

**SMI CSRM**

Centre for Social  
Responsibility in Mining

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# Engaging communities in planning for closure and post-mining land uses with a utility goal

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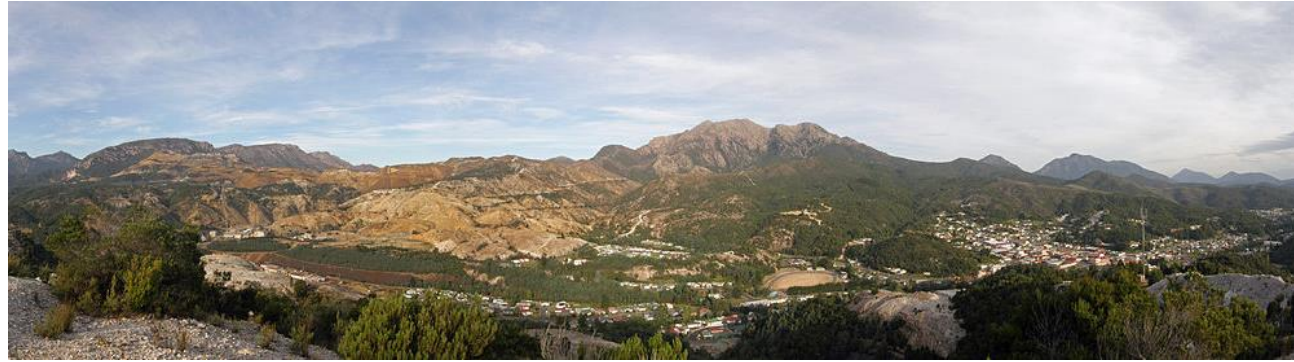
# What will the legacy be...?



# Safe, stable and non-polluting in future?



# Or denuded hills and an orange river? (Mt Lyell copper)



**Enduring value?! At least doing no harm?**



**Samarco tailings dam collapse, Brazil (Nov 2015)**

# Current guidelines also require:

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- An agreed beneficial land use post-mining
- Consultation with stakeholders



# What are land users' views about potential utility of sites?



**Waihi gold mine, New Zealand – abutting the town**

# Rehabilitation and closure planning considers...



Decommissioning plant



Stopping Production



Health and Safety of nearby residents and animals



Viable Communities using land



Stable and Unpolluted Environment





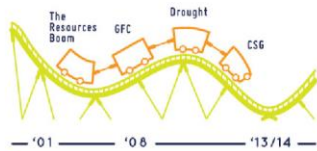
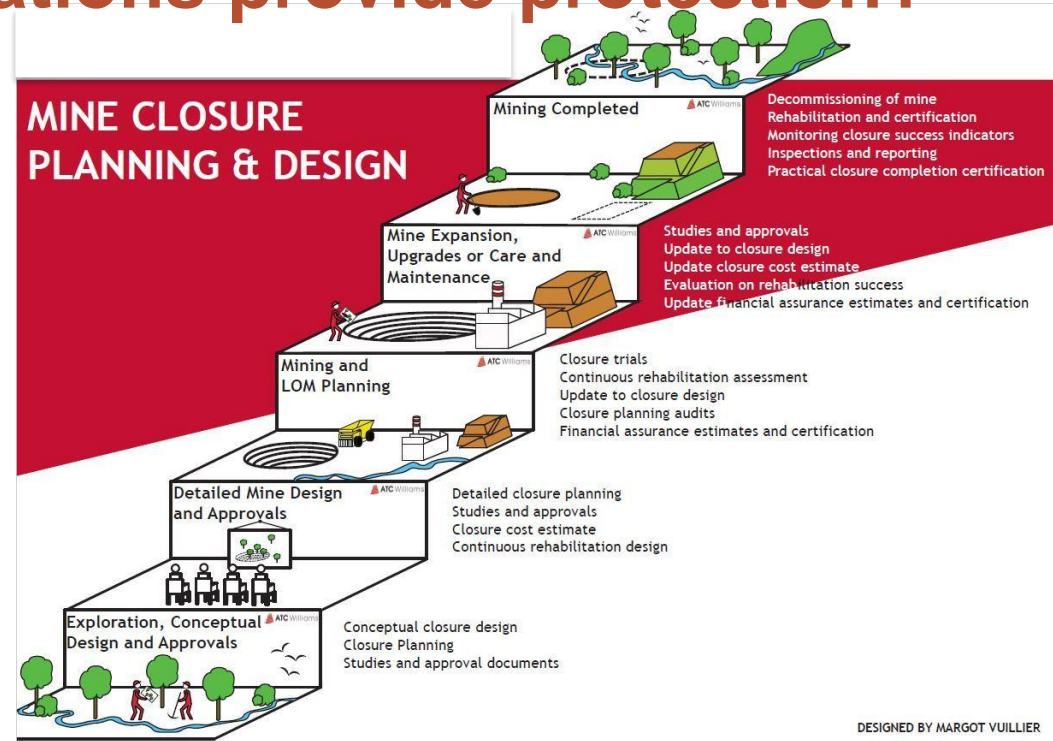
# Do companies have the systems, capacity and resources to recognise and manage the risks?

L I K E L I H O O D	Likely	Medium Risk	High Risk	Extreme Risk
	Unlikely	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
	Highly Unlikely	Insignificant Risk	Low Risk	Medium Risk
		Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
	CONSEQUENCES			



# Do government regulations provide protection?

- Financial assurance?
- Mine closure plan requirement?
- Monitoring?
- Synoptic plans?
- Stakeholder input?



# Stakeholder engagement in planning post-mining in CQ

- 2 year ACARP project
- Central Queensland University – Prof John Rolfe, Prof Susan Kinnear and Dr Delwar Akbar plus UQ-CSR
- Core was 4 workshops with 39 stakeholders throughout 2017
  1. Identify relevant issues – general and regional
  2. Undertake individual planning of a hypothetical site
  3. Technical info and group planning at site level
  4. Confirmation that final plan met stakeholder approval and preferences for options for stakeholder input – who, when and how?
- Hypothetical site gave concrete focus – imagery/ map



# Key Findings – land utility

- Considerations relevant to transferring mining land to grazing:
  - Risk is an issue – who bears residual risk and financial liability?
  - Due diligence and ‘science’ re water, soils, engineering (e.g. dams) etc.
  - Monitoring and management responsibilities for contaminated areas
  - Water resources
  - Access throughout the property (/ ex-mining lease)
- Similarity of views with regard to post-mining land uses
  - grazing the most suitable use in CQ
  - anticipate ‘patchwork’ uses with some productive and some not
  - post-mining land can have ecological, social and economic functions
  - native vegetation adds value as *part* of a grazing property
  - planning and engagement should be early

# Key findings – engagement process

- **Benefits of stakeholder engagement processes**
  - E.g. more diversity of knowledge and values; transparency; more flexible; improved negotiation and decision processes
- **Alignment of different models of stakeholder engagement with purposes**
  - Decision tree flowchart.
  - Eight questions to indicate appropriate type of stakeholder engagement for complex, uncertain and ambiguous planning
  - Spectrum: inform; consult; involve; collaborate or empower
- **Strengths of workshop-based process and concrete example demonstrated**
  - Enhancing mutual understanding;
  - Facilitating consensus and compromise



# Models for mining affected communities having a say

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- **Who?** (e.g. civil society, councils, government, 'experts', landholders)
- **Why?** (i.e. purpose, scope and focus of a panel's deliberations)
- **When?** (i.e. timing of stakeholder involvement)
- **How?** (i.e. resourcing, structuring and operation of panel + IAP2)

...to engage with mining affected communities.

- And **what** are the advantages and disadvantages of five models?
  - Community reference group
  - Special interest group (e.g. water/ pit)
  - Community consultative committee
  - Expert reference panel
  - Taskforce





**THANK YOU**