

# 1.044 Billion Tonne Maiden Nickel-Cobalt Mineral Resource Estimate Defined Across Boomerang

### Key Highlights

- Independent Maiden Mineral Resource in accordance with JORC 2012 Edition guidelines defined across Boomerang Nickel Sulphide System at a 0.265% Ni Eq<sup>1</sup> Cut Off Grade
  - $_{\odot}$  Indicated Mineral Resource of 155 Mt at 0.28% Ni, 0.011% Co (0.31% Ni Eq^1)
  - Inferred Mineral Resource of 889 Mt at 0.27% Ni, 0.011% Co (0.30% Ni Eq<sup>1</sup>)
  - Total Global Resource of 1,044 Mt at 0.27% Ni, 0.011% Co (0.30% Ni Eq<sup>1</sup>)
- Total of 2.82Mt contained nickel and 115Kt contained cobalt within Global Resource
- Resource based on 28,001m of drilling and comes to within 10-25m of surface
- Modelled to maximum depth of 847m, width ranges between 100-650m, and strike length of 4,443m
- Initial metallurgical testing by XPS, a division of Glencore, has already confirmed ability to recover nickel and cobalt sulphide at a saleable product specification - 71.8% Ni recovered to rougher flotation concentrate



Figure 1: Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System highlighting the Resource on the modelled dunite host unit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NiEq Nickel Equivalent - the recovered value of additional metals on a nickel content basis added to the nickel content NiEq% = Ni (%) + 2.51 x Co (%)



Aston Minerals Limited (**ASX: ASO**, '**Aston Minerals**' or 'the **Company**') is pleased to announce the delineation of a maiden nickel-cobalt sulphide Mineral Resource Estimate across the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide system, Edleston Project, Ontario, Canada.

Managing Director, Dale Ginn, commented: "To go from initial concept through to maiden Mineral Resource in less than 18 months is a tremendous achievement by the team. The Boomerang Resource is now confirmed as one of the world's biggest nickel-cobalt deposits.

"Boomerang still has incredible growth potential at depth and our geophysical surveys have identified numerous other lookalike targets on our tenements which are yet to be tested by drilling.

"The broad nature of mineralisation at Boomerang, its amenability to conventional beneficiation, access to environmentally responsible hydroelectric power, availability of local skilled labour and a well-established mining legislature ideally positions this project to be a globally significant nickel and cobalt mine set to meet a significant portion of the soaring demand from the EV battery industry over the coming decades."

Executive Chairman, Tolga Kumova, commented: "Finding and defining such a gigantic nickel-cobalt sulphide resource within eighteen months is an incredible achievement by all involved. This deposit ranks as one of the largest undeveloped nickel-cobalt sulphide resources globally. These types of assets are very rarely held by junior explorers.

"We have the strategic advantage relative to other bulk disseminated nickel sulphide assets due to the proximity to both nickel smelters and end-user markets. Policy both within Canada and the USA is strongly supportive of providing a sovereign supply of ethically produced nickel and cobalt. Recently, the Inflation Reduction Act of the United States stipulated a commitment to increasing ownership of critical minerals which includes nickel and cobalt. US\$500 billion of funding has been allocated.

"The lack of exploration success in recent history with respect to the delineation of substantial nickel sulphide resources is a risk to the rapidly developing EV market of a supply shortfall for the raw materials required to match the projected demand. Global supply chain concerns and constraints have further exacerbated these issues.

"We believe, however, that what Aston has discovered and delineated here at the Boomerang Resource now positions the Company uniquely to being able to provide a large part of the solution. Future exploration programs will aim to increase the higher grade portions of the Resource from target areas and to convert inferred resources to indicated resources. In addition, metallurgical testing to optimise the already impressive recoveries and concentrate specifications is ongoing."



## Introduction

The Edleston Project is located approximately 60 km via road to the south of Timmins, Ontario, Canada. The cities of Timmins and Kirkland Lake are located close by and host significant former and current producers, with required services and skilled labour available to support exploration and development of the Project. The region is globally recognised in terms of large-scale open pit and underground operations.



Figure 2: Edleston Project Location Plan

## **Exploration Completed by Aston**

Nickel-cobalt sulphide mineralisation was discovered by Aston in September 2021 at Bardwell Prospect and ongoing diamond drilling of the entire Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System was conducted through to October 2022. A total of 62 diamond drill holes for 28,001 m of drilling has been completed to date.

### **Mineral Resource Statement**

The Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide February 2023 Mineral Resource has been estimated at 1,044 million tonnes of nickel and cobalt grading 0.27% Ni and 0.011% Co at a cut-off grade of 0.265% Ni Eq<sup>1</sup>. This Mineral Resource Estimate is the maiden resource for the Bardwell Prospect. The Mineral Resource has been reported in accordance with the 2012 Edition of the JORC Code and is effective as at 14 February 2023. Aston engaged Caracle Creek International Consulting Inc. (**Caracle**) and its sub-consultant, Atticus Geoscience S.A.C. (**Atticus**), to prepare a Mineral Resource Estimate (**MRE**) for the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System. Full details of the Resource are set out shown in the table below.



#### **Table 1: Mineral Resource Details**

Cut-off 0.12 Ni Eq %							
CAT	Tonnes (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	275	0.24	106	0.27			
INF	1,468	0.24	107	0.26			
TOTAL	1,742	0.24	107.00	0.26			
	Cut-off	0.265 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	155	0.28	109	0.31			
INF	889	0.27	108	0.30			
TOTAL	1,044	0.27	109	0.30			
	Cut-of	f 0.29 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	63	0.32	115	0.35			
INF	530	0.28	110	0.31			
TOTAL	594	0.28	111	0.31			
	Cut-off	0.295 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	50	0.34	118	0.37			
INF	420	0.28	110	0.31			
TOTAL	471	0.29	111	0.32			
	Cut-of	f 0.31 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	31	0.38	124	0.41			
INF	128	0.30	114	0.33			
TOTAL	159	0.31	116	0.34			
	Cut-off	0.314 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	29	0.38	125	0.41			
INF	73	0.31	116	0.34			
TOTAL	103	0.33	119	0.361			
	Cut-off	0.325 Ni Eq %					
CAT	TONNES (mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Ni Eq(%)			
IND	27	0.39	127	0.42			
INF	27	0.35	126	0.38			
TOTAL	54	0.37	126	0.40			

Note: Some numerical differences may occur due to rounding.



Caracle and Atticus consider that the data collection techniques are consistent with good industry practice and are suitable for use in the preparation of a MRE to be reported in accordance with the JORC Code. Available quality assurance and quality control (**QAQC**) data supports the use of the input data provided by Aston.

The MRE is considered by Caracle and Atticus to have a reasonable prospect for eventual economic extraction (**RPEEE**) on the following basis:

- Location of the project in a favourable mining jurisdiction with an extensive history of largescale open pit and underground mining operations;
- Proximity to infrastructure including low cost, environmentally responsible hydroelectric power;
- No known impediments to land access or tenure; and
- The width, geometry, and grade of the MRE is amenable to mining extraction via traditional open pit mining methods.

Open pit optimisation is currently underway and further updates will be provided once completed.



Figure 3: Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide Grade Tonnage Curve



## **Resource Expansion Potential**



Figure 4: Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide Resource, Geology and TMI Magnetics

Exploration to date by Aston, targeting the nickel sulphide potential of the Project, has only been undertaken across the Boomerang Nickel-Sulphide System. Multiple look-alike magnetic features have been identified based on airborne magnetics and represent priority targets warranting further investigation.

## **Technical Overview**

The following is a material information summary relating to the MRE, consistent with ASX Listing Rule 5.8.1 requirements. Further details are provided in the JORC Tables included as appendices.

#### **Geology and Geological Interpretation**

Edleston is located within the Abitibi Greenstone Belt of Archean metavolcanic and metasedimentary assemblages which have been steeply folded with the axes trending in a general east-west direction. These have been intruded mainly by large granitic bodies and by masses of mafic and ultramafic rocks and well as several ages of younger dolerite dykes. The Abitibi Greenstone Belt extends from north-eastern Ontario and northern Quebec for over 800 kilometres.

Regionally the Project is located within the western extension of the Cadillac-Larder Fault Zone along which a number of major gold deposits and mines are located. The occurrence of a Timiskaming conglomerate, similar to that occurring at Kirkland Lake, at several places within the eastern extent of the Project supports this view.



The Boomerang Resource is interpreted to be a dunite/peridotite unit which has undergone extensive serpentinization. This process of is responsible for the reaction of olivine to produce magnetite and brucite, resulting in a strongly reducing environment whereby nickel is released from decomposition of olivine. The nickel which has been released is typically partitioned into low sulphur nickel sulphide minerals. Due to the magnetite association with mineralisation, a 3D inversion model of magnetics has been generated and has been utilised to assist with targeting.

#### **Drilling Techniques**

A total of 62 diamond drill holes for 28,001m of drilling was utilised in the preparation of the mineral resource estimate. The drilling across Bardwell Prospect was based on 50m and 100m sections, with multiple inclined holes drilled from the same platforms generating nominal drill hole spacing of around 60m to 80m, and expanding out to approximate 200m section spacing across the remainder of the Boomerang.

#### Sampling and Sub-Sampling

A combination of NQ and HQ drilling was conducted across the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System. Half NQ diamond drill core was submitted for analysis with intervals ranging from 0.3m to 1.5m (typically 1m) based on geology. Field duplicates were collected as ¼ core samples. Individual recoveries of diamond core samples were recorded on a quantitative basis. Generally sample weights were comparable, and any bias is considered negligible. Core recovery was excellent, generally >95%.

Samples from drilling conducted by Aston were transported by contractors to Activation Laboratories Timmins and ALS Laboratory Vancouver. Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) and blank material were inserted into the sample stream to monitor for analytical bias and carry over contamination respectively. No unresolved issues were identified through this monitoring.

#### Sampling analysis and Methods

Both Activation Laboratories Timmins and ALS Laboratories Vancouver were utilised by Aston. Sample preparation by ALS involved crushing to 80% passing 2mm, riffle split and pulverized to 95% passing <75µm. Activation Laboratories involved the crushing of samples to 80% passing 2mm, riffle split and pulverized to 95% passing 105µm.

Both four acid digest ICP total digestion and ICP two acid (aqua regia) partial digestion methods were utilised on all samples. This was aiming to determine an indicative proportion of sulphide versus silicate associated nickel on the basis of the partial digestion method being ineffective at liberating silicate hosted nickel mineralisation. The high degree of correlation indicated between the two results is indicative of a high proportion of sulphide associated mineralisation.

ICP total digestion method involved analysis of a pulp by gently heating in a mixture of ultrapure HF/HNO<sub>3</sub>/HClO<sub>4</sub> until dry and the residue dissolved in dilute ultrapure HNO<sub>3</sub>.

ICP partial digestion method involved analysis of a pulp digested with 8:1 ultrapure HNO<sub>3</sub>:HCl for 1 hour at 95°C.

#### **Resource Estimation Methodology**

The Edleston drilling database has been relied upon as the source of data for the February 2023 Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide MRE. Drilling records and core photos were supplied up to 14



December 2022. Standard database validation checks and visual analysis was completed, including analysis of QAQC data, and core recovery data.

The interpretation of the weathering and geological boundaries was based on logging observations from recent diamond drilling programs. A surface DTM was created for a glacial till overburden which acted as a hard boundary with the interpreted lithological units and mineralisation domains below this surface. Broadly defined lithological groupings were interpreted as 3DM solids for the major lithological groupings for later mean bulk density value assignments.

A review of the lithology codes alongside the descriptions of alteration, mineral assemblages and grade distribution were used to define the final mineralisation domain boundaries. The geological modelling process used drill hole intersects, geophysics and surface geological mapping to project the domain boundaries along strike between drill holes. The down dip extension of the mineralised domains were limited to a depth of approximately 1000m, 200meteres below the current level of drilling. The extrapolation of the mineralised domains closely follows the geological interpretation and, in general will extend as far as there is evidence for a continued geological contact. The extrapolation of grade within the domains is controlled by the geostatistical parameters applied and limited through use of resource categories. Statistical evaluation revealed the presence of higher grade zone inside the main mineralised domain which was modelled considering an economic composite with a threshold of 0.32%Ni.

A total of five estimation domains were modelled for the February 2023 MRE. The estimation domains were based on the geology; serpentinised komatiites, komatiites, peridotite-dunite, and pyroxenite, with the peridotite-dunite being split into a lower and higher-grade zone using a 0.32% Ni threshold.

- Ni\_HG the high-grade proportion of the peridotite-dunite domain
- Prdt/dun the standard or background proportion of the peridotite-dunite domain
- Px the pyroxenite domain, a lower grade nickel domain on the flanks of the prdte/dun domain
- Serp the proportion of the volcanic komatilites that exhibits extensive alteration to serpentinite.
- Kmt the volcanic komatiite domain

Drill hole sample data was flagged using domain codes generated from three-dimensional mineralisation domain wireframes. Sample data was composited to five-metre downhole lengths within each of the domain, except the high-grade nickel domain which used a composite length of the 2.5m. Statistical analysis was carried out on data from all estimated domains, with hard boundary techniques employed within each estimation domain.

Nickel grade distributions within the estimation domains were assessed to determine the appropriate estimation methodology. The mineralised domain wireframes were used to code the block model and the volume between the wireframe models and the coded block model were checked in order to ensure that the sub-blocking size are appropriate for the interpreted domains. Hard domain boundaries were used between the mineralised domains, meaning only composites within the domain are used to estimate inside that domain. The variogram orientations were based on the orientations of the controlling geological structures interpreted in the modelling, which generated a split of the prdt/dun domain into the Bardwell and the B2 zones which have two distinct orientations.



The variogram and search parameters were applied in the kriging estimation and were used to determine the resource category.

Ordinary Kriging (**OK**) estimation method was used to estimate nickel and cobalt into the 3D block model for the February 2023 MRE. Nickel and cobalt were estimated in 3 passes – 1<sup>st</sup> pass using a minimum 8 samples and maximum of 20 samples, and optimum search distances for each domain (maximum 250m) as determined through the KNA process. The 2<sup>nd</sup> pass and 3<sup>rd</sup> pass set with fewer minimum samples and at longer distances in order to populate all blocks where either search distance or the minimum samples for informing blocks was insufficient (2<sup>nd</sup> = 4 samples minimum, factor of 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 2 samples minimum, factor of 10).

The block model with dimensions of 4300m x 2200m x 960m has a 50° rotation, with parent block size of 20mE x 20mN x 15m RL, was sub-blocked to 2mE x 2mN x 2.5m RL to capture the geometry of the high grade nickel domain. For the block model definition parameters, the primary block size and sub-blocking were deemed appropriate for the overall deposit geometry, a potential selective mining unit, and to carry out pit optimization. The sub-blocking and rotation provided adequate volume definition where there are narrow zones or terminations or disrupted zones due to contacts or surface boundaries.

Block model validation was conducted by the following means:

- Visual inspection of block model estimation in relation to raw drill data on a section-by-section basis.
- Volumetric comparison of the wireframe/solid volume to that of the block model volume for each domain.
- A global statistical comparison of input and block grades, and local composite grade (by easting and RL) relationship plots (swath plots), to the block model estimated grade for each domain.
- Comparison of the drill hole composites grades with the block model grades for each lode domain in 3D.

The Swath plots noted small local variances, commonly where there a very few of no samples informing the blocks. In each of these instances the appropriate classification is applied (Inferred or Unclassified). Overall, the semi local Swath plot comparisons and local visual comparisons showed that the block model interpolation honoured the raw composite data to acceptable levels.

#### **Classification Criteria**

A range of criteria was considered by Atticus when addressing the suitability of the classification boundaries. These criteria include:

- Geological continuity and volume.
- Drill spacing and drill data quality.
- Modelling technique.
- Estimation properties, including search strategy, number of informing composites, average distance of composites from blocks and kriging quality parameters.



Blocks have been classified in both the Indicated (27% of total metal) and Inferred (73%) categories, primarily based on drill data spacing and well-defined Ni mineralisation continuity, in combination with other model estimate quality parameters.

The following criteria was adopted for identifying the resource classification boundaries:

- Indicated Mineral Resources are defined nominally by 100m x 100m spaced drilling or less. Minimum 3 drillholes.
- Inferred Mineral Resources are defined by data greater than 200m x 200m spaced drilling and the confidence that the continuity of geology and mineralisation can be extended along strike and at depth to a nominal 200m maximum extent past Indicated Resource limit. Minimum 2 drillholes
- Unclassified material, all material within the mineralisation domains, but outside of indicated and inferred material mostly Interpolation Pass 3 estimated material.



Figure 5: Boomerang Resource Classification



#### **Reasonable Prospects for Eventual Economic Extraction**

The February 2023 MRE is based on the quality of information provided for the geological domaining, with the resulting geostatistical measures used to provide confidence in the tonnage and grade estimates. There was sufficient confidence in all data used, and the reliability of data based predominantly on high quality diamond core drilled since 2021.

The MRE constitutes a global resource estimate. The estimate represents an in-situ mineral resource, as it has not been constrained by any economic or other mining factors, metallurgical factors or any environmental or sovereign risks. However, Atticus is currently undertaking optimisation open pit studies using a Lerchs-Grossmann algorithm run inside Datamine NPV Scheduler software.

#### **Cut-off Grades**

As the bulk of the Indicated Resources occur near surface, the model was constructed with a view towards selective open pit mining. Reporting of Mineral Resources is currently being assessed by Atticus against a resource limiting optimisation shell using appropriate cost, metallurgical recovery, and price assumptions. However, Initial estimates of an economic cut-off grade have been calculated using parameters obtained from benchmarking with the projects with similar characteristics.

 $Economic Cut - Off = \frac{(M + P + 0)}{r.(P - V)}$   $Economic Cut - Off = \frac{(4 + 7 + 2)}{70\%.(7.75 - 0.775) * 22.0462}$   $Economic Cut - Off Ni_Eq = 0.12\%$ Where: M: mining cost P: processing cost O: overhead cost r: metallurgical recovery P: nickel price V: selling cost

A COG of 0.12% Ni has been calculated and is applied to the mineral resource statement.

#### Mining and Metallurgical Methods and Parameters

Given the shallow nature of mineralisation, material could be extracted by means of open pit mining methods. Significant mineralisation has also been intersected up to 733m VD which indicates that underground mining methods need to be considered for additional mining studies.

3DM modelling and block construction have been created with the aim of preparing a suitable model for open pit optimisation, with a minimum mining width of 50m.

For the open pit optimisation study inputs, Atticus has applied a regularisation of the block model, defined a SMU of  $20 \times 20 \times 15$ , also, mining dilution of 5% and ore recovery of 95% based on the assumption of potential mining of broad, continuous flitch blocks.

Conventional flotation mineral beneficiation methods have been reviewed as part of the 2023 MRE. Based on the current knowledge of the nature of nickel-cobalt mineralisation, the mineralisation is amenable to processed using conventional floatation methods.



Metallurgical recoveries used for the Atticus open pit optimisation study inputs are assumptions based on review of technical reports prepared by XPS Laboratories, Sudbury.

The assumptions for the metallurgical input parameters include:

- No oxide and transition material below the glacial till overburden, typical of Canadian Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide deposits, particularly in Ontario.
- For primary rock, a recovery if 70% and 60% for nickel and cobalt respectively.
- Further refinement and optimisation of these test work parameters are required inclusive of locked cycle testing, the following table shows a summary of the mining and metallurgical parameters currently being used to evaluate an optimised open pit:

Item	Unit	Value
Price		
Nickel	US\$/lb	7.75
Cobalt	US\$/lb	22.68
Metal Recoveries		
Nickel	%	70
Cobalt	%	60
Mining Cost	US\$/t	4.00
Processing Cost	US\$/t	6.00
G&A	US\$/t	2.00
Selling Cost	US\$/t	0.775
Overall Pit Slope	Grades	45
Minimum Mining Width	m	50
Dilution	%	5
Mining Recovery	%	95

#### Table 2: RPEE Assumptions

#### **Independent Review and Audits**

No independent audit was completed on the Resource. The wireframed domains, statistical and variography analysis, estimation parameters, classification, block model report and documentation have all been internally peer reviewed by qualified professionals at Atticus.

#### **Metal Equivalents**

For the calculation of the equivalent grade, the price and recovery of metals were taken into account. The prices are an average of the last 5 years, and the metallurgical recoveries were taken from the metallurgical report prepared by XPS Laboratories, Subdury. The parameters used are summarized below:

#### **Table 3: Metal Equivalent Parameters**

Metal	Price (US\$/Ib)	Met Rec (%)
Nickel	7.75	70
Cobalt	22.68	60

Then the formula for the calculation of the nickel equivalent is: Ni\_Eq = Ni (%) + 2.51 \* Co (%)





## Edleston Project Overview, Ontario, Canada (100% ASO)

Figure 6: Edleston Project Location Plan

The Edleston Project is located approximately 60km via road to the south of Timmins, Ontario, Canada. The cities of Timmins and Kirkland Lake are located close by and host significant former and current producers, with required services and skilled labour available to support exploration and development of the Project.

The Project is located within the Abitibi Greenstone Belt of Archean metavolcanic and metasedimentary units that have been steeply folded with axes trending in general east-west orientation.

The Boomerang Resource is situated within a Dunite/Peridotite unit over >6.5 km of strike which has undergone extensive serpentinization. This process of is responsible for the reaction of olivine to produce magnetite and brucite, resulting in a strongly reducing environment whereby nickel is released from decomposition of olivine. The nickel which has been released is typically partitioned into low sulphur nickel sulphide minerals. Due to the magnetite association with mineralisation, a 3D inversion model of magnetics has been generated and has been utilised to assist with targeting.

## Contacts

For more information, please contact:

Tolga Kumova Executive Chairman tolga@astonminerals.com Rob Jewson Corporate Director rob@astonminerals.com



#### This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Aston Minerals Limited.

#### **Competent Person's Statement**

The information in this announcement that relates to the Exploration Results for the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System is based on information compiled and fairly represented by Mr Robert Jewson, who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and Executive Director of Aston Minerals Limited. Mr Jewson has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration, and to the activity which he has undertaken, to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Jewson consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears. The Company confirms there has been no new information that materially effects the results as they were first reported.

The information in this announcement that relates to estimation and reporting of Mineral Resources Is based on information compiled by Mr. Simon Mortimer, a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (#300947) and the Australian Institute of Geoscientists (FAIG #7795) with sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person (CP) as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (the JORC Code). Mr. Mortimer is a principal with Atticus Geoscience S.A.C., which specialises in mineral resource estimation, evaluation, and exploration. Mr Mortimer holds no interest in Aston, its related parties, or in any of the mineral properties that are the subject of this announcement. Mr. Mortimer consents to the inclusion in this announcement of all technical statements based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.



Hole	Size	Easting	Northing	Elevation	Azimuth	Dip	Final Depth (m)
DDED21-057	NQ	477786	5303532	355	311	57	552.46
DDED21-059	NQ	477786	5303532	355	311	70	267
DDED21-060	NQ	477785	5303532	355	316	70	345
DDED21-061	NQ	477798	5303524	354	316	75	387
DDED21-063	HQ	477783	5303525	355	316	70	204
DDED21-065	HQ	479209	5305725	364	0	90	549
DDED21-067	HQ	478795	5304009	362	320	70	507
DDED21-069A	HQ	479208	5305735	365	20	70	36
DDED21-069	HQ	479211	5305730	365	20	70	354
DDED21-070	HQ	478795	5304010	362	320	55	588
DDED21-072	HQ	479209	5305726	364	200	70	579
DDED21-073	HQ	478795	5304010	362	320	45	578
DDED21-075	HQ/NQ	479209	5305725	364	200	45	744
DDED21-076	HQ/NQ	477769	5303528	355	310	75	351
DDED21-075	HQ-NQ	479209	5305725	364	200	-45	744
DDED22-078a	NQ	479744	5305129	363	270	-65	75
DDED22-078	NQ	479742	5305129	363	270	-65	363
DDED22-079	HQ-NQ	479216	5305725	365	245	-45	780
DDED22-080	HQ	477453	5303619	357	130	-70	522
DDED22-081	HQ	477389	5303542	353	130	-45	462
DDED22-082a	HQ	477454	5303623	357	130	-45	12
DDED22-082	HQ	477454	5303618	356	130	-45	411
DDED22-083	HQ-NQ	477388	5303542	352	130	-57	612
DDED22-084	HQ	477453	5303618	356	130	-57	357
DDED22-085	HQ	477645	5303773	360	130	-45	420
DDED22-086	HQ	478007	5304186	352	130	-45	420
DDED22-087	HQ-NQ	477388	5303543	353	130	-65	477
DDED22-088	HQ	477645	5303773	360	130	-60	420
DDED22-089	HQ-NQ	478479	5304572	358	130	-45	654
DDED22-090	HQ-NQ	477388	5303543	352	130	-75	590
DDED22-091	HQ-NQ	477644	5303774	360	130	-75	455
DDED22-092	HQ	477644	5303774	360	0	-90	498

#### Appendix 1: Diamond Drill Hole Collar Details & Intercept Intervals



Hole	Size	Easting	Northing	Elevation	Azimuth	Dip	Final Depth (m)
DDED22-093	HQ	477720	5303868	358	130	-45	447
DDED22-094a	HQ	477295	5303343	356	130	-45	26
DDED22-094	HQ	477292	5303333	361	130	-45	342
DDED22-095	HQ-NQ	478987	5305058	365	130	-45	714
DDED22-096	HQ-NQ	477720	5303868	357	130	-60	546
DDED22-097	HQ	477291	5303333	361	130	-60	393
DDED22-098	HQ	477720	5303868	357	130	-75	514.77
DDED22-099	HQ-NQ	478753	5306008	358	165	-45	468
DDED22-100	HQ	476933	5303241	359	130	-45	441
DDED22-101	HQ-NQ	476933	5303242	359	130	-75	552
DDED22-102	HQ-NQ	477781	5303955	358	130	-45	387
DDED22-103	HQ	477548.2	5303644	358.96	69	-90	803.5
DDED22-104	HQ	477781	5303956	358	130	-60	492.23
DDED22-105	HQ	478760	5306003	358	265	-45	321
DDED22-106	HQ	477780	5303955	358	130	-75	585
DDED22-107	HQ	478369	5306246	359	220	-60	426.17
DDED22-108	HQ-NQ	477548.7	5303644	358.95	130	-75	516
DDED22-109	HQ	477702	5303728	354	130	-90	117
DDED22-110	HQ	477553	5303411	358	310	-78	750
DDED22-111	HQ	476774	5302916	354	130	-75	573
DDED22-112	HQ-NQ	477477.7	5303264	359.25	310	-75	507
DDED22-113	HQ	478379	5304048	360.46	310	-60	615
DDED22-114	HQ	477477.4	5303264	359.13	310	-83	537
DDED22-115	HQ-NQ	478379.5	5304048	360.47	310	-78	408
DDED22-116	HQ	477374.4	5303113	359.72	310	-60	522
DDED22-117	HQ	477859.2	5304083	361.27	130	-75	396
DDED22-119	HQ	477143.5	5302853	359.6	312	-60	574.5
DDED22-120	HQ	477859.9	5304083	361.42	130	-45	363
DDED22-121	HQ	478386	5304262	358	130	-45	294
DDED22-121a	HQ	478403	5304248	357.02	130	-45	57



Hole	From	Interval	Ni%	Co%	Comments	Zone
DDED21-057	38.7	287	0.3	0.01	ending in min	Bardwell
DDED21-059	83.96	183.04	0.38	0.012		Bardwell
	including	76.19	0.46	0.013		Bardwell
DDED21-060	52	293	0.32	0.012		Bardwell
	including	51	0.45	0.016		Bardwell
DDED21-061	220	165.07	0.33	0.013		Bardwell
	including	50.04	0.4	0.016		Bardwell
DDED21-065	106.5	144.5	0.24	0.01		Olecranon
	including	10	0.45	0.013		Olecranon
DDED21-065	513.5	33.8	0.27	0.01	ending in min	Olecranon
DDED21-070	340.5	168.6	0.26	0.011		Bardwell North
DDED21-072	122	77	0.26	0.01		Olecranon
	including	11.4	0.4	0.11		Olecranon
DDED21-072	286	119.5	0.24	0.01		Olecranon
DDED21-073	312	187	0.27	0.11		Bardwell North
	including	7	0.47	0.014		Bardwell North
DDED21-075	13.1	730.9	0.23	0.01	ending in min	Olecranon
DDED21-076	67.5	282.5	0.43	0.014		Bardwell
	including	163.5	0.51	0.016		Bardwell
DDED22-078	41.8	321.15	0.28	0.01		Olecranon
DDED22-079	170	58.89	0.25	0.009		Bardwell
and	332.95	205.05	0.27	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-080	425	95.61	0.28	0.011		Bardwell
	including	19.18	0.32	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-080	426	32	0.32	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-081	285.61	80.67	0.3	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-082	206.31	159.71	0.36	0.013		Bardwell
	including	83	0.44	0.016		Bardwell
DDED22-083	368.5	50.5	0.33	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-084	178.32	170.72	0.24	0.011	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-085	162.05	117.45	0.28	0.011		Bardwell
	including	44.03	0.3	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-086	263.5	96	0.26	0.011		North Bardwell
	including	12.09	0.33	0.012		North Bardwell
DDED22-087	338.3	138.7	0.27	0.012	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-087	391.5	85.5	0.33	0.015	ending in Min	Bardwell
and	396.75	9.75	0.47	0.016		Bardwell
	including	40.56	0.36	0.013		Bardwell
DDED22-088	35	330	0.24	0.009		Bardwell
DDED22-088	174.5	188.08	0.35	0.012		Bardwell
	including	78.84	0.38	0.013		Bardwell
DDED22-089	352.6	215.4	0.26	0.010		North Bardwell
DDED22-090	342.5	179.47	0.17	0.010		Bardwell
DDED22-090	436.48	30.55	0.3	0.013		Bardwell



Hole	From	Interval	Ni%	Co%	Comments	Zone
	including	7.98	0.53	0.018		Bardwell
DDED22-091	200.46	254.7	0.26	0.011	ending in Min	Bardwell
	including	34.5	0.35	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-092	74.98	109.02	0.23	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-093	25.1	46.9	0.25	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-093	268	45	0.27	0.012		Bardwell
	including	21	0.31	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-094	179	45	0.26	0.013		Bardwell
	including	11	0.37	0.015		Bardwell
DDED22-095	152.5	495.5	0.22	0.009		Bardwell
DDED22-096	243.5	213.35	0.31	0.012		Bardwell
	including	58	0.4	0.015		Bardwell
DDED22-097	223.5	33	0.3	0.013		Bardwell
DDED22-098	16.5	102.5	0.25	0.011		Bardwell
and	306.5	208.27	0.24	0.011	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-099	385.5	40.5	0.29	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-100	358.5	12	0.23	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-101	447.5	104.5	0.26	0.01	ending in Min	Bardwell
	including	25	0.3	0.011	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-102	271.5	67	0.29	0.011		Bardwell
	including	7.5	0.38	0.013		Bardwell
DDED22-103	393	108	0.26	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-103	637	25	0.36	0.012		Bardwell
	including	13	0.46	0.014		Bardwell
DDED22-104	294	149.5	0.36	0.012		Bardwell
	including	18	0.58	0.011		Bardwell
and	426.5	17	0.46	0.015		Bardwell
DDED22-105	235.5	85.5	0.33	0.012	ending in Min	B2
DDED22-105	262.5	50	0.37	0.014		B2
including	296.5	7	0.7	0.019		B2
DDED22-106	503	81.22	0.28	0.013	ending in Min	Bardwell
	including	6	0.55	0.016		Bardwell
DDED22-107	67.5	181	0.28	0.012		B2
DDED22-108	213	54.5	0.25	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-108	362.06	33.44	0.25	0.01	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-110	26.5	725.21	0.2	0.010	ending in Min	Bardwell
DDED22-110	602.5	149.21	0.26	0.011	ending in Min	Bardwell
	including	4	0.71	0.031		Bardwell
DDED22-112	288.5	217.35	0.28	0.012	ending in Min	Bardwell
	including	63	0.3	0.013		Bardwell
DDED22-113	215	99.5	0.3	0.011		North Bardwell
	including	7	0.56	0.015		North Bardwell
DDED22-114	15.2	304.38	0.25	0.011		Bardwell
	including	14	0.32	0.011		Bardwell



Hole	From	Interval	Ni%	Co%	Comments	Zone
and	138.5	31.5	0.3	0.011		Bardwell
DDED22-115	138.5	269.5	0.27	0.01	ending in Min	North Bardwell
	including	7.5	0.32	0.014	ending in Min	North Bardwell
DDED22-116	32.13	404.37	0.22	0.01		Bardwell
	including	71.5	0.29	0.012		Bardwell
DDED22-120	311	52	0.31	0.012		North Bardwell
DDED22-121	91.5	135.5	0.26	0.01		North Bardwell





#### Appendix 2: JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

#### Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

(Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
Sampling	$\cdot$ Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific	Half NQ/HQ diamond drill core was submitted for analysis.
techniques	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.	
	$\cdot$ Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and	Core was cut into two equal halves with one submitted for analysis.
	the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.	
	$\cdot$ Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the	Sample intervals was based on geological observations. Minimum
	Public Report. In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this	core width sampled was 0.3 m and maximum 1.5 metres. Samples
	would be relatively simple (e.g., 'reverse circulation drilling was used to	were submitted to ALS Laboratories Vancouver.
	obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised 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 (e.g., submarine nodules)	
	may warrant disclosure of detailed information.	

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
Drilling	$\cdot$ Drill type (e.g., core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air	Standard tube NQ and HQ Diamond drilling was undertaken.
techniques	blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (e.g., 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).	
Drill sample	$\cdot$ Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and	Field geologists measure core recoveries for every drill run
recovery	results assessed.	completed. The core recovered is physically measured by tape
		measure and the length is recorded for every "run". Core recovery
		is calculated as a percentage recovery. Core recovery is logged and
		recorded into the database.
	$\cdot$ Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative	Diamond drilling by nature collects relatively uncontaminated core
	nature of the samples.	samples. These are cleaned at the drill site to remove drilling fluids
		and cuttings to present clean core for logging and sampling.
	$\cdot$ Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and	There is no significant loss of material reported in the mineralised
	whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of	parts of the diamond core to date.
	fine/coarse material.	
Logging	$\cdot$ Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically	Drill holes were logged for lithology, alteration, mineralisation,
	logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource	structure, and weathering by a geologist. Data is then captured in a
	estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.	database appropriate for mineral resource estimation.
	$\cdot$ Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean,	All cores are photographed in the core tray, with individual
	channel, etc) photography.	photographs taken of each tray both dry and wet. Logging
		conducted is both qualitative and quantitative.
	$\cdot$ The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.	All drill holes were logged in full.



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
Sub-sampling	$\cdot$ If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core was	Diamond drill core was cut in half. Half the core was submitted for
techniques	taken.	analysis and the remaining half was stored securely for future
and sample		reference and potentially further analysis if ever required.
preparation	$\cdot$ If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether	Only diamond core drilling completed.
	sampled wet or dry.	
	$\cdot$ For all sample types, the nature, quality, and appropriateness of the	Sample preparation was completed by ALS Laboratories in
	sample preparation technique.	Vancouver using their standard preparation method. Samples were
		crushed to 80% passing 2 mm, riffle split and pulverized to 95%
		passing <75µm.
	$\cdot$ Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to	Standard preparation procedure inclusive of internal laboratory
	maximise representivity of samples.	internal crushing and pulverizing tests were utilised by ALS
		Laboratories.
	$\cdot$ Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ	Field duplicate samples were taken at the rate of 1:25 samples.
	material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-	Standard reference materials and blanks were similarly inserted at
	half sampling.	the rate of 1:25 before and after predicted high grade intervals
		multiple blanks were inserted to ensure that there was no cross
		sample contamination. QA/QC verified that the blank material
		reported below detection and thus no cross contamination between
		samples.
	· Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material	Sample sizes are considered appropriate to the mineralisation style
	being sampled.	and grain size of the material.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
Quality of	$\cdot$ The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory	Both four acid digest ICP total digestion and ICP two acid (aqua
assay data	procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.	regia) partial digestion methods were utilised on all samples. This
and		was aiming to determine an indicative proportion of sulphide versus
laboratory		silicate associated nickel on the basis of the partial digestion method
tests		being ineffective at liberating silicate hosted nickel mineralisation.
		The high degree of correlation indicated between the two results is
		indicative of a high proportion of sulphide associated
		mineralisation.
		ICP total digestion method involved analysis of a pulp by gently
		heating in a mixture of ultrapure $HF/HNO_3/HClO_4$ until dry and the
		residue dissolved in dilute ultrapure HNO <sub>3</sub> .
		ICP partial digestion method involved analysis of a pulp digested
		with 8:1 ultrapure HNO <sub>3</sub> :HCl for 1 hour at $95^{\circ}$ C.
	$\cdot$ For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the	An Olympus Vanta VMR pXRF in Geochem mode was utilised to
	parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make	assist with identification of nickel sulphide minerals. Readings were
	and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation,	collected over 40 second intervals for all 3 beams. The instrument is
	etc.	calibrated according to the manufacturer's specifications and a
		calibration check is performed daily to confirm the unit is operating
		within expected parameters as well as a performance test against a
		certified reference material. The manufacturer's most recent
		certificate of calibration is dated July 28, 2021, with nickel



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
		performance calibrated from OREAS 74a and GBM 398-4 certified
		reference materials.
	$\cdot$ Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g., standards, blanks,	Standard reference materials and blanks were inserted routinely at
	duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of	the rate of 1:25 samples.
	accuracy (i.e., lack of bias) and precision have been established.	
Verification	$\cdot$ The verification of significant intersections by either independent or	Results were reviewed by the chief geologist, managing director and
of sampling	alternative company personnel.	competent person.
and assaying	· The use of twinned holes.	None of the current holes being drilled are considered to be twin
		holes.
	$\cdot$ Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification,	All data was recorded in field logging sheets, digitised then imported
	data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.	into a validated database.
	· Discuss any adjustment to assay data.	No adjustments were performed to assay data.
Location of	$\cdot$ Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-	Drill collar locations were surveyed using a differential GPS.
data points	hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral	
	Resource estimation.	
	· Specification of the grid system used.	All collar locations are reported in NAD83 Zone 17N grid system.
	· Quality and adequacy of topographic control.	Topographic control on collars was derived from a LIDAR survey
		completed across the Project. LIDAR is considered to be industry
		best practice for this stage of exploration.
	· Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.	Diamond drill holes are drilled selectively directly targeting
		mineralisation based on regional orientations known along strike.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comments
Data spacing	$\cdot$ Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the	The spacing of the area being targeted by drilling underway at
and	degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral	present is too broad for being able to estimate a mineral resource.
distribution	Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications	
	applied.	
	· Whether sample compositing has been applied.	Sample compositing has been applied. Results reported are length
		weighted averages.
Orientation	$\cdot$ Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of	Based on the logging of the drilling and interpretation of the geology
of data in	possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the	the drilling completed is interpreted to be perpendicular to the
relation to	deposit type.	trend of mineralisation.
geological	$\cdot$ If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of	The drilling intercept reported is downhole. Further drilling is
structure	key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling	required to confirm the geometry of mineralisation.
	bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.	
Sample	• The measures taken to ensure sample security.	Diamond drill core is transported from site by contractors to a
security		secured core processing facility for logging and sampling. Samples
		are subsequently sent by a contractor to the assay laboratory.
Audits or	• The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.	No audits are documented to have occurred in relation to sampling
reviews		techniques or data.



#### Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral	· Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including	The Edleston Project is 100% owned by a wholly owned subsidiary
tenement and	agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures,	of Aston Minerals Ltd.
land tenure	partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites,	A 2% net smelter return royalty applies across the Project. 1% of
status	wilderness or national park and environmental settings.	the net smelter return royalty can be purchased for \$1,000,000
		across the mining claims and 1% of the net smelter return royalty
		can be purchased for \$1,000,000 across the Leased Claim.
	$\cdot$ The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any	Open file verification has been conducted to confirm licenses are in
	known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.	full force.
Exploration	· Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.	Exploration reported was completed by 55 North Mining Inc
done by other		(Formerly SGX Resources Inc.). Activities completed include
parties		magnetic surveys, VLF/IP surveys, extensive diamond drilling.
Geology	• Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.	Regionally, Edleston appears to lie along the potential western
		extension of the Cadillac-Larder fault zone along which a number of
		major gold deposits are located. Geophysical and geological work
		has demonstrated that the Edleston Zone sits within the north limb
		of the host unit/horizon that stretches over 10 km to the east. This
		unit is broadly folded back toward the south and east immediately
		to the west of the deposit continuing under and near the contact
		with shallow sedimentary cover. The host rock is an altered and



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		sheared ultramafic that exhibits extensive silicification and contains
		quartz-carbonate in veins, veinlets, and fracture fill.
		A revised geological interpretation based on the information
		obtained from recent drilling and reprocessed magnetics coverages
		was undertaken. Through this process the extent and intense
		magnetic response of the Boomerang Target was recognised.
		Magnetic inversion modelling of the Boomerang Target was
		undertaken to further constrain the geometry and extent of the
		dunite/peridotite complex. It is interpreted that this
		dunite/peridotite body extends for a strike of 5 km, is 500 to >1,500
		m wide and extends to depths of well over 500 metres.
		The exploration model applied to conduct targeting of this body is
		analogous to Dumont and Crawford Nickel-PGE-Cobalt Deposits.
		Nickel sulphide mineralisation at these deposits was formed
		through the serpentinization of a dunite unit (rock composed of
		>90% olivine). Through the reaction of olivine with water, extensive
		magnetite is developed hence providing such a strong magnetic
		response and potentially allowing for a direct exploration targeting
		method to be applied. Through this process of serpentinization
		nickel is liberated from olivine within a strongly reducing
		environment and the liberated nickel is partitioned into low sulphur
		nickel sulphide minerals.



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Drill hole	$\cdot$ A summary of all information material to the understanding of the	Drill hole locations are described in the body of the text, in the
Information	exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for	appendix and on related Figures.
	all Material drill holes:	
	• easting and northing of the drill hole collar elevation or RL	
	(Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill	
	hole collar.	
	• dip and azimuth of the hole.	
	down-hole length and interception depth	
	of hole length.	
	$\cdot$ If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the	All information has been reported. At present no sampling or
	information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the	analysis has been completed.
	understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain	
	why this is the case.	
Data	· In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques,	Length weighted averages are reported in the highlights and body
aggregation	maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g., cutting of high grades)	of the announcement. A full listing of the individual intervals is
methods	and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.	reported in the body of the release above.
	$\cdot$ Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high-grade	Length weighted averages have been applied where necessary to
	results and longer lengths of low-grade results, the procedure used for such	calculate composite intervals. Calculations were performed in excel
	aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such	using the sumproduct function to calculate the length weighted
	aggregations should be shown in detail.	average grades.
	$\cdot$ The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should	For the calculation of the equivalent grade, the price and recovery
	be clearly stated.	of metals were taken into account. The prices are an average of



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		the last 5 years, and the metallurgical recoveries were taken from
		the metallurgical report prepared by XPS Laboratories, Subdury.
		The parameters used are summarized below:
		Metal Price Met Rec
		(US\$/lb) (%)
		Nickel 7.75 70
		<b>CODAIT</b> 22.68 60
		Then the formula for the calculation of the nickel equivalent is:
		Note the formula for the calculation of the meker equivalent is: $N_{i} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} N_{i} \left( p_{i} \right) + 2 \leq 1 \leq p_{i} \left( p_{i} \right)$
		$NI_{eq} = NI(\%) + 2.51 + CO(\%)$
Relationship	· These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of	Intervals of alteration and mineralisation reported are apparent
between	Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to	widths. Further drilling is required to understand the geometry of
mineralisation	the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.	mineralisation and thus the true width of mineralisation.
widths and	$\cdot$ If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there	
intercept	should be a clear statement to this effect (e.g., 'down hole length, true	
lengths	width not known').	
Diagrams	$\cdot$ Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts	Maps and plans have been included in body of the announcement.
	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	$\cdot$ Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not	All information has been reported.
reporting	practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or	



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	widths should be practiced avoiding misleading reporting of Exploration	
	Results.	
Other	$\cdot$ Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported	No other exploration data is considered meaningful and material to
substantive	including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey	this announcement.
exploration	results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of	
data	treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater,	
	geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or	
	contaminating substances.	
Further work	$\cdot$ The nature and scale of planned further work (e.g., tests for lateral	Infill and extensional drilling is proposed to be undertaken to
	extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).	increase the resource categorisation of inferred resources to
		potentially indicated resources. In addition, along strike drilling is
		proposed to be conducted in order to potentially increase the scale
		of inferred resources.
	$\cdot$ Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including	Maps including the location of samples and prospects are included
	the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this	in the body of this release.
	information is not commercially sensitive.	



#### Section 3 Estimation and Reporting of Mineral Resources

(Criteria listed in the preceding sections also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Database	$\cdot$ Measures taken to ensure that data has not been corrupted by, for	The drilling database for the Edleston Project is maintained by
integrity	example, transcription or keying errors, between its initial collection and	Aston. The Edleston drilling data was supplied to Atticus Geoscience
	its use for Mineral Resource estimation purposes.	in .CSV file formats, individually for each of the main drilling records.
		Drilling records were supplied up to 16 December 2022.
		Atticus compiled the data for importing into a standard resource
		database in MS Access for use in the February 2023 Mineral
		Resource estimate. This database has been relied upon as the
		source of data for the February 2023 MRE.
	· Data validation procedures used.	Atticus carried out a database validation review of the supplied
		drilling data, prior to undertaking the resource estimation update.
		Validation included the following:
		Collar duplications, hole collar checks with supplied natural
		surface topography (DTM) file
		• Downhole survey deviation checks in Leapfrog software.
		Maximum hole depths check between sample/logging
		tables and the collar records.
		• Checking for sample and logging overlaps; Reporting of
		missing assay intervals.
		Independent QAQC data analysis and core recovery
		analysis.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Site Visits	$\cdot$ Comment on any site visits undertaken by the Competent Person and the	Mr. John Siriunas (P.Eng.), a Competent Person for the Boomerang
	outcome of those visits.	Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System undertook a site visit $3^{rd}$ and $4^{th}$
		November 2022 and was able to observe the drill core, logging and
		sampling protocol.
	$\cdot$ If no site visits have been undertaken indicate why this is the case.	Site visit has been completed.
Geological	$\cdot$ Confidence in (or conversely, the uncertainty of) the geological	The confidence in the geological interpretation of the February 2023
Interpretation	interpretation of the mineral deposit.	MRE is robust on the basis of the correlation with magnetic
		inversion modelling and the consistency of mineralisation between
		drillholes and drill sections.
	<ul> <li>Nature of the data used and of any assumptions made</li> </ul>	The logging information provided in the diamond core drilling by
		Aston has been used to interpret major lithologic units (ultramafic
		volcanics, dunite, pyroxenites, meta-sediments and tuffs, mafic
		volcanics and intrusives and mineralisation trends. Aston also
		provided selected digital core photos from recent diamond drilling.
		Geological and mineralisation domain projections were made
		between drill sections and extending along strike and down dip
		based on a consistent drill spacing 100m sections within the
		Bardwell Prospect, up to more broadly and irregularly spaced
		drilling in the zones to the east. In general, extrapolation of the
		mineralisation interpretations extended half distance of the drilling
		pattern.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		3D wireframing of the main lithological units was simplified to allow
		for assignment of the mean bulk density assignment for the mineral
		resource estimate.
	$\cdot$ The effect, if any, of alternative interpretations on Mineral Resource	No previous mineral resource estimations have been conducted.
	estimation.	
	$\cdot$ The use of geology in guiding and controlling Mineral Resource	The interpretation of the weathering and geological boundaries was
	estimation.	based on logging observations from diamond drilling. A surface DTM
		was created for a glacial till overburden which acted as a hard
		boundary with the interpreted lithological units and mineralisation
		domains underneath. Broadly defined lithological groupings were
		interpreted as 3DM solids for the major lithological groupings for
		later mean bulk density value assignments.
		Logging codes and descriptions of alteration, mineral assemblages
		and grade distribution within each host lithological units were also
		used to inform mineralisation domain boundaries. Mineralisation
		has been constrained to the Dunite units, pyroxenites have been
		excluded from the mineral resource estimation.
		Nickel sulphide mineralisation interpretations for all zones were
		done using Economic Compositing at 0.2, 0.3 and 0.4% Ni
		thresholds. Generally. broad and consistent mineralised trends
		were defined. No internal dilution was assigned.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		Further reviews of the interpretation and economic compositing
		results were completed in cross sections and flitch plan views.
		Final 3D wireframe model were created and based on sectional and
		plan view trend analysis. The 3DM wireframes representing the
		nickel mineralisation acted as hard boundaries between ore and
		waste for each zone.
	$\cdot$ The factors affecting continuity both of grade and geology.	A very high degree of correlation is apparent between the magnetic
		inversion modelling conducted and the highly magnetic dunite unit.
		A strike slip fault which follows the trend of the Bardwell Prospect
		is interpreted to have acted as a conduit for hydrothermal processes
		and to have caused localized enrichment of nickel-cobalt sulphide
		mineralisation.
Dimensions	$\cdot$ The extent and variability of the Mineral Resource expressed as length	The Mineral Resource has an overall strike length of almost 4,443 m.
	(along strike or otherwise), plan width, and depth below surface to the	The February 2023 MRE has been modelled to 960 m vertical depth
	upper and lower limits of the Mineral Resource.	(VD) with the estimate based primarily on DD drilling collared from
		surface. The deepest hole has intersected significant mineralisation
		at 733 m VD.
		A total of 5 estimation domains were modelled for the February
		2023 MRE.
Estimation	$\cdot$ The nature and appropriateness of the estimation technique(s) applied	Ordinary Kriging (OK) estimation method was used to estimate
and modelling	and key assumptions, including treatment of extreme grade values,	nickel and cobalt into the 3D block model for the February 2023
techniques	domaining, interpolation parameters and maximum distance of	MRE. Nickel and cobalt were estimated in 3 passes – 1st pass using



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	extrapolation from data points. If a computer assisted estimation method	a minimum 8 samples and maximum of 20 samples, and optimum
	was chosen include a description of computer software and parameters	search distances for each domain (maximum 250 m) as determined
	used.	through the KNA process. The 2nd pass and 3rd pass set with fewer
		minimum samples and at longer distances in order to populate all
		blocks where either search distance or the minimum samples for
		informing blocks was insufficient (2nd = 4 samples minimum, factor
		of 4, 3rd = 2 samples minimum, factor of 10).
		The block model with dimensions of 4300m x 2200m x 960m has a
		50° rotation, with parent block size of 20mE x 20mN x 15m RL , was
		sub-blocked to $2mE \times 2mN \times 2.5m$ RL to capture the geometry of the
		high grade nickel domain. For the block model definition
		parameters, the primary block size and sub-blocking were deemed
		appropriate for the overall deposit geometry, a potential selective
		mining unit, and to carry out pit optimization. The sub-blocking and
		rotation provided adequate volume definition where there are
		narrow zones or terminations or disrupted zones due to contacts or
		surface boundaries.
		Block model validation was conducted by the following means:
		• Visual inspection of block model estimation in relation to raw
		drill data on a section-by-section basis.
		• Volumetric comparison of the wireframe/solid volume to that
		of the block model volume for each domain.





Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		• A global statistical comparison of input and block grades, and
		local composite grade (by easting and RL) relationship plots
		(swath plots), to the block model estimated grade for each
		domain.
		• Comparison of the drill hole composites grades with the block
		model grades for each lode domain in 3D.
		The Swath plots noted small local variances, commonly where
		there a very few of no samples informing the blocks. In each of
		these instances the appropriate classification is applied (Inferred or
		Unclassified). Overall, the semi local Swath plot comparisons and
		local visual comparisons showed that the block model
		interpolation honoured the raw composite data to acceptable
		levels.
	$\cdot$ The availability of check estimates, previous estimates and/or mine	The February 2023 MRE estimate used ID2 estimation as a check
	production records and whether the Mineral Resource estimate takes	estimate against the OK estimation, with no significant variations in
	appropriate account of such data.	global estimate results.
		The February 2023 MRE by Atticus Geoscience S.A.C. and Caracle
		Creek International Consulting Inc. is a maiden Mineral Resource
		estimate for the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System.
		There has been no previous mining at the Edleston Project, so there
		are no production records and no mining depletion of the February
		2023 MRE required.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	· The assumptions made regarding recovery of by-products.	Metallurgical testing has indicated that nickel and cobalt are
		intimately associated and display very similar recovery
		characteristics.
	$\cdot$ Estimation of deleterious elements or other non-grade variables of	Estimation of deleterious elements was not completed for the MRE.
	economic significance (e.g., sulphur for acid mine drainage	Only nickel and cobalt were estimated in the February 2023 block
	characterisation).	model.
		The database contains multi-element results for a broad suite of
		elements for recent drilling conducted by Aston, for future analysis
		of potential deleterious minerals or sulphur for acid mine drainage
		characterisation studies.
	$\cdot$ In the case of block model interpolation, the block size in relation to the	The block model with dimensions of 4300m x 2200m x 960m has a
	average sample spacing and the search employed.	50° rotation, with parent block size of 20mE x 20mN x 15m RL, was
		sub-blocked to 2mE x 2mN x 2.5m RL to capture the geometry of
		the high grade nickel domain. For the block model definition
		parameters, the primary block size and sub-blocking were deemed
		appropriate for the overall deposit geometry, a potential selective
		mining unit, and to carry out pit optimization. The sub-blocking
		and rotation provided adequate volume definition where there are
		narrow zones or terminations or disrupted zones due to contacts
		or surface boundaries.
	· Any assumptions behind modelling of selective mining units.	The block model definition parameters included a primary block size
		and sub-blocking deemed appropriate for mineralisation and to



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		provide adequate volume definition where there are narrow or
		disrupted zones due to contacts or structural boundaries.
		These dimensions are suitable for block estimation and modelling
		the selectivity for a potential open pit operation.
	· Any assumptions about correlation between variables.	A correlation analysis between other elements (Co, Fe, MgO, S) and
		Nickel was conducted based on drilling by Aston.
	$\cdot$ Description of how the geological interpretation was used to control the	The mineralised domains acted as a hard boundary to control nickel
	resource estimates.	and cobalt interpolation in the February 2023 MRE block model.
		The domaining was based on knowledge of the mineralisation
		derived from magnetic inversion modelling and extensive diamond
		drilling.
	$\cdot$ Discussion of basis for using or not using grade cutting or capping.	Statistical evaluation revealed the presence of higher grade zone
		inside the main mineralised domain which was modelled
		considering an economic composite with a threshold of 0.32%Ni.
	$\cdot$ The process of validation, the checking process used, the comparison of	Block model validation was conducted by the following means:
	model data to drill hole data, and use of reconciliation data if available.	1. Visual inspection of block model estimation in relation to
		raw drill data on a section-by-section basis.
		2. Volumetric comparison of the wireframe/solid volume to
		that of the block model volume for each domain.
		3. A global statistical comparison of input and block grades,
		and local composite grade (by easting and RL) relationship



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		plots (swath plots), to the block model estimated grade for
		each domain.
		4. Comparison of the drill hole composites grades with the
		block model grades for each lode domain in 3D.
		The Swath plots noted small local variances, commonly where there
		a very few of no samples informing the blocks. In each of these
		instances the appropriate classification is applied (Inferred or
		Unclassified).
		There are no historic workings, and no recent mining activity has
		taken place at the Edleston Project, so there are mine reconciliation
		records.
Moisture	$\cdot$ Whether the tonnages are estimated on a dry basis or with natural	The tonnages are estimated on a dry tonnes basis. Moisture was not
	moisture, and the method of determination of the moisture content.	considered in the density assignment.
Cut-off	$\cdot$ The basis of the adopted cut-off grade(s) or quality parameters applied.	The cut-off grade for reporting is 0.12% Ni.
Parameters		As nickel-cobalt sulphide resources occur near-surface, the model
		was constructed with a view towards open pit mining. Thus, a $0.12\%$
		Ni lower cut-off was deemed appropriate.
		In addition, a sensitivity analysis provided by a range of cut off
		grades and grade tonnage curves have been reported prior to the
		completion of the pit optimisation study by Atticus. Further analysis
		of appropriate COG ranges for Underground studies is currently
		being reviewed by Atticus.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mining factors	$\cdot$ Assumptions made regarding possible mining methods, minimum mining	Given the shallow nature of mineralisation, material could be
or	dimensions and internal (or, if applicable, external) mining dilution. It is	extracted by means of open pit mining methods. Significant
assumptions	always necessary as part of the process of determining reasonable	mineralisation has also been intersected up to 733 m VD (which
	prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider potential mining	indicates that underground mining methods may need to be
	methods, but the assumptions made regarding mining methods and	considered for future mining studies.
	parameters when estimating Mineral Resources may not always be	3DM modelling and block construction have been created with the
	rigorous. Where this is the case, this should be reported with an	aim of preparing a suitable model for open pit optimisation, with a
	explanation of the basis of the mining assumptions made.	minimum mining width of 50 metres. No Internal dilution was
		assigned.
		For the open pit optimisation study inputs, Atticus has applied
		mining dilution of 5% and ore recovery of 95% based on the
		assumption of potential mining of broad, continuous flitch blocks.
Metallurgical	$\cdot$ The basis for assumptions or predictions regarding metallurgical	Metallurgical recoveries used for the Atticus open pit optimisation
factors or	amenability. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining	study inputs are assumptions based on review of technical reports
assumptions	reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider	prepared by XPS Laboratories, Sudbury.
	potential metallurgical methods, but the assumptions regarding	The assumptions for the metallurgical input parameters include:
	metallurgical treatment processes and parameters made when reporting	No oxide and transition material below the glacial till
	Mineral Resources may not always be rigorous. Where this is the case, this	overburden, typical of Canadian Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide
	should be reported with an explanation of the basis of the metallurgical	deposits.
	assumptions made.	• For primary rock, a recovery of 54.2% has been assumed for
		the pit optimisation input parameters (based on open
		circuit flotation and three stage cleaning circuit) to produce



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		a concentrate of 12.27% Ni, 0.48% Co, 19.5% S, 36.5% Fe
		and 10.3% MgO.
		• Further refinement and optimisation of these testwork
		parameters are required inclusive of locked cycle testing.
Environmental	· Assumptions made regarding possible waste and process residue disposal	The Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System is in the early stage
factors or	options. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining	of development prior to pre-feasibility studies with no previous
assumptions	reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider the	mining activities having taken place.
	potential environmental impacts of the mining and processing operation.	There has been a history of drilling activities recorded in the drilling
	While at this stage the determination of potential environmental impacts,	records dating back to 1946, and small drilling campaigns
	particularly for a greenfield project, may not always be well advanced, the	consistently up to 2010. SGX completed major drilling campaigns
	status of early consideration of these potential environmental impacts	from 2010 to 2013, followed by the commencement of Aston drilling
	should be reported. Where these aspects have not been considered this	in 2021.
	should be reported with an explanation of the environmental assumptions	It is therefore assumed that appropriate environmental impact
	made.	requirements have been met up to this point of the Project's
		development.
		No other assumptions were made regarding environmental
		restrictions.
Bulk Density	$\cdot$ Whether assumed or determined. If assumed, the basis for the	The assigned bulk densities (BD) are determined and based on core
	assumptions. If determined, the method used, whether wet or dry, the	samples taken by Aston and dispatched to the Activation
	frequency of the measurements, the nature, size, and representativeness	Laboratories, Timmins, Ontario.
	of the samples.	The recent BD measurements come from representative samples
		for all major lithological units. and at selected intervals in selected



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		holes for both mineralisation intervals and waste interval
		measurements.
		The dry sample is weighted on the scale and the dry weight (DW)
		recorded. The sample is then placed in the basket, completely
		submerged in the water and the wet weight (WW) is recorded.
		All dry and wet weights are entered into an MS Excel spreadsheet
		and the specific gravity is calculated using the following formula:
		BD=DW/DW-WW
		A total of 378 BD samples from 62 holes have been taken by Aston
		from 2021 up to December 2022 The amount of BD samples is
		considered a moderate representation for all material types across
		the Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System. More BD sampling
		across material and mineralisation types should be implemented for
		future programs.
	$\cdot$ The bulk density for bulk material must have been measured by methods	BD methodology is adequate for the rock material types at the
	that adequately account for void spaces (vugs, porosity, etc), moisture and	Edleston Project. There are no oxide/transition zones present within
	differences between rock and alteration zones within the deposit.	the sequence, and no porous or vuggy zones within the rock units
		below the shallow overburden material.
	· Discuss assumptions for bulk density estimates used in the evaluation	All lithology zones have been flagged with BD assigned values based
	process of the different materials.	on the interpreted grouped or major lithological domains below the
		overburden surface:

1:46	# of BD	BD Ave (t/m3)			
Group		All	Above	Below	
Group	Samples	Material	0.3g/t Au	0.3g/t Au	



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Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		Felsics952.762.782.76Mv/Tuff672.882.892.88MZ (sulph)113.142.853.31QV172.722.852.66Seds242.782.692.80UM1642.812.832.80TOTAL3782.812.832.81
		The assigned BDs are calculated averages for each lithology as reported by Aston, based on database records collated from drilling and sampling up to 16 December 2022. BD value for the overburden has been assumed: BD = 2.2 t/m <sup>3</sup>
Classification	$\cdot$ The basis for the classification of the Mineral Resources into varying	Blocks have been classified as Indicated or Inferred based on data
	confidence categories.	spacing and using a combination of kriging parameters and number
		of data used for the estimation:
		1. Geological continuity and volume.
		2. Drill spacing and drill data quality.
		3. Modelling technique.
		4. Estimation properties including search strategy, number of
		informing composites, average distance of composites from
		blocks and kriging quality parameters.
		5. Risk or uncertainty present in the estimated grades.
		Indicated Mineral Resources are defined nominally by 100 m x
		100 m spaced drilling or less.
		Inferred Mineral Resources are defined by data greater than 200 m
		x 200m spaced drilling and the confidence that the continuity of
		x 200m spaced drining and the confidence that the continuity of



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		geology and mineralisation can be extended along strike and at
		depth to a nominal 150 m maximum extent past Inferred Resource
		limit.
		Unclassified material, all material within the mineralisation
		domains, but outside of indicated and inferred material - mostly
		Interpolation Pass 3 estimated material.
		The MRE appropriately reflects the Competent Person's view of the
		Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System.
	$\cdot$ Whether appropriate account has been taken of all relevant factors (i.e.,	The resource classifications are based on the quality of information
	relative confidence in tonnage/grade estimations, reliability of input data,	for the geological domaining, as well as the drill spacing and
	confidence in continuity of geology and metal values, quality, quantity, and	geostatistical measures to provide confidence in the tonnage and
	distribution of the data).	grade estimates.
		There was sufficient confidence in all data used, and the reliability
		of data based predominantly on high quality diamond core drilled
		since 2021.
	$\cdot$ Whether the result appropriately reflects the Competent Person's view of	The MRE classification appropriately reflects the Competent
	the deposit.	Person's view of the nickel-cobalt sulphide mineral resources.
Audits and	$\cdot$ The results of any audits or reviews of Mineral Resource estimates.	The wireframed domains, statistical and variography analysis,
Reviews		estimation parameters, classification, block model report and
		documentation have all been internally peer reviewed by qualified
		professionals at Atticus.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Comment	ary
Discussion of	$\cdot$ Where appropriate a statement of the relative accuracy and confidence	The Febru	ary 2023 MRE approximates the global contained metal,
relative	level in the Mineral Resource estimate using an approach or procedure	due to the	following factors.
accuracy/	deemed appropriate by the Competent Person. For example, the	1.	Broadly defined mineralisation envelopes within the
confidence	application of statistical or geostatistical procedures to quantify the		Boomerang Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide System at a nominal
	relative accuracy of the resource within stated confidence limits, or, if such		0.12% Ni threshold allowing for more continuous
	an approach is not deemed appropriate, a qualitative discussion of the		mineralisation trends.
	factors that could affect the relative accuracy and confidence of the	2.	Broad spaced drilling in relation to zones outside of the
	estimate.		Bardwell Prospect – lower confidence in geological and
			mineralisation interpretations.
		3.	Limited data informing nickel and cobalt distribution for
			mineralisation interpretation outside of the Barwell
			Prospect – most estimation domains have small sample
			population for statistical and geostatistical analysis.
		The resou	rce risk is considered to be low to moderate based on the
		following r	results:
		• Th	e density of drilling and quality of the estimation results
		wi	thin the Boomerang Target supports the classification of
		15	% of the Mineral Resource to be classified as Indicated (by
		со	ntained metal).
		• Cc	nsistency of step out diamond drilling by Aston has
		ve	rified the reproducibility of the original mineralised drill
		int	tersections.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	$\cdot$ The statement should specify whether it relates to global or local	The MRE constitutes a global resource estimate but not a local
	estimates, and, if local, state the relevant tonnages, which should be	estimate. The estimate represents an in-situ mineral resource, as it
	relevant to technical and economic evaluation. Documentation should	has not been constrained by any modifying factors including pit
	include assumptions made and the procedures used.	optimisation studies or other mining factors, metallurgical factors or
		any environmental or sovereign risks. Atticus is currently
		undertaking Whittle optimisation open pit studies.
	$\cdot$ These statements of relative accuracy and confidence of the estimate	No previous mining activity has taken place with the Project area.
	should be compared with production data, where available.	



