



Keeping Our People Safe and Healthy and Our Operations Open – 27 March 2020

GFG Alliance Whyalla is going to great lengths to protect the safety, health and wellbeing of its employees as it seeks to minimise the risk posed by the spread of COVID-19.

This comes as the Australian and State Governments have advised GFG Alliance that its Australian businesses remain essential across the mining, recycling, manufacturing, fabrication, processing, agricultural, construction and export supply chain, enabling them to continue operation.

Liberty Primary Steel Executive Managing Director Jason Schell assured the Whyalla community that the business and its employees were doing everything in their power to continue operations by making health and safety paramount.

“Looking after our people is our number one priority, so we’ve implemented numerous measures to ensure that,” Mr Schell said.

“Continuing production is also critical. We’re continuing to experience solid demand for our product during this period, so it’s vital we meet this ongoing demand by looking after our people to ensure they remain healthy, focused and safe.”

Some of the many measures implemented include:

- educating employees on the vital importance of stringent hygiene practices and following all social distancing guidelines and laws
- increasing cleaning in the workplace and at home
- self-isolating from all interstate and overseas travel as per the Australian Government advice
- identifying and managing employees at high-risk from the virus
- limiting all visitors to site
- increasing communication to both employees and contract partners
- encouraging working from home where possible
- encouraging employees to access free external support services
- adhering to SA Health processes for employees who develop COVID-19 symptoms

SIMEC Mining Executive Managing Director Matt Reed said the Mining business was also doing everything possible to keep the day-to-day business running while preparing for the very difficult circumstances that may lie ahead.

“We have invested enormous efforts over recent years to ensure we have a strong Mining business, putting us in a good position to weather the storm,” Mr Reed said.

“The best way for us to navigate this crisis is to look after each other, keep producing and making sales to our customers. We have therefore implored our people to ensure they look after themselves and their families.

“We have also stressed to employees the importance of our continued operation to the communities in which we operate, as their behaviour both at work and home has a direct bearing on our operations and therefore our neighbouring communities.”

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