



20 December 2016

Frieda River EIS lodged

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Frieda River copper/gold project in PNG has been completed and an electronic copy lodged with the PNG Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA).

Highlands Pacific Ltd (ASX:HIG) holds a 20% interest in the Frieda River project, which is being managed by joint venture partner PanAust Ltd (wholly owned by Chinese State owned company Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co Ltd.)

The Frieda River joint venture commissioned highly respected environmental scientists Coffee Environments Australia Pty Ltd to prepare the EIS. The EIS is the statutory basis for the environmental assessment of the project.

The lodgement of the EIS with CEPA follows the application for a Special Mining Lease for the Frieda River project with the PNG Mineral Resources Authority in June, 2016.

**For further information, please contact:
Joe Dowling, Stockwork Corporate Communications
0421 587755**



ASX Code: HIG
PoMSox Code: HIG
Shares on Issue: 928 million
Performance Rights: 30 million

Directors

Ken MacDonald, Chairman
John Gooding, Managing Director
Mike Carroll
Dan Wood
Bart Philemon

Management

Craig Lennon, MD and CEO
Sylvie Moser, CFO and Company Secretary
Ron Gawi, GM Port Moresby
Leslie Nand, GM Exploration Projects

Investor and Media Enquiries to:

Joe Dowling - 0421 587755

Website:

www.highlandspacific.com

About Highlands Pacific Limited

Highlands Pacific is a mining and exploration company registered and incorporated in PNG and listed on the Australian and Port Moresby stock exchanges. Highlands has a long history of successful exploration and project development in PNG. The Company was formed in 1997 and has since established an impressive suite of projects providing investors with leveraged exposure to copper, nickel and gold. Its major assets are interests in the producing Ramu nickel cobalt mine and the Frieda River copper gold project, with exploration in progress at the highly prospective Star Mountains tenements. Highlands also has exploration territory on Normanby Island (Sewa Bay), at the south eastern tip of PNG. Through the efforts of its highly experienced staff, the Company is committed to the responsible development of mining projects for the benefit of all its stakeholders, including shareholders, landowners, business partners and the broader PNG community.

Star Mountains Prospects

The Star Mountains exploration tenements are located approximately 20km north of the Ok Tedi mine, in the West Sepik Province, PNG. They lie within the highly prospective New Guinean Orogenic Belt, which hosts the Grasberg, Ok Tedi, Porgera and Hidden Valley mines, as well as the Frieda deposit. The Star Mountains project is held within a joint venture with partner Anglo American plc.

Ramu Nickel Cobalt Mine

The producing Ramu nickel cobalt mine is located 75km west of the provincial capital of Madang, PNG. Highlands 8.56% interest in Ramu will increase to 11.3% at no cost to Highlands after repayment of its share of the project debt. Highlands also has an option to acquire an additional 9.25% interest in Ramu at fair market value, which could increase the company's interest in the mine to 20.55%, if the option is exercised.

Frieda River Copper/Gold Project

The Frieda River copper gold project is located 175kms north-west of the Porgera gold mine and 75km north-east of the Ok Tedi mine. Highlands has a 20% interest in the project and Frieda River Limited (FRL) (a wholly owned subsidiary of PanAust Limited which in turn is a wholly owned subsidiary of Guangdong Rising Assets Management Co. Ltd.) 80%.