



13 April 2010

Kerrie Papamihail
Assistant Manager, Issuers (Perth)
ASX Markets Supervision Pty Ltd
2 the Esplanade
Perth WA 6000

Via facsimile: 08 9221 2020

Dear Kerrie

RE: ASHBURTON MINERALS LTD (the "Company")

We refer to your letter dated 12 April 2010 in which you note a change in the price and an increase in the volume of trading in the Company's securities. We respond as follows in response to your questions, which are repeated for ease of reference.

1. *Is the Company aware of any information concerning it that has not been announced which, if known, could be an explanation for recent trading in the securities of the company?*

Response: A possible explanation for the change could be the imminent recommencement of drilling at the Company's Pokali copper prospect within the Mt Webb project in WA. Field crews were to be mobilised this week, however the recent spate of wet weather in central Australia has delayed this work by at least a week. Over the past month, the Company has been in contact with various drilling companies, field contractors and other explorers active in the region and, hence, a number of varied parties will be aware of the Company's proposed field campaign. However, drilling is a part of the Company's normal exploration activity and, in the case of the Pokali prospect, is something that has been earmarked for implementation at the commencement of the 2010 field season since last year's Annual Report. The Company does not regard the "possible commencement of drilling" as market sensitive information.

2. *If the answer to question 1 is yes, can an announcement be made immediately? If not, why not and when is it expected that an announcement will be made?*

Response: In light of the movement in the securities of the Company, the Company intends to make a clarifying announcement today.

3. *Is there any other explanation that the Company may have for the price and volume change in the securities of the Company?*

Response: No.

4. *Please confirm that the Company is in compliance with the listing rules and, in particular, listing rule 3.1.*

Response: The Company confirms that it is in compliance with the listing rules and, in particular, listing rule 3.1.

We trust the above is sufficiently explanatory. Should you require further information please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Dukovic
Managing Director



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By Facimile: 9225 9001

12 April 2010

Mr Tom Dukovic
 Managing Director
 Ashburton Minerals Limited
 310 Newcastle Street
 Perth WA 6000

Dear Tom

Ashburton Minerals Limited (the "Company")

PRICE AND VOLUME QUERY

We have noted a change in the price of the Company's securities today from a low of 1.8 cents on 9 April 2010 to an intra day high of 3.1 cents today. We have also noted an increase in the volume of trading in the securities today.

In light of the price and volume change, please respond to each of the following questions.

1. Is the Company aware of any information concerning it that has not been announced which, if known, could be an explanation for recent trading in the securities of the Company?

Please note that as recent trading in the Company's securities could indicate that information has ceased to be confidential, the Company is unable to rely on the exceptions to listing rule 3.1 contained in listing rule 3.1A when answering this question.

2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, can an announcement be made immediately? If not, why not and when is it expected that an announcement will be made?

Please note, if the answer to question 1 is yes and an announcement cannot be made immediately, you need to contact us to discuss this and you need to consider a trading halt (see below).

3. Is there any other explanation that the Company may have for the price and volume change in the securities of the Company?
4. Please confirm that the Company is in compliance with the listing rules and, in particular, listing rule 3.1.

Your response should be sent to me by facsimile to facsimile number (08) 9221 2020. It should not be sent to the Company Announcements Office.

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Australian Securities Exchange

Australian Stock Exchange
 Sydney Futures Exchange

Australian Clearing House
 SFE Clearing Corporation

ASX Settlement and Transfer Corporation
 Austraclear

Unless the information is required immediately under listing rule 3.1, a response is requested as soon as possible and, in any event, **not later than 7:45 am (W.S.T) on Tuesday 13 April 2010.**

Under listing rule 18.7A, a copy of this query and your response will be released to the market, so your response should be in a suitable form and separately address each of the questions asked. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact me immediately.

Listing rule 3.1

Listing rule 3.1 requires an entity to give ASX immediately any information concerning it that a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the entity's securities. The exceptions to this requirement are set out in listing rule 3.1A.

In responding to this letter you should consult listing rule 3.1 and Guidance Note 8 – Continuous Disclosure: listing rule 3.1.

If the information requested by this letter is information required to be given to ASX under listing rule 3.1 your obligation is to disclose the information immediately.

Your responsibility under listing rule 3.1 is not confined to, or necessarily satisfied by, answering the questions set out in this letter.

Trading halt

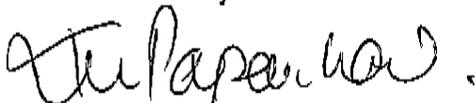
If you are unable to respond by the time requested, or if the answer to question 1 is yes and an announcement cannot be made immediately, you should consider a request for a trading halt in the Company's securities. As set out in listing rule 17.1 and Guidance Note 16 – Trading Halts we may grant a trading halt at your request. We may require the request to be in writing. We are not required to act on your request. You must tell us each of the following.

- The reasons for the trading halt.
- How long you want the trading halt to last.
- The event you expect to happen that will end the trading halt.
- That you are not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.
- Any other information necessary to inform the market about the trading halt, or that we ask for.

The trading halt cannot extend past the commencement of normal trading on the second day after the day on which it is granted. If a trading halt is requested and granted and you are still unable to reply to this letter before the commencement of trading, suspension from quotation would normally be imposed by us from the commencement of trading if not previously requested by you. The same applies if you have requested a trading halt because you are unable to release information to the market, and are still unable to do so before the commencement of trading.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above, please let me know.

Yours sincerely



Kerrie Papamihail
Assistant Manager, Issuers (Perth)