

# McPhillamys Gold Project

## CCC Minutes

Title	McPhillamys Gold Project Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting #11																																					
Meeting Date	1 February 2021 @ 6pm																																					
Venue	Blayney Community Centre- 91 Adelaide St, Blayney (in person) Zoom/Phone (by video conference)																																					
Chair	<b>David Johnson</b>	Independent Chairperson*																																				
Meeting Attendees	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"><b>Evan Leitch</b></td> <td>Community Representative*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Elizabeth Russ</b></td> <td>Community Representative*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Tom Williams</b></td> <td>Community Representative*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Bob Russ</b></td> <td>Community Representative Alternate*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Daniel Sutton</b></td> <td>BHPG Representative *</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Miles Hedge</b></td> <td>Community Representative *</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Cyril Smith</b></td> <td>ORWSA Representative*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Peter Hildenbeutel</b></td> <td>Community Representative*</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Rebecca Ryan</b></td> <td>Blayney Council*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Heather Nicholls</b></td> <td>Cabonne Council*</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Rod Smith</b></td> <td>Regis Resources#</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Andrew Wannan</b></td> <td>Regis Resources*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Chris Roach</b></td> <td>Regis Resources Alternate*</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Danielle Wallace</b></td> <td>Regis Resources Observer*</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Stacey McFawn</b></td> <td>Minutes*</td> </tr> </table>		<b>Evan Leitch</b>	Community Representative*	<b>Elizabeth Russ</b>	Community Representative*	<b>Tom Williams</b>	Community Representative*	<b>Bob Russ</b>	Community Representative Alternate*	<b>Daniel Sutton</b>	BHPG Representative *	<b>Miles Hedge</b>	Community Representative *	<b>Cyril Smith</b>	ORWSA Representative*	<b>Peter Hildenbeutel</b>	Community Representative*	-----		<b>Rebecca Ryan</b>	Blayney Council*	<b>Heather Nicholls</b>	Cabonne Council*	-----		<b>Rod Smith</b>	Regis Resources#	<b>Andrew Wannan</b>	Regis Resources*	<b>Chris Roach</b>	Regis Resources Alternate*	<b>Danielle Wallace</b>	Regis Resources Observer*	-----		<b>Stacey McFawn</b>	Minutes*
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Apologies	Cr. Bobby Bourke Tony McPaul	Mayor, Bathurst Council Regis Resources																																				
Next Meeting	Either 29 <sup>th</sup> March or 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021 @ 6.00pm <b>(to be confirmed)</b> Blayney Community Centre 91 Adelaide Street, Blayney NSW																																					

- *Attended meeting at Blayney Community Centre- 91 Adelaide St, Blayney.*  
# *Attended meeting via phone- Issues with Zoom (speakers).*

## **MEETING WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - David Johnson**

Meeting opened at 6:05pm

Apologies for the meeting tendered for Tony McPaul and Cr. Bobby Bourke.

Introduction by David Johnson:

- No declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests to declare;
- Danielle Wallace (Regis Environmental Superintendent) to present to the CCC committee in Tony McPaul's absence.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (2 November 2020) – David Johnson**

- The minutes of the last meeting on 2 November 2020 were approved by the Community Consultative Committee as being read and correct;
- No previous notifications.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) confirming the resignation of Jim Newman from the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and Tom Williams accepting the position of Community Representative. David welcomed Tom and also acknowledged Jim Newman's contribution on the CCC.

## **REGIS RESOURCES MCPHILLAMYS GOLD PROJECT UPDATE**

- PowerPoint presentation by Danielle Wallace (copy on McPhillamys website). The key points from the presentation were:
- Meetings with neighbours to provide updates on progress, with ongoing discussions on mitigation/negotiated agreements.
- Landcare and Skillset seed collection.
- Native Tree Program - Central Tablelands Landcare and Skillset Land Works growing 8,000 trees.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) consultation ongoing with a meeting scheduled for end of February 2021. It was noted that Heritage NSW has advised that the assessments complied with the Aboriginal consultation requirements and has raised no concerns regarding the adequacy of the assessment.

- Donations and support for local charities and community organisations.
- Community Information Sheet #12 was distributed in October. Community Information Sheet #13 is scheduled for February 2021.
- Continuing community updates in the Blayney Chronicle.
- McPhillamys project activities such as weed control, fencing, visual screening and monitoring are all still progressing.
- Regis is continuing a program of mineral exploration in the Central West of NSW.
- Mining and Pipeline tender visits by potential contractors are taking place.
- Regis has signed agreements with 14 out of approximately 20 landowners along the pipeline route.
- Construction water supply investigations ongoing.
- Access road and main junction geotechnical survey works completed.
- The Project's Amendment Report and Submissions Report was lodged with the NSW Government on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The DPIE (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) are currently assessing the project.

#### **QUESTIONS ARISING FROM REGIS PRESENTATION**

David Johnson

Q. What was the date of the DPIE public meeting?

A. The public information session facilitated by the DPIE during the EIS exhibition was held on 26 September 2019.

Elizabeth Russ

Q. Do we know the nature of the IPC public hearing? Online or face to face?

A. At this stage, the nature of the IPC public hearing is not yet known. This will be determined by the IPC in due course and will be subject to any further COVID-19 developments.

Elizabeth Russ

Q. Are we aware of any date or timing for the IPC as yet?

A. As the Project is still under assessment by the DPIE, the dates and timing associated with the IPC process are not yet known. This will be clearer once the DPIE has issued their assessment report for the Project and the Panel of Commissioners selected. David confirmed that as soon as the IPC panel is appointed we will request that the public hearing be held in person, preferably in Blayney.

Rebecca Ryan

Q. Questioned if Steve O'Donoghue and Mandana Mazaheri from the DPIE were supposed to be attending tonight's meeting?

A. Both Steve O'Donoghue and Mandana Mazaheri (DPIE) were notified of the CCC meeting and were provided with a copy of the agenda, however no formal request for their attendance at the meeting was made. The DPIE could be invited to attend future CCC meetings if necessary.

Elizabeth Russ

Q. Questioned if any artefacts were found where the pit will be located, how will they be protected.

A. Several stone artefact sites were identified within the area where the proposed open pit is located. However, prior to any ground disturbance occurring in this area, the sites would be salvaged (i.e. collected, recorded and documented) and would be protected in a temporary keeping place. The exact manner of salvage and storage would be determined as part of the development of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, which would be prepared in consultation with the Aboriginal community and the appropriate regulators.

Elizabeth Russ

Q. Have Regis contacted the army in regards to the history of the mortar tail found at the McPhillamys site?

A. Yes, the Department of Defence was notified of the find and were consulted in relation to any records regarding military operations and activities in the Blayney area and surrounds.

Evan Leitch

Q. I see you are very pleased to see 14 of the 18 pipeline agreements signed, how many near neighbours to the mine have accepted the negotiated agreements?

A. In relation to the negotiated agreements for the Kings Plains area, no agreements have yet been signed and negotiations are continuing. Bob Russ

Q. Have agreements been sent out to all landowners as yet?

A. Not all landholders have received their negotiated agreements yet, these are continuing to be developed and issued on a progressive basis. As at 3 February 2021, a total of 12 of the unique negotiated agreements had been issued to landholders.

Daniel Sutton

Q. Can Regis expand on the statement that consultation is continuing with their site neighbours?

A. Regis' stakeholder engagement programme is comprehensive and is on-going. Regis defines consultation as any conversation that may be had, including by phone call.

Daniel Sutton

Q. You (Regis) mentioned that you have completed an archaeological survey of the portion of the site as required by legislation. Why not survey the whole area? If you're happy to work with the local indigenous community, why restrict the survey area?

A. Surveys are conducted in accordance with predictive modelling prior to surveying by archaeologists, which predicts where findings are likely. This is normal procedure. Q. Would you allow indigenous surveys to be carried out on the entire property?

A. Our surveys, as conducted, are sufficient for what is required at this stage. It is Regis' intention that additional surveys will not be undertaken prior to approval. Heritage NSW has advised that the assessments carried out to date complied with the aboriginal consultation

requirements and has raised no concerns regarding the adequacy of the assessment. Daniel Sutton

Q. Can you please discuss further the progress of the construction water supply?

A. As described in the Amendment Report, the construction water demand of the mine development is estimated to be 15 to 20 L/s, depending on climatic conditions, with a maximum total of around 470 ML anticipated for the initial nine months of the project (i.e. until the anticipated commissioning of the water supply pipeline). The assessments undertaken to date confirmed that the construction water supply can be primarily sourced from groundwater via production bores at TPB4 and TB05. In hot, dry weather an additional 5 L/s may be required to meet construction water demand. The groundwater investigation indicated that this additional supply could be met through additional groundwater bores in or near the mine development project area on Regis-owned land, and the construction water supply report recommended some further investigations to confirm the locations of these bores. Most recently, Regis completed drone magnetic surveys to further define and map potential aquifers and geological formations to inform further investigations works.

## **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

The Committee discussed Aboriginal heritage items and also the history of McPhillamys and the Kings Plains region.

Peter Hildenbeutel provided his family's views on indigenous history and settlement patterns. Peter also added that the early mining settlers left many items within the area. Danielle Wallace added that there are Aboriginal Cultural and Historical Heritage Assessments prepared for the Project that are publicly available.

Peter advised the committee that his wife is part aboriginal and believes that no early aboriginals lived in the Kings Plains area. He questions the claims made in the local media in recent weeks about the relevance of the Kings Plains area to indigenous Australians. Some members agreed that sufficient evidence existed from Regis' own assessments to confirm indigenous use of the area and that the correct process needs to be followed in the assessment.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Questions without notice**

**The Committee acknowledged that some questions may require further consideration by Regis after the meeting.**

Daniel Sutton advised that a number of questions would be provided in writing to Regis post meeting for inclusion in the minutes, if possible.

Evan Leitch

Q. Will the opportunity to sign negotiated agreements continue after the IPC hearing?

A. Yes, at this stage the Regis Board has given approval for Negotiated Agreements (where property purchase clauses are included) to be finalised prior to project approval, should the project be approved. As a result of the delays in the project assessment phase, this has provided additional time for all Negotiated Agreements to be finalised.

Q. What position is the landholder in if they are offered mitigation but have not accepted? What is the process for new ownership? If the agreement has been signed by the previous owners, will the agreement be transferred to the new owners of the premises?

A. Mitigation measures are discussed with individual landholders, which may involve multiple meetings and the agreements are prepared on the basis of those discussions. Landholders can decide if they wish to accept mitigation measures. Agreements contain provisions for assigning to new owners.

Elizabeth Russ

Q. Is the negotiated agreement between Regis and the landowner or Regis and the lessee of the property?

A. Agreements are executed between Regis and the landowner. The agreements provide for property improvements and/or acquisition and therefore specifically apply to land ownership.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Rebecca Ryan updated committee members in regards to the VPA. There were 11 submissions received. The next council meeting, at which the VPA will be discussed, will be 15 February.

## ACTIONS

	Action Items	Who	Due By
1	Book Blayney Community Centre for the 29 March 2021 and 3 May 2021 @6pm	Stacey McFawn	2 Feb 2021
2	Draft minutes to be provided to the Chairperson.	Stacey McFawn	8 Feb 2021
3	Draft minutes distributed to members by email, including the alternate representatives	David Johnson	12 Feb 2021
4	Committee members provide comment on minutes to Chairperson	All committee members	26 Feb 2021

5	Minutes finalised & posted on the McPhillamys Website	David Johnson Tony McPaul / Rod Smith	10 Mar 2021
6	Questions and answers from the February CCC meeting to be added to the McPhillamys website.	Stacey McFawn	10 Mar 2021

**MEETING CLOSED**

Meeting closed at 7.08pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

To be confirmed - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 if there is any communication and progress from the DPIE, or 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 if there are no updates from the DPIE; 6pm at the Blayney Community Centre, 91 Adelaide Street, Blayney NSW.

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Daniel Sutton's questions submitted after the CCC Meeting held 1st February 2021.**

Q1. Has Regis provided the information requested by the DPIE from the BCS by January 29th as requested?

[Yes, a response was provided on 29 January 2021.](#)

- Q2. Will Regis need to relinquish the exploration licence over the property of Aziel given it is their proposed offset area and requires protection?

As identified in Section 7.6 of the Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) included in Appendix N of the EIS, Regis has purchased a potential stewardship site approximately 3 km south-west of Blayney known as "Aziel". There are two exploration licences (EL) which interact with this site, one EL is held by Gold and Copper Resources Pty Ltd and the other by LFB Resources NL (Regis).

Correspondence was sent to Gold and Copper Resources Pty Ltd by Regis on the 21 August 2019 to notify them of Regis' intention to use Aziel to meet part of the project's biodiversity offset requirements. Regis subsequently met with Gold and Copper Resources Pty Ltd in September 2019, who subsequently responded on 26 September 2019 (via email) to confirm that the area was not considered to be of high prospectivity. Regis will consult further with the Department prior to the approval of the biodiversity offset strategy.

NSW Mining, Exploration and Geoscience (MEG) advised DPIE in October last year that there are no resource sterilisation issues to raise at this stage regarding the project amendments. MEG requests to be advised of the locations for any proposed biodiversity offset areas (if required) to ensure no resource land is compromised. Any exploration activities that occur within biodiversity offset areas are undertaken in accordance with strict government guidelines and regulations.

- Q3. What is the genesis [sic] and species are the already planted trees that form the corridor from?

The species planted in the tree lines to date are native, and typically include various combinations and subspecies of Eucalyptus and Acacia.

- Q4. In the local paper last week, Regis was sprucing [sic] the plantation of 100,000 trees on their mine site. Can you confirm the median age of these trees and a better timeline of how many will be planted in what years?

Regis has commenced an extensive tree planting program within Regis-owned land. Approximately 6,500 native trees have been planted to date in corridors around the mine development project area as part of the longer-term plan to provide visual screening and create wildlife corridors around the site. A further 8,000 trees are proposed to be planted in 2021.

As described in the recent media releases, Regis will plant up to 100,000 native trees to improve and increase habitat for koalas and other wildlife in Blayney and the NSW Central West. These trees are not yet planted, and will form part of an ongoing revegetation program over the life of the Project, should the Project be approved.

- Q5. With several properties within a near vicinity of your project going on the market for sale, has Regis had meetings with the vendors, real estate agents and in the cases of successful sales, the new owners to ensure the community are aware the impacts of the proposal on those properties?

Regis continues to meet with the current landowners and when requested, is happy to meet with any prospective new purchasers.

Q6. Are all Negotiated Agreements sent to the DPIE once signed?

The negotiated agreements have been initiated by Regis beyond the requirements of the NSW Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy and as such are commercial and confidential arrangements between landowners and Regis. Through Project documentation and consultation, DPIE Resource Assessments are aware of this approach. There is no intention or requirement to provide commercial and confidential documents executed by private parties to the government.

Q7. Has Regis received any signed negotiated agreements from the residents that have been offered them in the Kings Plains area?

No. Negotiations are continuing.

Q8. What is the status of discussions with the Kings Plains residents being offered agreements? Do they all have them? Have you had genuine effective meetings in relation to them? Have any progressed past a first offer from Regis?

A total of 12 agreements of an identified 20 have been negotiated with landowners and documents provided for their consideration.

Q9. How many hours of genuine face to face discussion has been held with each land holder that has been offered the negotiated agreements since they have received them, specifically discussing their offered agreements?

That is confidential and a matter for Regis and the individual landowners.

Notwithstanding, Regis has been actively engaging with stakeholders since acquiring the exploration lease (EL 5760) and continuing throughout public exhibition of the EIS in late 2019. This engagement remains ongoing. Regis has identified stakeholders and subsequently built relationships with them, to inform and to obtain feedback about the project. Regis' stakeholder engagement has been comprehensive to date and reflects the importance Regis places on this aspect of its business and the project.

Q10. What is Regis doing to ensure that those that have been offered negotiated agreements are actually making well informed decisions in relation to their negotiated agreements?

Regis has provided correspondence, met face to face and communicated using various means based on the availability and preferences of different landowners. Regis has endeavoured to respond to all matters raised by landowners. Landowners are advised to seek legal advice and an allowance has been made for this as part of the negotiated agreements.

Q11. Is there a timeline Regis is targeting for these negotiated agreements to be completed?

The Regis Board has given approval for negotiated agreements (where property purchase clauses are included) to be finalised prior to project approval, should the project be approved. As a result of the delays in the project assessment phase, this has provided additional time for all negotiated agreements to be finalised.

Q12. Will Regis provide live real time monitoring data to enable the community to see the real time impacts of this project as it's occurring?

Real-time monitoring is proposed to be implemented for the Project, and will be determined through development of the ongoing environmental monitoring program.

Real-time environmental monitoring together with data analysis and forecasting will be used to support site environmental performance and assist avoiding potential environmental incidents and non-compliances. Data analysis and modelling will be applied to determine the mine's contributions. Environmental management plans and protocols will be developed and will specify the application of monitoring data and the associated reporting requirements.

It is Regis' intention to provide access to relevant elements of the real time data where practicable, however this would be developed and progressed further should development consent be granted for the Project.

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