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## **AGUIA ACHIEVES KEY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MILESTONE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED FOR FLAGSHIP TRÊS ESTRADAS PHOSPHATE PROJECT**

### **Highlights:**

- **EIA for Três Estradas submitted to FEPAM, the Rio Grande State Environmental Agency**
- **Once EIA is approved, Três Estradas will be granted Preliminary License, a major milestone for mining project development in Brazil including stakeholder consultations**
- **EIA review expected to take between 6 and 12 months**
- **Other project development work to support Três Estradas BFS is ongoing**
- **Intensive infill drilling program to commence in near term**

Brazilian fertiliser developer Agua Resources Limited (ASX: AGR) (“Agua” or “Company”) is pleased to announce the completion of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for its flagship Três Estradas Phosphate Project in southern Brazil.

The Company engaged world-class engineering and consulting firm Golder Associates to conduct the assessment that employed 44 highly experienced professionals covering multiple disciplines. This 1-year intensive program included environmental diagnostics covering the geology, biology, socioeconomic and cultural surveys of the project area as well as a detailed layout of the planned industrial area.

This extensive study was compiled in a final report that was filed and presented to the Rio Grande State Environmental Agency FEPAM late last week. Next steps include further discussions with the Agency and public hearings in the Lavras do Sul area. Within 6 to 12 months, the Agency is expected to approve the EIA and issue the Preliminary License for the Project. The Preliminary License is considered the major milestone in the development of a mining project in Brazil and represents a substantial de-risking in the path to construction and production. This is the phase of permitting where all of the technical data relating to the environmental impact assessment is presented and the community consultations are completed to provide the social license to proceed to installation and operating permits.

### **Management commentary**

Technical Director Fernando Tallarico commented, “We are very proud of the technical success of this program and to have completed this very important milestone for Três Estradas. Golder has done a fantastic job delivering an EIA, which is completed to international technical standards within the timelines we have laid out for the project schedule. We have initiated discussions with the regional government over the past year to ensure that we are properly addressing their concerns, and to date

we have found the authorities very receptive and encouraging. We would like to acknowledge their important input into the process.”

Justin Reid, Managing Director of Aguia added, “The submission of the EIA represents a significant step for Aguia and it again demonstrates the value that our technical team in Brazil delivers. We look forward to socialising the project and meeting the community stakeholders in the forthcoming public consultation meetings and completing the important exercise of recognising the roles of all of the stakeholders who will be impacted by the Três Estradas project. It was a key consideration for our team to employ an experienced and highly respected and internationally recognised firm like Golder to prepare the EIA to ensure we are setting solid foundations to be a long term and productive member of the Rio Grande community.”

Aguia continues to progress other development works to advance the Três Estradas phosphate project towards completion of a Bankable Feasibility Study. A near term priority is infill drilling at the project and we expect this to commence in the first half of the current quarter.

Also pending are some exploration results for surrounding projects over which Aguia holds options and which are also considered highly prospective for phosphate.

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**About Aguia:**

*Aguia is a fertiliser company focused on the exploration and development of phosphate and potash projects in Brazil to supply the Brazilian agriculture sector. Brazil is Latin America's biggest economy and is heavily reliant on imports of up to 50 per cent of its phosphate and 90 per cent of its potash needs. Aguia is well positioned to capitalise on the growing demand for phosphorus and potash based fertilisers in the expanding agriculture sector in Brazil and controls three large projects, located close to existing infrastructure. The Company is committed to its existing projects whilst continuing to pursue other opportunities within the fertiliser sector.*

**Forward Looking Statements:**

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