

Environmental Review Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose of the Environmental Review Committee

The role of the Environmental Review Committee (ERC) is to:

- Review the environmental performance of the operation against the requirements of various work plans, licence conditions and legislation which Ballarat Gold Mine operates within
- Review and comment on new Work Plan Variations and major projects
- Enhance communication between Ballarat Gold Mine and various Key Stakeholders within the community
- Enhance BALLARAT GOLD MINE's understanding of community issues and concerns in relation to our operation
- Ensure sections of the community most likely to be adversely affected by BALLARAT GOLD MINE's operation are sufficiently represented
- Review the function of the ERC

Aims of the Environmental Review Committee

The ERC aims to:

- Provide a transparent, representative and open forum to address issues of community interest related to Ballarat Gold Mine's operation;
- Engage with the community to ensure the timely;
 - Identification and response to community issues, concerns and suggestions in relation to Ballarat Gold Mine operations
 - dissemination of operational information
- Ensure issues and concerns raised by the community are addressed effectively by Ballarat Gold Mine.

Specifically, the ERC members will:

- represent community views on issues and provide the platform from which the broader community can address issues and concerns in relation to Ballarat Gold Mine's operation
- receive briefings on the operational progress of Ballarat Gold Mine's projects
- review and critique the operations performance with regard to environmental and community issues
- engage with their community to disseminate operational information
- be a conduit for recommendations or suggestions from the community in relation to Ballarat Gold Mine operations

ERC Membership

A total ERC core membership of approximately 15 members is desirable to achieve a diverse representation of stakeholders including:

- Regulators
 - Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) - District Manager or delegate (i.e. Tenements or Environmental)
 - EPA Victoria- District Manager or delegate
 - City of Ballarat-Planning Officer or Environment Officer
 - Corangamite CMA- River and Catchment Manager or delegate
- Community representatives (4-6) in particular representing:
 - Mount Clear, Golden Point, Black Hill, Mount Pleasant
- Special Interest groups
 - Ballarat Renewable energy and Zero Emissions (BREAZE)
 - Leigh Catchment Group or Ballarat Environment Network
- Business Partners
 - Central Highlands Water
 - Hancock Victoria Plantations
- Ballarat Gold Mine representatives
 - Environment and Community, Senior Management.
- Chairperson

A Ward Councilor is the preferred chairperson of the ERC, as they hold a position of independence and have been elected to represent the constituents of the ward. In the event of a councilor not being available a Community Representative and then the ERR delegate will chair the meeting.

The membership should be evenly represented by regulators, Ballarat Gold Mine, special interest groups and community representatives.

Other stakeholders may be invited by agreement of the committee on a short or long term basis for specific issues or where the local situation warrants. e.g. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Crown Land), Parks Victoria, Aboriginal associations, local environmental groups or community representation from a project specific area not represented by existing membership.

Selection Process for Community Representatives:

A selection process will be undertaken when replacing resigned positions on the ERC to ensure a wide cross section of the community continue to be represented on the ERC.

Advertisements calling for nominations will be placed in the local newspaper (Ballarat Courier), Ballarat Gold Mine's Community Newsletter and via direct contact through existing ERC members.

Community members and special interest groups wishing to nominate for ERC membership will be required to complete the relevant Nomination Form: the applicant is requested to provide information about them, detailing any previous community involvement, and state why they are interested in being part of the ERC.

All nominees must:

- have an ability and willingness to look beyond personal interests
- willingness to work together on a common challenge
- possess a desire to make positive contributions to ERC meetings
- demonstrate an ability to engage with Ballarat Gold Mine's key stakeholder community
- demonstrate courteous and respectful behavior towards fellow members and stakeholders
- community representatives must reside within a relevant geographic space of Ballarat Gold Mine's operations
- commit to a two-year term and attend the quarterly meetings and any special meetings that may arise

A sub-committee (Nomination Committee) will be formed to assess applications for membership of the ERC. The committee will consist of an ERR Regulator, an existing Community Representative, a Ballarat Gold Mine Representative and the Chairperson (Ward Councilor). Should the Community Representative be calling for re-nomination they will be ineligible for the Nomination Committee.

Regulators and Business Partners will be managed by Ballarat Gold Mine and the agencies.

Membership Term:

Members agree to commit to minimum two-year tenure as a Community Representative, after which time a member will be required to re-nominate for their position. Membership intake is to be staggered to ensure coverage of Community Representatives.

Members agree to commit to attend at least 3 of the 4 quarterly meetings and other special project meetings as required.

The ERC is an open meeting where visitors can attend as observers; an observer may request an agenda item via their nominated ERC representative prior to the meeting. Observers do not have an active role in the committee and must adhere to the ERC terms of reference.

Adopted- Meeting #72 February 2013 and updated to reflect current organisation names June 2020