



# AVONBANK PROJECT NEWSLETTER

WIM RESOURCE PTY LTD

IN THIS ISSUE NO.4 – OCTOBER 2020

## WELCOME

WIM Resource Pty Ltd (**WIM**) is pleased to provide a project update for the Avonbank Mineral Sands Project, located near Dooen, 15km North of Horsham.

In this edition, WIM provides a further update on the test pit status & associated studies, social & environmental studies, and stakeholder engagement.

WIM will be introducing our team to the community, over the next few editions of the newsletter – in this edition WIM is pleased to introduce Jarrod Pye, WIM's Principal Mining Engineer – see below for a short bio.

## AVONBANK UPDATE

### Current Studies & Project Timeline

Final stage feasibility studies and detailed environmental & community impact assessment studies are underway for the Avonbank project, which has an estimated mine life of 30 years.

Pending final approvals, licensing, and financing - WIM plans to commence mining works in approximately three years.

### Test Pit

Following the safe completion of ore excavation from the test pit and trial ore processing in March 2020 – WIM continues a range of studies at the site, to inform project feasibility, engineering, and environmental assessments.

A crop was seeded around the test pit site by a local landholder, and it is expected that the pit and plant area will be fully rehabilitated and returned to crop by mid-2021.

## Approvals

WIM continues to undertake a range of environmental & community studies, as input into the State Based Approvals Process (EES).

During the last few months, Scoping Requirements were publicly exhibited and signed off by the Victorian Planning Minister, which provide a framework for the project to be assessed by.

## ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY STUDIES

WIM continues several environmental assessment studies, which will provide a scientific basis to proceed with the assessment of the project, as part of the EES process.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The health crisis in Victoria continues to prevent face to face engagement with project stakeholders. WIM continues to engage various stakeholders, as best possible. WIM held a further Community Reference Group Meeting



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



TEST PIT STATUS



## AVONBANK UPDATE

### Feasibility Study

Definitive feasibility studies are underway for the Avonbank project.

WIM continues to undertake a range of project feasibility related studies – including studies on:

- Power supply
- Roads
- Rail
- Port
- Workforce
- Mine Planning
- Test Pit Slope stability
- Test Pit tailings
- Groundwater

All these studies are important factors for WIM to consider, to provide a robust foundation from which to construct and operate the Avonbank Project.

### Test Pit Studies

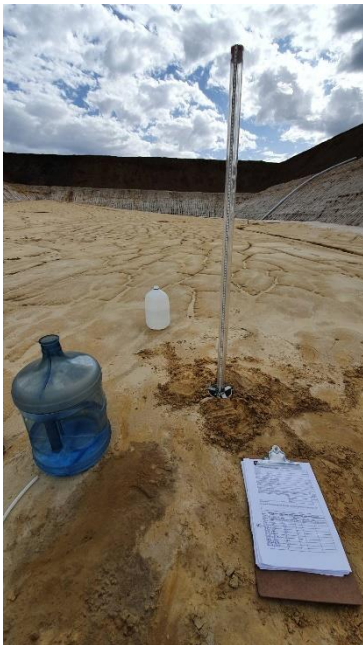
The test pit studies are continuing as planned, with important information gathered regarding the tailing’s consolidation, groundwater, and pit slope stability, providing a strong foundation to design the full scale proposed mine.



**POWER SUPPLY STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY**



**WORK FORCE STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY**



**AVONBANK TEST PIT – GEOTECHNICAL STUDIES**



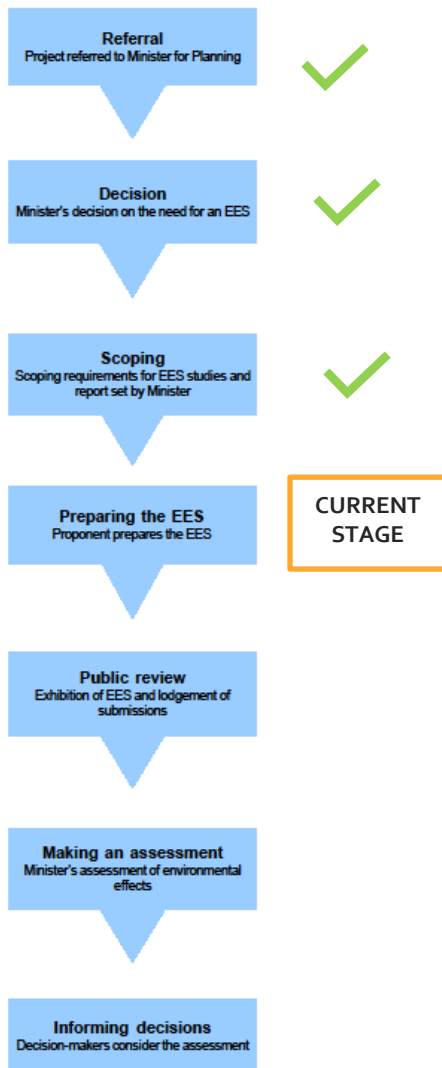
**AVONBANK TEST PIT SLOPE & TAILINGS STUDIES**



## PROJECT APPROVALS

In August 2019, the State Planning Minister advised that an EES would be required for Avonbank Project. to assess potential impacts – both positive and negative - that the project will have on the environment and the community. ([View Decision - Click here](#))

Stages of the EES process is summarised in the figure below from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) website. More information on the EES process can be found on the DELWP website ([click here](#)).



## EES Scoping Requirements

In mid-July 2020, the draft Scoping Requirements were publicly advertised and in September 2020, the Planning Minister approved the Scoping Requirements ([click here](#)).

Moving forward, WIM will now proceed to progress its studies, to provide a basis for the EES (prepare the EES).

It is anticipated that the EES process for Avonbank will take a further 12-18 months to complete, including public release of the document and Ministerial consideration of the matters addressed in the EES.

## EES STUDIES

Key studies that are either on-going or nearing completion during the last two months included:

- Groundwater monitoring
- Surface water monitoring
- Air Quality monitoring
- Radiation Studies
- Soil & Landform
- Transport
- Social
- Economic

Once these studies are reported & finalized, they will feed into the preparation of the EES.

## MEET THE TEAM

Jarrold is WIMs' Principal Mining Engineer. He grew up in Swan Hill, in country Victoria and currently lives in Melbourne with his 4 year old son Alistair, partner Sarah and crazy dog Bingo. His interests include footy (a keen Richmond supporter), and playing golf (despite a rough swing!). Jarrold has over 15 years' experience in Mineral Sands as a Mining Engineer and brings a wealth of both practical and technical expertise to the Avonbank project. Jarrold & his wife look forward to becoming a Horsham local, and bringing up a young family in the country, when Avonbank Project commences.



GROUNDWATER MONITORING



SOIL CHARACTERISATION STUDIES CONTINUE



## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

WIM continues to ensure the local community and all other stakeholders are updated, despite limitations related to COVID-19, to ensure all stakeholders have the opportunity to express their views on the project and suggest ways in which aspects of the project might be modified to give better outcomes.

Stakeholder engagement strategies and actions include but are not limited to;

- **Wimmera Field Days** - Local displays and exhibits. WIM had an exhibit at the 2020 Wimmera Field Days.
- **Drop-in Session** - WIM unfortunately had to cancel project information sessions in Dooen, Jung and Murtoa from April onwards – but plans to hold these when conditions change
- **Pilot Plant site visits** for community groups, including schools and clubs. These were conducted during the pilot plant stage, but are currently on hold due to COVID
- **Community Reference Group** comprised of local stakeholders. Four meetings have been held to date
- **WIM Office** - open Wednesday at the Wimmera Business Centre – (as soon as COVID rules permit)
- **Our website** ([www.wimresource.com.au](http://www.wimresource.com.au)) where you can register for emailed project updates with up to date project information, or via our contact line (free call 1800 959 298). WIM invites you to contact us with any questions or comments on any aspect of our project as we continue to progress through the approvals and development phases of the project.

**VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS**

**Read More & Register for Updates on website**

[www.wimresource.com.au](http://www.wimresource.com.au)

**Contact WIM - free call 1800 959 298**