

# McPhillamys Gold Project

## CCC Minutes

Title	McPhillamys Gold Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting #24	
Meeting Date	6pm, Monday 20 November 2023	
Venue	Blayney Community Centre	
Meeting Attendees	<b>David Ross (DR)</b>	Independent Chair
	<b>Jordan Butler (JB)</b>	Community Representative
	<b>Elizabeth Russ (ER)</b>	Community Representative
	<b>Tom Williams (TW)</b>	Community Representative
	<b>Robert (Bob) Russ (RR)</b>	Community Representative (Alternate – Cyril Smith (CS))
	<b>Bruce Reynolds (BR)</b>	Community Representative (Alternate – Miles Hedge (MH))
	<b>Daniel Sutton (DS)</b>	BHPG Representative
	<b>Mark Dicker (MD)</b>	GM, Blayney Council
	<b>Richard Pamplin (RP)</b>	Cabonne Shire Council
	<b>Allan Reeder (AR)</b>	Orange City Council (standing in for Nick Redmond (NR))
	<b>Wayne Taylor (WT)</b>	Regis Resources
	<b>Kathryn Logan (KL)</b>	Regis Resources
	<b>Danielle Wallace (DW)</b>	Regis Resources
	<b>Rachel Healy (RH)</b>	Regis Resources (Minutes)
Apologies	<b>Miles Hedge (MH)</b>	Community Representative
	<b>Cyril Smith (CS)</b>	ORWSA Representative
	<b>Robert Taylor (RT)</b>	Bathurst Regional Council
Next Meeting	19 February 2023	

Agenda item	Key Points
Meeting opened	6:04pm
1. Apologies	See above.
2. Introductions	DR welcomed AR standing in for NR. Acknowledged BR standing in for MH and RR, last minute, standing in for CS.  Round table introduction for benefit of AR.
3. Resignation	DR advised that Peter Hildenbeutel had resigned from the CCC since last meeting. He had been thanked for his time. DR will advertise for a new CCC member at the end of January 2024/early February 2024.
4. Declaration of pecuniary and other interests	DR is paid a fee to chair the meeting.
5. Business arising from previous minutes	Previous minutes endorsed by committee. DR outlined minutes procedure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes to be sent out within a week of CCC meeting for members to provide comments.</li> <li>Final DRAFT minutes completed 3 weeks from CCC meeting and published on the McPhillamys website.</li> <li>Final chance to provide comments on DRAFT minutes at the following CCC meeting.</li> <li>Final minutes to be published on the McPhillamys website.</li> </ul> <p>Actions from August CCC meeting completed.</p> <p>Question on notice (14 August 2023) answered in this meeting's presentation.</p>
6. Correspondence	Questions forwarded by DS to Regis.
7. McPhillamys Project update	Regis presentation - should be read alongside these minutes.
8. General business	DR facilitated discussions in groups regarding the Social Impact Management Plan as well as feedback on his chairing.
9. Questions sent prior to meeting	Of five questions sent by Daniel Sutton, one was addressed at the meeting and four will be answered on notice.
10. Next meeting	Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 @ 6.00pm, Blayney Community Centre
11. Meeting closed	8:20pm

	Action Items	Responsible	Due By
1	Book Blayney Community Centre for Monday 20 November 2023	Rachel Healy	Complete
2	Draft minutes to be provided to the Chairperson	Kath Logan	Complete
3	Include web link to <i>NSW Major Projects portal - McPhillamys Gold Project MOD1</i> in minutes	Kath Logan	Complete
4	Regis to mark up the 'Metal concentration profiles for waste rock, ore and tailings' table in the presentation with the full names of metals	Kath Logan	Complete

	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Due By</b>
5	Response to DS' questions on notice. Due 4 weeks from 20 <sup>th</sup> November CCC meeting	Kath Logan	Complete
6	Draft minutes distributed to members by email	David Ross	Monday 27 November
7	Committee members provide comment on minutes to Chairperson	All committee members	Monday 4 December
8	Correct date on August minutes, finalise & post on the McPhillamys Website	David Ross Rachel Healy	Monday 11 December
9	DR to send email to all CCC members formally advising that, in future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCC members are to submit all questions to the Chair only.</li> <li>• The Chair must have received all questions a week before the meeting.</li> <li>• The Chairman will collate questions then send to Regis and CCC members prior to the meeting.</li> <li>• Late questions will be answered at the following meeting.</li> </ul>	David Ross	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January
10	Deadline for CCC member questions to be answered at February CCC meeting	David Ross	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
11	Future presentations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level project timeline, mindful of role the Regis board will play</li> </ul>	Kath Logan, Danielle Wallace	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February

## Discussion notes

### 1. QUESTION ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

**Could Regis please provide a breakdown of the contents in the ore to be mined that won't be processed? In particular, the contents/makeup of the material which will form the waste rock walls, amenity bunds, and top soil?**

Waste rock profiles (waste rock, ore and tailings) are shown in the presentation (slide 5). The table is representative of an average per kilo of what will be in the waste rock, bearing in mind that the ground is not homogenous.

Monitoring information from the high-volume air sampler will detail what base metals are in the dust and this information will be publicly available. Dust mitigation measures will be in place with triggers set below exceedance levels with site management to be immediately notified of any trigger.

Progressive rehabilitation means the waste rock will gradually be covered, with the pit amenity bund covered in the first year. Progressive rehabilitation involves land shaping, rock capping, sub and top soil surfaced with seed or hydro mulch.

**Will dust levels be highest in the first 12 months (south bund)? (ER)**

The southern amenity bund and the southern water management facilities are closest to Kings Plains. Real-time monitoring will allow work to be altered to prevent exceedances. (DW)

### 2. QUESTION SUBMITTED PRIOR TO MEETING FROM THE COMMUNITY

*NOTE: A number of questions submitted by the community were taken on notice for response within four weeks.*

**Regis was recently asked if all 260 jobs would be in Blayney specifically as the person who asked was familiar with Blayney.**

**Regis replied "they are local jobs". This is misleading to the question which was very specific to the town of Blayney which was not accurately responded to.**

WT refuted the suggestion that his response was misleading. There was consensus that the question referred to the location of jobs, not the location of employees. There was also consensus that Regis had always been clear that all jobs associated with McPhillamys would be at site or the Blayney office.

There was discussion about the importance of respectful discussion, noting that McPhillamys is a highly emotive topic of discussion for many people. (AR, ER)

DR observed that he appreciated the concerns within the community but reminded the committee that respectful discussions were expected within meetings. Similarly, questions provided before meetings should be worded respectfully. Otherwise, members with different perspectives would never receive appropriate responses to any questions.

The nature of questions that should be submitted to the CCC was discussed with agreement that in future all questions be sent directly to the Chair. The Chair will assess the suitability of the questions and forward to Regis for response. DR invited committee members to have members of the wider community contact him, in the future, should they wish to discuss questions or concerns they wish to raise.

Discussion about the impossibility of employing 260 local people. Regis will preference local people but has to respect employee's right to live where they choose.

### **3. MEETING DISCUSSION**

#### **Will Regis be conducting base line water tank testing? (BR)**

Regis is considering developing a baseline tank monitoring plan (noting it is not a consent requirement). (DW)

#### **Modification 1**

MOD1 outlines layout changes to optimise the project's construction and operation ,and incorporates the previously proposed 132kV electricity transmission line into the project. A brief overview of requested modifications was provided and CCC members referred to the Major Projects Planning portal for further detail. <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-1-layout-optimisation> (DW).

Regis is investigating an additional offsite water supply source as a contingency for the Project. (DW)

#### **Section 10**

Regis advised there has been no determination by the Minister yet, and that it is unlikely to be made before Christmas. (DW)

#### **McPhillamys' Environmental Management Plans**

The Environmental Management Strategy has been approved and is available on the NSW Government Major Projects website at <https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=RFI-60495958%2120230731T031257.871%20GMT>

The Noise and Blast Management Plan is with DPE for approval. The Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan will be submitted to DPE in the next couple of weeks.

The draft Social Impact Management Plan will be presented to the CCC after community consultation has been completed (est. Q1 2024).

The Rehabilitation Strategy likely to be presented to CCC in Q2 2024. The Rehabilitation Strategy sits under the Rehabilitation Plan for the mining lease.

In future, all plans will be available on the McPhillamys website however not as yet. (DW)

#### **Exploration drilling taking place on Regis owned properties**

Regis is currently undertaking exploration drilling on the future McPhillamys site. The work is being completed in compliance with the requirements of Exploration Licence 5760 and is completely separate to the McPhillamys Gold Project.

#### **Is exploration work a breach of the Section 10 application? (DS)**

No. The Section 10 application does not prevent Regis from exploring in the application area. Exploration is approved by NSW Government agencies (Mining, Exploration and Geology, DPE and the EPA). Regis noted that activity associated with mine construction is not currently allowed. (DW, WT)

### **New tenement acquisition**

Regis has acquired tenement EL9602 which covers the Godolphin and Sherlock faults. There is no confirmed ore body. (DW, WT)

### **Is Regis' offset property allowed to be used for commercial agricultural purposes (beekeeping)? (DS)**

Commercial use of Aziel is allowed at the moment. When a stewardship agreement is put in place over the offset area, the offset area cannot be used for beekeeping. Bees may be kept on the remainder of Aziel. Regis has offered the opportunity to keep hives on Aziel to a number of beekeepers. (DW)

### **What is happening with the water licencing downstream of the Carcoar Dam? (BR)**

Regis continues to work with water licence owners who are trading.

Regis noted that licences need to be purchased under the Specific Purpose Access Licence (SPAL) as a way to offset rainwater water captured on the nil-discharge McPhillamys site. The licensed water will not be used, it will stay in the river.

### **Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP)**

The SIMP must describe measures Regis will take to enhance positive impacts, and manage and mitigate negative impacts. DPE requires Regis to consult community groups while developing the Plan.

The SIMP does not identify new impacts and opportunities. It focusses on issues raised in the Social Impact Assessment (2019 & 2020) and the DPE Social Impact Assessment Expert Review Recommendations (2022) and Regis' response (2022). It was noted that many of the issues raised have been managed in other plans e.g. the Traffic Management Plan.

The SIMP comprises six sub-plans. Five will be covered before the project starts - Kings Plains, housing and accommodation, workforce management, local business and services, and health and community wellbeing. The sixth – mine closure – will be submitted at least five years before closure.

While it was expected that CCC members would be given a draft of the SIMP at this meeting, Regis has decided it is better to get community feedback and include it in the draft for comment, rather than present the draft as a fait accompli.

The community will have the opportunity to contribute feedback on issues by attending consultation sessions (workshop style, up to 10 persons via RSVP), emailing or ringing the Regis office to provide commentary.

Kings Plains landowners will be invited to one-on-one consultations which will be held early in December. This will allow Regis to be as well-informed as possible.

All feedback, including how it will be addressed, will be documented and presented to the Department by Regis.

The role of consultants CDM Smith in developing the sub-plans was explained. (DW, KL)

## **4. GENERAL BUSINESS**

DR then broke the wider CCC members into three small groups each facilitated by a Regis representative (DW, KL, WT) to discuss the SIMP community consultation approach. There was general support for the approach.

Group 1: (DW) Strongly supported the involvement of CDM Smith as the specialist consultants.

Group 2: (WT) Strongly opposed CDM Smith's participation in the community consultation on the grounds that Regis knows the community better than consultants do.

Group 3: (KL) Supported the approach generally and recognised that now the project was approved it is important to make sure the SIMP works for the community. The SIMP should consider:

- Ways to get people to come to Blayney e.g. fishing, camping at Carcoar Dam, photography in winter
- Housing affordability and availability needs to be addressed, it will only get worse
- An analysis of the effects of the population uplift/cumulative impacts on services needs to be done e.g. childcare, medical, GP, emergency services

**Chairman requested feedback (DR)**

All members were comfortable with the chairing with no improvements recommended.

DR then closed the meeting noting that, on behalf of himself and the former Chair David Johnson, he was most appreciative of the time set aside by members for the meetings as well as the contributions all members made.