

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

## ASX Announcement

# BUBALUS APPROVED TO COMMENCE MAIDEN DRILL PROGRAM AT NOLANS EAST

### Highlights

- Heritage Authority Certificate received paving way for commencement of maiden drill program at Nolans East REE Project
- Nolans East Project is located 15km from Nolans Bore (ASX.ARU), where Arafura Resources is constructing Australia's next REE mine and refinery underpinned by \$840m in Federal Government funding support
- Drilling will test 8 priority targets from the 22 REE targets delineated at Nolans East by Bubalus' extensive sampling programme
- Targets lie within extensive surface REE anomalies defined over 5km in length (aggregate), along a WNW-ESE trend, with peak assay > 2,000ppm TREO
- Request for proposals have been sent to suitably qualified drill contractors, with drilling anticipated to occur in mid June

Bubalus Resources Limited (ASX: BUS) (**Bubalus** or **the Company**) is pleased to provide an update on preparations for drilling at its 100% owned Nolans East REE Project, located 15km south east of the Nolans Bore deposit owned by Arafura Resources Limited (**Arafura**).

Arafura has defined a Mineral Resource at Nolans Bore of 56 million tonnes at an average grade of 2.6% total rare earth oxides (**TREO**), including a high proportion of neodymium-praesidium oxides (26%  $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Pr}_6\text{O}_{11}$  (**NdPr**)), and 11% phosphate ( $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ ) has been defined by Arafura at Nolans Bore<sup>1</sup>. Arafura's market capitalisation has grown to over A\$540 million (ASX.ARU) and up to A\$840 million in Commonwealth government funding for the Nolans Bore mine and refinery development has recently been announced.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.arultd.com/projects/nolans.html> ; also refer ARU.ASX Announcement 7 June 2017.

The Company has received its Heritage Authority Certificate (**HAC**) for exploration works at Nolans East from the Aboriginal Areas Protection Agency (**AAPA**). This gives the Company permission to carry out Reverse Circulation (RC) or Aircore (AC) drilling at Nolans East and follows the completion of the heritage survey over the proposed drilling targets earlier this year. Upon receipt of the HAC and review of the conditions the Company has sent a Request For Proposal to suitably qualified drilling contractors.

**Non-Executive Director Scott Deakin commented:** *"We are excited to get on the ground & drill these compelling rare earth targets located next door to Australia's next tier one rare earths development in Arafura. We would like to thank the AAPA and Central Land Council (CLC) as representatives for the traditional owners, in their collaborative approach working towards this milestone."*

### Update on Drilling Preparations

The Company lodged an application for an HAC in 2023 to provide clearance for drilling activities to ensure Aboriginal cultural heritage would not be adversely impacted. The application covered three discrete areas which covered the majority of the targets defined by surface sampling. A survey over these areas was conducted in the first quarter of this year.

The Company was recently issued with the HAC for the exploration works at Nolans East issued in accordance with Section 22 of the NT Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act (1989).

The HAC allows for Reverse Circulation (RC) or Aircore (AC) drilling as well as associated clearing. There is a Restricted Works Area defined within the proposed drilling areas to protect a specific site where no entry or activity is allowed.

Based on the HAC the Company has finalised its planned drilling for Nolans East and has sent a Request for Proposal to suitably qualified drilling contractors operating in, or able to mobilise to, the area of the Nolans East Project.

The Company looks forward to updating shareholders with progress towards its maiden drilling programme at Nolans East.

### Surface Sampling Anomalies and Target Definition

During 2023 Bubalus completed an extensive surface sampling campaign which defined large scale rare earth element (**REE**) anomalies at surface across the target area<sup>2</sup>. Work by Sugden Geoscience refined these anomalies into 22 discrete targets for further investigation including 6 high priority targets. All targets are shown on Figure 1 and form the basis of the areas which were cleared prior to issuance of the HAC.

The REE targets are derived from sampling at spacings of 400m x 100m and 200m x 100m across the area of interest. REE results included 267 samples which returned > 500ppm TREO and a peak value of 2,053ppm TREO. Importantly the NdPr content of the samples averages 22% of the TREO content (refer ASX Announcement 25 July 2023), a similar content to that reported at Nolans Bore (26%<sup>1</sup>).

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<sup>2</sup> ASX Announcements 24 January 2023 and 25 July 2023

The proposed drilling programme will test 8 of the 22 targets defined by Sugden Geoscience. One of the Priority 1 targets falls within the Restricted Works Area and accordingly cannot be tested by drilling in this programme.

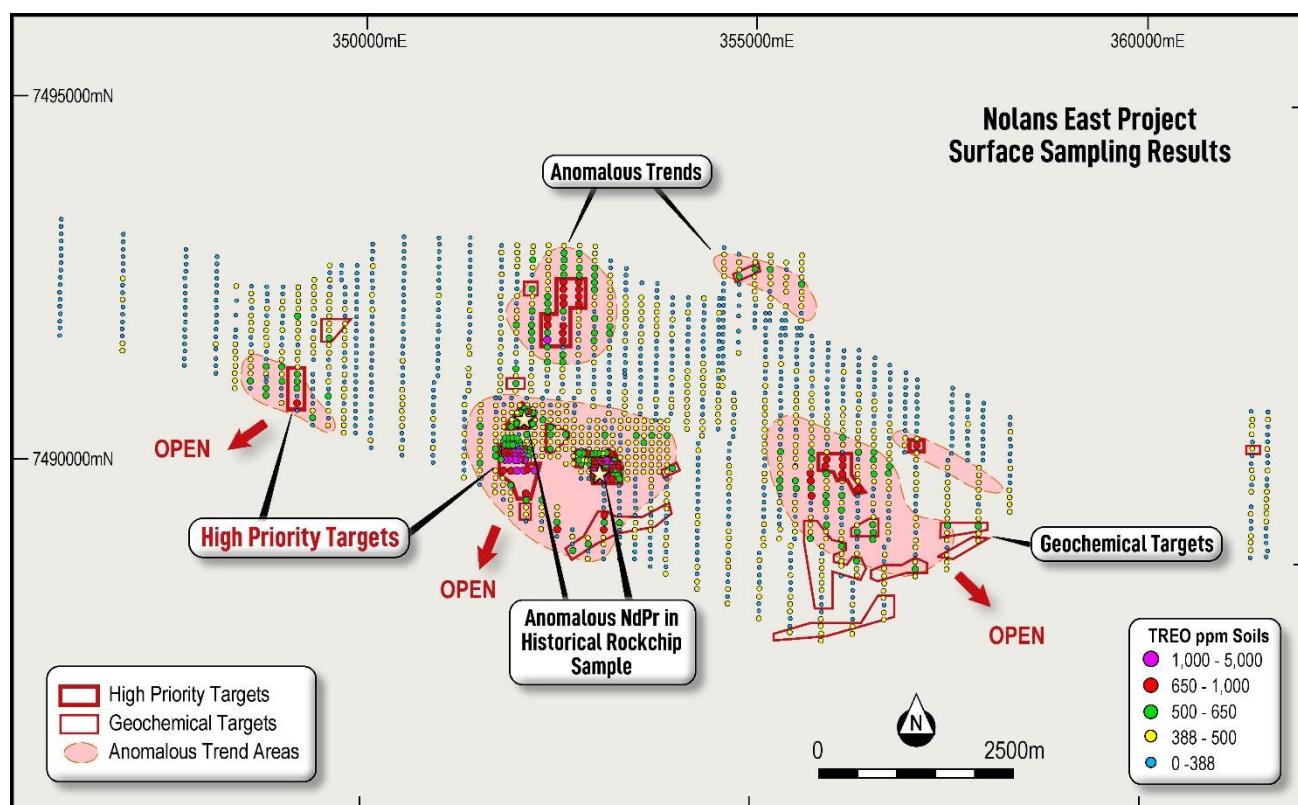
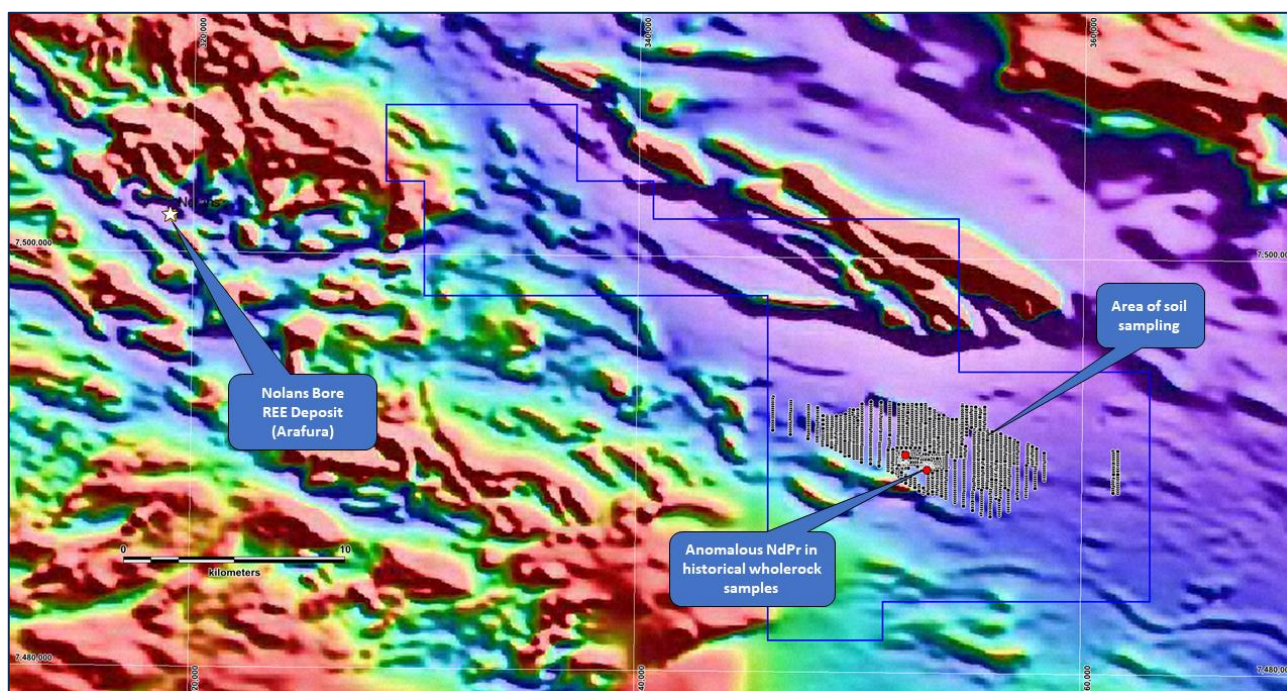


Figure 1. Results from surface sampling at Nolans East Project.





*Figure 2. Soil Sampling at the Nolans East Project over magnetics (TMI – NTGS data).*

This announcement has been authorised by the Board of Directors of Bubalus Resources Limited.

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## COMPETENT PERSONS STATEMENT

Information in this report relating to Exploration Results is based on information compiled, reviewed and assessed by Mr. Bill Oliver, who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr. Oliver is a Director of Bubalus Resources and 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 a Competent Person as defined by the 2012 Edition of the Australasian Code for reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (**JORC Code**). Mr. Oliver consents to the inclusion of the information in the form and context in which it appears.

Some of the information is extracted from the Independent Geologist's Report contained within the Prospectus released to the ASX on 11 October 2022 and available to view on the Bubalus Resources Limited website, [www.bubalusresources.com.au](http://www.bubalusresources.com.au) or on the ASX website, [www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au) under the ticker code BUS.

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

## ABOUT BUBALUS RESOURCES

Bubalus has five projects, the Yinnietharra Lithium Project (prospective for lithium), Amadeus Project (prospective for Manganese), the Coomarie Project (prospective for Heavy Rare Earths), the Nolans East Project (prospective for Light Rare Earths) and the Pargee Project (prospective for Heavy Rare Earths), which are located in premier geological provinces in the Northern Territory and Western Australia:

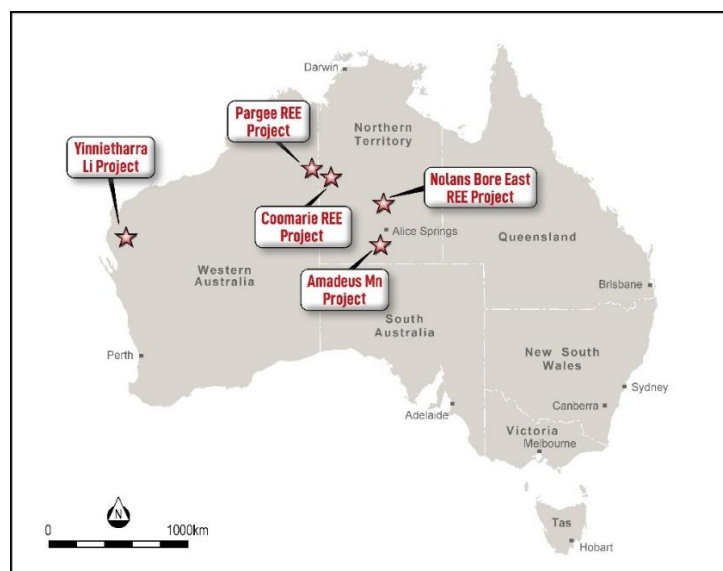
**Yinnietharra Project** (Li) - Yinnietharra Project with the boundary of E09/2724 lying only 2km east of the Malinda Prospect (Figure 1) owned by Delta Lithium Limited (ASX: DLI) (**Delta**). Drilling at Malinda by Delta has identified spodumene-hosted lithium mineralisation over a distance of 1.6 km and to a depth of 350m<sup>3</sup>.

**Amadeus Project** (Mn) - Significant land package with 150kms of strike containing outcropping high grade manganese covering 5,436km<sup>2</sup>, located 125km south of Alice Spring where historical exploration has identified 11 manganese occurrences, along with cobalt and Ni-Zn-Cu also identified.

**Nolans East Project** (Light REEs) - The project covers 380km<sup>2</sup> of the Arunta Province, analogous to Nolan's Bore light rare earth deposit and is prospective for light rare earths, located only 15kms east of Arafura's (ASX:ARU) 56Mt NPV \$1.011Bn light rare earth deposit.

**Coomarie Project** (Heavy REEs) - The project covers 1,315 km<sup>2</sup> and presents as a geological analogue to Browns Dome, host to Northern Minerals' (ASX:NTU) Browns Range heavy rare earths deposit where mineralisation is hosted on margins of granite dome intrusive where the unconformity between Gardiner Sandstone and Browns Range Metamorphics exist and located in the Tanami Region.

**Pargee Project** (Heavy REEs) - The project is prospective for heavy rare earths and located 30kms from PWV Resources' (ASX:PVW) Watts Rise heavy rare earths discovery.



<sup>3</sup> Refer to Delta Lithium Limited's ASX Announcement on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 "Excellent Yinnetharra Initial Metallurgical Results and Drilling Update".