



01 June 2020



COVID-19 Operations

Community Update 5



MINING OPERATIONS

Mining operations are continuing to progress well on-site with all Metro employees and contractors following COVID-19 controls.

As at 24 May, over 827,000 tonnes of bauxite had been mined which is well ahead of budgeted projections.

To date 10 ships have been loaded with bauxite for shipment to China, with loading of the 11th ship underway.

All previously advised controls at the mine site remain in place and are summarised below:

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.
- 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.
- 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 fortnight.
- 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

Metro has not relaxed any of the COVID-19 controls and will continue to liaise with our Traditional Owners, as well as the relevant local, State and Commonwealth Agencies, before making any changes.

As previously noted, Cape York has been declared a Biosecurity Area under the Commonwealth Biosecurity Act 2015. Potential for Skardon flights to recommence into the NPA region via Bamaga Airport depends on Qld Health confirming restrictions can be lifted. The same restriction applies for Metro employees travel into/out of Hope Vale Community.

Metro is liaising with Qld Health who will notify all relevant parties when these restrictions can be eased. At this stage, Metro has been advised not to recommence flights into the NPA region. Once Qld Health give approval to recommence flights Metro will then work with the NPA Regional Council, Bamaga Airport and East Air Aviation to determine a safe process to recommence flights into the Community.

At this time, Metro will also work with the Cook Shire Council to confirm travel requirements of employees from the Hope Vale Community. **You will be made aware if this decision is made and Metro will send out separate notification to all concerned.**

OTHER NEWS:

AGM – Metro Mining held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 26 May via an online video meeting format. A copy of the Chairman's address, and the Managing Director's presentation is available at: <https://www.metromining.com.au/media/33327/20200526-agm-chair-md-address-f.pdf>

Metro Mining would like to acknowledge **National Reconciliation Week (NRW)** which is held from **27 May – 3 June**. The start and end dates for NRW remain the same each year and recognize two significant events - the 1967 referendum and the Mabo High Court decision, respectively. The theme for NRW 2020 is 'In This Together', which seems particularly appropriate during COVID-19 restrictions which are affecting all of us. NRW is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. For more information, the link to the NRW website is: <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>

Cultural Heritage Monitors are currently working on-site as required during all vegetation clearing works. These Monitors are appointed in accordance with requirements of the Heritage Body, the Seven Rivers Aboriginal Corporation.

Metro would like to thank all 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:

NPA AND CAIRNS:

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