

McArthur River Mine Community Reference Group

Public Communique – Meeting held Wednesday 9 September 2026

Members of the Community Reference Group (CRG) met at the McArthur River Mining (MRM) Borroloola Office on Wednesday 9 September 2026. The meeting opened with a minute's silence for community members who have passed.



CRG Members at the MRM Community Office in Borroloola

MRM Communities and Social Performance Superintendent Amanda Smith gave an operational update covering the mine's economic contribution, workforce, community engagement and social contribution.

MRM's total economic contribution in 2025 was \$633 million, and 97% of its permanent employees are based in the Northern Territory.

Members also heard about progress in Aboriginal employment, the agreements reached with Traditional Owners in 2025, and the Community Benefits Trust's Jirribilyi Borroloola Central development, which is due to open in 2027.

MRM Environment Superintendent Ben McTavish reported there have been no notifiable environmental incidents since January 2026. The eleven minor incidents recorded since April, mostly small machinery leaks, were all contained within operational areas and did not affect the health of the McArthur River.

MRM noted staff education and training as a focus for continued improvement.

The CRG reviewed the two community complaints received since the April meeting and MRM's response to each.

Dr Alan Robertson, Independent Chair of the Northern Overburden Emplacement Facility (NOEF) presented the findings of the NOEF panel review. The Chair thanked Dr Robertson for a thorough and clearly presented piece of work.

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE) provided an update on the Independent Expert Panels, the Independent Monitor and MRM's compliance obligations. The TSF Panel report is expected in late 2026 and the Mine Closure Panel report in 2027. Members raised concerns about the gap in the Independent Monitor appointment. MRM confirmed its environmental monitoring has continued without interruption.

Members discussed the importance of continuing to share operational updates at the CRG.



The date of the next CRG meeting will be 4 November 2026.

Further information on the Community Reference Group is available on the [Department of Lands, Planning and Environment website](#).