

Sierra Rutile Board Recommends Takeover Offer From Gemcorp

Highlights

- **SRX has entered into a binding Bid Implementation Agreement with Gemcorp, under which Gemcorp will offer to acquire all of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX it does not already own**
- **Cash offer of A\$0.16 per share represents an 28.3% premium to SRX 3-month VWAP**
- **The Offer implies a total undiluted equity value for SRX of A\$67.9 million**
- **The Offer Consideration represents a 68.4% premium to the A\$0.095 per share offer price of the PRM Services LLC on-market takeover bid announced on 20 March 2024**
- **SRX Directors unanimously recommend each holder of SRX shares ACCEPT THE OFFER and have indicated that they will ACCEPT THE OFFER in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, in both instances, in the absence of a Superior Proposal**

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited (ASX: SRX) (**SRX** or **the Company**) and Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holding Limited (**Gemcorp**) are pleased to announce they have entered into a binding Bid Implementation Agreement¹ (**BIA**), pursuant to which Gemcorp will offer to acquire all of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX that it does not already own² (each an **SRX Share** and together the **SRX Shares**) under the terms of an off-market takeover bid (the **Offer**).

Under the terms of the Offer, subject to satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions, each SRX Shareholder will receive a cash offer of A\$0.16 for every SRX Share held (the **Offer Consideration**), which represents a significant premium to SRX's recent share trading, specifically:

- 105.1% to SRX's last undisturbed³ closing price of A\$0.078 per share
- 112.4% to SRX's undisturbed³ 30-day Volume Weighted Average Price (VWAP) of A\$0.075 per share
- 61.4% to SRX's 6 month VWAP of A\$0.099 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 28.3% to SRX's 3 month VWAP of A\$0.125 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 20.4% to SRX's 30-day VWAP of A\$0.133 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 20.8% to SRX's last closing price of A\$0.133 per share

¹ Attached as Annexure A.

² Assumes all outstanding SRX performance rights vest, are exercised or cancelled pursuant to the BIA.

³ Undisturbed historical market and volume weighted average prices calculated with reference to the relevant trading period up to, but not including, 20 March 2024 being the date on which PRM announced its on-market takeover bid to acquire SRX at A\$0.095 per share.



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The Offer Consideration represents a 68.4% premium to the A\$0.095 a share offer price of the PRM Services LLC on-market takeover bid announced on 20 March 2024.

Gemcorp is SRX's largest Shareholder, with a relevant interest in approximately 19.9% of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX as at the date of this announcement.

The Offer implies a total undiluted equity value for SRX of A\$67.9 million⁴. In order to acquire the SRX Shares it does not already own, up to A\$54.4 million will be payable by Gemcorp (the **Offer Amount**).

Gemcorp has informed SRX that Gemcorp, its related bodies corporate, and funds managed by Gemcorp have sufficient cash and available facilities to fund the entire Offer Amount and related transaction expenses.

The SRX Directors unanimously recommend each holder of SRX shares ACCEPT THE OFFER and have indicated that they will ACCEPT THE OFFER in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, in both instances, in the absence of a Superior Proposal⁵.

SRX's Directors have considered the attractiveness of the Offer along with the ability to present the Offer to Shareholders expeditiously. The Directors have determined obtaining an independent expert's report is not in the best interest of SRX Shareholders, given the additional cost and time required in the context of a potential delay to SRX Shareholders being able to accept the Offer.

SRX Board Recommendations

SRX Directors have carefully considered the terms and conditions of the Offer and, in consultation with SRX's financial and legal advisers, have unanimously recommended SRX Shareholders accept the Offer in the absence of a Superior Proposal⁵.

SRX Directors have confirmed their present intention to, in the absence of a Superior Proposal, accept the Offer in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, including any that may be issued on vesting of performance rights during the offer period.

Greg Martin, Chairman and Non-Executive Director of SRX, commented:

"We believe Gemcorp's cash Offer provides compelling value for SRX today, representing a 20.4% premium to the 30-day volume weighted average share price. The Offer is also 68.4% higher than PRM Services LLC's A\$0.095 per share offer price announced in March.

"The Offer better reflects the highly strategic nature of SRX's existing Area 1 operations and its globally significant Sembehun development project, which was confirmed by the Definitive Feasibility Study released in April 2024.

"The Board of SRX considers the Offer is in the best interests of shareholders, providing the certainty of an attractive all-cash payment to shareholders relative to future development, operational and financial risks. The Board unanimously recommends SRX Shareholders ACCEPT THE OFFER in the

⁴ Calculated as the undiluted equity value of SRX implied by the Offer Consideration of A\$0.16 per share.

⁵ As defined in the BIA.



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absence of a Superior Proposal, and we look forward to working with Gemcorp to implement the transaction.”

Key benefits for SRX Shareholders

- **Certain value for SRX Shareholders** – Given the Offer Consideration comprises 100% cash, SRX Shareholders will receive certain and attractive value for their SRX Shares assuming the offer conditions are satisfied. By accepting the Offer, SRX Shareholders will receive a cash payment of A\$0.16 for every SRX Share held within the time frames contemplated under the Corporations Act. Furthermore, SRX Shareholders will not incur any brokerage fees, which will likely be incurred if SRX Shareholders sold their SRX Shares on market.
- **Attractive and significant premium** – The Offer represents an attractive and significant premium to recent trading levels of SRX Shares, and to the A\$0.095 a share offer price from PRM Services LLC.
- **Avoidance of future funding and associated dilution risk** – The Sembahun Project will require significant additional financing in the short to medium term to fund the development of the project in line with the currently proposed schedule. To the extent that some or all of this additional funding is sought in the form of equity, if SRX Shareholders do not accept the Offer, SRX Shareholders would need to contribute commensurately with their existing shareholding to avoid having their proportionate interest in SRX diluted.
- **Avoidance of inherent risks** – SRX Shareholders who accept the Offer will no longer be exposed to a variety of risks including, among others, project development and operational risks, sovereign, political, regulatory, community, social, litigation, equity market, commodity price and other economic risks inherent in their shareholding.

Bid Implementation Agreement

Under the BIA, SRX and Gemcorp have given undertakings to each other to facilitate the Offer. The Offer is subject to a limited number of conditions, including:

- A minimum acceptance condition that Gemcorp increases its relevant interest in SRX to at least 51%
- No prescribed occurrences in relation to SRX
- No material adverse change in relation to SRX
- No government or regulatory action in consequence or in connection with the Offer which adversely impacts the Offer
- No breach by SRX of certain conduct of business restrictions
- Other conditions as set out in the BIA

The BIA contains customary deal protection mechanisms including “no shop, no talk” and “no due diligence” restrictions, as well as notification and matching rights in the event of a competing proposal.

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A market-standard reciprocal break fee may also be payable by each party in certain circumstances, as set out in the BIA.

The Offer will extend to all SRX Shares including those issued as a result of vested performance rights during the Offer Period in accordance with the BIA.

A copy of the BIA is attached at Annexure A.

Timetable and Next Steps

Further details regarding the Offer will be contained within Gemcorp's *Bidder's Statement* and SRX's *Target's Statement*, which are expected to be despatched to SRX shareholders on the dates set out below. The *Bidder's Statement* and *Target's Statement* will set out important information, including how to accept the Offer, information about Gemcorp and the key reasons as to why SRX Shareholders should accept the Offer.

As the Offer does not involve a Scheme of Arrangement, no SRX shareholder vote is required.

It is anticipated the Offer will be open for acceptance from 15 July 2024. An indicative timetable for the Offer is set out below:

Event	Indicative Date
Announcement of the Offer	1 July 2024
Gemcorp lodges with ASIC, and provides to SRX and ASX, a copy of the Bidder's Statement	15 July 2024
Commencement of Offer Period	15 July 2024
SRX lodges with ASIC, and provides to Gemcorp and ASX, a copy of the Target's Statement	29 July 2024
Offer Period ends (unless extended)	16 August 2024

This timetable is indicative only and may be subject to change, subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and the ASX Listing Rules.

Advisors

Gemcorp has engaged Poynton Stavrianou as financial advisor and Hamilton Locke as legal advisor in relation to the Offer.

SRX has engaged Gresham as financial advisor and King & Wood Mallesons as legal advisor in relation to the Offer.

This announcement is authorised for release to the ASX jointly by the Boards of Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited and Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holdings Limited.

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Ends

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About Gemcorp

The Gemcorp Group is a leading emerging markets investment, commodities and energy group. Since its inception in 2014, Gemcorp has invested over US\$8 billion in credit and equity transactions and accelerated the growth of sovereign and corporate borrowers across 25 emerging market countries.

About SRX

SRX is the world's largest natural rutile producer, with an established operating history of more than 50 years from its operations in Sierra Leone.

SRX is well positioned to extend its operations through the proposed development of the nearby Sembehun deposits. Sembehun represents one of the largest and highest grade natural rutile resources in the world, and its development would extend SRX's mine life by at least 14 years.

SRX is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. Further details about SRX are available at www.sierra-rutile.com.

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Bid Implementation Agreement

Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holdings Limited

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited

Table of Contents

1.	Definitions, interpretation and agreement components	1
1.1	<i>Definitions</i>	1
1.2	<i>Interpretation</i>	7
1.3	<i>Interpretation of inclusive expressions</i>	8
1.5	<i>Agreement components</i>	8
2.	The Takeover Bid	9
2.1	<i>Making the Takeover Bid</i>	9
2.2	<i>Bidder may use subsidiary</i>	9
2.3	<i>Directors' recommendation and acceptance</i>	10
2.4	<i>Shares issued during the Offer Period</i>	10
3.	Public announcement of Takeover Bid	10
4.	Facilitating the Offer	10
4.1	<i>Bidder's Statement and Target's Statement</i>	10
4.2	<i>Dispatch of Offers</i>	10
4.3	<i>Access to information</i>	11
4.4	<i>Company share register information</i>	11
4.5	<i>Promoting the Takeover Bid</i>	11
4.6	<i>Recommending the Takeover Bid</i>	12
4.7	<i>Bid Conditions</i>	12
4.8	<i>Approvals</i>	13
5.	Takeover Bid – variation and waiver	13
5.1	<i>Variation</i>	13
5.2	<i>Waiver of Bid Conditions and extension</i>	13
6.	Conduct of business during Offer Period	13
6.1	<i>General obligations of the Group</i>	13
6.2	<i>Restrictions on the Group</i>	13
6.3	<i>Exceptions</i>	14
7.	Company's Board	15
8.	Reimbursement of costs	15
8.1	<i>Background</i>	15
8.2	<i>Payment of costs incurred by Bidder</i>	15
8.3	<i>Refund</i>	16
8.4	<i>Payment of costs incurred by the Company</i>	16
8.5	<i>Basis of Break Fees</i>	16
8.6	<i>Calculation of Break Fees</i>	17

8.7	<i>Payment</i>	17
8.8	<i>Break Fee only payable once</i>	17
8.9	<i>Compliance with law</i>	17
8.10	<i>Sole and exclusive remedy</i>	18
9.	Exclusivity	18
9.1	<i>Cease existing discussions</i>	18
9.2	<i>No shop</i>	18
9.3	<i>No talk</i>	19
9.4	<i>Notification of approaches</i>	19
9.5	<i>Compliance with law</i>	20
9.6	<i>Matching right</i>	20
9.7	<i>Confidentiality Agreement</i>	21
9.8	<i>Information disclosure to third parties</i>	22
10.	Confidentiality and announcements	22
10.1	<i>Confidentiality Agreement</i>	22
10.2	<i>Survival of obligations</i>	22
10.3	<i>Announcements</i>	22
11.	Warranties	23
11.1	<i>Mutual warranties</i>	23
11.2	<i>Company warranties</i>	23
11.3	<i>Bidder warranties</i>	25
11.4	<i>Reliance on representations and warranties</i>	25
11.5	<i>Notification</i>	25
12.	Releases	25
12.1	<i>Release of Company Indemnified Person</i>	25
12.2	<i>Release of Bidder Indemnified Person</i>	26
13.	Insurance and indemnification	26
14.	Termination	27
14.1	<i>Termination rights</i>	27
14.2	<i>Termination by Bidder</i>	27
14.3	<i>Automatic termination</i>	27
14.4	<i>Effect of termination</i>	28
15.	GST	28
15.1	<i>Interpretation</i>	28
15.2	<i>GST gross up</i>	28
15.3	<i>Reimbursements and indemnifications</i>	28

15.4	<i>Tax invoice</i>	28
16.	Notices	28
16.1	<i>Form of Notice</i>	28
17.	General	29
17.1	<i>Governing law and jurisdiction</i>	29
17.2	<i>Costs and expenses</i>	29
17.3	<i>Invalidity and enforceability</i>	29
17.5	<i>Waivers and variation</i>	30
17.6	<i>Assignment of rights</i>	30
17.7	<i>Further assurances</i>	30
17.8	<i>Counterparts</i>	30
17.9	<i>Severability</i>	30
17.10	<i>Attorneys</i>	30
17.11	<i>Time of the essence</i>	30
	Schedule 1 – Agreed Bid Terms	31
	Schedule 2 – Company’s capital structure	38
	Schedule 3 – Form of initial joint announcement	39

Date: 30 June 2024

Parties

Bidder	Name	Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holdings Limited
	Address	171, Old Bakery Street, Valletta VLT 1455, Malta
	Email	fberliner@gemcorp.net
	Attention	Felipe Berliner
Company	Name	Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited
	ACN	613 822 165
	Address	Level 8, 225 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000
	Email	martin.alciaturi@srx.group
	Attention	Martin Alciaturi

Background

- (A) The Bidder is proposing to make a Takeover Bid for all the Shares, and the Directors are proposing to recommend the Takeover Bid in the absence of a Superior Proposal.
- (B) The parties have agreed to implement the Takeover Bid on the terms and conditions set out in this agreement.

Operative provisions

1. Definitions, interpretation and agreement components

1.1 Definitions

The meanings of the terms used in this agreement are set out below:

Agreed Bid Terms means the terms and conditions set out in Schedule 1.

Area 1 or **Area 1 Project** means the Group's current mining and mineral processing operations at the Gangama, Taninahun, Gbeni, Lanti deposits, and the extension program at the Pejebu and Ndendemoia deposits, as described in the Company's ASX announcements.

ASIC means the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

Associate has the meaning given in Division 2 of Part 1.2 of the *Corporations Act* as if section 12(1) of the *Corporations Act* included a reference to this agreement.

ASX means ASX Limited ABN 98 008 624 691, or the market operated by it, as the context requires.

Bid Conditions means the conditions to the Takeover Bid included in section 3 of the Agreed Bid Terms.

Bidder Break Fee means US\$400,000.

Bidder Indemnified Person means the Bidder and its Related Bodies Corporate, and each of their respective Representatives.

Bidder's Statement means the bidder's statement to be prepared by the Bidder in relation to the Takeover Bid in compliance with Part 6.5 of the *Corporations Act*.

Board means the board of Directors of the Company.

Break Fee means the Target Break Fee and/or the Bidder Break Fee, as applicable.

Business Day means a day on which banks are open for business in Perth, Western Australia, other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday.

Claim means any claim, demand, legal proceedings or cause of action including any claim, demand, legal proceedings or cause of action:

- (a) based in contract (including breach of any warranty);
- (b) based in tort (including misrepresentation or negligence);
- (c) under common law or equity; or
- (d) under statute (including the Australian Consumer Law (being Schedule 1 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) (**CCA**)) or Part VI of the CCA, or like provisions in any state or territory legislation),

in any way relating to this agreement or the transaction contemplated by it, under the law of any jurisdiction.

Company Indemnified Person means each member of the Group and each of their respective Representatives.

Competing Proposal means a bona fide proposal or offer that, if successfully completed, would result in a person other than the Bidder whether alone or together with its Associates:

- (a) directly or indirectly acquiring or being entitled to acquire a relevant interest or an economic interest in 21% or more of the Company's Shares or of the share capital of any of the Company's Related Bodies Corporate;
- (b) directly or indirectly acquiring Control of the Company;
- (c) directly or indirectly acquiring or becoming the holder of any interest in all or a substantial part of the business conducted by, or assets of the Group; or
- (d) otherwise acquiring or merging with the Company,

whether by way of takeover offer, scheme of arrangement, shareholder approved acquisition, capital reduction, buy back, sale or purchase of shares or assets, joint venture, dual listed company structure (or other synthetic merger) or other transaction, and each successive modification of any actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal will constitute a new actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal.

Confidentiality Agreement means the confidentiality agreement dated 9 May 2024 between Gemcorp Capital Management Limited and the Company.

Control has the meaning given in section 50AA of the Corporations Act.

Corporations Act means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

Director means a director of the Company.

Effective Control means the Bidder having a Relevant Interest in at least 51% of Shares and the Offer having become or been declared unconditional.

Effective Control Date means the first date on which Effective Control has occurred.

Exclusivity Period means the period from the date of this agreement until:

- (a) the end of the Offer Period; or
- (b) the date of termination of this agreement,

whichever is earlier.

Fairly Disclosed means, in relation to a matter, event or circumstance, publicly disclosed to ASX, ASIC or disclosed in writing to the Bidder or its Representatives to the extent, and in reasonably sufficient detail, so as to allow a reasonable and a sophisticated investor (or one of its Representatives) experienced in transactions of the nature of the Takeover Bid and familiar with the mining and extraction industry would be aware of the substance and significance of the information, event or circumstance, including through the virtual data room made available to the Bidder up to the end of the day before the date of this agreement.

Group means the Company and its Subsidiaries.

GST has the meaning given in *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* (Cth).

A person is **Insolvent** if:

- (a) it is (or states that it is) an insolvent under administration or insolvent (each as defined in the Corporations Act);
- (b) it is in liquidation, in provisional liquidation, under administration or wound up or has had a controller, receiver or receiver and manager appointed to any part of its property;
- (c) it enters into a deed of company arrangement;
- (d) it is subject to any arrangement, assignment, moratorium or composition, protected from creditors under any statute or dissolved (in each case, other than to carry out a reconstruction or amalgamation while solvent on terms approved by the other parties to this agreement);
- (e) an application or order has been made (and in the case of an application, it is not stayed, withdrawn or dismissed within 30 days), resolution passed, proposal put forward, or any other action taken, in each case in connection with that person, which is preparatory to or could result in any of (a), (b) or (c) above;
- (f) it is taken (under section 459F(1) of the Corporations Act) to have failed to comply with a statutory demand;
- (g) it is the subject of an event described in section 459C(2)(b) or section 585 of the Corporations Act (or it makes a statement from which the other party to this agreement reasonably deduces it is so subject);
- (h) it is otherwise unable to pay its debts when they fall due; or
- (i) something having a substantially similar effect to (a) to (g) happens in connection with that person under the law of any jurisdiction.

Interim Funding means either or both of:

- (a) unsecured debt funding which satisfies each of the following:
 - (i) is up to US\$10 million (in aggregate);

- (ii) has a maximum 18 month tenor, and can be prepaid at the Group's election without penalty;
 - (iii) has an interest rate of no more than 12% per annum; and
 - (iv) is for the purposes of a design and feasibility study at the Sembehun Project and/or working capital of the Group; and
- (b) any customer prepayments up to US\$20 million (in aggregate) in relation to sales to be completed within 3 months of the relevant customer agreement.

Listing Rules means the official listing rules of ASX.

Material Adverse Change means:

- (a) an event, change, condition, matter or thing occurs or will or is reasonably likely to occur;
- (b) information is disclosed or announced by the Company concerning any event, change, condition, matter or thing that has occurred or is reasonably likely to occur; or
- (c) information concerning any event, change, condition, matter or thing that has occurred or is reasonably likely to occur becomes known to the Bidder (whether or not becoming public),

after the date of this agreement, or before the date of this agreement but has not been publicly announced prior to the date of this agreement (each of the above a **Specified Event**) which, whether individually or when aggregated with all such events, changes, conditions, matters or things of a like kind that have occurred or are reasonably likely to occur, has had or is reasonably likely to have:

- (d) a material adverse effect on the business, assets, liabilities, financial or trading position, profitability or prospects of the Group taken as a whole;
- (e) a material adverse effect on the status or terms of any approvals, licences, permits, or tenements issued by any Regulatory Agency in relation to the Area 1 Project or Sembehun Project, including the Tenement which materially adversely affects, or would be reasonably likely to materially adversely affect, the ability to operate the Area 1 Project or result in the loss, or would be reasonably likely to result in the loss of, any approvals, licences, permits or tenements currently held by a member of the Group in relation to the Sembehun Project; or
- (f) without limiting the generality of paragraphs (d) and (e):
 - (i) the effect of a diminution in the value of the consolidated net assets of the Group, taken as a whole, by at least US\$25 million against what it would reasonably have been expected to have been but for such Specified Event; or
 - (ii) the effect of a diminution in the revenue of the Group, taken as a whole, by at least US\$35 million in the financial year ending 31 December 2024 for the Group against what it would reasonably have been expected to have been but for such Specified Event,

but does not include:

- (g) any matter Fairly Disclosed;

- (h) any change occurring with the written consent of Bidder;
- (i) any change occurring directly or indirectly as a result of any matter, event or circumstance required by this agreement, the Takeover Bid or the transactions contemplated by them, including the Interim Funding;
- (j) any matter, event or circumstance arising from:
 - (i) changes or developments in general economic or political conditions, taxation, interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, the securities market in general; or
 - (ii) any change or proposed change in any laws, or the interpretation or non-application of any laws by any Regulatory Agency, or any arrangements with any Regulatory Agency,

provided the Group is not disproportionately affected in comparison to other participants in the mining industry in Sierra Leone;
- (k) any change in generally accepted accounting principles or standards or the interpretation of them; and
- (l) any matter, event or circumstance arising from adverse weather conditions or natural disasters.

Offer means each offer to acquire Shares made in connection with the Takeover Bid.

Offer Period means the period that the Offer is open for acceptance.

Performance Right means a right (including those described by the Company as “restricted rights”), issued by the Company prior to the date of this agreement, to acquire by way of issue a Share in the Company.

Prescribed Occurrence means the occurrence of any of the following:

- (a) the Company converts all or any of its shares into a larger or smaller number of shares (see section 254H of the Corporations Act);
- (b) any member of the Group resolves to reduce its share capital in any way;
- (c) any member of the Group:
 - (i) enters into a buy-back agreement; or
 - (ii) resolves to approve the terms of a buy-back agreement under subsections 257C(1) or 257D(1) of the Corporations Act;
- (d) any member of the Group declares, pays or distributes any dividend, bonus or other share of its profits or assets or returning or agreeing to return any capital;
- (e) any member of the Group issues shares, or grants a performance right, a phantom performance right, or an option over its shares, or agrees to make such an issue or grant such a performance right, phantom performance right or an option except any issue to the Company or a direct or indirect wholly-owned Subsidiary of the Company;
- (f) any member of the Group issues, or agrees to issue, convertible notes;

- (g) any member of the Group disposes, or agrees to dispose, of the whole, or a substantial part, of its business or property other than to another member of the Group;
 - (h) any member of the Group creates or agrees to create, any mortgage, charge, lien or other encumbrance over the whole, or a substantial part, of its business or property, other than:
 - (i) any such security interest required in connection with the Company's debt facilities which has been fairly disclosed to ASX or to the Bidder in writing prior to the date of this agreement;
 - (ii) any such security interest granted in favour of the Company or another member of the Group;
 - (iii) a lien which arises by operation of law or legislation securing an obligation that is not yet due; or
 - (iv) in the usual and ordinary course of business consistent with past practice; or
 - (i) any member of the Group becomes Insolvent,
- other than a matter:
- (j) in relation to which the Bidder has expressly agreed to in writing;
 - (k) resulting from the exercise by any party of its rights, or the discharge by any party of its obligations, under this agreement; or
 - (l) the occurrence or potential or planned occurrence of which has been Fairly Disclosed.

Record Date means the date set by the Bidder pursuant to section 633(2) of the Corporations Act.

Register means the share register of the Company and **Registry** has a corresponding meaning.

Register Date means the date set by the Bidder pursuant to section 633(2) of the Corporations Act.

Regulatory Agency means any government or any governmental, semi-governmental, statutory or judicial entity, agency or authority, whether in Sierra Leone, Australia or elsewhere, including (without limitation) any self-regulatory organisation established under statute or otherwise discharging substantially public or regulatory functions, and ASX or any other stock exchange, ASIC and the Takeovers Panel.

Related Body Corporate has the meaning given in section 50 of the Corporations Act.

Related Person means:

- (a) a Related Body Corporate of the Company;
- (b) an adviser of the Company or an adviser of a Related Body Corporate of the Company; or
- (c) an officer or employee of any entity referred to in items (a) or (b) of this definition.

Relevant Interest has the meaning given in sections 608 and 609 of the Corporations Act.

Representative means in relation to a person, any director, officer or employee or agent of, and any accountant, auditor, financier, financial adviser, legal adviser, technical adviser or other expert adviser or consultant to, that person.

Sanction Laws means all national and supranational laws, regulations, decrees, orders, or other acts with force of law including in Australia, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union, or United Nations, concerning trade and economic sanctions including trade embargoes, the freezing or blocking of assets of targeted persons, or other restrictions on exports, imports, investment, payments, or other transactions targeted at particular persons or countries, including any laws imposing trade and economic sanctions on any person for engaging in proscribed or targeted behaviour sanction, prohibition or restriction under United Nations resolutions or the trade or economic sanctions, laws or regulations in any jurisdiction.

Sembehun or Sembuhun Project means the Group's development project of that name as described in the Company's ASX announcements.

Share means an ordinary share in the capital of the Company, including all shares on issue as at the end of the Offer Period.

Shareholder means a registered holder of Shares.

Subsidiary has the meaning given in Division 6 of Part 1.2 of the Corporations Act.

Superior Proposal means a Competing Proposal which the Board, acting in good faith and in order to satisfy what the Board consider to be their fiduciary and statutory duties, determines is:

- (a) reasonably capable of being valued and completed in a timely manner, taking into account all aspects of the Competing Proposal and the person making it; and
- (b) more favourable to Shareholders as a whole than the Offer, taking into account all the terms and conditions of the Competing Proposal, including the price and / or value of the Competing Proposal, the identity, reputation and financial condition of the person making such proposal, and legal, regulatory and financial matters.

Takeover Bid means a takeover bid by the Bidder that satisfies the requirements in clause 2.

Target Break Fee means US\$400,000.

Target's Statement means the target's statement to be prepared by the Company in relation to the Takeover Bid in compliance with Part 6.5 of the Corporations Act.

Tenement means the Mining Lease and Dredging Licence No. 2134 granted to Sierra Rutile Limited.

Third Party means a person other than the Company, the Bidder or their respective Related Bodies Corporate.

Unacceptable Circumstances has the meaning set out in section 657A of the Corporations Act.

1.2 Interpretation

In this agreement:

- (a) Headings and bold type are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this agreement.

- (b) The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular.
- (c) Other parts of speech and grammatical forms of a word or phrase defined in this agreement have a corresponding meaning.
- (d) An expression importing a person includes any company, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation or other body corporate and any Regulatory Agency as well as an individual.
- (e) A reference to a clause, party, schedule, attachment or exhibit is a reference to a clause of, and a party, schedule, attachment or exhibit to, this agreement.
- (f) A reference to any thing (including, but not limited to, any right) includes a part of that thing, but nothing in this clause 1.2(f) implies that performance of part of an obligation constitutes performance of the obligation.
- (g) A reference to any legislation includes all delegated legislation made under it and amendments, consolidations, replacements or re-enactments of any of them.
- (h) A reference to a document includes all amendments or supplements to, or replacements or novations of, that document.
- (i) A reference to a party to a document includes that party's successors and permitted assignees.
- (j) A reference to an agreement other than this agreement includes a deed and any legally enforceable undertaking, agreement, arrangement or understanding, whether or not in writing.
- (k) A reference to '\$' or 'dollars' is to Australian currency unless denominated otherwise.
- (l) A reference to 'US\$' is to currency of the United States of America.
- (m) A reference to any time is a reference to the time in Perth, Western Australia.
- (n) Where the day on or by which any thing is to be done is not a Business Day, that thing must be done on or by the next Business Day.

1.3 Interpretation of inclusive expressions

Specifying anything in this agreement after the words 'including', 'includes', 'for example' or similar expression does not limit what else is included unless there is express wording to the contrary.

1.4 Construction

No rule of construction applies to the disadvantage of a party because that party was responsible for the preparation of, or seeks to rely on, this agreement or any part of it.

1.5 Agreement components

This agreement includes any schedule.

2. The Takeover Bid

2.1 Making the Takeover Bid

The Bidder agrees to:

- (a) make offers pursuant to an off market takeover bid under Chapter 6 of the Corporations Act to acquire all the Shares on terms and conditions no less favourable to Shareholders than the Agreed Bid Terms; and
- (b) without limiting this clause 2.1, publicly announce a proposal to make offers under the Takeover Bid, in accordance with clause 3, immediately after both parties have executed this agreement.

2.2 Bidder may use subsidiary

- (a) Subject to clause 2.2(c), the Bidder may satisfy its obligations under clause 2.1 by causing a subsidiary to perform the obligations referred to in clause 2.1, in which case references to:
 - (i) the Takeover Bid are references to the takeover bid by that subsidiary; and
 - (ii) the Bidder making the Takeover Bid are references to the Bidder causing that subsidiary to make the Takeover Bid.

For the avoidance of doubt, a reference in this clause to a “subsidiary” includes an entity which is initially a subsidiary of the Bidder even if it ceases to be a subsidiary of the Bidder over time as a result of obtaining funding for the Offer, provided that the subsidiary complies with the requirements set out in clause 2.2(b).

- (b) If the Bidder elects to cause a subsidiary to perform its obligations under clause 2.2(a), the Bidder confirms that the subsidiary is not, and will not become as a result of obtaining funding for the Offer:
 - (i) subject to any Sanction Laws (or otherwise cause the Company to be subject to any Sanction Laws);
 - (ii) a subsidiary or an entity under control of a foreign government entity, including a state owned enterprise;
 - (iii) a subsidiary or an entity under control of a substantial shareholder of the Company as at the date of this agreement other than the Bidder; or
 - (iv) an entity which would require any additional approvals or consents that are required by law, by any Regulatory Agency or from any third party which are necessary to permit the Offer to be lawfully made and accepted by the Company’s shareholders and the transactions contemplated under this agreement to be completed, as compared to the Bidder.
- (c) If, pursuant to clause 2.2(a), the Bidder elects to cause a subsidiary to perform its obligations under clause 2.1, the Bidder remains liable to the Company for the due performance of those obligations by that entity.

2.3 Directors' recommendation and acceptance

The Company represents and warrants that:

- (a) the Board has met and considered the possibility of the Bidder agreeing to make the Takeover Bid; and
- (b) all of the Directors have informed the Company that, if the Bidder complies with clause 2.1, they will:
 - (i) unanimously recommend that Shareholders accept the Offer to be made to them under the Takeover Bid; and
 - (ii) accept, or procure the acceptance of, the Offer in respect of any Shares that they, or their associates, own or control,

in each case in the absence of a Superior Proposal.

2.4 Shares issued during the Offer Period

- (a) The Bidder agrees that, subject to section 617 of the Corporations Act, it will extend its Offers to all Shares that are issued as a result of the exercise of Performance Rights during the period from the Record Date to the end of the Offer Period.
- (b) The Bidder is not obliged to make offers in respect of the Performance Rights.

3. Public announcement of Takeover Bid

Immediately after the execution and exchange of this agreement, the Bidder and the Company must issue a joint public announcement concerning the Takeover Bid substantially in the form set out in Schedule 3, or as otherwise agreed between the parties.

4. Facilitating the Offer

4.1 Bidder's Statement and Target's Statement

- (a) The Bidder will, to the extent practicable, give the Company a reasonable opportunity to review an advanced draft of the Bidder's Statement at least 2 Business Days before the Bidder is required to lodge the Bidder's Statement with ASIC, and will consider and consult in good faith with the Company with respect to any comments the Company may have.
- (b) The Company will, to the extent practicable, give the Bidder a reasonable opportunity to review an advanced draft of the Target's Statement at least 2 Business Days before the Company is required to lodge the Target's Statement with ASIC, and will consider and consult in good faith with the Bidder in relation to any comments the Bidder may have.

4.2 Dispatch of Offers

The Target agrees that the Offers and accompanying documents to be sent by the Bidder under item 6 of section 633(1) of the Corporations Act may be sent on a date nominated by the Bidder that is earlier than the date prescribed by item 6 of section 633(1) of the Corporations Act.

4.3 Access to information

- (a) Each party agrees to provide the other party, on a timely basis, with information that may be reasonably required to assist in the preparation of the Bidder's Statement or the Target's Statement (as applicable).
- (b) Between the date of this agreement and the earlier of the end of the Offer Period, the Company must, to the extent reasonably required by the Bidder to implement the Takeover Bid:
 - (i) as soon as reasonably practicable provide the Bidder and its Representatives with any documents, records, and other information (subject to applicable privacy laws) reasonably requested by them; and
 - (ii) provide the Bidder and its Representatives with reasonable access within normal business hours to the Company's officers, management and advisers (provided that such access does not impose an undue burden) which the Bidder reasonably requires for the purposes of:
 - (A) further understanding the Group's financial position (including its working capital position), operations and management control systems;
 - (B) implementing the Takeover Bid;
 - (C) preparing for carrying on the business of the Group following implementation of the Takeover Bid; and
 - (D) any other purpose which is agreed in writing between the parties.
- (c) The obligations in clause 4.3(b) do not apply to the extent that the access or information is connected to the Board's deliberations in relation to the Takeover Bid, or information connected to a potential Competing Proposal.

4.4 Company share register information

The Company must:

- (a) provide the Register to the Bidder as of the Register Date;
- (b) provide all necessary directions to the Registry promptly to provide any information that the Bidder reasonably requests in relation to the Register, including any sub-register, and, where requested by the Bidder, the Company must procure such information is provided to the Bidder in such electronic form as is requested by the Bidder; and
- (c) promptly exercise its powers under section 672A of the Corporations Act if requested to do so by the Bidder, acting reasonably, subject to the Bidder meeting the costs of such services and preparing the requests to the relevant recipients.

4.5 Promoting the Takeover Bid

- (a) During the Offer Period, in the absence of a Superior Proposal, the Board will support the Takeover Bid and participate in efforts reasonably required by the Bidder to promote the merits of the Takeover Bid, including meeting with Shareholders, analysts, management, customers and press if requested to do so by the Bidder.
- (b) The Director's obligations under clause 4.5(a):

- (i) do not apply if the Board has determined, in good faith that complying with this clause 4.5(a) would breach the Directors' fiduciary or statutory duties; and
- (ii) is subject to (without limiting anything else in this clause 4.5) the requested support:
 - (A) not unreasonably affecting such person's day to day involvement in the management of the Group; and
 - (B) takes into account relevant timezones.

4.6 Recommending the Takeover Bid

The Company agrees:

- (a) to include in all public statements relating to the Takeover Bid (following the initial announcement of the Takeover Bid made pursuant to clause 3), a statement to the effect that:
 - (i) the Directors unanimously recommend that Shareholders accept the Offers to be made to them;
 - (ii) each Director intends to accept, or procure the acceptance of, the Offers made to them in respect of all Shares they own or control (including any Shares that may be acquired or issued on vesting of Performance Rights), in each case in the absence of a Superior Proposal;
- (b) not to make any public statement or take any other public action which would suggest that the Takeover Bid is not unanimously recommended by the Directors unless a Superior Proposal emerges; and
- (c) not to subsequently withdraw its recommendation unless a Superior Proposal emerges.

The obligations under this clause 4.6 do not prevent a statement to the effect that no action should be taken pending assessment of a Competing Proposal and are only to the extent that the Board has not determined, in good faith that it cannot comply with this clause 4.6 without breaching the Directors' fiduciary or statutory duties.

4.7 Bid Conditions

- (a) Subject to clause 4.7(c), each party must use all reasonable endeavours to satisfy the Bid Conditions as soon as practicable after the date of this agreement.
- (b) Subject to clause 4.7(c), each party agrees not to do, or omit to do, anything which will, or is likely to, result in any of the Bid Conditions being breached.
- (c) Nothing in this clause 4.7 prevents the Company or the Board from taking, or failing to take, action where to do otherwise would, in the opinion of the Board (determined in good faith after receiving written legal advice from external lawyers), constitute a breach of the Directors' fiduciary or statutory duties.
- (d) Each party must keep the other promptly and reasonably informed of the steps it has taken and its progress towards satisfaction of the Bid Conditions, and promptly notify the other if it becomes aware that any Bid Condition has been satisfied. If any event occurs or becomes apparent which would cause any of the Bid Conditions to be breached or cause satisfaction of them to be unreasonably delayed, each party must,

to the extent that the party is actually aware of such information, immediately notify the other party of that event.

- (e) A reference in this clause 4.7 to a Bid Condition being breached includes a reference to the Bid Condition not being, or not being capable of being, satisfied.

4.8 Approvals

The Bidder agrees that, as soon as practicable after announcing the Takeover Bid, it will apply for all relevant approvals required from any Regulatory Agency in relation to the Takeover Bid.

5. Takeover Bid – variation and waiver

5.1 Variation

The Bidder may vary the terms and conditions of the Takeover Bid in any manner which is permitted by the Corporations Act, provided that the varied terms and conditions are not less favourable to Shareholders than the Agreed Bid Terms.

5.2 Wavier of Bid Conditions and extension

Subject to the Corporations Act, the Bidder may in its discretion declare the Takeover Bid to be free from any Bid Condition or extend the Takeover Bid at any time.

6. Conduct of business during Offer Period

6.1 General obligations of the Group

From the date of this agreement until the end of the Offer Period the Company must, and must procure that each of its Subsidiaries:

- (a) conduct their business and operations in the usual and ordinary course and on a basis consistent with past practice or as may be required in order to satisfy a specific requirement of a Regulatory Agency; and
- (b) preserve and maintain the value of their business and assets, and their relationships with customers, suppliers, regulators, employees and others with whom they have business dealings.

6.2 Restrictions on the Group

Subject to clause 6.3, during the Offer Period the Company must not, and must procure that each of its Subsidiaries do not, take or fail to take any action within its control that would, or would be likely to:

- (a) result in a Prescribed Occurrence or that could reasonably be expected to result in a Prescribed Occurrence;
- (b) result in a Material Adverse Change or that could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Change;
- (c) acquire or dispose of any shares or other securities in any body corporate or any units in any trust, or substantially all of the assets of any business except where the aggregate consideration paid or received by all members of the Group for all such acquisitions or disposals does not exceed US\$1 million, or enter into, or terminate any participation in, any partnership, joint venture or similar commitment;

- (d) offer to dispose or agree to dispose of, or create, or offer to create an equity interest in, any asset of the Group for an amount exceeding US\$1 million;
- (e) enter into, waive any material rights under, vary or terminate any contract, commitment or arrangement which may require annual expenditure by the relevant member of Group in excess of US\$2.5 million or is otherwise of material importance to the business or operations of the Group;
- (f) enter into a contract, commitment or arrangement in relation to a material amount of revenue (including an off-take agreement) which has a duration (including any right of the counterparty to extend) of more than 6 months;
- (g) enter into any unusual or abnormal contract or commitment which is outside the ordinary course of business and which could reasonably be expected to change the nature of the business conducted by the Group;
- (h) enter into, amend, or agree to enter into or amend any contract, commitment or other arrangement with a related party (as defined in section 228 of the Corporations Act), or an associate of that related party, of the Company;
- (i) accelerate the rights of any of its directors or employees to compensation or benefits of any kind (including, without limitation, by exercising a discretion in relation to the vesting of any Performance Rights);
- (j) increase the remuneration of, makes any bonus payment, retention payment or termination payment to, or otherwise changes the terms and conditions of employment of:
 - (i) any Director; or
 - (ii) any employee of any member of the Group whose total employment cost exceeds US\$100,000;
- (k) commence, compromise or settle any litigation or similar proceedings for an amount or amounts exceeding US\$3 million in aggregate;
- (l) increase the remuneration of or pay any bonus (including under any existing or proposed employee performance bonus policy or retention bonus policy) or issue or agree to issue any Shares, options or convertible securities to (other than the issue of Shares in connection with the vesting of Performance Rights on the terms of their original issue), or otherwise vary or amend the employment or consultancy agreements with, any of its directors or employees, except that this clause does not preclude a Group member from making any payments under an existing employment contract which complies with the Corporations Act and the Listing Rules and is in place as at the date of this agreement; or
- (m) pay a director or executive a termination payment, other than as provided for in an existing employment contract in place as at the date of this agreement.

6.3 Exceptions

Nothing in clauses 6.1 or 6.2 restricts the ability of the Company to take any action which:

- (a) is required, permitted or contemplated by this agreement (including implementing any arrangements relating to the Interim Funding) or the Takeover Bid;
- (b) has been Fairly Disclosed by the Company prior to execution of this agreement;
- (c) is required by any applicable law;

- (d) is required to reasonably and prudently respond to an emergency or disaster (including a situation giving rise to a risk of personal injury or damage to property);
 - (e) has been agreed to in writing by the Bidder; or
 - (f) involves the incurring of reasonable costs in relation to the transactions contemplated by the Takeover Bid.
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7. Company's Board

- (a) Subject to clause 7(b), as soon as practicable after Bidder has a Relevant Interest in more than 50% of the Shares and the Offers become or are declared unconditional, the Company must take (and must ensure the Board takes) all actions necessary to ensure the appointment of up to 3 new Directors nominated by the Bidder (collectively, **Director Appointees**) (provided that each of the Director Appointees provide consents to act as directors of the Company, have obtained director identification numbers prior to their appointment and are otherwise eligible for appointment under the Corporations Act), and if necessary resignations of existing Directors, such that if 3 Director Appointees are nominated they will form a majority of the Board.
 - (b) The parties acknowledge that a proper Board must be constituted at all times and the Bidder agrees to procure that its Director Appointees to the Board do not participate in decisions of the Company in relation to the Takeover Bid until after the end of the Offer Period and that a quorum remains for that purpose.
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8. Reimbursement of costs

8.1 Background

- (a) Each of the Bidder and the Company acknowledges that, if they enter into this agreement and the Takeover Bid is subsequently not implemented, it will incur significant costs, including significant opportunity costs.
- (b) In the circumstances referred to in clause 8.1(a), each party has requested that provision be made for the payments in clauses 8.2 and 8.3, without which the Bidder and the Target (respectively) would not have entered into this agreement or have otherwise agreed to implement the Takeover Bid.
- (c) The Company confirms that the Board:
 - (i) has received legal advice in relation to this agreement and the operation of this clause 8; and
 - (ii) believes that the Takeover Bid will provide benefits to the Company and Shareholders and that it is appropriate for the Company to agree to the payments referred to in this clause 8 in order to secure the Bidder's participation in the Takeover Bid.

8.2 Payment of costs incurred by Bidder

Subject to clause 8.8 and 8.9, the Company must pay the Target Break Fee to the Bidder if at any time following the Bidder's announcement of the Takeover Bid and before the end of the Offer Period:

- (a) a Competing Proposal is announced or made by a Third Party, and within 12 months after the end of the Offer Period the Third Party announcing or making the Competing Proposal:
 - (i) directly or indirectly acquires a relevant interest or an economic interest in 21% or more of the Company's Shares or the share capital of any of its Related Bodies Corporate;
 - (ii) directly or indirectly acquires Control of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries;
 - (iii) directly or indirectly acquires or becomes the holder of any interest in all or a substantial part of the business or assets of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries; or
 - (iv) otherwise acquires or merges with the Company;
- (b) any Director fails to recommend that Shareholders accept the Takeover Bid in the absence of a Superior Proposal or, having made such a recommendation, makes a public statement which withdraws, adversely revises or adversely qualifies that recommendation, except in circumstances where:
 - (i) the Company is entitled to terminate this deed under clause 14.1(c) or 14.1(d); or
 - (ii) a Regulatory Agency requires, or reasonably requests, that a relevant Director abstains from making a recommendation on the Takeover Bid;
- (c) any Director accepts or supports (including by way of voting for) or publicly states an intention to accept or support, or recommends that Shareholders accept or support, a Competing Proposal; or
- (d) the Bidder terminates this agreement in accordance with clauses 14.1(a) (material breach), 14.1(b) (representations and warranties), or 14.2 (Competing Proposal etc) of this agreement.

8.3 Refund

If, notwithstanding the occurrence of any of the events referred to in clause 8.2, the Bidder declares the Offer to be unconditional and attains Effective Control (on a fully diluted basis) as a result of the Takeover Bid, the Bidder must repay to the Company any amount received by it under this clause 8.

8.4 Payment of costs incurred by the Company

Subject to clause 8.9, the Bidder must pay the Bidder Break Fee to the Company if at any time following the date of this agreement and before the end of the Offer Period the Company terminates this agreement in accordance with clauses 14.1(a) (material breach) or 14.1(b) (representations and warranties) of this agreement.

8.5 Basis of Break Fees

The Target Break Fee and Bidder Break Fee have been calculated to reimburse the Bidder and the Company (respectively) for:

- (a) fees for legal and financial advice in planning and implementing the Takeover Bid;
- (b) reasonable opportunity costs incurred in engaging in the Takeover Bid or in not engaging in other alternative acquisitions or strategic initiatives;

- (c) costs of its management's and directors' time in planning and implementing the Takeover Bid;
- (d) out of pocket expenses incurred by the party's employees, advisers and agents in planning and implementing the Takeover Bid;
- (e) any damage to the party's reputation associated with a failed transaction and the implications of that damage if the party seeks to execute alternative acquisitions in the future; and
- (f) losses associated with any damage to the party's goodwill with its customers, suppliers or employees,

incurred by the Bidder or Target (respectively) directly or indirectly as a result of pursuing the Takeover Bid.

8.6 Calculation of Break Fees

The parties acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) the loss actually incurred by the Bidder or the Company under clause 8.5 will be of such nature that it cannot accurately be ascertained; and
- (b) the Break Fees are a genuine and reasonable pre estimate of those fees, costs and losses.

8.7 Payment

- (a) A party may demand payment under clause 8.2, 8.3 or 8.4 (as applicable) by written notice to the other party, setting out the circumstances giving rise to payment and nominating a bank account into which the payment is to be made.
- (b) If a party is obliged under the terms of this clause 8 to pay an amount to the other party, the first party must pay that amount without set-off or withholding, and within 5 Business Days of receiving a demand for payment in accordance with clause 8.7(a).

8.8 Break Fee only payable once

- (a) If the Company pays the Target Break Fee to the Bidder and the amount paid does not become a Challenged Amount under clause 8.9, then the Company is not liable to pay an additional or further Break Fee to the Bidder even if additional circumstances set out in clause 8.2 occur.
- (b) If the Bidder pays the Bidder Break Fee to the Company and the amount paid does not become a Challenged Amount under clause 8.9, then the Bidder is not liable to pay an additional or further Bidder Break Fee to the Company even if additional circumstances set out in clause 8.3 occur.

8.9 Compliance with law

If:

- (a) ASIC indicates to either party in writing that in the absence of modification to the amount of the Break Fee or the circumstances in which it is to be paid, it will apply to the Takeovers Panel for a declaration of unacceptable circumstances;
- (b) it is found by the Takeovers Panel or a court of competent jurisdiction that all or any part of a payment required to be made under this clause 8 is unlawful, involves a breach of director's duties or constitutes Unacceptable Circumstances and the period

for lodging an application for review or a notice of appeal (as applicable) has expired without the application or notice having been lodged; or

- (c) following lodgement of an application for review or a notice of appeal with the Takeovers Panel or a court within the prescribed period, it is found by the relevant review panel or appeal court that all or any part of a payment required to be made this clause 8 is unlawful, involves a breach of directors' duties or constitutes Unacceptance Circumstances,

(Challenged Amount), then:

- (d) the parties' undertakings under this clause 8 do not apply to the extent (but only to the extent) of the Challenged Amount; and
- (e) any party that has already received an amount under this clause 8 must refund any Challenged Amount.

8.10 Sole and exclusive remedy

- (a) Each party acknowledges and agrees that:
 - (i) the maximum liability of a party to the other party under or in connection with this agreement will be the Break Fee; and
 - (ii) subject to clause 8.10(b), payment of the Break Fee is the sole and exclusive remedy available to the other party in connection with any event or occurrence referred to in this clause, and neither party is:
 - (A) liable for any for any loss or damage arising in connection with any such event or occurrence other than the Break Fee under this clause 8; or
 - (B) entitled to seek any other remedies which would otherwise be available in equity or law as a remedy for a breach or threatened breach of this agreement by any party.
- (b) In the event of any Claim, either party may seek specific performance or injunctive relief.

9. Exclusivity

9.1 Cease existing discussions

The Company must cease any discussions or negotiations existing as at the date of this agreement relating to:

- (a) any Competing Proposal; or
- (b) any transaction that is reasonably likely to reduce the likelihood of the success of the Takeover Bid.

9.2 No shop

During the Exclusivity Period, the Company must not, and must ensure that each of its Related Persons do not, directly or indirectly solicit, invite, encourage or initiate (including by the provision of non-public information to any third party) any inquiry, expression of interest, offer, proposal or discussion by any person in relation to, or which would reasonably be expected to encourage or lead to the making of, an actual, proposed or potential Competing

Proposal or communicate to any person an intention to do anything referred to in this clause 9.2.

9.3 No talk

- (a) During the Exclusivity Period and subject to clause 9.5, the Company must not, and must ensure that each of its Related Persons do not, directly or indirectly:
 - (i) participate in or continue any negotiations or discussions with respect to any inquiry, expression of interest, offer, proposal or discussion by any person to make, or which would reasonably be expected to encourage or lead to the making of, an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal or participate in or continue any negotiations or discussions with respect to any actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal;
 - (ii) accept or enter into, or offer to accept or enter into, any agreement, arrangement or understanding regarding an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal;
 - (iii) disclose or provide any non-public information about the business or affairs of the Company and its Related Bodies Corporate to a third party with a view to obtaining, or which may reasonably be expected to encourage or lead to receipt of, an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, other than as required by any applicable law or the requirement of a Regulatory Agency; or
 - (iv) communicate any intention to do any of the things listed in clauses 9.3(a)(i), 9.3(a)(ii) and 9.3(a)(iii).
- (b) Nothing in this clause 9.3 prevents the Company from:
 - (i) continuing to make normal presentations to brokers, portfolio investors and analysts in the ordinary course of business or promoting the merits of the Takeover Bid;
 - (ii) continuing to participate in negotiations or discussions with respect to off-take arrangements;
 - (iii) fulfilling its continuous disclosure requirements;
 - (iv) communicating and participating in discussions with any person for the purpose of:
 - (A) acknowledging receipt of an inquiry, expression of interest, offer or proposal;
 - (B) clarifying the terms of and eliciting any further information in respect of any proposal in order to determine if the exceptions under clause 9.5 may apply; or
 - (C) advising any person that the Company is unable to engage in respect to that Competing Proposal at the relevant time.

9.4 Notification of approaches

- (a) During the Exclusivity Period, the Company must as soon as possible (and in any event within 48 hours) notify the Bidder in writing if:

- (i) any approach, enquiry, proposal or attempt to initiate discussions is made, directly or indirectly, to the Company or any of its Related Persons with respect to an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, whether solicited or otherwise; or
 - (ii) any request is made to the Company or any of its Related Persons for any information relating to the Company or any of its Related Bodies Corporate or their businesses or operations in connection with an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal.
- (b) A notification given under clause 9.4(a) must include the identity of the relevant person making or proposing the relevant actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, together with all terms and conditions of the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal.
 - (c) After the provision of any notice referred to in clause 9.4(a) , the Company must as soon as possible advise the Bidder of any material developments in relation to an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, including material amendments or proposed amendments to the terms of such actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal.

9.5 Compliance with law

Clauses 9.3 and 9.4 do not apply to the extent that they require the Company or the Board to take, or omit to take, any action in respect of an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, or otherwise restrict the Company or the Board from taking or refusing to take any action with respect to a Competing Proposal (which was not solicited, encouraged, invited or initiated by the Company or any of its Related Persons in breach of clause 9.2) where the Board has determined, in good faith:

- (a) after consultation with its financial advisers, that the Competing Proposal is a Superior Proposal (or may reasonably be expected to become a Superior Proposal); and
- (b) after receiving written advice from external lawyers, that taking, omitting to take or otherwise failing to respond to such Competing Proposal (as applicable) the relevant action would constitute, or would be reasonably likely to constitute, a breach of the directors' fiduciary or statutory obligations.

9.6 Matching right

- (a) Without limiting clauses 9.2 and 9.3, during the Exclusivity Period, the Company:
 - (i) must not enter into any legally binding agreement, arrangement or understanding (whether or not in writing) pursuant to which a Third Party, the Company or both proposes or propose to undertake or give effect to an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal (other than a confidentiality arrangement contemplated in clause 9.7); and
 - (ii) must use its best endeavours to procure that none of the Directors change their recommendation of the Takeover Bid or publicly recommend an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal or recommend against the Takeover Bid (provided that a statement that no action should be taken by Shareholders pending the assessment of a Competing Proposal by the Board and its advisers will not contravene this clause),

unless:

- (iii) the Board acting in good faith and in order to satisfy what the Directors consider to be their statutory or fiduciary duties (having received written advice from its external financial and legal advisers) determines that the Competing Proposal would be Superior Proposal (or may reasonably be expected to become a Superior Proposal);
 - (iv) the Company has provided the Bidder with all terms and conditions of the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, including price and the identity of the Third Party making the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal;
 - (v) the Company has given the Bidder at least 3 Business Days after the date of the provision of the information referred to in clause 9.6(a)(iv) to provide a matching or superior proposal to the terms of the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal; and
 - (vi) the Bidder has not announced or otherwise formally proposed to the Company a matching or superior proposal to the terms of the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal by the expiry of the period in clause 9.6(a)(v) above.
- (b) The Company acknowledges and agrees that each successive modification of any actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal is a new actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal for the purposes of the requirements under clause 9.6(a)(iii) and accordingly the Company must comply with clause 9.6(a)(iii) and clause 9.6(a)(iv) of this clause in respect of any new actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal unless clause 9.6(a)(i) to 9.6(a)(vi) (inclusive) apply.
- (c) If the Bidder proposes to the Company, or announces, amendments to the terms of the Takeover Bid including increasing the amount of consideration offered under the Offers or a new proposal that constitutes a matching or superior proposal to the terms of the actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal (**Counterproposal**) by the expiry of the period notified by the Company in clause 9.6(a)(v) above, the Company must procure that the Board considers the Counterproposal and if the Board, acting reasonably and in good faith, determines that the Counterproposal (if completed) would provide an equivalent or superior outcome for Shareholders as a whole compared with the Competing Proposal taking into account all of the terms and conditions of the Bidder Counterproposal, then the Company and the Bidder must use their best endeavours to agree the amendments to this agreement that are reasonably necessary to reflect the Counterproposal and to implement the Counterproposal, in each case as soon as reasonably practicable, and the Company must procure that each of the Directors continues to recommend the Takeover Bid (as modified by the Counterproposal) to Shareholders.

9.7 Confidentiality Agreement

Nothing in this clause 9 precludes the Company from entering into a confidentiality agreement with a person proposing a Competing Proposal (**Proponent**) if the Board has made a good faith determination for the purposes of clause 9.5, provided that any such confidentiality agreement must be on terms that are not substantively more favourable to the Proponent than the Bidder under the Confidentiality Agreement.

9.8 Information disclosure to third parties

- (a) Subject to clause 9.8(b), during the Exclusivity Period, the Company must as soon as possible provide the Bidder with:
 - (i) in the case of written materials, a copy of; and
 - (ii) in any other case, a written statement of,

any material non-public information about the business or affairs of the Company or the Group disclosed or otherwise provided to any Third Party in connection with an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal that has not previously been provided to the Bidder.
 - (b) The Company will not, and will procure that none of its Related Persons provide any information to a Third Party in relation to an actual, proposed or potential Competing Proposal, unless:
 - (i) permitted by clause 9.5; and
 - (ii) that Third Party has entered into a confidentiality agreement with the Company on customary terms and which is no more favourable to the Third Party than the Confidentiality Agreement.
-

10. Confidentiality and announcements

10.1 Confidentiality Agreement

- (a) The Company releases the Bidder, Gemcorp Capital Management Limited, and their Related Bodies Corporate from their confidentiality obligations owed to the Company under the Confidentiality Agreement to the extent necessary for the Bidder to make the Takeover Bid.
- (b) Each party acknowledges and agrees that, except as provided for in clause 10.1(a), it continues to be bound by the Confidentiality Agreement in respect of all information received by it from the other party before or after the date of this agreement.

10.2 Survival of obligations

The rights and obligations of the parties under the Confidentiality Agreement survive termination of this agreement.

10.3 Announcements

- (a) Each party must not make, and must procure that its Representatives do not make, any public announcement concerning the Takeover Bid or the subject matter of this agreement other than:
 - (i) the announcements referred to in clause 3;
 - (ii) with the written consent of the other party, which must not be unreasonably withheld or delayed; or
 - (iii) if required by law, any court of competent jurisdiction, any Regulatory Agency or the rules of any stock exchange (which would include, for the avoidance of doubt, any substantial holder updates, extensions or variations of the Offer or waivers of any Bid Conditions), but if either party is so required to make any announcement, it must promptly notify the other party, where practicable and

lawful to do so, before the announcement is made and must co-operate with the other party regarding the timing and content of such announcement or any action which the other party may reasonably elect to take to challenge the validity of such requirement.

- (b) The obligations under clause 10.3(a) do not apply to:
 - (i) the extent that the proposed announcement or disclosure only substantially repeats some or all matters expressly contained in prior announcements or disclosures; or
 - (ii) any announcement or disclosure by a party in connection with:
 - (A) receipt of an actual Competing Proposal except to the extent that such announcement or disclosure could reasonably be deemed to be a solicitation of Shareholders in connection with the Takeover Bid; or
 - (B) termination of this agreement in accordance with its terms.
-

11. Warranties

11.1 Mutual warranties

Each party represents and warrants to the other that, as at the date of this agreement and until the close of the Offer Period:

- (a) it is validly incorporated, organised and subsisting under the laws of the place of its incorporation;
- (b) it has full power and capacity to enter into and perform its obligations under this agreement;
- (c) this agreement has been duly executed and is a legal, valid and binding agreement, enforceable against the party in accordance with its terms (subject to laws generally affecting creditors' rights and the principles of equity);
- (d) all necessary authorisations for the execution, delivery and performance by it of this agreement in accordance with its/their terms have been obtained;
- (e) it is not bound by any agreement that would prevent or restrict it from entering into and performing its obligations under this agreement or the transaction contemplated by it;
- (f) no resolutions have been passed or steps taken, and no petition or other process has been presented or threatened in writing against it, for winding up or dissolution, and no receiver, receiver and manager, liquidator, administrator or like official has been appointed, or is threatened or expected to be appointed, over the whole or any part of its assets; and
- (g) no regulatory action of any nature has been taken that would prevent, inhibit or otherwise have a material adverse effect on its ability to fulfil its obligations under this agreement.

11.2 Company warranties

- (a) In addition to the warranties set out in clause 11.1, the Company represents and warrants that, subject to matters Fairly Disclosed, as at the date of this agreement:

- (i) the information contained in Schedule 2 is complete and accurate, and there are no other securities on issue, or that might be issued as a result of the exercise of any options, convertible securities or other rights;
- (ii) it is not in breach of its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules;
- (iii) the Group's consolidated financial statements are prepared on a consistent basis with past practices (except to the extent that the adoption of Australian Accounting Standards requires a change to past practices) and in accordance with all relevant accounting standards;
- (iv) no member of the Group is Insolvent, and the Company is not aware of any facts or circumstances which indicate that it is reasonably likely that a member of the Group will become Insolvent;
- (v) there is no litigation, claim, action or proceeding pending or in progress or threatened against or relating to any member of the Group that does or is reasonably likely to constitute a Material Adverse Change;
- (vi) no Regulatory Agency will be entitled to exercise any right or take any adverse action as a result of the Takeover Bid, or the acquisition of Shares by the Bidder if the Takeover Bid is successful, in relation to any approval, licence, permit, or tenement issued or in force in relation to the Area 1 Project or Sembahun Project, including the Tenement, that would or would be reasonably likely to constitute a Material Adverse Change;
- (vii) there is no person entitled to exercise, or who will be entitled to exercise as a result of the Takeover Bid or the acquisition of Shares by the Bidder if the Takeover Bid is successful, any right under any provision of any agreement or arrangement to which any member of the Group or any of its assets or business is party which results in, or could result in:
 - (A) any moneys exceeding US\$1 million borrowed by any member of the Group being or becoming repayable or being declared repayable immediately or earlier than the repayment date provided for in such agreement or arrangement;
 - (B) any such agreement or arrangement that imposes or may impose obligations or liabilities on any party of more than US\$1 million per annum or more than US\$1 million in total or that is otherwise material to the business or operations of the Group being terminated or modified or not renewed or the performance of any obligations under any such agreement or arrangement being accelerated; or
 - (C) any assets having a value exceeding US\$1 million of any member of the Group, including any interest of any member of the Group in any body corporate, trust, joint venture or other entity, being sold, transferred or offered for sale or transfer, including under any pre-emptive rights or similar provisions, or any contractual arrangements relating to any such asset or interest, being terminated or modified; and
- (viii) it has, so far as it is aware, Fairly Disclosed all material information in relation to the Company and its business and operations, and has not knowingly withheld any material information.

- (b) For the purposes of clause 11.2(a)(viii), the Company will be deemed to know or be aware of a particular fact, matter or circumstance if the Company or a Director or officer of the Company is actually aware of that fact, matter or circumstance as at the date of this agreement or would be aware of that fact, matter or circumstance if they had made reasonable enquiries in relation to that fact, matter or circumstance

11.3 Bidder warranties

In addition to the warranties set out in clause 11.1, the Bidder represents and warrants that, as at the date of this agreement:

- (a) it will have available to it sufficient cash amounts to enable it to perform its obligations to pay the total cash consideration payable to Shareholders under the Takeover Bid;
- (b) it will comply during the Offer Period with its obligations under Part 6.9 of the Corporations Act; and
- (c) the Bidder in not, and its Related Bodies Corporate, are not Insolvent, and the Bidder is not aware of any facts or circumstances which indicate that it is reasonably likely that it, or one of its Related Bodies Corporate will become Insolvent.

11.4 Reliance on representations and warranties

- (a) Each party acknowledges that no party (nor any person acting on its behalf) has made any representation or other inducement to it to enter into this agreement, except for representations or inducements expressly set out in this agreement.
- (b) Each party acknowledges and confirms that it does not enter into this agreement in reliance on any representation or other inducement by or on behalf of any other party, except for any representation or inducement expressly set out in this agreement.
- (c) Each party acknowledges and confirms that clauses 11.4(a) and 11.4(b) do not prejudice any rights a party may have in relation to information which has been filed by the other party with ASIC or ASX.

11.5 Notification

Each party will promptly advise the other in writing if it becomes aware of any fact, matter or circumstance that constitutes or may constitute a breach of any of the representations and warranties given by it under this clause 11.

12. Releases

12.1 Release of Company Indemnified Person

The Bidder waives and releases, and must procure that each Related Body Corporate of the Bidder waives and releases, all rights and claims which it may have against any Company Indemnified Person (other than the Company and its Related Bodies Corporate) in respect of any misrepresentation, inaccuracy or omission in or from any information or advice given by that Company Indemnified Person in good faith in connection with any representation or warranty given by the Company in this agreement. The parties acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) the Company has sought and obtained the waiver and release in this clause 12.1 as agent for and on behalf of each Company Indemnified Person and may enforce the provisions of this clause 12.1 on behalf of any Company Indemnified Person; and
- (b) any Company Indemnified Person may plead this clause 12.1 in response to any claim made by the Bidder or any of its Related Bodies Corporate against them.

12.2 Release of Bidder Indemnified Person

The Company waives and releases, and must procure that each member of the Group waives and releases, all rights and claims which it may have against any Bidder Indemnified Person (other than the Bidder and its Related Bodies Corporate) in respect of any misrepresentation, inaccuracy or omission in or from any information or advice given by that Bidder Indemnified Person in good faith in connection with any representation or warranty given by the Bidder in this agreement. The parties acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) the Bidder has sought and obtained the waiver and release in this clause 12.2 as agent for and on behalf of each Bidder Indemnified Person and may enforce the provisions of this clause 12.2 on behalf of any Bidder Indemnified Person; and
- (b) any Bidder Indemnified Person may plead this clause 12.2 in response to any claim made by any member of the Group against them.

13. Insurance and indemnification

- (a) With effect from the Effective Control Date, the Bidder undertakes in favour of the Company and each of the current and former directors and officers of each member of the Group that it will to the extent permitted by law:
 - (i) for a period of 7 years from the date of retirement or resignation (as the case may be) of the directors, former directors, officers and former officers of each member of the Group, ensure that the constitution of the Company and each other member of the Group continue to contain such rules as are contained in those constitutions at the date of this agreement that provide for each member of the Group to indemnify each of its directors and officers against any liability incurred by that person in his or her capacity as a director or officer of the relevant member of the Group to any person other than the Bidder; and
 - (ii) procure that the Company and each other member of the Group complies with any deeds of indemnity, access and insurance made by them in favour of their respective directors and officers from time to time and without limiting the foregoing, ensure that the directors' and officers' run-off insurance cover for those directors and officers is maintained, for a period set out in clause 13(a)(i).
- (b) At or prior to the Effective Control Date, the Company may purchase a 7-year prepaid "run-off" directors' and officers' liability insurance policy on terms and conditions providing coverage retentions, limits and other material terms (including in relation to deductibles) substantially equivalent to the current policies of directors' and officers' liability insurance maintained by members of the Group with respect to matters arising at or prior to the Effective Control Date, including in connection with the transaction contemplated by the Offer or this agreement (**D&O Run-Off Policy**). Before entering into the D&O Run-off Policy, the Company must consult in good faith with the Bidder regarding the proposed terms of the D&O Run-Off Policy and the Company must not purchase the D&O Run-Off Policy unless the Bidder first approves the quotation (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditional or delayed).

14. Termination

14.1 Termination rights

A party may terminate this agreement by written notice to the other party if at any time after the date on which the Offer is announced under clause 3 and before the end of the Offer Period:

- (a) the other party is in material breach of this agreement and, to the extent that the breach is capable of remedy, that breach is not remedied by that other party within 5 Business Days of it receiving notice from the first party of the details of the breach and the first party's intention to terminate;
- (b) a representation or warranty given by the other party under clause 11 is or becomes untrue in any material respect and:
 - (i) that breach of the representation or warranty is not capable of remedy or, if it is capable of remedy, it is not remedied by that other party within 5 Business Days of it receiving notice from the first party of the details of the breach and the first party's intention to terminate; and
 - (ii) the breach of the representation or warranty is of a kind that, had it been disclosed to the first party before its entry into this agreement, could reasonably be expected to have resulted in that first party either not entering into this agreement or entering into it on materially different terms;
- (c) a court or Regulatory Agency has issued an order, decree or ruling, or taken other action, that permanently restrains or prohibits the Takeover Bid, and the action is final and cannot be appealed or reviewed or the party, acting reasonably, believes that there is no realistic prospect of a successful appeal or review;
- (d) the Bidder withdraws the Takeover Bid or the Takeover Bid lapses for any reason, including non-satisfaction of a condition to the Takeover Bid.

14.2 Termination by Bidder

This agreement may be terminated by the Bidder by notice in writing to the Company if at any time after the date on which the Offer is announced under clause 3 and before the end of the Offer Period:

- (a) a Competing Proposal is made or publicly announced by a Third Party and a majority of the Directors entitled or able to make a recommendation publicly recommend or support that Competing Proposal;
- (b) a Director does not recommend the Takeover Bid be accepted by Shareholders or having recommended the Takeover Bid, withdraws or adversely modifies their recommendation of the Takeover Bid;
- (c) a Third Party has a Relevant Interest in more than 21% of the Shares on issue; or
- (d) a Material Adverse Change or a Prescribed Occurrence occurs.

14.3 Automatic termination

- (a) This deed automatically terminates at the earlier of:
 - (i) subject to 14.3(b), 20 December 2024, if the Offers have not closed or become unconditional by that date; and

- (ii) 5 Business Days after the date on which the Offers are closed for acceptance.
- (b) The parties agree to act in good faith in discussing an agreed extension to the date set out in clause 14.3(a), taking into account all relevant circumstances at the time should that be considered appropriate by either party.

14.4 Effect of termination

If this agreement is terminated by a party under this clause 12:

- (a) each party will be released from its obligations under this agreement, except its obligations under clauses 8, 10.1(b), 15 and 17;
- (b) each party will retain the rights it has or may have against the other party in respect of any past breach of this agreement; and
- (c) in all other respects, all future obligations of the parties under this agreement will immediately terminate and be of no further force or effect, including, without limitation, any further obligations in respect of the Takeover Bid.

15. GST

15.1 Interpretation

In this clause 15, a word or expression defined in the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* (Cth) has the meaning given to it in that Act.

15.2 GST gross up

- (a) Subject to clause 15.2(b), if a party makes a supply under or in connection with this agreement in respect of which GST is payable, the consideration for the supply but for the application of this clause 15.2 (**GST exclusive consideration**) is increased by an amount equal to the GST exclusive consideration multiplied by the rate of GST prevailing at the time the supply is made.
- (b) Clause 15.2(a) does not apply to any consideration that is expressed in this agreement to be inclusive of GST.

15.3 Reimbursements and indemnifications

If a party must reimburse or indemnify another party for a loss, cost or expense, the amount to be reimbursed or indemnified is first reduced by any input tax credit the other party is entitled to for the loss, cost or expense, and then increased in accordance with clause 15.2.

15.4 Tax invoice

A party need not make a payment for a taxable supply made under or in connection with this agreement until it receives a tax invoice for the supply to which the payment relates.

16. Notices

16.1 Form of Notice

A notice or other communication to a party under this agreement (**Notice**) must be:

- (a) in writing and in English; and

- (b) addressed to that party in accordance with the “Parties” details (or any alternative details nominated to the sending party by Notice).

16.2 Receipt of notice

Any notice given pursuant to this clause 16 will be conclusively deemed to have been received:

- (a) in the case of personal delivery, on the actual day of delivery;
- (b) if sent by mail, two Business Days from and including the day of posting; or
- (c) if sent by e-mail, when the party sending the email receives notification that the e-mail was successfully transmitted and read by the receiving party, or if no such notification is received, 48 hours after the email was sent (unless the sender receives a delivery failure notification indicating that the e-mail was not successfully transmitted),

but if the delivery or receipt is on a day that is not a Business Day or is after 5:00 pm (addressee’s time) it is regarded as received at 9:00 am on the following Business Day.

17. General

17.1 Governing law and jurisdiction

- (a) This agreement is governed by the law in force in Western Australia.
- (b) Each party irrevocably submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of courts exercising jurisdiction in Western Australia and courts of appeal from them in respect of any proceedings arising out of or in connection with this agreement.

17.2 Costs and expenses

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this agreement, each party must pay its own legal costs and expenses in respect of the negotiation, preparation, execution, delivery and completion of this agreement.
- (b) The Bidder agrees to pay all duty (including fines and penalties) payable and assessed on this agreement or in respect of a transaction evidenced by this agreement.

17.3 Invalidity and enforceability

- (a) If any provision of this agreement is invalid under the law of any jurisdiction the provision is enforceable in that jurisdiction to the extent that it is not invalid, whether it is in severable terms or not.
- (b) Clause 17.3(a) does not apply where enforcement of the provision of this agreement in accordance with clause 17.3(a) would materially affect the nature or effect of the parties’ obligations under this agreement.

17.4 Discretion in exercising rights

A party may exercise a right or remedy or give or refuse its consent in any way it considers appropriate (including by imposing conditions) unless this agreement expressly states otherwise.

17.5 Waivers and variation

- (a) A provision of, or a right, discretion or authority created under, this agreement may not be:
 - (i) waived except in writing signed by the party granting the waiver; and
 - (ii) varied except in writing signed by the parties.
- (b) A failure or delay in exercise, or partial exercise, of a power, right, authority, discretion or remedy arising from a breach of, or default under this agreement does not result in a waiver of that right, power, authority, discretion or remedy.

17.6 Assignment of rights

Rights arising out of or under this agreement are not assignable by a party without the prior written consent of the other party.

17.7 Further assurances

Each party must do all things and execute all further documents necessary to give full effect to this agreement.

17.8 Counterparts

This agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts.

17.9 Severability

Any provision in this agreement that is invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction is to be read down for the purpose of that jurisdiction, if possible, so as to be valid and enforceable, and otherwise shall be severed to the extent of the invalidity or unenforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of this agreement or affecting the validity or enforceability of that provision in any other jurisdiction.

17.10 Attorneys

Each of the attorneys executing this agreement (if any) states that the attorney has no notice of the revocation of the power of attorney appointing that attorney.

17.11 Time of the essence

Time is of the essence of this agreement.

Schedule 1 – Agreed Bid Terms

1. Consideration

The consideration under the Offer is A\$0.16 for each Share.

2. Offer Period

The initial Offer Period will last for at least one month and be subject to the Bidder's right to extend the period in accordance with the Corporations Act.

3. Bid Conditions

(a) **Minimum acceptance**

At the end of the Offer Period, Gemcorp has a relevant interest in a minimum of 51% of the Company's Shares on issue.

(b) **No Material Adverse Change**

None of the following occurs:

- (i) an event, change, condition, matter or thing occurs or will or is reasonably likely to occur;
- (ii) information is disclosed or announced by the Company concerning any event, change, condition, matter or thing that has occurred or is reasonably likely to occur; or
- (iii) information concerning any event, change, condition, matter or thing that has occurred or is reasonably likely to occur becomes known to Gemcorp (whether or not becoming public),

after the date of this agreement, or before the date of this agreement but has not been publicly announced prior to the date of this agreement (each of (i), (ii) and (iii), a **Specified Event**) which, whether individually or when aggregated with all such events, changes, conditions, matters or things of a like kind that have occurred or are reasonably likely to occur, has had or would be considered reasonably likely to have:

- (iv) a material adverse effect on the business, assets, liabilities, financial or trading position, profitability or prospects of the Group taken as a whole;
- (v) a material adverse effect on the status or terms of any approvals, licences, permits, or tenements issued by any Regulatory Agency in relation to the Area 1 Project or Sembehun Project, including the Tenement which materially adversely affects, or would be reasonably likely to materially adversely affect, the ability to operate the Area 1 Project or result in the loss of, or would be reasonably likely to result in the loss of, any approvals, licences, permits, or tenements currently held by a member of the Group in relation to the Sembehun Project; or
- (vi) without limiting the generality of clauses (iv) and (v):
 - (A) the effect of a diminution in the value of the consolidated net assets of the Group, taken as a whole, by at least US\$25 million against what it would

- reasonably have been expected to have been but for such Specified Event;
or
- (B) the effect of a diminution in the revenue of the Group, taken as a whole, by at least US\$35 million for the financial year ending 31 December 2024 for the Group against what it would reasonably have been expected to have been but for such Specified Event,

other than:

- (vii) any matter Fairly Disclosed;
- (viii) any change occurring with the written consent of Bidder;
- (ix) any change occurring directly or indirectly as a result of any matter, event or circumstance required by this agreement, the Takeover Bid or the transactions contemplated by them, including the Interim Funding;
- (x) any matter, event or circumstance arising from:
 - (A) changes or developments in general economic or political conditions, taxation, interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, the securities market in general; or
 - (B) any change or proposed change in any laws, or the interpretation or non-application of any laws by any Regulatory Authority, or any arrangements with any Regulatory Authority,provided the Group is not disproportionately affected in comparison to other participants in the mining industry in Sierra Leone;
- (xi) any change in generally accepted accounting principles or standards or the interpretation of them; and
- (xii) any matter, event or circumstance arising from adverse weather conditions or natural disasters.

In this clause, the term **Tenement** means the Mining Lease and Dredging Licence No. 2134 granted to Sierra Rutile Limited.

(c) **Government or regulatory action**

There is no:

- (i) preliminary or final decision, order or ruling issued by any Regulatory Authority in effect;
- (ii) application made to any Regulatory Authority (other than by Gemcorp or any associate of Gemcorp); or
- (iii) action or investigation announced, commenced, or threatened by any Regulatory Authority,

in consequence of or in connection with the Offer (other than an application to, or a decision or order of, or action or investigation by, ASIC or the Takeovers Panel in exercise of the powers and discretions conferred by the Corporations Act) which:

- (iv) restrains, prohibits, or impedes or reasonably likely to restrain, prohibit or impede or may otherwise materially adversely impact upon the making of the Offer, the acquisition of Sierra Rutile Shares under the Offer, the rights of

either Gemcorp in its capacity as a shareholder of Sierra Rutile, the completion of any transaction contemplated by the Offer or the Takeover Bid, or the Group's operations in Sierra Leone; or

(v) seeks to require the divestiture of any Sierra Rutile Shares by Gemcorp.

(d) **Prescribed Occurrences**

Between the Announcement Date and the date 3 business days after the end of the Offer Period (each inclusive), no Prescribed Occurrence occurs.

(e) **Capital raising**

The Company does not conduct any form of equity capital raising or material debt financing (including the issue of any new securities) between the Announcement Date and the end of the Offer Period, except the Interim Funding or with the written consent of Gemcorp.

(f) **Incurring of significant liabilities**

The Group does not incur any liabilities in excess of US\$2.5 million or change the terms of its debt financing arrangement in any material respect, except liabilities contemplated in the Bid Implementation Agreement or with the written consent of Gemcorp.

(g) **Capital expenditure**

The Group does not incur or commit to incur an amount of capital expenditure in excess of US\$2.5 million other than:

- (i) capital expenditure that has been announced by Sierra Rutile before the Announcement Date as intended to be incurred or committed;
- (ii) as Fairly Disclosed; or
- (iii) as otherwise consented to in writing by Gemcorp.

(h) **New significant contracts and variations**

The Group does not enter into, waive any material rights under, vary or terminate any contract, commitment or arrangement which:

- (i) may require annual expenditure by the relevant member of Group in excess of US\$2.5 million or is otherwise of material importance to the business or operations of the Group, except any entry into, waiver, variation or termination that may occur for the purposes of the Interim Funding;
- (ii) relates to one or more off-take agreements, other than such agreements satisfying all of the following:
 - (A) entered into in the ordinary course of the Group's business;
 - (B) representing revenue not exceeding US\$20 million (in aggregate);
 - (C) which are for terms not exceeding 6 months; and
 - (D) do not provide for pre-payments by customers exceeding 3 months of revenue; or

- (iii) is with a Regulatory Authority and relates to the taxation or fiscal regime or regulations applicable to the Group in Sierra Leone or the Area 1 Project or the Sembehun Project,

in each case without the written consent of Gemcorp.

(i) **Material acquisitions and disposals**

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries, acquires or disposes of, or enters into or announces any agreement for the acquisition or disposal of, any asset or business, or enters into any corporate transaction, which would or would be likely to involve a material change in:

- (i) the manner in which the Group conducts its business or operations;
- (ii) the nature (including balance sheet classification), extent or value of the assets of the Group; or
- (iii) the nature (including balance sheet classification), extent or value of the liabilities of the Group,

including, without limitation, any transaction which would or (subject to one or more conditions) may involve:

- (iv) the Company or any member of the Group acquiring, or agreeing to acquire, one or more companies, businesses or assets for an amount in aggregate greater than US\$2.5 million; or
- (v) the Company or any subsidiary of the Company disposing, or agreeing to dispose of, one or more companies, businesses or assets (or any interest therein) for an amount in aggregate greater than US\$2.5 million

other than product sales or in the ordinary course or with the written consent of Gemcorp.

(j) **Discretionary vesting**

Except as Fairly Disclosed, no Performance Rights on issue are caused to vest by the exercise of a discretion of the Board and thereby be converted into Shares.

(k) **Counterparty consent**

Before the end of the Offer Period, each relevant party to a Relevant Material Contract provides to the Company in writing a binding, irrevocable and unconditional waiver or release of (**Relevant Release**) in relation to their Relevant Right and the statement is not materially varied, revoked or qualified before the end of the Offer Period.

For the purposes of this clause, **Relevant Material Contract** means a Material Contract under which a party (other than the Company or any of its subsidiaries) has a Relevant Right, and **Relevant Right** means the right of a party (other than the Company or any of its subsidiaries) to a Material Contract to:

- (i) terminate that Material Contract;
- (ii) vary, amend or modify that Material Contract;
- (iii) exercise or enforce any material right under that Material Contract to the detriment of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, or

- (iv) benefit from the operation of a provision which automatically terminates, varies, amends or modifies that Material Contract,

(including where that right is subject to: (x) the satisfaction or failure of a contingency or condition; or (y) one or more defeating conditions to the Offer being fulfilled or freed) as a direct or indirect result of:

- (v) Gemcorp announcing or making the Offer;
- (vi) Gemcorp acquiring, or acquiring a Relevant Interest in, any of the Sierra Rutile Shares;
- (vii) Gemcorp obtaining a Relevant Interest in 50% or more of the Sierra Rutile Shares then on issue;
- (viii) Gemcorp acquiring control of the Company;
- (ix) Gemcorp implementing or seeking to implement any of its intentions for the Company as described in this agreement; or
- (x) any of the directors of Company making a recommendation in relation to the Offer.

(l) **Litigation on foot or pending**

No litigation against the Group which may reasonably result in a judgement of US\$3 million or more is commenced, is threatened to be commenced, is announced, or is made known to Gemcorp (whether or not becoming public), other than that which has been announced to ASX by the Company prior to the Announcement Date.

(m) **Gemcorp third party approvals**

All approvals or consents that are required by law, by any Regulatory Authority or from any third party in relation to the Company or the Group's material assets, and which are necessary to permit:

- (i) the Offer to be lawfully made by Gemcorp to and accepted by Sierra Rutile shareholders; and
- (i) the transaction contemplated by this Bidder's Statement to be completed (including, without limitation, full, lawful and effectual implementation of the intentions set out in the Bidder's Statement),

are granted, given, made or obtained on an unconditional basis, remain in full force and effect in all respects, and do not become subject to any notice, intimation or indication of intention to revoke, suspend, restrict, modify or not renew the same.

(n) **Default on debt obligations**

No event, change, condition, matter or thing occurs or becomes known to Gemcorp after the Announcement Date, which (or with the passage of time) has or would be reasonably likely to have the effect of a material default on a debt obligation or financial liability of a Group member.

(o) **Adverse events**

After the Announcement Date there is no:

- (i) outbreak of hostilities (whether war is declared or not) or act of terrorism which has a material effect on the Group or its assets;

- (ii) change of government in Sierra Leone; or
- (iii) other than with the written consent of Gemcorp, suspension in trading in the Company's Shares on ASX exceeding 5 days in total in the period of 12 months from the Announcement Date.

Defined terms

In these conditions:

Area 1 Project has the same meaning as in the Bid Implementation Agreement.

ASX means ASX Limited ABN 98 008 624 691.

Company means Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited.

Gemcorp means the entity which will be the bidder under the Takeover Bid.

Group means the Company and its Subsidiaries.

Fairly Disclosed means, in relation to a matter, event or circumstance, publicly disclosed to ASX, ASIC or disclosed in writing to the Bidder or its Representatives to the extent, and in reasonably sufficient detail, so as to allow a reasonable and a sophisticated investor (or one of its Representatives) experienced in transactions of the nature of the Takeover Bid and familiar with the mining and extraction industry would be aware of the substance and significance of the information, event or circumstance, including through the virtual data room made available to the Bidder up to the end of the day before the date of this agreement.

Interim Funding has the same meaning as in the Bid Implementation Agreement.

Material Contract means any agreement, contract, deed or other arrangement which imposes, or would reasonably impose, obligations or liability on any party of at least US\$2.5 million, or is otherwise material in the context of the business of the Group taken as a whole.

Offer means each offer to acquire Shares made in connection with the Takeover Bid.

Offer Period means the period that the Offer is open for acceptance.

Prescribed Occurrence means the occurrence of any of the following:

- (a) the Company converts all or any of its shares into a larger or smaller number of shares (see section 254H of the Corporations Act);
- (b) any member of the Group resolves to reduce its share capital in any way;
- (c) any member of the Group:
 - (i) enters into a buy-back agreement; or
 - (ii) resolves to approve the terms of a buy-back agreement under subsections 257C(1) or 257D(1) of the Corporations Act;
- (d) any member of the Group declares, pays or distributes any dividend, bonus or other share of its profits or assets or returning or agreeing to return any capital;
- (e) any member of the Group issues shares, or grants a performance right, a phantom performance right, or an option over its shares, or agrees to make such an issue or

grant such a performance right, phantom performance right or an option except any issue to Sierra Rutile or a direct or indirect wholly-owned Subsidiary of the Company;

- (f) any member of the Group issues, or agrees to issue, convertible notes;
- (g) any member of the Group disposes, or agrees to dispose, of the whole, or a substantial part, of its business or property other than to another member of the Group;
- (h) any member of the Group creates or agrees to create, any mortgage, charge, lien or other encumbrance over the whole, or a substantial part, of its business or property, other than:
 - (i) any such security interest required in connection with Sierra Rutile's debt facilities which has been fairly disclosed to ASX or to Gemcorp in writing prior to the date of this agreement;
 - (ii) any such security interest granted in favour of Sierra Rutile or another member of the Group;
 - (iii) a lien which arises by operation of law or legislation securing an obligation that is not yet due; or
 - (iv) in the usual and ordinary course of business consistent with past practice; or
- (i) any member of the Group becomes Insolvent other than a matter:
 - (j) in relation to which Gemcorp has expressly agreed to in writing;
 - (k) resulting from the exercise by any party of its rights, or the discharge by any party of its obligations, under this agreement; or
 - (l) the occurrence or potential or planned occurrence of which has been Fairly Disclosed.

Regulatory Authority means any government or any governmental, semi governmental, statutory or judicial entity, agency or authority, whether in Sierra Leone, Australia or elsewhere, including (without limitation) any self regulatory organisation established under statute or otherwise discharging substantially public or regulatory functions, and ASX or any other stock exchange, ASIC and the Takeovers Panel.

Sembehun Project has the same meaning as in the Bid Implementation Agreement.

Takeover Bid means a takeover bid by the Bidder that satisfies the requirements in clause 2 of the Bid Implementation Agreement.

Schedule 2 – Company’s capital structure

1. Shares

The Company has 424,453,918 fully paid ordinary shares on issue.

2. Performance Rights

The Company has 14,471,910 unlisted Performance Rights to acquire unissued fully paid ordinary shares on issue.

Schedule 3 – Form of initial joint announcement

Sierra Rutile Board Recommends Takeover Offer From Gemcorp

Highlights

- **SRX has entered into a binding Bid Implementation Agreement with Gemcorp, under which Gemcorp will offer to acquire all of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX it does not already own**
- **Cash offer of A\$0.16 per share represents an 28.3% premium to SRX 3-month VWAP**
- **The Offer implies a total undiluted equity value for SRX of A\$67.9 million**
- **The Offer Consideration represents a 68.4% premium to the A\$0.095 per share offer price of the PRM Services LLC on-market takeover bid announced on 20 March 2024**
- **SRX Directors unanimously recommend each holder of SRX shares ACCEPT THE OFFER and have indicated that they will ACCEPT THE OFFER in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, in both instances, in the absence of a Superior Proposal**

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited (ASX: SRX) (**SRX or the Company**) and Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holding Limited (**Gemcorp**) are pleased to announce they have entered into a binding Bid Implementation Agreement¹ (**BIA**), pursuant to which Gemcorp will offer to acquire all of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX that it does not already own² (each an **SRX Share** and together the **SRX Shares**) under the terms of an off-market takeover bid (the **Offer**).

Under the terms of the Offer, subject to satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions, each SRX Shareholder will receive a cash offer of A\$0.16 for every SRX Share held (the **Offer Consideration**), which represents a significant premium to SRX's recent share trading, specifically:

- 105.1% to SRX's last undisturbed³ closing price of A\$0.078 per share
- 112.4% to SRX's undisturbed³ 30-day Volume Weighted Average Price (VWAP) of A\$0.075 per share
- 61.4% to SRX's 6 month VWAP of A\$0.099 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 28.3% to SRX's 3 month VWAP of A\$0.125 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 20.4% to SRX's 30-day VWAP of A\$0.133 per share up to close of trading on 28 June 2024, being the last trading date prior to announcement of this Offer
- 20.8% to SRX's last closing price of A\$0.133 per share

¹ Attached as Annexure A.

² Assumes all outstanding SRX performance rights vest, are exercised or cancelled pursuant to the BIA.

³ Undisturbed historical market and volume weighted average prices calculated with reference to the relevant trading period up to, but not including, 20 March 2024 being the date on which PRM announced its on-market takeover bid to acquire SRX at A\$0.095 per share.



Sierra Rutile

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

The Offer Consideration represents a 68.4% premium to the A\$0.095 a share offer price of the PRM Services LLC on-market takeover bid announced on 20 March 2024.

Gemcorp is SRX's largest Shareholder, with a relevant interest in approximately 19.9% of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares in SRX as at the date of this announcement.

The Offer implies a total undiluted equity value for SRX of A\$67.9 million⁴. In order to acquire the SRX Shares it does not already own, up to A\$54.4 million will be payable by Gemcorp (the **Offer Amount**).

Gemcorp has informed SRX that Gemcorp, its related bodies corporate, and funds managed by Gemcorp have sufficient cash and available facilities to fund the entire Offer Amount and related transaction expenses.

The SRX Directors unanimously recommend each holder of SRX shares ACCEPT THE OFFER and have indicated that they will ACCEPT THE OFFER in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, in both instances, in the absence of a Superior Proposal⁵.

SRX's Directors have considered the attractiveness of the Offer along with the ability to present the Offer to Shareholders expeditiously. The Directors have determined obtaining an independent expert's report is not in the best interest of SRX Shareholders, given the additional cost and time required in the context of a potential delay to SRX Shareholders being able to accept the Offer.

SRX Board Recommendations

SRX Directors have carefully considered the terms and conditions of the Offer and, in consultation with SRX's financial and legal advisers, have unanimously recommended SRX Shareholders accept the Offer in the absence of a Superior Proposal⁵.

SRX Directors have confirmed their present intention to, in the absence of a Superior Proposal, accept the Offer in respect of all SRX Shares they own or control, including any that may be issued on vesting of performance rights during the offer period.

Greg Martin, Chairman and Non-Executive Director of SRX, commented:

"We believe Gemcorp's cash Offer provides compelling value for SRX today, representing a 20.4% premium to the 30-day volume weighted average share price. The Offer is also 68.4% higher than PRM Services LLC's A\$0.095 per share offer price announced in March.

"The Offer better reflects the highly strategic nature of SRX's existing Area 1 operations and its globally significant Sembehun development project, which was confirmed by the Definitive Feasibility Study released in April 2024.

"The Board of SRX considers the Offer is in the best interests of shareholders, providing the certainty of an attractive all-cash payment to shareholders relative to future development, operational and financial risks. The Board unanimously recommends SRX Shareholders ACCEPT THE OFFER in the absence of a Superior Proposal, and we look forward to working with Gemcorp to implement the transaction."

⁴ Calculated as the undiluted equity value of SRX implied by the Offer Consideration of A\$0.16 per share.

⁵ As defined in the BIA.



Sierra Rutile

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Key benefits for SRX Shareholders

- **Certain value for SRX Shareholders** – Given the Offer Consideration comprises 100% cash, SRX Shareholders will receive certain and attractive value for their SRX Shares assuming the offer conditions are satisfied. By accepting the Offer, SRX Shareholders will receive a cash payment of A\$0.16 for every SRX Share held within the time frames contemplated under the Corporations Act. Furthermore, SRX Shareholders will not incur any brokerage fees, which will likely be incurred if SRX Shareholders sold their SRX Shares on market.
- **Attractive and significant premium** – The Offer represents an attractive and significant premium to recent trading levels of SRX Shares, and to the A\$0.095 a share offer price from PRM Services LLC.
- **Avoidance of future funding and associated dilution risk** – The Sembehun Project will require significant additional financing in the short to medium term to fund the development of the project in line with the currently proposed schedule. To the extent that some or all of this additional funding is sought in the form of equity, if SRX Shareholders do not accept the Offer, SRX Shareholders would need to contribute commensurately with their existing shareholding to avoid having their proportionate interest in SRX diluted.
- **Avoidance of inherent risks** – SRX Shareholders who accept the Offer will no longer be exposed to a variety of risks including, among others, project development and operational risks, sovereign, political, regulatory, community, social, litigation, equity market, commodity price and other economic risks inherent in their shareholding.

Bid Implementation Agreement

Under the BIA, SRX and Gemcorp have given undertakings to each other to facilitate the Offer. The Offer is subject to a limited number of conditions, including:

- A minimum acceptance condition that Gemcorp increases its relevant interest in SRX to at least 51%
- No prescribed occurrences in relation to SRX
- No material adverse change in relation to SRX
- No government or regulatory action in consequence or in connection with the Offer which adversely impacts the Offer
- No breach by SRX of certain conduct of business restrictions
- Other conditions as set out in the BIA

The BIA contains customary deal protection mechanisms including “no shop, no talk” and “no due diligence” restrictions, as well as notification and matching rights in the event of a competing proposal. A market-standard reciprocal break fee may also be payable by each party in certain circumstances, as set out in the BIA.

The Offer will extend to all SRX Shares including those issued as a result of vested performance rights during the Offer Period in accordance with the BIA.

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited
ABN 79 613 822 165
www.sierra-rutile.com



Sierra Rutile

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

A copy of the BIA is attached at Annexure A.

Timetable and Next Steps

Further details regarding the Offer will be contained within Gemcorp's *Bidder's Statement* and SRX's *Target's Statement*, which are expected to be despatched to SRX shareholders on the dates set out below. The *Bidder's Statement* and *Target's Statement* will set out important information, including how to accept the Offer, information about Gemcorp and the key reasons as to why SRX Shareholders should accept the Offer.

As the Offer does not involve a Scheme of Arrangement, no SRX shareholder vote is required.

It is anticipated the Offer will be open for acceptance from 15 July 2024. An indicative timetable for the Offer is set out below:

Event	Indicative Date
Announcement of the Offer	1 July 2024
Gemcorp lodges with ASIC, and provides to SRX and ASX, a copy of the Bidder's Statement	15 July 2024
Commencement of Offer Period	15 July 2024
SRX lodges with ASIC, and provides to Gemcorp and ASX, a copy of the Target's Statement	29 July 2024
Offer Period ends (unless extended)	16 August 2024

This timetable is indicative only and may be subject to change, subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and the ASX Listing Rules.

Advisors

Gemcorp has engaged Poynton Stavrianou as financial advisor and Hamilton Locke as legal advisor in relation to the Offer.

SRX has engaged Gresham as financial advisor and King & Wood Mallesons as legal advisor in relation to the Offer.

This announcement is authorised for release to the ASX jointly by the Boards of Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited and Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holdings Limited.

Ends

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited
ABN 79 613 822 165
www.sierra-rutile.com



Sierra Rutile

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

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About Gemcorp

The Gemcorp Group is a leading emerging markets investment, commodities and energy group. Since its inception in 2014, Gemcorp has invested over US\$8 billion in credit and equity transactions and accelerated the growth of sovereign and corporate borrowers across 25 emerging market countries.

About SRX

SRX is the world's largest natural rutile producer, with an established operating history of more than 50 years from its operations in Sierra Leone.

SRX is well positioned to extend its operations through the proposed development of the nearby Sembehun deposits. Sembehun represents one of the largest and highest grade natural rutile resources in the world, and its development would extend SRX's mine life by at least 14 years.

SRX is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. Further details about SRX are available at www.sierra-rutile.com.

Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited
ABN 79 613 822 165
www.sierra-rutile.com

Executed as an agreement

Executed by Raymond Busuttil - Director)
Gemcorp Commodities Assets Holdings)
Limited
in the presence of: Nicole Busuttil)



Witness Signature

Nicole Busuttil

Witness Name (print)

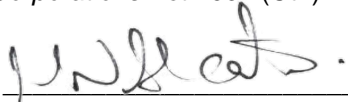


Signature of authorised person

Raymond Busuttil - Director

Name of authorised person (print)

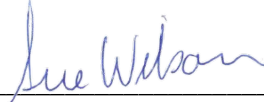
Executed by)
Sierra Rutile Holdings Limited)
pursuant to Section 127 of the)
Corporations Act 2001 (Cth):)



Signature of Director

Martin Alciaturi

Name of Director (print)



Signature of ~~Director~~ Secretary

Sue Wilson

Name of Director/Secretary (print)