

6 December 2023

# INITIAL INFORMATION FOR CREDITORS AND SUPPLIERS AUSTRALIAN POTASH LIMITED (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ACN 149 390 394 ("THE COMPANY")

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information about the voluntary administration of the Company and your rights as a creditor.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATORS**

Daniel Hillston Woodhouse and I, Hayden Leigh White, were appointed as Joint and Several Administrators of the Company by resolution at a Meeting of Directors held on Wednesday, 6 December 2023.

A copy of our Declaration of Independence, Relevant Relationships and Indemnities ("DIRRI") is **attached**. The DIRRI assists you to understand any relevant relationships that we have, and any indemnities or upfront payments that have been provided to me. It is our opinion that none of the matters disclosed in the DIRRI result in a conflict of interest or duty or affect my independence.

#### **VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION**

Voluntary administration is a process under the law which allows companies unable to pay their debts, or likely to become unable to pay their debts to appoint an independent, qualified person (called a voluntary administrator) to take control of the Company and its operations. This process allows breathing space to work out the best outcome for all stakeholders and involves the voluntary administrators calling creditors' meetings over the following 20 business days at which creditors decide the future of the Company. The creditors will determine if the Company:

- a) Be returned to the directors;
- b) Be placed into liquidation; or
- c) Enter into a Deed of Company Arrangement.

According to the Company's records, you may be a creditor of the Company.

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR DEBT?

All creditors of the Company are now creditors in the voluntary administration.

As a creditor, you have certain rights, although your debt will be dealt with in the voluntary administration. Further information regarding your rights as a creditor is **enclosed** with this circular.

It is important to note that a voluntary administration creates restrictions on creditors being able to enforce their rights. You generally cannot enforce your claim, recover your property, enforce your security, commence an action to place the company into liquidation or act on a personal guarantee. Please refer to Important statements for all creditors and suppliers **attached**.

If you have leased the company property, have a retention of title claim or hold a Personal Property Security in relation to the company, please contact our staff as soon as possible.

Further information is **enclosed** - please refer to Requirements for parties with security interests and other claims **attached**.

#### **OPERATIONS AND TRADING**

The Administrators have taken control of the operations of the Company and requested the directors to prepare a report on the Company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances.

As Administrators we intend to pursue a realisation strategy involving a sale of the Company's business and assets and/or a recapitalisation of the Company via a Deed of Company Arrangement.

The Administrators will collaborate closely with the Company's employees and suppliers to preserve value for stakeholders.

It is our current view that this realisation strategy will provide an optimum return to all creditors of the Company. Your continued cooperation and support are essential to achieving the best outcome for all stakeholders, and we thank you in advance for your support.

If you are a supplier or employee, you will receive a separate communication on how this appointment impacts your ongoing dealings with the Company. Please refer to Important statements for all creditors and suppliers **attached**.

#### **MEETINGS OF CREDITORS**

As voluntary administrator, I am required to hold two meetings of creditors.

#### First meeting of creditors

When a Company enters into voluntary administration, the Administrators are required to convene a first meeting of creditors within eight (8) business days after the commencement of the voluntary administration.

The First Meeting of the Creditors will be held virtually at 10:00 AM (AWST) on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

In this regard, please find **enclosed** the following documents:

- a) Notice of First Meeting of Creditors of the Company under Administration;
- b) Appointment of Proxy; and
- c) Formal Proof of Debt or Claim Form.

If you intend to appoint another person to act on your behalf at the meeting, or you are a corporate creditor, you are required to complete and return the **enclosed** proxy form appointing your representative to australianpotash@fticonsulting.com no later than 1:00 PM (AWST) on **Thursday**, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

You can appoint anyone who is attending the meeting as your proxy and direct them how you wish your vote to be cast. If you choose to do this, they must cast your vote as directed.

Creditors are required to lodge proofs of debt for voting purposes no later than 1:00 PM (AWST) on **Thursday, 14**<sup>th</sup> **December 2023**, failing which they may be excluded from voting at the meeting. A Proof of Debt or Claim Form is **attached** for this purpose. Proofs of Debt may be sent to australianpotash@fticonsulting.com.

General information regarding the conduct of meetings of creditors and the completion of proxy forms and proof of debt forms is **enclosed** and can also be found on our website at http://www.fticonsulting-asia.com.

Statutory notices and advertisements about the Company will be published on ASIC's Published Notices website at https://publishednotices.asic.gov.au/.

#### Second meeting of creditors

A second meeting of creditors will be held, at which creditors will vote on the future of the Company. Details of that meeting and a Report to Creditors on the Company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances will be sent to you in due course.

#### **COSTS OF THE VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION PROCESS**

**Attached** to this circular is my Initial Remuneration Notice, which provides you with information about how I propose to be paid for undertaking the voluntary administration.

I will seek approval of my remuneration at the second meeting of creditors. I will provide you with further information regarding my remuneration before that meeting, detailing the tasks that I have attended to, will be required to attend to, and the costs of those tasks.

If you have any information that you think may help with the administration of the Company, the going concern sale or help the administrators with the investigations into the Company's affairs, please contact us. Our details are **attached** – please refer to the Administrators' background and contact details.

Yours faithfully

Hayden White

Joint and Several Administrator

### **NOTICES AND ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED IN THIS CIRCULAR**

The administration will be conducted on the basis of the information contained in the following notices and attachments:

- Administrators' background and contact details
- Important statements for all creditors and suppliers
- Requirements for parties with security interests and other claims
- **Administrators' trading procedures.** This includes the specimen signatures of the Administrators and their authorized persons.

#### Details and notices for the first meeting of creditors

- Notice of First Meeting of Creditors of the Company under Administration;
- Form Appointment of Proxy;
- Formal Proof of Debt or Claim Form (for voting purposes);
- Guidance notes for completing proxy and proof of debt or claim forms.

#### Independence and remuneration disclosures

- Initial advice to creditors basis of remuneration;
- FTI Consulting Standard Rate schedule; and
- The Administrators' Declaration of Independence, Relevant Relationships and Indemnities.

#### Information sheets about your rights and the voluntary administration process

- Information regarding your rights as a creditor;
- Information sheet called "Insolvency information for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders";
- Additional information sheets on the administration process can be obtained at www.asic.gov.au (search for "insolvency information sheets") or www.arita.com.au/creditors.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS' BACKGROUND AND CONTACT DETAILS**

#### **ABOUT US**

Hayden White and Daniel Woodhouse are Senior Managing Directors at FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd. They are both Registered Liquidators and also Professional Members of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association.

FTI Consulting specialises in corporate finance and restructuring and is part of FTI Consulting, Inc. a global business advisory firm dedicated to helping organisations protect and enhance enterprise value. You can find out more at www.fticonsulting-asia.com.

#### **CREDITOR ENQUIRIES – FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS AND GENERAL MATTERS**

For queries about the forthcoming meeting or the administration generally, please contact the Administrators by one of the following methods:

Telephone: 08 9321 8533

Email: australianpotash@fticonsulting.com

Post: Australian Potash Limited

c/- FTI Consulting

PO Box Z5486, St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6831

#### IMPORTANT STATEMENTS FOR ALL CREDITORS AND SUPPLIERS

## NO ADOPTION OF ANY CONTRACTS OR ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY BY THE ADMINISTRATORS

The Administrators are not personally adopting, and will not adopt, any agreement or contract that you may have with the Company. The Administrators will not be liable for any liability of the Company under any agreement or contract with you.

Any payments made by the Administrators for any goods or services does not constitute, nor in any way imply, adoption of any contract or an assumption of any liability of the Company by the Administrators.

#### **EXISTING DEBTS AND CLAIMS CANNOT BE PAID BY ADMINISTRATORS**

The Administrators cannot pay any creditor's debts or claims that arise from circumstances or arrangements that were in place with the Company before the Administrators' appointment. Payment of these amounts will depend on the outcome of the administration.

#### NO SET-OFF AGAINST PRE-APPOINTMENT DEBTS OR CLAIMS

Any amounts due from you to the Company must not under any circumstances be set-off against amounts due from the Company to you.

## PROTECTION OF COMPANY PROPERTY AND GENERAL RESTRICTIONS ON THIRD PARTY RIGHTS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION

Without leave of the Court, or the Administrators' written consent:

- A proceeding in a court against the Company or in relation to any of its property cannot be begun or proceeded with;
- Except for perishable property owners, lessors and creditors with security interests in the Company's property, cannot enforce their security interest, sell any such property they hold, and are not entitled to take possession or otherwise recover such property; and
- No enforcement process in relation to property of the Company can be begun or proceeded with.

See sections 440B to 440F of the Corporations Act 2001 for further details.

# REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTIES WITH SECURITY INTERESTS AND OTHER CLAIMS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO CONTACT US

Please contact Administrator's office at australian potash@fticonsulting.com as soon as possible if you:

- Have supplied any goods or collateral to the Company and you have registered a security interest in such property on the Personal Property Security Register ("PPSR");
- Are otherwise claiming security or proprietary rights in any asset or property owned by or in possession of the Company;
- Lease or hire goods or property to the Company;
- Are claiming a lien over property of the Company; and/or
- Have commenced legal proceedings against the Company.

We will be writing to all parties who have registered a security interest on the PPSR.

## PARTIES WITH PMSI, RETENTION OF TITLE AND CONSIGNMENT CLAIMS OVER PROPERTY

Parties with these claims are requested as soon as possible to:

- 1. Give us details of the items supplied to the Company (including any features by which that property is able to be identified, for example serial number/s) and which remain unpaid for;
- 2. Provide details of your registration on the PPSR with all relevant supporting documents.

#### **GENERAL STATEMENT**

The Administrators will consider the information and details provided to them in support of any claims. Where a claim is valid and not disputed, the Administrators will comply with their obligations at law. This should not be interpreted as, in any way, limiting or restricting the rights of the Administrators or the Company, whose rights are expressly reserved.

Please note the Administrators may require payment of their reasonable expenses and remuneration incurred in the identification, preservation and distribution of property to secured parties, purchasers and/or other persons that the property belongs to. This also includes circumstances where property (such as inventory, for example) is made available for collection.

Affected parties should seek their own advice as applicable and as they deem appropriate.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS' TRADING PROCEDURES**

#### PURCHASE ORDER TO BE ISSUED TO SUPPLIERS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

The Company will raise a purchase order for goods and services that are required during the period of the administration. Goods supplied or services rendered to the Company after our appointment will be paid in accordance with these procedures provided that:

- 1. A purchase order has been issued for the applicable good or service;
- 2. The purchase order has been signed by the Administrators or our authorised signatories. The specimen signatures of our authorised representatives for this purpose are included with this circular; and
- 3. The Administrators' liability does not exceed the amount specified on the purchase order.

#### NEW ACCOUNTS AND OTHER ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED

Suppliers must comply with the following procedures:

- 1. Close any existing accounts with the Company. These accounts will be for goods supplied and services rendered up to and including the date of appointment;
- 2. Open a new account for the Company with the words "Administrators Appointed" added after the Company's name. This new account is to be used for goods supplied and services rendered to the Company during the period of the administration;
- 3. Update contact details for the Company within your systems to also include the Administrators' contact details; and
- 4. Please ensure your invoices include the Administrators' purchase order number. This will likely be a new number sequence to help demarcate pre and post-appointment orders.

#### PAYMENTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

Validly authorised liabilities created after our appointment in accordance with these procedures will be paid in accordance with your/the Company's usual terms unless we determine otherwise.

All payments made by the Company or Administrators must be applied against liabilities incurred by the Administrators. These payments cannot be set-off against any other claims against or liabilities incurred by the Company.

If you have current orders or bookings with the Company (including goods in transit or pending delivery), you will need a new purchase order to be issued in accordance with these procedures (and before any goods or services are provided) before the Administrators will accept liability.

It is your responsibility to contact us if you require clarification about any of these arrangements.

### ADMINISTRATORS' TRADING PROCEDURES – AUTHORISED PERSONS

The following persons are authorised to sign purchase orders for the Company:

Name	Signature	Order Limit (\$)
Hayden White	Hayl Sho	Unlimited
Daniel Woodhouse		Unlimited
Matthew Chivers	M. W	\$100,000
Luke Parker	Farker	\$75,000

#### DETAILS AND NOTICES FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS

## NOTICE OF THE FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS OF COMPANY UNDER ADMINISTRATION

The agenda for the meeting is set out in the notice.

This meeting is being held virtually. If you or the person you have appointed is intending on accessing the meeting virtually, please register with the Administrators' office via email at australianpotash@fticonsulting.com no later than 1:00 PM (AWST), **Thursday, 14**<sup>th</sup> **December 2023**. Information about how to access the meeting will be provided following your registration.

#### **FORM - APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

This form should be completed if you intend to appoint another person to act on your behalf at the meeting, or if you are a corporate creditor.

#### FORMAL PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM FORM

This form allows you to tell us what you are owed by the Company. You must send us a completed form if you wish to vote at the meeting.

Return to:

Australian Potash Limited (Administrators Appointed)

C/- FTI Consulting

PO Box Z5486, St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6831

Email: australianpotash@fticonsulting.com

#### NOTICE OF FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS OF THE COMPANY UNDER ADMINISTRATION

# AUSTRALIAN POTASH LIMITED (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ACN 149 390 394 ("THE COMPANY")

On 6 December 2023, the Company, under Section 436A, appointed Hayden Leigh White and Daniel Hillston Woodhouse of FTI Consulting, Level 47, Central Park, 152-158 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000, as Joint and Several Voluntary Administrators of the Company.

- Notice is now given that a first meeting of the creditors of the Company will be held at 10:00 AM (AWST) on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The meeting is being held virtually and all creditors who wish to attend the meeting are required to attend via Microsoft Teams.
  - Although there is no physical location where creditors are able to attend the meeting, I am required under law to nominate a notional place for the meeting for administrative purposes such as establishing the time of the meeting. The notional place for this meeting is: FTI Consulting, Level 47, Central Park, 152-158 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND AT THIS LOCATION.
- 2) The purpose of the meeting is to determine:
  - a) Whether to appoint a committee of inspection; and
  - b) If so, who are to be the committee's members.
- 3) At the meeting, creditors may also, by resolution:
  - a) Remove the administrator(s) from office; and
  - b) Appoint someone else as administrator(s) of the Company.
- 4) Discuss any other relevant business which may arise.

Dated this 6th day of December 2023

Hayden White

Joint and Several Administrator

Juph LLB

C/- FTI Consulting

Level 47, 152-158 St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6000

#### **FORM - APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

# AUSTRALIAN POTASH LIMITED (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ACN 149 390 394 ("THE COMPANY")

I/We			(nan	ne of signatory)
of				
a creditor of the Company, appoint			(	name of proxy)
of			(ad	ddress of proxy)
or in his/her absence (details of alternate p				
as my/our $\square$ general proxy $\underline{or}$ $\square$ special proxy to vo December 2023 at 10:00 AM or at any adjournment of			ors to be held or	15 <sup>th</sup>
Voting instructions - for special proxy only		For	Against	Abstain
Resolution				
1. To appoint a committee of inspection.				
2. To remove the Administrators and appoint some as administrator(s) of the above company.	eone else			
(delete if not required)  Dated:				
Name and signature of authorised person			ure of authorise	
CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS — only complete if the person appointing the proxy and read	of was comple	ted by me in th	e presence of ar	nd at the
instrument.  Dated:	Signature	e of witness:		
Description:				

#### FORM 535 - FORMAL PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM

# AUSTRALIAN POTASH LIMITED (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ACN 149 390 394 ("THE COMPANY")

To the Administrators of Australian Potash Limited (Administrators Appointed) ACN 149 390 394 ("the Company")

1.	This is to state that the Company was on 6 December 2023, and still is, justly and truly indebted to:						
	(full name, ABN	and address of the creditor and	, if applicable, the cre	ditor's partners)			•••••
	Particulars of the	e debt are:					
	Date	Consideration	Amount (\$/c)	Remarks			
		(state how the debt arose)		(include details of vou	cher substantiati	ng payment)	
2.	for the sum or a	e or belief the creditor has not, ny part of it except for the follo	wing:				
	(insert particular	rs of all securities held. If the se notiable securities are held, sho	curities are on the pro	pperty of the company, as			
	Date	Drawer	Acceptor	Amount (\$,	/c) D	ue Date	
Ü	incurred for  I am the cre consideration	yed by the creditor and authori the consideration stated and t ditor's agent authorised in writ on stated and that the debt, to	hat the debt, to the being to make this state the best of my knowle	est of my knowledge and ement in writing. I know t	belief, remains une debt was incu	inpaid and unsati irred for the isfied.	
				'			
		mployee or agent of the credito					
RE	CEIVE REPORTS E	BY EMAIL			YES	NO	
Do	you wish to rece	ive all future reports and corre	spondence from our c	office via email?			
Em	nail:						
If be	ing used for the p	ourpose of voting at a meeting:					
a)	Is the debt you	u are claiming assigned to you?			□ Yes	□ No	
b)	If yes, attach v	vritten evidence of the debt, th	e assignment and cor	nsideration given.	☐ Attached		
c)	If yes, what va	lue of consideration did you give debt?)	ve for the assignment	(eg, what amount did	\$		
d)					☐ Yes	□ No	

# GUIDANCE NOTES FOR COMPLETING PROXY AND PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM FORMS

#### **FORM - APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

A person can appoint another person to attend the meeting on their behalf by completing the Form of proxy.

If the creditor is a company or a firm, a person needs to be appointed to represent the company.

This representative needs to be appointed by completing the Form of Proxy in accordance with section 127 of the *Corporations Act 2001* ("the Act"). Alternatively, the appointed person must be authorised to act as a representative for the company per section 250D of the Act.

The Form of proxy is valid only for the meeting indicated (or any adjournment).

You may appoint either a general proxy (a person who may vote at their discretion on motions at the meeting) or a special proxy (who must vote according to your directions). If you appoint a special proxy, you should indicate on the form what directions you have given. In many instances, there will be a box or section on the proxy form where you can mark how you want your proxy to vote for you.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and you do not have a representative who can attend on your behalf, you may if you wish, appoint any person, including the Chairperson of the Meeting, as either your general or special proxy.

#### INFORMAL PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM FORM

The proof of debt submitted during an Administration is informal in that it does not mean that the Administrator has agreed with your proof for the purpose of making a dividend distribution.

It is used for voting purposes at any meetings of creditors and also to help establish the overall level of creditor claims in the administration. In the event that there are monies to be distributed to creditors in the future, you will need to submit a Formal Proof of Debt or Claim form.

You should include a description of how your debt/claim arose, whether you are claiming a security interest in property and if you have any guarantees and indemnities for the debt. If you need more space, you can attach any additional details you wish to include – just make sure that you mention this on the Form so we know what you've attached and how many pages.

You should provide supporting documents that substantiate what you are owed by the Company. This may include things like account statements, unpaid invoices and their corresponding purchase orders, PPSR registration, agreements/terms of trade, contracts, lease or hire agreements, court order or judgment, guarantee or loan document, emails/other correspondence with the Company.

If you need help in completing the forms or if you are uncertain what information you should attach, please email or telephone the nominated FTI Consulting contact person.

# INITIAL ADVICE TO CREDITORS – BASIS OF ADMINISTRATORS' REMUNERATION

#### **REMUNERATION METHODS**

There are four basic methods that can be used to calculate the remuneration charged by an insolvency practitioner. They are:

#### Time based / hourly rates

This is the most common method. The total fee charged is based on the hourly rate charged for each person who carried out the work multiplied by the number of hours spent by each person on each of the tasks performed.

#### Fixed fee

The total fee charged is normally quoted at the commencement of the voluntary administration and is the total cost for the voluntary administration. Sometimes a practitioner will finalise a voluntary administration for a fixed fee.

#### Percentage

The total fee charged is based on a percentage of a particular variable, such as the gross proceeds of assets realisations.

#### Contingency

The practitioner's fee is structured to be contingent on a particular outcome being achieved.

#### **METHOD PROPOSED**

We propose that our remuneration is calculated on a time basis. We believe this method is appropriate as it ensures that only the actual work performed is charged for. There are also various tasks required to be completed which do not involve the realisation of assets, such as reporting to ASIC, undertaking investigations, corresponding with creditors and answering their queries, and completing other statutory tasks required by law.

#### **ESTIMATE OF REMUNERATION FOR THE VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION**

We estimate our remuneration for undertaking the administration will be approximately \$400,000 to \$500,000 (exclusive of GST), subject to the following variables which may have a significant effect

on this estimate and that we are unable to determine until the voluntary administration has commenced:

- The full scope and extent of necessary work (from experience, unforeseen matters can arise and may require us to perform additional work beyond that currently anticipated).
- The extent of business operations continuing after appointment.
- The actual length of the administration itself (including whether or not the second meeting of creditors is adjourned)
- The extent of work to assess any deed of company arrangement that may be proposed.

#### **EXPLANATION OF HOURLY RATES**

The rates for our remuneration calculation are attached together with a general guide showing the qualifications and experience of staff that will be engaged in the voluntary administration and the role they take in the voluntary administration. The hourly rates charged encompass the total cost of providing professional services and should not be compared to an hourly wage.

#### **DISBURSEMENTS**

Disbursements are divided into three types:

- Externally provided professional services these are recovered at cost. An example of an externally provided professional service disbursement is legal fees.
- Externally provided non-professional costs such as travel, accommodation and search fees these are recovered at cost.
- Internal disbursements such as photocopying, printing and postage. These disbursements, if charged to the administration, would generally be charged at cost; though some expenses such as telephone calls, photocopying and printing may be charged at a rate which recoups both variable and fixed costs.

We are not required to seek creditor approval for disbursements paid to third parties, but must account to creditors. However, we must be satisfied that these disbursements are appropriate, justified and reasonable.

We are required to obtain creditors' approval for the payment of internal disbursements which were not charged at cost (and which may therefore have a profit or advantage attached to them), prior to these disbursements being paid from the administration. These disbursements typically would include internal photocopying, printing and facsimile costs. However, as we do not charge our external administrations for internally-generated FTI disbursements where they have not been charged at cost (such as photocopying and printing charges for the use of internal photocopiers, printers, etc.), creditor approval is not required.

Details of the basis of recovering internal and external disbursements in this administration are provided in the table below. Full details of any actual costs incurred will be provided with future reporting.

#### FTI Disbursements Schedule

Disbursement type	Charge Type	Charge Rate (excl GST)
Advertising	External, non-professional	At cost
ASIC Industry Funding Model Levy – metric events	External, non-professional	At cost (at prescribed ASIC rates)
Couriers and deliveries	External, non-professional	At cost
Data Room Charges	External, professional	At cost
Facsimile	Internal (FTI)	Not charged
Legal Fees	External, professional	At cost
Mail out	Internal (FTI)	20 cents per email
Postage	External, non-professional	At cost
Photocopying – internal	Internal (FTI)	Not charged
Photocopying – outsourced	External, non-professional	At cost
Printing – internal	Internal (FTI)	Not charged
Printing – outsourced	External, non-professional	At cost
Records costs – storage, destruction, boxes	External, non-professional	At cost
Search fees	External, non-professional	At cost
Staff motor vehicle use - mileage	Cents per km	At prescribed ATO rates
Staff travel - accommodation, meals etc	External, non-professional	At cost
Stationery and other incidental disbursements	External, non-professional	At cost
Telephone	Internal (FTI)	Not charged
Valuation Fees	External, professional	At cost
Other externally provided professional services		At Cost
Other externally provided non-professional services		At Cost



# FTI Consulting CF&R Standard Rates effective 1 October 2023 (excluding GST)

(chording cor)	Standard		
Typical classification	Rates \$/hour	General guide to classifications	
	77		
Senior Managing Director	820	Registered Liquidator and/or Trustee or corporate advisory professional, with specialist skills and experience in all forms of insolvency engagements, turnaround scenarios and restructures. Proven leadership experience in business or industry, bringing specialist expertise and knowledge to the engagement.	
Managing Director	710	Broad specialist skills brought to the engagement. Extensive experience in managing large, complex engagements at a senior level over many years. May also be a Registered Liquidator and/or Trustee or has extensive leadership/senior management experience in business or industry.	
Senior Director	635	Strong technical and commercial skill with significant experience in managing all types of large, complex engagements. Alternatively, has significant senior management experience in business or industry, with specialist skills and/or qualifications.	
Director	575	Significant experience across all types of engagements. Strong technical and commercial skills. Has primary conduct of small to medium engagements, managing a team of professionals. Alternatively, has senior management experience in business or industry, with specialist skills and/or qualifications.	
Senior Consultant	510	Typically studying to become or qualified to be a professional member of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association. Well developed technical and commercial skills. Has experience in large and complex engagements and may have primary conduct of small engagements, supervising a small team of professionals.	
Consultant	410	Typically studying to become or qualified chartered accountant and member of Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (or similar). Required to control the tasks on small engagements or responsible for select aspects on medium to large-sized engagements under supervision of senior staff.	
Associate	355	Typically a degree qualified accountant, who assists with day-to-day tasks under the supervision of senior staff.	
Treasury	330	Typically, qualified accountant and/or bookkeeper. Undertakes treasury activities and is skilled in bookkeeping and funds handling activities.	
Junior Associate	275	Undergraduate in the latter stage of their university degree.	
Administration 2	295	Well developed administrative skills with significant experience supporting professional staff, including superior knowledge of software packages, personal assistance work and/or office management.	
Administration 1	230	Has appropriate skills and experience to support professional staff in an administrative capacity.	

The FTI Consulting Standard Rates above apply to the Corporate Finance & Restructuring practice and are subject to periodical review.

# AUSTRALIAN POTASH LIMITED (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED)

#### **ACN 149 390 394 ("THE COMPANY")**

The purpose of this document is to assist creditors with understanding any relevant relationships that we have with parties who are closely connected to the Company and any indemnities or upfront payments that have been provided to us. None of the relationships disclosed in this document are such that our independence is affected.

This information is provided so you have trust and confidence in our independence and, if not, you can ask for further explanation or information and can act to remove and replace us if you wish.

This declaration is made in respect of ourselves, our fellow Senior Managing Directors/Managing Directors, FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd (FTI Consulting or Firm) and associated entities, as detailed in **Annexure A**.

We are Professional Members of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association (ARITA). We acknowledge that we are bound by the ARITA Code of Professional Practice.

### **Independence**

We have assessed our independence and we are not aware of any reasons that would prevent us from accepting this appointment.

There are no other known relevant relationships, including personal, business and professional relationships that should be disclosed beyond those we have disclosed in this document.

### **Circumstances of appointment**

How we were referred this appointment

This appointment was referred to FTI Consulting by Canaccord Genuity (Canaccord).

We believe that this referral does not result in us having a conflict of interest or duty because:

- Neither the Administrators nor FTI Consulting have any formal or informal referral arrangements with Canaccord, and to our knowledge they do not exclusively refer such work to us or FTI Consulting.
- FTI Consulting is not reliant upon referrals from Canaccord, who are one of a considerable number of firms, organisations and persons who may refer work to, or seek advice from, FTI Consulting. This engagement is



not financially significant to FTI Consulting and the receiving or otherwise of other referrals from Canaccord is not material to FTI Consulting.

- Work referrals arising from networks of business professionals, advisors and other persons are normal and accepted arrangements, and do not inherently impact on us discharging our statutory duties and obligations with independence and impartiality.
- There is no expectation, agreement or understanding between the Administrators and the referrer about the conduct of this administration and we are free to act independently and in accordance with the law and the requirements of the ARITA Code of Professional Practice.

Did we meet with the Company, its directors or their advisers before we were appointed?	
⊠ Yes □ No	

We had the following pre-appointment meetings involving either the Company, its directors and its advisors during the period between 28 November 2023 to 6 December 2023:

- On 28 November 2023, Hayden White of FTI Consulting received a telephone call from Aaron Constantine of Canaccord. The purpose of the call was for Canaccord to briefly explain the current circumstances relating to Australian Potash Limited, discuss whether FTI Consulting would be able to assist with the situation and the various forms of insolvency processes available and to make an introduction to the company;
- On 28 November 2023, Hayden White of FTI Consulting attended a meeting with Matthew Shackleton,
   Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Australian Potash Limited. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the voluntary administration process and restructuring options; and
- On 1 December 2023, Hayden White of FTI Consulting attended a virtual call with Tom Birch of Cor Cordis and Matthew Shackleton. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possible appointment of FTI Consulting as Voluntary Administrators to the Company and for Matthew and Tom to provide a brief update as to the Company's current circumstances and position.
- In all the interactions above, these meetings were for the purposes of:
  - obtaining sufficient information about the Company to enable discussion around the financial position of the Company;
  - explaining the various forms of insolvency appointments, the options available, and the consequences of an insolvency appointment; and
  - outlining the process following an insolvency appointment.

We received no remuneration for the above meetings.

In our opinion, these meetings do not affect our independence for the following reasons:

- The Courts and relevant professional bodies recognise the need for practitioners to provide advice on the insolvency process and the options available and do not consider that such advice results in a conflict or is an impediment to accepting the appointment.
- The nature of the advice provided to the Company is such that it would not be subject to review and challenge during the course of our appointment.



- No advice has been given to the directors in their capacity as directors of the Company, or in relation to their personal circumstances.
- The pre-appointment advice will not influence our ability to be able to fully comply with the statutory and fiduciary obligations associated with the appointment as Administrators of the Company in an objective and impartial manner.

We have provided no other information or advice to the Company, its directors or its advisors prior to our appointment beyond that outlined in this DIRRI.

### **Declaration of Relationships**

#### Within the previous 2 years we or our firm have had a relationship with:

The Company	□Yes	⊠ No
The directors	□Yes	⊠ No
Any associates of the Company?	□Yes	⊠ No
A former insolvency practitioner appointed to the Company?	□Yes	⊠ No
A secured creditor entitled to enforce a security over the whole or substantially the whole of the Company's property?	□Yes	⊠ No

Do we have any other relationships that we consider are relevant to creditors assessing our independence?

□Yes	oxtimes No
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### **Indemnities and up-front payments**

We have not received any up-front payments or indemnities for this appointment. This does not include any indemnities we may be entitled to under the law.

Dated 6 December 2023

Hayden Leigh White

Daniel Hillston Woodhouse

#### Notes:

- 1. The assessment of independence has been made based on an evaluation of the significance of any threats to independence and in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation and professional Standards.
- 2. If circumstances change, or new information is identified, we are required under the Corporations Act 2001 or Bankruptcy Act and ARITA's Code of Professional Practice to update this Declaration and provide a copy to creditors with our next communication as well as table a copy of any replacement declaration at the next meeting of the insolvent's creditors. For creditors' voluntary liquidations and voluntary administrations, this document and any updated versions of this document are required to be lodged with ASIC.



#### **ANNEXURE A**

### FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd and associated entities

FTI Consulting Inc (ultimate holding entity)

FTI Consulting – FD Australia Holdings Pty Ltd

FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd

FTI Technology (Sydney) Pty Ltd

FTI Consulting (Perth) Pty Ltd

FTI Consulting (Sydney) Pty Ltd

FTI Capital Advisors (Australia) Pty Ltd

FTI Consulting Australia Nominees Pty Ltd





### Creditor Rights in Voluntary Administrations

As a creditor, you have rights to request meetings and information or take certain actions:



#### Right to request information

Information is communicated to creditors in a voluntary administration through reports and meetings.

In a voluntary administration, two meetings of creditors are automatically held. You should expect to receive reports and notice of these meetings:

- The first meeting is held within 8 business days of the voluntary administrator's appointment. A notice of meeting and other information for this meeting will be issued to all known creditors.
- The second, or decision, meeting is usually held within 6 weeks of the appointment, unless an extension is granted. At this meeting, creditors will get to make a decision about the company's future. Prior to this meeting the voluntary administrator will provide creditors with a notice of the meeting and a detailed report to assist in making your decision.

Important information will be communicated to creditors prior to and during these meetings. Creditors are unable to request additional meetings in a voluntary administration.

Creditors have the right to request information at any time. A voluntary administrator must provide a creditor with the requested information if their request is 'reasonable', the information is relevant to the voluntary administration, and the provision of the information would not cause the voluntary administrator to breach their duties.

A voluntary administrator must provide this information to a creditor within 5 business days of receiving the request, unless a longer period is agreed. If, due to the nature of the information requested, the voluntary administrator requires more time to comply with the request, they can extend the period by notifying the creditor in writing.

#### Requests must be reasonable.

#### They are not reasonable if:

- (a) complying with the request would prejudice the interests of one or more creditors or a third party
- (b) the information requested would be privileged from production in legal proceedings
- (c) disclosure would found an action for breach of confidence
- (d) there is not sufficient available property to comply with the request
- (e) the information has already been provided
- (f) the information is required to be provided under law within 20 business days of the request
- (g) the request is vexatious

If a request is not reasonable due to (d), (e) or (f) above, the voluntary administrator must comply if the creditor meets the cost of complying with the request.

Otherwise, a voluntary administrator must inform a creditor if their information request is not reasonable and the reason why.

Specific questions about the voluntary administration should be directed to the voluntary administrator's office.



#### Right to give directions to voluntary administrator

Creditors, by resolution, may give a voluntary administrator directions in relation to a voluntary administration. A voluntary administrator must have regard to these directions, but they are not required to comply with the directions.

If a voluntary administrator chooses not to comply with a direction given by a resolution of the creditors, they must document their reasons for not complying.

An individual creditor cannot provide a direction to a voluntary administrator.

### Right to appoint a reviewing liquidator

Creditors, by resolution, may appoint a reviewing liquidator to review a voluntary administrator's remuneration or a cost or expense incurred in a voluntary administration. The review is limited to:

- remuneration approved within the six months prior to the appointment of the reviewing liquidator, and
- expenses incurred in the 12 months prior to the appointment of the reviewing liquidator.

The cost of the reviewing liquidator is paid from the assets of the voluntary administration, in priority to creditor claims.

An individual creditor can appoint a reviewing liquidator with the voluntary administrator's consent, however the cost of this reviewing liquidator must be met personally by the creditor making the appointment.

#### Right to replace voluntary administrator

At the first meeting, creditors have the right to remove a voluntary administrator and appoint another registered liquidator to act as voluntary administrator.

A creditor must ensure that they have a consent from another registered liquidator prior to the first meeting if they wish to seek the removal and replacement of a voluntary administrator.

Creditors also have the opportunity to replace a voluntary administrator at the second meeting of creditors:

- If creditors vote to accept a proposed deed of company arrangement, they can appoint a different registered liquidator as the deed administrator.
- If creditors vote to place the company into liquidation, they can appoint a different registered liquidator as the liquidator.

It is however usual for the voluntary administrator to act as deed administrator or liquidator. It would be expected that additional costs would be incurred by an alternate deed administrator or liquidator to gain the level of knowledge of the voluntary administrator.

Like with the first meeting, a creditor must ensure that they have a consent from another registered liquidator prior to the second meeting if they wish to seek to appoint an alternative registered liquidator as deed administrator or liquidator.

For more information, go to <a href="www.arita.com.au/creditors">www.arita.com.au/creditors</a>.

Specific queries about the voluntary administration should be directed to the voluntary administrator's office.

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# Insolvency information for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders

This is **Information Sheet 39 (INFO 39)**. It lists ASIC's information sheets for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders affected by a company's insolvency.

We have produced these with endorsement from the Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association (ARITA).

The information sheets give a basic understanding of the three most common company insolvency procedures — liquidation, voluntary administration and receivership — as well as the independence requirements for external administrators and approving external administrator remuneration. There is also a glossary of commonly used insolvency terms.

#### List of information sheets

- INFO 41 Insolvency: A glossary of terms
- INFO 42 Insolvency: A guide for directors
- INFO 43 Insolvency: A guide for shareholders
- INFO 45 Liquidation: A guide for creditors
- INFO 46 Liquidation: A guide for employees
- . INFO 54 Receivership: A guide for creditors
- INFO 55 Receivership: A guide for employees
- INFO 74 Voluntary administration: A guide for creditors
- INFO 75 Voluntary administration: A guide for employees
- INFO 84 Independence of external administrators: A guide for creditors
- · INFO 85 Approving fees: A guide for creditors

### Where can I get more information?

Further information is available from the <u>ARITA website</u>. The ARITA website also contains the <u>ARITA Code of</u>
<u>Professional Practice for Insolvency Practitioners</u>.

Information sheets provide concise guidance on a specific process or compliance issue or an overview of detailed guidance.

This information sheet was updated on 1 September 2017.