



Community Update

8 May 2013



Vista Gold's water treatment program for mine affected water in Mt Todd's Batman Pit has proven to be the best solution for dealing with the site's environmental legacy.

In October 2012 we implemented an innovative plan to raise the pH of more than ten gigalitres of contaminated water stored in the mine site's open cut pit.

Raising the pH causes the metals in the water to form a solid and drop to the bottom (precipitate) forming a thick sludge at the bottom.

More than six months later the program has delivered results beyond expectations.

The pH level of water in Batman Pit has changed from an acidic 3.3 to a neutral 7.9 and 99.8% of all the metals contained in the top 15 metres of water have been taken out.

This process was based on extensive independent scientific research and testing which now sets a benchmark for environmental mine management on the Mt Todd mine site and beyond.

While Vista Gold will continue to pursue other water treatment programs, we now have a proven method for managing the volume of water on site until Mt Todd goes into production.

Vista Gold is yet to make a final investment decision on reopening the mine. A positive decision will require a workforce of around 450 people during construction and 350 for the operation of the site.

In addition to local employment and services, long term benefits from Mt Todd reopening include rehabilitation of the site and sound environmental stewardship.

Brent Murdoch
General Manager