



# MEDIA RELEASE

23 April 2020

## Mineral Resources to screen FIFO workforce for COVID-19

Mineral Resources Limited today announces that it has commenced swab screening its entire fly-in fly-out (FIFO) workforce for the coronavirus (COVID-19) as part of its total approach to minimising the spread of the virus.

Mineral Resources' aim is to ensure that anyone travelling to site is free of the virus. The screening is a key part of the Company's commitment to do all it can to keep its operations running through this pandemic. It is critical for Mineral Resources to be able to continue to provide jobs for all of its workforce so that they can support their families and the Company can continue to export product to customers, supporting the Western Australian economy.

Screening will be conducted at drive-through locations in the Perth metropolitan area, so that workers will not have to leave their car during the process. All screening will be undertaken by qualified nursing staff with full medical PPE clothing and equipment. The samples collected will be processed in a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory for analysis.

The screening process uses PCR COVID-19 analysers and Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved testing kits, specifically targeted at testing for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The machines and the testing kits, which have been sourced and procured by Mineral Resources, are of the highest global standard and the testing approach is recognised by the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA). The screening and results reporting process will fully comply with all Government regulations, guidelines and standards.

The COVID-19 screening process will be part of Mineral Resources' standard 'fit for work' regime, and will remain in place until the Commonwealth and State Governments declare that the coronavirus is no longer a risk to our community.

The Mineral Resources screening regime will also form part of a dedicated research programme with Curtin University's Faculty of Health Sciences to study the incidence of asymptomatic infection within the FIFO worker population of Western Australia. Mineral Resources expects the data obtained through this research study to be invaluable to the Government and its public health officials responsible for managing the response to this crisis and beyond.

The machines are capable of performing a high volume of tests and Mineral Resources has offered the screening process to other resource companies to ensure this pandemic does not force the closure of Western Australia's mining industry, which employs tens of thousands of men and women and is the economic lifeblood of the State.

### **MRL's Managing Director Chris Ellison said:**

"The health and well-being of our workforce are our priority focus and we are doing everything possible to minimise the risk of our people being infected by and spreading COVID-19.

"The Morrison and McGowan Governments have been very clear on their desire to keep the State's mining industry open for business and Mineral Resources, as a key player of this essential industry and employing more than 3000 men and women, is committed to assisting the Government by making sure as far as possible that our people are healthy and clear of COVID-19 before they head to mine sites around the State.



“We have been able to secure the right testing machines and the necessary testing kits to help Western Australia’s fight against COVID-19.

“We have started screening the first crews and by the end of the month expect to be able to screen up to 3,000 workers per day.”

Every Mineral Resources employee or contractor, who works on either the Company’s mine sites or for the Company at a client site, will be screened prior to flying to site. After workers have been screened, they will be asked to continue to follow all guidelines that have been implemented by the Government during the past month, which means they will continue to live in their family bubble until they travel to site. If there is a positive result for COVID-19, the worker will not fly out to site and the Department of Health will be alerted and take over the case management.

PCR COVID-19 testing is the most accurate means of identifying or testing for infection and another measure that will help manage the risk of COVID-19 reaching mine sites across Western Australia. The PCR screening complements a range of other measures already in place by Mineral Resources at all its operations, and these will continue to remain in place. These include that on all sites each worker undertakes a thermal test every day prior to commencing work, social distancing measures for all processes and activities (including segregating crews both in the camp and on-site), as well as increased hygiene measures.

## Ends

For further information:

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## **About Mineral Resources**

Mineral Resources Limited (ASX: MIN) is a Perth-based leading mining services provider, with a particular focus on the iron ore and hard-rock lithium sectors in Western Australia. Using technical know-how and an innovative approach to deliver exceptional outcomes, Mineral Resources has become one of the ASX’s best-performing contractors since listing in 2006. Mineral Resources employs more than 3000 men and woman, mostly in Western Australia. To learn more, please visit [www.mineralresources.com.au](http://www.mineralresources.com.au).

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