

AUSTRALIAN RARE EARTHS LIMITED

Level 10, 111 Gawler Place Adelaide SA 5000 Australia

Phone: 1300 646 100 ABN 73 632 645 302

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

This statement reports on the main corporate governance practices of Australian Rare Earths Limited ("Company") as of 29 September 2023 and has been approved by the Board of the Company.

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the Company to monitor the business affairs of the Company and to protect the rights and interests of the shareholders. The Board believes that high standards of corporate governance are an essential prerequisite for creating sustainable value for shareholders.

This statement sets out the Company's central corporate governance policies and practices. All these practices, unless otherwise stated, were in place for the entire year ended 30 June 2023. The policies and practices are reported against the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the ASX Corporate Governance Council's Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations ("Principles and Recommendations").

Where the Company's compliance with the Principles and Recommendations is reflected in a separate document or policy, reference to the location of that document or policy is included in this statement.

References in this statement to "reporting period" are to the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

# Principle 1 – Lay solid foundations for management and oversight

### **Recommendation 1.1: Role of Board and Management**

A listed entity should have and disclose a board charter setting out:

- (a) the respective roles and responsibilities of its board and management; and
- (b) those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management.

**Recommendation followed**. The role of the Board is to approve the strategic direction of the Company, guide and monitor the management of the Company and its businesses and oversee the implementation of appropriate corporate governance concerning the Company's affairs. The Board aims to protect and enhance its shareholders' interests while taking into account the interests of other stakeholders, including employees, customers, suppliers, and the wider community.

The Company's Board Charter documents the Board's and management's respective roles and responsibilities and the relevant delegations of authority. A copy of the Board Charter is available on our website at www.ar3.com.au

## **Recommendation 1.2: Appointment of Directors and Senior Executives**

A listed entity should:

- (a) undertake appropriate checks before appointing a Director or senior executive, or putting someone forward for election as a director; and
- (b) provide security holders with all material information in its possession relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a director.

**Recommendation followed**. Before the appointment of a senior executive, or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election as a director, the Company undertakes checks which it believes are appropriate to verify a director's character, experience, education, criminal record and bankruptcy history and for new directors, including, but not limited to the following:

- Background and reference checking.
- Obtaining information concerning the person's current and previous positions, directorships, bankruptcy history and any potential conflicts of interest.

The Company ensures that all material information relevant to a shareholder's decision whether or not to elect or re-elect a Director, including the information referred to in Recommendation 1.2, is provided to shareholders in the Company's Notice of Annual General Meeting and Annual Report.



## **Recommendation 1.3: Appointment Terms**

A listed entity should have a written agreement with each Director and senior executive setting out the terms of their appointment.

**Recommendation followed**. Each Director and senior executive of the Company has an agreement in writing with the Company. The agreement sets out the key terms and conditions of their appointment, including their duties, rights and responsibilities and (to the extent applicable) the matters referred to in the commentary to Recommendation 1.3.

# **Recommendation 1.4: Company Secretary**

The company secretary of a listed entity should be accountable directly to the Board, through the chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company Secretary has a direct line of reporting to the Chairman and is responsible for:

- advising and supporting the Chairman and the Board and its committees to manage the day to day governance framework of the Company;
- assisting with Board effectiveness by monitoring whether applicable Board and committee policies, procedures and charters are followed and coordinating timely completion and dispatch of Board agendas and papers; and
- assisting with all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board, including advising on governance matters and assisting with induction and professional development of directors.

The responsibilities of the Company Secretary are set out in the Board Charter referenced in this Statement.

### **Recommendation 1.5: Diversity Policy**

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose a diversity policy;
- (b) through its board or a committee of the board set measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity in the composition of its Board, senior executives and workforce generally; and
- (c) disclose in relation to each reporting period:
  - (1) the measurable objectives set for that period to achieve gender diversity;
  - (2) the entity's progress towards achieving those objectives; and
  - (3) either:
    - the respective proportions of men and women on the Board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation (including how the entity has defined "senior executive" for these purposes); or
    - if the entity is a "relevant employer" under the Workplace Gender Equality Act, the entity's most recent "Gender Equality Indicators", as defined in and published under that Act.

**Recommendation partially followed.** The Company has adopted a Diversity Policy that provides a framework for establishing and achieving measurable diversity objectives, including gender diversity. The Diversity Policy allows the Board to set measurable gender diversity objectives if considered appropriate and annually assess the objectives (if any have been set) and the Company's progress in achieving them.

The Diversity Policy is available on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>

The Company's policy prioritises securing the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience for workforce and Board roles whilst acknowledging the importance of diversity in delivering strong performance for shareholders. The Company at all times seeks to align its management system with its commitment to a culture that values and



achieves diversity. The Company also believes that inclusion should be driven by culture (we want to) rather than by policy (we have to).

The Board and management consider building a diverse and inclusive workforce is paramount to gaining the best insight into the needs of customers and stakeholders. A diversity of perspectives and backgrounds also strengthens creativity and innovation in teams. The Company is aware of the benefits of gender diversity and is committed to ensuring female participation is reflected at all levels of the organisation.

Developing further specific measurable gender objectives at this time is premature for the Company. The Company is still in the early stages of mineral resource development and while the timeline for its transition to commercial development is being progressed much remains to be done. AR3 has a very small team of employees and has its specialist work undertaken as required from time to time by specific consultants or contractors. Until such time as its major project moves into construction, commissioning, and commercial production, the Company will have a very limited ability to influence the gender balance and diversity of its broader and temporary workforce.

In the current challenging employment market with the lowest unemployment levels in 50 years, any Company mandates or directives requiring contractors to have a certain gender percentage may be counter to shareholders' best interests with contractors either being unable to provide gender balanced skillsets at the required time from the contractor or without a cost premium.

AR3 will be able to confidently set such objectives during construction and the operational readiness stage when the Company will determine the composition of its workforce.

Notwithstanding this, the Company strives to provide the best possible opportunities for current and prospective employees of all backgrounds in such a manner which reflects the values, principles and spirit of the Diversity Policy. The directors also believe that diversity is a relevant consideration for constitution of an effective Board, as discussed at Recommendation 2.2.

The Board will continue to assess the feasibility of any measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity and will annually review any such objectives and the Company's progress towards achieving them. The Board reviews at least annually the relative proportion of women and men appointed or employed within the Company group and reports this in the Company's Corporate Governance Statement each year.

The total proportion of men and women on the Board, in senior positions and across the whole organisation as at 14 June 2023 is listed below:

Category	Total positions	Held by women	Held by Men	% held by women
Board	5	1	4	20%
Senior managers <sup>1</sup>	3	1	2	33%
Other employees	5	3	2	60%
Total organisation	13	5	8	38%

Note 1: A senior manager includes the Chief Executive Officer and managers reporting directly to the CEO who are not on the Board.

The Company was not in the ASX S&P 300 Index at the commencement of the reporting period.

# **Recommendation 1.6: Board Performance Assessment**

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of the Board, its committees and individual Directors; and
- (b) disclose for each reporting period whether a performance evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with that process during or in respect of that period.



**Recommendation followed.** The Board is committed to formally evaluating its performance, the performance of its Committees and individual Directors.

The Board Charter details the Company's commitment, responsibility and process to evaluate the performance of the Board, individual Directors, the Chairperson and Committees of the Board. The Board Charter is available on the Company website: www.ar3.com.au.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee reviews the process for the evaluation of the Board, Directors and Committees and assists the Chairman of the Board to manage the process as requested.

The Board is responsible for the evaluation of its performance and the performance of individual Directors. This evaluation shall involve evaluating the performance of each Director against appropriate measures (including if warranted by considering the use of external advisers to conduct this performance review). The Board is also responsible for evaluating the performance of the Non-Executive Directors, including the Chairperson, against the requirements of the Board Charter. The Board must also set out its future goals and objectives, and review and recommend any changes to the Board Charter deemed necessary or desirable. The performance evaluation shall be conducted in such manner as the Board deems appropriate.

The review of the Board's performance also addresses the ability for Directors to access continuing education to update and enhance their skills and knowledge as they relate to the Company's strategy and objectives.

This evaluation is currently conducted annually via a formal self-assessment. The process is managed by the Company Secretary at the direction of the Chairman. From time to time and as deemed necessary, the Company, at the direction of the Chairman, may undertake to have its performance evaluation process facilitated externally.

During the reporting period, a performance evaluation of the Board was undertaken by the Company according to the process described above.

#### Recommendation 1.7: Senior Executive Performance Assessment

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose a process for evaluating the performance of its senior executives at least once every reporting period; and
- (b) disclose for each reporting period whether a performance evaluation was undertaken in accordance with that process during or in respect of that process.

**Recommendation followed.** The Board Charter details the process for evaluation of senior executives. The Board Charter is available on the Company website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

The Board reviews the performance of the Chief Executive Officer at least annually. The Chief Executive Officer's performance is assessed against key performance indicators (KPIs) set by the Board. The KPIs consider criteria such as the achievement and performance towards the Company's objectives and (where appropriate) performance benchmarks and the achievement of individual performance objectives.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee annually reviews the Chief Executive Officer's performance against Company and individual short term key performance indicators, long term objectives and performance hurdles and make recommendations to the Board as to the quantum of performance based awards.

The Chief Executive Officer reviews the performance of the senior executives at least annually. These evaluations will take into account criteria such as the achievement and performance the Company's objectives and (where appropriate) performance benchmarks and the achievement of the individual performance objectives. The Board recognises the need for flexibility in defining performance objectives so that they reflect the current status of the Company and the development of its projects.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee reviews the Chief Executive Officer's annual performance assessment of his direct managerial reports and considers his/her recommendations as to their quantum of any performance based awards.

An evaluation of the performance of the Company's senior executives was carried out in accordance with the above process during the reporting period.



## Principle 2 – Structure the Board to be effective and add value

### **Recommendation 2.1: Nomination Committee**

The board of a listed entity should:

- (a) have a nomination committee which:
  - (i) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors;
  - (ii) is chaired by an independent Director,

## and disclose:

- (iii) the charter of the committee;
- (iv) the members of the committee; and
- (v) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) if it does not have a nomination committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs to address board succession issues and to ensure that the board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company has established a Remuneration & Nomination Committee comprising three members, all of whom are Non-Executive Directors and with the majority (two of three) being independent Directors. The Remuneration & Nomination Committee is chaired by an independent Non-Executive Director who is not the Chairperson of the Board.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee comprises:

Ms Pauline Carr Independent Non-Executive Director (Committee Chair)

Mr Dudley Kingsnorth Independent Non-Executive Director

Mr Bryn Jones Non-Executive Director

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee Charter is available on the Company's website: www.ar3.com.au

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee members (who are also Directors of the Company) and their relevant qualifications and experience, the number of times the Remuneration & Nomination Committee met throughout the reporting period and the attendance of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee members at those meetings are set out in the Company's Annual Report.

# **Recommendation 2.2: Board Skills Matrix**

A listed entity should have and disclose a board skills matrix setting out the mix of skills that the Board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership.

**Recommendation followed.** The Board believes that it is good governance for an organisation to create a Board skills matrix and sees it as a means of identifying the competencies and skills desired by the Board as a whole to fulfil its role and in light of an organisation's strategic direction.

It is the Board's view that it collectively possesses an appropriate mix of relevant skills, experience, expertise and diversity to enable the Board to discharge its responsibilities and deliver the Company's strategic objectives.

The Board, with the assistance of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee, periodically evaluates the Board composition and believes that a highly credentialed Board, with a range of backgrounds, skills, and perspectives, will effectively support and enable good governance for the Company and deliver value for the Company's shareholders.

At the end of the reporting period, the Board comprised five Directors. Biographical information on each Director is contained in the Annual Report and on the Company's website. To the extent that specialist skills are not directly represented on the Board, they are augmented through the Company's management and external advisors.



The Company was listed on the ASX on 1 July 2021 and as at the date of this statement, the Board had undertaken an inaugural formal Board skills inventory so as to form a view on the sufficiency of the Board's collective skills and to assist it with longer term Board planning. The Board's desired mix of skills and competencies is listed below.

The Board considers its current composition collectively meets these competencies and is conscious that its skills needs may vary over time as the Company develops and commences mining and processing activities.

Area	Competency
Leadership and Governance	Business and executive leadership, ASX listed company and Board experience, regulatory compliance and governance
Business and Finance	Accounting, commercial expertise, business development and acquisitions, strategy, capital management, project financing, financial literacy, risk management
Sustainability and Stakeholder Management	Community relations, environment, health & safety, people and culture, remuneration, investor relations
Technical	Exploration and geology, research and innovation, engineering, metallurgy, mineral processing, project development, mine construction, contractor management.
Commodity expertise	Rare earth sector and marketing experience
Geographic expertise	Australia and South Australia

## **Recommendation 2.3: Independent Directors**

A listed entity should disclose:

- (a) the names of the directors considered by the board to be independent Directors;
- (b) if a director has an interest, position, association or relationship of the type described in Box 2.3 but the board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the Director, the nature of the interest, position or relationship in question and an explanation of why the Board is of that opinion; and
- (c) the length of service of each Director.

**Recommendation followed.** An independent Director is a non-executive director who is not a member of management and free from any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with, or could reasonably be perceived to materially interfere with, the independent exercise of judgement. The Board considers the independence of Directors having regard to the relationships listed in Box 2.3 of the Principles and Recommendations.

The Board, with the assistance of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee, regularly assesses the independence of each non-executive director in light of the information which each director is required to disclose concerning any material contract or other relationship with the Company per the Director's terms of appointment, the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and the Board Charter.

The current structure and composition of the Board as at the date of this report is set out below. Three out of the five directors in office as at the date of this report are considered independent.

Directors as at Sept 2023	Position	Appointment Date	Status
Professor Dudley Kingsnorth	Chairman	11 December 2020	Independent
Pauline Carr	Non-Executive Director	15 October 2021	Independent
Angus Barker	Non-Executive Director	2 March 2023	Independent
Bryn Jones	Non-Executive Director	1 April 2019	Non-Independent
Rick Pobjoy	Technical Director	28 February 2020	Non- Independent



The Board considers that Professor Kingsnorth, Mr Barker and Ms Carr are free from any business or any other relationship that could materially interfere with, or reasonably be perceived to interfere with, the exercise of unfettered and independent judgement and can fulfil the role of independent Directors for the purpose of the Principles and Recommendations.

The Board does not consider Mr Pobjoy to be independent given his position as an executive director and a substantial shareholder of the Company.

The Board does not consider Mr Jones to be independent given he is a substantial shareholder in the Company.

# **Recommendation 2.4: Majority Independence**

A majority of the board of a listed entity should be independent directors.

**Recommendation followed.** As of this Statement date, the Board is comprised of a majority number of independent directors. Three of the five Company's directors are deemed independent. The Board's Chairman is also independent.

The current Board composition reflects an appropriate balance of skills, expertise, and experience to fulfil its obligations to act in the Company's best interests and all stakeholders. The Board also considers that appropriate safeguards are in place, including policies and protocols to ensure independent thought and decision making.

As stated above at Recommendation 2.3, Mr Pobjoy and Mr Jones are deemed not to be independent.

Professor Kingsnorth, Mr Barker and Ms Carr are regarded as independent as they are free of any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with, or could reasonably be perceived to interfere with, the exercise of their unfettered and independent judgment.

### **Recommendation 2.5: Board Chair**

The chair of the board of a listed entity should be an independent director and, in particular, should not be the same person as the CEO of the entity.

**Recommendation followed.** The Chairperson of the Board is an independent Director as described in Recommendation 2.3 and is not the current CEO or previous CEO of the Company.

# **Recommendation 2.6: Induction, Education and Training**

A listed entity should have a program for inducting new directors and for periodically reviewing whether there is a need for existing directors to undertake professional development to maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as Directors effectively.

**Recommendation followed.** Upon joining the Board new directors are provided with a comprehensive induction which includes meetings with the Chairman, the Managing Director (or equivalent) and senior executives/management as appropriate as well as site visits and the provision of relevant documents and policies governing the Company's business, operations, and management.

All Directors are expected to maintain the skills required to discharge their obligations to the Company effectively. Directors are encouraged to undertake continuing professional education and, if this involves industry seminars and approved education courses, where appropriate, this is paid for by the Company.

Directors' skills, knowledge, and opportunities for continuing education and development are considered annually

The Board, with the assistance of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee, periodically reviews whether there is a need for existing Directors undertake professional development to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their roles as Directors effectively.



# Principle 3 – Instill a culture of acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly

### **Recommendation 3.1: Statement of Values**

A listed entity should articulate and disclose its values.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company's Board Charter and Code of Conduct articulates and discloses its values. The Company's Board Charter and Code of Conduct are available on the Company's website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

## **Recommendation 3.2: Code of Conduct**

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose a code of conduct for its directors, senior executives and employees; and
- (b) ensure that the Board or a committee of the Board is informed of any material breaches of that code.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company is committed to instilling and continually reinforcing a culture across the organisation of acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly in all business practices. Accordingly, the Company has a Code of Conduct that sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all its employees, directors, officers, contractors and consultants.

The Code of Conduct, including practices necessary to maintain confidence in the Company's integrity, the practices necessary to take into account their legal obligations and the reasonable expectations of their stakeholders, to support and reinforce the Company's stated values, can be found on the Company website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

Any breach of compliance with the Code of Conduct is to be reported to:

- an officer or senior manager of the Company;
- the Managing Director (or equivalent);
- Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Committee; or
- the Company Secretary

Any material breaches of the Code of Conduct will be reported to the Audit & Risk Management Committee.

# **Recommendation 3.3: Whistleblower Policy**

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose a whistleblower policy; and
- (b) ensure that the board or a committee of the board is informed of any material incidents reported under that policy.

**Recommendation followed.** The Whistleblower Policy demonstrates that the Company is committed to the highest standards of conduct and ethical behaviour in all of its business activities. The Company supports a culture of honest and ethical behaviour in ensuring good corporate compliance and governance.

The Company's Whistleblower Policy encourages employees to speak up about any unlawful, unethical or irresponsible behaviour.

A copy of the Company's Whistleblower Policy can be found on the Company's website: <a href="www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a> .

In accordance with the Whistleblower Policy, the Board will be informed of any material incidents reported under the Whistleblower Policy.

For the purposes of the Whistleblower Policy, all reports are to be made to the Protected Disclosure Officer, who in respect of the Company, is the Chairman of the Board.



## **Recommendation 3.4: Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy**

A listed entity should:

- (a) have and disclose an anti-bribery and corruption policy; and
- (b) ensure that the board or a committee of the Board is informed of any material incidents reported under that policy.

**Recommendation followed.** The Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy demonstrates that the Company is committed to maintaining high integrity and accountability standards in conducting its business. The Company's Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy can be accessed on its website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

This Policy aims to establish controls to ensure compliance with all applicable anti-bribery and corruption regulations and ensure that the Company's business is conducted in a socially responsible manner. The Policy provides information and guidance to employees on recognising and dealing with bribery and corruption issues.

In accordance with the Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy, the Board will be informed of any material incidents reported under the Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy.

Under the Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy, all Company Personnel must report any actual or suspected improper conduct or other violation of this Policy to the relevant person identified in this Policy, being the Managing Director (or equivalent) or the Company Secretary.

# Principle 4 – Safeguard the integrity of corporate reports

## **Recommendation 4.1: Audit Committee**

The board of a listed entity should:

- (a) have an audit committee which:
  - (1) has at least three members, all of whom are non-executive Directors and a majority of whom are independent Directors; and
  - (2) is chaired by an independent Director, who is not the chair of the Board,

and disclose:

- (3) the charter of the committee;
- (4) the relevant qualifications and experience of the members of the committee; and
- (5) in relation to each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) if it does not have an audit committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of its corporate reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removal of the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company has established an Audit & Risk Management Committee (Committee) comprises three members, all of whom are Non-Executive Directors and majority (two of three) are independent Directors. The Committee is chaired an Independent Non-Executive Director who is not the Chairperson of the Board.

The Audit & Risk Management Committee comprises:

Ms Pauline Carr Independent, Non-Executive Director (Chairperson of the Committee)
Mr Dudley Kingsnorth Independent, Non-Executive Director

Mr Angus Barker independent, Non-Executive Director

The Audit & Risk Management Committee Charter is available on the Company's website: www.ar3.com.au.

The Committee's members (who are also Directors of the company) and their relevant qualifications and experience, the number of times the Committee met throughout the reporting period and the attendance of the Committee's members at those meetings are set out in the Company's Annual Report.



### **Recommendation 4.2: Assurances**

The board of a listed entity should, before it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its Chief Executive Officer and CFO a declaration that, in their opinion, the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity and that the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.

**Recommendation followed.** For the Company's periodic financial reporting, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer provide a declaration to the Board that, in their opinion, the financial records of the Company have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Company and that their opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.

The Board has received a declaration in the form set out in Recommendation 4.2 from its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concerning the financial statements for the reporting period.

# Recommendation 4.3: Verification of integrity of periodic corporate reports

A listed entity discloses its process to verify the integrity of any periodic corporate report it releases to the market that is not audited or reviewed by an external auditor.

### Recommendation followed.

The Company ensures that any periodic corporate report it releases to the market that is not audited or reviewed by an external auditor undergoes review by its Chief Financial Officer and where appropriate other technical experts.

# Principle 5 – Make timely and balanced disclosure

## **Recommendation 5.1: Continuous Disclosure Policy**

A listed entity should have and disclose a written policy for complying with its continuous disclosure obligations under the listing rule 3.1.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company is committed to providing information to shareholders and the market in a manner consistent with the meaning and intention of the ASX Listing Rules and the Corporations Act.

To comply with these obligations, the Company has a Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy that outlines the processes followed by the Company to ensure compliance with its continuous disclosure obligations and the corporate governance standards applied by the Company in its communications to the market.

The Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy is located on the Company's website at: www.ar3.com.au .

The Board is committed to promoting investor confidence by ensuring that trading in the Company's securities takes place in an efficient, competitive and informed market and in compliance with our Securities Trading Policy (as applicable). Following continuous disclosure obligations under the ASX Listing Rules, the Company has procedures to ensure that all price sensitive information is identified, reviewed by management and disclosed to the ASX in a timely manner. The Company website includes a link to all information disclosed to the ASX.

## Recommendation 5.2: Provide Board with copies of all material market announcements

A listed entity should ensure that its board receives copies of all material market announcements promptly after they have been made.

**Recommendation followed.** Under the Company's Board Charter, the Board is responsible for overseeing the continuous disclosure process to ensure timely and balanced disclosures and ensuring that the Company has an effective communication process with shareholders, other stakeholders and the public.

The Company Secretary ensures that the Board promptly receives copies of all material market announcements after they have been made.



### **Recommendation 5.3: Investor Presentations**

A listed entity that gives a new and substantive investor or analyst presentation should release a copy of the presentation materials on the ASX Market Announcements Platform ahead of the presentation.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company ensures that it releases copies of all results, presentations, and other substantive investor or analyst presentations in advance on the ASX Market Announcements Platform, ensuring equality of information among investors.

## Principle 6 – Respect the rights of security holders

### **Recommendation 6.1: Information and Governance**

A listed entity should provide information about itself and its governance to investors via its website.

**Recommendation followed.** Information about the Company and its operations is available on the Company website: www.ar3.com.au

Information about the Company's corporate governance (including links to the Company's corporate governance policies and charters) can be accessed from the Company website: <a href="www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

### **Recommendation 6.2: Investor Relations**

A listed entity should have an investor relations program to facilitates effective two-way communication with investors.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company endeavors to communicate with shareholders and other stakeholders in an open, regular and timely manner so that the market has sufficient information to make informed investment decisions.

Through its shareholder communications, the Company aims to provide information that will allow existing shareholders, potential shareholders and financial analysts to make informed decisions about the Company's and meet its obligations under the ASX's continuous disclosure regime.

The Company's Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy outlines the processes followed by the Company to ensure communication with shareholders and the investment community is effective, consistent and adheres to the principles of continuous disclosure. The Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy is located on the company's website at: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

## **Recommendation 6.3: Shareholder Meeting Participation**

A listed entity should disclose how it facilitates and encourages participation at meetings of security holders.

**Recommendation followed.** Shareholders are forwarded the Company's Annual Report if requested (otherwise made available on the Company's website), and documents relating to each general meeting, the notice of meeting, any explanatory memorandum and a proxy form, and shareholders are invited to attend these meetings.

The Board regards each general meeting as an important opportunity to communicate with shareholders. It provides an essential forum for shareholders to ask questions about the Company, its strategy and performance. At shareholder meetings, the Company will provide an opportunity for shareholders and other stakeholders to hear from and ask questions of the Board, management and the external auditor (if applicable).

The Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy sets out the policies and processes the Company has in place to facilitate and encourage participation at meetings of security holders. The Company permits shareholders to cast their proxies before a general meeting if they cannot attend the meeting.

## Recommendation 6.4: All substantive resolutions at a security holder meeting are decided by poll

A listed entity should ensure that all substantive resolutions at a meeting of security holders are decided by a poll rather than by a show of hands.

**Recommendation followed.** During the reporting period, all resolutions at security holder meetings were decided by poll. The Company's share registrar conducts the poll.



#### Recommendation 6.5: Electronic communications with shareholders

A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company gives security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the Company and its security registry electronically, as provided for in the Company's Continuous Disclosure & Communications Policy.

Shareholders are encouraged to take advantage of the benefits of electronic communications by electing to receive communication from the Company and its share registry electronically. Shareholders may send their communications preference to the share registry electronically through one of its means of communication available on https://www-au.computershare.com.

# Principle 7 – Recognise and manage risk

# **Recommendation 7.1: Risk Committee**

The board of a listed entity should:

- (a) have a committee or committees to oversee risk, each of which:
  - (1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and
  - (2) is chaired by an independent director,

and disclose:

- (3) the charter of the committee;
- (4) the members of the committee; and
- (5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) if it does not have risk committee or committees that satisfy (a) above, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for overseeing the entity's risk management framework.

**Recommendation followed.** The Board has established an Audit & Risk Management Committee ("Committee") to oversee financial, operational and other Company risks. The chair of the Committee is an independent Non-Executive Director and is not the Chair of the Board.

The Committee comprises three members. All three members are non-executive directors. Two of the members are independent directors. One member is an not considered independent by virtue of his position as a substantial shareholder of the Company.

The Committee's members and their relevant qualifications and experience, the number of times the Committee met throughout the reporting period, and the Committee members' attendance at those meetings is set out in the Annual Report for the reporting period.

The Company's Audit & Risk Management Committee Charter is located on the Company's website at: www.ar3.com.au.

## **Recommendation 7.2: Risk Management Framework**

The board or a committee of the board should:

- (a) review the entity's risk management framework at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound and that the entity is operating with due regard to the risk appetite set by the board; and
- (b) disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether such a review has taken place.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company's risk management framework is supported by the Board of directors, management and the Audit & Risk Management Committee.



The Company's Risk Management Policy sets the framework for risk management and review of the risk management framework. The Policy includes procedures to analyse risks within agreed parameters across the Company and ensure the Company has an appropriate risk management framework to adequately measure its risk profile on an ongoing basis.

The Board is responsible for approving and reviewing the Company's risk management strategy and policy. Management is responsible for monitoring and ensuring that appropriate processes and controls are in place to effectively and efficiently manage risk. Management is responsible for monitoring compliance with and the effectiveness of risk management systems and controls.

The Company's Risk Management Policy requires the Board to, at least annually and assisted by the Audit & Risk Management Committee, undertake a structured consideration and review of the risk management framework and the material risks faced by the Company.

The Risk Management Policy is located on the Company's website at: www.ar3.com.au

During the reporting period, the Board, assisted by the Audit & Risk Management Committee has completed a review of the Company's risk management framework, risk appetite statement and key corporate risks in accordance with the Audit & Risk Management Committee Charter. Furthermore, the Board as a whole addresses individual and emerging risks as required on an ongoing basis.

### **Recommendation 7.3: Internal Audit**

A listed entity should disclose:

- (a) if it has an internal audit function, how the function is structured and what role it performs; or
- (b) if it does not have an internal audit function, that fact and the processes it employs for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of its risk management and internal control processes.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company is committed to understanding and managing risk and to establishing an organisational culture that ensures risk management is included in all activities, decision making and business processes.

Due to its small size, lack of complexity and given that it is in the exploration phase of its lifecycle, the Company does not currently have an in-house internal audit function. Instead reports and reviews into the effectiveness of internal controls are commissioned as required using internal and external specialist resources. During the reporting period an assessment on the effectiveness of internal controls was provided by the Company's external auditor as part of the year- end audit.

Under the Company's Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter, the Audit and Risk Management Committee is charged with the review of the Company's governance, risk management and internal control processes.

A copy of the Company's Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter and the Risk Management Policy is available on the Company website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

## Recommendation 7.4: Environmental and Social Risks

A listed entity should disclose whether it has any material exposure to environmental or social risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.

**Recommendation followed**. The Company undertakes minerals and materials development activities and, as such, faces risks inherent to its business, including economic, environmental and social sustainability risks, which may materially impact the Company's ability to create or preserve value for security holders over the short, medium or long term.

One of the Company's core values is safety; it prioritises safety and health to people, the environment and community. The Company views sustainable and responsible business practices as an important long-term driver of performance and shareholder value and is committed to transparency, fair dealing, responsible treatment of employees and partners and positive interaction with the community.



The Company predominantly operates in Australia, which is a mature and well-regulated mining jurisdiction. As part of the Company's mining development approvals process, the Company must adhere to strict environmental and social regulations.

The Company's Risk Management Policy acknowledges that it has an obligation to shareholders, employees, contractors, and other stakeholders to oversee the establishment and implementation of a risk management strategy, and monitor, review and evaluate the risk management and internal control systems for the Company.

The Company's Sustainability Report provides further disclosure in regard to the Company's sustainability practices and performance. The Sustainability Report is available on the Company website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

# Principle 8 – Remunerate fairly and responsibly

### **Recommendation 8.1: Remuneration Committee**

The board of a listed entity should:

- (a) have a remuneration committee which:
  - (1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and
  - (2) is chaired by an independent director,

and disclose:

- (3) the charter of the committee;
- (4) the members of the committee; and
- (5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) if it does not have remuneration committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for setting the level and composition of remuneration for directors and senior executives and ensuring that remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.

**Recommendation followed**. The Company has a Remuneration & Nomination Committee comprising three members, all of whom are non-executive Directors. The majority (two of three) are independent directors. The Remuneration & Nomination Committee is chaired by an independent non-executive director who is not the Chairperson of the Board.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee comprises:

Ms Pauline Carr Independent, Non-Executive Director (Committee Chair)

• Mr Dudley Kingsnorth Independent, Non-Executive Director

Mr Bryn Jones Non-Executive Director

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee Charter is available on the Company website: www.ar3.com.au.

The Remuneration & Nomination Committee members (who are also Directors of the Company) and their relevant qualifications and experience, the number of times the Remuneration & Nomination Committee met throughout the reporting period and the attendance of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee members at those meetings are set out in the Company's Annual Report.

# **Recommendation 8.2: Remuneration Policies and Practices**

A listed entity should separately disclose its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other senior executives.

**Recommendation followed**. The Company's policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other senior executives are set out in the Remuneration Report contained in the Company's Annual Report. A copy of the Company's Annual Report is located on the Company's website.



# **Recommendation 8.3: Equity Based Remuneration Scheme**

A listed entity which has an equity-based remuneration scheme should:

- (a) have a policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme; and
- (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.

**Recommendation followed.** The Company has an equity-based remuneration scheme consisting of an Employee Option Plan and a Performance Rights Plan. The Company's Securities Trading Policy provides that participants in the scheme must not enter into any transactions or arrangements which limit the economic risk of participating in unvested entitlements under any equity based remuneration schemes. The Securities Trading Policy is available on the Company's website: <a href="https://www.ar3.com.au">www.ar3.com.au</a>.

Approved by the Board on 29 September 2023