



ASX and Media Release

Confirmation that Peculiar Knob does not lie within core area at Woomera

Western Plains Resources Limited (ASX:WPG) welcomes today's announcement by the Department of Defence that the Company's flagship Peculiar Knob DSO iron ore mine south of Coober Pedy in South Australia does not lie within Defence's core area of operations in the Woomera Prohibited Area.

The full text of the announcement by Defence Minister Faulkner can be obtained at http://www.defence.gov.au/header/documents/WPA_Public_Statement.pdf

Minister Faulkner has also confirmed that the Commonwealth would be examining the future of the WPA with a view to maximising its value to the nation for Defence and economic development for the next 20 to 30 years. The review will be led by Dr Allan Hawke. This review will consult all interested parties and provide its report to Government by the end of 2010.

The Minister's announcement includes a map that shows the boundary of the core area which is similar to the map that has been included in a number of ASX announcements made by the Company since November 2008.

The announcement also sets out interim guidelines that must be met by mining and exploration companies in order for projects lying outside the core area to proceed. These relate largely to levels of foreign investment and foreign influence. WPG is believes it can finance the development of Peculiar Knob within these guidelines.

WPG's Hawks Nest project area lies within the core area and the Company will continue its advocacy aimed at demonstrating that mining and defence activities can coexist even inside the core area. WPG's Hawks Nest and SA Coal's Lake Phillipson projects are large resources within this area which if developed will make a material difference to the living standards of all Australians.

WPG intends to take the decision to commit to project development at Peculiar Knob in H2 2010. Export sales of 62% Fe fines are expected to commence at 2-3 million tonnes per annum in H2 2011.

17 May 2010

For further information please contact WPG's Executive Chairman Bob Duffin on (02) 9247 3232 or 0412 234 684, or Heath Roberts on (02) 9247 1044.



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