

would logically be carried out at the same time as any work to increase the width of the corridor in this area as recommended in section 3.3 above.

4.8 Current developments

Ongoing current developments which impact either directly or indirectly on the tailings corridor are as follows:

- New 500 mm Polyethelene sections are being installed in the process water transfer lines between the tailings dam and Pit 1. This is due to the original sections having been damaged by fire apparently caused by the burning of bolts to break a flange connection.

4.9 Environmental

The roles and responsibilities of the ERA Environmental Health and Safety department in respect of the tailings corridor are briefly summarised in section 4.1. There were no specific issues in this regard which came to light during the review investigations

5 Anticipated future developments

There are no currently anticipated future developments which it is envisaged will, either directly or indirectly, impact the tailings corridor during the operating life of the mine.

6 Discussion and recommendations

The significant finding of this report is that, whilst there are a number of matters that need to be checked/addressed, the fundamental design and operation basis for the corridor was appropriate at the time of initial construction and operation, and is still appropriate. It has not been practical, in the time available to undertake and document this review, to follow all of the issues through to obtain full details and make final recommendations. Accordingly, in respect of a number of items, this report includes recommendations for further consideration before deciding on any action.

Whilst a number modifications affecting the corridor are recommended for further consideration, the main findings/ recommendations of the report relate to operating and maintenance practices which should be adopted for the remainder of the mine/mill life.

The review recommendations are summarised as follows primarily under the report headings used in section sections 3.3 and 4 of this report.

6.1 Suitability of key aspects of the original design

- Investigate the widening of the western end section of the corridor where the 500 mm polyethylene pipes run in the drainage trench in order to reduce the risk of a pipe leak resulting in contaminated water falling outside the corridor embankment. Incorporate an examination of the other potential impacts of the polyethylene pipe routing noted in this report as part of the review.
- Obtain and review the particle grade and impermeability etc specifications for all main and branch corridor coverings to confirm their acceptability with respect to prevention of seepage/leakage from the corridor.
- Specifically review all areas where the original corridor base material has been significantly disturbed/alterd to ensure that the cover now provided is adequate.