

# Activities Report for the Quarter ending 31 December 2022

# Highlights

- AVZ's securities remained in Voluntary Suspension during the December Quarter pending the finalisation of its mining and exploration rights for the Manono Lithium and Tin Project ("Manono Project") and continued its high level discussions with the DRC Government with respect to the award of the mining licence and permits required for the Manono Project
- AVZ confirmed and continued to defend its legal rights to a 75% interest in Dathcom Mining SA ("Dathcom"), the entity which the Manono Project is held, and its pre-emptive rights over 15% of Cominiere's 25% interest in the Manono Project, which is the subject of arbitration proceedings before the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris (ICC) instigated by Jin Cheng Mining Company Limited (Jin Cheng), a subsidiary of Zijin Mining Group Company Limited (Zijin)
- AVZ filed ICC arbitration action against Dathomir Mining Resources SARL ("Dathomir") with respect to affirming a 15% interest it purchased under the validly executed and completed sale and purchase agreements with Dathomir
- The DRC General Inspectorate of Finance released its report ("IGF Report") on the mis-management of mining assets in the DRC by La Congolaise d'Exploitation Miniere ("Cominiere")
- The completion date for the Transaction Implementation Agreement with Suzhou CATH Energy Technologies ("CATH") extended by mutual agreement to 28 February 2023
- The Annual General Meeting of shareholders was held during November which passed all resolutions without amendment by poll
- The Roche Dure extension drilling program continued with widespread, high-grade spodumene lithium mineralisation observed
- Construction works at Camp Colline and procurement of early works equipment continued throughout the period

### **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

31 January 2023

#### **AVZ Minerals Limited**

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ABN 81 125 176 703

#### Directors

Non-Executive Chairman: John Clarke Managing Director: Nigel Ferguson Technical Director: Graeme Johnston Non-Executive Director: Rhett Brans

> ASX Code: AVZ OTC Code : AZZVF

**AVZ Minerals Limited** (ASX: **AVZ**, OTC:**AZZVF**, "the Company") presents its Quarterly Activities Report for the period ended 31 December 2022 and is pleased to provide the following commentary and update to shareholders.

AVZ Managing Director, Mr. Nigel Ferguson said: "The Company regrets the continuation to the voluntary suspension and shares the frustration held by its shareholders. However, the Company wishes to reiterate that the actions taken were and continue to be necessary to protect shareholder interests, whilst the Company has been addressing a series of complex matters with the competent Democratic Republic of Congo Government authorities with respect to the award of the mining and exploration rights and its ongoing interests in the Manono Project.

"AVZ confirms that it retains legal title to a 75% interest in Dathcom – the legal entity by which the Manono Project is held – and pre-emptive rights over 15% out of Cominiere's 25% interest in the Project (noting that Cominiere must cede the other 10% of its 25% interest in the Project to the DRC Government as a condition of the award of the mining licence under the Dathcom Joint Venture Agreement ("Dathcom JVA").

"The Company is steadfast in its resolve of achieving a positive outcome for shareholders, which it continues to progress and looks forward to reaching a position to enable a substantive update to the market. The Company sincerely appreciates the support it continues to receive, through what it knows are frustrating times for all concerned."

#### **Voluntary Suspension**

AVZ's securities remained in Voluntary Suspension during the December Quarter pending the finalisation of the mining and exploration rights for the Manono Project.

AVZ made several announcements relating to its tenure of Voluntary Suspension during the December Quarter<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Refer ASX Announcements dated 31 October 2022 and 15 November 2022 "Request for extension to Voluntary Suspension; and 15 December 2022 "Voluntary Suspension Update"

### DRC General Inspectorate of Finance's findings against Cominiere and Dathomir

On 30 November 2022, the DRC General Inspectorate of Finance released its report ("IGF Report") on the management of mining assets in the DRC by La Congolaise d'Exploitation Miniere ("Cominiere")<sup>2</sup>.

A copy of the IGF Report is publicly available at <a href="http://igf.gouv.cd/rapports">http://igf.gouv.cd/rapports</a>. An English translation of the IGF Report is published on AVZ's website (<a href="http://igf.gouv.cd/rapports">www.avzminerals.com.au</a>).

<sup>2</sup> Refer ASX Announcement dated 6 December 2022 "DRC General Inspectorate of Finance's findings against Cominiere and Dathomir

#### Legal action to affirm interests in Manono Project

On 1 December 2022, AVZ with or through its wholly-owned subsidiary AVZ International Pty Ltd ("AVZI") filed the first of two International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) arbitrations against Dathomir.<sup>3</sup>

The purpose of the Dathomir arbitrations is to seek a declaration affirming AVZI's legal title to the 15% stake in the Manono Project acquired under the validly executed and completed sale and purchase agreements with Dathomir, there being two such agreements pursuant to which AVZI acquired 10% and 5% stakes, respectively, in Dathcom.

The action against Dathomir is in addition to the ICC arbitration action taken against the Company by Jin Cheng (subsidiary of Zijin Mining), following the receipt of a request for arbitration first announced to the ASX on 11 May 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Refer ASX Announcement dated 8 December 2022 "Legal action to affirm interests in the Manono Project"

#### Extension of Transaction Implementation Agreement (TIA) with CATH

On 3 January 2023, the Company and CATH mutually agreed to extend the completion date for its TIA<sup>4</sup> from 31 December 2022 to 28 February 2023. Both parties remain 100% committed to closing the TIA and developing the Manono Project.

<sup>4</sup> Refer ASX announcements dated 27 September 2021 "Cornerstone investor secured for development of Manono Lithium and Tin Project" & 3 January 2023 "Extension of End Date to the Transaction Implementation Agreement"

# Diamond Drilling Program at Roche Dure North-East Extension

The Company received further widespread, high-grade spodumene lithium mineralisation from eight of 46 planned resource drill holes at the Roche Dure North-East Extension.

Seventy-five samples from the first four drill holes returned values greater than 2% including three individual samples grading greater than 3%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$ , with the highest value being from hole MO22DD003 from 122 to 124 metres downhole grading 3.59%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}^5$ .

Fifty-eight samples from the second four drill holes returned values greater than 2% including two individual samples grading greater than 3%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  with the highest value being from hold MO22DD005 from 8.7 metres to 10 metres downhole grading 3.41%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}^6$ .

The latest drill holes demonstrated grade continuity both down-dip and along strike at Roche Dure.

Drilling results from Section 8,200mN provide further evidence of Roche Dure's orebody dipping at significantly shallower angles.

A fourth diamond drill rig joined the drilling fleet during the December 2022 Quarter to increase the progress being made on the Roche Dure North-East extension drilling program.

<sup>5</sup> Refer ASX Announcement dated 31 October 2022 "Positive Results from Initial Roche Dure Extension Drilling Program
<sup>6</sup> Refer ASX Announcement dated 1 December 2022 "Further positive results confirmed at Roche Dure extension drilling program"

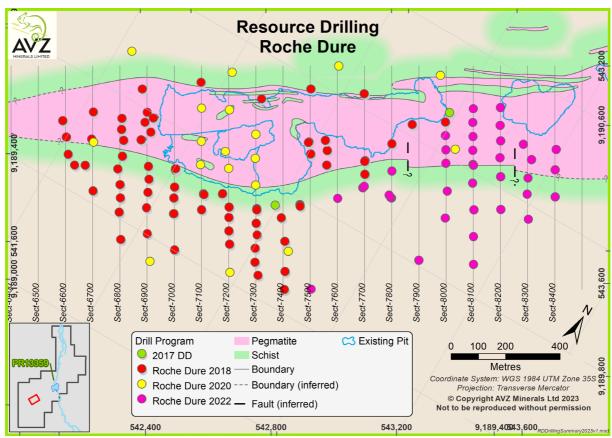


Figure 1: Location of completed holes, planned incomplete holes & current holes being drilled

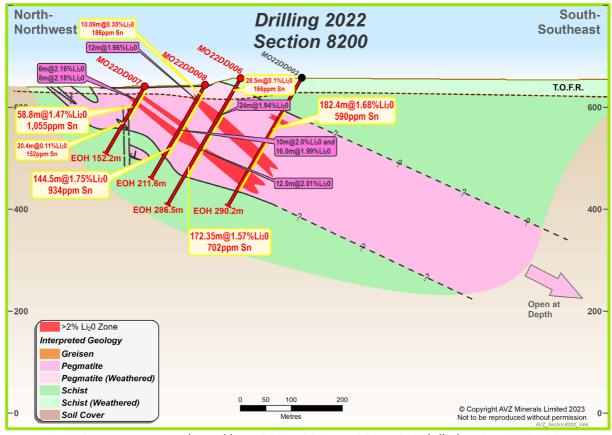


Figure 2: Intersections achieved by MO22DD006 to MO22DD008 drilled on Section 8,200mN

#### Corporate

The Company closed the December 2022 Quarter with a cash balance of A\$36.6 million.

Cash for the December 2022 Quarter was primarily used to fund the project development activities of the AVZ corporate and technical team in Perth and the Dathcom corporate and technical team in the DRC, including:

- A\$3.9 million for payroll, administration and corporate costs; and
- A\$8.0 million was capitalised as exploration and evaluation costs to the Manono Project.

Payments made to related parties as reported in the Appendix 5B (refer Items 6.1 and 6.2) for the December 2022 Quarter relate to Directors' employment, consultancy services and business expense reimbursements to Director related parties.

As of 31 December 2022, the Company's securities on issue were as follows:

Quoted Securities	Number
Ordinary Fully Paid	3,528,729,748
Unquoted Securities	Number
Performance Rights	54,541,600

This release was authorised by Mr. Nigel Ferguson, Managing Director of AVZ Minerals Limited.

For further information, visit www.avzminerals.com.au or contact:

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### Information required under ASX Listing Rule 5.3.3

List of current mining and exploration tenements (as of 31 December 2022):

Country / Project	Tenement	Interest	Status
DRC – Manono Project	PR 13359	75%*	Granted
DRC – Manono Exploration	PR 4029 PR 4030	100%	Granted

<sup>\*</sup>AvZ Minerals Limited has secured a further 15% equity in the Manono Project from Dathomir Mining Resources SARL. AVZ Minerals now has a 75% interest in the Manono Project upon completion of that acquisition in August 2021. On 27 September 2021, AVZ Minerals announced Suzhou Cath Energy Technologies ("CATH") will earn a 24% interest in the Manono Project subject to the satisfaction or waiver of several conditions' precedent by 30 November 2021. Since 30 November 2021, both parties have agreed on several occasions to amend the closure date for the Transaction Implementation Agreement ("TIA"). On 3 January 2023, both parties agreed to amend the TIA end date to 28 February 2023.

### Roche Dure Main Pegmatite Ore Reserve Estimate (as of 31 December 2022):

Reserve Category	Tonnes (Mt)	Grade Li₂O %	Contained Li₂0 (Mt)	Grade Sn (g/t)	Contained Sn (kt)
Proved	65.0	1.64	1.07	942	61.2
Probable	66.6	1.61	1.075	1.037	69.1
Total	131.7	1.63	2.14	990	130.3

Note: The Ore Reserve estimate has been based on a cut-off > US\$0.00 block value comprising an economic block by block calculation. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

#### Roche Dure Main Pegmatite Mineral Resource at a 0.5% Li<sub>2</sub>O cut-off (as of 31 December 2022):

Category	Tonnes (Millions)	Li₂O %	Sn ppm	Ta ppm	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> %	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> %
Measured	100	1.67	870	35	0.93	0.30
Indicated	174	1.65	807	35	0.97	0.29
Inferred	128	1.65	585	31	1.01	0.28
Total	401	1.65	752	34	0.97	0.29

#### ABOUT MANONO LITHIUM AND TIN PROJECT

AVZ holds a 75% interest in the Manono Project, located 500km north of Lubumbashi in the south of the Democratic Republic of Congo, hosting the world class Roche Dure Mineral Resource, one of the largest undeveloped hard rock lithium deposits in the world. 10% will remain with the DRC government as per the DRC Mining Code and the 15% balance, currently belonging to the DRC government, is subject to a purchase agreement from AVZ International but is yet to be finalised.

The Manono Project is strategically positioned as a clean, sustainable source of lithium, significantly contributing to the green energy transition, feeding the global lithium-ion battery value chain. With industry leading ESG credentials, it is forecast to be one of the lowest carbon emitting hard rock mines in the world. AVZ, as operators of the Manono Project, has been admitted as an inaugural member of the DRC Battery Council.

#### NO NEW INFORMATION

This document may include references to information that relates to Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves prepared and first disclosed under the JORC Code 2012. The information references the Company's previous ASX announcements noting the following:

- Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves for the Manono Lithium and Tin Operation "MLTO" or Roche Dure reference the Company's previous ASX Announcements "JORC Ore Reserves increase by 41.6% at Roche Dure" released to ASX on 14 July 2021 and "Updated Mineral Resource Estimate Includes Pit Floor "Wedge" Drill Results" released to ASX on 24 May 2021.
- Any reference to Carriere de l'Este mineral resource estimate (MRE) should be read in conjunction with the Company's previous ASX Announcement "Assays from Carriere de l'Este drilling confirms deposit a likely rival to Roche Dure" dated 16 August 2021.
- Any reference to tin exploration targets should be read in conjunction with the Company's previous ASX Announcement "Initial Exploration Target for Alluvial Placer Hosted Tin Defined at the Manono Lithium and Tin Project" dated 18 May 2021.
- The Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) refers to the April 2020 DFS, announced to the ASX on 21 April 2020.

These announcements are available to view on the Company's website www.avzminerals.com.au

The Company confirms it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcements and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.

The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not been materially modified from the relevant original market announcements

#### **COMPETENT PERSON STATEMENT**

The technical information in the document that relates to the geology of the Roche Dure pegmatite is based upon information compiled by Mr Michael Cronwright, who is a fellow of The Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) and is a registered professional with the South African Council for Natural Professions (SACNASP). Mr Cronwright was a Principal Consultant with The MSA Group (Pty) Ltd (an independent consulting company). Mr Cronwright has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 edition of the JORC Code. Mr Cronwright consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.

The Roche Dure pegmatite Mineral Resource estimate has been completed by Mr Anton Geldenhuys (BSc Hons, MEng) who is a geologist with 20 years' experience in exploration and mining as well as Mineral Resource evaluation and reporting. He is a Principal Resource Consultant for CSA Global Pty Ltd (an independent consulting company), is a member in good standing with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) and is a Member of the Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA). Mr Geldenhuys has the appropriate relevant qualifications and experience to be considered a Competent Person for the activity being undertaken as defined in the 2012 edition of the JORC Code.

The information that relates to Roche Dure pegmatite Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Mr. Daniel Grosso who is an employee of CSA Global Pty Ltd. Mr Grosso takes overall responsibility for the Report as Competent Person. Mr. Grosso is a Member of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has sufficient experience, which is relevant to the style or mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration, and to the activity he is undertaking, to qualify as a Competent Person in terms of the JORC (2012 Edition). The Competent Person, Daniel Gross, has reviewed the Ore Reserve statement and given permission for the publication of this information in the form and context within which it appears.

The information in this report that relates to geology and the exploration results is based on information compiled by Mr. Nigel Ferguson (BSc) FAusIMM MAIG, a Competent Person who is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a Member of the Australia Institute of Geoscientists. Mr. Ferguson is the Managing Director of AVZ Minerals Limited and has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr. Ferguson consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

#### FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

This announcement contains certain forward-looking statements and comments about future events, including the Company's expectations about the Manono Project and the performance of its businesses. Forward looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as 'expect', 'anticipate', 'likely', 'intend', 'should', 'could', 'may', 'predict', 'plan', 'propose', 'will', 'believe', 'forecast', 'estimate', 'target' and other similar expressions within the meaning of securities laws of applicable jurisdictions. Indications of, and guidance on, future earnings or financial position or performance are also forward-looking statements.

Forward looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and there is a risk that such predictions, forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements will not be achieved. Forward looking statements are provided as a general guide only and should not be relied on as an indication or guarantee of future performance. Forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainty and other factors which can cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements and many of these factors are outside the control of the Company. As such, undue reliance should not be placed on any forward-looking statement. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and no representation or warranty is made by any person as to the likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any forward-looking statements, forecast financial information or other forecast. Nothing contained in this announcement, nor any information made available to you is, or shall be relied upon as, a promise, representation, warranty or guarantee as to the past, present or the future performance of the Company.

Except as required by law or the ASX Listing Rules, the Company assumes no obligation to provide any additional or updated information or to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or results, or otherwise.

# Appendix 5B

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

# Name of entity

AVZ Minerals Limited			
ABN Quarter ended ("current quarter")			
81 125 176 703	31 Dec 2022		

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	(51)	(120)
	(b) development	-	-
	(c) production	-	-
	(d) staff costs	(1,517)	(2,033)
	(e) administration and corporate costs	(2,392)	(3,847)
1.3	Dividends received (see note 3)	-	-
1.4	Interest received	186	356
1.5	Interest and other costs of finance paid	(21)	(43)
1.6	Income taxes paid	-	-
1.7	Government grants: COVID-19 Cashflow Boost	-	-
1.8	R&D Tax Incentive	-	138
1.9	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities	(3,795)	(5,549)

2.	Ca	sh flows from investing activities		
2.1	Pa	yments to acquire or for:		
	(a)	entities	-	-
	(b)	tenements	-	-
	(c)	property, plant and equipment	(8)	(52)
	(d)	exploration & evaluation	(7,988)	(18,838)
	(e)	investments	-	-
	(f)	other non-current assets	-	-

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

Cons	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	-	15
	(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	(7,996)	(18,875)

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	-	-
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	Payment of lease liability	(59)	(117)
3.8	Dividends paid	-	-
3.9	Other (provide details if material)	-	-
3.10	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities	(59)	(117)

4.	Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the period		
4.1	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	48,059	60,726
4.2	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9 above)	(3,795)	(5,549)
4.3	Net cash from / (used in) investing activities (item 2.6 above)	(7,996)	(18,875)
4.4	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities (item 3.10 above)	(59)	(117)

Con	solidated 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	380	404
4.6	Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	36,589	36,589

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	36,589	48,059
5.2	Call deposits	-	-
5.3	Bank overdrafts	-	-
5.4	Other (provide details)	-	-
5.5	Cash and cash equivalents at end of quarter (should equal item 4.6 above)	36,589	48,059

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	644
6.2	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 2	22
Noto: i	associates included in item 2  facts amounts are shown in items 6.1 or 6.2, your quarterly activity report must include	

Note: if any amounts are shown in items 6.1 or 6.2, your quarterly activity report must include a description of, and an explanation for, such payments.

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.			
	N/A			

8.	Estimated cash available for future operating activities	\$A'000
8.1	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9)	(3,795)
8.2	(Payments for exploration & evaluation classified as investing activities) (item 2.1(d))	(7,988)
8.3	Total relevant outgoings (item 8.1 + item 8.2)	(11,783)
8.4	Cash and cash equivalents at quarter end (item 4.6)	36,589
8.5	Unused finance facilities available at quarter end (item 7.5)	-
8.6	Total available funding (item 8.4 + item 8.5)	36,589
8.7	Estimated quarters of funding available (item 8.6 divided by item 8.3)	3.11

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: Not applicable

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: Not applicable

8.8.3 Does the entity expect to be able to continue its operations and to meet its business objectives and, if so, on what basis?

Answer: Not applicable

Note: where item 8.7 is less than 2 quarters, all of questions 8.8.1, 8.8.2 and 8.8.3 above must be answered.

# Compliance statement

- 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 2023

Authorised by: By the Board of AVZ Minerals Limited

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

#### Notes

- 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.
- 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.