## Minera IRL Limited



## ANNUAL INFORMATION FORM

For the 12 months ended 31 December 2011

29 March 2012

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## GENERAL

All reference in this Annual Information Form ("AIF") to the Company (or Minera IRL) also includes references to all subsidiaries of the Company as applicable, unless the context requires otherwise.

# CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain of the information contained in this AIF and documents incorporated herein by reference constitutes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. Such forward-looking statements and information include statements regarding: the future price of gold; targets for gold production; the estimation of mineral resources and reserves; cash operating costs and certain significant expenses; success of exploration activities; the timing and scope of future commencement of mining or production; anticipated grades and recovery rates; asset retirement obligation estimates; the ability to secure financing; title disputes or claims; and potential acquisitions or increases in property interests. Often, but not always, forward-looking statements or information can be identified by the use of words such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate" or "believes" or variations (including grammatical variations) of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved.

Forward-looking statements and information by their nature are based on assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements or information. These risks, uncertainties or other factors include, but are not limited to, inherent speculative nature and hazards associated with exploration and development activities; uncertainties related to fluctuation in gold and silver prices; uncertainties related to actual capital costs, operating costs and expenditures, production schedules and economic returns; risks that the Company's title to its properties could be challenged; risks related to environmental regulations; risks related to legal proceedings; risks related to increased competition; the uncertainties related to surface rights in the countries in which the Company's material mineral projects are located; uncertainties related to the Company's resource and reserve estimates, which are based on detailed estimates and assumptions; assumptions regarding the need for financing and uncertainties related to the availability of such financing; uncertainties in government policies and regulations; and risks that the Company's directors and officers may have conflicts of interest.

Although the Company has attempted to identify factors that would cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those disclosed in the forward-looking statements or information, there may be other factors that cause actions, events or results not to be as

anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Also, many of the factors are beyond the control of the Company. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. All forward-looking statements and information herein are qualified by this cautionary statement.

## **1 CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

#### Name, Address and Incorporation

Minera IRL Limited ("Minera IRL", or the "Company") was incorporated in the Cayman Islands on 27 August 2003 as "Goldmin Holdings" under the Cayman Islands Companies Law (2003 Revision) as an exempted company.

On 20 October 2006, the Company applied pursuant to the Jersey Companies Law to the Jersey Registrar of Companies (the "Jersey Registrar") for continuance as a company incorporated under the Jersey Companies Law. On 25 October 2006, the Company applied, pursuant to the Cayman Islands Companies Law (2004 Revision), to the Cayman Islands Registrar of Companies (the "Cayman Registrar") to be de-registered as a Cayman Islands exempted company and to be registered by way of continuation as a company incorporated under the laws of Jersey. On 25 October 2006, the Cayman Registrar issued a certificate that the Company had been de-registered as an exempted company, as a result the Company ceased to be a "company" for all purposes under the Cayman Islands Companies Law (2004 Revision). On 25 October 2006, the Jersey Registrar issued a certificate of continuance as a result of which the Company became a public company incorporated under the Jersey Companies Law, under the name "Minera IRL Limited" registration number 94923.

The Company's registered office is located at Ordnance House, 31 Pier Road, St. Helier, Jersey, JE4 8PW. The Company's corporate head office is located at Av Santa Cruz 830, Piso 4, Miraflores, Lima 18, Peru.

					_
	Minera IRL Lim	ited Corporate Structure			_
					_
					_
		Minera IRL Limited			_
		(Jersey)			+
					+
					+
					-
99%	99.999%	90%	100%	10%	_
1%	10%		90%		_
Minera IRL Chile SA	Minera IRL SA (Peru)	Minera IRL Argentina	Hidefield Gold Ltd	Minera IRL Patagonia	_
(Chile)		SA (Argentina)	(UK)	SA (Argentina)	_
					_
					-
	99.999%				_
	Compania Minera				_
	Kuri Kullu SA (Peru)				
		100%	100%	90%	
				10%	
		Hidefield Gold	Hidefield Internat'nal	Exploraciones Bema	
		(Alaska) Inc. (USA)	Gold Hldgs Ltd (BVI)	S.A. (Arenginta)	
					-
					-

## 2 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

For approximately 10 years, commencing in 1997, a Melbourne, Australia based financial and technical advisory firm known as Investor Resources Limited ("IRL") provided high level consulting services to the mineral and oil resource industry. In October 2000, IRL began investigating building a portfolio of advanced gold properties in Peru that could form the basis for building a Latin American gold mining company.

As a continuation of the concept, an office was established in Lima in mid-2002 and a Peruvian company named Minera IRL SA was registered in (August) 2002. In October, an option was obtained to acquire 100% of the Corihuarmi tenements which, in 2008, became the group's first gold mine.

In 2003, the assets were moved into Goldmin Holdings, a Cayman company. In October 2006, the Company transferred its registered office from the Cayman Islands to Jersey, deregistered in the Cayman Islands, became a company incorporated under the laws of Jersey and changed its name to Minera IRL Limited.

Private equity funding was secured in 2003 and Minera IRL was supported by private equity until 2007. During this period, a number of projects were assessed. Corihuarmi was progressively advanced through the exploration, pre-feasibility, feasibility and environmental impact studies culminating in permitting approvals being granted by the Peruvian authorities in early 2007.

With a project ready to be developed, Minera IRL was listed on AIM in April 2007 and, in the process, raised £11.4 million from the issue of approximately 25.3 million ordinary shares of the Company (the "Ordinary Shares", each an "Ordinary Share"). The Company was subsequently dual listed on the Lima Ventures Exchange in December 2007; admission was granted to the main board of the Lima Stock Exchange in June 2008.

The funds raised in London were applied to the construction of the Corihuarmi Gold Mine, which commenced in June 2007 and the first gold was poured in March 2008 heralding the commencement of strong cash flows and a move into the ranks of a production company.

An option agreement to acquire 100% of the Ollachea Project in southern Peru was obtained from Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited ("Rio Tinto") in 2006. Following protracted negotiations with the local community, a comprehensive Surface Rights Agreement was signed in November 2007 and exploration commenced in early 2008 with drilling beginning in October 2008. A significant discovery was announced in early 2009 and a positive scoping study was completed in November 2009; at that point the project moved into pre-feasibility status.

In July 2009, the Company completed a placement of 13.6 million Ordinary Shares to raise £9.1 million. The principal use of the proceeds were to advance the Ollachea Project, to continue the Company's exploration program and for general working capital.

Minera IRL mounted a take-over bid, via a Scheme of Arrangement, of AIM listed Hidefield Gold Plc ("Hidefield") during 2009. This acquisition was completed in December 2009 at which time the Hidefield group of companies became wholly owned subsidiaries of Minera IRL. The acquisition was an all share transaction which resulted in the issue of approximately 9.8 million Ordinary Shares to shareholders of Hidefield Gold Plc. The principal asset was a large tenement holding in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina, which included the Don Nicolás Project. A scoping study had been completed over this project by Hidefield and, in early 2010, Minera IRL commenced a full feasibility study.

In November 2010, the Company completed an equity offering of 32,641,600 ordinary shares at C\$1.15 per ordinary share to raise approximately C\$37.5 million. The principal use of the net proceeds of the equity offering were to advance the Company's Ollachea and Don Nicolás projects in Peru and Argentina, to assist the Company in funding exploration programs on its portfolio of properties and for working capital and general corporate purposes.

## **3 DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

The Company is a fully integrated Latin America, publicly listed gold mining company based in Lima, Peru. The Corihuarmi Gold Mine located in the high Andes, has produced 150,491 ounces between March 2008 and the end of December 2011 at a cash operating cost of US\$301 per ounce. Corihuarmi is expected operate until at least mid-2015 and provides a cash flow stream that is expected to help underpin the implementation of the Company's business plan.

There are two pre-development projects in the Company's portfolio, namely the Ollachea Project in Peru and the Don Nicolás Project in Patagonia. Both projects are being aggressively advanced through the stages required to demonstrate a viable mining operation and followed by the subsequent development.

Minera IRL also carries out exploration in an attempt to discover new, high quality projects. Currently the Company has active exploration projects in Peru and Argentina. Targets are expected to have a minimum of 500,000 ounces of gold, preferably larger.

The Company maintains a very active community management program, which is an extremely important aspect of a successful mining company in Peru. The Company's community policy places priority on building relationships with local stakeholders through well-developed programs of community involvement, benefits and long term sustainability.

The Minera IRL head office is located in Lima, Peru and houses the executive team and support services. As at 31 December 2011, the Company had 625 employees, which excludes people on full time contracted services.

The Company's business requires specialized skills and knowledge in the areas of geology, drilling, planning, implementation of exploration programs, project development and operating of mines. To date, the Company has been able to locate and retain such professionals in Peru and Argentina, and believes it will be able to continue to do so.

The Company operates in a very competitive industry and competes with other companies, many of which have greater technical and financial facilities for the acquisition and development of mineral properties, as well as for the recruitment and retention of qualified employees. However, the Company also believes that it has greater technical and financial skills than many of its competitors.

## 4 **PROJECTS**

## 4.1 Corihuarmi

The following summary is derived from the technical report entitled "Corihuarmi Gold Project, Technical Report" (the "Corihuarmi Report") dated 6 April 2010. This summary is not complete and the full Corihuarmi Report can be accessed on the Company's SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

This section has also been updated by the Company to the date of this AIF by its Executive Chairman, Courtney Chamberlain, a "qualified person" under NI 43-101.

#### Project Description, Logistics, Infrastructure and Climate

The Corihuarmi Gold Mine is located in the high Andes of central Peru, approximately 160km southeast of the capital city of Lima (-75.57 longitude and -12.57° latitude). Access to the project is via 330km on the sealed main highway east from Lima, over the Andean divide to Yauli, then southeast to the city of Huancayo, the regional capital of Junin Department. From Huancayo, access is gained via the Andean plateau by travelling southwest on formed gravel roads for a further 115km through the villages of Chupuro and Vista Alegre to the mine.

The Corihuarmi Project lies at elevations between 4,500m and 5,050m above sea level, straddling the main Andean divide. Despite the elevation, the topography is relatively subdued, comprising a series of hills and ranges that rise approximately 500m above an undulating alpine plateau.





The Corihuarmi Project experiences a high mountain dry tundra climatic regime. Precipitation is markedly seasonal and total annual precipitation averages 730mm. The vegetation is solely comprised of alpine tussock grassland across the plateau, with the adjacent hills and ridges essentially barren of vegetation, particularly in areas of argillic alteration. Agricultural activities are confined to extensive livestock grazing, principally sheep, cattle and camelids (alpaca and llama).

A camp to accommodate approximately 140 employees has been constructed to the east of the plant facilities. Additional accommodation of approximately the same size is available from the construction camp. Existing buildings include the offices, warehouse, messing facilities, a soccer field and other buildings. Power is provided by a 44km power line, constructed by Minera IRL as part of the development, from the national grid. Water is abundantly available from a large lake. The principal mining related infrastructure comprise the waste dump, haul roads, mining contractor workshop and related infrastructure, fuel farm and explosives storage facility.

#### History and Tenure

Minera IRL SA acquired the project from Minera Andina de Exploraciones ("Minandex") in 2002. Between 2003 and 2005, the company completed a programme, primarily concentrating

on the Susan and Diana zones, comprising geological mapping, extensive horizontal and vertical chip-channel sampling, three phases of diamond core drilling (53 holes; 3,551.95m), metallurgical testwork, geotechnical studies, internal and independent resource estimates and an internal pre-feasibility study. An external bankable feasibility study was subsequently commissioned and completed by Kappes Cassiday and Associates (KCA) in April 2006.

Minera IRL also completed investigations into the potential for additional low grade mineralization comprising a veneer of scree on the slopes directly beneath the Diana and Susan deposits. The mineralization was delineated in 2 programs of reverse circulation ("RC") drilling and an inferred resource estimated. It is planned that this will be treated on the heap leach pads.

The Corihuarmi property consists of 14 concessions totalling 9,315.83ha. These consist of 6 mining concessions totalling approximately 3,418.65ha and 8 exploration concessions or petitorios (application stage for mining concession), totalling 5,897.18ha.

The mining concessions are in good standing. No litigation or legal issues related to the project are pending.



Figure 2 Plan Showing Corihuarmi Project Tenements

The 14 mining and exploration concessions that comprise the property are held 100% by Minera IRL. In October, 2005 the Company fulfilled the terms of an option agreement with Minandex to acquire 100% interest in the Tupe 2, 3 and 4 mining concessions. The terms of the agreement called for Minera IRL to make a series of quarterly cash payments (totalling US\$903,309) over a

three year period which Minera IRL completed in 2007. Minandex retains a sliding scale net smelter royalty based on the price of gold as follows:

- Gold price less than US\$300/oz, a sales royalty of 1.5%;
- Gold price from US\$300/oz to US\$350/oz, a sales royalty rate of 2.0%; or
- Gold price over US\$350/oz, a sales royalty rate of 3.0%.

The Corihuarmi Gold Mine is subject to the permitting and environmental laws of Peru. This includes an approved mine closure plan. There are no other environmental liabilities at the date hereof.

Minera IRL has in place a mining exploitation contract with the community of Atcas for a surface area of 1,900 hectares and an expiration date of 2014, which attracts an annual payment of US\$40,000. This is renewable for a further 5 years.

There is also a surface rights agreement in place with the community of Huantan for a total area of 1,400 hectares and an expiry date of 2014. The annual payment is US\$38,500. In addition, sustainable development projects in the two communities total US\$667,000 per year.

If the surface rights agreements expire, their extension can be renegotiated.

#### **Geological Setting and Mineralization**

The Corihuarmi Project is situated within the Andean Cordillera, which lies between the Peru-Chile oceanic trench to the west and the Brazilian Craton to the east. The Andes Range formed as a result of the convergence between the oceanic Nazca Plate (of the Pacific Basin) and the South American continent. The denser lower portion of the Nazca Plate was subducted beneath the South American continent along the Peru-Chile Trench, resulting in crustal melting and magmatic (volcanic) activity, while the lighter marine sediments of the upper Nazca Plate were obducted onto the continental landmass, resulting in collision and compression.

The Andean Cordillera consists of two parallel ranges, with the younger Western Cordillera corresponding to a Cenozoic magmatic arc, while the Eastern Cordillera represents a zone of progressive uplift since Permian times. The intervening zone is occupied by the Altiplano, a high plateau of relatively subdued relief where inter-montaine basins were developed during the Cenozoic period. The Western Cordillera and Altiplano host the majority of Peru's economically significant precious and base metal deposits, occurring in a series of metallogenically distinct belts or domains as shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3 Corihuarmi Project – Regional Setting

The Corihuarmi property is located at the northern extremity of the Southern Peru Epithermal Au-Ag Belt, associated with middle to upper Tertiary volcanics and intrusives of the Western Cordillera. These are separated from deformed Mesozoic sediments of the Altiplano immediately east of the project area by a major northwest trending thrust.

The geological understanding of the Corihuarmi Project is essentially confined to the central group of tenements, referred to as the Main Block, which host all known resources and reserves, and the majority of significant prospects.

The geology of the Main Block is dominated by a significant volcanic centre of Miocene to Pliocene age, comprising a series of dacite and rhyodacite domes of the Caudalosa Formation and broadly coeval volcanics of the overlying Astobamba Formation (Figure 4). The dacite domes broadly define the margins of a collapsed caldera structure, measuring some 4.5km by 3.5km and elongate in a north-northwest orientation. The overlying volcanics variously comprise dacitic and andesitic flows, ignimbrites and pyroclastic tuffs that conform to the dome margins.

The general structural orientation within the Corihuarmi area is consistent with the northwest Andean trend, mimicked by fold axes within Mesozoic sediments to the east, the major thrust separating these sediments from the younger volcanics, and the general orientation of the alteration system and associated caldera structure within the volcanics themselves. A series of east-west and northeast trending tensional structures appear to provide the focus for breccia development, alteration and mineralization within the vicinity of dacite domes. These high angle faults are variously characterised by either normal vertical or dextral horizontal displacements.





Mineralization identified to date within the Corihuarmi Project comprises a high sulphidation epithermal precious metal system that formed at relatively shallow depth. Gold and silver mineralization is essentially confined to remnant zones of silicification and brecciation that dominantly lie along the northeast margin of the volcanic complex. Horizontal metallogenic zonation provides evidence that this siliceous layer was once continuous, effectively capping the hydrothermal system.

The most significant mineralization is associated with the Susan and Diana zones, which has been mined since the beginning of 2008 and comprises resistant remnant mineralized silicified bluffs separated by some 180m. The Susan deposit measures approximately 200m by 350m in size, being confined at the margins by cliffs. The smaller Diana deposit is approximately 150m by 250m in area, and to some extent remains open to the northwest and southeast along the ridge-line. The siliceous layer is shallow dipping to sub-horizontally disposed, ranging in thickness from 10m to 75m, and averaging approximately 45m.

Drilling before 2008 defined a zone of higher relative grade (>1g/t Au) near the top of the Diana deposit and immediately below a barren siliceous cap at the Susan deposit. These zones ranged

from 5m to 50m in thickness and their attitude is consistent with the sub-horizontal morphology of the exposures. The tenor of mineralization diminishes rapidly below these higher grade zones, the exception being isolated intersections of higher grade that are interpreted to represent a series of northwest and northeast trending faults that acted as feeder structures for multiple hydrothermal mineralizing events.





Figures 6 and 7 are photos of the Susan and Diana orebodies; the former figure shows these outcrops before mining started in January 2008 and the second photo illustrates the open pits 2 years into the mine life.

Figures 8 and 9 illustrate a pre-mining cross section of Susan and Diana. This shows the drill intersections and mineralized zones destined for mining.



Figure 6 Corihuarmi Project – Susan (right) and Diana (left) Zones (pre-mining)

Figure 7 Corihuarmi Project – Susan (right) and Diana (left) Zones in January 2010





Figure 8 Corihuarmi Project - Susan Deposit - Representative Drill Section

The mineralized material is almost exclusively comprised of amorphous vuggy silica with the dacite protore generally being modified beyond textural or mineralogical recognition. Subordinate interstitial alunite increases in abundance towards the base of the mineralized zones, while zones of annealed breccias and quartz veining attest to multiple episodes of hydrothermal activity. The massive siliceous material grades laterally downwards into a zone of intense silica-alunite alteration.



While the project resources and reserves are confined to the Susan and Diana zones, a series of other siliceous exposures have been recognised elsewhere within the main block tenements. These include the prospective Ely, Cayhua, Laura, Coyllor and Elena areas.

#### Drilling

All diamond drilling was completed by the drilling contractor, MDH SAC. Most diamond core holes were drilled HQ diameter (63.5mm diameter).

Based upon inspection of various core trays available on site and review of the available reports, Coffey Mining Pty Ltd ("Coffey") considered that diamond core drilling has been carried out to expected industry standards. Sample recoveries were not recorded by Minera IRL although were reportedly high.

Blasthole drilling is used for blasting and also for grade control sampling, as standard industry practice. The holes are all vertical to approximately 5m depth and are rotary air blast samples which effectively result in wall contamination.

Drillhole collars were surveyed by Minera IRL surveyors using total station. Survey accuracy is reported as +/-0.5m. Coffey reports that accuracy of the survey measurements meets acceptable industry standards. No downhole surveys have been undertaken. The deviation is however expected to be limited as the holes are generally less than 100m.

#### Sampling & Assaying

HQ (63.5mm diameter) and NQ (47.6mm diameter) diamond core was sampled at lengths on average of 2m. Samples were numbered and collected in individual plastic bags with sample tags inserted inside.

RC samples were collected at 5m intervals and quartered in riffle splitters. Sub-samples weighed approximately 1kg and were collected in cloth-lined sample bags. The samples for the scree RC drilling were collected on 1m and 2m intervals.

Diamond core was logged in detail for geological, structural and geotechnical information, including rock quality designation ("RQD") and core recovery. Whole core was routinely photographed. Review by Coffey of selected geological logs against actual core showed no significant discrepancies or inconsistencies. Diamond core and RC chip logging have been conventional and appropriate.

#### Sample Preparation, Analysis and Security

Reference material is retained and stored in Lima, including half-core and photographs generated by diamond drilling, duplicate pulps and residues of all submitted samples. All pulps are stored in Lima at the Minera IRL storage base.

The CIMM laboratory in Lima was responsible for the preparation and analysis of the resource holes. Samples were digitally weighed, dried to a maximum of 120°C (for wet samples), crushed to 70% < 2mm (10 mesh), riffle split to 250g, and pulverised to  $85\% < 75\mu$ m (200 mesh). 50g pulps were submitted for chemical analysis. Chemical analysis consisted of fire assay (FA) with atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) finish, using 50g sub-samples. Those samples that analysed  $\geq 5$  g/t Au were analysed using gravimetric methods.

The mine operates a modern laboratory where 100 fire assays per day are carried out for grade control purposes.

#### Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve Estimates

The resource and reserve drilling for the feasibility study was all HQ diamond core. Subsequent drilling has been a combination of diamond and reverse circulation drilling.

The grade estimates for the Diana and Susan deposits have been classified by Coffey as a combination of Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources in accordance with the criteria laid out in the Canadian National Instrument 43-101 – *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects* ("NI 43-101") guidelines. No material has been classified as Inferred.

The feasibility study upon which the Corihuarmi Gold Mine was predicated (before mining commenced in 2008) upon a Proven and Probable Reserve (as defined in NI 43-101) totalled 4 million tonnes grading 1.1g/t Au containing 144,000 ounces.

Using cutoff grades of 0.3g/t Au cut-off at the Susan deposit and a 0.25g/t Au cut-off at the Diana deposit, a total of 5.3Mt at an average gold grade 0.6g/t Au for 103 koz Au are reported from the combined deposits, remaining in-situ as of December 31, 2009, as estimated by independent consultants Coffey.

Table 1												
Corinuarini Gold Mille												
As of 21 December 2000												
			F	45 01 51 1	Decembe	2009						
Cut off (g/t)	Deposit	Deposit Mineral Reserves										
			Proven Probable Total									
		Tonnes	TonnesGradeIn-situ AuTonnesGradeIn-situ AuTonnesGradeIn-situ Au							In-situ Au		
		Mt g/t Au koz Mt g/t Au koz Mt g/t Au						koz				
0.30	Diana	0.7	0.54	11.9	-	-	-	0.7	0.54	11.9		
0.25	Susan	4.4 0.67 93.9 4.4 0.67 9							93.9			
	Total 5.1 0.65 105.9 5.1 0.65 105.9									105.9		

A total Inferred Mineral Resource for the scree mineralization has been estimated by Coffey at 3.765Mt at 0.45 g/t Au containing 54,600 ounces with no lower grade cutoff applied (as at 28 February 2010). Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. However, heap leach treatment of this material successfully commenced during 2011.

A comparison of the mining figures against the current resource model on a bench by bench basis, for the period January 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009 has been analysed by Coffey. The Diana deposit has consistently returned higher grades and more contained metal from mining blocks

than shown from the current resource model for the corresponding volumes. Globally, the current mining at Diana has reported 154% of the gold ounces, delineated by the resource model.

The Susan deposit is performing well on the comparison of current mining against resource model figures. Globally, the mining at Susan is reporting 106% of the gold ounces delineated by the resource model.

#### Operations

The environmental conditions at the Corihuarmi Gold Mine, located at up to 5,000 meters in elevation, is surrounding peaks generally barren of vegetation with open grassland meadows and wetlands. There is snow and rain in the summer months, October to April, and is generally dry the remainder of the year. The Company policy is to comply with World Bank Standard environmental practices. Figure 10 illustrates the pristine wetland in close proximity with the operation.





Corihuarmi was fully permitted to mine and treat up to 4,500 tonnes per day; a new permit allows for the current mining and treatment of 6,000 tonnes per day.

The operation comprises a conventional open pit benching mine and treatment by a single stage crush, heap leach operation.

Conversion to Owner mining commenced at the beginning of 2011 which resulted in significant operating cost savings. Previously the mining was carried out under contract to CyM Contratistas Generales SAC ("CyM").

The geotechnical evaluation was completed by Vector in 2005. The evaluation was based on existing geological data, field structural and geotechnical mapping and drill hole core logging. In summary, the evaluation resulted in the recommendation of 70° batters and 8.5m berms for every 20m in vertical wall height.

The life of mine ("LOM") pit design was completed by AMC to conventional industry standards during the feasibility study.

Both the Diana and Susan pits require blasting prior to loading.

For grade control purposes a representative sample of the drill cuttings produced from blast holes is used for grade determination (blast hole sampling).

The Corihuarmi Project process is a heap leach operation utilizing a multiple-lift, single-use leach pad. Prior to placing the ore onto the leach pad the ore is primary crushed. Processing of ore began on the Corihuarmi heap leach project in January 2008 when irrigation of the heaps was started.

A current flowsheet for the Corihuarmi heap leach project is illustrated in Figure 11 below.



Figure 11 Corihuarmi Project - Current Flowsheet for Heap Leach Processing

Ore from the mine is transported by trucks to the run of mine ("ROM") pad. The ore is then either dumped directly into the coarse ore bin ("COB") or can be placed on the ROM pad and fed into the COB by front end loader.

Ore is crushed in open circuit to minus 100mm thought a primary jaw crusher. As the ore travels along the conveyor it is weighted and lime is added. From this conveyor the ore is

discharged onto a stacking conveyor and is stockpiled. The crushed material is reclaimed using a front end loader and trucks and transported to the heap leach pad where it is stacked on 8 meter high lifts and levelled.

Heap leaching with dilute cyanide solution is carried out in a single stage system. Pregnant leach solution is delivered to activated carbon contactors to remove the gold after which the solution is pumped back to the heap leach pad. The activated carbon in the contactors is stripped from the carbon in the elution plant and the gold is electrowon onto cathodes. The cathodes are then direct smelted to recover the gold into dore bars ready for shipment the refinery.

Recoveries are shown in Table 2.

Table 2Feasibility Study Recovery Estimates								
Outcrop Average Field Recovery Expected Recovery Rang								
Diana	87	83 to 92						
Susan	70	61 to 85						
Overall	76.8							

A camp which accommodates approximately 140 employees is located to the east of the plant facilities. Existing buildings includes the offices, warehouse, messing facilities and other buildings.

#### Production, Cost history and Life-of-Mine Plan

Crushing and stacking of the heap at Corihuarmi commenced in January 2008 with the first gold pour on 15 March 2008. Production for 2008 was largely from the higher grade Diana outcrop whereas production for 2009 and subsequent years was mostly from the larger but lower grade Susan outcrop.

Parameter	2008	2009	2010	2011
	Year	Year	Year	Year
Ore mined and stacked on heap – tonnes	1,076,033	1,216,844	1,455,500	2,000,733
Ore grade, mined and stacked – g/t Au	1.99	1.13	0.87	0.68
Production - Gold, ounces	51,691	33,012	32,533	33,255
Shipments - Gold, fine ounces	50,347	32,147	33,240	33,718
Sale price received – Gold, US\$/ounce	869	988	1,232	1,570
Cash operating cost – US\$/ounce	161	341	383	410

The LOM design was completed by AMC to conventional industry standards during the feasibility study. The current LOM plan uses this same design but a lower cut-off grade of 0.25g/tAu for the Susan pit and 0.30g/t Au for the Diana pit was applied. The pit inventory

comprises 5.1Mt of mill feed at 0.65g/tAu with 1.2Mt of waste for a waste to ore strip ratio of 0.2: 1. The mining schedule is summarised in Table 3.

Table 3 Corihuarmi Project Life of Mine Plan Summary									
Year	Tonnes Ore	Grade Au (g/t)	Ounces	Tonnes waste	Ratio (SR)	Rec Au Ounces			
2012	1.45Mt	0.5	22.3koz	460.8kt	0.32	16.1			
2013	0.73Mt	0.4	9.0koz	254.7kt	0.35	6.7			
Total	2.18Mt	0.5	23.2koz	715.5kt	0.33	22.8			

However, the above does not take into account the broken scree material that in classified as Inferred Resource and therefore not eligible for including in a reported production plan. In fact, this material is being mined and treated and internal projections extend the mine life until 2015.

In the second half of 2011 the royalty payable to the government of Peru was amended from a sliding scale of 1% to 3% on sales to royalties based on operating profits. A royalty and a special mining tax is payable by the Corihuarmi Project, which is structured using a marginal tax rate scale applied to operational profit at different percentages depending on 17 different levels of operating margin. The Corihuarmi Project is also subject to the Peru corporate income tax at a rate of 30%.

#### Exploration

Bedrock sampling, particularly chip channel sampling in conjunction with diamond core ("DC") and RC drilling have been the dominant exploration tools of Minera IRL for defining mineral resources at the Diana and Susan zones. In addition they have utilised geological mapping, and geochemistry sampling, along with CSAMT geophysical surveys.

In addition to the main Susan and Diana current mine areas, the property includes the Laura, Ely and Cayhua prospects that have been defined by a combination of soil geochemistry and exploration diamond drilling (Figures 12 and 13).



### Figure 12 Corihuarmi Project – Main Block Alteration



#### Figure 13 Corihuarmi Project - Main Block Metallogenic Zonation

Results from the drilling have not been positive and as such no further proposed drilling has been proposed by Minera IRL on these prospects.

Exploration surveys and interpretations completed to date within the Corihuarmi Project have largely been planned, executed and supervised by Minera IRL personnel, supplemented by consultants and contractors for more specialised or technical roles. The data was considered by Coffey to be of good quality.

Coffey considers there are other exploration targets that justify further exploration as drilling of these epithermal targets to date is minimal and there is potential to identify additional mineralization in the Minera IRL permits. The Company has plans to continue exploration over these relatively untested targets.

#### 4.2 Ollachea

The following summary is derived from the technical reports entitled "Ollachea Gold Project, Puno Region, Peru, NI43-101 Technical Report on a Pre-feasibility Study" dated 1 September 2011. This summary is not complete and the full Ollachea Reports can be accessed on the Company's SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

This section has also been updated by the Company to the date of this AIF by its Executive Chairman, Courtney Chamberlain, a "qualified person" under NI 43-101.

#### Location, Accessibility, Climate and Physiography

The Ollachea Property is located in the Puno Region of southern Peru. Minera Kuri Kullu S.A. (MKK), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minera IRL S.A., (MIRLSA) owns the Property and retained AMEC Peru S.A. (AMEC) and Coffey Mining Pty Ltd (Coffey Mining) to conduct a Pre-feasibility Study (PFS) on the viability of mining the deposit from underground and processing ore in a 3,000 t/d facility on the property to produce gold doré. With the successful completion of this study, a full Feasibility study was commenced and is expected to be completed during the second half of 2012.



Figure 14 Ollachea Project Location

Road access to the Ollachea Project is by the new Interoceanic Highway which runs 200 m east of the proposed plant site for the Project. The Project is located at between 2,500 m and 3,500 m elevation on the eastern flank of the Cordillera Oriental of the Peruvian Andes. The Interoceanic Highway is a two-lane asphalt-paved road connecting the Brazilian highway system with the south of Peru and the Port of Matarani at the City of Ilo on the Pacific Coast of Peru. A series of un-paved roads connect the Town of Ollachea to the Minapampa area and the Oscco Cachi valley and are used to support exploration drilling on the Project. The Project can be reached by driving approximately four hours north from the airport at Juliaca, or five hours southwest from the airport at Puerto Maldonado. Both airports have daily commercial flights one to two hours from Jorge Chavez International Airport in the District of Callao, immediately north of the National Capital City of Lima.

The Project is located immediately adjacent to the town of Ollachea which can provide basic commercial and labour support for exploration and development activities.



Figure 15 Ollachea Deposit outcrop area in Oscco Cachi Valley

The Project has a temperate sub-alpine climate with a pronounced rainy winter season and dry summer season. The rainy season extends from December to April, the dry season from June to September and the remaining months of October, November and May are transition months. Based on historic data average precipitation in the study area ranges from 20.9 mm (June) to 228.7 mm (January) with an average of 1,235.4 mm. The maximum average monthly

temperatures range from 12.8 °C to 14.6 °C from November to January. The minimum average monthly temperatures range from 10.6 °C to 12.3 °C between June and August.

#### History

The earliest evidence of mining on the Ollachea Project is attributed to Spanish colonial activity during the 18th century. Informal mining activity was pursued in the area since at least the 1970's and probably considerably earlier.

Between 1998 and 1999, Peruvian Gold Ltd., a publicly-traded Canadian exploration company drilled five diamond drill holes on the Project and encountered low-grade gold mineralization but did not do any further work.

In 2003 Rio Tinto re-discovered the area in May 2003 while following-up a regional stream sediment sampling program. Between 2003 and 2004 Rio Tinto carried out surface sampling encountering encouraging surface sample gold assays but in 2006 elected to farm out the project.

MIRLSA began negotiations with Rio Tinto in 2006 and following negotiation of a surface access rights agreement with the Community of Ollachea in February 2007, began work on the Property.

In 2007 the Community of Ollachea and MKK worked to formalize mining at Minapampa under the national Act of Formalization and Promotion of the Little and Artisanal Mining Industry and its regulations (Tong, 2010b). MKK granted the Community of Ollachea right to exploit near surface mineralization at a part of the Minapampa area for five years in exchange for surface rights to carry out exploration activities on a portion of the property (Tong, 2010b). Small-scale artisanal mining continues on the Project (Figure 16).

Beginning in early 2007, MKK carried out bedrock sampling, geochemical sampling, mapping and structural geology based on aster image interpretation (Teluris, 2009). By October 2009, 80 diamond drill holes totaling 30,575 m had been drilled, and a Mineral Resource estimate and Preliminary Assessment was carried out for the Project by Coffey Mining (Coffey, 2010).

MKK continued diamond drilling and in mid-2010 contracted AMEC to assist with a Prefeasibility Study for the Project. By November 2010, an additional 46 drill holes totaling 17,536 m had been drilled and the Mineral Resource estimate for the Property was updated (Coffey, 2011a).

Between November 2010 and May 2011, MKK completed 14 more core drill holes totaling 5,949.6 m. This Report discusses an updated Mineral Resource estimate based on the Mineral Resource database to May 2011, and the results of a Pre-feasibility Study carried out in 2010 and 2011 and based on the May 2011 database and updated Mineral Resource estimate.

Figure 16 Artisanal Mine Workings at Minapampa - October, 2010



#### **Exploration and Mining Concession Tenure**

The Ollachea Project consists of 12 concessions covering an area of 8,698.98 ha (Table 4). A map of the Ollachea Property is shown in Figure 17. The concessions are map-staked and defined and registered spatially by the location of their vertices.

On 8 July, 2011, the INGEMMET mining concession registry website (<u>http://www.ingemmet.gob.pe/ConsultasDM/DefaultDM.aspx?Opcion=262</u>) listed all annual maintenance and penalty fees for the Oyaechea 1 to Oyaechea 12 concessions as paid and all concessions as in good standing.

The mineralization included in the Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserves occur within the Oyaechea 3 concession. The proposed plant site location will be located on the Oyachea 2 concession. The proposed portal location for the exploration access adit, which also serves as the main mine portal has been located on the Oyaceha 2 concession.

A gap measuring approximately 3,000 m long by 130 m wide exists between the Oyachea 2 and Oyachea 3 concessions (Figure 17). This concession is not held by MKK. The proposed exploration drive and other mine infrastructure discussed in this report have been located to avoid this gap.

Concession	Concession			Application
Name	Number	Concession Holder	Area (ha)	Date
OYAECHEA 1	10215003	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	800	23/06/2003
OYAECHEA 2	10215103	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	500	23/06/2003
OYAECHEA 3	10218103	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	998.98	24/06/2003
OYAECHEA 4	10215203	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	700	23/06/2003
OYAECHEA 5	10215303	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	900	23/06/2003
OYAECHEA 6	10215403	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	900	23/06/2003
OYAECHEA 7	10389907	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	1000	19/08/2008
OYAECHEA 8	10389807	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	300	30/10/2007
OYAECHEA 9	10139909	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	1000	30/11/2009
OYAECHEA 10	10140009	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	1000	16/10/2009
OYAECHEA 11	10140109	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	400	16/10/2009
OYAECHEA 12	10167809	Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu SA	200	22/01/2010

Table 4Ollachea Concessions

Figure 17 Ollachea Exploration Concession Map



Note: The red polygon is the surface projection of Indicated Mineral Resources in the Minapampa and Minapampa East Zones. The green polygon is footprint of the mineral processing plant proposed in the PFS. The yellow polygon between the Oyachea 2 and Oyeachea 3 concessions is a wedge-shaped gap in the MKK tenure holdings, and is owned by third-parties. The exploration access drive is marked as a blue line and roads are marked as thin black lines.

The Oyaechea 1 to Oyaechea 6 concessions were originally registered by Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited Sucursal del Peru (Rio Tinto) during its exploration activities at Ollachea beginning in 2006. On 1 September 2006, Minera IRL signed an agreement with Rio Tinto to acquire the original Ollachea concessions. On 27 February, 2007 the agreement was ratified and the Rio Tinto concessions were transferred to MKK.

#### Agreements

In September 2006, MIRLSA was granted an option to acquire the property rights and a 100% interest in the Oyaechea 1 to Oyaechea 6 concessions from Rio Tinto for an initial payment of US\$250,000, progressive payments totaling US\$6,000,000 over four years, together with two additional payments in the event that Rio Tinto's clawback right under the agreement was not exercised. The option was conditional on MIRLSA successfully negotiating a surface rights agreement with the local community within 120 days.

On 23 February 2007, Rio Tinto entered an agreement with MKK that assigned in favour of MKK the tenements comprising the Ollachea Project.

Rio Tinto's clawback right entitled Rio Tinto a one time right to acquire up to a 60% participating interest in the Ollachea property or a 60%. equity interest in Kuri Kullu. The clawback right is exercisable at any time, commencing on the exercise of the option and ending 54 months following execution of an agreement transferring title to the Ollachea Project to MKK once 20,000m of drilling has been completed and in excess of 5 million ounces of gold has been defined by paying to the Company three times the expenditure committed by MKK to that point. A share option agreement and mining option agreement were subsequently concluded on 23 February 2007 for the sale and purchase of this 60% interest, requiring the Company, Minera IRL SA and Kuri Kullu to give security to Rio Tinto so as to guarantee the obligations of the Minera IRL group of companies and Felipe Benavides under these agreements. security entered into in favour Rio Tinto comprises a mining mortgage agreement in terms of which MKK established a first and preferential mortgage in the amount of US\$150,000,000 over the Ollachea property and its related assets, a guarantee in terms of which Minera IRL SA established a first and preferential mortgage in the amount of US\$150,000,000 over its entire present and future shareholding in MKK and related rights and a guarantee in terms of which Felipe Benavides established a first and preferential mortgage in the amount of US\$150,000,000 over its entire present and future shareholding in MKK and related rights.

Rio Tinto's clawback right lapsed in 2009 and on 15 December 2009, Rio Tinto was notified by MKK that MKK was to make the first additional payment reducing the Rio Tinto royalty from 3% to a 1% net smelter return (NSR) in exchange for payment of approximately US\$3.81 million. This payment was made in mid-2010.

For the second additional payment to Rio Tinto, MKK has committed to making an additional cash payment of 30% of the net present value of the Ollachea Project (at a 7% discount rate) based on the results of a feasibility study, less 30% of the sunk costs determined after the exercise of this option.

MKK negotiated a surface rights agreement with the Community of Ollachea covering an area of 5,998.9848 ha of the Oyaechea 3 concession, which was signed on 25 November 2007. The agreement will be in force for a maximum of five years, and will automatically revert to a development contract at the time a development decision is made. MKK will make payments for surface rights access totaling US\$213,333 over the five-year period. In addition, MKK agreed to make contributions to sustainability projects and commit to social responsibility programs for the community totaling US\$416,666 and a contribution for technical support to artisan miners of US\$300,000 over the life of the agreement. As a part of the agreement, upon the commencement of commercial production, the MKK will transfer a participation of 5% of the share capital of MKK to the Community of Ollachea, giving them a participating interest in the project.

#### **Geological Setting and Mineralization**

The regional setting of the Ollachea Project is characterized by a significant change in the strike of the Andean range, whereby the stratigraphy is locally aligned approximately east-west, as opposed to the dominant northwest Andean trend. This deflection is postulated to have resulted from significant compression and thrusting to accommodate a prominent portion of the adjacent Brazilian Shield located to the east.

On a regional scale, high-grade gold deposits occur almost exclusively in slates/phyllites, (usually carbonaceous), and rarely in more arenaceous sediments but only when they lie adjacent to mineralized phyllites. This suggests that there may be a regional control on pre D1 syngenetic gold in sulphides that has been upgraded in areas of strong overprinting D1 deformation. Figure 18 shows the regional setting with respects to the Ollachea Project.



#### Figure 18 Regional Geology of the Ollachea Project

(after Ing. Valdivieso, Y., MKK, 2008. Regional Map of the Ollachea Project. 1:50,000 scale)

The inferred geology of the Ollachea Project is dominated by phyllites of the Devonian Sandia Formation, and variably bedded graphitic slates and shales of the Siluro-Devonian Ananean

Formation. Andesitic volcanic rocks crop out south of the sedimentary units and both the sedimentary and volcanic rocks are intruded by nepheline syenite to the south and granodiorite to the north. Intra-formational contacts and a strong penetrative cleavage in the sedimentary package of rocks are oriented approximately east-west and are parallel to two regional-scale thrust faults that bound the phyllitic slates which play host to the gold mineralization at Ollachea (Figure 19).

The gold mineralization at Ollachea is broadly strata-bound within northeast to east-west-trending, north-dipping carbonaceous phyllites.





Gold mineralization occurs within seven discrete east-striking, north-dipping structures below Minapampa and on the north side of the Oscco Cachi River. Mineralization has been traced continuously for 900 m along strike from the Minapampa zone eastwards into the contiguous Minapampa East Zone. Gold mineralization has also been encountered to the west of the Minapampa Zone in a zone on the south side of the Oscco Cacchi River that is referred to as Concurayoc, located some 400 m west of Minapampa. The known mineralized zone is approximately 1,900 m long, up to 200 m thick and has been traced in places to over 400 m below surface and remains open along strike as well as at depth. An extensive shear zone hosts the gold mineralized horizons. The shear zone is characterized by a well-developed slaty cleavage, with quartz-sulphide veins and veinlets, broadly concordant with the slaty cleavage. Quartz-sulphide veins and veinlets vary from a few millimetres to centimetres wide, up to a maximum of 40 cm, but do not always contain gold mineralization. The gold mineralization is hosted in the quartz -sulphide veins and veinlets. The veins can be strongly boundinaged, resulting in the development of packages of irregularly mineralized veins and veinlets within discrete mineralized horizons, incumbent to the sheared slate package.

Gold mineralization is associated with a sulphide assemblage consisting predominantly of pyrrhotite with minor pyrite, arsenopyrite and traces of chalcopyrite. Coarsely crystalline arsenopyrite and free gold are frequently observed in close association with one another within the central Minapampa and Minapampa East zones. The occurrence of coarse pyrite without other sulphides is often a counter-indicator of gold mineralization.

The deposit model guiding exploration targeting is mesothermal quartz vein style gold mineralization. The Ollachea deposit has also been described as a member of the class of orogenic gold deposits, with the possibility of local syngenetic gold enrichment playing a role in the location of the mineral deposit.

#### **Drilling and Exploration Techniques**

Diamond drilling with two rigs commenced in October 2008 and by end-December 2011, 73,934 meters have been completed in 193 holes. A total of 140 drill holes totalling 54,061 meters are around the Minapampa and Minapampa East zones and were used to construct the Mineral Resource Model used in the prefeasibility study.



Figure 20 Diamond drilling at Minapampa East with Ollachea township in valley below

The principal methods used for exploration drilling at Ollachea have been diamond core drilling (DC) by MDH SAC (drilling company), using standard wireline diamond drilling of HQ diameter then reducing to NQ as ground conditions dictate. Core recovery was very good (greater than 99%); except in large fracture zones where recovered core is noticeably fractured, but these zones are not expected to have a material impact on the accuracy and reliability of the results.

All surveying, plotting and mineral resource modelling, utilises the UTM grid in the WGS 84 coordinate system (Zone 19S).

Figure 21 Drill Hole Location Map


Drill hole collars were surveyed by MKK surveyors using total station instruments. Survey accuracy is reported as +/-0.5 m.

Down-hole surveys have been undertaken by the contract drilling company utilising both a Reflex single shot and a multi-shot survey tool, with readings taken on average at 20m downhole depth.

Assay samples for the mineral resource database have been taken at 0.05 m to 2 m lengths within the known mineralized zones (samples of 2 m to 5 m lengths have been taken in the surrounding non-mineralized areas) and have an average length of 1.3 m.

Exploration drill holes used in the mineral resource estimate were generally drilled to the south at between 40 degrees to 90 degrees dip. Holes were targeted to perpendicularly intersect the main trend of mineralization but given the access to deeper sections of mineralization the intersections are often oblique to mineralization. The deeper sections of Ollachea will need to be targeted from underground or via >1 km surface directional drilling The Minapampa and Minapampa East Zones have been drilled at a nominal spacing of 40 m by 40 m.

Drill holes typically intersect mineralization orthogonally, and the mineralized intercepts are typically 60% to 100% of the true mineralized thickness.

### Sample Preparation, Analysis and Security

The present procedure requires that half-core samples of 1.0 m length be taken in mineralized zones recognized during the logging process. Core outside the 1.0 m sampling intervals but transitional to the visually identified mineralized zones, is half-core sampled on a 2.0 m sample length. Core interpreted to represent zones sterile of gold mineralization are quarter-sawn and sampled at 5.0 m lengths. If any assayed intercepts with greater than 0.5 g/t Au are encountered in the 5.0 m sampling intervals, these intervals are re-sampled taking half-core samples at 1.0 m lengths, thus leaving quarter-core remaining.

Drill core is split using a diamond core saw. Samples are numbered and collected in individual plastic bags with sample tags inserted inside as well as being stapled to the outside of the bag. Remaining core from mineralized intervals is currently stored at temperatures that are maintained at below -5°C in refrigerated containers, to preserve their metallurgical intregity, at MKK's Juliaca core storage facility.

MKK has used the CIMM Peru laboratories as its primary laboratory for preparation and assaying of drill core samples from Ollachea since the MKK 2008 drill campaign. CIMM PERU has the System of Quality Management ISO 9001:2008 certification "System Management Quality" and is accredited with NTP-ISO/IEC 17025:2006 certification "General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories", for the preparation and assay of geochemical and metallurgical samples.

The CIMM sample preparation laboratory in Juliaca prepared the drill core samples for the Ollachea Project. Chemical analysis is conducted at the CIMM Lima laboratory and consists of

fire assay (FA) with atomic absorption spectrometry (AAS) finish on the 50 g pulp aliquot. A 32-element suite was also analysed by ion-coupled plasma optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES) until the end of 2009 but was discontinued once sufficient analyses had been obtained from the initial nominal 100 m grid pattern.

Coffey Mining considers that the sample preparation and security are adequate and appropriate for use in Mineral Resource estimation.

QA/QC programs have been in place since the beginning of exploration work. All of the MKK samples in the Mineral Resource database has been submitted with standard reference materials to control assay accuracy, and depending on the program, has included field duplicate samples, coarse crush duplicates, pulp duplicates to control sampling, sub-sampling and analytical precision. Not all programs have included preparation or pulp duplicates.

A check assaying program has also been used to demonstrate the reproducibility of the assaying carried out in the primary laboratory, and to help establish assaying accuracy.

Early in the 2008 MKK drilling program it was noted that the pyrrhotite present in the ore was reactive. Given the anticipated gold associations with the mineral as well as the potential influence oxidation could have on metallurgical test results, it was decided the core should be stored in freezers. Refrigerated sea containers were purchased and core stored at sub-zero temperatures.

Metallurgical sampling and compositing took place in each of 2009, 2010 and 2011 from representative diamond drill core that had been frozen to keep the samples from oxidizing. Samples were packed for shipment to the metallurgical laboratory in a non-oxidizing environment.

The Ollachea database contains 726 bulk density determinations. A total of 111 of these determinations are within the mineralized zones.

Coffey Mining has reviewed the entire sample chain of custody at Ollachea, from the drilling of the samples to the receiving of final analytical results, and is of the opinion that the systems in place are of industry standard, and are adequate and appropriate for use in Mineral Resource estimation.

### **Data Verification**

Verification of sampling and assay procedures have been carried out by Barry Smee and Coffey Mining on several occasions.

A field duplicate is collected after every 30 samples by MKK. Initially in the project, the field duplicates compared  $\frac{1}{2}$  core with  $\frac{1}{4}$  core. Coffey Mining has compared the results of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  core versus  $\frac{1}{4}$  core,  $\frac{1}{2}$  core versus  $\frac{1}{2}$  core and  $\frac{1}{4}$  core versus  $\frac{1}{4}$  core using the QC Assure software package. After examining the field duplicates, there does not appear to be much difference in the relative sample precision.

Coffey Mining compared the preparation duplicate data (289 samples) using the QC Assure software. The results of these data show that the preparation duplicate has over 86% precision at 20% Rank HARD and 74% precision at 10% Rank HARD. Coffey Mining considers this is a good result for this style of gold mineralization.

A total of 80 umpire pulp samples were sent to ALS Chemex laboratories in Santigo, Chile from the 2010 drilling campaign. The pulps were analysed using the same method as used by CIMM and showed high precision levels.

Table 5 lists screen fire assay results for samples in six grade ranges.

Original Assay Au Grade (g/t)	Samples	Average Screen Fire Assay Au (g/t)	Fine Fraction Assay Au Grade AAS (0) (g/t)	Original Assay Au Grade AAS (1) (g/t)	Difference (AAS (1) -SFA)		
> 10 g/t Au	3	21.8	13.71	18.32	81%		
5 - 10 g/t Au	21	6.75	5.56	6.58	97%		
2 - 5 g/t Au	57	3.15	2.73	3.2	100%		
1 - 2 g/t Au	55	1.48	1.33	1.43	96%		
0.5 - 1.0 g/t Au	42	0.81	0.75	0.74	91%		
< 0.5 g/t Au	43	0.47	0.41	0.32	69%		

Table 5Screen Fire Assay Results

### **Mineral Resource Estimates**

Coffey Mining has estimated an Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resource for the Minapampa and Minapampa East Zones of the Project as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011. All grade estimation was completed using Ordinary Kriging (OK) for gold.

For the purpose of Mineral Resource estimation, seven main high-grade mineralized domains were interpreted and modelled on a lower threshold of 1.0 g/t Au corresponding to the lower limit of mineralization having reasonable spatial continuity.

The Ollachea interpretation was restricted to the high-grade, relatively continuous zones (ZONE 1 to 7). A low-grade envelope (Zone 99) was also modelled around the main mineralized zones to account for mining dilution. Background mineralization (Zone 0) was also modelled. The modelled domains are shown in Figure 22.



Figure 22 Cross Section of Geological Model - 339,200 mE

Interpretation and digitizing of all constraining boundaries was undertaken on cross sections orthogonal to the drill line orientation. The generated wireframes were all snapped to the available drill core data.

The resultant digitized boundaries have been used to construct wireframe defining the threedimensional geometry of each interpreted feature. The interpretation and wireframe models were developed using the commercially-available Datamine (Studio 3) mining software package.

The Ollachea database contains 726 bulk density measurements. Table 6 summarises bulk density determinations by ZONE.

Zone	Count	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.	Variance	CV
0	325	2.63	3.12	2.81	2.82	0.058	0.003	0.021
99	290	2.60	2.99	2.79	2.80	0.069	0.005	0.025
Total 0,99	615	2.60	3.12	2.80	2.81	0.064	0.004	0.023
1	10	2.71	2.89	2.82	2.83	0.052	0.003	0.018
2	33	2.61	2.93	2.82	2.83	0.080	0.006	0.028
3	25	2.72	3.11	2.83	2.83	0.073	0.005	0.026
4	2	2.66	2.83	2.75	2.66	0.118	0.014	0.043
5	31	2.75	2.96	2.86	2.86	0.052	0.003	0.018
6	5	2.66	2.86	2.76	2.73	0.085	0.007	0.031
7	5	2.66	2.87	2.75	2.68	0.102	0.010	0.037
Total 1-7	111	2.61	3.11	2.83	2.84	0.075	0.006	0.027

Table 6Summary Statistics of Density Determinations by Zone

High-grade capping (cutting) was determined for each zone. The composite data for each of the mineralized zones generally had a positively skewed grade distribution characterised by differences between mean and median grades, and moderate to high coefficients of variation (CV, standard deviation/mean).

The summary statistics for the 2 m composite data, calculated for uncut and cut values for each element, are presented in Table 7.

			Uncu	ıt				0/ Change			
ZONE	Element	<sup>nt</sup> Number Mean Std. C <sup>r</sup> Data Dev. C		CV	Upper Cut	Mean	Std. Dev.	CV	Number Data Cut	in Mean	
1		147	3.27	4.33	1.32	20	3.12	3.18	1.02	1	-4.7
2		467	5.57	11.74	2.11	40	5.00	6.76	1.35	4	-10.3
3		227	3.63	4.19	1.15	22	3.55	3.77	1.06	4	-2.1
4		63	3.07	3.80	1.24	18	2.98	3.33	1.12	1	-3.0
5	Au(g/t)	356	3.15	4.96	1.58	25	2.96	3.28	1.11	3	-5.9
6		126	3.00	6.27	2.09	20	2.53	3.12	1.23	3	-15.6
7		63	2.49	2.42	0.97	NC	2.49	2.42	0.97	0	0.0
99		9825	0.18	0.56	3.08	0.9	0.16	0.21	1.33	218	-13.5
0		16013	0.11	0.88	8.33	0.9	0.07	0.15	2.31	289	-38.1

Table 7Cut and Un-cut Composite Statistics

A three dimensional block model was generated to enable grade estimation and mine planning and mine design. A parent block size of 20 mE x 20 mN x 4 mRL was selected with subblocking to a 2 mE x 2 mN x 0.4 mRL cell size to improve volume representation of the interpreted wireframe models.

A detailed validation of the OK estimate was completed for each zone and included both an interactive 3D and statistical review.

An Inferred Mineral Resource confidence category was assigned for blocks:

- Having an estimated Au grade
- Within the mineralized zones (Zone 1 to 7)

The Indicated Mineral Resource confidence category was assigned to blocks:

- Located in a portion of the deposit with a density of drilling of approximately 40 m x 40 m or better, and an estimated grade greater than 2 g/t Au.
- With a slope of regression for the Au OK estimate is greater than 0.47
- Where the distance to the nearest sample used in the Au OK block estimate is within 0.3 (30%) of the first pass search ellipse radius.

Mineral Resources are reported above a cut-off grade of 2.0 g/t Au and within threedimensional geological wireframes constructed to constrain the gold mineralization in the Mineral Resource estimate to zones defined by mineralized diamond drill core intersections. Mineral Resources above a 2.0 g/t Au cut-off grade have reasonable prospects for economic extraction, based on mineralization continuity, shape and distribution and as demonstrated in this study.

Mineral Resources for the Ollachea property above a 2.0 g/t Au cut off consist of 10.7 Mt of Indicated Mineral Resources with an average grade of 4.0 g/t Au and 3.3 Mt of Inferred Mineral Resources with an average grade of 3.0 g/t Au. Mineral Resources were estimated by Doug Corley, MAIG, of Coffey Mining Perth, a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101, and have an effective date of 31 May, 2011 (Table 8).

Mineral Resources above a 2.0 g/t Au Cut-off Grade	Tonnage	Au Grade	Contained Au
	(Mt)	(g/t)	(Moz)
Minapampa			
Indicated	9.3	4.0	1.2
Inferred	2.4	3.0	0.2
Minapampa East			
Indicated	1.4	3.9	0.2
Inferred	0.9	3.0	0.1
Total			
Indicated	10.7	4.0	1.4
Inferred	3.3	3.0	0.3

### Table 8Mineral Resources for the Ollachea Project

Note:

Mineral Resources are *inclusive* of Mineral Reserves.

Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. Mineral Resources are reported above a cut-off grade of 2.0 g/t Au and within three-dimensional geological wireframes constructed to constrain the gold mineralization in the Mineral Resource estimate to zones defined by mineralized diamond drill core intersections. Tonnages are metric tonnes and ounces of contained gold are troy ounces. Mineral Resources above a 2.0 g/t Au cut-off grade have reasonable prospects for economic extraction, based on mineralization continuity, shape and distribution and as demonstrated in this study. Mineral Resources are estimated by Doug Corley, MAIG, QP, of Coffey Mining and have an effective date of 31 May, 2011.

## **Mineral Reserve Estimate**

The in situ ounces of gold per vertical and lateral step (15 m) using a 2.0 g/t Au cut-off grade for the Indicated Mineral Resource are shown in Figure 23 and Figure 24.

Points related to Figure 23 are:

- The planned exploration incline is to be located around 2775 mRL. Approximately 86% of the in situ ounces are located above this RL.
- Zone 2 contains approximately 48% of the in situ ounces over approximately 200 vertical metres. This zone contains mineralised lodes that have the greatest width.
- Zone 5 contains approximately 24% of the in situ ounces however this is over approximately 450 vertical metres. This zone has mineralised lodes that are of significantly lesser width than the mineralised lodes in Zone 2.
- Zone 3 contains approximately 17% of the in situ ounces and this is over a similar vertical distance to that of Zone 2. Zone 3 mineralised lodes are of a similar width to those of Zone 5.

The remaining 11% of in situ ounces are contained in Zone 1, Zone 4 and Zone 6.



Figure 23 Ounces per 15m Vertical Step (Indicated Category Only)

∎1 ∎2 ∎3 ∎4 ∎5 ∎6



## Figure 24 Ounces per 15 m Easting Step (Indicated Category Only)

A cut-off grade of 2.0 g/t Au was used for the Pre-feasibility Study and this was based on the work completed for the Preliminary Assessment (PA) and a base Project gold price of US\$1,100/oz.

The initial mineable limits of the study were identified by using the Datamine process, MSO.

Key criteria or data used in the MSO process were:

- geological resource wireframes that represent the location of the lode mineralization;
- dilution: 0.3 m on each wall for a total of 0.6 m;
- minimum mining width: 2.0 m (2.6 m with dilution);
- minimum mining unit dimensions based on the mining method and its selectivity:

 15 m high by 15 m along strike by lode thickness (a 7.5 m half stope option for the strike direction was used in MSO to account for lode pinch out or changes in mineralisation grade).

The selection of a 15 m by 15 m mining unit dimension limit is based on Project geotechnical information, lode geometry and the nature of the MSO process:

- The geotechnical review indicates poor ground conditions requiring support on small span openings. At 15 m high, the 45° dipping panel requires support and can be adequately supported from within the drilling and extraction drives. Larger stope dimensions would be more difficult to support adequately from the drives.
- The geological interpretation of the mineralised lodes suggests the location of the mineralization is variable over short distances in three dimensions. To be able to use the MSO process effectively and efficiently to create economic mineable shapes based on the selected criteria, smaller stope dimensions were required. This allowed ore loss and dilution from lode geometric changes to be minimised.

Table 9 shows the Mineral Reserve estimate, based on a cut-off grade of 2.0g/t Au. The Mineral Reserve is included within the declared Indicated Mineral Resource and is declared inclusive of approximately 1.4 Mt of dilution at an average grade of 0.4 g/t Au.

Classification	Tonnes (Mt)	Au (g/t)	Grade	Contained Gold (Moz)
Probable Mineral Reserves	9.5	3.6		1.1

 Table 9 Mineral Reserve Estimate (June 26, 2011)

The Mineral Reserve estimate has been determined and reported in accordance with the CIM Definition Standards (2010).

### Development

The following describes the planned development at Ollachea as set out in the Pre-feasibility Study by AMEC and Coffey Mining dated September 2011.

### **Mining Methods**

The mining method selected for the PFS was sublevel open stoping (SLOS) with fill, also referred to as bench stoping with fill when the mining occurs along the strike direction.

Stopes will be accessed either longitudinally (along strike) or transversally (perpendicular to strike) dependent on lode thickness. In general, when lode thickness is greater than 15 m,

transverse stopes will be favoured. Figure 25 and Figure 26 present both longitudinal and transverse typical views of the mining method.



Figure 25 Typical View of the Selected Longitudinal Mining Method

Figure 26 Typical View of the Selected Transverse Mining Method



The general direction of mining for the deposit will be from the bottom up. As a mining level is completed, the next level will start using the backfilled stope void as the mining platform.

The final PFS mine layout is shown in Figure 27.



Figure 27 Isometric Mine Layout Looking South

The main access to the mineralisation will be via a 1.3 km-long exploration access drive or incline which has its portal in a valley on the north-eastern side of Cerro Joropiña and the Occo Cachi River valley. The drive will be excavated in the second half of 2011 and will initially be used for exploration drilling and subsequently converted to an access and haulage drive for the planned mine. This portal will be the main mine portal.

An incline drive and a decline drive will be excavated at a grade of one in seven from the main exploration incline, located at approximately 2785 mRL. The incline drive will be developed to half way up the mineralisation, and the decline drive down to approximately 2550 mRL to provide access to the planned sublevels. A second portal (3060 mRL) and decline will be developed simultaneously from the top of the mineralisation to provide a second means of egress, access to the upper mineralisation, and early establishment of the primary ventilation system.

The selected mining method and sequence will be bottom up with production starting from 2790 mRL and 2835 mRL as soon as the development of the decline from surface is completed.

The geometry of the lodes, the average 45° dip, width variability in the strike direction and the geotechnical aspects limit stope size. Stope sublevel spacing will be 15 m vertically floor to floor. Stopes will be subdivided into 15 m panels along strike. Transverse stopes will be on average 15 m high by 15 m wide by 15 m or greater in length. Longitudinal stopes on average will be 15 m high by 15 m or less in width by 30 m in length. Two 15 m panel stopes will be mined before

backfilling. To control the stability of the longitudinal stopes and minimise dilution, the length of open void can be altered based on local ground conditions.

The majority of production drilling will be medium diameter (89 mm) down-holes with some requirement for up-holes where lodes pinch out and there is no requirement for development above. Stope blast initiation (void) will be via the use of drop raise slots as the distance from the floor of the top cut to the back of the bottom cut will be approximately 10 m vertically or 14 m on dip.

To minimise dilution and maintain stability, stopes will require cable bolts to be installed. Cable bolt holes will be drilled using the same type of drill as used for production drilling but at a smaller diameter. Drill rigs will therefore be standardised to optimise fleet maintenance requirements.

All ground support installation will be completed manually. This is based on the current relatively low labour cost.

Stopes will be backfilled primarily for stability purposes but also to reduce the surface area required for waste and tailings disposal. Pastefill will be the principal backfill used with waste rock used in secondary transverse stopes, and as a capping for tramming purposes on all paste filled stopes.

The primary ventilation circuit comprises two centrally-located return air raises, one intake air raise and two decline/incline intakes.

An assessment of rock mass conditions was based on core logging carried out by MKK from 117 exploration drill holes. Of these, 18 exploration drill holes were oriented and formed a basis to determine the defect orientations and characteristics.

Coffey Mining has utilised the Modified Rock Quality Index (Q') to classify the in situ rock mass at Ollachea. Based on the information available, Q' is calculated to be 3.5, which is considered a poor ground rating.

Based on the stable span analysis, the following conclusions can be made:

- For the ends (east and west walls), the inclined height (H) is set to be 27.6 m. Based on this height, the maximum unsupported width (W) of the stope ends is calculated to be 157.99 m. As the maximum stope width will be limited to the orebody thickness (45m), the stope ends will not be the limiting factor for the stope dimensions. It is considered that the stability of the ends will not be problematic for both mining directions (longitudinal and transverse).
- For the stope walls (north and south walls), the inclined height (H) is set to be 27.6 m and the unsupported hydraulic radius of 3.90 m for the walls results in maximum strike length (L) of 10.87 m. For longitudinal mining, maximum strike length will be limited to 10.87 m (near surface) and 10.11 m (at depth), if left unsupported. For transverse

mining, the maximum unsupported strike length is lower than the mine design length of 15 m. Cable bolt support will be required for the hanging wall. The supported stope dimension calculations showed that the strike length (L) can be just over 50 m, which satisfies both mining directions (longitudinal and transverse).

• For the stope backs, stope back is controlled by the orebody width and strike length. Unsupported strike length (L) of 10.87 m (near surface) and 10.11 m (at depth) will be a limiting factor for the unsupported back design. Similar to stope walls, installation of support will also be required for the backs. Supported backs will satisfy the required stable hydraulic radii of the backs for both longitudinal and transverse mining directions.

The support recommendation for access tunnels is systematic bolts 2.1 m long, spaced 1.5m in the crown and walls. Where required, fibre reinforced shotcrete (FRS) should be installed with a thickness of 50 mm on the crown and on the sides.

For excavations larger than the regular drives, such as intersections, in addition to the systematic bolts and FRS support, 6 m-long cable bolts fully grouted spaced at 3 m are included for cost estimate purposes.

The location of the main mine accesses for the purposes of the PFS is in the orebody hanging wall. This was selected primarily based on the location of the planned exploration incline and no discernible difference in the rockmass between hanging wall and footwall.

Key design parameters are:

- maximum grade for access development is 1 in 7.
- minimum grade target is 1 in 50.
- minimum turning radius is 30m.

Each level of development is separated vertically by 15 m floor-to-floor. The top level drive is a drill drive for the bottom stope and becomes an extraction drive for the stope above. The stopes are drilled using down-holes except for stopes located at the top of a lode. These will use up holes to eliminate the requirement for specific drill drive development.

A schematic of a typical drill pattern for a longitudinal stope and a transverse stope is shown in Figure 28.



Figure 28 Stope Production Ring Drill Layout Schematic

The strategy adopted for the PFS is for all ore and waste material to be loaded using 10 tcapacity load-haul-dumps (LHDs) and transported to dumping areas located outside the two mine portals or internally as waste rockfill by dedicated 28t capacity underground mining trucks.

The SLOS mining method and extraction sequence adopted for the Project is reliant on the use of backfill. Two primary types of backfill have been selected for the Project, rockfill and cemented pastefill. Total tailings will be used to produce the pastefill.

Pastefill is to be used as the primary fill type with waste rock being used in transverse secondary stopes and as a floor cap to paste filled stopes.

The overall backfill volume requirement split between pastefill and rockfill is 81% and 19% respectively.

Time available for the pastefill to cure before being exposed was assessed. The analysis indicated that the stope cycle time is not critical with enough time for the binder to gain strength before the pastefill is required to perform.

Ventilation milestone analysis was used to determine the primary ventilation requirements for the Project. Maximum ventilation demand for each milestone was estimated by analysing the mine development and production schedule to determine the number of active stopes and development headings in each month. Each milestone was modelled using a mine ventilation simulation software package named VentSim Visual<sup>TM</sup>.

Table 10 briefly describes each milestone that was identified and Figure 29 shows an isometric view of the Project primary ventilation system.

Stage	Description of Milestone						
Stage 1 Start to 18 months	Breakthrough of the Main RAR to surface and installation of the primary exhaust fan.						
	$Q_{TOTAL}=45m^3/s$						
Stage 2	Breakthrough of the Intake Ramp to the Haulage Ramp.						
18 months to 29 months	$Q_{\text{TOTAL}}=225 \text{m}^3/\text{s}$						
Stage 3 29 months to 30 months	Breakthrough of the Main district FAR and installation of the primary intake fan. Q <sub>TOTAL</sub> =260m <sup>3</sup> /s						
Stage 4	Maximum primary ventilation airflow.						
30 months to end of mine	$Q_{TOTAL}=420m^3/s$						

Table 10Primary Ventilation Milestones



The mine has three general layouts for secondary ventilation circuits during planned operations:

- A long-range configuration for development designed to establish or extend the primary ventilation circuit.
- The levels of the East district (Minapampa East) where the secondary fan is located in the fresh air decline and ducting is run into the level with branches to each heading or stoping area.
- The layout found in the Main district (Minapampa), whereby the fan is located in the fresh air footwall drive and ducting is run into drives and stoping areas branching off this development.

Access to the mine will be via two portals. The two portals will be connected via a single primary incline/decline. This will form the main egress system. The lower portal is located close to the processing plant and administration buildings and will be the main access to and from the planned underground mine. The upper portal will be used as a primary ventilation intake.

Self-contained refuge chambers of suitable size will be used and placed in locations where a second means of egress has not been established or where a second means of egress is available but not supplied with fresh (safe) air. This will ensure no person working underground will be at risk from rock fall entrapment or fire.

Figure 30 shows the average lateral development metres per month split by development type. The maximum number of metres per month is 800, which is equivalent to employing four jumbo crews, and this occurs for a period of two years.



Figure 30 Lateral Development Metres per Month

Development is scheduled to be completed by mid-2022 with production scheduled to extend until 2023.

PFS underground mining physicals are summarised in Table 11.

Physical		Units	LOM	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Lataral Davi	Capital dev.	М	11,372	3,718	2,312	1,288	1,194	934	1,022	398	427	47	32	
Lateral Dev.	Operating dev.	Μ	45,564	1,732	6,234	8,246	6,963	6,196	3,743	4,399	4,353	2,331	1,367	
Vertical	Capital dev.	Μ	1,364	609	332	177			89	128	30			
Dev.	Operating dev.	Μ	0											
	Total Mined	Mt	11.6	0.4	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	0.5
	Waste	Mt	2.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	
	Ore	Mt	9.5	0.1	0.3	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.5
	Contained Gold	koz	1,112	6	39	102	128	132	132	146	135	132	116	44
	Gold Grade	g/t	3.6	3.2	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.0
Production	Cable drill	kdm	1,228	60	189	214	170	150	104	116	117	68	41	
	Production drill	kdm	1,095		19	96	121	124	133	128	124	136	149	66
	Haulage	Mtkm	26.5	0.7	1.1	2.3	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.3	1.2
	Backfill Void (Paste)	Mm <sup>3</sup>	2,705		52	236	311	304	325	303	303	308	385	177
	Backfill Void (Rock)	Mm <sup>3</sup>	630		4	59	51	69	77	91	90	116	61	13
Totals may no	t sum due to roundin	19												

Table 11Mining Physicals Summary

The Project will require a standard small scale, underground production fleet of jumbos, LHDs, trucks and drills. The primary and secondary equipment used as a basis to design the underground mine is shown in Table 12.

 Table 12
 Primary and Secondary Underground Equipment

Generic Description	Type or Size
Development Jumbo	Twin boom electro-hydraulic
Underground Loaders	10t for development and production
Underground Trucks	28t 4WD articulated
Production Drill Rig	Top hammer
Scissor Lift	4wd UG specification
Charge-up Vehicle	4wd dedicated UG charge up vehicle

All mobile and fixed plant equipment will be purchased, operated and maintained by MKK.

## Metallurgical Testing and Mineral Processing

The interpretation of results from metallurgical testwork carried out in five campaigns carried out between 2008 and 2011 has been used to guide process plant design. Testwork suggests that crushing and grinding of ore to P80 of 75  $\mu$ m with gravity concentration and carbon-in-leach

(CIL) treatment of the whole of the ore stream can be used to achieve gold recovery of over 90% from the Ollachea mineralization.

The flowsheet applied comprises three stages of crushing followed by overflow ball milling with the mill circuit closed with hydrocyclones. Hydrocyclone overflow will then be leached for approximately 50 hours in a pure CIL circuit prior to cyanide detoxification by SO2/air.

A gravity circuit employing a centrifugal concentrator will treat a split of the hydrocyclone underflow, the concentrate from which will be intensively leached. The circuit has been designed to accept up to 20% gravity recovery.

Use of CIL and blanking reagents are techniques employed to reduce the influences of pregrobbing minerals in the ore such that almost all of the leachable gold can, in fact, be recovered to the introduced activated carbon in the CIL. To ensure high activated carbon quality, the circuit includes acid washing and Anglo American Research Laboratories (AARL) elution followed by thermal carbon regeneration. Final doré production is achieved on-site by electrowinning the AARL eluate, and smelting.

Tailings will be thickened after cyanide detoxification using a high-rate thickener and filtered using press filters. The filter cake will be routed to a paste plant at the plant site to produce pastefill when backfill is required in the underground mine. When backfill is not required, the filter cake will be stacked on a load-out platform for reclaim and haulage to a dry-stack tailings storage facility.

Plant design includes a water treatment plant that will treat mine drainage, river water and water recovered from mineral processing to provide make-up water for the plant. The mine power supply will be by connection to the San Gaban – Azangaro high tension line that runs over the Project area. Reagents including hydrated lime for pH control, Portland cement for backfill, sodium cyanide for leaching, kerosene for blanking, hydrochloric acid for carbon washing and copper sulphate and sodium bisulfite for cyanide detoxification will be procured from suppliers in Juliaca, Arequipa and Lima and prepared and distributed by reagent preparation circuits considered in the PFS plant design.

The design parameters of the plant are:

٠	Plant throughput:	1.1 Mt/y (137.5 t/h at 93.1% availability)
•	Maximum ROM feed size:	500 mm
•	Final product grind:	P80 of 75 μm
•	Head grade (LOM Average):	3.65 g/t Au
٠	Residue Grade (LOM Average):	0.32 g/t Au
٠	Overall Recovery:	91.3%
•	CIL feed solids:	40%

- CIL residence time: 50 h
- Final tailing cyanide destruction: SO<sub>2</sub>/Air/Cu<sup>2+</sup> catalyst

AMEC completed a Pre-feasibility Study design and cost estimate for a filtered tailings storage facility (TSF). The design includes a principal TSF located within 10 km of the process and filter plants, as well as a contingency TSF that would provide short-term tailings storage near the plant. Filtered tailings will be transported by truck from the plant to the TSF via the Interoceanic Highway. Development of an approximately 1,000 m long off-highway haul road will be required at the principal TSF site.

The location of the TSF is not specified in this report as negotiations for the surface rights for one or more potential sites are currently underway. AMEC considers it a reasonable assumption that surface rights for a suitable site can be acquired by MKK.

The TSF design includes a prepared foundation with an under-drain system, rock-fill toe buttress, surface water diversion channels and sedimentation and seepage collection ponds. Filtered tailings will be placed in two zones: (i) a formally compacted structural zone, and (ii) a nominally compacted zone for "off-spec" tailings (tailings that do not meet the moisture requirements). Overall tailings slopes of 2.5 : 1 (horizontal : vertical) were demonstrated analytically to have acceptable safety factors for stability based on the currently-available information. These slopes are also consistent with acceptable values from comparable sites that use filtered tailings.

## Infrastructure

The Ollachea Project is within 200 m of the Interoceanic Highway. A road of approximately 600 m in length will be built to the exploration access portal in late 2011. This road will also be used to build and access the plant site. The Ollachea camp site will require an access road that is approximately 200 m long and will be built during construction.

The Ollachea PFS mine schedule has surface waste disposal requirements of 550 kt and maximum ore stockpile requirements of approximately 171 kt during the life of mine. Temporary waste storage will be required at the upper portal area; however, the waste temporarily stored at the upper portal will be brought back into the mine and used for backfill so no long-term or permanent waste storage capacity is required at the upper portal near Minapampa.

Water management for the mine, plant and TSF sites and water treatment facilities are considered in the mineral processing plant design. The water treatment facility design criteria are for a treatment rate of 350 m3/h which is approximately the maximum potential mine inflow rate (AMEC, 2011).

A permanent operations camp facility has been designed and will be located at the Cuncurchaca area, about 1,000 m north of the plant site and mine portal and within 200 m of the Interoceanic

Highway. The camp will have catering and accommodation capacity for approximately 300 persons.

The Project will connect to the 138 KV transmission lines from San Gaban to Azangaro that passes over the Ollachea project. The San Gaban II hydroelectric generating station is located on the Ollachea River approximately 10 km from the Project. A 138 kV derivation line will be installed from the main transmission to the plant site, and will have a length of approximately 1.2 km. This line will feed a substation that will distribute power to the plant site, the underground mine, the camp site and other auxiliary buildings.

Diesel fuel will be required for underground and surface mobile equipment and onsite emergency power generation equipment. A fuel storeage facility will be located at the plant site and fuel trucks will be used to distribute fuel underground.

Water for underground mine operations will be re-circulated from sumps within the mine where possible. Mine drainage will be diverted to a water treatment plant at the plant site where it will be combined and treated with water discharged from the mineral processing facility. Plant make-up water and all other water supply for the plant and other surface infrastructure can be supplied from the water treatment plan and drawn from the Oscco Cachi and Ollachea Rivers as required.

### Environmental

A physical, biological and socio-economic baseline has been established on the basis of ongoing social, environmental and archaeological, baseline surveys carried out by MKK since 2007.

The study area is located in the Ollachea river sub-watershed located in the Inambari river watershed, which pertain to the Atlantic Ocean basin. Results of water quality monitoring in the study area indicate that water quality generally meets the national water quality standards. Air quality meets Peruvian environmental regulations for lead, arsenic, PM10, PM2,5 SO2, CO, NO2, H2S and O3 concentrations. Baseline noise levels registered in the industrial areas of the study area were below the daytime and nighttime national environmental noise standards. Noise levels recorded in the town of Ollachea were above daytime and night time standards, mainly due to Interocean Highway traffic.

Current land use in the study area consists of natural grassland, artificial or plantation of woodlands and unused or unproductive lands. The land use potential has been identified as land suitable for forest production, grazing, permanent farming and protection land.

Vegetation in the study area consists of subtropical montane rainforest, subtropical lower montane rainforest and subtropical lower montane humid rainforest.

A total of 72 plant species were identified in the study area, grouped in 34 families of vascular and non-vascular plants. The only species of flora identified is considered 'vulnerable' according to the list of Peruvian protected species is the Escallonia resinosa.

Eleven species of birds pertaining to 10 families have been identified in the study area, one categorized as 'endangered', the Vultur griphus. Additionally, 5 species of wild animals have been observed in the study area. Of those 5 species, two are protected species, the Tremarctos ornatus is endangered and the Puma concolor is near threatened.

The water bodies observed contained 11 species of macrozoobenthos, 54 species of phytoplankton and 16 species of zooplankton. A low density of the Oncorhynchus mykiss trout was also observed.

A reconnaissance of archaeological sites was done on the Project area. Two archaeological sites were identified, one consisting of a pre-hispanic road, constructed with large and medium size stones to provide a path on a steep slope and which is still used to this day. The second site is a small 2m by 1m construction in the shape of a chullpa, covered by shrubs and grass in the Challuno area, north of the proposed plant site.

Project design has been carried out taking into account these archaeological sites.

The socioeconomic study area consists of the Ollachea district which comprises the Ollachea settlement, located near the Project area.

The population of the study area amounts to 4,919 inhabitants, with decreasing population trend from 2005 to 2007. More than half of the population consists of men, while the median age of the population is 25 years old. The majority of the population is Quechua speakers (83.96%) and the most important religion is Catholic.

Current liabilities for the project are limited to the re-vegetation of drill platforms that are currently in use and closure of artisanal mine workings shown in Figure 16. Previously used drill platforms have been formally closed and reclaimed.

The artisanal mine workings are restricted to an area measuring approximately 500 m x 100 m on the north flank of the Oscco Cachi River.

As part of the current surface rights agreement with the Community of Ollachea, MKK is monitoring the artisanal miners and taking actions to mitigate further environmental liability associated with the small-scale mining activities. This monitoring includes regular water quality determinations both up- and down-stream of the mine to monitor for possible contamination related to mining activities.

A formal closure plan will be developed as part of the feasibility work plan for the Project.

The extent of closure plans for Ollachea is restricted to the mine portal and mineral processing plant areas and are quite limited considering the mine is an underground mine and the TSF will be progressively closed as it is developed. A budget of US\$ 3.1 M for closure activities has been estimated as part of the PFS capital cost estimate for the Project.

MKK currently holds permits allowing them to carry out exploration activities on the property

- Authorization by the National Water Athority or Autoridad Nacional de Agua (ANA) to discharge residual water from the Ollachea Project to the Corani River and Oscco Cachi stream.
- Authorization by ANA for MKK to use water resources from the Oscco Chachi River and Maticuyoc Cucho spring for the purpose of mining exploration studies until 31 December, 2012.
- Authorization from the Community of Ollachea to use the land covered by the Ollachea Concessions for exploration activities for a term of five years from 25 November, 2007
- Authorization from the MEM to carry out exploration activities outlined in MKK's Semi Detailed Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Ollachea Project approved in 2008 with subsequent modifications approved in 2010 and June 2011.

These permits provide MKK with all necessary rights to conduct their current and all planned operations and exploration activities.

For construction and operation of the mine, plant and other surface infrastructure MKK will require an approved EIA, permits for water use, process and drainage water discharge, use of explosives and powder magazines, chemical reagents, hydrocarbons (diesel, kerosene), and an exploitation permit for the Property.

MKK has conducted continuous community awareness workshops and communications and worked closely with the Community of Ollachea since it entered into agreement to acquire the property from Rio Tinto in 2006. The company's cooperation in formalizing illegal mining on the property and its surface rights agreement with the Community of Ollachea are part of a plan to incorporate to the maximum possible the community in the advancement and future operation of the Project.

## **Operating and Capital Costs**

Operating costs include fixed and variable costs for mine production, plant production, tailings management and general and administrative services for the operation. Operating costs were estimated based on labour and productivity data from current Peruvian mine operations including the Corihuarmi Mine operated by MKK's parent company Minera IRL S.A., from AMEC and Coffey Mining cost estimation databases, and from quotations for major reagents and wear parts.

A life-of-mine staffing schedule was built and indicates that peak operating staffing will be 519 including 109 contract staff for the tailings storage facility, perimeter security, and catering functions. As much as 30% of the workforce could be locally based with the remainder being based nationally. It is not expected that expatriates will be required for the long-term operating team.

Mine operating costs average US\$18.48/t ore including backfill. Plant operating costs total US\$24.26/t ore processed (including tailings disposal) and G&A costs average US\$3.87/t ore. Total site operating costs are US\$46.61/t ore or US\$436/oz of gold (Table 14).

AMEC prepared an AACE Class 4 capital cost estimate with a precision of  $\pm 25\%$  for the Prefeasibility Study. The capital cost estimate is based on:

- Capital cost estimates for the underground mine from Coffey Mining,
- Major equipment and material quotations along with recent construction contractor quotations,
- Material take offs (MTO) information from mechanical, civil and electrical engineering,
- Unit costs for earthworks, concrete works, structural steel fabrication and equipment installation were prepared from material costs, labour and construction equipment rates and productivities from the AMEC cost estimation database with input from MKK.

Capital costs include direct and indirect costs for the mine, process plant and infrastructure. Project direct capital costs total US\$113.8 M. The total indirect cost is US\$19.6 M and includes indirect mine costs, engineering, procurement, and contract management (EPCM), temporary facilities, duties and freight. Owner's costs projected to be incurred between project commitment and prior to commissioning are estimated to total US\$7.5 M. A 20% contingency is placed on direct and indirect capital costs for the mine, plant and surface infrastructure. Design growth allowances for civil, structural and architectural (CSA) disciplines were estimated as percentages of the estimated costs of earthworks (15%), concrete works (10%), structural steel (5%) and process equipment (2%). The total contingency and design growth allowance for the project is US\$28.6 M.

Consolidated Operating Costs		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	-
Mine Production													
Mine Production	kt			57	332	945	1,101	1,098	1,096	1,102	1,095	1,100	
Mine Production Contained Gold	koz			6	39	102	128	132	132	146	135	132	
Mine Production Grade	g/t			3.2	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	
Stockpile Movement	0.												
Stockpile (Closing)	kt			57	172	17	18	16	12	14	9	10	
Stockpile Contained Gold	koz			5.9	20.4	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.1	
Stockpile Grade	g/t			3.2	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.6	
Commissioning	0.												
Commissioning Feed	kt				41								
Commissioning Contained Gold	koz				4.3								
Commissioning Head Grade	g/t				3.2								
Plant Production	e.												
Plant Feed	kt				176	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	
Plant Feed	koz				20	121	127	132	132	145	135	132	
Plant Feed Head Gold Grade	g/t				3.6	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	
Plant Operating Quarters	0.				1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Plant Avg. Operating Capacity	%				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Gold Production	koz				22	110	116	121	121	134	124	121	
Consolidated Project Operating Costs	ROL												
Mine Operating Costs													
Mine Operating - Development Direct	US\$ M				48	93	8.5	7.5	51	56	5.5	37	
Mine Operating - Production Direct	US\$ M				43	10.5	11.3	11.0	11.6	10.5	10.2	9.5	
Mine Operating - Development Indirect	US\$ M				1.0	13	10	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.4	
Mine Operating - Production Indirect	US\$ M				0.4	1.5	2.0	21	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.8	
Total Mine Operating Costs	US\$ M				10.5	22.7	22.7	21.5	19.6	19.2	18.8	16.3	
Plant Operating Costs	000 111				10.0	22.7	22.7	21.0	19.0	17.2	10.0	10.0	
Weer Parts	LICC M				0.41	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.54	
Progents (Process Plant)	US\$ M				2 20	12.54	12.54	12.54	12.54	12.54	12.54	12.54	
Consumplies	US\$ M				2.20	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	
Consumables Bouver (Average Demand)	US\$ M				0.03	0.18	0.10	0.10	0.18	0.18	0.10	0.18	
Fuel Dissel	US\$ M				0.57	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.52	2.32	2.32	2.52	
Flution Circuit Thormal Oil (Heating Oil)	US\$ M				0.04	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	
Assays And Quality Control	US\$ M				0.000	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	
Assays And Quanty Control	US\$ M				0.01	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	
Diant Mabile Floot, Spores And Cons	US\$ M				0.01	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	
Maint Supplies Processing Plant	US\$ M				0.01	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.03	
Maint Supplies Processing Flam	US\$ M				0.10	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	
Plant Managuar	US\$ M				0.03	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	
Contract Tailings Haulage and Placement	US\$ M				0.30	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	
					0.94	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	
Total Plant Operating Cost	05\$ M				4.65	26.75	26.75	26.75	26.75	26.75	26.75	26.75	
Unit General and Administrative Cost													
Unit G&A	US\$ M				1.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	
Total Operating Cost	US\$ M				16.2	53.6	53.6	52.4	50.5	50.1	49.7	47.2	
Unit Operating Costs													
Mine Production Unit Cost	\$/t				59.88	20.62	20.66	19.56	17.84	17.49	17.11	14.85	
Plant Production Cost	\$/t				26.40	24.32	24.32	24.32	24.32	24.32	24.32	24.32	
G&A Cost	\$/t				6.03	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77	3.77	
Total Site Operating Cost	\$/t				92.30	48.71	48.75	47.65	45.93	45.58	45.20	42.94	4
Total Cash Operating Cost	\$/oz				724	488	461	434	418	375	401	391	

## Table 13Consolidated Estimated Operating Costs

2022	2023	2024	LOM
1,098	453		9,477
116	44		1,112
3.3	3.0		3.6
	_		
8	0		
0.8	0.0		
3.4	0.0		
1,100	460		9,477
117	45		1,112
3.3	3.1		3.65
4	4		
100	64		
106	41		1 015
100	11		1,010
2.2	0.0		147.2
10.7	5.3		101.8
0.2	0.0		28.0
2.9	2.3		196.5
16.0	7.7	0	175.1
2.54	1.06		21.8
13.76	5.76		118.1
0.18	0.07		1.5
2.32	1.16		20.3
0.99	0.21		8.2
0.002	0.001		0.02
0.09	0.04		0.7
0.04	0.02		0.3
0.05	0.02		0.4
0.62	0.26		5.3
0.17	0.07		1.5
1 24	0.62		10.8
4.75	1.99		40.9
26.75	11.27	0	229.9
4.1	2.4	0.0	36.7
46.9	21.4	0.0	441.7
14 50	1775		10.40
14.53	16.67		18.48
24.32	24.50		24.26
3.77	5.26		3.87
42.62	46.42		46.61
443	525		436

Consolidated Capital Costs		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	LOM
Mine Production													
Mine Production	Kt	57	332	945	1,101	1,098	1,096	1,102	1,095	1,100	1,098	453	9,477
Mine Production Contained Gold	Koz	6	39	102	128	132	132	146	135	132	116	44	1,112
Mine Production Grade	g/t	3.2	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.0	3.6
Stockpile Movement													
Stockpile (Closing)	Kt	57	172.5	17.1	18.1	15.6	11.8	13.9	9.4	9.6	7.5	0.0	
Stockpile Contained Gold	Koz	6	20.4	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.0	
Stockpile Grade	g/t	3.2	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.0	
Commissioning													
Commissioning Feed	Kt		41										
Commissioning Contained Gold	Koz		4										
Commissioning Head Grade	g/t		3.7										
Plant Production													
Plant Feed	Kt		176	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	460	9,477
Plant Feed	Koz		20	121	127	132	132	145	135	132	117	45	1,112
Plant Feed Head Gold Grade	g/t		3.7	4.7	5.7	6.7	7.7	8.7	9.7	10.7	11.7	12.7	12.7
Plant Operating Quarters			1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
Plant Avg. Operating Capacity	%		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	64	
Gold Production			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Capital Cost Schedule													
Mining Equipment	US\$ M	16.6	10.4										27.1
Mining	US\$ M	14.6	9.3										23.9
Mining - Backfill & other	US\$ M	1.3	1.3										2.5
Site Development	US\$ M	0.9	0.9										1.8
Process Plant	US\$ M	22.4	22.4										44.9
Site Utilities	US\$ M	1.2	1.2										2.4
Ancillary Buildings	US\$ M	4.2	4.2										8.5
Tailings System	US\$ M	0.4	2.2										2.6
Indirect Costs	US\$ M	9.8	9.8										19.6
Indirect - Owners Costs	US\$ M	2.6	4.9										7.5
Design Growth Allowance		1.0	1.0										1.9
Contingency - Mining (excl. backfill) Contingency - Directs/indirects (excl.	US\$ M	6.2	3.9		-	-							10.2
Owners costs)	US\$ M	8.1	8.4										16.5
Sustaining Capital	US\$ M	-	6.3	7.7	4.2	5.5	5.3	6.0	4.7	3.5	3.9	0	47.0
Closure Cost											0	0	0
Total Pre-production capital cost	US\$ M	89.4	80.1						·				169.5
Total Sustaining Capital Cost	US\$ M	0.0	6.3	7.7	4.2	5.5	5.3	6.0	4.7	3.5	3.9	0.0	47.0
Total Capital Cost	US\$ M	89.4	86.4	77	42	55	53	6.0	47	3.5	39	0.0	216.5

# Table 14Life of Mine Capital Cost Summary

### **Financial Analysis**

A financial evaluation of the Project was undertaken using the discounted cash flow analysis approach. Cash flows were projected for the life of mine (LOM), which includes construction, operation and closure phases. The cash inflows were based on projected revenues for the LOM. The projected cash outflows, such as capital costs, operating costs and taxes, were subtracted from the cash inflows to estimate the net cash flows (NCF). A financial model was constructed on a quarterly basis to estimate the NCF over the LOM. The NCF were summarized on an annual basis. The cash inflows and outflows are assumed to be in constant second quarter 2011 US dollar basis.

The Project was evaluated on a project stand-alone, 100% equity-financed basis. The financial results, including net present value (NPV) and internal rate of return (IRR) do not take past expenditures into account; these were considered to be sunk costs. The financial results also exclude any expenditure between completion of the Pre-feasibility Study and commencement of construction. The analysis was done on a forward-looking basis, with the exception of the sunk costs to date, which were taken into account for tax calculations.

The assumptions that form the basis of the inputs to the financial model include metal prices, mining schedule, mining inventory, processing throughputs, and realisation, operating, and capital costs, royalties and taxation parameters.

The base case gold price used in the financial evaluation was US\$1,100/oz. The financial evaluation was also undertaken using a gold price of US\$1,500/oz to show the impact of a higher gold price on the Project cash flow.

The model includes Peru government royalty, a vendor royalty, credit & debt tax, income tax and workers' profit participation. The Peruvian taxation system IGV (sales tax) was assumed to be incurred on the initial project capital cost and to be recovered once in production. Once in production, IGV was excluded from the operating assumptions. Since the Project involves export of goods, IGV is assumed to be immediately recoverable, consistent with Peruvian established practice.

A summary of the financial results is presented in Table 15.

A sensitivity analysis was performed on the Base Case NPV, using a 7% discount rate, and IRR (Figure 31 and Figure 32). Positive and negative variations up to 15% were applied independently to each parameter: gold price, capital cost, operating cost and gold grade). The results demonstrated that the project is most sensitive to variation in gold grade and gold price, and least sensitive to variation in capital cost.

		<b>Base Gold Price</b>	Upside Gold Price
Parameter	Unit	US\$1,100/oz	US\$1,500/oz
Net Cash Flow before tax	US\$ M	419	808
NPV @ 5% real (before tax)	US\$ M	270	561
NPV @ 7% real (before tax)	US\$ M	226	486
NPV @ 10% real (before tax)	US\$ M	170	393
IRR (before tax)	%	28.1	46.5
Payback (before tax)	Years	3.1	1.9
Net Cash Flow (after tax)	US\$ M	280	531
NPV @ 5% real (after tax)	US\$ M	167	354
NPV @ 7% real (after tax)	US\$ M	133	301
NPV @ 10% real (after tax)	US\$ M	91	235
IRR (after tax)	%	20.5	34.1
Payback (after tax)	Years	3.8	2.5

Table 15Summary of Ollachea Financial Results

Note:

1. NPVs as at commencement of construction.

2. NPVs are based on mid period discounting.

3. Before tax is before Workers' Participation Profit of 8% and Income Taxes of 30%.

4. Payback starts from the commencement of production.



Figure 31 NPV @ 7% Sensitivity Analysis

Figure 32 IRR Sensitivity Analysis



A summary of the analysis of the LOM average unit cost of production is provided in Table 16.

Parameter	Unit	Cost
Mining	US\$/oz	173
Processing	US\$/oz	226
G&A	US\$/oz	37
Total Site Cash Operating Costs	US\$/oz	436
Realization Costs	US\$/oz	5
Royalties	US\$/oz	28
Total Cash Costs	US\$/oz	470

 Table 16
 LOM Unit Cost of Production per Ounce of Payable Gold

### **Post Pre-feasibility Events**

On 29 August 2011, the Company announced that it had committed to the construction of a 1.2 kilometer exploration tunnel which will access the ore body defined in the Ollachea Prefeasibility study. The slightly inclined exploration drive will be from a portal site located in a deeper valley across the ridge from the outcropping mineralization at the Minapampa Zone. The Minapampa orebody will be accessed approximately 350 meters down-dip from the surface outcrop. The exploration drive was permitted by the Peruvian authorities in mid-2011.

Drill exploration targets from underground are compelling. The gold bearing structures outcrop for approximately one kilometer to the east of the Minapampa Zones where 1.4 million ounces of gold (10.7 million tonnes at 4.0g/t Au) in the Indicated Resource category has been drill defined from surface. The most easterly drilling from surface recorded strong gold intersections and supports geological continuity of the open-ended Minapampa mineralization towards the east. Extremely steep terrain precludes further drilling from surface towards the east. The tunnel track has been designed parallel to this eastern strike extension to provide suitable locations for underground diamond drilling from cuddies, or chambers, at regular intervals as the drive advances.

Following a comprehensive tendering process, a contract was signed in August 2011 with well known and experienced underground contractor, JJC, to execute the underground project. Consultants TWP Sudamerica S. A. have been engaged to assist Minera IRL to manage the project. A general assembly of the Ollachea community has also overwhelmingly endorsed the project. The drive is scheduled to be completed over a 15 month time frame with a budget of US\$14.9 million which includes a contingency of 10%. Subsequent to the year end, the Company announced on 17 February 2012 that excavation of the exploration tunnel has commenced following the establishment of access to the portal site.

In terms of exploration, Ollachea remains highly prospective. The Minapampa Zone remains open along strike in both directions and down dip and a new discovery, known as Concurayoc, was announced during the second quarter 2010. This zone is approximately 400 metres west of the Minapampa Zone. On 7 September 2011, the Company announced the maiden Inferred Mineral Resource at the Concurayoc Zone based on infill drilling completed during the second quarter 2011.

## Inferred Mineral Resource applying a 2.0g/t gold cut-off

Zone	Metric tonnes (Millions)	Grade - g/t gold	Contained ounces (Millions)
Concurayoc	10.4	2.8	0.9

This resulted in the total Indicated Mineral Resource thus far defined at Ollachea increasing to 10.7 million tonnes grading 4.0g/t gold containing 1.4 million ounces plus an Inferred Mineral Resource of 13.7 million tonnes grading 2.8g/t containing 1.2 million ounces of gold.

This Canadian National Instrument NI43-101 compliant mineral resource estimate was carried out by consultancy Coffey Mining Pty Ltd. The new estimate at the Concurayoc Zone, which covers a strike length of 700 meters, was based upon 45 diamond drill holes on approximately an 80 meter grid for 16,943 meters. The mineral resource estimate, reported at a 2g/t gold bottom cut-off, includes top cutting as appropriate for each of the six broad gold-mineralized horizons, or "lenses", that have been quantified in the estimate. The total mineral resource at Ollachea is based upon 165 diamond drill holes for 63,347 meters.

The dip and spatial orientation of the mineralized zones at Concurayoc are broadly similar to the mineralized zones hosted within the Minapampa zones. Within the six horizons identified at Concurayoc, mineral resource modelling has additionally identified seven discrete higher grade lenses. Examples of higher grade intersections include drill hole DDH10-130 which intersected 33 meters grading 4.57g/t gold including 12 meters grading 8.66g/t gold, DDH10-135 with 7 meters at 4.03g/t gold plus 4 meters at 8.68g/t gold, DDH11-168 with 9 meters grading 3.38g/t gold plus 4 meters at 22.0g/t gold and DDH11-171 with 7 meters at 17.6g/t gold. The effective true width of mineralized intersections is expected to range between 67% to 98% of the width reported, with the majority of the drill holes reporting around 92% true width. The true width is dependent upon the variation of the angle of incidence between the trace of the Concurayoc exploration drill-hole(s) and the dip of the targeted mineralized horizon(s). The Ollachea Pre-feasibility Study is predicated upon the Indicated Mineral Resource at Minapampa and Minapampa East which is only 400 meters from Concurayoc. As a result, the Company believes that the Concurayoc mineral resource has the potential to substantially enhance the life of mine of the Ollachea mine development.

In the second half of 2011 the royalty payable to the government of Peru was amended from a sliding scale of 1% to 3% on sales to royalties based on operating profits. A royalty and a special mining tax is payable by the Ollachea Project, which is structured using a marginal tax rate scale applied to operational profit at different percentages depending on 17 different levels of operating margin.

## 4.3 Don Nicolás

The following summary is taken from the technical report entitled "Technical Report Don Nicolás Gold Project, Santa Cruz, Argentina" (the "Don Nicolás Report") dated February 14, 2012, which technical report is incorporated by reference herein.

This summary is not complete and the full Don Nicolás Report can be accessed on the Company's SEDAR profile at www.sedar.com.

### **Project Description and Location**

Minera IRL acquired, through a Scheme of Arrangement, Hidefield, an AIM listed company, in December 2009. The principal asset of Hidefield was a large exploration holding in the Deseado Massif in Patagonia. The Don Nicolás Project (100% owned) consists of two vein fields known as La Paloma and Martinetas approximately 40km apart. A feasibility study on the Don Nicolás Project was complete in February 2012.



Figure 33 Martinetas project site

The Project area consists of over 47,000 ha of mineral rights located in Santa Cruz Province approximately 100 km inland from the South Atlantic Ocean as shown in Figure 34. The key data related to the Project's location are listed as follows:

	La Paloma	Martinetas
Latitude	47°42′30″ S	47°54′23″ S
Longitude	67°46′23″ W	67°22′44″ W
Elevation, m	~120	~160
Distance in km to:		
Comodoro Rivadavia	275	270
Rio Gallegos	565	530
• San Julian	212	180
Puerto Deseado	230	225

Table 17Location Data for the Don Nicolás Project

The La Paloma area hosts a number of vein systems, the principal economic target being the Sulfuro structure; Martinetas, the mineralized structures at Cerro Oro, Coyote, and Armadillo are the economic targets of principal interest.



Figure 34 General Location of the Don Nicolás Gold Project

## **Mineral Tenure**

Legal title to the Don Nicolás Project area is held as a series of "cateos" and "manifestaciones de descubrimiento" having a total area of 33,798 ha as shown in Figure 35.



Figure 35 Property Claim Map, Don Nicolás Project

The company's total Santa Cruz land package covers 270,000 ha (includes the Don Nicolás Project claims) and, in addition, the company holds surface rights of 70,000 ha within the project area.

All permits necessary to carry out exploration work on the Don Nicolás Project area have been obtained by MIRLP. Tabla 18 provides details of the mineral titles:

Claim Name	Title Holder	Area, ha
La Lechuza I	MIRLP	5,902
EL Bajo I	MIRLP	3,863
Syrah	MIRLP	5,994
La Paloma I	MIRLP	600
La Paloma II	MIRLP	3,780
Blanca I	MIRLP	3,960
Paula Andrea	MIRLP	3,699
Aramdillo	MIRLP	3,500
GOL I	MIRLP	100
GOL II	MIRLP	100
MAR III	MIRLP	600
MAR IV	MIRLP	100
Micro I	MIRLP	200
Micro II	MIRLP	200
Mara	MIRLP	1,200
Total ha		33,798

### Table 18 MIRLP Mineral Titles

### **Royalties, Rights and Encumbrances**

Three royalties apply to all or part of the Don Nicolás Project. These are:

- 1) An ad valorem provincial royalty of up to 3% of mine mouth value will be payable. Such mine head value is defined as the price for the sale of the corresponding mineral deducting certain costs and expenses.
- 2) A two percent net smelter royalty reserved to Royal Gold Inc., pursuant to agreements dated February 1, 2000 (Polimet Royalty Agreement) and January 1, 2002, with Yamana and associate companies (La Paloma Royalty Agreement). The first agreement includes the following MIRL mineral rights: Gol I, Gol II, Mar III, Mar IV, Micro I and Micro II along with other mining rights that are not included in the Don Nicolás Project or that do not even belong to MIRL. The latter covers the Syrah declaration of discovery.

3) A US\$3.00/oz gold royalty to a cap of US\$2 M payable to Yamana. This is applicable to all of the current resource areas and, effectively, those key licenses covered by the Royal Gold agreement.

### Location, Access, Climate, Local Resources and Physiography

The Project area is located on the eastern Patagonian plains and is generally characterized by flat to gently undulating landforms dissected occasionally by incised valleys. Some prospect areas exhibit hilly terrain, but this does not impede easy access to the entire project area. Elevation ranges from 130 to 220 m above sea level. Vegetation is sparse and dominated by grasses and low shrubs. Some cattle and sheep grazing activities persist. However these are limited in extent as the pastoral industry has not recovered from the effects of the ash blanket from the Mount Hudson. Logistics in the region have also been affected by the more recent (2011) Puyuehue volcano. In summary, the area is now largely uninhabited.

Don Nicolás is located in a climatically rigorous region of southern Argentina known as the Argentine Patagonia. This region is marked particularly by its strong westerly or south westerly winds that persist throughout much of the year both in the warm summer months but also in the cold southern winter from June to September or October when snow and rain are common.

Annual precipitation is from 180 to 300 mm, with occasional heavy snow falls in the winter.

The Project is easily accessible from major centres in the region by paved public highways and secondary gravel roads. The larger population centres in the area include the coastal port city of Comodoro Rivadavia (actually in Chubut province) which is serviced daily by commercial jet flights from Buenos Aires approximately 1,750 km to the north. Comodoro Rivadavia is a regional centre of approximately 140,000 inhabitants servicing the Argentine oil and gas industry, a major employer in this region of Argentina. From Comodoro Rivadavia, the Project is accessed by driving south along paved National Route No.3 for approximately 280 km. This section of Route No. 3 is part of the principal north-south road link traversing the length of the country, and is therefore well maintained by the provincial and national road authorities.

From Route No. 3, the La Paloma estancia is accessed by turning west onto the unpaved Route No. 49. Access to the Martinetas mineral deposits on the El Cóndor estancia is found approximately 7 km further south turning east off Route No. 3. Average driving time between Comodoro Rivadavia and the property is about four hours.

Don Nicolás is located in a very sparsely populated region of Argentina where the original settlers were dedicated to sheep ranching from scattered ranches each covering large areas, typically measured in square kilometres. These "estancias" and related rural activities have now largely been abandoned as the result of the 1991 volcanic eruption of Cerro Hudson which led to the near extinction of the sheep industry.
Oil is a significant industry in Santa Cruz province (and neighbouring Chubut to the north) principally from onshore production and exploration. Oil service centres with port facilities are located at Caleta Olivos (Chubut) and Rio Gallegos (the provincial capital of Santa Cruz). Nearby settlements to Don Nicolás include Puerto Deseado towards the east and Puerto San Julian towards the south where basic services and supplies are readily available.

### **Geological Setting and Mineralization**

The Don Nicolás Project is located in the Patagonia region of Argentina within an uplifted fault block area known as the Deseado Massif of Santa Cruz province. Covering a surface area of approximately 60,000 km2, the Deseado Massif is predominantly underlain by volcanic rocks of Jurassic age and is host to several epithermal Au-Ag deposits such as Don Nicolás.

The Deseado Massif is dominated by rhyolitic and andesitic volcanic and tuffaceous volcaniclastic lithologies of Middle to Upper Jurassic age (130 to 170 ma). It is criss-crossed by numerous extensive fault and fracture zones which served as conduits for hydrothermal activity during periods of Jurassic volcanism. The result of this activity is a widespread network of shallow level mineralized "epithermal" fissure veins, breccias, and stock-work systems, many of which carry potentially economic Au and Ag mineralization.

Broad similarities exist between the two main Don Nicolás project areas of La Paloma and Martinetas. Each are hosted within rhyolitic to andesitic volcaniclastic lithologies which are interpreted to be flat to shallow dipping. Gold and silver deposits occur as low sulphidation, epithermal mineralization within sub-vertically oriented quartz-breccia veins.

The Sulfuro vein is the principal deposit at La Paloma of economic interest and is represented by a single, well developed quartz vein typically 2 to 4 m in thickness and has a primarily northwest-south southeast orientation with a steep southwestwardly dip.

The La Paloma veins remain open-ended at depth. Geological interpretation of the results of recent geophysical studies strongly suggests that the main Sulfuro vein is additionally open-ended towards the south.

Figure 36 La Paloma area, Sulfuro Vein



At Martinetas, multiple mineralized structures occurring as "vein swarms" with minor intervening stockwork development occur. Five resource areas have been delineated. The main resource is at the Coyote and Cerro Oro deposits comprising a series of narrow, sub-parallel, anastomosing quartz veins varying in width from tens of centimetres to several metres, and typically averaging one metre or less in thickness. Au/Ag mineralization is variable within the veins with some minor stockwork mineralization extending into the host volcanic lithology. Conceptually, near-surface oxidized stockwork precious metal mineralization might provide a low-grade, conventional, heap-leachable resource.

Other resource areas at Martinetas include the Lucia, Calafate and Armadillo deposits. Precious metal mineralization associated with these deposits is also hosted by narrow to moderately thick, steep dipping quartz veins of variable tenor.

The La Paloma and Martinetas epithermal systems are classic "low sulphidation" type deposits consisting mainly of quartz with adularia and free Au, minor amounts of sulphides (except at Sulfuro where a relatively high sulphide content occurs), and weak alteration haloes. Classic low sulphidation textures like lattice textures, crustiform-colloform banding, comb quartz, etc., are common. They may also be associated with anomalous amounts of arsenic (As), mercury (Hg), or antimony (Sb).

# Exploration

The Don Nicolás Project areas were acquired from Hidefield who in turn had acquired them from Yamana Resources Inc. (Yamana). Yamana identified the areas as having potential for Au-Ag mineralization and commenced exploration work in the region in the early 1990s.

On the Martinetas prospect, the discovery of Au mineralization at surface led to the commencement of drilling in 1996. Since that time, extensive surface trenching, as well as various campaigns of reverse circulation (RC) and/or diamond drilling have been completed. The majority of drilling was completed by Yamana between 1996 and 1999. An additional program was carried out in 2003. Between 2006 and 2009, Hidefield completed drilling and trenching at the project. From 2010, after the late-2009 acquisition of Hidefield, MIRL invested significant funding into an extended campaign of infill drilling with some minor extension drilling of the known resources.

Several zones of satellite Au-Ag mineralization have been identified on the Martinetas project area. Systematic exploration of these areas commenced under the management of MIRL and is described in more detail below.

At the La Paloma Project, initial drilling was carried out in 1996 by Newcrest Minera Argentina SA (Newcrest). No further drilling was carried out until Yamana resumed exploration in 2003 and drilled a series of holes in that year. Hidefield then purchased the project and completed drilling between 2006 and 2009. MIRL continued a program of infill DDH at Sulfuro and Arco Iris during 2010 and into 2011.

Additional to the resource infill drilling and surface trenching described above, MIRL's brownfield exploration work in the Martinetas area also focused on targeting shallow, oxidized satellite pit resources (potentially amenable to heap leaching), located peripheral to the central Martinetas deposits. Approximately 11,000 m of RC drilling has been planned in the central Martinetas area.

# Drilling

Drilling at the Don Nicolás Project has been carried out by several companies over the period October 1996 to June 2011 and summarized as follows:

1996: Yamana Resources (Yamana) begins drilling in the Martinetas Region.

1996: Newcrest begins an initial program at the Arco Iris deposit (La Paloma area).

1996 to 1999: Yamana completes drilling (DDH and RC) and trenching in the Martinetas area.

2003: RYSA (a joint venture between Yamana and Compañia Minera Buenaventura) completes drilling (DDH) at Martinetas.

2006 to 2009: Hidefield Gold Plc (Hidefield) continues drilling (DDH) and trench sampling in the La Paloma and Martinetas regions.

2010 to Present: Since the acquisition of the project in 2009, MIRLP has continued infill drilling (DDH and RC) and trench sampling at all the deposits within the Don Nicolás Project area.

The Figures 37 to 39 show the extent of drilling and trenching at the Paloma (Sulfuro), Martinetas Central Area, and Armadillo deposits respectively.



Figure 37 Paloma (Sulfuro) Drill and Trench Plan



Figure 38 Martinetas Central Area Drill and Trench Plan





Whist on site in 2010, Coffey Mining chose several drill collars and verified their location using a hand-held GPS unit. All drillholes checked were within +/- 5 m of the reported location (within the accuracy limits of the device).

Survey reports show that the topographic survey was generated by surveyors using DGPS total station. This topography was reported with sub-centimetre accuracy and compares well with the drillhole collar survey data. Coffey Mining considers the topography to be of high confidence.

Within the Don Nicolás Project, drilling has been orientated in order to be perpendicular to the strike of the known vertical to sub-vertical mineralization.

Within the Don Nicolás Project area, generally samples have been taken at 1 to 2 m lengths within the known mineralized zones (some core samples have been taken at a minimum length of 0.4 m based on geological interpretation); average sample length is approximately 1 m.

Drillholes typically intersect mineralization orthogonally, and the true mineralized intercepts are typically 60 to 80% of the intersected mineralization.

### Sample Preparation, Analysis and Security

Trenching took place across all deposits within the Don Nicolás Project from 1997 (Yamana), to as recent as 2010 (MIRL) at Martinetas. Trenches are typically 1.2 m wide, 0.5 to 1.5 m deep and of various lengths. The trenches were channel sampled along one wall in 1 m intervals except where dictated by lithology, where samples could be less than 1 m.

Whilst on site in June 2010 and March 2011, Coffey Mining observed a similar DDH sampling procedure being adopted by MIRL. Coffey Mining considers the procedures meet an acceptable industry standard.

In 2011, MIRL preformed an infill RC drill campaign in the Martinetas area, to improve the mineral resource estimate. All sampling was taken at 1-m downhole intervals. Coffey Mining considers that the sampling procedure used by MIRL meets acceptable industry standards.

Recent core drilling at La Paloma by MIRL is collected using a triple-tube system to ensure recovery is as good as possible. Core recovery at Martinetas is considered to be reasonable and satisfactory (with a majority of the core having recoveries of greater than 90%).

The close scrutiny of sample submission procedures by MIRL technical staff, and the rapid submission of samples from drilling for analysis, provides little opportunity for sample tampering. Smee (2010) noted the following; sample bags are placed into rice bags for shipment to the preparation laboratory. A transport truck is used to deliver the samples to the preparation laboratory in Mendoza, Argentina. Each of the rice bags is sealed with a sequential number sample tag.

Reference material is retained and stored at the MIRL exploration camp at El Cóndor Ranch, as well as chips derived from RC drilling, half-core and photographs generated by Diamond drilling, and duplicate pulps and residues of all submitted samples. Assessment of the data indicates that the assay results are generally consistent with the logged alteration and mineralization, and are entirely consistent with the anticipated tenor of mineralization. The ALS-Chemex Argentina S.A. (from 2003 to current), has been used by RYSA, Hidefield and MIRL.

Samples are transported by courier service to the ALS-Chemex laboratory in Mindoza. On arrival, the samples are weighed and assigned a barcode number for tracking through the process.

Sample Preparation Procedure (Mendoza, Argentina):

- a. The samples are dried in a gas oven, at a temperature of 105°C.
- b. Samples are crushed to a <2-mm (70% passing or better).
- c. Samples are riffle split to approximately 1000 g.

d. Sample then pulverised to  $<75 \,\mu m$  (85% passing or better).

Prepared pulp samples are flown to the ALS-Chemex laboratory at La Serena in Chile for analysis where the analytical procedure is as follows:

- a. Au/Ag; 50-g charge fire assay with an AA Finish (Au/Ag-AA24), where Au values greater than 10 ppm Au detected, they were re-analyzed using a gravimetric method (Au-GRA22).
- b. Where Ag returned values greater than 100 ppm Ag, they were re-analyzed using a gravimetric method (Ag-GRA22).
- c. Trace Hg was analyzed by aqua-regia digestion, cold vapour with AAS finish (Hg-CV41).
- d. A further 27 elements were analyzed by 4-acid digest with ICP-AES finish (ME-ICP61) or with AAS finish if greater than upper detection limit for Mo, Pb and Zn.

ALS-Chemex is an independent laboratory and is part of the global group ALS Laboratory Group with ISO 9001:2000 accreditation.

Quality control sampling and assaying used by Hidefield (since 2006), and continued by MIRL is summarized below:

- a. Insertion of a coarse blank sample at a ratio of 1 in 50 samples.
- b. Insertion of reference material at a ratio of 1 in 25 samples.
- c. Routine duplicate assay of pulps as part of the laboratory QAQC program.
- d. Insertion of prepared duplicate samples at a ratio of 1 in 25 samples.
- e. Insertion of a duplicate drill core sample at a ratio of 1 in 25 samples.
- f. MIRL have used their own in-house standards, which have been certified by ACME Analytical Laboratories (Chile) Ltd., as part of a 5-laboratory certification process involving; ACME Analytical Laboratories (Chile) Ltd., Actlabs Skyline Peru S.A.C, ALS Peru S.A., CIMM Peru S.A and SGS Peru S.A.C. Twelve samples from each standard (8006 to 8012) were sent to each laboratory, which used a 30-g Fire Assay analysis, with an Atomic Absorption finish (except for standard 8009, which had a gravimetric finish). The 60 resulting assays for each standard were compiled by ACME Analytical Laboratories (Chile) Ltd., to determine the appropriate confidence intervals.

The Don Nicolás database contains 161 dry in-situ bulk density measurements sampled at various locations at the Sulfuro deposit and Martinetas region. Tables 19 and 20 summarize the location and result of the bulk densities samples used for the resource estimate, separated by mineralization/geology and oxidation state.

	Mineralized (> 1g/t Au) <sup>1</sup>		Low ( (0.3 to 1	Grade g∕t Au)¹	Background (< 0.3g/t Au) <sup>1</sup>		
	No. of Data	Mean BD <sup>2</sup>	No. of Data	Mean BD <sup>2</sup>	No. of Data	Mean BD <sup>2</sup>	
Oxide	18	2.37	6	2.32	9	2.2	
Transitional	22	2.52	4	2.38	3	2.31	
Fresh	Assumed	2.56	8	2.41	5	2.35	
Fresh	Assumed	2.56	8	2.41	5	2.35	

### Table 19 Bulk Densities - Martinetas

2. Average dry in-situ bulk density units are t/m<sup>3</sup>.

$1 u \cup u \in 20$ Duik Densilies – $1 u \cup u \cup u \cup (3 u) u \cup (3 u)$	Table 20	Bulk Densities -	- Paloma	(Sulfuro)
--	----------	------------------	----------	-----------

	Wall-Rock		Stock	Work	LG V	/ein	HG Vein		
	No. of Data	Mean BD <sup>1</sup>							
Oxide	8	2.2	Assumed	2.2	Assumed	2.3	Assumed	2.4	
Transitional	8	2.3	2	2.3	Assumed	2.4	2	2.5	
Fresh	50	2.4	7	7 2.4		2.5	5	2.6	

1. Average dry in-situ bulk density units are t/m<sup>3</sup>

The Sulfuro deposit results were used for all deposits in the La Paloma region. As the current bulk density database is still being improved, there are some areas that do not contain samples and assumed values have been used. All bulk density measurements were completed used the paraffin coated, water-immersion (Archimedean) technique on dried drill core sample billets.

#### **Mineral Resource Estimates**

Coffey Mining has estimated mineral resources for Don Nicolás with data available prior to the 15th of August 2011. The Measured and Indicated mineral resource estimates focus on seven separate vein systems within two separate areas of the Don Nicolás property:

- a. La Paloma area: Sulfuro and Arco Iris deposits.
- b. Martinetas area: Cerro Oro, Lucia, Calafate, Coyote, and Armadillo deposits.

The Don Nicolás FS is based on Measured and Indicated mineral resources for only four of these deposits, as follows:

- a. Sulfuro (La Paloma area).
- b. Cerro Oro, Coyote, and Armadillo (Martinetas area).

c. Grade estimation of the Don Nicolás mineral resource has been carried out by Coffey Mining using a combination of Ordinary Kriging (OK) and Multiple Indicator Kriging (MIK) as follows (Table 21):

Area	Deposit	<b>Estimation Method</b>	Elements Estimated		
La Palama	Sulfuro	ОК	Au, Ag, As, Cu, Sb		
La Paloma	Arco Iris	ОК	Au, Ag		
	Cerro Oro	MIK/OK	Au (MIK), Ag (whole block OK)		
	Coyote	MIK/OK	Au (MIK), Ag (whole block OK)		
Martinetas	Lucia	MIK/OK	Au(MIK), Ag (whole block OK)		
	Calafate	OK (Accumulation)	Au, Ag		
	Armadillo	OK	Au, Ag		

Table 21Summary of Estimation Methods

Geological modelling is based on grade information, geological observations, and oxidation and mineralized domain boundaries. The resource estimation is constrained using wireframes interpreted and constructed by Coffey Mining.

Statistical analysis was carried out on the composited data for each unit to determine the need for appropriate cutting levels for erratic high grade values for gold and silver and the deleterious elements, arsenic, copper and antimony.

A total of 86 dry in-situ bulk density readings were taken from various diamond holes drilled within the Sulfuro deposit. Seventy-Five (75) dry in-situ bulk density readings were taken from various diamond holes drilled within the Martinetas central zone.

Table 22 provides a summary of Measured and Indicated mineral resources estimated for all deposits found on the Don Nicolás property.

Note that the FS is based only on four mineral resource areas; Sulfuro, Cerro Oro, Coyote and Armadillo deposits (shown in bold text in **Error! Reference source not found.**).

Additional mineral resources in the Inferred category are listed in Table 23.

			Measured Mineral Resource				Indicated Mineral Resource				irce	
		Cutoff Au		A	u	1	Ag			Au	I	Ag
	Deposit	g/t	kt	(g/t)	(kOz )	(g/t)	(kOz)	kt	(g/t)	(kOz)	(g/t)	(kOz)
	Sulfuro	0.3	270.9	7.2	62.5	24.0	208.9	921.4	3.7	109.3	13.8	408.4
I - D-1		1.6	168.8	10.8	58.7	33.4	181.3	329.6	8.4	88.6	25.4	268.8
La Paloina	Anco Inic	0.3						36.8	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.6
	Arco Iris	1.6						18.0	2.4	1.4	2.8	1.6
	Cerro Oro	0.3						2,528.5	1.1	85.6	3.9	316.5
		1.6						378.3	3.3	39.9	6.1	73.8
	Lucia	0.3						94.1	1.3	4.1	0.8	2.3
		1.6						18.3	3.9	2.3	0.7	0.4
Martinataa	Carrata	0.3						1,603.4	1.9	99.7	3.5	179.5
Martinetas	Coyote	1.6						440.8	5.1	72.4	5.8	82.5
	Calafata	0.3						4.0	3.2	0.4	10.8	1.4
	Calalate	1.6						4.0	3.2	0.4	10.8	1.4
	Armadilla	0.3						179.0	3.1	17.6	4.7	27.0
	Armadillo	1.6						102.7	4.9	16.1	6.2	20.5
Total A11 D		0.3	270.9	7.2	62.5	24.0	208.9	5,367.1	1.8	318.9	5.4	937.5
Total All D	reposits	1.6	168.8	10.8	58.7	33.4	181.3	1,291.7	5.3	221.1	10.8	449.0

# Table 22 Don Nicolás Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources

# Table 23Don Nicolás Inferred Mineral Resources

			Inferred Mineral Resource						
	Domosit	Cutoff		A	u	Ag			
	Deposit	Au, g/t	KL	(g/t)	(kOz)	(g/t)	(kOz)		
	Carlforne	0.3	535.0	1.2	20.6	5.4	92.5		
	Sulfuro	1.6	47.3	7.0	10.7	18.7	28.4		
	Ramal	0.3	134.8	1.9	8.3				
I D I		1.6	58.5	2.7	5.1				
La Paloma	Deste	0.3	89.2	4.1	11.9				
	KOC10	1.6	89.2	4.1	11.9				
	Arco Iris	0.3	262.4	2.3	19.4	2.1	17.5		
		1.6	164.0	3.0	15.7	2.5	13.2		

	Come One	0.3	995.8	1.0	32.9	4.1	130.7
	Cerro Oro	1.6	144.4	3.4	15.9	7.0	32.7
	т .	0.3	225.5	1.1	7.9	2.1	15.3
	Lucia	1.6	38.1	3.4	4.1	4.4	5.4
Martinetas	Coyote	0.3	612.6	1.6	30.5	3.1	60.9
		1.6	132.6	4.7	20.2	5.6	23.8
	Calafate	0.3	3.4	5.8	0.6	11.7	1.3
		1.6	3.4	5.8	0.6	11.7	1.3
	Armadillo	0.3	209.7	1.9	12.6	4.2	28.4
	Armaumo	1.6	66.0	5.0	10.6	6.9	14.6
T-1-1		0.3	3,068.5	1.5	144.8	3.5	346.6
IUlai		1.6	743.5	4.0	94.9	5.0	119.4

### **Mineral Reserve Estimates**

Table 24 sets out the Proven and Probable Mineral Reserves for the Don Nicolás Project as of December 2011 based on metal prices of US\$1,100/oz Au and US\$25/oz Ag.

Table 24 Mineral Reserve Summary, Don Nicolás Project

Depo	osit/Category	Tonnes	Au g/t	Ag g/t
	Proven	137,624	10.74	33.55
La Paloma	Portable	257,406	4.96	14.84
	Total	395,030	6.97	21.36
	Proven	-	-	-
Martinetas	Portable	680,803	4.30	5.07
	Total	257,400 $4.90$ $14.84$ $395,030$ $6.97$ $21.36$ $680,803$ $4.30$ $5.07$ $680,803$ $4.30$ $5.07$ $128,275$ $3.34$ $4.60$ $128,275$ $3.34$ $4.60$ $137,624$ $10.74$ $33.55$		
	Proven	137,624       10.74         257,406       4.96         395,030       6.97         -       -         680,803       4.30         680,803       4.30         128,275       3.34         137,624       10.74         1,066,484       4.34         1,204,108       5.08	-	-
Armadillo	Portable	128,275	7,624 $10.74$ $33.55$ $7,406$ $4.96$ $14.84$ $5,030$ $6.97$ $21.36$ $   0,803$ $4.30$ $5.07$ $0,803$ $4.30$ $5.07$ $   8,275$ $3.34$ $4.60$ $8,275$ $3.34$ $4.60$ $7,624$ $10.74$ $33.55$ $56,484$ $4.34$ $7.37$ $04,108$ $5.08$ $10.36$	
	Total	128,275	3.34	Au g/t         Ag g/t           10.74         33.55           4.96         14.84           6.97         21.36           -         -           4.30         5.07           4.30         5.07           3.34         4.60           3.34         4.60           10.74         33.55           4.34         7.37           5.08         10.36
C /T-1-1-	Proven	137,624	10.74	33.55
5/ 10tals	Probable	395,030       6.97       21.36         -       -       -         680,803       4.30       5.07         680,803       4.30       5.07         680,803       4.30       5.07         128,275       3.34       4.60         128,275       3.34       4.60         137,624       10.74       33.55         1,066,484       4.34       7.37         1,204,108       5.08       10.36		
Total		1,204,108	5.08	10.36

Note: Mineral Reserves are associated with an ore/waste strip ratio of 11.9/1. In this ratio, waste includes 2.1 Mt of LG mineralization between 0.3 and 1.5 g/t.

# **Open Pit Mining**

All mining considered in the Feasibility Study will be by open cut methods.

Location of the mining areas is shown in the following figures:



Figure 40 Martinetas Mining Area

Figure 41 La Paloma Mining Area



Mineable pit phases were designed based on optimized nested pit shell guidance, gold grade, strip ratio and access. Ramps in final walls have a design width of 10 m and a gradient of 12%. A nominal minimum mining width of 30 m was used for phase design.

Zone	Overall Slope Angle
La Paloma	48°
Martinetas	53°
Armadillo	45°

Table 25Overall Slope Recommendations, Golder

		Ore		Waste	Contained Equiv.Gold		Total	
Phase	Tonnage (kt)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Tonnage (kt)	Oz′000*	Stripping Ratio	Tonnage/ k oz Au eq)	
La Paloma Sur 1	62	4.99	12.18	723	10,540	11.6	74.5	
La Paloma Sur 2	301	7.68	24.63	6,408	79,710	21.3	84.2	
La Paloma Norte	32	4.17	8.40	382	4,490	11.9	92.3	
Coyote	422	5.04	5.61	2,176	70,110	5.2	37.1	
Cerro Oro	259	3.10	4.18	1,607	26,580	6.2	70.2	
Armadillo	128	3.34	4.60	702	14,190	5.5	58.5	

Table 26Phase Mining Sequence

\*Ag/Au ratio 41:1

Note: COG for La Paloma was 1.60 g/t Au and for the other sectors was 1.50 g/t Au.

		Ore			LG		Waste	Total Material
	>1.5 g/t Au			0.	3-1.5 g/t	Au	Moved	Moved
	kt	Au a/t	Ag g/t	kt	Au a/t	Ag g/t	kt	Kt
Period		g/ t	8/1		g/ t	8/ 1		
1 (PP)	42	4.870	5.931	68	0.735	1.886	713	823
2	303	5.089	7.464	524	0.738	2.965	3,850	4,677
3	372	6.254	16.653	304	0.812	4.031	4,511	5,187
4	348	4.501	8.782	1,132	0.683	2.862	2,279	3,759
5	140	3.406	5.176	120	0.643	4.507	643	903
Total	1,204	5.076	10.362	2,149	0.714	3.114	11,997	15,350

# Table 27Summary Mine Production Plan by Year

The FS has assumed that an owner's fleet of equipment will be used in the Don Nicolás mine operations.

The Don Nicolás mine design specifies 5-m benches and has adequate phase geometry to achieve the required productions. The design calls for annual mill throughput of 350,000 t of ore. Mining will advance simultaneously in two different pits with two to three pit phases generally active at any time. The vertical advance rate of the pits will be relatively low, with a maximum of eleven 5-m benches per phase per year.

The Martinetas deposits (Cerro Oro, Coyote, and Armadillo) lie close to the main process plant while the La Paloma deposit (principally the Sulfuro vein) is located some 50 km to the northwest. Mine equipment units have been estimated on the basis of a common operating fleet shared between the different operating areas. The drilling and loading equipment will therefore combine high productivity, mobility, and flexibility at relatively low cost, and will be sized for efficient mine selectivity.

The required yearly equipment fleet is shown in Table 28.

Area	Unit	Y01	Y02	Y03	Y04	Y05
Load Fleet	FEL CAT 966	1	2	2	2	1
	Excavator CAT 336DL	1	2	2	2	1
Hauling Fleet	Haul Truck M.Benz Actros 3344	4	8	10	7	3
Drill Fleet	Diesel Drill Sandvik DX800	1	2	2	2	1
Auxiliary						
	Bulldozer D6	-	1	1	1	1
	Bulldozer D8	1	1	1	1	1
	Grader 140 M	1	1	1	1	1
	Water Truck	1	1	1	1	1
Auxiliary Fleet		3	4	4	4	4
Support						
	Backhoe/Hammer	1	1	1	1	1
	Fuel Truck	1	1	1	1	1
	Support Truck	1	1	1	1	1
	Lowboy Truck	1	1	1	1	1
	Lightning Plant	3	6	6	6	3
Support Fleet		7	10	10	10	7

Table 28Mine Equipment Requirements by Year

# Metallurgical Testing and Mineral Processing

A number of metallurgical testwork programs have been conducted on sample material from the La Paloma and Las Martinetas deposits. The testwork performed from 2007 onwards will be reviewed on the basis that it represents testwork programs conducted on representative sample material from the deposit.

Document or Test Program	Facility or Laboratory	Test Programs Conducted	Date of Publication
Report A10681	Ammtec	crushing and grinding parameters, head assays, mineralogy, flotation and leaching tests	June 2007
Report A10830	Ammtec	assays	July 2007

Table 29Historical Test Work Programs and Reports

Report A12879	Ammtec	gravity concentration an leaching tests	September 2010
Report A13483-A	ALS Ammtec	grinding parameters, assays and leaching tests	August 2011
Report A13483-B	ALS Ammtec	gravity concentration and leaching tests and cyanide detoxification tests	September 2011
Report A13097-A	ALS Ammtec	gravity concentration and leaching tests	September 2011
Report A13097-B	ALS Ammtec	gravity concentration and leaching tests	October 2011
Report A13097-C	ALS Ammtec	leaching and filtration tests	October 2011
Report S1828T-B	Outotec	thickener settling tests	September 2011

The Crushing Work Index (CWi) testing was performed according to the Bond standardized procedures.

The sulphide samples were tested in duplicate and the CWi was found to vary between 7 and 20 kWh/t. The average CWi for sulfide samples was 11.4 kWh/t.

The oxide-sulphide samples were also tested in duplicate. The results from the tests showed discordance between duplicate values. No explanation is given nor were tests repeated. The CWi values ranged from 17.6 to 3.6 kWh/t with an average CWi for the oxide-sulphide samples of 8.0 kWh/t.

The specific gravity was also measured and was found to be 2.72.

The grinding testwork was to determine the BWi conducted on a sulphide sample using a closing screen size of  $106 \,\mu$ m. The grinding circuit was designed using the BWi of  $17.6 \,k$ Wh/t.

Gravity concentration followed by leaching of the gravity tailings gravity tests were aimed to report any free gold and silver amenable to recovery by gravity separation. Leaching tests were performed on the gravity tailings.

From the metallurgical testing, the following recovery algorithm was derived that could be applied to each mining block.

Deposit		Parameters
	Oxides	Rec Au=100*(1-(0.00072 Cu + 0.0056 Sb + 0.0305 Au + 0.0066 Ag + 0.1 S +0.015)/Au)
La Paloma	Traditional	Rec Ag=100*(1-(0.0091 Cu + 0.374 Ag + 0.075)/Ag)
	Fresh	Rec Au=100*(1-(0.00072 Cu + 0.0056 Sb + 0.0305 Au + 0.0066 Ag + 0.1 S +0.015)/Au)

Table 30Metallurgical Recovery Parameters

Martinetas & Armadillo	Oxides	Rec Au=100*(1- (0.025 x Au + 0.075)/Au). For <0.2 g/t assume a recovery of 40%.
	Traditional	Rec Ag=100*(1-(0.49 x Ag + 0.115)/Ag). For <0.3 g/t assume a recovery of 5%.
	Fresh	Rec Au=100*(1- 0.025 x Au + 0.075)/Au). For <0.2 g/t assume a recovery of 40%.

The Don Nicolás processing facility will consist of the following unit operations:

- a. Two-stage crushing and screening.
- b. Fine Ore Bin Storage and Reclaim for Grinding.
- c. Ball Mill Grinding and Classification.
- d. Gravity Recovery Circuit.
- e. CIL Leaching.
- f. Carbon Handling and Treatment.
- g. Electrowinning and Smelting (gold refining).
- h. Tailings Thickening.
- i. Cyanide Detoxification.
- j. Thickened Tailings Deposition.
- k. Process Water Reclamation.

The simplified flowsheet is shown in Figure 43.





The process plant has been designed to treat gold-bearing material at the rate of 972 t/d, equivalent to 350,000 t/a. The major criteria used in the design are outlined in Table 31.

Criteria	Unit	Value
Operating Year	d	360
Crushing Circuit Utilization	%	60
Grinding, CIL and Carbon Circuits Utilization	%	92
Crushing Circuit Throughput Rate	t/h	67.5
Grinding and Leaching Process Rate	t/h	44.0
Ball Mill Feed Size, 80% Passing	μm	6,500
Ball Mill Product Size, 80% Passing	μm	75
Ball Mill Circulating Load	%	300
Bond Ball Mill Work Index, design	kWh/t	17.6
Bond Abrasion Index, design	g	0.50
Specific Gravity Ore		2.70
Moisture Content Ore	%	2.0
Leach Circuit Retention Time	h	36
Head Grade, Design	Au, g/t	6.27
Head Grade, Design	Ag, g/t	16.7
Anticipated Recovery, Design	Au, %	94.4
Anticipated Recovery, Design	Ag, %	48.5

Table 31 Major Design Criteria

The process flowsheet follows conventional crushing and ball mill grinding and cyclone classification. The gravity concentration circuit in the grinding circuit includes the recovery of coarse and liberated gold using a centrifugal concentrator followed by the tabling of the gravity-gold product to up-grade the concentrate prior to smelting. The ball mill cyclone overflow will be treated in an 8-stage CIL circuit to recover gold from the feed material using activated carbon. Loaded carbon will be transferred from the head CIL tank to the elution circuit on a daily basis, while regenerated and/or fresh carbon will be brought from the carbon plant for adding to the CIL circuit. The loaded carbon will initially be acid-washed to remove calcium and other impurities, followed by the elution, or stripping, process. The gold will be recovered by electrowinning. The eluted carbon will be regenerated in a kiln prior to screening for the removal of carbon fines. The regenerated carbon will subsequently be returned to the adsorption circuit. The CIL tailings will be discharged to the tailings thickener. Tailings thickener underflow will be pumped to the cyanide detoxification tank where cyanide levels

will be chemically reduced to acceptable environmental levels prior to disposal to the tailings storage pond. This thickening stage will allow for greater control of water management and enable some of the cyanide present in the water to be re-circulated for re-use in the plant.

Process water will be recycled from the tailings thickener overflow, and this will be supplemented with process water recovered from the tailings dam. Fresh water will be used for gland service, reagent preparation and gravity circuit fluidisation, as well as for water make-up purposes, as required.

The Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) impoundment area will be contained by the construction of four earthwork dams which will be constructed to an initial elevation of 139 m asl (Phase 1). These dams will then be subsequently raised to a final height of 144 m asl during a second construction period (Phase 2).

All dams will be constructed of rock fill material obtained from suitable waste rock from the Martinetas pits and will be constructed directly on top of the in-situ superficial deposits. All dams will be built with a slope angle of 1(v):2(h) on both the upstream and downstream sides and have a crest width of 8 m.

A low permeability barrier will be incorporated into the tailings storage basin. This will comprise a 1-mm smooth surface HDPE geomembrane for the majority of the lining works, including the basal area and natural slopes of the TSF basin. The upstream face of the tailings dams will be lined with a 1-mm HDPE geomembrane textured on both sides.

### Infrastructure

The following figure illustrates location of the principal infrastructure of the Don Nicolás Project:



Figure 43 Don Nicolás Infrastructure

Over the life of the Don Nicolás Project, as currently defined, some 395,000 t of ore will be transported from the La Paloma mining area to the central plant at Martinetas, a distance, by road, of approximately 50 km.

The proposed routing from Paloma will follow an existing secondary highway (Ruta 49) for some 33 km to the junction with the north-south national highway, Ruta No. 3. At this point, the 27-t trucks carrying the Paloma ore will cross Ruta No. 3, continue eastwards for approximately 1 km before turning south towards the Martinetas plant area, an additional approximate16-km distant. The initial section of this final segment will require new construction while other sections of the 50-km distance will only require upgrading of existing roads. Design criteria for the new and upgraded sections will be consistent with a contractor style of construction and the low traffic demand over the limited mine life.

A gas pipeline running parallel to National Route No. 3 transects the Project area and there are proposals to eventual extending power grid access from the main line that currently runs from Puerto Deseado to Caleta Olivia to the north-west. However, in the short term, power requirements for the mining project at Don Nicolás will be provided by diesel generators operated by a third-party supplier, such as Sullair or Atlas Copco. The power station will consist of four 1.4 MW diesel generators, with one unit on standby. The power distribution system will be at 6.6kV voltage extending to each of the facilities where secondary transformers will be installed as required.

To characterize the groundwater systems in the La Paloma and Martinetas areas, 26 exploratory wells were drilled and evaluated.

Analysis of pumping tests indicates that groundwater is recoverable from the aquifers at the La Paloma and Martinetas areas through strategically located wells. At La Paloma, wells will supply water for mine support dust control and general usage. At Martinetas, wells will supply raw water for the mill and dust control; some wells will be strategically located to support pit dewatering. Wells at El Cóndor camp will provide water for personal and operational use. Pending final water balance estimates, six wells are anticipated for water supply and/or dewatering support at Martinetas and the camp area, including:

Area	Wells	Depth (m)	Diameter (mm)	Production (m³/h)	Total Production (m³/d)
Martinetas	3	150	150	6	1,150
Armadillo	2	150	150	15	
Camp	1	60	150	1 – 11	90

Table 32Initial Water Supply Well Requirements

The permanent mine buildings will be designed and constructed by local Argentine contractors and construction will be programmed so that these buildings are erected as early as possible to allow their use during construction.

The main operations camp with capacity for 130 people will be located immediately to the north of the existing El Cóndor exploration camp; a smaller 40-man camp will be located at La Paloma mine site for mine operations personnel. The camp facilities will be provided with a kitchen, laundry and a health clinic at both camp sites.

Communication at site is currently provided by satellite link. Accommodation and office facilities with domestic power and water services are available at the El Cóndor estancia which has served as the main Don Nicolás exploration camp for several years.

The Workshop/Warehouse (240 m2) will house an electrical workshop, offices and storage space for maintenance items. The owner's Truckshop and adjacent maintenance areas (864 m2 combined) will have capacity for two truck bays, single light vehicle bay and oil lubricant storage area. The Administration Building (312 m2) will be a single storey building and will include general areas for engineering, geology and administration personnel plus individual offices for management personnel. The combined assay laboratory and change house building

(160 m2) will house the assay laboratory, assay office, metallurgists' offices, separate washrooms for male and female personnel, and a storage room for laboratory supplies.

### Environmental

Vector Argentina S.A. (now Ausenco Vector) carried out the baseline studies for the Project.

The baseline study was carried out during two separate periods: the initial study was done between 2007 and 2008 during which a regional analysis was carried out, and a detailed complementary baseline study has been carried out starting in 2010.

Both campaigns have addressed the following disciplines: Physical Aspects – Geology and Geomorphology, Climate, Air Quality, Soil, Hydrology, Maximum Storm (flooding) Events, Hydrogeology, Water Quality, Soil Usage, Seismology; Biological Aspects – Flora, Fauna, Limnology, Ecosystem Characterization; Socioeconomic and Cultural Aspects – Socioeconomic Report, Archaeology and Paleontology, Protected Natural Areas, Opinion Study, Vehicular Traffic. The following disciplines are still being developed: Particulate Matter Modeling, Cost-Benefit, Landscape, and the characterization of the Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) Potential.

Studies on each discipline were carried out by means of field surveys, laboratory assessments, and office preparation of the corresponding reports and maps according to methodologies appropriate for compliance with Argentine regulations.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being prepared.

# **Capital and Operating Costs**

The following is a summary of the initial and sustaining capital cost estimates for the Don Nicolás Gold Project:

Area/WBS	Initial Capital Cost	LOM Sustaining Captial Cost
	US\$k	US\$k
Direct Costs		
• Mine Equipment & Facilities	\$4,983	\$3,056
Process Plant	\$26,246	\$0
Tailings Storage Facility	\$2,289	\$1,239
Water Supply	\$976	\$872
Access Roads	\$755	\$0
Other Infrastructure	3291	\$846
Sub-Total Direct Costs	\$38,540	\$6,013
Indirect Costs		
• EPCM	\$3,258	
• Freight	\$1,400	
• Other	\$1,025	\$582
Sub-Total Indirects	\$5,683	\$582
Owner's Cost		
Owner's Cost	\$4,521	
Pre-Production Mining	\$2,359	
Sub-Total Owner's Cost	\$6,880	\$0
Contingency, 10%	\$4,222	\$660
Total Project Cost	\$55,526	\$7,255

# Table 33 Capital Cost Summary, Life-Of Mine (LOM)

The summary LOM operating cost estimates are as follows:

	LOM OPEX Costs US\$k	US\$/t Processed	US\$/ oz. Au Recovered
Mining	\$41,561	\$34.52	\$230
Processing	\$38,100	\$31.64	\$210
General & Administration	\$16,456	\$13.67	\$91
Ore Transportation	\$3,220	\$2.67	\$18
Total Site Operating Cost	\$99,337	\$82.50	\$549
Off Site Costs	\$951	\$0.79	\$5
Royalties	\$9,085	\$7.54	\$50
Total Cash Cost	\$109,373	\$90.83	\$604
Silver Credit	\$4,732	\$3.93	\$26
TotalProductionCost(after Ag Credit)	\$104,641	\$86.9	\$578

Table 34LOM Operating Cost Summary

The Don Nicolás Project will employ over people 273 people in the first year of production, 302 in the second year, and an average of 240 for the remaining 1.5 years of the mine life.

The operations and maintenance personnel will reside in a site camp facility mainly working on two shifts, 12-h/d, and on a rotation of days on by days off.

Manpower loadings include a 12.5 factor to account for statutory holidays, vacation, sick leave and other time off.

Table 35 summarizes the manpower requirements in the second production year (four crews).

Area	Manpower Production Y02		
Mine Operations	85		
Mine Support	25		
Mine Maintenance	37		
Mine Supervision	29		
Process Plant, all departments	54		
General & Administration	54		
Ore Transport	18		
Total Y02	302		

Table 35Manpower Requirements, Production Year 02

### **Financial Analysis**

A financial analysis of the Don Nicolás Project was undertaken using the discounted cash flow analysis approach. Cash flows were projected for LOM, which includes construction, operation and closure phases. The cash inflows were based on projected revenues for the LOM. The projected cash outflows, such as capital costs, operating costs and taxes; were subtracted from the cash inflows to estimate the net cash flows. A financial model (Model) was constructed on a quarterly basis to estimate the net cash flows over the LOM. The net cash flows were summarized on an annual basis. The cash inflows and outflows were assumed to be in constant fourth quarter 2011 US dollar basis.

The Don Nicolás Project was evaluated on a project stand-alone, 100% equity-financed basis. The financial results, including Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR) do not take past expenditures into account; these are considered to be sunk costs. The analysis was done on a forward-looking basis, with the exception of the sunk costs to date, which were taken into account for tax calculations.

Parameter	Units	Base Gold Price US\$1,250/oz	Upside Gold Price US\$1,500/oz
Net Cash Flow before tax	US\$ M	58.7	101.6
NPV @ 5% real (before tax)	US\$ M	44.7	82.2
NPV @ 7% real (before tax)	US\$ M	39.9	75.6
NPV @ 8% real (before tax)	US\$ M	37.6	72.4
IRR (before tax)	%	34.6%	56.3%
Payback (before tax)	Years	1.8	1.5
Net Cash Flow (after tax)	US\$ M	36.1	62.2
NPV @ 5% real (after tax)	US\$ M	25.1	48.0
NPV @ 7% real (after tax)	US\$ M	21.6	43.7
NPV @ 10% real (after tax)	US\$ M	19.8	41.4
IRR (after tax)	%	22.8%	38.1%
Payback (after tax)	Years	2.0	1.7

# Table 36Summary of Don Nicolás Financial Results

Note:

1. NPVs as at commencement of construction.

2. NPVs are based on mid-period discounting.

3. Before tax is before 5% export duty, 0.6% debit & 0.6% credit tax and 35% Income Taxes.

4. Post-tax includes tax deduction for prior expenditure and a deduction for allowable prior tax losses.

5. Payback starts from the commencement of production.

Project financial returns demonstrate that the Project is financially robust.

Gold Price US\$/oz	Pre-tax NPV @ 5% real US\$ M	Pre-tax IRR (real) %	Pre-tax Payback (years)	Post-tax NPV @ 5% real US\$ M	Post-tax IRR (real) %	Post-tax Payback (years)
900	(7.9)	(1.0)%	3.8	(16.9)	(8.3)%	3.8
1,000	7.1	10.1%	2.4	(2.9)	2.8%	3.4
1,100	22.2	20.4%	2.1	11.1	12.9%	2.3
1,200	37.2	30.0%	1.9	20.5	19.6%	2.1
1,300	52.2	39.1%	1.7	29.7	26.0%	1.9
1,400	67.2	47.9%	1.6	38.9	32.1%	1.8
1,500	82.2	56.3%	1.5	48.0	38.1%	1.7
1,600	97.3	64.6%	1.3	57.1	43.8%	1.6
1,700	112.3	72.5%	1.3	66.2	49.3%	1.5

Table 37Sensitivity of Financial Returns versus Gold Price

# **Project Implementation**

The EIA is currently being prepared with the objective of completing and submitting to the Santa Cruz authorities in the first half of 2012. Initial meetings have already been held with the authorities in 2010 and comments from those meetings have been reflected in the EIA report.

The ensuing permitting process is expected to be completed during the second half of 2012 and development is expected to take approximately 12 months with first production of gold targeted for Q4 2013.

# 4.4 Other Projects

# Patagonia Regional Exploration - Argentina

In addition to the Don Nicolás Project, the Company is advancing a number of exploration projects in Argentina's Patagonia region, including Escondido, Michelle and Chispas. Since Minera IRL's takeover of Hidefield Gold Plc in late 2009, the Company has carried out extensive airborne and ground geophysical surveys. During the second quarter 2011, a second heli-borne magnetic and radiometric geophysical survey totalling 5,374 line kilometres was completed over four project sites. This is in addition to the 4,400 line kilometres completed in 2010. The database generated by these programs is of exceptional quality and resolution and is of marked assistance to the geologists in identifying targets and fine tuning drill site locations.

### Escondido

The Escondido Project is contiguous to the Las Calandrias discovery first announced by Mariana Resources Limited in late 2009. Extension of the Las Calandrias mineralization into the Escondido property was confirmed by mapping and surface sampling conducted by Minera IRL, which identified a breccia zone in excess of 100 meters wide with anomalous gold and silver values over a strike length of some 700 meters. This was followed up by geophysical studies which identified structural and conductivity anomalies in several areas. The first phase of scout drilling was undertaken during the third quarter of 2010. Of the 11 holes drilled, 10 intersected gold mineralization demonstrating that a significant portion of the deposit lies within the Minera IRL Patagonia license.

On 15 September 2010, the results of the scout drilling were announced. Best intersections are:

- E-D10-02 **25.38 meters averaging 1.45 g/t gold and 9.62 g/t silver**, including 13.75 meters grading 2.39 g/t gold and 14.56 g/t silver
- E-D10-03 100.0 meters averaging 1.19 g/t gold and 7.77 g/t silver, including
  - 48.00 meters grading 1.71 g/t gold and 9.18 g/t silver
- E-D10-07 **120.40 meters averaging 0.65 g/t gold and 5.70 g/t silver**, including 14.70 meters grading 1.30 g/t gold and 11.86 g/t silver and 8.40 meters grading 2.45 g/t gold and 8.31 g/t silver

In December 2010, the widely spaced second-pass scout drilling program was carried out. On the 3 March 2011, results of the drill program were announced, which confirmed that mineralization extends over almost 700 meters of strike from the northern tenement boundary and remains open-ended toward both the east and south-east. Selected intercepts from the second pass Escondido scout drilling are tabulated below.

Hole	Intercept			Assa	y – g/t	Gold Equivalent -
Number	From	То	Meters	Au	Ag	g/t*
E-D10-020	51.00	84.50	33.50	0.89	2.83	0.91
including	56.15	66.35	10.20	1.83	4.45	1.90
E-D10-022	10.00	62.45	52.45	0.64	9.51	0.80
including	26.00	29.45	3.45	3.53	26.37	3.97
E-D10-024	15.00	32.00	17.00	1.13	8.23	1.27
E-D10-027	20.60	65.00	44.40	0.52	1.79	0.55
E-D10-033	86.25	90.70	4.45	0.82	59.02	1.80

Table 38Escondido drilling results - March 2011

\*Gold equivalent grade is calculated by dividing the silver value by 60 and adding this to the gold value.

An extended IP Gradient Array geophysical survey carried out in late 2010 showed a wide resistivity anomaly over the remaining 900 meters of untested ground between the current drilling and the eastern boundary of the Escondido tenement block. A substantial, chargeability anomaly coincident with the resistivity was identified. This led to a Phase 3 drilling in which 59 additional drill holes, for a total of 7,104 meters, was completed during the second quarter.



# *Figure 44 Exploration drilling at Escondido exploration site*

In July 2011, results from un-reported Phase 2 and the first 20 holes of Phase 3 Escondido drilling were reported. These results continued to confirm the low grade, bulk tonnage potential to the North West but also, for the first time at this project, reported high grade intersections. Selected intercepts are tabulated below.

			Intercept			Assay – g/t		Gold
Zone	Туре	Number	From	То	Meters	Au	Ag	g/t*
NW	Vein	E-D10-026	89.30	90.00	0.70	136	157	139
NW	Bulk	E-D11-052 including	24.80 38.35	41.00 40.30	16.20 1.95	2.05 10.0	7.4 14.4	2.20 10.3
NW	Bulk	E-D11-053	38.95	58.60	19.65	2.43	10.4	2.64
		including	38.95	41.50	2.55	9.55	51.6	10.6
NW	Bulk	E-D11-055 Including	42.80 48.80	67.00 54.10	24.20 5.30	1.16 2.48	6.1 8.1	1.28 2.64
NW	Bulk	E-D11-057	28.40	72.00	43.60	0.84	6.8	0.98
SE	Vein	E-D11-036	68.70	78.90	10.20	0.17	76.1	1.69
SE	Vein	E-D11-037 Including	54.00 56.00	58.20 56.55	4.20 0.55	1.63 4.16	663 1,250	14.9 29.2
SE	Vein	E-D11-039 Including	37.60 40.00	41.00 41.00	3.40 1.00	0.71 1.19	193 509	4.57 11.4
SE	Bulk	E-D11-058	130.00	146.00	16.00	0.28	63.7	1.55

### Table 39Escondido drilling results - July 2011

\*Gold equivalent grade is calculated by dividing the silver value by 50 and adding this to the gold value.

### **Chispas Vein Field**

At Pan de Azucar, part of the Chispas vein field, scout drilling was completed in the fourth quarter of 2010. The assay results were announced on 22 February 2011 from the first pass diamond drilling program at Pan de Azucar, one of many prospects within Minera IRL's 2,700 square kilometres of exploration licences in the Deseado Massif in Patagonia. Twenty seven holes were drilled for a total of 3,976 meters. This program probed a 950 meter strike length with staggered holes which targeted the vein structure between 30 and 160 meters below surface. This drilling at the Pan de Azucar prospect is the first step in a much larger program to explore more than 12km of other outcropping epithermal veins within the Chispas Vein Field.

Selected intercepts for the Pan de Azucar drilling are shown in Table 38.

Hole		Intercept		Assay - g/t		
PDA-D10	From	То	Meters	Au	Ag	Host
001	68.4	69.5	1.1	5.10	650	Fault structure
005	48.0	51.25	3.25	5.81	5.55	Vein
including	49.6	50.3	0.7	15.5	21.4	Vein
009	45.95	50.95	1.0	2.61	12.1	Vein
011	88.47	89.08	0.61	3.00	80.2	Vein
017	47.80	49.14	1.34	2.89	7.31	Splay
019	78.02	80.00	1.98	3.51	8.28	Vein
and	114.3	129.96	15.66	3.37	11.2	Fracture zone
021	96.0	101.0	5.0	3.48	7.98	Vein
022	134.42	135.33	0.91	5.68	12.1	Vein
025	131.45	131.85	0.4	21.5	2.6	Splay
and	135.0	137.0	2.0	2.67	37.1	Vein

Table 40Selected Pan de Azucar drilling results

This drilling indicated that the Pan de Azucar vein is relatively deeply eroded. However, other veins, with a surface expression of some 11 kilometres, within the Chispas project areas, appear to be largely un-eroded. Of particular interest is the Veta Sur vein which outcrops over a strike length of some 4km. The outcrop of this vein appears to be high in the system and, if this is correct, the vein can be expected to be largely intact. A 3,240 meter, 16 hole diamond drilling program was carried out in late 2011 to test other veins in the area. No significant intersections were recorded.

# Michelle Vein Field

Exploration has identified approximately 22km of cumulative vein strike length at its 143km2 Michelle Project, located immediately adjacent to AngloGold Ashanti Limited's majority owned and operated multimillion-ounce Cerro Vanguardia Gold-Silver Mine in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina. Many of the veins, which can be traced at surface from Cerro Vanguardia into Minera IRL's property, are Au-Ag bearing with classic low sulphidation epithermal textures that indicate significant depth potential. Of the 51 surface rock samples taken from the Michelle and Jackpot veins, 33 returned values above 1 g/t gold, of which 16 were above 5 g/t gold. Eleven samples analyzed also assayed above 30g/t silver including one sample of 1,460g/t Ag. A 4,698 meter, 27 hole diamond drilling program was carried out in late 2011. Results were of sufficient encouragement to justify a further diamond drilling program scheduled for the second quarter of 2012.

### Bethania – Peru

Minera IRL SA has historically held three tenements in the area, namely Filpo I, Vera XI and Very IX totalling 2,400Ha at Bethania. In August 2009, Minera IRL SA entered into an option agreement to purchase 100% of a central, key 942Ha lease from Minera Monterrico Peru SAC.

Under the terms of the agreement, Minera IRL SA will have the right to commence immediate exploration. In August 2010, the Company exercised the option pursuant to the agreement by paying US\$100,000 payment. Payment of US\$10 per ounce in Proven and Probable Reserves upon presentation of a feasibility study at any time up to 4 years will secure 100% ownership in the property.

Bethania is located only 10km from the MIRL Corihuarmi Gold Mine in the high Andes of central Peru. The target is a large porphyry gold or gold/copper deposit. An extensive alteration zone, measuring approximately 3.5km by 1.2km, is associated with an Induced Polarization chargeability/resistivity anomaly indicating the presence of extensive disseminated sulphide mineralization.

On 5 July 2010, the Company announced an update on the phase 1 exploration program. The program consisted of a 12 hole, 4,856 metre reverse circulation ("RC") drilling program. The drilling program encountered substantial intersections of low grade gold, copper and molybdenum in a porphyry setting. Six drill holes intersected broad zones of gold copper molybdenum mineralization, characteristic of the targeted porphyry system. The best drill hole results, from RC10-BET10 intersected 276m from surface averaging 0.38g/t gold, 0.09% copper and 30ppm molybdenum including, also from surface, 72m at 0.66g/t gold, 0.13% copper and 40ppm molybdenum. Hole RC10-BET07 averaged 0.32g/t gold, 0.09% copper and 32ppm molybdenum over the entire 426m of the hole and included a better zone of 124m at 0.39g/t gold, 0.10% copper and 22ppm molybdenum from 260m down hole. Drill hole RC10-BET09 recorded two intersections, 90m from surface at 0.46g/t gold, 0.15% copper and 54ppm molybdenum. Drill hole RC10-BET11 averaged 0.29g/t gold, 0.10% copper and 30ppm molybdenum for 424m from surface.

Based upon the encouraging results from the 2010 Bethania exploration program, the Company believes that the drilling demonstrates significant presence of gold and copper in this large system warranting a next phase of exploration in 2011.

The 2011 Bethania Project drilling program has been carried out in two stages. The first stage of exploration drilling included 7 diamond drill holes for a total of 2099 meters (April to June 2011). The second stage of drilling, completed during October 2011, included 6 drill holes totalling 723 meters. Confirmation drilling in the mineralized zone drilled in 2010 was positive but drilling at other targets failed to intersect significant mineralization. Other targets have yet to be drill tested.

Although this gold-copper system is yet to be fully understood, some results thus far received indicate that potentially economic gold/copper porphyry style mineralization might be present in this large mineralized system.

For example, drill hole DDH11-BET01 obtained an intersection of 72 meters at 0.72g/t Au and 0.14% Cu. This hole was designed to twin hole RC drill hole RC10-BET10 which intersected 72 meters at 0.66g/t Au and 0.13% Cu. This indicated:

- There was a 9% increase in gold grade between the twinned diamond and RC twin drill hole in this instance.
- The mineralization of interest in DDH11-BET01 continues down vertically for 100 meters from surface i.e.: 100 meters at 0.64 g/t Au and 0.13% Cu.
- It has been recognized that gold and copper content is associated with the intensity of quartz-magnetite-sulphide stockwork veinlets within magnetite-feldspar-biotite-silica potassic alteration zones.

The tenor and consistency of grade distribution that has been intersected from surface justifies continued exploration interest in this mineralized gold porphyry system, which has been interpreted to form a minor part of a far larger hydrothermally altered lithocap which is known to extend for more than 15 kilometers along the Central Andean trend.

# Quilavira - Peru

Minera IRL announced in late February 2010 that the Company had signed an option to purchase the Quilavira Gold Exploration Project from Ingenieria y Tecnologia Minero-Metalurgica SA ("ITMM").

The 5,100 hectare tenement package is located in the Tacna district of southern Peru. ITMM acquired the property from Newcrest Mining Limited in a competitive tendering process.

Minera IRL SA has entered into an option agreement to purchase 100% of the property from ITMM subject to payment of the sum of US\$50,000 upon the grant of a supreme decree by the Peruvian government. The issue of a supreme decree is required where foreign registered companies seek to acquire exploration licenses within 50km of Peru's international boarder. Prior to commencing exploration on this property, a surface rights agreement will need to be negotiated with the local community.

The main exploration target on Quilavira is an alteration area approximately 1,200m by 300m. Sampling by Newcrest Mining Limited has identified a zone (200 x 200m) of anomalous gold mineralization (+1g/t Au rock chip values) within the western part of the alteration zone.

### Huaquirca Joint Venture – Peru

Minera IRL entered into a Letter Agreement in June, 2010 with Alturas Minerals Corp ("Alturas") providing the opportunity for the latter to earn up to an 80% interest in the Company's 6,903 hectare Chapi-Chapi project, located in the department of Apurimac in southern Peru. The Chapi-Chapi property block is immediately adjacent to Alturas's 5,276 hectare Utupara property, both which lie within the Huaquirca copper-gold district. Together the two projects now comprise a larger joint venture area designated as the "Huaquirca Joint Venture"

On 13 January 2011, Alturas and Minera IRL entered into an amendment of the Letter Agreement regarding Huaquirca JV. The amendment modifies an earlier letter agreement announced on 2 June 2010 and grants Alturas an extension within which to execute drilling at Huaquirca.

The Chapi-Chapi property hosts a large copper-gold-molybdenum skarn system (the +3 km long "Chapi Chapi Corridor") within Cretaceous limestone and cut by dioritic and monzonitic stock-work. In addition, the property hosts a large "gold-in-soils" geochemical anomaly located within fractured Cretaceous sandstones. The limestone in the Huaquirca District is part of the same unit that hosts large skarn deposits in the Apurimac-Cusco porphyry-skarn belt, such as the Tintaya and Las Bambas copper-gold skarn projects of Xstrata. The quartzite unit also hosts a significant copper oxide resource at the nearby Antilla project of Panoro Minerals, situated some 15 kilometres to the west.

Alturas has the option to gain an 80% interest in the Huaquirca Joint Venture by starting drilling on the JV property no later than June 30, 2011 and must complete at least 15,000 meters of drilling on the Chapi-Chapi Property and completing a scoping study on any potential discovery before December 31, 2012. Once Alturas has fulfilled its obligations and has earned an 80% interest in the JV, both parties would contribute pro-rata according to their percentage interests, subject to usual dilution. If Minera IRL were to dilute its interest below 20% it could convert that part of its interest to a 2% NSR. If Minera IRL were to further dilute its interest to below 10%, it would be entitled to an additional 1% NSR. The NSR is subject to a total buyout for US\$ 5m at Alturas's option. Alturas will be operator of the exploration program on the JV Property and will be responsible for all community and environmental issues during the drilling and Scoping Study phases.

Alturas announced on 5 July 2011, it had initiated a first phase of drilling on the 30 June 2011, and that it had signed a new 2-year agreement with the Huaquirca community that gives Alturas access to community land for its planned exploration program and has obtained the permit to conduct its first phase drilling program from the Peruvian mining authority.

On 15 December 2011, Alturas announced encouraging assay results from the first four widely-spaced diamond drill holes completed as part of the first phase 5,000 meter drill program.

Highlights include copper-gold mineralized sections of skarn reporting:
- 22.60 meters (35.50m to 58.10m) grading 0.35% copper, 0.25 grams/ton gold, 1.30 grams/ton silver and 0.01% molybdenum, and
- 14.70 meters (80.60m to 95.30m) grading 0.52% copper, 0.27 grams/ton gold, 1.81 grams/ton silver and 0.01% molybdenum, both in drillhole CHA-11-03.

Sections with gold-silver mineralized in altered and brecciated sandstones included:

- 28.00 meters (181.00m to 209.00m) grading 0.27 g/t gold and 0.35 g/t silver in drillhole CHA-11-02,
- 30.00 meters (13.20m to 43.20m) grading 0.37 g/t gold and 0.67 g/t silver, and
- 26.70 meters (121.20m to 147.90m) grading 0.39 g/t gold and 1.45 g/t silver, including 10.30 meters grading 0.66 g/t gold and 2.75 g/t silver, both in drillhole CHA-11-02A

### Frontera Joint Venture - Chile

The Frontera project is 35/65 joint venture with Teck Cominco which is managed by the latter. The property consists of a 1,200Ha package of tenements located in region I of northern Chile, on the north-western border with Peru and close to the eastern border with Bolivia.

The Pucamarca high sulphidation Au deposit (~1.2 million oz Au resource), owned by Peruvian miner Minsur, is located in Peru only a few metres northwest of the Frontera property boundary. There is some evidence to show that the Pucamarca deposit and Frontera prospect might be part of one large alteration complex.

Limited work conducted by joint venture partner Teck-Cominco in 2006 confirms this complex extends over an area of some 8 x 6 km, similar to that observed around many large HS deposits in Peru and Chile. At the regional scale, the property is located at a major structural intersection. Principal structures include the north-west trending Inca Puquio fault system (said to control mineralization at several large Cu porphyries in southern Peru), and the north-north-west trending West Fisher fault system (known to control mineralization over hundreds of kilometres in northern and central Chile).

Known gold mineralization is mostly restricted to high-sulphidation vuggy silica alteration and locally to silica-alunite zones. Drilling conducted by then joint venture partner Hochschild (MHC) in 2005, indicates that the gold mineralization on the Frontera property is mainly found within hydrothermal breccias characterized by abundant iron oxide cement and to a lesser degree to oxides disseminated in silica and silica alunite alteration.

Another style of mineralization which consists in small zones of copper enrichment characterized by chalcocite coating pyrite, is recognized on the Frontera property. This mineralization has additionally been recognized in MHC 2005 drill hole intersections. The best sampled drilling interval assayed 0.25% Cu over 18 m. Very strong Mo, up to 565ppm is reported from a surface area extending eastwards from Frontera's Cerro Vuggy (Vuggy Mountain). Combined with the presence of Chalcocite mineralization, this suggests a possible

blind Cu-Mo porphyry target could underlie the advanced argillic alteration lithocap observed at surface. In 2006 Teck Cominco drilled 3 holes in this area to test this hypothesis but only intersected argillic to propylitic alteration below advanced argillic alteration. An area extending close to 2 km to the east of the main Mo anomaly remains untested.

# 5 **RISK FACTORS**

The following discussion summarises the principal risk factors that apply to the Company's business and that may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations or the trading price of the Ordinary Shares.

# **Operating Risk**

The operations of the Company may be disrupted by a number of events that are beyond the control of the Company. These include but are not limited to: the availability of transportation capacity, geological, geotechnical and seismic factors, industrial and mechanical accidents, equipment and environmental hazards, power supply failure, unscheduled shut downs or other processing problems. As a result, it cannot be guaranteed that any of the exploration projects carried out will bring any new commercial mining operations into operation.

As is common with all mining operations, there is uncertainty and therefore risk associated with the Company's operating parameters and costs. These can be difficult to predict and are often affected by factors outside the Company's control. If any such risks actually occur, the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In such a case, an investor may lose all or part of their investment.

There can be no guarantee that the Company will be able to effectively manage the expansion of its operations or that the Company's current personnel, systems, procedures and controls will be adequate to support the Company's operations. Any failure of management to effectively manage the Company's growth and development could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

# Land Title

Title insurance generally is not available, and the Company's ability to ensure that it has obtained secure claim to individual mineral properties or mining concessions from time to time may be severely constrained. In addition, unless the Company conducts surveys of the claims in which it holds direct or indirect interests, the precise area and location of such claims may be in doubt. Accordingly, such mineral properties may be subject to prior unregistered liens, agreements, transfers or claims, and title may be affected by, among other things, undetected defects. In addition, the Company may be unable to operate its properties as permitted or to enforce its rights with respect to its properties.

### **Environmental Regulations**

The Company's operations are subject to environmental regulation in all of the jurisdictions in which the Company operates. Such regulation covers a wide array of matters, including without limitation waste disposal, protection of the environment, worker safety, mine development, land and water use, the protection of endangered and protected species. Existing and possible future environmental legislation, regulations and actions could cause the Company to incur additional expenses, capital expenditures, restrictions and delays in the activities of the Company, the extent of which cannot be predicted.

Although precautions to minimise risk will be taken, operations are subject to hazards which may result in environmental pollution and consequent liability which could have a material adverse impact on the business, operations and financial performance of the Company. Damages occurring as a result of such risks may give rise to claims against the Company which may not be covered, in whole or part, by any insurance carried. In addition, the occurrence of any of these incidents could result in the Company's current or future operational target dates being delayed or interrupted and increased capital expenditure.

### Litigation

The board of directors is not aware of any material legal proceedings which have been threatened or actually commenced against the Company.

Legal proceedings may, however, arise from time to time in the course of the Company's business. Furthermore, litigation may be brought against third parties resulting in an adverse affect on the Company. There have been a number of cases where the rights and privileges of mining and exploration companies have been the subject of litigation. The board of directors cannot preclude that such litigation may be brought against the Company in the future or that litigation against a third party will not have adverse effects on the Company.

### Lack of Surface Rights

In Peru and Argentina, the countries in which the Company's material mineral projects are located, surface rights do not accompany exploration and mining rights. In both countries, the mining law provides for the resolution of conflicts arising between surface rights holders and mining rights holders, but the time within and cost with which such resolutions are reached is not assured. The failure of the Company to successfully negotiate surface rights access and purchase could cause substantial delays in the development of a project.

# Health and Safety

The Company's activities are and will continue to be subject to health and safety standards and regulations. Failure to comply with such requirements may result in fines and penalties being assessed against the Company.

### Additional Requirements for Capital

Further funds may be required once the Company completes its proposed development and exploration activities as disclosed in this document. Should it subsequently be established that a mining production operation is technically, environmentally and economically viable, substantial additional financing will be required by the Company to permit and establish mining operations and production facilities. No assurances can be given that the Company will be able to raise the additional finances that may be required for such future activities. Commodity prices, environmental regulations, environmental rehabilitation or restitution obligations, revenues, taxes, transportation costs, capital expenditures, operating expenses and technical aspects are all factors which will impact on the amount of additional capital that may be required.

Any additional equity financing may be dilutive to shareholders and debt financing, if available, may involve restrictions on financing and operating activities. There are no assurances that additional financing will be available on terms acceptable to the Company, or at all. If the Company is unable to obtain additional financing as needed, it may be required to reduce the scope of its operations or anticipated expansion, forfeit its interest in some or all of its tenements, incur financial penalties and reduce or terminate its operations.

### **Gold and Silver Prices**

Gold and silver prices have historically fluctuated widely and are affected by numerous external factors beyond the Company's control. The profitability or viability of the Company's mineral projects is directly related to the price of commodities and, in particular, the price of gold and silver. These fluctuations make this sector particularly volatile from an investment perspective. The price of gold and silver is influenced by factors outside the Company's control, such as global demand and supply, international economic trends, the level of consumer product demand, the level of interest rates and the rate of inflation among others. Declines in the market price of either or both gold and silver may lead to the write down of assets or mineral resources and reserves, negative earnings and profitability and, ultimately, to the loss of resources and reserves and the prospect of development of Company projects.

# Hedging and Use of Derivatives

Hedging activities are intended to protect a company from the fluctuations in the price of metals and to minimise the effect of declines in metal prices on results of operations for a period of time. Although hedging activities may protect a company against lower metal prices, they may also limit the price that can be realised on metals (such as gold and silver) that are subject to forward sales and call options where the market price of such metal exceeds its price in a forward sale or call option contract. Moreover, in some derivative structures, the Company could be exposed to margin calls where the price of the metal changes significantly (including upward increases) causing a cash flow crisis for the Company. There is no assurance that the Company will not enter into hedging and derivative products that provide for such exposure.

### Mineral Reserves and Resources are Estimates Only

There is no certainty that the mineral resources or any mineral reserve, attributable to the Company will be realised. Until a deposit is actually mined and processed, the quantity of mineral resources and reserves and grades, must be considered as estimates only. In addition, the value of mineral resources and any mineral reserve, will depend upon, among other things, metal prices and currency exchange rates. Any material change in quantity of mineral resources or any mineral reserve, or grade, may affect the economic viability of any future mines. Any material reductions in the estimates of mineral resources, or mineral reserves, or the Company's ability to extract any ore, could have a material adverse affect on the Company's future results of operation and financial condition.

### **Insurance** Coverage

The mining industry is subject to significant risks that could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or producing facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage, delays in mining, and monetary losses and possible legal liability. The Company's insurance coverage is limited and, as a result, there may not be sufficient insurance for any particular loss, including political risks or environmental liabilities.

### Infrastructure

Mining, processing, development and exploration activities depend, to one degree or another, on adequate infrastructure. Reliable roads, bridges, power sources and water supply are important determinants which affect capital and operating costs. Unusual or infrequent weather phenomena, sabotage, government or other interference in the maintenance or provision of such infrastructure could adversely affect the Company's operations, financial condition and results of operations.

### Key Management and Staff

The success of the Company is currently largely dependent on the abilities of some of its directors and its senior management. The loss of the services of any of these persons may have a materially adverse effect on the Company's business and prospects. There is no assurance that the Company can retain the services of these persons. Failure to do so could have a materially adverse affect on the Company and its prospects.

While the Company has good relations with its employees, these relations may be impacted by changes in the scheme of labour relations which may be introduced by the relevant governmental authorities in whose jurisdictions the Company may carry on business from time to time. Adverse changes in such legislation may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

### Legal Climate Considerations

The Peruvian, Argentinean and Chilean jurisdictions, where the Company will be operating, may have comparatively less developed legal systems than those found in Europe and North America. This could lead to exposure to any of the following risks: lack of guidance on interpretation of the applicable rules and regulations, delays in redress or greater discretion on the part of governmental authorities. In certain jurisdictions, commitment of judicial systems, government representatives, agencies and native businessmen to abide the legal requirements and negotiated agreements may be subject to doubt, creating concern with respect to the Company's agreements for business and licences. There can be no assurance that joint ventures, licences, licence applications or other legal arrangements will not be adversely affected by the actions of government authorities or others, and the effectiveness and enforcement of such arrangements in these jurisdictions cannot be certain.

### **Changes in Government Policy**

The Company is subject to the rules and regulations of various countries in which it does business, including Peru and, Argentina. Its exploration activities, development projects and any future mining operations are subject to laws and regulations governing, among other things, the acquisition and retention of title to mineral rights, mine development, health and worker safety, employment standards, fiscal matters, waste disposal, protection of the environment, protection of endangered and protected species and other matters. It is possible that future changes in applicable laws, regulations, agreements or changes in their enforcement or interpretation could have a material and adverse impact on the Company's current exploration activities, planned development projects or future mining operations. Moreover, where required, obtaining necessary permits to conduct exploration or mining operations can be a complex and time consuming process and the Company cannot assure whether any necessary permits will be obtainable on acceptable terms, in a timely manner or at all.

### **Geopolitical Climate**

The political climate in Peru and Argentina is currently stable and generally held to offer a favourable outlook for foreign investments. There is no guarantee that it will remain so in the future. Changes in government, regulatory and legislative regimes, potentially leading to expropriation of mining rights cannot be ruled out.

### **Currency Risk**

The Company will be reporting its financial results in US dollars and the gold and silver markets are predominantly denominated in US dollars, while costs will, for the most part, be incurred in local currencies. Subsequent appreciation of the local currencies against the US dollar may have the effect of rendering the exports from Peru and/or Argentina more expensive and less competitive, as well as having a negative impact on the financial statements of the company. Fluctuations in the Pound Sterling or Canadian dollar with respect to financial

reporting and/or local operating currencies could have an impact on the Pound Sterling or Canadian dollar denominated share price.

### **Economic Risks**

Emerging markets such as Peru and Argentina are potentially subject to more volatility and greater risks than more mature markets. It should be noted that the emerging markets are frequently subject to rapid change, therefore some of the information set out in this AIF may become outdated. Investors should carefully consider all of the risks associated with investing in an emerging market.

### Local Community

To date, the Company has enjoyed strong relationships with the local communities located around their relevant mining assets. The Company's policy is to actively consider, sponsor (through community projects) and work with the local communities and expects to maintain these relationships. However, such relationships cannot be guaranteed, nor can the Company be certain of forming new positive relationships with local populations with which it has not yet negotiated. Such relationships are important and can affect the ability of the Company to secure, amongst other things, surface rights, access, infrastructural support and the necessary labour required to operate a mine.

### **Geological Risks**

The delineation of geological conditions and the definition of mineral resources and ore reserves is a complex process requiring input from many areas of specialisation and a high degree of interpretation of results obtained from exploration programs. While the Company employs best industry practises to develop reliable estimates, there remains a risk that if and when mining commences geological conditions could vary from those projected. In such case, there is a risk that geological conditions could adversely affect ongoing operations and in extreme circumstances, result in the abandonment of a project.

# Competition

The Company competes with numerous other mining companies (many of which have greater financial resources, operational experience and technical capabilities than the Company) in connection with the acquisition of mineral properties as well as for the recruitment and retention of qualified employees.

### **General Business Risk**

The activities of the Company are subject to usual commercial risks and such factors as industry competition and economic conditions generally may affect the Company's ability to generate income.

# 6 **DIVIDENDS**

The Company does not have a dividend policy in place and has never declared or paid dividends on the Ordinary Shares. Any future dividend payment will be made at the discretion of the Company's board of directors and will depend on its assessment of earnings, capital requirements, the operating and financial condition of the Company and any other factor that the Company's board of directors deems necessary to consider in the circumstances.

# 7 DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE

The Company is authorised to issue an unlimited number of Ordinary Shares, of which 148,842,884 are issued as at 29 March 2012. Each share entitles the holder to one vote. All shares of the Company rank equally as to dividends, voting powers and participation in assets upon a dissolution or winding up of the Company.

As at 29 March 2012, the Company also had 17,533,432 options issued and outstanding, of which 8,955,000 options were issued for the benefit of directors, employees and consultants of the Company under the Company's Share Option Plans. Each option entitles the holder to acquire one Ordinary Share at exercise prices detailed below.

Date of grant	Exercisable	Exercisable	Exercise	Number	No. at 29	No. at 31
	from	to	prices	granted	March	December
					2012	2011
Share Option Plans	Issued Options					
12 April 2007	12 April 2008 <sup>1</sup>	12 April 2012	£0.45	3,440,000	3,060,000	3,060,000
18 March 2008	18 March 2009 1	18 March 2013	£0.62	865,000	790,000	790,000
17 November 2009	17 November 2009	17 November 2014	£0.9125	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
25 January 2010	25 January 2010	25 January 2015	£0.8875	275,000	125,000	125,000
2 July 2010	2 July 2010	2 July 2015	£0.7250	50,000	50,000	50,000
17 November2010	17 November 2010	17 November 205	£1.08	2,680,000	2,630,000	2,630,000
Other Issued Options						
7 July 2010	7 July 2010	28 June 2013	US\$1.08	6,944,444	6,944,444	6,944,444
30 September 2010	30 September 2010	28 June 2013	US\$1.53	1,633,987	1,633,987	1,633,987
Total					17,533,431	17,533,431

1. 50% of the options were exercisable after one year of grant and the remaining 50% after two years.

# 8 MARKET FOR SECURITIES

The Ordinary Shares of the Company are listed for trading on the London Stock Exchange AIM and the Lima Stock Exchange (the "BVL") under the trading symbol "MIRL" and the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") under the trading symbol "IRL". The Company has been listed on AIM since 12 April 2007, BVL since 11 December 2007 and TSX since 28 April 2010.

### **Trading Price and Volume**

The below table outlines the high and low prices, and volume of Ordinary Shares on AIM on a monthly basis during the financial year ended 31 December 2011.

Month	High (£)	Low (£)	Volume
January 2011	0.950	0.795	1,814,068
February 2011	0.900	0.795	4,669,671
March 2011	1.010	0.810	7,645,313
April 2011	0.940	0.850	1,671,985
May 2011	0.855	0.750	1,261,617
June 2011	0.764	0.608	1,951,303
July 2011	0.850	0.630	2,220,679
August 2011	0.850	0.720	6,397,201
September 2011	0.820	0.662	1,703,888
October 2011	0.699	0.590	690,368
November 2011	0.710	0.640	649,520
December 2011	0.800	0.660	1,060,501

The below table outlines the high and low prices, and volume of the Ordinary Shares on the BVL on a monthly basis during the financial year ended 31 December 2011.

Month	High (US\$)	Low (US\$)	Volume
January 2011	1.400	1.200	1,085,185
February 2011	1.430	1.230	2,358,204
March 2011	1.630	1.370	2,816,467
April 2011	1.500	1.200	2,183,474
May 2011	1.390	1.200	1,033,633
June 2011	1.300	0.990	885,439
July 2011	1.350	1.020	739,577
August 2011	1.350	1.150	487,932
September 2011	1.320	1.130	372,501
October 2011	1.160	0.970	427,841
November 2011	1.150	1.070	340,093
December 2011	1.230	1.050	334,985

The below table outlines the high and low prices, and volume of the Ordinary Shares on the TSX on a monthly basis during the financial year ended 31 December 2011.

Month	High (C\$)	Low (C\$)	Volume
January 2011	1.650	1.20	1,449,384
February 2011	1.550	1.29	2,173,356
March 2011	1.680	1.35	3,317,518
April 2011	1.520	1.28	1,863,393
May 2011	1.330	1.13	3,472,458
June 2011	1.160	0.89	2,420,472
July 2011	1.320	0.98	1,163,301
August 2011	1.320	1.10	906,280
September 2011	1.340	1.00	795,813
October 2011	1.110	0.89	366,486
November 2011	1.180	1.05	578,620
December 2011	1.200	1.05	178,780

### **Prior Sales**

During the financial year ended 31 December 2011 the Company issued the following Ordinary Shares:

- 30,000 on 20 January 2011, at £0.45 per share via the exercise of options; and
- 25,000 on 20 January 2011, at £0.62 per share via the exercise of options.

Subsequent to the financial year ended 31 December 2011 the Company issued 29,260,000 Ordinary Shares on 5 March 2012 at C\$1.13 per share via an equity offering.

The Company issued no options during the financial year ended 31 December 2011 or subsequent to the financial year end.

# 9 ESCROWED SECURITIES

As at the date of this AIF there are no securities of the Company under escrow.

# 10 DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The names and municipalities of residence, present positions with the Company and principal occupations during the past five years of the directors and executive officers of the Company as at 29 March, 2012 are present in the below table.

At the annual general meeting, one-third of the directors shall retire from office or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office; but:

- (a) if any one director has at the start of the annual general meeting been in office for more than three years since his last appointment or reappointment, he shall retire; and
- (b) if there is only one director who is subject to retirement by rotation, he shall retire.

Name and Residence	Note	Principal Occupation During the	Director Since	
		Last Five Years		
Directors				
Courtney Charles Chamberlain		Executive Chairman	28 August 2003	
Lima, Peru		Minera IRL Limited	-	
Douglas Alan Jones	(2)	Managing Director	28 August 2003	
Perth, Australia		Chalice Gold Mines Limited		
		Non-Executive Director		
		Minera IRL Limited		
Graeme David Ross	(1)	Partner	30 October 2006	
St Brelade, Jersey		Rawlinson & Hunter		
		Non-Executive Director		
		Minera IRL Limited		
Kenneth Peter Judge	(1)	Consultant and Advisor	21 December	
Monte Carlo, Monaco		Hamilton Capital Partners Limited	2009	
		_		
		Non-Executive Director		
		Minera IRL Limited		
Napoleon Oscar Valdez Ferrand	(1)	President	3 February 2010	
Lima, Peru	(2)	Heinz Ferrand Glass S.A.C.		
		Non-Executive Director		
		Minera IRL Limited		
Executive Officers				
Tim Miller		Chief Financial Officer and	NA	
Melbourne, Australia		Company Secretary		
		Minera IRL Limited		
Diego Francisco Benavides		President	NA	
Lima, Peru		Minera IRL SA		

(1) Member of the Audit Committee.

(2) Member of the Compensation Committee.

(3) Messrs. Chamberlain and Judge are retiring by rotation and offer themselves for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

### Directors' Information Mr Courtney Chamberlain Executive Chairman

Mr Chamberlain is a metallurgist by profession with over 40 years' experience in precious and base metals management, operations and development as well as consulting in Australia, Asia, Africa and both North and South America. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Chamberlain spent 29 years with Newmont Mining Corporation and Newcrest Mining Ltd ("Newcrest"), including 13 years on the board of directors of Newmont Australia Ltd and Newcrest where he was responsible for operations and development. His responsibilities included key management roles in the development of the Telfer and New Celebration Gold Mines in Western Australia and the Cadia Mine in New South Wales. Mr Chamberlain was a co-founding partner of Investor Resources Limited (IRL), a financial and technical advisor to the international mining industry. He also founded Minera IRL.

# Dr Doug Jones

# **Non-Executive Director**

Dr Jones (CP, Geo) is a geologist with 33 years of international exploration, exploration management and consulting experience in the mining industry. Between 2003 and 2007 he served as Vice President Exploration for Golden Star Resources, responsible for world wide exploration. Before that he was Chief Geologist, New Business South America at Delta Gold Limited. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Australian Stock Exchange ("ASX") listed Chalice Gold Mines Limited and a non-executive director of ASX listed Liontown Resources Limited and Chalice Gold Mines Limited. Mr Jones is also a former director of TSX, AIM and ASX listed company, Moto Goldmines Limited.

# Mr Graeme Ross

### **Non-Executive Director**

Mr Ross qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1984 and is now a partner at Rawlinson & Hunter, Jersey which is part of the Rawlinson & Hunter international network. He has worked in Jersey's finance industry since 1986 and has in-depth knowledge and experience of the structuring and ongoing administration requirements of publicly owned Jersey investment vehicles. Mr Ross is a director in R&H Trust Co. (Jersey) Limited.

# Mr Ken Judge

### **Non-Executive Director**

Mr Judge is a corporate lawyer with extensive business management and corporate development experience, having held numerous public company directorships and having been engaged in the establishment or corporate development of oil and gas, mining and technology companies in the United Kingdom, Middle East, USA, Australia, Europe, Canada, Latin America and South East Asia. He has undergraduate and post-graduate degrees in Commerce, Jurisprudence and Laws from the University of Western Australia and was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 1984. Mr Judge was the Executive Chairman of AIM listed Hidefield Gold Plc, until its acquisition by Minera IRL in December 2009 and is a senior consultant and advisor to Hamilton Capital Partners and director of London Stock Exchange listed Gulfsands Petroleum Plc.

# Napoleon Valdez Non-executive Director

Mr Valdez has extensive business management experience and is the President of the board and major shareholder of Cristalerias Ferrand, privately owned glass companies. He is also the owner and a director of Inversiones El Carmen, Agricola Topara and Gruval, Peru incorporated companies. Mr Valdez is a Peruvian resident, a well connected and experienced South American businessman and well informed on the Peruvian mining industry in which he has been a long standing investor.

### **Executive Officers' Information**

# Tim Miller

# **Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary**

Mr Miller has over 15 years of corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions and finance experience in the natural resources industry. He holds a BSc (Applied Chemistry) from RMIT, Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance and Investment from the SIA and a Masters in Applied Finance from the University of Melbourne. He has worked for WMC Ltd at their Olympic Dam Operations, in the stockbroking industry as a resources equity analyst and for diversified mining company, North Ltd in their M&A and financial planning & analysis divisions until their takeover in 2000 by Rio Tinto. He worked with Investor Resources Limited (IRL), a corporate advisory group specialising in the mining industry, where he assisted with the founding of Minera IRL Limited. More recently he worked for Australian investment banking group, Babcock & Brown, where he was a member of the resources team involved in advisory work and private equity transactions. He is a Member of Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) and a Fellow of Financial Services Institute of Australasia (finsia). In 2009, Mr Miller joined Minera IRL Limited responsible for the corporate finance activities of the Company and on 1 January 2011 he became chief financial officer of the Company.

### Dr. Diego Benavides President Minera IRL SA

#### President Minera IKL SA Responsible for the Company's cor

Responsible for the Company's corporate, legal and community activities, Mr Benavides is a lawyer by training with particular experience in the Latin American mining industry. Mr Benavides' previous experience includes positions with Minera Mount Isa Peru SA, Minera Newcrest Peru SA and as a consultant to Minera Phelps Dodge Del Peru SA.

As of 29 March 2012, the Company's directors and officers, as a group, beneficially own, control or direct (directly or indirectly), an aggregate of 7,794,382 shares, representing approximately 5.2% of the Company's Ordinary Shares.

# **Corporate Governance**

Minera IRL has well defined policies that govern the Company. Strict environmental guidelines are followed at all projects and the Corihuarmi Gold Mine has been constructed under stringent environmental controls of an international standard. The Company has a very strong community relations team and a track record of working closely with the local people in all

project areas. In addition to local employment and training, programs cover other areas of social importance including health, education and Company sponsored projects are aimed at sustainable development.

The board of directors maintains audit and remuneration committees which further assist in the governance of the Company. Public and investor relations management have been developed coincident with the move into the public arena.

### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is appointed by the board of directors of the Company to oversee the accounting and financial reporting process of the Company, management's reporting on internal controls, the system of internal accounting and financial controls and the audit procedures and audit plans. The Audit Committee also reviews and recommends to the board of directors for approval the financial statements, the reports and certain other documents required by regulatory authorities.

### Audit Committee Charter

The Company's Audit Committee Charter (the "Charter") is attached as Appendix 1 hereto.

## **Composition of the Audit Committee**

As at the date hereof, the Audit Committee is composed of Graeme Ross and Ken Judge, all of whom are "financially literate" and "independent" within the meaning of National Instrument 52-110 – *Audit Committees* ("NI 52-110").

### **Relevant Education and Experience**

Mr. Ross, Chairman of the Audit Committee and a Chartered Accountant with over 25 years experience, has a clear understanding of the accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements; has the ability to assess the general application of such accounting principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves; has experience preparing, auditing, analyzing or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company's financial statements, and has an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

Mr. Judge's business management and corporate development experience and public company directorships experience provides him with an understanding of the accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements, the ability to assess the general application of such accounting principles and analyze or evaluate financial statements, and an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

Mr Valdez's extensive business experience provides him with an understanding of the accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements, the ability to assess the general application of such accounting principles and analyze or evaluate financial statements, and an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

# **Reliance on Certain Exemptions**

At no time since the commencement of the Company's most recently completed financial year has the Company relied on an exemption in Section 2.4 of NI 52-110 (*De Minimis Non-audit Services*), Section 3.2 of NI 52-110 (*Initial Public Offerings*), Section 3.4 of NI 52-110 (*Events Outside Control of Member*), Section 3.5 of NI 52-110 (*Death, Disability or Resignation of Audit Committee Member*), Section 3.3(2) of NI 52-110 (*Controlled Companies*), Section 3.6 of NI 52-110 (*Temporary Exemption for Limited and Exceptional Circumstances*), Section 3.8 (*Acquisition of Financial Literacy*) or an exemption from NI 52-110, in whole or in part, granted under Part 8 thereof.

### Audit Committee Oversight

At no time since the commencement of Minera IRL's most recently completed financial year has the Audit Committee made a recommendation to nominate or compensate an external auditor not adopted by the Board.

### **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

The Audit Committee is authorized by the Board to review the performance of the Company's external auditors and approve in advance provision of services other than auditing and to consider the independence of the external auditors, including a review of the range of services provided in the context of all consulting services bought by the Company. The Audit Committee is authorized to approve in writing any non-audit services or additional work which the Chairman of the Audit Committee deems to be necessary, and the Chairman will notify the other members of the Audit Committee of such non-audit or additional work and the reasons for such non-audit work for the committee's consideration, and if thought fit, approval in writing.

### **External Auditor Service Fees**

The following table summarizes the aggregate fees billed by the Company's external auditors (on a consolidated basis) during the two most recent completed financial years:

Type of Work	Year ended	Year ended	
	31 December 2010	31 December 2011	
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	US\$124,000	US\$195,625	
Audit-related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	US\$79,000	US\$23,250	
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	US\$15,300	US\$6,100	
All Other Fees <sup>(4)</sup>	US\$53,400	US\$17,050	

- (1). The aggregate fees billed by the Company's external auditor for audit services.
- (2). The aggregate fees billed for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's consolidated financial statements and are not reported as "Audit fees".
- (3). The aggregate fees billed for tax compliance, advice, planning and assistance with tax for specific transactions.
- (4). The aggregate fees billed for advisory services.

### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee is appointed by the board of directors of the Company to develop the compensation policy for the Company, review remuneration levels and review stock option allocations.

# 11 CEASE TRADE ORDERS, BANKRUPTCIES, PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS

None of the Company's directors or executive officers is, as at the date of this AIF, or has been within the 10 years before the date of this AIF, a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including Minera IRL) that was subject to one of the following orders, that was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days:

- (a) a cease trade order, an order similar to a cease trade order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation that was issued while the director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
- (b) a cease trade order, an order similar to a cease trade order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation that was issued after the director or executive officer ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer and which resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer.

Except as disclosed below, none of the Company's directors or executive officers, or shareholders holding a sufficient number of our securities to affect materially control of the Company:

(a) is, as at the date of this AIF, or has been within the 10 years before the date of this AIF, a director or executive officer of any company (including Minera IRL) that, while that person was acting in that capacity, or within a year of that person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted

any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold its assets; or

- (b) has, within the 10 years before the date of this AIF, become bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or become subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors, or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of the director, executive officer or the shareholder; or
- (c) has been subject to any penalties or sanctions imposed by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority or has entered into a settlement agreement with a securities regulatory authority or has been subject to any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or a regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision.

# **12 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is not currently involved in any legal proceedings nor was it involved in any legal proceedings in the financial year ended 31 December 2010 and nor to the knowledge of management, are there any legal proceedings which may materially affect the business and affairs of the Company.

# 13 INTEREST OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

During the Company's current financial year and its three most recently completed financial years, no director, executive officer or person or company that beneficially owns, controls or directs, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the Ordinary Shares of the Company or any associate or affiliate of such persons or companies had any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction which has materially affected or is reasonably expected to materially affect the Company or its subsidiaries.

# 14 TRANSFER AGENTS AND REGISTRARS

# **Principal Registrar**

Computershare Investor Services (Jersey) Limited Queensway House Hilgrove Street St Helier Jersey JE1 1ES

## Canada - Branch Registrar and Transfer Agent

Computershare Investor Services Inc. University Avenue Toronto, Ontario M5J 2Y1 Canada

# Peru - Transfer Agent

Registro Central de Valores y Liquidaciones (CAVALI) Avenida Santo Toribio 143, oficina 501, San Isidro, Lima 27 Perú.

# **15 MATERIAL CONTRACTS**

The Company has the following material contracts that were entered into by the Company within the most recently completed financial year or were entered into since 27 August 2003 (date of incorporation) and are still in effect:

### **Feasibility Finance Facility Agreement**

Pursuant to the feasibility finance facility agreement dated 7 July 2010 between Macquarie Bank Limited ("Macquarie"), Minera IRL, Minera IRL SA, Compania Minera Kuri Kulla SA and Hidefield Argentina SA, Macquarie provided Minera IRL with a US\$20,000,000 facility comprising two tranches of US\$10 million (the "Facility"). The first tranche is committed by Macquarie, with the second tranche being subject to further due diligence and approvals prior to any drawdown of the second tranche. Each tranche has two drawdowns. The purpose of the Facility is to refinance the existing outstanding facility of \$2.5 million with Macquarie, to assist with funding the working capital requirements in relation to the exploration and development of the Ollachea and Don Nicolás Projects and general working capital requirements. In consideration of providing the Facility, Macquarie will be granted options whose aggregate exercise price into Ordinary Shares in the Company will be equivalent to the amount of the Facility drawn down. The price of the options will be set prior to each drawdown based on a set pricing mechanism. To date Minera IRL has granted Macquarie 6,944,444 options exercisable at US\$1.08 per share on or before 28 June 2013and 1,633,987 options exercisable at US\$1.53 per share on or before 28 June 2013. Minera IRL has provided security arrangements typical for such a facility.

In connection with the Agreement certain security arrangements have been granted to Macquarie.

# Ollachea Surface Agreement

MKK entered into a surface contract dated 25 November 2007 with Comunidad Campesina de Ollachea. See "Projects – Ollachea" and "General Development of the Business".

## **Ollachea - Mineral Rights Assignment Agreement**

Minera IRL and Minera IRL SA entered into an agreement dated 23 February 2007 with Rio Tinto and Felipe Benavides regarding the Ollachea Project. See "Projects – Ollachea" and "General Development of the Business".

### **Ollachea - Security Agreements**

Mining Mortgage Agreement between Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited, Sucursal del Peru, Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited and Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu S.A. over the Ollachea property and its related assets dated 23 February 2007. See "Projects – Ollachea".

Share pledge agreement between Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited, Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited Sucursal del Peru, Minera IRL S.A and Compañía Minera Kuri Kullu S.A. for Minera IRL SA shareholding in Minera Kuri Kulla SA dated 23 February 2007. See "Projects – Ollachea".

### **Corihuarmi Surface Rights Agreements**

Minera IRL SA entered into a surface land concession agreement with Comunidad Campesina de Atcas dated 9 November 2004 regarding the Corihuarmi Project. See "Projects – Corihuarmi".

Minera IRL SA entered into a surface land usufruct agreement with Comunidad Campesina de Huantan dated 12 July 2006 regarding the Corihuarmi Project. See "Projects – Corihuarmi".

# Corihuarmi Assignment Agreement

On 21 October 2002, Minera IRL SA and Minera Andina de Exploraciones SAA entered into an assignment agreement regarding the Corihuarmi Project. See "Projects – Corihuarmi" and "General Development of the Business".

# 16 INTERESTS OF EXPERTS

The following persons or companies have been named as having prepared or certified a report described or included in a filing, or referred to in a filing made under National Instrument 51-102 – Continuous Disclosure Obligations during or relating to the most recently completed financial year and for the period subsequent to the end of the most recently completed financial year to date the date of this AIF.

Callum Grant, P.Eng., Hassan Ghaffari, P.Eng., André DeRuijter, Pr. Eng (RSA), P.Eng., and Steven Osterberg, P.Geo. (USA), of Wardrop (a Tetra Tech Company); Doug Corley, MAIG R.P. Geo. of Coffey Mining Pty Ltd (Australia); Carlos Guzmán, Registered Member Chilean Mining Commission (Chile), of NCL Ingeniería y Construcción Ltda; Alistair Cadden, C.Eng. (UK), of Golder Associates Argentina SA; and Tony Sanford, Pr. Sci. Nat. (South Africa), of Ausenco Vector are the authors of the Don Nicolás Report dated 14 February 2012. To the Company's knowledge, each of the aforementioned firms or persons does not have an interest, direct or indirect, in any securities or other property of the Company or of one of its associates or affiliates (an "Interest").

Doug Corley, MAIG, and John Hearne, FAusIMM, of Coffey Mining Pty Ltd; Brett Byler, P.E., and Christopher Wright, P.Geo. of AMEC (Peru) SA; and Michael Drozd, SME Registered Member, of AMEC E&C Services Inc are authors of the Ollachea Report dated 17 July 2011. To the Company's knowledge, each of the aforementioned firms or persons does not have an Interest.

Beau Nicholls, BSc (Geo), MAIG, Geology Manager - Brazil; Doug Corley, BAppSc (Geo), BSc(Hons), MAIG, Associate Resource Geologist; Jean-Francois St Onge eng., B.Sc.A. (Mining), MAusIMM, Mining Engineer; Barry Cloutt, BAppSc (Eng Met), MAusIMM, Chief Metallurgist; and Alex Virisheff BSc (Hons) (Geo), MAusIMM, MGSA, Principal Consultant – Resources; of Coffey Mining Pty Ltd are the authors of the Corihuarmi Report dated 6 April 2010. To the Company's knowledge, each of the aforementioned firms or persons does not have an Interest.

PKF (UK) LLP is the auditor who prepared the auditor's report for the Company's annual financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2011 and 2010. PKF (UK) LLP is independent with respect to the Company within the meaning of the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia and the rules of the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

# 17 AUDITORS

PKF (UK) LLP of Farringdon Place, 20 Farringdon Road, London, EC1M 3AP have been the auditors for the Company from 30 October 2006.

# **18 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information relating to the Company may be found on the Company's SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

Additional information is provided in the Company's financial statements and management's discussion and analysis thereon for its most recently completed financial year.

### Information Regarding Jersey Law

The Company' s registered office address is Ordnance House, 31 Pier Road, St Helier, Jersey and its public company registration number is 94923.

- 1. If you are in any doubt as to the content of this document, you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other financial adviser.
- 2. A copy of this document has been delivered to the registrar of companies in accordance with Article 5 of the Companies (General Provisions) (Jersey) Order 2002, and the registrar has given, and has not withdrawn, consent to its circulation.
- 3. The Jersey Financial Services Commission has given, and has not withdrawn, its consent under Article 2 of the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Order 1958 to the issue of the Ordinary Shares. The Jersey Financial Services Commission is protected by the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Law 1947 from any liability arising from the discharge of its functions under that law.
- 4. It must be distinctly understood that, in giving these consents, neither the registrar of companies nor the Jersey Financial Services Commission takes any responsibility for the financial soundness of the company or for the correctness of any statements made, or opinions expressed, with regard to it.
- 5. Minera IRL has taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated in this document are true and accurate in all material respects, and that there are no other facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement in the document, whether of facts or of opinion. Minera IRL accepts responsibility accordingly.
- 6. It should be remembered that the price of Ordinary Shares and the income from them can go down as well as up.

# **APPENDIX 1 - AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

### **Overview and Purpose**

The Audit Committee (the "Committee") is responsible to the Board of Directors (the "Board"). The Committee approves, monitors, evaluates, advises or makes recommendations to the Board, in accordance with these terms of reference, on matters affecting the external audit and the financial reporting and accounting control policies and practices of the Company.

The purpose of the Committee is to assist the Board in its oversight of:

- 1. the integrity of the Company's financial statements and related information;
- 2. the Company's compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements;
- 3. the independence, qualifications and appointment of the shareholders' auditor;
- 4. the performance of the Company's shareholders' auditor; and
- 5. management responsibility for reporting on internal controls and risk management.

# Membership and Attendance at Meetings

- 1. The members of the Committee shall consist of the Chief Executive Officer plus a minimum of two independent and financially literate (as defined by securities legislation) Directors, appointed by the Board.
- 2. The Chair of the Committee shall be designated by the Board.
- 3. Attendance by invitation at all or a portion of Committee meetings is determined by the Committee Chair or its members and would normally include the Chief Financial Officer of the Company, the auditor, and such other corporate officers, advisors, or support staff as may be deemed appropriate.

# Duties and Responsibilities of the Audit Committee

- 1. Financial Accountability
  - a. To review, and recommend to the Board for approval, the annual audited financial statements.
  - b. To review, and recommend to the Board for approval, the following public disclosure documents:
    - i. the financial content of the annual report;
    - ii. the annual Management information circular and proxy materials;
    - iii. the annual information form; and
    - iv. Management discussion and analysis section of the annual report.

- c. To review, and recommend to the Board for approval, all financial statements, reports of a financial nature, and the financial content of prospectuses or any other reports which require approval by the Board prior to submission thereof to the shareholders, any regulatory authority, or the public.
- d. To review any report of Management which accompanies published financial statements (to the extent such a report discusses the financial position or operating results) for consistency of disclosure with the financial statements themselves.
- e. To review and assess, in conjunction with Management and the external auditor:
  - i. the appropriateness of accounting policies and financial reporting practices used by the Company;
  - ii. any significant proposed changes in financial reporting and accounting policies and practices to be adopted by the Company;
  - iii. any new or pending developments in accounting and reporting standards that may affect or impact on the Company;
  - iv. identification of the Company's principal financial risks and uncertainties and the systems to manage such risks and uncertainties;
  - v. the integrity (including without limitation, the effectiveness) of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, internal control and Management information systems; and
  - vi. the key estimates and judgments of Management that may be material to the financial reporting of the Company.
- f. To assess periodically and be satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements.
- g. To assess the performance and consider the annual appointment of external auditors for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company.
- h. To recommend to the Board the compensation of external auditors.
- i. To review the terms of the annual external audit engagement including, but not limited to, the following:
  - i. staffing;
  - ii. objectives and scope of the external audit work;
  - iii. materiality limits;
  - iv. audit reports required;
  - v. areas of audit risk;
  - vi. timetable; and

- vii. the proposed fees.
- j. To review with the external auditors the results of the annual audit examination including, but not limited to the following:
  - i. any difficulties encountered, or restrictions imposed by Management, during the annual audit;
  - ii. any significant accounting or financial reporting issues;
  - iii. the auditor's evaluation of the Company's system of internal accounting controls, procedures and documentation;
  - iv. the post-audit or Management letter containing any findings or recommendations of the external auditor including Management's response thereto and the subsequent follow-up to any identified internal accounting control weaknesses; and
  - v. any other matters which the external auditors should bring to the attention of the Committee
- k. To obtain reasonable assurance, by discussions with and reports from Management and the external auditors, that the accounting systems are reliable and that the system of internal controls is effectively designed and implemented.
- 1. When there is to be a change in auditor, review all issues related to the change, including the information to be included in the notice of change of auditor called for under applicable securities regulations and the rules of applicable exchanges, and the planned steps for an orderly transition.
- m. To review any litigation, claim or other contingency, including tax assessments that could have a material effect upon the financial position or operating results of the Company, and the manner in which these matters have been disclosed in the financial statements.
- n. To review the internal control and approval policies and practices concerning the expenses of the officers of the Company, including the use of the Company's assets.
- o. To review any claims of indemnification pursuant to the Bylaws of the Company.
- p. To review, and recommend to the Board for approval, the Management report to be included in the annual report to shareholders.
- q. To request such information and explanations in regard to the accounts of the Company as the Committee may consider necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties and responsibilities.
- r. To request that the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer or persons who perform functions similar to them, report on issues which are the subject of any Certificates to be signed and filed in accordance with applicable securities regulations by the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer or persons who perform functions similar to them; and to review such report.

- s. To establish procedures for:
  - i. the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters;
  - ii. the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters; and
  - iii. the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable practices or complaints raised through the whistle blower policy.
- t. To review and approve the Company's hiring policies regarding employees and former employees of the present and former external auditors of the Company.
- 2. Oversight of the Company's Risk Management

To ensure that Management discharges its responsibility to identify and mitigate financial risks faced by the Company. To review, monitor, report and, where appropriate, provide recommendations to the Board on the following:

- a) the Company's processes for identifying, assessing and managing risk; and
- b) the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps the Company has taken to monitor and control such exposures.

### **General Responsibilities**

- 1. To consider any other matters which, in the opinion of the Committee or at the request of the Board, would assist the Directors to meet their responsibilities.
- 2. To review annually the terms of reference for the Committee and to recommend any required changes to the Board.
- 3. To provide reports and minutes of meetings to the Board.

### Meetings

- 4. Regular meetings of the Committee are held at least two times each year.
- 5. Meetings may be called by the Committee chair or by a majority of the Committee members, and usually in consultation with Management.
- 6. Meetings are chaired by the Committee Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by an independent member chosen by the Committee from among themselves.
- 7. A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Committee is a majority of members.
- 8. Meetings may be conducted with members present, or by telephone or other communications facilities which permit all persons participating in the meeting to hear or communicate with each other.

9. A written resolution signed by all Committee members entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the Committee is as valid as one passed at a Committee meeting.

### Authority of the Committee

- 10. The Committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary to carry out its duties;
- 11. to set and pay the compensation for any advisors employed by the committee; and,
- 12. to communicate directly with the internal (if any) and external auditors.