



MEDIA RELEASE

ERNEST HENRY MINING COMMITS ADDITIONAL \$2 MILLION TOWARDS CLONCURRY COMMUNITY PRECINCT

Cloncurry, 14 December 2011

Ernest Henry Mining is pleased to announce it will contribute an additional \$2 million towards the construction of the \$8 million Cloncurry Community Precinct, making it the project's largest financial supporter.

The Cloncurry Community Precinct is a major social infrastructure project incorporating a library, art gallery, function rooms, amenities and communal outdoor space and including the refurbishment of the historical Cloncurry Shire Hall.

Ernest Henry Mining General Manager, Myles Johnston, said it was exciting to work with Cloncurry Shire Council to deliver such an important social infrastructure project for Cloncurry.

"The Cloncurry Community Precinct will create a state of the art facility for our local community and we are extremely proud to be the largest financial supporter of the project," Mr Johnston said.

"We provided \$750,000 towards the precinct in 2010 under the Xstrata Community Program North Queensland however we wanted to invest more through this program to ensure all of the features suggested during the project's consultation and design phases could be incorporated during construction.

"We recently announced our transition from open pit mining to underground mining and magnetite processing, marking the beginning of our extended future to 2024 and our ongoing presence in the Cloncurry community.

"Our total \$2.75 million contribution towards the Cloncurry Community Precinct reaffirms our commitment to supporting growth and development in Cloncurry for the benefit of current and future generations."

Cloncurry Shire Mayor, Andrew Daniels, said the Cloncurry Community Precinct will benefit the entire community.

"Ernest Henry Mining will be remembered for a long time for its contribution towards this project," he said.

“The Cloncurry Community Precinct will create a central hub for our town, opening up new opportunities for more events and functions to be held in Cloncurry.”

“We are extremely grateful for the funding Ernest Henry Mining has provided and look forward to delivering the project on time and on budget for the Cloncurry community to enjoy.”

Construction works commenced in October 2011 and the Cloncurry Community Precinct is expected to open in June 2012.

Ends

Neither the content of the company's website nor the content of any other website accessible from hyperlinks on the company's website is incorporated into, or forms part of, this announcement

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Notes to editors

ABOUT XSTRATA PLC

Xstrata is a global diversified mining group, listed on the London and Swiss Stock Exchanges. Headquartered in Zug, Switzerland, Xstrata maintains a meaningful position in seven major international commodity markets: copper, coking coal, thermal coal, ferrochrome, nickel, vanadium and zinc with additional exposure to gold, cobalt, lead and silver. The Xstrata Group also comprises a growing platinum group metals business, iron ore projects, recycling facilities and a suite of global technology products, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 20 countries.

ABOUT XSTRATA COPPER

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with attributable mined production in 2010 of 913,500 tonnes of copper in cathodes and concentrates. The company is also one of the world's largest producers of smelter and refined copper, including from third party materials.

Headquartered in Brisbane, Xstrata Copper is one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc. Its mining and metallurgical operations and development projects span eight countries: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Peru, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and the USA. Its operations and projects are administered through a regional divisional management structure, which ensures that critical decisions are taken close to the related businesses. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.