

## ERM Independent Assurance Report to OZ Minerals Limited

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Limited (ERM) was engaged by OZ Minerals Limited (OZ Minerals) to provide independent assurance of its Sustainability Report 2008 (2008 Report), to the scope of work outlined below.



### Scope of Work

The 2008 Report covers OZ Minerals' operations for the period 1 July 2007 to 31 December 2008, unless stated otherwise in the text. This work was performed in accordance with ERM's assurance methodology, which is based on the international assurance standards: AA1000AS (2008), ISAE3000 and ISO19011. ERM reviewed OZ Mineral's use of the AA1000AS (2008) Principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness in reporting performance to provide Type 2, moderate assurance. To do this, we interviewed a number of personnel and reviewed relevant documentation at OZ Minerals' head office in Australia, Sepon Mine (Laos) and Century Mine (Queensland). The subject matter for this limited assurance consisted of the following material data streams: Environment: energy use and greenhouse, water management (including wastewater discharge quality), waste generation (including process and non-process wastes), biodiversity impacts and land management; Social: stakeholder engagement activities, social impact assessment and monitoring, community investment and incidents; Safety and health: total recordable injuries (TRI)/TRI frequency rate (TRIFR) and emergency response training. The scope excluded data and statements relating to other sections of the 2008 Report, financial information and previous financial years.

### ERM's independence

OZ Minerals was responsible for preparing the 2008 Report. The ERM team, led by Jo Cain, Partner and Practice Leader for Corporate Advisory Services, Australia & New Zealand, was responsible for expressing assurance conclusions in line with the scope of work agreed with OZ Minerals. During 2007-08, ERM undertook additional assurance and auditing work for OZ Minerals.

### Our Conclusion

**On the basis of its scope of work, and in consideration of the limitations of the assurance engagement presented above, ERM concludes that, for the specified subject matter, OZ Minerals' 2008 Report appropriately addresses the AA1000AS (2008) Principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness for the period to 1 July 2007 to 31 December 2008. In addition, ERM has provided a more detailed Management Report to OZ Minerals.**

### Key Observations

Based on its scope of work, and without affecting our limited assurance conclusion, ERM identified the following good practice:

- *Data accuracy*: is within acceptable limits and data trails are readily identifiable, thus providing confidence in the data reported.
- *Energy and greenhouse data collation*: is robust, with spreadsheets linked, emission factors included, any changes detailed and explained and internal verification undertaken.
- *Environment and community team*: members demonstrate an in-depth understanding of environment and community challenges, achievements and data requirements.
- *Stakeholder communication*: presents a unique challenge for Sepon in relation to language and terminology, hence the development of a Lao language Report is commended.

ERM also identified the following areas for improvement:

- *Data collation*: processes could be improved to allow sufficient time for sites to provide data for the full reporting period, for example Sepon originally extrapolated December 2008 data, which have since been updated.
- *Definitions*: and guidance on parameters and related data would assist with consistency across the organisation and terminology issues. For example, at Century the incorrect reporting period was used for water data and waste data were double counted for disposal and recycling, which have since been addressed. At Sepon, due to language challenges, a material discrepancy was identified in relation to land rehabilitation, which has since been corrected.
- *Community investment*: records could be more comprehensive and readily accessible at Group Office and the sites.

ERM congratulates OZ Minerals on its 2008 sustainability report.

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Limited (ERM), 25 May 2008, Melbourne, Australia

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