

# The Lisheen Mine - Discovery to ClosureIMQS PresentationFebruary 2015Brendan Morris, Head of Mining & Technical

# Lisheen Mine

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- Environmental Management
- Exploration

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- People and Closure
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# Lisheen – Sesa Sterlite - Vedanta

- Lisheen is a mining/mineral processing company wholly owned by Sesa Sterlite, a Vedanta Group company, now named Vedanta Limited
- Vedanta Limited is a London Stock Exchange listed, globally diversified natural resources major with interests in Zinc, Lead, Silver, Copper, Iron Ore, Aluminium, Power and Oil & Gas.
- Vedanta has mining operations in India, Africa, Australia and Ireland, with a strong organic growth pipeline of projects
- Vedanta is committed to international standards for safety and sustainable development and works with stakeholders and local communities
- Lisheen Mine extracts zinc and lead ore from underground, processes this into zinc and lead concentrates and sells these concentrates to smelters and customers in Europe, North Africa and the USA.

# **Discovery & Development**

- 1984: Chevron commence exploration in Ireland
- 1986: Galmoy discovered
- 1987: Chevron starts prospecting around Galmoy
- 1990: Chevron signs Joint Venture (JV) with Ivernia West
- 1990: JV discovers soil anomalies
- 1990 LK-3262 intersects two massive sulphide zones
- 1993: Anglo American takes over Chevron's JV share
- 1997: Construction starts
- 1999: Start of production
- 2003: Anglo American buys out Ivernia
- 2010: Anglo American sells Lisheen to Vedanta for \$308m
- 2015 (Oct)
   Planned cessation of mining due to depletion of resources
- 2016 (Feb)
   Completion of Backfilling and closure of mine

#### Lisheen Mine – Aerial View



# **Lisheen General Information**

- We are located in Tipperary between Thurles, Urlingford and Templemore
- We mine approximately 1.5Mt of ore annually and process in the concentrator onsite
- The average grade of the ore body is 10.9% Zinc (Zn) and 1.8% Lead (Pb)
- The concentrator recovers 90% of the Zn and 70% of the Pb
- The concentrator produces approximately 317Kt of Zn and 39Kt of Pb concentrates annually (Zn 53%, Pb 62%)
- The metal concentrate is transported to the Port of Cork where it is sold to smelters around the world
- 374 people employed plus 26 permanent contractors
- 65% of our employees belong to trade unions (SIPTU 50% and TEEU 15%)
  - There have been no industrial disputes since the mine start-up
- Mine scheduled to close in October 2015, due to depletion of ore reserve

# **Lisheen General Information**

- We are one of the largest power consumers in Ireland, predominantly due to the large volumes of underground dewatering and the requirement to mill the ore material so finely
- Power costs constitute a sizeable portion of the operating costs (€10M + per annum)
- **ISO 14 001** (environmental systems) accredited (NSAI) (since 2002)
- OHSAS 18 001 (occupational health and safety systems) accredited (NSAI) (since 2005)
- Excellence Through People (NSAI) Ireland's Human Resources and Training standard. Lisheen Mine holds Gold Standard accreditation.
- Operate under an Integrated Pollution Control Licence (IPCL) from the EPA (noise, vibration, air emissions, water discharges, etc.).

# **Lisheen General Information**



## **Safety Overview**



#### NOTHING....

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#### Not Production, Not Profit, Not Sales, Not Anything....

- penelle une.

#### **COMES BEFORE SAFETY**





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Brendan Morins



# **Safety Overview**



In order to achieve the reduction in LTIs, many safety initiatives were undertaken

- Safety campaigns for specific topics (e.g. manual handling, PPE, ground control awareness)
- Improved communication regarding all aspects of safety
- Investigation analysis improved to minimise repeats
- Increased safety visits to ensure compliance

# **The Mining Process**









#### Lisheen Mine – Plan View



# **Underground - General Information**

- 5,000 tonnes of ore mined and crushed per day
- Ore hoisted via conveyor system from crusher to tepee on surface
- Mining takes place 6 days per week
- Ventilation required is 500m<sup>3</sup>/sec, via 5 intake airways and 6 exhaust airways
- Mobile equipment maintenance carried out in modern underground workshop



# **Underground Portal**



- 1.7km long decline, 7m X 4.5m, -15 $^{\circ}$
- Suspended hanging wall conveyor (1.5 km long, 1.0m wide)
- Conveyor System 2.4m/s, 420 tph from crusher
- Primary intake airway
- Three secondary egresses via Alimak raise climbers





# **Underground - Geology**

- Structurally-controlled, carbonate-hosted, stratabound, massive and disseminated sulphides

 Complex geometry and grade variability requires close-spaced drilling combined with significant grade control and mine geology effort to define the orebody adequately for productive mining

Strong and well understood geological controls restrict the extent of mineralisation and therefore the possibility of significant upside extension



# **Underground - Water**



 Dirty water is treated on surface, then diluted with clean water and pumped into local rivers in compliance with EPA licence

- 70-100 million litres pumped from underground every day
- Water is classified as either 'clean' or 'dirty'



# **Underground - Development Mining**



Drill Length	3.9m
Standard Round	4.5m wide x 6.0m high
• No. Holes	64
<ul> <li>Quantity of explosives</li> </ul>	267kg/round
<ul> <li>Explosives</li> </ul>	Site sensitised emulsion
<ul> <li>Ore round yield</li> </ul>	350 tonnes
<ul> <li>Waste round yield</li> </ul>	250 tonnes

- All faces are contour charged to avoid overbreak in roof
- All faces bolted on 1.5m x 1.5m pattern
- All faces are geology mapped



# **Underground - Room and Pillar Mining**



# **Underground - Drift and Fill Mining**



# **Underground - Longhole Open Stoping**



# Underground – Remote Mucking in a Longhole Open Stope

Tele-remote loading operation – operator positioned safely outside the blasted area



# **Underground - Backfill**

- Backfill is used to provide the necessary strength fill material to facilitate extraction of secondary stopes.
- Backfill also provides support to the overlying strata in order to prevent subsidence
- The concentrator produces approximately 1.3Mt of tailings (finely crushed rock with the economical metal removed) per annum





#### Cross Section of stope

# Underground – Workshop

- All maintenance, except major overhauls carried out underground
- 4 fully fitted work bays
- 2 overhead cranes
- Lifelines for working at height
- Fully serviced with oils and air
- Klargester system for waste water





# **Underground - Primary Production Equipment**

EQUIPMENT	NO.	MAKE
Drill Rigs	4	Atlas Copco – twin boomed jumbo
	3	Tamrock/Atlas Copco – long hole rig
Load haul dump units	9	Tamrock (6m <sup>3</sup> ), remote controlled (6)
Dump trucks	10	Tamrock (40t & 50t capacity)
Roof bolters	3	Atlas Copco
Mechanical scalers	3	Jama
Shotcrete	1	1 Active & 1 backup (Normet)
Cable Bolters	1	Tamrock



## **MINE RESCUE**

16 trained members on 24-7 callout Mutual Assistance arrangement in place with Tara Mines & with Air Corps for emergency transportation

> 1<sup>st</sup> Place 2012 Ireland-UK Mine Rescue Competition

2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2013 & 2014

# **Metallurgical Process - Overview**



- Capacity of 1.6Mt per annum
- Throughput Rate 205t/hr
- Recovery Zinc 90%, Lead 70%
- Metal produced per annum 165Kt Zinc & 25Kt Lead

- Concentrate grade 53% Zinc & 62% Lead
- Zinc and Lead concentrate are trucked to the Port of Cork where they are sold to smelters in Europe and China

# Metallurgical Process – High Level Process Outline



The mineral processing facility at Lisheen operates 24/7, 365 days a year at a feed rate of 4,800- 5,200 tons of ore per day

#### **Metallurgical Process**

#### **Grinding Mills**

#### **Flotation Cells**





#### **Environmental Management**

- Highly regulated by Integrated Pollution Control Licence as issued by EPA
- Key Environmental Aspects
  - Water discharges offsite
  - Tailings management
  - Mine Closure
  - Dust
  - Noise
  - Blast vibration
- Self contained environmental laboratory
- Compliance level >99% for all conditions of IPCL





# Vedanta Exploration Ireland Ltd. (VEIL)

- Established in July 2014, VEIL has 4 full-time employees and 4 part-time/temporary employees, based at Lisheen Mine
- Exploring on 24 Prospecting Licence areas in Irish Midlands for carbonate hosted Lead & Zinc
- Budget of €2,000,000
- 5,000m core drilled to date
- Intent on building licence portfolio through applications and JV's
- Dominant position on Rathdowney Trend which hosts the Galmoy and Lisheen ore bodies.



# **Community Engagement**

- Regular sponsorship of the local community's events and projects since 2008, with excess of €1.5 million spent on local community projects;
  - Moyne Templetuohy GAA Stadium
  - Moyne Indoor Athletics track
  - Upgrade of Moyne hall
  - Hurling Wall in Thurles
  - Many other small projects
- Annual Safety EXPO local community and employees families invited 1700 attended in July 2014, over a two day period
- Community Engagement Programme formalised in 2007
- Employment +€30 Million per annum
- Financial contributions to the Government and County Council through royalties (€6 million), rates (€0.75 million).

## Moyne Templetuohy GAA Stadium



#### **People and Closure**

- Significant redundancy package in place since 2010, when Vedanta acquired Lisheen from Anglo American
- Redundancies in March, July and October
- Outplacement programme in place for all employees
  - Crossroads programme run in conjunction with SIPTU
  - Training grant to all employees
  - CV preparation and interview skills
  - Start your own business courses
  - Train the Trainer courses
  - Basic IT skills courses
- Potential for Vedanta Centre of Excellence, based at Lisheen
  - Mining consultancy
  - Mining contracting
  - Supply chain
  - IT

## Site Closure and Rehabilitation

- If no other use is found for the site, then
  - The Wind farm will be retained on the site post closure
  - All other surface buildings will be demolished
  - All mine access & ventilation shafts will be plugged with concrete and backfilled
  - The mine site area will be landscaped and returned to a green field site

 A fund of €25M is in place to ensure closure is completed responsibly and a further €3M is set aside for after-care for a 30 year period

- There is a Task Force in place, chaired by Liz O'Donnell (former minister) to find alternative solutions for post closure opportunities
  - A green energy hub is currently being promoted and there is significant interest

## **Tailings Management Facility – October 2014**









#### **Conceptual Layout of Lisheen Mine Post Closure**



## Thank You

#### **Questions?**

