

# MEDIA RELEASE



**27 June 2022**

## ***Metro Mining – Australian Aluminium Council’s newest member***

The Australian Aluminium Council (the Council) is pleased to welcome Metro Mining Limited (Metro) as the newest member of the Council.

Metro’s flagship operation, the Bauxite Hills Mine, is one of the largest independent projects in Queensland’s internationally acclaimed Western Cape York bauxite region. The mine has an estimated reserve of 101.5Mt and total resource of 131.2Mt. Metro is forecasting production of 3.8 Mt in 2022 from Bauxite Hills, and a future expansion to 6.0 Mt per annum.

Bauxite is the critical mineral used to produce aluminium, which will be widely used in the global transition to cleaner energy. Australia’s bauxite industry has a strong global reputation for land management, biodiversity conservation and rehabilitation. Including Bauxite Hills, Australia’s six bauxite mines collectively produce over 100 Mt per annum, making Australia the world’s largest bauxite producer.

CEO of the Council, Marghanita Johnson, said “Metro Mining is committed to the sustainable production of bauxite in Australia, including a clear dedication to partner with their local communities.”

She added “The Traditional Owners of the land on which the Bauxite Hills mine is located, the Ankamuthi people, and other Indigenous employees from Cape York, Cairns and Northern Peninsular Area communities, make up 30% of the Bauxite Hills Mine workforce.”

“Metro has announced they will expand their 2022 Trainee Programme and I commend them for their efforts to develop the employees and leaders of the future”.

Metro Mining CEO & Managing Director, Simon Wensley said “As Metro embarks on the next phase of its growth, we are excited to be joining the Australian Aluminium Council. This will bring an opportunity to engage with other companies across the aluminium value chain to promote our high quality, low risk industry and actively collaborate on key policy issues which are so important to sustaining our work force, communities and regional Australia”.

**ABOUT THE COUNCIL**

The Australian Aluminium Council (the Council) represents Australia's bauxite mining, alumina refining, aluminium smelting and downstream processing industries. The aluminium industry has been operating in Australia since 1955, and over the decades has been a significant contributor to the nation's economy. It includes six bauxite mines which collectively produce over 100 Mt per annum making Australia the world's largest producer of bauxite. Australia is the world's largest exporter of alumina with six alumina refineries producing around 20 Mt per annum of alumina. Australia is the sixth largest producer of aluminium, with four aluminium smelters and additional downstream processing industries including more than 20 extrusion presses. Aluminium is Australia's highest earning manufacturing export. The industry directly employs more than 17,000 people, including 4,000 full time equivalent contractors. It also indirectly supports around 60,000 families predominantly in regional Australia.

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