

Level 10, Carillon City Office Tower 207 Murray Street Perth, WA 6000 Post Office Box Z5736 Perth, Western Australia 6831 T 08 6460 0360

F 08 6460 0361

**■** info@resdevgroup.com.au

www.resdevgroup.com.au

Companies Announcements Office ASX Limited 20 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Via e-lodgement

7 November 2011

## **EXECUTES OPTION AGREEMENT TO FURTHER EXPAND IT'S SERVICES**

Continuing its expansion in the mining services sector, Resource Development Group Limited ("Resource Development Group" or the "Company), today announced the execution of an option agreement to acquire environmental and approvals consultancy firm, Ecologia Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd ("Ecologia").

Established in 1989, Ecologia is an environmental consultancy firm based in Perth with over 30 personnel, and provides environmental management and biological science consultancy services to the mining and resources, oil and gas, construction, local and federal government, utilities and infrastructure sectors within Australia.

Ecologia is considered one of the leaders in environmental consultancy within the Australian mining sector, and has capability across all aspects of environmental management including approvals, impact assessments, auditing, training, risk, systems, management plans and due diligence. These capabilities also cover all aspects of biological sciences including zoology, botany, monitoring, groundwater, flora and fauna surveys and environmentally sensitive areas, which are key to all mining and resource projects.

Since incorporation, Ecologia has developed a solid client base, working with major clients who include BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, FMG, Anglo American, Anglo Gold Ashanti, Grange Resources, Brockman Resources and Crosslands.

These clients are also key clients of Engenium Pty Ltd and Intellect Systems Pty Ltd, both wholly owned subsidiaries of the Company.

The acquisition is expected to contribute approximately \$3.5-4.0 million in revenue and \$0.9-1.0 million in EBIT in FY12, and be earnings per share accretive in FY12.

In acquiring Ecologia, the Company will pay \$7-8 million consisting of approximately 60% cash and 40% shares. The option is exercisable before 30 April 2012, and any execution will be subject to any necessary shareholder and regulatory approvals.

Commenting on the option agreement, Managing Director Jeff Brill noted "Ecologia brings to Resource Development Group, significant environmental and approvals expertise in the mining and resources sector, which are key lead indicators for project development. An acquisition of Ecologica will allow us to pursue opportunities for further growth through cross selling with our existing subsidiary businesses, Engenium and Intellect Systems, given the common client base."

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"This acquisition is part of a planned series of acquisitions which are in line with our stated strategy to build a vertically integrated mining services business. Whilst the acquisition is earnings per share accretive, Ecologia is a solid, well recognized brand in our market and also culturally aligned with Resource Development Group and its subsidiaries" said Mr Brill.

Managing Director and co-founder of Ecologia, Garry Connell, said "an acquisition by Resource Development Group Ltd will enable Ecologia to take further advantage of the current opportunities which are emerging as a result of the significant investment in resource development projects. A major attraction for us was the ability to be part of a larger group that could provide a complete project services offering."

The cash component of the acquisition will be funded from available cash reserves or additional capital raisings.

Mr Brill said that Resource Development Group continues to focus on its strategy to grow organically and by further acquisitions.

Yours faithfully

Jeff Brill Managing Director