## The West Australian

**Public Companies** 

## Reedy Lagoon partners with CSIRO on magnetite research



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Reedy Lagoon is working with CSIRO to find a new way to determine JORC-standard magnetite resources. Credit: TP Mine Imagery

Reedy Lagoon has engaged Australia's premier science and research agency, CSIRO to help it demonstrate magnetic modelling can play a dominant role in establishing JORC compliant magnetite iron resources. Success will mean less drilling at projects such as Burracoppin in WA. The research, which could lead to reduced exploration ground disturbance and cost, focuses on the application of petrophysically constrained magnetic modelling.

Reedy Lagoon is working to establish an indicated resource of 20-30 million tonnes of iron concentrate product to feed a proposed high-purity pig iron, "HPPI" plant. The high-confidence resource is needed to shape HPPI financial projections.

The Burracoppin iron deposit, 250km east of Perth, was discovered in 2012, however it has only three drill holes into a 3km-long magnetic anomaly. The three holes intersected magnetite mineralisation.

CSIRO's project leader and petrophysics expert, Dr Jim Austin says magnetite is unlike any other metal in that, "the quantity of the resource present has a linear relationship with both density and magnetisation".

"This means the total iron resource can theoretically be determined to relatively high precision using geophysical methods alone," Dr Austin said.

Reedy Lagoon, which has owned Burracoppin since 2017, says the deposit is currently identified through detailed airborne magnetic data together with the three drill holes. The research focus on the area between the drill holes - about 600m apart - will use core from the holes to determine magnetisation and density properties of the Burracoppin magnetite to constrain a detailed 3D model of the mineralisation.

Recently engaged geological consulting company, H & S Consultants put forward an exploration target of 100 to 120 million tonnes at 25-35 per cent iron for Burracoppin based on available average density readings for four interpreted mineral zones.

The exploration target was reported to potentially host between 25 and 40Mt of magnetite concentrate going 67 to 71 per cent iron and 1 to 4 per cent silicon dioxide, with low level impurities.

H & S also reported the potential for significant exploration upside along a further 2.4km of strike not included in the exploration target.

To achieve the targeted 20 to 30Mt of iron concentrate product in the indicated resource category, H & S concluded that 11 holes for a total of 3,740m of drilling would be required.

Reedy Lagoon's partnership with CSIRO falls under the Australian Government's Kick-Start initiative which provides funding support for innovative local businesses.

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