



Project News

## **BHP approves USD4.9 billion Investment in Stage Two of Jansen Potash Project**

Edited by on 2. Nov. 2023

BHP has approved an investment of USD 4.9 billion (CAD 6.4 billion) for stage two of the Jansen potash project (Jansen Stage 2) in Saskatchewan, Canada. This follows BHP's approval of USD 5.7 billion (CAD 7.5 billion) for stage one of the Jansen potash project (Jansen Stage 1) in August 2021 and a pre-Jansen Stage 1 investment of USD4.5 billion (CAD 4.9 billion).

BHP Chief Executive Officer, Mike Henry said: "This is an important milestone that underscores our confidence in potash and marks the next phase of the company's growth in Canada. We believe Jansen will deliver long-term value for shareholders and the local community, and will position BHP as one of the leaders in the global potash industry.

The stage two investment advances BHP's strategy to increase its exposure to commodities positively leveraged to the global megatrends of population growth, urbanisation, rising living standards and decarbonisation. Potash, used in fertilisers, will be essential for food security and more sustainable farming.

Today's additional investment will transform Jansen into one of the world's largest potash mines, doubling production capacity to approximately 8.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa)<sup>1</sup>.

We are advancing our sustainability and economic development priorities for Jansen and we are pleased with the progress of our ongoing work with the

Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, as well as local and Indigenous communities on shared solutions.”

Jansen Stage 1 is 32% complete and progressing in line with its schedule. First production from Jansen Stage 1 is expected to be delivered in late CY2026. Construction of Jansen Stage 2 is anticipated to take approximately six years, and is expected to deliver first production in FY2029, followed by a ramp up period of three years.

Jansen Stage 2 is expected to deliver approximately 4.36 Mtpa of production at a capital intensity of approximately USD 1,050/t, lower than Jansen Stage 1, due to the leveraging of existing and planned infrastructure<sup>2</sup>. In October 2022, BHP approved an initial funding commitment of USD 188 million to procure long lead equipment and commence process plant foundation works. The additional USD 4.9 billion investment for Jansen Stage 2 will be used for the development of additional mining districts, completion of the second shaft hoist infrastructure to handle higher mining volumes, expansion of processing facilities and the addition of more rail cars.

Westshore Terminals, in Delta, British Columbia, remains BHP’s main port facility to ship potash from Jansen to customers. The Jansen Stage 2 investment includes funding to increase storage facilities at the port. BHP will not be initiating a formal capacity extension for the Westshore port terminal at this time and will evaluate closer to Jansen Stage 2 reaching first production.

Jansen has been designed with a focus on social value and sustainability and is expected to have approximately 50% less operational (Scopes 1 and 2) greenhouse gas emissions per tonne of product and use up to 60% less fresh water when compared to the average potash mine in Saskatchewan. Indigenous employee representation at Jansen has increased to approximately 9% with a target to increase Indigenous employee representation at Jansen to 20%. Jansen aspires to maintain a gender balanced workforce.

Jansen Stage 2 was evaluated utilising BHP’s Capital Allocation Framework and at consensus prices has an internal rate of return of 15% to 18% and an expected payback period of approximately six years from first production<sup>3</sup>. Underlying EBITDA margins for Jansen Stage 1 and Stage 2 of approximately 65% to 70% are expected due to a low-cost position of USD 105 to USD 120/t<sup>4</sup>.

Transitioning to Jansen Stage 2 during the construction period of Jansen Stage 1 is expected to bring a number of operational benefits. These include leveraging the

experience of the integrated Jansen project team, continued use of existing contractors, reduced overheads and savings on mobilisation and demobilisation costs. Potential synergies of USD 0.3 billion have been embedded into Jansen Stage 2's economics.

Longer term, Jansen has the potential for two additional expansions to reach an ultimate production capacity of 16 to 17 Mtpa (subject to studies and approvals).

## **Footnotes**

1. Jansen Stage 1 production capacity was reduced by 0.2Mt by deferring the investment in the recovery circuit in order to enable better capital efficiency outcomes and capture economies of scale by having a combined circuit for Jansen Stage 1 and Stage 2.
2. Expected capital intensity for Jansen Stage 2, USD/product tonne, Real 1 July 2023.
3. Price assumptions reflect the average of Argus and CRU prices. Jansen Stage 2 internal rate of return range is post-tax, nominal and reflects Argus and CRU prices (Average 2029–2039: USD369/t Argus and USD466/t CRU). The internal rate of return is the expected internal rate of return based on incremental Jansen Stage 2 cashflow across approximately 50-year mine life.
4. Operational expenditure includes costs relating to the Jansen mine and port and rail costs, excludes carbon tax, Real 1 July 2023.