

# ASX RELEASE

30 January 2024

ASX Code: GIB



# GIBB RIVER

DIAMONDS

## QUARTERLY REPORT

Period Ending 31 December 2023

### Quarterly Highlights

#### Ellendale Diamond Project, WA

GIB 100%

- GIB has secured a Mining Benefits Agreement with the Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation ('Bunuba'), the Traditional Owners for the Ellendale Diamond Project area, in the West Kimberley region of Western Australia
- The grant of mining leases M04/475, M04/476 and M04/477 are now pending internal processing at the WA Mines Department (DMIRS), including the signature of the Minister for Mines, the Hon. David Michael MLA
- Maiden JORC Inferred Diamond Resource for the E9 Main Lights Stockpile at the Ellendale Diamond Project:

Inferred Resource	Tonnes million	Grade cpht*	Carats	Value US\$/carat
Total	5.2	1.26	66,200	1,200

\*cpht is carats per hundred tonnes

- The Company considers this resource to be very attractive in its potential to provide a significant new source for Fancy Yellow diamonds
- The Company is considering various financing options with a view to potential procurement and build of an initial mining operation at E9.

#### Edjudina Gold Project, WA

GIB 100%

- Maiden JORC Indicated and Inferred Gold Resource for the Neta Prospect, Edjudina:

Resource Category	Tonnes	Gold Grade (g/t)	Gold Ounces
Inferred	268,000	1.8	16,000
Indicated	110,000	2.2	8,000
Total	378,000	1.9	24,000

- Mineralisation commences from surface
- Mining lease currently being progressed through the Native Title system.

### Corporate — Listed Shareholdings & Cash Position

- During the Quarter, GIB sold a number of ASX listed shares to raise a total of \$644,324
- The Company has \$2.38 million dollars cash at the end of the quarter, and is well funded for current planned activities

## **1.0 Ellendale Diamond Project**

**GIB 100%**

Gibb River Diamonds Limited ('GIB' or the 'Company') owns the Ellendale Diamond Project in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia. The Ellendale Project has been one of the world's largest diamond producers in the past, with previous operators reporting a combined market capitalisation of over \$690 million in 2006 on leases now held by GIB.

The aim of the Company is to re-establish a diamond production facility at Ellendale. An update to the various objectives required to achieve this aim are summarised below:

### **1.1 Mining Benefits Agreement Secured**

Gibb River Diamonds Limited ('GIB' or the 'Company') recently announced the signing of a Mining Benefits Agreement between GIB and the Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation ('Bunuba'), the Traditional Owners for the Ellendale Diamond Project area.

This agreement will facilitate the grant of the three Mining Leases, M04/475, M04/476 and M04/477, which are now pending internal DMIRS processing.

These three leases are key to developing the Ellendale Diamond Project. The leases cover the main portions of the historic workings at the E4 and E9 pipes, together with the extensively bulk-sampled E12 alluvials (Figures 1&2).

As well as the three mining leases, the Mining Benefits Agreement also covers the granted miscellaneous leases L04/98, L04/115 and L04/116, which cover road access and other project-supporting infrastructure.

The Mining Benefits Agreement and the grant of the mining leases are important milestones in re-establishing diamond production at Ellendale and the Company would like to thank the Traditional Owners and their representative body, the Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation (BDAC) for their co-operation and assistance in negotiating the agreement which will facilitate the grant of these permits. GIB looks forward to a long and mutually beneficial working arrangement with the Bunuba People.

Details of the Mining Benefits Agreement are included in the GIB ASX release dated 29 January 2024.

## 1.2 Maiden JORC Resource at E9 Main Lights Stockpile

During the Quarter, the Company announced the maiden JORC Inferred Diamond Resource (Mineral Resource Estimate, or MRE)<sup>1</sup> for the E9 Main Lights Stockpile at the Ellendale Diamond Project:

**Table 1: JORC Inferred Diamond Resource – Ellendale 9 Main Lights Stockpile**

Inferred Resource	Tonnes million	Grade cpht*	Carats	Value US\$/carat	US\$/tonne
Total	5.2	1.26	66,277	1,200	15.3

Notes:

- i. \*cpht is carats per hundred tonnes
- ii. Rounding of: tonnage down to the nearest 100,000 tonnes; carats down to the nearest 100 carats; Value US\$/carat down to nearest 100 \$; Value US\$/tonne up to the nearest ten cents. This may result in rounding errors
- iii. Bottom cut-off screen size effective 1.5mm
- iv. US\$/tonne assumes the diamond valuation report pricing of May 2023<sup>3</sup> is realised

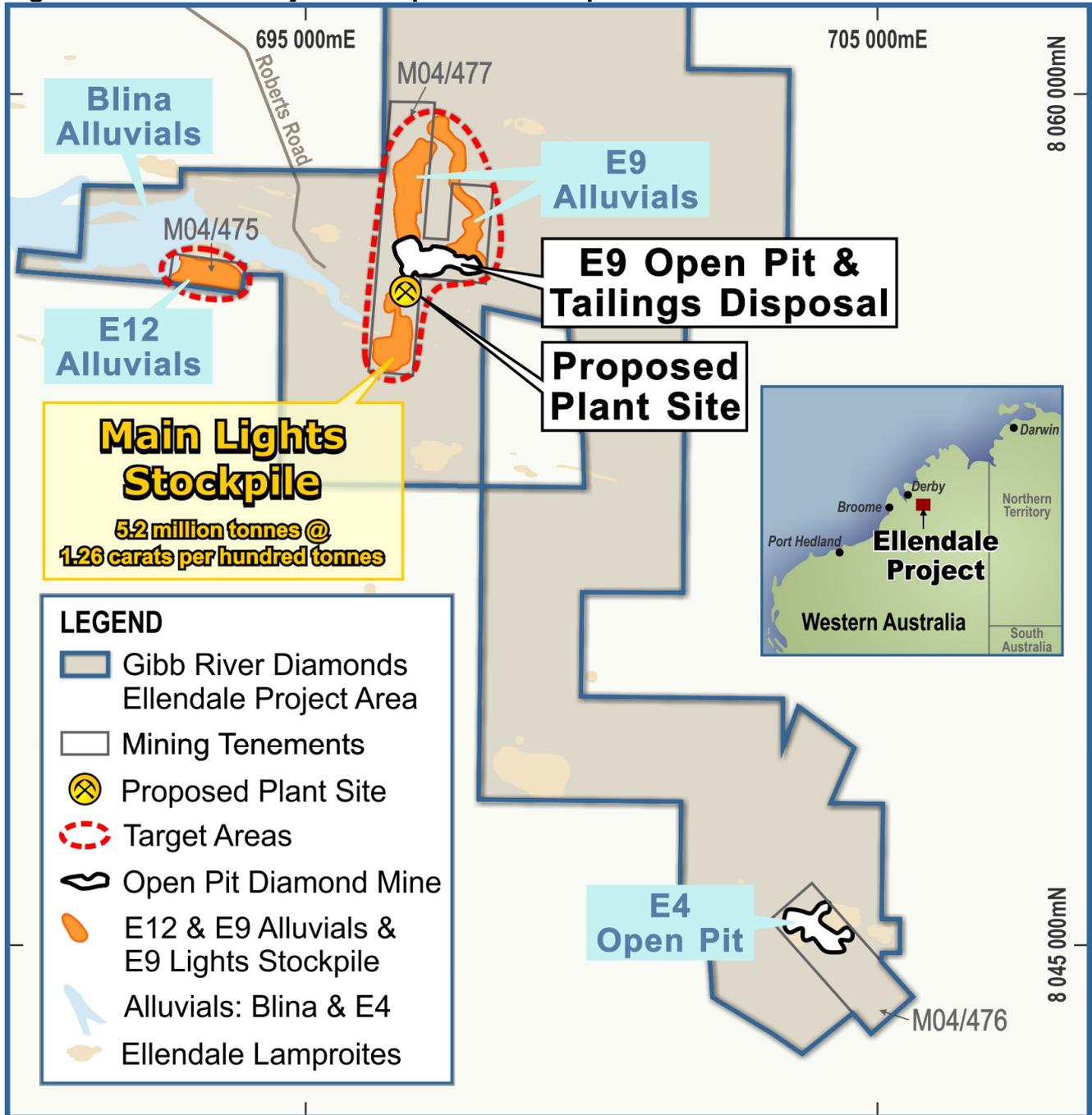
Previous operators of the Ellendale mine had a contract to sell the Fancy Yellow component of their production to Laurelton Diamonds (the jeweller Tiffany & Co), this agreement was based on a percentage premium above the diamond market pricing. It is uncertain if similar premium prices can be achieved with any future Fancy Yellow goods. However, there is a potential opportunity to capitalise on the uniqueness of these Fancy Yellow goods to sell at above market prices as demonstrated by KDC’s previous arrangement with Tiffany’s<sup>3</sup>.

This large resource for the E9 Lights Stockpile is a significant milestone for the Project and provides tangible evidence of the potential for the Ellendale Project to provide a significant new source for Fancy Yellow diamonds.

### E9 Lights Stockpile: Bulk Sample Site LS2



**Figure 2: Ellendale Project: Prospects and Proposed Infrastructure Locations**



### 1.3 E9 West Alluvials Resource Studies

The Company is currently compiling resource data for the E9 West Alluvials and intends to publish a JORC Resource for this area during the quarter.

The E9 West alluvials have been mined by a previous operator (Blina Diamonds) between 2005-2008. During this time 26,471 carats of diamonds were produced from 109,386 cubic metres of alluvials at a grade of 24.2 carats per hundred cubic metres with an average stone size of 0.35 carats and the largest diamond recovered was 11.4 carats.

On 15 May 2023, GIB reported updated diamond valuations from the data of these previously mined diamonds from the E9 West Alluvials, this was estimated as US\$252 per carat.

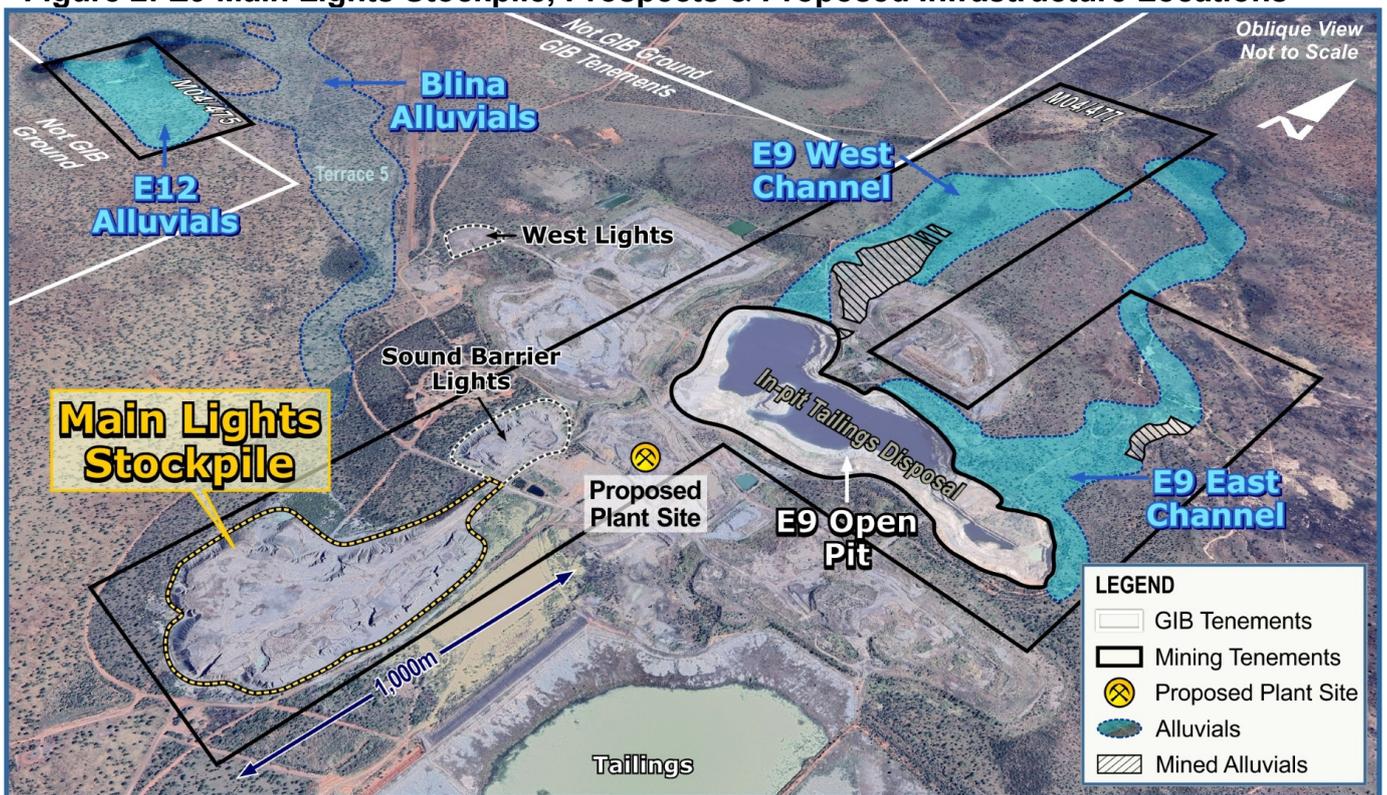
There is extensive exploration bulk sampling data over the unmined part of this area and it is this material which GIB is compiling a JORC resource over. This information was reported in a GIB ASX Release dated 23 December 2019 including a JORC Table 1.

**1.4 Permitting for Mining at E9**

Environmental Consulting Group Animal Plant Mineral Pty Ltd (APM) have provided to GIB an environmental desktop study for the E9 and E12 Ellendale Project areas. This document is not deemed price sensitive and is being used to determine the extent of any further studies required in order to obtain various permits for mining at Ellendale.

Further work on permitting for mining is ongoing which includes water extraction, Aboriginal heritage clearance, mining, environmental and tailings disposal.

**Figure 2: E9 Main Lights Stockpile, Prospects & Proposed Infrastructure Locations**



## 2.0 Edjudina Gold Project, WA

**GIB 100%**

During the quarter, GIB reported the maiden JORC Inferred and Indicated Resource (Mineral Resource Estimate, or MRE)<sup>4</sup> for the Neta Prospect at the Edjudina Gold Project:

**Table 1: JORC Indicated & Inferred Gold Resource at a Cut-off 1g/t– Neta Prospect**

Resource Category	Tonnes	Gold Grade (g/t)	Gold Ounces
Inferred	268,000	1.8	16,000
Indicated	110,000	2.2	8,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>378,000</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>24,000</b>

- i. Cut-off 1g/t;
- ii. Rounded to significant figures; can result in rounding errors

The Company has done well to discover this Neta Prospect Resource. The Edjudina line of workings has been prospected and mined, on and off, since 1897 and this resource at the Neta Prospect had been missed until it was discovered and delineated by GIB geologists.

The resource itself is attractive with mineralisation from surface, good grades, including high grade shoots, and a third of the resource in the Indicated category.

The next milestone is the grant of Mining Licence application M31/495 which covers the Neta Prospect resource, GIB is currently progressing this through the Native Title system and the Company is optimistic this lease will be granted within an appropriate commercial timeframe. All of this can now drive realistic opportunities for monetisation of the resource itself and the Project overall.

## 2.1 About the Edjudina Gold Project

GIB's Edjudina Gold Project is 145km north east of Kalgoorlie and is located in the heart of the Eastern Goldfields of WA. The project comprises multiple parallel lines of nearly continuous historic gold workings over a 13km strike in which high grade veins have been worked. A haul road owned and operated by Northern Star Resources Limited runs through the north of the project tenement directly to the Carosue Dam milling complex 45 km to the south-west.

## 3.0 Iroquois Zn-Pb Project, WA

**GIB 20% free carry**

GIB holds a 20% equity in tenement E69/2820 which lies approximately 100km north-east of Wiluna, WA. The project is managed within a Joint Venture between ASX listed Strickland Metals Limited (STK) and GIB. The tenement hosts the Iroquois Zn-Pb Project which has previously reported excellent drilling results including IQRC001: 23m @ 5.5% Zn + Pb from 108m<sup>5</sup>.

STK reported the following to GIB subsequent to the end of the quarter:

*'During the previous reporting period, an application was submitted for Exploration Incentive Scheme (EIS). This application was successful and planning for drilling has commenced.*

*The Gravity Survey conducted across the Seneca prospect during the previous reporting period was assessed with results used to produce a suite of gravity images and an inversion model over the prospect to assist with target generation.*

*Moombarriga Geoscience was engaged mid-September to complete the IP survey. The survey was designed to map variation in chargeability across Iroquois, high chargeability being a key property of the massive sulphide mineralisation intersected in IQDD0003. The results highlighted a broad chargeability anomaly coincident with MVT pathfinder anomalism and discrete gravity highs. The results of the survey will assist with targeting and planning across the Iroquois prospect.'*

GIB believes that Iroquois is currently very under-drilled and that further drilling of the project would generate a significant commercial benefit for both GIB and STK.

#### **4.0 ASX Listed Shareholdings Sales**

During the quarter, GIB sold a number of ASX listed shares that were legacies of previous deals. These share sales raised a total of \$644,324 during the quarter. The sales are summarised below (brokerage has been deducted from sale total):

- Burgundy Diamond Mines Limited (ASX: BDM)  
Sold 2,694,378 at an average sale price of \$0.1763 for \$473,644
- Accelerate Resources Limited (ASX: AX8)  
Sold 3,000,000 at an average sale price of \$0.041 for \$122,262
- Strickland Metals Limited (ASX: STK)  
Sold 262,500 at an average sale price of \$0.185 for \$48,418

The Company retains 50,000 shares in Strickland Metals Limited.

#### **5.0 E69/3401 Residual Royalty Update**

On 31 May 2018, GIB reported the sale (via Option Agreement), to private Australian Company 979 920 01 Pty Ltd, of the GIB tenement E69/3401 situated in the Musgrave region of Western Australia.

On 29 August 2023, ASX listed company GCX Metals Limited announced a binding agreement to acquire 100% of Dante Resources Pty Ltd, of which 979 920 01 Pty Ltd was a wholly owned subsidiary. This acquisition subsequently went ahead.

GIB has a residual interest in the tenement E69/3401, consisting of:

- 1% Net Smelter Royalty
- \$30,000 in shares in the listed entity will be payable to GIB, should the company 979 920 01 Pty Ltd conduct an IPO or sell the tenement,

GCX are actively exploring on E69/3401 and released a most favourable exploration update to the ASX on 24 January 2024.

## 5.0 Summary

At the Ellendale Diamond Project, the Company is very pleased to have secured a Mining Benefits Agreement between GIB and the Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation ('Bunuba'), the Traditional Owners for the Ellendale Diamond Project area.

This agreement and the upcoming grant of the mining leases are important milestones in re-establishing diamond production at Ellendale and the Company thanks the Bunuba People for their assistance in negotiating this agreement.

The Company continues to work on a JORC Resource for the E9 West Alluvials and permitting for mining. This work will be greatly assisted by the upcoming grant of the mining leases.

The last Quarter was busy with JORC Resources announced at both Ellendale and at the Edjudina Gold Project in WA. Both of these resources are important to GIB with the large Ellendale diamond resource indicating the size potential of the project and the Edjudina Gold Resource showing mineralisation from surface, good grades, including high grade shoots, and a third of the resource in the Indicated category.

The Company has \$2.38 million dollars cash at the end of the quarter, and is well funded for current planned activities

Jim Richards  
Executive Chairman

Enquiries To: Mr Jim Richards +61 8 9422 9500

### **Note 6 to Appendix 5B:**

Payments to related parties of the entity and their associates: during the quarter \$109,000 was paid to Directors and associates for salaries superannuation and consulting fees.

**References:**

<sup>1</sup>Ellendale Diamond Project, Maiden JORC Resource – Lights Stockpile; GIB ASX Release dated 1 November 2023

<sup>2</sup>Ellendale Diamond Project, Native Title Agreement Secured – Lights Stockpile; GIB ASX Release dated 29 January 2024

<sup>3</sup>Ellendale Project Reports Excellent New Diamond Valuations; GIB ASX Release dated 15 May 2023

<sup>4</sup>Edjudina Gold Project, Maiden JORC Resource – Neta Prospect; GIB ASX Release dated 14 November 2023

**Caution regarding Forward Looking Information**

*This document contains forward looking statements concerning Gibb River Diamonds Limited. Forward looking statements are not statements of historical fact and actual events and results may differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of risks, uncertainties and other factors. Forward looking statements in this document are based on GIB's beliefs, opinions and estimates as of the dates the forward-looking statements are made, and no obligation is assumed to update forward looking statements if these beliefs, opinions or estimates should change or to reflect other future developments.*

**Competent Persons Statement**

*The information in this report that relates to previously reported exploration results and new exploration results is based on information compiled by Mr. Jim Richards who is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr. Richards is a Director of Gibb River Diamonds Limited. Mr. Richards has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr. Richards consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears*

*Jim Richards is a director of Gibb River Diamonds Limited and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as a competent Person as defined in the December 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Richards consents to the inclusion in this report of the Information, in the form and context in which it appears.*

## Appendix A - Mining Tenement Interests

Table 1: Western Australia

Lease	State	Status	Held at end of quarter %	Acquired during the quarter %	Disposed of during the quarter %	Beneficial interests in farm-in or farm-out agreements at the end of the quarter
E04/2665	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
E04/2666	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
E04/2824	WA	Withdrawn	0%	0%	100%	Withdrawn
E04/2825	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
E04/2843	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
M04/467	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
M04/475	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
M04/476	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
M04/477	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
P04/277-281	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
P04/282-287	WA	Surrendered	0%	0%	100%	GIB 100%
E69/2820	WA	Granted	20%	0%	0%	JV with Strickland Metals Limited – GIB 20% Free Carry to BFS
L04/98	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/100	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/105	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/106	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/107	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/115	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/116	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L04/126	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
L31/91	WA	Application	100%	100%	0%	GIB 100%
L31/92	WA	Application	100%	100%	0%	GIB 100%
E31/1179	WA	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
M31/495	WA	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%

Table 2: Northern Territory

<b>Lease</b>	<b>Mineral Field</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Held at end of quarter %</b>	<b>Acquired during the quarter %</b>	<b>Disposed of during the quarter %</b>	<b>Beneficial interests in farm-in or farm-out agreements at the end of the quarter</b>
EL25068	NT	Highland Plains	Granted	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%
EL33563	NT	Mittiebah	Application	100%	0%	0%	GIB 100%

## Appendix 5B

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

Name of entity

Gibb River Diamonds Limited

ABN 51 129 158 550

Quarter ended ("current quarter")

31 December 2023

Consolidated statement of cash flows		Current quarter \$A'000	Year to date (6 months) \$A'000
<b>1.</b>	<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
1.1	Receipts from customers		
1.2	Payments for		
	(a) exploration & evaluation (if expensed)	(89)	(158)
	(b) development		
	(c) production		
	(d) staff costs	(130)	(281)
	(e) administration and corporate costs	(59)	(105)
1.3	Dividends received (see note 3)		
1.4	Interest received	14	19
1.5	Interest and other costs of finance paid		
1.6	Income taxes paid		
1.7	Government grants and tax incentives		
1.8	Other (provide details if material)		
<b>1.9</b>	<b>Net cash from / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(264)</b>	<b>(525)</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
2.1	Payments to acquire:		
	(a) entities		
	(b) tenements		
	(c) property, plant and equipment	-	(1)
	(d) exploration & evaluation (if capitalised)		
	(e) investments		
	(f) other non-current assets		

<b>Consolidated statement of cash flows</b>	<b>Current quarter \$A'000</b>	<b>Year to date (6 months) \$A'000</b>
2.2 Proceeds from the disposal of:		
(a) entities		
(b) tenements		
(c) property, plant and equipment		
(d) investments	644	2,180
(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)		
<b>2.6 Net cash from / (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>2,179</b>

<b>3. Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
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 Transaction costs related to loans and borrowings		
3.8 Dividends paid		
3.9 Other (Lease prepayments)	(15)	(34)
<b>3.10 Net cash from / (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(15)</b>	<b>(34)</b>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the period</b>		
4.1	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	2,014	759
4.2	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9 above)	(264)	(525)
4.3	Net cash from / (used in) investing activities (item 2.6 above)	644	2,179
4.4	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities (item 3.10 above)	(15)	(34)
4.5	Effect of movement in exchange rates on cash held		
<b>4.6</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>2,379</b>	<b>2,379</b>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents</b> at the end of the quarter (as shown in the consolidated statement of cash flows) to the related items in the accounts	<b>Current quarter</b> <b>\$A'000</b>	<b>Previous quarter</b> <b>\$A'000</b>
5.1	Bank balances	777	223
5.2	Call deposits	1,602	1,791
5.3	Bank overdrafts		
5.4	Other (provide details)		
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of quarter (should equal item 4.6 above)</b>	<b>2,379</b>	<b>2,014</b>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Payments to related parties of the entity and their associates</b>	<b>Current quarter</b> <b>\$A'000</b>
6.1	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 1	109
6.2	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 2	

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

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

<b>7. Financing facilities</b>	<b>Total facility amount at quarter end \$A'000</b>	<b>Amount drawn at quarter end \$A'000</b>
<i>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.</i>		
7.1 Loan facilities		
7.2 Credit standby arrangements		
7.3 Other (please specify)		
7.4 <b>Total financing facilities</b>		
7.5 <b>Unused financing facilities available at quarter end</b>		
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.		

<b>8. Estimated cash available for future operating activities</b>	<b>\$A'000</b>
8.1 Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (Item 1.9)	(264)
8.2 Capitalised exploration & evaluation (Item 2.1(d))	
8.3 Total relevant outgoings (Item 8.1 + Item 8.2)	(264)
8.4 Cash and cash equivalents at quarter end (Item 4.6)	2,379
8.5 Unused finance facilities available at quarter end (Item 7.5)	
8.6 Total available funding (Item 8.4 + Item 8.5)	2,379
8.7 <b>Estimated quarters of funding available (Item 8.6 divided by Item 8.3)</b>	9 quarters
8.8 If Item 8.7 is less than 2 quarters, please provide answers to the following questions:	
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:	
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:	
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:	

## 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: 30 January 2024

Authorised by: .....

By the Board

(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.