

ASX Release



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MAY 2008
PROGRESS REPORTS
BROWNS OXIDE AND SULFIDE BASE METALS PROJECTS

Attached are May 2008 Progress Reports for both the Browns Oxide and Sulfide Base Metals Projects. It is planned to make the next Progress Report in the June 2008 Quarterly Report and subsequent progress updates as key milestones are achieved.

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Browns Oxide & Sulfide Projects

May 2008





Browns Oxide Project

Progress

Overall Completion	
Civil	99%
Structural/platework	99%
Mechanical	80%
Electrical	80%
Piping	85%
Commissioning	20%



Browns Oxide Project

- **Pre-commissioning activities completed for Crushing/Grinding areas and continuing elsewhere.**
- **HV power connected from grid on 16 May**
- **First feed to plant to mill achieved on 31 May**
- **Feed to subsequent sections of the plant will occur progressively.**
- **Estimated 35,000 man hours to completion**
 - **35,000 Man hours earned during May**
- **Staged Commissioning continuing through June.**



Workforce

Current Numbers	
Civil	4
Structural/Mechanical	25
Electrical	70
Piping	45
EPCM	18



Browns Oxide Project

Key Issues

- **Safety awareness and procedures associated with Commissioning**
- **Management of issues associated with recommissioning used equipment.**
- **Complete electrical and piping installation**
- **Commissioning of critical plant.**



Browns Sulfide Project Update



Summary

- **Bench test work continuing.**
 - **Good recoveries from POx**
 - **Process options reducing as test work results are evaluated.**
- **Layout/design of plant front end well advanced.**
- **Further mine plan development held until resource update is completed**
- **Baseline environmental monitoring (wet season) - field work complete**
- **Second process options workshop scheduled for 2 July.**
- **Options studies for power supply, water supply and tailings either in progress or about to be awarded.**



Browns Sulfide Project

Key issues

- **Elimination of unattractive process options.**
- **Land tenure – awaiting site layouts and preliminary mine plan**
- **Environmental and other statutory approvals**
- **Updated resource model - due late June.**



Area 55 and Mt Fitch



Area 55 and Mt Fitch

- **Conceptual mine plan has been developed for Area 55.**
- **Mine plan for Mt Fitch Copper held pending resource update**
- **Preliminary ore transport study for Area 55 has been completed.**
- **Haul road layout developed (Area 55).**
- **Budgets for study work prepared and submitted.**
- **Proposals received for site hydrology and related environmental work.**