

ASX / MEDIA RELEASE

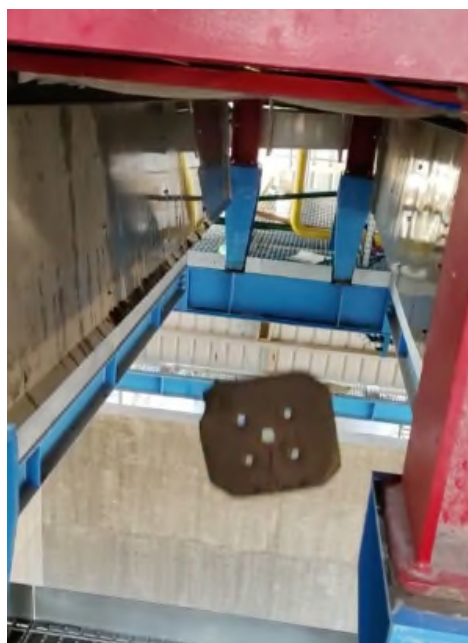
19 February 2024

Alara Copper Project Hot Commissioning Update

Alara Resources is pleased to provide a progress update on hot commissioning activities for the 1 MTPA copper-concentrator plant¹ being constructed by its joint venture (JV) company, Al Hadeetha Resources LLC (AHRL) at Al Wash-hi – Majaza in Oman. Alara holds a 51% interest in the Oman JV Company.

Hot commissioning of the plant began early February with basaltic rock feed to the crusher with onward conveyance to the grinding circuit through SAG and ball mills, followed by cyclonic movement to the downstream flotation circuit. Through adjustment of the dart valves in the flotation circuits concentrate and tailings were generated at different times and both the concentrate and tailing dewatering circuits were tested with a full load of materials. The flotation cells were fed with blower air. The entire operation is being now being carried out remotely through programmable logic controllers (PLCs).

Images: Concentrate Cake Discharged From Filter Press



¹ Alara's ASX Announcements dated 1 April 2016 (Definitive Feasibility Study Results initial announcement), 24 January 2017 (Definitive Feasibility Study update), 28 June 2018 (Project Net Present Value update) and 29 March and 7 April 2021 (Project Net Present Value NPV update) contain the information required by ASX Listing Rule 5.16 regarding the stated production target. All material assumptions underpinning the production target as announced on those dates continue to apply and have not materially changed, except to the extent that a relevant assumption in an earlier announcement referred to above has been updated by an assumption in a later announcement referred to.

The formation of finely ground concentrate cakes was achieved successfully within a week from commencement.

A technical issue was encountered while commissioning the tailings filter press (**TFP**). The filter press plates were observed not moving uniformly after cake discharge and required manual intervention at the end of each filtration cycle. Some issues related to the PLCs were also encountered. Engineers from the TFP equipment supplier are currently working to rectify the defects before a feed of copper ore commences at the plant to complete hot commissioning.

The project team expects to commence a feed of low-grade copper ore (0.4%-0.6%) to the circuit on or before 25th February. Overall progress of commissioning activities is detailed in the table below.

Plant Section	Dry Commissioning	Wet Commissioning	Hot Commissioning	Remarks
Crushing and COSP Section				
Rock breaker	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Apron feeder	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Primary crusher	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Dust suppression system	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Stockpile and pan feeders	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Belt conveyor to feed crusher	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Grinding Section				
Belt conveyor to feed SAG mill	✓	✓	✓	Conveyor belts tested at 60% of rated capacity
SAG mill	✓	✓	✓	SAG mill fed with 60% of designed capacity
Primary cyclone feed pump	✓	✓	✓	Pumps commissioned
Ball mill	✓	✓	✓	Ball mill fed with 60% of designed capacity
Water System				
Cooling tower	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Seal water system	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Process water & fresh water	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Air System				
Compressor (plant & instrument air)	NA	✓	✓	System under operation
Blower system	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Flotation Section				
Rougher - Pump Agitator & Rotor	✓	✓		System under operation
SMD	✓	✓	-	Ready for hot commissioning
Cleaner - pump agitator & rotor	✓	✓	-	System under operation
Reagent Area				
Reagent tank, agitator & pump	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Flocculant preparation & transfer	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Concentrate Dewatering				
Concentrate thickener, underflow pump	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Feeding tank - agitator	✓	✓	✓	System under operation
Feeding VFD pump	✓	✓	✓	Ready for hot commissioning
Filter Press	✓	✓	×	PLC programming job under progress
Tailings Dewatering				
18 m thickener-rake, underflow pump	✓	✓	✓	Ready for hot commissioning
Feeding tank - agitator	✓	✓	✓	System under operation

Plant Section	Dry Commissioning	Wet Commissioning	Hot Commissioning	Remarks
Filter feeding VFD pump	✓		✓	Ready for hot commissioning PLC programming job under progress.
Filter press	✓	✓	✗	
Conveyors 4, 5 & 6 (tailing disposal conveyors)	✓	✓	✓	System commissioned

ENDS

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About Alara Resources

Alara Resources Limited (ASX: AUQ) is an Australian-based precious and base metals explorer and developer.

Alara is currently focused on developing the Al Wash-hi Majaza Copper-Gold project in Oman, where it is in the process of constructing copper-gold mining and processing facilities. The Company is also continuing exploration activities at its other Oman projects, the Block 7 exploration licence under the Daris JV and the Mullaq and Al Ajal exploration licences under the Al Hadeetha JV.

Alara's mission is to become a mid-tier minerals producer which will deliver maximum shareholder value through profitable growth driven by low-cost, sustainable operations.

To learn more, please visit: www.alararesources.com.