



**Unico  
Silver**

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## **Continuous Disclosure Policy**

**Unico Silver Limited**

**ACN 116 865 546**

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Continuous Disclosure Policy (**Policy**) outlines the disclosure obligations of Unico Silver Limited (**Company**) as required under the Corporations Act 2001 and the Australian Securities Exchange (**ASX**) Listing Rules. The Policy is designed to ensure that procedures are in place so that the stock market in which the Company's securities are listed is properly informed of matters which may have a material impact on the price at which the securities are traded.
- 1.2 The Company is committed to:
- (a) complying with the general and continuous disclosure principles contained in the Corporations Act 2001 and the ASX Listing Rules;
  - (b) preventing the selective or inadvertent disclosure of material price sensitive information;
  - (c) ensuring shareholders and the market are provided with full and timely information about the Company's activities; and
  - (d) ensuring that all market participants have equal opportunity to receive externally available information issued by the Company.

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## 2. Overview of continuous disclosure obligations

### 2.1 ASX Listing Rule 3.1

The ASX has described Listing Rule 3.1, known as the continuous disclosure rule, as its most important "cornerstone" listing rule. It requires that the Company must immediately notify ASX of *"any information that the Company is or becomes aware of, concerning it that a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's securities."*

The information must be given to ASX (and an acknowledgement that ASX has released the information to the market must be received) before the information can be given to any other person or released on the Company's website.

The basic principle underlying the continuous disclosure framework is that timely disclosure must be made of:

- a) information which may affect the values of securities or influence investment decisions; and
- b) information in which security holders, investors and ASX have a legitimate interest.

"Immediate" disclosure under Listing Rule 3.1 requires disclosure to be made "promptly and without delay". Although the length of time required to make an announcement will depend on the circumstances, the information must be disclosed to ASX as quickly as possible in the circumstances and must not be deferred, postponed or put off to a later time.

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### **3. Disclosure Officer**

- 3.1 The Managing Director and the Company Secretary have been appointed as the Company's disclosure officers (**Disclosure Officers**) responsible for implementing and administering this Policy. The Disclosure Officers are responsible for all communication with ASX and for making decisions on what should be disclosed publicly under this Policy.
- 3.2 In the absence of the Managing Director and Company Secretary, any matters regarding disclosure issues are to be referred to the Chair of the Board.

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### **4. Material Information**

- 4.1 In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules, the Company must immediately notify the market (via an announcement to the ASX) of any information concerning the Company which a reasonable person with experience in the industry in which the Company operates would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's securities.
- 4.2 Information need not be disclosed if:
- (a) a reasonable person would not expect the information to be disclosed; and
  - (b) the information is confidential and the ASX has not formed the view that the information has ceased to be confidential; and
  - (c) one or more of the following applies:
    - (i) it would breach the law to disclose the information;
    - (ii) the information concerns an incomplete proposal or negotiation;
    - (iii) the information comprises matters of supposition or is insufficiently definite to warrant disclosure;
    - (iv) the information is generated for internal management purposes; or
    - (v) the information is a trade secret.
- 4.3 The Company is also required to disclose information if asked to do so by the ASX, to correct or prevent a false market.
- 4.4 Note that the Company is deemed to have become aware of information where a Director or Executive Officer has, or ought to have, come into possession of the information in the course of the performance of their duties as a Director or Executive Officer.
- 4.5 The Corporations Act 2001 defines a material effect on price or value as being where a reasonable person would be taken to expect information to have a material effect on the price or value of securities if the information would, or would be likely to, influence persons who commonly invest in securities in deciding whether to acquire or dispose of these securities.

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## **5. Review of Communications for Disclosure**

- 5.1 The Disclosure Officers will review all communications to the market to ensure that they are full and accurate and comply with the Company's obligations. Such communications may include:
- (a) media releases;
  - (b) analyst, investor or other presentations;
  - (c) prospectuses; and
  - (d) other corporate publications.
- 5.2 Examples of information or events that are likely to require disclosure include:
- (a) financial performance and material changes in financial performance or projected financial performance;
  - (b) changes in relation to Directors and Senior Executives, including changes in the terms of employment of the Managing Director and the independence of Directors;
  - (c) mergers, acquisitions, divestments, joint ventures or material changes in assets;
  - (d) significant developments in new projects or ventures;
  - (e) material changes to the Company's security position;
  - (f) material information affecting joint venture partners, customers or non-wholly owned subsidiary companies;
  - (g) media or market speculation;
  - (h) analyst or media reports based on inaccurate or out of date information;
  - (i) industry issues which have, or which may have, a material impact on the Company; and
  - (j) decisions on significant issues affecting the Company by regulatory authorities.
- 5.3 Where there is any doubt as to whether an issue might materially affect the price or value of the Company's securities, the Disclosure Officers will assess the circumstances with appropriate Senior Executives and if necessary, seek external professional advice.
- 5.4 All presentations to analysts and investors will be released to the ASX ahead of the presentation and will then be included on the Company's website.

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## **6. Authorised Spokesperson**

- 6.1 The Company's authorised spokesperson is the Managing Director, and in his absence, the Chair of the Board and Company Secretary, as appropriate. In appropriate circumstances, the Managing Director may from time to time authorise other spokespersons on particular issues and those within their area of expertise.
- 6.2 No employees or consultants are permitted to comment publicly on matters confidential to the Company. Any information which is not public must be treated by employees and consultants as confidential until publicly released.

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## **7. Protocol in relation to the review and release of ASX Announcements**

- 7.1 The Company's protocol in relation to the review and release of ASX announcements (and media releases) is as follows:
- (a) All key announcements at the discretion of the Disclosure Officers are to be circulated to and reviewed by all members of the Board.
  - (b) All members of the Board are required to seek to provide to the Disclosure Officers (or in his/her absence, the Company Secretary) with verbal or written contribution of each key announcement, prior to its release.
  - (c) Any relevant parties named in the announcement should also be given the opportunity to review the announcement prior to its release, to confirm all information is factually correct.
  - (d) The Disclosure Officers (and in his/her absence, the Chair of the Board) are to be given the final signoff before release to the ASX of the announcement.
- 7.2 The Board generally delegates the approval of urgent announcements to the Managing Director (and in his/her absence, the Chair of the Board).
- 7.3 The Company Secretary will generally circulate drafts of announcements to the Board before they are released to the ASX.
- 7.4 The Board, through the ASX Market Announcement Office platform, receives copies of all announcements promptly after they have been made.

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## **8. Reporting of Disclosable Information**

- 8.1 Once the requirement to disclose information has been determined, the Disclosure Officers are the only persons authorised to release that information to the ASX.
- 8.2 Information to be disclosed must be lodged immediately with the ASX. Any such information must not be released to the general public until the Company has received formal confirmation of lodgement by the ASX.
- 8.3 All information disclosed to the ASX in compliance with this Policy must be promptly placed on the Company's website.

## **9. Market Speculation and Rumours**

- 9.1 As a guiding principle, the Company has a "no comment" policy on market speculation and rumours, which must be observed by all employees. However, the Company will comply with any request by the ASX to comment upon a market report or rumour.
- 9.2 If an Employee becomes aware of any market speculation or rumours of which the Company Secretary may not be aware, these should be reported to the Company Secretary immediately.

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## **10. Trading Halts**

- 10.1 The Company may, in exceptional circumstances, request a trading halt to maintain orderly trading in the Company's securities and to manage any disclosure issues.
- 10.2 No employee of the Company is authorised to seek a trading halt except for the Disclosure Officers.

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## **11. Meetings and Group Briefings with Investors and Analysts**

- 11.1 The Managing Director is primarily responsible for the Company's relationship with major shareholders, institutional investors and analysts and shall be the primary contacts for those parties.
- 11.2 Any written materials containing new price-sensitive information to be used in briefing media, institutional investors and analysts are to be lodged with ASX prior to the briefing commencing. Upon confirmation of receipt by ASX, the briefing material is to be posted to the Company's website. Briefing materials may also include information that may not strictly be required under continuous disclosure requirements.
- 11.3 The Company will not disclose price sensitive information in any meeting with an investor or stockbroking analyst before formally disclosing it to the market. The Company considers that one-on-one discussions and meetings with investors and stockbroking analysts are an important part of pro-active investor relations. However, the Company will only discuss previously disclosed information in such meetings.

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## **12. Periods Prior to Release of Financial Results**

- 12.1 During the time between the end of the financial year or half year and the actual results release, the Company will not discuss financial performance, broker estimates and forecasts and, particularly, any pre-result analysis with stockbroking analysts, investors or the media, unless the information to be discussed has already been disclosed to the ASX.

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## **13. Web-based Communication**

- 13.1 The Company's website features discrete sections for shareholders and investors to ensure that such information can be accessed by interested parties. Such information will include:
- (a) annual reports and results announcements;
  - (b) all other company announcements made to the ASX;
  - (c) speeches and support material given at investor conferences or presentations;
  - (d) company profile and company contact details; and
  - (e) all written information provided to investors or stockbroking analysts.
- 13.2 Announcements lodged with the ASX will be placed on the Company's website as soon as practicable after ASX confirms receipt of that information.
- 13.3 Shareholders may be offered the option of receiving information via e-mail instead of post.

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## **14. Analysts Reports and Forecasts**

- 14.1 Stockbroking analysts frequently prepare reports on listed companies that typically detail their opinion on strategies, performance and financial forecasts. To avoid inadvertent disclosure of information that may affect the Company's value or share price, the Company's comments on analyst reports will be restricted to:
- (a) information the Company has issued publicly; and
  - (b) other information that is in the public domain.

14.2 Given the level of price sensitivity to earnings projections, the Company will only make comment to correct factual errors in relation to information publicly issued by other parties and Company statements.

## 15. **Contraventions and penalties**

15.1 The Company contravenes its continuous disclosure obligations if it fails to notify ASX of information required by Listing Rule 3.1.

15.2 Either ASX or ASIC, as co-regulators, may take action upon a suspected contravention:

*a) ASX Listing Rules*

If the Company contravenes its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules, ASX may suspend quotation of the Company's securities, temporarily halt trading in the Company's securities or, in extreme cases, delist the Company from ASX.

*b) Corporations Act*

If the Company contravenes its continuous disclosure obligations, it may also be liable under the Corporations Act and may face:

- i. Criminal liability which attracts substantial monetary fines; and
- ii. Civil liability for any loss or damage suffered by any person resulting the failure to disclose relevant information to ASX.

There is no fault element required to establish civil liability. However, a court has power to relieve a person from civil liability if the person acted honestly and in the circumstances the person ought fairly to be excused for the contravention.

ASIC has the power to issue infringement notices and can initiate investigations of suspected breaches under the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001 (Cth)*.

*c) Class action risk*

If the Company fails to disclose materially price sensitive information in accordance with Listing Rule 3.1, investors who buy or sell the Company's securities during the period of non-disclosure (and possibly other affected stakeholders) may be entitled to bring a class action against the Company. Even when they are not successful, class actions can be costly to defend and may have a serious negative effect on the Company's reputation and share price. A successful class action could potentially threaten the solvency of the Company.

15.3 The Company's officers (including its directors), employees or advisers who are involved in any contraventions of continuous disclosure obligations may also face criminal penalties and civil liability. Substantial penalties or imprisonment, or both, may apply.

15.4 A person will not be considered to be involved in the contravention if the person proves that they:

- a) took all steps (if any) that were reasonable in the circumstances to ensure that the Company complied with its continuous disclosure obligations;
- b) after doing so, believed on reasonable grounds that the Company was complying with those obligations.

15.5 The procedures specified in this Policy are the minimum expected of relevant officers and employees in relation to compliance with the Company's continuous disclosure obligations. Depending on the circumstances, officers and employees may have obligations over and above those contained in this Policy.

15.6 To avoid potential civil or criminal liability, in all situations officers and employees must do

everything they reasonably can to ensure that the Company complies with its continuous disclosure obligations. In particular, staff must not try to hide or delay “material news”, especially when the information is likely to impact the Company’s share price.

## **16. Review of this Policy**

- 16.1 This Policy cannot be amended without approval from the Company’s Board. This Policy will be reviewed from time to time to ensure that it remains effective and meets the best practice standards and needs of the Company.
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## **17. Further Assistance**

- 17.1 Any questions about the Company’s continuous disclosure obligations or this Policy should be referred to the Company Secretary.
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## **16. Approved and Adopted**

- 16.1 This Policy was approved and adopted by the Board on 25 January 2023.