23.MAY.2005 9:18 ASX PERTH NO.498 P.1/



MARKET RELEASE

23 May 2005

Arafura Resources NL

TRADING HALT

The securities of Arafura Resources NL (the "Company") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Wednesday, 25 May 2005 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code:

ARU

ARUO

Brendan O'Hara

Manager Companies

ASX PERTH



Level 2/9 Bowman Street, South Perth PO Box 394 South Perth Western Australia 6151

Telephone: (618) 9367 1433 Facsimile: (618) 9367 1944

Email: arafura@arafuraresources.com.au
Website: www.arafuraresources.com

23 May 2005

Australian Stock Exchange Ltd 2 The Esplanade PERTH WA 6000

ATTN: Jill Hewitt

Dear Jill

RE: TRADING HALT

The Company requests a trading halt pending an announcement.

Yours sincerely

ROSS ARANCINI

COMPANY SECRETARY