

**27 September 2017**

## **Chatham Rock Phosphate occupies centre stage at UMC conference**

Chatham Rock Phosphate (NZ: CRP, TSX.V: NZP) (“CRP” or “the Company”) this week delivered two keynote addresses at the Underwater Mining Conference hosted by the International Marine Minerals Society, this year held in Berlin.

Chatham CEO Chris Castle updated the scientists, marine miners, sector investors and other industry players attending the conference from 25 countries on the company’s present status and forward plans.

His address, the central theme of this being that Chatham remains on track to re-submit a marine consent application, was warmly received. The project is very much on the world stage and it’s clear that the New Zealand Environmental Protection Authority’s recent decision to grant a Marine Consent (Exclusive Economic Zone environmental permit) to Trans Tasman Resources has been widely observed internationally and represents a major milestone for the marine mining industry. It has also helped reinstate New Zealand as a credible location for investment in resource projects.

His address was followed by a well-received presentation from Renee Grogan, Chatham’s recently appointed project manager and leader of its proposed marine consent reapplication. Renee is also a director of the World Oceans Council. Her central theme was the necessity for inter-industry collaboration between those already working in the world oceans and proposed new entrants.

It is the seventh year Chatham - one of the most advanced marine mining projects in the world - has updated the marine mining industry on progress. Chatham has held a granted mining licence since December 2013 and plans to apply for a marine consent in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Attendance at UMC will be followed by meetings in The Netherlands with Boskalis and Deltares. Both have worked with Chatham for several years on developing the phosphate extraction technology, as well as measuring and targeting the minimisation of possible environmental impacts. Some of this work is being funded by grants from the Dutch Government.

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### **About Chatham Rock Phosphate**

Chatham Rock Phosphate is the custodian of New Zealand’s only material resource of environmentally friendly pastoral phosphate fertiliser. Our key role is connecting the resource with those who need it.

Using this phosphate will support sustainable farming practices, including healthier soils and reduced accumulation of the heavy metal cadmium, dramatically lowering runoff to waterways and shrinking fertiliser needs over time.

The resource has an estimated worth of \$5 to \$7 billion, representing one of New Zealand's most valuable mineral assets and is of huge strategic significance because phosphate is essential to maintain New Zealand's high agricultural productivity.

New Zealand's current access to phosphate is vulnerable to economic and political events in the six countries controlling 98% of the world's phosphate reserves, with 85% of the total in the Western Saharan state of Morocco.

Chatham takes very seriously the responsibility vested in it through its mining permit to use the world's best knowledge and technology to safely extract this resource to help sustainably feed the world.

Our initial environmental consenting process established extraction would have no significant impact on fishing yields or profitability, marine mammals or seabirds.

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