





6 May 2025

## Update on Appeal Process for Arrowsmith North Environmental Approval

### Highlights:

-  **EPA recommended Arrowsmith North development proposal be implemented subject to conditions**
-  **One appeal lodged**
-  **Office of the Appeals Convenor has completed its investigation and provided its report to Minister for Environment**
-  **Minister for Environment expected to make determination on State environmental approval in coming weeks**

VRX Silica Limited (**VRX** or **Company**) is pleased to provide this update on the environmental approval process for the Arrowsmith North silica sand development proposal (**Proposal**).

In January 2025 the Company announced that the Environmental Protection Authority of Western Australia (**EPA**) had published its assessment report for the Proposal and recommended to the Minister for Environment that the Proposal may be implemented, subject to conditions that had been accepted by VRX following consultation with the EPA.

Publication of the assessment report triggered commencement of a three-week review period during which appeals against the content and recommendations in the EPA report may be submitted to the Office of the Appeals Convenor (**OAC**). In late January 2025 one appeal was lodged.

The appeal has since been investigated by the OAC on behalf of the Minister for Environment, which involves obtaining comments from the appellant, EPA, the Company and any other public authorities or individuals with an interest in the subject matter of the appeal.

### **ASX: VRX**

#### **Capital Structure**

*Shares on Issue:*

*747 million*

*Options on issue:*

*92 million*

#### **Corporate Directory**

**Paul Boyatzis**

*Non-Executive Chairman*

**Bruce Maluish**

*Managing Director*

**Peter Pawlowitsch**

*Non-Executive Director*

**David Welch**

*Non-Executive Director*

**Ian Hobson**

*Company Secretary*

#### **Silica Sand Projects**

**Arrowsmith Silica Sand Projects**, 270km north of Perth, WA.

**Muchea Silica Sand Project**, 50km north of Perth, WA.

**Boyatup Silica Sand Project**, 100km east of Esperance, WA.

#### **Geothermal Energy**

**Dandaragan Geothermal Energy Permit**, 145km north of Perth, WA

*The Company is actively assessing other silica sand and downstream processing projects in Australia.*

The OAC has confirmed to VRX that its investigation into the appeal has completed and the OAC has provided its report to the Minister for Environment. The Minister will now make a determination on whether or not to approve the Proposal under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* in the light of the EPA's assessment report recommending the Proposal may be implemented and the OAC's report on the appeal.

There is no statutory timeframe for the Minister for Environment to make this determination, however the Company expects this to be undertaken in the coming weeks.

Arrowsmith North has the potential to support a new, long-term industry for Western Australia with substantial benefits to the State and Mid West region including long-term direct and indirect employment opportunities and royalties. The Proposal has considerable support from a range of stakeholders, including local indigenous groups, local shires, the Mid West Development Commission, the Mid West Chamber of Commerce & Industry and State and Federal Governments. It boasts robust economic metrics for the supply of multiple silica sand products for a growing Asian market.

This announcement has been approved for release by the Managing Director.

**Further information:**

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## About VRX Silica Limited

**VRX Silica Limited (ASX: VRX)** is the most advanced pureplay silica sand company listed on the ASX, developing its 100% owned silica sand projects at Arrowsmith (North, Brand and Central), Muchea and Boyatup in Western Australia.

Silica sand is the most used commodity on the planet after air and water. It is the main ingredient in all types of glassmaking, including specialty solar panel and high-tech glass and foundry casting. It is a finite resource that is running out, with the Asia-Pacific region experiencing an ever-growing supply shortfall that is driving up prices.

Arrowsmith is located 270km north of Perth. Arrowsmith North boasts a minimum 25-year mine life capable of producing more than 2Mt tonnes per year of high-grade (99.7% SiO<sub>2</sub>)\* silica sand for export to the foundry, container glass and flat glass markets in Asia, with permitting well advanced, and will lead production.

Muchea, located 50km north of Perth, is an ultra-high-grade (99.9% SiO<sub>2</sub>)\* silica sand project capable of producing sand required for ultra-clear glass for solar panels and other high-tech glass applications.

Boyatup, located 100km east of Esperance, is under development and capable of producing sand for the glass market.



\*Information relating to grades are extracted from releases to ASX on 28 August 2019, 11 November 2022 and 6 March 2024 (Arrowsmith North) and 18 October 2019 (Muchea). The company is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects this information.