

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

21 October 2019

SCOPING STUDY TO INVESTIGATE DOWNSTREAM LITHIUM PROCESSING AT GOULAMINA

Mali Lithium Limited (ASX: **MLL**, **Mali Lithium**, or **the Company**) is pleased to announce that it has commissioned global engineering firm Hatch to assist with a scoping study into the downstream processing of the 6% Li₂O product to be produced from its 100% owned Goulamina Lithium Project in Mali. This will be considered as a stand alone study that will not impact the development of the already highly attractive Goulamina Lithium Project being developed by the Company.

Following discussions with downstream producers and potential customers, the Company has identified an opportunity to produce highly sought lithium products – lithium sulphate and lithium oxide – that could be more easily refined than the final Lithium Carbonate or Hydroxide products on site at the Goulamina mine.

These can be considered as ‘Intermediary’ downstream lithium products that can then be converted into the final, more technically difficult to produce, Battery Grade Lithium Carbonate or Hydroxide in existing conversion plants in China or at new chemical facilities in Europe, closer to the point of battery manufacture.

In addition to realising a premium price for these products, the potential to produce it on site at Goulamina could significantly reduce overall product transport costs for the project because of their lower volume compared with spodumene concentrate.

Mali Lithium has engaged Hatch to assist the Company to estimate order of magnitude capital costs to construct the required process plant at the Goulamina mine to produce the value-add lithium products, which can be used by customers to produce lithium carbonate and lithium hydroxide to their own specifications. In addition, Hatch will provide inputs to the Company to enable operating costs to be estimated.

The scoping study will be completed in parallel with the ongoing Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) that is underway for the mining and processing required to produce the base case 6% spodumene concentrate from the project. The study will commence this month and will take approximately six weeks to complete. The Company will update the market on the results of the study at that time.

Commenting on the downstream processing scoping study, Mali Lithium Managing Director Chris Evans said: *“This is an exciting, low cost opportunity to investigate an alternative downstream*

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processing option that has the potential to add significant further value to the Goulamina Lithium Project.

“Hatch has a wealth of experience in the downstream processing of lithium concentrates and is the ideal partner to complete the study that will allow us to move this innovative concept forward.

“As we progress the DFS for Goulamina, we are continuing to investigate and evaluate a range of options to maximise value for Mali Lithium shareholders.

“The base case for Goulamina is already robust and this study will provide a pathway to a second stage option for the Goulamina Lithium Project and position Mali Lithium to be an integrated producer of downstream lithium products in West Africa.”

Further Information:

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About Mali Lithium

Mali Lithium Limited (ASX:MLL) is developing the world class Goulamina Lithium Project in Mali, West Africa. Goulamina is fully permitted and is the world’s largest uncommitted hard rock Lithium Reserve. The company is currently completing its Definitive Feasibility Study and has released the results of its Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) on the project to the ASX on 4 July 2018. The Company also has a diversified commodity portfolio containing prospective gold tenements in southern Mali from which it intends to generate near term value for shareholders.

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