



ERA Energy Resources of Australia Ltd
ABN 71 008 550 865

5 September 2004

**Media Release and Stock
Exchange Announcement**

ERA OPERATIONS – UPDATE

Energy Resources of Australia Ltd's Ranger mine in the Northern Territory is progressively moving towards full production, with the processing operations re-commencing over the course of today. Mining resumed on the evening of 3 September

This follows an inspection of safety and health upgrades on 3 September by Supervising Scientist Arthur Johnston and ERA Chief Executive, Harry Kenyon-Slaney.

"I am pleased to report that the closure of the mine I initiated last week has allowed us to improve health and safety procedures at the Ranger mine," Mr Kenyon-Slaney said.

Operations were suspended by Mr Kenyon-Slaney 31 August, following consultations with the Federal Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, The Hon Ian Macfarlane. This was done in order to ensure improvements in health and safety systems already underway were expedited, and that recommendations contained in two reports of the Commonwealth's Supervising Scientist were adequately addressed.

As mentioned in ERA's 30 August media release and stock exchange announcement, Mr Macfarlane has outlined a further process of auditing the company's compliance with the recommendations in the OSS reports.

The auditing process outlined by Mr Macfarlane requires the company to meet certain conditions by September 10, October 31 and December 31 or face shutdown until compliance conditions are met. The first audit will cover the radiation protection procedures and the water systems at the Ranger site.



“ERA h has undertaken to complete the immediate action conditions, and indeed many of them have been underway for some months. Further discussions are taking place with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources on the remaining compliance conditions, “ Mr Kenyon-Slaney said.

Mr Kenyon-Slaney said the OSS Reports confirmed the company’s own expert advice that no person at the mine or associated with its operations should suffer long-term health effects as a result of the incidents.

Mr Kenyon-Slaney noted that since the Ranger mine opened nearly 25 years ago ERA's operations have caused no adverse impact to the Kakadu environment.

ERA does not expect that the suspension will affect its ability to meet customer sales commitments, but the company may be required to borrow uranium against a pre-existing uranium loan facility.

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