

Second \$2.7M instalment of Modern Manufacturing Initiative grant received

ALCORE receives ~\$2.7 million second instalment of funding from the Federal Government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative

\$5.7 million received to date of total \$7.5 million grant

ABx Group Limited (ASX: ABX) ("ABx" or "the Company") is pleased to announce its 83%-owned subsidiary ALCORE Limited (ALCORE) has received the second \$2.7M instalment of the previously announced \$7.5M¹ in grant funding under the Federal Government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative (MMI)². This means that 75% of the grant funding has now been received.

The grant initiative, which is on a co-contribution basis and managed by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, has been established to assist Australian manufacturing projects commercialise and integrate with domestic and international value chains.

Receipt of further funds from the MMI provides continued recognition that the Department remains satisfied with ALCORE's advancements. ALCORE is developing a process to recover fluorine from 'excess bath' (an aluminium smelter waste) to produce hydrogen fluoride, with a later-stage commercial plant to further react the hydrogen fluoride to produce aluminium fluoride – a high-value chemical essential for aluminium smelting.

The MMI grant is in support of ALCORE's proposed \$16.4m aluminium bath recycling plant at Bell Bay, Tasmania (the stage 1 commercial plant) and also includes activities relating to the establishment of a pilot plant on the NSW Central Coast.

Commenting on the receipt of further grant funding, ABx Group Managing Director and CEO Dr Mark Cooksey said:

"Additional funding from the MMI is a positive development validating the important work that has been completed to date as well as providing further stimulus to accelerate activities.

"This news comes at an important time for ALCORE, as the business has recently completed preliminary engineering design work for its pilot plant, and also made an order for an advanced laboratory reactor that will further enhance the processing of excess bath material³".

This announcement is approved for release by the board of directors.

¹ For further information, please refer to ASX announcement dated 29 April 2022. Note: Actual grant is \$7,582,966.

² The grant provides for up to 50% of eligible project expenditure. See <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/mmi-manufacturing-translation-stream-recycling-and-clean-energy-round-2>

³ See ASX Announcement dated 21 June 2023

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