Australian Government
Defence

Mining Company Vignette – 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

Peak Iron Mines

Peak Iron operates two mines within the WPA and is the second largest iron ore producer in South Australia. Over the last year, the Peculiar Knob Mine exported over 3 million tonnes of high-grade Hematite, with the site directly employing 180 people in South Australia. The Buzzard Mine commenced operations in January 2024 with first export of product planned for early 2025. Ongoing operations at Buzzard will also produce high-grade Hematite at a rate of 3 million tonnes per annum over 5 years. Further mineral exploration is being undertaken within Peak Iron's Hawks Nest tenement, with regular drilling programmes taking place to prove up potential resources.

Peak Iron continues to have a strong community focus, in particular by ensuring opportunities for students from the region to experience and understand the mining sector. In May 2024, Peak Iron arranged an annual visit to its Peculiar Knob Mine Site by students from Coober Pedy and Port Augusta Clontarf Academies, and the Coober Pedy and Oodnadatta Schools. This visit was a huge success, and a direct reflection of all the help and cooperation provided by Department of Defence, Peak Iron and their contractors, along with the schools. All of the students were highly enthusiastic as they had the opportunity to stand at the edge of the open pit, inspect various heavy earthmoving machinery and learn about the various minerals and processes undertaken at the site. Visits such as these are a perfect example of how the co-existence framework can work successfully.

In the area of sustainability, Peak Iron has seen great success in its feral animal management program, with four Felixer Grooming Traps deployed in the field. In the last year, 40 feral cats and one fox were successfully targeted. The program positively contributes to the Arid Lands regional biodiversity by reducing pressure from predators on native fauna species.