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## Media Release

### Cape Alumina calls on Qld Govt to reopen Aurukun bauxite tender

Cape Alumina Limited (ASX Code: CBX) is calling on the Queensland Government to once again call for tenders for the development of the Aurukun bauxite deposits in western Cape York.

It was announced late on Wednesday night that the Queensland Government and Chalco had failed to reach agreement on the development of the Aurukun project, the rights of which were awarded to Chalco in 2006.

Cape Alumina's Managing Director, Dr Paul Messenger, said there were several companies – including Cape Alumina – that would be interested in developing the Aurukun project.

“The right thing for the Queensland Government to do now is to call for tenders once more,” he said.

“This would be in the best interests of all Queenslanders, and particularly for the Aboriginal people of Aurukun and western Cape York.

“It is particularly important to call for tenders again if the terms of the original tender are to be changed – that is, if the Government no longer requires the developer of the Aurukun bauxite deposits to build an alumina refinery on Queensland's east coast.”

Dr Messenger said that the cost to build a refinery in Queensland meant that this project was not economic and the investment could not be justified. However, global demand for western Cape York bauxite remains strong over the medium to long-term, he said.

“The bauxite deposits in western Cape York are a vital public asset and should be developed in a way that serves the best interests of all Queenslanders,” he said.

“The best way for the Queensland Government to get value for money and maximum return for taxpayers and the Aurukun Aboriginal community is to reactivate the tendering process.”

Cape Alumina was recently forced to commence a detailed review of its Pisolite Hills bauxite mine and port project near Mapoon in western Cape York following the Queensland Government's declaration of the Wenlock Basin as a wild river area.

“Our Pisolite Hills mine and port project, as it presently stands, is no longer viable – the Queensland Government's declaration of the Wenlock River Basin as a wild river area may have rendered this project uneconomic in any form,” Dr Messenger said.

“We are continuing our review of the Pisolite Hills project and evaluating other opportunities with the aim of restoring value for our shareholders.”

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