

Mineral Resource update - Weather, COVID and data processing delay

Key points

- **Mineral Resource update to be announced by the end of July 2022**
- **Delay due to the cumulative impact of wet weather, COVID, drill sample processing and the required time to cleanse drilling data into appropriate modelling databases**
- **Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) work program continuing at pace**
- **Completion of product testing and processing plant flow design work nearing completion of scheduled works**

Hawsons Iron Ltd (**Hawsons** or the **Company**) advises that analytical work on an anticipated Mineral Resources estimate update has not been completed on time due to the cumulative delaying impact of wet weather, COVID and additional time required to process the necessary data.

Managing Director Bryan Granzien said independent geological experts, H&S Consultants (H&SC), still required a few more weeks to complete this work and submit their report which was now expected by the end of July.

“Our stated intention was to announce this update during the June Quarter and we have done everything in our power to meet that deadline,” he said.

“During our confirmatory drilling program, we experienced several significant rain events on site. This, combined with COVID workforce impacts, saw us pivot swiftly to minimise delays by extending drilling shifts and laboratory processing to around-the-clock operations”.

“We completed sufficient drilling, got the samples analysed and had the data sent directly from the laboratory to our competent person at H&SC, but the 3D modelling software has detected some logging calibration inconsistencies which now have to be assessed and rectified.”

A material Mineral Resource upgrade to 400 million tonnes was announced on 19 October 2021, including a 9 per cent increase in Indicated Resources to 132 Mt and an 18 per cent increase in Inferred Resources to 268 Mt. The exploration target published in our Maiden resource ASX Announcement dated 17 December 2010 remains at 6 – 11 billion tonnes.

The recent drilling program has been designed to prove up sufficient tonnes within the highest confidence Measured Resources category to support the BFS and satisfy debt requirements to finance development of the Company’s high-grade Hawsons Iron Project.

Mr Granzien said the balance of work being undertaken for the BFS was unaffected and continuing at pace, including finalisation of product testing work and processing plant flow design which would be announced in the next few weeks.

Mr Granzien said the Company had recently completed the current resource drilling program on site and these additional samples will continue to be processed to add to the database but are not necessary for the impending upgrade.

“Due to the rain delays and laboratory turnaround timeframes in what can only be described as a hot resources sector, the remainder of the borehole data captured will be incorporated into another updated Mineral Resource estimate we expect to release prior to the end of the BFS.”

Released by authority of the Board

Hawsons Iron Limited
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About Hawsons Iron Ltd

Hawsons Iron Ltd (ASX: HIO) is an iron ore developer and producer listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. The company is focused on developing its flagship Hawsons Iron Project near Broken Hill into a premium provider of high-quality iron ore products for the global steel industry.

The Hawsons Iron Project is situated 60km southwest of Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia in the emerging Braemar Iron Province. Prefeasibility Study (PFS) results for the Project, which was completed in 2017, showed that it is capable of producing the world’s highest-grade iron product (70% Fe), making it the world’s leading undeveloped high-quality iron ore concentrate and pellet feed project. Leading research firm Wood Mackenzie in Q2 FY 2019 rated the project one of the world's best high-grade iron ore development projects, excluding replacement or expansion projects owned by the established miners.

References to previous ASX Releases

- Mineral Resource Upgrade – 19 October 2021 (Competent Person Mr Simon Tear)

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement and all material assumptions and technical parameters continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person’s findings are presented have been not materially modified from the original market announcement.



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