

Alpha **HPA**

ABN 79 106 879 690

ASX: **A4N**  
ASX Announcement  
2 July 2019

The Manager Companies  
ASX Limited  
20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

(12 pages by email)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

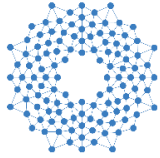
Further to the ASX announcement on 1 July 2019 “HPA First Process Confirmed and Commencement of Pilot Plant” Alpha HPA Limited provides the following additional information:

- Appendix 1: HPA Alumina Assay Tables
- A JORC 2012 Table 1.

For further information, please contact:

Rimas Kairaitis  
Managing Director  
[rkairaitis@alphaHPA.com.au](mailto:rkairaitis@alphaHPA.com.au)  
+61 (0) 408 414 474

Cameron Peacock  
Investor Relations & Business Development  
[cpeacock@alphaHPA.com.au](mailto:cpeacock@alphaHPA.com.au)  
+61 (0) 439 908 732



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## COMMENCEMENT OF HPA FIRST PILOT PLANT HIGH-PURITY PROCESS CONFIRMED WITH >99.99% (4N) HPA PURITY

### HPA FIRST PILOT PLANT OPERATIONS COMMENCE

- **The HPA First Pilot Plant in Brisbane will commence tomorrow, 2 July 2019**
- **The Pilot Plant will run as two complete end-to-end phases, with Phase 1 completing early-August, and Phase 2 completing mid-September**
- **Each of the Pilot Phases to operate at an implied process rate of approximately 4kg per day of high-purity alumina (HPA)**
- **Larger scale (2-5kg) commercial qualification samples to be despatched to selected end-users by August**

### HPA ASSAYS CONFIRM HIGH PURITY

- **HPA assays from the April 2019 mini-rig process run have confirmed >99.99% (4N) purity**
- **Results confirm the ability of the modified feed to deliver more consistent and higher purity alumina**

### R&D GRANT LODGEMENT

- **The Company has completed its FY18 R&D lodgement process, with an estimated rebate of \$252K, due in the next 2 weeks**
- **The FY18 R&D claim, is the pre-cursor to a substantially larger FY19 claim, expected in November 2019**

Managing Director, Rimas Kairaitis, commented; *"We are delighted to be commencing the HPA First Pilot Plant, which represents a major technical milestone in the commercialisation of the HPA First Process. We have great confidence that the Pilot operations will confirm the ability of the process to deliver high volume, high-purity alumina production using the unique, cost-disruptive HPA First process. With the assays again confirming the HPA purity generated from the process, we are excited to look ahead to the supply of commercial qualification samples to potential end-users/offtakers."*

## HPA FIRST PILOT PLANT OPERATIONS COMMENCE

The Company is very pleased to announce the HPA First Pilot Plant is due to commence operations tomorrow, 2 July 2019. The pilot plant equipment has been sequentially installed and commissioned since February, and the Pilot Plant feedstock (PLS) has been prepared over the previous two weeks.

The Pilot Plant has been designed and commissioned by the Company's technology partner and by Prudentia Process Consultants, each of which will provide the personnel for the Pilot Plant operation.

The Pilot Plant has been designed at a production rate of approximately 4kg per day of HPA.

The Pilot Plant will operate as two complete end-to-end phases with intervals replicating the natural breaks in the commercial process:

### PHASE 1:

SX and Al-salt crystallisation:

2 July to mid-July

HPA pre-cursor production and HPA calcination:

mid-July to early-August

### PHASE 2:

SX and Al-salt crystallisation:

mid-August to early-September

HPA pre-cursor production and HPA calcination:

late-August to mid-September

Alpha HPA expects to start distributing commercial scale HPA samples (2-5kg) generated from the Pilot Plant for end-user qualification testwork by August 2019.



The HPA First Pilot Plant Operations Team



Aluminium Salt Crystallisation Area



PLS (approx. 60g/L Al) ready for SX extraction



Indirect Rotary Dryer



Reagent recycle absorber

## HPA ASSAYS CONFIRM >99.99% (4N) PURITY

The Company has now received assays from HPA generated from the April 2019 SX mini-rig process using the modified feedstock (ASX: 17 April 2019).

As expected, the assays repeatedly confirmed >99.99% (>4N) purity. Importantly the assays confirmed very low levels of the battery deleterious impurities of Fe and Cl. Full assay data is presented as Appendix 1.

XRD analysis (X-Ray Diffraction) also confirmed the HPA as 100% alpha form, as required for the battery applications.

Assays also confirmed most impurities identified were inherited from materials handling between the crystallization and calcination stages. With these impurity sources now identified, they can be readily removed from the process during pilot plant operation.

## R&D GRANT LODGEMENT

The Company has completed its FY18 R&D lodgement process, with an estimated rebate of \$252K, due in the next 2 weeks. The FY18 R&D programme provides the basis for a significantly larger FY19 R&D claim, expected in November 2019.

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### About the HPA First Project

The Company's HPA First Project represents the evaluation and intended commercialisation of the production of ~10,000tpa of high purity alumina (HPA) using the Company's proprietary licenced solvent extraction and HPA refining technology. The technology provides for the extraction and purification of aluminium from an industrial feedstock to produce 4N (>99.99% purity) alumina for the intended use within the lithium ion battery and LED lighting industry. Following a successful testwork programme and Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS), updated in March 2019, Alpha HPA is now completing a pilot plant program at its dedicated laboratory facility in Brisbane, as part of a full definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) due for delivery in CY2019.

**Key highlights of the PFS (ASX: 7 March 2019):**

- Unit production costs of **US\$5,123** per tonne of HPA (after by-product credits)
- Annual Free Cash Flow (FCF) at full production rate, of **US\$199 million** (assuming US\$25,000/t HPA)
- Capital Expenditure of US\$149 million

## **Competent Persons Statement (Process Development Testwork)**

Information in this announcement that relates to metallurgical results is based on information compiled by or under the supervision of Dr Stuart Leary, an Independent Consultant trading as Delta Consulting Group. Dr Leary is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). Dr Leary has sufficient experience to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Persons under the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Dr Leary consents to the inclusion of the technical data in the form and context in which it appears.

For further information on testwork results and processes see ASX announcements dated 3 June 2019, 17 April 2019, 7 March 2019, 4 December 2018, 20 November 2018, 6 September 2018, 31 August 2018, 9 July 2018, 30 April 2018, 26 April 2018, 21 March 2018, 6 March 2018, 21 February 2018, 8 December 2017, 30 November 2017, 29 November 2017, 24 November 2017 and 13 November 2017.

## **Cautionary Statement**

The Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) referred to in this announcement has been undertaken to assess the technical and financial viability of the HPA First Project. Further evaluation work including a Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) is required before the Company will be in a position to provide any assurance of an economic development case. The PFS is based on the material assumptions about the availability of funding and the pricing received for HPA. While the Company considers all of the material assumptions to be based on reasonable grounds, there is no certainty that they will prove to be correct or that the range of outcomes indicated by this PFS will be achieved. To achieve the range of outcomes indicated in the PFS, Pre-Production Capital in the order of A\$198 million plus working capital will likely be required. Investors should note that there is no certainty that the Company will be able to raise the amount of funding when needed. It is also possible that such funding may only be available on terms that may be dilutive to or otherwise affect the value of the Company's existing shares. It is also possible that the Company could pursue other "value realisation" strategies such as a sale, partial sale or joint venture of the Project. If it does, this could materially reduce the Company's proportionate ownership of the Project. Given the uncertainties involved, investors should not make any investment decisions based solely on the results of the PFS.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

This PFS contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations, and business of the Company and certain plans and objectives of the management of the Company. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which are subject to change without notice, and may involve significant elements of subjective judgement and assumptions as to future events which may or may not occur. Forward-looking statements are provided as a general guide only and there can be no assurance that actual outcomes will not differ materially from these statements. Neither the Company, nor any other person, give any representation, warranty, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement will actually occur. In particular, those forward-looking statements are subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are outside the control of the Company. A number of important factors could cause actual results or performance to differ materially from the forward looking statements. Investors should consider the forward looking statements contained in this PFS in light of those disclosures.

pjn9968

## Appendix 1: HPA Alumina Assays

Assay Laboratory: EAG Eurofins, Liverpool NY, USA

Technique: Glow Discharge mass Spectroscopy (GDMS)

Sample ID: HPA 1A190515			
Element	Concentration (ppm)	Element	Concentration (ppm)
Li	0.35	Pd	< 0.5
Be	< 0.05	Ag	< 0.5
B	0.2	Cd	< 0.5
O	Matrix	In	< 0.5
F	< 5	Sn	< 0.5
Na (Indium Binder)	9.2	Sb	< 0.1
Mg	9.7	Te	< 0.1
Al	Matrix	I	< 0.1
Si	3.8	Cs	< 0.1
P	0.7	Ba	1.1
S	< 0.5	La	< 0.1
Cl	0.62	Ce	< 0.1
K	2.6	Pr	< 0.1
Ca	25	Nd	< 0.1
Sc	< 0.05	Sm	< 0.1
Ti	0.34	Eu	< 0.1
V	0.08	Gd	< 0.1
Cr	4.6	Tb	< 0.1
Mn	0.08	Dy	< 0.1
Fe	4.6	Ho	< 0.1
Co	< 0.05	Er	< 0.1
Ni	2.2	Tm	< 0.1
Cu	< 1	Yb	< 0.1
Zn	2.2	Lu	< 0.1
Ga	17	Hf	< 0.5
Ge	< 1	Ta	Electrode
As	< 0.5	W	< 20
Se	< 0.5	Re	< 0.1
Br	< 0.5	Os	< 0.05
Rb	< 0.05	Ir	< 0.05
Sr	< 0.05	Pt	< 0.1
Y	< 0.05	Au	Interference
Zr	< 0.1	Hg	< 0.5
Nb	< 50	Tl	< 0.1
Mo	< 5	Pb	< 0.1
Ru	< 0.5	Bi	< 0.1
Rh	< 0.5	Th	< 0.05
		U	< 0.05
<b>Purity</b>	<b>99.992%</b>		

## Appendix 1: HPA Alumina Assays

Assay Laboratory: EAG Eurofins, Liverpool NY, USA

Technique: Glow Discharge mass Spectroscopy (GDMS)

Sample ID: HPA 2B1190603			
Element	Concentration (ppm)	Element	Concentration (ppm)
Li	1.1	Pd	< 0.5
Be	< 0.05	Ag	< 0.5
B	0.09	Cd	< 0.5
O	Matrix	In	< 0.5
F	< 5	Sn	< 0.5
Na (Indium Binder)	14	Sb	< 0.1
Mg	4	Te	< 0.1
Al	Matrix	I	< 0.1
Si	9.7	Cs	< 0.1
P	< 0.1	Ba	1.0
S	< 0.5	La	< 0.1
Cl	0.64	Ce	< 0.1
K	2.1	Pr	< 0.1
Ca	15	Nd	< 0.1
Sc	< 0.05	Sm	< 0.1
Ti	0.13	Eu	< 0.1
V	< 0.05	Gd	< 0.1
Cr	4.5	Tb	< 0.1
Mn	< 0.05	Dy	< 0.1
Fe	2.3	Ho	< 0.1
Co	< 0.05	Er	< 0.1
Ni	2.4	Tm	< 0.1
Cu	< 1	Yb	< 0.1
Zn	2.9	Lu	< 0.1
Ga	17	Hf	< 0.5
Ge	< 1	Ta	Electrode
As	< 0.5	W	< 20
Se	< 0.5	Re	< 0.1
Br	< 0.5	Os	< 0.05
Rb	< 0.05	Ir	< 0.05
Sr	< 0.05	Pt	< 0.1
Y	< 0.05	Au	Interference
Zr	< 0.1	Hg	< 0.5
Nb	< 50	Tl	< 0.1
Mo	< 5	Pb	0.20
Ru	< 0.5	Bi	< 0.1
Rh	< 0.5	Th	< 0.05
		U	< 0.05
<b>Purity</b>		<b>99.992%</b>	



## 1. JORC CODE, 2012 EDITION – TABLE 1

### 1.1 Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

(Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling.</li> <li>Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.</li> <li>Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.</li> <li>In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Samples were taken as ~10g splits of homogenised, crystalline powder-form high purity alumina (HPA)</li> </ul>
Drilling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable. The samples were generated from a feedstock of industrial chemicals.</li> </ul>
Drill sample recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.</li> <li>Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.</li> <li>Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Logging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.</li> <li>Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography.</li> <li>The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Sub-sampling techniques and Sample Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.</li> <li>If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry.</li> <li>For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.</li> <li>Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.</li> <li>Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Samples were presented as a homogenised, crystalline powder generated from a calcining process at +1200°C</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	<p>collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.</li> </ul>	
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</li> <li>• For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.</li> <li>• Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (ie lack of bias) and precision have been established.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purity analysis was determined by Glow Discharge Mass Spectroscopy (GDMS), completed by specialist high purity EAG laboratories in the USA as well as Acid digest + ICPMS determination, which each compared favourably.</li> <li>• The crystal form was confirmed by Qualitative X-Ray Diffraction (QXRD), conducted by Sietronics Pty Ltd</li> <li>• The Company relied on internal laboratory QA/QC checks</li> </ul>
Verification of sampling and assaying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</li> <li>• The use of twinned holes.</li> <li>• Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</li> <li>• Discuss any adjustment to assay data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Location of data points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation.</li> <li>• Specification of the grid system used.</li> <li>• Quality and adequacy of topographic control.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Data spacing and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>• Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied.</li> <li>• Whether sample compositing has been applied.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.</li> <li>• If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Sample security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The measures taken to ensure sample security.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplicates of all samples submitted were retained at the Company's Brisbane laboratories to insure against any sample loss</li> </ul>
Audits or reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not applicable</li> </ul>

## 1.2 Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.</li> <li>The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Exploration done by other parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Drill hole Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>easting and northing of the drill hole collar</li> <li>elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar</li> <li>dip and azimuth of the hole</li> <li>down hole length and interception depth</li> <li>hole length.</li> </ul> </li> <li>If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Data aggregation methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.</li> <li>Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.</li> <li>The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.</li> <li>If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known').</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
Diagrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
<i>Balanced reporting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
<i>Other substantive exploration data</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>
<i>Further work</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).</li> <li>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019, the Company is commencing an extensive pilot plant operation to validate the process flow sheet on a semi-continuous, end-to-end basis</li> </ul>