

KCGM NEWS & VIEWS

Issue 4 October 2006

OUR NEWS *Your Views*

From the General Manager Russell Cole



Firstly, welcome to my first edition of News & Views! I am extremely pleased to be back at KCGM to take over the reins from Cobb Johnstone at this important stage of our future development.

Since releasing December 2004's Concept Plan "Our Vision for the Future", KCGM has proposed to mine a cutback along part of the western edge of the Fimiston Open Pit, referred to as the 'Golden Pike Cutback'. We have considered a lot of feedback already given on this project from previous consultations (including the earlier Project Definition Document), and this has been incorporated in the Public Environmental Review (PER).

The PER is a more detailed document which is one of the last consultations needed to assist the government to form an opinion on whether to approve the extension.

The Golden Pike cutback is extremely important to us, as it means another 5 years of mine life. At the moment KCGM only has mining approvals to 2012, and this proposed extension will take us to our expected mine life of 2017.

Therefore we want to encourage as many people as possible to voice their opinions on this project, whether supportive or concerned. It doesn't need to be a massive report (although of course please feel free), but any considered view whether a short email or letter classifies as a submission – and it is important to have your say (**before** the 30th October).

The method of mining this cutback is largely 'business as usual' for KCGM. From an outside view, after we build the environmental bund wall, there will be minimal differences in day to day operations (if you would like to see an example we are currently constructing an environmental bund at the southern end of the pit).

We would also like you to get in touch with KCGM if you have any specific query on the proposal (or our operations) either through our Public Interaction Line (9022 1100) or at the Super Pit Shop.

Russell Cole
General Manager, KCGM



MORE INFORMATION

*If you have any particular concerns regarding this or any other issue, I would encourage you to contact us through our interaction line, the Super Pit Shop on **9093 3488**. Importantly, please feel free to discuss your concerns directly with any one of our Community Reference Group members – they can discuss the issue with you, and be more than happy to pass on your comments.*

Where do I get a PER Document?

The full PER Document is available at www.superpit.com.au, there are also copies available to view at the Super Pit Shop (2 Burt St Boulder), the William Grundt Memorial Library, the Department of Environment & Conservation while free CD's of the project are available on request from the Super Pit Shop, or from our Public Interaction Line (9022 1100). Hard copies with cd of appendices are also available for \$10.





What exactly is KCGM proposing?

To do a cutback on the western wall (called 'Golden Pike') to extend the life of the mine by five years from 2012 to 2017.

This means; -

- Widening and deepening the pit to about 600m in depth (covering approx 46 ha)
- North & North East Waste Rock Dumps of approx 120 ha
- Additional tailings storage capabilities with two options;
 - Increase height of two existing Fimiston facilities; or
 - Build on the old Kaltails facility

What will it look like?

The view from the road will be very similar to what it is now. In fact for a good example you can still view the construction of the southern noise bund. The maximum height of the new waste rock dumps will be no greater than the currently approved waste rock dump heights. Rehabilitation will be progressively done.

How close will it get the Goldfields Highway?

At the closest point, the environmental noise bund will be approximately 50m; with the mining activity behind it at approximately 150m. The environmental noise bund will be built first.

What is the timeline for the cutback?

We require the approval by 2007 so that we can begin the Golden Pike Cutback in 2008.

How many ounces will this Golden Pike give KCGM?

The Golden Pike Cutback is worth approximately 2 million ounces of gold.

Will vibration increase? How are you going to manage it?

The ground vibration assessment undertaken has shown that with worst case assumptions, blasting of the Golden Pike Cutback will still comply with the current vibration standards and limits specified in the KCGM Noise and Vibration Monitoring and Management Programme. Vibration will continue to be well within statutory limits.



GOLDEN PIKE CUTBACK

What about dust?

Dust generated from blasting of the Golden Pike Cutback, land clearing and waste dumps construction will be managed under a reviewed Dust Monitoring and Management Programme (which will be available to view at www.superpit.com.au). KCGM will take all reasonable, practicable and safe measures to minimise dust emissions from its operations. Measures include a dust monitoring network; blasting or conducting earthworks



under favourable wind conditions; use of water trucks and water cannons; progressive rehabilitation; and use of dust binding agents.

Air dispersion modelling undertaken to predict the 24 hour average PM10 ground level concentrations indicate we will be below the NEPM standard - with the exception of the Hewitt St dust monitoring location. Now that we have identified Hewitt

Street as a potential risk area, we will be installing a real time dust monitor to see what the actual dust levels are. If these results are still high, we will develop additional dust abatement measures to ensure we are in compliance.

Is noise going to increase in the area?

Noise modelling indicates that mining of the Golden Pike Cutback both at the ground surface and 20 m below the ground surface would comply with the day time and evening Assigned Noise Levels in the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997. Some levels may be higher than the most stringent night time Assigned Noise Levels when mining at ground level. Compliance with the assigned night time noise levels be achieved once mining drops below 20m below ground level.

However, ambient noise levels in Kalgoorlie-Boulder with no mining activity is mostly above the night time assigned noise levels. KCGM is currently working with the Department of Environment and Conservation Noise Branch in the preparation of an application to the Minister under Regulation 17, to allow a variation from the assigned noise levels for the mining operations as a whole.

Is there an increased risk of fly rock from the pit if you are allowed to blast closer?

Flyrock refers to rock that is generated from within the blast and projected varying distances beyond the blasting area. Terrock Consulting Engineers examined current blasting practices which demonstrated that improved blasting procedures (such as those used for the recent Chaffers Cutback) could minimise flyrock throw to 50 m. Allowing for a safety factor of 4 for personnel, this indicates that a 200 m blast clearance area would be required to maintain public safety. Flyrock would be further limited by the environmental noise bund and pit wall when blasting below ground level. KCGM has an excellent record for controlling flyrock – our recent assistance with the Piccadilly Street dam blasting is a great example of this.

Will this increase traffic along the Bypass Road? Will you need to stop traffic to blast?

No increase in traffic is predicted. We would prefer not to stop traffic, however how often we need to will depend on whether the blast clearance area is going to be 200m or 400m. KCGM is confident that we can safely work within a 200m Blast Clearance Area, and any traffic that would need to be stopped would be for a minimum period of time (up to ten minutes).

Will you need to evacuate any businesses when blasting?

We hope not, however again this will depend on whether the blast clearance area is going to be 200m or 400m. Again, KCGM is confident that we can safely work within a 200m Blast Clearance Area.

Explain the two options for the TSFs? Which is the preferred option?

Two options have been considered to provide additional tailings storage capacity for the Project. The preferred option is to continue to raise the perimeter embankment height of the Fimiston I and Fimiston II TSFs. The contingency option is to acquire the Kaltails TSF and raise the perimeter embankment height. The Kaltails TSF would be used in conjunction with the Fimiston I and Fimiston II TSFs. KCGM is confident that we can successfully manage either TSF option.

Are there any aboriginal heritage sites in the area? Have you consulted the Indigenous stakeholders?

Aboriginal people from Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, and Coonana, who have long term associations with the region, have been consulted on a number of occasions regarding the Fimiston Operations, and local elders who have detailed knowledge of the region's totemic geography have visited the area. Eight sites of ethnographic significance have been identified in close proximity to KCGM's operations. One site is close to the area, however this will not be disturbed.

What effect are your operations going to have on the vegetation?

KCGM has restricted the footprint of the Project to current mining areas and historically disturbed areas. Approximately 46 ha will be required for mining of the Golden Pike Cutback and 115 ha for construction of the Northern Waste Rock Dumps (WRD). Both these areas have been historically disturbed by mining activities and have been rehabilitated by KCGM.

The preferred tailings storage options will use existing facilities which will eliminate the need to clear new land. KCGM will continue to implement its Seepage and Groundwater Management Plan (SGMP) to ensure that seepage does not affect the health of adjacent native vegetation.

When are you going to rehabilitate?

Progressive rehabilitation of disturbance and waste rock dump areas is currently undertaken by KCGM in conjunction with the rehabilitation of historical mining areas located on KCGM's leases. This programme will be extended to include rehabilitation of additional areas disturbed by the Project. Rehabilitation also assists with dust management.

Rehabilitation is a crucial part of KCGM's closure planning, and more details regarding this process are available in the PER.

How can I write a submission?

Submissions can be a couple of lines in an email, a letter or a full report. The important thing is that you should have your say on this important economic decision for the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. If you think the project is great - say so! If you have some concerns - voice them! The EPA will be taking submissions until the 30th October, 2006. Please see the PER document for submission contact details.

GOT AN ISSUE WITH KCGM? WANT TO GET IT ON THE AGENDA?

If you would like to discuss an issue you have with KCGM, you can contact one of our CRG members and have it discussed at a Community Reference Group meeting.

Anne Petz	(08) 9093 3938
Deborah Botica	(08) 9021 6467
Faun McGowan	0409 115 748
Guy Brownlee	(08) 9021 3888
Jamie Murphy	0400 420 576
Kathleen Bentley	(08) 9022 7501
Kevin Smallhorn	(08) 9021 2420
Murray Joyce	(08) 9021 4262
Tim Champion	(08) 9091 6726
Max Bentley	0429 990 485



>> SUPER PIT-STOP!



If you want to get a pretty good idea of where the Golden Pike cutback is, then visit the Super Pit shop to take a look at our scale model of the final Super Pit in 2017. The Community Relations team will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project - and if they can't answer, they'll find someone who can! While you are at the shop you can pick up a free CD of the PER document, or sit in our shop with a coffee and view all three volumes! Hard copies of the main document (with CD of appendices) are \$10.

Of course the Super Pit Shop also offers free viewings of the Super Pit DVD to give you a good idea of the scale of our operations, and there is a wealth of other information including a historical record of all media clippings.

So what are you waiting for? Get down to 2 Burt Street in bustling Boulder and visit us soon!

If you have missed out on previous issues of News & Views and would like a copy, please contact our CR Office on 9093 3488 or visit the team at the Super Pit Shop, 2 Burt Street Boulder. It's also available online at www.superpit.com.au

KALGOORLIE CONSOLIDATED GOLD MINES

*Private Mailbag 27
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