



## THE GOOD NEIGHBOR AGREEMENT



**“The GNA is unique within the mining industry. The GNA is a legally binding contract, that has over the years evolved and become a living collaborative document.”**

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

The GNA is a framework for protecting the natural environment, while encouraging responsible economic development. It contractually binds Sibanye-Stillwater 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.

In the mid 90s, Stillwater mine was planning a new tailings facility, downstream from the mine; and East Boulder Mine was in the process of securing operating permits. The related exploratory work upset local residents who sought litigation. Realising that litigation would be arduous and costly, residents initiated negotiations with the mine to address their concerns.

These negotiations laid the foundation for a constructive relationship with local residents and resulted in the creation of the GNA.

Each of Sibanye-Stillwater's mine sites in the US has a Good Neighbor Oversight Committee that meets three times a year. In addition to these formal, minuted meetings, the Technology Committee and other working groups meet as needed. One such working group has been constituted to address water quality, and communicates at least weekly to address ongoing projects.



The GNA is a legally binding contract, that has over the years evolved and become a living collaborative document that the parties are willing to adapt as the need requires.

The GNA funds mining and water experts who advise the Group, who in turn share this understanding of environmental and social impacts with residents. The Group provides feedback on the areas of permitting and mine planning in advance of formal comment periods. This means permitting strategies can be adjusted to address neighbours' concerns where necessary. This system reduces permitting delays and largely eliminates residents' concerns around transparency during public comment periods.

In the 23 years of the GNA's existence, there has been no arbitration, nor environmental litigation – a significant achievement for any mining company.

**“Through the GNA, we are working with the Stillwater Protective Association and Cottonwood Resource Council to develop a stakeholder-driven, independent water monitoring and assurance plan aligning with the goals and objectives of the GNA.”**

## FOCUS AREAS

### Traffic

The GNA includes guidelines for restricting traffic and improving the flow of traffic around our areas of operation. Our logistics coordinator focuses on consolidating commercial loads to reduce traffic to the Stillwater mine. Signage on the way to the mine encourages motorists to reduce their travelling speeds. In addition, employees are encouraged to travel to the mine in buses provided by the Group.

### Tailings facilities

Review of long-term tailings storage facility (TSF) design and siting decisions is a key focus of the GNA. For Stillwater mine, approximately half (50%) of all concentrator tailings are returned underground for backfill. The remainder is sent via pipeline to the Hertzler TSF, 11 km north of Stillwater. The Group has completed engineering designs and begun the environmental impact assessment for a new TSF adjacent to the existing TSF to add capacity of 10,200kt. The new Hertzler TSF will provide adequate storage for current proved and probable mineral reserves.

At our East Boulder mine around 46% of all concentrator tailings are returned underground for backfill with the remainder sent via pipeline to the East Boulder TSF. Regulatory approval of the new Lewis Gulch TSF is anticipated in 2024, which will add another 5,500kt capacity by 2031.

We conduct annual emergency planning exercises with local emergency response authorities. In addition, community TSF informational meetings were hosted by the individual mine operations.

These activities were conducted in collaboration with stakeholders, including the GNA Councils, regulatory agencies, the independent tailings review board, and local communities. The GNA is helping this process run more smoothly and efficiently given the local community's interest in the full life-cycle of the TSFs, including design, construction, operation, and long-term closure.

### Water quality

The GNA Councils and Sibanye-Stillwater collaborate on water management activities through an adaptive management plan (AMP), which defines and tracks water quality metrics. These water quality requirements are generally more protective than existing state and federal regulatory standards.

Under the AMP, mitigation activities may be triggered even when levels of water contaminants are well below state and federal trigger limits. Thus, the AMP offers a proactive and protective method for flagging and addressing potentially impacted areas.

For more information on our engagement with stakeholders, see our *2023 Integrated Report*. Also see the *Biodiversity fact sheet on our fisheries monitoring programme* (which is part of the GNA), [www.sibanyestillwater.com/news-investors/reports/annual/](http://www.sibanyestillwater.com/news-investors/reports/annual/).



For more information on our actions to minimise our environmental impact, please see our *2023 Integrated report*, [www.sibanyestillwater.com/news-investors/report/annual](http://www.sibanyestillwater.com/news-investors/report/annual)



## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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OUR VISION:

**To be a leader in superior shared value for all stakeholders**