



# ASX:COB

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

# Cobalt Blue hosts Senator Ayres at Broken Hill Technology Centre

Cobalt Blue Holdings Limited ('Cobalt Blue' or 'the Company') was pleased to host Australia's Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science, Senator Tim Ayres, at the Company's Broken Hill Technology Centre on Thursday, 3 July.

The hour-long visit allowed Cobalt Blue to comprehensively update the Senator on the Company's activities and future plans. This included an overview of the Broken Hill Cobalt Project, the Technology Centre (namely its new research and development focus on testing critical minerals feedstocks including recycled battery black mass processing, and upcoming testwork for the Halls Creek copper-zinc-silver project), and the relationship between these projects and the Company's proposed Kwinana Cobalt Refinery. The Refinery is expected to the first cobalt sulphate producer in Australia, with the high purity crystals suitable for the precursor cathode industry. Cobalt metal will also be produced for the defence and superalloy industries. The Refinery is being developed in conjunction with Iwatani Australia, a subsidiary of the Japanese trading house Iwatani Corporation.









Senator Ayres' visit followed his <u>announcement on Thursday, 3 July</u>, that the Company's Broken Hill Cobalt Project had been granted a <u>three-year extension to its Major Project Status</u>. The Broken Hill Cobalt Project was initially granted Major Project Status in March 2022.

Major Project Status enables additional Commonwealth Government regulatory support for projects of national significance through their contribution to strategic priorities, economic growth, employment, and regional Australia. The recognition of the Broken Hill Cobalt Project as a project of national significance will support Cobalt Blue in advancing investment discussions, particularly with international funding sources, as well as domestic investors. Major Project Status acknowledges the strategic significance of the Broken Hill Cobalt Project in the delivery of the Australian Government's A Future Made in Australia agenda, as well as the Critical Minerals Strategy and the National Battery Strategy.



## Cobalt Blue Chief Executive Officer Andrew Tong said:

"We were delighted to host Senator Ayres at our Technology Centre in Broken Hill. The development of the Broken Hill Cobalt Project has the potential to position Australia as a leading global cobalt producer and strengthen supply chain security for likeminded partners. Obtaining a three-year extension to Major Project Status for the Broken Hill Cobalt Project is an important enabler of our project development plans."

"It also creates an opportunity for locally-sourced feedstock to support the growth of new Australian downstream industries—an ambition we are actively pursuing through our Kwinana Cobalt Refinery and Broken Hill Technology Centre."





### **About Cobalt Blue**

Cobalt Blue is a mining and mineral processing company focused on the development of a Cobalt Refinery in Western Australia, the Broken Hill Cobalt Project & Broken Hill Technology Centre in New South Wales and the Halls Creek Project in Western Australia. As announced on <u>18 February 2025</u>, the Company intends to seek shareholder approval to change its name to Core Blue Minerals Limited.

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### Additional Information:

3 July 2025: Cobalt Blue Awarded Major Project Status for a further three years

6 June 2025: Halls Creek Project Scoping Study delivers a near-term copper-zinc opportunity

29 May 2025: Cobalt Blue and Glencore contract to supply the Kwinana Cobalt Refinery

11 April 2025: Kwinana Cobalt Refinery - Pre FID Consortium Deed Executed

17 December 2024: Kwinana Refinery Update + Black Mass Agreement

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