

# 2022 Annual Report

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ABN 60 060 525 206



# Corporate Directory

ABN: 60 060 525 206 Incorporated in Australia

# **Non-Executive Directors**

Mr D La Ferla Mr D Hildebrand Mr P Muccilli Mr W Hallam (appointed 1 June 2022)

# **Managing Director & CEO**

Mr P Harold

# **Company Secretary (Joint)**

Ms A Betti Mr B Shalders

# **Registered Office**

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# **Postal Address**

PO Box 190, West Perth WA 6872

# **Auditors to the Company**

#### **KPMG**

Chartered Accountants 235 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000

# **Share Registry**

## **Automic**

Level 2, 267 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000

# **ASX Code**

Shares: POS

# **Country of Incorporation and Domicile**

Australia



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# Chairman and Managing Director's Report



**Derek La Ferla**Non-Executive Chairman

Dear Shareholders,

We are pleased to report on the solid progress made this year on a number of fronts as we move towards the proposed restart of Black Swan to become a nickel producer – all at a time when the nickel price fundamentals outlook, with the backdrop of the new world of energy storage and EV's, is arguably the strongest we have ever seen.

Our dedicated team has delivered the following during the year:

- Advanced the Black Swan Feasibility Study to near finalisation;
- Significant metallurgical breakthrough to improve the Black Swan concentrate saleability with higher nickel and lower MgO grades;
- Maiden Resource for the Golden Swan high-grade discovery;
- · Silver Swan Resource update;
- · Increased the Black Swan Resource;
- Executed an agreement with Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd (Green Gold) on the Windarra/Lancefield gold tailings project;

- Terminated the Windarra State Agreement;
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and continued to advance discussions with Pure Battery Technologies on supplying feed for their proposed pCAM hub in Kalgoorlie;
- Completed the Lake Johnston capital and operating cost estimate restart study;
- Built out the executive team with the addition of Craig Jones (mining) and John Hicks (geology); and
- Strengthened the board's technical capabilities with the appointment of respected director, Warren Hallam.





Peter Harold Managing Director & CEO

The strong performance of the nickel price and the positive price outlook, based on robust demand growth of nickel in electric vehicle batteries is critical to our Fill the Mill Strategy. Primary nickel demand is forecast to grow from 3Mtpa in 2022 to around 5Mtpa by 2030 and a staggering 10Mtpa by 2050.

In our view this should result in the nickel price staying well above US\$20,000 per tonne for the foreseeable future.

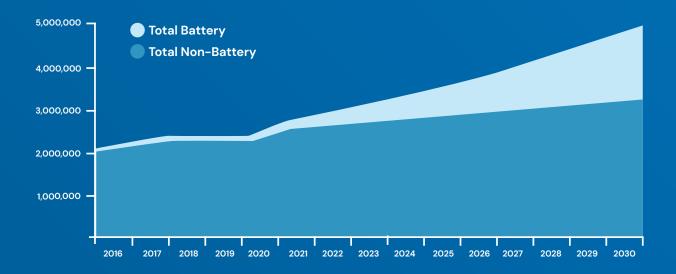


Figure 1: Forecast world demand for nickel to 2030 (Source: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence)

Our primary focus this year has been advancing the Black Swan Feasibility Study and during this process we made a major breakthrough on the metallurgy. The addition of a regrind mill which will utilise the existing Silver Swan mill, increases the nickel grade and reduces the MgO content of the final concentrate. This will make the smelter grade concentrate more attractive to traditional nickel smelters and should lead to optimal nickel payabilities being achieved.

We have also recognised that we could produce a lower grade nickel concentrate (5-7% nickel) with a higher MgO content that should be attractive feed to both high pressure acid leach and pressure oxidation plants. Consequently, we have widened the scope of the Fill the Mill Strategy to include a full feasibility study on the "rougher concentrate option", which would mean recommissioning both the SAG and ball mills at Black Swan and operating at 2.2Mtpa throughput.

This will also allow us to process the talc carbonate ore which is not included in the 1.1Mtpa throughput smelter grade concentrate study and has potential to increase the project life. This study will be completed in the June 2023 quarter and should coincide with the completion of Pure Battery Technologies feasibility study on the 50ktpa pCAM refinery proposed for Kalgoorlie.

We are working closely with Pure Battery Technologies since signing the MoU with them in July 2021, as the Black Swan rougher concentrate would be an ideal base feed for their proposed refinery. The rougher concentrate could also be suitable feed for a pressure oxidation and/or high pressure acid leach plants and we have opened dialogue with a select group in relation to this opportunity.

The 1.1Mtpa smelter grade concentrate study is expected to be delivered during the December 2022 quarter and assuming a decision to proceed is made during 2023 (whether based on a 1.1Mtpa or 2.2Mtpa throughput operation), production of concentrate could commence in early 2024 to take advantage of the strong nickel price environment. The decision on the larger tonnage, rougher concentrate project, will be dependent on the outcome of the feasibility study and discussion with potential customers for that product.

While our primary focus remains on the restart of Black Swan, we are advancing our other projects. At Lake Johnston we have significant infrastructure including a 1.5Mtpa concentrator and the Maggie Hays orebody which contains 52,000 tonnes of nickel. Our geological consultants, Newexco, completed a comprehensive geological review of the Lake Johnston tenements during the year which has confirmed there are numerous targets that could generate more komatiite style orebodies and there is even the possibility of finding an intrusive orebody like Nova-Bollinger. We have planned a 15,000 metre RC drilling program which is expected to commence in early 2023.

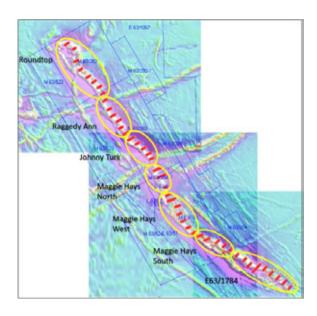


Figure 2: Lake Johnston – Proposed drill targets on the Western Ultramafic

At Windarra, 25 kilometres west of Laverton, we have a significant resource base of approximately 150,000 tonnes of nickel. We are studying the economics of mining ore from Mt Windarra and trucking it to Black Swan. In addition, we continue to rate Windarra highly in our portfolio in terms of exploration potential and intend to do more exploration there in the future.

We also achieved another significant milestone during the year with the signing of the heads of agreement with Green Gold on the Windarra/ Lancefield gold tailings project. Green Gold will investigate whether their proprietary gold extraction technology is amenable to the gold



tailings at Windarra/Lancefield and, if so, Green Gold will then undertake a Feasibility Study. Should Green Gold decide to proceed to development of the project Poseidon will be able to participate through an 8% free carried interest. This will allow us to get a return on the gold resources while our focus remains on the development of our nickel projects.

Our ultimate goal is to be mining ore from Black Swan, Lake Johnston and Windarra and processing these ores through our mills at Black Swan and Lake Johnston to produce nickel in concentrate.

We are excited about the future of Poseidon and see a clear pathway to nickel production. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow board members for their guidance and all our dedicated staff and consultants, for their efforts in moving our projects towards production.

As always, thank you to all our loyal shareholders for your ongoing support.



Derek la Ferla

Chairman

October 2022



**Peter Harold** 

Managing Director & CEO

# Strategy - Fill The Mill

The Company's board and management remain committed to building Poseidon into a sustainable nickel producer delivering value through performance and growth. The commencement of mining and processing at Black Swan is viewed as a first step in the Company's "Fill the Mill" strategy and growing the business to a 15ktpa plus nickel producer over the next 5–10 years.

Poseidon owns three significant nickel assets with a combined resource of close to 400kt of nickel and processing capacity of up to 3.7Mtpa of ore to produce nickel concentrate.

The Company's business strategy remains focussed on leveraging its existing asset base to grow Poseidon into a significant nickel producer over a period of expected significant growth in nickel demand largely driven by growth in the electric vehicle market.

Poseidon's strategic pillars, summarised in the Company's strategy framework on the following page, are developing a pathway to production, targeted exploration across its nickel asset portfolio and considering proximal business development opportunities. The key enablers for the Company's strategy to be successfully executed are ensuring key capabilities are resourced and the business is sufficiently funded for growth underpinned by a strong ESG framework.



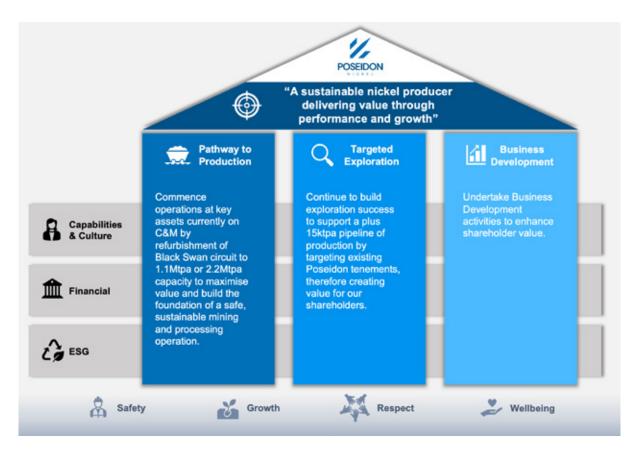


Figure 3: Poseidon Business Strategy

The Company's pathway to production was significantly progressed during FY22 with two metallurgical breakthroughs which could significantly improve the economics of the Black Swan project. The first involves incorporating a rougher concentrate regrind into its process flowsheet to significantly improve the quality of the smelter grade concentrate, which is expected to result in improved nickel payability. The second was testwork on a combined serpentinite and talc carbonate ore blend to produce a rougher concentrate which is amenable to both pressure oxidation and high-pressure acid leach to produce a mixed hydroxide precipitate.

With the assistance of Poseidon's geological consultants, Newexco, the Company completed an exploration targeting report for Lake Johnston during FY22, with follow up reports for Black Swan and Windarra to be delivered in FY23.

The Lake Johnston report identified the Western Ultramafic Unit as a priority, with a program of works approved to undertake 15,000 metres of RC drilling which is planned for FY23.

The Company's business development efforts over FY22 focused on delivering value from the Windarra/Lancefield gold tailings project. Partnering with Green Gold and determining whether their proprietary gold recovery technology is suitable for Windarra/Lancefield is considered the optimal path to unlocking value from this project.

# Operations & **Project Studies**

# **Black Swan Nickel Project**

The Company continues to progress towards a commencement of mining and processing operations at Black Swan given the positive outlook for nickel. Advancements were made with the updating of three separate mineral resources, ongoing metallurgical testwork programs to support the upcoming feasibility studies and pre-production works, particularly in the underground mine.

# **Operational Activities**

The Black Swan project team continued to operate the mine under a care and maintenance strategy. Additional development and ground rehabilitation activities were completed safely, on time and under budget. These works provided a safe environment with underground platforms to undertake infill drilling of both the Black Swan and the Silver Swan Resources as well as the Golden Swan drill program. This drilling resulted in the Golden Swan Maiden Resource being released in November 2021, the updated Silver Swan Resource in April 2022 and the Black Swan Resource update in July 2022.

Additional activities included the ongoing maintenance of both the ventilation and escapeways systems as well as the electrical infrastructure required to support the mine.

Infrastructure has been installed to dewater the Black Swan open pit, including sprinkler systems to aid evaporation.

At current rates, the pit is expected to be dewatered during the December quarter 2022. Pit dewatering will allow access to the pit floor so further resource drilling can be undertaken to convert more Inferred Resources to Indicated classification, which is a key pre-requisite for maximising the Ore Reserve.

No surface drilling activities took place at the project throughout the year, however ongoing monitoring and reporting activities were completed, in line with regulatory requirements.

There were no lost time injuries (LTI's) or any other reportable incidents that occurred during the year at Black Swan.

### Golden Swan Resource

The successful completion of the Golden Swan resource drilling program in late July 2021, resulted in the Maiden Resource being released in November 2021 for the newly discovered mineralised zone. The total Indicated and Inferred Resource at Golden Swan is 160,000 tonnes at 3.9% nickel for 6,250 tonnes contained nickel.

Mine planning constraints were applied to the resource to obtain an indicative mining schedule based upon the input assumptions used at the time. The Golden Swan mine was designed with the decline located within the felsic volcanic footwall unit as recommended by the geotechnical consultant.

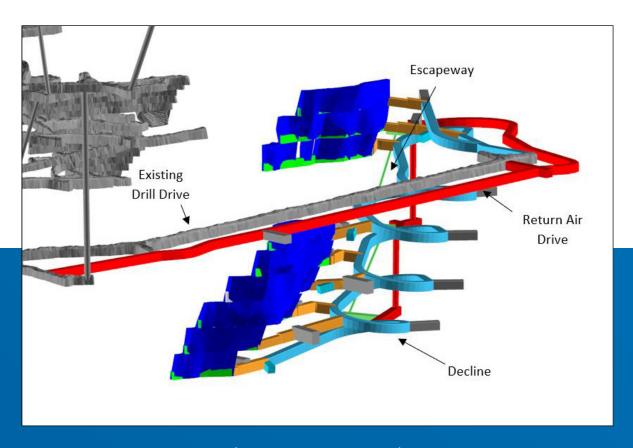


Figure 4: Golden Swan Mine Design (Isometric View Looking NW)

Preliminary metallurgical testwork undertaken on Golden Swan material has shown positive results, indicating the mineralised zone is highly amenable to conventional sulphide flotation techniques. The tests yielded high nickel recoveries with saleable nickel grade concentrate quality together with a high Fe:MgO ratio, low impurities, and low levels of arsenic in the concentrate.

The resultant mining schedule and extraction sequence along with positive testwork completed to date, allows for potential inclusion of the Golden Swan Resource as a part of the overall "Fill the Mill" strategy and associated Feasibility Study, which is nearing completion.

# Silver Swan Resource

The successful completion of the Silver Swan infill resource drilling program in late January 2022, resulted in the updated Resource being released in April 2022. Total Indicated and Inferred Resource at Silver Swan is now 146,000 tonnes at 8.8% nickel for 12,940 tonnes nickel contained, applying a 1.0% nickel cut-off grade (COG).

Following the release of the April 2022 Resource, the mine plan and schedule were updated. A review of the mine economic considerations was completed with a request for quotation (RFQ) from various mining contractors operating in the Western Australian industry with relevant experience. The updated mine plans are being incorporated into the Feasibility Studies under various operating scenarios.

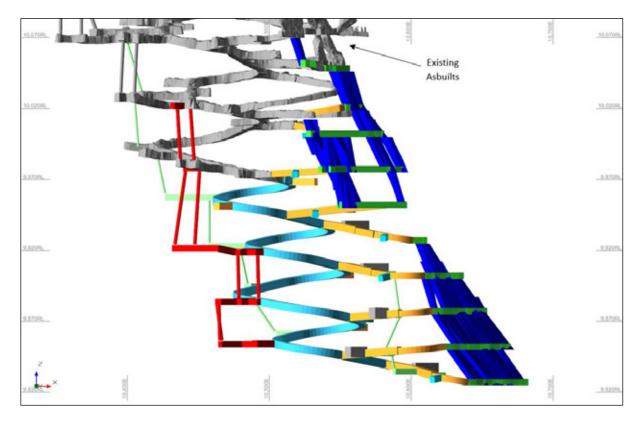


Figure 5: Silver Swan Cross-Section (Looking North)

#### **Black Swan Resource**

The successful completion of the Black Swan infill resource drilling program in late April 2022, resulted in the updated Resource being released in July 2022 with total Measured, Indicated and Inferred Resources of 28.9Mt at 0.63% nickel containing 181kt nickel at a 0.4% nickel COG.

Mining studies were updated to optimise the extraction of the serpentinite resource for the 1.1Mtpa Feasibility Study option along with the potential larger scale 2.2Mtpa option based on mining both the serpentinite and talc carbonate ore within the resource.

The 1.1Mtpa case is being prepared for inclusion in the Feasibility Study to create a suitable smelter grade concentrate. An updated RFQ has been completed to better align the optimisations with current market and labour conditions.

### **Black Swan Feasibility Study**

During FY22 the Company made significant progress on the Black Swan Feasibility Study. After completing the Black Swan Engineering Study in October 2021, a feasibility study based on a 1.1Mtpa throughput to produce smelter grade concentrate commenced.

Successful metallurgical testwork demonstrated the Company could combine both serpentinite and talc carbonate ores to produce a rougher concentrate amenable to a hydrometallurgical treatment path (i.e., pressure oxidation (POX) or High-Pressure Acid Leach (HPAL)). Studies have now commenced on a 2.2Mtpa ore throughput option to produce rougher concentrate.

In October 2021 GR Engineering Services (GRES) was commissioned to undertake a Feasibility Study to evaluate the capital and operating costs (to +/-15% accuracy) to refurbish and operate the Black Swan concentrator at a derated ore throughput of 1.1Mtpa. The throughput was de-rated based on the anticipated tonnage of the serpentinite ore-type available to be mined and processed. The de-rated throughput also recognised the Feasibility Study was targeting a mine-life of circa five years.

Immediately prior to the shutdown of Black Swan in 2009, a period during which operations were processing only the serpentinite disseminated ore, the project produced concentrate with an MgO content of around 15% which is not preferred for most conventional nickel smelters. With that knowledge, when the Company commenced the Feasibility Study process a key focus was to ensure viability of the project by producing a saleable smelter grade concentrate when processing serpentinite ore from the disseminated Black Swan resource.

In August 2021, a review of results from flotation testwork conducted in 2018 on Silver Swan tailings indicated that approximately 50% of the nickel and cobalt could be recovered to a rougher flotation concentrate. Importantly, with an excellent Fe:MgO ratio of greater than 10:1. The results supported the concept to 'co-process' a small proportion of the Silver Swan tailings with the Black Swan disseminated (BSD) serpentinite ore to improve the final concentrate Fe:MgO ratio, ultimately improving the marketability of the concentrate.

In September 2021, a Maiden Measured Resource of 675,000 tonnes of tailings grading 0.92% nickel and 683 ppm cobalt containing 6,200 tonnes of nickel and 450 tonnes of cobalt was announced for the Silver Swan tailings. The resource is located immediately adjacent to the Black Swan concentrator. The Silver Swan tailings is being considered in production planning scenarios for the Feasibility Study.

In October 2021, ALS Metallurgy was commissioned to complete a metallurgical testwork program using representative samples collected from the Silver Swan Tailings Storage Facility. The testwork was designed to verify the positive results obtained in the 2018 testwork and specifically assess the response of the tailings when floated as a minor blend with the

serpentinite ore. This testwork program was completed in January 2022. The results were positive, confirming that the final concentrate Fe:MgO ratio could be improved to above the rejection limits normally imposed by smelters (i.e., 3:1), with only a minor proportion of the tailings incorporated in the feed blend, while also recovering appreciable quantities of nickel and cobalt from the tailings.

Based on the positive outcomes blending the Silver Swan tailings with serpentinite ore, the focus of the Feasibility Study is to blend the lower grade BSD serpentinite ore with a minor proportion of the Silver Swan tailings and also incorporating small quantities of the high-grade Silver Swan and Golden Swan ores, as those ores became available in the mine plan. This blending approach improves the Fe:MgO ratio of the concentrate, improving the overall project economics.

Historical production through the Black Swan concentrator only processed the serpentinite ore, since this material is much more suited to producing a smelter grade concentrate. The talc carbonate ore, which is also contained within the BSD open pit resource, was mined historically, but was stockpiled by the previous operator, since the nickel loss incurred when removing the talc was prohibitive, and the nickel concentrate produced from this ore was not suitable feed for smelters.

In January 2022, Strategic Metallurgy was commissioned to commence the ore characterisation and ore blending metallurgical testwork programs. Initial metallurgical testing on samples selected from the BSD resource drilling program confirmed the presence of significant quantities of talc. The core had been assessed by geologists and identified by visual inspection to be serpentinite hosted nickel mineralisation, but once tested at the metallurgical laboratory the material was confirmed to contain significant quantities of talc and was difficult to identify by visual inspection. These samples were tested by Quantitative X-Ray Diffraction (QXRD) and were confirmed to be highly carbonate altered mineralisation with a relatively high talc content.

The samples were subsequently reclassified as being more representative of the talc carbonate ore. The metallurgical testwork program was delayed by approximately four months while additional drill core containing samples representative of the serpentinite ore became available for testing.

The Company received positive results from locked-cycle flotation tests using a BSD Composite composed from samples representative of the serpentinite ore. The tests incorporated a regrind stage (i.e., regrinding the rougher concentrate to 80% passing 32 microns). The tests demonstrated a marketable smelter grade concentrate can be produced from the serpentinite ore without adding any Silver Swan tailings or Silver Swan underground massive sulphides.

The final concentrate specifications from the locked-cycle test with the BSD serpentinite ore are shown as Test 1 in Table 1. An additional locked-cycle test was conducted with a blend of BSD, high-grade Silver Swan and Silver Swan tailings, which resulted in a further reduction in the MgO level, (see Test 2 in Table 1).

Table 1: Locked-Cycle Testwork Results

| Element/ratio    | Test 1<br>(BSD only) | Test 2<br>(BSD + Silver Swan tailings +<br>Silver Swan high-grade) |  |
|------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Ni               | 17.2%                | 14.9%  |  |
| Cu               | 0.59%                | 0.60%  |  |
| Co               | 0.47%                | 0.41%  |  |
| MgO              | 5.43%                | 4.52%  |  |
| Fe:MgO           | 4.8:1                | 6.6:1  |  |
| S                | 38.8%                | 36.1%  |  |
| SiO <sub>2</sub> | 6.29%                | 6.43%  |  |
| As               | 3,438ppm             | 3,795ppm   |  |

For comparison, historical production data from 2009, when the serpentinite ore was processed without Silver Swan underground ore in the blend and without a regrind on the rougher concentrate, demonstrate the MgO in the concentrate was approximately 15%, with a Fe:MgO ratio of only 1.4:1. A concentrate with this level of MgO and low Fe:MgO ratio is not preferred by most conventional nickel smelters. In this context, the results from the locked-cycle tests are a significant breakthrough for the project.

As a result of the positive locked-cycle tests, GRES, in conjunction with management, has added a regrind stage to the process flowsheet.

During the third quarter of FY22, a detailed assessment commenced into the deportment of talc throughout the BSD resource. The assessment utilised QXRD to quantify the talc content on all the resource samples composited at two-metre intervals. WSP Golder was engaged to construct a talc distribution quantitative analysis and to incorporate this into the BSD Resource model. This important talc distribution model has allowed for a more accurate delineation of the serpentinite ore, which is required to produce smelter grade concentrate.

An assessment of the talc model outputs has confirmed that the level of talc within the serpentinite ore will not impede the project producing an acceptable MgO level in the smelter grade concentrate. In addition, this talc modelling work has supported the concept to blend the talc carbonate and serpentinite ores to produce a lower grade rougher concentrate which would be suitable feed for a hydrometallurgical treatment path, such as POX and HPAL, and could significantly extend the mine life at Black Swan.

The rougher concentrate would be an ideal feed for Pure Battery Technologies proposed Kalgoorlie refinery which includes a POX circuit prior to converting the Mixed Hydroxide Precipitate (MHP) to precursor Cathode Active Material (pCAM). This proposed hydrometallurgical processing refinery is also the recipient of a \$120M Federal Government Grant. Adopting the lower grade concentrate production strategy would allow the Black Swan concentrator to operate at the nameplate 2.2Mtpa ore throughput capacity, creating economies of scale while also extending the mine life.

Preliminary flotation testwork completed to date to support the 2.2Mtpa production rate lower grade rougher concentrate option indicates that a talc level of approximately 20% in the ore can be processed into a suitable lower grade concentrate that should be acceptable to a POX or HPAL plant. Importantly, while also generating an acceptable nickel recovery which could support the deepening of the open cut mine to capture additional nickel resources associated with both ore-types at depth. Preliminary POX testwork conducted on behalf of the Company on the lower grade concentrate produced from combining both ores has yielded excellent results to date, with nickel and cobalt extractions greater than 95% and relatively fast leaching rates.

Discussions with Pure Battery Technologies and local HPAL operators are progressing with the aim to identify a local offtake market for the lower grade concentrate.

# During FY22 the Company also progressed the following initiatives which support a restart of operations at Black Swan:

 Five-year agreement with Norton Gold Fields to access water supply from their Golden Cities open pit located approximately 24 kilometres west of the Black Swan mine. This agreement has secured access to a significant water resource that was historically utilised when the Black Swan project was in production. The water supply rate outlined in the agreement is sufficient to sustain an ore processing throughput up to the 2.2 Mtpa nameplate design. The water will be supplied through the Company's existing Federal Pit water pipeline and associated infrastructure. · Western Power was commissioned to complete a power supply study to confirm the electrical demand required for the restart at the de-rated 1.1Mtpa ore throughput rate could be supplied from the Eastern Goldfields Load Area network. The assessment confirmed that the electrical load, totalling 15.7 MVA, inclusive of the load anticipated to be drawn from the Silver Swan Underground mine, could be supplied by the Western Power grid, with the new loads subject to curtailment during planned and unplanned outages, under the Eastern Goldfields Load Permissive Scheme. The study confirmed the electricity supply from the Western Power grid could utilise the existing power reticulation infrastructure available at the Black Swan mine. This outcome was positive and was important to underpin the proposed use of electrical supply from the Western Power grid, as a key assumption in the Feasibility Study.

The Feasibility Study for the 1.1Mtpa case is scheduled to be finalised during the December 2022 quarter while the 2.2Mtpa case Feasibility Study should be delivered in the first half of 2023.

# Lake Johnston and Windarra Projects

Both the Lake Johnston and Windarra operations were also managed under a care and maintenance strategy throughout the year. Neither of these projects saw any underground development or drilling activities.

There were no lost time injuries or any other reportable incidents that occurred during the year at Lake Johnston or Windarra.

# Windarra Gold Tailings Project

A Definitive Feasibility Study on the Windarra gold tailings project was undertaken during FY21. The results of the study were positive, and the Company decided that finding a partner to develop and operate the project was optimal so management could focus on the commencement of operations at Black Swan.

After undergoing a sale process an offer by Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd (Green Gold) was accepted to farm-into the project subject to the following Conditions Precedent:

- Metallurgical testwork performed by Green Gold on the Windarra and Lancefield Tailings to determine if its patented technology can improve gold recovery;
- Obtaining consent to assign Poseidon's rights and obligations under the Right to Treat Agreement in respect of the Lancefield tailings to Green Gold; and
- Green Gold receiving Foreign Investment Review Board and any other necessary approvals, if required.



Once these conditions are met, the completion of the following milestones will allow Green Gold to earn 92% of the Project:

- Green Gold making a non-refundable upfront payment of A\$250,000 upon satisfying the Conditions Precedent to earn an initial 13.8% interest in the Project;
- Green Gold completing a positive Feasibility Study on the Project to earn a further 13.8% interest in the Project; and
- Green Gold making a final investment decision, securing funding for the Project, and making a non-refundable payment of A\$1.0 million to Poseidon to earn a further 64.4% interest in the Project.

The above milestones are to be satisfied within 12 months of the satisfaction (or waiver) of all the Conditions Precedent, with Milestone 1 to be satisfied within 48 hours of the satisfaction (or waiver) of all the Conditions Precedent.

Upon Green Gold achieving the above milestones and earning a 92% interest in the Project, Poseidon will retain an 8% free-carried interest in the Project.





# **Exploration**

# Overview

The focus of Poseidon's geology team during FY22 was to support the Company's Black Swan "Fill the Mill" strategy through the completion of several underground drill programs and JORC compliant resource upgrades considered integral for the success of the strategy.

Individual drill programs and resource upgrades were completed at Golden Swan, Silver Swan and BSD deposits during the year. The programs involved the completion of 122 underground diamond drill holes for a total of 29,427 drill metres. The location of these FY22 activities is presented in Figure 6.

- The drill programs at the high-grade Golden Swan and Silver Swan deposits were undertaken first as these deposits are recognised as having beneficial metallurgical characteristics for the "Fill the Mill" strategy. The BSD drilling program focused on improving confidence in the nickel grade and distribution of the metallurgically important serpentinite and talc-carbonated hosted disseminated ore immediately below the base of the Black Swan open pit.

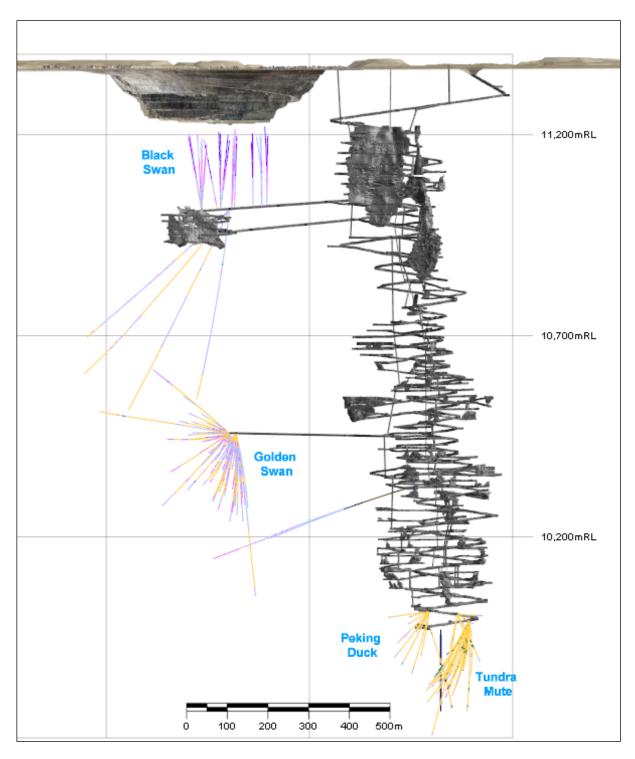


Figure 6: Overview of FY22 drilling completed at Black Swan Operations looking west

# **Black Swan Project**

# Golden Swan High-Grade Resource

The high-grade Golden Swan deposit was discovered by Poseidon in FY20. In FY21 the Company continued its program to explore the broad extent of the Golden Swan mineralisation focusing on drilling up-plunge from the discovery hole. The success of this drilling underpinned the Company's decision to develop a permanent 10450mRL access drive from the Silver Swan decline across to finish in the footwall felsic sequence behind Golden Swan. The construction of a 465-metre Golden Swan access drive commenced in December 2020 and was completed during April 2021.

The drill drive included the establishment of two dedicated drill positions to facilitate resource definition drilling of Golden Swan.

Following completion of the access drill drive the Golden Swan resource definition drill program was commenced in late April 2021. In total 60 holes were drilled for 15,968 metres (refer to Figure 7) with the program completed in late July 2021 and Optiro Pty Ltd completing the maiden Golden Swan Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) of 160kt at 3.9% nickel for 6,250 tonnes of nickel contained. Results and related information for the Golden Swan MRE are located in the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves section of this report.



Figure 7: Golden Swan drilling with the completed access drive and mineralisation looking west

# Silver Swan High-Grade Resource

After the completion of the Golden Swan program a similar drill program was undertaken on the high-grade Silver Swan deposit. The Silver Swan resource definition drill program was undertaken from drill cuddies developed near the base of the Silver Swan decline. The program involved the completion of 38 drill holes for a total of 8,179 drill metres undertaken between August 2021 and December 2021, refer Figure 8.

The program focused on four mineralised lenses with the aim to improve confidence in these high-grade resources through the conversion of existing Inferred resources to Indicated category.

Following completion of the drill program Optiro Pty Ltd was engaged by Poseidon to update the Silver Swan resource model with the latestdrill data which returned an updated resource of 146kt at 8.8% nickel for 12,940 tonnes of contained nickel.

The Silver Swan drill program successfully converted 95 percent of the high-grade Silver Swan resources to Indicated category, up from approximately 65 percent prior to the drill program and MRE upgrade.

Results and related information for the Silver Swan MRE are located in the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves section of this report.

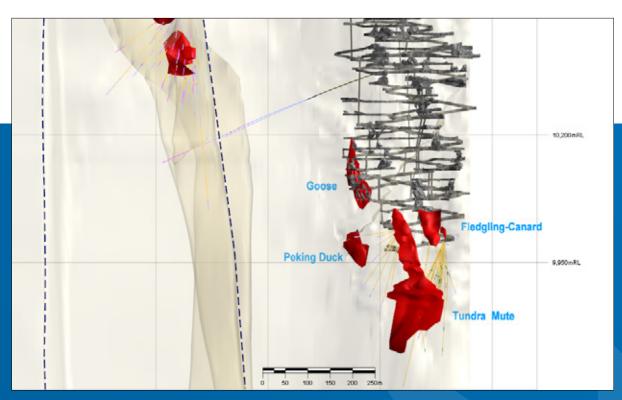


Figure 8: Silver Swan drilling with the mineralisation looking west

# Black Swan Low-Grade Disseminated Sulphide Resource

Integral to Poseidon's Fill the Mill strategy is the large low-grade BSD sulphide resource located below the Black Swan open pit. The resource consists mostly of two main ore types that have fundamentally different metallurgical characteristics. One ore type is hosted in antigorite rich serpentinites, refer to Figure 9, the other in strongly talc-carbonate altered lithologies.

The distribution of the two ore types immediately below the existing pit was poorly constrained and recognised as a potential project risk. In order to de-risk this issue the Company completed a systematic pattern of holes, extending approximately 125 metres below the pit. In addition to providing new material for ongoing metallurgical test-work, the principal aim of the program was to better define the distribution of the two metallurgically distinct ore types below the pit from where the first few critical years of production would occur.

The program was undertaken from the Gosling access drive and ran between October 2021 to March 2022. It involved the completion of 24 underground diamond drill holes for a total of 5,144 drill metres, refer to Figure 10. At the completion of the program Poseidon engaged WSP Golder to update the Black Swan disseminated sulphide resource model. At a 0.4% nickel cut-off the total MRE was an estimated 28.9Mt at 0.63% nickel for 181kt nickel contained, including Measured and Indicated Resources of 10.7Mt at 0.75% nickel for 80kt nickel contained. Importantly, confidence in the distribution and volume of the two main ore types below the existing pit was significantly improved.

Results and related information for the Black Swan MRE are located in the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves section of this report.

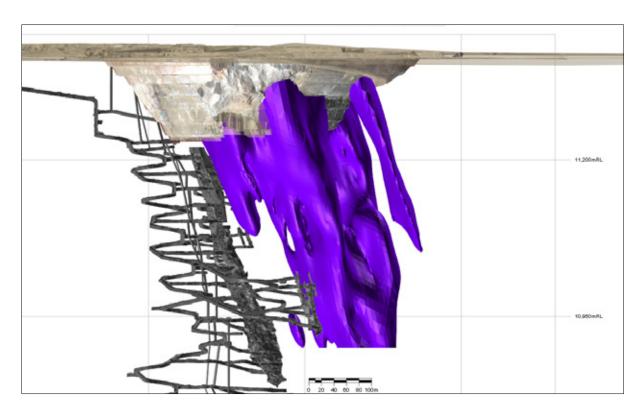


Figure 9: Interpreted serpentinite unit beneath the Black Swan pit, looking to the north

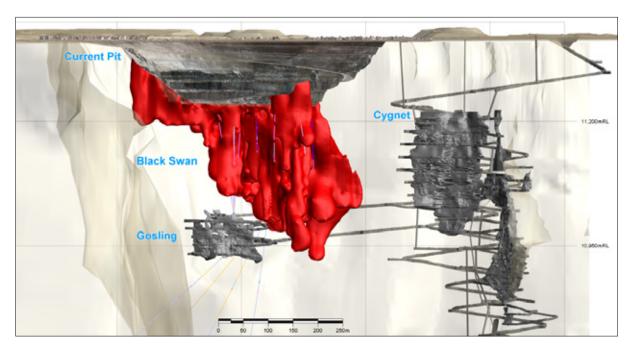


Figure 10: Black Swan drilling with the mineralisation, looking west

# **Exploration Targeting**

In August 2022 the Company engaged Newexco to conduct a high-level geological review of the Black Swan Project. The aim of the review is to identify areas of exploration potential that are worthy of further testing. The review is expected to be completed by November 2022 with the results to drive future exploration activities at Black Swan.



# Lake Johnston Project

Following receipt of Newexco's prospectivity assessment of the Lake Johnson Project in September 2021 which highlighted the poorly tested Western Ultramafic Unit as the priority target, the Poseidon exploration team finalised the design and received program of work approval to conduct a systematic drill test of the Western Ultramafic Unit, refer to Figure 11. The eastern basal contact of the ultramafic is considered prospective for Kambalda style deposits.

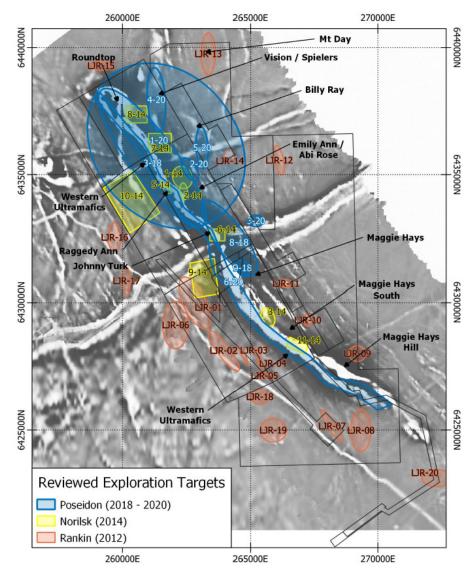


Figure 11: Exploration targets at Lake Johnston identified by Newexco

Due to the number of resource definition drill programs and MREs undertaken at Black Swan over the past 12 months exploration activities planned at Lake Johnston were deferred until 2023.





# Environmental, Social & Governance

Poseidon aims to become a sustainable nickel producer, supplying the nickel the world needs to transition to a low-carbon economy. To achieve this, during FY22 the Company was proactive in embedding environment, social and governance (ESG) considerations into its operating practices and decision-making processes, in line with its business strategy.

Of particular significance, ESG was elevated to a standing item at every Board meeting to ensure that key ESG considerations, risks and opportunities were given appropriate focus. This resulted in the Board formally adopting an ESG policy, and good progress being made on development of the Company's ESG framework.

At this stage, Poseidon has chosen to align its ESG framework with the Minerals Council of Australia Enduring Value framework, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the recommendations of the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures.

Although operations remained on care and maintenance during FY22, Poseidon was able to advance a number of important ESG initiatives. These included:

- engaging Western Power to complete
  a study for securing an allocation of
  grid power at Black Swan, which forms
  the basis of the Feasibility Study, which
  will significantly reduce the Company's
  emissions when compared with the use of
  diesel for power generation;
- entering into a 5-year water access agreement with Norton Gold Fields Pty Ltd to ensure sufficient water is available at Black Swan on recommencement of operations, without tapping into nearby underground water sources;
- progressing discussions with the Company's preferred joint venture partner in relation to developing the Windarra gold tailings project, which if developed, will provide an opportunity to reduce environmental risk and liability related to mine waste;
- increasing engagement with relevant Traditional Owners with the aim of building respectful and mutually beneficial relationships;
- reviewing and updating internal Aboriginal heritage registers and procedures to minimise the risk of disturbing known sites of cultural significance;
- increasing the female participation rate in the Company's permanent workforce to 33% (up from 25% in FY21);
- recording no lost time injuries (LTI) across the Company's projects, for which it recently achieved over 1,000 days LTI free at Black Swan:
- implementing a new health and safety management system to ensure that risks are appropriately monitored and controlled going forward;
- adopting new corporate governance policies and procedures to reflect the Company's growth, current legislation and good practice; and
- reviewing and updating the Company's internal risk registers and procedures to ensure that material risks are identified, and appropriate controls are in place to mitigate their potential consequences and likelihood.

During FY23, Poseidon will continue to develop its ESG framework, and look to set measurable targets in relation to its ESG performance. A gap analysis of the Company's ESG framework will be undertaken after the release of the Black Swan Feasibility Study to address any deficiencies in its practices before the Company's transition to production.

"As the year progresses, Poseidon expects its focus will shift toward managing the transition to project development safely and sustainably."

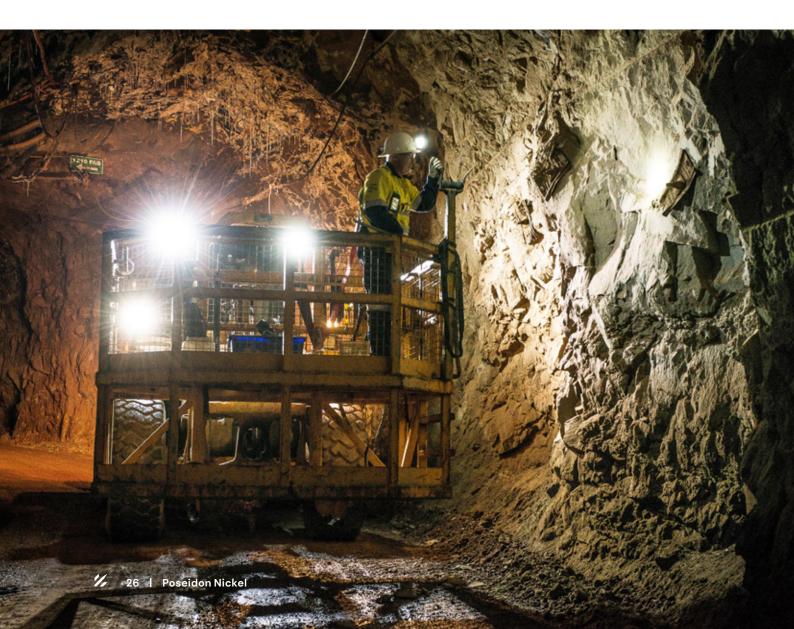
As the year progresses, Poseidon expects its focus will shift toward managing the transition to project development safely and sustainably. An important part of this will be selecting reputable contractors whose policies and procedures are aligned with the Company's ESG expectations, including in relation to environmental management, safety, social engagement, diversity and indigenous relations.

Consistent with its business strategy, Poseidon will continue to embed ESG considerations into everything it does to strengthen its performance and deliver value for all stakeholders.

# Directors' Report

For the year ended 30 June 2022

The directors present their report together with the financial statements of Poseidon Nickel Limited ("the Company") and of the Group, being the Company and its subsidiaries for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 and the auditor's report thereon.



# 1. Directors

The directors of the Company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

| Name, and independence status   | Experience, qualifications, special responsibilities and other directorships   |
|---|--|
| Mr Derek La Ferla Independent Non-Executive Chairman Member of: Audit & Risk Committee Chairman of: Remuneration, Nomination & Diversity Committee  Appointed 1 December 2019 | Mr La Ferla is a corporate lawyer and company director with more than 30 years' experience. He has held senior leadership positions with some of Australia's leading law firms and a variety of board positions with listed public companies and not for profit organisations.  Mr La Ferla is currently the Non-Executive Chair of ASX-listed company Chalice Mining Ltd and until recently was the Non-Executive Chair of Sandfire Resources Ltd. Mr La Ferla is also the founder and Chair of Green Peak Energy, a private renewables energy company with a majority interest held by North Canadian Infrastructure Fund CBRE Calledon.  During the previous three years he has served as a director for Veris Ltd (October 2011 to November 2019), Threat Protect Australia Ltd (September 2015 to September 2021), BNK Banking Corporation Ltd (November 2015 to August 2019) and Sandfire Resources Ltd (May 2010 to July 2022). |
|   | Mr La Ferla is a fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the WA Division Director on the AICD National Board and a member of the AICD Council (WA Division).   |
| Mr Peter Harold<br>Managing Director & CEO  | Mr Harold is a process engineer with over 30 years' corporate experience in the minerals industry, specialising in financing, marketing, business development and general corporate activities.  |
| Appointed 3 March 2020  | Mr Harold was previously the Managing Director of Panoramic Resources Ltd, a company he co-founded in 2001.  |
|   | Mr Harold has extensive experience in base metal mining project feasibility studies, financings, developments, operations and marketing.   |
|   | Mr Harold is currently the non-executive chairman of ASX listed company Rare Foods Australia Ltd and during the previous three years has served as a director of Panoramic Resources Ltd (March 2001 to November 2019), Pacifico Minerals Ltd (now Boab Minerals Ltd) (August 2013 to April 2020) and Horizon Gold Ltd (August 2016 to November 2019).   |
| Mr Dean Hildebrand Non-Executive Director  Member of:  Remuneration Nomination & Diversity  | Mr Hildebrand is a corporate finance and investment professional with experience in capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, and project financing and development within the natural resources sectors.   |
| Remuneration, Nomination & Diversity Committee Chairman of: Audit & Risk Committee  | Mr Hildebrand currently manages a large investment fund invested across multiple sectors including natural resources. Mr Hildebrand has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Western Australia.   |
| Appointed 1 July 2020   | During the past three years, Mr Hildebrand has not served as a director of any other ASX listed company.   |

# 1. Directors (continued)

| Name, and independence status  | Experience, qualifications, special responsibilities and other directorships  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Mr Peter Muccilli Independent Non-Executive Director  Member of:  Audit & Rick Committee and                                     | Mr Muccilli is a qualified geologist with over 30 years' of extensive exploration, development and operations experience in the resources sector, particularly nickel, gold, zinc and lead.   |  |  |  |  |
| Audit & Risk Committee and Remuneration, Nomination & Diversity Committee  | Mr Muccilli previously held key executive roles at Mincor Resources NL. During his 15 years at Mincor, Mr Muccilli led the exploration team responsible for much of Mincor's nickel exploration success, including the higher grade greenfield Cassini discovery.   |  |  |  |  |
| Appointed 3 August 2020  | Mr Muccilli is currently the Technical Director of ASX listed company Constellation Resources Ltd and during the previous three years has served as Managing Director of Mincor Resources NL (November 2016 to January 2019).   |  |  |  |  |
| Mr Warren Hallam Independent Non-Executive Director  Member of: Audit & Risk Committee and Popularization Nomination & Diversity | Mr Hallam is a highly experienced metallurgist and mineral economist with extensive operational and executive experience and expertise in financing, developing and operating of base metal and gold projects within Australia.  Mr Hallam has considerable technical, managerial and financial experience                        |  |  |  |  |
| Remuneration, Nomination & Diversity Committee   | across a broad range of commodities including copper, nickel, tin, gold and iron ore and has held numerous board and senior executive positions within the resources sector.  |  |  |  |  |
| Appointed 1 June 2022  | Mr Hallam is currently the chairman of NiCo Resources Ltd and Kingfisher Resources Ltd and a director of Essential Minerals Ltd. During the previous three years Mr Hallam has served as Managing Director of Millennium Minerals Ltd (August 2019 to May 2020) and chairman of Nelson Resources Ltd (February 2019 to May 2022). |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mr Hallam has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Metallurgy, a Master of Science in Mineral Economics, and a Graduate Diploma of Business.  |  |  |  |  |
| Ms Felicity Gooding Non-Executive Director  Member of:  Popularization Nomination & Diversity                                    | Ms Gooding is currently the Group Commercial Manager of Fortescue Future Industries and was previously the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Minderoo Foundation.   |  |  |  |  |
| Remuneration, Nomination & Diversity Committee   | A Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ms Gooding has  |  |  |  |  |
| Chairman of:   | experience specialising in due diligence, mergers and acquisitions, and equity and debt financing across various sectors in Washington DC,  |  |  |  |  |
| Audit & Risk Committee   | Singapore and London.   |  |  |  |  |
| Appointed 1 October 2018   | Ms Gooding has held senior positions at PwC, Diageo Plc and Fortescue Metals Group Ltd where she was instrumental in the raising of more than   |  |  |  |  |
| Resigned 25 February 2022  | A\$5 billion for project expansion financing. Prior to joining Minderoo Ms Gooding was an executive at potash development company, Sirius Minerals Plc.   |  |  |  |  |
|  | During the past three years, Ms Gooding has not served as a director of any other ASX listed company.   |  |  |  |  |

# 2. Company Secretary (Joint)

Mr Brendan Shalders was appointed Joint Company Secretary effective from 9 September 2019. Mr Shalders is a Chartered Accountant having held senior roles in both advisory and corporate settings. He has experience in corporate finance, accounting, risk management and business development, predominately within the mining and mining services industries.

Ms Andrea Betti was appointed Joint Company Secretary effective from 4 November 2019. Ms Betti is an accounting and corporate governance professional with over 20 years' experience in accounting, corporate governance, finance and corporate banking. Ms Betti is a Chartered Accountant and an associate member of the Governance Institute of Australia.

# 3. Directors' Meetings

The number of directors' meetings (including meetings of committees of directors) and number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the financial year are:

| Director        | Board Meetings* |    | Audit and Risk<br>Committee Meetings |   | Remuneration, Nomination and<br>Diversity Committee Meetings |   |
|-----------------|-----------------|----|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
|                 | Α               | В  | Α                                    | В | Α  | В |
| Mr D La Ferla   | 10              | 10 | 3                                    | 3 | 7  | 7 |
| Mr P Harold     | 10              | 10 | -                                    | - | -  | - |
| Mr D Hildebrand | 10              | 10 | 3                                    | 3 | 7  | 7 |
| Mr P Muccilli   | 10              | 10 | 3                                    | 3 | 7  | 7 |
| Ms F Gooding    | 6               | 6  | 1                                    | 1 | 4  | 4 |
| Mr W Hallam     | 1               | 1  | -                                    | - | 1  | 1 |

A – Number of meetings attended

# 4. Principal Activities

It is the intent of the directors that the principal activities of the Group shall be that of exploration, mining and production of nickel and other minerals.

### 5. Consolidated Results

The consolidated loss for the Group for the year ended 30 June 2022, after income tax is \$11,709,000 (2021: \$10,933,000).

# Operating and Financial Review Overview

Poseidon Nickel Limited ("Poseidon" or "the Company") is an ASX listed company focussed on developing its nickel assets in Western Australia. The Company has combined nickel resources of approximately 400,000 tonnes of contained metal, two nickel sulphide concentrators and six historic mines across three sites, all located within a 300km radius from Kalgoorlie in the Goldfields region of Western Australia. All three sites remained on care and maintenance ("C&M") over FY 2022.

During the year the Company adopted its new "Fill the Mill" strategy which focuses on restarting the Black Swan operations by feeding the mill with a combination of low-grade open pit ore, high-grade underground ore and Silver Swan tailings to improve concentrate quality. A Bankable Feasibility Study ("BFS") is currently being undertaken which considers both the 1.1Mtpa throughput case, which would produce a smelter grade concentrate, and a 2.2Mtpa throughput case which would produce a rougher concentrate to be fed into a pressure oxidation ("POX") or High Pressure Acid Leach ("HPAL") autoclave. Subsequent to year end the Company signed a binding Heads of Agreement with Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd to enter into a joint venture to develop and operate the gold tailings project at Windarra.

**B** – Number of meetings held during the time the director held office in the year

<sup>\* -</sup> Corporate Governance is an integral part of the Board meeting

### Operating and Financial Review (continued)

In June 2022, Warren Hallam was appointed as a Non-Executive Director following the retirement of Felicity Gooding.

During the year the Company raised \$22 million (before costs) through a private placement of ordinary shares and raised a further \$6 million under a share purchase plan. The Company ended the year with \$11.1 million cash and cash equivalents.

## **COVID-19 Response**

The Company and its contractors continue to operate within the safe operating parameters as per the Western Australian Government requirements.

# Climate change

The current and future activities of the Group may be affected by factors such as seasonal and unexpected weather patterns, heavy rain, floods, droughts and other weather conditions. The Groups financial performance and operations may be adversely impacted by these factors.

Changes to climate related regulations and government policy have the potential to impact our financial results, which could include imposition of carbon taxes or constraints on emissions.

#### **Black Swan**

The Black Swan Nickel Project is located 55km north-east of Kalgoorlie. Acquired from Norilsk in March 2015, the operations include the Silver Swan underground mine, Black Swan open pit, a 2.2Mtpa nickel sulphide concentrator and associated infrastructure. The operations at Black Swan remained on care and maintenance during the year.

#### Mineral Resource Estimate

During the year the Company completed resource drilling programs which focused on the Golden Swan deposit, the Silver Swan deposit and the Black Swan open pit disseminated ore body. As a result, an updated Mineral Resource Estimate ("MRE") was announced with an increase in the total resources at Black Swan to 206kt of nickel, made up of the following:

- Black Swan Disseminated 28.9Mt at 0.63% nickel grade for 181kt of contained nickel
- Silver Swan underground 130kt at 9.6% nickel grade for 12.4kt of contained nickel
- Golden Swan underground 160kt at 3.9% nickel grade for 6.3kt of contained nickel
- Silver Swan Tailings 675kt at 0.9% nickel grade for 6.2kt of contained nickel

## Bankable Feasibility Study

The Bankable Feasibility Study ("BFS") continued to progress during the year. The Company is studying two potential restart options:

- 1.1Mtpa throughput case which would produce a smelter grade concentrate using only low talc serpentinite ore with a project life of less than five years.
- 2.2Mtpa throughput case which would process both higher talc serpentinite and talc-carbonate disseminated ore to produce a rougher concentrate to be fed into a POX or HPAL circuit to produce a mixed hydroxide precipitate.

# Pure Battery Technologies

During the year the Company entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with Pure Battery Technologies ("PBT") which has plans to build and operate a refinery hub for production of battery precursor Cathode Active Materials ("pCAM") in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. A pCAM hub constructed by PBT could potentially treat a rougher concentrate provided by Black Swan as part of the 2.2Mtpa throughput case. Discussions are ongoing with PBT.

### 6. Operating and Financial Review (continued)

### **Black Swan (continued)**

Other Activities

Other activities that occurred at Black Swan during the year included completion of the rehabilitation work on the Silver Swan decline and the commencement of the Black Swan open pit dewatering.

#### Windarra Nickel

The Windarra Nickel Project is located in the Mt Margaret Goldfields of Western Australia and is situated about 25km west of Laverton. The site includes the previously mined underground Mt Windarra and open pit South Windarra mines. The project has combined resources of 148.5kt contained nickel primarily within the Mt Windarra (71.5kt) and Cerberus (69kt) deposits. The Windarra Nickel Project remains on care and maintenance.

The Windarra State Agreement has been terminated with the Termination Bill passing the Western Australian Legislative Assembly in October 2021 and the Western Australian Legislative Council in February 2022. Royal Assent was received on 2 March 2022 allowing the Windarra Gold Tailings project to proceed to production, subject to a decision to proceed being made.

# Windarra Gold Tailings

Given that the primary focus of the Company is the restart of the Black Swan Nickel Project the decision was made to seek a joint venture partner to develop and operate the gold tailings project. Significant interest was received in the formal process undertaken by Argonaut PCF and subsequent to year end the Company announced it had signed a binding Heads of Agreement with Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd ("GGP"). A final agreement is subject to GGP being satisfied with the outcome of metallurgical testwork using GGP patented technology and a bankable feasibility study being completed at their expense. GGP will be responsible for the funding, development and operation of the gold tailings project (refer to the ASX Announcement released on 7 September 2022).

# Lake Johnston

The Lake Johnston mine and processing facilities are situated 117km west of Norseman, accessed via the Hyden-Norseman road. The Company acquired the asset from Norilsk in November 2014 and include the Maggie Hays underground mine and a 1.5Mtpa nickel sulphide concentrator. The project has a resource of 52kt contained nickel in the Maggie Hays deposit.

In 2015, Poseidon interpreted a twice-faulted-off extension to the Emily Ann massive sulphide deposit to the north and confirmed a continuation of mineralisation, being the Abi Rose deposit. Diamond drilling completed late 2018 pierced the deposit several times with the best intersection of 10.48m @ 3.2% nickel.

A large-scale exploration program is planned in the future with a Program of Work ("POW") approved during the year to undertake a 15,000m drilling program targeting the Western Ultramafic Unit. Also during the year the Company engaged GR Engineering Services Limited ("GRES") to perform an engineering study on the cost of refurbishing and operating the Lake Johnston processing plant, with the results from the study indicating that the plant could be refurbished for an estimated \$31 million over a seven-month period.

The operations at Lake Johnston remained on care and maintenance during the year.

# 6. Operating and Financial Review (continued)

# **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)**

During the year, the Company adopted an environmental, social and governance ("ESG") policy and progressed development of its project specific ESG framework to address ESG issues and chart a safe and sustainable pathway to production.

# Environment

There were no significant environmental incidents during the period, and the Company has retained all relevant environmental approvals in respect of its operations. Of significance, the Company progressed discussions with Western Power in relation to securing an allocation of grid power at Black Swan. The use of grid power as opposed to diesel is expected to significantly reduce the Company's CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.

#### Cultural Heritage

During the year, the Company increased its engagement with a number of the Traditional Owners on whose lands it operates. Internally, to minimise the risk of disturbing known heritage sites, the Company completed a review of its cultural heritage registers and procedures.

#### Health and Safety

There were no significant safety incidents during the year, and the Company is in the process of implementing a new health and safety management system to ensure that risks are appropriately monitored and controlled going forward.

#### Governance

During the year, new corporate governance policies and procedures were adopted by the Company to reflect the growth of the Company, current legislation and good practice.

### **Nickel Market**

The key drivers of nickel market demand remain:

- sustained growth in stainless steel demand; and
- development and growth of the electric vehicle ("EV") market.



<sup>\*</sup> Above graph represents daily closing price

### 6. Operating and Financial Review (continued)

Historically, the nickel market has exhibited significant volatility and the price has fluctuated widely between boom-and-bust cycles. Until recently, Indonesia's rise as a significant nickel producer has depressed the nickel price. Other factors that have affected the nickel price in recent years include the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Russia accounts for 7% of the world's nickel production and 20% of its Class 1 metal/powder production (26% of LME deliverable material) with global sanctions impacting the supply of this material to market. This together with a large short position held by Tsingshan, a major stainless steel producer, was the catalyst for a short squeeze that resulted in nickel prices hitting an all-time high of US\$46 per pound in March which led to the unprecedented step of the LME to temporarily suspend trading of nickel futures on the LME. Since then, the market has returned to more normal trading with the nickel price now trading around US\$11 per pound.

LME stockpiles closed 30 June 2022 at 67kt, down from 232kt at 30 June 2021 mainly due to the Russia /Ukraine conflict causing supply issues as well as the increase in demand from lithium-ion battery producers.

Moving forward, most analysts are predicting a positive outlook for the nickel demand and the price given the uplift in overall nickel consumption forecast for use in EV batteries. The demand increase is expected to be stimulated by EV-focused policies in Europe and the US introduced as part of "green" recovery plans and a wider pivot to green policies globally.

#### **Financial Position**

For the year ended 30 June 2022 the Group recorded a loss after tax of \$11,709,000 (2021: \$10,933,000) that includes depreciation and share based payment expense which are both non-cash items. If these items are excluded, the underlying loss after tax for the Group for the year is \$11,009,000 (2021: \$9,443,000). The working capital surplus as at 30 June 2022 is \$9,684,000 (2021: surplus \$2,447,000). The primary liability of the Group is the site rehabilitation provision of \$62,467,000 (2021: \$57,919,000), which includes \$3,500,000 that has been reclassified from current to non-current as a result of the termination of the Windarra State Agreement. The Directors do not anticipate the Group being required to remediate its sites in the foreseeable future. The site rehabilitation provision is classified as non-current and included within total net assets of \$75,530,000 (2021: \$60,129,000).

The Group had a net cash outflow from operating activities of \$11,077,000 (2021: \$9,492,000) and a net cash outflow from investing activities of \$12,390,000 (2021: \$11,892,000). Operating cash outflow reflects ongoing exploration and evaluation and care and maintenance activities across the three operations of Black Swan, Lake Johnston and Windarra. Investing cash outflow reflects payments on exploration and evaluation activities and property, plant and equipment. In August 2021 the Company raised \$22 million (before costs) through a private placement of ordinary shares and in September 2021 raised a further \$6 million under a share purchase plan. The capital raising incurred transaction costs of \$1,195,000. The Group held cash and cash equivalents of \$11,089,000 at 30 June 2022 (2021: \$7,903,000).

The Directors have reviewed a cash flow forecast for the next 12 months from the date of signing the financial report which demonstrates that the Group will have sufficient cash resources to continue as a going concern, subject to successful fund raising activities during the period. The Directors consider the going concern basis of preparation to be appropriate based on forecast cash flows for the next 12 months which incorporates raising additional funding through equity, debt or hybrid financing, joint venture type arrangements or other means to meet forecast minimum expenditure and maintain tenements and meet ongoing costs. The ability of the Group to achieve its forecast cashflows, being reliant on raising additional funds, represents material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about whether the Group can continue as a going concern in which case it may not be able to realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the financial report.

### 7. Remuneration report – audited

# 7.1 Principles of compensation

The Company recognises that it operates in a global environment and to prosper in such an environment, it must attract, motivate and retain personnel of the highest calibre. The objective of the Company's executive remuneration framework is to ensure that:

- Total remuneration is competitive in relation to the broader market and is linked to role, experience and performance;
- Incentive schemes are achievable, subject to appropriate hurdles, aligned with the interests of the Company and acceptable to its shareholders;
- Attract and retain talented and high calibre Key Management Personnel ("KMP") and employees to the
- Remuneration systems are transparent, simple, clear and have measurable targets; and
- Compatibility with the Company's phase of development, longer term aims, capital management strategies and structures.

The Company aims to structure an executive remuneration framework that is market competitive and complimentary to the reward strategy of the organisation. Remuneration packages include a mix of fixed and 'at risk' remuneration and is comprised of:

- Total Fixed Remuneration ("TFR") inclusive of base salary, salary sacrifice and compulsory superannuation contributions;
- Short-Term Incentive ("STI") measures; and
- Long-Term Incentive ("LTI") measures.

# **Total fixed remuneration**

The TFR component is reviewed annually by the Remuneration, Nomination and Diversity Committee through a process that considers both individual and overall performance of the Company. In addition, remuneration consultants are engaged periodically to provide analysis and advice to ensure the Directors' and senior executives' remuneration is competitive in the wider employment market. A senior executive's remuneration is also reviewed on promotion.

For the year ending 30 June 2022, TFR for Mr Harold was \$550,000 per annum, Mr Shalders was \$330,000 per annum, Mr Maxton was \$302,500 per annum and Mr Jones was \$385,000 per annum. There is no guaranteed TFR increase included in any executive contracts.

# **Short-Term Incentive and Long-Term Incentive Plans**

The revised Incentive Performance Rights and Options Plan (Plan) was approved by shareholders at the 2020 Annual General Meeting. The objective of the Plan is to attract, motivate and retain key employees and the Company considers that the adoption of the Plan and the future issue of performance rights or options under the Plan will provide selected employees with the opportunity to participate in the future growth of the Company.

# **Short-Term Incentive**

Under the STI program, eligible participants, executives and employees are provided the opportunity to receive a cash bonus or performance rights for achievement of short-term Company goals. The STI plan will seek to provide short-term benefits on achievement of individual and Company key performance indicators ("KPIs") over a 12month period. Challenging KPIs will be set to ensure payments are comparable to the performance of participating employees.

The assessment of the KPIs and the award of any STI are all at Board discretion – refer to 7.5 for KPIs.

# 7.1 Principles of compensation (continued)

# **Long-Term Incentive**

Under the LTI program, eligible participants, executives and employees are provided the opportunity to receive performance rights for achievement of long-term Company goals. The LTI plan will seek to provide long-term benefits on achievement of individual and Company key performance indicators ("KPIs") over a 24-month period. Challenging KPIs will be set to ensure payments are comparable to the performance of participating employees.

The assessment of the KPIs and the award of any LTI are all at Board discretion – refer to 7.3 for KPIs.

#### Share trading policy

The trading of shares issued to eligible participants under any of the Company's employee equity plans is subject to and conditional on compliance with the Company's share trading policy detailed in the Corporate Governance Statement.

#### Consequences of performance on shareholder wealth

In considering the Company's performance and benefits for shareholder wealth, the Remuneration, Nomination and Diversity Committee have regard to the following indices in respect of the current financial year.

|                             | 2022    | 2021    | 2020    | 2019    | 2018    |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Loss for the period ('000s) | 11,709  | 10,933  | 12,852  | 10,495  | 9,654   |
| Loss per share (cents)      | 0.39    | 0.40    | 0.49    | 0.45    | 0.92    |
| Share price at 30 June      | \$0.047 | \$0.089 | \$0.028 | \$0.035 | \$0.037 |
| Change in share price       | (0.47%) | 217.86% | (0.02%) | (0.05%) | 94.74%  |

The consolidated entity's performance is impacted not only by market factors, but also by employee performance. However, as the projects of the consolidated entity are currently in exploration or evaluation or care and maintenance phases, the annual profit performance is not a relevant measure of the Company's performance and hence remuneration levels for individual KMPs are not directly linked to the annual profit or loss result.

#### **Service contracts**

It is the Company's policy that service contracts for KMPs are open common law employment contracts, unlimited in term but capable of termination with between one and three months' notice, depending on the specific contract terms. The Company retains the right to terminate the contract immediately, by making payment equal to between one and three months' pay in lieu of notice. The KMPs are entitled to receive, on termination of employment, their statutory entitlements of accrued annual and long service leave together with any superannuation benefits. Each KMP accrues 4 weeks of annual leave entitlements per year (Mr Harold is entitled to 5 weeks of annual leave entitlements per year) and 13 weeks of long service leave entitlements for every 10 years of service.

The service contract outlines the components of remuneration paid to the KMP but does not prescribe how remuneration levels are modified year to year. Remuneration levels are reviewed each year by the Remuneration, Nomination and Diversity Committee and take into account cost-of-living changes, any change in the scope of the role performed by the senior executive and any changes required to meet the principles of the remuneration policy. There is no guaranteed base pay increases included in any executives' contracts

# 7.1 Principles of compensation (continued)

#### Non-executive directors

Total remuneration for all non-executive directors, last voted upon by shareholders at the 15 July 2019 General Meeting, is not to exceed \$650,000 per annum and has been determined after reviewing similar companies listed on the ASX and considered to be in line with corporate remuneration of similar companies.

The non-executive directors receive an annual base fee of \$53,888 (except for the chairman who receives a base fee of \$140,000) to cover the main board activities. Non-executive directors receive an additional fee of \$5,100 for each additional committee of which they are a member. Non-executive director members who chair a committee receive a further additional fee of \$10,000 for each committee chaired.

#### **Executives**

A summary of the key contractual provisions for each executive as at 30 June 2022 is set out below:

| Name & job title                             | Base salary            | Super-<br>annuation | Contract<br>duration | Notice<br>period | Termination provision       |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| P Harold, Managing<br>Director/ CEO          | \$500,000 <sup>2</sup> | 10% <sup>1</sup>    | No fixed<br>term     | 3 months         | 3-month termination payment |
| B Shalders, CFO / Joint<br>Company Secretary | \$300,000 <sup>3</sup> | 10% <sup>1</sup>    | No fixed<br>term     | 3 months         | 3-month termination payment |
| D Maxton, Project Director                   | \$275,000 <sup>3</sup> | 10%¹                | No fixed term        | 1 month          | 1-month termination payment |
| C Jones, General<br>Manager Mining           | \$350,000              | 10%¹                | No fixed term        | 3 months         | 3-month termination payment |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> From 1 July 2022 has increased to 10.5%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> From 1 July 2022 has increased to \$550,000 following a review to market.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> From 1 July 2022 has increased to \$340,000 following a review to market.

# 7.2 Directors' and executive officers' remuneration (Company and Consolidated)

|   |      | Short-f                    | term            | Post employment                  | Share-bas         | sed payments                    |                                 |             |  |
|---|------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--|
| In AUD  |      | Salary &<br>fees<br>\$ (a) | Bonus<br>\$ (b) | Superannuation<br>benefits<br>\$ | Options<br>\$ (c) | Performance<br>rights<br>\$ (d) | Other long-term benefits \$ (e) | Total<br>\$ | Proportion of remuneration performance related |
| Directors                                       |      | + ()                       | + (=/           | Ŧ                                | 7 (-7             | + (-/                           | + (-/                           | -           |  |
| Non-executive directors                         |      |                            |                 |                                  |                   |                                 |                                 |             |  |
| Mr D La Ferla (Chairman)                        | 2022 | 150,500                    | -               | 3,500                            | -                 | -                               | -                               | 154,000     | 0%   |
|   | 2021 | 149,975                    | -               | 3,325                            | 40,307            | -                               | -                               | 193,607     | 0%   |
| Ms F Gooding <sup>2</sup>                       | 2022 | 48,411                     | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | 48,411      | 0%   |
|   | 2021 | 74,088                     | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | 74,088      | 0%   |
| Mr D Hildebrand <sup>1</sup>                    | 2022 | 67,574                     | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | 67,574      | 0%   |
|   | 2021 | 64,088                     | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | 64,088      | 0%   |
| Mr P Muccilli1                                  | 2022 | 58,262                     | -               | 5,826                            | -                 | -                               | -                               | 64,088      | 0%   |
|   | 2021 | 76,457                     | -               | 5,182                            | -                 | -                               | -                               | 81,639      | 0%   |
| Mr W Hallam <sup>1</sup>                        | 2022 | 4,855                      | -               | 486                              | -                 | -                               | -                               | 5,341       | 0%   |
|   | 2021 | -                          | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | -           | -  |
| Executives                                      |      |                            |                 |                                  |                   |                                 |                                 |             |  |
| Mr P Harold, Managing Director/CEO              | 2022 | 465,828                    | 62,500          | 36,185                           | 91,888            | 120,307                         | 50,594                          | 827,302     | 22%  |
|   | 2021 | 434,607                    | 87,500          | 47,499                           | 115,681           | 114,103                         | 50,010                          | 849,400     | 24%  |
| Mr B Shalders, CFO                              | 2022 | 276,120                    | 30,000          | 23,570                           | -                 | 31,348                          | 28,214                          | 389,252     | 16%  |
|   | 2021 | 251,197                    | 38,500          | 26,125                           | -                 | 31,101                          | 18,924                          | 365,847     | 19%  |
| Mr D Maxton, Project Manager <sup>1</sup>       | 2022 | 221,763                    | 22,688          | 24,917                           | -                 | 12,546                          | 20,040                          | 301,954     | 12%  |
|   | 2021 | -                          | - 44 705        | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | -           | -  |
| Mr C Jones, General Manager Mining <sup>1</sup> | 2022 | 112,628                    | 11,795          | 11,263                           | -                 | 22,188                          | 8,972                           | 166,846     | 20%  |
| Tatal assumentian land                          | 2021 | -                          | -               | -                                | -                 | -                               | -                               | -           | -  |
| Total compensation: key management personnel    | 2022 | 1,405,941                  | 126,983         | 105,747                          | 91,888            | 186,389                         | 107,820                         | 2,024,768   |  |
|   | 2021 | 1,050,412                  | 126,000         | 82,131                           | 155,988           | 145,204                         | 68,934                          | 1,628,669   |  |

Appointments – Mr D Hildebrand 1 July 2020, Mr P Muccilli 3 August 2020, Mr D Maxton 1 September 2021, Mr C Jones 28 February 2022 and Mr W Hallam 1 June 2022.

 $<sup>^{2}\,</sup>$  Resignations – Ms F Gooding 25 February 2022.

# 7.2 Directors' and executive officers' remuneration (Company and Consolidated) (continued) Notes in relation to the table of directors' and executive officers' remuneration

- (a) Salary and fees include base salary and fees.
- (b) Bonuses relates to amounts earned under the Short-Term Incentive ("STI") program based on achievement of KPI's in accordance with the STI program (refer to 7.5).
- (c) The options were issued in December 2020 as a sign-on incentive to both Mr P Harold and Mr D La Ferla, which were valued using the Black Scholes method and value expensed over the term of the options as required by Accounting Standards.
- (d) The performance rights ("PRs") remuneration expense is recognised pursuant to the Long-Term Incentive ("LTI") Plan invitations for FY 2021 and FY 2022. The Company determines the fair value of the PRs that may be issued under the LTI Plan invitations each year and allocates that value across the performance period. The amount recognised in the current reporting period has also been adjusted upon determination of the actual PRs to be issued from the LTI Plan invitations issued in FY 2021 with the performance period ending 30 June 2022 (refer to 7.3).
- (e) Other long-term benefits include leave entitlements paid and the movement in annual and long service leave provisions.

#### 7.3 Equity instruments

# Analysis of options and rights over equity instruments granted as compensation Share Options

There were no new options granted during the year. The below options were approved by shareholders at the November 2020 AGM:

| Executive     | Number of<br>options<br>granted | Grant date | Vesting and exercise date | Expiry date | Exercise price \$ | Value per<br>option at<br>grant date \$ | Held at<br>30 June 2022 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Mr D La Ferla | 1,000,000                       | 1 Dec 2019 | 1 Dec 2019 <sup>1</sup>   | 1 Dec 2022  | 0.10              | 0.003                                   | 1,000,000               |
| Mr D La Ferla | 1,000,000                       | 1 Dec 2019 | 1 Dec 2019 <sup>1</sup>   | 1 Dec 2023  | 0.13              | 0.004                                   | 1,000,000               |
| Mr P Harold   | 3,000,000                       | 3 Mar 2020 | 3 Mar 2023 <sup>2</sup>   | 3 Mar 2025  | 0.04              | 0.010                                   | 3,000,000               |
| Mr P Harold   | 3,000,000                       | 3 Mar 2020 | 3 Mar 2023 <sup>2</sup>   | 3 Mar 2025  | 0.05              | 0.009                                   | 3,000,000               |
| _             | 8,000,000                       |            |                           |             |                   | _                                       | 8,000,000               |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These options vest immediately and are exercisable at any time prior to the expiry date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> These options vest on the vesting date unless employment is terminated by the Company without reason or the completion of a Change of Control in the Company.

# 7.3 Equity instruments (continued)

#### Performance Rights

As part of the Long-Term Incentive Program, the Company has determined that the following performance rights may be granted as compensation to each key management person, upon completion of the performance period:

| Executives    | Number of performance rights granted <sup>1</sup> | Vesting condition | Invitation date <sup>1</sup> | Fair value at invitation date \$ |
|---------------|---|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr P Harold   | 2,097,537   | (a)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 1,048,768   | (b)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 1,048,768   | (c)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
| Mr B Shalders | 786,576   | (a)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 393,288   | (b)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 393,288   | (c)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
| Mr D Maxton   | 576,823   | (a)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 288,411   | (b)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
|               | 288,411   | (c)               | 15 December 2021             | \$0.087                          |
| Mr C Jones    | 944,162   | (a)               | 28 February 2022             | \$0.094                          |
|               | 472,080   | (b)               | 28 February 2022             | \$0.094                          |
|               | 472,080   | (c)               | 28 February 2022             | \$0.094                          |
|               |   |                   |                              |                                  |

- The invitation date above refers to the date the offer was made to participants. The number of performance rights is an estimate based on the volume weighted average price ("VWAP") of the Company's shares over a 20-day trading period immediately prior to the invitation date above. The actual number of performance rights issued will be determined subsequent to the conclusion of the performance period.
- (a) Total Shareholder Return (50% weighting) Absolute return from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023 benchmarked against ASX peers as per below list of peers.
- (b) Resources (25% weighting) Adding to the current JORC Reserves at least 5,000 tonnes of high-grade reserve (>3%Ni) and adding to the current JORC Resources at least 10,000 tonnes of lower grade resource (<3%Ni). To be achieved by 30 June 2023 with the increases to be included in the re-start mining inventory (only for disseminated).
- (c) Black Swan Operations (25% weighting) Black Swan needs to be in production by June 2023.

The achievement of (a), (b) and (c) is considered in the Company's assessment of the number of performance rights that are likely to vest. Upon vesting conditions being met and approved by the Board, vested performance rights are granted to the participant with a three-year exercise period.

The assessment of the above and the award are subject to Board discretion.

TSR – Peer group companies based on metal and market cap

| Listed ASX Nickel Sulphide Companies | Base Metal Companies |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mincor Resources NL                  | Develop Global Ltd   |
| Western Areas Ltd                    | Hot Chilli Ltd       |
| Red River Resources Ltd              | Widgie Nickel Ltd    |
| Panoramic Resources Ltd              | Rex Minerals Ltd     |
| Legend Mining Ltd                    | Heron Resources Ltd  |
| Lunnon Metals Ltd                    | Galena Mining Ltd    |
| Hillgrove Resources Ltd              | Centaurus Metals Ltd |
| Aeris Resources Ltd                  | St George Mining Ltd |
| New Century Resources Ltd            |                      |

# 7.3 Equity instruments (continued)

#### Fair value of performance rights granted

All performance rights issued to KMPs are valued using the Black Scholes option valuation methodology that takes into account the term of the performance rights, the share price at invitation date and expected volatility of the underlying right, the expected dividend yield, the risk-free rate for the term of the right and the correlations and volatilities of the peer group companies. The model inputs for the performance rights granted to KMPs during the year include:

|                           | Total<br>Shareholder<br>Return | Resources | Black Swan<br>Operations | Total<br>Shareholder<br>Return | Resources | Black Swan<br>Operations |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Invitation date           | 15-Dec-21                      | 15-Dec-21 | 15-Dec-21                | 28-Feb-22                      | 28-Feb-22 | 28-Feb-22                |
| Share price at invitation | \$0.087                        | \$0.087   | \$0.087                  | \$0.094                        | \$0.094   | \$0.094                  |
| Volatility                | 80%                            | 80%       | 80%                      | 80%                            | 80%       | 80%                      |
| Expected dividend         | Nil                            | Nil       | Nil                      | Nil                            | Nil       | Nil                      |
| Risk-free rate            | 0.53%                          | 0.53%     | 0.53%                    | 1.02%                          | 1.02%     | 1.02%                    |

#### Modification of terms of equity-settled share-based payment transactions

No terms of equity-settled share-based payment transactions (including options and rights granted as compensation to a key management person) have been altered or modified by the issuing entity during the reporting period or the prior period.

### Details of equity incentives affecting current and future remuneration

Details of vesting profiles of the performance rights and options for each key management person and amounts recognised as remuneration during the reporting period are detailed below:

|               |                    | Number<br>Granted/     | Grant/              | % vested | % forfeited during | Financial years in which grant | Recognised as remuneration |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
|               | Instrument         | Offered <sup>1</sup>   | Invitation date     | in year  | year               | vests                          | (\$)                       |
| Mr P Harold   | Options            | 6,000,000              | 3 Mar 2020          | -        | -                  | 30 June 2023                   | 91,888                     |
| Mr P Harold   | Performance rights | 5,128,205 <sup>2</sup> | 31 Mar 2021         | 41.36    | 58.64              | 30 June 2022                   | 74,686                     |
| Mr P Harold   | Performance rights | 4,195,073              | 15 December<br>2021 | -        | -                  | 30 June 2023                   | 45,621                     |
| Mr B Shalders | Performance rights | 2,182,540              | 31 Mar 2021         | 36.45    | 63.55              | 30 June 2022                   | 14,240                     |
| Mr B Shalders | Performance rights | 1,573,152              | 15 December<br>2021 | -        | -                  | 30 June 2023                   | 17,108                     |
| Mr D Maxton   | Performance rights | 1,153,645              | 15 December<br>2021 | -        | -                  | 30 June 2023                   | 12,546                     |
| Mr C Jones    | Performance rights | 1,888,322              | 28 February 2022    | -        | -                  | 30 June 2023                   | 22,188                     |

Performance rights are not granted or issued until the performance period has ended and the LTI award has been determined.

Performance rights to be issued are subject to shareholder approval.

# 7.3 Equity instruments (continued)

# Options and rights over equity instruments

The movement during the reporting period in the number of performance rights and options over ordinary shares in Poseidon Nickel Limited held, directly, indirectly or beneficially, by each key management person, including their related parties, is as follows:

|                  | Held at 1<br>July 2021 | Granted as<br>compen-<br>sation | Exercised | Net change<br>other <sup>2</sup> | Held at 30<br>June 2022 | Vested<br>during the<br>year | Vested and<br>exercisable at 30<br>June 2022 |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Options          |                        |                                 |           |                                  |                         |                              |  |
| Mr D La Ferla    | 2,000,000              | -                               | -         | -                                | 2,000,000               | -                            | 2,000,000                                    |
| Mr P Harold      | 6,000,000              | -                               | -         | -                                | 6,000,000               | -                            | -  |
| Performance Righ | nts <sup>3</sup>       |                                 |           |                                  |                         |                              |  |
| Mr P Harold      | 5,128,205              | 4,195,073                       | -         | (3,006,993)                      | 6,316,285               | 2,121,212 <sup>1</sup>       | 2,121,212 <sup>1</sup>                       |
| Mr B Shalders    | 2,182,540              | 1,573,152                       | -         | (1,387,085)                      | 2,368,607               | 795,455                      | 795,455                                      |
| Mr D Maxton      | -                      | 1,153,645                       | -         | -                                | 1,153,645               | -                            | -  |
| Mr C Jones       | -                      | 1,888,322                       | -         | -                                | 1,888,322               | -                            | -  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Performance rights to be issued are subject to shareholder approval.

Relates to the difference between the estimated number of performance rights to be offered at invitation date and the actual performance rights issued upon determination of an award under the LTI Plan upon conclusion of the performance period. The estimated number of performance rights is based on the volume weighted average price ("VWAP") of the Company's shares over a 20-day trading period immediately prior to the invitation date. The actual number of performance rights granted is based on the VWAP of the Company's shares over a 20-day trading period immediately prior to an award being made under the Company's LTI Plan and the number of performance rights subsequently being approved by the Board.

Performance rights have not been granted and the amounts listed above are an approximation of the performance rights offered to participants under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan.

#### 7.4 Key management personnel transactions

The movement during the reporting period in the number of ordinary shares in Poseidon Nickel Limited held, directly, indirectly or beneficially, by each key management person, including their related parties, is as follows:

|                           | Held at<br>1 July 2021 | Share<br>entitlement<br>issue | Performance<br>right<br>conversion | Purchases or sales | Net change -<br>other | Held at<br>30 June<br>2022 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Directors                 |                        |                               |                                    |                    |                       |                            |
| Mr D La Ferla             | -                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |
| Ms F Gooding <sup>4</sup> | -                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |
| Mr D Hildebrand           | -                      | -                             | -                                  | 160,000            | -                     | 160,000                    |
| Mr P Muccilli             | -                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |
| Mr W Hallam <sup>1</sup>  | -                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |
| Executives                |                        |                               |                                    |                    |                       |                            |
| Mr P Harold               | 500,000                | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | 500,000                    |
| Mr B Shalders             | 115,384                | -                             | -                                  | 61,589             | -                     | 176,973                    |
| Mr D Maxton <sup>2</sup>  | -                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |
| Mr C Jones <sup>3</sup>   | _                      | -                             | -                                  | -                  | -                     | -                          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr W Hallam was appointed Non-executive Director on 1 June 2022.

#### Other transactions with key management personnel

Director fees for Ms Gooding are payable to Wyloo Metals Pty Ltd. Amounts recognised in respect of director fees for the financial year were \$48,411 (2021: \$74,088). As at 30 June 2022 there were no amounts owing to Wyloo Metals Pty Ltd (2021: \$20,374).

Director fees for Mr Hildebrand are payable to Orchard Lane Holdings. Amounts recognised in respect of director fees for the financial year were \$67,574 (2021: \$64,088). As at 30 June 2022 there was \$20,381 owing to Orchard Lane Holdings (2021: nil).

In the prior year, Unearthed Geological Consulting, a company related to Mr Muccilli, received aggregate fees of \$21,905 relating to the provision of consultancy services (2022: nil). As at 30 June 2022 there were no amounts owing to Unearthed Geological Consulting (2021: nil).

Transactions with the related parties were made on commercial terms and at market rates.

# 7.5 Analysis of bonuses included in remuneration

Details of the vesting profile of the short-term incentive ("STI") bonuses awarded as remuneration and paid as cash to each director of the Company, and other key management personnel are detailed below:

Maximum

|               |             | Maximum STI available (% of |              | Included in         |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Executives    | Base Salary | Base Salary)                | Achieved STI | remuneration \$     |
| Mr P Harold   | \$500,000   | 50%                         | 25%          | 62,500              |
| Mr B Shalders | \$300,000   | 40%                         | 25%          | 30,000              |
| Mr D Maxton   | \$275,000   | 30%                         | 27.5%        | 22,688              |
| Mr C Jones    | \$350,000   | 40%                         | 25%          | 11,795 <sup>1</sup> |
|               |             |                             |              |                     |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>STI bonus has been prorated based on employment commencing on 28 February 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mr D Maxton was appointed Project Director on 1 September 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mr C Jones was appointed General Manager Mining on 28 February 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ms F Gooding resigned as Non-executive Director on 25 February 2022.

# 7.5 Analysis of bonuses included in remuneration (continued)

The following vesting conditions to be achieved over a 12-month period ending 30 June 2022 to qualify for an STI bonus included:

#### **Gateway conditions**

(i) Health and Safety – No significant long-term injuries – no fatalities and no permanent or total disablement injuries.

#### Corporate KPI conditions

- (ii) Black Swan Development Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) for Black Swan 1.1Mtpa operation to be completed by 30 June 2022.
- (iii) Lake Johnston Restart study for Maggie Hays, which is economically accretive, is to be completed by 30 June 2022.
- (iv) Ore Reserve Growth At least 5kt of high grade (>3%) reserve is to be added to current JORC Reserves by 30 June 2022.
- (v) Ore Resource Growth At least an additional 10,000 tonnes of Black Swan Disseminated ore, which must be included in the re-start mining inventory, to be added to existing Resources by 30 June 2022.

The following individual KPIs were allocated to specific key management personnel that were to be achieved over a 12-month period ending 30 June 2022 to qualify for an STI bonus:

#### Individual KPI conditions

- (vi) Black Swan Funding Evaluate funding options to fund restart of Black Swan circuit and identify optimal funding option with risks accounted for, resulting in an acceptable credit approved terms sheet which supports the restart of Black Swan by 30 June 2022.
- (vii) Offtake Partners Evaluate offtake partners to support restart of Black Swan resulting in an acceptable terms sheet for offtake which supports the Black Swan restart by 30 June 2022.
- (viii) Black Swan Restart Complete BFS for Black Swan 1.1Mtpa processing circuit and ore feed sources (Black Swan open pit, Silver Swan tailings, Golden Swan and Silver Swan underground) by 30 June 2022.
- (ix) Windarra Gold Tailings Identify and engage with an appropriate partner to develop or divest the Windarra/Lancefield Gold Tailings project, resulting in a signed JV agreement or acceptable terms sheet by 30 June 2022.
- (x) Lake Johnston Development Completion of the Lake Johnston restart study by 30 June 2022.
- (xi) Ore Reserve Growth At least 5kt of high grade (>3%) reserves to be added to current JORC Reserves by 30 June 2022.
- (xii) Ore Resources Growth At least an additional 10,000 tonnes of Black Swan Disseminated ore, which must be included in the re-start mining inventory, to be added to existing Resources by 30 June 2022.

# 7.5 Analysis of bonuses included in remuneration (continued)

The table below details the relevant KPIs applicable to each key management personnel:

| Executive     | KPI                              | Weighting % | Achieved % |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Mr P Harold   | Black Swan Development           | 25          | 0          |
|               | Lake Johnston                    | 25          | 100        |
|               | Ore Reserve Growth               | 25          | 0          |
|               | Ore Resource Growth              | 25          | 0          |
| Mr B Shalders | Black Swan Development           | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Lake Johnston                    | 17.5        | 100        |
|               | Ore Reserve Growth               | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Ore Resource Growth              | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Black Swan Funding               | 15          | 0          |
|               | Offtake Partners                 | 15          | 0          |
| Mr D Maxton   | Black Swan Development           | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Lake Johnston                    | 17.5        | 100        |
|               | Ore Reserve Growth               | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Ore Resource Growth              | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Black Swan Restart               | 10          | 0          |
|               | Windarra Gold Tailings           | 10          | 100        |
|               | Lake Johnston Development        | 10          | 0          |
| Mr C Jones    | Black Swan Development           | 17.5        | 0          |
|               | Lake Johnston                    | 17.5        | 100        |
|               | Ore Reserve Growth <sup>1</sup>  | 32.5        | 0          |
|               | Ore Resource Growth <sup>1</sup> | 32.5        | 0          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Made up of 17.5% for Corporate KPI and 15% for Individual KPI

Due to unforeseen delays in the Black Swan Feasibility Study ("BFS") process, which was beyond the influence or control of employees, the Board has approved to extend the milestone dates of the three Corporate KPIs relating to the BFS to 31 December 2022. The affected KPIs are:

- (i) Black Swan Development
- (ii) Ore Reserve Growth
- (iii) Ore Resource Growth

The Board has also approved the extension of any Individual KPIs relating to the BFS to 31 December 2022.

For employees who have been awarded less than 25% of their STI based on their Corporate KPI performance will be paid 25% of their STI for the period to 30 June 2022, as approved by the Board. Any additional STI received at this time will be offset against the amount that will be awarded for the extended KPIs at 31 December 2022.

The Board has used its discretion to make these one-off amendments in order to reflect that the delays in the development of the BFS were outside the control or influence of employees, and primarily related to industry wide resource shortages.

# End of Remuneration report – audited

#### 8. Corporate governance statement

The Company's 2022 Corporate Governance Statement has been released as a separate document and is also located on our website at http://www.poseidon-nickel.com.au/investors-media/corporate-governance/.

#### 9. Dividends

The Directors recommend that no dividend be declared or paid.

#### 10. Events subsequent to reporting date

On 6 September 2022 the Company announced it had signed a binding Heads of Agreement with Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd ("GGP") for the processing of the Windarra Gold Tailings Project. A final agreement is subject to GGP being satisfied with the outcome of metallurgical testwork using GGP patented technology and a bankable feasibility study being completed at their expense. GGP will be responsible for the funding, development and operation of the tailings project.

#### 11. Directors' interests

The relevant interest of each director in the shares, debentures, interests in registered schemes and rights or options over such instruments issued by the companies within the Group and other related bodies corporate, as notified by the directors to the Australian Securities Exchange in accordance with S205G(1) of the Corporations Act 2001, at the date of this report is as follows:

|                 | Ordinary<br>shares | Options over<br>ordinary shares | Performance<br>Rights |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr D La Ferla   | -                  | 2,000,000                       | -                     |
| Mr P Harold     | 500,000            | 6,000,000                       | 6,316,285             |
| Mr D Hildebrand | 160,000            | -                               | -                     |
| Mr P Muccilli   | -                  | -                               | -                     |
| Mr W Hallam     | <del>_</del>       | -                               | -                     |
|                 | 660,000            | 8,000,000                       | 6,316,285             |

# 12. Share options

#### Options granted to directors and officers of the Company

During the financial year, there were no new options granted to directors or officers of the Company.

No option holder has any right under the options to participate in any other share issue of the Company or any other entity.

# Shares issued on exercise of options

During or since the end of the financial year, the Company has not issued any ordinary shares as a result of the exercise of options.

### 13. Indemnification and insurance of officers

#### Insurance premiums

The Company has agreed to indemnify the following current directors and officers of the Company, Mr D La Ferla, Mr D Hildebrand, Mr P Muccilli, Mr W Hallam, Mr P Harold and Mr B Shalders against all liabilities to another person (other than the Company or a related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors and officers of the Company and its controlled entities, except where the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith. The agreement stipulates that the Company will meet the full amount of any such liabilities, including costs and expenses.

The Company has also agreed to indemnify the current directors and officers of its controlled entities for all liabilities to another person (other than the company or a related body corporate) that may arise from their position, except where the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith. The agreement stipulates that the Company will meet the full amount of any such liabilities, including costs and expenses.

# 13. Indemnification and insurance of officers (continued)

The Company has paid a premium to insure the directors and officers of the Company and its controlled entities. Details of the premium are subject to a confidentiality clause under the contract of insurance and do not contain details of the premiums paid in respect of individual officers of the Company. The insurance premiums relate to:

- Costs and expenses incurred by the relevant officers in defending proceedings, whether civil or criminal and whatever their outcome; and
- Other liabilities that may arise from their position, with the exception of conduct involving a wilful breach of duty or improper use of information or position to gain a personal advantage.

#### 14. Non-audit services

During the year KPMG, the Company's auditor, has not performed any services outside their statutory duties. The fee paid for the audit and review of financial reports is \$67,770 (2021: \$63,906).

# 15. Lead auditor's independence declaration

The Lead auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 86 and forms part of the directors' report for financial year ended 30 June 2022.

# 16. Rounding off

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations Instrument 2016/191 dated 1 April 2016 and in accordance with that instrument, amounts in the financial report and directors' report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise stated.

This report is made with a resolution of the directors:



Mr P Harold **Managing Director/CEO** 

Perth

16 September 2022



# **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

As at 30 June 2022

| In thousands of AUD  | Note | 2022      | 2021      |
|--|------|-----------|-----------|
| Assets   |      |           |           |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                  | 4.1a | 11,089    | 7,903     |
| Trade and other receivables                                | 4.2  | 861       | 880       |
| Other investments – term deposits                          |      | -         | 36        |
| Total current assets                                       |      | 11,950    | 8,819     |
| Property, plant and equipment                              | 3.2  | 24,760    | 24,593    |
| Right-of-Use Assets  | 3.3  | 485       | 630       |
| Exploration and evaluation expenditure                     | 3.1  | 99,940    | 87,397    |
| Other  | 3.4  | 3,500     | 3,500     |
| Total non-current assets                                   |      | 128,685   | 116,120   |
| Total assets   |      | 140,635   | 124,939   |
| Liabilities  |      |           |           |
| Trade and other payables                                   | 4.3  | 1,891     | 2,638     |
| Lease liabilities  | 5.2  | 147       | 140       |
| Employee benefits  |      | 228       | 94        |
| Provisions   | 3.5  | -         | 3,500     |
| Total current liabilities                                  |      | 2,266     | 6,372     |
| Provisions   | 3.5  | 62,467    | 57,919    |
| Lease liabilities  | 5.2  | 372       | 519       |
| Total non-current liabilities                              |      | 62,839    | 58,438    |
| Total liabilities  |      | 65,105    | 64,810    |
| Net Assets   |      | 75,530    | 60,129    |
| Equity   |      |           |           |
| Share capital  | 5.1  | 265,071   | 238,266   |
| Reserves   |      | 641       | 336       |
| Accumulated losses   |      | (190,182) | (178,473) |
| Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company |      | 75,530    | 60,129    |

The notes on pages 53 to 79 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss** and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2022

| In thousands of AUD N                          | lote | 2022     | 2021     |
|--|------|----------|----------|
| Other income                                   | 2.2  | 450      | 738      |
| Depreciation expense                           |      | (395)    | (370)    |
| Personnel expenses                             | 2.3  | (3,122)  | (2,144)  |
| Exploration and evaluation costs expensed      | 3.1  | (5,939)  | (5,977)  |
| Consultancy and advisor fees                   |      | (1,202)  | (1,288)  |
| Share based payment expense                    | 6.1  | (305)    | (323)    |
| Other expenses                                 |      | (1,231)  | (1,037)  |
| Results from operating activities              |      | (11,744) | (10,401) |
|  |      |          |          |
| Finance income                                 |      | 47       | 274      |
| Finance costs                                  |      | (12)     | (806)    |
| Net finance income / (costs)                   | 2.4  | 35       | (532)    |
|  |      |          |          |
| Loss before income tax                         |      | (11,709) | (10,933) |
|  |      |          |          |
| Income tax benefit                             | 2.5  | -        | -        |
|  |      |          |          |
| Total comprehensive loss for the year          |      | (11,709) | (10,933) |
|  |      |          |          |
| Earnings per share                             |      |          |          |
| Basic and diluted loss per share (cents/share) | 2.6  | (0.39)   | (0.40)   |

The notes on pages 53 to 79 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

# For the year ended 30 June 2022

| In thousands of AUD                                  | Share<br>Capital | Share based payment reserve | Accumulated losses | Total equity |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2020                               | 228,796          | 15                          | (167,540)          | 61,271       |
| Loss for the year                                    | -                | -                           | (10,933)           | (10,933)     |
| Other comprehensive income                           |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Total other comprehensive income                     |                  | -                           | -                  | <u> </u>     |
| Total comprehensive income for the year              |                  | =                           | (10,933)           | (10,933)     |
| Transactions with owners recorded directly in equity |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Contributions by and distributions to owners         |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Issue of share capital (net of costs)                | 9,468            | -                           | -                  | 9,468        |
| Issue of share options                               | -                | 156                         | -                  | 156          |
| Issue of performance rights                          | -                | 167                         | -                  | 167          |
| Performance rights exercised                         | 2                | (2)                         | -                  | -            |
| Total contributions by and distributions to owners   | 9,470            | 321                         | -                  | 9,791        |
| Balance at 30 June 2021                              | 238,266          | 336                         | (178,473)          | 60,129       |
| Loss for the year                                    | -                | -                           | (11,709)           | (11,709)     |
| Other comprehensive income                           |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Total other comprehensive income                     | -                | -                           | -                  | -            |
| Total comprehensive income for the year              | -                | -                           | (11,709)           | (11,709)     |
| Transactions with owners recorded directly in equity |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Contributions by and distributions to owners         |                  |                             |                    |              |
| Issue of share capital (net of costs)                | 26,805           | -                           | -                  | 26,805       |
| Issue of share options                               | -                | 92                          | -                  | 92           |
| Issue of performance rights                          | -                | 213                         | -                  | 213          |
| Total contributions by and distributions to owners   | 26,805           | 305                         | =                  | 27,110       |
| Balance at 30 June 2022                              | 265,071          | 641                         | (190,182)          | 75,530       |

The condensed notes on pages 53 to 79 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 30 June 2022

| In thousands of AUD  | Note | 2022     | 2021     |
|--|------|----------|----------|
| Cash flows from operating activities                         |      |          |          |
| Sundry receipts  |      | 487      | 607      |
| Payments to suppliers and employees                          |      | (11,611) | (10,270) |
| Cash used in operations                                      |      | (11,124) | (9,663)  |
| Interest received  |      | 47       | 171      |
| Net cash used in operating activities 4.                     | .1b  | (11,077) | (9,492)  |
|  |      |          |          |
| Cash flows from investing activities                         |      |          |          |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment                   |      | (348)    | (246)    |
| Payments for exploration and evaluation expenditure          | _    | (12,042) | (11,646) |
| Net cash used in investing activities                        |      | (12,390) | (11,892) |
|  |      |          |          |
| Cash flows from financing activities                         |      |          |          |
| Proceeds from the issue of shares and options (net of costs) |      | 26,805   | 9,468    |
| Repayment of borrowings                                      |      | -        | (25,115) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities 5.                            | .2   | (152)    | (73)     |
| Interest paid  | _    | -        | (229)    |
| Net cash received from/ (used in) financing activities       |      | 26,653   | (15,949) |
|  |      |          |          |
| Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents        |      | 3,186    | (37,333) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July                          |      | 7,903    | 45,236   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June 4.                      | .1a  | 11,089   | 7,903    |

The notes on pages 53 to 79 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.



# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

# Section 1 – Basis of Preparation

Poseidon Nickel Limited presents its financial statements in a format and style that is relevant and clear to shareholders and other users. In preparing the 2022 financial statements, we have grouped notes into sections under six key categories:

- 1. Basis of preparation
- 2. Results for the year
- 3. Assets and liabilities supporting Exploration and Evaluation
- 4. Working capital disclosures
- 5. Equity and funding
- 6. Other disclosures

Significant accounting policies specific to one note are included within that note. Accounting policies determined non-significant are not included in the financial statements. There have been no changes to the Group's accounting policies that are no longer disclosed in the financial statements.

#### 1.1 General information

Poseidon Nickel Limited (the 'Company') is a for profit entity domiciled in Australia. The Company's registered office is located at Level 1, 3 Ord Street, West Perth WA 6005. The Group is primarily involved in exploration and evaluation of projects relating to nickel and other minerals.

The consolidated financial statements comprising of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the 'Group') have been authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 16 September 2022. The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which:

- Have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards ("AASBs") adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ("AASB") and the Corporations Act 2001. The consolidated financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB");
- Have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for the convertible note derivative and share based payments which are measured at fair value. The basis of measurement is discussed further in the individual notes:
- Are presented in Australian Dollars, being the Company's functional currency and the functional currency of the companies within the Group. Amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise stated, in accordance with ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors Report) Instrument 2016/191;
- Adopts all new and revised Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the AASB that are relevant to the operations of the Group and effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2021.
   Refer to note 6.8 for further details; and
- Does not early adopt any Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued or amended but not yet effective.

# 1.2 Going concern

For the year ended 30 June 2022 the Group recorded a loss after tax of \$11,709,000 (2021: \$10,933,000) that includes depreciation and share based payment expense which are both non-cash items. If these items are excluded, the underlying loss after tax for the Group for the year is \$11,009,000 (2021: \$9,443,000). The working capital surplus as at 30 June 2022 is \$9,684,000 (2021: surplus \$2,447,000). The primary liability of the Group is the site rehabilitation provision of \$62,467,000 (2021: \$57,919,000), which includes \$3,500,000 that has been reclassified from current to non-current as a result of the termination of the Windarra State Agreement. The Directors do not anticipate the Group being required to remediate its sites in the foreseeable future. The site rehabilitation provision is classified as non-current and included within total net assets of \$75,530,000 (2021: \$60,129,000).

#### 1.2 Going concern (continued)

The Group had a net cash outflow from operating activities of \$11,077,000 (2021: \$9,492,000) and a net cash outflow from investing activities of \$12,390,000 (2021: \$11,892,000). Operating cash outflow reflects ongoing exploration and evaluation and care and maintenance activities across the three operations of Black Swan, Lake Johnston and Windarra. Investing cash outflow reflects payments on exploration and evaluation activities and property, plant and equipment. In August 2021 the Company raised \$22 million (before costs) through a private placement of ordinary shares and in September 2021 raised a further \$6 million under a share purchase plan. The capital raising incurred transaction costs of \$1,195,000. The Group held cash and cash equivalents of \$11,089,000 at 30 June 2022 (2021: \$7,903,000).

The Directors have reviewed a cash flow forecast for the next 12 months from the date of signing the financial report which demonstrates that the Group will have sufficient cash resources to continue as a going concern, subject to successful fund raising activities during the period. The Directors consider the going concern basis of preparation to be appropriate based on forecast cash flows for the next 12 months which incorporates raising additional funding through equity, debt or hybrid financing, joint venture type arrangements or other means to meet forecast minimum expenditure and maintain tenements and meet ongoing costs. The ability of the Group to achieve its forecast cashflows, being reliant on raising additional funds, represents material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about whether the Group can continue as a going concern in which case it may not be able to realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the financial report.

#### 1.3 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company (its subsidiaries) made up to 30 June each year.

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. The Group controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. The financial statements of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date on which control commences until the date on which control ceases.

#### 1.4 Foreign currencies

The primary economic environment in which the Group operates is Australia. The consolidated financial statements are therefore presented in Australian dollars.

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded in Australian dollars at the exchange rate on that day. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Australian dollars at the year-end exchange rate. Where there is a movement in the exchange rate between the date of the transaction and the year-end, a foreign exchange gain or loss may arise. Any such differences are recognised in the income statement. Non-monetary assets and liabilities measured at historical cost are translated into Australian dollars at the exchange rate on the date of the transaction.

# 1.5 Research and development expenditure

The Group undertakes expenditure on activities that are categorised as 'eligible expenditure' under the Research & Development Tax Concession which are dependent upon certain criteria and may be subject to a tax offset. Under AASB 120, where a tax offset has been received or receivable in cash, the Group accounts for the tax offset as follows:

- Where a grant is received or receivable in relation to research and development costs which have been capitalised, the tax offset shall be deducted from the carrying amount of the asset; or
- Where a grant is received or receivable in relation to research and development costs which have been charged to the profit and loss account during this or a prior financial year, the tax offset shall be credited to the profit and loss account.

#### 1.6 Impairment

#### Financial assets

A financial asset not carried at fair value through profit or loss is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

Impairment losses on available-for-sale investments are recognised by reclassifying the cumulative loss that has been recognised in the fair value reserve in equity to profit or loss. The cumulative loss that is reclassified from equity to profit or loss is the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognised in profit or loss. Any subsequent recovery in the fair value of an impaired available-for-sale equity security is recognised in other comprehensive income.

#### Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets, other than deferred tax assets, are assessed for impairment when facts and circumstances suggest that the carrying amount may exceed its recoverable amount.

An impairment test is performed by assessing the recoverable amount of each asset, or cash generating unit ("CGU"). Assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and 'value in use'. The value in use is based on the present value of the future cash flows expected to arise from the asset, taking into account the risks specific to the asset or CGU.

Any impairment identified is recognised in profit or loss. Reversals of impairments of assets are recognised if there is an indication that a previously recognised impairment loss has reversed and the recoverable amount of the impaired asset has subsequently increased.

#### 1.7 Accounting judgements and estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis, with revisions recognised in the period in which estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

Judgements and estimates which are material to the financial report are found in the following areas:

- Going concern (note 1.2);
- Exploration and evaluation assets (note 3.1);
- Site rehabilitation provision (note 3.5); and
- Share-based payments (note 6.1).

#### Section 2 – Results for the Year

This section focuses on the results and performance of the Group, with disclosures including segmental information, components of the operating loss, taxation and earnings per share.

# KEY ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS IN THIS SECTION **Deferred taxation**

The Group has unrecognised carry forward tax losses which can be utilised against future taxable profits. Given that the Group is not yet in production, future taxable profits are not considered probable to utilise carry forward tax losses, as such the tax asset has not been recognised.

### 2.1 Operating segments

For management purposes the Group has one operating segment, being nickel and other mineral exploration and evaluation in Australia. Segment results that are reported to the Group chief operating decision maker include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis. Unallocated items comprise mainly corporate assets (primarily the Company's headquarters), head office expenses, and income tax assets and liabilities. Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the period to acquire property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets other than goodwill.

| Information about reportable segments                 | Nickel exploration and evaluation |          |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
| In thousands of AUD                                   | 2022                              | 2021     |
| For the year ended 30 June                            |                                   |          |
| Reportable segment other income                       | 446                               | 669      |
| Reportable segment exploration costs expensed         | (5,939)                           | (5,977)  |
| Reportable segment loss before income tax             | (5,493)                           | (5,308)  |
| Reportable segment assets                             | 127,921                           | 115,205  |
| Reportable segment liabilities                        | 64,003                            | 63,555   |
| Capital expenditure                                   | 11,913                            | 13,022   |
| Reconciliations of reportable segment loss and assets |                                   |          |
| Loss  |                                   |          |
| Total loss for reportable segments                    | (5,493)                           | (5,308)  |
| Unallocated amounts: other corporate expenses         | (6,251)                           | (5,093)  |
| Net finance costs                                     | 35                                | (532)    |
| Loss before income tax                                | (11,709)                          | (10,933) |
| Assets  |                                   |          |
| Total assets for reportable segments                  | 127,921                           | 115,205  |
| Other assets  | 12,714                            | 9,734    |
|   | 140,635                           | 124,939  |
| Liabilities   |                                   |          |
| Total liabilities for reportable segments             | 64,003                            | 63,555   |
| Other liabilities                                     | 1,102                             | 1,255    |
|   | 65,105                            | 64,810   |

There have been no changes to the basis of segmentation or the measurement basis for the segment loss since 30 June 2021.

#### 2.2 Other income

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### Research and development proceeds

Research and development proceeds are government grants that are recognised in profit or loss when there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received.

#### Sundry income

Includes income received from the rental of camp facilities and mining equipment to third parties.

The table below sets out the other income received during the year:

| In thousands of AUD               | 2022 | 2021 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| Research and development proceeds | 370  | 526  |
| Sundry income                     | 80   | 212  |
|                                   | 450  | 738  |

### 2.3 Personnel expenses

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### Short-term employee benefits

Wages, salaries and defined contribution superannuation benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

#### Other long-term employee benefits

The Group's net obligation in respect of long-term employee benefits is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their services in the current and prior periods. That benefit is discounted to determine its present value. Re-measurements are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

# Share-based payments

The policy relating to share-based payments is set out in note 6.1.

The table below sets out personnel costs expensed during the year:

| In thousands of AUD                                     | 2022  | 2021  |
|---|-------|-------|
| Directors fees  | 330   | 342   |
| Wages and salaries                                      | 1,752 | 1,288 |
| Superannuation expense                                  | 243   | 146   |
| Other associated personnel expenses                     | 533   | 255   |
| Increase in liability for annual leave                  | 261   | 117   |
| Increase/(decrease) in liability for long service leave | 3     | (4)   |
|   | 3,122 | 2,144 |

#### 2.4 Net financing costs

# ACCOUNTING POLICY

Net finance costs comprise income on funds invested, gains / losses on disposal of financial instruments, changes in fair value of financial instruments, interest expense on borrowings, impairment losses on financial assets and foreign exchange gains / losses. Interest income and expense is recognised as it accrues in profit or loss, using the effective interest method.

### 2.4 Net financing costs (continued)

Net financing costs can be analysed as follows:

| In thousands of AUD                 | Note | 2022 | 2021  |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Interest income on bank deposits    |      | 47   | 105   |
| Net foreign exchange gain           |      | -    | 169   |
| Finance income                      |      | 47   | 274   |
| Interest expense – convertible note |      | -    | (797) |
| Interest expense – lease            | 5.2  | (12) | (9)   |
| Finance costs                       |      | (12) | (806) |
| Net finance income/(cost)           |      | 35   | (532) |

#### 2.5 Income tax expenses

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

The income tax expense represents the sum of tax currently payable and deferred tax. Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. Current tax is based on tax rates enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is the tax expected to be payable or recoverable on differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax base used for calculating taxable profits. Deferred tax balances are disclosed net to the extent that they relate to taxes levied by the same authority and the Group has the right of set-off.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to the temporary differences when they reverse, based on substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Income taxes relating to items recognised directly in equity are recognised in equity and not in the income statement.

# 2.5 Income tax expenses (continued)

# a. Analysis of tax (credit) / charge in year

| In thousands of AUD                               | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Current tax expense                               |      |      |
| Current year                                      | -    | -    |
| Adjustments for prior periods                     | -    |      |
|   | -    | -    |
| Deferred tax expense                              |      |      |
| Origination and reversal of temporary differences | -    |      |
|   | -    | -    |
| Total tax benefit                                 | -    | _    |

# b. Numerical reconciliation between tax expense and pre-tax accounting loss

| In thousands of AUD                                  | 2022     | 2021     |
|--|----------|----------|
| Loss for the year                                    | (11,709) | (10,933) |
| Total tax expense                                    | -        | -        |
| Loss excluding tax                                   | (11,709) | (10,933) |
|  |          |          |
| Income tax expense at the Australian tax rate of 30% |          |          |
| (2021: 30%)  | (3,513)  | (3,280)  |
| Share-based payments                                 | 91       | 98       |
| Non-assessable grant income                          | (111)    | (158)    |
| Other non-deductible expenses                        | -        | 4        |
| Over provided in prior periods                       | 21       | 1_       |
|  | (3,512)  | (3,335)  |
| Deferred tax assets not recognised                   | 3,512    | 3,335    |
| Total income tax benefit                             | -        | -        |

# c. Recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following:

| In thousands of AUD                  | 2022     | 2021     |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Deferred Tax Liabilities             |          |          |
| Exploration expenditure              | (33,321) | (26,762) |
| Right-of-Use Assets                  | 10       | 9        |
| Other items                          | (7)      | (12)     |
| Deferred Tax Assets                  |          |          |
|                                      |          |          |
| Carry forward tax losses             | 56,142   | 48,766   |
| Business related costs               | 637      | 638      |
| Closure costs                        | 18,740   | 15,126   |
| Other items                          | 126      | 291      |
| Total deferred tax asset/(liability) | 42,327   | 38,056   |
| Tax losses not recognised            | (42,327) | (38,056) |
| Net deferred tax asset/(liability)   | -        |          |

### 2.5 Income tax expenses (continued)

### d. Unrecognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

Deferred tax assets have not been recognised in respect of the following items:

| In thousands of AUD | 2022   | 2021   |
|---------------------|--------|--------|
| Tax losses          | 42,327 | 38,056 |
|                     | 42,327 | 38,056 |

At 30 June 2022, the Group has carry-forward tax losses of \$56,142,000 at 30% (30 June 2021: \$48,766,000) of which \$13,815,000 (30 June 2021: \$10,710,000) has been recognised.

The tax losses do not expire under current tax legislation. Deferred tax assets have not been recognised in respect of these items because it is not probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the Group can utilise the benefits therefrom.

# 2.6 Earnings (loss) per share

### Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share

Earnings (loss) per share ("EPS") is the amount of post-tax profit/(loss) attributable to each share.

The calculation of EPS at 30 June 2022 was based on the loss attributable to ordinary shareholders of \$11,709,000 (2021: \$10,933,000) and a weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding of 3,032,777,000 (2021: 2,729,940,000). Diluted EPS takes into account the dilutive effect of all potential ordinary shares, being share options on issue.

| In thousands  | 2022      | 2021      |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Loss attributable to ordinary shareholders            | (11,709)  | (10,933)  |
| Issued ordinary shares at 1 July                      | 2,809,415 | 2,642,702 |
| Effect of shares issued                               | 223,362   | 87,238    |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares at 30 June | 3,032,777 | 2,729,940 |
| Basic and diluted* loss per share (cents)             | (0.39)    | (0.40)    |

<sup>\*</sup> Potential ordinary shares of the Group consist of 3,000,000 dilutive share options issued (2021: 6,000,000 dilutive share options). In accordance with AASB 133 'Earnings per Share' options are excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings (loss) per share due to their anti-dilutive effect as the Group was in a loss-making position.

# Section 3 – Assets and Liabilities Supporting Exploration and Evaluation

This section focuses on the exploration and evaluation assets which form the core of the business, including those assets and liabilities which support ongoing exploration and evaluation as well as capital commitments existing at the year end.

#### KEY ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS IN THIS SECTION

#### Indicators of impairment for exploration and evaluation assets

At 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2021, the Group has concluded that no impairment indicators existed. In making this assessment, management is required to make assessments on the status of each project and the future plans towards successful development and commercial exploitation, or alternatively sale, of the respective areas of interest.

#### Site restoration

Provisions for the costs of rehabilitation, decommissioning and restoration of the area disturbed during mining activities depends on the legal requirements at the date of decommissioning, the costs and timing of work and the discount rate to be applied. Site restoration provisions are reviewed and updated as necessary each year to reflect management's best estimates of future cost estimates and timings.

#### 3.1 Exploration and evaluation expenditure

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

Acquisition of a right to explore is capitalised. Subsequently, expenditure on exploration and evaluation activities relating to each area of interest is capitalised as incurred only where a commercially recoverable JORC compliant resource has been identified. Expenditure incurred on activities that precede establishing the existence of a commercially recoverable mineral resource is expensed as incurred. An 'area of interest' is an individual geological area which is considered to constitute a favourable environment for the presence of a mineral deposit or has been proved to contain such a deposit.

Exploration and evaluation assets are classified as tangible or intangible according to the nature of the assets. Costs incurred in relation to exploration and evaluation includes acquisition of rights to explore, gathering exploration data through topographical, geochemical and geophysical studies and exploratory drilling, trenching and sampling. Directly attributable administration costs are treated as exploration and evaluation expenditure insofar as they relate to specific exploration activities. Pre-licence costs and general exploration costs not specific to any particular licence or prospect are expensed as incurred, as well as borrowing costs in connection with financing exploration and evaluation activities.

Exploration and evaluation assets are transferred to Development Assets once technical feasibility and commercial viability of an area of interest is demonstrable. Exploration and evaluation assets are assessed for impairment and any impairment loss is recognised prior to being reclassified.

# Impairment

Exploration and evaluation assets are tested for impairment if:

- sufficient data exists to determine technical feasibility and commercial viability is unlikely, or
- facts and circumstances suggest the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount. The application of this
  policy requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions about future events or circumstances,
  in particular, whether an economically viable extraction operation can be established.

Such triggering events are defined in AASB 6 Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources in respect of exploration and evaluation assets.

Where a potential impairment is indicated, an assessment is performed for each CGU which is no larger than an area of interest. The Group performs impairment testing in accordance with note 1.6.

# 3.1 Exploration and evaluation expenditure (continued)

#### Impairment (continued)

Any impairment identified is recognised in profit or loss. Reversals of impairments of assets are recognised if there is an indication that a previously recognised impairment loss has reversed and the recoverable amount of the impaired asset has subsequently increased.

In determining the assumptions used in assessing impairment, consideration has been taken as to current and expected market conditions arising from COVID-19. Actual results could significantly differ depending on the recovery from such conditions.

Details of assets in the exploration and evaluation phase can be found below:

| In thousands of AUD  Costs carried forward in respect of areas of interest in the following phase: | 2022   | 2021   |
|--|--------|--------|
| Exploration and evaluation phase   | 99,940 | 87,397 |
| Reconciliations: Exploration and evaluation phase  |        |        |
| Carrying amount at beginning of year   | 87,397 | 65,659 |
| Additions  | 11,495 | 12,054 |
| Movement in provisions (note 3.5)  | 1,048  | 9,684  |
| Carrying amount at end of year   | 99,940 | 87,397 |

The ultimate recoupment of costs carried forward for exploration and evaluation is dependent on the successful development and commercial exploitation or sale of the respective areas of interest. Exploration expenditure of \$5,939,000 (2021: \$5,977,000) was expensed as incurred through the Income Statement for the year.

#### 3.2 Property, plant and equipment

#### ACCOUNTING POLICY

#### Recognition and measurement

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Cost includes expenditures that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each component. Leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Land is not depreciated. Items of PPE are depreciated from the date that they are installed and are ready for use. The estimated useful lives for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

Leasehold improvements 25 years Plant and equipment 2 - 20 years Motor vehicles 8 - 12 years

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reassessed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

# 3.2 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

### **Impairment**

Non-current assets are tested for impairment when facts and circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may exceed the recoverable amount. The Group performs impairment testing in accordance with note 1.6.

Any impairment identified is recognised in profit or loss. Reversals of impairments of assets are recognised if there is an indication that a previously recognised impairment loss has reversed and the recoverable amount of the impaired asset has subsequently increased.

| In thousands of AUD                  | Leasehold<br>improve-<br>ments | Plant and<br>equipment-<br>head office | Plant and equipment-<br>mining sites | Motor<br>vehicles<br>- mining | Total         |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Cost                                 | 4.000                          |  |                                      | 0.50                          | 00.00=        |
| Balance at 1 July 2020               | 1,006                          | 716                                    | 26,757                               | 358                           | 28,837        |
| Additions                            | -                              | 30                                     | 203                                  | 19                            | 252           |
| Disposals<br>Balance at 30 June 2021 | 1,006                          | (6)<br>740                             | 26,960                               | 377                           | (6)<br>29,083 |
| Balance at 50 June 2021              | 1,000                          | 740                                    | 20,900                               | 311                           | 29,003        |
| Balance at 1 July 2021               | 1,006                          | 740                                    | 26,960                               | 377                           | 29,083        |
| Additions                            | 1,000                          | 37                                     | 20,900                               | 169                           | 417           |
| Disposals                            | _                              | (4)                                    | -                                    | -                             | (4)           |
| Balance at 30 June 2022              | 1.006                          | 773                                    | 27,171                               | 546                           | 29,496        |
|                                      | ,                              | -                                      | ,                                    |                               | -,            |
|                                      | Leasehold<br>improve-<br>ments | Plant and equipment-                   | Plant and equipment-<br>mining sites | Motor<br>vehicles<br>- mining | Total         |
| In thousands of AUD                  | monto                          |  | mining onco                          | 9                             |               |
| Depreciation and impairment losses   |                                |  |                                      |                               |               |
| Balance at 1 July 2020               | 511                            | 435                                    | 3,014                                | 259                           | 4,219         |
| Depreciation for the year            | 40                             | 25                                     | 193                                  | 19                            | 277           |
| Disposals                            | -                              | (6)                                    | -                                    | -                             | (6)           |
| Balance at 30 June 2021              | 551                            | 454                                    | 3,207                                | 278                           | 4,490         |
|                                      |                                |  |                                      |                               |               |
| Balance at 1 July 2021               | 551                            | 454                                    | 3,207                                | 278                           | 4,490         |
| Depreciation for the year            | 40                             | 43                                     | 138                                  | 29                            | 250           |
| Disposals                            |                                | (4)                                    |                                      |                               | (4)           |
| Balance at 30 June 2022              | 591                            | 493                                    | 3,345                                | 307                           | 4,736         |
| Carrying amounts                     |                                |  |                                      |                               |               |
|                                      | Leasehold                      | Plant and                              | Plant and                            | Motor                         | Total         |
|                                      | improve-                       | equipment-                             | equipment-                           | vehicles                      |               |
| In thousands of AUD                  | ments                          | head office                            | mining sites                         | - mining                      |               |
| At 30 June 2021                      | 455                            | 286                                    | 23,753                               | 99                            | 24,593        |
| At 30 June 2022                      | 415                            | 280                                    | 23,826                               | 239                           | 24,760        |
| At 30 Julie 2022                     | 410                            | 200                                    | 23,020                               | 239                           | 24,700        |

As the Lake Johnston and Black Swan nickel operations remain on care and maintenance, certain plant and equipment items associated with these projects that are not installed and ready for use are currently not being depreciated. As at 30 June 2022, the total carrying amount of these assets was \$22,983,000 (2021: \$22,983,000).

# 3.3 Right-of-use assets

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### Recognition and measurement

The Group recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e. the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognised, initial direct costs incurred, and lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received. Unless the Group is reasonably certain to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the recognised right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of its estimated useful life and the lease term. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment.

During the prior year, the Group entered into a new office space lease agreement for five years. The Group makes monthly fixed payments with a three per cent increase each year. On lease commencement, the Group recognised \$595,000 of right-of-use asset and lease liability.

During the prior year, the Group entered into a lease agreement for the use of IT office equipment for five years. The Group makes monthly fixed payments. On lease commencement, the Group recognised \$128,000 of right-of-use asset and lease liability.

| In thousands of AUD              |
|----------------------------------|
| Balance at 30 June               |
| Additions to right-of-use assets |
| Depreciation charge for the year |
| Balance at 30 June               |

| 2022  | 2021 |
|-------|------|
| 630   | -    |
| -     | 723  |
| (145) | (93) |
| 485   | 630  |

#### 3.4 Other non-current assets

The Group holds a cash collateralised security deposit of \$3,500,000 (2021: \$3,500,000) to cover the provision for site restoration made in recognition of an on-going commitment to the environmental rehabilitation of the Windarra mine site.

#### 3.5 Provisions

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as finance cost.

#### Site rehabilitation provisions

In accordance with the Group's published environmental policy and applicable legal requirements, a provision for site rehabilitation is recognised in respect of the estimated cost of restoration of the area previously disturbed during mining activities up to the reporting date, but not yet rehabilitated.

At each reporting date the site rehabilitation provision is re-measured to reflect any changes in discount rates and timing or amounts of the costs to be incurred. Such changes in the estimated liability are accounted for prospectively from the date of the change and re added to, or deducted from, the related asset where it is possible that future economic benefits will flow to the entity.

During the year the current site rehabilitation provision of \$3,500,000, relating to the on-going obligation for the environmental rehabilitation of the Windarra mine sites, was reclassified to non-current upon termination of the Windarra State Agreement.

The non-current site rehabilitation provision of \$62,467,000 (2021: \$57,919,000) is in respect of the Group's ongoing obligation for the environment rehabilitation of its Lake Johnston, Black Swan and Windarra nickel operations.

#### Movements in non-current provisions

Movements in the provision for site rehabilitation costs during the year are set out below:

| In thousands of AUD                               | 2022   | 2021   |
|---|--------|--------|
| Carrying amount of liability at beginning of year | 57,919 | 48,235 |
| Addition to provision (note 3.1)                  | 1,048  | 9,684  |
| Reclassification from current provision           | 3,500  | -      |
| Carrying amount at end of year                    | 62,467 | 57,919 |

During the year, the rehabilitation provision was re-estimated based on updated economic assumptions. The increase in the provision was due to the revision of costs applied to the rehabilitation liability, resulting in a corresponding increase in the cost of the rehabilitation asset (note 3.1).

#### 3.6 Capital and other commitments

# **Exploration expenditure commitments**

In order to maintain current rights of tenure to exploration tenements, the Group is required to perform minimum exploration work to meet the minimum expenditure requirements specified by the State Government. These obligations are subject to renegotiation when application for a mining lease is made and at other times. These obligations are not provided for in the financial report and are payable as follows:

| In thousands of AUD        | 2022   | 2021   |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Less than one year         | 1,586  | 1,652  |
| Between one and five years | 6,310  | 6,319  |
| More than five years       | 7,246  | 8,823  |
|                            | 15,142 | 16,794 |

The above represent commitments over the tenure of the tenements held by the Group.



# **Section 4 – Working Capital Disclosures**

This section focuses on the cash funding available to the Group and working capital position at year end.

### KEY ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS IN THIS SECTION

There were no key estimations or assumptions in this section.

# 4.1 Cash and cash equivalents

### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits with a maturity of less than or equal to three months from the date of acquisition. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value.

| a. | Cash | and | cash | equiva | lents |
|----|------|-----|------|--------|-------|
|----|------|-----|------|--------|-------|

| In thousands of AUD                                      | 2022   | 2021  |
|--|--------|-------|
| Bank balances  | 11,089 | 7,903 |
| Term deposits < 3 months                                 | -      |       |
| Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows | 11,089 | 7,903 |

Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities

| In thousands of AUD   | 2022     | 2021     |
|---|----------|----------|
| Cash flows from operating activities                            |          |          |
| Loss for the year   | (11,709) | (10,933) |
| Adjustments for:  |          |          |
| Depreciation  | 395      | 370      |
| Interest expense - convertible note derivative                  | -        | 229      |
| Interest expense – lease  | 12       | 9        |
| Net foreign exchange loss                                       | -        | 399      |
| Equity-settled share-based payment transactions                 | 305      | 323      |
| Operating loss before changes in working capital and provisions | (10,997) | (9,603)  |
| Change in trade and other receivables                           | 56       | (350)    |
| Change in trade payables and employee benefits                  | (136)    | 461      |
| Net cash used in operating activities                           | (11,077) | (9,492)  |

# 4.2 Trade and other receivables

### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the value of the invoice sent to the counter-party and subsequently at the amounts considered recoverable (amortised cost). Where there is evidence that the receivable is not recoverable, it is impaired with a corresponding charge to the profit or loss statement. The Group's exposure to credit risk in relation to its receivables is not material.

| Current                           |      |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| In thousands of AUD               | 2022 | 2021 |
| Goods and services tax receivable | 392  | 548  |
| Other receivables                 | 141  | 141  |
| Other assets and prepayments      | 328  | 191  |
|                                   | 861  | 880  |

# 4.3 Trade and other payables

### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

Trade payables are recognised at the value of the invoice received from a supplier or service provider.

| In thousands of AUD | 2022  | 2021  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Trade payables      | 1,108 | 1,703 |
| Other payables      | 783   | 935   |
|                     | 1.891 | 2.638 |

# Section 5 – Equity and Funding

This section focuses on the debt and equity funding available to the Group at year end, most notably covering share capital and loans and borrowings.

### 5.1 Capital and reserves

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to issue of ordinary shares and share options are recognised as a deduction from equity, net of any tax effects.

# Share capital

|   | Ordinary shares |           |
|---|-----------------|-----------|
| In thousands of shares                      | 2022            | 2021      |
| Ordinary shares                             |                 |           |
| Fully paid                                  | 3,063,960       | 2,809,415 |
| Total share capital on issue at 30 June     | 3,063,960       | 2,809,415 |
|   |                 |           |
| Movements in ordinary shares on issue:      |                 |           |
| On issue at 1 July                          | 2,809,415       | 2,642,702 |
|   |                 |           |
| Shares issued and expensed during the year: |                 |           |
| Issued for cash (i)                         | 254,545         | 166,667   |
| Issued for performance rights               | -               | 46        |
| On issue at 30 June                         | 3,063,960       | 2,809,415 |

(i) During the reporting period the Company issued 254,544,674 ordinary shares at an average of \$0.11 per share to raise \$28,000,000. The capital raising incurred transaction costs of \$1,194,980.

During the prior reporting period the Company issued 166,666,667 ordinary shares at an average of \$0.06 per share to raise \$10,000,000. The capital raising incurred transaction costs of \$531,665.

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company.

# **Purpose of reserves**

### Share based payment reserve

The share-based payment reserve is used to record the fair value of equity benefits provided to directors and employees as part of their remuneration.

#### 5.2 Lease Liabilities

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### Recognition and measurement

The Group has lease contracts for office space usage and IT office equipment with lease terms of five years.

The Group assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. As at 30 June 2022 lease liabilities have a remaining lease term of five years or less and were determined using an effective interest rate of 2%.

At the commencement date of the lease, the Group recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including insubstance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees.

After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the in-substance fixed lease payments or a change in the assessment to purchase the underlying asset.

The Group applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option. It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases that are considered of low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low value assets are recognised as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

| In thousands of AUD           | 2022  | 2021 |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|
| Balance at 30 June            | 659   | -    |
| Additions                     | -     | 723  |
| Cash repayments               | (152) | (73) |
| Interest                      | 12    | 9    |
| Balance at 30 June            | 519   | 659  |
|                               |       | _    |
| In thousands of AUD           | 2022  | 2021 |
| Current lease liabilities     | 147   | 140  |
| Non-current lease liabilities | 372   | 519  |
|                               | 519   | 659  |

#### 5.3 Capital management

Capital consists of ordinary share capital, retained earnings, reserves and net debt. The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern so as to maintain a strong capital base sufficient to maintain future exploration and development of its projects. In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may issue new shares or allow employees to participate in a share rather than cash bonus scheme.

The Group management defines net debt as total borrowings less cash and cash equivalents (note 4.1) and equity as the sum of share capital, reserves and retained earnings as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position.

There were no changes in the Group's approach to capital management during the year. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries are subject to externally imposed capital requirements.

#### **Section 6 – Other Disclosures**

The disclosures in this section focus on share based schemes in operation and financial risk management of the Group. Other mandatory disclosures, such as details of related party transactions, can also be found here.

# KEY ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS IN THIS SECTION

#### Share-based payments

Share-based payments recorded for performance rights are subject to estimation as they are calculated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which is based on significant assumptions such as volatility, dividend yield, expected term and forfeiture rate.

### 6.1 Share-based payments arrangements

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

The grant date fair value of equity-settled share-based payment awards granted to employees is generally recognised as an expense, with a corresponding increase in equity, over the vesting period of the awards. The amount recognised as an expense is adjusted to reflect the number of awards for which the related service and nonmarket performance conditions are expected to be met, such that the amount ultimately recognised is based on the number of awards that meet the related service and non-market performance conditions at the vesting date. For share-based payment awards with non-vesting conditions, the grant date fair value of the share-based payment is measured to reflect such conditions and there is no true-up for differences between expected and actual outcomes.

The share-based payment expense included within the Income Statement can be broken down as follows:

| In thousands of AUD                         | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Performance rights expense                  | 213  | 167  |
| Options expense (a)                         | 92   | 156  |
| Total expenses recognised as employee costs | 305  | 323  |

(a) Options were issued in FY20 and continue to be expensed in 2022 over their vesting period.

#### Share Options

The fair values at grant date of options are independently determined using a Black-Scholes option pricing model that takes into account the exercise price, the term of the options, the impact of dilution, the share price at grant date and expected price volatility of the underlying share, the expected dividend yield and the risk-free interest rate for the term of the options.

## 6.1 Share-based payments arrangements (continued) Share Options (continued)

There were no new share options granted during the current year.

Share options outstanding at the end of the year have the following expiry dates and expiry prices:

| Issue date | Vesting and exercise date | Expiry date | Exercise price \$ | Value per option<br>at issue date \$ | Number of shares |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Dec 2019 | 1 Dec 2019                | 1 Dec 2022  | 0.10              | 0.003                                | 1,000,000        |
| 1 Dec 2019 | 1 Dec 2019                | 1 Dec 2023  | 0.13              | 0.004                                | 1.000.000        |
| 3 Mar 2020 | 3 Mar 2023                | 3 Mar 2025  | 0.13              | 0.004                                | , ,              |
|            |                           | *           |                   |                                      | 3,000,000        |
| 3 Mar 2020 | 3 Mar 2023                | 3 Mar 2025  | 0.05              | 0.009                                | 3,000,000        |
|            |                           |             |                   | <u>-</u>                             | 8,000,000        |

The weighted average remaining contractual life of share options outstanding at the end of the year was 2.24 years (2021: 3.24 years).

## Performance rights

The fair values at grant date of performance rights are independently determined using a Black-Scholes option pricing model that takes into account the term of the rights, the impact of dilution, the share price at grant date and expected price volatility of the underlying share, the expected dividend yield and the risk free interest rate for the term of the rights.

The board can decide to issue performance rights in relation to short-term performance incentives (STI) and longterm performance incentives (LTI) under the Incentive Performance Rights Plan ("IPRP") approved by shareholders at the November 2020 AGM.

## **Long-Term Incentives (LTI)**

## 2022

In the current year there were 10,936,380 performance rights offered to participants with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) being measured over a 24-month period commencing 1 July 2021 and ending 30 June 2023.

Each participant in the program is required to achieve the following KPIs in order to qualify for an LTI award:

- i. Total Shareholder Return - Absolute return from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023 benchmarked against ASX peers as per below list of peers.
- Resources Adding to the current JORC Reserves at least 5,000 tonnes of high-grade reserve (>3%Ni) and adding to the current JORC Resources at least 10,000 tonnes of lower grade resource (<3%Ni). To be achieved by 30 June 2023 with the increases to be included in the re-start mining inventory (only for disseminated).
- iii. Black Swan Operations – Black Swan needs to be in production by June 2023.

The achievement of the above KPIs are considered in the Company's assessment of the number of performance rights that are likely to vest.

The assessment of the above and the award are subject to Board discretion.

## 6.1 Share-based payments arrangements (continued) Performance rights (continued)

## TSR - Peer group companies based on metal and market cap

| Listed ASX Nickel Sulphide Companies | Base Metal Companies |  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Mincor Resources NL                  | Develop Global Ltd   |  |
| Western Areas Ltd                    | Hot Chilli Ltd       |  |
| Red River Resources Ltd              | Widgie Nickel Ltd    |  |
| Panoramic Resources Ltd              | Rex Minerals Ltd     |  |
| Legend Mining Ltd                    | Heron Resources Ltd  |  |
| Lunnon Metals Ltd                    | Galena Mining Ltd    |  |
| Hillgrove Resources Ltd              | Centaurus Metals Ltd |  |
| Aeris Resources Ltd                  | St George Mining Ltd |  |
| New Century Resources Ltd            |                      |  |

## 2021

In the prior year there were 8,310,745 performance rights offered to participants with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) being measured over a 24-month period commencing 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2022.

At the end of the performance period, it was determined that 3,470,645 vested performance rights are to be offered to participants due to performance conditions being met.

Each participant in the program is required to achieve their allocated KPIs in order to qualify for an LTI award. These KPIs include:

## i. Corporate KPIs:

- Total Shareholder Return (TSR) absolute return benchmarked against ASX peers
- Business Success Ingredients
  - Revenue the Company needs to be generating revenue via the production of gold or base metals or both
  - Black Swan Operations Black Swan needs to be in production

## ii. Individual KPIs:

- Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) successful completion of the Golden Swan Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) including all required drilling and associated test works.
- Cost Savings cost savings and cash release initiatives implemented which show demonstratable evidence of cost reduction/cash release initiatives, as evidenced by a reduction of at least 5% against historical cost base and/or realisation of fixed assets resulting in cash inflow into the company.

## 6.1 Share-based payments arrangements (continued) Performance rights (continued)

The outstanding performance rights at the end of the year were:

#### **Estimated number of Performance Rights**

|                     |                    | Fair Value<br>at      |                 |                     | Satisfied by        |                                  |                        |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tranche             | Invitation<br>Date | Invitation<br>Date \$ | Opening balance | Granted/<br>Offered | allotment of shares | Net change<br>other <sup>2</sup> | Closing<br>balance     |
| TSR - 2022          | 15 Dec 21          | 0.087                 | -               | 4,200,317           | -                   | (346,094)                        | 3,854,223              |
| Resources – 2022    | 15 Dec 21          | 0.087                 | -               | 2,100,158           | -                   | (173,047)                        | 1,927,111              |
| BSO - 2022          | 15 Dec 21          | 0.087                 | -               | 2,100,158           | -                   | (173,047)                        | 1,927,111              |
| TSR - 2022a         | 28 Feb 22          | 0.094                 | -               | 1,267,873           | -                   | -                                | 1,267,873              |
| Resources – 2022a   | 28 Feb 22          | 0.094                 | -               | 633,937             | -                   | -                                | 633,937                |
| BSO - 2022a         | 28 Feb 22          | 0.094                 | -               | 633,937             | -                   | -                                | 633,937                |
| TSR - 2021          | 31 Mar 21          | 0.057                 | 3,905,373       | -                   | -                   | (711,717)                        | 3,193,656 <sup>1</sup> |
| Revenue - 2021      | 31 Mar 21          | 0.057                 | 1,952,686       | -                   | -                   | (1,952,686)                      | -                      |
| BSO - 2021          | 31 Mar 21          | 0.057                 | 1,952,686       | -                   | -                   | (1,952,686)                      | -                      |
| DFS - 2021          | 31 Mar 21          | 0.057                 | 250,000         | -                   | -                   | (250,000)                        | -                      |
| Cost savings - 2021 | 31 Mar 21          | 0.057                 | 250,000         | -                   | -                   | 26,989                           | 276,989                |
|                     |                    | _                     | 8,310,745       | 10,936,380          | -                   | (5,532,288)                      | 13,714,837             |

Upon vesting conditions being met and approved by the Board, vested performance rights are granted to the participant with a three-year exercise period. Performance rights have not been granted and the amounts listed above are an approximation of the performance rights offered to participants under the Company's Long Term Incentive Plan.

- Includes 2,121,212 performance rights relating to Mr P Harold which are subject to shareholder approval.
- Relates to the difference between the estimated number of performance rights to be offered at invitation date and the actual performance rights issued upon determination of an award under the LTI Plan upon conclusion of the performance period. The estimated number of performance rights is based on the volume weighted average price (VWAP) of the Company's shares over a 20-day trading period immediately prior to the invitation date. The actual number of performance rights granted is based on the volume weighted average price (VWAP) of the Company's shares over a 20-day trading period immediately prior to an award being made under the Company's LTI Plan and the number of performance rights subsequently being approved by the Board.

## Fair value of performance rights granted

All performance rights issued are valued using the Black Scholes option valuation methodology that takes into account the term of the performance rights, the share price at invitation date and expected volatility of the underlying right, the expected dividend yield, the risk-free rate for the term of the right and the correlations and volatilities of the peer group companies. The model inputs for the performance rights granted during the year include:

|                           | Total<br>Shareholder<br>Return | Resources | Black Swan<br>Operations | Total<br>Shareholder<br>Return | Resources | Black Swan<br>Operations |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Invitation date           | 15-Dec-21                      | 15-Dec-21 | 15-Dec-21                | 28-Feb-22                      | 28-Feb-22 | 28-Feb-22                |
| Share price at invitation | \$0.087                        | \$0.087   | \$0.087                  | \$0.094                        | \$0.094   | \$0.094                  |
| Volatility                | 80%                            | 80%       | 80%                      | 80%                            | 80%       | 80%                      |
| Expected dividend         | Nil                            | Nil       | Nil                      | Nil                            | Nil       | Nil                      |
| Risk-free rate            | 0.53%                          | 0.53%     | 0.53%                    | 1.02%                          | 1.02%     | 1.02%                    |

## 6.2 Financial risk management

## **ACCOUNTING POLICY**

#### Classification of financial instruments

The financial assets and liabilities of the Group are classified into the following financial statement captions in the Statement of Financial Position in accordance with AASB 9 Financial Instruments:

- 'Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income;
- 'Financial assets/ financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' separately disclosed as derivative financial instruments in assets/liabilities and included in non-current other payables; and
- 'Financial assets/ financial liabilities measured at amortised cost' separately disclosed as borrowings and trade and other payables.

Judgement is required when determining the appropriate classification of the Group's financial instruments. Details on the accounting policies for measurement of the above instruments are set out in the relevant note.

#### Recognition and de-recognition of financial assets and liabilities

The Group recognises a financial asset or liability when it becomes a party to the contract. Financial instruments are no longer recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when contractual cash flows expire or when the Group no longer retains control of substantially all the risks and rewards under the instrument.

#### Overview

The Group have exposure to the following risks from their use of financial instruments:

- Credit risk
- Liquidity risk
- Market risk

This note presents information about the Group's exposure to each of the above risks, their objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk, and the management of capital.

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Group's risk management framework. The board has established the Audit and Risk Management Committee which is responsible for developing and monitoring the Group's risk management policies. The committee reports regularly to the board on its activities.

The Group's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and the Group's activities. The Audit and Risk Management Committee oversees how management monitors compliance with the Group's risk management policies and procedures and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Group.

## Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Group if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations and arises principally from the Group's receivables from customers and investments in debt securities.

The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure.

## Investments, banks and financial institutions

The Group limits its exposure to credit risk by only transacting with high credit quality financial institutions. The Group had cash and cash equivalents of \$11,089,000 (2021: \$7,903,000), a security deposit of \$3,500,000 (2021: \$3,500,000) and other assets that were held with bank and financial institution counterparties which are rated A to AA-, based on Standard and Poor's ratings.

## 6.2 Financial risk management (continued)

#### Trade and other receivables

As the Group operates in the mining exploration sector, the Group generally does not have trade receivables (only interest income, fuel tax and GST), therefore is not generally exposed to credit risk in relation to trade receivables. The Group however, provides security deposits as part of its exploration activities which exposes the Group to credit risk.

Presently, the Group undertakes exploration and evaluation activities exclusively in Australia. At the reporting date there are generally no significant concentrations of credit risk. As the Group has no sales revenue there are no financial assets past due and there is no management of credit risk through performing an aging analysis, therefore an aging analysis has not been disclosed.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient funds to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Group's reputation. The Group also manages liquidity risk by producing monthly cash-flow forecasts for the current and future financial year to ensure that there is a clear and up-to-date view of the short term to medium term funding requirements. These are regularly reviewed by management and the board where the implications on funding requirements and the possible sources of those funds are discussed, decisions taken when necessary and action taken to secure funding if required.

The Group manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves through continuous monitoring of forecast and actual cash flows. The Group has a policy of raising both debt and equity fundraising in order to manage its liquidity risk.

The following are the earliest contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including estimated interest payments and excluding the impact of netting agreements:

## Consolidated

| 30 June 2022             |          |          |        |           |           |           |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                          | Carrying | 6 months | 6-12   |           |           | More than |
| In thousands of AUD      | amount   | or less  | months | 1-2 years | 2-5 years | 5 years   |
| Trade and other payables | 1,891    | 1,891    | -      | -         | -         | -         |
| Lease liabilities        | 519      | 77       | 79     | 160       | 221       | -         |
|                          | 2,410    | 1,968    | 79     | 160       | 221       | -         |
| Consolidated             |          |          | _      |           | _         |           |

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| 30 June 2021             |                    | Contracted       |                |           |           |                   |  |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|--|--|
| In thousands of AUD      | Carrying<br>amount | 6 months or less | 6-12<br>months | 1-2 years | 2-5 years | More than 5 years |  |  |
| Trade and other payables | 2,638              | 2,638            | -              | -         | -         | -                 |  |  |
| Lease liabilities        | 659                | 75               | 77             | 156       | 381       | -                 |  |  |
|                          | 3,297              | 2,713            | 77             | 156       | 381       | -                 |  |  |

## Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates and equity prices will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return.

## 6.2 Financial risk management (continued)

## Market risk (continued)

## (a) Currency risk

The functional currency of the entities within the Group is the Australian dollar (AUD). During the year the Group had no exposure to foreign currency risk.

## (b) Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk due to variable interest being earned on its interest-bearing bank accounts. The Group adopts a policy of periodically reviewing interest rates to ensure the Group is earning the optimal interest income.

## **Profile**

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the Group's interest-bearing financial instruments was:

| In thousands of AUD                    | 2022   | 2021  |
|--|--------|-------|
| Fixed rate instruments                 |        |       |
| Other investments – term deposits      | -      | 36    |
| Lease liabilities                      | 519    | 659   |
| In thousands of AUD                    |        |       |
| Variable rate instruments              |        |       |
| Cash and cash equivalents              | 11,089 | 7,903 |
| Security deposits – environmental bond | 3,500  | 3,500 |

## Fair value sensitivity analysis for fixed rate instruments

The Group does not account for any fixed rate financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

## Cash flow sensitivity analysis for variable rate instruments

As at 30 June 2022 and 2021 a sensitivity analysis has not been disclosed in relation to the floating interest deposits as the results have been determined to be immaterial to the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

## (c) Equity price risk

As at 30 June 2022 the Group is not exposed to any equity price risk on its financial liabilities and equity investments. The Group has no policy for mitigating potential adversities associated with its own equity price risk given its dependence on market fluctuations. In relation to equity price risk arising on other investments balances, the Group regularly reviews the prices to ensure a maximum return.

#### Fair values

The Group considers that the carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents or approximate their respective fair values.

## 6.3 Related parties

The key management personnel compensation included in 'personnel expenses' (note 2.3) and 'share based payments' (note 6.1), is as follows:

| In thousands of AUD          |
|------------------------------|
| Short-term employee benefits |
| Other long-term benefits     |
| Post-employment benefits     |
| Share-based payments         |

| 2022  | 2021  |
|-------|-------|
| 1,533 | 1,177 |
| 108   | 69    |
| 106   | 82    |
| 278   | 301   |
| 2,025 | 1,629 |

## Individual directors and executives compensation disclosures

Information regarding individual directors and executive's remuneration and some equity instruments disclosures as required by S300A of the Corporations Act and Corporations Regulations 2M.3.03 are provided in the Remuneration report section of the Directors' report in section 7.3.

Apart from the details disclosed in this note, no director or executive has entered into a material contract with the Group since the end of the previous financial year and there were no material contracts involving directors' interests existing at year end.

## Other transactions with key management personnel and their related parties

Director fees for Ms Gooding are payable to Wyloo Metals Pty Ltd. Amounts recognised in respect of director fees for the financial year were \$48,411 (2021: \$74,088). As at 30 June 2022 there were no amounts owing to Wyloo Metals Pty Ltd (2021: \$20,374).

Director fees for Mr Hildebrand are payable to Orchard Lane Holdings. Amounts recognised in respect of director fees for the financial year were \$67,574 (2021: \$64,088). As at 30 June 2022 there was \$20,381 owing to Orchard Lane Holdings (2021: nil).

In the prior year, Unearthed Geological Consulting, a company related to Mr Muccilli, received aggregate fees of \$21,905 relating to the provision of consultancy services (2022: nil). As at 30 June 2022 there were no amounts owing to Unearthed Geological Consulting (2021: nil).

## Other related party transactions

During the year Black Mountain Metals Pty Ltd ("BMM"), a major shareholder of the Group, was paid \$1,200 (2021: \$82,389) for the provision of consultancy services in regards to technical studies conducted on the Group's mining assets. As at 30 June 2022 there were no amounts owing to BMM (2021: nil).

During the prior year the Group also repaid the convertible note it had with the noteholder BMM for an amount of US\$17,500,000.

Transactions with the related parties were made on commercial terms and at market rates.

## 6.4 Group entities

## Significant subsidiaries

|   | Country of    |         |              |
|---|---------------|---------|--------------|
| Parent entity                               | incorporation | Ownersh | nip interest |
| Poseidon Nickel Limited                     |               | 2022    | 2021         |
|   |               |         |              |
| Significant subsidiaries                    |               |         |              |
| Poseidon Nickel Atlantis Operations Pty Ltd | Australia     | 100%    | 100%         |
| Western Nickel Limited                      | Australia     | 100%    | 100%         |

In the financial statements of the Group, investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost. The Group has no jointly controlled entities.

## 6.5 Parent entity disclosures

As at, and throughout, the financial year ending 30 June 2022 the parent company of the Group was Poseidon Nickel Limited.

| In thousands of AUD  Results of the parent entity   | 2022      | 2021                                    |
|---|-----------|---|
| Loss for the year                                   | (11,709)  | (10,933)                                |
| Total comprehensive loss for the year               | (11,709)  | (10,933)                                |
|   |           |   |
| Financial position of the parent entity at year end | 44.050    | 0.040                                   |
| Current assets                                      | 11,950    | 8,819                                   |
| Total assets  | 140,635   | 124,939                                 |
| Current liabilities                                 | 2,266     | 6,372                                   |
| Total liabilities                                   | 65,105    | 64,810                                  |
|   | ,         | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
| Total equity of the parent entity comprising of:    |           |   |
| Share capital                                       | 265,071   | 238,266                                 |
| Share based payments reserve                        | 641       | 336                                     |
| Accumulated losses                                  | (190,182) | (178,473)                               |
| Total equity  | 75,530    | 60,129                                  |
|   |           |   |
| Exploration expenditure commitments of the parent   |           |   |
| Less than one year                                  | 1,586     | 1,652                                   |
| Between one and five years                          | 6,310     | 6,319                                   |
| More than five years                                | 7,246     | 8,823                                   |
|   | 15,142    | 16,794                                  |

## 6.6 Subsequent events

On 6 September 2022 the Company announced it had signed a binding Heads of Agreement with Green Gold Projects Pte Ltd ("GGP") for the processing of the Windarra Gold Tailings Project. A final agreement is subject to GGP being satisfied with the outcome of metallurgical testwork using GGP patented technology and a bankable feasibility study being completed at their expense. GGP will be responsible for the funding, development and operation of the tailings project.

## 6.7 Auditor's remuneration

| In AUD Audit services Auditors of the Group – KPMG | 2022   | 2021   |
|--|--------|--------|
| Audit and review of financial reports              | 67,770 | 63,906 |
|  | 67,770 | 63,906 |
| Services other than statutory audit                |        |        |
| Form 5 audit                                       | -      | 15,525 |
|  | 67,770 | 79.431 |

## 6.8 New Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted from 1 July 2021

The Group has adopted all new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to the Group and effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2021 and has determined that there is no impact, material or otherwise, of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations on its business and, therefore, no change is necessary to the Group's accounting policies.

## **Directors' Declaration**

- In the opinion of the directors of Poseidon Nickel Limited ("the Company"):
  - (a) the consolidated financial statements and notes that are set out on pages 48 to 79 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
    - giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
    - complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- The directors have been given the declarations required by Section 295A of the Corporations Act 2001 from the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.
- The directors draw attention to note 1.1 to the consolidated financial statements, which includes a statement of compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors:

Mr P Harold **Managing Director/CEO** 

Perth

16 September 2022

## Independent Auditor's Report



# Independent Auditor's Report

To the shareholders of Poseidon Nickel Limited

Report on the audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the Financial Report of Poseidon Nickel Limited (the Company).

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Report of the Company is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- Giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

The Financial Report comprises:

- Consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022:
- Consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, Consolidated statement of changes in equity, and Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended;
- Notes including a summary of significant accounting policies; and
- Directors' Declaration.

The Group consists of the Company and the entities it controlled at the year-end or from time to time during the financial year.

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the Financial Report in Australia. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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#### Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to Note 1.2, "Going Concern" in the financial report. The conditions disclosed in Note 1.2 indicate a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and, therefore, whether it will realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business, and at the amounts stated in the financial report. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

In concluding there is a material uncertainty related to going concern we evaluated the extent of uncertainty regarding events or conditions casting significant doubt in the Group's assessment of going concern. Our approach to this involved:

- Assessing the Group's cash flow forecasts for incorporation of the Group's operations and plans to address going concern, in particular in light of the history of loss making operations;
- Evaluating the feasibility, quantum and timing of the Group's plans to raise additional funds to address going concern; and
- Determining the completeness of the Group's going concern disclosures for the principle matters casting significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, the Group's plans to address these matters, and the material uncertainty.

#### **Key Audit Matters**

Key Audit Matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the Financial Report of the current period.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the Financial Report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

In addition to the matter described in the *Material uncertainty related to going concern* section, we have determined the matter described below to be the Key Audit Matter.

## **Exploration and Evaluation Expenditure (A\$99.9m)**

Refer to Note 3.1 to the Financial Report

## The key audit matter

Exploration and evaluation expenditure capitalised (E&E) is a key audit matter due to:

- The significance of the activity to the Group's business and the balance (being 70% of total assets); and
- The greater level of audit effort to evaluate the Group's application of the requirements of the industry specific accounting standard AASB 6 Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources, in particular the conditions allowing capitalisation of relevant expenditure and consideration of impairment indicators. The presence of impairment indicators would necessitate a detailed analysis by the Group of the value of E&E, therefore given the criticality of this to the scope and depth of our work, we involved senior team members to challenge the Group's determination that no such indicators existed.

## How the matter was addressed in our audit

Our procedures included:

- Evaluating the Group's accounting policy to recognise exploration and evaluation assets using the criteria in the AASB6 accounting standard:
- Assessing the Group's determination of its areas of interests for consistency with the definition in the accounting standard;
- For each area of interest, we assessed the Group's current rights to tenure by corroborating the ownership of the relevant license to government registries and evaluating agreements in place with other parties. We also tested for compliance with conditions, such as minimum expenditure requirements, on a sample of licenses;



In assessing the conditions allowing capitalisation of relevant expenditure, we

- The determination of the areas of interest (areas);
- Documentation available regarding rights to tenure, via licensing, and compliance with relevant conditions, to maintain current rights to an area of interest and the authoritative nature of external registry sources and the Group's intention and capacity to continue the relevant E&E activities; and
- The Group's determination of whether the capitalised E&E is expected to be recouped through successful development and exploitation of the area of interest, or alternatively, by its sale.

In considering impairment indicators, we focused on those that may draw into question the commercial continuation of E&E activities for areas of interest where significant capitalised E&E exists. In addition to the assessments above, and given the financial position of the Group we paid particular attention to:

- The impact of ongoing volatility in the nickel market and prices on the Group's strategy and intentions:
- The ability of the Group to fund the continuation of activities; and
- The Group's assessment of prospectivity for areas of interest and the associated strategy, intention and capacity of the Group for the continuation of E&E activities in those areas of interest.

These assessments can be inherently difficult, particularly in uncertain market conditions such as those currently being experienced in the nickel industry.

- Testing the Group's additions to E&E for the year by evaluating a statistical sample of recorded expenditure for consistency to underlying records, the capitalisation requirements of the Group's accounting policy and the requirements of the accounting standard;
- Assessing the impact of the ongoing volatility in the nickel market and prices to the Group's modelling underlying their decision for commercial continuation of activities:
- Obtaining project and corporate budgets identifying areas with existing funding and those requiring alternate funding sources. We compared this for consistency with areas with E&E, for evidence of the ability to fund continued activities. We identified those areas relying on alternate funding sources and evaluated the capacity of the Group to secure such funding; and
- Evaluating the Group's assessment of prospectivity for consistency with their stated intentions and documentation for continuing E&E in its areas of interest. We assessed this through interviews with the key operational and finance personnel and comparing with Group documents such as:
  - Internal budgets;
  - Minutes of board meeting; and
  - Announcements made by the Group to the Australia Securities Exchange.





#### Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in Poseidon Nickel Limited's annual reporting which is provided in addition to the Financial Report and the Auditor's Report. The Directors are responsible for the Other Information.

The Other Information we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report was the Director's Report. The Chairman and Managing Director's Report, Project Report, Operation and Exploration Reports and ASX additional information are expected to be made available to us after the date of the Auditor's Report.

Our opinion on the Financial Report does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not and will not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon, with the exception of the Remuneration Report and our related assurance opinion.

In connection with our audit of the Financial Report, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

## Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors are responsible for:

- Preparing the Financial Report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001;
- Implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of a Financial Report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- Assessing the Group and Company's ability to continue as a going concern and whether the use
  of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. This includes disclosing, as applicable,
  matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they
  either intend to liquidate the Group and Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic
  alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objective is:

- To obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- To issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the Financial Report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report is located at the *Auditing and Assurance Standards Board* website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/admin/file/content102/c3/ar1 2020.pdf This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.



## **Report on the Remuneration Report**

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the Remuneration Report of Poseidon Nickel Limited for the year ended 30 June 2022 with Section 300A of the Corporations Act 2001.

## **Directors' responsibilities**

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Remuneration Report in accordance with  ${\it Section}$ 300A of the Corporations Act 2001.

## Our responsibilities

We have audited the Remuneration Report included in pages 34 to 44 of the Directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Remuneration Report, based on our audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

**KPMG** 

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Graham Hogg Partner Perth

16 September 2022

## Auditor's Independence Declaration



# Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

## To the Directors of Poseidon Nickel Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit of Poseidon Nickel Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG

**KPMG** 

64+177

Graham Hogg
Partner
Perth

16 September 2022

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## **ASX Additional Information**

Additional information required by the Australian Securities Exchange Limited Listing Rules and not disclosed elsewhere in this report is set out below.

The shareholder information set out below was applicable as at 14 September 2022.

## A. Distribution of equity securities

Analysis of numbers of equity security holders by size of holding:

|                  | Class of equity security |                                  |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                  | Number of<br>Holders     | Fully Paid<br>Ordinary<br>Shares |
| 1 – 1,000        | 224                      | 75,731                           |
| 1,001 – 5,000    | 668                      | 2,638,403                        |
| 5,001 – 10,000   | 2,115                    | 17,639,205                       |
| 10,001 – 100,000 | 7,749                    | 329,797,301                      |
| 100,001 and over | 3,282                    | 2,713,808,886                    |
|                  | 14,038                   | 3,063,959,526                    |

There were 2,025 holders of less than a marketable parcel of ordinary shares.

## B. Equity security holders

## Twenty largest quoted equity security holders

The names of the twenty largest holders of quoted equity securities are listed below:

|   | Ordinary shares |                                |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Name  | Number held     | Percentage of<br>issued shares |
| Edison Metals Pty Ltd   | 363,878,823     | 11.88                          |
| Tattarang Pty Ltd <peepingee a="" c=""></peepingee>   | 95,817,156      | 3.13                           |
| Citicorp Nominees Pty Limited   | 87,529,414      | 2.86                           |
| Ms Danielle Sharon Tudehope   | 68,000,000      | 2.22                           |
| BNP Paribas Nominees Pty Ltd <ib au="" client="" drp="" noms="" retail=""></ib>                   | 58,730,101      | 1.92                           |
| HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited – A/C 2   | 54,057,157      | 1.76                           |
| HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited   | 43,202,584      | 1.41                           |
| BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd < DRP>   | 43,181,440      | 1.41                           |
| Farjoy Pty Ltd  | 33,477,538      | 1.09                           |
| Indermaur Pension Fund Pty Ltd < Indermaur Pension A/c>   | 27,938,595      | 0.91                           |
| BNP Paribas Nominees Pty Ltd ACF Clearstream  | 27,093,751      | 0.88                           |
| Mrs Rena Elizabeth Indermaur  | 25,656,781      | 0.84                           |
| Mr Roger Anthony Pierce   | 24,000,000      | 0.78                           |
| Mr Christopher Charles Indermaur & Mrs Rena Elizabeth Indermaur < Indermaur Family S/F A/C>       | 19,870,095      | 0.65                           |
| Xue Investments Pty Limited <xue a="" c="" family=""></xue>                                       | 17,646,272      | 0.58                           |
| Mr James Scott Tanner <js a="" c="" investment=""></js>   | 17,000,000      | 0.55                           |
| Mr Gregory Giannopoulos   | 14,000,000      | 0.46                           |
| Mr Damian Ronald Gillman & Mrs Lucia Gillman <damian &="" a="" c="" gillman="" lucia=""></damian> | 12,500,000      | 0.41                           |
| Mr Marko Nakomcic   | 12,000,000      | 0.39                           |
| Mr Rodney Max Grillmeier  | 11,000,000      | 0.36                           |
| Total   | 1,056,579,707   | 34.49                          |

## C. Substantial holders

Substantial holders in the company are set out below:

|                               | Number<br>held | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Ordinary shares               |                | J          |
| Black Mountain Metals Pty Ltd | 363,878,823    | 11.88      |

## D. Unquoted equity security holders (as at 14 September 2022)

|  | Number<br>held |
|--|----------------|
| Unlisted Options                                     |                |
| - exercisable at \$0.10 and expiring 1 December 2022 | 1,000,000      |
| - exercisable at \$0.13 and expiring 1 December 2023 | 1,000,000      |
| - exercisable at \$0.0375 and expiring 3 March 2025  | 3,000,000      |
| - exercisable at \$0.0525 and expiring 3 March 2025  | 3,000,000      |
| Performance Rights                                   | 1 240 422      |
| - expiring 30 June 2025                              | 1,349,432      |

## E. Voting Rights

## **Ordinary shares**

Subject to any rights or restrictions for the time being attached to any class or classes (at present there are none) at general meetings of shareholders or classes of shareholders:

- (a) each shareholder entitled to vote, may vote in person or by proxy, attorney or representative;
- (b) on a show of hands, every person present who is a shareholder or a proxy, attorney or representative of a shareholder has one vote; and
- (c) on a poll, every person present who is a shareholder or a proxy, attorney or representative of a shareholder shall, in respect of each Fully Paid share held, or in respect of which he/she has appointed a proxy, attorney or representative, have one vote per share, but in respect of Partly Paid shares shall have a fraction of a vote equivalent to the proportion which the amount paid up bears to the total issue price for the share.

#### **Schedule of Tenements** F.

| Areas of Interest                | Tenements  | Economic<br>Entity's Interest |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Western Australia                |  |                               |
| - Windarra Nickel Assets         | M261SA, G38/21, L38/121, L39/184, L38/199, L38/218, L39/221  | 100%                          |
| - Windarra South                 | L38/119, L38/122, L38/220  | 100%                          |
| - Woodline Well                  | M39/1075, L39/224  | 100%                          |
| - Pool Well                      | M38/1244, M38/1245, L38/118  | 100%                          |
| - Lake Johnston Nickel<br>Assets | G63/0008, G63/0005, L63/0051, L63/0052, L63/0055, L63/0057, M63/0163, M63/0282, M63/0283, M63/0284, M63/0292, M63/0293, M63/0294, M63/0522, M63/0523, M63/0524, E63/1784 | 100%                          |
| - Black Swan Nickel<br>Assets    | G27/0002, M27/0039, M27/0200, M27/214, M27/0216, L27/0057, L27/0058, L27/0059, L27/0074, L27/0075, L27/0077, L27/0078, L27/0095, L27/0096, L24/0219, L24/0222            | 100%                          |

E = Exploration Licence, M = Mining Lease, MSA = Mining Tenement State Act, PL = Prospecting Licence,

L = Miscellaneous Licence



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