

24 February 2016

Anova Progressing to Production - Permitting in Final Stages

- **Draft Water Pollution Control Permit issued**
- **Key permits expected to be approved in April 2016**
- **Final Plan of Operations lodged with USFS**
- **Anova progressing towards completion of permitting during June 2016 quarter**
- **Decision to commence mining immediately upon granting of all permits and approvals**

Anova Metals Limited (ASX:AWV) (“Anova”) is pleased to provide an update on the status of mine permitting for the Big Springs Gold Project (the “Project”).

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (“NDEP”) has issued a draft Water Pollution Control Permit for the Project and the Notice of Proposed Action was advertised on 23 February 2016. Receipt of the draft Water Pollution Control Permit (“Permit”) marks a major technical and regulatory milestone for the project. Anova is progressing towards completion of permitting for the Project during the second quarter of 2016. The status of key project approvals is summarised below.

Water Pollution Control Permit

The Nevada State Water Pollution Control Permit Application was initially submitted in January 2015. Following review by NDEP, a request for further design documentation and detail, as well as supplementary test work was received. Anova subsequently completed detailed engineering design of the project and a revised permit application was submitted in late November 2015.

Anova has now received the draft Water Pollution Control Permit. The Notice of Proposed Action was advertised by NDEP in a local newspaper on 23 February 2016 and the Public Comment Period will close on 24 March 2016. Following the Public Comment Period, NDEP has 15 days to make its final decision regarding the issuance of the Permit. If there are no appeals to the terms and conditions in the Permit, the Permit will become effective in April 2016.

The statutory timeframe for assessment and issue of a Water Pollution Control Permit is as follows:

Task	Days	Status
Administrative Review	30	Completed
Technical Review, Draft Permit, Fact Sheet	90	Completed
Public Notice/Comment Period	30	Commenced 23 Feb 2016
Notice of Decision	15	
Appeal Period for Notice of Decision	15	
Receipt of Final Permit		Expected April 2016

Plan of Operations & Environmental Assessment

The Plan of Operations is the key planning document required by the US Forest Service (“USFS”) for projects on Forest Service administered lands. The Plan of Operations provides extensive detail on the proposed project, how it will be operated, its potential impact on the environment and the plan for closure and reclamation. The Plan of Operations is effectively a referral document for assessment of a project through the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) process. USFS published a Notice of Proposed Action under the NEPA process in October 2014 and limited public comment was received.

An updated Plan of Operations reflecting current engineering design and development plans was submitted to USFS in February 2016.

Preparation of the Environmental Assessment (“EA”) for the project has been progressed in parallel with the finalisation of the detailed project design. The USFS has commenced compilation and review of the EA for the Project. The EA discloses the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts that would result from the proposal and any alternatives. The assessment is expected to be finalised and advertised for a second public comment period as part of a process to be concluded during the second quarter of 2016.

Nevada Reclamation Permit

The Nevada State Reclamation Permit Application reflects the USFS Plan of Operations and includes the Reclamation Cost Estimate (“RCE”). A permit application was submitted in April 2015. Following a request for further information and completion of detailed engineering design, a revised application is being prepared and will be submitted in February. Approval of the Reclamation Permit Application and the RCE is expected in the second quarter of 2016.

The company receipt of the draft Water Pollution Control Permit is an important milestone for the company in its plans for production. With the grant of this permit and the Nevada Reclamation permit expected in April, the company is well placed to make a decision to mine in the second quarter of 2016.

For any further information, please refer to the Company’s website (www.anovametals.com.au) or contact the Company directly on +61 8 6465 5500.