

# Strong progress made on development of Montepuez Graphite Project

Battery Minerals Limited (ASX: BAT) is pleased to advise that the development of its Montepuez Graphite Project in Mozambique is progressing well, with key construction milestones being met.

Construction of the permanent 100 person accommodation camp is now well advanced. The buildings have been completed, the electrical fit-out, plumbing, sewerage system and the water treatment facility are all due for commissioning in early November 2018.

The tailing storage facility (TSF) is also well advanced. The TSF wall keyway, the curtain drains and decant area are complete. Approximately 2500 bcm per day of material is going into the wall construction through to completion at the end of October 2018. Other site earthworks, road construction and the installation of culverts are progressing well.

As part of the Montepuez project's community support and development efforts, Battery Minerals is building a community school at a nearby village. Site civil works, footings, concrete and brickwork for the school have now been completed. In addition to the school construction, we have now installed 5 water bores and pumping stations, renovated the local health clinic and supporting local sports.

In parallel with the project construction activities, Battery Minerals has significantly advanced its funding strategy with the appointment of Origin Capital as financial adviser.

Origin Capital is now in the process of seeking expressions of interest from potential debt providers. Upon finalising a short list, Origin will then assess the proposals and lead financing discussions on behalf of Battery Minerals.

As part of the funding process, independent technical consultant Behre Dolbear Australia has been appointed, on behalf of financiers, to conduct a thorough technical due diligence review of the Montepuez Graphite Project. This review includes a recent site visit and technical assessment. In addition, Benchmark Mineral Intelligence has been appointed, on behalf of financiers, to provide an independent review of the graphite market and specific analysis in respect of where the Montepuez project sits within the industry cost curve. These reports will form part of the financier's due diligence material and will assist to accelerate the funding process.

Battery Minerals Managing Director David Flanagan said strong progress was being made at Montepuez on several fronts at the same time.

"Graphite market experts continue to forecast strong demand and price growth on the back of the lithium battery boom," Mr Flanagan said.

"Montepuez is perfectly placed to capitalise on this enormous opportunity thanks to its low cost base, simple processing route and binding offtake agreements.

"We want to ensure that we are in production when the demand and price of graphite takes off. That's why we have moved to secure project funding with the appointment of finance specialists Origin Capital and complete key project construction milestones on site.



## **Construction Activities**

### **Permanent Camp**

- Buildings complete
- Plumbing commenced
- Electrical fit out ongoing



Site clinic installed at permanent camp, Montepuez Project



Aerial view of camp. The camp is due to receive the first residents in November and will accommodate up to 100 people





The 2 x 500 KVA generators that will power the new camp have arrived on site



Camp sewage trenches in progress



### **Road Works**

- Culvert installation
- Civil work commenced
  on roads



Culverts for installation to support site access through wet season



Site roads completed



# **Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) and Decant Area**

## **Tailings Storage Facility**

- Keyway installed
- Curtain Drain in
- Complete in November 2018



TSF civils work adding 2500 bcm/day to the wall



Curtain drain installation at the TSF





**TSF** wall compaction



Decant drain



# Community



Installation of village water bore



Local victorious Mirate Village soccer team who played in the company sponsored inter village soccer game





This is the school as it currently stands



Battery Minerals is building a school for the Ministry of Education, located in the Village of Nkawene which serves over 600 pupils





This is the new school construction team



The newly renovated Mirate clinic. Battery Minerals has reinstated electricity, painted the clinic inside and provided new fixtures and linen.



## **Plant Site**

## **Plant Site Update**

- Plant earthworks complete
- Ready for concrete
  works



Aerial view of the plant site



Plant site works



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### Competent Person's Statement

The Statement of Estimates of Mineral Resources has been compiled by Mr. Shaun Searle who is an employee of Ashmore Advisory Pty Ltd, an associate company of RPM and a Member of the AIG. Mr. Searle has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity that he has undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code (2012). Mr Searle consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Results is based on information compiled by Mr. Jason Livingstone, a Competent Person who is a member of both the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr. Jason Livingstone is a full-time employee of Battery Minerals Limited. Mr. Jason Livingstone has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr. Jason Livingstone consents to the inclusion of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

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