



## COMPANY UPDATE: COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND RESPONSE TO MEDIA ARTICLES

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**Arcadia Minerals Ltd (ASX:AM7, FRA:8OH) (Arcadia or the Company)**, the diversified exploration company targeting a suite of projects aimed at Tantalum, Lithium, Nickel, Copper and Gold in Namibia, is pleased to provide an update on the development of its Swanson Tantalum/Lithium project and to provide feedback on circulating media articles surrounding mining in Namibia where the Company has been specifically mentioned.

### **Commencement of construction, purchase of plant equipment and machinery**

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2023<sup>1</sup> the Company announced that it had concluded an agreement with Hebei Construction (Hebei) in terms of which Hebei is to construct a plant, infrastructure and execute mine development and the commissioning of Multi Gravity Separation plant (MGS). The Company is pleased to report that Hebei informed the Company that it has commenced with the construction of the road between the Swanson Mine Site and the Plant Site, which is necessary to allow for the carriage and installation of plant and equipment currently being sourced from Namibia, the Republic of China and the United Kingdom (**Refer Figures 1 to 7 at the back of this announcement of construction works and equipment underway/delivered to site**).

### **Media Articles**

In recent weeks, following the Government of Namibia's ban on the export of crushed unprocessed ore of certain minerals considered "critical" (Lithium, Cobalt, Manganese, Graphite and Rare Earths), several media articles mentioned Arcadia Minerals, which may have created the impression that the Company is to be affected by the ban. As a number of enquiries from shareholders have been received around concerns that the ban could materially affect the prospects of the Company's business, particularly the construction and effective operation of the Swanson Tantalum Mine. The Company wishes to advise that any inference that Arcadia is affected is wholly misguided and incorrect.

The Company has no intention of exporting unprocessed crushed ore and of not doing so in the near future. As the transaction with Hebei<sup>1</sup> illustrates, Hebei is to construct a Multi Gravity Separation Plant at its cost and execute mine development of the Swanson project up to a steady state of production for 3 months, in return for a 38% equity interest in the project. The MGS plant is being constructed to produce a Tantalum concentrate, which entails the processing of raw ore. Further to this, tantalum is also not considered a “critical” mineral in Namibia.

Many countries around the globe have taken similar steps to ban the exportation of raw ore, to ensure that raw ore is being beneficiated to be value accretive to the country of origin before being exported for other uses.

The directors trust that this clarifies any concerns around media articles, which may have unfortunately resulted in the share price being sold off over the past few weeks.

**Jurie Wessels Chairman of Arcadia stated:** *“We are very pleased with the progress Hebei is making at advancing the Swanson Ta/Li project towards production. Since inking our deal with Hebei, construction has already commenced and work is accelerating both on site and around equipment receipt/ordering.*

*At site, roads are already being constructed and earthworks around the plant location will commence shortly.*

*Equipment such as the jaw crusher, cone crusher, feeder, screen and conveyors have been ordered or is en route. Long lead items such as the drilling machine, ball mill and crushers have also been ordered. The balance of equipment, particularly the MGS plant equipment, is expected to finalised before the end of July.*

*This is a very exciting time for the Company as we aim to execute part of our strategy to develop the Swanson project into a potential cash generator. Based on results from our recent DFS, the expected attributable free cash flow of circa Au\$4M Arcadia stands to receive per year, could provide non-dilutive capital to aggressively advance the Company’s highly prospective and potentially transformational exploration assets.”*

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<sup>1</sup> See ASX Announcement dated 29 May 2023 “Construction Funding Secured for the Swanson Tantalum Project”

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**This announcement has been authorised for release by the directors of Arcadia Minerals Limited.**

For further information please contact:

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**Arcadia Minerals Limited**

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#### **BACKGROUND ON ARCADIA**

Arcadia is a Namibia-focused diversified metals exploration company, which is domiciled in Guernsey. The Company explores for a suite of new-era metals (Lithium, Tantalum, Platinum-Group-Elements, Nickel and Copper). The Company's strategy is to bring the advanced Swanson Tantalum project into production and then to use the cashflows (which may be generated) to drive exploration and development at the potentially company transforming exploration assets. As such, the first two pillars of Arcadia's development strategy (a potential cash generator and company transforming exploration assets) are established through a third pillar, which consists of utilising the Company's human capital of industry specific experience, tied with a history of project generation and bringing projects to results, and thereby, to create value for the Company and its shareholders.

Most of the Company's projects are located in the neighbourhood of established mining operations and significant discoveries. The mineral exploration projects include-

1. Bitterwasser Lithium in Clay Project – which project contains a potentially expanding JORC Mineral Resource from lithium-in-clays
2. Bitterwasser Lithium in Brines Project – which is prospective for lithium-in-brines within the Bitterwasser Basin area.
3. Kum-Kum Project – prospective for nickel, copper, and platinum group elements.
4. TVC Pegmatite Project – prospective for Lithium, Tantalum and other associated minerals.
5. Karibib Project – prospective for copper and gold.
6. The Swanson Mining Project – advanced tantalum mining project undergoing development to become a mining operation, and which contains a potentially expanding JORC Mineral Resource within the Swanson Project area.

As an exploration company, all the projects of the Company are currently receiving focus. However, currently the Swanson project and the Bitterwasser Lithium projects may be considered as Arcadia's primary projects due to their potential to enhance the Company's value.

For more details, please visit [www.arcadiaminerals.global](http://www.arcadiaminerals.global)



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## PHOTOS FROM SWANSON MINE SITE AND EQUIPMENT



**Figure 1** – Roadworks being undertaken between the Swanson mine site and the location of the plant.

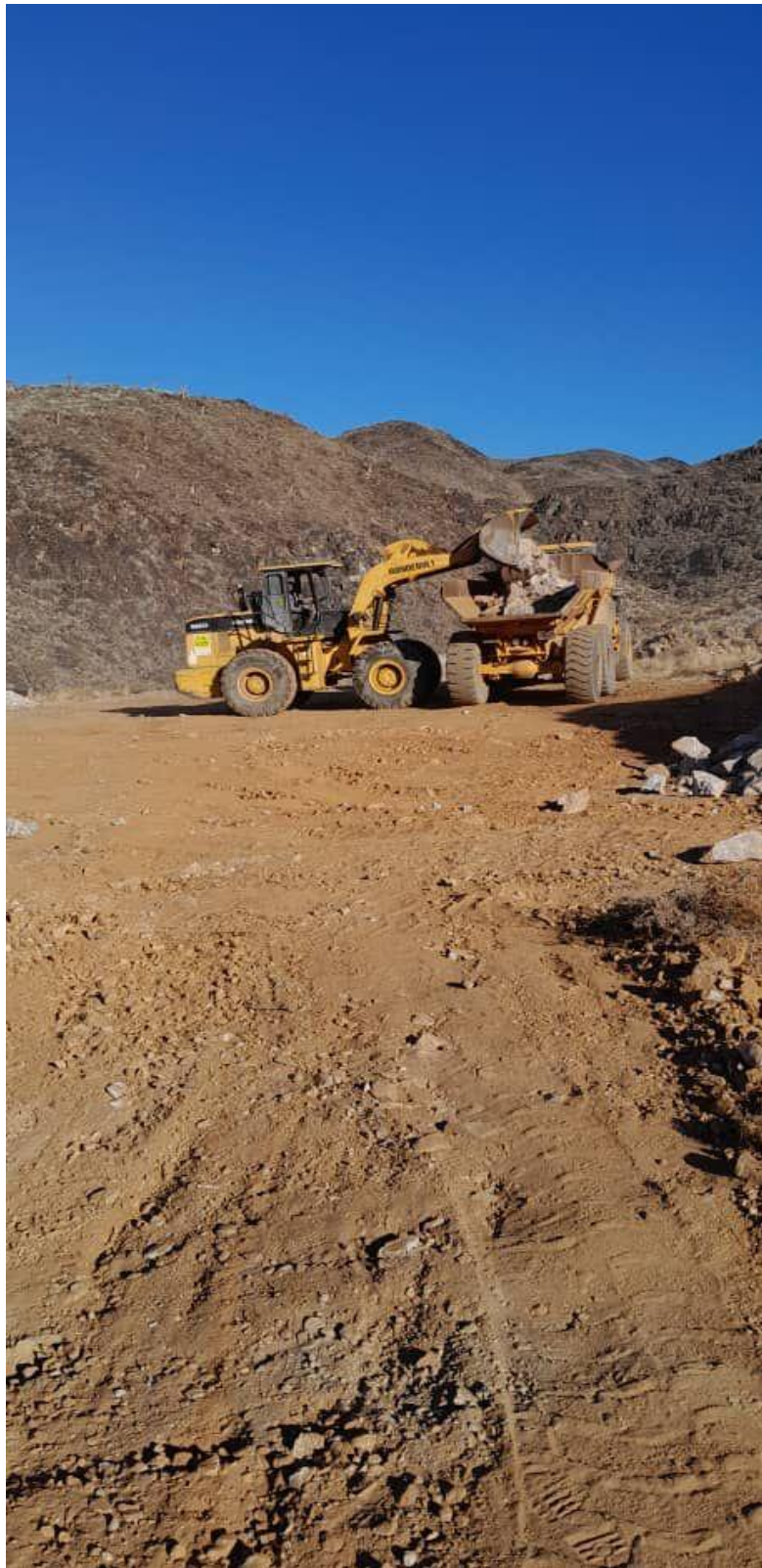




**Figure 2 – Road construction in progress**



**Figure 3** – Road construction to the plant location.



**Figure 4 –** *Clearing of debris from roadbuilding*





**Figure 5 – Dozer used to clear rocks and tree roots in the vicinity of the roads**



**Figure 6 – Drill machine ordered**



**Figure 7 – Ball mill ordered**