



## QUARTER 4 2023

# Finniss Lithium Operation

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

Letter from General Manager Operations Alicia Sherwood

**The safety of our staff, contractors, and the community remains our top priority. We value the privilege of our people being able to drive to work and we are committed to ensuring they have a safe journey to and from work.**



At Core Lithium, we take the shared use of our roads and road safety extremely seriously and we continue to work with our team to emphasise the importance of safe driving practices and an awareness of other road users. We share the road with many different users, and it is all our responsibility to adhere to the rules and regulations. Our road safety policies include strict adherence to speed limits, robust traffic management plans and stringent vehicle safety standards.

### YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the past year we have achieved many milestones including being Australia's newest Lithium miner and the first lithium miner outside of Western Australia.

We have responded to many challenges that have presented themselves and couldn't have achieved the results we have without the support of our people, local businesses and the community.

Welcome to our quarterly community update.

Core Lithium is the owner and operator of the Finniss Lithium Operation – the Northern Territory's first lithium mine and Australia's only lithium mine outside of Western Australia. Finniss is located just 88km by sealed road from the Port of Darwin and is supported by one of the best logistics chains of any Australian lithium project.

This community update will give you an insight into what we have been up to on site and in the community.

This year we focused on finalising construction and ongoing commissioning activities at our Grants operations. Our dedicated team worked diligently to meet key milestones and objectives within a tight timeline.

Living and working in a tropical climate has its challenges, especially during the wet season. Despite these difficulties, our team successfully restarted operations in the open pit following the significant rainfall at the start of the year. We learned from that experience, and we have been working on our wet season preparedness to respond to this coming wet season. Despite the initial setbacks, we have had a productive dry season which has enabled stability of our operations.

We commenced early works at BP33 to prepare for construction of the underground entry, which is known as a box cut.

We are pleased to be able to support so many local Territorians through direct employment and contracting opportunities, including building our own team with locals or people wanting to return to the Northern Territory.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As our business continues to grow, our primary commitment is to ensure safe, reliable and sustainable operations that consider the wellbeing of our people and our host community. This year, we've made significant strides in evaluating the important environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors that impact us.

Most of our operations team calls Darwin home and we are proud to be members of our local community. As a company, we want to have a long and successful partnership with the Northern Territory.

We are committed to creating opportunities, engaging with local stakeholders and cultivating mutually beneficial relationships with the communities we share, including Berry Springs, Belyuen, Tumbling Waters, Wagait Beach/Mandorah and Dundee Beach, Darwin and Palmerston.

Direct engagement with our local communities was a key focus during the year following the implementation of our Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. We've met with key local stakeholders to establish and maintain connections, identify opportunities for engagement and support, and inform about our community investment program development. The team has been active in the community participating at events, local markets and visiting our local school to share

career pathways for students interested in a future in the mining industry.

We were proud to launch our Community Grants Program to support community groups in the Greater Darwin region. This year we funded 20 local organisations to undertake sporting, educational and other community-led initiatives. We were also delighted to contribute corporate sponsorship to the Darwin Festival and sponsored Charles Darwin University student passes to the Mining the Territory Conference.

As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past year, we want to express our gratitude to the community for your continued support. Core remains committed to community engagement, transparency and environmental responsibility as we grow and contribute to the region where we operate.

It has been a busy, productive and rewarding year for the team. If you would like to learn more about our many activities over the last 12 months, I invite you to review our recently released annual report which can be accessed on our [website](#).

On behalf of our leadership team, I'd like to thank you for your support this year and wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alicia Sherwood'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

**Alicia Sherwood**  
General Manager Operations

## COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

Core Lithium was pleased to launch its inaugural Community Grants Program in 2023. We were very excited to support 20 community organisations over 2 funding rounds this year, in areas including health and wellness, sport and recreation, and education. Core Lithium's Community Grants Program is aimed at benefiting the Greater Darwin community through supporting grassroots and community-led initiatives that are essential for the vibrancy of our community.



*Some of Palmerston Cricket Club's junior players with their managers and coaches.*

### PALMERSTON CRICKET CLUB BATS OUT OF THE PARK WITH CORE LITHIUM'S COMMUNITY GRANT

For over 30 years, Palmerston Cricket Club has been paving the way for cricket enthusiasts of all ages and backgrounds in Palmerston and surrounding areas. They deliver cricket programs for aspiring junior cricketers, invest in their coaches through Cricket Australia Level 1 coaching courses, and create sustainable opportunities for women in cricket. These initiatives, along with ongoing fundraising efforts, fuel the club's mission to boost community and family participation – reflected in a lively calendar full of social events.

Palmerston Cricket Club also earned "Gold Medal Good Sports Club" accreditation for their commitment to fostering a safe and family-friendly environment. As a Gold Medal Good Sports Club, they have implemented policies and action plans on alcohol awareness, mental health and illicit drugs to support the wellbeing of its members.

Due to their dedication to the community, we were very happy to present the club with a grant to purchase new cricket pitch covers as part of our Community Grants Program. The new

purchase provides better protection of the club's cricket pitch from the harsh Top End weather and a better playing field as the club prepares to host the NT cricket finals.

Palmerston Cricket Club President Adrian Gallagher said the grant has contributed to a better environment during games.

**"The grant funding has not only enhanced the playing conditions for our club but has also attracted a surge of spectators eager to witness the final games with confidence in uninterrupted play," Adrian said.**

"In the past, budget constraints prevented us from acquiring these covers and hosting finals. With Core Lithium's support, we were able to secure these much-needed covers."

As Palmerston Cricket Club continues its upward trajectory, it stands as a compelling example of the positive influence thoughtfully directed community grants can have on grassroots sports.

## OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Some of our team got out and about at the popular Berry Springs markets earlier this year.

Throughout the morning, our team engaged in meaningful conversations with the local community, shedding light on potential job opportunities and sharing updates about the latest activities at our Finnis Lithium Operation. This provided us with valuable insights into the interests of the community with a particular focus on job prospects at our operations.

General Manager Operations Alicia Sherwood also stopped to speak with Member for Daly Dheran Young MLA on Cox Peninsula Road to provide an update on operations and hear community feedback.



Executive General Manager Sustainability Melissa Winks and Site Specialist Emma Short at the Berry Springs Markets.



Our board on the site visit.

## FINNISS LITHIUM OPERATION: BOARD COMMENDS PROGRESS

Our board recently visited the Finnis Lithium Operation to see an update on progress, meet team members and engage with contracting partners.

During this visit, they received a comprehensive update on the advancements in the early works program at BP33. The primary focus is currently on excavating the 280m long box-cut. At the same time, there is activity in concrete and steel works, shaping the footings that will provide a robust foundation for the arches designed to cover the box-cut.

The board also observed diamond drill rigs on site, which were lowering geotechnical equipment into the orebody collecting further samples.

## NT RESOURCES WEEK

We were delighted to return to Mining the Territory, the Northern Territory's leading resources conference as part of NT Resources Week.

General Manager Operations Alicia Sherwood addressed the auditorium of delegates, providing an update on the accomplishment of various milestones leading to commercial production at our Finnis Lithium Operation.

Alicia also shared valuable insights into her experience as a working mother, highlighting our commitment to offering flexible arrangements.

"Our flexible working options are a key enabler and driver of gender equality in the workplace," Alicia said.

"This approach has created more opportunities for women to step into leadership roles and seen our female representation grow, comprising 32% of the overall team and 28% of senior leadership."

We also had a booth at the conference, providing a platform for our representatives to engage with attendees and share company updates. Throughout the action-packed week, our team enjoyed exchanging ideas and knowledge with industry peers, partners, and stakeholders.



Chief Executive Officer Gareth Manderson speaking to local media.



L-R: Project Geologist Martin Wheeler, COO Mike Stone, GM Operations Alicia Sherwood, CEO Gareth Manderson & Executive GM Sustainability Melissa Winks.



General Manager Operations Alicia Sherwood presenting.

## COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

### PALMERSTON NETBALL ASSOCIATION'S COACHING INITIATIVE: NURTURING COACHES AND TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

**Through the latest round of our Community Grants Program, Palmerston Netball Club has secured funding to facilitate coach development training for 12 individuals, promising a lucrative season for the club.**

Palmerston Netball Club has embarked on a program aimed at developing home grown coaches to foster change within the netball community.

The goal of the program extends beyond the court, aiming to keep more young people engaged in team sports and foster personal growth, recognising the integral role coaches play in player development and enhancing their skills to meet player demands.

Lauraine earned her intermediate coaching accreditation thanks to the additional training provided. Reflecting on her experience, Lauraine described the program as fulfilling, inspiring, and supportive.

"I really valued the opportunity to enhance my coaching skills with a new bunch of people

and connect through personal concerns about our own perceived downfalls as coaches," Lauraine said.

"The desire to be successful leaders and role models provided me the opportunity to reflect on my successes and fuel the fire in my belly.

"Karyn, another participant in the coaching program, echoed Lauraine's sentiments, emphasising the value of reflecting on the "why" in coaching and the characteristics of a great coach.

"I appreciated the focus on fundamental skills and the importance of effective communication at various levels," Karyn said.

Acknowledging the hurdles of volunteer recruitment, especially during economic uncertainty, the netball club empathises with the burden of asking volunteers to fund courses and development programs. The grant directly tackles this challenge, ensuring a more inclusive and supportive environment for coaching development.



Palmerston Netball Association coaches, Lauraine and Karyn.



## REGULATORY CHECK-IN: OUR COMMITMENT TO WATER MANAGEMENT

In early September, the Environment Division of the Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security carried out a routine comprehensive site inspection at the Finnis Lithium Operation.

We work collaboratively with the Northern Territory Government to champion sustainable mining practices and foster a culture of continuous improvement.

The primary focus of this recent visit was to conduct an examination of the progress of ongoing activities in alignment with government approval conditions and commitments. The inspection aimed to assess installation of crucial water management infrastructure. During the visit, officers inspected the construction and operational areas, including key water sampling locations both up and downstream of the mine site.

Mining officers from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade also visited both our Grants operation and the BP33 project site to perform a comprehensive inspection of the progress of works and preparedness for the upcoming wet season. Their objective was to ensure

management of erosion, sediment and water is implemented in accordance with the approved Mining Management Plan before the start of the wet season.

**By implementing robust water management practices in our operations, we not only reduce our environmental footprint but also safeguard priceless water resources.**

We track our water consumption and strive to uphold optimal water inventory levels, addressing the challenges posed by both the wet and dry seasons.

Our operational water management plan and processes are designed to navigate local climactic changes, guaranteeing we have effective measures in place to prevent and mitigate impacts on environmental water quality.



Welcome to Country by Aunty Bilawara Lee and smoking ceremony in Festival Park.



Life/Time performance in Festival Park.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTS AND CULTURE AT DARWIN FESTIVAL

We were a proud sponsor of the 2023 Darwin Festival which showcased local talent, creativity and the unique culture of the Northern Territory.

Several of our senior team members attended the dazzling opening night celebration at Festival Park in the Darwin CBD. The evening kicked off with a special Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, acknowledging that the festival took place on Larrakia Country.

The team were thrilled to see the first performance of Life/Time — an acrobatic collaboration between Gravity and Other Myths, Jimblah and Corrugated Iron Youth Arts — followed by Kolsen Twilight Playground's interactive light and sound installations, and a night of live music.

The festival was a great success, and we look forward to continuing our support of this important local event. We recognise the profound role that arts and culture play in shaping the identity of Darwin, and paving the path toward a more vibrant, connected, and culturally rich community.

### COMMUNITY HOTLINE

If you have any feedback, suggestions or concerns about any part of our operation, please let us know.

**Our community hotline number is 1800 271 118**

**Our email address is: [contact@corelithium.com.au](mailto:contact@corelithium.com.au)**

Please outline your feedback with as much detail as possible and provide contact details so that we can get in touch with you. You can also contact the company anonymously but please be aware that it is difficult to respond directly to anonymous feedback.

### MORE INFORMATION

Core Lithium will continue to provide updates to the community about the company's operations. If you would like more information, or to register to receive these updates, please contact True North Strategic Communication on:

P. 08 8981 6445

E. [feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au](mailto:feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au)



[corelithium.com.au](http://corelithium.com.au)