

29<sup>th</sup> July 2022

# **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

# **QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES REPORT – JUNE 2022**

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Transformational new NT Lithium Project acquired
  - Tenement farm-in agreement for Ragusa to earn initial 90% interest, with scope to increase to 100%
  - Strategic ~570km² NT lithium landholding of five tenements in highly prospective Litchfield Pegmatite Belt, and comparable land package to neighbouring Core Lithium and Lithium Plus
  - Four granted tenements allow for rapid advancement of exploration works
  - With current Litchfield and Daly River lithium projects in NT → creating combined "supergroup" project
- Burracoppin Halloysite Project drilling works conducted aiming to delineate JORC resource & targeting extension of neighbouring resource<sup>1</sup>
- Monte Cristo Gold Project site visit conducted targeting priority prospects for upcoming field exploration works

# KEY OBJECTIVES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022 QUARTER

- Commence drilling program and continue exploration works targeting outcropping pegmatite rocks at the NT "Supergroup" Lithium Project
- Conduct laboratory analysis works from the Burracoppin Halloysite Project drilling program to then delineate JORC resource
- Continue exploration works at the priority prospects at Monte Cristo Gold Project

Ragusa Minerals Limited (ASX: RAS) ("Ragusa" or "Company"), is an Australian based mineral exploration company with a 100% interest in the following projects – NT "Supergroup" Lithium Project in the Northern Territory, Burracoppin Halloysite Project in Western Australia, Monte Cristo Gold Project in Alaska, and the Lonely Mine Gold Project in Zimbabwe. The Company provides the following update for the Quarter;

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

During the Quarter, Ragusa acquired the NT Lithium Project in the Northern Territory and commenced initial reconnaissance works at the project, continued to progress activities at the Burracoppin Halloysite Project in Western Australia and the Monte Cristo Gold Project in Alaska, including key milestones -:

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- Entered into a Tenement Farm-in Agreement with May Drilling Pty Ltd for the exclusive right to earn an initial 90% interest and the exclusive option to acquire the additional 10% interest in tenements EL28642, EL29731, EL30521, EL32671 and EL(A)32405 located in the highly prospective Litchfield Pegmatite Belt in Northern Territory.
- Conducted drilling operations at the Burracoppin Halloysite Project, located ~300 kilometres east of Perth.
- The Company's technical directors conducted a site visit to the Monte Cristo Gold Project in Alaska, in preparation for the 2022 field exploration program and to inspect mineral prospectivity within the project area relative to the nearby multi-million ounce neighbouring gold projects.

## NT Lithium Project (Earn-in to initial 90% interest and rights to 100% interest)

The Company entered into a Tenement Farm-in Agreement ("Agreement") with May Drilling Pty Ltd for the exclusive right to earn an initial 90% interest in tenements EL28642, EL29731, EL30521, EL32671 and EL(A)32405 (combined the "Tenements") – located in the highly prospective Litchfield Pegmatite Belt in Northern Territory – and the exclusive option to acquire the additional 10% interest in the tenements.

In addition, the Agreement allows the Company to conduct due diligence works including immediate exploration activities on the tenements, covering approximately 570km<sup>2</sup> within the highly prospective Pine Creek Orogen including the Finnis River Group – host to Core Lithium's Finnis Project.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The four granted tenements cover the same general prospective geology as Ragusa's existing Northern Territory lithium projects, and also Core Lithium and Lithium Plus project areas. The fifth tenement – EL(A)32405 is located south-east of Ragusa's Daly River Project tenement, and also contains similar geology.

The main lithium bearing host geology in the region are pegmatites within the Burrell Creek Formation of the Finnis River Group of sediments, adjacent to and within the contact aureole of late Proterozoic granites as the source of the LCT (Li- Cs-Ta) pegmatites in the area.

The Burrell Creek Formation continues from the known lithium bearing district predominantly held by Core Lithium in the north, through the Litchfield National Park and into the newly acquired four granted tenements, and into Ragusa's Daly River Lithium Project in the south. Together, this combined "supergroup" of tenements Ragusa has acquired represents a significant and strategic landholding within the very highly prospective geology of the Finnis River Group for lithium bearing minerals, and all within a short distance to the major port of Darwin.

Historical exploration in the prospective lithium province relating to pegmatites, has predominantly been for tin and tantalum, with numerous remnant small-scale artisanal mining evident in the area (including the new Ragusa tenements project area). Reports on previous exploration for lithium by Core, Liontown, and others has consistently noted the intense lateritc weathering profile in the area, which has led to the breakdown/alteration of spodumene to kaolinite, resulting in the lack of spodumene at surface. In a presentation to the 2017 AGES conference, Core noted "interest and knowledge of lithium limited to amblygonite collectors" and "no spodumene at surface", which is remarkably consistent with data provided to Ragusa on the new tenements.

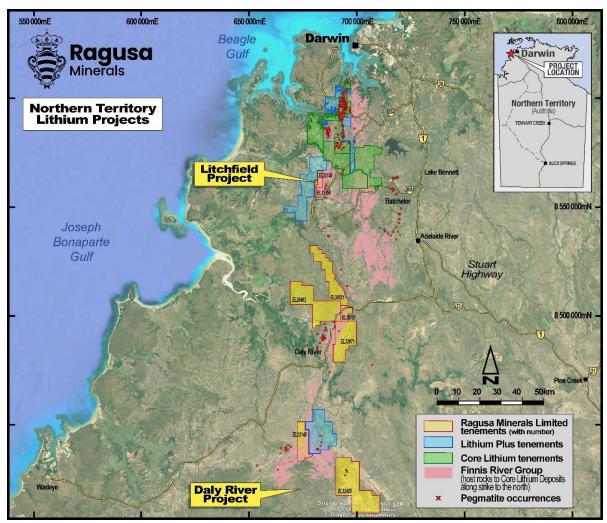


Figure 1. Ragusa NT "Supergroup" Lithium Project Location

## Previous Work

The Tenements have been subject to prior exploration, by May Drilling and other groups, with such works focussed on tin, tantalum, gold, copper, graphite, lead, zinc, uranium and lithium, all of which have had anomalous results found in a series of geochemical studies, drilling, surface rock-chip analysis and geophysical survey data.

Prior exploration works conducted within the new tenements by Monax Mining Limited focussed on lithium targets. During 2016-2017, Monax conducted a series of geochemical soil and rock-chip sampling programs focussing on outcropping pegmatite and surrounding sediments. Numerous high grade lithium results were returned from rock chips, up to a peak grade of  $8.03\%~\text{Li}_2\text{O}^2$  from a sample of amblygonite with an accompanying 7.3 g/t gold result. Numerous anomalous geochemical soil results were also received, with grades up to 420ppm lithium (903ppm Li<sub>2</sub>O) and 1% tin<sup>3</sup>, identifying several exploration target areas.

During 2018, PNX Metals entered into a farm-in agreement<sup>4</sup> over the same tenure, with a primary focus on gold and base metals exploration. Rock chip sampling during reconnaissance works returned a peak Li<sub>2</sub>O grade of 7.25% and a peak gold grade of 23.1 g/t<sup>5</sup>. Following the initial field visit, PNX reported "several distinct trends and many kilometres of untested strike length of pegmatites occurring within the

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leases"<sup>6</sup>. PNX conducted an airborne electromagnetic (EM) survey over the area during October 2018 targeting massive sulphide accumulations resulting in 13 targets of varying priority for gold, base metals and kimberlites.

The combined result of the historical works has left Ragusa in a fortunate position with a series of walkup drill targets for both lithium and gold, with a significant amount of targeting work completed and a remarkably similar surface situation to that of Core Lithium's Finnis Project to the north.

Ragusa intends to follow on from this prior work that identified high grade lithium (+gold) mineralisation in preliminary surface exploration works, in search of lithium mineralisation beneath the as-yet untested fresh pegmatite at depth.

#### **ACQUISITION TERMS**

Ragusa has executed a binding Tenement Farm-in Agreement with May Drilling Pty Ltd, whereby the Company has the exclusive right to earn an initial 90% interest in tenements EL28642, EL29731, EL30521, EL32671 and EL(A)32405, and the exclusive option to acquire the additional 10% interest in the Tenements.

In addition, the Agreement allows for Ragusa to conduct due diligence works covering the ~570km² project area.

The material terms of the Tenement Farm-in Agreement include:

Due diligence payment - Ragusa will pay May Drilling the sum of \$125,000 in cash within 7 days of signing, for the right to carry out due diligence for a period of up to 12 months. Ragusa will pay for all tenement costs and obligations during the due diligence period.

Upon completion of due diligence and Ragusa entering into the farm-in arrangement;

- Upon decision to proceed, a payment of \$150,000 within 60 days.
- Ragusa to expend a minimum of \$500,000 per annum on in-ground activities during the farm-in period, for a minimum aggregate of \$1,500,000 of on-ground expenditure, and a minimum total expenditure of 2,500,000 on the project.
- Ragusa will meet all tenement costs and obligations.

Upon completion of the farm-in period, the two parties will enter into a formal joint venture agreement, whereby an unencumbered 90% ownership in the Tenements will be transferred to Ragusa, and Ragusa shall have full operational control and decision-making rights thereafter.

May Drilling will retain 10% ownership, free carried until a decision to mine.

Ragusa will have the exclusive right to purchase May Drilling's remaining 10% interest in the Tenements, for \$500,000 in cash, \$500,000 in cash or shares (or a combination thereof) at the election of Ragusa, and the grant of a 2% net smelter return royalty of the value of any minerals produced and sold from the Tenements.

May Drilling has the right to explore for and exploit any alluvials on the Tenements.

When EL(A) 32405 is granted, Ragusa shall pay to May Drilling \$50,000 in cash and an additional \$150,000 (in cash or shares at Ragusa's discretion) if Ragusa remains listed on the ASX at the time EL(A) 32405 is granted.

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Ragusa will pay \$500,000 cash and \$1,000,000 in cash or shares if it publicly announces the delineation of a JORC Code-compliant Measured Mineral Resource, Probable Ore Reserve or Proved Ore Reserve as a milestone payment.

## Litchfield & Daly River Lithium Projects (100% interest)

The Company secured three tenements prospective for lithium in the Northern Territory, Australia – known as the Litchfield Lithium Project (Exploration Licence application's 33149 and 33150) and the Daly River Lithium Project (Exploration Licence application 33148), which have been officially recorded by the Northern Territory Mineral Titles office.

The project areas identified are highly prospective with proven hard rock lithium deposits and located within the Litchfield Pegmatite Belt – host to discoveries including the neighbouring Core Lithium Finnis Project, Lithium Plus, Charger Metals and others.

The Company has combined these tenements with the NT Lithium Project to form the NT "Supergroup" Lithium Project, and will conduct exploration activities as a combined group across the project area.

#### **Burracoppin Halloysite Project** (100% interest)

The Burracoppin Halloysite Project comprises recently granted exploration licences E70/5708 and E77/2774 (total of 68 blocks) located ~300 kilometres east of Perth in WA, and is prospective for halloysite and kaolinite. The project is located near Merredin, with port access easily accessible via the Great Eastern Highway. All services required for a low-cost operation are in close proximity.

The Company conducted drilling operations at the project, and planned the maiden wide-spaced air-core drilling program targeting the open strike extensions of the adjacent halloysite-kaolin deposit, with the aim to delineate a JORC mineral resource.

The first phase drilling program comprised 63 drill-site locations in a grid pattern based on 400 metre centres across the approved Program of Work area in tenement E70/5708, for a total of 1143 metres.

The drilling area covered approximately 5% of tenement E70/5708, with drill-chip logging data showing numerous significant intersections of white kaolinized granite from as shallow as 2m depth. These results also demonstrate continuity between drill-holes, with the wide-spaced drilling and the logged information indicating the mineralisation remains open in all directions.

Of the total metres drilled, 811m were considered to be comprised of kaolinitic material and have been sampled into composites based on colour variations for analysis. The composite samples have been received by the laboratory and are awaiting analysis. The Company will use these results for the preparation of a maiden JORC mineral resource estimate for the Project.

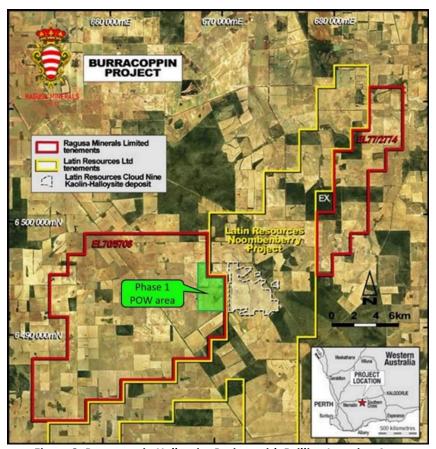


Figure 2. Burracoppin Halloysite Project with Drilling Location Area

The project area adjoins Latin Resources Ltd ("Latin") Noombenberry Halloysite Project, and specifically the Cloud Nine deposit, where Latin have estimated a global Inferred Mineral Resource of 207 million tonnes of kaolinised granite, comprising 123 million tonnes of bright white kaolin-bearing material and 84 million tonnes of kaolin/halloysite-bearing material (refer to Latin's Maiden Inferred Mineral Resource announcement on 31 May 2021<sup>1</sup>), with the potential for the strike extension to extend into the Burracoppin Halloysite Project area.

## Monte Cristo Gold Project (100% interest)

The Monte Cristo Gold Project comprises 500 granted claims (tenements), totalling 323.74km², located in Alaska, USA. The Project is located within the vicinity of multi-million ounce gold projects discovered by Nova Minerals Ltd (Korbel deposit 8.1m oz Au² and RPM deposit 1.5m oz Au³) and GoldMining Inc (Whistler and Raintree deposits with combined 4.8m oz Au⁴).

The Project area contains four historical prospects – Monte Cristo, St Eugene, Old Man Breccia and Old Man Diorite – and these will be priority exploration targets to conduct future exploration work. The Company will also conduct works to determine any geological similarities from the adjacent recently discovered 1.5 million ounce RPM gold deposit and the 8.1 million ounce Korbel gold deposit within the neighbouring Estelle Gold Project.

The recent targeting exercise review and management site visit formalised planning of the 2022 field exploration program and to assess mineral prospectivity relative to the nearby multi-million ounce gold projects, and identify potential new prospects in proximity to the recent RPM discovery (which is located in close proximity to Ragusa's project area).

The Company conducted works on the Old Man Breccia and Old Man Diorite prospects, and completed an airborne geophysical survey over this area, with data processing, analysis and interpretation works currently being conducted.

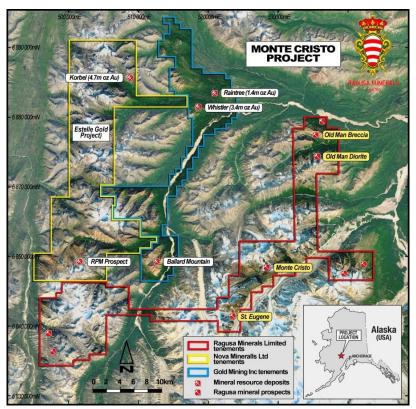


Figure 3. Monte Cristo Gold Project Location

The Company is preparing to conduct exploration field works, with its experienced and specialist Alaskanbased geological consultants, and ensure the most effective development strategy for the project.

## Lonely Mine Gold Project (100% interest)

The Lonely Mine Gold Project is located ~88km north of Bulawayo, within the Bubi Greenstone Belt, in Zimbabwe. The Project covers greenstone belt lithology with multiple sub-parallel shear zones that host the historical Lonely and Tiberius gold mines and several other former mines, with similar geology as globally accepted Archean successions from Canada, Australia and South Africa.

#### Covid-19 Update

Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, the Company is taking appropriate safety measures and actions to protect our staff and business operations, including precautions advised and regulated by Government.

First and foremost, our priority is the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff, partners and community, and as such, the Company is actively monitoring the Covid-19 situation.

# Corporate

The Company is in a strong financial position with cash reserves of ~\$2.5 million (as at 30 June 2022), and maintains prudent financial management.

Mr Olaf Frederickson has transitioned to an Executive Director role for the Company.



#### **Additional ASX Disclosure Information**

ASX Listing Rule 5.3.1: Costs incurred on exploration and evaluation of approximately \$458,000 during the quarter.

ASX Listing Rule 5.3.2: There were no substantive mining production and development activities during the quarter.

ASX Listing Rule 5.3.5: As outlined in Appendix 5B (section 6.1), approximately \$178,000 in payments were made to related parties of the Company and their associates during the quarter, this being for director fees, and company secretarial and accounting services.

#### **Schedule of Tenements**

The schedule of tenements held by the Company at the end of the Quarter is shown below. No tenements were disposed during the Quarter. The Company entered into an agreement to acquire an initial 90% interest in tenements EL28642, EL29731, EL30521, EL32671 & EL(A)32405 during the Quarter.

Tenement	Location	Beneficial Percentage held
Lonely Mine A (10632BM) <sup>A</sup>	Zimbabwe	100%
Tiberius 14 (33599) <sup>A</sup>	Zimbabwe	100%
Tiberius 32 (35732) <sup>A</sup>	Zimbabwe	100%
Tiberius 33 (35733) <sup>A</sup>	Zimbabwe	100%
E77/2774	Western Australia	100%
E70/5708	Western Australia	100%
ADL734900 (Cristo 1) - ADL735191 (Cristo 292) <sup>B</sup>	Alaska, USA	100%
ADL735363 (Cristo 293) - ADL735418 (Cristo 348) <sup>B</sup>	Alaska, USA	100%
ADL736052 (Cristo 349) <sup>B</sup>	Alaska, USA	100%
ADL735420 (Cristo 350) - ADL735570 (Cristo 500) <sup>B</sup>	Alaska, USA	100%
ELA 33148 - 33150	Northern Territory	100%
EL28642, EL29731, EL30521, EL32671 & EL(A)32405 <sup>C</sup>	Northern Territory	Earn-in to initial 90% interest and rights to 100% interest

A Interest in tenements held by Westwood Industrial Pvt Ltd (100% owned by Ragusa Minerals Ltd)

#### **ENDS**

This announcement has been authorised by Jerko Zuvela, the Company's Chairperson

For more information on Ragusa Minerals Limited and to subscribe for regular updates, please visit our website <a href="https://www.ragusaminerals.com.au">www.ragusaminerals.com.au</a> or contact us at <a href="mailto:admin@ragusaminerals.com.au">admin@ragusaminerals.com.au</a> or Twitter <a href="mailto:admin@ragusaminerals.com.au">admin@ragusaminerals.com.au</a> or Twitter <a href="mailto:adminerals.com.au">admin@ragusaminerals.com.au</a> or Twitter <a href="mailto:adminerals.com.au">adminerals.com.au</a> or contact us at <a href="mailto:adminerals.com.au">adminerals.com.au</a> or Twitter <a href="mailto:adminerals.com.au">adminerals.com.au</a> or adminerals.

## For further information:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>B</sup> Interest in tenements held by Stradun Alaska LLC (100% owned by Ragusa Minerals Ltd)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>C</sup> Interest in tenements held by May Drilling Pty Ltd



#### Reference to Previous ASX/TSX Releases:

This document refers to the following previous ASX/TSX releases:

- 1 March 2022 Monte Cristo Gold Project, Project Review Targets Au-Cu Mineralisation
- 14 March 2022 New Northern Territory Lithium Projects, Two Prospective Lithium Projects Near Core Lithium
- 4 May 2022 Burracoppin Halloysite Project, Maiden Drilling Program Completed
- 23 May 2022 Transformational New NT Lithium Project
- <sup>1</sup> 31 May 2021 Latin Resources Ltd (ASX: LRS), 207Mt Maiden Inferred (JORC 2012) Mineral Resource Estimate Noombenberry Kaolin-Halloysite Project, WA
- <sup>2</sup> 23 December 2021 Nova Minerals Ltd (ASX: NVA), Nova Minerals increases total gold resource estimate at Estelle Project by over 50% to 9.6 million ounces
- <sup>3</sup> 27 October 2021 Nova Minerals Ltd (ASX: NVA), Maiden Gold Resource of 1.5 Million Ounces at RPM North
- <sup>4</sup> 21 June 2021 Gold Mining Inc (TSX: GOLD), GoldMining Announces an Updated Mineral Resource Estimate for the Whistler Project, Alaska (release includes Raintree Project mineral resource estimate)

Ragusa confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement and, in the case of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. Ragusa confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

**Forward Looking Statements:** Statements regarding plans with respect to the Company's mineral properties are forward looking statements. There can be no assurance that the Company's plans for development of its mineral properties will proceed as expected. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to confirm the presence of mineral deposits, that any mineralisation will prove to be economic or that a mine will successfully be developed on any of the Company's mineral properties.

Competent Person's Statement: The information contained in this ASX release relating to Exploration Results for the NT "Supergroup" Lithium Project and Burracoppin Halloysite Project has been reviewed by Mr Olaf Frederickson. Mr Frederickson is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Frederickson is a Non-Executive Director of Ragusa Minerals Ltd and consents to the inclusion in this announcement of this information in the form and context in which it appears. The information in this announcement is an accurate representation of the available data from exploration at the Burracoppin Halloysite Project and historical exploration at the Litchfield Lithium Project, Daly River Lithium Project, and Monte Cristo Gold Project.

Competent Person's Statement: The information contained in this ASX release relating to Exploration Results for the Monte Cristo Project has been reviewed by Mr Jerko Zuvela. Mr Zuvela is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Zuvela is the Chairperson of Ragusa Minerals Ltd and consents to the inclusion in this announcement of this information in the form and context in which it appears. The information in this announcement is an accurate representation of the available data from exploration at the Monte Cristo Gold Project.

## ABOUT RAGUSA MINERALS LIMITED

Ragusa Minerals Limited (ASX: RAS) is an Australian company with 100% interest in the following projects – NT lithium Project, Litchfield Lithium Project and Daly River Lithium Project in Northern Territory, Burracoppin Halloysite Project in Western Australia, Lonely Mine Gold Project in Zimbabwe, and Monte Cristo Gold Project in Alaska.

The Company has an experienced board and management team with a history of exploration, operational and corporate success.

Ragusa leverages the team's energy, technical and commercial acumen to execute the Company's mission - to maximize shareholder value through focussed, data-driven, risk-weighted exploration and development of our assets.