
From: O'BRIEN Alison
Sent: Friday, 3 July 2015 1:38 PM
To: SPALDING Rob
Subject: Texas silver developments and briefing note

Hi Rob, I am the assessment manager for Texas Silver and have been involved with the initial negotiations with the Administrators regarding Financial Assurance and Plan of Operations. I have been working with Sthree and Sarah previously on this project.

Can I be please kept up to date and cc'd in on the discussions being held with PPB Advisory? I am currently dealing with two other sites that have gone into liquidation and am having difficulty ensuring that communication and information is managed consistently. Also, I would appreciate being given an opportunity to review the briefing note prior to finalisation.

Thanks very much,

Alison O'Brien

A/ Team Leader

Minerals & North Queensland Compliance | Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

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EHP RTI DL Release

From: O'BRIEN Alison [Alison.O'Brien@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2015 4:16 PM
To: COOPER Warren
CC: KANE Gary; SHARPE Dean
Subject: Texas Silver - potential buyer enquiry

Good Afternoon Warren, we have just received a phone call from Marty Costello at NRC advising that one of his clients is interested in purchasing the Texas Silver Mine. Marty asked who he should contact regarding this. Considering (6) Personal information, I understand you would be the point of contact. So, could you please give Marty a call back on (6) Personal information to discuss?

Thanks,

Alison O'Brien

Principal Environmental Officer (Minerals)

Minerals & North Queensland Compliance | Environmental Services and Regulation

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

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EHP RTI DL Release

Texas Silver Mine

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) has been conducting water quality sampling at the Texas Silver Mines Pty Ltd site, located approximately 230 km southwest of Brisbane near the Queensland/New South Wales border.

The tests have confirmed the presence of acidic water and elevated concentrations of metals and salts in holding dams on the site.

EHP is working closely with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines ([NRM](#)) to develop a plan to manage the contaminated water on the site. EHP is also developing an emergency response plan for use in the event of significant rain fall in the area.

To reduce the risk of a spill, one dam has been pumped down, freeing up additional storage space should the site receive significant rainfall.

The water was transferred to a larger dam, which has much greater storage capacity using an upgraded pumping system installed on site last week.

As well as improved pumping systems, EHP and NRM are currently exploring a number of options to reduce the volume of water stored on site including water treatment and evaporation systems.

~~, some pond water has been transferred to other onsite storage facilities with larger capacity. EHP is also working towards ensuring the Texas Silver Mine onsite water storages have sufficient capacity to contain rainfall runoff, particularly ahead of the wet season later this year.~~

~~In coming weeks, the pumping system at the mine will be replaced with more robust infrastructure to manage the poor quality water onsite. The new pumping system will allow for larger volumes of poor quality water to be transferred across site. Other options to reduce the volume of water stored onsite are currently being investigated, including techniques such as evaporation.~~

EHP is focused on managing water on the site to prevent a release. Other options for future management of the site are being explored and include ~~the option of a~~ an assessment of the sites potential to attract a suitable operator ~~private sale to a company who can continue~~ to safely manage contaminated water on the site.

At this stage the contaminated water is contained on the site and there is no discharge to local waterways.

Any person seeking further information should email ehpinvestigation@ehp.qld.gov.au.

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Texas Silver Management Strategy

Situation: Map

On site contaminated water storages at the Texas mine are close to capacity;

Any further rainfall may results in releases to the receiving environment

Mine discharges will flow into the Dumaresq River, a major source of irrigation water for agriculture in the region.

Goal:

Manage the site to prevent the release of contaminated water

Proposed Strategy:

Water Goal: Reduce contaminated water inventory	Land Goal: Prevent contamination of stormwater
Engage suitable professional	
Treat and release water through Reverse Osmoses plant	Re profile and cover sources of contamination
Continue to evaporate, treat and irrigate contaminated water on site	Divert clean water away from reprofiled and covered areas

Approximate Cost