# **Environmental and Social Impact** Assessment

Albemarle is evaluating the redevelopment of the Kings Mountain Mine, one of the few known hard rock lithium deposits in the U.S. Albemarle intends to develop the mine in line with the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance's (IRMA) Standard for Responsible Mining. The IRMA Standard is considered the most comprehensive and rigorous standard for assurance of responsible mining practices. A key element of the standard is to complete an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).



# More information on IRMA can be found on their website: www.responsiblemining.net

# OUR APPROACH TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

As part of our commitment to responsible mining operations and to better understand and manage potential impacts from the mine, we are conducting an ESIA. The ESIA process is an integrated and holistic approach to identify and assess the potential environmental, social, health and safety impacts that could occur because of the project.

This process results in an ESIA document used to inform the mine design and develop appropriate management measures to minimize potential adverse impacts and enhance positive benefits associated with the mine. Community engagement is an important part of the ESIA. Throughout the ESIA process, Albemarle engages with potentially affected communities and other stakeholders to get their input on the identification and management of potential impacts.

# What are the key objectives of an ESIA?

Provide the community with information about the mine Assess potential positive and adverse impacts that may result from the mine

Develop and assess feasible mine design options Give stakeholders the opportunity to inform all stages of the ESIA Develop mitigation measures to enhance benefits and minimize adverse impacts

#### THE ESIA WILL INCLUDE:

- Potential impacts on the physical environment such as air quality, noise, vibration and water
- Potential impacts on the biophysical environment such as wetlands, wildlife and plants
- Potential impacts on the human environment such as the local economy, community health and safety, cultural heritage, community services and infrastructure
- Potential cumulative impacts of Kings Mountain Mine together with other planned developments in the area
- Impacts from unplanned events such as extreme weather events or accidents

Albemarle intends to use the outcomes of the impact assessment to develop environmental and social management plans to minimize adverse impacts and enhance benefits. We expect to use the management plans throughout the mine's construction, operation, closure and post-closure and update the plans regularly.

#### STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION IN THE ESIA PROCESS

We value your feedback and invite you to participate in the ESIA process. The ESIA process is divided into four main phases and Albemarle will share information and findings throughout the process. The diagram below describes the ESIA process and highlights key opportunities for stakeholder participation.

# Continuous stakeholder engagement

## **Scoping**

- Define the area affected by the mine
- Undertake identification of potential environmental and social impacts
- Share the outcomes of scoping and gather community feedback

# Environmental and Social Baseline

 Undertake environmental and social baseline studies to understand existing conditions around the mine

## Impact Assessment

- Assess the potential environmental and social impacts from the mine
- Develop measures to enhance benefits and minimize negative impacts
- Share the outcomes of the assessment and gather community feedback

## Management Plans and Monitoring

 Develop environmental and social management plans including monitoring and evaluation criteria to manage impacts through the life of the mine



We value your feedback and invite you to participate in the ESIA process.



## Comments or questions related to the ESIA can be provided by email, phone, in person or online:

- kmcommunity@albemarle.com
- **\** 704-734-2775
- 129 West Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, NC 28086
- albemarlekingsmountain.com

 $Further\ information\ is\ available\ in\ Spanish\ upon\ request\ or\ at\ albemarlekings mountain. com$ 

For more information or to provide community feedback on the project: Email: kmcommunity@albemarle.com | Phone: 704-734-2775 | Website: albemarlekingsmountain.com Mail or In-person: 129 West Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Albemarle leads the world in transforming essential resources into critical ingredients for mobility, energy, connectivity and health. We partner to pioneer new ways to move, power, connect and protect with people and planet in mind, enabling a more resilient world. Our global headquarters is approximately 35 miles from Kings Mountain in Charlotte, NC.

