

PJV senior nationals attain ‘Resident Mine Manager certification’

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – MONDAY 05 APRIL, 2021 - A suspended Porgera mine operation coupled with the challenges of Covid-19 have rather been a blessing in disguise for 5 senior national employees who currently are part of the Porgera mine Care and Maintenance (C&M) Leadership team.

This month (March) employees Ezekiel Nori - Superintendent (Probationary) Open Pit Mining, Teddy Ulopo - Senior Mine Engineer, Deryck Akis- Alternate Manager Processing, Ian Kaisom – Superintendent Fixed Plant Maintenance and Underground Mine Engineer Adam Joseph attained respective Certificates of Competency (Metalliferous Mine Manager (MMM), Mine Manager Works (MMW), Mine Surveyor (MS) issued by the Mineral Resource Authority (MRA) after sitting the respective examinations.

The certificates were presented during the Heads of Department (HOD’s) morning meeting on Tuesday 23 March with Acting Executive Managing Director David Lilley congratulating the group for a job well done.

“It is really important and critical for us at this stage of where we’re at. It means for us now, we are really well covered for having qualified and certified people on this site at all times to meet the requirements of the MRA. A team of all nationals willing to take on this responsibility.

“Basically when we talk about these roles, it’s about keeping the site but more importantly the people safe and protecting the assets. It is not a purely technical exercise. It’s really focused on making sure that all the right safety processes are involved so no harm comes to anybody and we protect the ore body and assets,” David said.

The process toward attaining the various mine manager certifications began in March 2020 just after the suspension of the Porgera mine operations.

Jackie Koglkia, Superintendent Project with Mine Technical Site Projects, who has a registered mine managers certificate attained in 2017, facilitated the process for the group together with the support of the site Safety Department and the backing of General Manager Operations, Tim Cribb who is also a registered mine manager ticket holder.

Nominations and candidate endorsement for the respective MRA examinations for Certificate of Competency can only be made by a registered mine manager.

“Obviously after the mine suspension and Covid-19 restrictions, it became apparent there was need for sufficient coverage on site as this is a part of the operational requirement to have a certified manager’s ticket holder on site at any time, as required by the Mining Act.

“I therefor nominated and with the backing of the PJV management, supported the candidates through the process toward attaining their certificates.

“Having a ticket is one thing but sitting in that role, making those critical safety decisions is the key part,” Jackie said.

The examination components both written and oral are framed to examine the candidate's general understanding of the relevant statutory role and legislative provisions, as well as managerial capabilities and skills through responses to certain practical field situations and circumstances by the MRA Board of Examiners.

Deryck on behalf of the certificate recipients acknowledged Jackie and the PJV management for recognising and facilitating the need for them to sit the examinations as an operational requirement.

Ezekiel also expressed his gratitude to the company in ensuring that they were able to get the mine managers' certification.

>ENDS<

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Porgera mine is a joint venture between Barrick and the Zijin Mining Group, which each owns 47.5%, with the remaining 5% interest held by Mineral Resources Enga (owned equally by Porgera Special Mining Lease landowners and the Enga Provincial Government). The mine is operated by Barrick Niugini Limited ("BNL").

Porgera Gold Mine – Part of the Community



Four of the senior national employees with their certificates - from left: Alternate Processing Manager, Deryck Akis, Senior Mine Engineer, Teddy Ulopo, Fixed Plant Maintenance Superintendent, Ian Kaisom and Underground Mine Engineer, Adam Joseph.



Mine Technical Site Projects Superintendent, Jackie Koglkia (left), presenting folder containing the certificate to Alternate Processing Manager, Deryck Akis, while looking on are (from left) Fixed Plant Maintenance Superintendent, Ian Kaisom , Senior Mine Engineer, Teddy Ulopo, and Underground Mine Engineer, Adam Joseph.

PJV Media Contact Details:

Email: PJVMedia@porgerajv.com | **Telephone:** (+675) 547 8200