

## Appendix 5B

### Mining exploration entity or oil and gas exploration entity quarterly cash flow report

Name of entity

**Astron Corporation Limited**

Incorporated in Hong Kong – Company number 1687414

ARBN

154 924 553

Quarter ended (“current quarter”)

31 December 2023

Consolidated statement of cash flows		Current quarter \$A'000	Year to date (6 months) \$A'000
<b>1.</b>	<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
1.1	Receipts from customers	4,199	5,674
1.2	Payments for		
	(a) exploration & evaluation	-	-
	(b) development	-	-
	(c) production	(5,426)	(8,868)
	(d) staff costs	-	-
	(e) administration and corporate costs	(1,102)	(1,920)
1.3	Dividends received (see note 3)	-	-
1.4	Interest received	-	-
1.5	Interest and other costs of finance paid	(303)	(419)
1.6	Income taxes received	-	-
1.7	Government grants and tax incentives	-	-
1.8	Other (provide details if material)	-	-
<b>1.9</b>	<b>Net cash from / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(2,632)</b>	<b>(5,533)</b>

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<b>2.</b>	<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
2.1	Payments to acquire or for:		
	(a) entities	-	-
	(b) tenements	-	-
	(c) property, plant and equipment	(38)	(72)
	(d) exploration & evaluation	(1,719)	(3,027)
	(e) investments	-	-
	(f) other non-current assets	-	-
2.2	Proceeds from the disposal of:		
	(a) entities	-	-
	(b) tenements	-	-
	(c) property, plant and equipment	(2)	299
	(d) investments	-	-
	(e) other non-current assets	-	-
2.3	Cash flows from loans to other entities	-	-
2.4	Dividends received (see note 3)	-	-
2.5	Other (provide details if material)	-	(48)
<b>2.6</b>	<b>Net cash from / (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(1,759)</b>	<b>(2,848)</b>

<b>3.</b>	<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
3.1	Proceeds from issues of equity securities (excluding convertible debt securities)	3,965	5,645
3.2	Proceeds from issue of convertible debt securities	-	-
3.3	Proceeds from exercise of options	-	-
3.4	Transaction costs related to issues of equity securities or convertible debt securities	-	-
3.5	Proceeds from borrowings	-	-
3.6	Repayment of borrowings	(133)	(3,266)
3.7	Transaction costs related to loans and borrowings	-	-
3.8	Dividends paid	-	-
3.9	Other (provide details if material)	(24)	(39)
<b>3.10</b>	<b>Net cash from / (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>2,340</b>

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<b>4.</b>	<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the period</b>		
4.1	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	1,898	7,205
4.2	Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9 above)	(2,632)	(5,533)
4.3	Net cash from / (used in) investing activities (item 2.6 above)	(1,759)	(2,848)
4.4	Net cash from / (used in) financing activities (item 3.10 above)	3,808	2,340
4.5	Effect of movement in exchange rates on cash held	(83)	68
<b>4.6</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>1,232</b>	<b>1,232</b>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents</b> at the end of the quarter (as shown in the consolidated statement of cash flows) to the related items in the accounts	<b>Current quarter \$A'000</b>	<b>Previous quarter \$A'000</b>
5.1	Bank balances	1,232	1,898
5.2	Call deposits	-	-
5.3	Bank overdrafts	-	-
5.4	Other (provide details)	-	-
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of quarter (should equal item 4.6 above)</b>	<b>1,232</b>	<b>1,898</b>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Payments to related parties of the entity and their associates</b>	<b>Current quarter \$A'000</b>
6.1	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 1	209
6.2	Aggregate amount of payments to related parties and their associates included in item 2	-
<p><i>Note: if any amounts are shown in items 6.1 or 6.2, your quarterly activity report must include a description of, and an explanation for, such payments.</i></p> <p>The amounts reported in item 6.1 relate to payments made to Directors, including executive and non-executive fees for the quarter.</p>		

7.	<b>Financing facilities</b> <i>Note: the term "facility" includes all forms of financing arrangements available to the entity. Add notes as necessary for an understanding of the sources of finance available to the entity.</i>	<b>Total facility amount at quarter end \$A'000</b>	<b>Amount drawn at quarter end \$A'000</b>
7.1	Loan facilities	5,046	5,046
7.2	Credit standby arrangements	-	-
7.3	Other (please specify)	13,597	13,597
7.4	<b>Total financing facilities</b>	<b>18,644</b>	<b>18,644</b>
7.5	<b>Unused financing facilities available at quarter end</b>		-
7.6	<p>Include in the box below a description of each facility above, including the lender, interest rate, maturity date and whether it is secured or unsecured. If any additional financing facilities have been entered into or are proposed to be entered into after quarter end, include a note providing details of those facilities as well.</p> <p>Loan facilities are bank loans held by the Chinese operations denominated in RMB and include the following (figures denominated in A\$000):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bank of Jinzhou – A\$2,060 - interest bearing at 4.50% per annum repayable on or before 24 September 2024.</li> <li>- Yingkou Bank – A\$926 - interest bearing at 5.50% per annum repayable on or before 9 March 2026.</li> <li>- Bank of China – A\$2,060 - interest bearing at 3.55% per annum repayable on or before 9 November 2024.</li> </ul> <p>These loans are secured against real property in China.</p> <p>Other financing facilities include (figures denominated in A\$000):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loans provided by related parties to the Group – \$5,616 – provided by Non-Executive Director Mdm Kang Rong on an interest free basis and repayable on demand.</li> <li>- Other short-term loans in China – \$2,201 – These are short-term loans entered into by the Chinese operations, denominated in RMB, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o \$1,009 is interest bearing between 4.7% - 5.6%, secured against certain right-of use assets held in China and payable in October 2025 and March 2026; and</li> <li>o \$1,192 is interest bearing at 10%, secured against certain right-of use assets held in China and payable in March 2024;</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Convertible notes \$5,780 – The convertible notes (the Notes) have a term of two years maturing in March 2024 and are convertible into ordinary shares of the Company at \$0.54 per share. The Notes carry a 10% per annum coupon which was paid up front through the issuance of an additional notes at the date of issue. The Notes are secured by a first ranking general security agreement, guarantee and registered mortgage over real property held by Donald Mineral Sands Pty Ltd (a 100% owned subsidiary of the Company).</li> </ul>		

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<b>8. Estimated cash available for future operating activities</b>	<b>\$A'000</b>
8.1 Net cash from / (used in) operating activities (item 1.9)	(2,632)
8.2 (Payments for exploration & evaluation classified as investing activities) (item 2.1(d))	(1,719)
8.3 Total relevant outgoings (item 8.1 + item 8.2)	(4,351)
8.4 Cash and cash equivalents at quarter end (item 4.6)	1,232
8.5 Unused finance facilities available at quarter end (item 7.5)	-
8.6 Total available funding (item 8.4 + item 8.5)	1,232
8.7 <b>Estimated quarters of funding available (item 8.6 divided by item 8.3)</b>	0.28
<i>Note: if the entity has reported positive relevant outgoings (ie a net cash inflow) in item 8.3, answer item 8.7 as "N/A". Otherwise, a figure for the estimated quarters of funding available must be included in item 8.7.</i>	
8.8 If item 8.7 is less than 2 quarters, please provide answers to the following questions:	
8.8.1 Does the entity expect that it will continue to have the current level of net operating cash flows for the time being and, if not, why not?	
Answer: No. Net operating cash outflows experienced during H1 2024 within the Chinese operations were abnormally high due to the plant being placed in care and maintenance during March 2023. The plant has experienced delays in delivery of feedstocks during the quarter which hindered recommencement of operations as previously anticipated. Further, short term price decreases in rutile during the quarter adversely effected the net cash flows from operations.	
8.8.2 Has the entity taken any steps, or does it propose to take any steps, to raise further cash to fund its operations and, if so, what are those steps and how likely does it believe that they will be successful?	
Answer: The Company announced in November 2023 that it had secured equity funding of \$10 million through a share placement to the Company's third largest shareholder, Mr Tan Ruiqing. The Company received \$3.0 million in November 2023, with a further \$3.0 million having been received in January 2024 (after the end of the quarter) and \$4.0 million expected in March 2024	
8.8.3 Does the entity expect to be able to continue its operations and to meet its business objectives and, if so, on what basis?	
Answer: Yes, the Company expects to be able to continue its operations and meet its business objectives on a going concern basis.	
<i>Note: where item 8.7 is less than 2 quarters, all of questions 8.8.1, 8.8.2 and 8.8.3 above must be answered.</i>	

**Compliance statement**

- 1 This statement has been prepared in accordance with accounting standards and policies which comply with Listing Rule 19.11A.
- 2 This statement gives a true and fair view of the matters disclosed.

Date: 30 January 2024

Authorised by: Managing Director

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**Notes**

1. This quarterly cash flow report and the accompanying activity report provide a basis for informing the market about the entity's activities for the past quarter, how they have been financed and the effect this has had on its cash position. An entity that wishes to disclose additional information over and above the minimum required under the Listing Rules is encouraged to do so.
2. If this quarterly cash flow report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the definitions in, and provisions of, *AASB 6: Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources* and *AASB 107: Statement of Cash Flows* apply to this report. If this quarterly cash flow report has been prepared in accordance with other accounting standards agreed by ASX pursuant to Listing Rule 19.11A, the corresponding equivalent standards apply to this report.
3. Dividends received may be classified either as cash flows from operating activities or cash flows from investing activities, depending on the accounting policy of the entity.
4. If this report has been authorised for release to the market by your board of directors, you can insert here: "By the board". If it has been authorised for release to the market by a committee of your board of directors, you can insert here: "By the [name of board committee – eg Audit and Risk Committee]". If it has been authorised for release to the market by a disclosure committee, you can insert here: "By the Disclosure Committee".
5. If this report has been authorised for release to the market by your board of directors and you wish to hold yourself out as complying with recommendation 4.2 of the ASX Corporate Governance Council's *Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations*, the board should have received a declaration from its CEO and CFO that, in their opinion, the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained, that this report complies with the appropriate accounting standards and gives a true and fair view of the cash flows of the entity, and that their opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.