# **BCI MINERALS LTD**



Research Note

## DFS PROGRESSING, IRON VALLEY CASH FLOWS INCREASING

BCI Minerals Limited (BCI) released its March Quarterly for 2019 yesterday, with solid progress shown on the Mardie Projects Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) which is on schedule and is expected to be completed in the Dec-19 quarter. The Iron Valley Mine also delivered, providing BCI with royalty EBITDA of A\$2.8M from 1.8Mt shipments.

- The Iron Valley Mine operator, Mineral Resources Ltd, took advantage of the high iron ore prices and lower discounts for 58% Fe products to draw down on existing fines stockpiles. With approximately 65% of the Iron Valley product shipped during the quarter being fines ore, a product which attracts a significantly lower price than lump. The mine delivered to BCI EBITDA of A\$2.8m from 1.8Mt shipments which we believe is a strong outcome considering the weather impact of Cyclone Veronica in late March. With headline iron ore price on the rise we continue to believe that BCI's earnings from the Iron valley will rise in the short term, providing BCI with additional working capital to advance the Mardie project.
- Site activities for the DFS continue to progress, with a geotechnical
  program and the construction of a small-scale evaporation trial underway
  at the project site. The trial will comprise pan evaporators plus a 1:40,000
  scale version of the entire project layout which will provide site-specific
  evaporation data to simulate the full evaporation process at a reduced
  scale. This is expected to be operational by May 2019 (see figure 3).
- BCI have awarded key engineering contracts to GR Engineering who have been appointed as lead DFS Engineer; Worley Parsons who will be designing the evaporation and crystallisation ponds and the sulphate of potash (SOP) plant; and Salt Partners an experienced firm out of Switzerland who will be designing the Mardie salt plant. The Mardie Port proposal was shown support from the WA Minister for Ports and BCI expect to award the contract for the ports design and engineering within the month. Developing the port facilities at Mardie instead of Cape Preston East (PFS case) is BCIs preferred option and will improve project economics by eliminating road haulage costs, which is expected to reduce salt opex by 20%.
- Cash Balance at 31 March 2019 of A\$35.4M and zero Debt.
- Our BCI Valuation is based on the PFS analysis of the Mardie Project, the Iron Valley mine and other assets. We maintain our \$0.25/s price target and Speculative Buy rating.

| Year End June 30      | 2017A | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F  | 2021F  |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                       |       |        |        |        |        |
| Reported NPAT (A\$m)  | 5.7   | (16.9) | 10.9   | (6.7)  | (5.3)  |
| Recurrent NPAT (A\$m) | 5.7   | (16.9) | (6.1)  | (6.7)  | (5.3)  |
| Recurrent EPS (cents) | 1.4   | (4.3)  | (1.5)  | (1.7)  | (0.7)  |
| EPS Growth (%)        | na    | na     | na     | na     | na     |
| PER (x)               | na    | na     | na     | na     | na     |
|                       |       |        |        |        |        |
| EBITDA (A\$m)         | 9.5   | (14.4) | (4.8)  | (4.2)  | (3.7)  |
|                       |       |        |        |        |        |
| Capex (A\$m)          | 2.2   | 10.1   | 10.1   | 29.3   | 51.0   |
| Free Cashflow         | 11.2  | (22.0) | (16.5) | (28.1) | (48.9) |
| FCFPS (cents)         | 2.8   | (5.5)  | (4.2)  | (7.1)  | (6.2)  |
| PFCF (x)              | na    | na     | na     | na     | na     |
|                       |       |        |        |        |        |
| DPS (cents)           | 0.0   | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| Yield (%)             | 0.0   | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| Franking (%)          | 0.0   | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    |
|                       |       |        |        |        |        |

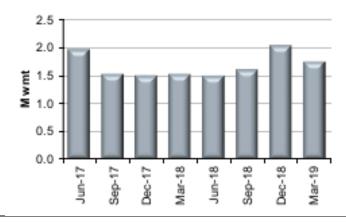
| 16 April 2019      |                   |             |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|
| 12mth Rating       | SPECUL            | ATIVE BUY   |  |
| Price              | A\$               | 0.17        |  |
| Target Price       | A\$               | 0.25        |  |
| 12mth Total Return | %                 | 50.4        |  |
| RIC: BCI.AX        | 1                 | BBG: BCI AU |  |
| Shares o/s         | m                 | 397.6       |  |
| Free Float         | %                 | 63.0        |  |
| Market Cap.        | A\$m              | 66.6        |  |
| Net Debt (Cash)    | A\$m              | -35.4       |  |
| Net Debt/Equity    | %                 | na          |  |
| 3mth Av. D. T'over | A\$m              | 0.074       |  |
| 52wk High/Low      | A\$               | 0.17/0.13   |  |
| 2yr adj. beta      |                   | 0.74        |  |
| Valuation:         |                   |             |  |
| Methodology        |                   | DCF         |  |
| Value per share    | A\$               | 0.25        |  |
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| Performance %    | 1mth | 3mth | 12mth |
|------------------|------|------|-------|
| Absolute         | 4.7  | 24.1 | 19.6  |
| Rel. S&P/ASX 300 | 3.3  | 16.8 | 12.2  |

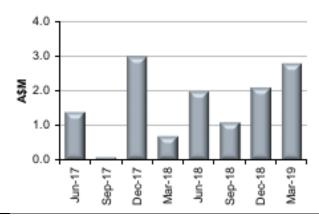


Figure 1: Iron Valley Quarterly Shipments (M wmt)



Source: BCI Minerals Limited

Figure 2: Iron Valley Quarterly EBITDA (A\$M)



Source: BCI Minerals Limited

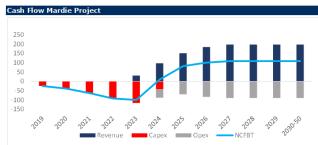
Figure 3: Small-scale Evaporation Trial Under Construction



Source: BCI Minerals Limited



| BCI MINERALS (BCI.ASX)         | Price | \$0.17 |        |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| Valuation                      |       | \$m    | \$/sh  |
| Mardie Project (Risked at 50%) |       | 121    | 0.09   |
| Iron Valley                    |       | 45     | 0.03   |
| Other Assets                   |       | 14     | 0.01   |
| Net Cash (Post DFS Spend)      |       | 17     | 0.01   |
| Unpaid Capital                 |       | 170    | 0.13   |
| Corporate costs                |       | (30)   | (0.02) |
| Total Valuation                |       | 336    | 0.25   |



| Iron Velley Reserves & Resources |       |      |     |
|----------------------------------|-------|------|-----|
| Iron Valley Ore Reserves         | Mt    | %Fe  | %Si |
| Proved - In-situ                 | 56.6  | 58.4 | 4.6 |
| Proved - Stockpiles              | 5.2   | 56.1 | 8.3 |
| Probable                         | 33.6  | 58.6 | 5.0 |
| Total                            | 95.4  | 58.4 | 5.0 |
| Iron Valley Mineral Resources    | Mt    | %Fe  | %Si |
| Measured - In-situ               | 86.8  | 57.9 | 5.2 |
| Measured - Stockpiles            | 5.2   | 56.1 | 8.3 |
| Indicated                        | 79.6  | 58.4 | 5.2 |
| Inferred                         | 26.1  | 57.8 | 6.6 |
| Total                            | 197.7 | 58.1 | 5.4 |

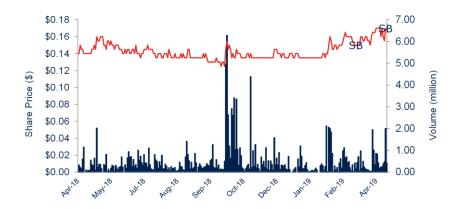
| Directors & Management |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Name                   | Position                |
| Mr Brian O'Donnell     | Chairman: Non-Executive |
| Mr Alwyn Vorster       | Managing Director       |
| Mr Michael Blakiston   | Director: Non-Executive |
| Ms Jennifer Bloom      | Director: Non-Executive |
| Simon Hodge            | Chief Financial Officer |
| Susan Hunter           | Company Secretary       |
|                        |                         |

| Top Shareholders                     |            |      |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------|
|                                      | Shares (m) | %    |
| Wroxby Pty Ltd                       | 110        | 27.6 |
| One Managed Investment Funds Limited | 10         | 2.6  |
| Mineralogy Pty Ltd.                  | 6          | 1.5  |
| Pacific Level Pty Ltd                | 5          | 1.2  |
| Alwyn Vorster                        | 4          | 1.0  |
| Top 5 Shareholders                   | 134.4      | 34   |

|   |        |        |        | Year End | l 30 June |
|---|--------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Commodity Assumptions                     | 2017A  | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F    | 2021F     |
| US\$/A\$                                  | 0.75   | 0.77   | 0.72   | 0.73     | 0.73      |
| Platts 62%Fe (US\$/dmt CFR)               | 72     | 70     | 76     | 69       | 69        |
| NaCI Price (FOB) (US\$/t)                 | 30     | 30     | 30     | 30       | 30        |
| SOP Price (FOB) (US\$/t)                  | 500    | 500    | 500    | 500      | 500       |
| Iron Valley                               | 2017A  | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F    | 2021F     |
| Annual production (Mt)                    | 8.0    | 6.1    | 7.0    | 7.0      | 7.0       |
| Royalty A\$/t                             | 2.3    | 0.9    | 1.2    | 1.1      | 1.1       |
| EBITDA A\$m                               | 18.3   | 5.6    | 7.4    | 7.4      | 7.4       |
| Profit & Loss (A\$m)                      | 2017A  | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F    | 2021F     |
| Total revenue                             | 63.5   | 33.0   | 44.7   | 46.3     | 46.3      |
| Cost of Sales                             | (54.0) | (47.4) | (49.5) | (50.5)   | (50.0)    |
| EBITDA                                    | 9.5    | (14.4) | (4.8)  | (4.2)    | (3.7)     |
| DD&A                                      | (3.0)  | (2.9)  | (3.0)  | (3.0)    | (3.0)     |
| EBIT                                      | 6.5    | (17.3) | (7.9)  | (7.2)    | (6.6)     |
| Net interest income (expense)             | 0.6    | 0.4    | 0.2    | 0.5      | 1.3       |
| NPAT (Before abnormals)                   | 5.7    | (16.9) | (6.1)  | (6.7)    | (5.3)     |
| NPAT (Reported)                           | 5.7    | (16.9) | 10.9   | (6.7)    | (5.3)     |
| Diluted EPS (cps)                         | 1.4    | (4.3)  | (1.5)  | (1.7)    | (0.7)     |
| DPS (cps)                                 | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Cash Flow (A\$m)                          | 2017A  | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F    | 2021F     |
| • •                                       |        |        |        |          |           |
| Operating Cashflow                        | 11.9   | (12.0) | (6.5)  | 1.2      | 2.1       |
| Capex (+exploration)                      | (0.6)  | (10.0) | (10.0) | (29.3)   | (51.0)    |
| Property, plant & equipment               | (1.6)  | (0.1)  | (0.1)  | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Divestment of Assets                      | 0.0    | 0.0    | 27.0   | 10.0     | 0.0       |
| Cash Flows from Investing activities      | (2.2)  | (10.1) | 16.9   | (19.3)   | (51.0)    |
| Proceeds from equity issues               | 24.2   | 0.0    | 0.0    | 70.0     | 50.0      |
| Proceeds from borrowings                  | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Repayment of borrowings                   | (2.0)  | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| other                                     | (5.2)  | (1.3)  | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Cash Flows from Financing activities      | 17.1   | (1.3)  | 0.0    | 70.0     | 50.0      |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 26.7   | (23.3) | 10.4   | 51.9     | 1.1       |
| Cash at beginning                         | 9.7    | 36.4   | 13.0   | 23.4     | 75.4      |
| Cash at end                               | 36.4   | 13.0   | 23.4   | 75.4     | 76.5      |
| Balance Sheet (A\$m)                      | 2017A  | 2018A  | 2019F  | 2020F    | 2021F     |
| Cash                                      | 36.4   | 13.1   | 23.4   | 75.4     | 76.5      |
| Total Assets                              | 119.6  | 100.5  | 111.4  | 187.5    | 235.2     |
| Creditors                                 | 12.1   | 9.4    | 11.5   | 11.5     | 11.5      |
| Current Borrowings                        | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Non-current Borrowings                    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0      | 0.0       |
| Provisions                                | 5.2    | 6.1    | (2.4)  | 10.4     | 13.4      |
| Total Liabilities                         | 17.3   | 15.4   | 9.1    | 21.9     | 24.8      |
|   |        |        |        |          |           |



## **Recommendation History**



| Date      | Туре                | Target Price | Share Price | Recommendation | Return |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------|
| 21 Mar 17 | Research Note       | 0.34         | 0.21        | SB             |        |
| 24 Apr 17 | Hot off the Press   | 0.34         | 0.15        | SB             | -28.6% |
| 21 Jun 17 | Ceased Coverage     | 0.34         | 0.13        | SB             | -16.7% |
| 12 Mar 19 | Research Note       | 0.25         | 0.15        | SB             | 20.0%  |
| 16 Apr 19 | Research Note       | 0.25         | 0.17        | SB             | 13.3%  |
|           | Current Share Price |              | 0.17        |                | -1.5%  |

Stock recommendations: Investment ratings are a function of Patersons expectation of total return (forecast price appreciation plus dividend yield) within the next 12 months. The investment ratings are Buy (expected total return of 10% or more), Hold (-10% to +10% total return) and Sell (> 10% negative total return). In addition we have a Speculative Buy rating covering higher risk stocks that may not be of investment grade due to low market capitalisation, high debt levels, or significant risks in the business model. Investment ratings are determined at the time of initiation of coverage, or a change in target price. At other times the expected total return may fall outside of these ranges because of price movements and/or volatility. Such interim deviations from specified ranges will be permitted but will become subject to review by Research Management. This Document is not to be passed on to any third party without our prior written consent.





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|-----|--|
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