



ASX: AMI | 26 March 2020

OPERATING UPDATE, COVID-19 MEASURES & WITHDRAWAL OF GUIDANCE

Aurelia Metals Limited ("AMI" or the "Company") provides an operating update, including measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and withdrawal of previous guidance.

Peak shaft

Shaft hoisting operations at the Peak mine were halted over the weekend in order to investigate a fault that was detected in the conveyance guide system. Detection systems functioned effectively to prevent any risk to mine workers or the structural integrity of the shaft.

Initial inspections indicate that the suspended ropes that guide the man-riding and skip conveyances were not fully tensioned, causing the conveyances to lose alignment. Safe access to the rope guide supports is being established to allow further inspection and determine the extent of any remedial works required. There has been no other damage to the shaft identified and it has been successfully operated in low speed mode since hoisting operations were halted.

While shaft hoisting is halted, the Peak surface decline is being used to transport mine workers and ore is being trucked to surface in limited quantities. Initial expectations are that the shaft will return to operations this week.

A further update with respect to requisite shaft remedial works will be provided in due course.

COVID-19 measures and withdrawal of guidance

The safety and wellbeing of our people and contractors, and the communities in which we live, and operate, remains our core priority. The Company has therefore implemented, and will continue to implement, intervention measures targeted at minimising the risk of potential transmission of COVID-19. These include a range of measures with respect to underground mining, processing plants, accommodation and logistics operations, as well as at site and corporate offices. Operational productivity is seeing some impacts, at least as these measures are initially bedded down.

Various Australian state governments have recently announced restrictions with respect to interstate travel, which are in the process of being implemented by the respective state governments. The New Zealand government has also recently implemented strict international travel restrictions.

Aurelia's Fly-In Fly-Out ("**FIFO**") rosters at the Hera and Peak operations include personnel living in Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand. The Company has been actively pursuing measures to minimise the impact on its rosters from the travel restrictions.



There remains the need for further clarity around specific exemption approvals processes and operating procedures for interstate mining FIFO personnel, and the current situation therefore remains fluid.

Given the high level of uncertainty surrounding the spread, duration and impact of COVID-19, including existing and future government restrictions, on Aurelia (including production and costs at Peak and Hera operations) the Company is withdrawing all prior forward-looking statements and guidance or outlook statements pertaining to forecast metal production and operating costs for FY20 (including those in the Company's H1 FY20 Financial Results Presentation released on 21 February 2020).

It is also noted that the recent Peak shaft interruption, combined with operational impacts relating to bedding down of its initial COVID-19 measures, is currently expected to result in gold production for the March 2020 quarter at levels similar to the December 2019 quarter.

Aurelia remains in a strong net cash position (A\$64M at 31 December 2019) with no debt (outside of typical trade payables). The Company confirms that its gold sales and base metal concentrate shipment schedules remain unimpacted at this stage.

Aurelia will provide shareholders and the ASX with further updates in accordance with its continuous disclosure obligations.

This announcement has been authorised for release to the ASX by the Aurelia Board

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