



## Community Information Sheet No.4 December 2018

### **Introduction**

The fourth Community Information Sheet for the proposed McPhillamys Gold Project provides an:

- Update on the status of McPhillamys and the environmental approvals process;
- Overview of the community consultation undertaken to date, including consultation that forms part of the Social Impact Assessment and an update on the formation of the McPhillamys Community Consultative Committee; and
- Update on future consultation activities.

### **Project Update**

Preparation for the submission of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for McPhillamys is progressing well with the various environmental consultants currently completing all of the necessary investigations and studies.

This can be a complex process, as the outcome of each investigation is assessed and strategies are developed to mitigate impacts that have been identified.

For example, if a first visual assessment shows that there is an unacceptable outcome at a specific location, then the mining schedule might be modified to alter the progress of stockpiling in that location. Then a second visual assessment would be done with these new conditions, and the outcomes reassessed, and so on.

### **Community Consultation**

#### **Community Open Days**

The project team hosted four Community Open Days in late September and early October 2018.

The first two meetings held in September were aimed at our near neighbours. A range of information was shared with residents, but there was a particular focus on ground water and surface water, with the independent hydrogeologist on hand to answer questions.

The October meetings were designed to provide information to the broader Blayney community.

Regis also used the four open days as an opportunity to seek written feedback from community members about the project, via a brief survey. This information will help to ensure the EIS addresses issues that are important to the community. It has also provided the project team with valuable insight into the community's level of awareness and understanding of the project, and the areas we may need to communicate more clearly.

It is anticipated that further open days will be held in early 2019, ideally when the results of some of the specialist consultant studies are nearing completion.

#### **Social Impact Assessment**

The first phase of community consultation was completed in April 2018 by Hansen Bailey, who are the independent social impact consultants for the EIS. This involved meetings with near neighbours, the Blayney community and other stakeholders to

provide information about the project and the EIS process, and to capture people's issues and concerns regarding the Project and validate social baseline information.

A second round of community consultation was completed in October 2018 and included engagement with:

- Near neighbours;
- Local service providers;
- Community organisations;
- Blayney Shire Council and Councillors;
- Local business owners and operators; and
- The broader community of Blayney Shire.

More than 150 people took part in the consultations, including approximately 60 people who participated in four focus groups.

To maintain the independence and integrity of the consultation process, consultation was facilitated by Hansen Bailey and representatives of Regis did not attend.

Hansen Bailey has since provided Regis with a summary report that identifies only the issues raised, not the individuals who raised them. This ensures that all feedback remains anonymous.

A final round of community consultation to inform the SIA is scheduled for early 2019.

### Community Consultative Committee

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) is being established for McPhillamys, as part of the project's Environmental Assessment Requirements (EARs).

The CCC consists of an independent Chairperson selected by the Department of Planning and Environment NSW (DPE), seven community representatives (who may be individuals or representatives of groups), a representative from each of the Local Government Councils within the Project area, and three representatives from Regis.

The CCC provides a formal communication platform for the broader community via an independent committee. The CCC generally meets either bimonthly or quarterly. The seven community members, who ideally represent a

cross section of the broader community are then able, as a result of these meetings, to disseminate information on the Project.

The Chairperson is Mr David Johnson, who has been selected by the DPE based on his extensive experience in stakeholder management and community engagement. Mr Johnson is also an experienced environmental scientist.

Nominations for community representatives have now closed and Mr Johnson will be forwarding his selection to the DPE for endorsement prior to the end of November.

It is anticipated that the CCC will meet for the first time before the end of 2018.

### Future Consultation Activities

As a near neighbour living within a 5km radius of McPhillamys, we feel it is important to provide you with as much early information as possible about the project. That is a commitment that we have made, and which we will continue to prioritise.

However, as the project assessment phase advances, and particularly as it nears the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submission stage, there is both a growing need and a regulatory requirement for Regis to provide information about the project to the broader community.

We plan to do this by extending the distribution of future Community Information Sheets to the broader Blayney community.

We will continue to engage with local residents in a number of ways, including face to face meetings, Community Open Days, and the Community Consultative Committee, which will potentially have a number of local residents participating in it.

Chris Roach, our Stakeholder Engagement Officer, is also available to take your call, meet with you or respond to emails. Chris can be contacted at the office on 02 6368 4100, or 0416 745 699, or via email [croach@regisresources.com](mailto:croach@regisresources.com)

Further to this, information can continue to be found on Regis' McPhillamys website at [www.mcphillamysgold.com](http://www.mcphillamysgold.com), which will be updated on a regular basis.