



Boom period for Eyre graphite

DEVELOPMENT on two graphite mining deposits on Eyre Peninsula is setting the region up to be the base of Australia's only graphite production area.

Lincoln Minerals has already been progressing with its Kookaburra Gully project north of Port Lincoln and has fully underwritten \$2.95 million capital raising to fund final pre-mining work.

It is also moving ahead with its Program for Environment Protection and Rehabilitation as well as government approvals.

Lincoln Minerals managing director John Parker said the company was aiming to start development of graphite mining and processing in the second half of 2017, subject to government approvals and securing project finance.

"Outside of China and excluding the small but high purity Sri Lankan vein deposits, Kookaburra Gully is recognised as within the Top 10 graphite deposits in the world with respect to grade,"

he said.

"Proceeds from the rights issue will enable Lincoln to take another step towards mainstream commercial production of our world class Eyre Peninsula flake graphite resources."

Meanwhile South Australian magnesite and graphite developer Archer Exploration Limited have lodged an application for a Mining Lease with the South Australian Department of State Development.

The lease will apply to the Campoona Shaft project area, 20 kilometres north of Cleve.

The Mining Lease application (MLA) covers an area of about 68 hectares and includes the Campoona Shaft graphite deposit, one of several within Archer's Eyre Peninsula graphite project.

The MLA, is accompanied with applications for miscellaneous purposes licences for associated graphite processing infrastructure at Sugarloaf, near Darke Peak.

Archer's executive chairman Greg English said the application for the lease was a significant milestone for Archer and signaled the company's commitment to commercially develop the Campoona shaft.

"Over the past three years, Archer has actively engaged in a community consultation process and completed a series of comprehensive reports and studies that support the MLA," he said.

The two developments are expected to start delivering graphite production from late next year and would mean a resurgence for the Eyre Peninsula graphite industry following the voluntary administration of Uley graphite mine operators Valence Industries in July.