



**MEDIA RELEASE | 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

***Shareholder action at Alumina Ltd's AGM today will expose company's role in forest clearing***

Alumina Ltd's role in the clearing of WA forests for bauxite mining will be exposed at its AGM in Melbourne today.

The WA Forest Alliance and The Wilderness Society are coordinating a shareholder action at the AGM, calling on the company to withdraw its interest in the clearing of WA's globally renowned Northern Jarrah Forests.

Alumina Ltd's sole investment is a 40% share in Alcoa World Alumina and Chemicals (AWAC), a joint venture that is operated day-to-day by Alcoa.

Alcoa has cleared almost 28,000 hectares of Western Australia's native forests up to 2021 and proposes to clear a further 13,500 ha over next 10-15 years. None of its mine sites have been rehabilitated to government standards. It is the number one cause of deforestation in WA's South West forests.

This clearing has been under intense scrutiny over the past several months for its impacts on wildlife, biodiversity and climate – and the very real risk it poses to Perth's drinking water.

Alcoa's mine management plans have now been referred to the EPA by WAFA, and its ongoing activities in the Northern Jarrah Forests are in doubt.

**Comments from Jess Beckerling, director of the WA Forest Alliance**

"Alumina Ltd is profiting from the incredibly risky and destructive clearing of forests in Western Australia. We will be calling this out at its AGM today and urging shareholders to take a closer look at the company's activities and future viability.

"We want Alumina Ltd shareholders to be fully aware that there is no social license for the ongoing clearing of WA's forests.

"Clearing for bauxite mining is risking Perth's water supply and destroying high conservation value and irreplaceable native forests.

"The IPCC has listed the Northern Jarrah Forests as being at real risk of climate collapse and recommended that clearing stops to improve its resilience and mitigate against this risk.

"It is highly irresponsible for any company to be continuing to clear these incredibly diverse, ancient forests knowing that their chance of survival depends upon an end to clearing, said Ms Beckerling.

**Comments from Tim Clifford, State Director of The Wilderness Society**

“Alumina Ltd shareholders need to know that their investment in Alcoa’s Northern Jarrah Forest operations will not only have a devastating impact on the biodiversity of the region but also accelerate the climate crisis.

“The Northern Jarrah Forest is critical habitat for the black cockatoo species. Alumina Ltd shareholders will be complicit in driving this iconic species even closer to extinction if they continue to invest in Alcoa’s operations in these forests.”

**AGM Details**

Alumina Limited’s 2023 Annual General Meeting

2:30pm (AEST) Monday, 29 May 2023

Village Roadshow Theatre, State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street (access via Entry 3 on La Trobe Street), Melbourne,

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