



## Tritton Operations - Community Consultative Committee

### Minutes

The meeting was held on 22 May 2024 at the Nyngan RSL Civic Club.

Meeting commenced at 9.30am

Present at the meeting:

Garry West (Independent Chair)

Geoffrey Atkinson (General Manager, Aeris Resources, Tritton Operations)

Chris Raymond (Exploration Manager, Tritton Operations)

Izzy Moodie (Community relations Officer, Tritton Operations)

Graeme Angove (Landholder Representative)

Venita Dutton (Nyngan LALC)

Raylene Weldon (Nyngan LALC)

Deb Wood (Director, People & Community Services, Bogan Shire Council)

Tony Wood (Nyngan Police Sergeant)

Tony Elias (Community Representative & BSC Councillor)

Apologies

Dirk McNicoll (Environmental Superintendent, Tritton Operations)

Derek Francis (General Manager, Bogan Shire Council)

Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed attendees.

Minutes of Previous meeting

Minutes were circulated and no changes were requested and were uploaded to the project website.

Business Arising

NIL

## Company Report

### Business Update

#### Highlights for Q3 FY24

Copper equivalent production of 9.7kt for the quarter at AISC of A\$5.31 /lb.

Tritton metal production continues to be impacted by labour and equipment availability although contract labour and additional equipment are now in place to lift production in Q4. Gold production and costs at Cracow are in line with plan. Recent drilling identified new vein structure in Western Vein Field at Cracow.

Mt Colin mine ore production year-to-date is 10% higher than plan, although toll processing (and copper production) are behind schedule.

Jaguar remains on care and maintenance; however, exploration is focussing on gold potential while PFS is underway.

Stockman feasibility work on the Albion process continues.

FY24 guidance maintained.

Tritton copper production of 4.3kt for quarter at AISC of A\$5.81 /lb.

While labour and equipment availability have impacted production operating and capital costs have been well managed. Mine plan changes at several ore sources are being implemented providing a strong Q4 forecast.

Guidance is maintained with copper production expected around the mid-point of FY24 guidance with operating and capital costs at the bottom end of guidance.

### Operational Improvements

Tritton is set up for a strong Q4.

Additional trucks and loaders, both rental and surplus equipment from Jaguar have been brought into service at Tritton. Contract labour has been obtained to fill critical production roles.

The mining sequence at Murrawombie has changed from bottom-up to top-down, enabling increased production rates. Mining at Avoca Tank is transitioning to higher productivity double lift stopes.

Production resources at the Tritton mine have been reallocated to higher grade remnant stopes in the central part of the mine.

## Tritton People

Recent changes to the organisational structure has resulted in dedicated Mine Manager and Technical Services Manager positions, the latter is still vacant. The Statutory Compliance position has recently been filled.

Currently, the Company is struggling to attract candidates to the region due to lack of after hours childcare facilities in Nyngan. Candidates have been forced to withdraw from the recruitment process due to childcare limitations in the area. Tritton aims to facilitate an environment that support a diverse workforce.

During discussion it was noted that the childcare facility closes at 6pm which is too early for employees returning to Nyngan when their shift finishes.

The profile of candidates eligible for housing has changed over the past 12 months with an increase in singles or couples with no dependents opposed to families relocating to the region.

## Work Health & Safety – Summary

Upcoming HSET projects include incident investigations – corrective actions and prevention of re-occurring events and document management system.

There are currently 19 active members in the Emergency Response Team and the yearly training schedule has been completed. 15 members completed underground search and rescue; 18 completed fire team operations; 13 members are capable of performing Confined Space rescue; 9 completed vertical rescue and 14 completed road crash rescue.

## Work Health & Safety – Positive Activity

Broad Brush Risk Assessments have been completed showing where improvements are required.

Periodic medicals of 212 employees have been conducted across the Tritton Operations. 149 inspections were entered InControl, 66 improvement actions were assigned as a result.

Bi-monthly commitment to workplace wellbeing program continues for employees and contractors.

Zero exceedances for Personal Hygiene Monitoring last quarter.

## Work Health & Safety – Lag Indicators

The Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) 12-month rolling average at 9.4. Whilst improving it still needs to be lower. Planning to move from Lag to a Lead approach in relation to incidents.

Injuries for quarter: 7 Report only; 23 First Aid Injury; 5 Restricted Work Injuries. 28 incidents were reportable.

### Environmental Incidents, Complaints & Initiatives

Nil Complaints for the quarter.

Environmental Initiatives. A number of employees attended the Aeris Environment Community of Practice (CoP) held in Brisbane April 30 & May 1.

Environmental Monitoring includes surface and groundwater, air quality monitoring and mine waste. Details can be viewed on the project website. No exceedances for the quarter.

Completed vegetation and weed spraying in April. The Tritton Annual Review for 2023 has been submitted to DPHI.

A review of Management Plans has commenced and is scheduled across 2024.

### Projects & Rehabilitation

- Murrawombie Cutback and HLF Closure- a MOD 5 application has been submitted to Bogan Shire Council.
- Tritton TSF height raise – DPHI have been provided with a briefing letter on MOD 9 application.
- Constellation EIS – progress continues, with submission to DPHI during Q4.

Graeme questioned if the HLF heaps will be covered and all liquid contained. Geoff confirmed that will be the case.

### Environmental Incidents

During the quarter there was a spill at the Northern Ops from a diesel trailer leaking at the generators and at the Southern Ops there was a non-compliance with Water Approval 80WA716044

### Tailings Dam Rise Project Update

Aeris resources will be seeking a modification (MOD 9) to the Tritton Copper Mine Development Approval (DA41/98), including:

- Height of the Tailings Dam increased from 272m AHD to 278m AHD
- Mining operations extended from December 2028 to December 2036
- Annual processing rate increased from 1.4Mtpa to 1.8Mtpa
- Importation of up to 1.8Mtpa of mineral ore and NAF waste rock.

Initial discussions were held with DPHI in May with submission of the application expected in Q# 2024. The tailings dam lift would occur in three 2m lift stages as required by operations for additional capacity.

### Community – Sponsorship & Donations

#### Sponsorship for FY25

Starting from July 2024 Tritton Operations will be setting up the Sponsorship & Donations process that will be awarded on a quarterly basis only.

- Tritton Operations will advertise this process and provide sponsorship request forms.
- Applications will need to be received by a quarterly deadline, reviewed, and then awarded accordingly.
- The sponsorship scope will be confined to the Bogan Shire catchment area. However, as there are employees based in Cobar, sponsorship proposal will continue to be considered for that region.
- This aligns and standardises Tritton Operations to other Aeris owned operations processes.

#### Sponsorships for the remaining of FY24 fiscal year

- Cobar Miner Race Day
- Nyngan Bowling Club, June Long Weekend

### Murrawombie Open Cut Project Update

Aeris Resources will be seeking a modification (MOD 5) to the Murrawombie Copper mine (MCM) DA Approval (DA1/91) to include:

- Alternate ROM pad and stockpile location
- Surface water management infrastructure
- Option for a potential water pipeline between MCM and the proposed Constellation Copper Mine.
- Use of waste rock from the MCM open pit cutback to close and rehabilitate the existing Heap Leach Facility (HLF).

Mining is planned Q1 next FY and several contractors are currently reviewing the project prior to a contract being awarded.

### Exploration Update

Drilling has commenced at Constellation with two primary objectives:

- Expanding the Current Resource, and
- Upgrading the Inferred Resource to Indicated.

Exploration is working on becoming more predictive, learning from the known deposits and ultimately to finding more. Currently work is focusing on the NSW Government Datasets, with seismic data released on 10 May 2024.

Tony sought clarification on the Life of Mine of Constellation. Geoff advised at this stage it is expected to be similar in size to Murrawombie, currently 6 years, possibly 10-12 years.

### CCC Membership

In recognition that the Constellation Project will be a State Significant Project Garry West advised that committee that it will involve the CCC being a condition of consent and be appointed by DPHI. It is likely that there will be a need to engage with stakeholders in the locality of Girilambone in the future and the committee will be subject to the department's CCC Guidelines.

### General Business

Graeme raised questions about the bushfire and the mine's preparedness with no out of hours contact available. Geoffrey advised planning is underway to have a Duty Manager on site 24/7 before next fire season.

Graeme also raised concern about how local landholders could become involved on a contractual basis for some of the mine activities where they have the appropriate equipment. Company will review contractor management procedures.

### Constellation Project

The Company has commenced a targeted program of consultation with the CCC, affected landowners and other potential impacted stakeholders and is currently targeting lodging the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI) in Q4 2024.

The Constellation Project will supply ore to the Tritton processing plant to ensure the ongoing viability of the operation. It involves the establishment of an open pit and underground operations with supporting site infrastructure.

The Project site is located north of Girilambone. Ore is to be trucked to Tritton, including via the existing Murrawombie to Tritton haul road.

Constellation is one of a number of ore bodies planned to supply ore to Tritton. This is the basis for a hub and spoke model for the Tritton operation and achieving an ongoing viable mine life for Tritton.

Construction period is approximately 12 months, initially open cut development (~2yrs) and underground mining activity (~10 years). There is potential for future mine life extensions as the deposit is developed down plunge.

During construction it is estimated there will be 95 direct and indirect jobs and 178 during operations covering mining, transport and processing. Many of the roles will be replacement roles as mining ceases at other sites and does not include the roles at Tritton that will be maintained.

When operational the workforce will largely comprise of existing Aeris personnel and primarily reflect a maintenance of existing workforce levels. The local workforce is not anticipated to place any additional demand on the local property market beyond existing levels. While some additional workers may be required during construction, the number is expected to be small and for relatively short period. Housing pressure in the region will remain a challenge but will not be made materially worse by the Project.

The site is designed to minimise the surface footprint and key infrastructure includes mine pit, waste rock emplacement, Run of mine pad, Heap leach, operation, water management infrastructure, underground portal, support facilities and potentially a solar farm.

Okeh Road and infrastructure corridor will need to be widened to 18m to achieve safety guidelines. A new section between Okeh Road and the Mitchell Highway on Aeris land will be needed to avoid the Girilambone township. A new intersection with the Mitchell Highway and an upgrade to Railway Road intersection are required. A VPA will be needed for road maintenance.

Traffic numbers of both private vehicles and buses are predicated in the draft EIS for year 1 to year 10 of the operation have been assessed together with the number of AB triple trucks for operational traffic as well as estimated truck movements for fuel, cement, mining consumables and deliveries.

Community consultation has identified the social benefits of the Project include:

- Stability of the local community population
- Building social capital and community resilience
- Continuation of local employment
- New local employment and local procurement opportunities, and tax revenue to NSW economy.

Areas of concern are demand for housing, increased traffic and health and wellbeing impacts on workforce and landowners.

The site will be a nil discharge site, with mine affected water contained on site. Clean stormwater will be directed away from the site. Site water supply will be supplemented by water from Murrawombie via a two-way pipeline. Water from Murrawombie will be supplied under existing water licences. In the event of unseasonable high rainfall, water can be returned to Murrawombie.

Dust and noise from traffic are recognised as a consideration for residents along Okeh Road in particular. Mitigation measures have been proposed to minimise these risks, with landholders being engaged directly as well. Construction activity will occur between 6am and 10pm. The risk of dust, noise and light impacts on homesteads from the mine operations have been assessed as low to moderate.

Some biodiversity offsets will be required for the project to allow for clearing native vegetation and hollow bearing trees. The mine site and haul road design have avoided native vegetation clearing as far as practical. Referral under the federal EPBC Act may be required for the Major Mitchell Cockatoo.

A cultural heritage survey, involving traditional owners, has been undertaken for the mine site and the haul road. A Cultural heritage Management Plan will be required, and all heritage objects identified by the survey have been registered as required.

Rehabilitation goals for the Project site include:

- Removal of all project related infrastructure not required by the final land use
- Retain suitable water infrastructure to support ongoing land use
- Restore site to a safe, stable and non-polluting landform
- Reinststate the soil profile and function
- Create landforms that are compatible with the surrounding topography and pre-mining land uses, and
- Establish a landscape that permits the land use of livestock grazing on native / mixed pastures.

The site power is planned to be supplied via a combination of solar (30%) and diesel generation (70%). The solar farm is planned to be located within the mine site footprint.

No development consents are currently in place for the Project.

Meeting Closed at 11.10am

Next Meeting

Wednesday 21 August 2024 TBC