

Monday, 10 July 2023

Australian Securities Exchange Limited
Level 40, Central Park,
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Citronen Base Metals Project Update

Ironbark Zinc Limited (“Ironbark”, “the Company”, or “IBG”) is pleased to update the market regarding progress at its Citronen Zn-Pb Project in Greenland.

Highlights

- Post due-diligence work with US EXIM Bank ongoing; current priority is an updated and expanded 2023 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy
- Discussions continue with prospective Project joint venture partners, focused on mid to large capitalisation miners experienced in Arctic operations

IBG Managing Director Michael Jardine commented:

“Despite a difficult metal price environment in 2023, with Zinc having fallen well over 50% from its 2022 peak, Ironbark continues to progress the Citronen Project.

As our potential cornerstone debt investor, US EXIM Bank remains a key stakeholder in the Company’s future and a priority relationship for the Executive team. We are working closely with their advisor RPM Global to update our historic stakeholder management program with new community engagement work due to take place later in the Greenlandic summer. This will be led by our Greenland Country Manager Mrs. Qupanuk Olsen.

The Company is likewise prioritising new equity investment into Citronen at the project level and these discussions, whilst proceeding slowly, are progressing. Further information on this will be provided at the appropriate time.”

US EXIM Bank / 2023 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Of the four areas highlighted by US EXIM’s 2022 Due Diligence program (see ASX announcement dated 12 December 2022), an updated Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is the first of the workstreams to be addressed. IBG submitted a proposal to RPM Global for review in the June quarter and approval is now expected imminently, after which final planning will commence for mobilisation in Greenland in the second half of 2023.

Ironbark notes that the revised Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is largely being undertaken to update EXIM on community views in Greenland regarding the development of Citronen given this work was initially undertaken by Ironbark in the period 2011-2016 as part of its Exploitation Licence approval. The already granted exclusive Exploitation Licence, under which IBG's EIA, SIA and IBA have all been approved by the Government of Greenland, is unaffected by anything undertaken for the benefit of US EXIM Bank.

Citronen Joint Venture Discussions

In recognising the scale of the Citronen Project, operational complexity of the Arctic environment and US EXIM's lending parameters, Ironbark has elected to undertake a much more focused search for a JV partner at Citronen in 2023. In scope are mid to large cap mining companies with significant balance sheet strength, current or planned exposure to the base metals market and experience with operating high latitude mines.

This much tighter set of criteria, with perhaps fewer but much more committed potential investors, has necessitated a different approach to the more structured, but broader, process ran in 2022 and is showing signs of being successful. The key attributes of the Project – granted mining licence, multi-decade Mineral Resource, clean concentrate, Offtakes largely pre-sold, presence of US EXIM, significant exploration upside – remain attractive to various majors and discussions remain ongoing at the time of writing.

Further Details

This notice is authorised to be issued by the Board. Please contact Managing Director Mr Michael Jardine for any further inquiries at mjardine@ironbark.gl or +61 424 615 047.