



**CENTREX**

**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

**9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

## **ARDMORE OPERATIONS & STAGE 1.5 EXPANSION UPDATE**

Centrex Limited (ASX: CXM) ('Centrex' or 'the Company') provides the following update for the Ardmore Rock Phosphate Mine ('Ardmore'), 100% owned by its wholly owned subsidiary, Agriflex Pty Ltd ('Agriflex').

### **BENEFICIATED PHOSPHATE CONCENTRATE SUCCESSFULLY SHIPPED**

Centrex is pleased to announce that it has successfully shipped ~10,002t of beneficiated phosphate concentrate to an Asian customer. The product was loaded aboard vessel on 6 May and departed Townsville Port on the night of 7 May. The vessel, *Silver Lady*, originally due for departure in late April, was delayed due to poor weather at a previous port.



*Image 1: Beneficiated phosphate concentrate in hold aboard vessel, 7<sup>th</sup> May.*

## RECORD MONTHLY CRUSHING, PRODUCTION & HARVESTING ACHIEVED FOR APRIL

The Company is pleased to report the following reconciled monthly metrics for the Ardmore mine:

Mine Production	Reconciled WMT at 3.5% Moisture
Pit to ROM Mined Ore	41,735
Crushed Ore -4mm	28,571
Process Plant Produced Concentrate	18,578
Harvested from Drying Pad	15,289

Significantly, the above numbers represent a record for the Company across the crushed ore, produced concentrate, and harvested categories, which is a result of its ongoing Stage 1.5 Expansion activities. Mining & production activities are expected to continue increasing as the Company prepares for making progressively larger shipments throughout CY2024.

At the end of April, load containers were 39 at site, 63 at Mt Isa and 588 in Townsville, with an average weight of ~24.52t per container. Of the inventory held at Townsville at the end of April, ~10,002t was subsequently loaded aboard vessel for sale on 6-7 May.

Significantly, stockpiles at Ardmore have continued to grow consistently, up from ~72kt at the end of September to ~157kt by the end of March (~118% growth). Stockpiles represent a significant forward investment for the Company as part of its ongoing ramp up initiatives.

## ANTICIPATED SALES FOR THE REMAINDER OF CY2024

As previously announced<sup>1</sup>, the Company currently projects achieving sales of +55,000t of beneficiated phosphate concentrate for Q2 CY2024. The Company's next planned shipment is scheduled for 17 May 2024. A record shipment of approximately 25,000t of beneficiated phosphate concentrate is scheduled for late June as part of sales forecast for Q2 CY2024, but may occur in early July, subject to ship Laycan. Pleasingly, the Company has already stockpiled the remaining beneficiated phosphate concentrate needed to complete its scheduled shipments for Q2 CY2024.

The planned sharp increase in quarter-on-quarter sales growth is underpinned by the Company's ongoing Stage 1.5 Expansion activities at Ardmore,<sup>2</sup> which are expected to translate into significant improvements in the Company's operating margins.

## STAGE 1.5 EXPANSION PROGRESS UPDATE

The Company's focus remains on generating larger and more frequent shipments for the purposes of lifting revenues, enhancing operating margins and reducing operating costs on a per ton basis. Central to these goals is the successful implementation of the Stage 1.5 Expansion at Ardmore. Stage 1.5 Expansion initiatives that have already been successfully implemented include the introduction of a night shift for the processing plant (commenced 23 April), and the introduction of night shift waste removal (commenced 1 April).

Notably, as part of the previously announced work scheduled for the Stage 1.5 Expansion<sup>3</sup>, the Company has completed the purchase of additional cyclone banks. These cyclone banks are expected to enhance plant separation and efficiency and are scheduled for installation during Q2 CY2024.

<sup>1</sup> See ASX announcement on 24 April 2024, "Quarterly Activities Report – March 2024"

<sup>2</sup> See ASX announcement on 12 March 2024, "Ardmore Phosphate Mine Stage 1.5 Expansion Update"

<sup>3</sup> See ASX announcement on 12 March 2024, "Ardmore Phosphate Mine Stage 1.5 Expansion Update"

Following their installation, the Company anticipates operating the processing plant at a higher throughput rate while maintaining the 24-hour shift which commenced on 23 April. The combined effect of increased throughput and greater plant availability is expected to contribute to a significant lift in production and reduction in operating costs.

As previously announced<sup>4</sup>, operating costs are projected to progressively reduce during the Stage 1.5 Expansion that remains on track for completion by December 2024. Further, the listed capital items under the previously announced “Revised Stage 1.5 2024 Capital Expenditure” table<sup>5</sup> remains on budget and on schedule.

## MANAGEMENT COMMENTARY

Robert Mencil, CEO and Managing Director of Centrex Ltd, commented:

*“Increasing both the size and frequency of our beneficiated phosphate concentrate sales is essential to transforming Ardmore into a highly cashflow-positive asset for the Company. The Company hit a new record for its production numbers in April which is a direct result of the team’s focus on production ramp up. Projected sales for the remainder of CY2024 continue to be underpinned by the Stage 1.5 Expansion works that are currently underway, which remains on budget and on schedule. I look forward to keeping all stakeholders updated during this pivotal phase for Ardmore, as the Company transitions towards becoming a significant supplier of beneficiated phosphate concentrate in the Asia-Pacific region.”*

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<sup>4</sup> See ASX announcement on 24 April 2024, “Quarterly Activities Report – March 2024”

<sup>5</sup> See ASX announcement on 12 March 2024, “Ardmore Phosphate Mine Stage 1.5 Expansion Update”

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by the Board of the Company.

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## About Centrex Limited

Centrex Limited is looking to secure Australasia's sustainable agriculture future through the exploration and development of its wholly owned Ardmore Phosphate Project and Oxley Potash Project. The products from both projects are necessary ingredients for global food production and human nutrition. The Centrex Limited fertiliser projects are located near to established energy and transport infrastructure that are necessary for access to established agricultural markets. The Company is also continuing its copper-gold-base metal exploration projects near Goulburn in the Lachlan Fold Belt in New South Wales.

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