30 July 2019

Bioleach Selected for Process Flowsheet

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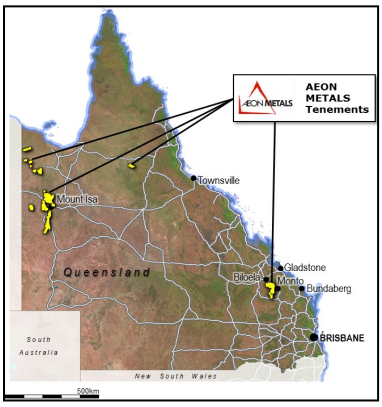
ASX Code - AML
Shares on Issue: 673m
Share Price: $0.19
Market Capitalisation: $128m
Cash (31 March 2019): $2.6m

All mineral resources projects located in Queensland:



Aeon Metals Limited (**Aeon** or **the Company**) is pleased to announce the latest enhancements to the process flowsheet for its 100%-owned Walford Creek Project. Following flotation, the selected treatment route for the intermediate cobalt concentrate produced at Walford Creek is biological leach (bioleach).

Highlights

- **Walford Creek flowsheet will utilise conventional processes of crushing, grinding, and flotation to produce final copper, zinc and lead concentrates and an intermediate cobalt concentrate.**
- **Most of the intermediate cobalt concentrate will be bioleached to yield a saleable final product while a portion is subjected to roasting to conveniently generate sufficient sulphuric acid for the leaching processes.**
- **Bioleach testwork achieved average cobalt extraction to solution of 97% on Vardy PY1 cobalt concentrate**
- **Walford Creek cobalt intermediate concentrate is particularly amenable to bioleaching with rapid rate of oxidisation allowing for short residence time (sub-24 hrs)**
- **Preliminary estimates suggest that selection of bioleach for Walford Creek over alternative cobalt concentrate processes delivers:**
  - **20-40% reduction in forecast project pre-production capital;**
  - **20-40% reduction in estimated C1 operating cost; and**
  - **15-25% reduction in expected project power requirements.**
- **Bioleaching is a commercially proven treatment route for sulphide ores currently used in over 50 plants world-wide**
- **Selection of the bioleaching treatment option represents the latest step towards enhancing the value proposition of Walford Creek Project.**
- **The initial results from the current Amy Resource drilling provide further opportunities for value improvement suggesting potential for a larger project scale.**

With the recent focus on alternative processing routes that minimise or eliminate acid production, ALS Metallurgical Laboratories undertook a series of bioleach tests on Walford Creek Vardy PY1 cobalt concentrate. Results from this testwork yielded an average cobalt extraction from concentrate to solution of 97% with a relatively short residence time (sub-24 hours).

The enhanced amenability of the Vardy cobalt concentrate to bioleaching, combined with the high recoveries, rapid leaching kinetics requiring

reduced capital and operating costs, the reduced requirement for acid production, and, the eco-friendly nature of bioleaching have underpinned the bioleach pathway to treat the intermediate cobalt concentrate from Walford Creek. As part of the ongoing Walford Creek metallurgical test-work program further comminution, float and bioleach variability testwork is under way. The program will focus on Marley ore samples with testwork to be undertaken on the Amy zone as soon as metallurgical samples are available. Due to the geological consistency of the PY1 and PY3 lodes It is expected that Amy mineralisation will be metallurgically similar to Vardy and Marley

The selection of the bioleach processing route, combined with the growing Resource potential delivered from recent positive exploration results at the Amy zone, has prompted consideration of increasing the Project size. Accordingly, the Board has decided that the most appropriate way forward is to produce a concept study incorporating the bioleach and an upscaled treatment rate. The Study will be completed as soon as possible. It is noted that key project parameters including the current mineral Resource, metallurgical test-work for the comminution circuit and floatation circuit as well as mine geotechnical and environmental studies are already at a PFS level of accuracy.

Aeon Managing Director, Hamish Collins, commented: *"The outstanding cobalt recovery results returned from the bioleach testwork at relatively short residence times represent a milestone improvement towards realising the ultimate potential of the Walford Creek Project. The simplified scope and enhanced economics of this well-established process route were crucial to its incorporation into the flowsheet. The significantly reduced capital intensity associated with bioleach, when combined with the growing confidence from our Resource drilling in the Amy zone, further reinforce the decision to enhance the current Walford Creek studies with the assessment of potentially larger project scales."*

Bioleach

Bioleaching is a conventional process utilised globally for extraction of sulphide ores. It can offer an attractive alternative to conventional roasting or pressure oxidation of amenable sulphide ores. The selective extraction of metal from ores using biological means has attracted considerable attention by mining companies over the last few decades with a wide range of metal sulphide minerals oxidised by bioleaching.

Bioleaching has the following major advantages relative to alternative processing routes for cobalt concentrate that were assessed:

- significantly lower capital cost;
- lower energy requirement and significantly low operating cost;
- lower manpower;
- no offsite sulphuric acid transport; and
- relatively eco-friendly.

Bioleaching is currently widely adopted for the selective extraction of copper, uranium and cobalt, and, as a pre-leach step. The first commercial, stirred-tank bioleach plant was commissioned in 1986 in Fairview, South Africa. There are now over 50 commercial plants installed globally. The Kokpatas plant in Uzbekistan is currently the world's largest bioleach facility, with a capacity of greater than 2,000t/d of sulphide concentrate. Bioleach use in cobalt recovery commenced with the successful Kasese Project in Uganda in 1997.

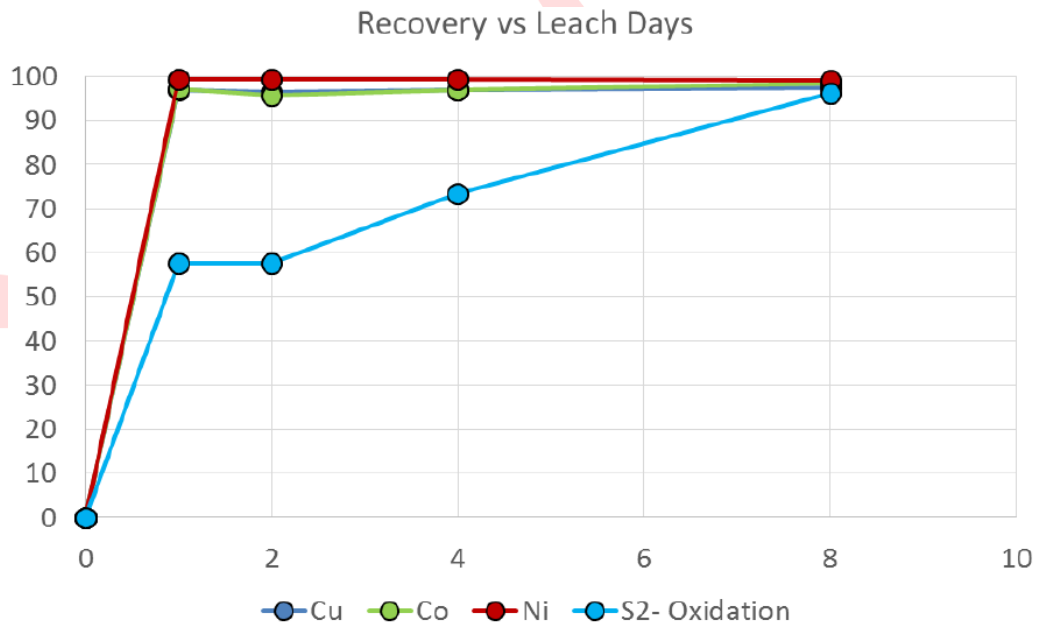
A series of bioleach tests were completed on Walford Creek Vardy PY1 intermediate cobalt concentrate, by ALS Metallurgical Laboratories, achieving an average cobalt extraction from concentrate to solution of 96.9%. The four tests varied from 95.8% to 98.5% cobalt extraction, achieving similar recovery results to those of recently reported pressure oxidation (POX) and roast-leach tests on Vardy material. Further variability test-work on Marley PY3 is currently underway and tests on the Amy zone will commence as soon as metallurgical sample is available.

Alternative process routes tested by Aeon that minimise/eliminate acid production are outlined in the table below.

Process	Capital Cost	Operating Cost	Cu Recovery *	Co Recovery*
Atmospheric Leach	Low	Low	93%	48%
Atmospheric oxidative leach	Low	Medium	93%	45%
Low Pressure POX	High	High	96%**	71%
Roasting	High	High	96%**	66%
Roasting + Atmospheric leach	High	Medium	96%**	53%
Biological leach	Low	Low	96%**	78%

*Note: * recovered to saleable product from ROM ore*
*** includes recovery of copper from lead concentrate*

The bioleach tests conducted to date exhibited a rapid rate of oxidation with the results strongly indicating the cobalt concentrates have a high amenability to bioleaching as seen in following chart.



Importantly, preliminary comparisons with POX and roast-leach options indicate a 20-40% reduction in potential project pre-production capital, a 20-40% reduction in estimated C1 operating cost and a 15-25% reduction in expected project power requirements.

The revised Walford Creek process flowsheet appears in Appendix 1. The flowsheet utilises conventional processes and can be broken down as follows:

1. Crush/grind
2. Flotation
3. Bioleach
4. Roasting
5. Precipitation and Cementation

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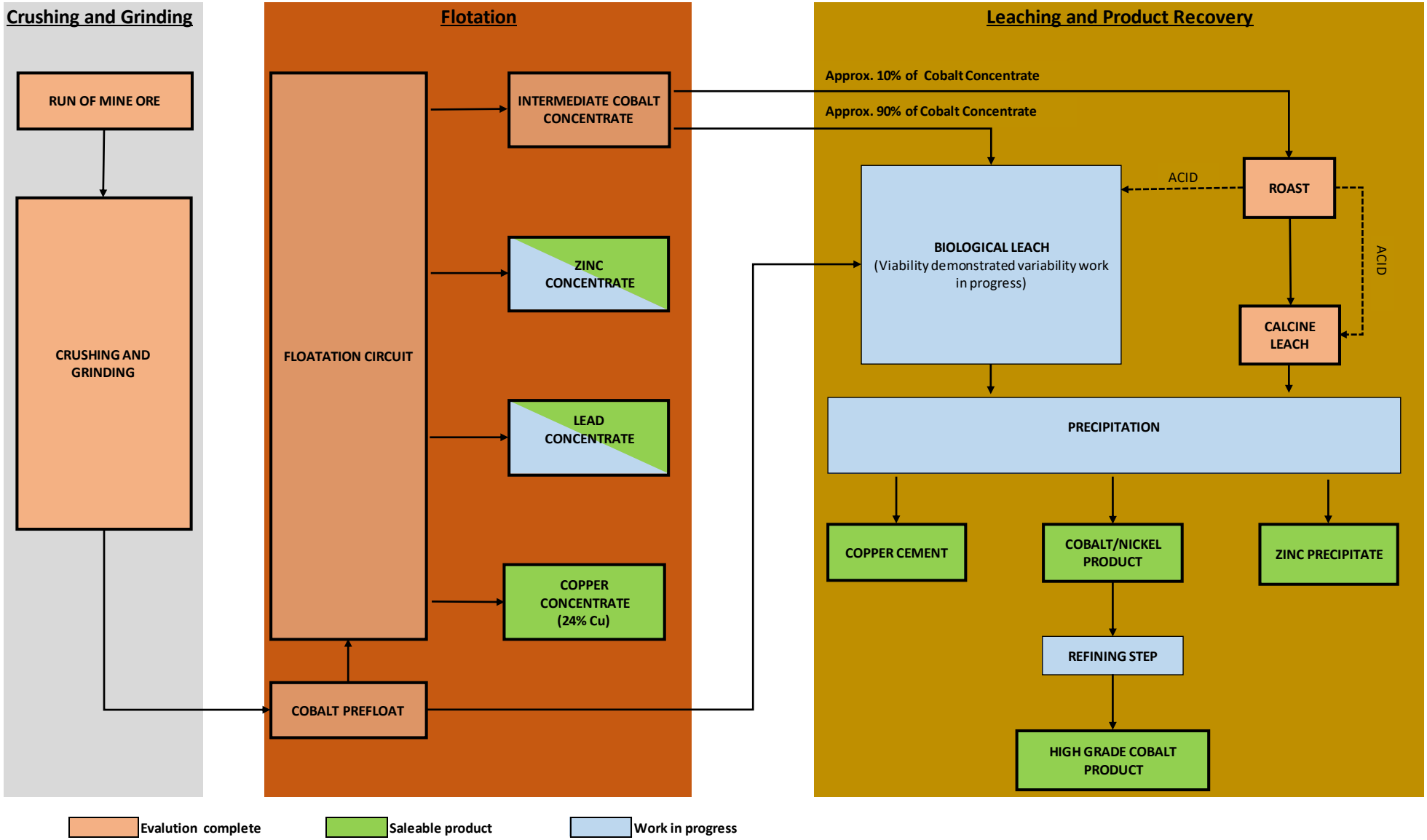
Competent Persons Statement

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Results for the Walford Creek Deposit is based on information compiled by Mr. Dan Johnson who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and who has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (the "JORC Code"). Mr. Dan Johnson is a full-time employee of Aeon Metals Limited and consents to the inclusion in the presentation of the Exploration Results in the form and context in which they appear.

Appendix 1: Walford Creek Process Flowsheet



Appendix 2: JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1 Walford Creek

Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

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

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	• Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling. • Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used. • Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report. • In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.	• WMC: 1986-1994 completed diamond core and RC drilling on nominal 400 x 40m grid spacing. The holes were generally drilled vertically to appropriately target the stratabound Pb-Zn mineralisation. Sampling procedures were in line with industry standards of the day (as documented in historic reports); all RC drilling was sampled at 1m intervals and drill core was split/sawn into approximately 1m half-core samples. All samples were analysed in-house by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry. • Copper Strike: 2004-2005 RC drilling was completed to infill the existing grid by WMC. RC drilling was used to obtain continuous 1m samples. Dry samples were split at the rig and wet samples speared. Approximately 2kg samples were weighed, dried, crushed and pulverised at a commercial laboratory for analysis by four-acid digest with an ICP finish. • Aston to Aeon: 2010-2018 infill and extension diamond drilling with some RC precollars; good quality predominantly HQ core was obtained from which 1m sawn half-core samples were collected and weighed, dried, crushed and pulverised at a commercial laboratory for analysis by four-acid digest with an ICP finish. Drill core and RC sample recoveries were recorded in the database. All above grade (termed Ore Grade) were assayed as such via OG62 four-acid digest by ALS. Drill core sample recoveries were recorded in the database. 2016 saw metallurgical samples taken using quarter cut HQ core and limited PQ. • Aeon 2018: Genalysis Laboratory being used. Technique employs 4-acid digest with ICP finish and ore grade via

		four-acid digest (termed 4AH/OE by Intertek Genalysis). • Where RC sampling has been undertaken, mostly for pre-collars, Aeon has utilised riffle splitting of 1m bagged sample passed through a cyclone. Where RC sampling was undertaken through ore zones, the bags were dried and weighed for recoveries. • Where half HQ core is taken for metallurgical analysis, the half core is quarter cut for assaying.
Drilling techniques	• Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc).	• 1986 to 1994 WMC: 45 Diamond holes 12,735m & 49 RC holes 3,678m; NQ & minor BQ Diamond drilling and RC, no mention of core orientation in any historic WMC report. • 2004 to 2005 Copper Strike: 30 Reverse Circulation ("RC") holes 3,162m; RC drilling bit type/size not reported by CSE. • 2010 to 2012 Aston Metals: 92 Diamond holes 14,929m; HQ Triple Tube Diamond drilling with some RC pre-collars. Core oriented, where possible, by Reflex ACT tool and structural data recorded in the database. • 2014 Aeon Metals Limited: 19 RC, RCDD and DD (Diamond) holes completed for 9021m. HQ Triple Tube Diamond drilling with some RC pre-collars. Core oriented, where possible, by Reflex ACT 111 tool and structural data recorded in the database. • 2016 to 2018 Aeon Metals Limited; Reverse Circulation (5.5in Hammer bit) and Diamond Drilling (minor PQ and HQ Triple tube). Core oriented, where possible, by Reflex ACT 111 tool and structural data recorded in the database.
Drill sample recovery	• Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed. • Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples. • Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to	• WMC: No known written record (however, any core loss intervals were recorded graphically in geological logs). • Copper Strike: No written record. Copper strike have noted some areas of poor sample recovery through mineralised zones due to high water pressure, but noted that grades were comparable to WMC diamond drilling and

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	preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material.	therefore assumed any bias based on drilling technique and / or sample type was low. • Aston and Aeon Metals: HQ Triple Tube drilling to improve recovery. Generally >90%; lower recoveries can in some cases be associated with higher mineral grades attributed to hydrothermal brecciation & dissolution in the Dolomite Unit rather than drilling or sampling practice. • 2014 recoveries are considered to be better than 2012 recoveries. • 2016 recoveries are considered the same or better than 2014. Shallow holes close to the fault generally have poorer recoveries. • Recoveries of samples in the 2017 and 2018 have been similar and are considered good with greater than 90% in 90% of all drilling. There is an inverse relationship between sample recovery and grade, this however is due to brecciation and dissolution rather than sample bias.
Logging	• Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies. • Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography. • The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.	• WMC: Detailed hard-copy lithological logging of all holes transcribed by AML into an Access Database with a full set of logging codes acquired from BHP Billiton. Core photographs were taken but could not be recovered from the data archives. A few core photographs were made available to AML as scans. • Copper Strike: Digital logging of all holes loaded into AML's Access database with a full set of logging codes acquired from Copper Strike. No chip tray photographs were made available. • Aston and Aeon: Detailed digital geological and geotechnical logging of all holes with a full set of logging codes transcribed into an Access database; full set of core photographs. • All logging has been converted to quantitative codes in the Access database.

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		• All relevant intersections were logged.
Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation	• If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken. • If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry. • For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique. • Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples. • Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling. • Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.	• WMC: Split/sawn half core under geological control and no record for RC; 1m RC samples and half core samples of typically 1m, but as small as 0.25m sent for in-house lab assay. • Copper Strike: Dry RC samples were riffle split and wet samples speared; 1m samples (of approximately 2kg) sent to commercial laboratory with appropriate sample prep process. • Aston and Aeon: Company procedures for core handling documented in a flow sheet; sawn half core under geological control; 1m samples sent to commercial laboratory with appropriate sample prep. Company procedure for RC sample handling documented in flow-sheet; bulk 1m samples in most cases rotary split from rig with only some riffle split; sample dried, crushed and pulverised to appropriate levels; use of field duplicates and quarter core checks were completed and indicated comparable results with the original samples. • In 2016 PQ and HQ core were collected for metallurgical samples. Sawn half core was submitted for metallurgical testing, from mineralised intervals, with the remaining half core sawn and quarter section samples sent for multi-element analysis at ALS. • All sampling methods and sample sizes are deemed appropriate. • Sampling in 2017 and 2018 was conducted in the same manner as previous years.
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	• The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total. • For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading	• WMC: In-house analysis by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (digest recorded as PBKRS) as cited in annual reports of the day by WMC. The relevant QA/QC was not reported and the drill core is no longer available. • Copper Strike: Appropriate analytical method using a 4-acid digest with ICP finish with ore grade analysis for Cu,

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	times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc. • Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (ie lack of bias) and precision have been established.	Pb, Zn & Ag. Assaying was carried out by ALS, an accredited laboratory. CSE did not make use of any standards or run duplicate samples for QA/QC. Aston metals drilled 4 HQ Triple Tube diamond core twin holes with comparable results. • Aston and Aeon pre-2017: analytical procedure documented as a flow-sheet; Appropriate analytical method using a 4-acid digest with ICP finish. Ore grade analysis for Cu, Pb, Zn & Ag by OG62 method. Assaying was carried out by ALS, an accredited laboratory. Extensive QA/QC programme with standards, blanks, laboratory duplicates & secondary lab checks. Acceptable outcomes. • Aeon 2017 and 2018: analytical procedure documented as a flow-sheet; Appropriate analytical method using a 4-acid digest with ICP finish. Ore grade analysis, where appropriate, for Cu, Pb, Zn, Ag, S and As by 4AH/OE. Assaying was carried out by Intertek Genalysis, an accredited laboratory. Extensive QA/QC as above. • All assay methods for both Aston and Aeon were appropriate at the time of undertaking. • Aeon has continued to undertake QA/QC including undertaking check analysis at a secondary laboratory.
Verification of sampling and assaying	• The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel. • The use of twinned holes. • Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols. • Discuss any adjustment to assay data.	• WMC: Hardcopy sampling and assay data has been compared with recent drilling work by Aston and Aeon. Aeon considers the data reliability to be reasonable. • Copper Strike: Aston twinned 4 CSE holes to assess grade repeatability and continuity; results are comparable. All samples were submitted to an accredited laboratory, ALS. 1 hole was removed from the database because the geological logging and assay results appeared significantly at odds with several surrounding holes. • Aston: Site visit to review core confirms mineral intercepts; Twinned holes (4) to test RC drilling by Copper Strike; results are comparable. Aeon have core handling

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		procedures as flow-sheets. • Aeon: Site visit by H&SC to review core confirms mineral intercepts; • Aeon using same core handling procedures, including similar data entry and logging as previous with same codes. • Aeon database managed by Elemental Exploration Pty Ltd using GEOBANK with all final data stored off site.
Location of data points	• Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation. • Specification of the grid system used. • Quality and adequacy of topographic control.	• WMC: Survey pickup of collar locations by EDM in 1992 and tied to the datum grid point at drillhole WFDD1. The precision of pickups was ±100mm with respect to the datum on average. Downhole survey method not recorded; database contains azimuth and dip readings every 30-50m. • Copper Strike: Drill hole location and orientation data determined by CSE staff. Collars were buried and therefore validation by subsequent Companies was not possible. Downhole survey methods were not recorded; database contains azimuth and dip readings based on collar and end of hole measurement. • Aston: DGPS on all AML holes in MGA94 Zone 54 grid projection by MH Lodewyk Surveyors, Mount Isa. AML also had WMC drill hole collar locations validated by DGPS with good accuracy. Down hole surveys were taken every 30m by REFLEX, EZI-SHOT. • A detailed Digital Elevation Model (DEM) was generated by David McInnes, consulting geophysicist, as part of the process of developing the 2010 3D geological model. The DEM was generated using a combination of data from the drillhole collars (DGPS), the WMC Gravity survey (with a 3cm accuracy), with variable data point spacing of 100x100m – 500x500m, and high-resolution satellite data with an estimated 80m accuracy. • Aeon: DGPS on all previous Aeon drill holes in MGA94 Zone 54 grid projection by MH Lodewyk Surveyors, Mount

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		Isa in September 2014. • 2016, 2017 and 2018 holes have been picked up by DGPS by D Ericson at Diverse Surveyors, Mt Isa. • Down hole surveys were generally taken every 30m by REFLEX (ACT 111) EZI-SHOT or as ground conditions permitted. • 2018, Aeon commissioned ANC to carry out a Digital Terrain Model (DTM) over the Vardy and Marley deposits. • 2018 Seismic Survey, shot points and geophone locations were surveyed by RPS using GDA 94, MGA Zone 55.
Data spacing and distribution	• Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results. • Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied. • Whether sample compositing has been applied.	• Drillhole section spacing is 25m to 50m in the eastern section of the deposit becoming 100m or greater in the west. On section spacing is approximately between 20m to 80m. 100m spacing is appropriate for geological continuity, 50m spacing allows for reasonable assessment of grade continuity. 25m by 20m can lead to measured status depending on continuity of both geology and grade. • Some holes have encroached closer than the nominal 25m by 20m due to hole deviation and also the necessity to relocate holes around geographical features and or vegetation. • Very limited sample compositing undertaken. • 2018 Seismic, shot point and receiver spacing of 8m on a 160 channel nominal spread were the selected parameters based on geological variables.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	• Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type. • If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.	• Drilling generally achieved a high angle of intercept with the stratabound mineralisation but local variation due to folding has been logged. • Any mineralisation related directly to structures with the same strike and dip of the Fish River Fault, has been intersected at a moderate angle. • A broad alteration zone (with variable mineralisation) associated with both the stratabound mineral and the

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		mineral proximal to the Fish River Fault has been intersected at reasonable angles. • Drilling orientations are considered appropriate with no obvious bias. Holes have been steepened in the case of the most recent 2nd phase drilling and angle of intercept is considered appropriate. • 2018 Seismic, 5 lines were orientated north-south (perpendicular to structure) and 1 line east-west (along strike).
Sample security	• The measures taken to ensure sample security.	• WMC: All assaying in-house. No documentation available on sample security. • Copper Strike: All assaying completed by ALS Townsville. No documentation available on sample security. • Aston and Aeon: RC chip samples in calico bags are sealed in polyweave bags. Drillcore is contained in lidded core trays, strapped down and transported by a dedicated truck to Mount Isa. The core is cut and sampled by company employees in the Mount Isa core yard and sent directly to ALS Mount Isa where assaying is completed. After analysis all samples are returned to Isa, stored in a lock up shed and digitally archived. Core is stored in Mount Isa in a lock up shed. Previously sections of massive sulphide were kept in secure cool storage. Aeon – recent core crush of -9mm has been kept in cryovac bags with a nitrogen flush prior to sealing. This is aimed at eliminating the requirement to use cold storage for the core. The remaining core is stacked on pallets and then plastic wrapped prior to storage in a covered shed out of the weather. Visual inspection of drill core continues to show that assay grades match mineral assay distribution. • 2016 Metallurgical samples comprised sawn quarter/half core completed at an appropriate facility in Mt Isa by Aeon personnel. Core was then bagged and cryovac protected at ALS in Mt Isa prior to use in test work.

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		• All drillcore in core trays is wrapped in plastic and strapped to pallets on site at Walford and before transport to Mt Isa by either Aeon personnel in appropriate vehicles or via the local transport company from Doomadgee. This transport of core is considered satisfactory.
Audits or reviews	• The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.	• WMC: Data transcribed from historic reports and subsequently validated by Aston with no material inconsistencies evident. • Copper Strike: Supplied digital database checked by Aston against hard copy with no material discrepancies found. • Aston: All data checked and validated prior to loading into the internal database by Aston geologists and external database managers. As part of the process of developing the geological model Aston reviewed all of the recent and historic data and consider it suitable for the purposes of resource estimation. A QA/QC audit by ALS found no major discrepancies in the assay data. • Aeon – all data now being received has undergone the same validation as used previously by Aston. • A substantial QA/QC review has been completed by H&S Consultants as part of the resource estimate undertaken previously. • QA/QC work continues to be undertaken as previous with check analysis undertaken a different laboratory.

Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

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

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	• Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.	• Walford Creek is located wholly within EPM 14220. The EPM is located 65km west-northwest of Doomadgee township and 340km north-northwest of Mount Isa. • Following a transfer of title (dated 12 March 2013) EPM 14220 is held 100% by Aeon Walford Creek Limited

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	• The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.	formerly Aston Metals (Qld) Limited and the previous Joint Venture Agreements no longer apply. The tenement currently consists of 41 sub-blocks. The tenement is a granted Exploration Permit for Minerals and no known impediments exist. • As it currently stands, no Native Title claim is in existence over EPM 14220, however AML continue to operate under the premises of the previous agreements negotiated with the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation "CLCAC" representing the Waanyi and Gangalidda-Garawa peoples and signed prior to commencement of exploration.
Exploration done by other parties	• Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.	• Numerous companies have explored within the tenement area, largely concentrating on the discovery of a significant stratabound lead-zinc system. • More recently, companies have been focused on targeting copper mineralisation in the hanging wall of the Fish River Fault. • All exploration is considered to have been completed to a reasonable standard by experienced companies in a professional manner. Most exploration work has been appropriate but there are minor issues on historic documentation. • Previous exploration of the Walford Creek Prospect is summarised below: **1984-1996 WMC** Re-evaluation of the Walford Creek area resulting in a major exploration program targeting Pb-Zn mineralisation near the Fish River Fault: • Systematic grid-based mapping, rock chip and soil sampling. • Detailed Tempest EM and aeromagnetic survey; gravity survey, 600 line km of SIROTEM.

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		• 45 diamond and 49 percussion holes totalling approximately 16,500m of drilling on 400 and 800 m spaced drill hole fences. • Isolated higher grade Pb-Zn-Cu-Ag intersections but no coherent economic Pb-Zn resource. • Brief JV with MIMEX from 1995-1996. MIMEX completed CSAMT, EM and IP over 9 conceptual targets but no drilling. **2004-2006 Copper Strike** Exploration program targeting copper mineralisation at the Walford Creek Prospect in and along the Fish River Fault: • A small RC drilling program was commenced in 2004 but curtailed prematurely due to the 2004-2005 wet season. • A significant RC drill program was completed during 2005. • 30 holes were drilled for a total of 3,162m, of which 60.7m was diamond cored. • Estimation of an Inferred Mineral Resource for the Walford Creek Project of 6.5 million tonnes at 0.6% Cu, 1.6% Pb, 2.1% Zn, 25 g/t Ag and 0.07% Co. **2010 to 2012 Aston Metals Limited** Exploration undertaken by Aston followed on from the targeting approach adopted by Copper Strike in drilling along the Fish River Fault to test both the SEDEX lens and the associated copper/cobalt mineralisation close to the fault. Aston Metals drilled a total of 92 Diamond holes 14,929m; HQ Triple Tube Diamond drilling with some RC pre-collars. • 2012 Indicated and Inferred Resources of 48.3 million tonnes at 0.39% Cu, 0.83% Pb, 0.88% Zn, 20.4 g/t Ag and 731 ppm Co.
Geology	• Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.	• At the Walford Creek Prospect structurally controlled, vein/breccia hosted or replacement Cu ± Co

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		mineralisation, with minor Pb-Zn-Ag and stratabound, diagenetic Pb-Zn-Ag ± Cu mineralisation, are hosted in dolomitic and argillaceous sediments of the Palaeoproterozoic Fickling Group, forming part of the Lawn Hill Platform stratigraphic sequence, along the east-west to east-northeast trending, steeply south-dipping Fish River Fault. • The mineralisation typically occurs as early diagenetic sphalerite-galena-(chalcopyrite) to late epigenetic chalcopyrite-(galena-sphalerite) associated with three stacked massive pyrite lenses and talus, hydrothermal and tectonic breccias in the hanging wall of the Fish River Fault. • Mineralisation shows affinities to both early sediment-hosted SEDEX-type and late Mississippi Valley-type mineralisation styles. • The wide diversity of mineralisation styles reflects multiple events in a long-lived re-activated structural setting that originated as a growth fault. • Further interpretation of the geological model is ongoing and views will reflect the geological teams assessment as both the database grows in size and as the results are interpreted. • Recent re-interpretation also shows strong analogies to some Zambian style sediment hosted copper deposits where elevated copper in association with high cobalt values is often a characteristic.
Drill hole Information	• A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: ○ easting and northing of the drill hole collar ○ elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea	• Exploration results have not previously been reported in the public domain as Aston Metals, the previous company, was privately listed. • Information on the pre-2016 drill holes is included in the 2015 Resource Estimate Report. • Summary Information pertaining to the completed 2018

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	level in metres) of the drill hole collar ○ dip and azimuth of the hole ○ down hole length and interception depth ○ hole length. • If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case.	drilling holes is contained in the body of the relevant ASX release**.**
Data aggregation methods	• In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated. • Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail. • The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.	• Exploration results have not previously been reported in the public domain as Aston Metals, the previous company, was privately listed. • Aeon has not undertaken any cutting of grades as it currently believes that all the grades received are an accurate reflection of the sampled interval. • Aeon has maintained realistic intervals of dilution when stating mineralised intercepts, however further refinement of what are considered realistic mining widths will be understood following further resource calculations. • Aeon has not taken to stating significant intercepts as metal equivalents.
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	• These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. • If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. • If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known').	• Exploration results have not previously been reported in the public domain as Aston Metals, the previous company, was privately listed. • Drill hole angle relative to mineralisation has been a compromise to accommodate the flat-lying stratabound massive sulphide bodies with associated replacement breccias and the steeper dipping epigenetic mineralisation proximal to the Fish River Fault. Generally the stratabound intercepts are close to true width whereas the epigenetic mineralisation intercepts are apparent widths.
Diagrams	• Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should	• Appropriate maps showing the nature and extent of the mineralisation are included in the 2013 Resource Estimation report by H&SC for all work prior to 2014.

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	include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.	• Appropriate maps and sections have been provided for the 2016 and 2017 work to date. • Appropriate sections have been included for some of the significant intercepts recorded from the 2016 and 2017 drilling. • Once assay results have been received for 2018 holes sections will be provided in the relevant ASX releases
Balanced reporting	• Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.	• Exploration results have not previously been reported in the public domain by Aston as the previous company was privately listed. • All results reported on by Aeon are considered to be accurate and reflective of the mineralised system being drill tested.
Other substantive exploration data	• Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances.	• Aeon believes that the results and data provided give a meaning and material reflection of the geological lithologies and structure being tested at Walford Creek. • Metallurgical test work both undertaken and continuing shows that acceptable levels of mineralisation for all the important elements can be satisfactorily extracted for Walford mineralisation. • It should also be noted that this metallurgical test work will be ongoing. • 2018 seismic, a 2D survey was carried out over the deposit to help define fault orientation, structural controls on mineralisation and depths/thickness of prospective lithologies. This data is continuously used in conjunction with other exploration data, such as mapping and soil geochemistry, to aid drill hole planning and targeting.
Further work	• The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling). • Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations	• Aeon's future exploration will focus on upgrading and expanding upon the current Inferred and Indicated Resource Estimates at the Walford Creek Prospect, through further drilling within and immediately outside the resource area.

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	and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.	
Moisture	• **Whether the tonnages are estimated on a dry basis or with natural moisture, and the method of determination of the moisture content.**	• **Tonnages are estimated on a dry weight basis.**
Cut-off parameters	• The basis of the adopted cut-off grade(s) or quality parameters applied.	• Resource estimates have been reported at a 0% copper cut off within the relevant mineral wireframe. There is a limited amount of sub-grade material within the resource estimates (<10%) • The cut-off grade at which the resource is quoted reflects the intended bulk-mining approach.
Mining factors or assumptions	• Assumptions made regarding possible mining methods, minimum mining dimensions and internal (or, if applicable, external) mining dilution. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider potential mining methods, but the assumptions made regarding mining methods and parameters when estimating Mineral Resources may not always be rigorous. Where this is the case, this should be reported with an explanation of the basis of the mining assumptions made.	• H&SC's understanding based on information supplied by Aeon is for an open pit mining scenario. • The proposed mining method will be a truck shovel operation for the upper mineralisation • Minimum mining dimensions are the parent block size of 10x7.5x2.5m. • The current assumptions for the mining dilution and recovery for the open pit mine are 5% dilution and 95% recovery • There is also the potential for an underground room and pillar operation to target the lower PY3 mineral zone
Metallurgical factors or assumptions	• The basis for assumptions or predictions regarding metallurgical amenability. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider potential metallurgical methods, but the assumptions regarding metallurgical treatment processes and parameters made when reporting Mineral Resources may not always be rigorous. Where this is the case, this should be reported with an explanation of the basis of the metallurgical assumptions made.	• Metallurgical testwork was in progress during compilation of resource estimates. • There is some evidence of metal zonation for Cu, Pb, Zn & Ag. The dominant minerals are chalcopyrite, galena & sphalerite for copper, lead and zinc respectively. • Mineralogical testwork has identified that a majority of the cobalt resides within distinctive types of pyrite and is not necessarily linked to copper grades.

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		• Various metal recovery options are currently being investigated including simple sulphide concentrate generation via floatation, possible sulphide leach or roasting. • Metal recoveries are likely to be of industry norm. • The deposit type is similar to Mt Isa style.
Environmental factors or assumptions	• Assumptions made regarding possible waste and process residue disposal options. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider the potential environmental impacts of the mining and processing operation. While at this stage the determination of potential environmental impacts, particularly for a greenfields project, may not always be well advanced, the status of early consideration of these potential environmental impacts should be reported. Where these aspects have not been considered this should be reported with an explanation of the environmental assumptions made.	• Baseline studies by Aeon are currently in progress • The area contains large flat areas suitable for waste dumps and tailings facilities. • No large river systems pass through the area. • Water courses are generally restricted. • There are abundant carbonate rocks, the Walford Dolomite, in the vicinity to provide material for control of any acid mine drainage.
Bulk density	• Whether assumed or determined. If assumed, the basis for the assumptions. If determined, the method used, whether wet or dry, the frequency of the measurements, the nature, size and representativeness of the samples. • The bulk density for bulk material must have been measured by methods that adequately account for void spaces (vugs, porosity, etc), moisture and differences between rock and alteration zones within the deposit. • Discuss assumptions for bulk density estimates used in the evaluation process of the different materials.	• 2,474 1m composites were generated from single 10cm pieces of core that had SG values determined using the “Archimedes Principle” on a dry weight basis. • Some localised vuggy material may have an overstated density due to samples not sealed in wax prior to measuring the weight in water. • Density was modelled using the Inverse Distance Squared modelling technique on the unconstrained composites extracted from the drillhole database. Search directions for the grade interpolation were consistent with the gently south dipping host stratigraphy. • Regular SG measurements continue to be taken for all the drilling undertaken and reflects the different lithological units. It is now considered that the numbers of samples collected by Aston and Aeon represents a significant dataset that allows for an acceptable calculation of the different densities drilled and therefore used in the resource

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		calculations.
Classification	• The basis for the classification of the Mineral Resources into varying confidence categories. • Whether appropriate account has been taken of all relevant factors (ie relative confidence in tonnage/grade estimations, reliability of input data, confidence in continuity of geology and metal values, quality, quantity and distribution of the data). • Whether the result appropriately reflects the Competent Person's view of the deposit.	• Mineral resources have been classified on the estimation search pass category subject to assessment of other impacting factors such as drillhole spacing (variography), core handling and sampling procedures, QAQC outcomes, density measurements, geological model and previous resource estimates. • A review of blocks classed as Measured by the initial search pass indicated a 'spotted dog' effect for all lodes. A more coherent picture is achieved using a 35m search (in the X direction) on an unconstrained set of composites for the complete deposit. • The classification appropriately reflects the Competent Person's view of the deposit.
Audits or reviews	• The results of any audits or reviews of Mineral Resource estimates.	• An internal peer review of the model has been completed by H&SC.
Discussion of relative accuracy/ confidence	• Where appropriate a statement of the relative accuracy and confidence level in the Mineral Resource estimate using an approach or procedure deemed appropriate by the Competent Person. For example, the application of statistical or geostatistical procedures to quantify the relative accuracy of the resource within stated confidence limits, or, if such an approach is not deemed appropriate, a qualitative discussion of the factors that could affect the relative accuracy and confidence of the estimate. • The statement should specify whether it relates to global or local estimates, and, if local, state the relevant tonnages, which should be relevant to technical and economic evaluation. Documentation should include assumptions made and the procedures used. • These statements of relative accuracy and confidence of the estimate should be compared with production data, where available.	• The Mineral Resources have been classified using a qualitative assessment of a number of factors including the complexity of mineralisation (including metal zonation), the drillhole spacing, QA/QC data, undocumented historical RC sampling methods, and missing cobalt grades from the historical drilling. • The Mineral Resource estimates are considered to be accurate globally, but there is some uncertainty in the local estimates due to the current drillhole spacing. • The geological understanding has been substantially improved with the Aeon drilling campaign. • No mining of the deposit has taken place, so no production data is available for comparison.

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