

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT 24 October 2017

### AUSTRALIAN BAUXITE LIMITED

ASX: ABX

## About Australian Bauxite Limited ASX Code ABX Web:

#### www.australianbauxite.com.au

Australian Bauxite Limited (ABx) has its first bauxite mine in Tasmania and holds the core of the Eastern Australian Bauxite Province. ABx's 22 bauxite tenements in Queensland, New South Wales & Tasmania exceed 1,975 km² and were selected for (1) good quality bauxite; (2) near infrastructure connected to export ports; & (3) free of socioenvironmental constraints. All tenements are 100% owned, unencumbered & free of third-party royalties. ABx's discovery rate is increasing as knowledge, technology & expertise grows.

The Company's bauxite is high quality gibbsite trihydrate (THA) bauxite that can be processed into alumina at low temperature.

ABx has declared large Mineral Resources at Inverell & Guyra in northern NSW, Taralga in southern NSW, Binjour in central QLD & in Tasmania, confirming that ABx has discovered significant bauxite deposits including some of outstandingly high quality.

At Bald Hill near Campbell Town, Tasmania, the Company's first bauxite mine commenced operations in December 2014 – the first new Australian bauxite mine for more than 35 years.

ABx aspires to identify large bauxite resources in the Eastern Australian Bauxite Province, which is a globally significant bauxite province. ABx has created significant bauxite developments in 3 states - Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania. Its bauxite deposits are favourably located for direct shipping of bauxite to both local and export customers.

ABx endorses best practices on agricultural land, strives to leave land and environment better than we find it.

We only operate where welcomed.

#### **Directors & Officers**

Paul Lennon Chairman Ken Boundy Director Ian Levy CEO & MD

Henry Kinstlinger Company Secretary
Leon Hawker Chief Operating Officer

Jacob Rebek Chief Geologist

Paul Glover Logistics & Exploration Manager

## CEO Presentation at TechKnow Invest Roadshow

In accordance with the requirements of Listing Rule 3.1 we submit the attached material being presented at the TechKnow Invest Roadshow in Melbourne and Sydney.

Mr Ian Levy, CEO is making the presentations.

**Melbourne** – 24 October 2017 – 2:00pm Grand Hyatt Hotel Melbourne, Victoria

Sydney - 26 October 2017 - 9:05am Radisson Blu Hotel Sydney, New South Wales

The public are welcome to attend the presentations.

lan Levy will be providing an overview on the development of bauxite beneficiation and refining technology to produce Aluminium Fluoride used in aluminium production and in lithium ion batteries, as reported briefly in the June Quarterly Report released on 28 July 2017. A patent application was lodged on 5 June 2017.

Key points include:

- an engineering firm has begun final designs and costings for the Stage 1 plant design.
   Due end Feb'18; and
- ABx will continue wide consultations before making and announcing final funding strategies which must create value for ABx shareholders.

ABx has no current plans for capital raisings.

#### For further information please contact:

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# Aluminium Fluoride for aluminium smelters & Li ion batteries and Corethane® Gas for energy security

**Bell Bay Tasmania or Townsville QLD** 













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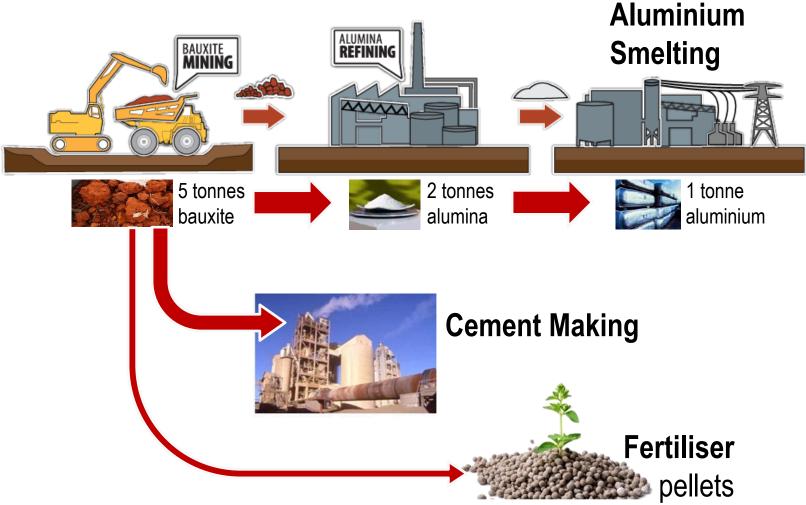
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#### Photographs and diagrams

Photographs and diagrams used in this Presentation that do not have descriptions are for illustration only or that the assets shown in them are owned by ABx. Diagrams used in this Presentation are illustrative only and may not be drawn to scale. Unless otherwise stated, all data contained in charts, graphs and tables is based on information available at the date of this Presentation.

## ABx to use ALCORE technology to add massive value

Today, traditional bauxite market prices ~US\$40 to \$55/tonne





# ALCORE's Bauxite Refining technology can add \$600 to \$1,000/tonne in value to bauxite

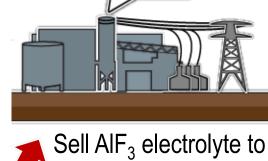


1 tonne low grade bauxite

36% Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 25% Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 10% SiO<sub>2</sub>

5% TiO<sub>2</sub>

23% H<sub>2</sub>O



Aluminium Smelters



Bauxite refinery

0.4 to 0.6 tonnes of Aluminium Fluoride worth ~US\$600 to \$1,000

Lithium Ion Batteries
AIF<sub>3</sub> electrolyte used
for faster recharge of Li
ion batteries



## **ALCORE Bauxite Refining Process: all by-products saleable**



**Bauxite** =  $36\% \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3$   $25\% \text{ Fe}_2\text{O}_3$   $10\% \text{ SiO}_2$   $5\% \text{ TiO}_2$  &  $23\% \text{ H}_2\text{O}$  **Reagents** are mixtures of:

- HF acid (as used in glass etching & metal cleaning)
- 2. H<sub>2</sub>SiF<sub>6</sub> ("FSA" as used to fluoridate water supplies)
- 3. H<sub>2</sub>O Process Water

### **Process:**

- 1. Crush/grind & add reagents
- 2. All minerals dissolved by reagents, forming metal fluorides
- 3. Fluoride species are sequentially precipitated as metalfluorides (eg. AlF<sub>3</sub>) or pure oxides to release fluorine chemicals for recycling of reagents
- 4. Oxides & fluorides are all in saleable pure forms



SiO<sub>2</sub> US\$600/t

Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> US\$600/t



Pure bauxite US\$200/t



TiO<sub>2</sub> US\$1,800/t



AlF<sub>3</sub> Aluminium Fluoride US\$1,500/t





# ABx's bauxite refining initiative

When other oxides are sold, Alcore bauxite refining increases bauxite value from US\$50 per tonne to more than US\$1,000 per tonne

Bauxite refining is additional to normal ABx bauxite sales to customers

84,000 tonnes bauxite per year worth US\$4.2 million gets refined to produce products worth US\$94 million per year.

Tonnes	Product	Value (US\$)
50,000	tonnes aluminium fluoride AlF <sub>3</sub>	\$67,500,000
1,110	tonnes gibbsite Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> .3H <sub>2</sub> O	\$111,015
6,300	tonnes silica fume SiO <sub>2</sub>	\$17,010,000
23,100	tonnes iron ore Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	\$1,848,000
3,192	tonnes titanium oxide TiO <sub>2</sub>	\$7,980,000
83,702 tonnes products worth		\$94,449,015





# Delivering this refining initiative

## **Base Case Plan at present: 2 Stage Development**

**Stage 1:** Engineering Evaluation Plant (EV Plant) A\$12.5m to A\$16m

**Stage 2:** 50,000 tonnes per year production plant "ALF 1" for ~A\$50m

### **Timetable**

- 1. Design & costing EV Plant end February 2018
- 2. "Shareholder consultation" & funding strategy end Q1 2018
- 3. Funding Q1 & Q2 2018
- 4. Marketing samples for offtake contracts Sept-Nov 2018
- 5. Bankable feasibility study of ALF 1 production plant Q1 2019
- 6. Commissioning ALF 1 production plant end 2019

## Why Bell Bay, Tasmania or Townsville, QLD?

Available key chemicals, large bauxite resources and skilled workforces near under-utilised export ports





# Generalised economics

- 1. AlF<sub>3</sub> prices have risen strongly from US\$800 to above US\$1,600 per tonne in 5 years (extra demand from batteries)
- 2. Aluminium smelters use 30kgs of AlF<sub>3</sub> per tonne of aluminium (ie. 3%)
- 3. Global demand exceeds 1.5 million tonnes of AlF<sub>3</sub> per year
- 4. Alcore to target Australasian aluminium smelters as main customers
- 5. Lithium Ion Battery market will be blue sky
- 6. Alcore production is ~30% cheaper than traditional AIF<sub>3</sub> production
- 7. Payback of major production plant capital cost less than 3 years
- 8. Upside is additional production plants to supply SE Asia, India & Middle East





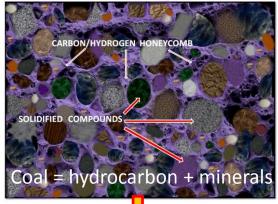
# **Environmental Benefits**

No smoke-stack, no emissions, no waste products, value adding

- 1. Alcore Production Process uses waste acids from zinc refineries and fertiliser plants for reagent make-up.
- 2. Reagents are recycled
- 3. No emissions, particulates or waste generated
- 4. AIF<sub>3</sub> improves aluminium smelting efficiency saves electricity
- 5. Lithium Ion Battery recharge rates improved by AIF<sub>3</sub>
- 6. Can be self-sufficient for heating & electricity (co-product Corethane gas)



## Corethane Gas co-product to take ALF 1 Plant off



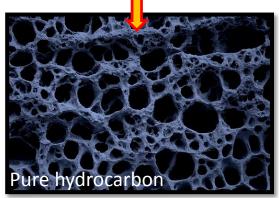


**Coal** = mix of hydrocarbons & ash minerals

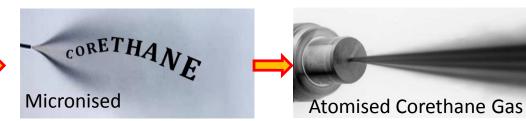
**Reagents** same as for AIF<sub>3</sub> process: HF, FSA acid & water

**Process** same as for AIF<sub>3</sub> process:

- 1. Crush coal to 5<sup>mm</sup> & add reagents
- 2. Ash minerals are dissolved, forming same products as for AIF<sub>3</sub> process & 100% recycling (no discharges)
- 3. Hydrocarbons are untouched by reagents & recovered
- 4. 99.97% pure hydrocarbon = "Corethane"
- 5. Micronised and atomised = Corethane Gas to heat the ALF 1 plant and/or generate electricity







Corethane Gas is a clean, cheap gas substitute. Meets Finkel Review emission targets



## Technology development. It's time has come

Previous refining plants were successful but not focussed on AIF<sub>3</sub>





2,300 tpa EV Plant

50,000 tpa Corethane Refinery mid 1980s

ABx has driven the focus of technology on AIF<sub>3</sub> over the past 18 months

Patent application lodged 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## **Due Diligence Documentation**

Refined Ore Industries Ltd (ROIL) has extensive due diligence material:

- Process reviews, historical data & photos of the CORE Process, test results & reviews.
- Process economics studies, budgets & feasibility studies as technology improved
- Environmental impact reviews



## SOME BACKGROUND MARKET INFORMATION ON AIF<sub>3</sub>

Source: <a href="https://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2831942/Aluminium-fluoride-prices-boosted-by-supply-shortage.html">https://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2831942/Aluminium-fluoride-prices-boosted-by-supply-shortage.html</a>

### Aluminium fluoride prices boosted by supply shortage

According to industry sources, latest spot prices for Chinese-produced  $AIF_{3,}$  on a CIF delivered basis, stand at \$1700-\$1750/tonne. FOB China prices are quoted between a range of \$1650-1700/tonne. This is 25% higher than an FOB China price of \$1300-1325/tonne at the start of the year.

https://www.zauba.com/import-aluminium+fluoride-hs-code.html &

http://original.metal.com/metals/productinfo/201106140015

#### **Application in Lithium Ion Batteries**

Aluminum Fluoride coatings have been shown to improve the cycling performance of  $LiCoO_2$  cathodes [3][1].

 $AlF_3$  is also used in the production of high purity aluminum, fluoroaluminate glasses, and low refractive index thin films<sup>[2]</sup>.

