



PILBARA MINERALS LIMITED

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ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

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PILBARA MINERALS APPOINTS EXPERIENCED MINING AND OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE AHEAD OF MINING START-UP AT TABBA TABBA

PHIL TRIBBICK APPOINTED AS MINING CONSULTANT – OPERATIONS TO OVERSEE IMMINENT PROJECT START-UP

Australian strategic metals company Pilbara Minerals Ltd (ASX: PLS) is pleased to announce the appointment of highly experienced mining and operations executive **Mr Phil Tribbick** as Mining Consultant – Operations ahead of the imminent start-up of mining at its **Tabba Tabba Tantalum Project** in Western Australia.

Mr Tribbick has more than 26 years of experience in mine operations, specialising in surface mining, contract management, mine planning and scheduling, safety, risk and mine management.

Of particular relevance to Pilbara, Mr Tribbick has extensive experience running tantalite and other strategic metals operations, having held positions as Project Manager at the **Bald Hill Tantalite Project** for Haddington Resources, Project Manager at the Molyhil Tungsten-Molybdenum Project for Thor Mining and Project Contract Mining Manager at the **Wodgina Tantalite Project** for Sons of Gwalia.

He has also worked as Project Manager for the Masbate Gold Project in the Philippines for Leighton Contractors Asia and Quarry Manager at the Orebody 23/25-Yandi operations for HWE-Leighton.

Mr Tribbick holds a Diploma in Metalliferous Mining, a Diploma of Business and an Unrestricted Quarry Manager's Licence.

As a Project Manager at two of the most significant Tantalum Mining operations in Australia over the last 20 years, Mr Tribbick has invaluable experience in resource management and contract mining services, mine planning and grade control, production scheduling, mobile equipment maintenance, budget management and planning and a sound knowledge of WA legal statutory compliance regulations.

Pilbara Minerals CEO and Executive Director, Mr Neil Biddle, said the Company was very pleased to have secured the services of one of Australia's most experienced mining and project managers to oversee the imminent start-up of mining and production at Tabba Tabba.

"We are very pleased to welcome Phil to our team," he said. "He has managed mining operations at two of the significant tantalum mining operations in Australia over the last 20 years and has a comprehensive understanding of what is required to deliver a productive and world-class mine safety culture, coupled with invaluable experience in all aspects of resource management, mine planning, scheduling and operations.

"Phil will spend considerable time on site at Tabba Tabba over the coming months to oversee the start-up process and optimise mining and grade control to maximise returns," Mr Biddle added.

Pilbara Minerals entered into a 50/50 joint venture agreement with Nagrom Mining Pty Ltd in October 2013 to evaluate, develop and mine the Tabba Tabba Project. The Joint Venture is now in the final countdown to production with approvals well advanced with the Department of Mines and Energy and mining is expected to get underway in Q4 2014.

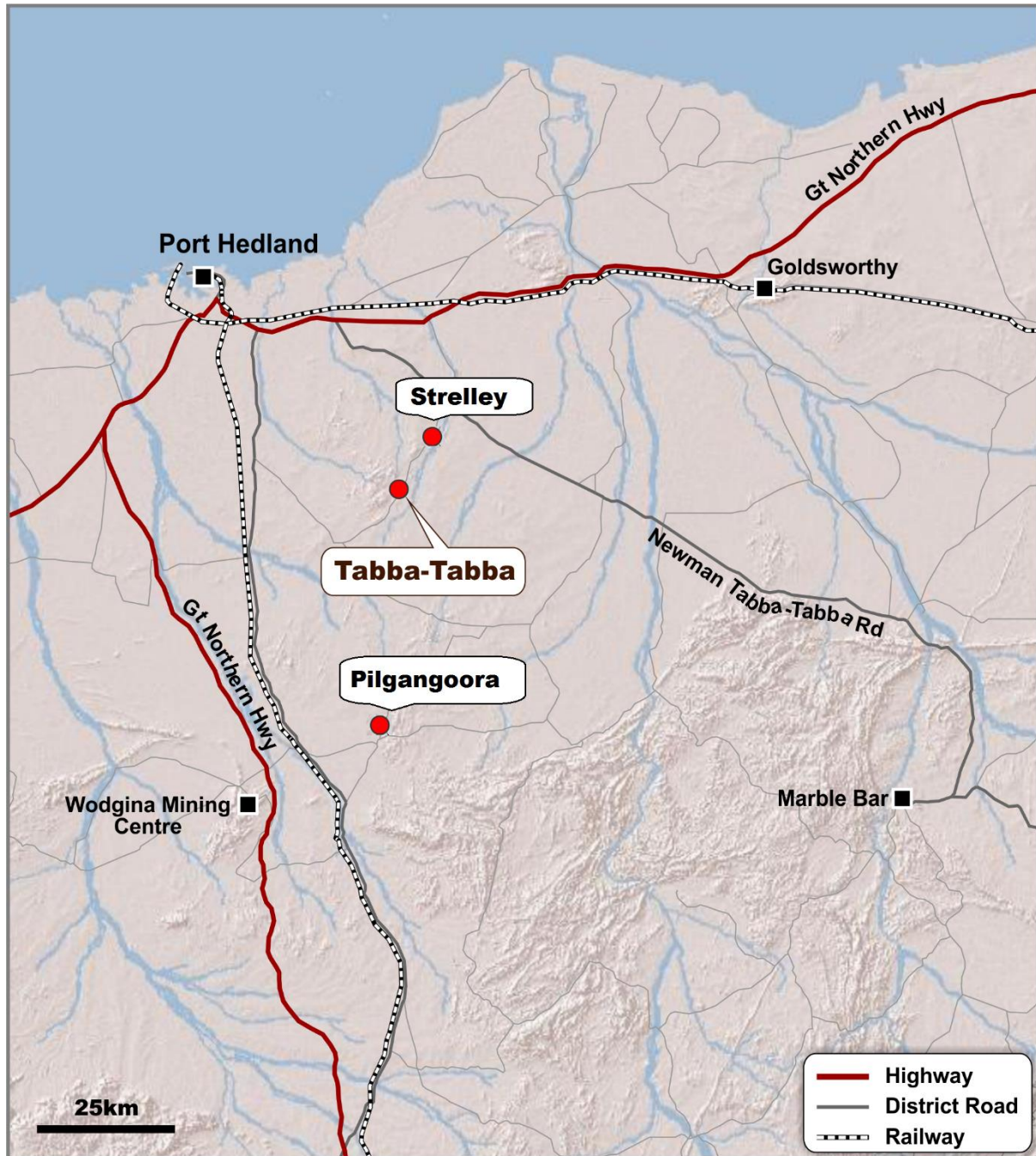


Figure 1: Location Plan Pilgangoora Project

More Information:

What is Lithium?

Lithium (Li) is recovered from the mineral spodumene and lithium-rich brines. It is used in a range of products such as ceramics, glass, batteries and pharmaceuticals. Lithium use has expanded significantly in recent years due to increasing use in rechargeable batteries in portable electronic devices and in batteries and electric motors for hybrid and electric cars.

What is Tantalum?

The primary source of tantalum is from minerals such as tantalite, columbite, wodginite and microlite contained in pegmatite ore bodies. The largest deposits are located in Australia, Brazil and Africa. Tantalum's **major use is** in the production of electronic components, **especially for capacitors**, with additional use in components for chemical plants, nuclear power plants, airplanes and missiles. It is also used as a substitute for platinum.

The tantalum market is boutique in size with around 1,300 tonnes required each year. However the market is rapidly growing due to capacitor use in wireless and handheld devices. PLS's Tabba Tabba Project could supply approximately 7% of the annual market consumption over two years. There are two major buyers of tantalum raw product worldwide: HC Stark and Global Advanced Metals.

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