



Aquila secures Commonwealth facilitation backing for iron-ore project

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PERTH (miningweekly.com) – Iron-ore aspirant Aquila Resources reported at the weekend that results from a definitive feasibility study for a 30-million ton a year, stage-one mine at its West Pilbara project site, would be published during the current quarter.

Aquila also reported that the project, which would require a dedicated 280-km rail link from the mine to Anketell Point, as well as associated harbour facilities, had also been granted major project facilitation (MPF) status by the federal Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Minister.

The Commonwealth-level grant of MPF status provided a service to support timely and efficient government approvals for the development of the project, through to December 2013, by which time Aquila estimated that all major project milestones would have been achieved.

Aquila was looking to develop the West Pilbara iron-ore project to a 25-million-ton-a-year mining and export project, at a capital cost of around A\$4-billion.

The project, which could involve A\$4-billion to develop, had a measured, indicated and inferred resource of 742-million tons.

It had also garnered support from the iron-ore market, with 31 memoranda of understanding signed with Asian steel mills to investigate the performance of the product from the West Pilbara project with their respective sinter plants.
