



BARRICK (NIUGINI) LIMITED
(Manager of the Porgera Joint Venture)
PO Box 484
Mount Hagen 281, WHP
Papua New Guinea

Tel: (657) 547 8200 (Porgera)
(675) 547 8201
Fax: (675) 547 8132
Tel: (675) 545 1288 (Mt Hagen)
Fax: (675) 545 1514

PO Box 851
Port Moresby 121, NCD
Papua New Guinea

Tel: (675) 322 4800
Fax: (675) 322 4824
Telex: 23369

26 December, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

PJV highlights challenges and partnerships at Mining Conf

PORT MORESBY, 26 DECEMBER, 2018, 0900HRS: Strategic partnerships with our communities, with Government at all levels, with Donors and NGO's, with employees and shareholders has enabled the Porgera JV operation to overcome its challenges and deliver benefits over the last 3 decades.

Barrick (Niugini) Limited (BNL) Executive Director, Dr Ila Temu highlighted this at the recent 15th PNG Mining and Petroleum Investment Conference held in Sydney, Australia earlier this month.

The biennial conference was hosted by the PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum.

Dr Temu highlighted critical challenges that the Porgera operation has had to deal with in recent times and emphasized that the important factor that has enabled the operation to see through these challenges, has been partnerships.

He spoke of the flooding issues in the open pit from high rainfall, the west wall failure leading to the Yarik sinkholes in 2016 and the significant consequences to operations.

Additionally, the Lukulama landslip in March 2016 which severed the only transport link for supplies and employees to reach the mine site.

Others highlighted included issues on the Highlands Highway, illegal mining, the Hides Transmission Line (HTL) and the February earthquake which caused significant damage to the Porgera JV's power generation plant in Hides resulting in a loss of power supply to the Porgera site and the Porgera valley community.

"Partnership with our shareholders, various levels of government, operating communities, employees is an important part of our operation in trying to address some of the challenges we have," Dr Temu told the conference.

Despite the many significant challenges Dr Temu said Porgera has also delivered significant benefits.

Over US\$1 billion had been paid in taxes and royalties, facilitated over US\$155million in infrastructure through community development programs and tax credit scheme (TCS) and over US\$304million paid to Porgeran businesses.

On corporate social responsibility, Dr Temu highlighted the achievements of the Porgera District Women's Association (PDWA) as a case study, from taking over the mine's cleaning contract to contracting their own machinery to the Porgera Underground mine operation.

Other community development programs and projects have resulted in the investment of more than US\$20million to date.

Dr Temu also spoke on resettlement, a partnership exercise with Government to address another of the mines' challenges.

"We hope in 2019 to finalise a resettlement action plan and start implementation soon after."

Dr Temu also told the conference of the SML Extension Project with the current lease set to expire on 17th August 2019.

BNL had submitted an SML extension application to the Mineral Resource Authority (MRA) on 29th June 2017. He said BNL is seeking to extend the SML duration for a further 20 years- the maximum period available under current PNG mining law.

"In partnership with the State including Enga provincial Government and the Porgera landowners we want to have the lease extended so that project benefits can continue to flow.

"So the Porgera story is one of challenges and partnerships. We have demonstrated our ability to deliver despite these challenges and we intend to do just that for the next 20 years," Dr Temu concluded.

BNL was one of eight principal sponsors for the 2018 PNG Mining & Petroleum conference.

Ends//

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited ("BNL")– through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 3,300 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG's total annual exports.



Dr Temu addressing the 15TH PNG Mining and Petroleum Conference



Dr Temu (middle), Iso Eladona, Mine Manager, Newcrest (right) and Ron Gawi (left) General Manager PNG, Highlands Pacific address the conference on mining projects updates

PJV Media Contact Details:
Email: PJVMedia@porgerajv.com
Phone: (+675) 547 8200