

## **Arafura Resources Limited**

Accelerating Towards Final Investment Decision

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- 1. NdPr Market Update
- 2. Project Review
- 3. Timeline

# NdPr Market Update

## China Becoming a Net Importer of NdPr

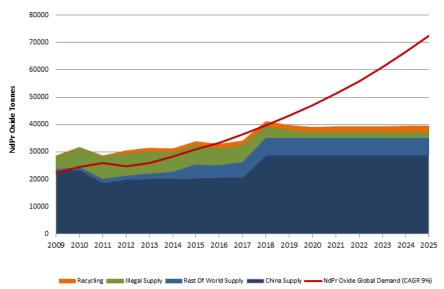


- China's domestic NdPr consumption will increase by over 30% in the next 5 years as it pursues clean energy objectives and global leadership in EV manufacturing
- Supply reforms, industry consolidation and higher environmental standards will constrain China's ability to rapidly increase NdPr production
- ROW supply is being sourced from Malaysia, China imported concentrate and notionally illegal China sources
- Increased NdPr consumption combined with constrained supply could result in China moving from being the world's major source of NdPr to a net importer by the early 2020s
- With overall NdFeB magnet growth at 9% CAGR additional non-Chinese supply will be required to meet demand as China struggles to maintain additional supply year-on-year

Source: ACREI, Adamas Intelligence, Asian Metal and Shanghai Metals Market







## China's NdPr Supply – Capital Constrained?



- China's growth in production
  - From 1980 to 2000 China's rare earth production increased by an average 14% annually
  - From 2005 to 2011 China's NdPr production increased by an average of 4.5% annually
  - 2011 to 2015, China's NdPr production reduced by an average of 5.7%
- China's supply has not always been driven by demand. Policy and access to finance have been significant drivers of NdPr supply capacity.
- Recent policy has seen NdPr supply from China continue to contract through the removal of unsustainable production
- Access to traditional sources of funding for China-based NdPr producers has changed
- China's capital investment is moving along the value chain. In the 10 years since the GFC China's share in medium- to high-tech production has tripled to 32%. It is now the world's dominant producer.
- It is likely the US trade war will encourage China to increase its focus of moving along the supply chain and make them more competitive in this space
- Future growth in China's NdPr production through supportive policy and access to capital will happen but only to the extent that it is aligned with its strategy of moving along the supply chain

# Nolans Project Review

## **Project Review**

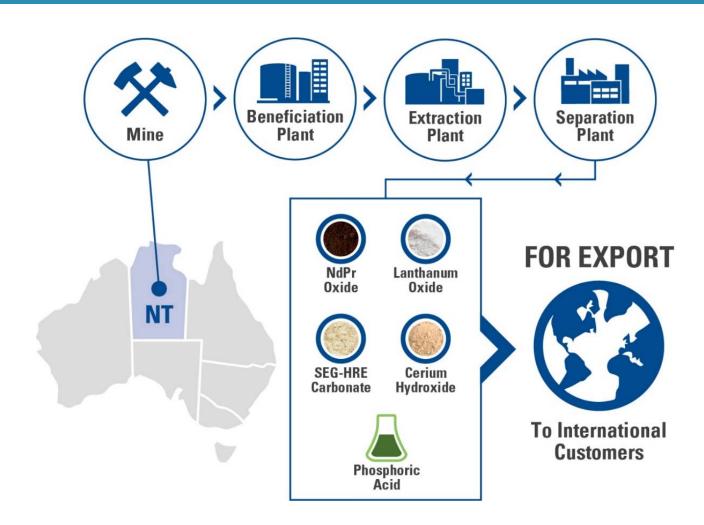


- 1. Configuration
- 2. Permitting/Regulatory Approvals
- 3. Flowsheet Piloting
- 4. Definitive Feasibility Study
- 5. Sales & Marketing
- 6. Funding

# 1. Configuration

## **Configuration Confirmed**





# 2. Approvals

## **Approvals**



### Permitting/Regulatory Approvals – expected completion first half 2019

- Environmental Approval
  - Completed for NT EPA and Commonwealth EPBC
- Water Extraction Licence
  - Application submitted with regulator awaiting confirmation of NT legislative changes prior to licensing
- Native Title Agreement (NTA)
  - Draft agreement with Central Land Council
- Mining Licence
  - Application submitted awaiting completion of NTA

# 3. Pilot Program

## Flowsheet Piloting Nearing Completion



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Phase 1	
Beneficiation	

- 5,000 kg highphosphate concentrate
- •>82% NdPr recovery
- •>90% P2O5 recovery
- Met performance objectives

### SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

### Phase 2 Phosphate Extraction

- Merchant grade phosphoric acid suitable for fertilizers
- 3% TREO losses to gypsum waste
- Met performance objectives

### SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

### Phase 3 Bulk Pre-Leach

- 2,000 kg pre-leach residue
- Met performance objectives

### SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

#### Phase 4 Acid Bake

- Successful use of paddle dryer technology
- Met performance objectives

### SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

### Phases 5 & 6 Rare Earth Processing

- Phase 5 underway
- Phase 6 constructed

**ADVANCED** 

### Phase 7 Rare Earth Separation

· Planning well advanced

**ADVANCED** 

- Pilot program reduces execution risk by addressing all key engineering and operational considerations
   prior to commissioning of the commercial facility
- Draws on independent expert advice from specialist consultants and equipment vendors











**Beneficiation Pilot Plant** 

**Phosphate Extraction Pilot Plant** 

**Bulk Pre-Leach Pilot Plant** 

**Acid Bake Pilot Plant** 

Rare Earth Processing Pilot Plant

# 4. Definitive Feasibility Study

## **DFS Nearing Completion**



- Definitive Feasibility Study on track for reporting end of 2018
- Activities with independent expert advice from specialist consultants

Process plant, infrastructure and lead study engineer



Mining planning and Ore Reserves



Tailings storage facility design, geotechnical and surface water management

Geotechnical site evaluation complete



Hydrogeology and water supply studies advanced and environmental approval secured



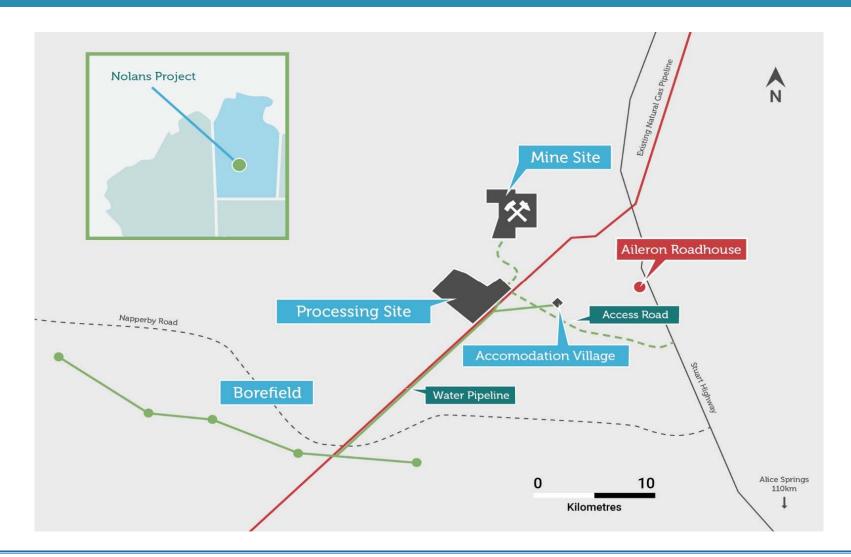
Logistics study for transport and storage of reagents from port to site



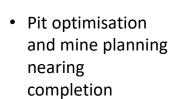
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## Site Layout

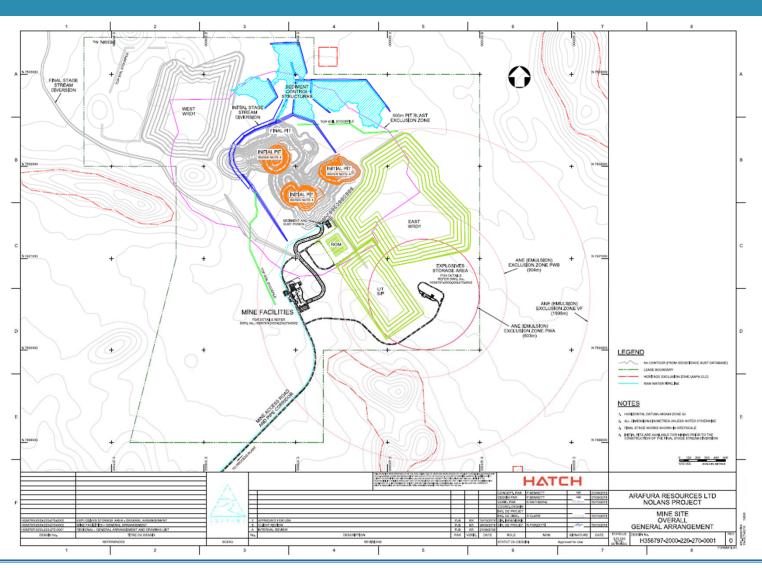








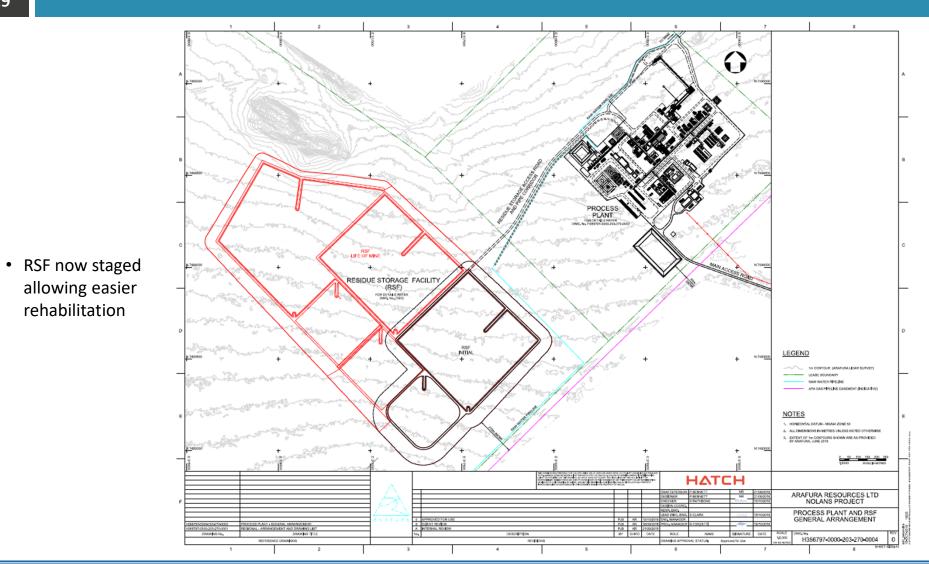
 Ore Reserves expected in coming weeks



## **Processing Site**







# 5. Sales & Marketing

### Offtake



- Alignment with offtake and strategic partners critical to funding to remove some market risk
- Offtake contracts need to be engineered to manage downside price risk
- Phase 7 (separation) piloting to provide additional material for qualification
- Customers seeking traceability for product and waste management certainty
  - Environmental approval considered an advantage
  - Process residue management at site considered socially responsible
- First non-binding NdPr offtake MoU executed with Tier 1 Chinese magnet manufacturer JingCi Material Science Co.
- More offtake MoUs to come (NdPr, other rare earths, phosphoric acid)

# 6. Funding

## Funding New Supply Is Challenging



- NdPr market is niche, research and data is limited, no commodity exchange
- Price volatility, historically not demand-supply driven
- China has a legacy position as the dominant producer
- Project debt and equity financiers have a perceived technology and environmental risk for new producers, heightened by experiences outside of China, which require additional piloting and engineering cost

## Funding – Our Targets For Success



- Accelerating discussions with offtake and strategic partners to remove some market risk
- Capital equipment supply and construction contracts linked to ECA funding
- Successful completion of flowsheet piloting to reduce materials handling, materials of construction and commissioning risk
- Environmental permitting provides financiers traceability for product and waste management certainty
- NdPr is a strategic input; leverage this through commercial and Government discussions to access funding: ECAs, industry and commercial banks
- NT and Australian Government public support of Nolans through closer consultation and Arafura's application for relevant grants e.g. NAIF, NT Local Jobs Fund, EFIC etc
- Project sell down may also be a source of project equity
- Securing sufficient short term funding (e.g. underwritten SPP) to enable seamless movement from DFS to execution readiness and project finance

# Targets

## **Timeline and Targets**



Piloting
PHASES 1-4 COMPLETED
PHASES 5-7 ADVANCED

Definition Stage Engineering
DFS Completion
NdPr Offtake Negotiations
Other REO Product Offtake Negotiations
Phosphoric Acid Offtake Negotiations
Project Funding Engagement
Execution Readiness

Subject to securing project funding and offtake
Front End Engineering Design
Construction

# Thank You