



# Niuminco Group Limited

*Suite 50, 14 Narabang Way, Austlink Corporate Centre, Belrose NSW 2085 Australia  
Tel: (02) 9450 0828 Fax: (02)9450 0877 Email: info@niuminco.com.au  
ABN 44 009 163 919*

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Exchange Square, 20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

## **EDIE CREEK PROCESSING AND MINING OPERATIONS UPDATE – AUGUST 2018**

Following delivery of the new 6 tonne JCB excavator, Kawasaki loader and two more D85 Komatsu bulldozers, gold and silver mining has continued at Alpha West (the main Edie Lode pictured below) and commenced over the past week at the Surmans vein system.

At present, maintenance and repair work is being carried out on the two newly arrived D85 dozers and the D65 dozer, whilst the 21 tonne Hyundai excavator is currently down, awaiting a replacement engine block and pistons.

At Surmans, a new culvert was installed and the access road to this vein area has been upgraded and extended to reach higher mining bench levels.



*Cutting back the bench to expose the main Edie Lode at the top of Alpha West. The black hole to the right of the excavator, near the left hand edge of the main vein, is an old mine shaft from the earlier 1930s workings.*

Following limited running of the processing circuit in July, processing volumes have increased in August with delivery to the mill of larger quantities of mined material from both the Alpha West and Surmans vein systems, and a stepping up of circuit running time.

The main Edie Lode at Alpha West has been cut back to the western extremity of the current top bench, exposing the vein to a width of 3-4 metres, with a further splay vein approximately 1.5 metres wide and some 4 metres to the north.



*Sumitomo excavator loading vein material from the main Edie Lode at the current top bench of Alpha West*

**From 1st to 13<sup>th</sup> August, the key mining and production points are as follows:**

- **The ball mill and concentrator circuit ran for 74.5 hours at an average of 5.7 hours/day.**
- **307 wet tonnes of material was processed at an average rate of 4.1 tonnes/hour.**
- **On 12 August, 45 wet tonnes of material was processed in 9.5 hours at a rate of 4.7 tonnes/hour, and on 13 August, 36 wet tonnes was processed in 8 hours at a rate of 4.4 tonnes/hour.**
- **Average grade for the 13 day period was 1.22g/t.**
- **A 0.5t sample from the splay vein at Alpha West (4 metres from the main Edie Lode) produced 2.3 g Au for a grade of 4.6g/t.**
- **374g Au (12.02 ounces Au) and 339g Ag (10.9 ounces Ag) were produced in this period.**



*Operator Ben Tameno, loading the mill feed hopper with the new JCB excavator*



*Eddie Creek Processing Manager and Metallurgist, Joma Mering, overseeing the milling and ISP concentrator operations*



*The main Edie Lode (dark brown coloured oxidised material) and to the right, the splay vein (light brown oxidised coloured material) from where vein material for the mill is currently being sourced.*

Tracey Lake, Niuminco Managing Director, noted, “ As previously foreshadowed, the Edie Creek Mine is now operating with increased mining and processing volumes, with mining taking place in two separate vein areas.

With the new JCB excavator feeding the mill hopper and the loader feeding material for screening, more efficient mining use is being made of the 35 tonne Sumitomo excavator.

The good grade samples from the two vein systems are very encouraging, particularly so as we are relatively high up in these systems at the present time, and the grade historically increases with depth in the Edie Creek veins.”

14 August, 2018

Tracey Lake  
Managing Director