NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A RETENTION LICENCE

Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 – Section 15(5) Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) (Mineral Industries) Regulations 2019 – Regulation 22(1) and Schedule 1

1. Name and address of applicant(s): ACDC Metals Operations Pty Ltd Ivl 6, 111 Collins street, Melbourne, VIC, 3000

2. Contact details of applicant (for map and other information requests):

Belinda Ingram. Ph: 0428 158 374. E: vic@amets.com.au

3. Applicant's Website: Further information about this application is available:

www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/ and https://resources.vic.gov.au/licensing-approvals/haveyour-say

4. Details of the application:
Application number: RL008706
Locality of the land to which the application relates: 88m south of Towaninny, 14km north east of Wycheproof, 35km north west of Boort
Approximate area of the application (Ha): 7898
Date of the application: 5 June 2025
Term the licences are applied for: 10 years
Outline of the proposed programs of work: Desktop studies, drilling, mineralogy, community engagement

5. Objections and Comments:

Any person may object or comment to a licence being granted. (Sections 24 and 24A, *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990*).

A person who objects or comments must:

- a. put the objection or comment in writing; and
- b. include the grounds on which it is made.

All objections or comments must be lodged within 21 days after the latest date on which the application was advertised and can be lodged <u>online</u> or posted to: The Minister for Energy and Resources c/- Manager Licensing, Earth Resources Regulator, PO Box 500, East Melbourne Victoria 8002

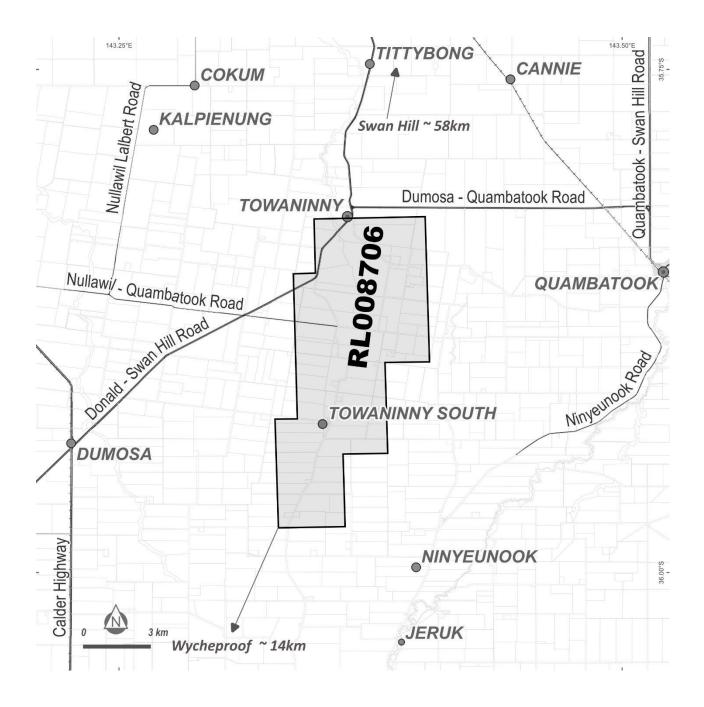
It is recommended that objections or comments are lodged online at <u>https://rram-vic-gov.my.site.com/ObjectionSubmission</u> to ensure timely consideration.

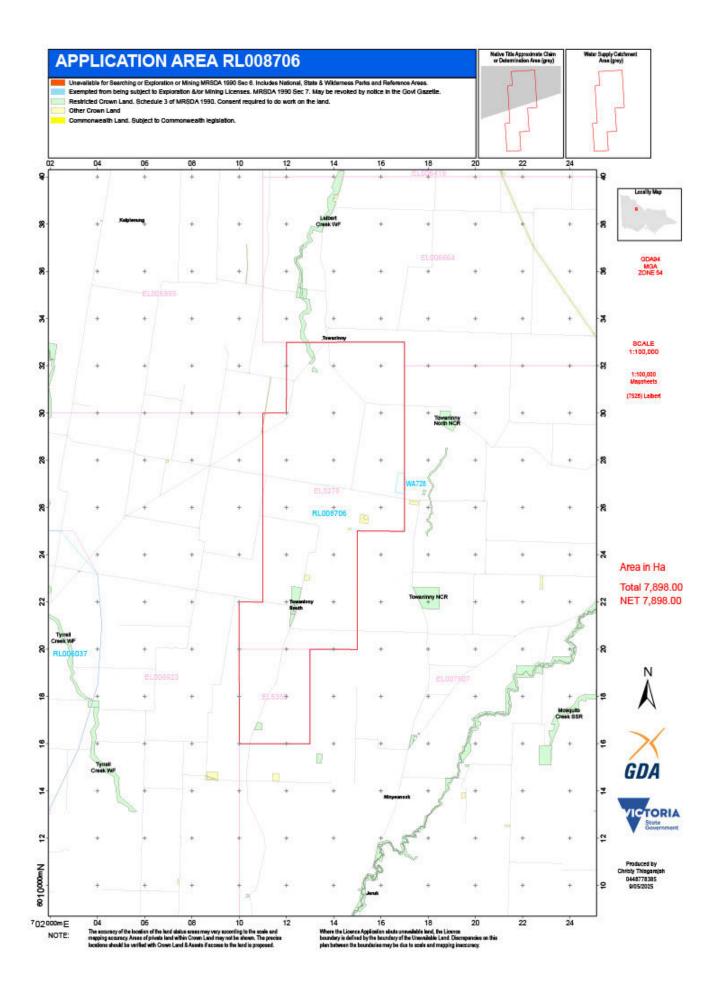
Enquiries can be made by writing to the Manager Licensing at the above address or by phone to ERR 136 186.

6. Other Statutory Requirements:

Subject to other statutory requirements being satisfied, a retention licence, if granted, entitles the holder of the licence to retain rights to a mineral resource, and explore and carry out other work to establish the economic viability of mining, but does not entitle the holder to undertake mining.

Further information regarding the statutory requirements that must be complied with prior to work being undertaken on a licence, including landowner and occupier consent requirements is available at https://resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use.





Work Program

YEAR 1

- Assessment of resource development to date
- Mineralogy
- Engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 2

- Infill drilling and mineralogy
- Update the resource estimate including new data
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 3

- Infill drilling and mineralogy
- Update the resource estimate including new data
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 4

- Hydrogeological & Geotechnical field investigations.
- Prefeasibility study (commencement)
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 5

- Environmental baseline data and prefeasibility studies
- resource definition
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 6

- Bulk sample and feasibility metallurgical testwork
- Field investigations
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 7

- Feasibility studies
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 8

- Feasibility studies
- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community

YEAR 9

- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community
- Project justification and economic assessment

YEAR 10

- Continue engagement of key stakeholders & community
- Environmental Effects Statement Referral

Community Engagement and Consultation

Community engagement is the interaction between stakeholders aimed at using community input to assist in making decisions. The stakeholders are usually landholders, residents, government, and the minerals exploration company, however, may include other community groups or organisations with an interest in the area.

Community engagement is discussion between the stakeholders where the communities can have input into the proposed exploration operations. ACDC Metals is committed to open and effective communication with community groups, landowners and occupiers and organisations regarding the proposed mineral exploration of the Company.

A community can be broad and diverse, depending upon the location. It usually consists of landowners and occupiers with a relationship to the tenement area, may include organisations that have an association with the land proposed to be explored (example – Crown Land users) and regulatory authorities. There is no specific definition of what constitutes a community for an exploration project, the organisations and individuals forming a community will vary for every exploration project.

Community engagement is often a 'live' process which will change as the exploration project advances and develops. Community engagement also needs to be flexible and transparent to conform to the community needs. When an exploration company prepares a Work Plan to progress with proposed exploration work, it is a requirement that the exploration company has a Community Engagement Plan. The contents of a Community Engagement Plan need to identify the communities in which exploration is planned and outline all the aspects of engagement at each stage of the exploration project. The content of a Community Engagement Plan will vary on the communities in which exploration is proposed, and the activities intended to be undertaken. The minimum requirements for a Community Engagement Plan are detailed in Schedule 13 of the MRSDMIR.

To operate a successful exploration program ACDC Metals considers consultation with the community as an essential prerequisite, this involves seeking, listening, and considering feedback from the community.

It is a requirement that ACDC Metals consults with the community, involving:

- Informing the Community about any activities authorised by the licence that may affect the community.
- Providing the Community with the ability to express their views.

Consultation may include, but not limited to:

- face to face meetings
- notice boards
- fact sheets
- telecommunications
- written electronic surveys
- media advertising
- public meetings, and
- submissions from public exhibitions or online.

Environmental Consideration

For ACDC Metals to operate successfully, careful consideration is required regarding the environment in which we intend to operate. The MRSDA and MRSDMIR contain strict provisions relating to the activities which ACDC Metals can undertake, in addition a large number of supporting legislation (environment, water, planning, flora and fauna etc) is in existence which details what may be allowed by the Company in the undertaking of exploration.

Prior to the commencement of any ground intrusive work on an exploration licence, the explorer is required to lodge a rehabilitation bond, considered sufficient to cover the disturbance from the proposed exploration activities. Additional approvals may be required under the Environment Protection Act, 1970 and the Water Act, 1989. In undertaking exploration work.

ACDC Metals is required to comply with the <u>Earth Resources Regulation Code of Practice for Mineral</u> <u>Exploration</u> as a minimum standard. This code provides practical guidance on regulatory requirements and environmental standards for exploration through the State of Victoria. Should ACDC Metals propose to undertake ground intrusive works through the exploration licence area, it may require the preparation and approval of a Work Plan prior to the commencement of work.

In certain Crown Land areas (i.e. Restricted Crown Land) it is required to obtain further consent of the relevant Minister. The rehabilitation of all exploration sites is a requirement for all exploration companies to consider. ACDC Metals is obligated to manage the rehabilitation of exploration sites at the completion of exploration, and beyond the completion of the exploration program. The rehabilitation of proposed exploration sites and consideration to the long-term future rehabilitation requirements must be commenced at the earliest stage of exploration, this will benefit the long-term planning and exploration of a project area.

In preparing a Work Plan ACDC Metals will be required to consider, and manage risks in relation to the following:

- Dust, noise, and light emissions control.
- Drainage and discharge control.
- Erosion control.
- Noxious weed and pest control.
- Removal or restoration of native vegetation.
- Impact to flora and fauna.
- Progressive and final rehabilitation.
- Groundwater protection.
- Surface water protection.
- Community impact.
- Safety to the public and public infrastructure.
- Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage impact.
- Seasonal concerns (fire, floods, high wind seasons).

For any questions or concerns stakeholders may have regarding this EL application, please contact us on the number listed in the above notice or visit the ACDC Metals' website at https://acdcmetals.com.au/community/