



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

20 November 2008

Apex Begins Plant Commissioning and Increases Gold Ore Reserves at Wiluna

- **Wiluna Ore Reserves increased to 2.1Mt @ 5.7g/t for 378,000 Ounces**
- **Increases Wiluna Mine Life to 4 Years**
- **First gold expected last week of November**

Apex Minerals N.L. (ASX: AXM) has commenced commissioning of the plant and increased gold Ore Reserves at its cornerstone Wiluna mine, extending projected mine life to 4 years ahead of initial gold expected in the last week of November.

The increased Ore Reserve at Wiluna stems from a 70% increase in Indicated Mineral Resources announced on 29 September, comprising the Calais underground zone, the East Pit open pit and an independent new underground zone at East Lode North.

Ore Reserves at Wiluna, located 500km north of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia's Eastern Goldfields, now stand at 2.1 million tonnes (Mt) at 5.7 grams per tonne (g/t) for 378,000 ounces (oz) of gold (see figure 1.) and Apex's global Ore Reserves, including the Wilson's deposit at Gidgee (0.83Mt at 6.4 g/t for 170,000 oz's), now stand at 2.92Mt at 5.9g/t for 548,000 oz of gold (see table below).

The increase represents a mine life of 4 years on the current projected production profile and provides confidence for a much longer mine life as reserves are incrementally added through additional drilling, as demonstrated by the recent discovery of the new Queenie Lode and extensions to the Baldrick zone. Drilling to identify new mineralized zones and improve the confidence of currently Inferred Resources is expected to extend the mine life further.

Plant Commissioning Underway

Commissioning of the Wiluna plant is underway with approximately 150,000 tonnes of ore grading 4.1g/t having been delivered to the ROM pad as a result of East Pit mining. These stocks represent approximately 8 weeks of plant throughput. The crushing circuit has been commissioned with ore mined at the East Pit open cut while the remaining plant circuits have been commissioned on water. All plant circuits are to be commissioned on ore this week. Primary BIOX reactor tanks have live bacteria and are ready to accept feed when milling of ore commences. First gold from Wiluna is expected during the last week of November.

Exploration Update

Exploration and resource definition drilling at Wiluna continues to extend the Baldrick zone and has identified a new separate mineralised structure termed the Queenie Lode.

At Baldric, recent drilling has intersected strong mineralisation down plunge of previous drilling. Hole CADH01152 intersected 10.8m @ 9.1g/t gold (est. 4.5m true width) some 70m down plunge from the previous intersection of 27.2m @ 9.8g/t gold (est. 9.3m true width) in CADH01130.

Drilling has also identified a new zone situated between the East and West Lodes, known as the Queenie Lode. Two holes have been drilled to date, with the first, CADH01178, intersecting a narrow zone strongly mineralised with abundant visible gold, and the second (CADH1176) intersecting 8.4m @ 9.6g/t gold (est. 7.1m true width) some 70m from the first.

Wiluna Gold Project Updated Reserve Estimate

	Proved			Probable			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
Burgundy	0	0.0	0	261,000	6.0	50,000	261,000	6.0	50,000
Calais	0	0	0	519,000	6.4	106,500	519,000	6.4	106,500
Henry 5	0	0	0	202,000	6.6	42,000	202,000	6.6	42,000
Henry 5 North	0	0	0	294,000	5.9	55,500	294,000	5.9	55,500
Baldric	0	0	0	65,000	5.8	12,000	65,000	5.8	12,000
SUB-TOTAL	0	0.0	0	1,341,000	6.2	266,000	1,341,000	6.2	266,000
	Proved			Probable			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
East Lode North	0	0	0	343,000	5.5	60,000	343,000	5.5	60,000
SUB-TOTAL	0	0	0	343,000	5.5	60,000	343,000	5.5	60,000
	Proved			Probable			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
East Pit	0	0	0	404,000	4.0	52,000	404,000	4.0	52,000
SUB-TOTAL	0	0	0	404,000	4.0	52,000	404,000	4.0	52,000
WILUNA TOTAL	0	0	0	2,088,000	5.7	378,000	2,088,000	5.7	378,000
	Proved			Probable			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
Wilsons				826,000	6.4	170,000	826,000	6.4	170,000
SUB-TOTAL	0	0	0	826,000	6.4	170,000	826,000	6.4	170,000
	Proved			Probable			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
APEX TOTAL	0	0	0	2,914,000	5.9	548,000	2,914,000	5.9	548,000

Wiluna and Wilsons underground reserves have been estimated at a cut off grade of 4.5 g/t Au corresponding to a gold price of approximately A\$800/oz. The East Pit open cut reserve has been calculated at a cut-off grade of 1.5 g/t Au.

Wiluna Gold Project Overview

Located 1,000km northeast of Perth in Western Australia's Eastern Goldfields, Wiluna is a world class goldfield having produced approximately 4 million ounces of gold. The project comprises 50km² of mining leases and includes gold resources totalling over 1.5 million ounces, a 1Mtpa processing facility and a BIOX[®] bacterial oxidation plant, along with other established infrastructure.

Previous production and known resources occur in two main fault structures, the East Lode and West Lode. It is estimated that only 50% of the known extent of these lodes has been tested by exploration. Considerable potential therefore exists for additional resources with a high probability of converting these to reserves.

East Lode North

The East Lode North Probable Ore Reserve is located immediately north of the historic underground East Lode workings and the East Pit open cut (see figure 2) which is currently in production.

The East Pit open cut is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2009 and the potential exists to develop a new decline from the base of the Pit to access the East Lode North zone upon the completion of the open pit. Development of the East Lode North zone would represent a low capital cost supplement to production from the Calais area.

Approximately 100 metres of capital decline development would be required from the base of the East Pit to access the East Lode North zone. Cash costs would be expected to be in line with previously announced cash costs for the Wiluna operations delivering strong cash margins.

Development of the East Lode North zone represents an exciting prospect for Apex because in addition to increasing production from a new underground mine it will enable the company to expedite its exploration drilling of additional targets from underground. These include extensions to East Lode North, down plunge extensions of the main East Lode, and delineation of the East Lode Hanging Wall zone as identified in the pit.

It is worth noting that the historic underground East Lode workings are the most productive area in the history of Wiluna, producing about 2 million ozs of gold between 1930 and 1950. Further details on the impact of a development at East Lode North and reserve increase at the Calais area on the production schedule will be announced in due course when a new group production profile is completed.

Calais Area

The increase in Probable Ore Reserves in the Calais area extends mine life and leaves Apex confident that further mine life will be added as the exploration is undertaken from better underground drill positions as and when they become available. Development in the Calais zone is occurring on 4 levels and a decline is being developed from the Woodley decline to access the Henry V North zone.

East Pit

Ore reserves at the East Pit open pit have been increased to 0.4Mt @ 4.0 g/t Au for 52,000 ounces of gold. This is an increase of 70% from the previous Ore Reserve and reflects the 70% increase in Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources announced on 29th September. Mining in East Pit commenced in October and 150,000 tonnes @ 4.1 g/t Au has been mined to date.

Kind Regards,



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Important Notice

This press release is not an offer of securities for sale in the United States. No security of Apex has been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act"), and no such security may be offered or sold in the United States absent registration under the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities laws or an exemption from registration under the U.S. Securities Act and such laws.

This Ore Reserve estimate has been compiled in accordance with the guidelines defined in the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves ~ The JORC Code ~ 2004 Edition" (2004 JORC Code).

The information in this report that relates to Ore Reserves for Burgundy, Calais below the 500mRL, Henry Five, Henry Five North, Baldric and East Lode North is based on information compiled by Richard Flanagan, who is a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Richard Flanagan is an employee of Richard Flanagan Mining Consultancy Pty Ltd (RFMC) and a consultant to Apex Minerals NL. Richard Flanagan has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity for which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Richard Flanagan consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The information in this report that relates to Ore Reserves for Calais above the 500mRL and East Pit Cutback is based on information compiled by Linton Putland, who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Linton Putland is an employee of LJ Putland & Associates and a consultant to Apex Minerals NL. Linton Putland has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity for which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Linton Putland consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

Figure 1: Long projection of the East Lode at Wiluna, showing Probable Ore Reserves (in green) and additional potential mining blocks in areas currently classified as Inferred Resources (in grey) which require further drilling.

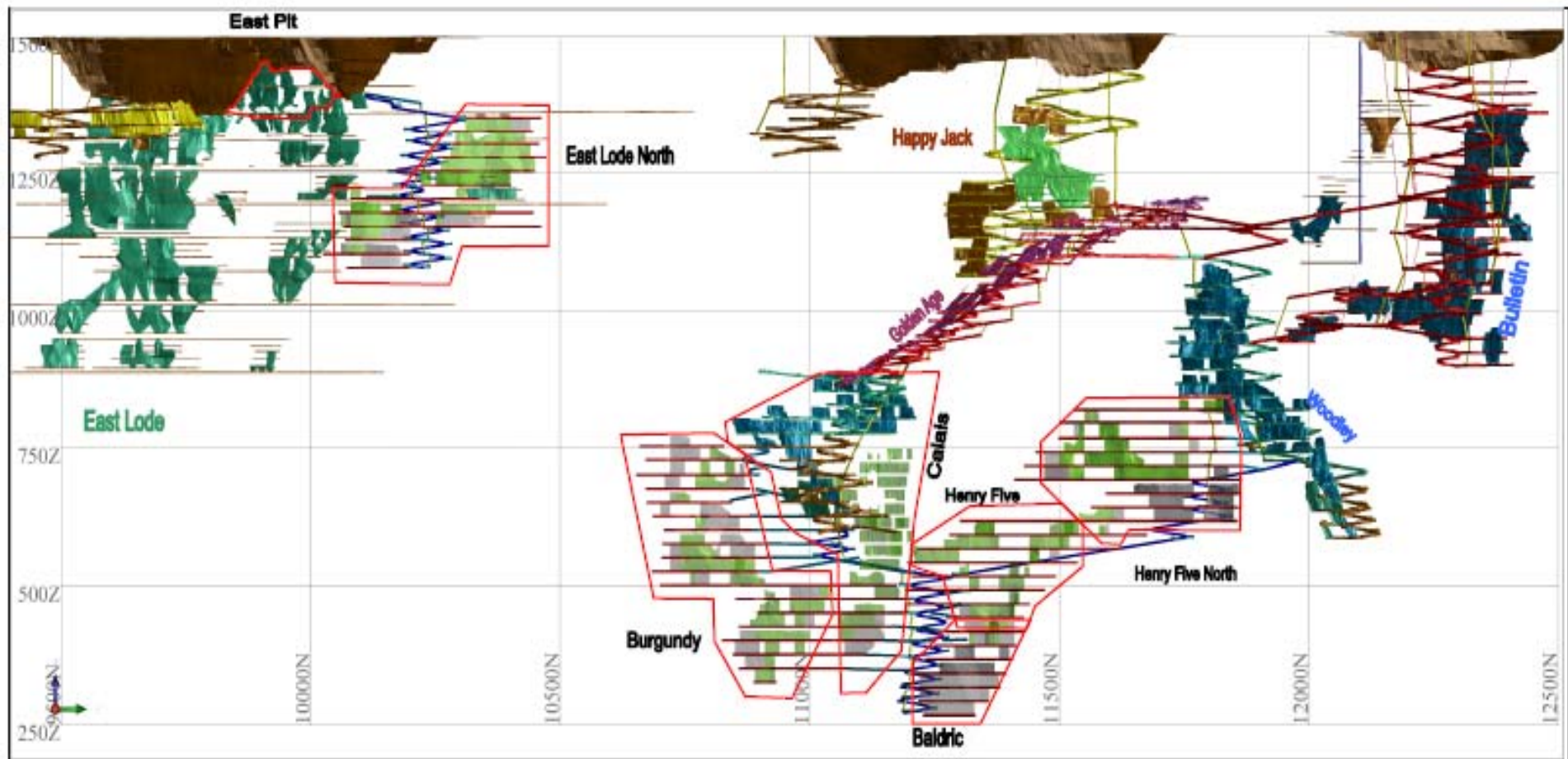


Figure 2: East Lode North Long Section

