

Bigger plans for Bald Hill

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The spotlight has been shone on potential infrastructure developments at Tawana Resources' emerging Bald Hill lithium mine to cater for surging global demand for battery minerals.

Mark Calderwood announced yesterday the lithium miner would shift focus to plant optimisation after achieving commercial lithium production, spurred by its newly minted dense media separation circuit.

Mr Calderwood confirmed

Tawana and Singapore-listed joint venture partner Alliance Mineral Assets Limited would target spodumene concentrate production totals between 60,000 to 75,000 tonnes from July to December.

Plant performance achieved higher than the 161 tonnes per hour nameplate, with rates averag-

ing 206tph in recent weeks and reached up to 230tph.

Mr Calderwood said efficient production at Bald Hill, about 50km south-east of Kambalda, since the plant went online in March had prompted the company

to advance developments at the project.

“Operational focus has shifted to plant optimisation and the review of options to further increase throughput in the existing plant and add a second DMS circuit in addition to a fines circuit,” he said.

In March, Mr Calderwood told the *Kalgoorlie Miner* a second DMS circuit was scheduled to be established at Bald Hill by June next year to bolster the company's lithium reserves. The company remains committed to achieving the feat within the timeframe.

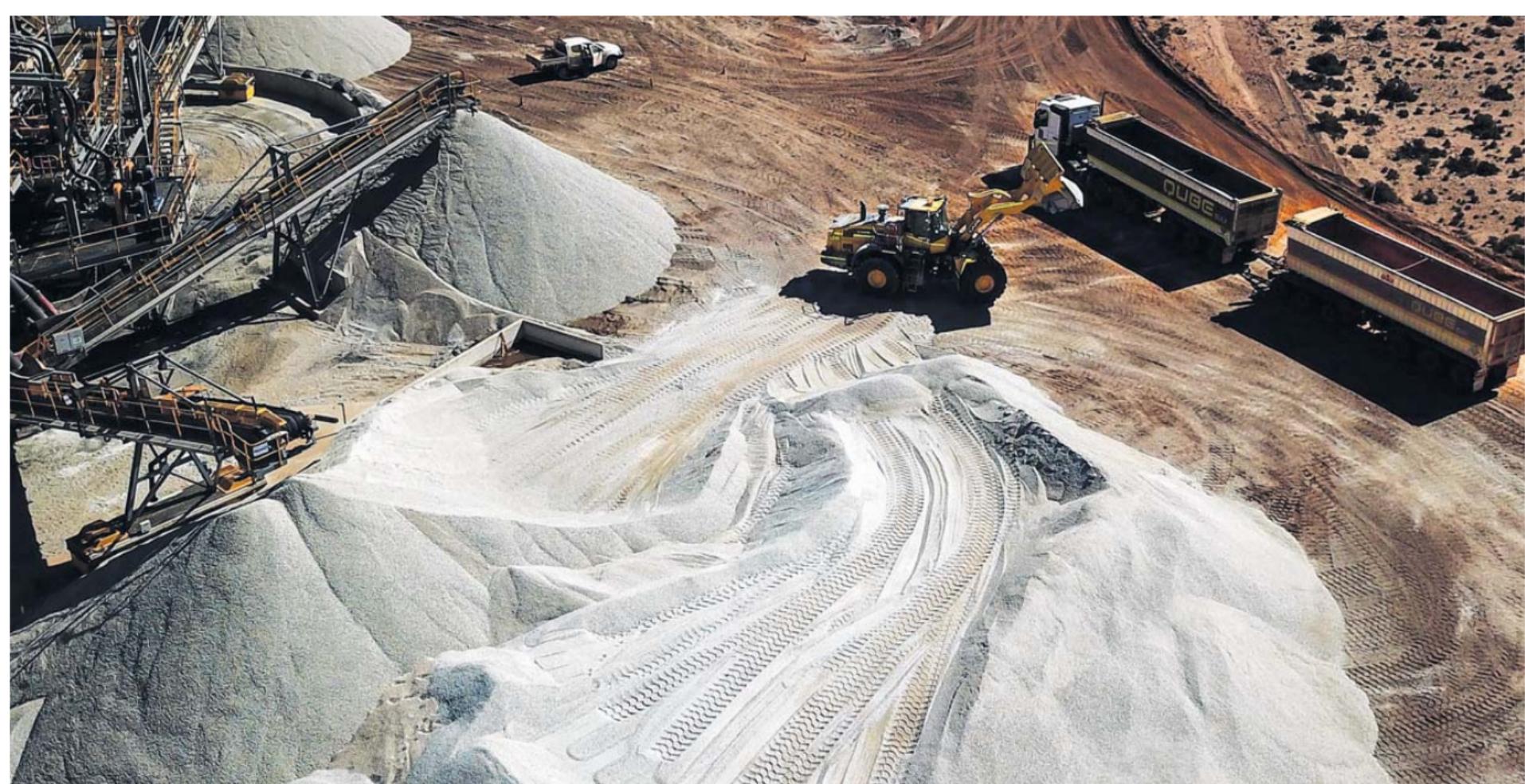
Bald Hill delivered 18,800 tonnes

in lithium concentrate production from March 14, when the circuit went online, to June 30, with plant recoveries achieving a 65 per cent nameplate capacity.

Three lithium concentrate shipments have been completed through Esperance port, while the fourth is scheduled to be completed “within the next few days”.

Tawana and AMAL agreed to a \$450 million merger in April.

Tawana Resources shares closed up 0.5¢ to 39.5¢ yesterday.



Infrastructure could be bolstered at Tawana's Bald Hill lithium mine, near Kambalda, in an attempt to increase production. Picture: Tawana Resources