



Residents for Responsible Mining

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Bauxite looks at options following EPA decision

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BAUXITE Resources is considering its options, including an appeal, after a determination by the Environmental Protection Authority that its proposed mining operation near Bindoon in Western Australia will require assessment via a public environmental review.

The public has six weeks to review the proposal.

Bauxite Resources shares were placed in a trading halt on March 26.

The company expects to release a detailed announcement within two days in order to remove the voluntary suspension.

Earlier in the month, a group of Bindoon farmers hit back at claims by Bauxite that they were conducting a smear campaign against the company, and called into question the viability of its mining and alumina refinery aspirations.

At a meeting of the Residents for Responsible Mining convened by Clair Medhurst and Derek Gascoine, the pair accused Bauxite of not considering the cumulative long-term impact of bauxite mining on the Darling Scarp region and for not following due process.

Bauxite has publicly stated it will initially produce 1.2 million tonnes per annum (July-December 2010) from Hare's farm near Bindoon, before ramping up to 2.4Mtpa next year, and ultimately reaching 6Mtpa from state-owned lands.

Three trial shipments have already left Kwinana and arrived in China and Bauxite was hoping to shortly finalise an offtake deal with its Chinese partner, Shangdong Provincial Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources.

The Chinese group took a \$A9.85 million direct equity investment in the company last year.

Residents for Responsible Mining comprises around 70 second and third-generation agricultural families from the Bindoon area and was formed in October last year after Bauxite started a four-month, 130,000t trial mining and 16-kilometre haul road campaign in the area.



Bauxite Resources ore being loaded onto a ship bound for China