

# Hera Gold Mine CCC

## Annual Report 2019

### Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	Hera Gold Mine	Reporting Period:	2019
Independent Chairperson:	Garry West	Proponent Contact:	Jonathon Thompson Group Manager – Environmental

#### 1. Executive Summary

The Hera Gold Mine CCC has operated within the Department of Planning Community Consultative Committee Guidelines during the year. All CCC members signed a code of conduct agreement and lodged a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests with the Independent Chair.

The CCC membership was updated with the addition of a new community representative to replace a member who had not been able to attend meetings due to a change in workplace commitments.

The CCC continued to operate with the procedure of draft minutes being circulated for comment within 7 days of the meeting and the final minutes being circulated and uploaded to the company website to permit CCC members to use them for their stakeholder consultation activities.

The company presentation at each meeting provides a comprehensive review of workplace and environment issues together with a report on production and exploration activities. This presentation is uploaded to the company website at the same time CCC minutes are uploaded.

As the drought continues the CCC were kept abreast of the contingencies being adopted to ensure an adequate water supply for the continued operations. Another result of the continuing drought was the reporting of more regular elevated dust levels.

#### 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- Four (4) meetings held during 2019
- CCC members undertook two drive through site inspections as part of their regular site updates.
- Company presentations included reports on all site injuries, environmental incidents and monitoring, complaints, production and exploration activities and were included with the adopted minutes and uploaded to the company website.
- Draft Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) were developed with Cobar Shire Council and Bogan Shire Council.
- An Independent Environmental Audit commenced late in 2019 in accordance with the requirements of the Conditions of Approval. The CCC via the Independent Chair were consulted.

# Hera Gold Mine CCC

## Annual Report 2019

- The Company contributed to several local community activities and events and supporting local community organisations, including a contribution to the upgrading of the Miners Memorial in Cobar.


### 3. Key issues

- Efficient and responsible use of water was a critical management issue during the year. Contingencies to ensure an adequate water supply for the continued operations were critical as the effects of the drought intensified.
- New VPAs with the Bogan and Cobar Shire Councils.
- The process water dam polyurethane liner was breached resulting in a loss of process water from the dam. The process water was contained within the disturbance footprint and did not discharge to the external environment. The liner was repaired and the dam reinstated. This incident was reported to the regulatory authority without delay.
- Exploration success has been an important driver with drilling efforts yielding significant discoveries.

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Issue 1	Application to harvest groundwater from the old Nymagee workings with a resulting lower reliance on bore water.	Approval has been granted for the construction of the pipeline. The pipeline is expected to be operational by February 2020.
Issue 2	VPAs exhibited by the respective Councils.	Bogan Shire Council VPA has been approved. Cobar Shire Council VPA still pending.
Issue 3	The damaged process water dam liner was repaired.	No further action required
Issue 4	Exploration efforts resulted in significant discoveries.	Judicious investment in exploration has been approved for the coming year.

### 4. Focus for next 12 months

- Exploration and production activities with a critical focus on water efficiencies.
- Implementing activities associated with MOD5 approval.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	2 January 2020