

10. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND CONSULTATION

Minemakers has adopted an approach to community consultation and stakeholder engagement that is based on the timely and accurate provision of information to stakeholders and listening to stakeholders to understand their views, concerns and aspirations. The approach has included the participation of Minemakers in on-country meetings with the Traditional Owners and the Central Land Council, ongoing consultation with the Northern Territory government and public meetings in Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

Consultation and engagement strategies have been developed in accordance with best practice standards for community consultation and stakeholder engagement such as the Australian Minerals Council's Enduring Value: The Australian Minerals Industry Framework for Sustainable Development (2005) and the International Finance Corporation's Stakeholder Engagement: A good practice handbook for companies doing business in emerging markets (IFC, 2007).

Consultation has commenced with key stakeholder groups and will continue during the remaining project planning, construction, operations, and mine closure phases in accordance with the stakeholder consultation plan (Attachment 5). The stakeholder consultation plan has been designed to ensure that the process is open and transparent for all stakeholders throughout the life of the mine and mine closure process.

10.1 Consultation Objectives

The goal of Minemakers' stakeholder consultation program is to provide a framework that will ensure that stakeholders are provided with accurate information about, and involved to an appropriate degree in, the development of the project.

The specific objectives of Minemakers consultation program are to:

- Achieve mutual understanding between Minemakers and its stakeholders.
- Ensure the smooth and efficient development and operation of the Wonarah Phosphate Project (the project).
- Provide appropriate opportunities for involving and communicating with relevant stakeholders.
- Provide a process in which project planning and operation can take account of issues raised by stakeholders at the earliest possible stage.
- Reduce the potential for stakeholder disaffection, which can result from a misunderstanding of the project, and, particularly for local communities, either a real or perceived exclusion from the environmental and social impact assessment (i.e., EIS) process.
- Ensure the appropriate regulatory requirements are met.
- Provide a means for recording all initiatives in which consultation is undertaken, issues raised and responses to these issues provided to stakeholders.

These objectives have been met to date by the establishment of a consultation framework and community engagement program that is supported by relevant technical investigations during project development.

10.2 Stakeholders

Stakeholders are parties with an interest in the project who can potentially influence, or are influenced by, its development. Stakeholder groups and their level of interest and influence will vary throughout the life of the mine. Minemakers has developed a consultation plan that recognises the dynamic nature of stakeholders over the life of the project. Stakeholders relevant to the project include:

- i) The 'local' community (people associated with the immediate area and who are directly affected by project-related activities), which comprises residents of the Wunara community, pastoralists on surrounding properties, the Central Land Council (CLC) and the Northern Land Council (NLC).
- ii) 'Peripheral' communities (communities that are proximal to the project area and may or may not be affected by the project in some way, e.g., through increased employment opportunities), which comprise the township of Tennant Creek.
- iii) 'Other' communities (communities that are distant from the project area and that may still be affected by the project in some way). These include Darwin and Mt Isa (the localities from which most products, services and people will be sourced), Camooweal and Alice Springs.
- iv) Northern Territory government agencies and relevant Ministers and members of parliament (e.g., Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport (DNRETAS), Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources (DRDPFR), Department of Chief Minister, NT WorkSafe, NT Emergency Service, Darwin Port Corporation).
- v) Non-government organisations and special interest groups (e.g., Environment Centre Northern Territory, Country Women's Association of Australia (CWAA), Barkly Tourism).
- vi) Media (regional, territory and national).
- vii) General public (particularly within the Northern Territory).
- viii) Minemakers (e.g., board, employees) and its shareholders.
- ix) Contractors/suppliers (including infrastructure providers) and customers to Minemakers.
- x) Financiers (e.g., brokers, bankers and investors) and their advisors.
- xi) Mining industry (e.g., other mineral explorers or producers in the area and the Minerals Council of Australia).

10.3 Consultation to Date

Stakeholders consulted and activities undertaken have reflected the stages of the project development. The sections below outline the general consultation topics, activities and the broad stakeholder groups involved. Consultation methods included face to face, telephone, e-mail or letter. The consultation method undertaken depended on the issues being discussed and the stakeholder being consulted.

A detailed summary of all stakeholder consultation activities carried out to date is detailed in Attachment 6. This does not include consultation with, or information dissemination to,

stakeholders such as the shareholders, potential customers, the Australian Stock Exchange or potential financiers.

10.3.1 Scoping Study Consultation

Consultation activities during the initial planning or scoping stage of the project (up to February 2009) were focused on introducing the project and the potential options being considered for development and providing detailed information on exploration activities being undertaken. Project information was also posted on Minemakers' website (www.minemakers.com.au).

Stakeholders involved in consultation activities during this scoping study phase were the Traditional Owners, CLC, Northern Territory and Australian government agencies and local pastoralists. Consultation with key Northern Territory and Australian government agencies (such as DRDPIFR, Department of Chief Minister, DNRETAS and the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts) focused on establishing and initiating the assessment and approvals process for the project. Consultation with the Traditional Owners and the CLC and local pastoralists focused on facilitating land access for exploration activities.

10.3.2 Consultation for the EIS

Since the project progressed from the scoping study to the feasibility and EIS preparation phase, consultation has expanded to include a broader range of organisations and individuals, including residents of Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, local training providers, local businesses, the Northern Territory Mineral Resources Council (formally NT Resources Council), the Northern Territory Industry Capability Network (NTICN) and the Environment Centre Northern Territory (ECNT).

Along with listening to stakeholder concerns and views, topics that have been discussed as part of the consultation activities include general updates on the project and its progress; issues specific to the Wunara community; the project approvals process; training, employment and business opportunities; water supply; and access to land. A database is being, and will continue to be, kept to record all stakeholder contact.

The broad outcomes of these consultation activities include:

- Increased government and community awareness and understanding of the project.
- Identification of areas of concern to Traditional Owners and other stakeholders.
- Building relationships with local and peripheral communities.
- Identification of potential employment opportunities for local Indigenous people.
- Opportunities for members of the local community to voice opinions and concerns.

While a detailed summary of all stakeholder consultation activities carried out to date is detailed in Attachment 6, Table 10.1 summarises the:

- Stakeholder groups.
- Nature of their interest in the project.
- Consultations undertaken.
- Consultation outcomes and perceptions of stakeholders.

10.4 Ongoing Consultation Plan

The community consultation and engagement program is ongoing and will continue throughout the life of the project to ensure due consideration of all project-related opportunities and concerns. The ongoing program will involve:

- Maintaining the current good relationships between Minemakers, the Traditional Owners and the CLC, pastoral leaseholders and government (at all levels).
- Establishing contact with other key stakeholders as new issues arise.
- Disseminating information to, and having discussions with, stakeholders on key issues raised during the EIS assessment.
- Identifying and responding to key issues and concerns of all stakeholders.
- Preparing relevant documents for review by government agencies and other stakeholders.
- Addressing specific concerns of various stakeholders on an ongoing basis.
- Routine reporting.

10.4.1 Approach

Stakeholder consultation will be a participative process, tailored to stakeholder groups to ensure the appropriate levels and types of engagement are undertaken with each stakeholder individual or stakeholder group. Consultation will include, but not be limited to:

- Project briefings for key stakeholders to update them on project progress and issues. Also to provide a forum for Minemakers to listen to, understand and address their concerns and issues.
- Meetings with the Traditional Owners and the CLC and surrounding pastoralists to ensure that landowners and occupiers are kept informed of the project progress and to listen to, understand and address their concerns and issues.
- Community information sessions to gain a broad understanding of the concerns of stakeholders about the project.

The consultation program will ensure the opportune dissemination of project information and enable stakeholders to communicate concerns.

Table 10.1 Summary of stakeholder consultation to date

Stakeholder	Nature of Interest	Consultations Undertaken	Outcomes and Stakeholder perceptions
Traditional Owners, the CLC and NLC (stakeholder group i)	Environmental and cultural heritage and archaeological impact. Traditional Owner employment, training and business opportunities. Land access and exploration agreements. Infrastructure and services in the Wunara community. Royalty payments.	The majority of consultations have been conducted through the CLC as the representative of the Traditional Owners. When agreed to by the CLC, direct contact with Traditional Owners has been made to discuss specific contracting and business opportunities. When invited to do so a company representative has provide an 'on country' briefing at meetings arranged and managed by the CLC.	On country meetings provide the opportunity for Traditional Owners concerns to be raised with Minemakers and for Minemakers to update the progress with the project. Issues discussed with the Traditional Owners to date has included protection of sacred sites, employment and training opportunities, business and contracting opportunities, and drug and alcohol issues. The Traditional Owners have indicated their support of the project. Outcomes of consultation to date include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of assistance to the Wunara community with earthmoving works (bulldozing). • Land access agreement for exploration activities. • The nomination of First Australian Haulage Contracting as the Traditional Owners representative to be provided with a role within the logistics chain. • Involvement of the Traditional Owners in flora and fauna site survey.
Local station owners (stakeholder group i)	Impact on water resources. Impact on regional labour pool.	The majority of consultation has been via phone and e-mail, with some face to face consultation.	Consultation has been focused on access for exploration for water. Minemakers has a positive relationship with surrounding pastoralists.
Operators of the Barkly Roadhouse (stakeholder group ii)	Amenity impacts. Traffic impacts. Business opportunities.	Face to face meeting.	Discussion of proposed traffic movements and potential for noise issues due to the passing of trucks that will be transporting the ore. Operators of Barkly Roadhouse did not consider noise to be an issue and do not require Minemakers to do anything about it. Minemakers offered that if noise does become a problem, they will take necessary mitigation measures to minimise it such as tree planning along the highway or construction of a bund or other noise screening.
General public of Tennant Creek (stakeholder group ii)	Business and employment opportunities. Regional development. General curiosity of project. Environmental management.	Public meeting in April 2009 with 79 members of the local community, held in Tennant Creek.	Presentation on the project provided, including a question and answer session. Issues discussed include rehabilitation, final voids, transport of ore, training and employment, Indigenous employment opportunities. Details were provided on how to get further information.

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Stakeholder	Nature of Interest	Consultations Undertaken	Outcomes and Stakeholder perceptions
General public of Alice Springs (stakeholder group iii)	Business and employment opportunities. General curiosity of project.	Public meeting in July 2009 with around 70 members of the local community (primarily business people), held in Alice Springs.	Presentation on the project provided, including a question and answer session. This was followed by one-on-ones as required to discuss specific enquiries. Follow up was provided to enquiries by various businesses who expressed interest.
Julalikari Council and Remote Employment Services (JRES) (stakeholder group iii)	Indigenous employment and training	Meeting with representatives of the council and RES to discuss the project and potential job and training opportunities.	Minemakers are considering JRES as a potential service provider.
Northern Territory government (stakeholder group iv)	Job creation. Economic development. Training. Royalty revenue. Environmental management.	Regular meetings with Chief Minister and other Ministers and heads of departments (detailed below). Meetings with the Treasurer, Minister for Regional Development and the Member for Barkly.	Feedback from discussions has been incorporated into project design. The aim of maintaining close consultation with the Northern Territory government throughout the preparation of the EIS process will assist in the government assessment process.
DRDPIFR (stakeholder group iv)	Resource project development. Regional development.	Meetings with department officials to discuss project status and permitting process.	The DRDPIFR have provided advice in relation to project permitting and the Mineral Lease application. The regular project updates with DRDPIFR has allowed the department to be up to date on the project status and has assisted with processing of exploration permits.
DNRETAS (stakeholder group iv)	Environmental management. Land clearing. Water. Flora and fauna. Cultural heritage.	Meetings, e-mail and phone discussions with department officials to discuss project status and permitting process.	The DNRETAS have provided advice in relation to project permitting. Advice received has assisted Minemakers in understanding the permitting route and timeframes. The regular project updates with DNRETAS has allowed the department to be up to date on the project status and feedback received from the department has been considered and where possible incorporated in to the project design.
NT Roads within the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (stakeholder group iv)	Road condition and road safety.	Meetings with department officials to discuss the project and any road or traffic issues. Meeting with two local	Discussions have related to road maintenance, upgrades and transport route from the mine to the multi-user hub. Concerns in relation to the transport of ore through the town of Tennant Creek has been addressed through the use of the multi-user hub, located to the north

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		representatives in Tennant Creek to discuss the road aspects of the project.	and outside of Tennant Creek. Minemakers has also committed to reporting any deterioration in road conditions so that it can be repaired promptly before condition becomes hazardous.
Department of Planning and Infrastructure (stakeholder group iv)	Regional planning and development.	Meetings with department officials both face to face in Tennant Creek and via phone to discuss the project and workforce accommodation.	The project updates with DPI has assisted the department to be up to date on the project status. Discussions in relation to the workforce accommodation in Tennant Creek have also been considered in the preparation of this EIS.
Department of Local Government and Housing (stakeholder group iv)	Local government and housing.	Meeting with department representative in Tennant Creek to discuss the project.	Discussions have focused on the release of land for the accommodation village in Tennant Creek and for a local office of Minemakers to be established in Tennant Creek. Minemakers will increase their local presence as the project ramps up to construction and operation
Port of Darwin (stakeholder group iv)	Export of bulk phosphate rock through the port.	Meetings with various representatives of the Port to discuss requirements for storage and wharf capacity.	Minemakers and the Port of Darwin have a Memorandum of Understanding in relation to the port and future development of the port. Discussions are continuing, but Minemakers has a positive relationship with the Port of Darwin.
Environment Centre NT (stakeholder group v)	Environmental management. Benefits to Traditional Owners.	Face to face meeting to introduce and discuss project and understand any concerns.	ECNT were briefed on project outline, principle environmental investigations and findings and other items that they were interested in such as Traditional Owner engagement. Considered ECNT key areas of interest in the EIS.
Minerals Council of Australia NT (stakeholder group xiii)	Resource industry promotion. Economic development. Employment and training.	Meetings with representatives of the NT Resource Council to discuss the project status.	Minemakers has joined the NT Resources Council and become a member of the Management Committee.

10.4.2 Mechanisms

The ongoing consultation program will involve both formal and informal mechanisms. The EIS assessment process will provide for formal mechanisms for consultation, and informal mechanisms may include:

- Project information bulletins or brochures.
- Information on the Minemakers website.
- Direct consultation with the resident manager.
- An information display and pack containing relevant project and Minemakers contact information.
- Newsletters and fact sheets.
- Presentations, meetings and liaison:
 - Presentations by project personnel to community and other groups.
 - Media releases.
 - Northern Territory Government briefings.
 - Liaison and site inspections with government agencies and regulators.
 - Interviews and articles in local media.
 - Stakeholder information sessions.