

Regulatory Story

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**THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINS INSIDE INFORMATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

17 March 2020

RECOMMENDED CASH ACQUISITION

of

SIRIUS MINERALS PLC

by

ANGLO AMERICAN PROJECTS UK LIMITED

**a wholly owned subsidiary of
Anglo American plc**

Scheme becomes effective

On 20 January 2020, the boards of Sirius Minerals Plc (**Sirius**), Anglo American plc (**Anglo American**) and Anglo American Projects UK Limited (**Bidco**) announced that they had reached agreement on the terms of a recommended cash acquisition of the entire issued and to be issued ordinary share capital of Sirius by Bidco (the **Acquisition**), to be implemented by means of a Court-sanctioned scheme of arrangement under Part 26 of the Companies Act (the **Scheme**) which was contained in a document sent to Sirius Shareholders on 7 February 2020 (the **Scheme Document**).

On 3 March 2020, the Scheme was approved by the Scheme Shareholders at the Court Meeting and the special resolution to implement the Scheme was passed by the Sirius Shareholders at the General Meeting.

On 13 March 2020, Sirius and Bidco announced that the Court had sanctioned the Scheme.

Sirius, Anglo American and Bidco hereby announce that the Scheme has today become effective in accordance with its terms, following delivery of the Court Order to the Registrar of Companies.

Except as otherwise defined herein, capitalised terms used but not defined in this announcement have the same meanings as given to them in the Scheme Document.

Settlement

Scheme Shareholders' consideration under the terms of the Acquisition will be settled or despatched by no later than 31 March 2020.

Cancellation of listing and trading

The listing of Sirius Shares on the Official List and the admission to trading of Sirius Shares on the London Stock Exchange's Main Market for listed securities are, in each case, expected to be cancelled with effect from 8.00 a.m. (London time) today, 17 March 2020.

Termination of Sirius ADR program

It is also expected that the Sirius ADR program will be terminated by 8.00 a.m. (London time) today, 17 March 2020.

Director resignations and appointments

Sirius further announces that, with effect from the date of this announcement (being the Effective Date), the Sirius Non-Executive Chairman (Russell Scrimshaw), the Sirius Senior Independent Director (Elizabeth Noel Harwerth) and each of the Sirius non-executive directors (Jane Lodge, Keith Clarke, Louise Hardy and Lord Hutton of Furness) have resigned as directors of Sirius.

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Important Notices

J.P. Morgan Securities plc, which conducts its UK investment banking business as J.P. Morgan Cazenove (**J.P. Morgan Cazenove**), is authorised in the United Kingdom by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated in the United Kingdom by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the FCA. J.P. Morgan Cazenove is acting as financial adviser exclusively for Sirius and no one else in connection with the matters set out in this announcement and will not regard any other person as its client in relation to the matters in this announcement and will not be responsible to anyone other than Sirius for providing the protections afforded to clients of J.P. Morgan Cazenove, or for providing advice in relation to any matter referred to herein.

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Liberum Capital Limited (**Liberum Capital**), which is authorised and regulated in the United Kingdom by the FCA, is acting as joint broker exclusively for Sirius and for no one else in connection with the matters set out in this announcement and will not regard any other person as its client in relation to the matters in this announcement and will not be responsible to anyone other than Sirius for providing the protections afforded to clients of Liberum Capital, or for providing advice in relation to any matter referred to herein.

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The Acquisition shall be made solely by means of the Scheme Document which contains the full terms and conditions of the Acquisition, including details of how to vote in respect of the Acquisition.

Sirius, Anglo American and Bidco urge Sirius Shareholders to read the Scheme Document as it contains important information relating to the Acquisition.

This announcement does not constitute a prospectus or prospectus exempted document.

Further Information

This announcement is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell or an invitation to purchase any securities or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, pursuant to the Acquisition or otherwise. The Acquisition is being made solely by means of the Scheme Document, which contains the full terms and Conditions of the Acquisition, including details of how to vote in respect of the Acquisition.

This announcement has been prepared for the purpose of complying with the laws of England and Wales and the Code and the information disclosed may not be the same as that which would have been disclosed if this announcement had been prepared in accordance with the laws of jurisdictions outside England and Wales.

Overseas Shareholders

The availability of the Scheme and the Acquisition to Overseas Shareholders may be affected by the laws of the relevant jurisdictions in which they are located. Overseas Shareholders should inform themselves about and should observe any applicable legal or regulatory requirements. It is the responsibility of all Overseas Shareholders to satisfy themselves as to the full compliance of the laws of the relevant jurisdiction in connection therewith, including the obtaining of any governmental, exchange control or other consents which may be required, or the compliance with other necessary formalities which are required to be observed and the payment of any issue, transfer or other taxes due in such jurisdiction.

The release, publication or distribution of this announcement and/or any accompanying documents in or into or from jurisdictions other than the UK may be restricted by law and therefore any persons who are subject to the law of any jurisdiction other than the UK should inform themselves about, and observe, any applicable legal or regulatory requirements. In particular, the ability of persons who are not resident in the UK to vote their Sirius Shares with respect to the Scheme at the Court Meeting or the General Meeting, or to appoint another person as proxy may be affected by the laws of the relevant jurisdictions in which they are located.

Any failure to comply with the applicable restrictions may constitute a violation of the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the companies and persons involved in the Acquisition disclaim any responsibility or liability for the violation of such restrictions by any person.

Unless otherwise determined by Bidco or required by the Code, and permitted by applicable law and regulation, no person may vote in favour of the Acquisition by any use, means, instrumentality or form within a Restricted Jurisdiction or any other jurisdiction if to do so would constitute a violation of the laws of that jurisdiction. Accordingly, copies of this announcement and all documents relating to the Acquisition are not being, and must not be, directly or indirectly, mailed or otherwise forwarded, distributed or sent in, into or from a Restricted Jurisdiction, and persons receiving this announcement and all documents relating to the Acquisition (including custodians, nominees and trustees) must not mail or otherwise distribute or send them in, into or from such jurisdictions where to do so would violate the laws in that jurisdiction.

Notice to US investors

The Acquisition relates to the shares of an English company and is being effected by means of a scheme of arrangement under the laws of England and Wales. A transaction effected by means of a scheme of arrangement is not subject to the proxy solicitation or tender offer rules under the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **US Exchange Act**). Accordingly, the Acquisition is subject to the disclosure requirements, rules and practices applicable in the UK to schemes of arrangement, which differ from the disclosure requirements, style and format of US proxy solicitation or tender offer rules. However, Anglo American and Bidco reserve the right, subject to the prior consent of the Panel and in accordance with the Co-operation Agreement, to elect to implement the Acquisition by means of a Takeover Offer for the entire issued and to be issued share capital of Sirius, as an alternative to the Scheme.

If Anglo American and Bidco were to elect to implement the Acquisition by means of a Takeover Offer, it shall be made in compliance with all applicable US laws and regulations, including Section 14(e) of the US Exchange Act and Regulation 14E thereunder.

In the event that the Acquisition is implemented by way of a Takeover Offer, in accordance with normal UK practice and pursuant to Rule 14e-5(b) of the US Exchange Act, Anglo American or its nominees or its brokers (acting as agents), may from time to time make certain purchases of, or arrangements to purchase, Sirius Shares outside such a Takeover Offer during the period in which such a Takeover Offer would remain open for acceptance. If such purchases or arrangements to purchase were to be made, they would be made outside the US and would comply with applicable law, including the US Exchange Act and

the Code. Such purchases or arrangements to purchase may occur either in the open market at prevailing prices or in private transactions at negotiated prices. Any information about such purchases or arrangements to purchase, and the purchases and activities by exempt principal traders, will be disclosed as required in the UK, will be reported to the Regulatory News Service of the London Stock Exchange and will be available on the London Stock Exchange website at www.londonstockexchange.com/prices-and-news/prices-news/home.html. This information will be publicly disclosed in the US to the extent that such information is made public in the UK.

The information contained in this announcement has neither been approved nor disapproved by the SEC or any US state securities commission. Neither the SEC, nor any state securities commission, has passed upon the fairness or merits of the Acquisition described in, nor upon the accuracy or adequacy of the information contained in, this announcement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offence in the US.

The financial information included in this announcement has been prepared in accordance with accounting standards applicable in the UK that may not be comparable to the financial statements of US companies or companies whose financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. US generally accepted accounting principles differ in certain respects from IFRS used in the UK. None of the financial information in this announcement has been audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the US or the auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States).

The receipt of cash pursuant to the Acquisition by a US holder of Sirius Shares as consideration pursuant to the terms of the Acquisition will be a taxable transaction for US federal income tax purposes and under applicable US state and local, as well as foreign, and other, tax laws. Each Sirius Shareholder is urged to consult his or her independent professional adviser immediately regarding the tax consequences of the Acquisition applicable to him or her.

It may be difficult for US holders to enforce their rights and claims arising out of the US federal securities laws since Anglo American, Bidco and Sirius are located in countries other than the US, and some or all of their officers and directors may be residents of countries other than the US. US holders may not be able to sue a non-US company or its officers or directors in a non-US court for violations of US securities laws. Further, it may be difficult to compel a non-US company and its affiliates to subject themselves to a US court's judgment.

The statements contained in this announcement are made as at the date of this announcement, unless some other time is specified in relation to them, and service of this announcement shall not give rise to any implication that there has been no change in the facts set out in this announcement since such date. Nothing in this announcement shall be deemed to be a forecast, projection or estimate of the future financial performance of Sirius, the Sirius Group, Anglo American, Bidco or the Wider Anglo American Group, except where otherwise stated.

Forward-looking statements

This announcement (including information incorporated by reference in this announcement), oral statements made regarding the Acquisition, and other information published by Sirius, Anglo American or any member of the Anglo American Group contain statements which are, or may be deemed to be, "forward-looking statements". Such forward-looking statements are prospective in nature and are not based on historical facts, but rather on current expectations and on numerous assumptions regarding the business strategies and the environment in which Anglo American, any member of the Anglo American Group or the Enlarged Group shall operate in the future and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by those statements.

The forward-looking statements contained in this announcement relate to Anglo American, any member of the Anglo American Group or the Enlarged Group's future prospects, developments and business strategies, the expected timing and scope of the Acquisition and other statements other than historical facts. In some cases, these forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward looking terminology, including the terms "believes", "estimates", "will look to", "would look to", "plans", "prepares", "anticipates", "expects", "is expected to", "is subject to", "budget", "scheduled", "forecasts", "synergy", "strategy", "goal", "cost-saving", "projects", "intends", "may", "will", "shall" or "should" or their negatives or other variations or comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements may include statements relating to the following: (i) future capital expenditures, expenses, revenues, earnings, synergies, economic performance, indebtedness, financial condition,

dividend policy, losses and future prospects; (ii) business and management strategies and the expansion and growth of Anglo American's, any member of the Anglo American Group's or Sirius's operations and potential synergies resulting from the Acquisition; and (iii) the effects of global economic conditions and governmental regulation on Anglo American's, any member of the Anglo American Group's or Sirius's business.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that shall occur in the future. These events and circumstances include changes in the global, political, economic, business, competitive, market and regulatory forces, future exchange and interest rates, changes in tax rates and future business combinations or disposals. If any one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialises or if any one or more of the assumptions proves incorrect, actual results may differ materially from those expected, estimated or projected. Such forward-looking statements should therefore be construed in the light of such factors.

Neither Sirius nor any of Anglo American nor any member of the Anglo American Group, nor any of their respective associates or directors, officers or advisers, provides any representation, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in this announcement shall actually occur. Given these risks and uncertainties, potential investors should not place any reliance on forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements speak only at the date of this announcement. All subsequent oral or written forward-looking statements attributable to any member of the Anglo American Group or Sirius Group, or any of their respective associates, directors, officers, employees or advisers, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statement above.

Sirius and Anglo American expressly disclaim any obligation to update such statements other than as required by law or by the rules of any competent regulatory authority, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

No profit forecasts or estimates

No statement in this announcement is intended as a profit forecast or estimate for any period and no statement in this announcement should be interpreted to mean that earnings or earnings per share for Anglo American or Sirius, as appropriate, for the current or future financial years would necessarily match or exceed the historical published earnings or earnings per share for Anglo American or Sirius, as appropriate.

Disclosure requirements of the Code

Under Rule 8.3(a) of the Code, any person who is interested in 1 per cent. or more of any class of relevant securities of an offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror (being any offeror other than an offeror in respect of which it has been announced that its offer is, or is likely to be, solely in cash) must make an Opening Position Disclosure following the commencement of the offer period and, if later, following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. An Opening Position Disclosure must contain details of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s). An Opening Position Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(a) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th Business Day following the commencement of the offer period and, if appropriate, by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th Business Day following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. Relevant persons who deal in the relevant securities of the offeree company or of a securities exchange offeror prior to the deadline for making an Opening Position Disclosure must instead make a Dealing Disclosure.

Under Rule 8.3(b) of the Code, any person who is, or becomes, interested in 1 per cent. or more of any class of relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror must make a Dealing Disclosure if the person deals in any relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror. A Dealing Disclosure must contain details of the dealing concerned and of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror, save to the extent that these details have previously been disclosed under Rule 8. A Dealing Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(b) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the Business Day following the date of the relevant dealing.

If two or more persons act together pursuant to an agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, to acquire or control an interest in relevant securities of an offeree company or a securities exchange offeror, they shall be deemed to be a single person for the purpose of Rule 8.3.

Opening Position Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company and by any offeror and Dealing Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company, by any offeror and by any persons acting in concert with any of them (see Rules 8.1, 8.2 and 8.4).

Details of the offeree and offeror companies in respect of whose relevant securities Opening Position Disclosures and Dealing Disclosures must be made can be found in the Disclosure Table on the Panel's website at <http://www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk/>, including details of the number of relevant securities in issue, when the offer period commenced and when any offeror was first identified. If you are in any doubt as to whether you are required to make an Opening Position Disclosure or a Dealing Disclosure, you should contact the Panel's Market Surveillance Unit on +44 (0) 20 7638 0129.

Electronic Communications

Please be aware that addresses, electronic addresses and certain information provided by Sirius Shareholders, persons with information rights and other relevant persons for the receipt of communications from Sirius may be provided to Anglo American during the Offer Period as requested under Section 4 of Appendix 4 of the Code to comply with Rule 2.11(c) of the Code.

Publication on website and availability of hard copies

A copy of this announcement shall be made available, subject to certain restrictions relating to persons resident in Restricted Jurisdictions, on Anglo American's and Sirius's websites at www.angloamerican.com/offer and www.siriusminerals.com/investors/firm-offer-from-anglo-american-plc respectively by no later than 12 noon (London time) on the Business Day following the publication of this announcement. For the avoidance of doubt, the contents of these websites are not incorporated into and do not form part of this announcement.

You may request a hard copy of this announcement by contacting Sirius's registrars, Link Asset Services, during business hours on 0371 664 0321 or at The Registry, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4TU. You may also request that all future documents, announcements and information to be sent to you in relation to the Acquisition should be in hard copy form.

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Scheme becomes effective - RNS