

15 July 2014

# ASX / TSX ANNOUNCEMENT

# **Borax Plant Relocation Completed**

Orocobre Limited (ORE:ASX, ORL:TSX) ("Orocobre" or "the Company") is pleased to advise the relocation of Borax Argentina's borax decahydrate chemical plant from Campo Quijano to Tincalayu mine site has been completed within budget and production has commenced.

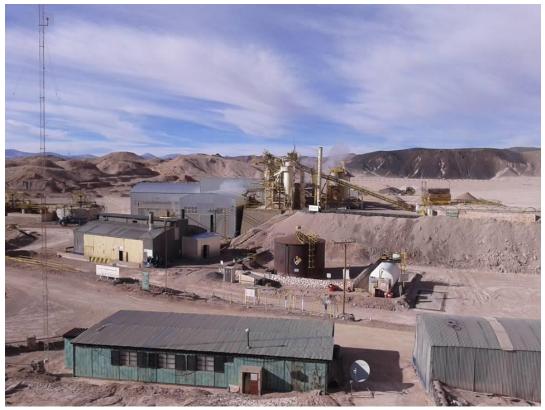
- The project is expected to deliver significant cost benefits through reduction of operating and logistics expenses
- Relocated plant at full capacity is 100tpd of refined borax decahydrate
- The project was completed within budget



Opening ceremony of the relocated borax chemical plant at Tincalayu mine site

TELEPHONE +61 7 3871 3985 FACSIMILIE +61 7 3720 8988 EMAIL mail@orocobre.com.au WEBSITE www.orocobre.com.au

On 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2013 the Company announced the start of the relocation of the borax plant from Campo Quijano (near the city of Salta) to the Tincalayu mine site (refer to announcement <u>Orocobre Announces</u> <u>Borax Plant Relocation</u>). On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July after a short period of commissioning, production commenced and over the course of the coming weeks the plant will be ramped up to full production levels. The borax chemical plant will produce refined borax decahydrate product grades with subsequent conversion, as required, to borax pentahydrate and anhydrous borax products at Campo Quijano. The capacity of the plant is 100tpd of borax decahydrate. The relocation has been completed within the original budget of US \$3.7m net of existing plant and equipment.



Relocated borax plant at Tincalayu mine site.

As a result of the Borax plant relocation significant benefits are expected to be achieved in both the reduction of operating unit costs and an increase in overall mineral recovery from the mine. Previously, run-of-mine ore at 17%  $B_2O_3$  was concentrated at Tincalayu using dry magnetic separation at about 60% recovery to produce a 21%  $B_2O_3$  grade, which was then transported 350 kms to Campo Quijano for further production into borax chemicals. Relocating the borax plant to the Tincalayu mine site allows for the direct processing of run-of-mine ore at a 15%  $B_2O_3$  head grade without the need for magnetic separation and associated mineral losses plus it improves transport efficiency and cost by carting a 37%  $B_2O_3$  refined product rather than the 21%  $B_2O_3$  grade concentrate.

As part of the initiatives being pursued at Borax Argentina's Tincalayu mine site, the Company is in the process of re-modelling the deposit and undertaking a review into the exploration potential. The new resource estimate and exploration review reports are expected to be completed by the end of the quarter and will shortly after lead into the development of a Life of Mine Plan (LOMP).



Boilers at Tincalyu borax plant



Monitoring production controls

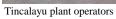


Controls for borax chemical plant



Crushed tincal ore being loaded into the feed bin.







Bagged borax decahydrate production

#### For more information please contact:

Australia and Asia	North America
David Hall Business Development Manager Orocobre Limited T: +61 7 3871 3985 M: +61 407 845 052 E: dhall@orocobre.com	James Calaway Chairman Orocobre Limited M: +1 (713) 818 1457 E: jcalaway@orocobre.com

#### **About Orocobre Limited**

Orocobre Limited is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange and Toronto Stock Exchange (ASX:ORE, TSX:ORL), and is building a substantial Argentinian-based industrial minerals company through the construction and operation of its portfolio of lithium, potash and boron projects and facilities in the Puna region of northern Argentina. The Company is building in partnership with Toyota Tsusho Corporation the first large-scale, "greenfield" brine based lithium project in 20 years at its flagship Salar de Olaroz resource, with planned production of 17,500 tonnes per annum of low-cost battery grade lithium carbonate projected to be in production at the end of August 2014. The Company also wholly-owns Borax Argentina, an important regional borate producer. Orocobre is included in the S&P/ASX 300 Index and was named 2012 Mining Company of the Year by Argentine mining magazine Panorama Minero and the Fundacion para el Desarrollo de la Mineria Argentina ("Fundamin" or Foundation for Development of Argentina Mining). For further information, please visit <u>www.orocobre.com</u>

## **Technical Information**

Information in this report relating to mineral processing has been approved by Mr. Peter Ehren. Peter Ehren, is a dependant consultant to Orocobre and an experienced Processing Engineer. Mr. Ehren is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a Chartered Professional Engineer and has sufficient relevant experience to qualify as a "Competent Person" as defined in the 2012 edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves and as a "Qualified Person" as defined in NI 43-101. Mr Peter Ehren consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears.

Additional information relating to the Company's projects is available on the Company's website.

## **Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

This news release contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable securities legislation. Forward-looking information contained in this release may include, but is not limited to, the future performance of the relocated borax plant, including without limitation the plant's estimated production rate, financial data, the estimates of mineral resources or mineralisation grade at the Tincalayu mine, the economic viability of such mineral resources or mineralisation, mine life and operating costs at the Tincalayu mine, the projected production rates associated with the borax plant, the market price of borax whether stated or implied, demand for borax and other information and trends relating to the borax market, tax, royalty and duty rates.

Such forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forwardlooking information, including but not limited to the risk of further changes in government regulations, policies or legislation; the possibility that required concessions may not be obtained, or may be obtained only on terms and conditions that are materially worse than anticipated; that further funding may be required, but unavailable, for the ongoing development of the Company's projects; fluctuations or decreases in commodity prices; uncertainty in the estimation, economic viability, recoverability and processing of mineral resources; risks associated with weather patterns and impact on production rate; risks associated with construction and development of the Olaroz Project; unexpected capital or operating cost increases; uncertainty of meeting anticipated program milestones at the Olaroz Project; general risks associated with the feasibility and development of the Olaroz Project; general risks associated with the feasibility and development of the Olaroz Project; general risks associated with the feasibility and development of the Olaroz Project; general risks associated with the operation of the borax plant; unexpected capital or operating cost increases; the risk of further changes in government regulations, policies or legislation; the possibility that required concessions may not be obtained, or may be obtained only on terms and conditions that are materially worse than anticipated; that further funding may be required, but unavailable, for the ongoing development of the Company's projects; a decrease in the price for borax resulting from, among other things, decreased demand for borax or an increased supply of borax or substitutes; other fluctuations or decreases in commodity prices; uncertainty in the estimation, economic viability, recoverability and processing of mineral resources; risks associated with weather patterns and impact on production rate; as well as those factors disclosed in the Company's Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 2013 filed at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

The Company believes that the assumptions and expectations reflected in such forward-looking information are reasonable. Assumptions have been made regarding, among other things: the timely receipt of required approvals and completion of agreements on reasonable terms and conditions; the ability of the Company to obtain financing as and when required and on reasonable terms and conditions; the prices of lithium, potash and borates; and the ability of the Company to operate in a safe, efficient and effective manner. Readers are cautioned that the foregoing list is not exhaustive of all factors and assumptions which may have been used. There can be no assurance that forward-looking information will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such information. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.