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GME commences Niwest Nickel Laterite project feasibility

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Specialist metallurgical consultants appointed to undertake plant design as part of the Feasibility Study for expanded 3.5-4.5Mtpa heap leach project over 20 years at the Niwest Nickel Laterite Project.
- Phase two of the process plant design - to follow immediately after phase one - will include detailed plant layout and design and operating parameters.

GME Resources Ltd (ASX: GME - "GME" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that it has appointed Simulus Pty Ltd (Simulus) to undertake the first phase of the Process Plant Design for the Feasibility Study for its 100%-owned Niwest Nickel Laterite Project in Western Australia. The Feasibility Study is based on an expanded 30-35,000 tonne production profile.

GME recently announced that it had undertaken a strategic review of its project resulting in the recommendation that the project scale be significantly increased following the positive outcome of the Pre-Feasibility Study, ongoing test work, a major resource review and general industry acceptance of heap leaching as a preferred technical and economic treatment route for laterite nickel ores.

Simulus is a Perth based process engineering company, which specialises in metallurgical consulting, focusing on the fields of hydrometallurgy and nickel processing. Their expertise in mineral processing, modelling and design coupled with nickel process and heap leach experience underpinned GME's decision to select Simulus as preferred plant designers for the NiWest Laterite Project Feasibility Study.

The Phase one scope of work includes:

- Review of metallurgical testwork completed to date and make recommendations of further design work required to support the Feasibility Study and detailed design;
- Facilitate and supervise further testwork in conjunction with GME;
- Review and finalise downstream process flowsheet options for incorporation into the Feasibility Study to be the basis of phase two;
- Complete preliminary process design criteria for each option;
- Complete preliminary process flow diagrams for each option;
- Complete preliminary mass and energy balance on each options;
- Recommend the optimum process flowsheet for incorporation into the Feasibility Study.

This work will form the basis of detailed heap leach and plant design work for estimation of capital and operating costs in conjunction with the project engineering group. The selection process for the appropriate engineering group is currently underway.

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Managing Director David Varcoe said, "We are very pleased to have gained the expertise of Simulus for our Niwest Nickel Laterite Project and this engagement represents another significant step in the process of getting the Niwest project through feasibility and into construction. Award of metallurgical design work to a specialist metallurgical group is a concept which significantly broadens the range of engineers able to be considered for the Project in the current tight market".