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RARE EARTHS
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ARAFURA SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES KEY TECHNOLOGY WORK PROGRAM

Australian rare earths company **Arafura Resources Limited (ASX: ARU)** (**Arafura** or **the Company**) is pleased to advise that it has successfully completed the Hydrochloric acid regeneration program, a key part of its wider, previously reported Technology program.

The process involves taking calcium chloride residues from the Phosphate circuit and reacting them with Sulphuric acid to produce re-useable Hydrochloric acid, a key raw material in Arafura's pre-leach circuit, and calcium sulphate (gypsum), a potential saleable product into various end applications. This reduces Arafura's dependence on external Hydrochloric acid sources.

AMMTEC successfully operated the demonstration plant on a continuous basis at its facility in Perth, Western Australia, with involvement from experts from the University of Montreal, Canada, and Arafura's Technology team.

The demonstration facility has successfully achieved:

- Production of 32% Hydrochloric acid from a simulated recycle stream similar to the Phosphate circuit waste liquors, with a recycle efficiency of at least 97.5%;
- Production of crystalline gypsum with filtration characteristics suitable for processing via commercially available filters;
- Production of Dihydrate gypsum. Feedback from one major gypsum user indicates that this material has potential for future commercial use;
- Provision of detailed design and operating data for the Bankable Feasibility Study.

Arafura's Managing Director and CEO, Dr Steve Ward, commented, "The successful completion of this demonstration program highlights Arafura's commitment to the Nolans Project and its efforts to de-risk key technological aspects. This is important for potential financiers and provides valuable technical and operating experience for Arafura. The successful completion of this work is another major step forward for us."

"The logistical and economic benefits of Hydrochloric acid regeneration and gypsum production will now be incorporated into the Bankable Feasibility Study. Engineering design is now underway for the overall flowsheet, and customers are being further engaged for evaluation of the gypsum product for potential offtake."

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For further information contact:

Dr Steve Ward
Managing Director & CEO
Arafura Resources Ltd
T: +61 8 6210 7666

ARAFURA RESOURCES LIMITED

arafura@arafuraresources.com.au www.arafuraresources.com.au ABN 22 080 933 455

PERTH: Level 5/16 St Georges Tce, Perth WA 6000 | PO Box 3047, Adelaide Terrace, Perth WA 6832 T: +618 6210 7666 F: +618 9221 7966

DARWIN: 18 Menmuir St, Winnellie NT 0820 | PO Box 37220, Winnellie NT 0821 T: +618 8947 5588 F: +618 8947 5599

WHYALLA: Unit 18, 11 Darling Tce, Whyalla SA 5600 T: +618 8645 5509 F: +618 8645 1856