

**ERA****Energy Resources of Australia Ltd**

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Media release

Update on leach tank incident at Ranger mine

17 December 2013

Energy Resources of Australia has finalised the scope of its investigation into a leach tank failure which occurred on Saturday 7 December 2013.

The investigation will examine the root cause of the leach tank failure and review site processing infrastructure.

Chief Executive Andrea Sutton said the investigation into the cause of the leach tank failure will be led by an independent expert with experience in major incident investigations.

“ERA acknowledges that regulators, Traditional Owners and other stakeholders will need to be satisfied that ERA has identified the cause of the leach tank failure,” Ms Sutton said.

“The appointment of an independent lead will bring an additional level of expertise and rigour to this investigation.”

Given the nature of the incident under review, ERA will engage recognised experts in structural engineering, process engineering and asset management.

ERA’s investigation will run in parallel with the joint investigation undertaken by the Government-appointed taskforce charged with overseeing the regulatory response to this incident.

The taskforce consists of the Northern Territory Department of Mines and Energy, Northern Territory WorkSafe, the Supervising Scientist, the Department of Industry and a representative from the Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation (GAC), which represents the Mirarr Traditional Owners.

“ERA will work cooperatively with Government regulators and key stakeholders in order to satisfy the taskforce’s terms of reference,” Ms Sutton said.

“ERA is taking this incident very seriously and it’s important that we identify the root cause of the incident so that we can prevent anything similar from happening in the future.”

About Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA)

Energy Resources of Australia Ltd is one of the nation’s largest uranium producers and Australia’s longest continually operating uranium mine.

ERA has an excellent track record of reliably supplying customers. Uranium has been mined at Ranger for three decades. Ranger mine is one of only three mines in the world to produce in excess of 100,000 tonnes of uranium oxide.



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ERA's Ranger mine is located eight kilometres east of Jabiru and 260 kilometres east of Darwin, located in Australia's Northern Territory.

ERA is a major employer in the Northern Territory and the Alligator Rivers Region. ERA is proud of its diverse workforce of more than 500 people, of which 16 per cent are Indigenous people.

Located on the 79 square kilometre Ranger Project Area, Ranger mine is surrounded by, but separate from, the World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park.

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