

11 March 2024

# Dolphin Ore Body Is Proving Its World Class Potential

## **Key Highlights**

- Dolphin main ore body grade exceeding expectations
- Processing plant sets new daily ore processing record
- Major refurbishment of ball mills completed
- Ore sorting samples have been dispatched for sorting trials

Group 6 Metals Limited (**ASX: G6M**, "**Group 6 Metals**" or the "**Company**") is pleased to provide an update on its operational activities at the Company's wholly owned Dolphin Tungsten Mine ("**DTM**"), located on King Island, Tasmania.

As mining transitions to the main dolphin ore body, average mining grades have seen a sharp increase and are exceeding grades forecast for the months of January & February 2024. Average mining grade in February was 0.63% WO<sub>3</sub>. This is resulting in higher average grade ore supply to the process plant earlier than anticipated thus improving production of concentrate.



Figure 1 - Working View of Dolphin Pit Stage 1B

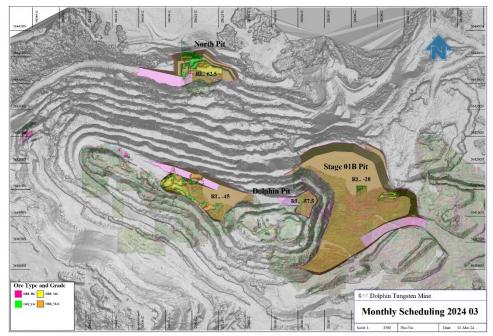


Figure 2 - Dolphin Pit Progress Areas - March 2024

Grade control models for Dolphin Pit Stages 01A and 01B were updated in January by sampling and assaying blast rig cuttings, structural mapping, UV lamping and rock sampling. Blast drill rig patterns were sampled at 2.5m intervals and assayed. Some ultra high-grade lab assays were returned, as high as 9.04% WO<sub>3</sub> (See Figure 3) which allowed a high-grade mining block model to be generated.

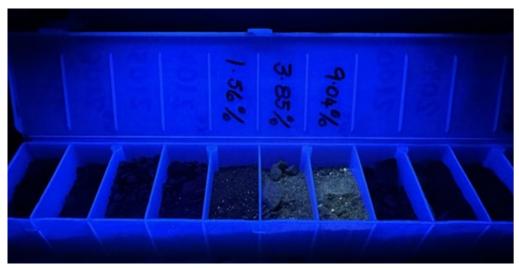


Figure 3 - Ultra high-grade ore intersection from blast hole sampling, up to 9.4% WO₃ over 2.5m

Processing had a strong start in February running uninterrupted for first 7 days until it was taken down for its weekly shutdown. For the period processing was ahead of forecast. Following the restart, vibration was observed in one the ball mills which resulted in two days of downtime. Refurbishment of the drive assemblies was undertaken on both ball mills from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February after which the plant was restarted and has run stably since.

Since implementing some changes to the plant configuration in early March, the process plant achieved a new 24 hr throughput record of 1231 tonnes (dry), exceeding 50 tph (83% plant design throughput). Based on this performance there is a high degree of confidence that the plant can



achieve the throughout volumes required to meet its production forecasts over the next 3-4 months. Plant recoveries are also improving which are now in the low to mid 50% range based on plant performance for March (MTD). With continuing high-grade ore supply and more consistent plant operation, it is expected that recoveries will continue to improve over the coming months.

The Company evaluated the benefit of ore sorting using a range of detection technologies during the feasibility studies between 2010 & 2017. When the definitive feasibility study was finalised in 2019, a decision was made to exclude an ore sorter from the process circuit as more testing was required with representative samples for test-work. Extracting samples proved to be too challenging and expensive prior to the start of mining operations. Suitable representative samples have now been compiled and dispatched for sorter trials with industry leading manufacturers of ore sorting equipment.

Under the revised open-cut mine plan, higher-grade ore from the Dolphin pit will be targeted to maximise concentrate production from the plant. During the initial year of open cut mining, a significant volume of lower-grade ore (<0.2% WO<sub>3</sub>) will be stockpiled. This stockpiled ore will then be sorted prior to processing, resulting in higher-grade feedstock and improved recoveries. Once the most effective sorting technology is identified, ore sorting can likely be implemented at a relatively modest capital and operating cost.

#### **Group 6 Metals Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer Keith McKnight said:**

"The Dolphin ore body is viewed as a standout in the context of known tungsten orebodies in the Western world and it is very pleasing to see the results for our grade control activities re-affirm this. The geological team has established robust processes for grade control and is using this information to reconcile and recalibrate the geological model to ensure we maximise mining recoveries. We are already seeing the benefit of this by consistently recovering high grade ore that is outside the geological model".

"While the process plant's operating performance has continued to improve, it has been somewhat challenged by unplanned downtime. Since restarting in early January, there have been several mechanical issues with the ball mills that have caused unplanned downtime. Gekko completed rectification of these issues which is expected to significantly improve the reliability of the mills. Now that these issues have been resolved, we anticipate a more reliably operating plant that can consistently achieve its processing targets".

"Despite these challenges with the plant, recent performance gives us confidence that we can continue to improve the plant performance in line with our production forecasts. We are fortunate to have such a world class orebody that continues to exceed expectations, while focused on the main task at hand which is continuous operation of the plant and improving recoveries".

#### **Tungsten Price**

Ammonium Paratungstate (APT) CIF Rotterdam prices have remained robust and stable at US\$300 – 325 per MTU (10 kg of WO<sub>3</sub>) which is where they have been since early November 2023. The APT prices FOB main ports China increased slightly by 1.67% on the lower end of the notation of U\$305-310 per MTU.



Approved by the board of Group 6 Metals Limited.

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## **About Group 6 Metals**

Group 6 Metals Limited (ASX: G6M), previously known as King Island Scheelite Limited (ASX: KIS), is an Australian resource exploration, development, and production company. The Company's name honours tungsten as Group 6 Metals' first commodity project (The Dolphin Mine) in production, as tungsten is a member of Group 6 of the periodic table along with chromium and molybdenum, as well as being a critical mineral and a geopolitically strategic resource.

The Company is focused on producing high-grade tungsten concentrate from its 100%-owned Dolphin Mine located on King Island, Tasmania. The Company's medium-term objective is to investigate opportunities to value-add the product for supply into the upstream tungsten industry.

## Forward-looking statements

Statements in this Announcement may be forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as, but not limited to, 'may', 'will', 'expect', 'anticipate', 'estimate', 'would be', 'believe' or 'continue' or the negative or other variations of comparable terminology.

Certain statements made in this announcement contain or comprise certain forward-looking statements regarding Group 6 Metal's Mineral Resources and Reserves, exploration and project development operations, production rates, life of mine, projected cash flow, capital expenditure, operating costs and other economic performance and financial condition as well as general market outlook. Although Group 6 Metals believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, such expectations are only predictions. They are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties that could cause actual values, results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed, implied or projected in any forward-looking statements. No assurance can be given that such expectations will prove correct.

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