



ASX/Media Announcement

25<sup>th</sup> August 2016

## **PILBARA SIGNS PILGANGOORA COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH ALTURA MINING**

*Execution of Access Agreement and MOU supports fast-track development strategies for adjoining Pilbara lithium-tantalum deposits*

Australian lithium developer Pilbara Minerals Ltd (ASX: PLS – “Pilbara” or “the Company”) is pleased to advise that it has signed two agreements with Altura Mining Limited (ASX: AJM – “Altura”), formalising a framework for ongoing cooperation between the two companies in the development of their adjoining lithium-tantalum deposits.

Altura’s deposit immediately adjoins Pilbara’s Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum Project to the south-west and the proximity of the two projects offers numerous opportunities to unlock logistical, operational and strategic synergies with the potential to deliver benefits to both companies.

Pilbara and Altura’s exploration and development teams have already been cooperating at an operational level for some time, with the agreements announced today formalising this already strong working relationship – supporting each company’s strategy to advance their respective projects towards production as rapidly as possible.

A **Joint Access Agreement** provides for Pilbara and Altura to mutually remove any objections to tenure applications made by either company and for sharing of site access roads and pipeline locations, with the distribution of costs incurred proportionately.

This access agreement will assist Pilbara in its strategy to fast-track the development of its Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum Project. A Definitive Feasibility Study on the Pilgangoora Project is currently in its final stages and is expected to be released in early September following review by the Board of Pilbara Minerals.

Pilbara and Altura have also executed a non-binding **Memorandum of Understanding** (MOU) to establish a framework to jointly evaluate the potential to expand or jointly exploit the lithium-rich pegmatite zones which have now been established as crossing the tenement boundaries between the two projects.

This potential has been confirmed by resource/reserve drilling programs conducted by both companies, in conjunction with sterilisation drilling at planned infrastructure locations on both sides of the tenement boundaries.

This work has delineated a series of mineralised pegmatites which cross the tenement boundaries and offer the potential to expand and/or further optimise the reserve inventories and mining schedules currently being developed independently by Pilbara and Altura.

Pilbara’s Managing Director and CEO, Ken Brinsden, said the agreements signed with Altura put in place a firm framework for cooperation between the two companies which had the potential to deliver important benefits for both sides.

“The synergies between the two projects are compelling, given that recent drilling has essentially confirmed that the mineralisation on either side of the tenement boundaries essentially forms part of the same orebody in our Southern Zone,” Mr Brinsden said.

“The Access Agreement and MOU put in place a collaborative framework which ensures that both companies can move ahead quickly with their development plans, while also jointly evaluating opportunities to optimise the reserves and mining schedules by considering the potential to exploit mineralisation which crosses the tenement boundaries.

### **Pilbara Minerals Limited**



“We are pleased to have entered into these agreements with Altura, which demonstrates a positive and collaborative approach to the development of valuable resources in this State which will ultimately benefit a wide range of stakeholders.”

**More Information:**

**ABOUT PILBARA MINERALS**

Pilbara Minerals (“Pilbara” – ASX: PLS) is a mining and exploration company listed on the ASX, specialising in the exploration and development of the specialty metals Lithium and Tantalum. Pilbara owns 100% of the world class Pilgangoora Lithium-Tantalum project which is the second largest Spodumene (Lithium Aluminium Silicate) project in the world. Pilgangoora is also one of the largest pegmatite hosted Tantalite resources in the world and Pilbara proposes to produce Tantalite as a by-product of its Spodumene production.

**ABOUT LITHIUM**

Lithium is a soft silvery white metal which is highly reactive and does not occur in nature in its elemental form. It has the highest electrochemical potential of all metals, a key property in its role in Lithium-ion batteries. In nature it occurs as compounds within hard rock deposits and salt brines. Lithium and its chemical compounds have a wide range of industrial applications resulting in numerous chemical and technical uses. A key growth area is its use in lithium batteries as a power source for a wide range of applications including consumer electronics, power station-domestic-industrial storage, electric vehicles, power tools and almost every application where electricity is currently supplied by fossil fuels.

**ABOUT TANTALUM**

The Tantalum market is boutique in size with around 1,300 tonnes required each year. Its primary use is in capacitors for consumer electronics, particularly where long battery life and high performance is required such as smart phones, tablets and laptops.

**Contacts:**

***Investors / Shareholders***

Ken Brinsden  
Chief Executive Officer, Managing Director  
Ph. +61 (0)8 9336 6267

***Media***

Nicholas Read  
Read Corporate  
Ph. +61 (0)8 9388 1474

**FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS AND IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This announcement may contain some references to forecasts, estimates, assumptions and other forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes that its expectations, estimates and forecast outcomes are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that they will be achieved. They may be affected by a variety of variables and changes in underlying assumptions that are subject to risk factors associated with the nature of the business, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed herein. All references to dollars (\$) and cents in this announcement are to Australian currency, unless otherwise stated.

Investors should make and rely upon their own enquiries before deciding to acquire or deal in the Company's securities.

This release has been prepared for publication in Australia and may not be released in the United States. This release does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, securities in the United States or any other jurisdiction. Any securities described in this release have not been, and will not be, registered under the US Securities Act of 1933 and may not be offered or sold in the United States except in transactions exempt from, or not subject to, registration under the US Securities Act and applicable US state securities laws.