

Press Release

25 January 2018

Ashburton Salt Environmental Scoping Document Approved

A document detailing environmental studies required for the proposed solar salt facility near Onslow has been approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

K+S Salt Australia today announced the Ashburton Salt project's Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) was now finalised, marking a significant milestone.

K+S Australia Managing Director, Gerrit Gödecke, said the document was developed after extensive consultation with stakeholder groups including environmental, local community, business and government.

"We wanted to make sure the ESD captured all stakeholder concerns so we could address these through undertaking high quality environmental studies to investigate and minimise potential environmental impacts of the project," said Mr Gödecke.

"We look forward now to progressing with these studies and sharing the results with stakeholders as they become available.

"Throughout the process we will continue to engage with local people and organisations to ensure the Ashburton Salt project is developed to become one of the world's most modern salt facilities, with strict environmental standards and long-lasting benefits to the community."

The approval process is expected to take around three years, and only when the necessary permits have been granted will K+S make a final decision on whether to build the solar salt production facility.

Annual production capacity would be approximately 3.5 million tonnes of solar salt, with early K+S estimates anticipating an approximate capital expenditure of \$350 million to develop the project.

During construction, the project will employ approximately 200 full-time workers and once in production will provide at least 75 sustainable, full-time jobs. K+S is committed to employing locally where possible. There will also be opportunities for a range of local businesses to provide goods and services.

Ashburton Salt represents K+S' entry into the Australasian region. The project will supply the growing Asian market.

The Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) can be downloaded from the Ashburton Salt website at www.ashburtonsalt.com.au

Ends

About K+S

K+S considers itself as a customer-focused, independent minerals company for the segments of Agriculture, Industry, Consumers, and Communities and wants to grow the EBITDA to € 3 billion in 2030. Our over 14,000 employees enable farmers to provide nutrition for the world, provide solutions that keep industries going, improve daily life for consumers and provide safety in the winter. We continually meet the growing demand for mineral products from production sites in Europe, North and South America as well as a worldwide sales network. We strive for sustainability because we are deeply committed to our responsibilities to people, environment, communities and economy of the regions in which we operate. Learn more about K+S at www.k-plus-s.com.

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