

ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING OF 21, 22 AND 23 FEBRUARY 2000

Attendees: Komiti Members
Yati Bun - Chairman, NGO
Foundation for People and Community Development

Gerard Saleu, NGO
Institute of Medical Research

Henry Paroi, NGO
Alt for Michael Rynkiewich
Melanesian Institute

Alison Cleary, NGO
Alt for Michael Rae
World Wide Fund for Nature

Ani Topurua
PNG Govt. (Department of Mining)

Pawa Limu
PNG Govt. (Office of Environment and Conservation)

Evert van den Brand
Porgera Joint Venture

Mel Togolo
Placer Dome Asia Pacific

Dr Bob Pidgeon, NGO Adviser
Alt for Max Finlayson
Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist

Michael Kiap, PNG Govt. Advisor
PNG Univeristy of Technology

Dr. Graeme Batley, PJV/Placer Adviser
CSIRO

Apologies:

Michael Rae
World Wide Fund For Nature

Dr Max Finlayson
Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist

Regular Observers:

Russell Barwick
Placer Niugini Limited

Tim Omundsen
Porgera Joint Venture

Ian Williams
Placer Dome Asia Pacific

Invited Observers:

Rolf Braun
Office of Environment and Conservation (part time)

Wesley Irima
Office of Environment and Conservation (part time)

Dr. Peter Sapak
Department of Public Health, UPNG (part time)

Dr. Jethro Usurup
Porgera Joint Venture (part time)

Dr. Ila Temu
Porgera Joint Venture (part time)

Procedural Matters

Following the resignation of Ms Meg Taylor, Mr. Yati Bun was nominated as Chairman of PEAK and subsequently elected to that position. He assumed the chair at the start of the meeting.

It was noted that Lester Seri, Conservation Melanesia, tendered his resignation due to excessive work commitments. A replacement from the same organisation or another organisation shall be looked into.

Roland Seib has resigned and Melanesian Institute nominated Dr. Michael Rynkiewich as a replacement.

The chairman officially opened the meeting at 3.35 PM on Monday 21 February 2000.

Agenda Item 2

Notes of Previous Meeting

Notes of the previous meeting were accepted as reflecting the discussions of that meeting.

Agenda Item 3

Action Items/Matters Arising

Matters arising from the minutes were dealt with. Some corrections were made from the previous notes.

Ian Williams phone contact in Sydney: (02) 9256 3830

PEAK web-site address: www.peak-pjv.com

PEAK e-mail address: info@peak-pjv.com

Item 1

Sediment Build-Up

There was some confusion over whether the independent test was to do with sediment build-up, or independent water quality sampling.

Dr. Wolff visited Lake Murray and collected water and sediment samples from Lake Murray. Water samples were also collected from SG3, SG2 & SG1. The results of this survey are still pending. When ready, OEC will make the presentation to PEAK on the results of their independent sampling. (Pawa Limu to action).

According to Dr. Wolff the study into the sediment build-up is a big job and proper planning is required to do this. PJV advised that it first wished to complete the study into the mine derived sediment signature study before undertaking any sediment build up study on Lake Murray. (Tim Omundsen to action)

Item 2

Sago Program

The concern was to do with a possible metal uptake in sago, which is a staple food in Lake Murray. Sago samples have already been collected and sent to an independent laboratory in Australia. The Technical Komiti met and agreed that

the results when received, would be sent to Michael Kiap to review in consultation with other members of the Technical Komiti (Michael Kiap and Tim Omundsen to action)

Item 3

Web-site

Biodata for several members are still outstanding. Members who have not done so should forward their CVs to Ian Williams, who will update the information, by 10 March 2000 for inclusion on the site. Included in that information should be a sentence or two on why a member has agreed to participate in PEAK. (Ian Williams and all members to action)

It was also agreed that hyper links be established between the PEAK site and member organisations. (Ian Williams to action)

Item 4

CSIRO matrix of recommendations

The Technical Komiti met on 22 February 2000 and agreed that PEAK should sign off as "*acknowledged*" against all of the items listed as "*complete*" or "*ongoing*". PJV Environmental Department will manage the process and advise if there are any changes, and if so these would be considered by the Technical Komiti, and if agreed to, would also be signed off as "*acknowledged*". There are also some issues that need to be signed off by the Community Consultation Komiti. Copies of the amended CSIRO Matrix will be forwarded to members of both committies. This task should be completed by the end of March. (Tim Omundsen and Matthew Kawei to action)

Item 5

PEAK Annual Report

If comments are not received by the end of March, it will be assumed that the PEAK Annual Report is finalised and distributed to members, the web-site and interested parties. (Mel Togolo to action)

Item 6

Annual Environmental Reporting

The Technical Komiti met on 22 February 2000 to discuss this matter.

There was concern from government representatives that there are inconsistencies in the reporting of some results in the six-monthly and annual environmental reports. It was sometimes difficult to identify regular patterns. There seems to be problems in comparing data and trends between current and previous periods, with respect to the style of graphs or where the nature of tabulated results had been altered. While the government did not want to be prescriptive, they would want the data requirements to be met.

As a general guide the Technical Komiti made reference to Action Item 20 of PEAK Meeting 4-6 October 1999.

The Technical Komiti noted that the 1999 Annual Environmental Report is almost completed and was prepared to provide comments within a week of receiving the draft. (Tim Omundsen to action)

Item 7

Signature of Mine-Derived Sediment

It was agreed that, in the next twelve months, PJV would carry out a study with CSIRO to attempt to identify a signature for mine-derived sediment. If successful this would enable the tracking on mine derived sediment throughout the river system. (Tim Omundsen to action)

Item 8 (New)

Reimbursement of Expenses

IMR representative raised the issue of out-of-pocket expenses in the course of doing work related to PEAK. Other members also wanted clarification on this. It was agreed that any justifiable expense would be reimbursed by PJV. (Evert van den Brand to action)

Item 9 (New)

Draft Code of Environmental Practice

All members were requested to make comments on the draft by the end of March 2000. Comments should be provided direct to Rolf Braun of OEC in the following way:

Phone (675) 323 6797

Fax (675) 323 5585

E-mail emmm-eu@daltron.com.pg

Item 10 (New)

Mercury Test for Turtles

From the presentation of the Dietary Survey, it was decided that turtles (reportedly eaten quite regularly during some seasons) in the Lake Murray area are tested for mercury content and the results reported back to PEAK.

It was also agreed that a summary of a report on Mercury, received by PJV, be distributed to members of PEAK. (Tim Omundsen to action)

Item 11 (New)

Dietary Survey - Final Report

After the report is completed by Dr. Peter Sapak, PEAK recommended that the results of the final report of the Dietary Survey should be made known to the Lake Murray community. PJV agreed with this and undertook to ensure a follow up trip to Lake Murray took place by Dr Sapak on receipt of his final report. (Tim Omundsen and Matthew Kawei to action)

Item 12 (New)

Training for Health Workers

From the submission of the World Alliance Projects, it was agreed that a training program supported and endorsed by the Health Authorities, be developed to maintain the sustainability of health programs in remote areas. It was recommended that PJV, School of Medicine -UNPNG, Department of Health and Institute of Medical Research get together and develop an appropriate and suitable curriculum for the impact area. (Dr. Jethro Usurup/Gerard Saleu to action)

Item 13 (New)

DNV Protocols

Following a discussion by Evert van den Brand on the operations generally and on the auditing of environmental and safety performance in particular, it was agreed that PJV distribute copies of some of the DNV protocols for the information of PEAK. The sample would give members an idea of the detail required for the auditing process.

DNV is a widely accepted system of monitoring environmental and safety performance (Evert van den Brand to action).

Item 14 (New)

Reports on PEAK Web-site

After the presentation by Ian Williams on the Web-site, it was agreed that the Communication Komiti would be responsible for the decision to post relevant reports or summaries of such on the Web-site (Communication Komiti Members to action).

Agenda Item 4

Environmental Performance

Tim Omundsen made a presentation on the status of environmental performance and PEAK noted that compliance and statutory requirements were met.

With respect to safety performance, PEAK asked for samples of DNV protocols used in the safety auditing process.

Some of the issues the PJV intends to investigate include:

- Mine-derived sediment signature study
- Investigate the possible bio-accumulation of metals in prawns
- PACRIM 2 remote sensing in the lower Strickland
- Paste and Metal Removals studies from the CIP tailings

A risk assessment of riverine tailing discharge has been carried out by the PJV. Three major risks were identified during the assessment, the issues of metals, the red-river and the public perceptions of riverine tailing disposals (Tim Omundsen to action).

Agenda Item 4.1

CSIRO Recommendations/Implementation (Action Plan)

The meeting will adopt the decision of the Technical Komiti regarding proceeding with the matrix of recommendations. Refer to the minutes of that Komiti (Technical Komiti Members to action).

Agenda Item 4.2

Operational Performance

Evert van den Brand briefed PEAK on operational matters. The Komiti noted the following: -

- Production in 2000 to be 746,000 ounces (1999 was 754,754 ounces)
- 2000 operations plan on lower gold price at US\$290/oz
- Paiam Township construction continues, with ten houses completed
- Social unrest in Laiagam and Tari areas - public property and power pylons affected
- Nomad/Lake Murray health project approved by WHO
- Yakatabari dump negotiations close to agreement

The PJV's business plan assumes a continuing low gold price.

Agenda Item 4.3

Briefings:

Per the following:

Item 4.3.1

Brief on PNG's Environmental Code of Practice

The briefing was carried out by Rolf Braun, a consultant from the European Union consultant to the Office of Environment and Conservation. The following were noted:

- The rationale of the Code
- A requirement of Section 38 of the draft Environmental Bill
- The Code as a management tool for good environmental performance
- A voluntary code for mineral companies developing resources

The structure of the Code was described against the characteristics of various types of waste disposal options, such as tailing impoundment, back-filling, riverine discharge, lake disposals and deep submarine placement.

PEAK members were requested to provide comments and suggestions directly to Office of Environment and Conservation. (All Members to action)

Item 4.3.2

Brief on Lake Murray Dietary Study

Dr. Peter Sapak of the Department of Public Health, University of Papua New Guinea, carried out the brief. The aim of the survey was to describe the dietary behaviour and pattern of the people in Lake Murray.

The main objectives were to determine;

- The pattern of daily meals in selected household
- The frequency of water usage
- The frequency of fish and meat consumed
- The nutritional status of children
- The prevalence of anaemia in the population studied

Five villages were surveyed and houses studied were systematically chosen. For example, every fifth house was chosen in each village until ten houses were obtained for the study.

Apart from other things, the study concluded the following:

- Fish and sago were the main food consumed by the people
- Fish was the dominant protein and probably the main source of Hg acquisition in people
- Rain water (from tanks provided by PJV) used for drinking and cooking

Certain recommendations were made; some of which are the following;

- Education on food preparation and the benefits of a balanced diet is required by the villages around Lake Murray.
- Use rain water for cooking and not water from the lake.
- Determine, if any, the mercury levels in turtles as a source of food.
- Provide logistics and support for health centres to improve medical coverage rates.
- A follow up patrol take place to inform the community of the results of the study. (Tim Omundsen to action to survey mercury on turtles)

Item 4.3.3

Community Relations Patrol (5 - 19 January 2000)

Gerard Saleu gave a brief of the patrol made to the villages in the Strickland River area. The team was made up of PJV community and health officers, Lake

Kopiago District administration, health officers, Oksapmin District health officers, a member of the Strickland Landowners' Association and a member of PEAK.

The villages visited included Bulago, Bimin, Kunanap, Egali, Dupan, Aluni, Gaua, Yokona and Sisimin.

The team made observations on health status in each village, made general awareness and answered questions about the mine and government services.

Among other things, the brief made recommendations some of which are summarised as follows;

- Inform the National Health Department about the health conditions in the area
- Establish village-based training and provide basic materials for birth attendants
- Provide awareness on family planning
- Establish aid posts in Bulago and Kunanap villages
- Include a female health officer in future patrols

(Evert van den Brand to action)

Item 4.3.4

World Alliance Health Program

Dr. Jethro Usurup of PJV gave the brief. He outlined the rationale of the program as taking action on community health issues and common community diseases. This program is reflected in Placer's sustainability policy and involves collaboration with the community in capacity building and creating trust in the promotion of health programs. Project implementation, management and service delivery are very important aspects of the whole program. The program is already approved by the World Health Organisation and the PNG Department of Health and is proceeding as soon as possible.

The common diseases identified for treatment include malaria, filariasis, TB, typhoid and intestinal worm infestation (Evert van den Brand to action).

Agenda Item 5

Community Consultation

It was reported that a group of landowners from the Lake Murray area visited Porgera. This visit was organised by the Community Affairs Division of the Porgera Mine. The visit was successful and the landowners were impressed by the operation of the mine and what it is being done for the communities in the area.

If it were considered mutually beneficial, PEAK would like to recommend more such visits to educate the people on the impact of the mine. Should another visit be organised this year, PEAK would like to recommend that the landowners of Lake Murray fly over the Ok Om River so that they can see the difference in sediment load between the Ok Om and the Strickland River (Evert van den Brand to action).

Agenda Item 6

PEAK Reporting

The draft Annual Report was circulated and members were asked to make their comments by the end of March (All PEAK Members).

Agenda Item 7

Other Business

- It was reported that Gavin Murray has been appointed Vice-President Sustainability Leadership for Placer Dome Inc. Consequently, Russell Barwick will coordinate Gavin's previous duties in the Asia Pacific Region, out of the Sydney Office. Sustainability and sustainable development remains an important core activity for Placer Dome Inc.
- Bob Pidgeon reported that Max Finalyson has resigned due to his work load and that ERISS has nominated Bob to replace Max. PEAK welcome Bob Pidgeon.
- Alison Cleary reported that WWF (Australia) and WWK (South Pacific) are still discussing which division of the organisation would be the most appropriate to represent WWF. PEAK will be advised (Michael Rae to action).
- The format of future meetings was discussed. It was agreed that the main meeting should break into sub-committee meetings after common items had been discussed. The main meeting would then reconvene to

discuss the recommendations of sub-committees. Some members stressed the importance of maintaining integration of community and technical issues in any new arrangements. The new arrangement will be trialed at the next meeting (Chairman Members to action).

Agenda Item 8

Future Meeting

Next meeting will be held in Porgera on October 9, 10 & 11, 2000.