



05 May 2020



COVID-19 Operations

Community Update 3



This Metro's third FORTNIGHTLY update on Bauxite Hills Mine operations during COVID-19.

We hope our regular updates are keeping our stood-down employees in the NPARC and Cook Shire areas, and our Liaison Committee Representatives, up to date and aware of what is happening on-site and of

any changes to controls Metro have in place that may impact the communities. Our updates will continue fortnightly until further notice.

MINING OPERATIONS

Mining operations continue to progress well on-site with all Metro employees following the COVID-19 controls.

As at 27 April, over 340,000 tonnes of bauxite had been mined, which was ahead of our budgeted production. Our first shipment of bauxite to China for 2020 is on its way and loading of the second ship of the year has started.

All previously advised controls at the mine site are still in place, including:

Existing 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 are receiving 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 is also receiving a living away from home allowance from Metro.
- All Stood down employees are still regarded as Metro Employees and are accruing their usual leave. Their Metro jobs have remained open for them for when COVID-19 ends. Metro paid all stood down employees two-weeks wages and provided a letter stating they had been stood down which allowed them to receive the additional Government COVID-19 subsidy of \$550 per week.
- Face masks are required to be worn on the flights to and from site, and also for any personnel required to share a vehicle while on-site.
- All employees are temperature checked before boarding the plane and are not allowed to board the plane if they have a temperature.

- All employees complete a written health declaration before starting each of their shifts 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.
- 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 with Royal Flying Doctors Service used for transport to the appropriate hospital. Once they leave the mine site, they come under the controls required by the RFDS or the hospital.

PROCESS TO RELAX EXISTING BAUXITE HILLS MINE CONTROLS

As of Saturday 2 May, some of the Queensland Government's COVID-19 restrictions are being eased. This is the first step of a long and controlled process to get Queensland and Australia back to normal operations. Any spike in COVID-19 cases that occurs over the next few weeks, due to relaxing controls, could result in all controls being reinstated.

As with the Queensland Government, Metro will be taking a controlled approach to easing any of the site's existing controls. There is currently no plan to relax any of the existing controls at the mine site however Metro management are assessing the situation on a daily basis and are in consultation with local and State Government agencies.

Cape York has been declared a Biosecurity Area under the Commonwealth Biosecurity Act 2015. Therefore the decision to allow Skardon flights to recommence into the NPA region via Bamaga Airport is dependent on Queensland Health. Metro understands that Qld Health will notify all relevant parties when restrictions can be eased. Once this occurs, Metro will then work with the NPA Regional Council, Bamaga Airport and East Air Aviation to determine when all parties agree it is safe for flights to recommence into this community.

You will be made aware If a decision is made and Metro will send out separate notification to all concerned.

OTHER NEWS:

Cultural Heritage Survey has been completed for the first priority area at Bauxite Hills Mine and the report due in the coming days. Additional survey work will be required later in the year.

Cultural Heritage Monitors will start on-site in the next week, as required during all vegetation clearing works. These Monitors are appointed as required by the Heritage Body, the Seven Rivers Aboriginal Corporation.

Metro would like to thank all of our employees and community representatives for their ongoing help and understanding during this time.

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

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