

31 JANUARY 2022 ASX: FYI I OTC: FYIRF

# FYI Activity Report for the quarter ended 31 December 2021

#### **Key points**

- FYI and Alcoa sign a binding Terms Sheet for development of HPA project to create market leading integrated high quality HPA business
- Successful extended pilot plant operations include achieving 99.999% (5N) HPA
- Highly experienced project development and operations manager appointed
- Down-stream opportunities emerge with innovative and value-add HPA anode coatings
- FYI qualifies and is upgraded to the US-based OTCQX market
- FYI increases ESG rating and expands reporting and related initiatives
- FYI receives from \$1.1m from Federal Government R&D tax rebate

FYI Resources Ltd (ASX: FYI) ("FYI" or "the Company") is pleased to release its Quarterly Activities Report for the period ending 31 December 2021.

FYI is developing an innovative process design for the integrated production of high quality, high purity alumina (HPA) predominantly for electric vehicles (lithium-ion batteries), sapphire glass (LED) and other broader tech applications.

#### FYI and Alcoa sign Binding JV Term Sheet to develop the Company's HPA Project

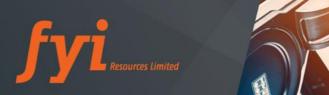
In October 2021, FYI and Alcoa of Australia (Alcoa) signed a binding Term Sheet for the joint development of FYI's innovative HPA project. The Terms Sheet sets out the defined pathway to the structuring and progressive staging of the HPA project from development to commercial production.

Alcoa is one of the world's leading alumina producers with over 100 years of project development and operational experience. The joint development is expected to unlock the HPA project's significant value by combining Alcoa's technical expertise and experience in the construction and operation of alumina refining facilities with FYI's innovative HPA processing flowsheet, industry knowledge and customer contacts with the objective to become a major joint producer in the HPA industry with FYI.

Under the Terms Sheet, the proposed development of the HPA project provides for the implementation of a 3-stage technical, engineering and marketing schedule.

#### Phase one

This phase of the HPA project development incorporated the final technical elements to the flowsheet design. The refinements tested over the extended pilot plant trials over November 2021 to January 2022 will be integrated into the final designs for the demonstration plant and the full-scale production facility.





#### Phase two

Subject to a positive joint investment decision in Phase 1, Phase 2 will include the completion of final detailed design for both the HPA demonstration and production facilities and following a decision to proceed with the final phase 3, the parties will enter into an unincorporated joint venture to continue the joint development of the HPA project.

#### Phase three

Subject to a positive investment decision planned for 2023 the parties could establish an incorporated joint venture company and construction for the full-scale plant would commence. The full-scale facility (engineering and construction) is currently projected to cost approximately \$200m, subject to further engineering studies

The key terms of the binding Term Sheet Agreement include:

- Alcoa to contribute up to US\$242m of US\$257m capital forecast
- Structured 3 phase development for production of up to 9,000tpa HPA
- HPA project equity: Alcoa 65%; FYI 35%
- FYI IP and jointly developed IP protected by Agreement

Benefits Alcoa brings to the HPA strategy include:

- Majority of the project funding
- Project development discipline and expertise
- World leading alumina production experience and technical excellence
- Global reach and extensive Tier-1 relationships
- Well-resourced organisation to draw from including technical, operational, management and marketing functions

#### **Extended Pilot Plant Operations**

During the quarter, FYI in collaboration with Alcoa, conducted two pilot plant operations as part of an extended pilot plant schedule. FYI and Alcoa have previously conducted a number of pilot plant runs to demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of the chemistry of the innovative HPA process design and to validate the outstanding potential project economics.

The primary objectives of this joint extended pilot plant operations, however, were to trial improvements made to the process flowsheet, including materials of construction and materials handling and to determine the positive impact to capital and operating costs as well as scale up factors for commercial production.

The additional benefit of the extended production run is the production of larger quantities of HPA that will be directed towards product qualification and assessment by prospective customers and offtake parties.

The two operations undertaken during the quarter proved successful. Of note was the continued steady state performance and the achieving of target grades well within expected operating parameters. Samples across all stages of the series of operations were sent to an independent laboratory for high level Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometry for high accuracy analysis of the HPA grades. A summary of all the analysis is provided below.

Category	HPA (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) purity
Target grade	99.99%
Highest grade	99.999%
Lowest grade	99.997%
Average grade	99.998%

Summary of all GDMS samples for the pilot plant trials undertaken during the December Quarter





Consistent with the previous HPA pilot plant trial outcomes, the results of the two weeks of operations demonstrated continued high-quality grades being achieved across the suite of samples and ranged in purity from 99.999% to 99.997%  $Al_2O_3$  (refer announcements 15 December 2021 and 10 January 2022). The results demonstrate and emphasize the product quality and consistency of the innovative HPA flowsheet design. The operating data and information generated during the trial will contribute to the project engineering studies and final design criteria.







Images of the HPA pilot plant trials during operation in the December Quarter

#### Executive Appointment – Claudio Di Prinzio, Manager – Operations and Technology

FYI appointed key executive Claudio Di Prinzio to the position of Manager – Operations and Technology during the quarter. The Perth based qualified chemical engineer is a highly skilled project development and operations manager with over 30 years direct industry experience in project development management, commissioning and operations management across a range of project sizes, commodities and jurisdictions.

Claudio has specific experience in alumina, battery and critical minerals and is responsible for representing FYI's interest in the joint HPA project development with Alcoa.

Additionally, he will take responsibility for establishing the safety, quality control and sustainability processes and control procedures for the project.

Claudio's appointment is a key step for FYI in progressing the development of the innovative and fully integrated high purity alumina (HPA) project and aligns with FYI's production objectives in collaboration with Alcoa.

#### **Innovative HPA Battery Coatings Program**

Creating broader growth and downstream HPA opportunities and marketing channels is a key element to FYI's longer-term business plan and of the joint HPA development strategy with Alcoa.

FYI has identified a number of potential market channels that the Company is interested in establishing and developing. Consistent with the value-added battery materials strategy is the signing of a joint development program with ASX listed graphite company, Ecograf Limited (ASX:EGR), to innovate a HPA enhanced (doped), high density battery anode coatings material for use in the lithium-ion battery industry.

Industry research has demonstrated HPA-doped carbon coatings increase battery anode performance, by minimising first cycle losses during battery charging cycles.



The aim of the program is to develop an enhanced coatings material that will improve battery performance and longevity. The technical program for the innovative studies is being undertaken in a leading US commercial battery material research facility using FYI's high-quality nanoparticle HPA and EcoGraf's spherical graphite.

The HPA coated anode material is a major active anode material (AAM) used in Lithium-ion anode cell manufacturing and is a significant value addition that is complementary for both companies' developments in Australia.



Figure after CSIRO. Dr Jerad Ford, Mission Lead, Critical Energy Metals recent webinar outlying the future vision and value multiplier of battery cell manufacturing benefit to Australia

The sales price for coated anode (subject to the specification) ranges between U\$\$6,000 to U\$\$10,000 per tonne, with demand forecast to increase 30% pa to 20,000 tpa by 2030 according to Benchmark Minerals Intelligence. This demand is driven by the global trend in the adoption of electric vehicles (EV's) and of the world transitioning to low carbon emission technologies.

The economic impact of developing AAM in Australia is important as the battery anode coatings industry could be a significant value proposition given the forecast increased demand for anode materials in the rapidly expanding EV market.

The collaboration with EGR will also include evaluation of additional HPA and graphite composites for new battery technologies and materials for broader clean energy applications.

#### Qualified and Upgraded to the OTCQX

FYI is a registered participant on the US-based Over the Counter (OTC) market place. The OTC market is a decentralized market in which participants trade stock (or other investment instruments such as commodities and currencies) directly between two parties without a centralized exchange or broker. broker.

During the quarter, FYI qualified to be upgraded from its current standing of OTCQB to the premium OTCQX market. This will provide for increased trading activity from established U.S. and international investors who cannot trade on the ASX, FYI's home exchange.

To qualify for OTCQX, companies must have certain balance sheet requirements, meet high financial standards, follow best practice corporate governance, and demonstrate compliance with applicable securities laws. Graduating to the OTCQX Market marks an important milestone for FYI in providing a globally recognised platform to showcase the Company and build visibility among U.S. investors as well as providing real time stock quotes outside of FYI's ASX primary listing.



FYI trades on the OTCQX under the symbol "FYIRF." U.S. investors can find FYI's current financial disclosure, company announcements and RealTime Level 2 quotes for the Company on otcmarkets.com.

#### **Environment Social Governance (ESG)**

ESG issues are growing in importance globally. The ability to manage ESG risks and opportunities is increasingly important to FYI's license to operate, the shaping of its business and the future impact on the Company's bottom line.

Through the directives and guidance of our recently appointed ESG Director, Dr Sandy Chong who will provide practical, value-driven sustainability ESG guidance, FYI has the objective of gradually and incrementally improving upon its ESG position.

#### ESG Reporting and Quarterly ESG Activity Summary

FYI acknowledges its responsibilities as an emerging HPA producer and the project's sustainability and ESG obligations.

FYI, under our globally recognised ESG rating framework, has established a baseline standard and intends to improve on these ESG standards and reduce its legacy impact and potential environmental and other sustainability project risks. FYI has made the commitment to incrementally improve upon its ESG score of 23.8 (ESG ranking of 5th out of 153 peers).

FYI is striving for sustainability to be integrated into the Company's business strategy and corporate values. During the quarter, FYI undertook the following ESG activities:

- Led by Dr Sand Chong, workshops and stakeholder questionnaires were held on corporate branding and ESG development.
- The Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre's (FBI-CRC) Legacy project phase 2 commenced.
- Ongoing discussions with a number of parties with regard to supplying renewable energy for the project.
- The Company's website is being updated to include ESG quarterly reporting and initiatives.





#### **December Quarterly ESG Progress Report**

Action E Explanation D Development R Reported V Verified A Audited	Baseline, 20/04/21	Period 3, Oct-Dec 2021
SG Go Dashboard	DISCLOSURE MATURITY A1 A2 A3 A4 A5	DISCLOSURE MATURITY A1 A2 A3 A4 A5
Governance		
GO-01-A Setting purpose	D D D	D R D D D
GO-02-A Governance body composition	D D	D D R R R R
GO-03-A Material issues impacting stakeholders	RRRRD	RRRRR
GO-04-A Anti-corruption practices	R D D	R V D R
GO-04-B Mechanisms to protect ethical behaviour	D R D	RVR
GO-05-A Integrating risk and opportunity into business process	D R D	D R R D D
Planet		
PL-01-A GHG emissions	D	D R D D
PL-01-B TCFD implementation	D	D D
PL-02-A Land use and ecological sensitivity	D R	D R D D
PL-03-A Water consumption	R	R R D R
People		
PE-01-A Diversity and inclusion	D	D D D D
PE-01-B Pay equality	D D	D D
PE-01-C Wage level	D D D	D D D
PE-01-D Child, forced or compulsory labour	E	Е
PE-02-A Health and safety	D D D	D R D
PE-03-A Training provided	D	D D D
Prosperity		
PR-01-A Rate of employment	D	D D R
PR-01-B Economic contribution	D	R R R
PR-01-C Financial investment contribution	D	D
PR-02-A Total R&D expenses	R	V
PR-03-A Total tax paid	R R	VV





#### **December ESG Reporting Continued**

SG Go Quar	terly Pr	ogress Report	Action E Explanat	ion Develop	ment	R Rep	oorted V	Verified	A Au	dited
Dashboar	d - Rep	oorting Period 2	(Q2 2021)	PRIORIT	Y TIM	EFRAME	DISCLOSURE	MATURITY A1 A2		A5
GOVERNANCE	GO-01-A	Setting purpose			Q3	2022	V	VV	v v	V
	GO-02-A	Governance body compo	osition		Q3	2022	V	vv	v v	V
	GO-03-A	Material issues impactin	g stakeholders	1	H2	2021	D	RR	D D	D
	GO-04-A	Anti-corruption practice	s		Н1	2021	R	RR	R	
	GO-04-B	Mechanisms to protect e	ethical behaviour		Н1	2021	R	RR		
	GO-05-A	Integrating risk and oppo	ortunity into business process		Q2	2021	R	RR	R R	R
PLANET	PL-01-A	GHG emissions			Q1	2022	D			
	PL-01-B	TCFD implementation			Q1	2022	D			
0	PL-02-A	Land use and ecological	sensitivity		Q1	2022	D	D		
	PL-03-A	Water consumption			Q1	2022	D	D		
PEOPLE	PE-01-A	Diversity and inclusion			H2	2021	D	D		
(22)	PE-01-B	Pay equality			Н2	2021	D	D D	D D	
	PE-01-C	Wage level			Н2	2021	D	D D		
	PE-01-D	Child, forced or compuls	ory labour		Н2	2021	R	R		
	PE-02-A	Health and safety		3	H2	2021	D	D E		
	PE-03-A	Training provided		2	Q3	2021	D	D D		
PROSPERITY	PR-01-A	Rate of employment			Q2	2021	R	R R		
(A)	PR-01-B	Economic contribution			Q3	2021	R	R R		
	PR-01-C	Financial investment cor	ntribution		Q3	2021	R	RR		
	PR-02-A	Total R&D expenses			Q3	2021	R	R		
	PR-03-A	Total tax paid			Q3	2021	R	R		



#### **Achieved December Quarter Activities include:**

The planned activities achieved during the December quarter include:

- ✓ Progress the development of the Demonstration and Primary HPA production facilities
- ✓ Commence the extended pilot plant trial
- ✓ Continual improvement and transition of ESG rating and reporting
- ✓ Continued product market qualification and assessment in collaboration with Alcoa
- ✓ Implement initial technical program to produce and evaluate HPA-doped carbon coated battery spherical graphite
- ✓ Continue with identified growth and downstream opportunities
- ✓ Upgrade from OTCQB market to OTCQX
- ✓ Make key personnel appointments in line with the HPA development schedule.

#### Planned March Quarter Activities include:

The planned activities for the March 2022 quarter include:

- FEL 1 work to continue
- Engineering to continue progressing through development stage gates
- Decision to proceed to FEL 2 (in parallel with finalizing FEL 1)
- Continue HPA production joint development with Alcoa
- Progress Joint Development Agreements
- Finalise the extended pilot plant trial runs and quality analysis assessments
- Complete initial HPA-doped carbon coated battery spherical graphite study
- Gain eligibility and initiate trading on Depository Trust Company (DTC) share platform
- Continued product market qualification and assessment in collaboration with Alcoa
- Make further key personnel appointments in line with the HPA project development requirements
- Continual improvement and transition of ESG rating and reporting

#### Tax Rebate

In December, the Company received an R&D tax incentive rebate payment of \$1.18m for the 2020/2021 financial year.

The R&D rebate is a reimbursed cash payment from the Federal Government for technical development work conducted on advancing the Company's HPA project. This includes direct project development, potential customer requested product finish specifications as well as zero-carbon studies and value add specialty downstream battery applications such as HPA coatings for anode and cathode coating architecture.

#### **Treasury**

The Company ended the September Quarter with a cash balance of ~ \$12.5m.

#### **ASX Additional Information**

ASX listing rule 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 - Exploration and evaluation cash payments (net of GST) during the quarter were approximately \$964k. Details of exploration and evaluation and development activities during the December 2021 quarter are set out in this report.

There were no substantive mining production activities during the quarter.

ASX listing rule 5.3.5 - Appendix 5B, Section 6.1 – description of payments: During the quarter \$121k was paid to Directors for current director fees.





This announcement is authorised for release by Roland Hill, Managing Director

#### For more information please contact:

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#### <u>Interest in Mineral Tenements at 31 December 2021</u>

Tenement	Location	Interest at the beginning of the quarter	Interest at the end of the quarter
E70/4673	Western Australia	100%	100%
M70/1388	WC31CITT / CO3ITCIIC	100%	100%
WMM SPLs (6)	Thailand	100% (under application)	100% (under application)

#### **About FYI Resources Limited**

FYI's is positioning itself to be a significant producer of 4N and 5N HPA in the rapidly developing high-tech product markets.

FYI applies both an ESG and economic overlay of the Company and its operations to ensure long-term sustainable and shareholder value is created via the development of the Company's innovative, high quality, ultra-pure HPA project.

HPA is increasingly becoming the primary sought-after input material for certain high-tech products principally for its unique properties, characteristics and chemical properties that address those applications high specification requirements such as LED's and other sapphire glass products.

The longer-term driver for HPA, with forecasts of >17% CAGR\*, is the outlook for the burgeoning electric vehicle and static energy storage markets where the primary function is in the use as a separator material between the anode and cathode in batteries to increase power, functionality and safety of the battery cells.

The foundation of the HPA strategy the Company's moderate temperature, atmospheric pressure innovative process flowsheet. The strategy's quality attributes combine resulting in world class HPA project potential.

\* CRU HPA Industry Report 2021



### Appendix 5B

## Mining exploration entity or oil and gas exploration entity quarterly cash flow report

Name of entity

FYI Resources Limited			
ABN Quarter ended ("current quarter")			
85 061 289 218	31 December 2021		

Con	solidated statement of cash flows	Current quarter \$A'000	Year to date (6 months) \$A'000
1.	Cash flows from operating activities		
1.1	Receipts from customers	-	-
1.2	Payments for		
	(a) exploration & evaluation	(964)	(2,277)
	(b) development	-	-
	(c) production	-	-
	(d) staff costs	(121)	(187)
	(e) administration and corporate costs	(174)	(464)
1.3	Dividends received (see note 3)	-	-
1.4	Interest received	1	11
1.5	Interest and other costs of finance paid	-	-
1.6	Income taxes paid	-	-
1.7	Government grants and tax incentives	1,078	1,078
1.8	Other (provide details if material)	-	-
1.9	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities	(180)	(1,839)

2.	Ca	sh flows from investing activities	
2.1	Pay	ments to acquire or for:	
	(a)	entities	-
	(b)	tenements	-
	(c)	property, plant and equipment	-
	(d)	exploration & evaluation	-
	(e)	investments	-
	(f)	other non-current assets	-

ASX Listing Rules Appendix 5B (17/07/20)

Con	solidated statement of cash flows	Current quarter \$A'000	Year to date (6 months) \$A'000
2.2	Proceeds from the disposal of:		
	(a) entities	-	-
	(b) tenements	-	-
	(c) property, plant and equipment	-	-
	(d) investments	-	-
	(e) other non-current assets	-	-
2.3	Cash flows from loans to other entities	-	-
2.4	Dividends received (see note 3)	-	-
2.5	Other (provide details if material)	-	-
2.6	Net cash from / (used in) investing activities	-	-

3.	Cash flows from financing activities		
3.1	Proceeds from issues of equity securities (excluding convertible debt securities)	-	-
3.2	Proceeds from issue of convertible debt securities	-	-
3.3	Proceeds from exercise of options	2,505	5,305
3.4	Transaction costs related to issues of equity securities or convertible debt securities	-	-
3.5	Proceeds from borrowings	-	-
3.6	Repayment of borrowings	-	-
3.7	Transaction costs related to loans and borrowings	-	-
3.8	Dividends paid	-	-
3.9	Other (provide details if material)	-	-
3.10	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities	2,505	5,305

4.	Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the period		
4.1	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	10,203	9,062
4.2	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9 above)	(180)	(1,839)
4.3	Net cash from / (used in) investing activities (item 2.6 above)	-	-
4.4	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities (item 3.10 above)	2,505	5,305

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Consolidated statement of cash flows		Current quarter \$A'000	Year to date (6 months) \$A'000
4.5	Effect of movement in exchange rates on cash held	-	-
4.6	Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	12,528	12,528

5.	Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter (as shown in the consolidated statement of cash flows) to the related items in the accounts	Current quarter \$A'000	Previous quarter \$A'000
5.1	Bank balances	3,299	10,203
5.2	Call deposits	-	-
5.3	Bank overdrafts	-	-
5.4	Other (term deposit)	9,229	-
5.5	Cash and cash equivalents at end of quarter (should equal item 4.6 above)	12,528	10,203

6.	Payments to related parties of the entity and their associates	Current quarter \$A'000
6.1	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 1	121
6.2	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 2	-
	f any amounts are shown in items 6.1 or 6.2, your quarterly activity report must include ation for, such payments.	e a description of, and an

7.	Financing facilities Note: the term "facility' includes all forms of financing arrangements available to the entity. Add notes as necessary for an understanding of the sources of finance available to the entity.	Total facility amount at quarter end \$A'000	Amount drawn at quarter end \$A'000
7.1	Loan facilities	-	-
7.2	Credit standby arrangements	-	-
7.3	Other (please specify)	-	-
7.4	Total financing facilities	-	-
7.5	Unused financing facilities available at qu	arter end	-
7.6	Include in the box below a description of each facility above, including the lender, interest rate, maturity date and whether it is secured or unsecured. If any additional financing facilities have been entered into or are proposed to be entered into after quarter end, include a note providing details of those facilities as well.		

8.	Estimated cash available for future operating activities	\$A'000	
8.1	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9)	(180)	
8.2	(Payments for exploration & evaluation classified as investing activities) (item 2.1(d))	-	
8.3	Total relevant outgoings (item 8.1 + item 8.2)	(180)	
8.4	Cash and cash equivalents at quarter end (item 4.6)	12,528	
8.5	Unused finance facilities available at quarter end (item 7.5)	-	
8.6	Total available funding (item 8.4 + item 8.5)	12,528*	
8.7	Estimated quarters of funding available (item 8.6 divided by item 8.3)	69.6	
	Note: if the entity has reported positive relevant outgoings (ie a net cash inflow) in item 8.3, answer item 8.7 as "N/A". Otherwise, a figure for the estimated quarters of funding available must be included in item 8.7.		
8.8	If item 8.7 is less than 2 quarters, please provide answers to the following questions:		
	8.8.1 Does the entity expect that it will continue to have the current level of net operating cash flows for the time being and, if not, why not?		
	Answer: N/A.		
	8.8.2 Has the entity taken any steps, or does it propose to take any steps, to raise further cash to fund its operations and, if so, what are those steps and how likely does it believe that they will be successful?		
	Answer: N/A.		
	8.8.3 Does the entity expect to be able to continue its operation objectives and, if so, on what basis?	s and to meet its business	
	Answer: N/A.		

<sup>\*</sup> The Company also has an equity finance/capital commitment facility of up to A\$80 million (less A\$3.13 drawn down to date) in place with GEM Global Yield LLC SCS for funding the development of the HPA project and working capital purposes. Refer to announcement 11 March 2020.

#### **Compliance statement**

- 1 This statement has been prepared in accordance with accounting standards and policies which comply with Listing Rule 19.11A.
- 2 This statement gives a true and fair view of the matters disclosed.

Date: 31 January 2022

Authorised by: Roland Hill, Managing Director

(Name of body or officer authorising release – see note 4)

#### **Notes**

- 1. This quarterly cash flow report and the accompanying activity report provide a basis for informing the market about the entity's activities for the past quarter, how they have been financed and the effect this has had on its cash position. An entity that wishes to disclose additional information over and above the minimum required under the Listing Rules is encouraged to do so.
- 2. If this quarterly cash flow report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the definitions in, and provisions of, AASB 6: Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources and AASB 107: Statement of Cash Flows apply to this report. If this quarterly cash flow report has been prepared in accordance with other accounting standards agreed by ASX pursuant to Listing Rule 19.11A, the corresponding equivalent standards apply to this report.
- 3. Dividends received may be classified either as cash flows from operating activities or cash flows from investing activities, depending on the accounting policy of the entity.
- 4. If this report has been authorised for release to the market by your board of directors, you can insert here: "By the board". If it has been authorised for release to the market by a committee of your board of directors, you can insert here: "By the [name of board committee eg Audit and Risk Committee]". If it has been authorised for release to the market by a disclosure committee, you can insert here: "By the Disclosure Committee".
- 5. If this report has been authorised for release to the market by your board of directors and you wish to hold yourself out as complying with recommendation 4.2 of the ASX Corporate Governance Council's *Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations*, the board should have received a declaration from its CEO and CFO that, in their opinion, the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained, that this report complies with the appropriate accounting standards and gives a true and fair view of the cash flows of the entity, and that their opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.