## **Peak Gold Mines CCC**

#### Annual Report 2022-2023

## **Community Consultative Committee (CCC) – Annual report**

CCC / Project Name:	Peak Gold Mines (Incorporating the New Cobar Complex)	Reporting Period:	2022-2023
Independent	Garry West	Proponent	Jonathon Thompson
Chairperson:		Contact:	Group Manager –
			Sustainability

## 1. Executive Summary

The Peak Gold Mines (PGM) Community Consultative Committee (CCC) commenced in February 2020 after the then Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) issued the Secretary's Environment Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the New Cobar Complex with State Significant status.

The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) issued development consent for the project in April 2022 following exhibition of the EIS and its assessment. PGM prepared the Management Plans as required by the decision for approval by DPE.

The development consent amalgamated the existing approved underground mining of the New Cobar, Chesney and Jubilee deposits, and the development of new underground workings at the great Cobar and Gladstone deposits.

The development consent permits the extraction of up to 800ktpa of ore to 2035 and PGM is anticipating this will result in 148,000 oz of gold, 3.97M oz of silver and over 210,000 tonnes of base metals. PGM is continually refining and challenging our assumptions.

A Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) completed by PGM, supports the development of a new satellite mine based on initial mining at Great Cobar with a maiden 840,000 tonne Ore reserve to offset mining depletion at Peak.

Operations during 2022 were impacted by unplanned mining interruptions due to COVID related absenteeism. Despite these setbacks transition to owner operated mining proceeded.

Following a company review of how best to execute the Great Cobar Project (New Cobar Complex), operational challenges faced in 2022 and a lack of capital across the company (with the Federation Project being prioritised), meant that the development of the Great Cobar Project was delayed and did not occur in 2022.

Aurelia Metals undertook an organisational renewal program early 2023. A number of priorities were identified including safety, operational delivery and cash management, Federation optimisation, Federation funding and leadership renewal.

A new capital structure was adopted allowing for the restart of development of the Federation Project. Prior to the Hera process plant being re-commissioned which is scheduled for December 2025, ore will be transported by road to PGM for processing. Modifications to development consents may be required to accommodate future plans but further investigation is required.

During 2023 PGM continued recording performance improvements in production and costs and a strong safety focus delivered pleasing results culminating in them receiving an Environmental Excellance Award at the 2023 Minerals Council HESC Awards.

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The company reported work, health and safety results to the CCC at each meeting along with reports of any environmental incidents, complaints and initiatives.

#### 2. CCC activities over last 24 months

- Four (4) meetings were held each year during 2022 and 2023.
- Significant consultation and input into the New Cobar Complex development and overall company organisational review.
- The New Cobar Complex project has been deferred with Aurelia Metals focused on the development of the Federation Project. It is anticipated the New Cobar Complex development consent will be required in 2025 when it is anticipated mining of the Great Cobar deposit will commence.
- A VPA with Cobar Shire Council was negotiated and executed.
- PGM 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.
- PGM contributed to several local community activities and events and supporting local community organisations. CCC members kept the PGM updated on the local community priorities.
- PGM were regularly discussing with CCC members initiatives designed to strengthen the local workforce numbers living in Cobar.
- CCC membership saw a new member appointed at the end of 2023 demonstrating a local commitment.

## 3. Key issues

- The mine operates in close proximity to the urban area of Cobar and consequently a number of blast vibration complaints were made to PGM during the period. All are investigated and whilst a few were recorded marginally over 5 mm/s, all blasts are well below 10 mm/s, therefore within the approved limits.
- Local workforce retainment is a constant focus by CCC members and the company.
- COVID-19 risk control was a significant feature of 2022.
- PGM contributions to local community activities is regularly noted and acknowledged.
- As Cobar is regarded as a mining town a key focus of the CCC is future development of the New Cobar Project.

#### 4. Focus for next 12 months

- Additional studies and investigations into how best to execute the New Cobar Project and continued improvement in existing activities.
- Continue to maintain and foster a community focused social licence.

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Signature of Chair:	gang Lest
Date:	5 January 2024

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