

Land title the first step for Gulf

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WESTERN Australian miner Gulf Manganese Corporation has taken the first step in securing the tenure of a 53ha block of land where it hopes to build a smelter to produce ferromanganese alloy.

The block, in the Kupang Regency of Indonesia's West Timor province, has been measured and the company issued with a field map reference catalogue number from the Indonesian Land Agency (BPN).



It is the initial step for the Certificate of Title for Building Construction which would allow security of tenure of the site for PT Gulf Mangan Grup's land lease agreement for a period of 50 years from local landowners, as well as permitting the construction of the smelter.

The company has advised shareholders that the state-owned power company PT PNL (Persero) has confirmed it would supply 7 megawatts of electricity – on a user-pay basis – to power the smelter's first furnace, which is due to come online in the fourth quarter of 2016.

Technical director Kevin Parker said: "The issuing of a field map reference number and the confirmation from PLN of power supply, together with the recently issued principal licence, firmly establishes that the company is on track to start building an operating next year.

"These three areas significantly derisk the project and with several regency permits and licences now acquired we are ready to move forward."

<http://www.pngindustrynews.net/storyview.asp?storyID=826956464§ion=Regional+Watch§ionsource=s200&aspdsc=yes>