









ASX Release
Powerhouse Ventures Limited
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## **INVESTMENT IN URBIX Inc.**

Melbourne, Australia: 4 May 2022

Powerhouse Ventures Limited (PVL or the Company) is pleased to advise shareholders that it has invested USD500,000 for an ownership stake of Urbix, Inc. ("Urbix").

Based in Arizona, Urbix is financing its production capability to enable it to supply, in considerable volume, a "drop-in" graphite product for lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles. Urbix's product is coated spherical graphite with both a better environmental footprint and electro-chemical performance versus current natural graphite products (which are all currently made in China). Urbix's unique technology enables high yields and low operating costs and delivers to Urbix high product margins.

In PVL's assessment, Urbix will benefit from many tailwinds - the growth in lithium-ion battery demand; geo-political requirements for "made locally and transparently"; requirements for low carbon footprint of battery inputs; and lack of serious competition. Roughly 29% of a lithium-ion battery installed in an electric vehicle is made up of purified and processed graphite. Graphite is also utilized in refractory (steel), composites, paints, lubricants, advanced military materials, auto parts, and water filtration systems. Mid-stream processing of graphite for battery grade quality is an essential part of electrification and decarbonisation.

Urbix is a pure play US technology, fitting squarely within PVL's next frontier technology focus areas. It has a significant IP moat and is seeking to solve a global problem. It has integrated and generated trade secrets and core IP (with exclusive licenses to certain patents for sub-components in the overall process, created by its Chief technology Officer while at the University of Arizona). Urbix has flexibility on upstream resource supply, which is a scaling and expansion advantage. Urbix can take advantage of sourcing from different mines for use in modular plants that can be built in flexible locations. PVL was in a very good position to be able to assess, with confidence, the customer qualification processes and negotiations that Urbix has been advancing with Car and Battery Manufacturers.













"We have known James Kruger and his colleague in Korea, Ross Gregory for a few years now and we are impressed by their ability to assess risks and opportunities in the lithium-ion supply chain and to join dots to help intellectual property companies like ours move to industrialisation. We are delighted to receive such strong support from Powerhouse Ventures Limited." said Urbix's founder, Nico Cuevas-Gomez.

Sincerely,

James Kruger Non-Executive Chairman

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## **Authorised by the Board of Powerhouse Ventures Limited**

## **About Powerhouse Ventures Limited:**

Powerhouse is an investment company seeking to advance emerging intellectual property (principally originating from Australian scientists, engineers and institutions) into globally impactful businesses. The focus sectors are Electrification & Decarbonisation, Next Generation Computing, Space technologies, and Healthcare and Wellness.

Powerhouse has an existing active portfolio and strong pipeline of early stage to mature businesses across its focus segments. It has developed a unique network and broad base of skillsets to help its portfolio businesses expand and commercialise.