

# FIREBIRD MOVES INTO AUSTRALIAN DEMONSTRATION PLANT SITE AT OSBORNE PARK

ADP site establishment underway and key staff appointed

## Highlights

- **Firebird has formally moved into the Australian Demonstration Plant site in Osborne Park, Perth**, following completion of the final inspection and office fit-out.
- **The facility will house Australia's first demonstration-scale plant** converting manganese concentrate into high-purity advanced battery materials.
- All deliverables under Milestone 1 of Firebird's A\$2 million ARENA Battery Breakthrough Initiative grant have been completed, with Milestone 2 site activities now underway.
- **Fabrication of all key ADP equipment packages remains on schedule and on budget**, with Factory Acceptance Testing and shipment targeted during Q3-Q4 CY2026.
- **Assembly, installation and commissioning of the ADP remain targeted for Q4 CY2026**, followed by first production for customer qualification in Q1 CY2027.
- **PhD-qualified chemical engineer Dr Chris Passmore has joined Firebird as Technical Lead** and the first employee appointed to the ADP.
- **Shareholders can expect a strong sequence of near-term catalysts**, including equipment fabrication and Factory Acceptance Testing, shipment to Australia, ADP assembly, commissioning, further patent progress and first product manufacture.
- **The ADP will be the only fully integrated manganese concentrate-to-cathode active material (CAM) processing facility outside China**, transforming a traditionally fragmented, multi-country supply chain into a single integrated process.





Figure 1. Firebird's new Australian Demonstration Plant site at Osborne Park, Western Australia.

**Australian-owned Firebird Metals Limited (“FRB”, “Firebird” or “the Company”)** is pleased to announce it has moved into its Australian Demonstration Plant (ADP) site at Osborne Park, Perth, Western Australia. The move follows completion of the final site inspection, office fit-out and the installation of new Firebird-branded building signage, marking a significant step in the Company's transition from planning to on-the-ground delivery of the ADP.

The Osborne Park facility, secured under a lease executed in April 2026, will house Australia's first demonstration-scale plant processing manganese concentrate into high-purity manganese sulphate (HPMSM) and downstream battery materials, including cathode active material (CAM). The site's location within an established industrial precinct provides ready access to Perth's skilled workforce, service providers and Fremantle Port, through which the Company's ADP equipment will arrive.

The relocation follows the completion of all deliverables under Milestone 1 of the Company's A\$2 million ARENA grant, awarded under the Battery Breakthrough Initiative, including securing the ADP site, the placement of all major equipment orders with key vendors and acceptance of the Company's formal Risk Management Plan. With Milestone 1 complete, Milestone 2 activities are now underway, focused on site establishment, services installation and preparation for the receipt, installation and commissioning of all key ADP equipment.

Fabrication of the Company's ADP equipment packages remains on schedule and on budget with assembly and commissioning of the ADP targeted for **Q4 CY2026**.

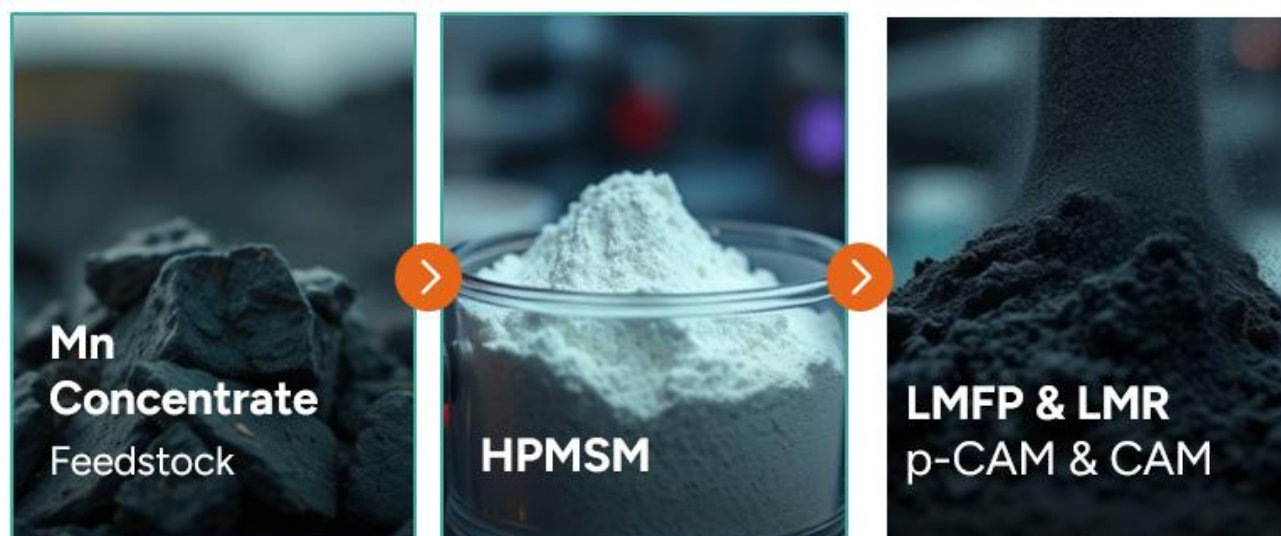


Figure 2. Firebird's proprietary concentrate to HPMSM to lithium-manganese cathode process to be demonstrated at the ADP.

**Firebird CEO, Mr Ron Mitchell, commented:**

*"Moving into our Osborne Park facility is a milestone every shareholder should be proud of. This site is where Firebird's proprietary concentrate-to-cathode technology will be demonstrated in a world first."*

*Following receipt of the ARENA Milestone 1 cash grant funding last month, our focus has shifted squarely to disciplined execution. Office fit out and site preparation are underway, our key equipment packages are progressing through fabrication, and we remain firmly on track to deliver Australia's first demonstration-scale manganese battery materials facility with assembly and commissioning on schedule and on budget for deployment later this year.*

*We are also pleased to see the interest from several highly qualified potential candidates from around the country who have approached Firebird over the past few months with applicable skills across chemical and process engineering. We are particularly thrilled to have Dr Chris Passmore recently join the Company as Technical Lead where he will play a key role in transferring and applying Firebird's proprietary advanced manganese battery material process technology to the Australian Demonstration Plant.*

*I look forward to welcoming a range of stakeholders to our Osborne Park company office as the ADP takes shape over the coming months."*

## Appointment of Dr Chris Passmore as Technical Lead

The Company is pleased to welcome Dr Chris Passmore as Technical Lead and the first employee appointed to its Australian Demonstration Plant (ADP). Dr Passmore will play a key role in transferring Firebird's proprietary processing technology and operational knowledge from the Company's China-based engineering team to the Australian facility.

Dr Passmore is a PhD-qualified chemical engineer specialising in industrial process development, continuous manufacturing and scale-up, with experience across battery materials and chemical processing. He is also the named first inventor of patented continuous coating technology and brings experience in intellectual property development, industrial evaluation and commercial licensing pathways.

Dr Passmore is currently participating in a knowledge transfer and training program at our 100% owned Hunan R&D Facility working alongside our China based engineers.



Figure 3. Dr Christopher Passmore (PhD Chemical Engineering) joined the Company from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2026.

## Near-term Catalyst Sequence

With all ARENA Milestone 1 deliverables now complete, the Osborne Park site now occupied, and the equipment fabrication window now well advanced, shareholders should expect a steady stream of material updates across the coming period:

- **Q3 2026 Fabrication phase:** Fabrication and Factory Acceptance Testing for the HPMSM, p-CAM and CAM equipment packages, with each anticipated as discrete market updates.
- **Q3-4 2026:** Consolidation, vessel loading and shipment of all equipment from China, followed by customs clearance and delivery to the Osborne Park ADP site via Fremantle Port.
- **Q4 2026:** Assembly, installation and commissioning at the ADP. Ribbon cutting opening ceremony.
- **Q1 2027 :** First product at the ADP, delivering HPMSM and cathode samples for customer qualification.
- **Ongoing:** Further manganese-based battery materials patent application progress.



Figure 4. Australian Demonstration Plant key catalyst timeline.

The Company will provide further updates as Milestone 2 site establishment activities progress and ahead of the arrival of ADP equipment.

In accordance with Listing Rule 3.14, the Company advises that the registered address and principal place of business for Firebird Metals Ltd, effective immediately, has changed to:

13 Sangiorgio Court, Osborne Park, WA 6017

The Company's telephone number remains unchanged.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Firebird Metals Limited.

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## About Firebird Metals Limited (ASX:FRB)

Firebird is an Australian battery materials technology company developing **advanced manganese-based lithium-ion battery materials** for the EV and energy-storage markets. Its proprietary, patented and exclusively licensed technology enables the direct processing of manganese concentrate to cathode active materials (CAM) within a single integrated process line, pairing a high-efficiency kiln and advanced crystallisation with downstream processing know-how to target **lower cost and energy use**.

The Company's immediate focus is delivery of its **Australian Demonstration Plant (ADP) in Perth, supported by a \$2 million grant from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)** under the Battery Breakthrough Initiative. The ADP, Australia's first demonstration-scale facility processing manganese concentrate into high-purity manganese sulphate (HPMSM) and downstream battery materials, including CAM, is advancing rapidly through 2026. It builds on Firebird's operating pilot facility, which has demonstrated the full flowsheet from manganese ore to high performance CAM, and will validate the process under Australian conditions while delivering HPMSM and cathode samples for customer qualification.

Firebird is advancing near-term HPMSM production for the lithium manganese iron phosphate (LMFP) market, alongside a lithium manganese rich (LMR) program for next-generation cathodes.

Firebird also holds 234 Mt of manganese resources in Western Australia, led by Oakover (176.7 Mt at 9.9% Mn, including Indicated 105.8 Mt at 10.1% Mn<sup>1</sup>) and Hill 616 (57.5 Mt at 12.2% Mn<sup>2</sup>). The Company has the flexibility to source manganese ore through third-party suppliers and stockpiles, with mining optionality retained within its broader portfolio.

## JORC Compliance Statement

This announcement contains references to Mineral Resource Estimates, which have been reported in compliance with Listing Rule 5.8 and extracted from previous ASX announcements as referenced. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information previously reported and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Mineral Resource Estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.

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<sup>1</sup> See ASX announcement dated 23 March 2023: Indicated Resource of 105.8Mt at 10.1%; Inferred Resource of 70.9Mt at 9.6% for global Resource of 176.7 Mt at 9.9% Mn.

<sup>2</sup> See ASX announcement dated 1 December 2021: Inferred Resource of 57.5 Mt at 12.2% Mn.