

## **NEWS RELEASE 19-16**

**November 6, 2019** 

## **Chatham Rock Phosphate Thanks Our New Zealand Government - a 24-month Report Card**

**WELLINGTON New Zealand** – Chatham Rock Phosphate Limited (TSXV: "NZP" and NZAX: "CRP", "Chatham" or the "Company") wishes to advise that two years after first communicating with the incoming government of New Zealand it is very imperative and timely for the Company to reiterate the messages it has sent directly to key Ministers during this period.

The Company continues to send public communications because the benefits of the Company's reliable environmentally-friendly project include a well-documented and established range of environmental and health related benefits as well as providing an obvious boost to the New Zealand economy.

Our economically-beneficial product, Chatham rock phosphate, is already located here in New Zealand and doesn't have to be imported from the other side of the world. Its ownership is also undisputed, unlike the rock phosphate being imported from the Western Sahara. In addition, our permit area contains significant by-products including rare earths and other green minerals that are very important to our economy as well as the rest of the world.

The area that our Company proposes to develop during our mine life (i.e. less than 500 square kilometers in total or < 30 square kilometers per year) represents less than a quarter of one percent (< 0.25%) of the Chatham Rise, a tiny area compared with the 19,000 square kilometers of the Rise bottom trawled annually in the area by the fishing industry with few identified ill-effects, if any; the impacts on the seafloor are broadly the same from an environmental perspective.

Chatham is a genuinely good news story which is why it's worth repeating these messages below again. And, it's also why we will continue to request progressive meetings with our key ministers in order to communicate these messages in person. We thank all our government officials for their interest and support of Chatham Rock Phosphate.

This project deserves to be supported by any government, in any country, and particularly so by the Labour/Green/NZ First coalition we have in New Zealand.

In summary it ticks all the relevant boxes that every concerned government would appraise: environmental, health, ethical, security of supply, economic, regional development, rare earths and other green minerals.

- ✓ Our rock is a proven reactive phosphate rock. Using it results in much less run-off into waterways and an improved soil profile compared with the effects of manufactured fertilisers.
- ✓ It's an organic fertiliser with no additives and with the only processing being grinding and possible pelletisation
- ✓ It contains ultra-low levels of cadmium, a cancer-causing heavy metal with much greater concentrations in other rock phosphate deposits
- ✓ Being locally sourced and needing to be applied less frequently results in much lower

- carbon emissions (in effect increasing the present NZ electric vehicle fleet from 10,000 to 29,000 vehicles)
- ✓ It is New Zealand's only significant source of phosphate and seabed extraction involves a far smaller environmental impact than that imposed on local overseas communities which mine phosphate
- ✓ The rock is within one day's sailing distance and supply is far more secure (and more ethical) than phosphate rock imported from unstable regions on the other side of the world
- ✓ The project economics are attractive and Chatham will pay significant port charges, royalties and income taxes
- ✓ The project will generate new jobs in environmental monitoring, on the mining ship, in the home port and in the science and agricultural sectors
- ✓ Chatham rock phosphate has been independently shown to be as effective as other phosphate fertilisers used in New Zealand. We could provide the two fertiliser co-ops supplying most of New Zealand's fertiliser with a green fertiliser alternative to naturally complement their other products.

We appreciate the interests and support of the New Zealand government ministers and high ranking officials that have continually granted our requests to meet and brief them including the key Ministers of this government in order to gain the support that this project so richly merits. It's good for the environment, good for the economy, good for New Zealand and good for the world.

## Regards

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