



**Heron Resources Limited
Tarago Operations Pty Limited**

Woodlawn Mine

SML 20

Community Engagement Plan

January 2016

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

Effective communication with both government agencies and the community are important to Heron Resources and will be a key feature in ongoing development of the Woodlawn Mine. This Community Engagement Plan documents the current and proposed future consultation program for the Woodlawn Mine development.

1.2 Scope and Objectives

This Plan builds on the initial community consultation program that commenced with the environmental studies and investigations associated with the approval process. The plan covers the set up of the ongoing consultation framework for the project moving into the construction phase. The plan will be reviewed at the end of the construction phase and on commencement of operations.

This Plan has been prepared in line with the Department of Planning and Environment Guidelines for the Establishment and Operating Community Consultative Committees for Mining Projects, 2007.

1.3 Key Personnel and Responsibilities

Management responsibility for the Woodlawn Mine will be as follows.

Position	Personnel	Company	Responsibility	Contact Details
Managing Director	Wayne Taylor	Heron Resources	Overall responsibility for the construction and operation of the Woodlawn Mine	02 9119 8111
Chief Operating Officer	Andrew Lawry	Heron Resources	Responsible for Project delivery and operations	02 9119 8111
Project Manager	To be appointed	Heron Resources	Construction Project Management and Implementation	02 9119 8111
Mine Manager	To be appointed	Heron Resources	Conduct of Mining Operations	02 9119 8111
Exploration Manager, Chief Geologist	David von Perger	Heron Resources	Resource Evaluation	02 9119 8111
Environmental Manager	Robert Byrnes	IEC	Conduct of environmental management and compliance	02 4878 5502

The above table will be updated with the confirmation of the Lead Construction Contractor when appointed. Contract positions will be progressively replaced with full time personnel during the early stages of the operation.

1.4 Statutory Requirements

Tarago Operations received Project Approval for the Woodlawn Mine Project on 4th July 2013 for a period of 21 years. The approval was granted following the preparation an Environmental Assessment (EA) under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. The EA contained a number of environmental commitments while the Project Approval was also subject to conditions. Specifically, the conditions and Proponent commitments relating to the preparation of a Community Engagement Plan is as follows:

- Schedule 6, Condition 6 which specifies the use of the Department of Planning's Community Consultative Committee guidelines
- Schedule 6, Condition 11 in relation to public access to information
- Condition 2A of the Project Statement of Commitments which species that A Community Involvement Plan would be prepared to outline community involvement and consultation activities in the preconstruction, construction and operation phases.

A subsequent modification to the Project Approval confirmed the original Statement of Commitments which provides for a minimum consultation effort to include at least the following:

- a direct telephone number (24 hour);
- an email address;
- a postal address;
- regular project updates;
- a community liaison representative;
- scheduled meetings with a local representative body such as a community consultative (or liaison) committee. A representative from Goulburn Mulwaree Council would be invited to attend these meetings; and
- set out the requirements such as timeframes, for responding to contact received from community members.

2. Consultation Activities

Effective communication with government agencies, the workforce and the community are important features of the overall Environmental Management Strategy for the Woodlawn Mine and therefore a key component of each Environmental Management Plan. This section outlines the proposed communication and reporting framework for the Construction Phase. This framework is likely to continue for the operational stages but with regular reviews and refinement based on community feedback.

2.1 Consultation during Approval Process

The community and government agency consultation program commenced in 2007 and continued through 2012 with the finalisation of the EA and public exhibition of the documents and publication of the response to submissions. Additional consultation occurred during 2013 and 2014 with government stakeholders and has recently included a presentation to the existing Community Liaison Committee operated by Veolia for the Bioreactor facility.

The initial community engagement plan was designed to ensure that the objectives of the Project were clearly articulated, and stakeholders and the community were informed and included during the EA preparation and assessment process. A large number of stakeholders and members of the community have been involved in consultation activities to date, including:

- State, Local and Commonwealth government authorities;
- State and Local government elected representatives;
- service providers;
- local community groups, including the Tarago and District Progress Association, Tarago Country Women's Association, Tarago Sporting Association, Bush Fire Brigade, Tarago Times, Geary Gap Landcare and Taylors Creek Landcare and local and representative groups, including the Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation;
- local and regional businesses, including the Loaded Dog Hotel and Tarago Real Estate;
- the wider regional community; and
- affected landowners.

The consultation process commenced with a Planning Focus Meeting held on site with government agencies on 4th September 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the project description and scope in consultation with relevant government stakeholders. During this meeting, a broad project description was provided, followed by a site tour. Detail on the scope of the proposed environmental investigations was also provided, including key issues for the Project.

Key stakeholder meetings were then held with Goulburn Mulwaree and Palerang Councils, NSW Office of Water, Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services, Sydney Catchment Authority, NSW Roads and Maritime and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

Key focus points raised by stakeholders included:

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- surface and ground water impacts;
 - waste management;
 - air quality;
 - greenhouse gas emissions;
 - construction and operational noise, including transport noise impacts;
 - blasting and vibration;
 - flora and fauna, including any impacts on critical habitats, threatened species;
 - populations and ecological communities;
 - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage;
 - hazards and risks, including any potential subsidence;
 - visual impacts;
 - construction and operational traffic and transport;
 - socio-economic matters – particularly with regard to any increased demand for infrastructure and services in the region;
 - rehabilitation and final landform; and
 - the approval process and requirements under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

An interagency End of Mine Steering Committee was previously formed as part of the Bioreactor project. This committee played a major role in overseeing the mine site environmental management and future rehabilitation strategy as contained in the previous Veolia Mining Operations Plan for the site. The project does not alter the previously approved rehabilitation methods for the site with the main variation being the retreatment of the tailings prior to final rehabilitation. It is considered that this process will provide additional long term benefits for the site as there will be a substantial reduction in sulfide and metal content in the final tailings material. Government agencies have been supportive of the rehabilitation plan from the outset.

Focus group meetings were also held in the lead up to the EA preparation and over 50 stakeholders including, Local Government, State and Local Government elected representatives, service providers, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, community groups, individual residents and local businesses were invited. Stakeholders were provided the opportunity to attend one of three focus groups held.

Key points of interest arising from these meetings included the rehabilitation of the site along with a range of local issues such as transport, noise and dust/odour generation.

A summary matrix of the consultation program to date is as follows:

Consultation activity	Local, State, Commonwealth government	State and Local elected government representatives	Service providers	Local community groups, (including indigenous)	Interested local and regional businesses and residents	Affected landowners
Planning focus meeting	✓		✓			
Individual meetings	✓	✓	✓			
Project email		✓		✓	✓	✓
Project information letters	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Focus Group workshop	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual meetings with adjacent property owners						✓
Media release	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Issues and contact database	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TriAusMin website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community update	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public notifications and advertisements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Static displays		✓		✓	✓	✓
Community information sessions		✓		✓	✓	✓
Public project information-reports and working papers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Submissions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

2.2 Post Approval Consultation

Ongoing government authority and community consultation has been maintained as part of the re-opening of the mine. Heron Resources is committed to continue this consultation work with key government and community stakeholders. The consultation process will include the following stakeholders:

- Woodlawn Bioreactor (Veolia);
- Woodlawn Windfarm (Infigen);
- NSW Trade and Investment, Resources and Energy;
- Department of Planning and Environment;
- Office of Environment and Heritage;
- Environment Protection Authority;
- Goulburn Mulwaree Shire Council;
- Palerang Shire Council;
- Sydney Catchment Authority;
- NSW Office of Water; and
- Various community groups and open forums.

Following an initial briefing with the established Veolia Woodlawn Bioreactor Community Liaison Committee in January 2015, it was agreed that this committee will also act as the

Woodlawn Mine Community Consultation Committee as required under the Project Approval. The Department of Planning and Environment has been consulted and agreement to use the existing consultation framework has been accepted. This is further discussed in the Chapter 3.

2.3 Management Plan Consultation

Consultation with government agencies has occurred as part of developing the Environmental Management Plans for the commencement of construction. Meetings occurred in the latter half of 2014 and first quarter of 2015 and included:

- NSW Trade and Investment, Resources and Energy - involving site inspections, offsite meetings and liaison;
- Department of Planning and Environment - involving meetings, correspondence and liaison;
- Office of Environment and Heritage - involving correspondence and meeting;
- Environment Protection Authority - involving correspondence and meeting;
- Goulburn Mulwaree Shire Council - involving meetings and liaison;
- Water NSW - involving correspondence, site meeting and liaison;
- Department of Primary Industries (Water) - involving correspondence.

Initial government agency consultation letters were sent on 2nd July 2014. These were followed up with phone conversations and meetings as required. The purpose of this consultation is to seek information and guidance in the preparation of the various environmental management plans for the operation. Depending on advice from each agency, site inspections or off site meetings were arranged. Draft copies of the Environmental Management Strategy, Construction Management Plan, Water Management Plan and general site plans were provided to assist in understanding to the project.

Consultation with these key government stakeholders will continue throughout the construction and operational phases of the project.

3. Community Engagement Plan

This section outlines the proposed engagement process as the project moves forward into the construction phase.

3.1 Community Consultation Committee

Veolia formed a Community Liaison Committee under the requirements of their approval for the Bioreactor facility in 2000. This committee acts as an interface between the residents of Tarago and the operations of the Bioreactor. This committee consists of representatives from:

- Goulburn Mulwaree City Council;
- Tarago and District Progress Associated Incorporated (TADPAI); and
- Local residents.

This committee has been involved in all previous planning developments at the site including the original Bioreactor project and subsequent modifications and expansion projects. Some members are also aware of the original mining operation on site and are therefore well aware of the environmental and social issues relating to the site.

TADPAI is a local association which aims to support the development of the local community through a variety of projects. It is actively involved with the current operations on a variety of issues which affect the local community and would include the reopening of the mine.

This group meets quarterly and the first meeting for 2015 was attended by Heron Resources. A brief update on the project was provided along with the request that this group form the basis for the Community Consultation Committee (CCC) required under the Project Approval. This request has been followed up with separate correspondence and confirmation from DRE that it accepts this group as satisfying the CCC requirement of the Project Approval.

Heron representatives now provide a separate presentation and information exchange session at each of the quarterly meetings of the combined Veolia-Heron CCC meeting. This format allows for separate minutes to be taken on specific issues relating to the Woodlawn Mine development.

Under this Community Engagement Plan, Heron will monitor the effectiveness of the CCC during the construction program. It is recognised that the construction phase may require additional meetings of the CCC to discuss matters as they arise. There is also the potential for Heron to assist with dissemination of information to the wider community during this phase. This may involve articles in the local newspaper Tarago Times, regional newspapers or local radio interviews.

As detailed in Section 3.4, a key area of community consultation is the public availability of information on Heron's web page.

3.2 Data and Information to be Provided to CLC

The conduct of the meeting involving the Mine development will follow the general requirements of the 2007 Department of Planning and Environment guidelines. The meeting agenda will include:

- Apologies
- Declaration of pecuniary or other interests
- Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting
- Business arising from previous minutes —
- response to issues raised or provision of additional information requested
- Correspondence
- Company reports and overview of activities:
 - progress at the mine — operational issues
 - issues arising from site inspections
 - monitoring and environmental performance
 - community complaints and response to complaints
 - information provided to the community and any feedback
- General business
- Next meeting.

Minutes of the meeting will be taken by Heron personnel and circulated to all members following the meeting and prior to the next scheduled meeting. Once confirmed as accurate and accepted by the committee they will be placed on Heron Resources web page.

Heron will regularly provide the committee with timely, accurate and comprehensive reports on the Woodlawn Mine's operations and performance on its environmental management and community relations. Heron shall also provide the committee with copies of:

- the mine's project approval, mining lease and environment protection licence;
- the mining operations plan and any other management plans;
- results of environmental monitoring;
- annual environmental management reports;
- audit reports (including audits required as a condition of approval);
- reports on community concerns or complaints and company responses; and
- any other information specified by the Director General of the Department of Planning and Environment.

Heron Resources will also provide copies of the Annual Environmental Management reports and consult with the committee if it intends to seek amendments to conditions of approval, to change operational requirements, or to expand the operations of the mine. Heron will respond in a timely fashion to any questions or advice the committee may give it concerning the mine's environmental performance or community relations.

3.3 Community Complaints

Heron currently maintains a community complaints register that identifies actions required to resolve community issues. The main phone line advertised in the white pages is the

designated community complaints line and is answered at all times during hours of operation. The complaints register will record the following details:

- Complainant name and contact details.
- Nature of the complaint (noise, dust, traffic etc).
- Time and date of the complaint.
- Specifics of the complaint.
- Actions taken to resolve the complaint.
- Confirmation that the complaint has been resolved.

In the event that an issue is unresolved, the register will include details of the outstanding issues and any actions that are required. It is recognised that some issues may not have a simple resolution and have resulted in multiple complaints. These form part of the ongoing environmental improvement program for the operation.

Co-ordination between Veolia and Heron will be necessary to avoid duplication of effort but more importantly inadvertent identification of complaints between the two operators on site.

All complaints received will be noted at each CCC meeting and recorded. Any additional complaints or issues raised at the CcC will also be documented and actioned in accordance with the current CCC format.

3.4 Public Access to Information

Monitoring data required by the EPL will be reported on the company's web page in accordance with EPA requirements for public disclosure. The data will also be presented to the CCC and interpretation of the data provided if required. Information specifically required by the Project Approval is as follows:

- the documents referred to in Condition 1 of Schedule 2 (all management plans);
- all relevant statutory approvals for the project;
- all approved strategies, plans and programs required under the conditions of this approval;
- a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the project, reported in accordance with the specifications in any approved plans or programs required under the conditions of this or any other approval;
- a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis;
- minutes of CCC meetings;
- the annual reviews required under this approval;
- any independent environmental audit of the project, and the Proponent's response to the recommendations in any audit;
- any other matter required by the Director-General and keep this information up-to-date, to the satisfaction of the Director-General.

Should an exceedence of any relevant air quality criteria, Heron will promptly notify the affected landowners and/ or tenants. As the nearest two receptors are owned by Veolia, the data will be reported to the Environmental Manager for the Bioreactor.

If an owner of privately-owned land considers the project to be exceeding the relevant noise criteria, Heron will facilitate an Independent Review of the data and compliance

status. As required in Schedule 5 of the Project Approval, the land owner or tenant may ask the Director-General in writing for an independent review of the impacts of the project on his/her land. Heron will comply with the outcomes of any Independent Review.

3.5 Reporting Procedures

All environmental monitoring requirements specified in EPA licences and approvals are undertaken and the data kept on site. Copies are provided to the Mine Manager, who in consultation with the site Environmental Manager, reviews the data on a monthly basis. A summary of the data is provided to regulatory authorities as required by statutory approvals. Other data collected as part of projects or auditing procedures are reported internally in accordance with the EMS verification procedures.

The AEMR will be provided to the following agencies:

- NSW Department of Industry, Resources and Energy;
- Department of Planning and Environment;
- Water NSW;
- Goulburn Mulwaree Council;
- Department of Primary Industries (Water);
- Office of Environment and Heritage;
- NSW Environment Protection Authority; and
- NSW Roads and Maritime Services.

Veolia management will be provided with the results of monitoring data including results obtained for the Pylara homestead.

3.6 Action Trigger Levels

Heron aim is to achieve zero community complaints. Complaint numbers and type will be recorded in the AEMR but also presented to the CCC on a quarterly basis. Each complaint will trigger a response and will be proactively addressed. The results of these actions will be reported to the CCC.

Should there be outstanding complaints or issues that are not satisfied or resolved with the land owner or complainant by the time the CCC meets, the following procedures will be followed:

- Engage independent experts to provide advice on the relevant issue;
- Present this information to the CCC and seek a resolution;
- If no resolution is reached, advice sought from the Director General of the Department of Planning and Environment;
- Decision of the Director General will be final.

3.7 Management Review

The overall EMS has provisions for management review to identify any weaknesses or out of date procedures. The aim is to maintain the EMS and component Management Plans in

line with current industry and Australian standards and changes to environmental legislation.

This Community Engagement Plan will be reviewed at the end of the construction activities or 12 months with the key review being of the operation and function of the CCC.

3.8 Continuous Improvements

Measuring continuous improvement in community engagement in any meaningful quantitative way is difficult. The primary measure would be the number and type of community complaints and any feedback received through the CCC or government stakeholders. Records will be kept of this feedback and reported annually along with any complaints and results of actions taken to resolve disputes or complaints.

Ultimately, Heron needs to achieve a Social Licence to Operate. This refers to the acceptance within local community of the Woodlawn Mine Project based on the degree to which both Heron and its Woodlawn Mine activities meet the expectations of the Tarago community, the wider society, and various constituent groups.

This acceptance needs to be earned over time and essentially needs to be granted by all stakeholders. This includes local residents, local businesses and suppliers, local Council representatives and key community groups. Once achieved, Heron will strive to maintain community trust by keeping their promises and commitments, respond to the community's concerns and requests, ensure that information is not only delivered but also understood by all stakeholders and be accountable to the community at all stages of the project.