

**ERA****Energy Resources of Australia Ltd**ABN 71 008 550 865  
A member of the Rio Tinto Group**Head office** Level 3, Energy House,  
18-20 Cavenagh Street, Darwin NT 0800  
GPO Box 2394, Darwin NT 0801, Australia  
T +61 8 8924 3500 F +61 8 8924 3555**Ranger mine** Locked Bag 1,  
Jabiru NT 0886 Australia  
T +61 8 8938 1211 F +61 8 8938 1203[www.energyres.com.au](http://www.energyres.com.au)

## Media Release

---

**19 May 2020**

### **ERA contribution to the Supervising Scientist research program**

ERA notes the recent discussion about a potential reduction in the research program conducted by the Supervising Scientist Branch (SSB).

Members of the Alligator Rivers Region Technical Committee (ARRTC) and Alligator Rivers Region Advisory Committee (ARRAC) were recently advised by the Supervising Scientist that there is uncertainty about the SSB's future research program due to a reduction in ERA's financial contribution.

As ERA prepares to cease processing at Ranger in January 2021, ERA sought a contractually permitted, periodic review of the terms of its longstanding research funding arrangement with the Commonwealth Government.

There has been no decision, from any review conducted to date, that ERA's contribution would cease. Accordingly, in ERA's view, any presumption that there will be a change in the funding arrangements is premature.

ERA has consistently stated that it supports the role of the SSB and that a decision as to what research, and any other functions, should be carried by the SSB is a matter for the Commonwealth. A review of the funding arrangements is a contractual matter only and not a review of the activities of the SSB.

ERA Chief Executive, Paul Arnold, said: "ERA is committed to working with the Supervising Scientist Branch, regulators and other key stakeholders with the shared goal of rehabilitating Ranger in accordance with the Environmental Requirements, the approved Mine Closure Plan and the expectations of the Mirarr Traditional Owners of the Land." Mr Arnold added: "The recent share rights issue, which raised the necessary funds to meet the costs of rehabilitation in full, demonstrates ERA's commitment and capacity to fulfil its closure obligations."

ERA is committed to protecting the environment and undertaking the full rehabilitation of Ranger. Rehabilitation planning is well advanced following the completion in February 2019 of a Ranger Closure Feasibility Study and the recent approval of the 2019 Ranger Mine Closure Plan by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments. ERA has spent \$603 million on the progressive rehabilitation of Ranger since 2012 and is expected to spend a further \$770 million over the next six years.

END



**ERA**

### **About Energy Resources of Australia Ltd**

Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA) operates the Ranger mine, Australia's longest continually operating uranium mine.

Together, ERA provides clean energy to the world and cares for people and country.

ERA has an excellent track record of reliably supplying customers. Uranium has been mined at Ranger for more than 35 years. During that time, Ranger has produced in excess of 130,000 tonnes of uranium oxide.

ERA's Ranger mine is located eight kilometres east of Jabiru and 260 kilometres east of Darwin, in Australia's Northern Territory. ERA is a major employer in the Northern Territory and the Alligator Rivers Region.

Under the current legal framework, ERA is required to cease mining and processing activities in the Ranger Project Area by January 2021, with final rehabilitation to be completed by January 2026.

**Contact:** Alan Tietzel

**Office:** +61 (0) 8 8924 3571

**Mobile:** +61 (0) 448 605 001

**Email:** Alan.Tietzel@era.riotinto.com

**Website:** [www.energyres.com.au](http://www.energyres.com.au)

**Twitter:** Follow @ERARangerMine on Twitter