



# TROPICANA

The Tropicana Gold Mine poured first gold in September 2013 eight years after the initial discovery. At the time Tropicana was the first greenfields gold discovery to be brought into production in Australia for more than a decade.

**Location:** 330 kilometres east-northeast of Kalgoorlie-Boulder on the western edge of Western Australia's Great Victorian Desert.

**Ownership:** AngloGold Ashanti Australia Ltd (70% and manager) and Regis Resources Limited (30%) through the Tropicana Joint Venture.

# **Key Statistics Calendar 2022**

**Production:** 436,919 oz (100%)

Plant Throughput: 9.3 Mtpa

Head Grade: 1.41 g/t

Gold Recovery: 89.74%

Total Cash Costs: US\$881/oz (AGA)

All-in Sustaining Costs: US\$1,014/oz (AGA)

Ore Reserve at 100% (as at December 31, 2022): 36.7 million

tonnes grading 1.78 g/t for 2.10 Moz of contained gold.

**Mineral Resource at 100% (inclusive, as at December 31, 2022):** 107.2 million tonnes grading 1.81 g/t for 6.25 Moz of contained gold.

The Ore Reserve and Mineral Resource estimates for Tropicana are updated on an annual basis. AngloGold Ashanti and Regis Resources provide full details of these estimates, including the applicable JORC statements, on their websites: www.anglogoldashanti.com and www.regisresources.com.au.

## **Key Contractors**

Mining: Macmahon Holdings

Power Generation: Kalgoorlie Power Systems

Village & Administration: ESS

Aviation: National Jet Express, Goldfields Air Services

Day works Services: Kai Rho Contracting

Light Vehicle Workshop: Triodia

### **Subcontractors**

Ancillary Equipment and Personnel: Carey Mining

Explosive Supply: Dyno Nobel

## Workforce

Approximately 180 employed by AGAA and 630 employed by contractors.



#### **TROPICANA**



## **Overview**

One of the top five gold producing operations in Australia, Tropicana transitioned from large scale open pit mining to a combination of open pit and underground mining in 2020 following development of the site's first underground mine beneath the Boston Shaker pit. It produced its 4 millionth ounce in the fourth quarter of 2022.

In June 2023, a contract was signed with Pacific Energy to construct and operate Australia's largest off-grid solar and wind implementations at Tropicana. The renewable facility will consist of 4 x 6 MW wind turbines, a 24 MW solar farm and a 14 MW battery storage system (BESS) which will be integrated into the existing 54 MW gas fired power system.

Overall, the renewables integration is expected to reduce Tropicana's diesel and gas consumption for power generation by 96% and 50% respectively, reducing carbon emissions by more than 65,000 tonnes per annum on average over the life of the agreement.

Pacific Energy is expected to begin site works in August 2023, with the project due for completion in H1 2025.

Open pit mining at Tropicana is undertaken using conventional open cut, drill, and blast, followed by truck and excavator operation. Open pit mining of Boston Shaker was completed in 2022 with all activity now focused on the Havana pit, which is undergoing a series of cutbacks. The total annual movement of ore and waste is approximately 85-90 Mtpa. Underground

mining uses mechanised jumbo development and open stoping methods. At peak, annual production from underground is planned to reach approximately 2Mt of ore.

The processing plant has a current capacity of 9.3-9.5 Mtpa. The crushing circuit consists of a primary gyratory crusher, feeding a set of secondary cone crushers and tertiary roll crushers. A 14MW and 6MW ball mill in parallel complete the grinding circuit.

The Boston Shaker underground mine performed well in 2022, hitting targeted ore production of 1.4 Mtpa. The Tropicana underground mine began production at the end of 2022 and will lift the site's underground ore output towards 2 Mtpa.

A prefeasibility study on mining the underground mineralisation below the planned open pits at Havana will be finalised in 2023. The PFS is assessing the most economical way to access the ore, either via a dedicated decline from the Havana pit, or via development of the "Havana Link Drive" from the Tropicana decline. The Havana Link Drive has the potential to provide a drilling platform to access high-grade mineralisation between Tropicana and Havana.

Production at Tropicana in 2022 increased by 15% year-on-year due to higher grades and volumes processed, which contributed to an 11% improvement in total cash costs.

However, the operation continued to be affected by labour shortages and equipment reliability which impacted waste stripping in the Havana cutback, potentially pushing peak ore production from the Havana open pit from 2025 into 2026. Operational measures are in place to pull back this deficit in waste stripping.

Exploration remains focused on testing for extensions of underground mineralisation at Boston Shaker, Tropicana, and Havana and on regional targets.



#### **Environment**

Tropicana has certification under the Cyanide Code, ISO 45000 (health and safety) and ISO 14001 (environmental management). Tropicana's EIA documents and subsequent reports can be viewed at www.tropicanajv.com.au.

Biodiversity is a feature of the safety and environmental management plan developed for the site. As part of the operation's biodiversity offsets strategy in its approved environmental management plan, the Great Victoria Desert Biodiversity Trust was established. A condition of the Federal Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conversation Act approval for the mine, the Trust reflects the Tropicana Joint Venture partners' recognition of the need to base environmental management decisions on robust science. The Trust funds research on the remote Great Victoria Desert, where the mine is located, such as the first Sandhill Dunnart Research and Adaptive Management Plan for the GVD, which incorporates traditional owner land management expertise. Updates on the Trust and its research projects can be found at www.gvdbiodiversitytrust.org.au.

A site-wide water optimisation project started in 2021 and aims to reduce water abstraction from aquifers and use water by preference, namely water from higher efficiency bores requiring less energy consumption and providing higher water yields, including those around the mine's Tailings Storage Facility (TSF).

Tropicana's environmental licence was amended in 2022 to increase the design capacity of the TSF. At present, the facility is within the original design capacity. Variable speed pumps with reduced energy usage, operating off the mine's internal electricity supply grid, were introduced, eliminating the need for stand-alone diesel generators and further reducing GHG emissions. The project increased the site's use of recycled water and cut diesel consumption for the bore field pumping requirements by up to 35%.

An updated Mine Closure Plan was submitted to regulators in 2022.



### **TROPICANA**



# **Community**

For more than two decades AngloGold Ashanti has actively supported education, youth, community development and health programmes in communities across the Western Australian goldfields, from Laverton to Kalgoorlie-Boulder and beyond, including the remote Aboriginal community of Tjuntjuntjara.

Supporting education programmes at Eastern Goldfields College, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Community High School and John Paul College remains a strong focus. Education and employment initiatives are also delivered through long-term partnerships with indigenous academies: Kalgoorlie Clontarf Academy, the Kalgoorlie Girls Academy, and the Graham Farmer Follow the Dream Programme. Along with annual funding support for these organisations, AGAA offers mine site tours, exposure to a wide variety of careers in the mining industry and a transition-to-work programme.

Tropicana also supports a 'Think Local, Buy Local and Employ Local' strategy to promote business opportunities and the growth of local supply networks.

## **Employment**

The remote location of Tropicana necessitates a fly-in, fly-out operation with flights arranged to cater for employees and contractors based in both Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Perth. The site operates a combination of 4:3, 8:6, 2:2 and 2:1 rosters. Tropicana places an emphasis on recruiting locally where possible.

#### Contact

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