



Inquiry phase underway

Three years ago, work commenced on the Fosterville Gold Mine Sustained Operations Project (SOP). This project identifies key infrastructure projects required to maintain our current operations, allowing us to continue operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for at least the next 10 years.

To ensure a thorough assessment of the project's potential environmental, social and economic impacts, the Minister for Planning determined that an Environment Effects Statement (EES) was required. The EES process is Victoria's highest level of environmental assessment for major projects, and is overseen by the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*.

Public review now closed

We have concluded the 6-week public review period, which ran from July 22 to August 30, 2024. This crucial step provided everyone the opportunity to review the EES documentation and submit their feedback on the project. We appreciate everyone who took the time to learn about the project, discuss with their friends and families and make a submission.

EES Inquiry phase

The Minister for Planning has appointed an independent 'Inquiry' to advise on the Environment Effects Statement.

The Inquiry will consider the EES, the submissions received and conduct a Public Hearing to hear from Fosterville Gold Mine, referred to as the 'Proponent' and 'submitters' who indicated they wished to be heard in regard to their written submission. The Inquiry will then advise the Minister for Planning on the environmental effects of the Project.

Directions Hearing

On Wednesday 18 September 2024, a Directions Hearing was held at Planning Panels Victoria in Melbourne, to outline the arrangements and timetable for the Public Hearing.

Details to be added following the hearing day.

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing will commence in the week beginning Monday 28 October 2024, and will run for 7 weeks due to the high volume of submitters requesting to be heard at the panel hearing.

These hearings are open to members of the public.

Stay Informed

We encourage community members to stay engaged throughout this process and will continue to provide updates via our social media, website and emails. Updates about the hearing process and timetable will also be published on the engage.vic.gov.au website.

For more information, please contact the FGM Community team or visit the Planning Victoria website.