



MARGHANITA JOHNSON

Principal, Communications and Engagement

Marghanita is an environmental engineer, communications and engagement adviser with more than 20 years' experience working across sustainability and stakeholder management in the energy, infrastructure and resource sectors.

Marghanita has combined her technical skills as an environmental engineer with political and policy acumen to specialise in stakeholder engagement, sustainability and communications.

Marghanita has a strong track record of mitigating reputational risks, leveraging relationships and delivering commercial value for internal and external customers. She is also known for her personable engagement at all levels, a high level of professional integrity and passion for the sustainability of Australian industry.

Marghanita has degrees in Engineering, Science and has completed an AICD's Company Directors Course.

SKILLSETS

Stakeholder Engagement



Communication



Issues and Crisis Management



Social Impact Assessment



Governance



MARKET SECTORS



Resource



Electricity & Renewables



Government



Industrial

CONTACT

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1800 779 363

QUALIFICATIONS

1997 University of Western Australia /Bachelor of Engineering (Hons 1, Environmental)

1997 University of Western Australia /Bachelor of Science (Chemistry)

2014 Australian Institute of Company Directors /Company Directors Course

MAJOR PROJECTS

- Epic Environmental – Saint Elmo Vanadium Project
- North Queensland Bulk Ports - Stakeholder Management Strategy (Grove Solutions)
- Australian Aluminium Council – International Guidelines on Sustainable Bauxite Mining (Grove Solutions)
- Endeavour Foundation – Communications and Stakeholder Consultation (Grove Solutions)
- Gladstone Industry Leadership Group – Energy and Climate Position Development (Grove Solutions)

AFFILIATIONS

- Graduate Australian Institute of Company Directors

EXPERIENCE

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Developed of a stakeholder management plan for port maintenance dredging operations within Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, to mitigate the customer's reputational risk, ensuring safe continuation of port operations
- Prepared a stakeholder management strategy, including Federal and State Government advocacy, for a carbon capture and storage project in the Surat Basin.
- Developed positions on State and Federal electricity and gas policies for a major Queensland industry group, which has diverse membership across energy production and manufacturing sectors, which helped lay the foundation of the current energy policy reforms.
- Partnered with an emerging renewable energy company, to develop a fit for purpose stakeholder engagement strategy establishing its position with Federal, State and Local Governments.
- **Manager Climate and External Policy, Rio Tinto Aluminium.** Marghanita led the stakeholder communication strategy, timed with ASX announcements, for the establishment of Pacific Aluminium in Australia and New Zealand. This strategy catered for 130 external stakeholders across federal, state and local governments and NGO representatives

COMMUNICATION

- Published international Sustainable Bauxite Mining Guidelines, in conjunction with the International Aluminium Institute, setting a minimum industry performance standard across environmental, social and governance globally.
- **Manager Communications and External Relations, Pacific Aluminium.** Marghanita led the delivery of government, media, internal and external communication strategies to maximise value and mitigate against key risks, for five businesses in Australia and New Zealand. She established the internal and external positioning of Pacific Aluminium, with key stakeholders including governments, media, employees and resource sector peers to deliver a strategic turnaround. This turnaround, driven by the new culture, meant that in 2015 Rio Tinto reversed its \$1 billion impairment of Pacific Aluminium.

Led communication of two successful rounds of internal restructuring, needed for a NFP to successfully transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), including union, media and internal communications.

ISSUES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- **Manager Communications and External Relations, Pacific Aluminium.** Marghanita delivered a \$50 M per annum cost saving through negotiating changes to the Federal Renewable Energy Target and acted as General Manager Human Resources, with responsibility for 3000+ employees. Marghanita led the commercial contract negotiations which gained access to a 35 MW increase in energy supply, enabling an otherwise marginal facility to grow by 10%.

She minimised the reputational impact on three Gladstone alumina and aluminium facilities during a period of intense community scrutiny over perceived health risks from industrial air emissions.

- **Manager Climate Change, Rio Tinto Aluminium.** Marghanita publicly led the Rio Tinto Aluminium response to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and Clean Energy Future Act (CEF), as well as the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme, for all Rio Tinto Australian commodities, delivering a net present value improvement more than \$500M under the CEF Act.

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- **Principal, Communications and Engagement, Multicom Resources Saint Elmo Vanadium Project EIS, Julia Creek, Queensland.** Marghanita managed the SIA, and association communication and consultation process for an upcoming Vanadium Pentoxide (V₂O₅) mine in Queensland. whilst undertaking extensive liaison with relevant Departments throughout the project.

GOVERNANCE

- **Non-Executive Director – ECollaboration Ltd.** ECollaboration is a for purpose Australian company providing professional support in ecological and environmental services, environmental education, stakeholder liaison and community development.
- **Non-Executive Director – New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited (NZAS).** NZAS is an international joint venture between Rio Tinto and Sumitomo Chemical Company, with export revenue of NZ\$1 billion per annum, which contributes NZ \$525 million to regional GDP and has 675 employees.
- **Non-Executive Director – Tomago Aluminium Company (TAC).** TAC is joint venture between Rio Tinto, CSR, AMP and Hydro Aluminium which contributes A\$1.5 billion to GDP and has 950 employees.
- **Member, Executive Council - Australian Aluminium Council.** Peak body representing Australia’s bauxite, alumina and aluminium smelting industries. Marghanita developed strategic industry policy positions, recognising the diverse membership – from exploration, mining, refining, smelting through to downstream industries. She personally influenced the positioning of the Executive Council for industry treatment under the Renewable Energy Target (RET) to adopt a 100% exemption. This position was adopted by all major industry groups and the Clean Energy Council. This position was passed in the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2015, with bi-partisan support, delivering the Australian aluminium sector an \$80M per annum cost saving.

POSITION SUMMARY

● 2018 - Present	Principal, Communications and Engagement	Epic Environmental Pty Ltd
● 2016 - Present	Executive Director	Grove Solutions Pty Ltd
● 2011 - 2016	Manager Communications and External Relations	Pacific Aluminium
● 2010 - 2011	Manager Climate Change & External Policy	Rio Tinto Aluminium
● 2007 - 2010	Manager Climate Change	Rio Tinto Aluminium
● 2003 - 2007	Specialist Sustainable Development	Comalco
● 2001 - 2003	Senior Environmental Engineer	Rio Tinto Technical Services
● 2000 - 2001	Environmental Officer	Hamersley Iron Paraburdoo
● 1998 - 2000	Environmental Engineer	Rio Tinto Research and Technology