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Koppamurra Project achieves regulatory milestone

Highlights:

- South Australia's Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) publishes scoping report for the Koppamurra Project, **streamlining the approvals process**:
 - Outlines the required **environmental, social, and technical** studies prior to a Mining Lease application.
 - **Minimises the risk of delays** or unexpected costs later in the approvals process.
 - **Defines a clear scope of assessment** across groundwater, surface water, soils, vegetation, heritage, air quality, rehabilitation, and community engagement.
 - Establishes a **project specific framework** for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).
 - Reduces duplication, **improving certainty** around **timeframes and expectations**.
- The Koppamurra Scoping Report is **available on the DEM website** ([link](#))
- **Next step**: AR3 advances into the ESIA phase ahead of a Mining Lease application in 2026.
- Engage with this announcement at the [AR3 investor hub](#).

AR3 Managing Director and CEO, Travis Beinke, said:

"The publication of Koppamurra's scoping report by the Department of Energy and Mining marks a significant and structured step forward for the project. It provides clarity to the technical studies now underway and ensures that environmental performance, community expectations and land use coexistence remain central to the project's development.

This voluntary step in the South Australian approvals process is expected to minimise the risk of delays later in the approvals process after extensive engagement with stakeholders and key government agencies during scoping.

We believe Koppamurra has the potential to become a strategically important, global supplier of light and heavy rare earth elements, and today's milestone strengthens the project's pathway toward that outcome."

Australian Rare Earths Limited (ASX: AR3) is pleased to advise that the South Australian Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) has published the final scoping report for AR3's Koppamurra Project.

The scoping report confirms that the project's early work aligns with the State's regulatory frameworks and outlines the environmental, social, and technical studies required prior to submitting a Mining Lease proposal. It defines the scope of assessment across key areas including

groundwater, surface water, soils, vegetation, heritage, air quality, rehabilitation, and community engagement, and provides the foundation for a transparent and comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).

While the report does not constitute mining approval, it is a critical step in the approvals pathway and strengthens the project's structure, certainty, and transparency.

In line with AR3's commitment to early engagement and best practice project development, the Company voluntarily undertook the scoping process. By doing so, AR3 has ensured that government agencies, technical specialists, local communities, and stakeholders are aligned on the studies required before the Mining Lease application is lodged. A copy of the Scoping Report is available on the Department for Energy and Mining's website [The Koppamurra Project | Energy & Mining](#).

Why the Scoping Report Matters

A clearer pathway forward:

Scoping formally establishes the work program for the ESIA, reducing duplication, improving schedule predictability, and lowering the risk of unforeseen requirements emerging later in the approvals process.

Stronger environmental and social safeguards:

By defining the scope early, environmental and community considerations, such as groundwater protection, dust, noise, and rehabilitation, are embedded into the project design and assessment process from the outset.

Greater transparency and early community involvement:

Scoping brings all relevant government agencies into the process early and provides communities with a clear view of what will be assessed, how, and when. This creates a more predictable, inclusive, and transparent approvals pathway.

Next steps

AR3 has a structured program of work underway to support a Mining Lease application. The Scoping Report confirms the studies required for the Mining Lease proposal, which AR3 intends to submit in 2026. Completion of the Koppamurra Pre-Feasibility Study in early 2026 will complement the approvals work including detailed technical assessments and ongoing stakeholder consultation.

Together these activities position Koppamurra as one of the most advanced ionic clay rare earth projects in Australia and support its potential to become a reliable, long-term supplier of critical minerals to global markets.

The announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Australian Rare Earths Limited.

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Engage and Contribute at the AR3 investor hub: <https://investorhub.ar3.com.au>

About Australian Rare Earths Limited

Australian Rare Earths (AR3) is a diversified critical minerals company, strategically positioned to meet the growing global demand for uranium and rare earth elements:

- *AR3's Koppamurra Rare Earths Project in South Australia and Victoria is a significant deposit of light and heavy rare earths, which has secured important Australian government support through a \$5 million grant to accelerate development. With support from global advanced industrial materials manufacturer, Neo Performance Materials, AR3 is progressing toward a Pre-Feasibility Study and a demonstration facility, solidifying its role in diversifying global rare earth supply chains for the clean energy transition.*
- *AR3's large ~8,000 km² Overland Uranium Project in South Australia shows strong uranium discovery potential, with initial drilling identifying opportunities for substantial near-surface and deeper deposits.*

With strategic projects and strong government support, AR3 is poised for significant growth in the critical minerals market.