

We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the issues raised and to engage constructively with questions related to transparency, environmental and social governance, and community engagement. We recognize the importance of these topics in the context of international expectations on responsible mining and business and human rights. Our responses are as follows:

### **1. Public availability of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) summary**

Manono Lithium SAS has completed the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory framework of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The full ESIA documentation was submitted to the competent environmental authorities as part of the permitting process and received the required administrative review and approvals.

With respect to information disclosure, DRC law places primary emphasis on information sharing and consultation with directly affected communities and relevant public authorities. In line with these requirements, the Company shared the key findings, potential impacts, and mitigation measures of the ESIA with relevant authorities and community representatives through appropriate engagement processes.

At the same time, Manono recognizes that accessibility of information for broader stakeholders is an important element of international good practice, particularly under frameworks such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Manono therefore continues to review appropriate mechanisms to enhance the availability and clarity of non-technical environmental and social information, while ensuring accuracy, contextualization, and compliance with national requirements.

### **2. Disclosure of the Manono Lithium SAS joint venture agreement**

The joint venture agreement establishing Manono Lithium SAS is a commercial contract between the shareholders and has been duly registered with the competent authorities, including the mining cadastre, as required under DRC law.

Such agreements typically contain commercially sensitive information relating to financing arrangements, governance mechanisms, technical contributions, and intellectual property, which are protected under standard international business practices.

Nevertheless, Manono Lithium SAS recognizes that transparency in governance is not limited to the publication of contracts, but also encompasses clarity on ownership structure, decision-making processes, and accountability mechanisms. Manono remains committed to operating transparently through compliance with regulatory reporting, tax

obligations, environmental and social commitments, and ongoing engagement with public authorities and stakeholders.

### **3. Community engagement and consultation approach**

Community engagement activities for the Manono project have been undertaken through a phased and evolving process, consistent with the progression of project definition and environmental and social assessment

Early engagement activities focused on initial information-sharing and baseline understanding, while more structured and comprehensive consultations were carried out as the scope of the project became clearer and engagement needs were further identified.

This approach reflects our understanding of stakeholder engagement as a continuous process, designed to adapt as project parameters, potential impacts, and mitigation measures are further developed.

Manono is committed to responsible project development, regulatory compliance, and meaningful engagement with host communities and stakeholders. We recognize that expectations regarding transparency and disclosure continue to evolve, and we view constructive dialogue with civil society and oversight organizations as an important part of strengthening our environmental and social governance practices.

We remain open to continued engagement and to identifying practical ways to enhance clarity, trust, and accountability as our advances.

Kind regards,

Zijin Mining Group Co., Ltd.