

Critical Minerals National Productivity Initiative – Northern Territory – Copper and Critical Minerals Common User Processing Facility

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule																					
Parties	Commonwealth Northern Territory																				
Duration	This is expected to expire on 30 June 2026.																				
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery by Northern Territory of a feasibility study for a copper and critical mineral processing common user facility to enhance Australia’s capacity to process critical and strategic materials, and strengthen Australia’s sovereign capability and economic resilience.</p> <p>The feasibility study will produce a report on the proposed facilities requirements, feedstock sources, costing estimations, utility usage, the mineral products that would be produced, as well as results from industry, community and First Nations stakeholder engagement.</p>																				
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Northern Territory of \$300,000 in respect of this Schedule.</p> <p>The Northern Territory will be required to match the Commonwealth’s funding contribution.</p> <table><tr><td>Table 1</td><td>2025-26</td><td>Total</td></tr><tr><td>Estimated total budget</td><td>\$1,500,000</td><td>\$1,500,000</td></tr><tr><td>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</td><td>\$300,000</td><td>\$300,000</td></tr><tr><td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td><td>\$1,200,000</td><td>\$1,200,000</td></tr><tr><td>- Northern Territory</td><td>\$300,000</td><td>\$300,000</td></tr><tr><td>- Strategic Alliance</td><td>\$900,000</td><td>\$900,000</td></tr></table>			Table 1	2025-26	Total	Estimated total budget	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	Less estimated National Partnership Payments	\$300,000	\$300,000	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	- Northern Territory	\$300,000	\$300,000	- Strategic Alliance	\$900,000	\$900,000
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Additional terms	The feasibility study will be in accordance with work described in the Northern Territory's proposal for funding under the Critical Minerals National Productivity Initiative and additional information required that supported the proposal requested by the Commonwealth.
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Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary		
Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Milestone 1 – Execution of Agreement and Project Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement and signature of the Schedule Acceptance by the Commonwealth of an overarching project plan to deliver the feasibility study that sets out the expected outcomes and products, delivery times, stakeholders, procurement process and how the Northern Territory will manage the funding and project activities. 	Upon signature of the Schedule	\$100,000
Milestone 2 – Progress report Acceptance by the Commonwealth of a progress report which provides details of all activities undertaken to date, that should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details of stakeholder engagement undertaken. Preliminary views on facility type, location and size, and time to commission it. Estimation of capital and operational costs. Preliminary views on operational structure, governance and the special purpose vehicle outlined in the proposal. 	25 February 2026	\$100,000
Milestone 3 – Final report Acceptance by the Commonwealth of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the final feasibility study that must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final recommendations on usage of the facility, common user access arrangements and governance arrangements. financial modelling and market analysis, potential risks and challenges, and the social and economic benefits likely to be generated by the facility and outputs identified in the project plan. Final determination of the optimal size, type, and location of the processing facility. Identification of the final mineral products that will be produced, as well as feedstock sources. A financial report which outlines the cost of delivering the Schedule's outputs. 	15 May 2026	\$100,000

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth
of Australia by



The Honourable Madeleine King MP
Minister for Resources; Minister for Northern
Australia

[Day] [Month] [Year]
27 11 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the
Northern Territory by



The Honourable Gerard Maley MLA
Deputy Chief Minister, Minister for Mining and
Energy, Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries,
Minister for Corrections, Minister for Renewables
and Minister for Recreational Fishing

[Day] [Month] [Year]

18 DEC 2025