

Lihir operations temporarily disrupted

A temporary disruption to operations at Lihir was experienced over the weekend due to illegal actions initiated by a small subset of community and local commercial interests. The temporary disruption was closely managed by Newcrest site management with a safe, responsible and phased scale-down of operations occurring in accordance with the PNG Mine Safety Act. The plant was effectively shut-down for approximately 36 hours, with the operation commencing start-up on Monday evening.

The relevant state agency, the Mineral Resource Authority (MRA), has previously provided notice that the power to disrupt mining operations resides solely under the authority of the MRA and any action outside of that is deemed illegal. The disruption on the weekend was not authorised by the MRA.

Although there will be some lost production as a result of this incident, production guidance for Lihir for FY15 remains unchanged at 680 – 720 koz.

The Company is engaging with the MRA and other stakeholders, including landowners, provincial and local level governments. On 14 May 2015, all parties agreed to an audit process, led and co-ordinated by the MRA, including a review of commercial engagement processes and benefit allocation associated with landowner commercial activity.

The continued, predictable and lawful operation of the Lihir gold mine and plant contributes to the long term sustainable benefit of all stakeholders including the host community. Newcrest is committed to working with landowners and all levels of government to create that outcome.

For further information, please contact:

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