



Rio Tinto approves \$146 million of funding for Koodaideri iron ore Project



Rio Tinto has approved \$146 million of funding to undertake initial work at the Koodaideri iron ore project in Western Australia, ahead of a final investment decision expected by the end of the year.

The funds will be invested in detailed engineering work on key elements of the project, the development of a rail construction camp and the first stage of the Koodaideri accommodation camp. Subject to final investment and government approvals, Koodaideri will be Rio Tinto's first intelligent mine, incorporating the latest in high-tech

advances in the industry and utilising an increased level of automation and robotics. It's a large scale, low-cost, high-quality project, producing replacement tonnes and forming a new production hub for Rio Tinto in the Pilbara for decades to come.

If approved, construction is scheduled to begin in 2019 with first production expected in 2021. The mine would create over 2,000 jobs during construction and 600 permanent operational roles.

Rio Tinto Iron Ore chief executive Chris Salisbury said "This is an important step for our Koodaideri project which will be a significant leap forward for the global mining industry and Rio Tinto.

"We've been building mines in the Pilbara for over 50 years, and, subject to final approvals, Koodaideri will incorporate all of that knowledge to enable us to build the smartest, safest and most efficient mine we've ever constructed. The deployment of leading edge technology will deliver a step-change in both safety and productivity for our business." according to a press release. ■

EGA launches first sustainability report

Emirates Global Aluminium, the largest industrial company in the United Arab Emirates outside oil and gas, today launches its 2017 sustainability report detailing the organisation's values, commitments, aspirations and achievements in environmental, social and economic performance. EGA aspires to be measured amongst the world's leading metals and mining companies in meeting its environmental and social responsibilities.

EGA's sustainability report charts the company's performance in areas including emissions, safety, technological innovation, community engagement, waste and effluent management, and social responsibility. The disclosures made in the report are the outcome of a materiality analysis to identify



sustainability topics that warrant the greatest levels of transparency and accountability, as well as EGA's values and commitments.

The report focuses on 2017 performance but also incorporates data for 2014, 2015 and 2016 to illustrate trends since the formation of EGA through the merger of Dubai Aluminium and Emirates Aluminium in 2014. Abdulla Kalban, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of EGA, said: "We recognise that our role must extend beyond simple

compliance or keeping up with our peers. Working with our customers, regulators, shareholders and stakeholders, we intend to be an innovator and a leader in sustainability."

EGA's sustainability report has been prepared in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative standards, the most widely recognised framework for sustainability reporting.

Last year EGA became the first Middle East headquartered company to apply to join the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative, a global programme to foster greater sustainability and transparency in the aluminium industry. EGA aspires to become certified to the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative's Performance Standards, which are globally-applicable standards specific to responsible production, sourcing and stewardship within the aluminium value chain. ■