



**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**For the Year Ended**

**December 31, 2013**

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## INTRODUCTION

The following discussion of the financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements of Manabi S.A. and its subsidiaries for the year ended December 31, 2013 and the related notes included thereto, which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”). All dollar figures are in U.S. dollars. The effective date of this MD&A is March 18, 2014.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this MD&A constitute “forward-looking statements” or “forward-looking information” within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements or information. Forward-looking statements should not be read as guarantees of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be accurate indicators of whether or not such results will be achieved. We do not assume any obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date of this MD&A.

This MD&A also contains references to estimates of mineral resources. The estimation of mineral resources is inherently uncertain and involves subjective judgments about many relevant factors. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. The accuracy of any such estimates is a function of the quantity and quality of available data, and of the assumptions made and judgments used in engineering and geological interpretation (including estimated future production from our projects, the anticipated tonnages and grades that will be mined and the estimated level of recovery that will be realized), which may prove to be unreliable and depend, to a certain extent, upon the analysis of drilling results and statistical inferences that may ultimately prove to be inaccurate.

Technical information relating to the mineral exploration project at *Morro do Pilar* (the “Pilar Hill Project”) and the mineral exploration project at *Morro Escuro* (the “Dark Hill Project”) contained in this Report is derived from, and in some instances is extracted from, the Pilar Hill Technical Report (the “Pilar Hill Report”) and the Dark Hill Technical Report (the “Dark Hill Report”), dated as of February 2014 and April 2012, respectively, prepared by SRK Consulting, an international leading consulting to the mining industry.

## OVERVIEW

Manabi S.A. (the “Company” or “we”, “us”, “our” or “our company”) is a publicly held company, incorporated on March 10, 2011, with its main office in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. We are a pre-operational mining company focused on the exploitation of high grade iron ore in Brazil and integrated logistics for sale of iron ore, either directly or indirectly through our subsidiaries. We currently have no producing properties and no operating revenues.

As of the date of this MD&A, we hold all of the outstanding equity capital of (i) Morro do Pilar Minerais S.A. (“Pilar Hill” or “MOPI”); (ii) Manabi Logística S.A. (“Manabi Logística”); and (iii) Dutovias do Brasil S.A. (“Dutovias”). On September 17, 2013, the merger of Morro Escuro Minerais S.A. (“Dark Hill” or “MOES”) into the Company was approved by our shareholders, aiming to simplify the corporate and operational structure of the Company.

## RECENT EVENTS

On January 29, 2014, the Company has engaged CIBC World Markets plc (“CIBC” - Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce) as its funding coordinator so as to advise the Company on the equity and debt fundraising for the Pilar Hill and Dark Hill projects, including the mine, infrastructure and/or port development projects.

Regarding the environmental licensing of the pipeline and the port, during the last four days of January of 2014, Manabi held public hearings in four cities in the States of Minas Gerais and Espirito Santo that had been selected by IBAMA (Ferros, Naque, Conselheiro Pena and Linhares). These meetings provided the community with an opportunity to have questions relating to the project answered and to propose and discuss desired social measures. The meetings had the participation of more than 2,000 stakeholders and were an important step towards the licensing of our integrated logistics. In February of 2014, the Presidency’s Port Secretariat (“SEP” - *Secretaria Especial dos Portos*) has granted the Company its authorization for the construction and operation of the North Port private terminal on the coast of Espirito Santo, which was a major milestone in its implementation process<sup>1</sup>.

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE

### Pilar Hill Project

#### A. Mine and Plant

For the collection of more extensive data, Geosol – Geologia e Sondagens Ltda. (“Geosol”), the Brazilian leading drilling company, performed approximately 52,000 meters of drilling during 2013, in addition to the approximate 48,000 meters previously drilled at the sites. The additional drilling and related data substantiated the SRK Technical Report (“SRK TR”)<sup>2</sup> on our flagship Morro do Pilar Iron Ore Project (“Pilar Hill Project” or the “Project”) finalised by SRK Consulting on February 24, 2014.

This SRK TR resulted in the certification of 1.33 billion tons of Measured and Indicated Resources (“M&I”) and 312 million tons of Inferred Resources (both as defined by NI 43-101) in the area of the Project. This is a significant improvement from our last resource statement issued in April 2012 by independent consulting company Coffey Mining, which at the time certified 1.2 billion tons of Inferred Resources and no M&I in the same area. The SRK TR confirms the engineering work done for the beneficiation plant, pipeline, filtering and port, all under Feasibility Study level (“FS Level”), as well as the relevant CAPEX and OPEX figures. It also confirms at FS Level the metallurgy data of the Project: 80% metallurgical recovery and a process design able to consistently produce a 68.5% Fe premium product, with low impurities.

Geosol shall drill an additional 35,000 meters during 2014, which is anticipated to support a full feasibility study that should be performed during 2014 and released by the beginning of 2015.

The Capex related to mine and plant development reached US\$68 million by December 31, 2013, with US\$42 million being spent during 2013, mostly on the drilling campaign, environmental licensing process, land acquisition and engineering studies.

The environmental license (“LP”) for the mine and plant is expected to be issued during 1H14.

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<sup>1</sup> In order to start construction, the Company also needs to obtain the environmental license (LP) and the construction license (LI)

<sup>2</sup> The SRK TR uses mineralized material including measured, indicated, and inferred resources, as well as, exploration potential material in the mine plan. For this reason the TR does not meet reporting guidelines under CIM and JORC. The use of exploration potential is not allowed under either CIM or JORC guidelines for economic studies.

## **B. Pipeline**

We plan to contract the construction of the slurry pipeline project on the basis of a 'Build, Operate, Transfer' ("BOT") agreement pursuant to which the contractor will be responsible for the post feasibility capex of the pipeline. Under the BOT arrangement, we would be charged a fee for the transportation of our pellet feed by the slurry pipeline in accordance with a long-term ship-or-pay agreement.

We have been negotiating this BOT arrangement with large domestic and international contractors. Nonetheless, as part of our negotiation, we plan to secure the rights-of-way for the pipeline through most of its route and obtain its LP in order to de-risk the BOT project and avoid unnecessary delays. The right of way negotiations for the first sector of the pipeline (approximately one third of the entire route) should be concluded during the first half of 2014, when we expect the LP for the pipeline to be granted by IBAMA (Federal Environmental Agency).

During the last four days of January of 2014, Manabi held public hearings in four cities in the States of Minas Gerais and Espirito Santo that had been pre-determined by IBAMA (Ferros, Naque, Conselheiro Pena and Linhares), as stated in the section Recent Events. We expect to receive the LP for the Pipeline during the first half of 2014.

During the year of 2013, Manabi invested US\$4.7 million in the pipeline project, mostly on engineering, right of way negotiation and environmental licensing. We have been classifying these capital expenditures as construction in progress, under property, plant and equipment in the balance sheet, starting on April of 2013.

Manabi's investment in the pipeline should be counted towards its contribution to the special purpose company's equity to be incorporated in cooperation with the BOT contractor.

## **C. North Port**

There are two main milestones for the North Port project regarding its implementation process: (i) regulatory authorization by the Presidency's Port Secretariat (*Secretaria de Portos da Presidência da República* – SEP); and (ii) the environmental (LP) and construction (LI) licenses from the federal environmental agency (IBAMA)

On February 14, 2014 we received the authorization by SEP for the construction and operation of North Port.

The environmental process is ongoing and in the last week of January, 2014, we held the public hearings in four cities pre-determined by IBAMA (Ferros, Naque, Conselheiro Pena and Linhares), as stated in the section Recent Events. We expect to receive the LP for the North Port during the first half of 2014.

The Capex related to the North Port has reached US\$19 million by December 31, 2013, with US\$6 million during the year of 2013, mostly on engineering and environmental licensing process.

## **Dark Hill Project**

In February 2013, Manabi filed Dark Hill's economic mining plan with the National Department of Mineral Production (*Departamento Nacional de Produção Mineral*, or "DNPM"). Filing the economic mining plan is crucial for obtaining the mining concession for this asset. In parallel, in December 2012, Manabi filed its EIA-RIMA (the environmental impact report) before Minas Gerais environmental agency.

In order to proceed with an additional drilling campaign to obtain in-depth knowledge of the iron ore deposit, Manabi has to wait for DNPM to grant Dark Hill its mining concession. Until then the investments at Dark Hill should be minor and focused in the environmental licensing process.

The Capex deployed until December 31, 2013 is US\$5 million with US\$2 million during the year of 2013, mostly on engineering and environmental studies.

## SELECTED ANNUAL INFORMATION

The following financial information is derived from our financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, prepared under IFRS.

	Manabi S.A.		Consolidated	
(in thousands of reais, except if otherwise specified)	12/31/2013	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2012
Total Revenue	-	-	-	-
Operating losses before financial results	(60,923)	(53,517)	(60,913)	(53,507)
Operating losses before financial results per common share (basic and diluted) (in reais)	(58.58)	(63.65)	-	-
Operating losses before financial results per preferred share (basic and diluted) (in reais)	(58.58)	(63.65)	-	-
Financial income and expenses	47,103	18,894	47,093	18,884
Loss for the year	(13,820)	(34,623)	(13,820)	(34,623)
Loss per common share (basic and diluted)(in reais) *	(13.29)	(41.18)	-	-
Loss per preferred share (basic and diluted) (in reais) *	(13.29)	(41.18)	-	-

\* figures related to the parent company. Total common shares: 250,000 / Total preferred shares: 790,000

Loss for the year decreased to R\$13.8 million from R\$34.6 million in 2012. This decrease relates mostly to a higher financial income in 2013 arising from higher average balance of invested liquidity in 2013 originated in the funds of the second equity raise of October 2012, and increase in SELIC rate.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

(in thousands of Reais)	2013	2012
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	44	71,487
Marketable securities	546,901	617,663
Other current assets	9,424	3,717
<b>Non-current Assets</b>	804,039	676,070
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,360,408</b>	<b>1,368,937</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade accounts payable	6,120	9,861

Employee-related accruals	2,069	1,882
Other current liabilities	1,923	1,976
Equity		
Capital Stock	1,381,666	1,381,666
Capital Reserve	1	1
Share-based payment reserve	17,136	8,238
Accumulated losses	(48,507)	(34,687)
Total Liabilities and Equity	1,360,408	1,368,937

**Marketable securities** are comprised by Government bonds allocated to an exclusive investment fund with yields determined by the Selic rate (LFT) and by the variation of the IPCA + spread (NTN-B). As of the end of 2013, these bonds had generated an average return of 98.7% of the CDI accumulated rate.

Government bonds are highly liquid, have low credit risk (sovereign risk) and can be readily sold in order to meet cash needs of the Company and of its subsidiaries.

The funds invested in government bonds derive from the second private placement carried out by the Company in the second half of 2012.

**Non-current assets** are comprised by expenditures on Property, plant and equipments and Intangibles related to the projects Morro do Pilar, Port terminal and iron ore pipeline.

**Trade accounts payables** refer mainly to survey services, environmental studies and development of conceptual engineering, with an average settlement period of 30 days that are not subject to charges.

**Capital stock** is represented by 1,040,000 shares, of which 250,000 are registered common shares, 550,000 are preferred class "A" shares and 240,000 are preferred class "B" shares, of no par value.

## SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

The following table highlights our consolidated quarterly results for the last eight quarters.

	2013				2012			
	Mar 31	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31
<b>Revenue</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Loss for the period</b> (in thousands of reais)	(3,538)	(2,181)	(3,649)	(4,452)	(4,753)	(8,983)	(16,016)	(4,871)
<b>Loss per common share (basic and diluted)</b> (in reais)*	(3.40)	(2.10)	(3.51)	(4.28)	(5.94)	(11.23)	(20.02)	(5.07)

<b>Loss per preferred share (basic and diluted)(in reais)*</b>	(3.40)	(2.10)	(3.51)	(4.28)	(5.94)	(11.23)	(20.02)	(5.07)
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\* figures related to the parent company

## REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RESULTS

The following discussion of our results of operations should be read together with our consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. The main factor that affected our operating results during the year of 2013 was our pre-operational expenses. The table below sets forth our results of operations for the 12 month periods ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

	Manabi S.A.		Consolidated	
(in thousands of reais, except if otherwise specified)	2013	2012	2013	2012
Operating expenses				
Personnel	<b>(33,652)</b>	(28,159)	<b>(33,652)</b>	(28,159)
Services rendered	<b>(17,030)</b>	(17,695)	<b>(17,837)</b>	(18,026)
General and administrative expenses	<b>(8,074)</b>	(6,491)	<b>(8,261)</b>	(6,566)
Depreciation and amortization	<b>(753)</b>	(345)	<b>(762)</b>	(345)
Taxes	<b>(378)</b>	(389)	<b>(401)</b>	(411)
	<b>(59,887)</b>	(53,079)	<b>(60,913)</b>	(53,507)
Other operating expenses				
Equity results in subsidiaries	(1,036)	(438)	-	-
	(1,036)	(438)	-	-
Operating losses before financial results	(60,923)	(53,517)	<b>(60,913)</b>	(53,507)
Financial income and expenses				
Financial income	47,303	19,035	<b>47,303</b>	19,035
Financial expenses	(200)	(141)	<b>(210)</b>	(151)
	47,103	18,894	<b>47,093</b>	18,884
Loss before income tax and social contribution	<b>(13,820)</b>	<b>(34,623)</b>	<b>(13,820)</b>	(34,623)
Income tax and social contribution	-	-	-	-
Loss for the year	<b>(13,820)</b>	<b>(34,623)</b>	<b>(13,820)</b>	(34,623)
Loss per common share (basic and diluted)(in reais)	<b>(13.29)</b>	<b>(41.18)</b>	-	-
Loss per preferred share (basic and diluted) (in reais)	<b>(13.29)</b>	<b>(41.18)</b>	-	-

**Operating expenses.** We are currently in pre-operational phase of development and therefore have not generated operating revenue. We incurred operating expenses of R\$60.9 million during the year, an increase of R\$7.4 million, as compared to 2012. The main variation is related to personnel expenses in view of the increase of the headcount during 2013 from 69 to 110.

**Financial income and expenses.** Our net financial income for the year reached R\$47.1 million against R\$18.9 million from 2012. This variation is due mainly to the increase in marketable securities arising from the equity raise of R\$611.3 million which took place in October 2012 and increase in the SELIC rate.



**Loss before income tax and social contribution.** As a result of the foregoing, we recorded R\$13.8 million as loss before income tax and social contribution for the year against a loss of R\$34.6 million for 2012.

**Income tax and social contribution.** For the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company's accumulated tax loss carry forward and negative social contribution basis amounted to R\$65.1 million (R\$59.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2012). Management opted not to record deferred taxes assets in this stage of the project. Tax loss carry forwards generated in Brazil do not expire and are offset with future taxable profit, limited to 30% of the taxable profit in each year.

**Loss for the period.** As a result of the foregoing, our loss for the year ended December 31, 2013 was of R\$13.8 million, compared to a loss of R\$34.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

## Cash Flows

The table below presents our cash flows as of December 31, 2013 and 2012:

	Manabi S.A.		Consolidated	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
(in thousands of reais)				
Net cash used in operating activities	(56,626)	(33,725)	(57,579)	(34,182)
Net cash used in investing activities	(12,670)	(684,801)	(11,717)	(684,344)
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	(2,147)	597,107	(2,147)	597,107
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(71,443)	(121,419)	(71,443)	(121,419)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	71,487	192,906	71,487	192,906
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	44	71,487	44	71,487

**Net cash used in operating activities.** Higher cash used during the year compared to 2012 is primarily reflecting more expenses on personnel as mentioned above and less financial income on cash equivalents. Financial income on Marketable securities of R\$46 million is not considered in the statement of cash flows as this income does not involve cash equivalents.

**Net cash used in investing activities.** Variation of R\$672.6 million as of December 31, 2013 compared to the same date in 2012 is due to lower acquisition of Marketable securities of R\$610.1 million arising from the Private Placement of October 2012, redemption of Marketable securities of R\$118.1 million, and lower expenditures on property, plant and equipment of R\$4.2 million offset by higher additions to intangible assets of R\$59.8 million primarily related to Pillar Hill project.

**Net cash from (used in) financing activities.** Variation of R\$599.2 million as of December 31, 2013 in comparison to our Net cash from (used in) financing activities as of December 31, 2012 refers to the second equity raise (net of issuance costs) carried out by the Company in the second half of 2012.

**Decrease in cash and cash equivalents.** As a result of the foregoing, during the twelve months ended December 31, 2013, the decrease in our cash and cash equivalents reached R\$71.5 million, R\$50 million lower than during the year ended December 31, 2012.

## CAPITAL STRUCTURE

As of December 31, 2013, the subscribed and paid-in capital is represented by 1,040,000 shares, of which 250,000 are registered common shares, 550,000 are preferred class "A" shares and 240,000 are preferred class "B" shares, of no par value.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As of December 31, 2013, we have not incurred any material financial obligations and no long-term liabilities. All of our liabilities at that date are related to contractual obligations to our service providers totaling an aggregate of R\$6.1 million, primarily for technical services, such as drilling and engineering. We believe that we have sufficient financial resources to meet our financial obligations as we stand and plan our future raising of funds as disclosed below.

## SOURCES OF FUNDS

Through the date of this MD&A, Manabi's balance of cash and marketable securities from the second equity raise of its preferred shares class B, have funded its working capital needs as well as its initial long-term investments.

In order to implement our business plan, we will depend upon further equity and debt raise from our shareholders, third parties and banks. Pursuant to our business plan, we anticipate that we will incur capital expenditures totaling approximately US\$4 billion with respect to our projects. The estimated capital expenditures for our project do not include the capital expenditures necessary for the construction of a slurry pipeline, as we intend to build the pipeline pursuant to a BOT arrangement whereby those expenditures would be incurred by a third party. In order to strengthen the execution of its funding strategy, Management engaged in the 1H2013 Lakeshore Partners as financial advisors for the structuring and raising of local debt (BNDES and Brazilian banks) and in 2H2013 Mizuho Bank as international financial advisor focused on the financing from ECAs, Multilaterals and international banks. For the overall coordination of the funding strategy, CIBC was engaged in January 2014 to assist Management in overseeing both Debt and Equity raise efforts.

## INDEBTEDNESS AND CONTRACTUAL LIABILITIES

As of December 31, 2013, liabilities are primarily represented by balances with trade accounts payable.

The following table sets forth our contractual liabilities (deriving from accounts payable to suppliers, additions to non-current assets and administrative expenses) as of December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Type of liability	As of December 31, 2013				Total
	< 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years (in R\$ '000)	> 5 years	
Secured by real property.....	0	0	0	0	0
Floating .....	0	0	0	0	0
Unsecured .....	6,120	0	0	0	6,120
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>6,120</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,120</b>

  

Type of liability	As of December 31, 2012				Total
	< 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years (in R\$)	> 5 years	
Secured by real property.....	0	0	0	0	0
Floating .....	0	0	0	0	0
Unsecured .....	9,861	0	0	0	9,861
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,861</b>

In addition, as of December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, our liability ratio (defined as our current and non-current liabilities divided by our net equity) was 0.75% and 1.01%, respectively.

#### **OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

We had no off-balance sheet arrangements for the periods under review.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

We had no related party transactions for the periods under review, other than the (i) compensation of board members and officers; and (ii) the granting of stock options to officers and employees under our stock option plan.

#### **CHANGES TO CORPORATE MANAGEMENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

On August 29, 2013, our Board of Directors approved the creation of a Technical Committee so as to assist and provide recommendations to the Board in connection with technical matters relating to the Company's projects. The Committee was initially composed of Directors Andrey Zhmurovsky (Chairman), Michael Stephen Vitton and Charles Laganá Putz. After his election as Director of the Company on February 6, 2014 (as described below), Mr. Luciano Ramos also joined the Technical Committee.

On October 30, 2013, Mr. Ouk Choi was elected member of our Board of Directors, taking office on the same day.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> 2014, Mrs. Hanh Disch-Lê resigned from her position as a member of our Board of Directors and Mr. Luciano Tadeu Silva Ramos was appointed by our shareholders as Mrs. Disch-Lê's replacement. Also, Mr. Ramos has joined the Technical Committee of Manabi.

We had no changes to our Board of Executive Officers.

#### **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Certain judgments, estimates and assumptions are inherent in the measurement and recognition of certain assets and liabilities in our financial statements. These estimates take into account past and present experiences, assumptions concerning future events and other objective and subjective factors.

Significant items subject to estimation that we considered, or that will affect us once production has begun, include: (1) the determination of the useful lives of property, plant and equipment; (2) estimates of reserves used to calculate depreciation by the unit production method; (3) the recoverable amount of each cash-generating unit; (4) the impairment of property, plant and equipment; (5) deferred income tax and social contribution; and (6) provisions for contingencies, among others.

The settlement of transactions involving these estimates could result in values different from those presented in our financial statements given the inherent imprecision in determining the estimates. We revise our estimates and assumptions at least annually.

In addition, we have identified the following critical accounting policies: (1) consolidation of the financial statements; (2) financial instruments; (3) cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities; (4) investments in subsidiaries and (5) intangible assets.

#### **Consolidation of the financial statements**

The consolidated financial statements include the financial information of wholly-owned subsidiaries MOPI, Manabi Logística and Dutovias.

The process of consolidating the balance sheet and income statement accounts of the subsidiaries corresponds to the sum of the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses accounts, according to their nature, with the following eliminations: (a) elimination of asset and/or liability balances between the consolidated companies; (b) elimination of investments against the related equity of the subsidiary; and (c) elimination of revenues and expenses from transactions between the consolidated companies.

### **Financial Instruments**

Our financial assets are currently represented by cash balances, bank accounts balances and marketable securities, classified at fair value through profit or loss. A financial asset is classified at fair value through profit or loss when it is held for trading and is designated as such upon initial recognition. After initial recognition, transaction costs are recognized in profit or loss as incurred. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are presented in the balance sheet at fair value and the corresponding gain or losses recognized in the income statement.

Classification depends on the purpose for which the financial assets were acquired and is determined upon initial recognition. Financial assets are written off when the right to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred, and the Company has transferred substantially all ownership risks and rights related to those assets.

Currently, the Company's only relevant financial liability refers to trade and accounts payable. Financial liabilities are recognized initially on the negotiation date on which the Company becomes a party to the provisions of the contract. The Company writes off a financial liability when it is paid or when its contractual obligations are canceled. Financial liabilities are initially recognized at fair value, plus any applicable transaction costs. After initial recognition, such financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost, adjusted based on monetary variations and foreign exchange rates, including interest incurred up to the balance sheet date, based on contractual terms. Gains and losses are recognized in the income statement upon write off of the liabilities, as well as during the process of interest accrual and monetary indexation.

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents and Marketable Securities**

Cash and cash equivalents are held to meet short-term cash commitments and not for investment or other purposes. We consider investments that are immediately redeemable at a known amount and that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value to be cash and cash equivalents. Therefore, an investment usually qualifies as cash equivalents only when it has short-term maturity, e.g., three months or less, from the date of acquisition.

Marketable securities are short-term investments held for the purpose of being actively traded. Such investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss, and gains or losses from changes in fair value are recognized in the income statement (refer to comments on the Financial Statements).

### **Investments in Subsidiaries**

Investments in subsidiaries are recorded by the equity method in the parent company's financial statements and are eliminated for purposes of preparation of the financial statements. Based on the equity method, investments in subsidiaries are recorded at cost in the parent company's balance sheet, plus any changes after acquisition of the shareholding interest. A subsidiary is an entity in which the Company holds, directly or through other subsidiaries, interests that permanently entitle it to approve resolutions in the Company's shareholders' meetings and to elect the majority of management members.

### **Intangible Assets**

Intangible assets comprise mainly mining rights and expenses with exploration and assessment of mineral resources, and are recorded at the cost of acquisition. Amortization is calculated taking into account the estimated period in which the corresponding benefits of the intangible assets are earned

and will begin to be calculated when the related asset starts operating. Intangible assets are recognized only if it is probable that they will generate economic benefits for the Company and that their respective value can be measured reliably. Management's initial estimate is that mining reserves will be depleted in approximately 20 years from the beginning of the operations.

## **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS - HEDGING TRANSACTIONS**

We have not operated with derivatives since the inception of the Company. Nonetheless, we may enter into hedging transactions. Our instruments will be managed through operating strategies and internal controls, seeking liquidity and asset security in accordance with our treasury and hedging policy, which includes the management of risks for financial instruments. We will not enter into derivative transactions for speculative purposes. Rather, we will enter into these transactions to reduce the risks associated with currency or interest rate mismatches, or any other source of exposure we identify. Our Board of Directors approved a hedging policy intended to guide management's adequate use of financial hedging instruments to mitigate our risk exposure and any imminent expenses that our management seeks to hedge. Individual hedging strategies will be formulated utilizing the guidelines established and approved by our Board of Directors and monitored by our Audit and Finance Committee.

## **INTERNAL CONTROLS**

We believe that the accounting systems and internal controls that we have adopted are adequate for our current activities and the volume of our transactions, and that all of the transactions conducted in the periods covered by our financial statements were duly registered in our accounting books.

Our Audit and Finance Committee currently in operation advises and makes recommendations to our Board of Directors with relation to (1) analysis of our annual and quarterly reports and our financial statements, and (2) assessments of corporate and financial risks and related policies and our internal financial control systems. Our board of directors resolved that the independent auditors that we engaged should report directly to the Audit and Finance Committee and not to our Board of Executive Officers.

## **QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ON MARKET RISK**

With regard to operating results, we did not generate operating revenues through December 31, 2013. Our principal operating costs include personnel, services rendered, and management and administrative costs, and we anticipate that the impact of inflation could increase our operational expenditures once the lease for our headquarters in Rio de Janeiro is indexed to the IPCA and the leases for our subsidiary in Belo Horizonte are indexed to the IGP-M. The impact of changes in the price of our principal raw materials and products and in exchange and interest rates should not materially increase our operating costs based upon the obligations we have incurred through this date.

### **Brazilian and World Economic Environment**

The performance of the Brazilian economy and global economic conditions may significantly affect our operating results.

We anticipate that our costs, including labor, will be subject to inflation adjustments and that the inflation rates provided for in our agreements will be revised annually to reflect increases or decreases in certain Brazilian inflation indices.

The availability of financing in local credit markets could have a significant impact on our business, financial condition and results of operation given that we intend to secure part of our financing locally to implement our business plan. In the past few years, the Central Bank has developed policies designed to, among other effects, increase access to credit and control the increase in inflation, which has historically been volatile in Brazil.

Interest Rate in Brazil is reported by the Central Bank of Brazil's (*Banco Central do Brasil*) and decisions on it are taken by the Central Bank of Brazil's Monetary Policy Committee (COPOM). The official interest rate is the Special System of Clearance and Custody rate (SELIC) which is the overnight lending rate.

From 1999 until 2014, Brazil's SELIC averaged 16.0%. In 2012, the Central Bank continued its SELIC rate trimming cycle, reaching an all-time low rate of 7.25% in October. Inflation for that year, as measured by IPCA, was 5.84% and the Brazilian Real depreciated 9% against the US Dollar, ending the year quoted at R\$2.04 per US\$1.00.

In 2013, the Central Bank started a tightening cycle raising the SELIC rate up to 10.00%, and then in the first revision of the rate in 2014, raised it again to 10.50%. The Central Bank has reinforced the message that it might continue increasing the SELIC during 2014 to try to curb down the inflation. For the twelve months period ended December 31, 2013, IPCA inflation reached 5.79% and the Brazilian Real presented a depreciation of 14.7% against the US\$, mainly due to the world economic environment. At that date, it was quoted at R\$2.34 per US\$1.00.

The table below sets forth certain Brazilian economic indicators as of the end of the periods indicated:

Economic indicator	2013 <sup>(7)</sup>	2012 <sup>(6)</sup>	2011 <sup>(6)</sup>	2010 <sup>(6)</sup>
GDP growth <sup>(1)</sup> .....	(0.5)% <sup>(8)</sup>	0.9%	2.7%	7.5%
Inflation (IGP-M) <sup>(2)</sup> .....	5.5% <sup>(9)</sup>	7.8%	5.1%	11.3%
Inflation (IPCA) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	5.8% <sup>(9)</sup>	5.8%	6.5%	5.9%
Interbank rate – CDI (average) <sup>(3)</sup> .....	8.1% <sup>(9)</sup>	8.4%	11.6%	9.8%
Long-term interest rates (average) <sup>(4)</sup> .....	5.0%	5.8%	6.0%	6.0%
Exchange rate at the end of the period per US\$1.00 .....	R\$2.34	R\$2.04	R\$1.88	R\$1.67
Average exchange rate per US\$1.00 .....	R\$2.16	R\$1.95	R\$1.68	R\$1.76
Appreciation of the <i>real</i> against the U.S. dollar <sup>(5)</sup> .....	(14.7)%	(9.0)%	(12.6)%	4.3%

(1) *Source*: Brazilian Central Bank.

(2) IGP-M refers to the General Market Price Index measured by FGV, São Paulo.

(3) CDI refers to the average overnight interbank loan rates in Brazil.

(4) The Brazilian long-term interest rate (*taxa de juros de longo prazo*), or TJLP, is the rate applicable to long-term loans by BNDES. The rate is valid for a 3 month period. *Source*: Brazilian Central Bank.

(5) Comparing the PTAX exchange rate (the rate calculated by the Brazilian Central Bank) at the end of the period's last day with the period's first day. PTAX is the exchange rate calculated at the end of each day by the Central Bank of Brazil. It is the average rate of all business conducted in U.S. dollars on the determined date in the interbank exchange market.

(6) 12 month period of each year.

(7) 12 month period ended December 31 2013, unless otherwise stated.

(8) GDP for the third quarter of 2013.

(9) 12 month period ended December 31, 2013.

## KEY FACTORS AFFECTING OUR FUTURE RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Demand

The demand for iron ore fluctuates according to global demand for steel, which in turn is strongly influenced by global economic activity. A decrease in global economic activity may reduce demand for our pellet feed.

Industrialization in Asia, as well as in other regions of the world such as India and the Middle East, has driven a strong increase in global demand for commodities, particularly iron ore. In 2012, China imported approximately 740 Mt of iron ore, representing approximately 65% of total transoceanic market in iron ore. CRU Group estimates that China will increase its imports given its growing

industrialization, a reduction in Chinese reserves and the low quality of Chinese iron ore. According to the CRU Group, and in light of the above, there will be a substantial increase in transoceanic global demand for iron ore, which could reach up to 1.7 billion tonnes in 2020. To the extent that demand for iron ore does not increase to the levels predicted, or to the extent demand decreases, our operating results may be adversely affected.

### **Production Capacity**

According to our studies, our Pilar Hill project will produce approximately 25 Mt of premium pellet feed per year for at least 20 years. Any change in production capacity may influence our revenues and there can be no guarantee that we will achieve our anticipated production.

### **Prices**

We expect that we will export most of our pellet feed pursuant to long-term contracts and that these contracts will provide for annual price adjustments. Cyclical changes in global demand for steel products affect sales volumes of iron ore globally. Different factors, including the iron present in specific mineral deposits, the various processing and concentration processes required for the production of the desired final product, the size of the particles, the moisture content and the type and concentration of contaminating agents in the ore affect the price of the iron ore. We expect to negotiate prices annually using as our reference the results of the negotiations of important producers in the iron ore industry.

### **Currency volatility**

We estimate that a significant part of our revenues will be denominated in U.S. dollars, while most of our costs will be denominated in Brazilian *reais*. As a result, a relatively strong *real* against the U.S. dollar will negatively affect our reported operating results and vice versa. On the other hand, we expect that a substantial part of our debt will be denominated in U.S. dollars. Consequently, a decrease in the value of the *real* against the U.S. dollar will likely result in foreign exchange rate losses.

### **Inflation rates in Brazil**

Based on the IPCA index, the inflation rate in Brazil was 6.5% in 2011, 5.8% in 2012 and 5.8% for the 12 month period ended December 31, 2013. Most of our costs will be incurred in Brazil in *reais*, while most of our revenues will be obtained outside of Brazil in U.S. dollars. An increase in inflation will have a negative impact on operating margins, in spite of the fact that inflation may be compensated for by any devaluation of the *real* against the dollar.

### **Brazilian Taxes**

Once we begin production, we will be subject to various Brazilian taxes. A description of the two main taxes is set forth below:

- State value-added tax and Tax on revenues. Our gross revenues will comprise the total revenue from pellet feed sales, less discounts, returns and allowances, in addition to State value-added tax amounts payable. Our net operating revenues will comprise revenues less State value-added tax payable to Brazilian states. We will also pay other taxes on our revenues related to mandatory contribution to social programs (the program for social integration contribution – PIS - and a contribution for the financing of social security - COFINS). Currently, exports are not subject to State value-added tax and social programs above, and we intend to export most of our pellet feed.
- Income tax and Social Contribution. We will pay income tax and social contribution on taxable profit. The current rate for social contribution on net income is 9%, while the current rate for income tax is approximately 25%, totaling 34%.

Changes in Brazilian tax legislation and regulation, which may be frequent, may have a material impact on our results of operations.

As of right now, there is a proposed legislation ("New Mining Code") still subject to discussion and approval in Congress and afterwards to final sanction by the President of Brazil. Amongst other proposals, this New Mining Code may change the existing mining royalties (financial compensation for the exploration of mineral resources) to a maximum rate of 4% on the gross sales of the mining product. As of right now, the mining royalties are 2% on the net income, i.e., deducted by transactional taxes levied upon mineral sales (State value-added state tax and social programs) as well as freight and insurance expenses. Our current expectation is that the bill should pass by the end of 2014, in which case we will update our feasibility study accordingly.