

**ASX Code: IPT** 

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**CORPORATE RELEASE** 

## **Alluminous Pty Ltd: Operational & Commercial Update**

- Appointment of Tim Netscher as Non-Executive Chair of Alluminous
- Continued commissioning of the pilot plant and analytical laboratory
- Strong inbound interest from potential customers and offtake partners

Impact Minerals Limited (ASX: IPT) is pleased to provide an update on the progress of Alluminous Pty Ltd, (50%-owned by Impact), which is advancing the development and commercialisation of the proprietary HiPurA® High Purity Alumina (HPA) technology platform (ASX Release April 26<sup>th</sup> 2025).

The HiPurA process is a modular and scalable solvent extraction (SX) method that uses a sulphate-based chemical feedstock to produce HPA, potentially providing substantial cost benefits over current producers (Figure 1).

Impact acquired a 50% stake in Alluminous to accelerate its entry into the HPA market and to explore the potential integration of the HiPurA process with the company's Lake Hope project due to similarities in feedstock chemistry and aspects of the metallurgical flowsheets of the two processes (ASX Release April 26<sup>th</sup> 2025). Impact is pursuing this integration as part of its CRC-P research grant with Edith Cowan University and CPC Engineering (ASX Release October 28th 2024).

Since acquiring the HiPurA technology on 1st May 2025, Alluminous, under the guidance of CEO David Leavy, has made significant progress in both operational and commercial areas, particularly with the recent appointment of Mr Tim Netscher as Non-Executive Chair of Alluminous.

Mr Netscher is a highly experienced public company chair and director with decades of international mining and processing leadership. He is currently the Independent Non-Executive Chairman of Gold Road Resources (ASX: GOR), having joined the board in 2014 and been appointed Chair in 2016. Tim was instrumental in the current >\$3 billion takeover of Gold Road by Goldfields Limited.

His executive career includes senior roles at Gindalbie Metals, Newmont Mining, Vale/PT Inco, BHP, and Impala Platinum, covering major capital project development, operations, sustainability, technology commercialization and business improvement across North and South America, Africa, Australia, and the Asia-Pacific. Mr Netscher is a Chartered Engineer, holds a BSc (Chemical Engineering), BCom, and MBA, and is a Fellow of IChemE and the AICD.

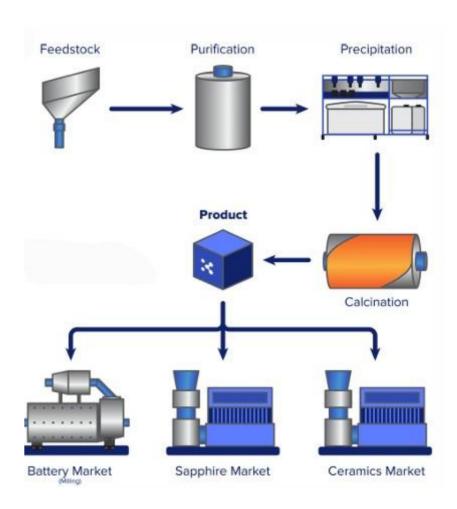
Mr Netscher said, "HiPurA® is a differentiated platform in a market that rewards quality, reliability and speed to qualification. The team's integrated pilot-and-lab capability and modular process architecture provide a credible path from pilot samples to bankable offtake. I look forward to working with the board and management to execute disciplined, staged growth, deepen customer partnerships and deliver strong value-adding outcomes for all stakeholders."



Impact's Managing Director, Dr Mike Jones, said "Having Tim join the Board of Alluminous as Chair is a true validation of Alluminous' business plan. He brings deep industry and governance experience and will play a critical role in guiding Alluminous through its transition from pilot operations to commercialisation.

Alluminous was established to do one thing very well—get qualified HPA into customers' hands faster. The combination of a pilot-scale plant, on-site high-purity analytical capability and a modular, compact flowsheet gives us that speed, while keeping capital light and scale-up de-risked. Those are the critical ingredients to win in the bespoke, specification-driven HPA markets.

"Alluminous' roadmap is pragmatic and value-focused. First, pilot production for customer qualification; second, a U.S. demonstration plant to anchor North American offtake; and third, scale as orders accumulate. In parallel, we will look to back-engineer Lake Hope feed through HiPurA® using the existing micro-plant to preserve a natural-feedstock option alongside chemical routes—giving us true dual-feedstock flexibility and a faster path to revenue."



**Figure 1.** Overview of the HiPurA process.

The straightforward flowsheet allows the process to be replicated in a global, modular, low-capex fashion.

## **Operating progress**

Meaningful progress has been made at the pilot plant facility located in O'Connor, Perth as follows:

- Installation of systems for safety, governance, finance and administration.
- Pilot operations are progressing. Following a comprehensive review of the HiPurA® pilot plant, work is now underway to commission the plant. This initially involved installing electrical circuits and completing the SX circuits (Figure 2). Currently, each component of the HiPurA process is being tested separately with batch processing of feedstock through the various parts of the HiPurA process.
- Recruitment of Key Personnel. Alluminous has appointed additional senior technical and project personnel to accelerate process optimisation, manage pilot operations, and support feasibility work on scale-up. These appointments add critical expertise in chemical engineering, project delivery, and advanced materials R&D.
- Commissioning of the high-purity laboratory. Securing the laboratory was a key part of the purchase of HiPurA, as it enables rapid turnaround of assay results, vital for the pilot plant operation (Figure 2). An analytical chemist has been hired to finalise the laboratory's commissioning and run it going forward.



Figure 2. Details of the ICP-MS in the high-purity laboratory, the electrical circuits and the SX circuit)

## **Marketing progress**

Alluminous has started to receive interest from battery and advanced materials companies. Work completed has included:

• Investigations into the production of other high-purity alumina products, such as:

Boehmite (battery separators)

Aluminium sulphate (cathode stability, solid state batteries)

Aluminium nitrate (electrolyte feedstock)

High porosity alumina for pharmaceuticals and catalysts

• Customer engagement. Customer engagement programs are in train, including initial discussions on battery-grade HPA evaluation and solid-state/ceramic applications, as well as advanced discussions with marketing agents in Europe and North America to focus on specific markets.

## **Next Steps**

Alluminous is positioning itself to deliver qualified HPA product quickly, with a capital-light, modular pathway to commercialisation and an option-rich feedstock strategy alongside Impact's Lake Hope project. The focus remains on customer qualification, near-term revenue milestones and disciplined scaling aligned to demand. Immediate work programs include:

- 1. **Continued improvements and commissioning of the pilot plant** providing a clear platform for pilot and commercial deployment.
- 2. **Commence pilot sample campaigns** for targeted customers across LED/phosphor, ceramics, Li-ion separator/coating and solid-state adjacencies; maintain rapid QC cycles via the inhouse laboratory.
- 3. **Validate North American demonstration plant scope**, site options and permitting path as the bridge from pilot qualification to initial commercial shipments.
- 4. Advance Lake Hope back-engineering in the micro-plant to define blends/specs and preserve dual-feedstock flexibility.
- 5. **Formalise customer engagement frameworks** (sample specifications, acceptance criteria, qualification plans) to shorten the time from sample to PO.
- 6. **Continue IP consolidation and process optimisation** across purification, crystallisation and finishing steps.

Dr Michael G Jones

**Managing Director**