

Detail engineering commences on Browns Range pilot plant

Highlights

- Detailed engineering commences on the Pilot Plant, with work expected to be completed by the end of June.
- Detail engineering a key component to delivery on funding strategy.
- Pilot Plant gaining momentum in the market, with strong support from offtake partners.

Northern Minerals Limited (ASX: NTU; Northern Minerals) is pleased to announce that it has engaged DRA Global (DRA) to undertake the detailed engineering design of the 60,000tpa Browns Range Pilot Plant (Pilot Plant). Along with the detailed engineering design, DRA will also deliver a lump sum turnkey contract price for the supply and construction of the beneficiation and hydrometallurgical process pilot plants, and associated services. The delivery time for the work is eight weeks and Northern Minerals expects it to be complete by the end of June.

DRA has been associated with the Browns Range Project since 2012 and have been key contributors to both the Pre-Feasibility and Definitive Feasibility studies. DRA has also been working on the initial desktop estimates for the Pilot Plant.

The Pilot Plant is gaining momentum in the market with extremely strong support from offtake partners and Northern Minerals' focus is now centred on financing along with engineering, procurement and project development.

George Bauk, Managing Director said, "This is an important milestone in progressing the Pilot Plant towards construction, with the detailed engineering and capital cost critical components to delivering on the funding strategy to build the Pilot Plant at Browns Range"

The scope of works includes the delivery of a Build Own Operate Transfer (BOOT) estimate.

The Pilot Plant is stage one of the new business plan announced on 4 February 2016 to take Browns Range into full production. Stage one incorporates the construction of a Pilot Plant at Browns Range with a 60,000tpa capacity to produce 49,000kg dysprosium, in 590,000kg TREO per annum. The Pilot Plant will de-risk the full scale project, and positions Browns Range as the world's leading long term supplier of dysprosium.

Name	Company	Contact
George Bauk	Managing Director / CEO Northern Minerals	+ 61 8 9481 2344
Mark Tory	Chief Financial Officer Northern Minerals	+61 488 188 638

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

About DRA

DRA is an international, multi-disciplinary engineering and project management group that delivers mining, minerals processing, energy, water and infrastructure services from concept to commissioning.

Additionally, it offers comprehensive asset optimisation, operations and maintenance services to the resources and energy sectors.

About Northern Minerals:

Northern Minerals Limited (ASX: NTU; Northern Minerals or the Company) is focussed on the delivery of the heavy rare earth (HRE) element, dysprosium. The Company has a large landholding in Western Australia and the Northern Territory that is highly prospective for this element. Through the development of its flagship project, the Browns Range Project (the Project), Northern Minerals aims to be the first significant world producer of dysprosium outside of China.

The Project is 100% owned by Northern Minerals and has a number of deposits and prospects containing high value dysprosium and other HREs, hosted in xenotime mineralisation. Dysprosium is an essential ingredient in the production of NdFeB (neodymium iron-boron) magnets used in clean energy and high technology solutions. As a result of increasing global demand for these applications dysprosium supply is critical. The Project's xenotime mineralisation has facilitated the development of a two stage process flowsheet, consisting of a beneficiation and hydrometallurgical plant, to produce a high value, high purity dysprosium rich product.

Exploration continues at Browns Range (WA and NT), and is also underway at the geologically similar John Galt and Boulder Ridge projects. For more information northernminerals.com.au.

