2023 FGM resumed regular operation of the surface ventilation fans.

## Current Regulatory Notices

FGM continues to comply with the EPA regulatory notice issued concerning LFN emissions from surface drill rigs. This notice restricts the operation of the surface drill rigs in the southern part of mining licence MIN5404 between 10:00pm and 7:00am.

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

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the information provided, please contact a member of the FGM Community Team on 03 5439 9000 or email [fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com).





# Fosterville Gold Mine shines at Bendigo Easter Festival

The Bendigo Easter Festival, the biggest annual event in Bendigo, was a resounding success, and Fosterville Gold Mine was thrilled to be the Premium Sponsor for this year's festivities. From gold panning to interactive discussions about our mining operations, we had a fantastic time engaging with the community and spreading the joy of Easter.

Our marquee was a hub of excitement and entertainment throughout the weekend. From Friday to Sunday, visitors had the opportunity to try their luck at gold panning, experiencing the thrill of striking gold firsthand. Our knowledgeable team was also on hand to provide insights into the mining world and share the fascinating details of our operations at Fosterville Gold Mine.

One of the festival's highlights was our Fosterville Facts Competition, which garnered over 870 entries. Participants had the chance to showcase their knowledge and win fantastic prizes, including a gold medallion valued at over \$1,400. The competition added an extra layer of excitement and encouraged festival-goers to learn more about the rich history of gold mining in Bendigo.

*We had a fantastic time engaging with the community and spreading the joy of Easter*

On Saturday, festival-goers were treated to a unique experience as they got close to one of our giant haul trucks, where our team provided fascinating insights, answered questions, and shared interesting facts about these impressive vehicles.

In addition, Fosterville Gold Mine proudly participated in the Torchlight Procession on Saturday night and the Gala Parade on Sunday, adding a touch of sparkle and excitement to these iconic festival events. Our Giant Haul Truck, accompanied by the captivating Gold Mirror Man and his friends, captured the attention and admiration of all who attended, creating an unforgettable atmosphere throughout the festivities.





# Mine Induced Seismicity – Magnitude and PPV

Mine induced seismicity caused by the redistribution of rock stress underground, is a common phenomenon experienced across the underground mining industry. How we describe mine induced seismicity and the associated ground vibration can be confusing, so here we explain the units of measurement and how they are applied to seismic events at FGM.

The magnitude and frequency of Mine Induced Seismic (MIS) events have increased over time at FGM due to increasing levels of stress, as the mine extends deeper underground.

The two types of measurements that are used to measure MIS are:

- › Magnitude; and
- › Peak Particle Velocity (PPV).

## Magnitude – Source measurement

Seismic events are characterised by a number of different attributes, including Potency, Moment, Energy and Source Mechanism (slip-type or crush-type).

Magnitude provides a common scale that we are familiar with, but two events of the same magnitude can feel quite different on the surface as they may have very different characteristics, such as wave speed, frequency and amplitude.

Our underground seismic monitoring system measures the Moment Magnitude of a MIS event. Moment Magnitude will have a slightly different value to Local Magnitude.

Local Magnitude is also known as the Richter Scale and is often referred to in the media when reporting on earthquakes or other seismic activity.

## PPV – Surface measurement

The energy produced by a seismic event radiates through the earth as vibrations or seismic waves. The speed that the rock vibrates/moves back and forth is known as particle velocity.

Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) is measured in millimetres per second (mm/s) by ground vibration monitors installed on the surface. This provides a reliable way of measuring the ground vibration at a receptor. Peak Particle Velocity is also used to measure ground vibration from FGM's controlled blasting events.

A helpful way to comprehend PPV is to think of ground vibration like a wave passing through the ocean. PPV is the motion of the ground as the seismic wave travels past – this is like a buoy floating on the ocean, moving up and down as waves pass by.

Friction between particles of rock result in the energy of a seismic wave dissipating, reducing the particle velocity as the wave travels away from the source. In general, the further away a receptor is from the source of an MIS event, the lower the energy of the seismic wave will be when it reaches the receptor. **Ref Figure 1.**

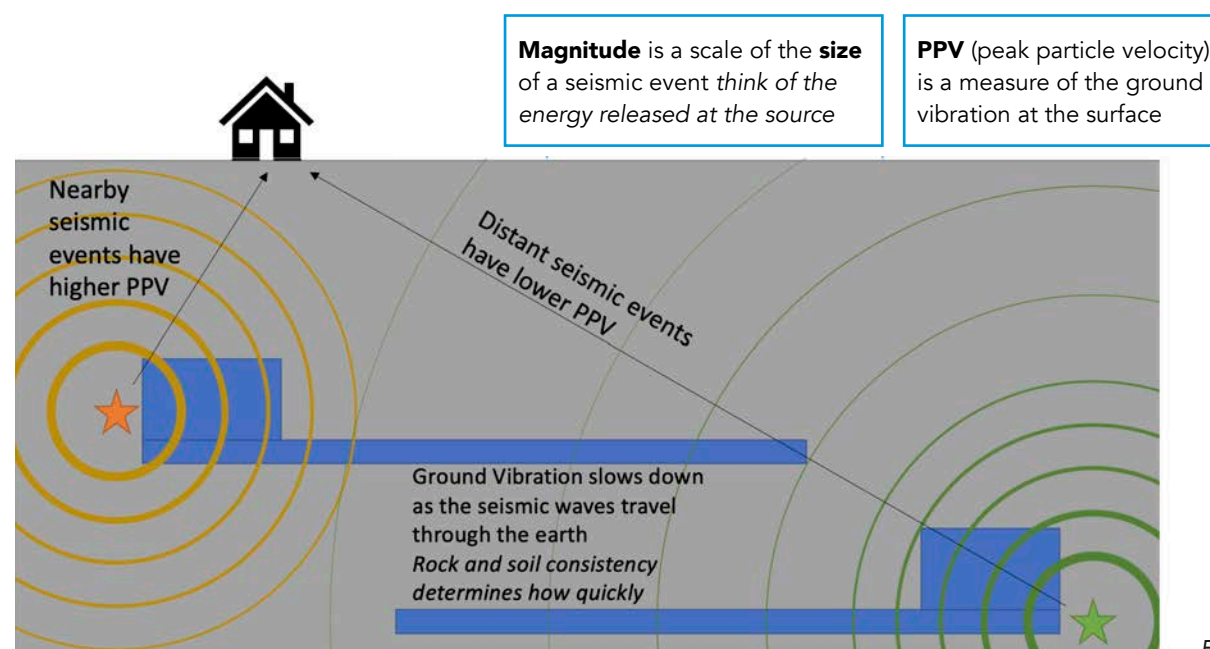


Figure 1

## The same, but different!

How a seismic event is felt at the surface will depend on several factors.

Whilst two seismic events may record the same Local Magnitude, the experience of this event at surface receptors will be influenced by the characteristics of the seismic event, along with variations caused by natural geological features. **Ref Figure 2.**

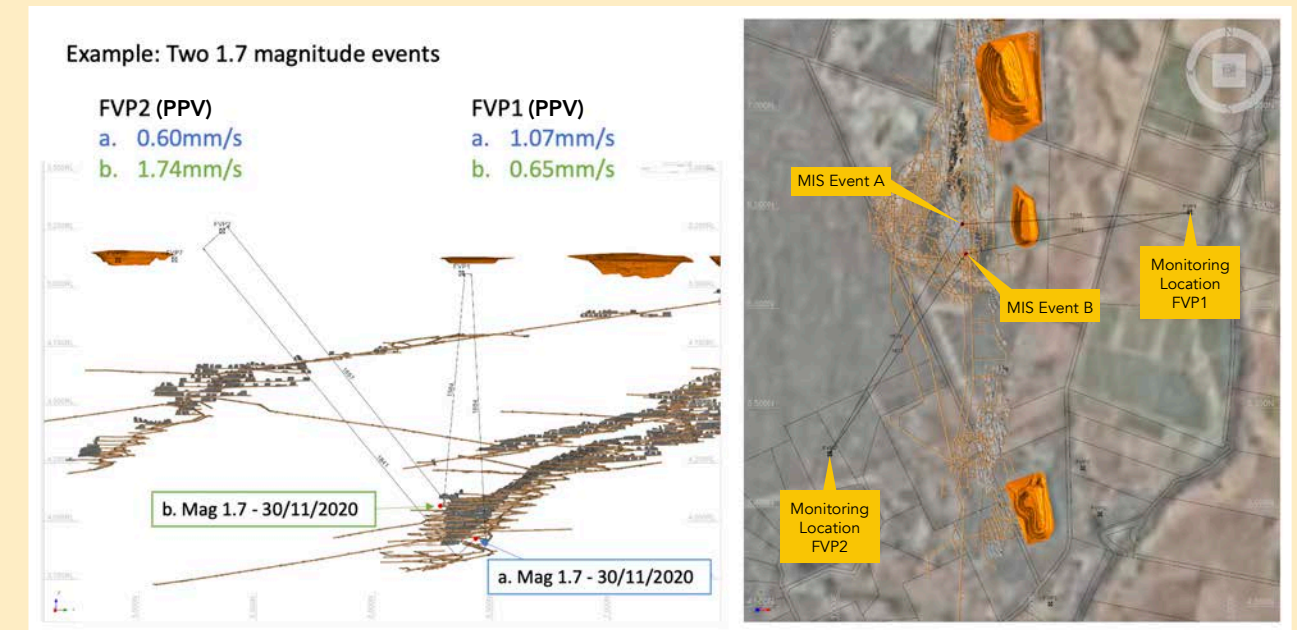


Figure 2: Two magnitude 1.7 events with different PPV values on the surface.

## From rock to soil - Wave speed vs amplitude

The speed of the seismic wave is determined by the rigidity of rock or soil through which it is passing. When a seismic wave travels from rigid rock into softer soil the wave speed drops, but the wave amplitude (extent of the vibration) increases.

FGM's vibration monitors also record frequency measured in hertz (Hz), which allows us to measure the amplitude of the seismic wave proportional to the PPV divided by frequency. **Ref Figure 3.**

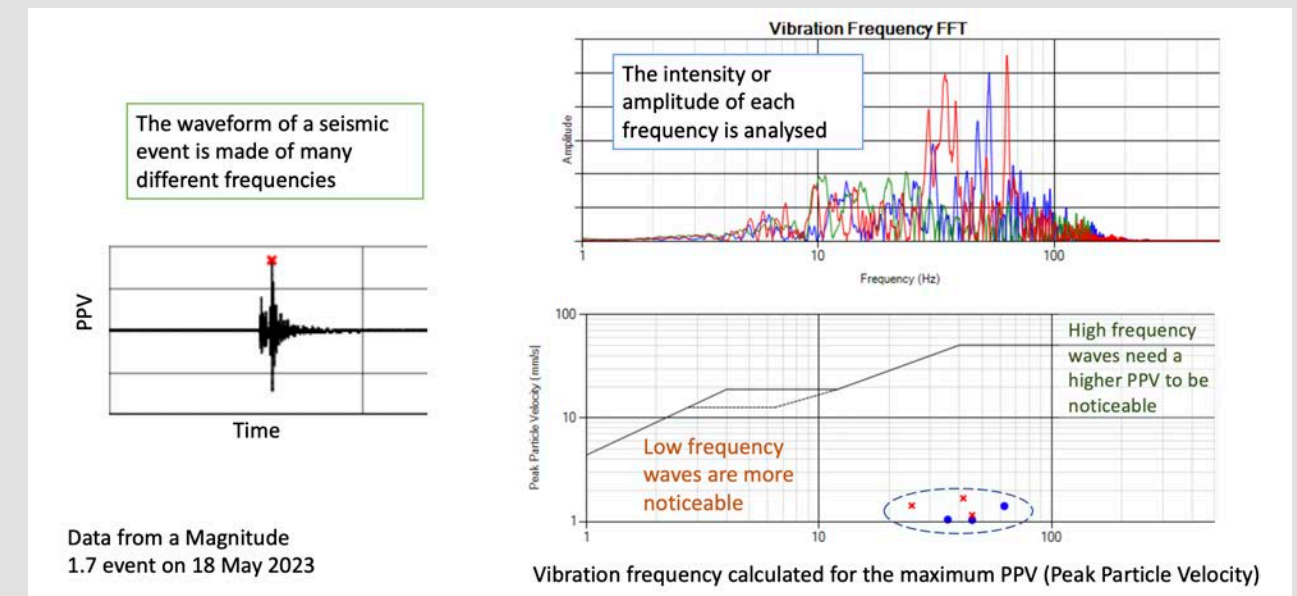


Figure 3.



## Earthquakes vs MIS

For example, if we consider waves from an earthquake compared to a mine seismic event, both with the same PPV of 2 mm/s. The earthquake wave has a frequency of 4 Hz (four vibrations per second) and an amplitude of 80 microns (0.080 mm). The mine seismic event has a frequency of 40 Hz (40 vibrations per second) and an amplitude of 8 microns (0.008 mm).

Energy is proportional to amplitude squared. Therefore, at the same PPV, the lower frequency earthquake wave has 100 times as much energy as the higher frequency mine seismic event. High energy waves have a high amplitude, low energy waves have a low amplitude.

Ref Figure 4.

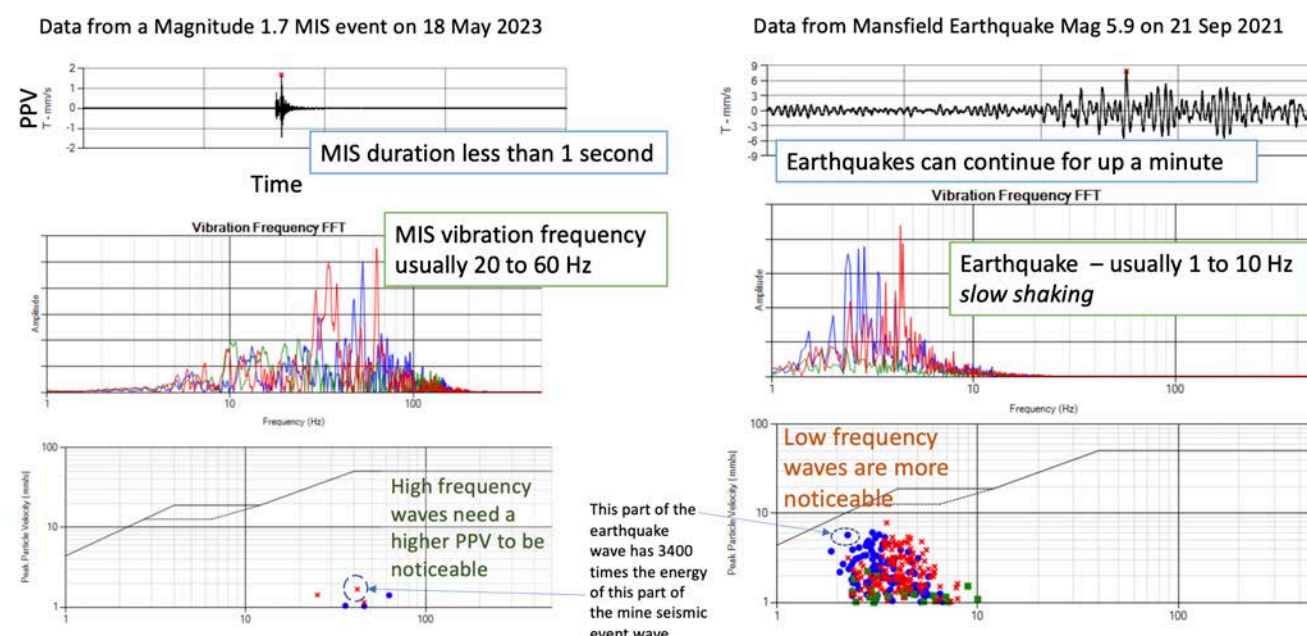


Figure 4.

## So, what does all this mean?

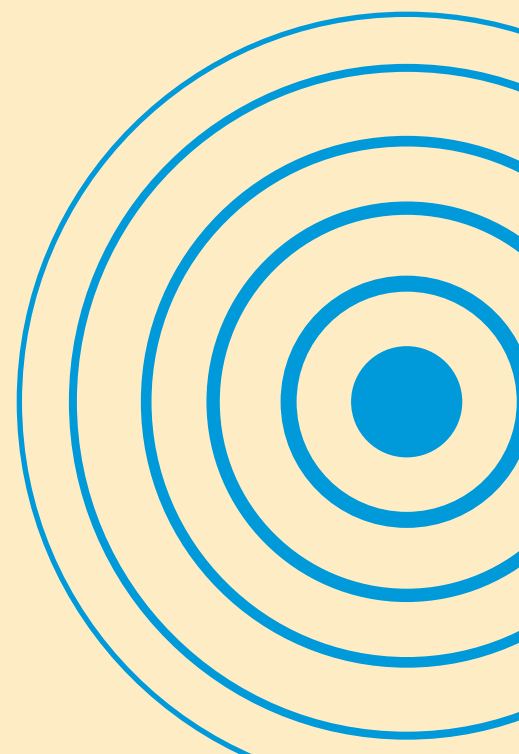
**Magnitude** is a commonly adopted scale that describes the size of the seismic event at its source.

**PPV** provides a measure of the ground vibration generated by the seismic event at a particular location on the surface.

Two seismic events with the same magnitude may have different PPV's on the surface.

The way these events are experienced at surface receptors is dependent on:

- › the seismic event characteristics (i.e., wave speed, amplitude and frequency),
- › the natural geological conditions, and
- › property characteristics (ie. construction material type, age, location, footings, etc.).



# Environmental Rehabilitation Community Information Session

**Community members are invited to come and learn more about the rehabilitation of MIN5404.**

**DATE:**  
Thursday 20 July 2023

**TIME:** 6:00pm

**LOCATION:**  
Axedale Public Hall –  
94 High St, Axedale

Join us for a community information session on rehabilitation within MIN5404 at Fosterville Gold Mine.

Learn about the progress made to date and future rehabilitation activities.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions both during and after the meeting.

Tea/Coffee and light refreshments will be provided, children welcome.

## RSVP Details

Please register your interest in attending by calling the community team on **03 5439 9000** or emailing **fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com**



## 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 conversations at our engagement sessions can be misrepresented, resulting in misleading information being relayed by others within the community.

If you come across information which has concerned 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.





## New Cyanide Sparge System delivers improved safety and efficiency

**Fosterville Gold Mine (FGM) has recently invested \$3.5 million to construct a 'Cyanide Sparge System', which improves the handling of cyanide and minimises exposure risks.**

Implementation of the 'Cyanide Sparge System', aligns FGM's operations with world best practice and the International Cyanide Code.

Agnico Eagle became a signatory to the International Cyanide Code in 2011, a voluntary industry program for companies involved in producing, transporting, and using cyanide in gold production. The International Cyanide Code complements businesses' obligations to comply with local laws and regulations.

### What is cyanide used for?

At FGM, gold-bearing ore is crushed and ground to expose as much gold as possible.

Approximately 70% of the gold produced can be separated using gravity recovery methods without the use of chemicals or reagents.

The remaining gold-bearing material is sent through the flotation and BIOX<sup>®</sup> circuits, then onto the leaching circuit.

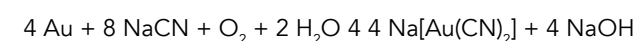
Cyanide is used to separate the gold from the rock in the leaching circuit by dissolving the gold into a solution, allowing deposition onto an activated carbon surface (made from burnt coconut shells).

This carbon is sieved from the 'slurry' (rock and water), and the gold is recovered by reversing the reaction.

It is important to note that cyanide also readily dissolves other metals, such as silver and copper. These metals are removed in subsequent processes called elution, electrowinning, and smelting. The result is a shiny gold bar!

The reaction that dissolves gold ...

The chemical reaction that takes place when cyanide comes into contact with gold and causes it to dissolve into a solution is called the "Elsner Equation". It looks like this:



The only other reactants are oxygen and water.

The majority of the residual cyanide molecules that do not react in the leaching circuit are degraded by heat in the heated tanks at the end of the leaching process.

The residual cyanide is complexed with a sulphide ion to create thiocyanate (SCN) in the CIL Tailings. This water is pumped through the bacterial thiocyanate destruction plant, called ASTER, to remove the thiocyanate so the water can be reused in the processing plant.

### How cyanide was previously handled

Cyanide at FGM is currently prepared using a manual mixing method. Sodium cyanide in dry pelletised form is received in polypropylene bags which are stored in wooden boxes.

The pelletised sodium cyanide is mixed with water and 'Barren Eluate', an internal caustic stream, to produce a liquid cyanide mix which is progressively added to the leaching circuit.

Fosterville prepares approximately three cyanide mixes each week to support ongoing gold production. A team of processing operators are involved in preparing the cyanide mix, including equipment operators and observers. Rigorous controls are in place to minimise and manage occupational and environmental risks.

### How cyanide is now handled

The new cyanide 'Solid to Solution' system, commonly known as the 'Cyanide Sparge System', was commissioned at FGM in June and removes the requirement for bulk manual cyanide mixing onsite.

Moving forward, cyanide will be delivered to FGM in purpose-built ISO containers, connecting to the two 144,000L purple tanks shown in the image (below left). Water will recirculate between the two containers dissolving the cyanide over approximately four hours. Once complete, the ISO container will be flushed and returned to the supplier.

The new Cyanide Sparge System connects to the delivery pipework at the same place as the existing mixing infrastructure in the Processing Plant.

### What are the benefits?

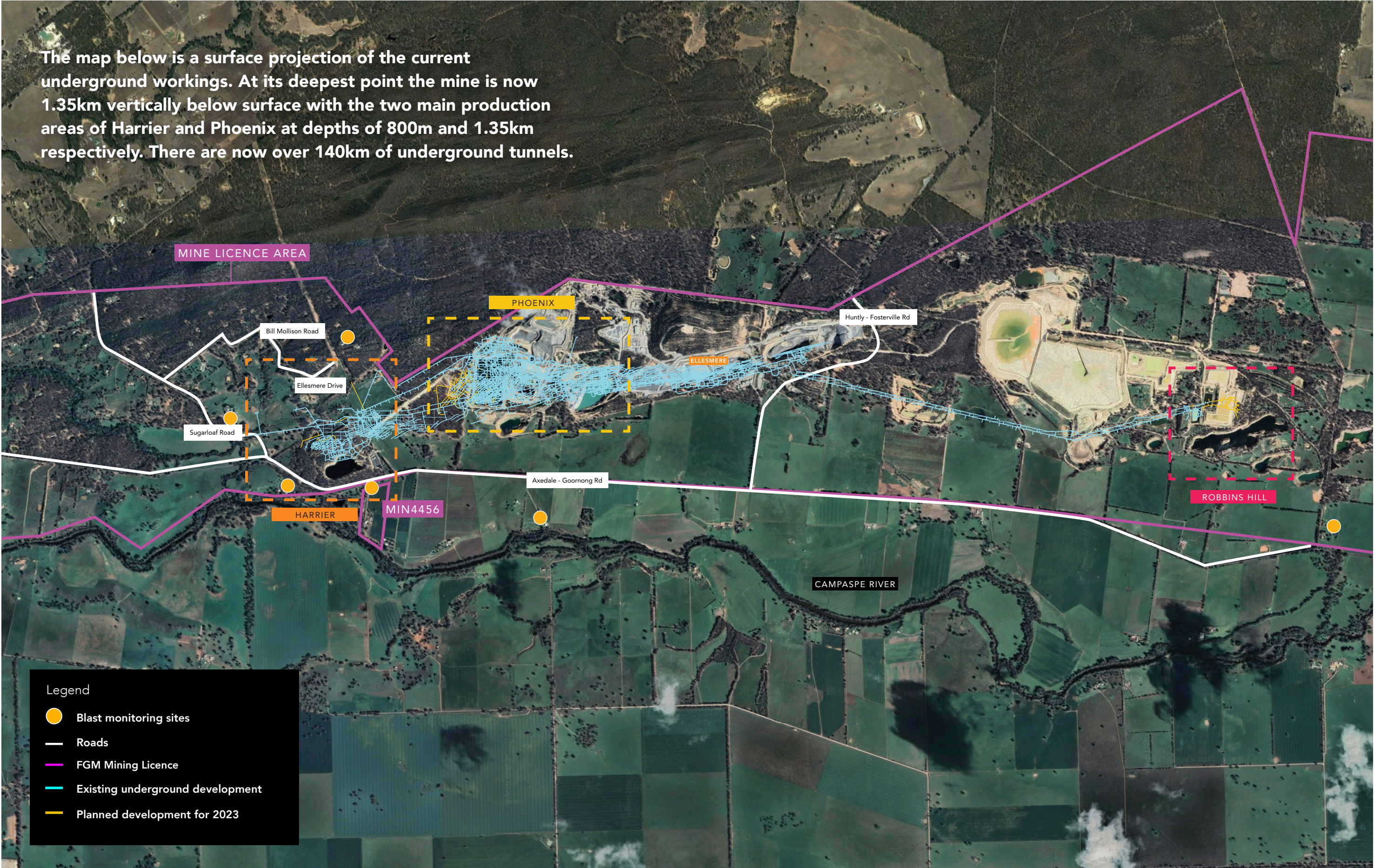
The Cyanide Sparge System is a milestone project for Fosterville Gold Mine and aligns our operational practices with best practice and the International Cyanide Code. The implementation of the Cyanide Sparge System will further reduce the risk of occupational and environmental exposures during cyanide handling and transport.





# 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.



- Legend
- Blast monitoring sites
  - Roads
  - FGM Mining Licence
  - Existing underground development
  - Planned development for 2023



# Thank you - Tim Harrington

After the February 2023 Environmental Review Committee (ERC), Tim Harrington advised that he would be stepping down from the committee at the end of the current term and would not renominate to be a community representative.

The Harrington family have a long association with the Fosterville operation. Tim has seen all of the changes at the Fosterville Gold Mine site and was able to bring this perspective and extensive historical knowledge of the Fosterville operation to all discussions with the company, regulators and local council representatives. Tim's wife, Liz, has also been involved with the ERC and supported Tim in his commitment to the community as he volunteered his time and energy. Together with the prior involvement of Tim's parents, since the late 1980s, the Harrington family have made a significant contribution representing the interests of the community.

It would be fair to say that in every conversation or question raised by Tim at the ERC, he strongly advocated for the interest of the entire community and due consideration of the impacts on the amenity of the area.

Along with the late ERC member Barrie Winzar, Tim played a critical role in sealing the Fosterville Huntly by-pass road, which opened to the public in 2013. He was actively involved in meetings with DELWP to improve kangaroo management in the Fosterville area, advocated for co-support of a proposal to reduce the speed limit on the Axedale-Goornong Rd and improved the ERC governance processes by initiating the introduction of the "conflict of interest" register and declaration by ERC members.

Over the years, Tim has worked with many committee members, and a few have shared their reflections.

**“** Tim and his family represent an enduring part of the Fosterville region. The history of the mining operations at Fosterville cannot be told without Tim and his family being part of the story. Tim has always given time and energy to the ERC and ensured that the local area was considered first and foremost when dealing with the mine. Tim and his family have consistently been strong supporters of any effort to improve the local roadways, and I enjoyed the walking discussions on some of our clean-up days.

— Ion Hann, VP Australian Operations – Agnico Eagle

**“** Tim has generously spent time with me to develop my understanding of the site and its history and provided context to the questions he asked and the honest feedback he provided. His practical, common-sense approach to topics of interest and his power of observation have underpinned his contribution to the ERC as a community representative. I'm very thankful for the time that Tim has afforded me and for the conversations.

— Lance Faulkner, FGM General Manager

**“** I have enjoyed many long chats with Tim over the years and wish to acknowledge the very long service of Tim on the ERC. It is a huge commitment to give up time, regularly, over so many years. His service to his community and interaction with so many mine operators and management teams is to be commended.

— Sandra Burns, FGM Community Relations 2004-2012

Tim Harrington (left) pictured with FGM's General Manager, Lance Faulkner (right).



**We would like to sincerely thank Tim for his considerable contribution to the ERC committee over 25+ years; his knowledge and insight have been invaluable, and he has truly represented the community.**



## Luke's collaborative approach delivers a win for Lifeline

The Fosterville Gold Mine management team would like to congratulate Luke O'Bryan, Surface Maintenance Electrical Superintendent, who was recently awarded Agnico Eagle's Larry Connell Award for Collaborative Excellence based on his outstanding ability to build positive relationships and foster teamwork within the organisation.

Luke was up against six other worthy recipients from Agnico Eagle's operations in Canada, Mexico and Finland, but stood out due to his ability to engage and motivate others through coaching and developing connections.

This award was created in honour of Larry Connell, who retired from the position of Corporate Director, Regulatory Affairs in 2017. During his almost 40-year career in the mining industry, Larry earned admiration and respect for his positive attitude and superior collaborative skills.

Having worked in the mining industry for over 20 years Luke is an experienced and highly skilled employee with a passion for delivering high-quality workmanship.

Luke's colleagues nominated him because of his positive attitude, his commitment and professionalism, and his collaboration with colleagues at all levels.

"I admire Luke's professionalism, especially his ability to 'make things work' and close the gap between departments, so they can understand each other's priorities and work better together," said Brian Curry, Surface Maintenance Electrical Planner.

"Luke epitomises what good leadership looks like – he is generous with his time, possesses untold resilience in challenging situations, and puts others before himself while still maintaining clear boundaries and expectations in guiding the business objectives of his workgroup," says Natasha Vaz, Executive Vice President and COO, Ontario, Australia & Mexico.

In recognition of his achievement, Agnico Eagle donated \$5,000 CDN on behalf of Luke to the registered charity of his choice, Lifeline Loddon Mallee – an organisation focused on crisis support services, education, and training for dedicated volunteers to become Accredited Telephone Crisis Supporters.

**Congratulations Luke on winning this award and for embodying the values of Agnico Eagle.**



FGM employees enjoying  
the perfect conditions

# FGM supports successful Axedale Golf Day raising \$16,000 for local schools

After having to postpone the Axedale Golf Day on multiple occasions, first, due to COVID and then the floods in October 2022, it was great to see this event finally take place on a beautifully sunny Autumn Sunday, 30 April.

Twenty-one teams enthusiastically took to the course for this biennial event – hosted by the Axedale Primary School and Axedale's Shine Bright Kinder – to raise funds for various projects at both facilities.

While Fosterville Gold Mine's Community team provided event support, it was also generously supported by numerous businesses who donated financially and in kind to make the day a success. A big shout out to major sponsors EMtek and drinks cart sponsor Pirtek whose ongoing involvement ensured it was a fun-filled day for all involved!

Well done to all the volunteers from Axedale Primary and the Axedale Kinder who put in a huge effort to deliver a fantastic event! In total, just over \$16,000 was raised to be shared between both organisations.

## And the winners are ...

- 1st Overall net winner (all the field) – Emtek 1
- 2nd Runner-up net winner (all the field) – Deepcore Drilling (Deepcore)
- 3rd Overall Nett (all with handicaps) – Brunner Lay
- 4th Overall Nett (all the field) – Decline Golf (Fosterville)
- 5th Overall Scratch Winner – The Wombats (Threlfall Family)
- Longest Drive (5th hole) – Zach Forster (Emtek)
- Straightest Drive (10th hole) – Rob McLean (Sandvik)
- Nearest the string (10th hole) – Rob McLean (Sandvik)
- NAGA – Scratch – In Style (Cowan Family)

## Nearest the Pins:

- 1st hole – Michael Johnson (Viatek)
- 12th hole – Craig Niemann (Gadsden Finance)
- 16th hole – Rowan Threlfall (The Wombats – Threlfall Family)
- 18th hole – Michael Johnson (Viatek)

## MAJOR SPONSOR



## DRINKS CART SPONSOR



## SILVER SPONSOR



## GOLD SPONSORS



## BRONZE SPONSORS



## HOLE SPONSORS



## PRIZE SPONSORS



Top: Volunteers serving up a pre-game BBQ.

Centre-left: The Viatek team.

Centre-right: EMtek ready for action.

Left: Sandvik ready to start the day.



## Fosterville Gold Mine's continued support of the Pam Gunn Trust

The Pam Gunn Memorial Axedale Trust was established in 2014 with the simple aim of supporting and protecting young children and, in particular, facilitating assistance to young children whose education is impaired due to social deficiency of their family, whether arising from financial issues, family breakdown, addictions, mental or physical health issues, or otherwise and for that purpose to assist their families.

Pam was a young Axedale mother whose children, Maddy and Harrison, attended both the Axedale Primary School and the kindergarten before she tragically died of breast cancer at the age of 44. Pam was passionate about ensuring all children were provided with the same educational opportunities and did not miss out, which had been her childhood experience.

Initially, the Trust sought to connect through the Axedale Primary School and kindergarten in the part funding of school camps, the school's student-wellbeing worker, special case assistance, school breakfasts and special events such as Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Early on, Mr Lex Johnston, then Principal of the School, drew the attention of the Trust to the problems of speech & literacy deficiency of many of the children when they came up to primary school from kindergarten. He introduced the fund to Bendigo Speech Works, speech pathologists who had been recommended to the Principal for the purpose by the Department of Education.

The Trust has funded a speech pathology intervention program for children with delayed oral language development and sound speech errors that are not age appropriate. Initially provided to the Shine Bright Axedale Kindergarten, the program's success has led to similar programs at Eaglehawk and Heathcote being established.



A speech pathologist empowering young minds through the Pam Gunn Trust-funded program at Axedale Kindergarten.

The benefit reflected on to the Primary School in each case as these children proceeded with their education.

In 2019 Fosterville Gold Mine committed funding to the Pam Gunn Trust to enable a Latrobe University research project to evaluate speech therapy in kindergartens. For various reasons, including government funding for similar research projects being announced, the Pam Gunn Trust and Fosterville Gold Mine agreed to reallocate this funding to support the ongoing speech therapy program at the Shine Bright Axedale Kindergarten.

The speech therapy programs are run as a mix of whole group activities, smaller group sessions and individual sessions. Results from the 2022 program showed that individual students made gains in all areas of speech and language development, with many now meeting age-appropriate milestones. This speech pathology service, provided by Bendigo Speech Works, delivers early and preventative education to children before entering their formal school years.

Fosterville Gold Mine is proud to have supported the reallocation of funding to the speech program to ensure this valuable program will continue into 2023 and beyond. We congratulate all committee members and, in particular, Hector Bathurst for their vision and ongoing support of the local community through the Pam Gunn Trust.

## Upcoming events



### Fosterville Family and Friends Day Returns

**This year, mark your calendars for the Fosterville Family and Friends Day, on Sunday, October 1st, starting at 11:00 am.**

The event is an annual gathering that brings the community together at the Winzar's old mud brick remnant on Main Street in Fosterville. Join in on the town's history and listen to captivating stories.

*While tea, coffee, a warm fire, and a hot plate will be available, we kindly ask you to bring your own lunch.*



### Environment Review Committee Expressions of interest

Fosterville Gold Mine invites community members interested in the environmental performance and operation of the mine to apply to join the Environment Review Committee.

The ERC involves a group of stakeholders, consisting of site representatives, regulators and community representatives, who meet on a quarterly basis to review the environmental performance and operational updates relating to Fosterville Gold Mine.

Participation in the ERC is voluntary and meetings are chaired by a third party chairperson.

For more information or to request an ERC information pack please contact the FGM Environment & Community Team.

T: 03 5439 9000 | E: [fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com](mailto:fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com)

**Applications close Friday 7 July 2023**





## Environment & Community Snapshot – Q1 2023

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 Q1 report for 2023.

### Activities update

Key environmental and community activities completed during Q1 2023 include:

#### Environmental Incidents

- There were ten environmental incidents recorded during Q1 2023, including two high risk events:
- 10/01/2023 Night period noise breach at site FNB7 (NW of the mine operations area).
- 24/02/2023 CIL Storm Dam 1 odour. Excess water stored in CIL Storm Water Dam 1, due to the significant rainfall events from late 2022, began generating odour (a sulphurous smell) observed beyond the site boundary. Following extensive research and investigations into odour treatment options, FGM commenced a trial and subsequent treatment of the water with an odour-consuming bacteria. FGM has continued applying the bacterial treatment, which has successfully addressed the odour from the CIL Storm Water Dam 1.



Right and bottom: CIL Storm Dam 1 odour treatment



#### Community engagement activities:

- Hosted 2023 FGM Open Day, with over 1300 visitors attending site.
- Hosted Goulburn Valley Grammar, Echuca and Castlemaine Secondary College school tours.
- Presented to the Strathfieldsaye Probus Club
- Hosted multiple key stakeholder and partnership site visits, including AFL Central Victoria, MADCOW, Bendigo Foodshare, and COGB councillors.
- Sponsorship and community engagement presence at the following events, 'Quietude' exhibition at Rood Henry Arts Space, Bendigo Sports Star Awards Gala dinner, Rochester Show, LEAD Loddon Mallee Community Leadership Program launch, Bendigo Pride Festival, Huntly Family Fun Day, Axedale Quick Shears and the Fosterville Gold Pennant Tennis Grand Finals.

#### Environmental activities:

- Completing drilling and installation of additional groundwater monitoring bores around Robbins Hill and Sharkey's pits (image below).
- Completed Campaspe River Aquatic survey stage 2.
- Completed performance evaluation of modifications made to the surface ventilation system to reduce low frequency noise and submitted response to EPA Prohibition Notice PN-00001711-2.
- Assisted with CIL Storm Dam 1 odour treatment and regulatory/community engagement.



Drilling new groundwater monitoring bores at Robbins Hill.



Lance Faulkner (FGM) with Healthy Schools Award runners up Goornong Primary School



Fran Crossan at the Axedale Quickshears



Wendy Campbell and Natasha van Leeuwen at the Rochester Show



Leigh Byrne and Fran Crossan (FGM) attend the launch of the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival





## Environmental monitoring update

### Noise monitoring

During Q1 2023, FGM conducted 153 compliance noise monitoring sessions and recorded one exceedance above the respective noise limits.

On 10/01/2023, a night period noise breach was recorded at site FNB7 (located north-west of the operational area). Field observations identified mine-related noise throughout the session and dominant extraneous noise (i.e., insects, bats and frogs). Follow-up noise monitoring undertaken the following night recorded general mine noise at levels well below the night period noise limit, and insects were the dominant extraneous noise source.

Follow-up noise monitoring results confirm the breach was an isolated event that occurred under normal operating conditions during weather conditions conducive to noise propagation. The noise exceedance was reported to regulators (ERR and EPA), and no further corrective actions or modifications were proposed or implemented.

### Air quality monitoring

**Depositional dust monitoring:** All air quality monitoring results were compliant during Q1 2023, except for the March depositional dust sample from site FA15 (south of Campaspe Road), which recorded a total insoluble solids concentration of 4.6 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month, above the indicator objective of 4.0 g/m<sup>2</sup>/month. This exceedance was attributed to sample contamination from bird droppings and insects observed in the sample bottle at the time of collection.

### Groundwater monitoring

During Q1 2023, there were two moderate groundwater quality exceedances:

- › The January and March samples from BGL91 recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.07 mg/L and 0.069 mg/L, respectively, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.024 mg/L. BGL91 was installed in 2019, and background water quality conditions within the bore have not yet been established. This bore will continue to be monitored to identify emerging trends requiring further investigation.

FGM's groundwater monitoring data is routinely

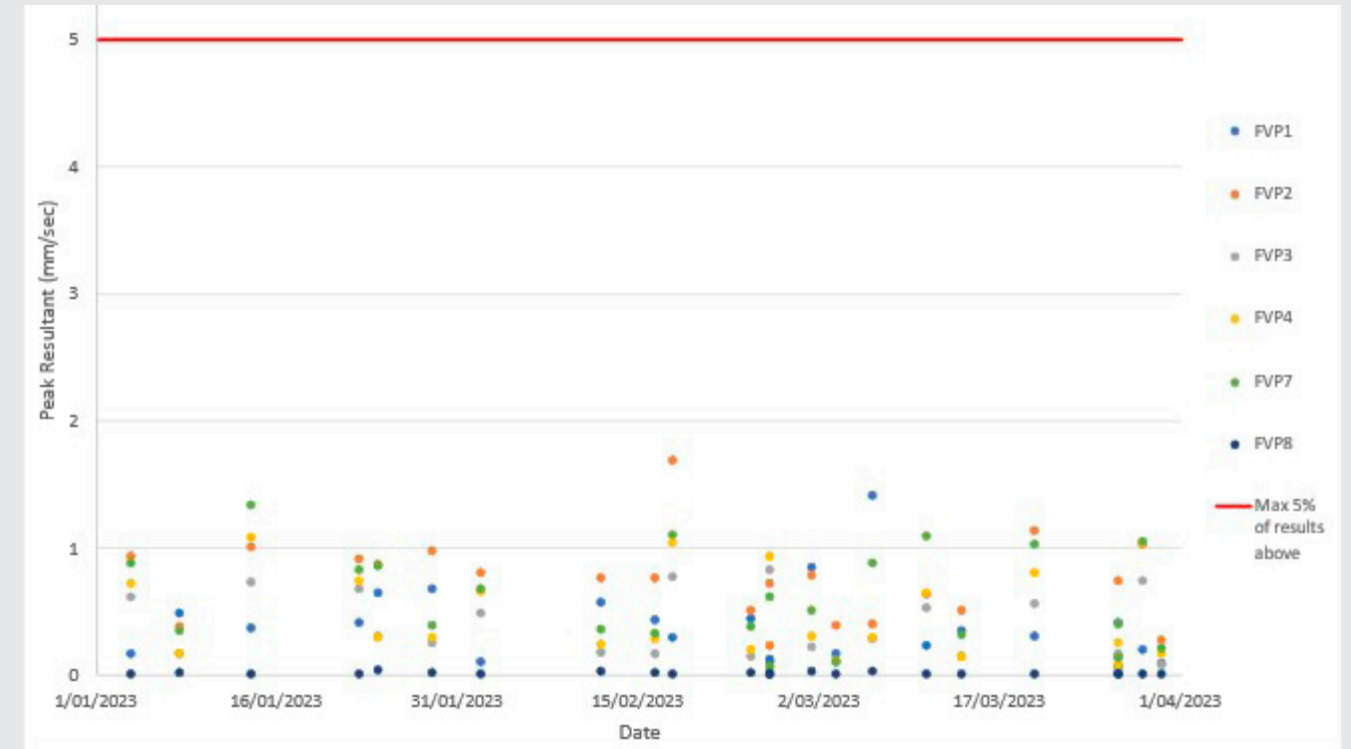
reviewed by a third-party hydrogeologist and incorporated into the site hydrogeological model. The exceedances were presented in detail during the May ERC meeting for external comment and do not present a risk to the community or the environment.

### Surface Water Monitoring

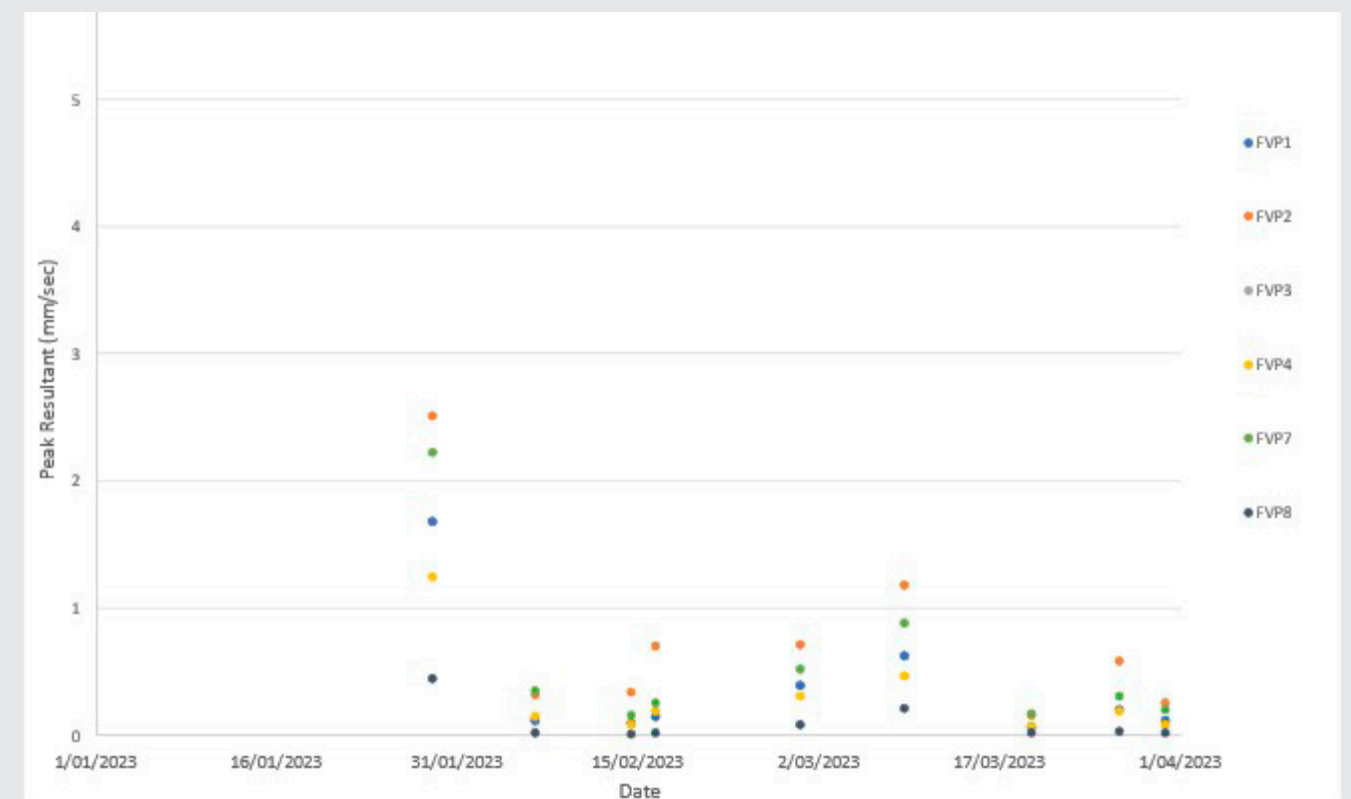
During Q1 2023, there were seven moderate surface water quality exceedances:

- › The January, February and March samples from FWO14 recorded Arsenic concentrations of 2.1 mg/L, 2.44 mg/L and 2.49 mg/L, respectively, each above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.5 mg/L. Over the Summer, evaporation has resulted in low water levels within this dam and elevated Arsenic concentrations. FWO14 is an internal run-off collection dam with no risk of offsite release.
- › The March sample from FWO14 recorded a pH of 9.14, above the ANZECC guideline value of pH 6 - 9. Changes to water chemistry are expected over the summer months as evaporation reduces the water levels.
- › The March sample from FWO28 recorded an Arsenic concentration of 0.708 mg/L, above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.5mg/L. Over the Summer, evaporation has resulted in low water levels within this dam and elevated Arsenic concentrations. FWO28 is an internal run-off collection dam with no risk of offsite release.
- › The March sample from the Southern Diversion Drain site #4 (SDD4) recorded a pH of 5.75, slightly below the ANZECC guideline pH of 6 - 9. Water flows at SDD4 were minimal during sampling, which has likely contributed to the pH result.
- › The March sample from the Southern Diversion Drain site #3 (SDD3) recorded a Lead concentration of 0.105 mg/L, marginally above the ANZECC guideline value of 0.1 mg/L. This is the first time there has been a Lead exceedance along the SDD, and the result is likely anomalous. The SDD will be resampled during the next significant rainfall event to verify the result.

FGM will continue to monitor all surface water monitoring sites in accordance with the approved monitoring schedule to identify any emerging trends or results that require further investigation.



Blasting ground vibration monitoring results for January to March 2023. During Q1 2023, there were a total of 25 production firings and 304 development firings. All ground vibration results were well below regulatory blasting limits during the reporting period.



Seismic ground vibration monitoring results for January to March 2023. There were 9 mine-induced seismic events that were detected by the surface vibration monitoring network during the quarter.



## Social responsibility update

The first quarter of 2023 was full of many great events and community activities. Fosterville was pleased to support the following community events and programs.

### Sponsorships and donations

During Q1 2023, contributions were made to the following organisations as part of FGM's sponsorships and donations program.

- › AFL Central Victoria – Sponsorship of the Junior League and Netball Umpires
- › Axedale Golf Club – Sponsorship of the 2023 Pro AM Event
- › Bendigo Business Excellence Awards – Sponsorship of the Community Minded Award
- › LEAD Loddon Mallee Community Leadership Program – Sponsorship of a participant in 2023 program
- › Eaglehawk Festivals – Sponsorship of the Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Festival
- › Bendigo Easter Festival – Platinum Sponsor



2023 Participant Joe Deane at the launch of the LMCLP Program for 2023.



AFL Central Vic Junior League



Platinum sponsor of the Bendigo Easter Festival



Axedale Golf Day

## Environment and community performance

### Community complaints

During Q1 2023, FGM received a total of 27 community complaints from 6 different landholders and/or community groups.

#### Blasting ground vibration

19\*

Nineteen complaints relating to ground vibration from blasting, including three combined complaints relating to blasting and mine-induced seismicity, were received from four different landholders. All complaints were related to controlled production firings. Investigations confirmed that all surface ground vibration results were well below regulatory limits.

#### Mine-induced seismicity

8\*

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

#### Odour

3

FGM received three community complaints relating to odour directly from two different landholders. Both landholders reported an unpleasant sulphur smell attributed to FGM's CIL Stormwater Dam 1. FGM acknowledged the odour source and continued implementing corrective measures to manage and treat the odour. Throughout the odour treatment process, FGM regularly updated the landholders and published information on the FGM community website and Facebook page.

\*Three combined complaints relating to blasting and mine induced seismicity.

### 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.

With EPA approval, FGM commenced an extended performance evaluation trial of the additional LFN abatement measures installed on the surface ventilation system. The evaluation trial permitted FGM to operate the surface ventilation fans above the speed of 400 RPM between midnight and 06:00. The extended evaluation period commenced on 31/01/2023 and concluded on 31/03/2023. Regular updates were provided to the EPA throughout this period.

On 31/03/2023, at the conclusion of the performance evaluation trial, FGM submitted a response to EPA Prohibition Notice PN-00001711-2, which demonstrated the implemented controls that have minimised the risk of LFN from the surface ventilation system, so far as reasonably practicable.

Following a review by EPA Victoria, on 29 May, the EPA Prohibition Notice 00001711-2 relating to the southern surface ventilation system fans was revoked, confirming that compliance with the notice requirements has been achieved.

Notice	Issue date	Status
EPA Prohibition Notice 00001694	29/11/2021	<b>In effect</b> – Restrictions to surface drill rig operating hours remain in effect.
EPA Prohibition Notice 00001711-1	03/12/2021	<b>Revoked</b> – Notice revoked on 29/05/2023 by EPA Victoria as compliance with the notice requirements had been achieved.

Summary of EPA Remedial Notices



## Follow us everywhere



@fostervillegoldmine\_



facebook.com/AEMFosterville



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.

### Fosterville Gold Mine

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Victoria 3557, Australia

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W: [fgmcommunity.com.au](http://fgmcommunity.com.au)



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.