

ASX Release 13 July 2016

# Mining Minister leads Colluli site visit as positive focus on mining license approvals continues

## **Highlights**

- Eritrean Minister of Energy and Mines and key delegates have completed a visit to the Colluli mine site
- CMSC continues its high level of engagement with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the Ministry of Environment
- Mining license approval process continues with positive progress
- Delegates representing the social and environmental impact assessment approvals team attended site on the 27<sup>th</sup> June

Danakali Limited (ASX:DNK) ("**Danakali**" or the "**Company**") is pleased to announce that, the Eritrean Minister of Energy and Mines, Mr. Sibhat Efrem led a delegation to the Colluli Mine site earlier this week. The visit was hosted by the Colluli Mining Share Company (**CMSC**).

The Minister was accompanied by senior officials of the ministry including Mr. Alem Kibreab, Director General of Mines Department, Mr. Tesfay Zekarias, Director General of Energy Department, and Mr. Kiflome Debesay, Head of Finance and Administration.

The visit commenced at the existing exploration camp, from which the team travelled to the planned processing plant construction site where a



detailed overview of the massive resource, site layout, processing plant, mining and logistics was given. Project upside potential from the monetisation of rock salt and gypsum was also outlined to the delegation.







CMSC General Manager, Zeray Leake provides and overview of the resource, mine site, processing plant and overall site layout at Colluli

Detailed discussion on the social and environmental impact assessments and management plans were held.

The team then continued to the location identified for initial open cut pit shell, where a detailed discussion was held with regard to the open cut mining method, mining fleet configuration and the advantages of the mine method for the location and the resource.



CMSC employees Awet Solomon and Zeray Leake at Colluli.



Colluli carries an ore reserve of over 1.1 billion tonnes of potassium salts.

The CMSC team completed the visit by stopping by the nearby village of Adayto. The members of the village have been involved in the stakeholder engagements completed throughout the project study phases and have demonstrated strong support for the project development. The social and environmental impact assessment (SEIA) and associated management plans (SEMP) have been completed to the equator principles. The SEIA and SEMP were made publically available for a two-month period which concluded earlier this week. Positive feedback on the completed documents was received.





CMSC General Manager, Zeray Leake discusses the Colluli Potash Project with the residents of Adayto

Managing Director, Paul Donaldson said "We are delighted to have hosted the site visit for the Minister and his delegation. We have a strong and effective relationship with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and have a continuing dialogue with all relevant ministries involved in the mining license approvals process. Danakali and the Colluli Mining Share Company have enjoyed strong engagement with all relevant Eritrean ministries throughout the pre-feasibility and definitive feasibility study phases. We look forward to our ongoing relationship with all key stakeholders as we take the development into construction and subsequent production."

The Colluli project's definitive feasibility study (**DFS**) was completed in November 2015, and is currently awaiting mining license approvals. Representatives from relevant government ministries assigned to the approvals process visited site in June to assist with evaluation of the social, environmental impact assessments and associated management plans. Funding discussions are underway and the company has signed memorandums of understanding for 800,000 tonnes of sulphate of potash per annum. The DFS indicates industry leading capital intensity, bottom quartile operating costs and an ore reserve of 1.1 billion tonnes.

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### **About Danakali Limited**

Danakali is an ASX listed company and 50% owner of the Colluli Potash Project in Eritrea, East Africa. The company is currently developing the Colluli Project in partnership with ENAMCO. Colluli is 100% owned by CMSC, which is a 50:50 joint venture between Danakali and ENAMCO.

The project is located in the Danakil Depression region of Eritrea, and is c. 75km from the Red Sea coast, making it one of the most accessible potash deposits globally. Mineralisation within the Colluli resource commences at just 16m, making it the world's shallowest potash deposit. The resource is amenable to open pit mining, which allows higher overall resource recovery to be achieved, is generally safer than underground mining and is highly advantageous for modular growth.

In November 2015, Danakali released a positive DFS for Colluli which demonstrates industry leading capital intensity and the lowest development costs relative to all SOP projects at DFS level in the world. Bottom quartile operating costs are predicted and mine life is estimated at over 200 years at the DFS production rate, providing the project with substantial growth potential.

SOP is a chloride free, specialty fertiliser which carries a substantial price premium relative to the more common potash type; potassium chloride. Economic resources for production of SOP are geologically scarce. The unique composition of the Colluli resource favours low energy input, high potassium yield conversion to SOP using commercially proven technology. One of the key advantages of the resource is that the salts are present in solid form (in contrast with production of SOP from brines) which reduces infrastructure costs and substantially reduces the time required to achieve full production capacity.

The potassium bearing resource of the Danakil Depression has the unique capability to produce three of the four potash types in the global potash market which comprises potassium chloride (muriate of potash or MOP), potassium sulphate (sulphate of potash or SOP), potassium magnesium sulphate (sulphate of potash magnesia or SOP-M) and potassium nitrate (nitrate of potash or NOP). While CMSC is concentrating on achieving SOP production in the near-term, the focus is on developing a multi agri-commodity and salt business in the medium term.

The resource is favourably positioned to supply the world's fastest growing markets.

Our vision is to bring the Colluli project into production using the principles of risk management, resource utilisation and modularity, using the starting module as a growth platform to develop the resource to its full potential.

#### **Mineral Resource Statements**

The 2015 Colluli Potash Mineral Resource is reported according to the JORC Code and estimated at 1,289Mt @11%  $K_2O$  Equiv. The Mineral Resource is classed as 303Mt @ 11%  $K_2O$  Equiv Measured, 951Mt @ 11%  $K_2O$  Equiv Indicated and 35Mt @ 10%  $K_2O$  Equiv Inferred. The Competent Person for this estimate is Mr. Stephen Halabura, M. Sc., P. Geo., Fellow of Engineers Canada (Hon), Fellow of Geoscientists Canada, and a geologist with over 25 years' experience in the potash mining industry. Mr. Halabura is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan, a Recognised Professional Organisation (RPO) under the JORC Code and has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code.

The 2015 Colluli Rock Salt Mineral Resource is reported according to the JORC Code and estimated at 347Mt @96.9% NaCl. The Mineral Resource is classed as 28Mt @ 97.2% NaCl Measured, 180Mt @ 96.6% NaCl Indicated and 139Mt @ 97.2% NaCl Inferred. The Competent Person for this estimate is Mr. John Tyrrell, a geologist with more than 25 years' experience in the field of Mineral Resource estimation. Mr Tyrrell is a member of the AusIMM, is a full time employee of AMC Consultants Pty Ltd and has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code.

Mr. Tyrell & Mr. Halabura consent to the inclusion of information relating to the Mineral Resource Statements in the form and context in which they appear.

## **Ore Reserve Statement**

The November 2015 Colluli Ore Reserve is reported according to the JORC Code and estimated at 1,113Mt @10%  $K_2O$  Equiv. The Ore Reserve is classed as 286Mt @ 11%  $K_2O$  Equiv Proved and 827Mt @ 10%  $K_2O$  Equiv Probable. The Competent Person for the estimate is Mr Mark Chesher, a mining engineer with more than 30 years' experience in the mining industry. Mr. Chesher is a Fellow of the AusIMM, a Chartered Professional, a full-time employee of AMC Consultants Pty Ltd, and has sufficient open pit mining activity experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code. Mr Chesher consents to the inclusion of information relating to the Ore Reserve in the form and context in which it appears.

In reporting the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves referred to in this public release, AMC Consultants Pty Ltd acted as an independent party, has no interest in the outcome of the Colluli Project and has no business relationship with Danakali Ltd other than undertaking those individual technical consulting assignments as engaged, and being paid according to standard per diem rates with reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses. Therefore, AMC Consultants Pty Ltd and the Competent Persons believe that there is no conflict of interest in undertaking the assignments which are the subject of the statements.