

ASX Announcement 9 January 2024

# Curtailment of Kwinana Alumina Refinery

Alumina Limited (ASX: AWC) notes Alcoa Corporation's ("Alcoa") announcement today that it plans to fully curtail production at its Kwinana Alumina Refinery in Western Australia commencing in the second guarter of 2024 (attached).

The Kwinana refinery has an annual nameplate production capacity of 2.2 million metric tons. Since January 2023 the refinery has been operating 4 out of 5 digesters and produced 1.5 million tonnes of alumina in 2023, with approximately 1.2 million metric tonnes comprising smelter grade alumina and the remaining being non-metallurgical alumina.

Alumina Limited's CEO, Mike Ferraro, said "The curtailment decision comes only after thorough and careful deliberation. While we acknowledge the potential impacts on workers and other stakeholders, Alumina Limited fully supports the decision by Alcoa in response to losses incurred at the Kwinana refinery together with its age, scale, operating costs and current bauxite grades."

When excluding the high-cost Kwinana refinery, average cash costs of production for the remaining two refineries in WA, Pinjarra and Wagerup, were ~\$250/t in 4Q23. Both these refineries are first quartile on the global alumina refining cost curve and emissions curve, and they remain strongly cash flow generative at current API prices. Bauxite grades in WA are expected to return to historical higher grades after completing the planned mine moves to Myara North and Holyoake, improving returns further.

The alumina market is currently in tight supply, compounded by recent production cuts in China amid bauxite supply concerns and environmental audits. In response, the API has rallied by ~\$30/t since mid-December to \$360/t on 8 January 2024.

AWAC is expected to incur cash outlays related to Kwinana curtailment of ~\$130m in 2024 and ~\$60m in 2025, with annual cash costs reducing further in 2026. Given the strong cash flow generation of the Pinjarra and Wagerup refineries, at current alumina prices the Alcoa of Australia business is expected to fully fund the costs of Kwinana in 2024, including curtailment. Kwinana cash cost per tonne was above \$410/t for the full year 2023.

Alumina Limited's CEO, Mike Ferraro, said "The announcement today that production will be curtailed at Kwinana follows two key announcements in December 2023 - the approval of mining permits in WA and Alcoa's decision to take action at the San Ciprian refinery to further reduce losses there and work towards a long-term solution. The combination of these actions provides

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AWAC with a strong foundation to move forward to create a significantly higher quality refinery portfolio and benefit from the positive long-term outlook for the alumina market."

The attached announcement from Alcoa refers to accounting and cash flow information. All Alcoa accounting information is prepared under US GAAP. The accounting impacts under IFRS are being finalised and will be clarified in due course. Alumina's announcement in relation to the Kwinana curtailment focuses only on the cash flow impacts.

Further updates on the alumina market and recent operating results will be provided at the time of Alcoa's 4Q23 Results on 18 January 2024 (AEST).

This ASX announcement was approved and authorised for release by Mike Ferraro, Chief Executive Officer.

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#### About AWAC & Alcoa's Earnings Release

Alumina Limited owns 40% of each of the AWAC entities, which form a part of the Alcoa bauxite & alumina business segments. The Alcoa aluminium business segment includes the AWAC Portland smelting operations. Any closed operations are included in Transformation & legacy pension/OPEB. Therefore, the AWAC results cannot be directly inferred from the Alcoa earnings release. Further, unlike Alumina Limited, Alcoa reports under US GAAP. All figures displayed are in US dollars unless otherwise shown.

#### Forward-looking statements

Neither Alumina Limited nor any other person warrants or guarantees the future performance of Alumina Limited or any return on any investment made in Alumina Limited securities. This document may contain certain forward-looking statements, including forward-looking statements within the meaning of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The words "anticipate", "aim", "believe", "expect", "project", "estimate", "forecast", "intend", "likely", "should", "could", "will", "may", "target", "plan" and other similar expressions (including indications of "objectives") are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Indications of, and guidance on, future financial position and performance and distributions, and statements regarding Alumina Limited's future developments and the market outlook, are also forward-looking statements.

Any forward-looking statements contained in this document are not guarantees of future performance. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of Alumina Limited and its directors, officers, employees and agents that may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Those risks, uncertainties and other factors include (without limitation): (a) material adverse changes in global economic conditions, alumina or aluminium industry conditions or the markets served by AWAC; (b) changes in production or development costs, production levels or sales agreements; (c) changes in laws, regulations, policies or regulatory decision making; (d) changes in alumina or aluminium prices or currency exchange rates; (e) Alumina Limited does not hold a majority interest in AWAC and decisions made by majority vote may not be in the best interests of Alumina Limited; and (f) the other risk factors summarised in Alumina Limited's Annual Report 2022. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, Alumina Limited disclaims any responsibility to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect any new information or any change in the events, conditions or circumstances on which a statement is based or to which it relates.



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## Alcoa announces curtailment of Kwinana Alumina Refinery in Western Australia

**PITTSBURGH, January 8, 2024** – Alcoa Corporation (NYSE: AA) today announced it plans to fully curtail production in 2024 at its Kwinana Alumina Refinery in Western Australia, with the process beginning in the second guarter.

The Kwinana refinery has an annual nameplate production capacity of 2.2 million metric tons. The refinery has been operating at approximately 80 percent of its nameplate capacity since January of 2023.

Matt Reed, Alcoa's Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer, said the determination to curtail the 60-year-old facility is based on a variety of factors, including its age, scale, operating costs and current bauxite grades, in addition to current market conditions.

"Today's curtailment decision comes only after thorough and careful deliberation, and we acknowledge that this action will impact workers, business partners, and the community," Reed said.

"We deeply appreciate the commitment and support of our many loyal employees, contractors, and suppliers at our Kwinana refinery, which has made a major contribution to Western Australia's economic development over the last 60 years of continual operation."

The curtailment will include a phased reduction of the workforce from around 800 employees at the start of 2024 to approximately 250 in the third quarter of this year, when all alumina production will cease. Certain processes, however, will continue until about the third quarter of 2025, when employee numbers will be further reduced to approximately 50.

"We will work closely with our employees to provide support with transitioning to other opportunities," Reed said. "This includes potential redeployment within our business or assistance to facilitate employment at other workplaces."

The refinery and associated residue storage facilities will continue to be actively managed. Alcoa's port facilities located alongside the refinery will continue to operate to import raw materials and export alumina produced at the Company's Pinjarra Alumina Refinery. Production at the Pinjarra and Wagerup refineries is not expected to be impacted by the curtailment at Kwinana.

"We remain committed to WA in the long-term and will continue to assess options for the refinery, monitoring the factors that have led to the curtailment decision," Reed said.

The Kwinana refinery recorded a net loss (pre-tax and noncontrolling interest) of approximately \$130 million in 2023. The Company expects annual improvements of approximately \$70 million beginning in the third quarter of 2024 as a result of the curtailment. The refinery will continue to incur approximately \$40 million of non-cash depreciation, depletion and amortization expenses while curtailed.

In the first quarter of 2024, Alcoa will record restructuring charges between \$180 million and \$200 million, related to the curtailment of the refinery. Alcoa's share (after-tax and noncontrolling interest) will be between \$76 million and \$84 million, or \$0.42 to \$0.47 per share. The charges include approximately \$81 million for water management costs, \$55 million for employee related costs, \$26 million for asset retirement obligations, and \$18 million of other costs. Alcoa's share of related cash outlays of approximately \$115 million (which includes existing employee related liabilities and asset retirement obligations) is expected to be spent in 2024 (\$80 million) and 2025 (\$35 million).

#### **About Alcoa Corporation**

Alcoa (NYSE: AA) is a global industry leader in bauxite, alumina and aluminum products with a vision to reinvent the aluminum industry for a sustainable future. Our purpose is to turn raw potential into real progress, underpinned by Alcoa Values that encompass integrity, operating excellence, care for people and courageous leadership. Since developing the process that made aluminum an affordable and vital part of modern life, our talented Alcoans have developed breakthrough innovations and best practices that have led to improved safety, sustainability, efficiency, and stronger communities wherever we operate.

### **Dissemination of Company Information**

Alcoa intends to make future announcements regarding company developments and financial performance through its website, www.alcoa.com, as well as through press releases, filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, conference calls and webcasts. The Company does not incorporate the information contained on, or accessible through, its corporate website into this press release.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This release contains statements that relate to future events and expectations and as such constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include those containing such words as "aims," "ambition," "anticipates," "believes," "could," "develop," "endeavors," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "goal," "intends," "may," "outlook," "potential," "plans," "projects," "reach," "seeks," "sees," "should," "strive," "targets," "will," "working," "would," or other words of similar meaning. All statements by Alcoa that reflect expectations, assumptions or projections about the future, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, forecasts concerning global demand growth for bauxite, alumina, and aluminum, and supply/demand balances; statements, projections or forecasts of future or targeted financial results, or operating performance (including our ability to execute on strategies related to environmental, social and governance matters); statements about strategies, outlook, and business and financial prospects; and statements about capital allocation and return of capital. These statements reflect beliefs and assumptions that are based on Alcoa's perception of historical trends, current conditions, and expected future developments, as well as other factors that management believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. Although Alcoa believes that the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that these expectations will be attained and it is possible that actual results may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements due to a variety of risks and uncertainties. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: (a) cyclicality of the aluminum industry and aluminum end use markets, including due to the influence of global economic conditions, and unfavorable changes in the markets served by Alcoa; (b) the effects of non-market forces, such as government policies and political instability, on global aluminum supply and demand; (c) volatility and declines in aluminum industry, including global supply and demand conditions and fluctuations in London Metal Exchange-based prices and premiums, as applicable, for primary aluminum and other commodities, and fluctuations in indexed-based and spot prices for alumina; (d) legal, regulatory, economic, political, trade, public health and safety, and reputational risks and conditions, including changes in conditions beyond our control as a result of our participation in increasingly competitive and complex global markets; (e) our ability to obtain, maintain, or renew permits or approvals necessary for our mining operations; (f) unfavorable changes in cost, quality, or availability of key inputs, including energy and raw materials, or uncertainty of or disruption to the supply chain including logistics; (g) our ability to realize expected benefits or achieve intended results, including as planned and by targeted completion dates, from announced strategies, plans, programs, or initiatives relating to our portfolio, profitability, capital investments, and developing technologies, and from joint ventures or other strategic alliances or business transactions; (h) fluctuations in foreign currency exchange and tax rates on costs and results; (i) changes in tax laws or exposure to additional tax liabilities; (j) changes in global economic and financial market conditions generally, such as inflation, recessionary conditions, and interest rate increases, which may also

affect Alcoa's ability to obtain credit or financing upon acceptable terms or at all; (k) current and potential future impacts to the global economy and our industry, business and financial condition caused by various worldwide or macroeconomic events, such as the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine; (I) global competition within and beyond the aluminum industry; (m) our ability to obtain or maintain adequate insurance coverage; (n) the outcomes of contingencies, including legal and tax proceedings, government or regulatory investigations, and environmental remediation, or changes in foreign and/or U.S. federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or policies; (o) the impacts of climate change, related legislation or regulations, and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and our ability to achieve strategies and expectations related to climate change and other environmental matters; (p) claims, costs and liabilities resulting from the impact of our operations, including impoundments, or from health, safety, and environmental laws, regulations, and requirements, in the areas where we operate; (q) the impact of cyberattacks and potential information technology or data security breaches, including disruptions to our operations, liability, and reputational harm; (r) our ability to fund capital expenditures; (s) risks associated with long-term debt obligations including restrictions on our current and future operations as a result of our indebtedness; (t) our ability to continue to return capital to stockholders through cash dividends and/or share repurchases; (u) the impact of labor disputes, work stoppages and strikes, or other employee relations issues, as well as labor market conditions; (v) declines in the discount rates used to measure pension and other postretirement benefit liabilities or lower-than-expected investment returns on pension assets, or unfavorable changes in laws or regulations that govern pension plan funding; and (w) the other risk factors discussed in Alcoa's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 and other reports filed by Alcoa with the SEC. Alcoa disclaims any obligation to update publicly any forwardlooking statements, whether in response to new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law. Market projections are subject to the risks described above and other risks in the market.

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