



25 June 2008

## **Cape Alumina signs Pisolite Hills Project haul road Initial Access Agreement with Rio Tinto Alcan**

**Cape Alumina will commence environment and cultural heritage surveys for a proposed haul road from the Company's Pisolite Hills Bauxite Project across adjoining mining leases held by Rio Tinto Alcan on the Weipa Bauxite Plateau on western Cape York.**

The first phase survey for a 34 kilometre haul road from Pisolite Hills to a barge loading point near Port Musgrave follows the signing of an initial access agreement with Rio Tinto Alcan.

Cape Alumina CEO Dr Paul Messenger said the agreement was another important step in the development studies and consultation programs being undertaken for the Pisolite Hills project.

"This work will allow environment and cultural heritage surveys to determine a preferred route across Rio Tinto Alcan's leases before any geotechnical or engineering surveys are undertaken," Dr Messenger said.

"It is another example of our broad regional and stakeholder consultation and builds on the three exploration access agreements we signed with the area's Traditional Owners in 2006-07."

The agreement follows detailed discussions with Traditional Owners including those who have existing agreements with Rio Tinto Alcan and those working closely with Cape Alumina on key facets of the Pisolite Hills development.

Low impact studies and surveys will be undertaken of a proposed access corridor across the Rio Tinto Alcan lease area. The results will help formulate cultural heritage and environmental management plans for the Pisolite Hills project.

Subsequent access agreements with Rio Tinto Alcan will be required for more detailed geotechnical studies and preliminary engineering designs. As with the initial agreement further discussions will take place with the Traditional Owners for any subsequent agreements.

### **About Cape Alumina and its Pisolite Hills Bauxite Project**

Cape Alumina is a Brisbane-based, Cape York-focused emerging bauxite company. Cape Alumina has international support from Chinese alumina majors including Xinfu, one of China's leading independent aluminium and alumina groups. Cape Alumina proposes to develop the 7mtpa Pisolite Hills project to meet increasing world bauxite demand. The first step in its plans is an IPO this year, followed by completion of feasibility study and development approvals in 2009, construction in 2010-11 and production planned for 2011-12.

#### ***For further enquiries please contact***

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