In 2000, Stillwater signed the Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) with three local stakeholder organisations: the Northern Plains Resource Council, the Stillwater Protective Association and the Cottonwood Resource Council.

Each of Sibanye-Stillwater’s mine sites in the US has a correlative Good Neighbor Oversight Committee that meets three times a year. In addition to these formal, transcribed meetings, the Technology Committee and other committees meet as needed. The groups generally communicate weekly to address ongoing projects. Members also meet socially throughout the year.

In recent years, the Stillwater Protective Association has hosted a barbecue for the community where Sibanye-Stillwater provides a site update and opportunity for questions. In 2018, more than 200 people attended this gathering.

The GNA, unique within the mining industry, provides an innovative framework for the protection of the natural environment while encouraging responsible economic development. It contractually binds us to certain commitments and holds us to a higher standard than that required by federal and state regulatory processes.

Our commitments include transparent and productive interaction with all affected stakeholders, using the GNA as a vehicle for dispute resolution and positive stakeholder engagement.

The GNA framework allows the citizens’ groups to understand the US business in enough detail to fully assess potential environmental and social impacts. In this model, the organisation funds mining and groundwater experts who advise the GNA group. This expertise allows the Group to engage in the science and technology behind Sibanye-Stillwater’s operations in the US. Such understanding enables the Group to engage in permitting and mine planning in enough detail to provide feedback in advance of formal comment periods so that it is able to adjust its permitting strategy to address neighbours’ concerns where necessary. This system reduces permitting delays and largely eliminates negative comments during public comment periods.

**FOCUS AREAS**

**TRAFFIC**
- The GNA includes traffic restrictions, which are frequent subjects of conversation among the parties. In 2018, a logistics co-ordinator was hired to focus on consolidating commercial loads to reduce traffic to the Stillwater mine. Sibanye-Stillwater also installed signage near one of the towns on the way to the mine to encourage motorists to reduce their travelling speeds. In addition, employees are encouraged to travel to the mine in buses provided by the organisation.

**WATER QUALITY**
- Another topic of concern is water quality. In 2018, the GNA group and Sibanye-Stillwater undertook significant work on the adaptive management plan that will determine water quality parameters in the GNA. Current water quality requirements are more protective than existing state and federal regulatory standards.

For more information on our engagement with stakeholders, refer to our 2018 Integrated Annual Report.