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ASX RELEASE

WA1 RESOURCES LTD

21 AUGUST 2023

WEST ARUNTA PROJECT

HIGH-GRADE ENRICHED NIOBIUM HORIZON EXTENDS AT LUNI

Highlights

- **High-grade niobium continuity now demonstrated between previously released broad 400m spaced drill holes, including:**

  LURC23-078 from 60m: **20m at 2.1% Nb_2O_5**

  and from 86m: **10m at 4.0% Nb_2O_5**

  within an overall interval from 86m of

  37m at 2.3% Nb_2O_5

  LURC23-079 from 66m: **9m at 5.2% Nb_2O_5**

  within an overall interval of

  15m at 3.3% Nb_2O_5

- **New high-grade intersections from ongoing 200m step-out drilling in the east:**

  LURC23-032 from 38m: **20m at 2.3% Nb_2O_5**

  LURC23-038 from 49m: **7m at 2.7% Nb_2O_5**

- **The results define a shallow, high-grade blanket of mineralisation within a northeast-southwest trending zone that currently extends for approximately 1.5km and remains open**
- **These world-class intersections of a supply constrained critical mineral provide further validation of the significance of the Luni niobium discovery**
- **15,000m of drilling now complete at Luni with the 200m grid drill-out nearing completion and 100m infill program expanded**

WA1 Resources Ltd (ASX: WA1) (**WA1** or the **Company**) is pleased to announce further exploration results from the 2023 drilling program at the 100% owned West Arunta Project in Western Australia.

Results within this release relate to reverse circulation (**RC**) drillholes (refer to Table 2) which were completed at the Luni carbonatite during the June quarter. A total of 105 RC and 11 diamond drill holes have now been drilled at Luni, with 32 holes now reported.

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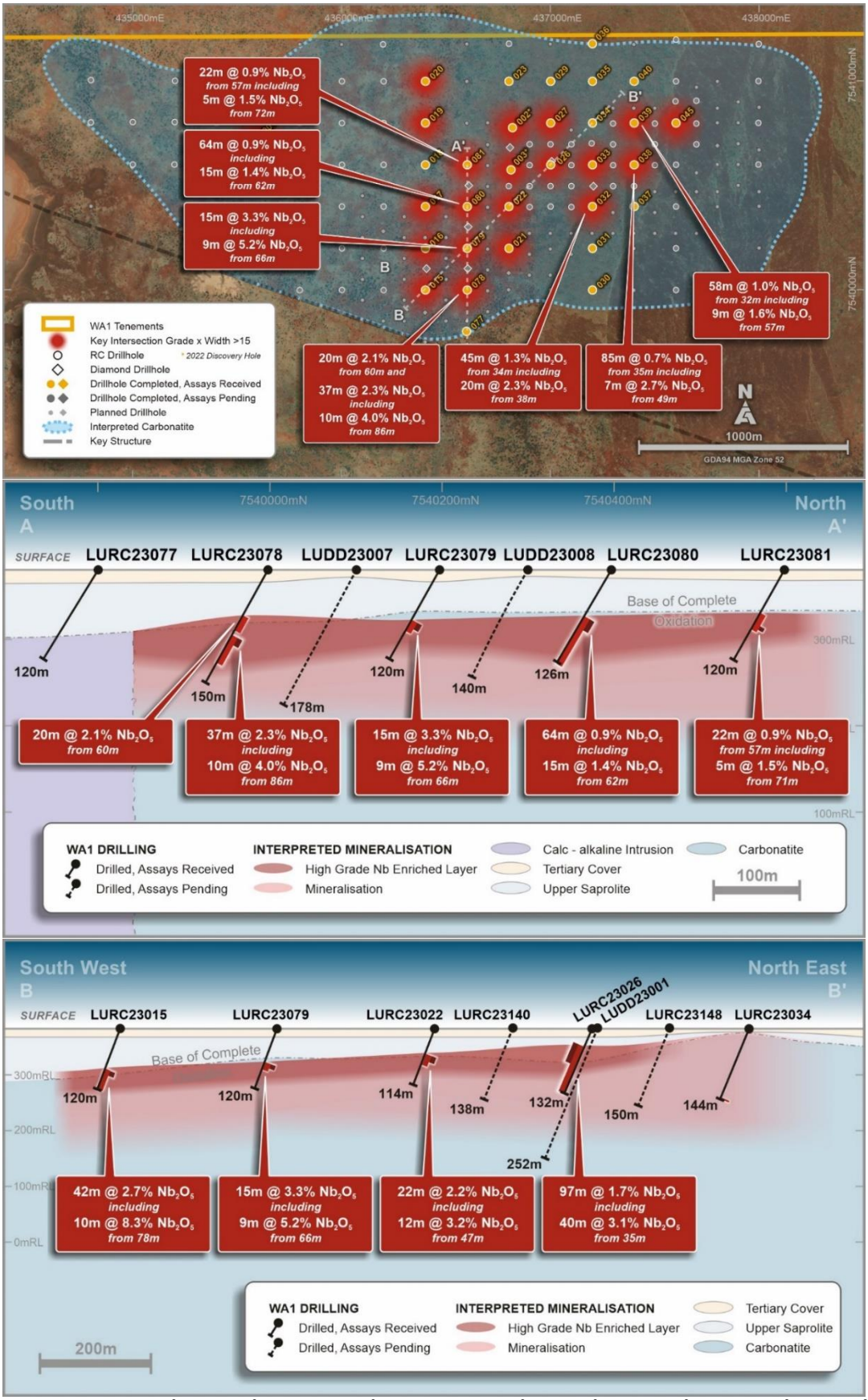

Figures 1-3: Top – Luni plan view and drill collar locations with new intersections, Middle – Simplified cross-section looking west, Bottom – Simplified long-section looking north-west

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WA1's Managing Director, Paul Savich, commented:

"Today's announcement nearly doubles the number of drill holes released to date at Luni and all holes reported continue to be from wide-spaced 200m grid drilling. With such broad drill spacing, each hole individually constitutes significant growth in the high-grade niobium mineralised envelope at Luni.

"In particular, holes 78 to 80 have returned exceptional results and reduce the 400m spacing between previously released significant intersections. This substantially increases our confidence in the continuity of the shallow blanket of high-grade niobium mineralisation near the centre of the intrusion. Holes 32, 38 and 39 also provide large extensions to high-grade mineralisation in the east.

"Over the coming months we will start to receive results from the western side of the carbonatite complex which have the potential to further increase the scale and quality of this potentially world class deposit."

Geological Discussion - Luni Carbonatite (Sambhar Prospect Area)

The enriched zones of niobium mineralisation reported to date have generally been associated with an iron and manganese oxide weathered zone. The new significant intercepts reported in this announcement provide further continuity of this mineralised horizon on a 200m spaced grid and have expanded the known footprint.

LURC23-078, 079, 080, 081 and 039, have bridged the gap in two previously reported 400m-wide mineralised zones (refer to ASX announcements dated 6 February, 1 May, 5 June and 29 June 2023). These new holes contain a similar geological profile to surrounding holes and provide confirmation of a relatively shallow high-grade, northeast-southwest trending zone that currently extends for approximately 1.5km.

LURC23-077 is located on the southern edge of the 200m grid and was the first hole in the program designed to test the boundary of the interpreted carbonatite. The hole intersected an unmineralised calc-alkaline intrusive unit beyond the carbonatite. LURC23-036, located at the northern extent of the grid, also demarcated the carbonatite boundary intersecting a fenitised unit. Both units commonly occur on the boundary of carbonatite complexes.

Four drillholes, being LURC23-029, 30, 35, and 40, were located close to the extremity of the interpreted carbonatite complex. All of these drill holes intersected carbonatite, however they generally contained lower grade mineralisation – a characteristic seen in other holes reported to date which are nearing the interpreted boundary.

For full details of key intersections refer to the annotated images and Tables 1 and 2. The orientation of enriched, oxide mineralisation (true width) is currently interpreted to be sub-horizontal and coincident with the flat lying transition between intensely and moderately weathered carbonatite.

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West Arunta Project – Current & Upcoming Activities

Drilling at Luni

Drilling is ongoing at the Luni carbonatite with the pre-defined 200m step-out grid nearing completion. In addition, a significant amount of infill drilling on a 100m grid spacing has also been completed within the high-grade envelope identified by drilling to date.

Diamond drilling continues to be directed toward the collection of data to support Mineral Resource estimation and metallurgical testwork. Importantly, diamond core will contribute to the company's overall understanding of the primary architecture and controls on mineralisation at Luni, along with aiding prospectivity analysis of the entire tenure package. No diamond drilling assay results have been received to date.

Drill samples continue to be batch delivered to ALS Laboratories in Perth and will be reported when available. The Company is experiencing delays in the expected timing of receipt of assays, compounded in some cases by over-limit niobium analyses being required on select samples.

Detailed plans continue to evolve as the Company's understanding of the geology is informed by the ongoing receipt of data. Accordingly, **the Company is updating its timing estimate for the release of a maiden Mineral Resource estimate for Luni to the first half of 2024** (previously Q4-2023). This change is primarily due to the additional drilling required to constrain the expanding high-grade niobium mineralisation footprint, along with delayed turnaround time in receipt of assays.

Mineralogy & Metallurgical testwork

Mineralogical characterisation and assessment has continued with additional samples currently under analysis by ALS Metallurgy. The primary focus of this work continues to be characterisation of sized composite RC drilling samples from within oxide-enriched intervals of key drillholes. Recent preliminary results from LURC23-015, 022 and 045 have continued to demonstrate similar overall mineralogical characteristics to those previously reported (refer to ASX announcement dated 5 June 2023), with prominent niobium-bearing minerals showing strong liberation properties within the sample medium.

Initial sighter metallurgical testwork utilising composite RC drill samples has now commenced. This testwork is focussed on obtaining a high-level understanding of the beneficiation characteristics of selected samples through physical separation and flotation techniques to inform an upcoming metallurgical testwork program using diamond core samples. Testwork conducted on RC samples is considered inconclusive until representative core samples replicate the findings.

Core samples recently arrived in Perth and are undergoing a series of data capture processes. The drill core will then be available for an intensive metallurgical testwork program which will utilise findings from the current sighter testwork. The upcoming program plans to test a conventional flowsheet design to produce a niobium mineral concentrate. Subsequent phases of metallurgical testwork will address the production of niobium end-products (ferroniobium and niobium pentoxide) and any potential by-products.

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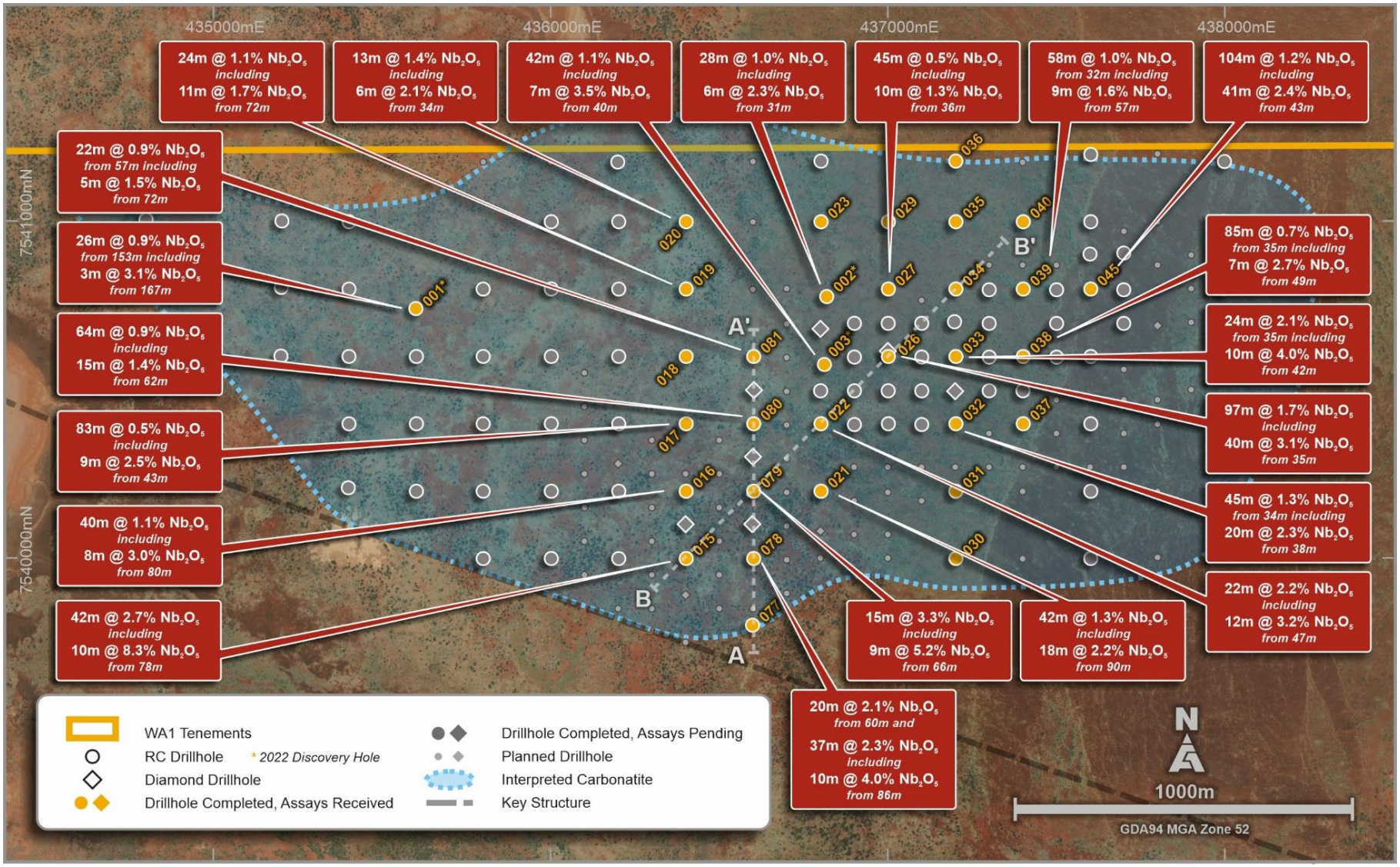

Figure 4: Luni carbonatite plan view of completed and planned drilling with significant intersections to date

For previously released results refer to ASX announcements dated 6 February, 1 May, 5 June and 29 June 2023

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Niobium Overview

Niobium is a critical metal with unique properties that make it essential as the world transitions to a low carbon economy.

The primary niobium product is Ferroniobium (FeNb, 65% Nb) which accounts for approximately 90% of a 100,000tpa[1] market. Ferroniobium is utilised as a micro alloy in the steel industry to improve the mechanical properties of steel.

Niobium pentoxide (Nb_2O_5) represents a key growth market, with significant recent developments in lithium-ion battery technology to utilise niobium to substantially reduce charge times down to six minutes while enhancing battery life by up to 20,000 cycles, an increase of up to 10x compared to existing technologies[2].

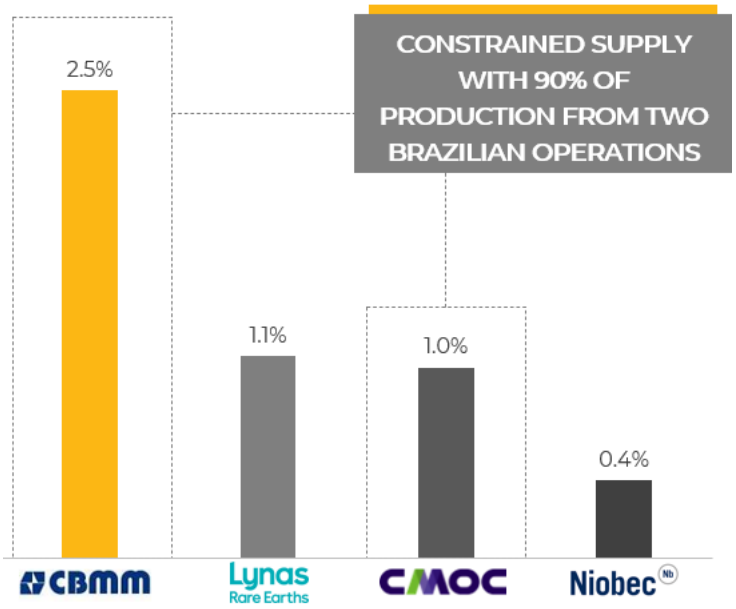

Figure 5: Key Niobium Resources Globally

Source: See table 3 for full details

Whilst global supply is concentrated in Brazil (90% of global production), global demand for niobium products is widespread. There are many end users and a growing number of applications.

Figure 6: Major suppliers and consumers of global niobium

Source: Adapted from CBMM data and Australian critical mineral list (2023)

Note *1. Mordor Intelligence: Global Niobium Market Report 2023*
2 https://www.batterydesign.net/niobium-in-batteries/ accessed on 18 August 2023

ENDS

This Announcement has been authorised for market release by the Board of WA1 Resources Ltd.

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Competent Person Statements
The information in this announcement that relates to Exploration Results is based on information compiled by Ms. Stephanie Wray who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Ms. Wray is a full-time employee of WA1 Resources Ltd and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation under consideration to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the "Australian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Ms. Wray consents to the inclusion in the announcement of the matters based on her information in the form and context in which it appears.

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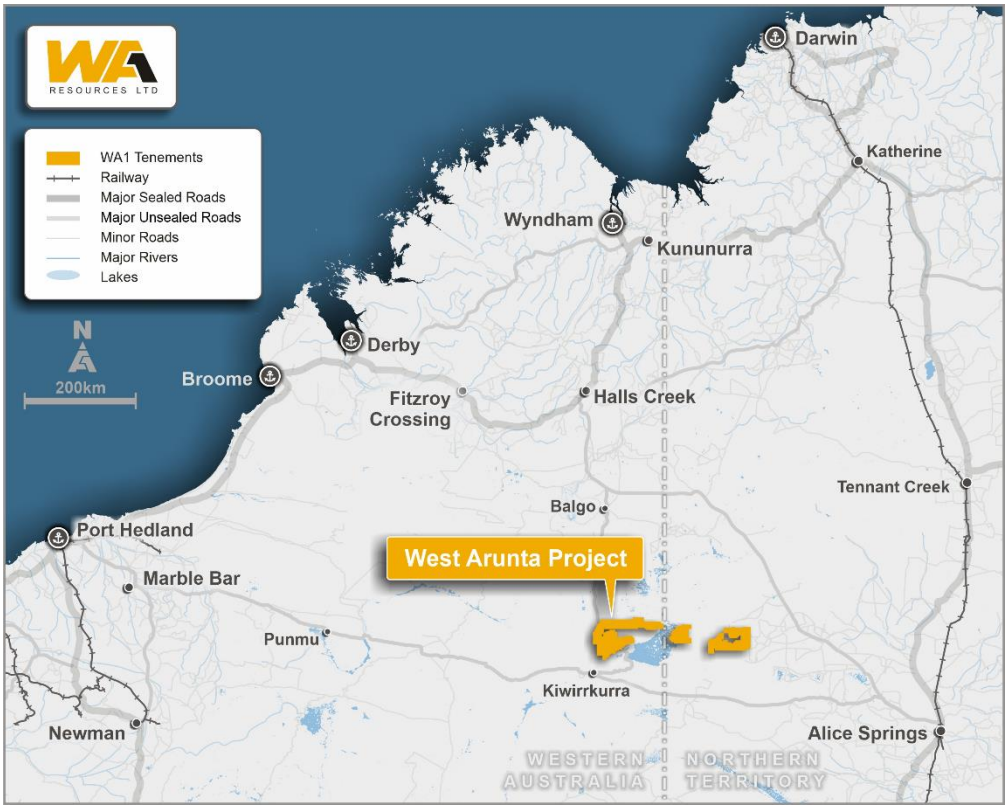
About WA1

WA1 Resources Ltd is based in Perth, Western Australia and was admitted to the official list of the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) in February 2022. WA1's shares are traded under the code WA1.

WA1's objective is to discover Tier 1 deposits in Western Australia's underexplored regions and create value for all stakeholders. We believe we can have a positive impact on the remote communities within the lands on which we operate. We will execute our exploration using a proven leadership team which has a successful track record of exploring in WA's most remote regions.

Forward-Looking Statements



This ASX Release may contain certain "forward-looking statements" which may be based on forward-looking information that are subject to a number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those presented here. Where the Company expresses or implies an expectation or belief as to future events or results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis. For a more detailed discussion of such risks and other factors, see the Company's Prospectus and Annual Reports, as well as the Company's other ASX Releases. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The Company does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this ASX Release, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

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Table 1: RC Drilling Results - Significant Intercepts

Hole ID		From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	Nb_2O_5 (%)	TREO (%)	Nd+Pr (ppm)	NdPr:TREO (%)	Sc_2O_3 (ppm)	Ta_2O_5 (ppm)	SrO (%)	Th (ppm)	U (ppm)	P_2O_5 (%)	TiO_2 (%)
LURC23032		34	79	45	1.26	0.51	1,177	23	19	18	0.3	44	14	7.6	1.1
	incl	38	58	20	2.31	0.76	1,771	23	31	31	0.5	49	25	10.4	1.7
LURC23035		31	61	30	0.27	0.19	397	21	44	38	0.5	30	67	6.8	0.7
LURC23036		53	54	1	0.34	0.20	389	19	9	197	0.2	55	56	0.6	2.2
LURC23037		37	120	83	0.43	0.14	332	23	8	10	0.3	14	9	5.8	0.1
LURC23038		35	120	85	0.71	0.38	821	22	19	104	0.3	63	75	5.6	1.1
	incl	49	56	7	2.70	1.12	2,430	22	58	326	0.9	217	345	10.8	2.1
LURC23039		32	90	58	0.95	0.59	1,393	24	39	84	0.6	118	89	15.6	1.6
	incl	57	66	9	1.59	0.88	2,081	24	70	72	0.9	213	171	21.0	2.0
LURC23040		45	79	34	0.37	0.26	571	22	18	109	0.3	57	154	5.1	1.1
LURC23078		60	80	20	2.10	1.22	2,170	18	15	124	0.6	45	72	6.8	1.2
	and	86	150	64	1.57	0.73	1,418	19	13	116	0.4	35	65	10.0	0.8
	incl	86	123	37	2.31	1.10	2,107	19	20	162	0.6	49	86	11.7	1.1
	incl	86	96	10	4.02	2.44	4,586	19	46	200	0.9	97	125	4.4	1.7
LURC23079		66	81	15	3.27	0.53	1,239	23	57	4	0.8	40	28	17.8	0.2
	incl	66	75	9	5.20	0.82	1,919	24	88	6	1.0	63	42	18.4	0.3
LURC23080		62	126	64	0.91	0.53	1,244	23	11	73	0.3	29	21	8.2	1.6
	incl	62	77	15	1.37	1.27	3,040	24	28	236	0.7	74	50	13.5	4.7
LURC23081		57	79	22	0.85	1.24	2,394	19	58	426	0.5	131	105	18.9	0.6
	incl	71	76	5	1.50	0.87	1,836	21	56	928	0.4	234	186	18.7	0.5

Note: 1: Results not displayed above are considered to contain no significant anomalism.
Note 2: 'TREO' is an abbreviation of Total Rare Earth Oxides, representing a combined group of 16 elements (La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Y, Sc).

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Table 2: Luni RC collar locations and intervals for drillhole results within this release

Hole ID	Easting	Northing	RL	Dip	Azimuth	Depth
			(m)	(Degrees)	(Degrees)	(m)
LURC23029	437002	7540998	385	-60	180	150
LURC23030	437202	7539998	385	-60	180	98
LURC23031	437202	7540198	385	-60	180	120
LURC23032	437202	7540398	385	-60	180	120
LURC23035	437202	7540998	385	-60	180	120
LURC23036	437202	7541178	385	-60	180	126
LURC23037	437402	7540398	385	-60	180	120
LURC23038	437402	7540598	385	-60	180	120
LURC23039	437402	7540798	385	-60	180	150
LURC23040	437402	7540998	385	-60	180	138
LURC23077	436599	7539800	385	-60	180	120
LURC23078	436602	7539998	385	-60	180	150
LURC23079	436602	7540198	385	-60	180	120
LURC23080	436602	7540398	385	-60	180	126
LURC23081	436602	7540598	385	-60	180	120

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Table 3: Key niobium resources globally

	Deposit Size	Nb_2O_5	Contained Nb_2O_5
CBMM (Araxa)	**(Mt)**	**(%)**	**(kt)**
Measured	Unknown*	Unknown*	Unknown*
Indicated	Unknown*	Unknown*	Unknown*
Inferred	Unknown*	Unknown*	Unknown*
Total	**462**	**2.48%**	**11,458**
Source: US Geological Survey published 2017 available at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/pp/1802/m/pp1802m.pdf> **Measured, Indicated and Inferred resource not publicly available to due CBMM private ownership*			
Lynas Rare Earths (Mt Weld)	**(Mt)**	**(%)**	**(kt)**
Measured	0	0	0
Indicated	2	1.40%	21
Inferred	36	1.06%	384
Total	**38**	**1.07%**	**405**
Source: Lynas Corporation Ltd ASX announcement 5/10/2015, <https://wcsecure.weblink.com.au/pdf/LYC/01668856.pdf> *Resource as at 31 August 2015 (JORC 2012 Compliant)*			
Magris Resources (Niobec)	**(Mt)**	**(%)**	**(kt)**
Measured	286	0.44%	1,252
Indicated	344	0.40%	1,379
Inferred	68	0.37%	252
Total	**698**	**0.41%**	**2,883**
Source: IAMGOLD NI 43-101 Report available at <https://www.miningdataonline.com/reports/Niobec_12102013_TR.pdf> *Resource as at 31 December 2012 (NI 43-101 Compliant)*			
CMOC (Catalao II)	**(Mt)**	**(%)**	**(kt)**
Oxide			
Measured	0.3	0.86%	2
Indicated	0.1	0.74%	1
Inferred	1.3	0.83%	11
Total	**1.7**	**0.83%**	**14**
Fresh Rock (Open Pit)			
Measured	0	0.00%	0
Indicated	27	0.95%	258
Inferred	13	1.06%	138
Total	**40**	**0.99%**	**396**
Fresh Rock (Underground)			
Measured	0.0	0.86%	0
Indicated	0.2	0.74%	2
Inferred	6.3	0.83%	78
Total	**6.5**	**0.83%**	**80**
Total (All)	**48.4**	**1.01%**	**490**
Source: China Molybdenum Co. Ltd: Major Transaction Acquisition of Anglo American PLC's Niobium and Phosphate Businesses available at <https://www1.hkexnews.hk/listedco/listconews/sehk/2016/0908/ltn20160908840.pdf> *Resource as at 30 June 2016 (JORC 2012 Compliant)*			

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JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

CRITERIA	COMMENTARY
Sampling techniques	▪ All geological information referred to in this ASX Announcement was derived from a Reverse Circulation (RC) drill program. ▪ From every metre drilled a 2-3kg sample (split) was sampled into a calico bag via the rig mounted cone splitter. Samples submitted to the laboratory were determined by the rig geologist. ▪ Every metre interval was analysed with an Evident Vanta handheld XRF (pXRF) to aid in identifying zones of interest. ▪ All samples were submitted to ALS Laboratories in Perth for elemental analyses via Lithium Borate Fusion (ME-MS81D) with overlimit determination via ALS method ME-XRF30.
Drilling techniques	▪ RC drilling was completed at all holes with a diameter of 146mm.
Drill sample recovery	▪ Sample recoveries are visually estimated for each metre with poor or wet samples recorded in the sample table. ▪ The sample cyclone was routinely cleaned at the end of each 6m rod and when deemed necessary. ▪ No relationship has been determined between sample recovery and the mineralisation returned. ▪ Samples were dry and recovery was high through the significant intervals reported.
Logging	▪ The RC rock chips were logged for geology, alteration, and mineralisation by the Company's geological personnel. Drill logs were recorded digitally and have been verified. ▪ Logging of drill chips is qualitative and based on the presentation of representative chips retained for all 1m sample intervals in the chip trays. ▪ The metre intervals were analysed on the drill pad by pXRF, magnetic susceptibility and scintillometer to assist with logging and the identification of mineralisation.
Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation	▪ RC samples were collected from the drill rig splitter into calico bags. ▪ In all holes the 1m samples within the tertiary cover were composited into 4m intervals from spoil piles using a scoop by the site geologist. ▪ Single metre samples were collected and assayed from approx. 16m or as determined by the site geologist.
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	▪ All samples were submitted to ALS Laboratories in Perth for select element analyses via Lithium Borate Fusion (ME-MS81D) with overlimit determination via ALS method ME-XRF30. ▪ Standard laboratory QAQC was undertaken and monitored by the laboratory and then by WA1 geologists upon receipt of assay results. ▪ Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) were inserted at a rate of one every 20 samples. The CRM results have passed an internal QAQC review. ▪ The laboratory standards have been reviewed by the company and have passed internal QAQC checks.

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CRITERIA	COMMENTARY
Verification of sampling and assaying	▪ Analytical QC is monitored by the laboratory using standards and repeat assays. ▪ Mineralised intersections have been verified against the downhole geology. ▪ Logging and sampling data was recorded digitally in the field. ▪ Significant intersections are inspected by senior Company geologists. ▪ Select samples have been sent to Intertek for umpire laboratory analysis with results showing a strong correlation to the primary laboratory. ▪ No twinned holes have received assay results at this time.
Location of data points	▪ Drill hole collars were surveyed and recorded using a handheld GPS. Drill collars will be surveyed with DGPS at appropriate stages of the program. ▪ All co-ordinates are provided in the MGA94 UTM Zone 52 co-ordinate system with an estimated accuracy of +/-5m. ▪ Azimuth and dip of the drill holes was recorded after completion of the hole using a gyro. A reading was taken every 30m with an accuracy of +/-1 degree azimuth and +/-0.3 degree dip.
Data spacing and distribution	▪ See drill hole table for hole position and details. ▪ Data spacing at this stage is not considered suitable for Mineral Resource Estimation.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	▪ The orientation of the oxide-enriched mineralisation is interpreted to be sub-horizontal. The orientation of primary mineralisation is poorly constrained due to the limited number of drill holes that have penetrated to depth. ▪ See drill hole table for hole details and the text of this announcement for discussion regarding the orientation of holes. ▪ See drill hole table for hole details and the text of this announcement for discussion regarding the orientation of holes. ▪ Drill holes were designed based on interpretation from modelled geophysical data and the discovery drillholes. ▪ Mineralisation is currently interpreted as a sub horizontal oxide unit. Modelling of the mineralisation is underway to constraint the true and apparent width of the enriched zone.
Sample security	▪ Sample security is not considered a significant risk with WA1 staff present during collection. ▪ All geochemical samples were collected, bagged and sealed by WA1 staff, and delivered to ALS Laboratories in Perth. ▪ 1m splits were stored in a secure location.
Audits or reviews	▪ The program and data is reviewed on an ongoing basis by senior WA1 personnel.

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Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results
(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	▪ All work completed and reported in this ASX Announcement was completed on E80/5173 which is 100% owned by WA1 Resources Ltd. ▪ The Company also currently holds two further granted Exploration Licences and nine Exploration Licence Applications within the area of the West Arunta Project.
Exploration done by other parties	▪ The West Arunta Project has had limited historic work completed within the Project area, with the broader area having exploration focused on gold, base metals, diamonds and potash. ▪ Significant previous explorers of the Project area include Beadell Resources and Meteoric Resources. Only one drill hole (RDD01) had been completed within the tenement area by Meteoric in 2009, and more recently a second hole proximate to the Project by Encounter Resources Ltd in 2020. ▪ Most of the historic work was focused on the Urmia and Sambhar Prospects with historic exploration (other than RDD01) being limited to geophysical surveys and surface sampling. ▪ Historical exploration reports are referenced within the WA1 Resources Ltd Prospectus dated 29 November 2021 which was released by ASX on 4 February 2022.
Geology	▪ The West Arunta Project is located within the West Arunta Orogen, representing the western-most part of the Arunta Orogen which straddles the Western Australia-Northern Territory border. ▪ Outcrop in the area is generally poor, with bedrock largely covered by Tertiary sand dunes and spinifex country of the Gibson Desert. As a result, geological studies in the area have been limited, and a broader understanding of the geological setting is interpreted from early mapping as presented on the MacDonald (Wells, 1968) and Webb (Blake, 1977 (First Edition) and Spaggiari et al., 2016 (Second Edition)) 1:250k scale geological map sheets. ▪ The West Arunta Orogen is considered to be the portion of the Arunta Orogen commencing at, and west of, the Western Australia-Northern Territory border. It is characterised by the dominant west-north-west trending Central Australian Suture, which defines the boundary between the Aileron Province to the north and the Warumpi Province to the south. ▪ The broader Arunta Orogen itself includes both basement and overlying basin sequences, with a complex stratigraphic, structural and metamorphic history extending from the Paleoproterozoic to the Paleozoic (Joly et al., 2013).
Drill hole Information	▪ Refer to Table 2 for drill hole details.
Data aggregation methods	▪ Significant intercepts are weight averaged by length. ▪ No metal equivalents have been reported.
Relationship between mineralisation	▪ The true thickness of the mineralisation intersected in the drill holes has not been estimated due to limited data.

Criteria	Commentary
widths and intercept lengths	
Diagrams	▪ Refer to figures provided within this ASX Announcement.
Balanced reporting	▪ All meaningful information has been included in the body of the text.
Other substantive exploration data	▪ All data and information considered material has been included in the body of this ASX Announcement. ▪ A preliminary mineralogical assessment has been undertaken on a select number of samples. Refer to body of text for further details.
Further work	▪ Further interpretation of drill data and assay results will be completed over the coming months, including detailed petrographic and mineralogical analysis. ▪ Additional exploration drilling and analysis is ongoing.

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