

9 December 2020

The Companies Officer
Australian Securities Exchange Ltd
Level 40, Central Park
152-158 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Dear Madam or Sir

FORTESCUE METALS GROUP CELEBRATES FIRST ORE AT ELIWANA MINE

Fortescue Metals Group Ltd (**Fortescue**) (ASX: FMG) has achieved a significant milestone in the development of its iron ore operations in the Pilbara, celebrating first ore through the ore processing facility at the Eliwana mine and rail project in the Western Hub.

Fortescue Chief Executive Officer, Ms Elizabeth Gaines, and Deputy Chairman, Mark Barnaba AM celebrated the official event on site at Eliwana with:

- Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Western Australia Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Industrial Relations
- Representatives of Fortescue's native title partners, the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura People (PKKP)
- Members of the Fortescue Board of Directors and the Core Leadership team.

Ms Gaines said, "Eliwana is the next important stage of development of Fortescue's world-class, integrated operations. Exploration commenced in this area in 2006, and we have now delivered a new 30 million tonne per annum dry ore processing facility and infrastructure, along with 143 kilometres of rail which is in the final stages of construction."

"Eliwana will see us maintain our low-cost status and provide us with greater flexibility across our product mix. Construction of the mine, village and infrastructure was completed safely over a 12-month period, in line with budget and schedule."

"Fortescue has a vision to drive economic growth and contribute to thriving local communities, and our investment in the Eliwana mine and rail project will continue our strong track record of delivering against this goal."

WA Minister for Mines and Petroleum Bill Johnston said at the event: "Congratulations Fortescue and everyone involved on the completion of the Eliwana project."

"This important project created around 2,000 jobs during construction and will create 500 full-time site positions as the team move into operations."

"Fortescue's Eliwana mine will deliver a significant boost to Western Australia's economy, during the post-COVID-19 recovery phase, and contribute to the State's ongoing successful iron ore industry."

Ms Gaines said, "A diverse workforce is integral to Fortescue's success. As one of Australia's largest employers of Aboriginal people, Fortescue continues to provide training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people, who represent 14 per cent of the Eliwana operations workforce

"In addition, 23 per cent of our Eliwana operations team are women, contributing to our commitment to increase gender diversity across our operations.

"The Eliwana project has delivered a significant boost to the State and industry, with contracts valued at A\$1.83 billion awarded to Australian businesses. This includes contracts awarded to 290 West Australian businesses, with local procurement totalling 84 per cent of the project spend."

Background

Fortescue has awarded contracts valued at over A\$150 million to Aboriginal businesses and their joint venture partners for the Eliwana project. These form an important part of Fortescue's Billion Opportunities program to provide employment and business opportunities for the Aboriginal community.

These contracts include PKKP owned businesses Jilpanti Enterprises and Australian Indigenous Enterprises, to provide early civils and earthworks. Additionally, PKKP Enterprises, 100% owned by PKKP Aboriginal Corporation, were awarded the village services, hospitality and technical services contract with their joint venture partner Action Catering; and Mallard Deemey, a 100 per cent Aboriginal-owned business was contracted for the non-processing infrastructure development including Eliwana's administration offices and building services.

Yours sincerely
Fortescue Metals Group Ltd

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Image caption: Fortescue Deputy Chairman Mark Barnaba AM, WA Minister for Mines and Petroleum Bill Johnston, Fortescue Chief Executive Officer Ms Elizabeth Gaines and Fortescue Chief Operating Officer Greg Lilleyman at the Eliwana mine.