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Escarpment Resource Consents - Update on Appeals

Bathurst Resources Limited (ASX & NZX: BTU) has been advised that the period for lodging appeals on the granting of the Escarpment Mine resource consents has now closed.

The Company can confirm that it has been notified of three (3) appeals to the Environment Court. As previously announced the appellants are:

- West Coast Environmental Network Incorporated;
- Fairdown-Whareatea Residents Association Incorporated; and
- The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated.

Appeals Process

Within the next 15 business days, any person who made a submission on the original resource consent application can lodge a notice at the Court joining the process and supporting or opposing the appeals. The scope of appeals as received by the Court cannot be expanded by a party joining the appeal.

Bathurst notes that the two Councils that granted the resource consents for the Escarpment Mine project on 26th August 2011, have informed the Company that they intend to defend their own decision through the appeals process, alongside Bathurst.

A pre-hearing conference involving the Company and the appellants will be convened by the appointed Judge in due course. At the pre-hearing conference the formal timetable for the court hearing will be set which will include a process for facilitating mediation between all parties.

The Environment Court actively encourages parties to try and settle the matters through mediation, which has proven to be a successful resolution method in the past.

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It is Bathurst's intention to engage with the three appellants in an effort to find a workable solution to the issues raised that is in the best interests of all parties.

"We will engage openly and in good faith with those who are concerned about our mine on the Denniston Plateau." Bathurst Chief Executive Hamish Bohannon says.

"We want to find a solution that benefits the Westport and West Coast communities while preserving environmental integrity in the region."

"We are committed to world class environmental values and believe money would be better spent on rehabilitating and protecting the West Coast environment than on legal costs."

Mr Bohannon said the best outcome is where economic and environmental objectives are achieved to the satisfaction of all parties.

Further information about the appeals process can be found on the Environment Court of New Zealand's website at www.justice.govt.nz/courts/environment-court.

Teleconference

Bathurst's CEO, Mr Hamish Bohannon will be hosting a teleconference to discuss the Company's development plans and to provide an update on the appeals process. Details of the teleconference will be released on the ASX and NZX early next week.

ENDS

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