

## AUSGROUP LIMITED (Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

(Company Registration No 200413014R)

## **RESOLUTION ON PORT MELVILLE DECISION**

Ezion Offshore Logistics Hub (Tiwi) Pty Ltd (EOLHT), a wholly owned subsidiary of AusGroup Limited and owner and operator of Port Melville, has been advised by the Minister of the Environment (Commonwealth), that the proceeding between The Environment Centre Northern Territory Incorporated (ECNTI) and the Minister (Proceeding NTD3/2016) has been discontinued.

On 26 June 2015, EOLHT made a referral to the Minister under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) for him to determine whether proposed expanded commercial operations consisting of the shipment of equipment and supplies for construction projects and the operation of offshore oil and gas fields was a controlled action under the EPBC Act. On 26 October 2015, the Minister gave notice to EOLHT that these proposed additional activities were not a controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner. The Minister gave his detailed reasons on 9 December 2015. It was from this decision that ECNTI, a not-for-profit body entitled at law to seek administrative review, brought the above action.

The case which was scheduled to be heard before the Federal Court of Australia on 27 October 2016, was concerned with and was related to the procedural process adopted by the Commonwealth Government only, as opposed to any substantive issues related to the port operations, will not now proceed.

EOLHT has since been advised by the Minister that pursuant to a consent order entered into between the Minister and ECNTI, the current decision will be quashed and referred back to him for further consideration according to law, on the basis that his original decision lacked certainty in some respects. This process is expected to take between 4 to 6 weeks. During this period, the facilities at Port Melville will continue to operate at current historical levels.

EOLHT is supportive of the process being adopted by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment as being the most efficient way of dealing with this procedural matter.

Mr Eng Chiaw Koon, Managing Director of AusGroup, commented that "overcoming this procedural matter of which the Commonwealth Government has become aware to have the referral reconsidered is a very practical approach which we support. We will continue to operate existing commercial operations within the port as normal during this process".

-Ends-

By Order of the Board **AusGroup Limited** 

36 Tuas Road Singapore 638505 T +65 6862 5233 F +65 6862 5211 E info@ agc-ausgroup.com www.agc-ausgroup.com

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Eng Chiaw Koon Managing Director 24 October 2016

Issued by AusGroup Limited.

For more information, please contact Kathy Zhang/Romil Singh T +65 6438 2990 | F +65 6438 0064 | E Kathy@financialpr.com.sg / romil@financialpr.com.sg

For further information in Australia, please contact Christopher Dargie T +61 8 6210 4500 | E christopher.dargie@agc-ausgroup.com

ABOUT AUSGROUP LIMITED (Bloomberg Ticker: AUSG.SP)

Main board-listed, AusGroup Limited is an energy and resources specialist providing fabrication, precision machining, construction and integrated services to natural resource development companies. The Company also provides access services for construction and maintenance contracts through MAS Australasia Pty Ltd (MAS). AusGroup has an established operations network strategically positioned throughout Australia, Singapore and Thailand. For more information visit <u>www.agc-ausgroup.com</u>