



MINING REHABILITATION ADVISORY PANEL

COMMUNIQUE – June 2020

A summary of the Mining Rehabilitation Advisory Panel's Meeting on 24 June 2020

1. Abandoned Mines Strategic Workshops

The Mining Rehabilitation Advisory Panel has agreed to work with DMIRS' Abandoned Mines Program team regularly attending workshops held on a monthly basis.

The Panel would normally meet on a quarterly basis to provide independent advice on Mining Rehabilitation Fund matters that would include the endorsement of projects under the Abandoned Mines Program. These quarterly meetings have been altered given COVID-19 impacts and will be bi-annual in 2020 so that the Panel members have more time to attend workshops and be more involved in the strategic decisions of the Abandoned Mines Program. This also provides the members with a greater understanding of the work being undertaken, allowing Panel meetings to be more targeted and focussed.

2. Bulong Pilot Project - Detailed Site Investigation

The Bulong Pilot project detailed site investigation has now been completed. The investigation was designed to investigate the potential for contamination at the site and it is expected that an ecological risk assessment is now required.

A meeting has been held with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) to agree to the next steps and define the projects future work.

3. Northampton Project

A new project is underway that includes three sites near Northampton; Wheal Ellen, Commonage and Wannerenooka. These projects which are managed by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) are included within their Northampton Lead Tailings Project (NLTP) to build containment cells for the sites lead tailings.

DPLH plan to complete construction of the NLTP at the Wheal Ellen site in October and due to the close proximity to shafts, have requested the assistance of DMIRS due to the high risk associated with shafts. Five or six shafts are close to an access road and a project plan is being completed for remediation of the shafts including an open pit.

The Panel endorsed the gazettal of the Wheal Ellen site as an abandoned mine marking commencement of the project.



4. Ellendale Diamond Mine

Plans to invite companies who had submitted Expressions of Interest for a new mining lease over the Ellendale Diamond Mine have been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions.

DMIRS continues to manage the site through the Abandoned Mines Program to minimise safety and environmental risks at the site, this has included returning to the site annually since its abandonment by Kimberley Diamond Company in 2015.

M. Rhodes

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Michelle Rhodes
Deputy Chairperson