

# Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs Update – Flinders Project

Taruga Minerals Limited (ASX: **TAR**, **Taruga** or the **Company**) is pleased to provide an update on previously reported Aboriginal heritage authorisations being sought for the Flinders IOCG project in South Australia.

If granted, the authorisations would allow for a substantial exploration program across the Jenkins and Woolshed Project Areas.

### **Flinders Project**

As previously advised a public consultation meeting was held on 13 October 2021 and the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee considered the application for authorisation on 13 January 2022. The authorisation will ultimately be considered by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, responsible for the *Aboriginal Heritage Act*, based on material collated by the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation unit within the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC-AAR) and feedback from the South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Committee, following their January meeting.

Taruga was expecting a decision in Q1 2022. However, the Company has now been advised by DPC-AAR that the procedural process is now being finalised prior to the report and recommendations being supplied to the Minister for consideration. Taruga is of the view that a decision is therefore now likely in Q2 2022.

Taruga is respectful of the process being undertaken by AAR and the State Government. The Company will continue to engage with the South Australian Government to seek a timely resolution of this matter.

The exploration program is already approved under the Mining Act 1978 (SA), following the grant of a Program for Environment Protection and Rehabilitation (E-PEPR) in September 2020.

Taruga's wholly-owned subsidiary, Strikeline Resources Pty Ltd, intends to conduct the program using best practice exploration methodologies to minimise ground disturbance and avoid impacts to any Aboriginal heritage sites as outlined in our announcement of 17 November 2021.

#### **Update on South Australian Politics**

The South Australian Labor Party, led by Peter Malinauskas, secured a decisive victory in the recent South Australian Election. Labor holds 27 seats in the new parliament, ensuring a comfortable majority government.

Labor held government for 16 years since 2002 and has been in opposition for just one term following the Steven Marshall-led Liberal victory in 2018.

Last week the new ministry was sworn in. Appointments included the new Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Honourable Kyam Maher MLC, who has also been appointed Attorney General and Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector.

CEO Thomas Line Commented: "We congratulate Minister Maher, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the State government toward achieving desirable economic and social goals in a socially responsible manner."

"We also congratulate the Honourable Tom Koutsantonis MP on his return to the critical portfolio of Minister for Energy and Mining and look forward to working with him and his department."

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This announcement was approved by the Board of Taruga Minerals Limited.

## For more information contact:

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