

**KIMBERLEY METALS LTD**

**SORBY HILLS SILVER LEAD ZINC PROJECT**

**MINING PROPOSAL FOR THE**

**CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF PROJECT MINE SITE**

**M80/197 & M80/286**

**ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SITE SURVEY**



**Proposed Pit Area**

## **Introduction**

This report confirms the results of a heritage survey conducted in October 2011 in relation to the proposed Sorby Hills Silver Lead Zinc Project. The survey was conducted in response to a request dated November 2011 from Sorby Management Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Kimberley Metals. A copy of this proposal is attached to this report as Appendix A.

Kimberley Metals Ltd owns a number of tenements in this region but only portions of tenements M80/197 and M80/286 are the subject of the current mining proposal. A map of the proposed mine layout and the area that was considered during the current survey is attached as Appendix B.

The survey methodology consisted of discussions, informal and formal meetings and field visits with senior Aboriginal men and women. The company was represented in the field by Lubor Hon (Project Engineer – Sorby Hills Project) who explained what the company intends to do at the locations indicated on the map.

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**Image 1 – Lubor Hon discussing project with women in the field (21 Oct 2011)**

Two field trips were conducted – consultant Joh Bornman visited the proposed mining and infrastructure areas on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October with senior men and consultant Dr Kim Doohan visited the same area with senior women on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October.

Traditional Owners signed the project map as they completed the survey and the consultants, archaeological consultant Greg Carver and Lubor Hon signed the maps at the MG Corporation office on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October. One copy of the signed maps was given to Lubor Hon as a record of what was agreed to and the second copy is held by MG Corporation.

## **Previous History**

There has been a long history of exploration for base metals in the East Kimberley region and some of the prospects, including the Sorby Hills deposit, were first identified in the 1970's.

The existing leases were the subject of negotiations in the Ord Final Agreement (OFA) but this report is only concerned with the most recent

history of exploration and heritage clearances and most particularly the results of the current survey.

This project area is now being operated by Kimberley Metals Ltd but it was formerly operated by CBH. Heritage clearance surveys were undertaken in 2007 and 2010.

## **Mining Proposal**

The mining proposal as detailed in the attached document (Appendix A), discusses the project history, geology, proposed mining operations, ore processing, concentrate handling and shipping. It is understood that the proposed mine will be a standard open cut mining operation with flotation ore concentration. It is also understood that concentrate is to be shipped by road train to Wyndham in Rotainer containers where it will be transported by ships to the final destination.

The attached map (Appendix B) shows the location of the various sections of the mining operation such as the pit, tailings area and infrastructure area (containing the processing plant, workshops, offices etc.). It is understood from discussions with Lubor Hon that the exact details of how these various sections of the mine will be constructed and operated is yet to be determined but that their geographic location is limited to the area cleared by the clearance teams and indicated on the signed map sheet.

## **DIA Heritage Inquiry System Search Results**

The results of a search of the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) Heritage Inquiry System in relation to the relevant tenements are attached in Appendices C and D. There are no registered sites located within the proposed mining and mine infrastructure area even though a registered site does encroach onto the northern edge of both the tenements under consideration (see discussion below).

### **Tenement M80/197**

The map attached to the search results for this tenement (refer to Appendix C) shows that the site complex (Jungil Complex, site No.K 02926) extends onto the very top of the tenement. The site complex details are: Site ID – 15427; Site No.K 02926; Site Name – Jungil

Complex; Site Type – Ceremonial, Mythological, Repository/Cache, Skeletal Material/Burial, Man Made Structure, Modified tree, Painting, Engraving, Quarry, Artefacts/Scatter, Midden/Scatter, Grinding Patches/Grooves and Ochre. It is on the permanent register and categorised as closed access with no restrictions. A search of the DIA Report Catalogues reveals no supporting reports with information on this site.

#### Tenement M80/286

As with the site discussed above, the Jungil Complex (site No.K 02926) extends onto the northern edge of the tenement (see search results attached in Appendix D). No reports are listed.

#### Tenements M80/286, M80/285 and M80/287

Other Kimberley Minerals tenements such as M80/196 and M80/285 are entirely covered by the site mentioned above (Jungil Complex, site no K02926) while tenement M80/287 has no registered sites within its boundaries. These tenements were not considered during the current survey as they are not associated with the proposed mine site. If future exploration is planned in these tenements the impact of those activities on this registered site would have to be considered at that time.

### **Heritage Survey Methodology**

Informal discussions were held with a number of senior Aboriginal men and women prior to the field surveys being conducted. These meetings were focused on matters of cultural heritage relating to the proposed mining and mine infrastructure areas.

There were two separate field visits – the senior men accompanied Bornman (20<sup>th</sup>) and senior women accompanied Doohan (21<sup>st</sup>). The field work was conducted separately so as to allow the men to determine if the proposal was likely to impact sites that are restricted to men alone. The women's team was briefed by Greg Carver on the proposed change to the 'green line' boundary (see discussion below) prior to undertaking their site visit. This change was agreed to by the women following the field visit.

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**Image 2 – Greg Carver discussing 'green line' with the women (21 Oct 2011).**

The clearances were conducted by 4WD vehicles travelling to the proposed development locations. Whilst in the field Lubor Hon delineated the precise boundaries of the area and activities to be considered by the heritage clearance team. He also presented relevant information and answered questions in the field. The clearance team members appreciated his responses to their enquiries.

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**Image 3 – Senior men and archaeologist Greg Carver discussing project in the field.**

### **Results of the Field Survey (20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011)**

As discussed above, the survey teams were accompanied by Lubor Hon who explained the proposed programme in detail. Following his presentation the teams discussed the proposals in private and came to a conclusion about the impact the proposed mining may have on known heritage sites in the region.

The clearance team members approved the proposed mine development and associated infrastructure on the basis of these facts. People do have other concerns however and these are outlined below.

Greg Carver, in his assessment of the impact of the proposal on the archaeological material in the area, and working with a clearance team member, requested that the “green line” defining the western extent of the project area be moved slightly to exclude a small limestone hill. This change was agreed by both clearance team members. The results of the archaeological survey also indicate that there are no sites of archaeological significance in the proposed development area (Carver 2011).

### **Issues of Concern to Traditional Owners**

Whilst Traditional Owners have no heritage concerns in relation to this project, they do have environmental concerns. The primary concern is in relation to the disposal of water from the site. It is understood that because of a high water table and seasonal rains, the pits have to be

constantly dewatered by a series of bores around them as well as sump pumps.

Traditional Owners are concerned that this water would eventually make its way to the Keep River and farm areas and pollute them. They are fully aware of the toxic potential of lead in the environment and are looking for safeguards that would avoid any adverse impact on the river.

People were also keen to ensure that young local Aboriginal men and women in particular are given the opportunity to obtain training and long term employment at the mine site. People are aware of the obstacles that confront employees and employers in terms of a lack of qualifications, driver's licences, police records etc., but they feel that ways have to be found to overcome these limitations and to get the young community members into long term and meaningful employment.

The Traditional Owners are aware that an agreement to develop the mine is to be negotiated with the company and are very keen to progress all relevant matters in the near future, including but not limited to, the issues that they recently raised during this clearance.

## **Conclusions/Recommendations**

- MG Corporation is satisfied that the most knowledgeable group of senior knowledgeable Aboriginal people in relation to the project area viewed and discussed any potential heritage concerns in relation to the proposed mine and associated infrastructure.
- The heritage clearance teams were satisfied that there were no heritage sites or aspects of heritage sites that would be impacted upon by the proposed Sorby Hills Silver Lead Zinc Project.
- The archaeological clearance team similarly did not find any sites that would be impacted upon by the proposed project.
- The clearance team did have environmental concerns in relation to the project and in particular the disposing of excess water from the mine and the impact it would have on the immediate environment as well as the Keep River.

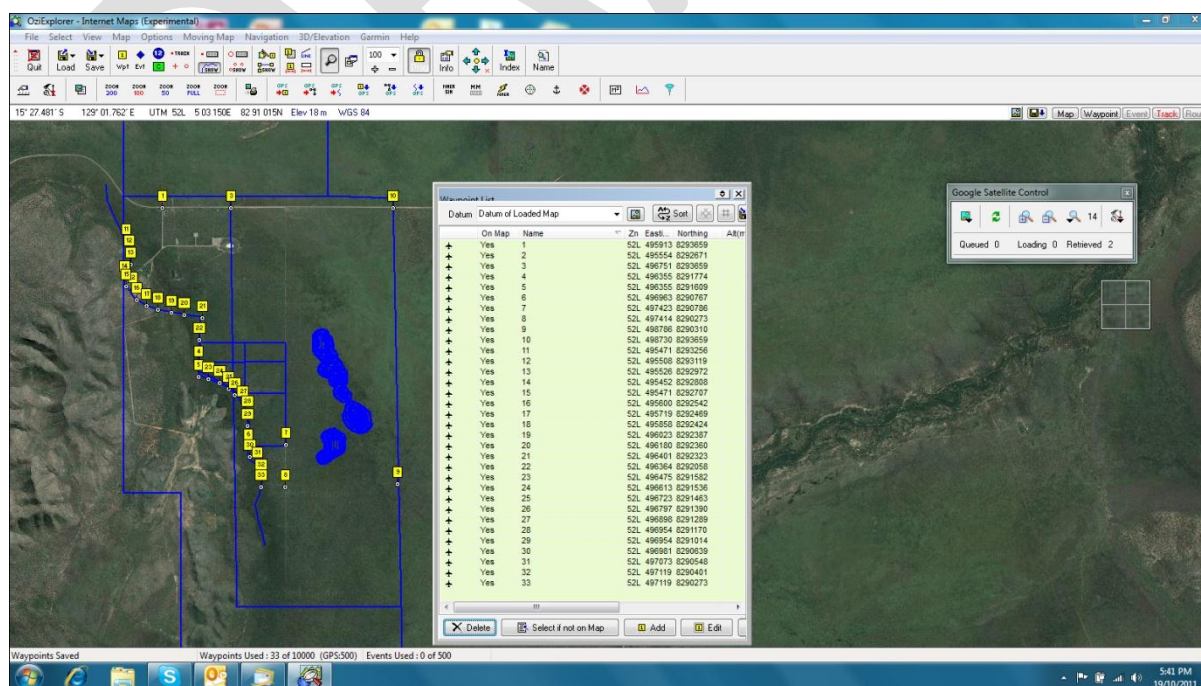
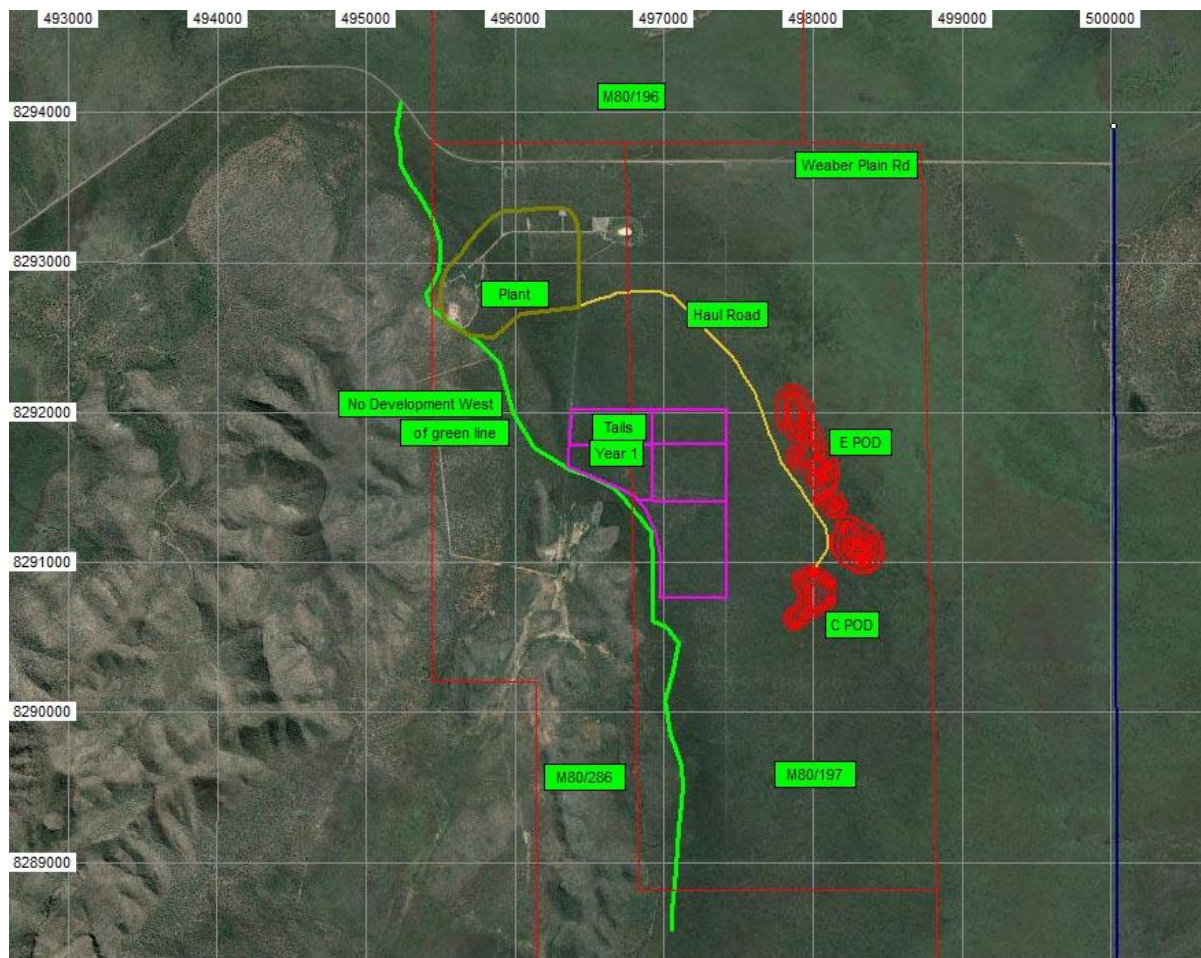
- Traditional Owners would like to see young members of their community trained and employed on a long term basis at the mine.
- Traditional Owners are particularly keen to engage in negotiations concerning the development of the mine in the near future.

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**APPENDIX A**  
**MINING PROPOSAL FROM SORBY MANAGEMENT PTY LTD DATED**  
**NOVEMBER 2011**



**APPENDIX B**  
**MAP SHOWING PROJECT AREA**



**APPENDIX C**

**DIA HERITAGE INQUIRY SYSTEM RESULTS M80/197**

## **APPENDIX D**

### **DIA HERITAGE INQUIRY SYSTEM RESULTS M80/286**