



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

WIRRALIE GOLD MINE

SOLOMONS GOLD PTY LTD

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY: EPML00772413
MINING LEASE: 1079

AUGUST 2022

PREPARED FOR: DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE
PREPARED BY: WULGURU TECHNICAL
SOLUTIONS
DOCUMENT ID: 2020.10003
VERSION: 1.0
DATE OF SUBMISSION: 6 JANUARY 2022
EA HOLDERS CONTACT DETAILS:
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Document Control and History

Version	Date	Description	Prepared By	Reviewed By
1.0	21/06/2022	Final	Travis Bailey	Matthew Ayre

Citation

Wulguru Technical Services, 2022, *Wirralie Mine – Community Consultation Management Plan*, Prepared by Wulguru Technical Services Pty Ltd for Solomons Gold Pty Ltd.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Overview

Wirralie Gold Project (Wirralie) is owned and operated by Solomons Gold Pty Ltd (Solomons Gold). Wirralie is operating under an active Environmental Authority EMPL00772413 (the EA). Wulguru Technical Services Pty Ltd (WTS) was engaged by Solomons Gold, owner and operator of Wirralie, to prepare a Progressive Rehabilitation and Closure Plan (PRCP) for activities conducted under Environmental Authority EPML00772413 (the EA). This Community Consultation Management Plan (CCMP) forms part of the PRCP.

This document details how the community consultation in relation to rehabilitation will be carried out under the PRCP. Solomons Gold has considered the Department of Environment and Science (DES) Guideline ESR/2019/4964 – *Progressive rehabilitation and closure plans (PRC plans)*, Version 2.00 – 17 March 2021.

1.2. Scope

The CCMP applies to all Solomons Gold employees, contractors, visitors, and processes at the Project.

1.3. Purpose

Social license is a valued element of the Wirralie operation. Solomons Gold aims to enhance social outcomes in the surrounding region in which they operate. To achieve this, Wirralie will target local employment, engagement, and spending as a priority with a view to promote sustainable development of the local workforce and businesses.

1.4. Accountabilities

Solomons Gold management is ultimately responsible for this CCMP. To fulfill this responsibility, Solomons Gold may delegate tasks to the Senior Representative and, where required, will coordinate with other site personnel.

1.5. Project Description

Wirralie is located approximately 40km north of the township of Mount Coolon, and approximately 200km west of Mackay, North Queensland. Wirralie is an owner-operated mine, with approximately 10 staff. Personnel living locally are given preference to those on DIDO rosters, where suitably experienced/qualified.

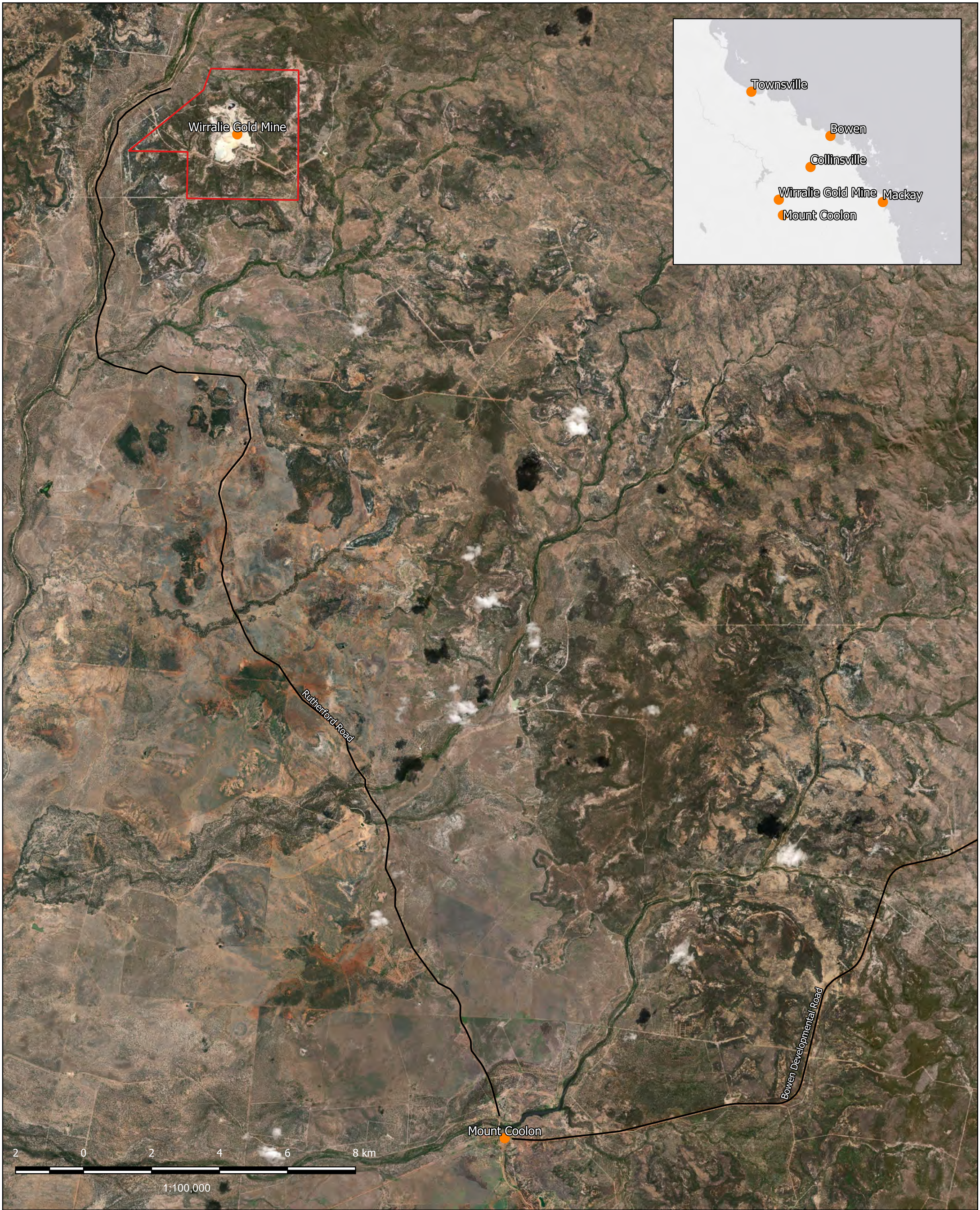
The region is administered by the Whitsunday Regional Council and is located in a primarily rural zone, consistent the Whitsunday Regional Council Planning Scheme. The main access route to the Project is via Rutherford Road and the Bowen or Suttor Developmental Roads.

Wirralie was discovered in 1986 during exploration activities to identify the source to a regional stream sediment-sampling anomaly. Mining began at the Project in 1987 and continued until 1993, when the processing plant was relocated to the Yandan mine site, 30km west. An upgraded 1.5 million tonne per annum treatment plant was reinstated at Wirralie in 1999. The plant treated low-grade oxide and Deep Lead mineralisation until early 2002, when the site was placed in care and maintenance.

Solomons Gold acquired the Wirralie Project in December 2013 and continued to manage the site in care and maintenance. Wirralie is an owner-operated mine and currently employs approximately 10 staff. Personnel living locally are given preference to those on DIDO rosters, where suitably experienced and qualified.

Table 1. Property Description

Company Name - ACN	Solomons Gold Pty Ltd – 82 601 398 841
Landholders	Wirralie Station
Lot on Plan	Lot 3272 on Plan SP237696
Property Size	20,100 ha
Local Government Area	Whitsunday Regional Council
Zoning Information	Freehold



Client: Solomons Gold Pty Ltd
Project number: 2020.10003
CRS: GDA2020 z54
Date: 15 December 2021

Print as A3



Figure 1. Project Location

- Key Features
 - Major Roads
 - Mine Lease
- ESRI Satellite

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Digital data for this report is available on the Queensland Government Spatial Portal at <http://www.information.qld.gov.au>.



2. Relevant Legislation

2.1. *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld) (EP Act) is Queensland's primary piece of environmental legislation. The object of the EP Act is to 'protect Queensland's environment while allowing for development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends'. 'Environment' is defined under the EP Act as:

- Ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- All natural and physical resources;
- The qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas, however large or small, that contribute to their biological diversity and integrity, intrinsic or attributed scientific value or interest, amenity, harmony and sense of community
- The social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect, or are affected by, things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) (Queensland Government, 1994)

To ensure the protection of Environmental Values, Solomons Gold is required to ensure they meet the requirements of the EP Act and its subordinate legislations (Queensland Government, 1994).

2.1.1. Environmental Authority

ERAs are industrial, resource or intensive agricultural activities with the potential to release contaminants into the environment. To conduct an ERA in Queensland, the operator of the ERA is required to obtain an Environmental Authority (EA) which sets out a range of conditions of which the operator of the ERA is required to be in compliance with. Solomons Gold currently hold EA EPML00772413 for the Wirralie Gold Mine. EA conditions F and G relevant to this CCMP and are

Shown	in	Table	2.
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Table 2. Relevant EA Conditions

Condition	Description																																																		
(F1-1)	All areas significantly disturbed by mining activities must be rehabilitated to a stable landform with a self-sustaining vegetation cover in accordance with Schedule F Table 1. Schedule F - Table 1 (Final Land Use and Rehabilitation Approval Schedule) <table><tr><th>Tenure ID</th><th>Disturbance type</th><th>Projective surface area (ha)</th><th>Post-mine land description</th><th>Post mine land classification</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="11">ML1107</td><td>Tailings Dam</td><td>72</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Infrastructure</td><td>69</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Waste Dump</td><td>22</td><td>Low Hill</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Exploration</td><td>19</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Open Cut Pit</td><td>19</td><td>Open void</td><td>VIII</td></tr><tr><td>Stockpile Area</td><td>14</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Village</td><td>12</td><td>Low Hill</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Borrow Pit</td><td>8</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Processing Plant</td><td>7</td><td>Open Pasture</td><td>VII</td></tr><tr><td>Runoff dam</td><td>5</td><td>Water Storage</td><td>VIII</td></tr><tr><td>ROM Pad</td><td>3</td><td>Low Hill</td><td>VII</td></tr></table>	Tenure ID	Disturbance type	Projective surface area (ha)	Post-mine land description	Post mine land classification	ML1107	Tailings Dam	72	Open Pasture	VII	Infrastructure	69	Open Pasture	VII	Waste Dump	22	Low Hill	VII	Exploration	19	Open Pasture	VII	Open Cut Pit	19	Open void	VIII	Stockpile Area	14	Open Pasture	VII	Village	12	Low Hill	VII	Borrow Pit	8	Open Pasture	VII	Processing Plant	7	Open Pasture	VII	Runoff dam	5	Water Storage	VIII	ROM Pad	3	Low Hill	VII
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	ROM Pad	3	Low Hill	VII																																															
(F1-2)	Progressive rehabilitation must commence when areas become available within the operational land.																																																		
(F4-1)	All infrastructure, constructed by or for the environmental authority holder during the mining activities including water storage structures, must be removed from the site prior to mining lease surrender, except where agreed in writing by the post mining land owner/ holder. Note: This is not applicable where the landowner/ holder is also the environmental authority holder.																																																		
(G1-1)	All complaints received must be recorded including details of complainant, reasons for the complaint, investigations undertaken, conclusions formed and actions taken. This information must be made available for inspection by the administering authority on request.																																																		

3. Community Consultation

3.1. Stakeholders

Initial scoping has identified key stakeholders to who would be potentially directly and/or indirectly affected by rehabilitation activities at Wirralie. The stakeholders that are available to participate in the consultation process are summarised in Table 3.

Table 3. Key Stakeholders

Community Stakeholder	Details	Potential Issues
Relevant Community Stakeholders		
Wirralie Station	Wirralie Gold Mine is on Wirralie Station. Land within the ML is used for grazing. Compensation Agreements are in place between Solomons Gold and Wirralie Station.	• Access to agistment land under Wirralie MLs not required for mining • Future access to land covered by the ML • Rehabilitation outcomes • Environmental issues and management • Water access
Traditional owners	The Jangga people are the traditional owners of the land on which Wirralie is situated. During 2012 a Native Title claim for the region was implemented (Fed Court NoQUD6230/1998).	• Cultural heritage impacts • Environmental impact and management • PMLU • Impacts on Native Title
Utility owners • Department of Transport and Main Roads • Ergon Energy	Department of Transport and Main Roads, and Ergon Energy own assets within or adjacent to Wirralie (Rutherford Road). Solomons Gold engage with utility owners on an as needs basis. The PRCP will not require an update to any agreements.	• Rehabilitation and impacts to assets • Disruption of access to assets • Impacts to asset value
Local Government	Whitsunday Regional Council is the local government for the LGA Wirralie is situated within.	• Local opportunities • Economic and community sustainability • Environmental impact and management • Effects on Council assets • Mine rehabilitation • PMLU • Compliance with the Whitsunday Regional Council Planning Scheme

Community Stakeholder	Details	Potential Issues
Other stakeholders		
Nearby Landowners	There are four other properties surrounding Wirralie including Pyramid, Bungobine, Olderfleet and Ill L Ra Stations. Solomons Gold has means to provide correspondence with the surrounding landholders on a as needs basis.	• Future access to land covered by the ML • Rehabilitation outcomes • Environmental issues and management • Potential water access
Solomons Gold Employees	All Solomons Gold personnel are expected to be interested in closure planning where it may be thought to impact employment security.	• Job retention • Loss of jobs with closure • Living conditions
Community members and group	Affiliated communities' members and organisations of the Mt Coolon region.	• Job opportunities • Job retention • Loss of jobs with closure • Environmental impact and management • PMLU • Rehabilitation
Queensland Government	Government organisations with invested interest in Wirralie including: • Department of Resources • Department of Environment and Science • Whitsunday Regional Council • Mayors and Councillors of Whitsunday Regional Council • Electorate member for Burdekin • Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs	• Resource development • Job opportunities • Job retention • Environmental impacts and management • Rehabilitation cost • Environmental risk • PMLU
Federal Government	Department of Agriculture Water and Environment (DAWE)	• Resource development • Job opportunities • Job retention • Environmental impacts and management • Rehabilitation cost • Environmental risk • PMLU

3.2. Engagement Objectives

The objectives of the CCMP are to:

- Identify stakeholders who have an interest in the Project;
- Facilitate two-way engagement with stakeholders;
- Provide accurate, timely and relevant information on the Project;
- Identify any concerns or potential issues stakeholders may have with the Project;
- Explore areas of the Project with the potential to have a positive impact on the region;
- Develop appropriate strategies to mitigate any concerns

3.3. Engagement Frequency

Due to the low intensity nature of operations, it is not anticipated that routine engagement will be required. Community consultation will occur as requested by the relevant parties or if changes are proposed to operations or rehabilitation outcomes.

3.4. Engagement Tools

Due to the small nature of operations, Solomons have identified email as being the most effective tool of communication, as well as specific in person information sessions, as required.

3.5. Engagement Actions

Notice will be provided on request to key stakeholders regarding any major changes to operations at Wirralie. Details of how this is communicated is outlined in this CCMP.

3.6. Community Consultation Register

In order to comply with section 126C(1)(c)(iii) of the EP Act, the rehabilitation planning part must include a community consultation register identifying the consultation carried out in developing the PRC plan. The community consultation register must include:

- Consultation date(s)
- Identification of each community member
- Description of consultation type (workshop, quarterly meetings, etc.)
- Information provided to the community
- Issues raised/discussed by the community
- How issues have been considered
- Decisions/outcomes of engagement

- Commitments made by the applicant.

3.7. Complaints Management Process

Solomons Gold is committed to working with stakeholders that may be impacted by Wirralie. The Solomons Gold is responsible for all stakeholder liaison and will be the first point of contact for dealing with complaints, enquiries and comments related to the Wirralie. Solomons Gold is responsible for coordinating responses to complaints received and for monitoring the frequency and number of complaints received. Issues and concerns that may affect staff, employees and contractors shall be treated confidentially. All complaints or personal concerns are to be handled in a sensitive, fair, timely and confidential manner.

Should complaints be received, which are directly related to the operation or decommissioning phases of the Wirralie, the following detail will be logged within the Project's complaints register:

- Name, address and contact number for the complainant;
- Time and date of complaint;
- Reason for the complaint;
- Investigations undertaken;
- Conclusions formed;
- Actions taken to resolve the complaint;
- Any abatement or mitigation measures implemented; and
- Person responsible for resolving the complaint.

All complaints will be investigated to determine validity, the source and underlying cause, provide a summary of corrective actions and follow-up to ensure corrective actions are implemented. Additional investigation/s will be carried out where necessary. Where complaints cannot be resolved by this process, third party mediation will be undertaken. Solomons Gold will maintain a Community Complaints Register.

3.8. Plan Summary

The objectives, key performance indicators, actions, responsibilities, monitoring, feedback, and reporting for the CCMP are shown in Table 4. The CCMP is a dynamic working document and will be revised on an annual basis.

Table 4. Summary of Community Consultation Management Plan.

Summary of Issues		Objectives	
- Engaging with stakeholders about Project progress; - Communicating key data to government; - Communicating opportunities for local employment and business engagement opportunities.		Ensure transparent community and stakeholder engagement informs the ongoing management and monitoring of potential social impacts during the throughout the Project.	
Actions	KPI's	Responsibility	Timeframe
Establish a detailed program incorporating Consultation and Complaints Register	Agree on the metrics for ongoing tracking of CCP.	The Senior Representative	Life of operation
Provide regular updates to direct landowners regarding Project operations	Communication with landowners is undertaken to advise of activities.	The Senior Representative	Life of operation
Review and update community engagement program prior to operations	Engagement program amended based on feedback to ensure it continues to be fit for operations.	The Senior Representative	Life of operation
Performance Monitoring and Review			
Goals	Evidence	Frequency	
Engagement program remains current and relevant to operation for stakeholders.	Revision of document	Annual	

3.9. Review

The CCMP will be reviewed annually, or in response to any significant changes in management or operations at Wirralie.

References

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT 1994. Environmental Protection Act 1994. Current as at 23 April 2021 ed.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT 2019b. Environmental Protection Regulation 2019.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT 2021. Guideline ESR/2019/4964 – Progressive rehabilitation and closure plans (PRC plans), Version 2.00 – 17 March 2021Last reviewed: 17 MAR 2021