Arafura Resources Ltd is proposing to develop the Nolans Rare Earths Project (Nolans Project) located approximately 135 km north-west of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. The mine is 10 km west of the all-weather and bituminized Stuart Highway that links Darwin to Alice Springs and South Australia while the Amadeus Gas Pipeline runs alongside the site of the process plant. The Adelaide to Darwin rail line (AustralAsia Railway) passes through Alice Springs and 60 km to the east of the project.

The Nolans Project will comprise a mine and process plant producing highly refined rare earth products and fertilizer grade phosphoric acid for sale. At steady state, the project will produce around 13,340 tonnes per annum of rare earth products, including 4,360 tonnes per annum of the key magnet-feed neodymium (Nd) – praseodymium (Pr) product (NdPr oxide), earning export revenue of around $520 million per annum.

Direct economic contribution

- A peak workforce of 623 FTE* employees and contractors during construction
- An average of 278 FTE employees in each year during steady state production of which 75 are expected to be sourced from the Northern Territory

- $1.01 bn of capital expenditure over three years of construction as well as ongoing sustaining capital expenditure
- $225 m average annual operation expenditure per annum in each of the 23 years of operation
- Local content spending of 20% in construction and 45% in operation in the Northern Territory
- Production of 286,000 t of rare earth products including 94,000 t of NdPr oxide over the life of the project
- $2.3 bn of taxes and royalties paid by the project to Northern Territory and Australian governments over the life of the project

* FTE = Full time equivalent. One FTE is the equivalent of one person working for one year on a full time basis.

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An average contribution of $328 m each year to the Gross Regional Product of the Alice Springs region.

An average increase of $344 m each year to the real incomes of all Australians.

An annual average of $173 m to total taxation revenue in Australia which benefits all Australians.

47% increase to the contribution made by the mining industry**

$13 m each year to people living in the Northern Territory.

53% is directly paid by the Nolans Project.