Media Release

ERA Well Advanced in Addressing Leach Tank Report

22 October 2014

Energy Resources of Australia has confirmed that it is well advanced in addressing the findings and recommendations of the Noetic Final Report into the failure of the leach tank at the Ranger operations on 7 December 2013.

ERA continues to work closely with regulators and its stakeholders.

ERA recommenced processing operations at Ranger following the receipt of all regulatory approvals on 5 June 2014. ERA’s restart plan has involved a progressive ramp up of the plant which, as acknowledged in the Noetic Final Report, is going well.

Chief Executive, Andrea Sutton, said that ERA had produced a detailed plan for the improvement of process safety management and governance at Ranger, the ‘Process Safety Improvement Action Plan’. The plan draws on ERA’s existing process safety initiatives as well as the actions highlighted by the leach tank incident investigations.

“A key element of our action plan is to improve our monitoring of process safety hazards and the tracking of actions to address process safety management.”

Ms Sutton confirmed that measures to ensure greater awareness and understanding of process safety measures remain a high priority.

The action plan includes measures to embed process safety governance into the objectives of site personnel, undertake further process safety training and establish a process safety working group drawn from across the business.

A new monitoring program for the site’s leach tanks has been put in place, which includes monitoring of tank integrity, as well as regular visual inspections. ERA is also assessing other technologies, such as acoustic monitoring systems, to monitor its tanks.
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 110,000 tonnes of uranium oxide.

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.

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

For further information, please contact:

**Media Relations**

Carl Kitchen  
Office: +61 (0) 8 8924 3550  
Mobile: +61 (0) 401 691342  
Email: carl.kitchen@era.riotinto.com

Dan Hall  
Office: +61 (0) 8 8924 3514  
Mobile: +61 (0) 457 532 270  
Email: daniel.hall@era.riotinto.com