



NATIVE TITLE AGREEMENT FOR PILGANGOORA PROJECT PAVES WAY FOR GRANT OF MINING LEASE

Further key access and permitting milestones achieved as Pilbara Minerals continues to advance rapidly towards major works commencement early next year

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Native Title Agreement (NTA) to be signed with the Njama! People, the Traditional Owners of the land at Pilbara's 100%-owned Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum Project.
- The landmark agreement, which was formally resolved to be entered into on site today by senior representatives of both parties, is a major milestone in clearing the way for the grant of the Pilgangoora Mining Lease.
- Separate access agreements have also been signed recently with required rail operators for road access rights over their respective rail corridors.
- Key access agreement now finalised with the local pastoralist, facilitating final access to the Pilgangoora mine and infrastructure areas.
- Process water supply locations and corridors secured for the Stage 1 (2mtpa) project.
- Preliminary site works nearing completion in preparation for the Stage 1 relocation of the accommodation camp supporting Pilgangoora exploration and development.

Australian lithium developer Pilbara Minerals Limited (ASX: PLS) ("PLS" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that it has reached agreement on the Native Title Agreement for its 100%-owned **Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum Project**, located near Port Hedland in Western Australia, marking another key milestone on its fast-track development pathway.

The landmark agreement was formally approved on site today with representatives of the Njama! People, the Traditional Owners of the land at Pilgangoora, cementing the strong and cooperative working relationship which has been built up between the two parties.



Figure 1: Ken Brinsden from Pilbara Minerals and Tony Taylor, Kevin Allen, Doris Eaton and Alice Mitchell from the Njama! People, signing the Native Title Agreement



The agreement represents a significant approval required to allow the grant of the Pilgangoora Mining Lease to occur. Award of the Mining Lease represents the last key hurdle to the Pilgangoora Mining proposal submission and subsequent final project permitting during the first quarter of next year, allowing further construction, development and mining activities to proceed.

The Native Title Agreement covers a range of commercial and non-commercial items which remain confidential in nature.

"This agreement forms the basis of a long term relationship that will offer lasting opportunities for our people.", said Doris Eaton, Njamal Applicant.

Pilbara's Managing Director and CEO, Mr Ken Brinsden, said: "We are delighted to have finalised this pivotal Native Title Agreement with the Njamal People, the Traditional Owners at Pilgangoora, and we look forward to working closely with them as we advance this major new Australian lithium-tantalum project into production.

"I would like to acknowledge the Njamal People for the professional manner in which they have approached our discussions and for their positive attitude towards the development of this important and strategic Australian resource. The agreement encompasses opportunities for local businesses and employment initiatives that will deliver benefits for local communities for what we hope are many decades to come."

"At the same time, the development of Pilgangoora will bring a range of economic benefits, jobs and opportunities to the Pilbara and the State of Western Australia – and we are very much looking forward to moving ahead with its development as quickly as possible. We are delighted to have a strong, cooperative and harmonious relationship with the Njamal People and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial association", he added.

Other Access and Development Milestones

Consistent with its fast-track development strategy, Pilbara continues to progress key access arrangements and has in recent weeks completed several other access agreements and development milestones at Pilgangoora. These include:

- the signing of 2 key road access agreements with Pilbara rail operators which provide for road access rights over their respective railways on the Pippingarra/Wodgina East Road as a key construction and haulage route for the Pilgangoora development. Together with access via existing public roads, this now secures the necessary access to the Pilgangoora site for haulage and transportation purposes subject to any necessary upgrade works being completed to ensure safe and effective operations; and
- the execution of an access agreement with the local pastoralist at Pilgangoora, providing access to private roads, infrastructure corridors and mining areas within the designated project location.

In relation to the Pilgangoora project's process water supply, Pilbara is pleased to advise that through a combination of on-site water bores and access to a pre-existing bore field location just south of the Pilgangoora project area, process water supply locations and corridors have now been secured for the project. Pump testing and aquifer analysis has confirmed the respective bores' capacity to deliver sufficient water for the Stage 1 (2mtpa) project and bore licencing for these locations is now underway as part of the broader project approvals.

Furthermore, detailed negotiations and documentation are nearing completion to take water, under agreement, from an existing licenced bore field in the project region to further support future expanded water supply consistent with the Company's objective of production growth over time. Pilbara also maintains a portfolio of water exploration options in the region with a view to creating further flexibility in site water supply arrangements.

Pilbara is also pleased to advise that further to its announcement of 24 November, bulk earthworks on site for the accommodation village are nearing completion, with all preliminary site works now in place to allow the Stage 1



relocation of the accommodation camp from the recently acquired Roy Hill Project’s Rail Camp 3. Camp establishment will now occur in the period leading up to the major projects approval, further supporting the Company’s accelerated development timetable including the delivery of run-of-mine ore to port for shipment from July 2017.

Additional Information:

ABOUT PILBARA MINERALS

Pilbara Minerals (“Pilbara” – ASX: PLS) is a mining and exploration company listed on the ASX, specialising in the exploration and development of the specialty metals Lithium and Tantalum. Pilbara owns 100% of the world class Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum project which is among the largest Spodumene (Lithium Aluminium Silicate) projects in the world. Pilgangoora is also one of the largest pegmatite hosted Tantalite resources in the world and Pilbara proposes to produce Tantalite as a by-product of its Spodumene production.

ABOUT LITHIUM

Lithium is a soft silvery white metal which is highly reactive and does not occur in nature in its elemental form. It has the highest electrochemical potential of all metals, a key property in its role in Lithium-ion batteries. In nature it occurs as compounds within hard rock deposits and salt brines. Lithium and its chemical compounds have a wide range of industrial applications resulting in numerous chemical and technical uses. A key growth area is its use in lithium batteries as a power source for a wide range of applications including consumer electronics, power station-domestic-industrial storage, electric vehicles, power tools and almost every application where electricity is currently supplied by fossil fuels.

ABOUT TANTALUM

The Tantalum market is boutique in size with around 1,300 tonnes required each year. Its primary use is in capacitors for consumer electronics, particularly where long battery life and high performance is required such as smart phones, tablets and laptops.

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