



Alpha HPA

ABN 79 106 879 690

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ASX Announcement
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The Manager Companies
ASX Limited
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000

(7 pages by email)

HPA PILOT PLANT UPDATE

- Initial Solvent Extraction (SX) process and crystallisation run completed
- Second SX and crystallisation run underway and operating smoothly at full capacity
- Initial HPA from SX run 1 submitted for assay
- Production of high purity Al-salt crystal reaching ~21-22kg per day
- Assays of Al-salt indicate >99.99% purity

The Company commenced Pilot Plant operations on 2 July 2019, with an initial Solvent Extraction (SX) and crystallisation run to form the intermediate high-purity aluminium salt. The initial SX run (1A) ramped up over 2 days, reaching ~99% Al extraction rates from concentrated aluminium feedstock solution (PLS). This SX run was completed early (after 6 days) due to minor issues on the SX rig, and the second SX run (2A) brought forward to accommodate the change in schedule. The second SX run is now operating smoothly at full capacity.

The current SX and Al-salt crystallisation pilot (2A) is expected to operate through to 1 August 2019. The plant is currently producing 21-22kg per day of high-purity Al-salt crystal (see photo below). Assays of Al-salt crystal generated from the 1A SX run peaked at 99.996% purity. The crystal generated from SX run (2A), together with the crystal generated from SX run 1A will now be refined into HPA in a refining campaign scheduled to commence around 12 August 2019, however sub-samples of the high-purity crystal have already been refined to HPA and submitted for analysis.

By-product generated from the SX and HPA refining testwork is being set-aside in preparation for testing in combination with potential by-product off-takers.



Approximately 21kg of high purity (>99.99%) aluminium salt generated over a 24-hour operating period

Managing Director, Rimas Kairaitis, commented; *“The stability of the pilot operations is very pleasing. We are delighted to be producing the expected volumes of high-purity Al-salt and look forward to the HPA refining steps and the provision of qualification samples to our prospective customers.”*

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About the HPA First Project

The Company's HPA First Project represents the evaluation and intended commercialisation of the production of ~10,000tpa of high purity alumina (HPA) using the Company's proprietary licenced solvent extraction and HPA refining technology. The technology provides for the extraction and purification of aluminium from an industrial feedstock to produce 4N (>99.99% purity) alumina for the intended use within the lithium ion battery and LED lighting industry. Following a successful testwork programme and Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS), updated in March 2019, Alpha HPA is now completing a pilot plant program at its dedicated laboratory facility in Brisbane, as part of a full definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) due for delivery in CY2019.

Key highlights of the PFS (ASX: 7 March 2019):

- Unit production costs of **US\$5,123** per tonne of HPA (after by-product credits)
- Annual Free Cash Flow (FCF) at full production rate, of **US\$199 million** (assuming US\$25,000/t HPA)
- Capital Expenditure of US\$149 million

Competent Persons Statement (Process Development Testwork)

Information in this announcement that relates to metallurgical results is based on information compiled by or under the supervision of Dr Stuart Leary, an Independent Consultant trading as Delta Consulting Group. Dr Leary is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). Dr Leary has sufficient experience to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Persons under the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Dr Leary consents to the inclusion of the technical data in the form and context in which it appears.

For further information on testwork results and processes see ASX announcements dated 2 July 2019, 1 July 2019, 3 June 2019, 17 April 2019, 7 March 2019, 4 December 2018, 20 November 2018, 6 September 2018, 31 August 2018, 9 July 2018, 30 April 2018, 26 April 2018, 21 March 2018, 6 March 2018, 21 February 2018, 8 December 2017, 30 November 2017, 29 November 2017, 24 November 2017 and 13 November 2017.

Cautionary Statement

The Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) referred to in this announcement has been undertaken to assess the technical and financial viability of the HPA First Project. Further evaluation work including a Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) is required before the Company will be in a position to provide any assurance of an economic development case. The PFS is based on the material assumptions about the availability of funding and the pricing received for HPA. While the Company considers all of the material assumptions to be based on reasonable grounds, there is no certainty that they will prove to be correct or that the range of outcomes indicated by this PFS will be achieved. To achieve the range of outcomes indicated in the PFS, Pre-Production Capital in the order of A\$198 million plus working capital will likely be required. Investors should note that there is no certainty that the Company will be able to raise the amount of funding when needed. It is also possible that such funding may only be available on terms that may be dilutive to or otherwise affect the value of the Company's existing shares. It is also possible that the Company could pursue other "value realisation" strategies such as a sale, partial sale or joint venture of the Project. If it does, this could materially reduce the Company's proportionate ownership of the Project. Given the uncertainties involved, investors should not make any investment decisions based solely on the results of the PFS.

Forward Looking Statements

This PFS contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations, and business of the Company and certain plans and objectives of the management of the Company. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which are subject to change without notice, and may involve significant elements of subjective judgement and assumptions as to future events which may or may not occur. Forward-looking statements are provided as a general guide only and there can be no assurance that actual outcomes will not differ materially from these statements. Neither the Company, nor any other person, give any representation, warranty, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement will actually occur. In particular, those forward-looking statements are subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are outside the control of the Company. A number of important factors could cause actual results or performance to differ materially from the forward looking statements. Investors should consider the forward looking statements contained in this PFS in light of those disclosures.

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1. JORC CODE, 2012 EDITION – TABLE 1

1.1 Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

(Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling. Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used. Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report. In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samples of intermediate Aluminium Salt were taken as ~20g splits of homogenised, crystalline powder, and then re-dissolved into de-ionised water for analysis
Drilling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable. The samples were generated from a feedstock of industrial chemicals.
Drill sample recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed. Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples. Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Logging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies. Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography. The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Sub-sampling techniques and Sample Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken. If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry. For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique. Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples. Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samples were presented as a homogenised, crystalline aluminium salt generated from a crystallisation and centrifuge process

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	<p>collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled. 	
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total. • For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc. • Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (ie lack of bias) and precision have been established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purity analysis of the dissolved aluminium salt solution was determined by ICPMS at the ALS laboratories in Brisbane, QLD
Verification of sampling and assaying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel. • The use of twinned holes. • Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols. • Discuss any adjustment to assay data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Applicable
Location of data points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation. • Specification of the grid system used. • Quality and adequacy of topographic control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Applicable
Data spacing and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results. • Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied. • Whether sample compositing has been applied. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Applicable
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type. • If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Applicable
Sample security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The measures taken to ensure sample security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplicates of all samples submitted were retained at the Company's Brisbane laboratories to insure against any sample loss
Audits or reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable

1.2 Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings. The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Exploration done by other parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Drill hole Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> easting and northing of the drill hole collar elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar dip and azimuth of the hole down hole length and interception depth hole length. If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Data aggregation methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated. Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail. The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known'). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Diagrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Balanced reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Other substantive exploration data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not Applicable
Further work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling). Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the 2nd July 2019, the Company is commencing an extensive pilot plant operation to validate the process flow sheet on a semi-continuous, end-to-end basis