

Stage 1 Progress / Delay in Full Production Rate

Highlights

- **Installation of all Stage 1 processing plant at WA Kaolin’s Wickepin Kaolin Project in Western Australia is now complete and on budget. Dry commissioning is well underway.**
- **COVID 19 has hampered materials delivery and caused severe shortages of labour.**
- **The result is a short-term delay in our forecast of achieving full nameplate capacity.**

Despite having substantially overcome the impact of COVID-19 on the project, WA Kaolin Ltd (“**WA Kaolin**” or the “**Company**”) (ASX: WAK) needs to advise that its pathway to first full production rate has been hampered by recent shortages of labour and delay in some materials supply, mainly as a result of COVID-19. The Company therefore expects a two-to-three-month delay to its nameplate production rate which was slated for mid-2022.

As foreshadowed in the Company’s last announcement dated 29 April 2022 (“March 2022 Quarterly Activities Report”), it was noted that a short delay may be experienced due to the effects of the virus. The Company can now report that despite the Covid Management Plans and Strategy the company put in place up to 59% of the workforce at Wickepin have either contracted COVID-19 or have been close contacts therefore necessitating quarantining, with a total loss of 82 person-days.

While the Company schedules wet commissioning and pre-production trials by the end of June, we now target first full production rate in late August 2022, at which time production is still targeted to commence at 25 tonnes per hour nameplate capacity and steadily increase to ~ 200,000 tonnes per annum rate by the end of CY22.

*****ENDS*****

This announcement was authorised for market release by the Board of WA Kaolin Limited.

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Project Background

The Company acquired the Wickepin Project in 1999 from Rio Tinto which, through exploration, had discovered and drilled out a Mineral Resource and commissioned engineering and feasibility studies. The acquisition included the tenements covered by the Wickepin Project and all associated engineering and feasibility studies.

Since then and prior to the Company's IPO in November 2020, WA Kaolin co-founders and owners invested over \$42 million to develop and progress the Wickepin Project. Through extensive R&D of product and processes, the Company has spent significant time and funds in optimising its proprietary dry processing method for kaolin ("K99 Process") to build and extend on its success as a kaolin producer and exporter to global markets.

As part of the process, the Company has undertaken trial mining and processing to ensure proof of concept and to produce product for, amongst other things, establishing customer confidence and price discovery.

The project comprises a mining lease, a general-purpose lease, a miscellaneous licence and retention licences. It is one of the largest known remaining kaolin resources in the world, and contains:

- A **Probable Ore Reserve of 30.5 million tonnes** (Table 1) in the mining lease which is part of and included in;
- An **Inferred Mineral Resource (reported in 2017) of 644.5 million tonnes** (Table 2) of high-grade premium kaolinised granite across all tenements.

Table 1. Ore Reserves by JORC Classification

JORC classification	Tonnes (Mt)	ISO brightness (%)	Yield (%)	In situ Kaolin (Mt)
			(<45 µm in size)	
Proved				
Probable	30.5	83.7	51.8	15.8
Total	30.5	83.7	51.8	15.8

Source: CSA Global Report No. R301.2020 – 30th July 2020

Table 2. Inferred Mineral Resources (<45 µm), WA Kaolin Project

	Kaolinized granite (Mt)	ISO brightness (%)	Yield (%)	Kaolin (Mt)
Total	644.5	75.8	44.0	283.6

Source: CSA Global Report No. R280.2017 – 3rd August 2017

WA Kaolin developed a dry processing method, the K99 Process, at its plant in Kwinana, which together with the high-grade Wickepin kaolin resource, produces an ultra-bright, high-quality kaolin product at a low cost, in comparison to other methods which rely on chemical bleaching and multiple wet mechanical and magnetic separation methods.

Estimates and production targets

The Mineral Resources, Ore Reserves and production targets referred to in this announcement were previously reported in the Prospectus dated 11 October 2020 and released to the ASX on 24 November 2020 and the Definitive Feasibility Study announcements released on 24 and 25 November 2020. WA Kaolin confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates, production target or forecast financial information derived from a production target continue to apply and have not materially changed.

Forward Looking Statements

This ASX announcement may include forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts but rather are based on WAK's current expectations, estimates and assumptions about the industry in which WAK operates, and beliefs and assumptions regarding WAK's future performance. Any forward-looking statements, that are inconsistent with previous forward-looking statements made by the Company supersede those previous statements or prevail to the extent of any inconsistency. Words such as "anticipates", "expects", "intends", "plans", "believes", "seeks", "estimates", "potential" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are only predictions and are not guaranteed, and they are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions, some of which are outside the control of WAK. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and no representation or warranty is made as to the likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any forward-looking statements or other forecast. Actual values, results or events may be materially different to those expressed or implied in this announcement. Given these uncertainties, recipients are cautioned not to place reliance on forward looking statements. Any forward-looking statements in this announcement speak only at the date of issue of this announcement. Subject to any continuing obligations under applicable law, WAK does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any information or any of the forward-looking statements in this announcement or any changes in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such forward looking statement is based.

About WA Kaolin

WA Kaolin's Wickepin Kaolin Project, 220km south-east of Perth, contains a Mineral Resource (JORC 2012) of 644.5 million tonnes^{1,2} of high-grade premium kaolinised granite. This world-class resource at Wickepin is one of the largest known remaining premium primary resources of kaolin globally. It is characterised by its purity, quality and brightness, producing kaolin products that typically attract higher prices from a growing collection of top tier customers.

With more than \$42 million invested in the project prior to the Company's IPO in November 2020, WA Kaolin has developed a proprietary dry processing method, known as K99, to turn raw material into market suitable feedstock for global customers, and constructed a small-scale commercial processing plant on 3ha of portside industrial land at Kwinana, WA. The Company is focused on increasing production from Wickepin to 400,000 tonnes per annum by 2023 with further modular increases to capacity to be implemented in tune with market demand and funding capability.

¹ The Mineral Resource estimate is inclusive of Ore Reserves.

² CSA Global Mineral Resource Estimate R280.2017