

Australian Potash Ltd: Harvest Salts Delivered for First SOP Production

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Perth, Australia - [Australian Potash Ltd.](#) (ASX:APC) (APC or the Company) is pleased to announce that its pilot processing facility in Canning Vale has received 3 tonnes of the final potassium rich harvest salts from the Lake Wells pilot evaporation program.

Highlights:

- 3 tonnes of potassium rich feeder salts delivered to Canning Vale pilot processing plant for production of SOP trade samples through January 2019
- SOP trade sample verification work planned for Q1 2019, after December 2018 meetings held with Chinese MOU off-take partners.
- University of Western Australia's School of Agriculture and Environment has developed a greenhouse research project into the efficacy of APC's Lake Wells SOP on Western Australian soil types to be initiated in Q2 2019
- UWA research program developed in conjunction with field trials testing the effect of SOP versus MOP on yield, quality and soil biology commencing Q2 2019
- Approximately 2.5 tonnes of magnesium chloride rich bitterns retained for road construction trial on the Lake Wells access road through Q1 2019

This milestone marks an essential step for the Company and the sector, as APC is poised to become the first Australian producer of SOP from field evaporated salts.

Managing Director and CEO, Matt Shackleton, commented: "One area of focus for APC's project team over the past 12 months has been to develop and refine the site evaporation model. Understanding the chemistry of the salts that are produced through the natural evaporation cycle is crucial to planning both the commercial scale development and SOP processing strategies.

"We are delighted to reach this important milestone in our development plans. In January 2019, we plan to produce Australia's first field evaporated sulphate of potash, which will be of enormous value to APC and our MOU off-take partners, as we will be able to detail the chemical composition of the SOP we can produce.

"2019 will be an exciting year for APC on several fronts, including the commissioning of a greenhouse SOP-MOP trial managed by the University of Western Australia's world class School of Agriculture and Environment. The trial will also be supported by field trials across at least 5 sites, examining the effect of SOP versus MOP. The robust analysis will also test broad acre crop yields and grain quality across several of the various Western Australian soil types.

"APC has always been focussed on developing an operation that can provide this enormously beneficial fertiliser to the local Western Australian, Australian and south-east Asian markets at a cost that promotes SOP use over MOP. Buyers acknowledge APC's Lake Wells Potash Project's superior logistical advantage concerning rail and port access, local government support and low-risk brine abstraction model, and the likely effect these advantages will have on operating cost.

"Running these research and trial programs through 2019 will allow us to further define the agronomic benefits of APC's Lake Wells SOP, and engage with the end-user farming sector on the cost of supply."

About Australian Potash Ltd:

[Australian Potash Ltd.](#) (ASX:APC) is an ASX-listed Sulphate of Potash (SOP) developer. The Company holds a 100% interest in the Lake Wells Potash Project located approximately 500kms northeast of Kalgoorlie, in Western Australia's Eastern Goldfields.

The Lake Wells Potash Project is a palaeochannel brine hosted sulphate of potash project. Palaeochannel bore fields supply large volumes of brine to many existing mining operations throughout Western Australia, and this technique is a well understood and proven method for extracting brine. APC will use this technically low-risk and commonly used brine extraction model to further develop a bore-field into the palaeochannel hosting the Lake Wells SOP resource.

A Scoping Study on the Lake Wells Potash Project was completed and released on 23 March 2017. The Scoping Study exceeded expectations and confirmed that the Project's economic and technical aspects are all exceptionally strong, and highlights APC's potential to become a significant long-life, low capital and high margin sulphate of potash (SOP) producer.

Source:

[Australian Potash Ltd.](#)

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