
3.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

3.1 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROGRAM

Midwest has been in consultation with key regulatory groups, non-government agencies and the Morawa and Perenjori communities since the beginning of feasibility studies. Concerns raised during consultation have been taken into consideration in this document.

3.1.1 Public and Non-Government Organisation Consultation

A number of methods have been used to engage the public on the proposed Project, depending on the issue or information required. The following community and environmental groups have been invited to public meetings or consulted with directly on the relevant aspects of the DSO Koolanooka / Blue Hills Project.

- Conservation Council of WA (Perth).
- Wildflower Society of WA.
- Native Title claimants.

A public meeting was held in Morawa on 22 June 2004, with Project information presented to the 75 people who attended. Strong community support for the reopening of Koolanooka mine was demonstrated at this meeting.

Two further consultation meetings have been held, one in Morawa on 6 December 2006, and one in Perenjori on 7 December 2006. During these consultation meetings Project information was presented to the communities and the public were given an opportunity to raise queries or concerns. Details of the Morawa and Perenjori meetings were advertised in the local papers (the *Morawa Community Scene* and the *Perenjori and District Bush Telegraph*) which were distributed throughout the Morawa and Perenjori areas. In addition, a Project brochure with a comment sheet was mail dropped to post office boxes in the town areas prior to the public meetings. 24 people were present at the Morawa public meeting, where a Powerpoint presentation of the Project scope was given by Midwest and *ecologia*. There was positive support from members of the community who encouraged the economic and employment growth that would be associated with the Project. There was little public attendance at the Perenjori public meeting.

Midwest has also undertaken ongoing consultation and liaison with the Shires of Morawa and Perenjori. Two local council special sessions were held on 6 and 7 December 2006 respectively, to discuss the Project scope. The Shires of Morawa and Perenjori support the recommencement of operations at the mine site. Other issues raised included benefits to the town and district and alternative employment opportunities.

A briefing session similar to the public meetings in Morawa and Perenjori was held in Perth on 24 January 2007. Invitees to this meeting included representatives from government agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs), including the Conservation Council of WA and the Wildflower Society. Discussions revolved around the scope of Project works and the types of investigations being conducted.

Additional project public briefing sessions were held at Morawa on 27 May 2008 and Perenjori on 28 May 2008 with approximately 65 and 40 attendees respectively.

3.1.2 Landowner Consultation

Midwest has undertaken ongoing consultation and liaison with the landowners in the vicinity of the mine site. Issues raised by the landowners related to management of surface water runoff and continuation of water supplies. Midwest has committed to ensuring that any changes in surface water runoff resulting from the proposal will not adversely impact surrounding land, and that should there be any impact on water supplies, the company will amend the impact.

As required by the *Mining Act, 1978*, Midwest is entering into agreements with each of the landowners that own freehold land subject to Mining Leases owned by Midwest.

3.1.3 Regulator Consultation

Briefings, meetings and discussions have been held with a range of state and regional agencies and advisory bodies. Discussions have been held with:

- Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC Perth).
- Department of Environment and Heritage (DEWHA, Canberra).
- Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA, Perth).
- Department of Industry and Resources (DoIR, Perth).
- Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI, Perth).
- Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC, Perth).
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA, Perth).
- Environmental Protection Authority Services Unit (EPASU, Perth).

These agencies have been involved in Project discussions and invited to comment on relevant aspects of the scope and adequacy of investigation methodologies. Accordingly, Midwest has refined and expanded the scope of environmental investigations.

Midwest will continue consultation with regulators throughout the Project planning, construction and operation to ensure that issues regarding the Project are managed appropriately.

Specific consultation undertaken with agencies and individuals is detailed in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Project Consultation

Stakeholder Group	Date	Stakeholder Contact	Issues raised	Midwest Response
DEC and EPASU	Various	Joe Grehan, Nick Wolfrey, Tim Gentle, Ann Stubbs, James Pederick.	Initial kick-off meetings, discussion on received feedback, resolution of cumulative impacts expression with Gindalbie and offsets.	PER has been amended according to the requirements issued by these agencies.
DEC Midwest Region	Various	Danielle Eyres, Beth MacKernan	Discussions on the flora and fauna species of the region, flora and fauna surveys undertaken and conservation significant species present.	Midwest has developed fauna and flora management outlined in Sections 8.1 & 8.2 of this PER.
DoW	Various	Annaliesha Sullivan	Project aspects and issues relating to water use and supply	Project water use has been defined.
DoIR	Various	Tammie Webb, Ana Mesquita and Eugene Bouwhuis	Discussion of project description and related issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from DoIR personnel in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Shire of Morawa	6/12/2006 7/12/2006	CEO and President of the Shire of Morawa	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from the Shire of Morawa in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Public Meeting - Morawa	24/06/2004	75 attendees	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from this public forum in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Public Meeting - Morawa	6/12/2006	24 attendees	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from this public forum in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Shire of Perenjori	7/12/2006	Full council meeting	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from the Shire of Perenjori in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Public Meeting - Perenjori	7/12/2006	1 attendee	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Midwest has considered all feedback from this public forum in forming this PER and related supporting documents.
Conservation Council and Wildflower Society	Early Dec 2006, 24/01/2007	Chris Talentyre and Brian Moyle	Full discussion of project requirements and potential issues	Considered feedback from these NGO's when developing this PER
Native Title Claimant and other Indigenous stakeholders	19-21/3/ 2007 3/4/2007	The Widi Mob, Pandawn Descendants, Yamatji Marlpa Barna Baaba Aboriginal Corporation, Amangu Mob.	No issues raised with the DSO project to date	Heritage issues have been defined as required.

One of the main concerns raised by the DEC during this process was related to the cumulative impact of proposed project on the Koolanooka System Threatened Ecological Community. Midwest has reviewed the potential impact on the 5419 ha system and has concluded that it is not feasible to reduce the proposed 4.46 ha impact on the TEC, as this remains a very small percentage of the total TEC area. Of the 4.46 ha of TEC disturbance required, it has been calculated that only 2.68 ha will actually involve clearance of vegetation, as a significant portion of the nominated area has already been disturbed by previously approved exploration activities, as demonstrated in Figure 6-13. A further 6.26 ha of disturbed TEC listed land currently exists on Midwest tenements at Koolanooka due to previous exploration activities and access impacts, and such predisturbed areas will be utilised in preference to new clearance (Plate 3-1).



Plate 3-1 Koolanooka Mine circa 1966