

## Avoca Project Board Meeting 29th January 2020

### Attendance

Eibhlin Doyle  
Eoin Deegan  
Paul McDermott  
Eileen Walsh

Matt Shaw and Neasa Lehane were not available and it was agreed that the Meeting would go ahead. It was noted that Matt Shaw may not need to attend all meetings, as long as he was available for assistance as required. The Group may decide to have specific items on the Agenda which do not require the attendance of all members.

### Terms of Reference

Discussions took place around the purpose of the Board and whether it should have terms of reference. The question arose as to whether the Board was overseeing the entire Avoca project or the current Circular 40/02 (850 Adit) project. It was noted only funding available for this year is the funding in respect of the current project. The Group agreed that it needed to address a number of issues at Avoca, including:

- (i) on-going maintenance of the site (keeping walkers/scramblers out);
- (ii) developing a longer term rehabilitation plan which in short would set out a roadmap to restoring the site. The rehabilitation requires (in short) all shafts to be capped, all spoil to be covered, drainage control (water managed into point sources and treated);
- (iii) approval and monitoring of expenditure; and
- (iv) any linkages/impacts between the remediation and land registration processes.

### Update on works

Paul McDermott and Eibhlin Doyle provided an update on the overall site issues and the work undertaken to date. Fencing is being maintained at the site by the Department who request the OPW to undertake the work on behalf of the Department. The OPW have been provided with a budget amount for this work.

### Update on the title

[REDACTED]

### Meeting with Residents

Staff from the Division has planned to meet residents, at their request, on the 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at the site. Residents are kept informed of work being undertaken by regular emails and a monthly newsletter.

### Financial

There are not sufficient funds provided for in the Revised Estimate Volume (REV) 2019 for the 850 Adit project. Finance Unit have advised that due to the Health and Safety aspect of the project the additional funds required will be provided. Discussion took place on how the overall project could be progressed and how funds could be sought for it.

The following actions were agreed.

### **Actions**

1. Paul McDermott and Eibhlin Doyle to provide a short 1-2 page business case to resource a civil engineer on contract to update the original Feasibility Study and bring forward a proposal for a longer term programme of work.

[REDACTED]

3. CDM to be requested to provide an estimate for an area near the ore bins where ice is forming to check if the water flow can be reduced to eliminate or reduce any risk associated with same.
4. The Invasive Species contract which is due to expire in September 2020 is to be extended for 1 year which has been provided for in the contract. There is also likely to be an ongoing requirement for a contractor to be in place for inspection and spraying.
5. Consideration to be given to the extension of the Environmental Contract for a further year when it expires in December 2020. This will require Project Board approval.
6. In relation to future meeting a short Meeting could be held monthly with the first one being held in mid- February and thereafter at the end of each month. This would co-inside with the timing of receipt of invoices by the Department.

[REDACTED]