

Aboriginal Joint Venture Wins Waste Management Contract at Cloudbreak and Christmas Creek

PERTH, 17th February 2012: Fortescue Metals Group (Fortescue) is pleased to announce the awarding of a three year multi-million dollar Waste Management Services contract to PLWA Group (formerly Pilbara Logistics), an Aboriginal owned company based in the Pilbara, and its Joint Venture Partner ToxFree Solutions Limited (ToxFree).

The contract includes the management of all waste generated from Fortescue's operations, including the operation and maintenance of Fortescue's landfill at Cloudbreak and design, operation and maintenance of a waste and recycling transfer station at Christmas Creek.

"It's very exciting to see Aboriginal contractors form these partnerships with mainstream contractors to diversify into other mining services. Such partnerships not only lead to more jobs for Aboriginal people, but help to build sustainable Aboriginal businesses," Fortescue Chief Executive Officer Nev Power said.

Announcing the Joint Venture partnership with the PLWA Group, ToxFree Managing Director Steve Gostlow said, "ToxFree is proud that working with a local Joint Venture partner we can continue to have both a strong local community and Indigenous involvement in providing services to the mining sector throughout the Pilbara."

PLWA Group has provided waste management and civil and earthworks services to remote mining locations for nearly 10 years. The rapid growth of the business in recent times has also seen PLWA Group expand in to commercial construction as well as continuing its history with Fortescue as a supplier of materials handling services at Herb Elliott Port in Port Hedland.

"We are very proud of our history in the mining sector and are very excited about the success we are having with our diversified business," said PLWA Group Chairman Geoff Stocker.

"Not only does this provide a commercial return for the business, but we are also in a stronger position to maximise the number of employment, training and development opportunities for a wider range of local Aboriginal people. This is something we have had great success with and we look forward to even better results in the future, thanks to partnerships and contracts such as this one with ToxFree and Fortescue."

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