

14 December 2022

STATEMENT REGARDING REPORTING BY THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN, 10 DECEMBER 2022

On 10 December 2022, The Weekend Australian published three articles reporting on Diatreme's operations in Cape York that included several inaccuracies and misleading speculation.

In sum, the stories suggested the company may have failed to meet its obligations to the local communities in which it operates, the share market and other stakeholders.

We take this extremely seriously and address some of the key inaccuracies below.

It is also worth noting that, while The Weekend Australian described its reportage as a "major investigation", one which clearly extended over a number of weeks and included visits to Cape York itself, its journalists initially gave Diatreme less than 12 hours overnight to respond to its detailed queries. Their very first contact with Diatreme was made about 48 hours before the articles were published.

In the context of a much broader investigation, the perfunctory nature of the newspaper's engagement with Diatreme suggests a lack of commitment to balanced and fair reporting.

Diatreme provided detailed responses to an extensive list of questions and also responded in detail to follow-up questions.

We draw attention, particularly to the following:

- Under the Native Title Act, Diatreme is legally required to deal with the registered native title body corporate (RNTBC) for the areas in which it operates. The RNTBC in the case of Diatreme's proposed Galalar Silica Project is Hopevale Congress Aboriginal Corporation.
- Hopevale Congress has at all times (both historic and current) represented the Thiithaarr and Gamaay People, who are the native title clans for the project reported upon.
- A number of the indigenous people quoted by The Weekend Australian are not traditional owners of the lands involved in the proposed project.
- Regardless of speculation aired by The Weekend Australian, the newspaper would be encouraging Diatreme to deal with a body without any authority to act on behalf of traditional owners should it suggest that the company deals with a body other than Hopevale Congress at this time.
- Hopevale Congress independently selected its own well-credentialed firms for legal, social impact and commercial advice in order to negotiate with Diatreme and protect the interests of native title holders.



- Diatreme has been advised by the independent legal counsel for Hopevale Congress that at 16 separate family meetings held, in February and March 2022, in Cooktown, Hopevale, Cairns and Gordonvale, and attended by over 150 Thiithaarr and Gamaay People, the support for the Galalar Silica Project was overwhelming (at 95% plus).

The Company appreciates the privilege of working in such a diverse and active Aboriginal community and remains committed to engaging with all community members.