

ERC SNAPSHOT – MAY 2021

Stawell Gold Mines – Environmental Review Committee

Q1 2021 Environmental Monitoring

Environmental monitoring allows SGM to assess its performance in relation to a range of environmental aspects that include air quality, blasting, noise, water, and regulatory notices.

During Q1 SGM was compliant with all environmental monitoring aspects, except for:

- **Water** - Offsite detection of thiocyanate (SCN) and Total Cyanide concentrations in groundwater bore SP585. The most recent sampling event showed a decrease in both SCN and Total Cyanide, and SGM remains compliant with all EPA Notice requirements.

Dissolved copper (Cu) concentrations were detected at bore SP921 during the previous reporting period. AECOM were engaged to investigate the source of the Copper exceedance. This review was completed during the Q1 reporting period and found that the most likely cause of the elevated CU levels is leaching from fines within the bore and that there is no connection with the TSF or other SGM activities.

The bore will continue to be monitored as per the current GMP and with current purging practices to remain unchanged, as per AECOM recommendations.

- **Noise** - Noise monitoring was conducted by SGM during the quarter. SGM achieved all site noise limits during the day and evening periods. The night time period showed exceedances at the North and East locations. Crickets and wind noise were audible throughout the entire monitoring period at both locations, in addition to processing plant noise.

Real Time Air Quality Monitoring Update

During Q1 the Real Time Air Quality Monitor at the Processing North location failed due to water ingress. This monitor required extensive, off site repairs.

To minimise data loss in the event of a recurrence, SGM has since purchased an additional monitor, valued at \$30,000.

This enables SGM to have a spare unit that can be deployed if other units require maintenance or repair.

Davis Pit Rehabilitation

SGM continued to rehabilitate the Davis Pit area of the mine during the last quarter. Backfilling, almost to the extent of the original pit, is complete and shaping of the land back to its original landform is also complete for the majority of the area.

A group consisting of key stakeholders is currently being set-up to discuss the next steps in the Davis Pit Rehabilitation Plan.

Q1 2021 Production Area

During Q1 SGM was compliant for all production and development blasts.

An updated blasting locations map for Q2 2021 is available on SGM's Community Hub website and Facebook page.

SGM also offers a blast notification text message system when firing production occurs. Messages are sent approximately one hour prior to the blast with the date, approximate time and the location of the firing.

Any resident who would like to receive the message can contact SGM via email or phone.

ERC Farewell & Recruitment

Wendy Melbourne, a long standing ERC member, recently resigned from the ERC. Wendy had served many years on the Committee and during the May ERC meeting she was thanked for her commitment and the time she gave to the role.

There are currently five community positions to be filled on the ERC. The positions are advertised on SGM's Facebook page, the SGM website and in the newsletter.

Northern Grampians Shire Council will oversee the selection process.

Further information can be accessed at: <https://stawellgoldminescommunityhub.com.au/>



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Contact Us

For further information or to request a copy of the ERC meeting minutes please contact Stawell Gold Mines on 03 5383 1022 or enquiries@stawellgoldmines.com or www.facebook.com/stawellgoldmines