



Company	BHP Group Limited
Code	BHP
Meeting	AGM
Date	14th October 2020
Venue	Online
Monitor	Duncan Seddon

Number attendees at meeting	
Number of holdings represented by ASA	1248
Value of proxies	\$196m
Number of shares represented by ASA	5.45m (equivalent to 14th highest shareholder)
Market capitalisation	\$181 billion
Were proxies voted?	Yes, on a poll
Pre AGM Meeting?	Yes, with Ken MacKenzie

BHP continues to deliver

The meeting was a virtual AGM. Four new directors were appointed, and all spoke to their capabilities and experience for their role as a BHP director. We asked four questions.

It was confirmed that the original Goldsworthy assets were held on a care and maintenance basis and the company had not decided on how to dispose of the individual assets which would range from selling the asset to rehabilitation to BHP standards.

We asked what the impact of Rio Tinto's Juukan Caves disaster on BHP and the chair gave a detailed explanation of BHP's approach to cultural heritage protection and how it differed from RIO.

We asked about the rewarding of executives for achieving carbon emission reduction targets and how to prevent executives from gaming the system. The chair's answer outlined the general rules and objectives but there was nothing specific as to how gaming would be prevented.

We asked about the poor ten year performance of the company given its first class assets and the chair outlined past achievements.

We also asked a question of the auditor. This was aimed at giving us an understanding of how auditors approach the auditing of parts of the company remote from the HQ and main areas of

operation. We understood (from questions we asked of RIO's auditor earlier in the year) that it was impossible to audit the entire operation given the size of the corporation and our question was aimed at how the parts selected for audit was chosen. The auditor answered that the parts were selected by the auditor according to their monetary importance to the company. This is fine but it leaves as debateable that if some form of hanky-panky was occurring which was routed via a relatively unimportant subsidiary company, it would not be picked up by the auditor.

The other questions at the meeting were dominated by environmental groups trying to force the company out of relationships with mining lobby groups and demanding faster action on the reduction of carbon emissions and divestment from the company's oil and gas interests.

We supported all resolutions proposed by the board which were carried with over 95% vote in favour. Two resolutions promoted by activist shareholder groups were defeated. One to change the constitution attracted 10% in favour and a second to suspend membership of industry associations attracted a 22% vote in favour.