

# MEDIA RELEASE

19 December 2008



## CITIC PACIFIC MINING WELCOMES STATE AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS

CITIC Pacific Mining has welcomed the approval by the Western Australian Parliament of amendments to the State Agreement Act which governs its mining project at Cape Preston in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

The amendments mark a significant milestone for the Sino Iron project and will enable CITIC Pacific Mining to produce and export magnetite concentrate in addition to pellets.

CITIC Pacific Mining acquired mining rights for two billion tonnes of magnetite ore from Mineralogy and plans to export 27.6 million tonnes of product per annum.

Significant site preparation and construction work has been undertaken on the Sino Iron project after it received approvals earlier in 2008 allowing construction of a six million tonne pellet plant operation and associated infrastructure.

CITIC Pacific Mining Chief Executive Barry Fitzgerald said the passing of the amendments to the State Agreement Act provided increased certainty for the project to proceed beyond this initial scope to fulfill its planned capacity.

“We acknowledge the efforts of the Western Australian Government in recognising the urgency of these amendments and helping facilitate their swift passage through Parliament”, said Mr Fitzgerald.

“In these difficult economic times, projects like the Sino Iron project are vital to keep the Western Australian economy and employment strong. By approving the amendments, Government has recognised the opportunity for sustained growth and stability and the importance of reducing project risk,” said Mr Fitzgerald.

The approval of the amendments to the State Agreement Act allows a full project development proposal to be submitted and associated approvals to be finalised to enable progress on construction as planned.

Once the project is operating, CITIC Pacific Mining has committed to deliver a significant social benefits package which features a range of initiatives designed to minimise the project’s footprint and ensure social, environmental and economic benefits of flow to the community. The package has strong focus on engaging local indigenous communities and Traditional Owner groups in employment, training and business capability development as well as local content commitments.

### **About CITIC Pacific Mining**

CITIC Pacific Mining is developing the Sino Iron project, a world class, large-scale magnetite iron ore project located at Cape Preston in the Pilbara. The project is the largest planned magnetite project in Australia, and the first to include large scale downstream processing. For more information, please visit [www.citicpacificmining.com](http://www.citicpacificmining.com)

### **Media contact**

Hannah Fitzhardinge  
Manager, Corporate Affairs  
CITIC Pacific Mining  
Tel: 9226 8075  
Mobile: 0410 464 491  
[hannah.fitzhardinge@citicpacificmining.com](mailto:hannah.fitzhardinge@citicpacificmining.com)