

Cadia expansion update

As mentioned in the Company's market release of 12 May 2017 the prefeasibility study on the proposed expansion to the Cadia processing plant has been completed and the approval of the study is pending while the team at site is focused on completing the remediation and upgrade work.

During this period, Newcrest continues to look for opportunities to parallel track expansion activities in order to minimise the impact on the overall project schedule. As a result it has been decided to progress the permit modification process and Newcrest is undertaking community consultation to increase the processing and ore production permitted capacity to 35 million tonnes per annum (mtpa).

The permit modification process and the feasibility study (once commenced) is designed to enable the start of construction in the 2018 calendar year should the project be approved. The scope of the feasibility study is currently being refined and will incorporate learnings from the recent seismic event and will also examine opportunities to increase throughput beyond 35mtpa.

The permit modification is expected to encompass the following:

- an increase in the ore processing rate up to 35mtpa
- construction and operation of a new concentrator and tailings pipeline
- potential construction and operation of the approved copper/molybdenum separation plant in a different location to that already approved
- an upgrade of the Cadia dewatering facility
- increased process reagent usage and associated transport requirements

The expanded plant has the potential to provide additional permanent employment for up to 100 people.

The environmental assessment work will encompass the following scope, some of which is underway: noise, air quality, site water balance, road transport, Aboriginal heritage and biodiversity.

Near term milestones include:

- gating the prefeasibility study to feasibility study
- completion of the environmental assessment and associated consultation
- submission of a modification to the current permit from 32mtpa to 35mtpa

For further information please contact

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