



06 April 2020



COVID-19 Operations

Update 1



This is the first of Metro Mining's FORTNIGHTLY updates on Bauxite Hills Mine operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary focus of the updates is to keep our stood-down employees in the NPARC and Cook Shire areas and our Liaison Committee Representatives, aware of what is happening on

site and of any changes to the controls Metro has put in place that may impact on the communities. We will continue to update fortnightly until further notice.

MINING OPERATIONS

As mining is considered an essential business by the Commonwealth and State Governments most Queensland mines are continuing to operate at this time. Accordingly, the Bauxite Hills Mine is preparing to recommence mining on Monday 6 April after our usual wet season shutdown.

Our first shipment of bauxite is due to commence loading on 14 April and our Chinese customers have indicated they are ready and able to accept our shipments and meet their business commitments.

Although mining operations will recommence, in order to minimise risk of introducing COVID-19 to our employees or to wider communities, there have been significant changes made to how we manage operations.

NEW Bauxite Hills Mine Controls Include:

- All flights in and out of Bamaga airport have stopped and no Metro employees are to go in or out of the NPA region until further notice.
- 14 NPA employees chose to be stood down and remain in the NPA until return of normal operations
- 4 NPA employees chose to relocate to Cairns to continue work and will receive a living away from home allowance from Metro during this time
- Travel in and out of Cook Shire is restricted and employees from Hopevale or other Cook Shire communities are not able to travel to work from these areas without stringent self-isolation procedures.
- 2 Cook Shire employees chose to be stood down and remain in the Cook Shire region until the return to normal operations
- 1 Cook Shire employee chose to relocate to Cairns to continue work and will receive a living away from home allowance from Metro during this time
- Stood down employees are still considered Metro Employees and still accrue leave as usual plus their Metro jobs will remain open for them at the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Metro will pay them two-weeks wages and provide a letter stating they have been stood down which allows them to receive the additional Government COVID-19 subsidy of \$550 per week.

- All employees are required to fill in a written health declaration prior to the start of each of their shifts at site and are not allowed to board the plane if they have shown any signs of respiratory illness in the week leading up to their shift.
- All employees have temperature checks prior to boarding the plane and are not allowed to board the plane if they have a temperature.
- Social distancing and hygiene/hand washing rules are enforced at the mine site.
- Stringent cleaning procedures are in place in all areas of the mine site – accommodation rooms, mess, offices, machinery etc.
- There is a strict isolation and evacuation procedures if anyone becomes sick at the mine site, using the Royal Flying Doctors Service for transport to the appropriate hospital. Once they leave the mine site, they come under the controls required by the RFDS or the hospital.

NEW Metro Mining Controls Include:

- Head office personnel are working from home using online meeting technologies, where possible
- All direct meetings incorporate social distancing and strict hygiene rules
- No one has been stood down from the Head Office at this time
- All travel (Qld, interstate & international) has ceased and any travel would require specific approval and need to be business critical.

With these controls in place, Metro is meeting or exceeding all current Local, State and Commonwealth requirements and will continue to operate under these conditions until further notice.

Other News

Metro is working with Seven Rivers Aboriginal Corporation (SRAC) on Cultural Heritage works required at the mine site. As remote Indigenous communities, including communities in the NPA region, are considered high risk, Metro is unable to use people from the NPA and are working with SRAC to identify appropriate Ankamuthi people, already working for Metro, who can undertake enough Cultural Heritage clearance for mining to proceed. All parties are working together to find a mutually acceptable compromise during the unusual situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Bauxite Hills Mine Liaison Committee, with representatives from SRAC, Old Mapoon Aboriginal Corporation (OMAC) and Metro, have suspended the Ancillary Agreement review proposed for May 2020 and any upcoming meetings. Liaison Committee Representatives will receive all Metro's fortnightly updates and this situation will be reviewed on 30 June 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Liaison Officer for your area:

NPA AND CAIRNS:

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