

MOUNT PEAKE ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS ADVANCE TO FINAL STAGES WITH SUBMISSION OF EIS SUPPLEMENT

Supplement to Environmental Impact Statement for Mount Peake mine site submitted to NTEPA

Australian strategic metals company TNG Limited (ASX: TNG) is pleased to advise that the environmental approvals process for the mine site component of its flagship 100%-owned **Mount Peake Vanadium-Titanium-Iron** Project in the Northern Territory has moved into its final stages with the submission of the Supplement to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA).

The Mount Peake Project comprises a mine and processing facility to be located at Mount Peake, approximately 235km north-northwest of Alice Springs and 50km north-west of Ti Tree, and the Darwin TIVAN® Process Plant, to be located at the Middle Arm Industrial Precinct, some 16km to the south-east of Darwin.

The Mount Peake mine site and processing facility includes a proposed open-cut mining operation, waste rock dump, ore processing plant, tailings storage facility, water dams, gas-fired power station, accommodation village, site access roads, Stuart Highway underpass, rail load-out facility and bore-field.

Environmental approvals for the mine and Darwin-based plant are being progressed separately, reflecting both their geographical separation (1,400 km) and the fact that significantly different environmental and social issues need to be addressed at the two locations. The mine and Darwin plant were referred separately to the NTEPA, which determined that both required assessment under the Northern Territory *Environmental Assessment Act 1982* (EA Act) at the level of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The mine and Darwin plant were also separately referred to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Both were determined to be controlled actions with assessment by accredited assessment under the EA Act.

The EIS identified and assessed the potential environmental and social impacts of the mine and provided management and control measures to reduce or mitigate potential risks in accordance with legislative requirements, industry standards and TNG's environment, community, and health and safety policies. Potential impacts were assessed for water resources (groundwater and surface water), biodiversity (flora, vegetation and fauna), air and greenhouse gases, noise and vibration, Aboriginal and historical heritage, socio-economics, human health and safety, waste management and rehabilitation and closure.

Following public review of the Draft EIS in early 2016, TNG received a number of questions that required further clarification. This included questions on impacts associated with flora and fauna, acid mine drainage, groundwater and surface water.

The Company is confident the additional information provided in the Supplement will enable the NTEPA to progress through the final stages of the approval process.

Both the EIS and Supplement were prepared by GHD, one of the world's leading environmental and resources consulting groups. TNG engaged GHD to complete all environmental permitting requirements for the integrated Mount Peake mine and Darwin plant operation (*see ASX Announcements – 17 February 2015, 2 November 2015*). GHD has been closely involved with TNG at Mount Peake since 2012.

The submission of the Supplement marks a major milestone for the planned integrated Mount Peake mine and Darwin plant, and follows the completion of a number of other important elements of the project, including:

- The Feasibility Study and Financial Assessment of the Mount Peake Project (*see ASX Announcement – 31 July 2015*);
- The signing of a binding agreement with global engineering firm SMS Group GmbH for the design and implementation of the TIVAN® plant (*see ASX Announcement – 2 February 2016*);
- The receipt of all required mine site Heritage Clearances (*see ASX Announcement – 9 November 2016*), with negotiations relating to the Mining Agreement also progressing with the Traditional Owners through the Central Land Council; and
- The recent signing of a Project Facilitation Agreement with the Northern Territory Government (*see ASX Announcement – 9 March 2017*) which secures the land for the Darwin facility at Middle Arm.

TNG's Managing Director, Mr Paul Burton, said the Mount Peake permitting and development team was continuing to advance and de-risk the world-class Mount Peake Project with the submission of the Supplement to the EIS marking another key milestone in the overall permitting process.

"The Supplement has comprehensively addressed all of the issues considered to be higher risk within the overall project," Mr Burton said. "We are confident that the additional information provided will enable the NT EPA to advance the permitting through to the final stages.

"We look forward to completing the approvals process for the mine component of the project while continuing to progress the Darwin process plant approvals in parallel – to allow overall environmental approval to be secured as soon as possible," he added.

ENDS

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