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LAKE HOPE HPA: POSITIVE LEACHING TEST RESULTS SUPPORT PILOT DEVELOPMENT

Highlights

- Further de-risking of the PFS: ECU leaching results provide additional confidence in the Lake Hope process and its underlying metallurgical assumptions.
- Stronger basis for pilot development: Refined operating conditions and reagent requirements support pilot-scale validation and future engineering design.
- Targeted membrane research: Improved understanding of leach liquor impurities enables more focused purification and water recovery studies.

CRC-P research update

Impact Minerals Limited (ASX: IPT) is pleased to report results from laboratory test work completed by ECU under the Australian Government-supported Cooperative Research Centres Projects (CRC-P) programme for the Lake Hope High Purity Alumina (HPA) Project.

The programme continues progress and traction in all areas of the flowsheet, leach optimisation, purification and calcination, with programmes running concurrently at ECU.

The programme is a collaboration between Impact Minerals, ECU and CPC Engineering. CPC Engineering is the CRC-P Lead Partner. It coordinates the project and helps to bring research outcomes into pilot development.

Alkaline and acid leaching optimisation

Recent bench-scale studies at ECU have thoroughly quantified and validated the alkaline and acid leaching conditions underpinning the Lake Hope processing route. These will serve as the foundation to develop flowsheet-wide optimisations as further investigations unfold and piloting progresses.

Alkaline leaching tests demonstrated high apparent alunite conversion with less than 0.1% aluminium loss under selected conditions, while identifying opportunities to optimise reagent consumption and impurity management.

Acid leaching tests achieved approximately 77–84% aluminium extraction into recovered liquor across the tested potassium hydroxide (KOH)-treated acid-leach feed conditions, while identifying opportunities to optimise acid addition and operating parameters.

These stage specific findings validate the leaching trends in the PFS and provide additional technical data for pilot design and testing.

Parallel activities are underway move process development from bench to pilot scale, while moving rapidly, locking in learnings at each step.

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Membrane research

The leaching studies have improved understanding of process liquor composition, impurity behaviour and separation requirements, helping identify where membrane technologies may complement conventional hydrometallurgical operations.

The next phase of CRC-P membrane research will prioritise:

- **Colloidal filtration:** Corrosion-resistant membranes will be assessed for removing fine suspended and colloidal solids from process liquors.
- **Water recovery and reuse:** Membrane-based recycling will be developed to cut freshwater use and liquid waste, in support of the longer-term Zero Liquid Discharge objective.

Research findings will be progressively assessed against pilot results to determine technical suitability, integration requirements and further verification needs.

Engineering support

CPC Engineering has also undertaken preliminary vendor assessment studies covering selected process equipment and technology options, including calcination and acid regeneration, supporting ongoing project technology assessments.

Impact Minerals will keep combining the research findings with pilot testwork results to establish the technical and operating parameters needed for later stages of project development. It will update the market as material results become available.

This announcement was authorised for release by the Chair of Impact Minerals Limited.

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Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements in this announcement are forward-looking in nature and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results, performance or achievements of Impact Minerals may differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Impact Minerals makes no representation as to the likelihood that the results or milestones referred to in this announcement will be achieved.

About Impact Minerals Limited

Impact Minerals Limited (ASX: IPT) is an Australian minerals exploration and development company focused on the Lake Hope High Purity Alumina (HPA) Project in Western Australia, which has completed a Pre-Feasibility Study and is advancing toward a Definitive Feasibility Study. The Company holds a 50% interest in Alluminous Pty Ltd, whose HiPurA® pilot plant in Perth is operational and producing HPA for customer qualification, including shipment of initial samples to US battery technology partner Charge CCCV (C4V). Impact Minerals also holds exploration assets including the Broken Hill Project (gold-copper-PGMs) and the Commonwealth Project (copper-gold), New South Wales.