

SAINT ELMO PROJECT

FACTSHEET: SOCIAL IMPACTS & EMPLOYMENT



OCTOBER 2019

Epic Environmental Pty Ltd (Epic) are working with Multicom Resources Limited (Multicom) on the approvals process for the Saint Elmo Project (the Project), including the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

COORDINATION OF CONSULTATION AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Project will provide significant economic benefits to the region, help diversify the regional economy, and through direct and indirect employment provide job opportunities for communities in the North West. As the materials will be imported and exported by road and rail along the corridor between Townsville and the Project site, the economic impact has the potential to extend through the local government areas of not only Mount Isa, Cloncurry, McKinlay and Richmond but also to Flinders and Townsville.

A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan was developed to ensure that stakeholders across the project area are kept informed and up to date of the Project. The outcomes of engagement are used to develop appropriate mitigation measures and management plans as part of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process.

The purpose of the SIA is to describe the potential positive and negative social impacts of the Project and identify relevant and effective impact mitigation and community benefits. Consultation began in April 2017 and has continued to ramp up during the development of the EIS.



Figure 1: Example of Consultation Session held in Julia Creek

Consultation activities have been undertaken across the region (**Figure 1**). This consultation has played an important part in identifying any concerns and opportunities. The discussions from the ongoing consultation have been used to inform the SIA to ensure all community concerns are addressed to ensure that any negative impacts are adequately

addressed with effective mitigation and management measures.

A range of consultation tools were used to meet the objectives of the community consultation process. These included:

- Direct stakeholder contact, including telephone calls and face-to-face meetings;
- Project newsletters and fact sheets;
- Public information sessions and feedback forms;
- Project email address and Freecall number; and
- Website, advertisements and media.

The main items of opportunity and concern raised in stakeholder consultation were:

- Opportunities for direct employment for the local community;
- Opportunities for indirect revenue for local businesses;
- Opportunities for social and economic enhancement of the area;
- Potential increases in dust and other air emissions;
- Quantity of water required, source of water and impact on neighbouring users;
- Potential impact on traffic on the Flinders Highway; and
- Potential social impacts as a result of people moving to Julia Creek.

PROJECT BENEFITS - EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Construction is expected to commence in 2020. The Project is expected to directly employ over 200 people during construction and more than 150 people once the mine is fully operational at 10,000 tpa. When the project moves to 20,000 tpa production there will be an additional 100 jobs, plus 150 jobs created during construction of this second processing facility.

Throughout all phases of the Project, Multicom will seek to

preferentially employ a local workforce. To do this, Multicom will implement a Workforce Management Plan to:

- Promote equitable access to Project employment for local residents, women and Indigenous people;
- Employ and develop a skilled workforce which includes McKinlay Shire residents, residents from neighbouring Shires, and people who would like to move to the region;
- Support workforce participation in the Julia Creek community; and
- Minimise the potential for antisocial or disruptive workforce behaviour in the community, as a result of the Project.

Based on the known demographics of the region, it is expected that 75 percent of the workforce will be able to be sourced from Options 1 or 2 below and will largely be able to reside in their own homes. Up to 25 percent of the workforce will be sourced from outside the region. Recruitment will prioritise:

1. Julia Creek and McKinlay Shire residents who are within a commute time of one hour;
2. Residents of Cloncurry, Richmond and Mount Isa who will require accommodation in Julia Creek between shifts but who will be able to either Drive-In-Drive-Out or Bus-In Bus Out (to minimise traffic and fatigue) at the end of a shift rotation;
3. People from other regions who are willing to move to Julia Creek; and then
4. Fly in Fly Out for workers who cannot be sourced from any of the above.

Facilitating the construction workforce and also the need for overnight accommodation for workers who live more than a one hour commute from the site, will require construction of a Workforce Accommodation Village. Multicom is working with McKinlay Shire Council to establish the appropriate layout and location of the facility, and ensure there are adequate utilities (power, water, sewerage).

REVENUE FOR BUSINESS AND INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT

The Project will provide opportunities for local, regional and Indigenous businesses to participate in its supply chain, contributing to business sustainability and growth, indirect employment and economic development in the McKinlay Shire and throughout the Project catchment.

Multicom will develop a Buy Local Plan during the pre-construction phase to ensure both construction and operation maximise opportunities for local, regional, catchment and Indigenous businesses.

This Plan will:

- Maximise local awareness of the Project's supply opportunities and build relationships with local businesses;
- Provide the framework for full, fair, and reasonable opportunity for local, regional and Indigenous businesses to participate in the supply chain;
- Achieve and maximise Indigenous business participation; and
- Align major contracts and contractors to the Project's Buy Local Plan.

SOCIAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT PLAN

A Project Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) has been developed and is included in the SIA. Stakeholder feedback will be used to update the SIMP to support continual improvement and ensure responsiveness to changes either in the Project or local context. The Project's SIMP includes five management plans:

- Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan;
- Workforce Management Plan;
- Housing and Accommodation Plan;
- Local Business and Industry Procurement Plan; and
- Health and Community Wellbeing Plan.

Each of the management plans provide a summary of key actions for the pre-construction, construction and initial operational phases of the Project.

Further information

If you would like further information on the Project, please:

- Email saintelmo@epicenvironmental.com.au; or
- Freecall 1800 270 844; or
- Visit <http://saintelmoproject.com.au>