

14 September 2015

Bauxite Hills Environmental Approval Process Update

Metro Mining Limited (ASX:MMI) lodged its detailed Site Specific Environment Authority Application (EA) with the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) on 10 August 2015. After some discussion and minor modifications, it was formally received on 17 August 2015.

On Friday 11 September 2015, Metro Mining was verbally advised by DEHP officers that they considered a full Environment Impact Statement (EIS) would now be required for the Bauxite Hills Project. While we have not received formal advice from the DEHP, if that is in fact their final position, Metro will seek a formal inter-departmental review through the established process.

Metro Mining has sought specific justification for the heightened level of environmental scrutiny, the important considerations being:

-  The Bauxite Hills Project does not trigger any of the legislated specific criteria that would require an EIS.
-  Metro Mining commenced formal discussion with DEHP Officers in July 2014 and has never previously been advised that an EIS would be required.
-  It is a very simple project with minimal environmental impact.
-  It is an important project for Far North Queensland and local communities.

Metro Mining is now reviewing its alternative timing strategy for the project and will provide further information as it becomes available.