

ASX: **A4N** ASX Announcement 28 April 2022 (2 pages)

The Manager Companies - ASX Limited 20 Bridge Street Sydney NSW 2000

## ALPHA AWARDED UP TO \$15.5M FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GRANT CRITICAL MINERALS ACCELERATOR INITIATIVE

The Board of Alpha HPA Limited ('Alpha' or 'the Company') is pleased to advise that it has received notification from the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources ('Department of Industry') that its application for grant funding under the Critical Minerals Accelerator Initiative ('CMAI') has been approved for up to \$15.5M.

The CMAI grant activities are separate and distinct from those under the successful approval of \$45M under the Modern Manufacturing Initiative Collaboration Stream (MMI-C) as announced on 16 March 2022, where grant monies will be directed towards the capital requirements of the HPA First Project's full-scale commercial facility.

The \$15.5M CMAI grant funds will be applied toward immediately expanding and accelerating the production capability of the Precursor Production Facility (PPF), which is currently under construction in Gladstone as Stage 1 of the HPA First Project.

Specifically, this CMAI grant funding will be directed towards:

- Further expanding PPF production capacity of high purity aluminium precursors
- Facilitating up to 10tpa of additional capacity of High Purity Alumina (HPA) production
- Facilitating up to 10tpa of additional capacity of High Purity Boehmite production
- Facilitating the addition of tableting capacity to produce HPA tablets for sapphire glass growth
- Installation of a large rooftop solar array and battery storage capacity

The Company will seek to promptly finalise a grant agreement with the Department of Industry.

Alpha's Managing Director Rimas Kairaitis commented:

"Alpha is delighted to receive further financial and commercial support for the HPA First Project from the Australian Federal Government. These additional funds will allow Alpha to accelerate its response to inbound demand for additional product volumes, in particular the production of HPA tablets to meet the immediate demand for sapphire glass production, and rapidly establish Alpha HPA in the supply chain at commercial volumes."

## **About the HPA First Project**

The Company's HPA First Project represents the commercialisation of the production of ~10,000tpa equivalent of high purity alumina (HPA) and related high purity precursor products using the Company's proprietary licenced solvent extraction and HPA refining technology. The disruptive, low-carbon process technology provides for the extraction and purification of aluminium from an industrial feedstock to produce 4N (>99.99% purity) alumina and 5N (>99.999% purity) for sale into the lithium-ion battery and LED lighting industry.

Alpha completed a Definitive Feasibility Study in March 2020 following a successful pilot plant campaign in 2019. Alpha has since upscaled its Brisbane facility to demonstration scale and has now recorded over 7,000 operating hours and delivered an expanded range of over 85 high purity product orders to end-users globally.

Alpha is fully funded to the commercial production at its Stage 1, Precursor Production Facility which is scheduled to commence commercial production for the Company's high purity Aluminium Precursors from September quarter 2022.

The Company is now in the mature phases of market outreach and project financing with respect to the full scale HPA First Project, with the expectation of positioning the HPA First Project to Final investment Decision.

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