

ASX Announcement 21 December 2017

Gulf to undertake due diligence on high-grade Timorese manganese mine

Highlights:

- Intention to underpin high-quality ore supply for the Kupang Smelting Hub
- Gulf to perform due diligence on the mine leading to potential acquisition
- The mining concession covers 1007 hectares in North Central Timor, East Nusa **Tenggara Province**

Gulf Manganese Corporation Limited (ASX: GMC) ("Gulf" or "the Company") is pleased to advise that it has commenced due diligence on a previously operating manganese mine in Timor East Nusa Tenggara.

The mine has a Production Operation Mining Business License issued in respect to the mining concession which comprises 1007 hectares in North Central Timor, East Nusa Tenggara Province. The concession is certified Clean & Clear, confirming that ownership and other legalities have been verified by the Government and that the production of manganese ore is approved.

As with almost all manganese mines in Indonesia, the mine has been dormant since the introduction of the bans on the export of un-processed ore from Indonesia since 2013. Prior production from the mine was reportedly with high grade manganese ore. However, again as with almost all manganese mines in Indonesia there is currently no JORC compliant resource statement.

Gulf will exclusively conduct due diligence on the concession up to 30 April 2018.

Should the due diligence confirm the value of the acquisition to Gulf, it would be the intention of the Company to purchase the mine. The potential acquisition would support the secure supply of highgrade manganese ore for the Kupang Smelting Hub.













Gulf's Managing Director, Hamish Bohannan, commented:

"This further underpins the development of the Manganese Smelting Hub in Kupang. Our geology team has been building relationships with a number of manganese mining and exploration companies, and have identified and progressed a number of significant opportunites for ore supply. This is a significant step in establishing Gulf as an emerging high-grade manganese alloy producer.

Establishing these initial supply channels further validates our operational team's ability to successfully negotiate these contracts with local parties, and demonstrates Gulf's resolve to develop an Indonesian premium ferro manganese industry."

-ENDS-

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About Gulf Manganese Corporation (ASX: GMC):

Gulf's strategy is to develop an ASEAN focused manganese alloy business based in Kupang, West Timor, taking advantage of the low operational and ore costs, combined with modest power costs. Targeted production will be a premium quality 78% ferromanganese alloy resulting from the unique qualities of the Indonesian high grade (greater than 50%) low impurity manganese ore.