

5 September 2023

## MAKUUTU MLA STATUS UPDATE

The Board of Ionic Rare Earths Limited (“IonicRE” or “The Company”) (ASX: IXR) welcomes advice that the Ugandan Government has approved and gazetted its updated Mining and Minerals (Licencing) Regulations 2023. This was an important precursor to the grant of the Mining Licence Application (MLA) at its 60 per cent owned Makuutu Heavy Rare Earths Project (“Makuutu” or “the Project”) in Uganda.

*“This is an important milestone for the Ugandan mining industry and has been a regulatory requirement for the grant of the Company’s MLA at Makuutu. With this milestone the Company can now finalise the MLA fee payment which is the final item required in Uganda and clears the path to expedite the award of the Mining Licence at Makuutu,”* Tim Harrison, Managing Director at IonicRE, said.

The Company recently announced progress on the demonstration plant at Makuutu and the Phase 5 drill program, (ASX 28 July 2023 and 4 September 2023), which continues on target with 79 holes completed (1,618 metres) currently focusing on upgrading the confidence of the existing Mineral Resource Estimate on RL00007 (see Figure 1 and Table 1).

*“Our focus on the delivery of the Makuutu Heavy Rare Earths Project in Uganda positions us to provide a secure, sustainable, and traceable supply of magnet rare earth oxides,”* Mr Harrison said.

*“Along with our Belfast recycling facility, the Makuutu project is key to us harnessing our technology to accelerate our mining, refining and recycling of magnets and heavy rare earths which are critical for the energy transition, advanced manufacturing, and defence.”*

Mr Harrison said the Company, through Rwenzori Rare Metals Limited (“Rwenzori”), had been in regular dialogue with representatives of the Ugandan Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) and other Branches of the Ugandan Government, and were pleased with the progress on approvals. The fee payment required for the MLA is 20 million Ugandan shillings (~ US\$5,400).

*“The time and diligence to legislate Uganda’s new mining regulations shows the Government is intent on securing the right balance between growing the economy and ensuring sustainable mining practices,”* Mr Harrison said.

*“The Company is preparing for a review of the Stage 1 DFS at the Makuutu Heavy Rare Earths project through local operating entity Rwenzori prior to initiating an update to support the next phase of development”.*

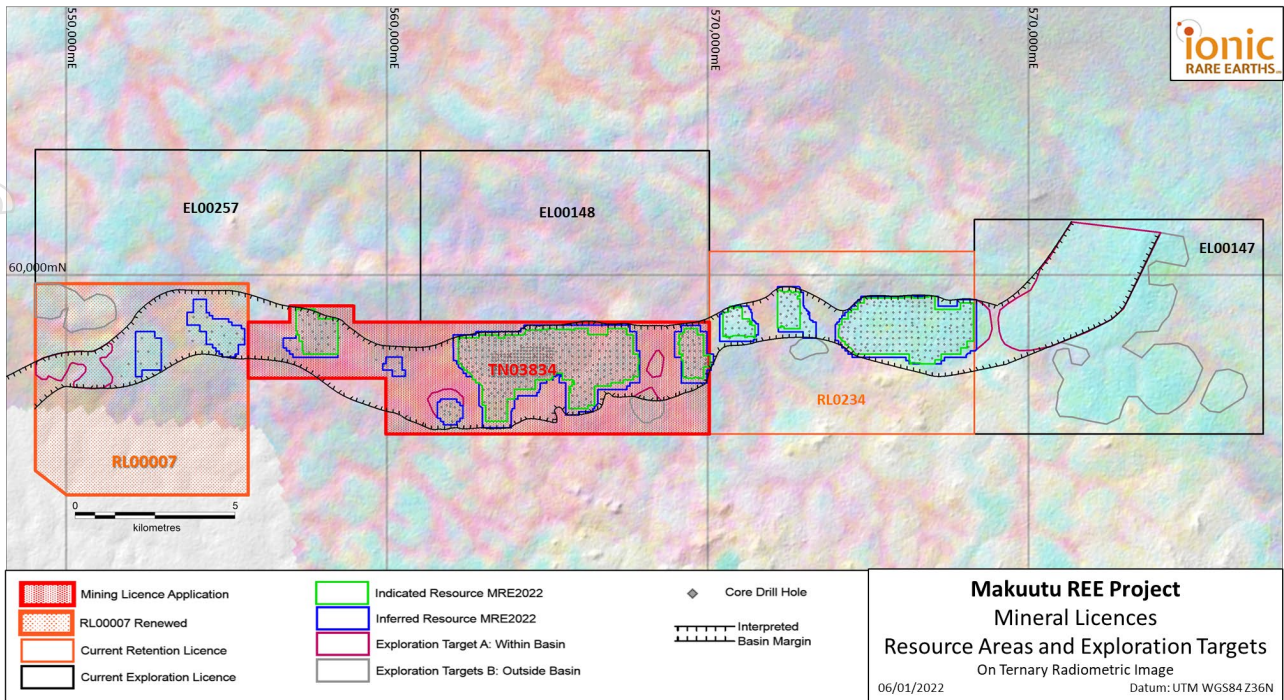


Figure 1: Makuutu Project Stage 1 Mining Licence Application TN03834 (red border) and RL00007 (orange border) as part of the larger Makuutu Heavy Rare Earths Project.

Table 1: Mineral Resources by Area (ASX: 3 May 2022), RL00007 Resource Areas shaded blue.

Classification	Indicated Resource			Inferred Resource			Total Resource			
	Area	Tonnes (millions)	TREO (ppm)	TREO-CeO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	Tonnes (millions)	TREO (ppm)	TREO-CeO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	Tonnes (millions)	TREO (ppm)	TREO-CeO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)
A				13	580	390	13	580	390	
B				26	410	290	26	410	290	
C		31	580	400	3	490	350	35	570	400
D				6	560	400	6	560	400	
E				18	430	280	18	430	280	
Central Zone		151	780	540	12	670	460	163	770	530
Central Zone East		59	750	490	12	650	430	72	730	480
F		18	630	420	7	590	400	25	620	410
G		9	750	500	5	710	450	14	730	480
H		6	800	550	7	680	480	13	740	510
I		129	540	350	19	530	350	148	540	350
<b>Total Resource</b>		<b>404</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>430</b>

Rounding has been applied to 1Mt and 10ppm which may influence averaging calculations.

Authorised for release by the Board.

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**About Ionic Rare Earths Ltd**

Ionic Rare Earths Limited (ASX: IXR or IonicRE) is set to become a miner, refiner and recycler of sustainable and traceable magnet and heavy rare earths needed to develop net-zero carbon technologies.

The flagship Makuutu Rare Earths Project in Uganda, 60% owned by IonicRE, is well-supported by existing tier-one infrastructure and is on track to become a long-life, low Capex, scalable and sustainable supplier of high-value magnet and heavy rare earths oxides (REO). In March 2023, IonicRE announced a positive stage 1 Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) for the first of six (6) tenements to progress to a Mining Licence Application (MLA) which is pending in Uganda. The Makuutu Stage 1 DFS defined a 35-year life initial project producing a 71% rich magnet and heavy rare earth carbonate (MREC) product basket and the potential for significant potential and scale up through additional tenements.

Ionic Technologies International Limited (“Ionic Technologies”), a 100% owned UK subsidiary acquired in 2022, has developed processes for the separation and recovery of rare earth elements (REE) from mining ore concentrates and recycled permanent magnets. Ionic Technologies is focusing on the commercialisation of the technology to achieve near complete extraction from end of life / spent magnets and waste (swarf) to high value, separated and traceable magnet rare earth products with grades exceeding 99.9% rare earth oxide (REO). In June 2023, Ionic Technologies announced initial production of high purity magnet REOs from its newly commissioned Demonstration Plant. This technology and operating Demonstration Plant provides first mover advantage in the industrial elemental extraction of REEs from recycling, enabling near term magnet REO production capability to support demand for early-stage alternative supply chains.

As part of an integrated strategy to create downstream supply chain value, IonicRE is also evaluating the development of its own magnet and heavy rare earth refinery, or hub, to separate the unique and high value magnet and heavy rare earths dominant Makuutu basket into the full spectrum of REOs plus scandium.

This three-pillar strategy completes the circular economy of sustainable and traceable magnet and heavy rare earth products needed to supply applications critical to electric vehicles, offshore wind turbines, communication, and key defence initiatives.

IonicRE is a Participant of the UN Global Compact and adheres to its principles-based approach to responsible business.

### **Competent Persons Statement**

*Information in this report that relates to previously reported Exploration Targets and Exploration Results has been cross-referenced in this report to the date that it was originally reported to ASX. Ionic Rare Earths Limited confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects information included in the relevant market announcements.*

*The information in this report that relates to Mineral Resources for the Makuutu Rare Earths deposit was first released to the ASX on 20 March 2022 and is available to view on [www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au). Ionic Rare Earths Limited confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects information included in the relevant market announcement, and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.*

*The information in this report that relates to Ore Reserves for the Makuutu Rare Earths deposit was first released to the ASX on 20 March 2023 and is available to view on [www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au). Ionic Rare Earths Limited confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects information included in the relevant market announcement, and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.*

*The information in this report that relates to Production Targets or forecast financial information derived from production the production target for the Makuutu Rare Earths deposit was first released to the ASX on 20 March 2023 and is available to view on [www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au). Ionic Rare Earths Limited confirms that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Production Targets or forecast financial estimates in the announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.*

### **Forward Looking Statements**

*This announcement has been prepared by Ionic Rare Earths Limited and may include forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions which are outside the control of Ionic Rare Earths Limited. Actual values, results or events may be materially different to those expressed or implied in this document. Given these uncertainties, recipients are cautioned not to place reliance on forward looking statements. Any forward-looking statements in this document speak only at the date of issue of this document. Subject to any continuing obligations under applicable law and the ASX Listing Rules, Ionic Rare Earths Limited does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any information or any of the forward-looking statements in this document or any changes in events, conditions, or circumstances on which any such forward looking statement is based.*