



Wednesday, 18 February 2004

MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

COMPANY UPDATE

The directors are pleased to provide this update to shareholders and the market on various matters relating to the Company:

Declaration of Interim Dividend

In light of the receipt of revenues of \$19,051,014 from Minara Resources Limited (formerly Anaconda Nickel Limited) the Directors are pleased to declare an interim unfranked dividend of 10 cents per share (on a pre 2:1 share split basis – see below). The record date for entitlement to such dividend will be 29 April 2004 and the company expects to despatch dividend cheques to shareholders by 7 May 2004.

Half Yearly Reports

The Company is currently finalising the tax position as at half year ended 31 December 2003 (incorporating the revenue effect from the receipt of \$19m from Minara Resources Limited) with its tax advisers and auditors and expects its December 2003 Half Year Reports to be lodged by 27 February 2004.

Meeting of Shareholders

The Company proposes to convene a general meeting to seek shareholder approval as required by ASX to facilitate the re-admission of the Company's shares on ASX, and in respect of other appropriate matters for shareholder consideration.

ASX has advised that prior to reinstatement to ASX, the Company will be required to re-comply with the Listing Rules. This includes the Company seeking shareholder approval in relation to its activities and meeting the requirements of the Listing Rules as if it were applying for admission to the official list of ASX as a new company.

Accordingly, the Company will be convening a general meeting to seek shareholder approval in relation to the following matters:

- (1) Plans for the re-admission of the Company on ASX as a listed investment company;
- (2) A two for one share split to double the issued share capital of the Company from 8,499,263 to 16,998,526 fully paid ordinary shares;
- (3) A change of name.

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Central Exchange Limited
A.B.N. 77 000 742 843

The Notice of Meeting and Explanatory Statements will contain more detailed information about the Company's intended investment objectives and strategies.

It is expected that the documentation for such meeting will be despatched by 19 March 2004 with an expected meeting date of 21 April 2004.

Share Purchase Plan Offer

The Company recognises the need to provide shareholders with an attractive reward for their current investment in the Company and the significant appreciation in company assets as a consequence of the settlement deed payment from Minara Resources Ltd. It believes this will be partly achieved through the payment of the 10 cent interim dividend referred to earlier.

Further to this recognition, the Company also proposes to undertake a Share Purchase Plan offer. The Company believes that the implementation of the Share Purchase Plan offer would be a means of providing shareholders with an attractive cost effective mechanism to increase their shareholding in the Company.

It is proposed that the issue price for shares under the Share Purchase Plan offer will be priced at \$0.90 per share (on a post 2:1 share split basis). This attractive price has been calculated by reference to the Company's expected after tax net tangible asset backing per share (post interim dividend) and is set at a significant discount to such NTA of approximately 18% (subject to lodgement of the Company's audit reviewed December 2003 Half Year Reports).

The Share Purchase Plan offer will be limited to existing shareholders who will be provided with the opportunity to subscribe for up to 5,556 shares (or a maximum value of \$5,000) in the Company without payment of any fees or brokerage. The offer will raise a maximum of \$3,755,000 (before expenses of the offer)

The Company notes that the introduction of this Share Purchase Plan offer will require a prospectus as the reduced disclosure mechanism for Share Purchase Plans is normally only available to companies that are not suspended.

The Company expects that the indicative timetable for the proposed general meeting, interim dividend payment, Share Purchase Plan offer and re-admission to ASX will be as follows:

| | | |
|------|---|---------------------|
| (1) | Lodgement of Half Year Reports | By 27 February 2004 |
| (2) | Despatch of Notice of Meeting Information Memorandum | 19 March 2004 |
| (3) | General Meeting | 21 April 2004 |
| (4) | Interim Dividend Record Date | 29 April 2004 |
| (5) | 2 for 1 share split Record Date | 29 April 2004 |
| (6) | Payment of Dividend | 7 May 2004 |
| (7) | Despatch of updated Holding Statements after 2 for 1 share split | 7 May 2004 |
| (8) | Despatch of Share Purchase Plan Offer documentation | 7 May 2004 |
| (9) | Closing date of Share Purchase Plan offer | 23 June 2004 |
| (10) | Despatch of Holding Statements for Share Purchase Plan offer applicants | 29 June 2004 |
| (11) | Re-admission of Company's shares to ASX | 2 July 2004 |

* All dates are indicative expected dates only and subject to change if the Company's circumstances change.

The Company also notes that it will apply for re-admission to ASX after the completion of its Share Purchase Plan offer and is required to demonstrate to ASX that the Company satisfies all evidentiary requirements for re-compliance with all relevant ASX Listing Rules.

In this regard, the Company notes that it is expected to be able to meet the ASX Listing Rule requirements for:

- (i) A minimum share price of 20 cents;
- (ii) A minimum spread of shareholders each having a parcel of at least \$2,000;
- (iii) A minimum net tangible asset level of \$15m as a listed investment company;

The Company notes that re-admission of its shares to ASX will ultimately depend on the ASX being satisfied as to re-compliance with relevant provisions of the Listing Rules.

Further information:

**Mr William Johnson
Chairman**

**Ph: (08) 9214 9797
email: wjohnson@centralexchange.com.au**

**Mr Victor Ho
Company Secretary**

**Ph: (08) 9214 9797
email: vho@centralexchange.com.au**