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ARAFURA WELCOMES RELEASE OF EIS GUIDELINES FOR WHYALLA RARE EARTHS COMPLEX

Australian rare earths company **Arafura Resources Limited (ASX: ARU)** (**Arafura** or **the Company**) has welcomed the release by the South Australian Government of guidelines for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Rare Earths Complex at Whyalla in South Australia.

The release of the EIS guidelines, which are available from the South Australian Department of Planning and Local Government website, was accompanied by a [joint media statement](#) from the Minister for Urban Development, Planning and the City of Adelaide, Hon John Rau, and the Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Hon Tom Koutsantonis.

The Whyalla Rare Earths Complex was granted Major Project status by the South Australian Government in September 2010, and release of the EIS guidelines marks an important milestone in progressing development of the Nolans Project.

Arafura Managing Director & CEO Dr Steve Ward said development of a rare earths processing facility at Whyalla will be a significant value-adding project for Australia where mineral concentrate from Arafura's Nolans Bore Mine in the Northern Territory will be upgraded prior to sale.

"This Complex will be a substantial mineral processing and chemical manufacturing facility by Australian standards. Whyalla will be Arafura's - and Australia's - gateway to global rare earths markets," he said.

Arafura will prepare the EIS in accordance with the guidelines. The Company commenced background work some months ago as a precursor to receiving the formal guidelines. It has also actively engaged in ongoing community consultation since Whyalla was announced as the preferred site for the Rare Earths Complex.

The EIS will cover all aspects of Arafura's proposed operations in Whyalla.

Dr Ward said the release of the formal guidelines will enable Arafura to focus on completing the work required for the EIS concurrent with continuing its consultation activities with all stakeholders.

"Arafura is fully committed to ensuring its future operations comply with all relevant regulations," he added.

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