



## INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE STATEMENT

### Introduction and objectives of work

Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. (Bureau Veritas) was engaged by Newmont Mining Corporation (Newmont) to conduct an independent assurance of its 2017 Beyond the Mine Sustainability Report (the Report). This Assurance Statement applies to the related information included within the scope of work described below. The intended users of the assurance statement are the stakeholders of Newmont. The overall aim of this process is to provide assurance to Newmont's stakeholders on the accuracy, reliability and objectivity of the information included in the Report. The assurance process also evaluated Newmont's management of sustainability in accordance with the principles of inclusivity, materiality and responsiveness.

The information that was assured and its presentation in the Report are the sole responsibility of the management of Newmont. Bureau Veritas was not involved in the drafting of the Report. Our sole responsibility was to provide independent assurance on its content.

### Scope of work

Newmont requested Bureau Veritas to include in its independent assurance the following:

- Data and report text included in the Report for the calendar year 2017 reporting period;
- Appropriateness and robustness of underlying reporting systems and processes, used to collect, analyze and review the information reported;
- Evaluation of the Report against the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) Sustainable Development (SD) Framework Assurance Procedure;
- Evaluation of the Report in accordance with the Assurance Standard AA1000AS (2008)<sup>1</sup> Type 2 assurance; and
- Evaluation of the Report against the principles of the GRI Reporting Framework as defined in the GRI G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.

Excluded from the scope of our work is any assurance of information relating to:

- Activities outside the defined assurance period;
- Positional statements (expressions of opinion, belief, aim or future intention) by Newmont;
- Statements of future commitment; and
- Any financial data previously audited by an external third party.

### Methodology

Bureau Veritas undertook the following activities:

1. Interviews with relevant personnel of Newmont (including executives, managers and staff members at the corporate, regional and site levels);
2. Interviews with selected external stakeholders of Newmont;
3. Review of internal and external documentary evidence produced by Newmont;

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<sup>1</sup> Published by AccountAbility: The Institute of Social and Ethical Accountability

4. Audit of performance data presented in the Report including a detailed review of a sample of data;
5. Site visit to the Newmont Long Canyon mine site located near West Wendover, Nevada;
6. Visit to Newmont's North America Regional Office (NARO) in Elko, Nevada;
7. Visit to Newmont headquarters office located in Denver, Colorado; and
8. Review of Newmont data and information systems for collection, aggregation, analysis and internal verification and review.

The work was planned and carried out to provide a high level of assurance and we believe it provides a sound basis for our conclusions.

## **Our findings**

On the basis of our methodology and the activities described above, it is our opinion that:

- The information and data included in the Report are accurate, reliable and free from significant error, material mistakes or misstatements.
- The Report provides a fair representation of Newmont's activities over the reporting period.
- The information is presented in a clear and understandable manner, and allows readers to form a balanced opinion regarding Newmont's performance and position during the 2017 reporting period.
- The Report presents information that adequately demonstrates alignment with the ICMM Sustainable Development Framework, including the 10 Sustainable Development principles and the applicable mandatory requirements set out in the ICMM position statements.
- The Report adequately reflects the organization's alignment to and implementation of the AA1000AS (2008) principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness in its operations (further detail is provided below).
- The Report has been prepared in accordance with the GRI G4 Guidelines and the Mining and Metals Sector Disclosures and includes appropriate consideration of the profile disclosures, management approach disclosures and performance indicators to meet the requirements of GRI G4 Core Requirements.
- Newmont has established appropriate systems for the collection, aggregation and analysis of relevant information, and has implemented underlying internal assurance practices that provide a reasonable degree of confidence that such information is complete and accurate.
- Newmont has processes in place for consulting and engaging with its key stakeholders in a structured and systematic manner.
- Newmont's executive management supports the development of processes for the embedding of sustainable management concepts and practices in the company.

## **Adherence to the principles of AA1000AS**

As required by the AA1000AS (2008) standard, outlined below are our observations relating to Newmont's adherence to the principles of inclusivity, materiality and responsiveness.

### **Inclusivity**

Newmont's Sustainability and Stakeholder Engagement Policy outlines the company's commitments regarding communities, stakeholders and external engagement. Newmont's global Stakeholder Relationship Management Standard provides the minimum requirements for sites to identify and engage with groups and individuals who may be impacted by company activities. In addition, external stakeholders are engaged early in the exploration process to obtain free prior and informed consent (FPIC) from impacted indigenous peoples.

Bureau Veritas observed the implementation of external and internal stakeholder engagement during our discussions with external stakeholders and Newmont employees. Newmont's approach to stakeholder engagement and a description of key stakeholders are described in the Our People and Economic and Social Performance sections of the Report.

### **Materiality**

Newmont commissioned a materiality assessment during 2016 that included assessing material aspects based on both industry research as well as feedback from internal and external stakeholders. The materiality assessment provided information regarding the aspects and disclosures that were most important to include in the Report based on the information gathered during the process. The materiality aspects were reviewed in 2017 to evaluate if there have been significant shifts since the 2016 materiality assessment. The Report aligns with the material aspects identified.

### **Responsiveness**

Newmont has developed minimum requirements and systems to respond to stakeholder issues such as complaints and grievances. Complaints and grievances are currently being recorded and tracked by Newmont. Newmont set a public target for resolution of 100 percent of tier 1 complaints and grievances within 30 days and reported on performance against this target in the Report. All sites met the target, except Yanacocha in Peru, which responded to 97 percent. The process and performance are described in the Community Relationships section of the Report.

### **Alignment with ICMM Sustainable Development Requirements**

Newmont has demonstrated that it is implementing the five ICMM Subject Matters in their business and has reported on these areas as described below.

*Subject Matter 1. The alignment of Newmont's sustainability policies and procedures to ICMM's 10 Sustainable Development (SD) Principles and any mandatory requirements set out in ICMM position statements.*

Newmont has committed to implementing ICMM's 10 principles for sustainable development (SD). Evidence of the company's commitment to implementing the 10 SD principles and the mandatory requirements of position statements were observed during Bureau Veritas' assurance process.

*Subject Matter 2. Newmont's material sustainable development risks and opportunities based on its own review of the business and the views and expectations of its stakeholders.*

As discussed under the principles of the AA1000AS above, material risks and opportunities have been identified through both internal assessments and consideration of stakeholder expectations. A materiality assessment was conducted in 2016 and the material issues re-evaluated for applicability in 2017. The company also has a robust risk assessment process.

*Subject Matter 3. The existence and status of implementation of systems that Newmont is using to manage the identified material sustainable development risks and opportunities.*

The Report includes a description of the company's sustainability framework that is designed to manage the identified material sustainable development risks and opportunities. The company has a Risk Management Standard that requires regions and sites to use a common risk assessment framework. Implementation of the standard was observed during the assurance process.

*Subject Matter 4. Newmont's performance during the given reporting period for the identified material sustainable development risks and opportunities.*

The company's performance in areas of material risks and opportunities pertaining to ethics and governance; economic and social development; environmental stewardship; health and safety; the workplace; and workforce rights are described in the Report. The narrative is supported by detailed metrics and illustrative case studies. The company reports progress against public targets in several key areas.

## Subject Matter 5. *Newmont's self-declared application level of the G4 Guidelines.*

Newmont has prepared their 2017 report based on the core option of the GRI G4 reporting requirements and also has addressed indicators included in the Metals and Mining Sector Disclosures. The Report's GRI Index indicates how each indicator is addressed and references the section of the report with relevant information.

### **Key Observations and Recommendations for 2017**

- Newmont began implementing Paradigm for Parity to close the identified gender gap in leadership roles and create an inclusive workplace. They assessed current programs, successes and opportunities, and conducted analyses on both a regional and enterprise level. They continue to work to identify near-term opportunities and develop a longer-term strategy to achieve equality expectations.
- Newmont continued to work on safety performance through identification of the top fatality risks, and Fatality Risk Management Plans are being implemented to monitor and mitigate those risks. Newmont has actively worked to improve worker safety through the use of electronic fatigue monitoring in haul trucks, modification of procedures for piping installation on leach piles, and on-site development of air emission controls to decrease worker exposure to chemicals.
- Newmont's commitment to continuous improvement was evident from updating the Sustainability and Stakeholder Engagement Policy and Water Management Standard to more closely align with the global water strategy. Newmont identifies stakeholders within the watersheds, evaluates the impacts of operations, while developing technologies for water treatment.
- Newmont is developing methods for meeting the public targets for decreases in greenhouse gas emissions. Newer technologies and renewable energy sources are in the process of being implemented.
- Newmont's concurrent reclamation practices assist with returning disturbed areas to a more natural state, as well as reduce long term financial and environmental risks to Newmont.
- Supply chain considerations have been implemented to support Newmont's ethics, human rights, and environmental standards verify that the practices are being followed in the supply chain. Supplier risk management provides evaluation and management of risks associated with key suppliers. Newmont's commitment to develop local suppliers to increase the quantity and quality of goods and services procured from local sources is actively supported at the operational and corporate levels.
- Systems for collecting and compiling data for the Report continue to improve with less manual collection and handling of data. Development of site-specific written documentation for data collection methods at the operating sites would help ensure continued consistent data management in the future. Clarification of data requests for some types of data (e.g., waste disposition) would help streamline the data collection process and improve the consistency of data collected.


### **Statement of independence, impartiality and competence**

Bureau Veritas is an independent professional services company that specializes in Quality, Health, Safety, Social and Environmental management with over 180 years history in providing independent assurance services, and an annual 2017 revenue of 4.689 Billion Euros.

No member of the assurance team has a business relationship with Newmont, its Directors or Managers beyond that of verification and assurance of sustainability data and reporting. We have conducted this verification independently and we believe there to have been no conflict of interest. Bureau Veritas has implemented a Code of Ethics across the business to maintain high ethical standards among staff in their day-to-day business activities.

The assurance team has extensive experience in conducting assurance over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes, has over 20 years combined experience in this field and an excellent understanding of Bureau Veritas standard methodology for the Assurance of Sustainability Reports.

**Attestation:**



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**Bureau Veritas North America, Inc.**  
**Denver, Colorado**

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**AA1000**  
Licensed Assurance Provider  
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