

# KWINANA HPA PROJECT 5N PRECURSOR PURITY

**Australian Securities Exchange Announcement** 

27 July 2021

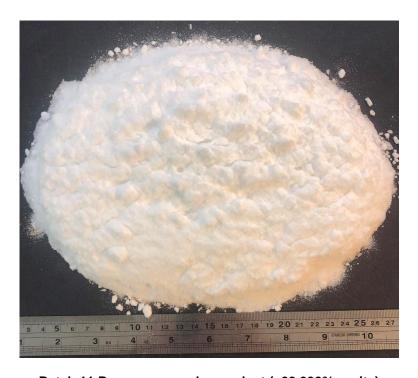
# Highlight

## **❖** 5N Precursor produced that is used to make 4N HPA by the ARC Process.

King River Resources Limited (ASX:KRR) provides this update on 5N (≥99.999%) purity Precursor compound produced by the ARC HPA process from an industrial aluminium chemical compound feedstock. The Precursor is the intermediate compound produced by the purification process which is then calcined to produce HPA at ≥4N (99.99%) purity (KRR ASX releases 25 March 2021 and 30 April 2021). KRR plans to become a producer of 4N HPA as documented in the Kwinana HPA Prefeasibility Study (PFS) (KRR ASX release 16 June 2021).

Source Certain International (SCI) has produced several batches of high purity 5N Precursor which have been assayed by SCI using the ICP-MS and ICP-AES<sup>1</sup> methods. SCI completed up to 5 duplicate analyses on each batch to improve confidence in the results.

Several batches of 5N Precursor are reported (Figure 1 and Table 1). Three (batches 8-10) were originally produced for the PFS testwork, and three more batches (11-13) have now been produced. The 5N purity result was calculated by the addition of all the assayed element impurities that reported above the detection limit then subtracting this result from 100%. Variability in the results is due to differences in the test sample and the analytical precision. The main contaminants in the Precursor are potassium (K), silicon (Si) and sodium (Na), with other elements <1ppm or below the detection limits.



Batch 11 Precursor powder product (>99.999% purity) produced from an industrial aluminium chemical compound feedstock by the ARC Process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICP = Inductively Coupled Plasma; MS = Mass Spectrometry; AES = Atomic Emission Spectroscopy



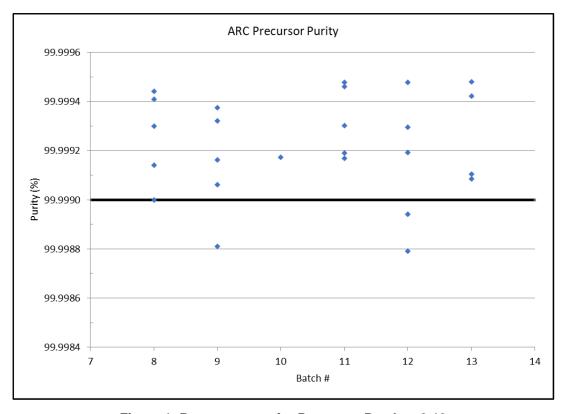


Figure 1: Repeat assays for Precursor Batches 8-13

# **Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) Update**

Other Metallurgical Developments

Metallurgical testwork is ongoing to further refine the ARC HPA process for the DFS with the current focus on further improving the Precursor product to simplify the final calcination stage.

#### **Mini-Pilot Plant**

Work has commenced on the development of a Mini-Pilot Plant to demonstrate the ARC HPA process works at a larger scale for the DFS and to produce market samples.

The process flowsheet and mass balances have been used to scale the mini-pilot plant and enquiries and purchase orders with vessel vendors are underway. The 1500°C rotary tube furnace, used for the calcination stage of the process, has been delivered and is being tested.

This announcement was authorised by the Chairman of the Company.

# **Anthony Barton**

Chairman

King River Resources Limited

Email: info@kingriverresources.com.au

Phone: +61 8 92218055



Table 1: Impurities in Precursor Batch 11
(One of the duplicate sample assays reporting elements above the detection limit)

| Element | Units | Value |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Na      | ppm   | 0.721 |
| Si      | ppm   | 2.11  |
| K       | ppm   | 3.12  |
| Са      | ppm   | 0.14  |
| Cr      | ppm   | 0.055 |
| Fe      | ppm   | 0.604 |
| Ni      | ppm   | 0.077 |
| Ga      | ppm   | 0.056 |

#### Note:

- 1. Results shown are for elemental concentrations and not a molecular compound (oxide) of that element.
- Another thirty five elements were also assayed that are present at concentrations below detection limits for the Precursor batch sample and the sum of the concentrations for these other elements is <1 ppm.</li>
- 3. Precursor purity of 99.9993% was calculated by summing all the impurity elements > detection limit and subtracting from 100%.
- 4. Assayed using ICP-MS and ICP-AES method.

## **Statement by Competent Person**

The information in this report is based on information compiled by Mr Ken Rogers (BSc Hons) and fairly represents this information. Mr Rogers is the Chief Geologist and an employee of King River Resources Ltd, and a Member of both the Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG number 2359) and The Institute of Materials Minerals and Mining (IMMM number 43552), and a Chartered Engineer of the IMMM. Mr Rogers has sufficient experience in the activities undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Rogers consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on information in the form and context in which it appears.



# Appendix 1: King River Resources Limited HPA Project JORC 2012 Table 1

# SECTION 1 : SAMPLING TECHNIQUES AND DATA

| Criteria                                | JORC Code explanation  | Commentary  |
|---|--|---|
| Sampling<br>Techniques                  | Nature and quality of sampling (e.g. cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc.). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad         | This ASX Release dated 27 July 2021 provides an update on KRR HPA Project, including the production of 5N Precursor used to make high purity alumina (HPA) from an Aluminium chemical compound feedstock produced from other industrial chemical processes.  Chemical precipitation and recrystallisation purification methods have been used in the separation and   |
|   | Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.  | precipitation of the high purity Aluminium Precursor compound reported in this announcement. The Precursor compound is then calcined at 1250°C to the high purity alumina product.  |
|   |  | The process and reagents used and the composition of the Precursor are commercial-in-confidence.  The six Precursor products reported in this announcement were made from a crystalline powder sample of an   |
|   | Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.   | industrial Aluminium chemical feedstock.  |
|   | In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (e.g. 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from  | Two samples of the Aluminium chemical feedstock were initially used to make two batches of the high purity Precursor compound by the KRR process.   |
|   | which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (e.g. submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information. | Precursor batch 8 was a process test from 716.75g sample of the industrial chemical feedstock.  Precursor batches 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were process tests from 423.97g, 423.48g, 423.45g, 423.57g and 423.59g samples of the industrial chemical feedstock respectively.  All these Precursor batches were produced by the KRR ARC HPA process purification stages. The details of the ARC HPA process are a trade secret and commercial in confidence.  Analytical duplicate subsamples were taken from the Precursor sample batches for analysis. |
| Drilling techniques                     | Drill type (e.g. core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc.) and details (e.g. core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc.).                          | Not Applicable. The samples were generated from a feedstock of an industrial chemical.  |
| Drill sample recovery                   | Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.  | Not Applicable.   |
|   | Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.  | Not Applicable.   |
|   | Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material.   | Not Applicable.   |
| Logging                                 | Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.  | Not Applicable.   |
|   | Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc.) photography.  | Not Applicable.   |
|   | The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.  | Not Applicable.   |
| Sub-sampling                            | If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.  | Not Applicable.   |
| techniques and<br>sample<br>preparation | If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc. and whether sampled wet or dry.   | Not Applicable.   |
|   | For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.   | Not Applicable.   |
|   | Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.  | Not Applicable.   |



| Criteria   | JORC Code explanation   | Commentary  |
|--|---|---|
|  | Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.  | Not Applicable.   |
|  | Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.   | Sample sizes are considered appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.  |
| Quality of assay<br>data and<br>laboratory tests | The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.  For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc., the | Source Certain International (SCI), previously TSW Analytical, Testwork Testwork on the Aluminium chemical feedstock includes chemical precipitation, solid liquid separations, purification steps and calcination and washing processes, that produce purified intermediate Precursor precipitates and final high purity alumina (HPA) calcine products. Assays are conducted on solutions and solid precipitates and calcines.  SCI is an established analytical service provider that has developed a reputation for providing accurate analyses of complex samples. The company's expertise has assisted with the development of hydrometallurgical flow-sheets for multi-element ore concentrates.  The Aluminium Precursor products have been assayed using ICP-AES and ICP-MS. Samples are digested in nitric acid and then suitably diluted prior to analysis using ICP-AES and ICP-MS instrumentation.  The primary and mother liquors have been analysed using ICP-AES and ICP-MS. The samples were diluted suitably for the appropriate ICP based analysis. Dilutions are used to bring the analyte concentration into the optimum analytical range of the ICP instrument used and to reduce matrix interference complications during quantification.  Precipitation efficiency has been determined using the mass of the total analyte in the Precursor product divided by the mass of the total analyte in the initial liquor solution used. The resulting fraction is multiplied by 100 to give a percent precipitation efficiency.  SCI uses in-house standards and Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) to ensure data are "Fit-For-Purpose". |
|  | parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.   |   |
|  | Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g. standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision have been established.            | Source Certain International (SCI) SCI reports concentrations as micrograms per gram (µg/g) in the solid (unless otherwise stated). Instrumental response is measured against AccuTrace High Purity multi-element standards (Choice Analytical) to achieve quantitation. Data are subjected to in-house QA and QC procedures where an independent analyst recalculates instrumental output and compares the newly generated data set with the original. Lack of equivalence between the two data sets triggers an internal review and if necessary reanalysis of the entire data set. Under these circumstances a third independent analyst will assess all generated data prior to sign off.  Initial equivalence between the two data sets, generated by the analyst and reviewer, will clear data for remittance to the customer. In addition to these procedures, samples are regularly sent to selected analytical laboratories in Western Australia for confirmation of the analytical data obtained. Once completed, all reports are then reviewed by an independent analyst prior to submission to the customer and where necessary, relevant changes such as wording that may give rise to possible ambiguity in interpretation will be modified prior to the final report being sent to the customer.  In order to validate analytical data, SCI circulates duplicate samples to selected analytical laboratories in Western Australia for confirmation of their results.   |
| Verification of sampling and                     | The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.   | Assay results have been verified by alternative SCI laboratory company personnel. SCI has completed analytical duplicate analyses on all HPA batches produced.  |
| assaying   | The use of twinned holes.   | Not applicable - no drilling. Multiple samples have been produced and assayed.  |
|  | Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data   | Not applicable  |



| Criteria   | JORC Code explanation  | Commentary   |
|--|--|--|
|  | storage (physical and electronic) protocols.   |  |
|  | Discuss any adjustment to assay data.  | Not applicable.  |
| Location of data points  | Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation.  | Not Applicable.  |
|  | Specification of the grid system used.   | Not Applicable.  |
|  | Quality and adequacy of topographic control.   | Not Applicable.  |
| Data spacing and   | Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.   | Not Applicable.  |
| distribution   | Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied. | Not Applicable.  |
|  | Whether sample compositing has been applied.   | Not Applicable.  |
| Orientation of data<br>in relation to<br>geological<br>structure | Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.   | Not Applicable.  |
|  | If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.                   | Not Applicable.  |
| Sample security  | The measures taken to ensure sample security.  | Chain of Custody is managed by the Company until feedstock samples pass to Source Certain International, for subsampling, assaying, and hydrometallurgical test work. The Aluminium feedstock sample was delivered to the metallurgical laboratory by the Company or a competent agent. The chain of custody passes upon delivery of the samples to the metallurgical laboratory.  Products, Residues and Duplicates of all samples are retained at the Company's Perth laboratory to insure |
|  |  | against any sample loss  |
| Audits or Reviews  | The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.  | No external audits have been completed.  |

# SECTION 2: REPORTING OF EXPLORATION RESULTS

| Criteria                                      | JORC Code explanation  | Commentary      |
|---|--|-----------------|
| Mineral tenement<br>and land tenure<br>status | Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.  The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area. | Not Applicable. |
| Exploration done by other parties             | Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.  | Not Applicable. |
| Geology                                       | Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.  | Not Applicable. |
| Drill hole<br>Information                     | A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes:  o easting and northing of the drill hole collar o elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the  | Not Applicable. |



| Criteria   | JORC Code explanation   | Commentary  |
|--|---|---|
|  | drill hole collar     dip and azimuth of the hole     down hole length and interception depth     hole length.     If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case.                    |   |
| Data aggregation methods   | In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g. cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.  | Not Applicable.   |
|  | Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.  | Not Applicable.   |
|  | The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.   | Not Applicable.   |
| Relationship<br>between<br>mineralisation<br>widths and<br>intercept lengths | These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (e.g. 'down hole length, true width not known').         | Not Applicable.   |
| Diagrams   | Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.   | Not Applicable.   |
| Balanced reporting   | Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.   | Reports on previous metallurgical and study results can be found in ASX Releases that are available on our website, including announcements 1 April 2010, 15 July 2010, 9 November 2010, 8 February 2012, 21 April 2017, 21 August 2017, 9 October 2017, 4 December 2017, 30 January 2018, 27 February 2018, 21 March 2018, 25 June 2018, 23 July 2018, 15 October 2018,19 November 2018, 18 January 2019, 1 March 2019, 21 March 2019, 22 March 2019, 9 May 2019, 7 June 2019, 27 September 2019, 26 November 2019, 6 December 2019, 22 January 2020, 24 March 2020, 23 April 2020, 13 May 2020, 17 June 2020, 7 September 2020 and 13 October 2020, 11 November 2020, 19 November 2020, 26 November 2020, 15 December 2020, 25 March 21, 30 April 2021, 21 May 2021, 16 June 2021 and 22 July 2021. |
| Other substantive exploration data   | Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances. | Not Applicable.   |
| Further work   | The nature and scale of planned further work (e.g. tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling). Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.  | Further metallurgical tests are planned to refine the ARC process and produce Precursor and HPA products.   |