DevEx identifies outstanding new diamond exploration opportunities in Australia’s Kimberley Region

Application of new geological concepts results in identification of two highly prospective opportunities for new discoveries in Australia’s diamond exploration “hot-spot”

Key Points:

- Two highly prospective diamond exploration project areas identified in WA’s Kimberley Region.
- The Oscar Application Area is located immediately south-east of the Ellendale diamond mines and contains four known lamproite occurrences. It also lies south of Lucapa Diamond Company’s (ASX: LOM) Little Spring Creek prospect, where diamonds were discovered in lamproite during recent drilling.
- There is potential at Oscar for a lamproite system, similar to that at Ellendale.
- The Mount Hann Application Area, equidistant from Ellendale and the world-class Argyle diamond mine, covers one the most significant unresolved micro-diamond anomalies in Australia. It has produced numerous micro-diamonds from historical stream sediment and loam sampling by previous explorers, the sources of which are still undiscovered.
- DevEx’s interpretation shows that these micro-diamonds are located over a lithospheric setting that is similar to that at Ellendale and Argyle, and therefore they may be attributable to a local bedrock source. Numerous targets were identified in previous exploration at the Mount Hann Application Area – but only four were drill tested.
- DevEx intends to commence ground-based exploration activities as soon as the applications are granted.

DevEx Resources (ASX: DEV) is pleased to announce that it has secured two exciting new diamond exploration projects in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia, Australia’s premier diamond province, after completing a favourable review of the exploration potential of the region utilising new geological concepts and an innovative approach to the vast amount of historical exploration data available.

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1 Lithosphere is the earth’s crust and upper part of the mantle
As a result of this review, the Company has lodged eight exploration licence applications (totalling 2,700sqkm) covering two prospective areas, Oscar and Mount Hann (see Figure 1 below). The project areas include standout exploration targets in a region which is currently attracting significant investment in a new wave of modern diamond exploration.

The Kimberley has seen a resurgence in interest following the recent discovery of micro- and macro-diamonds in lamproite from drilling at the Little Spring Creek prospect by Lucapa Diamond Company (ASX: LOM), and the recovery of micro-diamonds from outcrop by Lithoquest Diamond Inc. (TSX.V: LDI) at its North Kimberley Diamond Project.

DevEx intends to fast-track exploration activities at the newly-secured projects as soon as the Exploration Licence Applications are granted, with the new diamond portfolio providing the Company with a significant new exploration opportunity alongside its existing copper-gold, lithium and uranium projects in NSW, WA and the NT.

**An Innovative Approach**

The diamond endowment of the Kimberley, which includes the Ellendale and the world-class Argyle diamond mines, is globally recognised, and the district has the capacity to deliver additional discoveries, as demonstrated by the recent exploration successes.

Much of the diamond exploration activity completed in the Kimberley is dated, and newly compiled public datasets are available from which opportunities can be identified and assessed. DevEx has applied an innovative exploration approach to recently compiled datasets to re-rate areas of known diamond anomalis.

The Kimberley diamond deposits (the world-class Argyle mine in the east Kimberley and the Ellendale deposits in the west Kimberley) are hosted by olivine lamproites.

Lamproites, like kimberlites, are high-potassium volcanic or sub-volcanic rocks that form from partially melted mantle at depths exceeding 150km below the surface. Lamproites and kimberlites can contain diamonds if they pass through diamondiferous lithologies, in the mantle regions where diamonds are stable, while ascending to the surface.

The productive lamproites in the Kimberley are markedly different in age. Argyle is 1178 million years old and Ellendale only 21 million years old. Diamondiferous kimberlites (similar to lamproites) in the northern and central Kimberley are approximately 800 million years old.

Similar events of emplacement of diamond host-rocks in the Kimberley, over a 1 billion year period, demonstrate the special character of the underlying lithospheric architecture, and underpin the diamond prospectivity of the region.

The Exploration Licence Application areas at Oscar and Mount Hann were identified by DevEx as being prospective for economic diamond mineralisation following a study of the lithospheric architecture of the Australian continent, using publicly available data sets such as the Australian Seismological Reference Model: Lithosphere-Asthenosphere Boundary (‘AuSREM’) (see Appendix 1 for reference), and the Geological Survey of Western Australia ‘Diamond exploration and prospectivity of Western Australia’ database released in 2018 (the ‘GSWA Diamond Database’) which incorporates results for over 88,000 diamond exploration samples that are available in the public domain.
Figure 1 – Kimberley Region showing contours of depth to the lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary, anomalous diamond sampling, significant diamond occurrences and DevEx’s new applications. The background is the Frogtech (2014) Phanerozoic OZ SEEBASE model showing the depth to crystalline basement, which illustrates presence of major structures.
DevEx's assessment has generated new diamond exploration concepts which have direct application to ground selection, namely:

1. **Lithosphere thickness.** DevEx's application of AuSREM showed that the lithosphere (the earth's crust and part of the upper mantle) thickness – a critical parameter for the presence of diamond-bearing intrusive rocks – is similar below the major diamond occurrences in Western Australia (Figure 1), and that a zone of equivalent thickness, and potentially equivalent diamond prospectivity, can be extrapolated away from these occurrences. This places diamond occurrences from the GSWA Diamond Database, which occur within this zone, into a potentially productive context as they sit over interpreted favourable lithosphere.

2. **Lamproite systems.** The diamonds of the Ellendale and Argyle mines are hosted by olivine lamproites (lamproites are named according to their dominant mineralogy). Importantly, DevEx has interpreted that at Ellendale, the individual lamproites are part of a mineralogically-zoned 'lamproite system' (Figure 2), where the different mineralogy of adjacent lamproites provides vectors towards favourable olivine lamproites. Along the Ellendale trend, on DevEx's tenement applications at Oscar, isolated lamproite occurrences potentially indicate the presence of a second under-explored lamproite system.

3. **Outcropping alteration.** Within the Ellendale district, otherwise friable sandstones ('Grant Group') were altered and hardened by intruding lamproites contrasting with many of the lamproite intrusions, which, because of their mantle lithologies, are prone to rapid weathering and do not crop out (Figure 2). To the south-east and along trend from Ellendale, isolated resistive Grant Group outcrops are viewed as potential indicators of alteration adjacent to covered lamproite.

These three new exploration concepts are key to the diamond opportunities identified by DevEx in the Kimberley, and the tenement applications provide an opportunity to capitalise on them.

**OSCAR APPLICATION AREA**

Four Exploration Licence applications (totalling 1,600sqkm) are in the Oscar area immediately south-east of Ellendale, and south of the Little Spring Creek prospect, where Lucapa Diamond Company Limited has recently announced its positive results from exploration activities (see ASX: LOM release dated 23 May 2018).

Within DevEx's Oscar applications, four known lamproites occurrences – one of which is an olivine lamproite – have been identified in drilling by previous explorers. These lamproite occurrences are interpreted to be part of a 'lamproite system', similar to that at Ellendale, rather than a number of isolated occurrences. All four occurrences are located along the south-east structural trend, apparent in the Frogtech (2014) Phanerozoic OZ SEEBASE model that shows the relative level of the base of Phanerozoic rocks (presented as the background image in Figure 2). A 'lamproite system' approach to exploration within this area may lead to discovery of diamond bearing lamproites.

DevEx will initially focus exploration on mapping and sampling around outcrops of Grant Group rocks within the potential 'lamproite systems'.

**MOUNT HANN APPLICATION AREA**

Four Exploration Licence applications are in the Mount Hann area (totalling 1,100sqkm), approximately equidistant from Argyle and Ellendale. The Mount Hann area has produced numerous micro-diamonds from stream sediment and loam sampling by previous explorers such as CRA Exploration Pty Limited and Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Limited (see Figure 3).

It is one of the most significant unresolved micro-diamond anomalies in Australia.
The interpreted lithosphere thickness below these micro diamond occurrences (~217km) is similar to that at Argyle (~217km) and Ellendale (~212km), indicating the potential for similar mantle conditions and processes.

Figure 2 – DevEx’s new Exploration Licence applications at Oscar. Lamproite occurrences from drilling are shown as magenta dots, and interpreted favourable lamproite mineralogical domains in green. A well-defined lamproite system is apparent at Ellendale, and there is potential for a similar system on DevEx’s applications. Outcropping Grant Group sandstone, which has potential to represent sandstone baked by lamproite intrusions, is shown in yellow. The background is the Frogtech (2014) Phanerozoic OZ SEEBASE model showing the depth to crystalline basement, which illustrates presence of major structures.
Figure 3 – DevEx’s new Exploration Licence applications at Mount Hann. Diamond occurrences in sampling by previous explorers is shown. The image background is potassium radiometrics.
This markedly increases the potential for the emplacement of diamondiferous rocks in the Mount Hann area.

Only four out of 64 targets generated by Rio Tinto’s HEM surveys have been drill tested and the bedrock source of the diamond occurrences remains undiscovered. Re-processing of HEM geophysical data, and field sampling, is planned prior to defining drill targets.

**NEXT STEPS**

DevEx has used a modern approach to re-rate areas of known micro-diamond anomalism in recently compiled databases, and will revisit these areas with the knowledge that these anomalies potentially overlie lithosphere with characteristics similar to that beneath the known economic diamond deposits of the Kimberley. Success could produce a major diamond discovery.

Field work will commence as soon as the applications are granted and associated land access agreements are secured, and will focus on early identification of diamond-bearing targets.

**Key Planned Activities**

- **At Oscar**, activities will focus on geological mapping and loam sampling to identify altered lithologies which are known to occur next to diamondiferous intrusions. Ground-based geophysics will then be used to define drill targets.

- **Mount Hann** now stands out as unique unresolved micro-diamond occurrence. DevEx’s initial priority will be to focus on the remaining untested geophysical anomalies. Reprocessing of the previous explorer’s helicopter-based electromagnetic (HEM) data, and field sampling, is planned prior to defining drill targets. Micro-diamond occurrences in stream sediments that lie close to isolated radiometric anomalies will also be assessed.

Lithospheric architecture is critical in the formation of economic diamond deposits. Robust data sets allow characterisation of the lithosphere thickness beneath known diamond deposits in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia, and extrapolation of zones of high prospectivity at Mount Hann.

A lamproite system has been identified at Ellendale, and this ‘system concept’ can be extrapolated to other lamproite occurrences along the Ellendale trend, bring a new approach to exploration at Oscar, where there is potential for alteration mapping to assist in early targeting.

Brendan Bradley  
Managing Director
COMPETENT PERSON STATEMENT

The information in this report that relates to Exploration results is based on information compiled by Paul Cranney, consultant to DevEx Resources Limited, who is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Cranney has sufficient experience that is relevant to the styles of mineralisation, the types of deposits under consideration and to the activities undertaken to qualify as a Competent person as defined in the 2012 edition of the “Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves”. Mr Cranney holds shares and performance rights in DevEx Resources Limited. Mr Cranney consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT

This announcement contains forward-looking statements which involve a number of risks and uncertainties. These forward looking statements are expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis. These statements reflect current expectations, intentions or strategies regarding the future and assumptions based on currently available information. Should one or more of the risks or uncertainties materialise, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary from the expectations, intentions and strategies described in this announcement. No obligation is assumed to update forward looking statements if these beliefs, opinions and estimates should change or to reflect other future developments.
## Appendix 1. Diamond Exploration Opportunities - JORC 2012 Table 1

### Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>JORC Code explanation</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
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| **Sampling techniques**            | - Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling.  
- Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.  
- Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.  
- In cases where ‘industry standard’ work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg ‘reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulv erised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay’). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information. | Stream sediment and loam samples discussed in this report are sourced from the publicly available Geological Survey of Western Australia - Diamond exploration and prospectivity of Western Australia database (the ‘GSWA Diamond Database’) released in 2018 or from open file reports available on the Geological Survey of Western Australia WAMEX open file database (see Rio Tinto Exploration Pty. Limited 2000 to 2003 reports with WAMEX references a006985, a006893, a0067024, a065166, a63307 and a60869).  
The nature and quality of sampling, or representivity is not detailed in the Diamond exploration and prospectivity of Western Australia database or in the open file reports. However, as the focus for DevEx’s data compilation work is on presence or absence of diamonds in the samples. |
| **Drilling techniques**            | - Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc). | Drilling shown on the attached plans is a mixture of RAB, auger, aircore, RC and diamond. It is detailed in the above reports, and in CRA Exploration Pty. Limited 1986 report (WAMEX references a17929)  
There is significant shallow exploration drilling apparent in the Geological Survey of Western Australia - Diamond exploration and prospectivity of Western Australia database, and in the WAMEX open file reports, on the Oscar applications that has not been shown on the summary plans presented. This drilling tests specific prospects and targets, generally derived from magnetic surveys. The prospectivity identified by DevEx and referred to in the release is that prospectivity identified after taking into account the results of this drilling. |
| **Drill sample recovery**          | - Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.  
- Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.  
- Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material. | Recovery is not detailed in the reports referenced above |
| **Logging**                        | - Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.  
- Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography.  
- The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged. | The drill logs are included in a067024 and a17929 referenced above. The logging appears adequate given the early exploration nature of the drilling. |
| **Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation** | - If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.  
- If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry.  
- For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.  
- Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.  
- Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling. | The sub-sampling techniques are not detailed in the reports referenced above |
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<th>Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of assay data and laboratory tests</td>
<td>- Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.</td>
<td>The CRA report does not provide detail of the quality of the assay data. The Rio Tinto drill samples were subjected to the following: Approx. rock/drill core sample weight &lt;3kg. Dry, crush, split and pulverise. Samples require chrome free preparation/analytical. Assay Methods: HF/Multi Acid Technique: ICP-OES Lithium Metaborate Technique: ICP-OES and XRF1L Digest: Technique: ICP-MS depending on the element. Assay and laboratory analysis provided in digital format in the report, and analysis and lab procedures used are considered of a high quality. No quality control procedures (such as standards, duplicates, and external checks) are discussed in the report. It is not known whether acceptable levels of precision and accuracy have been established as this report relies on historical reporting provided by the companies involved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verification of sampling and assaying</td>
<td>- The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</td>
<td>There is no verification work reported.</td>
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<td>Location of data points</td>
<td>- For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.</td>
<td>The CRA drilling is located from abbreviated coordinates provided on the drill logs, and has approximate accuracy of +200m. These locations have been converted to Map Grid of Australia (MGA) GDA94 Zone 52 by DevEx. The Rio Tinto drill locations are provided in digital form in Map Grid of Australia (MGA) GDA94 Zone 52 with the report listed above, and although not stated will have an accuracy of less than 10m. The accuracy for soil and loam sample is not stated but is likely to be of the order of +200m, which is sufficient for purpose.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data spacing and distribution</td>
<td>- The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</td>
<td>The data spacings are suitable for the purpose that the data is used for in this summary view of exploration prospectivity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation of data in relation to geological structure</td>
<td>- The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</td>
<td>Orientation of data relative to structure is not a relevant issue for exploration data applied to diamond exploration at the scale presented.</td>
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<td>Sample security</td>
<td>- The use of twinned holes.</td>
<td>This report does not discuss new data collected by the company. Historical reports do not discuss sample security.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audits or reviews</td>
<td>- Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</td>
<td>No audits or reviews of this drilling are documented.</td>
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### Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

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<th>Criteria</th>
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| **Mineral tenement and land tenure status**  | - Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.  
- The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area. | DevEx has applied for 7 Exploration Licences covering the prospective areas as shown on the attached plans. One of the applications in the Oscar area significantly overlaps the Devonian Reefs Conservation Park that is show on the Figures. DevEx expects significant access restrictions that are likely to preclude exploration in the Park, and is expecting to restrict exploration activities to areas outside the Park on this application (subject to access negotiations).  
There are registered Aboriginal Sites within the applications and normal access restrictions will apply to these areas. These sites will not effect the planned work. Other Heritage sites may exist and the Company will complete required Aboriginal Heritage surveys. This may restrict access in some areas.  
The application areas cover pastoral leases.  
The Exploration Licence Applications have to progress through the Department of Mines and Petroleum approval process before grant, and there is no certainty that they will be granted without restrictions, or at all. |
Criteria | JORC Code explanation | Commentary
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relative thicknesses of the lithosphere for AuSREM should be quite good, but the absolute depth is rather dependent on the choices made in manipulating wavespeed gradients, and could easily shift up by 10 km or so.

The GSWA Database is a compilation of much of the diamond exploration data from previous explorers throughout the state. The release of this data by the GSWA, in a consistent and useable format, greatly enhances the work of previous explorers and enables productive ground selection.

Pipe3 at Spielers Bore has been described in detailed petrology as an olivine lamproite (1980 Seltrust petrology in GSWA Wamex report a9815 describes it as an altered olivine lamproite). In DevEx’s interpretation of mineralogical domains, this occurrence is presented as part of an olivine lamproite domain, rather than an isolated occurrence.

Previous workers have noted that, within the Ellendale Diamond Field, the generally soft and friable sandstones of the older Grant Group were hardened, through contact metamorphism, by intrusions of the Ellendale lamproites. This resulted in partially outcropping rings of baked Grant Formation sandstone surrounding some of unexposed lamproite vents (GSWA Lennard River Sheet Notes – Griffin T. J, Tyler I. M. and Playford P. E, 1993).

The diamondiferous olivine lamproite of Ellendale 4 is surrounded by an almost complete ring of Grant Group sandstone, while the olivine lamproites of Ellendale 7, 9, 11 and 16, and the leucite lamproite of Ellendale 6, are associated with partly exposed rings of indurated Grant Group sandstone.

Most lamproites in the Ellendale Field were emplaced in the Grant Group and it was the youngest strata intruded by the lamproites, implying that the upper contact of Grant Group was a peneplain unconformity surface at 20 Ma. The unconsolidated sandstones were an efficient aquifer that facilitated phreatic eruptions to form the lamproitic volcanic tuffs that host the economic diamond deposits. The rapid cooling of the lamproite material through phreatic eruptions allows for the preservation of diamonds, rather than their destruction through resorption in more slowly cooled intrusives.

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<th>Drill hole Information</th>
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<td>• A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: o easting and northing of the drill hole collar o elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar o dip and azimuth of the hole o down hole length and interception depth o hole length. • If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case.</td>
<td>There is no new drill hole information in this release. Historic drilling has been addressed above.</td>
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Data aggregation methods

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<td>• In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g. cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated. • Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high</td>
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| Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths | • These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results.  
• If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.  
• If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg ‘down hole length, true width not known’). | No significant discovery reported. |
| Diagrams | • Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported. These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views. | |
| Balanced reporting | • Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results. | No new results reported. |
| Other substantive exploration data | • Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances. | Geophysics has been completed by previous explorers and this data, along with all exploration drilling and other historic data, including bulk sampling, will be reviewed as part of the project exploration work once the licences are granted. At Mt Hann Rio Tinto, the last company active in the area in 2002, ranked 64 anomalies produced from helicopter based electromagnetic (HEM) surveys, completed ground gravity traverses over 32 of these anomalies and drill tested 4 targets. Re-assessment of available geophysics, and methodologies used to rank the targets and on the ground observations will take place once the licences are granted. |
| Further work | • The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).  
• Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive. | Subject to grant of the licences, required Aboriginal Access Agreements and access agreements with other stakeholders being entered into, the Company plans to complete a detailed review the previous geophysics and the ranking tools and methodology used, complete additional geophysics, acquire and interpret remote sensing data sets and complete field work including mapping of the targeted geology before committing to drilling prioritised targets. |