



HILL END GOLD LIMITED

ACN 072 692 365

Finalist for Environmental Award - Raising to the Occasion

13 October 2008

ASX Code : HEG, HEGOB

Hill End Gold Limited has been selected as one of two finalists in the NSW Minerals Council 2008 Environment and Community Excellence Awards in the category of Environmental Management for its rehabilitation activities adjacent to the new Reward Shaft at Hill End.

A panel of judges selected from the mining industry and community chose the finalists in recognition of leadership, innovation and commitment in environmental management. Hill End Gold Limited was selected for the Environmental Management Award for 'Raising to the Occasion' - an impressive and innovative rehabilitation of 450 metres of badly eroded gully back to a stable, environmentally enhanced, naturally productive landscape form and habitat.

The rapidly progressing Reward Gold Mine located directly south of the Historic Village of Hill End in Central NSW, required the construction of a 231 metre deep shaft in the vicinity of the old Exhibition area for ten levels of access to the underground resource area, whilst also providing a crucial second means of exit from the mine and to enhance ventilation for current and future mining operations.

Mr Andy Pix, General Manager for Hill End Gold Limited stated "10,000 cubic metres of weathered clay and sandstone had to be removed to allow a suitable foundation for our construction equipment and shaft infrastructure and for site facilities once the shaft construction was completed."

The issue of disposing of the material from the cutting was a crucial design aspect of the shaft project and, after considering alternatives, a large erosion gully area located to the west of the construction site was chosen as a suitable disposal area for the removed material. Backfilling the erosion area with the removed waste material was considered a win-win situation for the project and the environment.

"It provided for a considerable area of erosion gully to be fully regenerated, which has significantly reduced the chance of future erosion, whilst providing cost savings in hauling the waste material elsewhere." Mr Pix added.

A total of 450 metres of erosion gully, covering an area of one hectare, that in places was up to 3.5 metres deep, has been backfilled and totally regenerated. The site would have continued to degrade without significant intervention on the part of the Company.

The regeneration works brought the area back closely to its original natural habitat which will be of considerable benefit to the lower water catchments and for local fauna. The work will also provide a benefit for future generations of the local Hill End community and visitors to the area.

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Environmental Officer for Hill End Gold Limited, Mr Robert Payne said “This project has embraced the pride of every member of our staff that participated in the regeneration works. It has also provided the local community with a further encouraging insight to Hill End Gold Limited’s commitment to the community and environment as a responsible stakeholder whilst also providing a very positive example of the sustainability of the NSW Mining industry as a whole.”

Mr Payne continued “From the outset Hill End Gold Limited sought to make the area as natural as possible and fit in with the local ecosystem. An important step undertaken by Hill End Gold Limited was to determine the original local native flora to the Hill End district and only plant such tube stock within the area. In excess of 1,000 saplings utilising 26 different varieties of trees, shrubs & grasses have been planted within the one hectare regenerated area.”

Mr Pix said “Our objectives were achieved by keeping the work programs simple and taking a logical approach to all aspects of the project. I would also like to acknowledge the safe and professional work undertaken by local contractor Ian Colley Earthmoving.” Mr Pix continued “The works undertaken by the company have been well received by the local community, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Hill End and Tambaroora Common Trust.”

Regeneration works commenced early in February 2008 with positive results seen within 2-3 weeks. “A fantastic result has been the recent abundance of many local species of fauna.” Mr Payne added.

For further information please review our web site www.hillendgold.com.au or contact:

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Erosion area January 2008.



Completed rehabilitation June 2008.