5 Lindsay Street Perth, Western Australia 6000 PO Box 8663, Perth WA 6000

T +61 8 9481 2100

**F** +61 8 9481 2001

E info@bathurstresources.com

Level 12, 1 Willeston Street Wellington 6011, New Zealand PO Box 5963, Lambton Quay Wellington 6145, New Zealand

T +64 4 499 6830

F +64 4 974 5218

E wellington@bathurstresources.co.nz



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Listed Company Relations
New Zealand Exchange Limited
Level 2, NZX Centre
11 Cable Street
Wellington, New Zealand

Company Announcements Platform Australian Stock Exchange 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, 20 Bond Street Sydney NSW 2000

## **Environment Court Hearing Concludes**

Bathurst Resources Limited (ASX & NZX: BTU) advises that the hearing of the substantive appeals against the granting of the resource consents for the Escarpment Project concluded in the Environment Court in Christchurch, New Zealand yesterday.

Judge Laurie Newhook said the court intended to get a decision to the parties as soon as possible, given the high level of public interest in the outcome.

BTU has tabled a comprehensive package of mitigation measures involving rehabilitation of the proposed mining area, long-term predator control over 4,509 hectares around Denniston and in the Department of Conservation's Heaphy area to deliver a net environmental gain.

BTU has also proposed a Denniston Plateau Protected Area (DPPA) of 745 hectares to be excluded from surface mining and maintained by BTU as a dedicated conservation reserve. It is part of BTU's overall plateau plan proposed in response to comments made by the Council Commissioners when granting the original consents for the Escarpment project in August 2011. The Reserve will benefit the great spotted kiwi, snails, fernbirds, rifleman and two gecko species.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court has separately advised that the Climate Change appeal will be heard on 12 and 13 March 2013. This is running as a separate process to the Environment Court appeals.

On behalf of Bathurst Resources Limited

Hamish Bohannan Managing Director

## For more information:

Hamish Bohannan Managing Director Bathurst Resources Limited +61 8 9228 3400 Graham Anderson Company Secretary GDA Corporate +61 8 9322 2700