

MEDIA RELEASE



21 May 2024

AUSTRALIA MANGANESE UPDATE

The Samancor joint venture has approved a recovery plan for operations at Groote Eylandt Mining Company Pty Ltd (GEMCO) and GEMCO will commence a phased return to mining activities from June, initially seeking to build stockpiles ahead of the 2024/2025 wet season.

Mining activities when recommenced are expected to be constrained as dewatering and other recovery related activities are ongoing. As we progress these activities we remain focused on the safety and wellbeing of our workforce and the Groote Eylandt community.

Operations at GEMCO were suspended in March as a result of impacts caused by Tropical Cyclone Megan, including flooding in mine pits, and significant damage to wharf and port infrastructure and a haulage road bridge that connects the northern pits of the Western Leases mining area and the processing plant. The operational recovery to date has focused on re-establishing critical services and dewatering targeted mining pits.

Based on our preliminary schedule estimate, we expect to recommence wharf operations and export sales in Q3 FY25. The phased return to mining activities does not change our expected timing in this regard.

Alternative shipping options are being evaluated to mitigate the impact of the wharf outage. These options may establish partial ore export capability in advance of the wharf restoration.

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About us

South32 is a globally diversified mining and metals company. Our purpose is to make a difference by developing natural resources, improving people's lives now and for generations to come. We are trusted by our owners and partners to realise the potential of their resources. We produce commodities including bauxite, alumina, aluminium, copper, silver, lead, zinc, nickel, metallurgical coal and manganese from our operations in Australia, Southern Africa and South America. We also have a portfolio of high quality development projects and options, and exploration prospects, consistent with our strategy to reshape our portfolio toward commodities that are critical for a low-carbon future.

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Further information on South32 can be found at www.south32.net.