



ACN: 126 129 413
ASX: LIT

Level 1
677 Murray St
West Perth WA 6005

PO Box 1088
West Perth WA 6872

Phone +61 (0) 8 6145 0288
Fax +61 (0) 8 9475 0847

info@lithium-au.com
lithium-au.com

Envirostream to collect spent batteries from all Bunnings stores

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Bunnings Group Limited ('Bunnings') has executed a Supply of Services Agreement – Battery Stewardship Scheme ('Agreement') with Envirostream Australia Pty Ltd ('Envirostream') for the collection of spent batteries from its stores in Australia and selected stores in New Zealand.**
- **The Agreement – reached in anticipation of the launch of the Battery Stewardship Scheme ('BSS') to be rolled out by Australia's Battery Stewardship Council ('BSC') in early 2022 – will continue until 30 June 2024.**
- **Bunnings has the option to extend the Agreement for a further 12 months.**

Implementation of Agreement

Lithium Australia NL (ASX: LIT, 'the Company') has a 90% ownership interest in Envirostream. The Company wishes to advise completion of the Agreement, a contract between Envirostream and Bunnings that allows for provision of services by Envirostream to begin immediately. Envirostream has already trialled its spent-battery collection services in several Bunnings stores within Victoria.

In preparation for the BSS, Bunnings and Envirostream have worked together to ensure drop-off points for spent batteries within the Bunnings infrastructure are not only convenient for customers but also facilitate efficient spent-battery collection by Envirostream.

Agreement terms

The Agreement runs until 30 June 2024, at which time Bunnings has the option to extend it for a further 12 months. Envirostream will provide a Battery Product Stewardship Program ('Program') at all relevant sites across Australia and New Zealand. The Program must incorporate all the requirements of the BSS for managing every type of battery covered by the BSS ('Services').

The Services include, but are not limited to:

- provision and maintenance of suitable collection units for spent batteries;
- collection and transportation of spent batteries from all Bunnings sites;
- recycling of the spent batteries collected from Bunnings sites;
- education and participation in marketing campaigns, in conjunction with Bunnings, and
- reporting.

The BSS is currently anticipated to be operational from 1 January 2022. Service fees and service rebates for Australia are linked to the expected rebates payable on a per-kilogram-collected basis from commencement of the BSS.

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**Basel Import Permit AUH21-020**

The Australian federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment recently issued Envirostream with a Basel Import Permit, which allows for the import of 100 tonnes of mixed-waste batteries into Australia from New Zealand. The permit, which allows Envirostream to service the Bunnings' New Zealand stores, is valid until 14 October 2022. Once imported into Australia, the waste will be recycled at Envirostream's [EPA-licensed](#) Campbellfield facility and its Laverton North facility, which is currently in development.

Comment from Lithium Australia managing director Adrian Griffin

"The Company is pleased to announce that Envirostream will commence a service contract with Bunnings, which is leading the way in the provision of convenient collection points for spent batteries ahead of the BSS. The creation of such a collection infrastructure is vital to improving Australia's battery recycling rate and preventing spent batteries from being consigned to landfill."

The Company requests that the trading halt be lifted.

Authorised for release by the Managing Director.

Adrian Griffin

Managing Director

Mobile +61 (0) 418 927 658

Adrian.Griffin@lithium-au.com

Barry Woodhouse

Company Secretary

Mobile +61 (0) 438 674 259

Barry.Woodhouse@lithium-au.com

Forward-looking statements

This announcement contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties that it is beyond the Company's ability to control or predict and which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements.

About Lithium Australia

Lithium Australia aims to ensure an ethical supply of energy metals to the battery industry by creating a circular battery economy that enhances both sustainability and resource security. Reprocessing spent lithium-ion batteries to create new ones is intrinsic to this plan, with the Company operating Australia's only fully integrated mixed-battery recycling business.

Having rationalised its portfolio of lithium projects/alliances, Lithium Australia continues its research into, and the development of, proprietary extraction processes for the conversion of *all* lithium silicates (including mine waste), and of fines generally discarded during conventional spodumene conversion, to lithium chemicals, from which it will produce advanced cathode materials for the battery industry globally.

The Australian federal government has recognised the Company's progress through the awarding of substantial research grants designed to progress the nation's advanced battery capabilities.

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By uniting resources and innovation, Lithium Australia seeks to vertically integrate lithium extraction, processing and recycling.

About Envirostream

Envirostream is a national leader in battery collection and recycling. It operates Australia's only commercial facility for shredding and processing all types of spent batteries to efficiently recover the recyclable materials they contain; in particular, mixed-metal dust. The latter comprises the critical 'active' materials cobalt, nickel, lithium and manganese contained within spent lithium-ion batteries. Mixed-metal dust is therefore a sustainable feed material for the manufacture of new lithium-ion batteries.

Envirostream's process is designed for zero atmospheric emissions and very low soluble losses, with minimal material consigned to landfill. Together with the high mass yields it achieves, this positions Envirostream as the planet's most environmentally credentialled battery recycler.

Media contact

Adrian Griffin, Lithium Australia NL

08 6145 0288 | +61 (0) 418 927 658

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