



# The CODE

The Newsletter of  
the International Cyanide  
Management Institute  
[www.cyanidecode.org](http://www.cyanidecode.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025 Edition

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Welcome to the 1st Quarter 2025 edition of *The Code*.

## ICMI Welcomes New Signatories in First Quarter 2025

In the first quarter, the International Cyanide Management Institute (ICMI) has accepted the applications of two mining companies, one transporter and one producer to become signatories to the Cyanide Code.

The signatories are:

- [Barberton Mines \(Pty\) Ltd](#), located in South Africa, is a subsidiary of Pan African Resources, which operates the Fairview Mine and the Consort Mine Plant in South Africa.

Another Pan African Resources subsidiary, Evander Gold Mining Ltd is a signatory to the Cyanide Code and operates the Evander Kinross Plant, which is currently certified under the Cyanide Code, and has achieved certification four times.



BARBERTON MINES

- [Steppe Gold LLC](#) operates the Altan Tsagaan Ovoo Gold Mine, and the Boroo Gold Mine, which are both in Mongolia. The Boroo Gold Mine LLC is separately registered as a signatory to the Cyanide Code and has not yet achieved certification.



- PT. Pentawira Logistics Indonesia, a transporter with its head office in Surabaya, East Java. The company was established in 2016.

- [Nowata Great Lakes SEZ Ltd.](#), a Kenya based company engaged in warehousing cyanide.

With the addition of Barberton Mine and Steppe Gold, the total number of mining signatories in the Cyanide Code is now 59, a record high.

By becoming signatories to the Cyanide Code these companies have committed to follow the Cyanide Code's Principles and implement its Standards of Practice, and to have certification audits of their respective operations, which they have designated for certification, conducted by independent third-party auditors within three years of their initial applications, and every three years thereafter. The operations will be certified if found in compliance with the Code, and may be de-certified if it is determined that they no longer comply with the Cyanide Code.

## ICMI Training Workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania a Success

ICMI conducted a workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on February 10-11, 2025, on best practices in cyanide management, with a focus on implementing and auditing the Cyanide Code.

This one-and-a-half-day workshop was intended to assist gold mining companies, cyanide transporters, companies manufacturing and warehousing cyanide, and other stakeholders in understanding the Code's expectations for responsible management of cyanide. Another aspect of the workshop was to instruct compliance auditors on how to evaluate mining operations and cyanide transporters to properly report their findings.

The workshop began with opening remarks by Daniel W. Ndiyo, Director of Regulatory Services (including chemicals management), for [Tanzania's Government Chemist Laboratory Authority](#). He was followed by Paul Bateman, ICMI's President, who provided welcoming remarks and an overview of the Cyanide Code. The training was conducted in English by Eric Schwamberger, PhD, Senior Vice President of the ICMI. Dr. Schwamberger remarked about the workshop, that he "was impressed by the insightful questions he received from the audience, and the hands-on experience that the participants shared."

Eighty-three registered participants attended from nine different countries. They represented mining companies, transport companies, government, and companies engaged in cyanide distribution and warehousing. While many of the workshop delegates are employed by companies that participate in the Cyanide Code, there were also many attending companies that are considering becoming signatories to the Cyanide Code.



The ICMI Zambia workshop in February focused on best practices in cyanide management.

## Certified Mining Operations Response to Severe Storm in Goldfields of Western Australia

### Cyanide Code Plays Crucial Role

**By Tom Gibbons, Principal, Veritas Metallica Pty. Ltd.**

A severe rain storm occurred in the arid Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia in March 2024. In the direct path of the storm were two Certified Mining Operations, Tropicana Gold Mine and Gruyere Gold Mine, both situated on the western edge of the Great Victoria Desert, an active sand-ridge desert of deep Quaternary Aeolian sands. The facilities effectively managed the event with no overtopping or process spills. In addition, they both rendered assistance to a rescue operation for members of the public stranded by the storm.

Tropicana Gold Mine, owned by signatory company AngloGold Ashanti plc (70%, and manager Regis Resources Ltd, 30%), received 342 mm (13.5 inches) of rain in a 72-hour period, a one-in-500-year flood, with over 100 mm (3.9 inches) falling in the first 24 hours.

Gruyere Gold Mine, a 50:50 Joint Venture between Gold Road and signatory company Gold Fields Limited, received 162 mm (6.4 inches) rain over a 10-day period, with 91 mm (3.9 inches) received in over 72 hours.

The operations noted that compliance with the Code was a significant contributor in their readiness and ability to effectively manage the event. Key areas that were crucial were contingency plans, probabilistic water balance modeling, adequate secondary containments, effective internal and external communication protocols, and effective emergency and crisis response plans and procedures.



**Tropicana Gold Mine after the one-in-500-year rainfall event.**

Consistent with Code requirements, key systems and controls that assisted in the management of the event included:

- *Contingency Plans for Storm Events;*
- *Compliant Secondary Containment volumes;*
- *Probabilistic Water Balance Model and Reporting;*
- *Maintenance of effective water diversion systems;*
- *Maintenance of Ponds and Impoundments below design freeboard levels;*
- *Good communication between Mining and Processing Departments. This allowed successful coordination of higher than typical transfer of mine-dewatering water to the process ponds;*
- *Increased inspection frequency proved useful prior to and during the storm;*
- *During the event, focused Survey pick up of diversion channels around Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) and pit to ensure integrity and no uncontrolled discharge/run off from facilities;*
- *Shutdown of borefields prior to Storm Event was effective in reducing volume of ponds and storage tanks, thus allowing additional secondary containment capacity as required;*
- *Effective Incident Management Team Process;*
- *Recovery plans effectively managed through Incident Management Team;*
- *Kept Incident Management Team protocols in place until operation returned to full production;*

- *Storm water management infrastructure in place for large flood event;*
- *Storm water was utilized in plant, with borefields remaining offline;*
- *Plant design allowed start-up without blockage or overflow events;*
- *TSF design with waste rock capping suffered minimal erosion damage;*
- *Excess TSF capacity utilized per probabilistic water balance information;*
- *Controlled storm water discharge in storm water trench; and*
- *Access road dewatering and multiple road repairs done.*

Lessons learned from the event were:

- *The importance of training and awareness of the Cyanide Code. Supervisors and Senior Leadership were aware of Cyanide Code requirements and associated systems, protocols, and necessary actions to manage the event;*
- *Some surface contour and flood catchment models have been flagged for update, highlighting the importance of updating models on a nominal 2-year frequency;*
- *Coordination of de-water priorities to be reviewed and updated;*
- *Drainage at some low-lying areas to be improved; and*
- *Need to maintain sufficient site stock of spare electrical motors for such large flood events.*

In addition to addressing continuity of safe and environmentally-responsible operation of cyanide facilities, Certified Operations and Cyanide Producers cooperated to maintain access routes to ensure that cyanide deliveries continued in a timely manner, and were compliant with Code requirements.

Public assistance was also rendered to members of the public stranded by the storm. Tropicana Gold Mine assisted in the rescuing of seven members of the public traveling to the remote Tjuntjuntjara Aboriginal Community, who were cut off by the storm and stranded with grave fears for their safety. The group included four children and three elderly people, with the incident covered extensively by local media. Due to the Emergency Response capabilities of the operation, and their ability to keep their airport open, they were able to assist the Western Australian Government Department of Fire and Emergency Services in a successful helicopter rescue mission, with the group found safe 120 kilometers (74.6 miles) south of the Operation.