

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

21 MAY 2021

# Alcoa of Australia Limited Technology Project to Reduce Carbon Emissions

Alumina Limited advises that Alcoa of Australia Limited is pursuing a development project with the potential to significantly reduce carbon emissions in the alumina refining process.

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has granted to Alcoa of Australia Limited A\$11.3 million to test the potential use of renewable energy in a process known as Mechanical Vapor Recompression (MVR). Alcoa of Australia Limited is currently conducting technical and commercial studies to adapt MVR technology to refining. Electricity sourced from renewable energy would power compressors to turn waste vapor into steam, which would then be used to provide refinery process heat. Alcoa of Australia Limited has filed provisional patent applications in Australia for the use of MVR technology in the alumina refining process.

A statement by Alcoa Corporation regarding the project is attached for reference.

Alcoa of Australia Limited is part of the AWAC joint venture which is 60% owned by Alcoa Corporation and 40% owned by Alumina Limited.

This ASX announcement was approved and authorised for release by Mike Ferraro, Chief Executive Officer.

# Forward-looking statements

Neither Alumina Limited nor any other person warrants or guarantees the future performance of Alumina Limited or any return on any investment made in Alumina Limited securities. This document may contain certain forward-looking statements, including forward-looking statements within the meaning of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The words "anticipate", "aim", "believe", "expect", "project", "estimate", "forecast", "intend", "likely", "should", "could", "will", "may", "target", "plan" and other similar expressions (including indications of "objectives") are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Indications of, and guidance on, future financial position and performance and distributions, and statements regarding Alumina Limited's future developments and the market outlook, are also forward-looking statements.

Any forward-looking statements contained in this document are not guarantees of future performance. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of Alumina Limited and its directors, officers, employees and agents that may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Those risks, uncertainties and other factors include (without limitation): (a) material adverse changes in global economic conditions, alumina or aluminium industry conditions or the markets served by AWAC; (b) changes in production or development costs, production levels or sales agreements; (c) changes in laws, regulations or policies; (d) changes in alumina or aluminium prices or currency exchange rates; (e) Alumina Limited does not hold a majority interest in AWAC and decisions made by majority vote may not be in the best interests of Alumina Limited; and (f) the other risk factors summarised in Alumina Limited's Annual Report 2020. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, Alumina Limited disclaims any responsibility to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect any new information or any change in the events, conditions or circumstances on which a statement is based or to which it relates.

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# Alcoa exploring technology to further reduce carbon emissions in alumina refining

**PITTSBURGH**, **May 20**, **2021** – Alcoa Corporation (NYSE: AA) today announced a development project with the potential to significantly reduce carbon emissions in the alumina refining process, which would further enhance the Company's strong sustainability performance across the aluminum value chain.

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has granted to Alcoa of Australia \$8.8 million (A\$11.3 million) to test the potential use of renewable energy in a process known as Mechanical Vapor Recompression (MVR). Alcoa of Australia is currently conducting technical and commercial studies to adapt MVR technology to refining. Electricity sourced from renewable energy would power compressors to turn waste vapor into steam, which would then be used to provide refinery process heat.

If the feasibility studies are successful, Alcoa of Australia plans to install, by the end of 2023 a three megawatt MVR module with renewable energy at the Wagerup refinery in Western Australia to test the technology at scale.

"Already, Alcoa is the world's lowest carbon intensity alumina producer, and the application of MVR, if proven successful, would be an important step forward in further reducing greenhouse gas emissions," said Eugenio Azevedo, Alcoa's Vice President for Continuous Improvement. "Using lower carbon alumina in the smelting process will reduce the overall carbon footprint of the metal, too, when considering the indirect and direct emissions across bauxite mining, alumina refining and aluminum smelting and casting."

The MVR technology powered by renewable energy could reduce an alumina refinery's carbon footprint by 70 percent. The technology also has the potential to significantly reduce water use in the refining process by capturing water vapor that would otherwise be lost to the atmosphere.

Alcoa of Australia has filed provisional patent applications in Australia for the use of MVR technology in the alumina refining process. The patent applications cover a variety of MVR applications in retrofit and greenfield scenarios in refining.

The development project aligns with Alcoa's strategic priority to "Advance Sustainably." Today, Alcoa's global refining system has the industry's lowest average carbon intensity, and Alcoa is the only company providing a low-carbon alumina brand, EcoSource<sup>™</sup>. Marketed as part of the Company's <u>Sustana<sup>™</sup> line of products</u>, EcoSource has no more than 0.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents for every ton of smelter-grade alumina produced, which is better than 90 percent of the industry.

### **About Alcoa**

Alcoa (NYSE: AA) is a global industry leader in bauxite, alumina and aluminum products, with a strong portfolio of value-added cast and rolled products and substantial energy assets. Alcoa is built on a foundation of strong values and operating excellence dating back 135 years to the world-changing discovery that made aluminum an affordable and vital part of modern life. Since inventing the aluminum industry, and throughout our history, our talented Alcoans have followed on with breakthrough innovations and best practices that have led to efficiency, safety, sustainability and stronger communities wherever we operate. Visit us online on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Alcoa">www.alcoa.com</a>, follow @Alcoa on Twitter and on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Alcoa">www.facebook.com/Alcoa</a>.

### **About Alcoa of Australia**

Alcoa of Australia is owned by Alcoa World Alumina and Chemicals (AWAC), an unincorporated global joint venture between Alcoa Corporation and Alumina Limited that consists of a number of affiliated entities that own, operate or have an interest in bauxite mines and alumina refineries, as well as an aluminum smelter, in seven countries. Alcoa Corporation owns 60 percent of AWAC with Alumina Limited owning 40 percent.

# **Dissemination of Company Information**

Alcoa Corporation intends to make future announcements regarding company developments and financial performance through its website at <a href="www.alcoa.com">www.alcoa.com</a>, as well as through press releases, filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, conference calls and webcasts.

# **Forward-Looking Statements**

This news release contains statements that relate to future events and expectations and as such constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include those containing such words as "anticipates," "believes," "could," "estimates," "expects," "forecasts," "goal," "intends," "may," "outlook," "plans," "projects," "seeks," "sees," "should," "targets," "will," "would," or other words of similar meaning. All statements by Alcoa Corporation that reflect expectations, assumptions or projections about the future, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. Although Alcoa Corporation believes that the expectations reflected in any forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that these expectations will be attained and it is possible that actual results may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements due to a variety of risks and uncertainties. Additional information concerning factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements is contained in Alcoa Corporation's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Alcoa Corporation disclaims any obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether in response to new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.