

Broken Hill North Mine Community Consultative Committee Up for the challenge

Members of the Community Consultative Committee for the reopening of the Broken Hill North Mine were enthusiastic about the task before them when they met for the first time in May. All members were up for the challenge of being the conduit between the community and representatives of the Perilya, the company operating the mine.

The contribution of the mine to the economy was important to members, as was the need for the mine to meet the requirements of the environmental approval. A power point presentation at the meeting from Perilya to the committee has been made publicly available on the company's website <http://www.perilya.com.au/health--safety--environment/community/bhnmccc>. The presentation was of great interest as some members learned for the first time about the history and the detail of the plans for the mine's reopening.

The committee was surprised to learn about the steps for the mine in preparation of studies and the business case and the approval from the NSW government through the Department of Planning and Environment. The approval process had commenced at the end of 2015 and was complete in December 2017.

The establishment of the Community Consultative Committee is a condition of the NSW government approving the construction of the mine.

Comprising seven community members, a representative of Council and an independent chairperson the group is to assist with communication between the mine and the community. This will include advising the mine how, and on what issues, communication with the community might be enhanced.

At the first meeting the committee also established a Terms of Reference for how they would operate.

The Community Consultative Committee primarily exists to enhance the relationship between Perilya and the community. There are a number of items that will be part of the agenda of each meeting including reports on any environmental or community issues and updates on the project progress and future planned activities. The objective is to achieve balanced social, environmental and economic outcomes for near neighbours and the local and regional community.

The committee can be contacted via the Chairperson, Margaret Harvie at margaret@plancom.com.au and more information is at <http://www.perilya.com.au/>