



June 22, 2020

**Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

Via email

**RE: COVID-19 situation and Hudbay in Peru**

Thank you for contacting us. This response is regarding allegations made by a group in Peru that Hudbay has not been adequately protecting the health of workers at the Constancia Mine in Peru during the COVID-19 pandemic. To be clear, we have not yet had any confirmed COVID-19 cases among workers at our operations. To understand our situation and the information that is being circulated, it is important to distinguish between individuals who fail an initial screening, versus those individuals who have subsequently been confirmed to have COVID-19 as a result of a molecular test. It is also necessary to distinguish between the screening of incoming workers (who have not yet been at our Constancia mine site) and the screening of workers who are at our site.

Throughout the rapidly changing environment our focus remains on the health and safety of our workforce and local communities. To protect our workforce, beyond screening for symptoms of COVID-19, we have been administering "quick tests" (antibody tests) to incoming and outbound workers at Constancia, supervised by the health authorities. Although molecular tests are more accurate their availability is limited, and the quick tests allow us to "triage" potential cases. A reactive (or "positive") result from a quick test does not necessarily indicate a confirmed COVID-19 case. If a quick test comes back with a reactive result, we treat the case as if it were a positive COVID-19 case by ensuring the affected personnel are appropriately quarantined. We then refer the case to the public health authorities to carry out their required testing and screening protocols.

We believe it is important to be open and transparent with our testing results. Since the beginning of April, all of our testing has been reported and supervised by the Ministry of Health. There has been some misinformation in the media relating to an alleged 21 workers that tested positive in May, but the important distinction is that all 21 instances involved reactive results from quick tests. Upon further review by the Arequipa health authorities, all 21 cases were subsequently determined to be negative for COVID-19 and the workers were allowed to return to work or home. Similarly, we have had incoming workers produce reactive results from quick tests at the Cusco testing facility, but upon further testing by the Cusco health authorities, these individuals were confirmed negative for COVID-19.

In addition to testing incoming and outbound workers, we have taken the following steps: implemented procedures for quarantining incoming workers in hotels in Arequipa and Cusco before they travel to site; conducted additional screening protocols; introduced extensive sanitary protocols in the event there is a positive case; enforced workplace physical distancing protocols, and made adjustments to work rotation schedules. Our testing of inbound workers at testing facilities in Arequipa and Cusco has helped protect our workforce and local communities by identifying a number of potential infected individuals prior to their travel to Constancia. These individuals have been isolated and received medical assistance at the testing location.

Peru ranks sixth worldwide in terms of the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and Hudbay has put stringent processes and protocols in place to keep incoming and outbound workers safe and to help limit the spread of COVID-19 in Peru. We continue to monitor the situation closely. Further and updated information is available on our website: [COVID-19 Hudbay Response](#).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Clarry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' at the beginning.

David Clarry

Vice President Corporate Social Responsibility