



29 April 2024

MEDIA STATEMENT

RAVENSTHORPE NICKEL OPERATION TO ENTER CARE AND MAINTENANCE

First Quantum Minerals will place its Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation (RNO) into a care and maintenance process from 1 May 2024.

It is anticipated all production will cease by late May with various activities underway in the coming weeks to ensure a planned, safe wind-down of processing and other areas in preparation for care and maintenance.

The company's decision reflects the difficulty that it has experienced in achieving a sustainable financial model for RNO with lower nickel prices projected for the next few years and higher operating costs.

Despite RNO's best efforts to maintain operations by transitioning to a new operating strategy that involved ceasing mining activities, processing stockpiles and altering its approach to production, the site is incurring significant current and projected losses.

First Quantum also believes that it is strategically more important to leave the Shoemaker-Levy orebody in-situ and preserve its future value for the company, the region and Australia, rather than process and sell nickel product at a loss.

First Quantum appreciates the State Government's recent efforts to provide financial relief to the nickel sector. While RNO was preparing an application for royalty relief, the completion of this process would not have made a fundamental difference to the company's decision to move into care and maintenance.

First Quantum acknowledges that its decision will have a significant impact on its employees and their families, with approximately 330 roles to be made redundant. A smaller, dedicated care and maintenance team will be appointed from current RNO employees to ensure the site is safe and preserved for a future re-start.

The company remains committed to supporting the local community and will play an active role within the Shire of Ravensthorpe throughout the care and maintenance period. This will include ensuring a large proportion of the care and maintenance team are based locally and maintaining the current First Quantum owned housing within Hopetoun.

Recognising the impact that this decision will have on the region, the company will continue engaging with the Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun communities and provide an appropriate level of community investment and support in the period ahead.

Major suppliers to RNO have been informed of the decision to move to care and maintenance to enable them to plan the wind down of operations at site.

RNO will continue to meet all its environmental management and monitoring, rehabilitation and other regulatory requirements for the site. Similarly, RNO intends to maintain its presence at Esperance Port with access to the facilities that are used to import and store sulphur.

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