



BLACK BUTTE COPPER PROJECT PASSES KEY MILESTONE WITH RELEASE OF DRAFT EIS

Sandfire Resources NL (ASX: SFR; Sandfire) is pleased to advise that its 86%-owned Black Butte Copper Project in Montana, USA, has taken a further important step towards development with the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS") which outlines the final permitting steps required for the project to proceed.

The Draft EIS has been formally released by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MT DEQ) and will remain open for public comment for a 60-day period completing mid-May 2019.

Following the Draft EIS public comment period, the MT DEQ will respond to comments and issue a final EIS. The MT DEQ can then issue a Record of Decision (ROD) and Mine Operating Permit (MOP) for the Black Butte Project, potentially as early as third quarter of CY2019, and in line with expected completion of the project's feasibility study.

The MT DEQ deemed the Black Butte Project's MOP Application Complete and Compliant in August 2017 and a Draft Operating Permit was issued in September 2017.

Sandfire's Managing Director and CEO, Mr Karl Simich, said the release of the Draft EIS marked another important step towards the development of a showcase underground copper mine in Montana.

"For the Sandfire Resources America team this is the result of more than three years of diligent effort, working with our consulting technical experts and the Montana DEQ to prepare an appropriate design and permit that delivers a state-of-the-art, environmentally responsible mining project," he said.

"The Draft EIS reflects our strong commitment to design a project that is capable of providing significant economic opportunities for the local communities and the State of Montana, while at the same time fully protecting the Smith River Watershed.

"Black Butte will be a state-of-the-art underground mining operation that will set new standards for mine developments globally, incorporating world-class environmental standards and technologies – ensuring that it meets, or indeed exceeds, Montana's strict environmental standards.

"We are looking forward to seeing the Black Butte Copper Project advance towards development this year as a key part of our global copper growth pipeline."

A link to the Draft EIS can be found on Sandfire Resources America Inc.'s website:

www.sandfireamerica.com.

ENDS

For further information contact:

Sandfire Resources NL
Karl Simich – Managing Director/CEO
Matthew Fitzgerald – CFO
Office: +61 8 6430 3800

Read Corporate
Mobile: +61 419 929 046 (Nicholas Read)
Mobile: +61 421 619 084 (Paul Armstrong)

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