

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



2 January 2026

## **AUSTRAL DEFIES RECORD WEATHER EVENT DELIVERS ABOVE-BUDGET Q4 COPPER OUTPUT AMID ADVERSE CONDITIONS**

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### **Highlights:**

- All personnel are safe and accounted for despite the adverse weather conditions
  - Austral's pre-wet season mitigation strategies continue to prove the Company's resilience in adverse weather
  - Copper production for December exceeded 910 tonnes, marking the highest Cu production since the Company's restructure in 2023
  - Q4 copper production exceeded budget and the published guidance of 2,610t vs actual Q4 Production of 2,643t
  - No environmental non-compliances recorded during the rainfall event
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Copper producer Austral Resources Australia Ltd (**ASX:ARI**) (**Austral** or the **Company**) is pleased to provide an operational update following the extreme weather events recently encountered in the NW Queensland region.

Austral offers its condolences to those in the community who have suffered loss as a result of these extreme weather conditions and is committed to assisting the local community as and when required in the region's recovery efforts.

Austral's pre-wet season management strategy, which is implemented annually from 1 July each year, has mitigated Austral's exposure to, and operational disruption from, the current weather events occurring in NW Queensland.

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



## Safety and Personnel

All Austral employees and contractors are safe, accounted for and have sufficient supplies to enable them to continue working and living at the Company's two operational bases, Lady Annie and Rocklands.

## Operational Update

### *Lady Annie Operations*

The Lady Annie operation remained in full production and was uninterrupted, from a processing perspective, to deliver above budget Copper production during recent wet-season rainfall events affecting Northwest Queensland.

The Company's long-established pre-wet season preparation and water-management strategy enabled operations to continue without material disruption, despite December rainfall exceeding 415mm. Preparatory works undertaken prior to the onset of the wet season ensured infrastructure was fully available, providing the capacity required to safely manage increased rainfall volumes throughout the period.

While wet-season conditions necessitated short-duration, precautionary pauses to mining and haulage activities during periods of unsafe operating conditions, processing operations remained stable and productive throughout the rainfall event.

### *Rocklands*

Access to Rocklands is currently unavailable due to flooding at Butchers Creek (refer figure 1). Access is expected to be restored later this week.



*Figure 1: Flooding at Butchers Creek.*

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



Site personnel are conducting inspections and refuelling of pumps as required around the process pond, environmental pond, and northern catchment areas. Access to the tailings storage facility is currently boggy, and a risk assessment is completed prior to any entry into the area.

Morris Creek has reached capacity and is diverting through the diversion around the processing area (refer figure 2).



*Figure 2: Flooding diversion at Morris Creek.*

Site supplies are currently holding at around 22 days of operations.

## Production Update

During the rainfall period, the Mt Kelly processing facility continued to operate consistently, with stable flows and controlled operating conditions maintained throughout, despite wet-season impacts across the wider region.

Operational decisions were guided by a strong focus on personnel safety, environmental compliance, and asset integrity. Mining and haulage activities were managed dynamically in response to site conditions, allowing production to continue while maintaining safe and compliant operations.

Q4 PERFORMANCE	GUIDANCE NOTE	ACTUAL PRODUCTION
<b>Total Cu Produced</b>	2,610t	2,643t

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



Austral will provide further operational updates as part of its quarterly report which will be published 27 January 2026.

**Austral's Chairman, David Newling commented:**

*"Firstly, I want to acknowledge our incredible management and staff who have ensured our people and assets are protected and safeguarded during these extreme weather events. You rarely get validated for risk mitigation measures, but our operational results prove that our systems and resilience is world-class, and we continue to go from strength to strength with our revised strategy.*

*I'm sure that whilst our operational results were a strong way to close out 2025, there is a bigger and better 2026 for Australia's next mid-tier copper production powerhouse."*

**Austral's Chief Operating Officer, Shane O'Connell, commented:**

*"I want to recognise the leadership of our General Managers and the commitment of our site-based teams, whose preparation and execution during the recent rain event were exceptional. Their disciplined approach ensured the operation remained safe, protected critical assets and maintained operational integrity under challenging wet-season conditions.*

*The operation has endured multiple natural disaster events over the last few years, and in each instance, we have proactively identified and mitigated our exposures through robust systems, planning and on-site capability. These outcomes are the result of sustained investment in people and risk management, not circumstance.*

*The performance delivered through this event reinforces our confidence in the operation and provides a strong platform as we enter 2026, with the site's well positioned to deliver reliable and consistent outcomes despite adverse conditions."*



# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



This announcement is authorised for market release by the Board of Directors.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

### Austral Resources Australia

#### David Newling

Chairman

Level 9, 60 Edward Street

Brisbane City QLD 4000

P: +61 7 3520 2500

### Investor Relations

#### Jane Morgan Management

Jane Morgan

P: +61 405 555 618

E: [jm@janemorganmanagement.com.au](mailto:jm@janemorganmanagement.com.au)

## About Austral Resources

Austral Resources Australia Ltd is an ASX listed copper cathode producer operating in the Mt Isa region, Queensland, Australia. Its Mt Kelly copper oxide heap leach and solvent extraction electrowinning (SX-EW) plant has a nameplate capacity of 30,000tpa of copper cathode. The recent acquisition of the Rocklands Facility enables the dual processing capabilities for copper sulphides and copper oxides, as well as an increased exposure to gold.

Austral has recently embarked on an aggressive growth and consolidation strategy across the World Class Mount Isa Region, which includes the Rocklands Deposit. Austral now owns a significant copper inventory with a JORC compliant Mineral Resource Estimate standing at 64 Mt @ 0.73% Cu (468 414t of contained copper) (comprising of 52.8Mt @ 0.74% Cu at the Lady Annie Project – 8.8Mt at 0.75% Cu Measured MRE, 33.0Mt at 0.76% Cu Indicated MRE and 11.0Mt at 0.69% Cu Inferred MRE and 11.26Mt at 0.69% Cu at the Rocklands Project – 9.12Mt at 0.72% Cu Indicated MRE and 2.14Mt at 0.55% Cu Inferred MRE), two processing facilities, as well as 2,101km<sup>2</sup> of highly prospective exploration tenure in the heart of the Mt Isa district, a world class copper and base metals province. The Company intends to implement an intensive exploration and development programme designed to extend the life of mine, increase its resource base and continually review options to commercialise its copper resources.

Detailed information that relates to Ore Reserves and Mineral Resource Estimates is provided in Austral Resources Prospectus, Section 7, Independent Technical Assessment Report. This document is available on Austral's website: [www.australres.com](http://www.australres.com) and on the ASX released as "Austral Resources Prospectus" on 4 September 2025, the Company's Annual Report for 2025 which is listed as "Austral Resources Annual Report to Shareholders and "Acquisition of Rocklands to Transform Austral" on 3 July 2025. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the exploration results and estimates of Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves as cross-referenced in this release and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates and forecast financial information derived from the production target continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original announcements.