



20 August 2020



# COVID-19 Operations

# Community Update 10



## EARLY WET SEASON SHUTDOWN

Metro Mining wishes to advise that the Bauxite Hills Mine will move into its planned 2020 wet season shutdown earlier than usual.

The decision was made given the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on market conditions across the aluminium supply chain which continues to negatively impact market demand and prices.

The earlier than normal closure will unfortunately result in a number of Metro personnel and contractors being made redundant with only a small crew remaining onsite for general maintenance purposes.

### KEY POINTS

- Shipping from the Bauxite Hills Mine is expected to cease in mid-September;
- Operations are expected to recommence in April 2021 when deliveries into the existing contract with Xinha recommence (2.3M WMT sold for 2021).
- Negotiations for bauxite sales in 2020 (and beyond) continue. If additional sales are secured for 2020 delivery Metro can quickly reopen the mine later in 2020.
- Negotiations are progressing well for 2021 and beyond. It is anticipated 2021 will see improved trading conditions.
- Unfortunately, the early closure will result in a number of Metro personnel and contractors being made redundant, with only a small crew remaining on site for general maintenance.

The Bauxite Hills Mine has reported record mining and shipping rates and lower operational costs this operating year. However, the mine is expected to move into its planned wet season shutdown earlier than usual in 2020. Mining has already started to wind down and shipping is expected to cease on or around 15th September.

COVID related travel restrictions have impacted on Metro's bauxite marketing and sales program in China making it difficult to finalise offtake contracts. While discussions with potential customers are ongoing, the decision has been made to transition early to the 2020 wet-season shutdown to ensure an orderly wind-down of site activities.

**By making these changes, Metro will be in a sound financial position and have sufficient cash to begin operations again as planned in April 2021, where 2.3Mt of planned production is already contracted. Metro does have the opportunity to recommence operations in later in 2020 at short notice if additional sales are finalised.**

## OTHER NEWS:

### Liaison Committee Recommencing:

The next Liaison Committee meeting is planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Any community queries regarding the early wet season shutdown of the Bauxite Hills Mine should be directed to your relevant Representative or to Metro's Community Liaison Officers.

The current Liaison Committee Representatives (Rep) are:

- Mark Gebadi – Ankamuthi Rep
- Catherine Salee – Ankamuthi Rep
- Silas Salee – Ankamuthi Rep
- Polly Woosup – Ankamuthi Rep
- Cameron Hudson – OMAC Rep
- Geraldine Mamoose – OMAC Rep
- Katherine Steffensen – Metro CLO for Mapoon and Hope Vale
- Rebecca Williams – Metro CLO for Injinoo/NPA and Cairns
- Graham Tanner – General Manager for Bauxite Hills Mine
- Colleen Fish – Manager Environment & Community for Metro Mining

**Please note:** Should any Metro or contractor employee have any queries, please direct your questions to the appropriate Metro contact that has been provided to you. i.e. Rob Mulholland or Graham Tanner in the first instance.

### Seed Collections Recommencing:

Monthly seed collections will continue for the foreseeable future for both Mapoon and Injinoo to meet current rehabilitation requirements at the Bauxite Hills Mine.

Dr James Hill and Whitney Claxton (Metro) will be in community on the following dates for seed collection:

Month	Mapoon	Injinoo
August	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>
September	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>
October	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>

**Last COVID-19 Update:** Given the early wet season shutdown, and general relaxation of many COVID-19 controls, this will be Metro's last fortnightly COVID-19 Update.

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

**NPA AND CAIRNS:** Rebecca Williams M: 0499 576 533

**MAPOON & HOPEVALE:** Kathi Steffensen M: 0499 429 441