

Aquila up on bonus share issue

STUART MCKINNON, The West Australian Updated November 30, 2011, 9:15 am



Shares in Aquila Resources were higher after the company released a slew of positive announcements including a bonus share issue.

The company said it was planning a one-for-10 bonus share issue up to a maximum of 37.4 million new shares to shareholders to recognise the progress the company had made in its coal, iron ore and manganese projects over the past 12 months.

Aquila said the bonus issue would also boost liquidity in the trading of its shares, which it hoped would boost its case for inclusion on the S&P/ASX100 index.

Shares will trade ex-entitlement from December 5 with a record date for the bonus shares of December 9.

Aquila Resources also announced this morning its had received conditional Federal approval for the development of its joint venture West Pilbara iron ore project and railway line. The company is still waiting on WA Department of Environment and Conservation approval for the mine.

It is also waiting for State and Federal government approval on its proposed Anketell port development, which it expected in the second quarter of calendar 2012.

Aquila also announced it had placed a \$US180 million cost on its Gravenhage Manganese Project in South Africa.

The company said its definitive feasibility study on the project had confirmed the technical and economic viability of a 1.5mtpa ROM manganese operation.

Aquila expected expects to secure a mining approval for the project early next year. It said the project area had strong exploration potential.

Aquila shares were up 18 cents, or 2.88 per cent, to \$6.44 at 9.10am