# AEON METALS A fresh approach

Aggressive resource expansion drilling Accelerating Walford Creek towards development Advancing regional exploration with a copper focus

#### ASX: AML

26 August 2021



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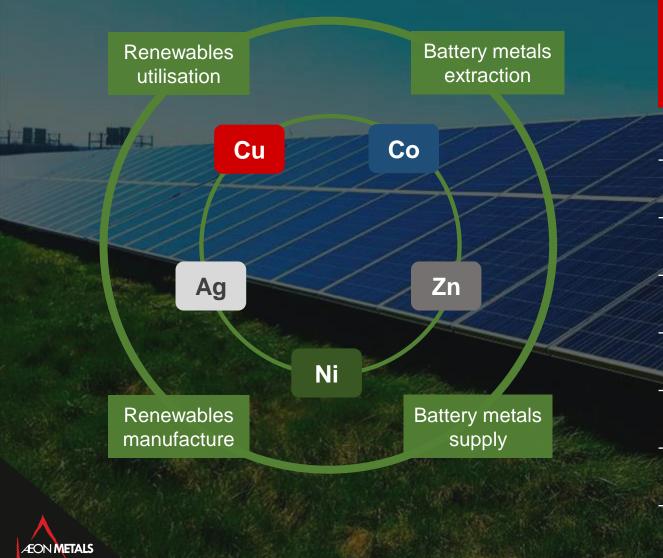
# **Investment highlights** Applying a fresh approach to a globally significant copper and cobalt project

| Responsibly sourced future energy metals | <ul> <li>Our flagship Walford Creek Project is located in north-west Queensland, a Tier 1 jurisdiction for ethical sourcing of mineral products</li> <li>Walford Creek is set to produce copper, cobalt, zinc, silver and nickel; key metals of the low carbon future</li> </ul> |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| High-value end metal<br>product outputs  | <ul> <li>Total production of 590kt CuEq and nameplate annual output of ~50kt CuEq over an initial operating life of 14 years</li> <li>Planned end products are a mix of high value refined metals and battery precursor nickel/cobalt sulphates</li> </ul>                       |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Highly leveraged to Cu<br>and Co prices  | <ul> <li>Globally competitive upfront capital intensity of ~US\$15,000 per tonne annual CuEq and attractive AISC of US\$2.0 – 2.2/lb CuEq</li> <li>Ungeared, real, post-tax NPV<sub>8%</sub> of A\$375 – 805M with projected LOM net free cash flows of A\$1.2 – 1.9B</li> </ul> |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Defined study and development pathway    | <ul> <li>Scoping Study completed in June 2021; conventional open pit and underground mining with bulk flotation + POX processing</li> <li>PFS due in Q1 CY2022 with Feasibility Study in late CY2022 driving potential first production in CY2025</li> </ul>                     |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Substantial potential exploration upside | <ul> <li>Ongoing drilling program to expand and upgrade Walford Creek Mineral Resource Estimates (due early CY2022)</li> <li>Geophysics has identified several new targets; plus regional Tier-1 copper exploration targets within under explored areas</li> </ul>               |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Refreshed and enhanced management team   | <ul> <li>Experienced metallurgist, Dr Fred Hess, recently appointed MD &amp; CEO (former MD of PanAust, acquired by GRAM for +A\$1B)</li> <li>Strong Board, technical team (including new Project Manager, Jeff Botting) and leading external consultants</li> </ul>             |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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#### Aeon Metals snapshot

#### Decarbonising



#### **CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

| Cash raised (19 July & 23 August 2021) | A\$10.2 m |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Share price (24 August 2021)           | A\$0.055  |
| Shares outstanding                     | 764 m     |
| Market capitalisation                  | A\$43.0 m |
| OCP debt facility (24 August 2021)     | A\$25.2 m |

#### **BOARD AND MANAGEMENT**

| Paul Harris<br>Chairman                   | 28 years' experience in financial markets and resources<br>investment banking. Previously MD, Head of Metals and<br>Mining at Citi.                             |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fred Hess<br>Non-Executive Director       | More than 38 years' experience in mining project<br>development, operations and senior management across<br>the Asia Pacific region.                            |
| Ivan Wong<br>Non-Executive Director       | More than 27 years' experience in running various<br>businesses in Australia. Mr Wong has well established<br>connections in China.                             |
| Andrew Greville<br>Non-Executive Director | International mining executive with over 36 years'<br>experience and a track record of success in business<br>development, M&A, product marketing and strategy. |
| Jeff Botting<br>Project Manager           | Over 15 years' mining project experience in both study<br>and execution roles, most recently as BHP Coal Client<br>Manager for Worley.                          |
| Peter Moorhouse<br>Exploration Manager    | Exploration geologist with over 16 years' experience including most recently as Exploration Manager for Alligator Energy.                                       |
| Tim Benfield<br>GM, Walford Creek         | More than 30 years' experience in mine operations and development in Australia and overseas.                                                                    |

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# Over 80% of Vardy + Marley Resources in M&I

#### Vardy/Marley Copper Mineral Resource (April 2021)

|           |      |      | • • • • |      | • •    | ,           |      |          |
|-----------|------|------|---------|------|--------|-------------|------|----------|
| Category  | Mt   | Cu % | Pb %    | Zn % | Ag ppm | <b>Co</b> % | Ni % | Pyrite % |
| Measured  | 6.4  | 1.17 | 1.02    | 0.88 | 27.9   | 0.15        | 0.07 | 42.8     |
| Indicated | 12.2 | 1.03 | 1.03    | 0.66 | 31.8   | 0.15        | 0.07 | 39.0     |
| Inferred  | 1.0  | 1.05 | 1.13    | 0.73 | 36.2   | 0.14        | 0.06 | 41.9     |
| Total     | 19.6 | 1.08 | 1.03    | 0.73 | 30.8   | 0.15        | 0.07 | 40.4     |
|           |      |      |         |      |        |             |      |          |

(0.5% Cu cut-off)

#### Vardy/Marley Cobalt Peripheral Mineral Resource (April 2021)

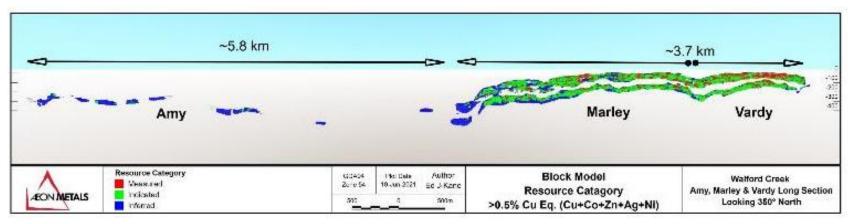
| Category  | Mt   | Cu % | Pb % | Zn % | Ag ppm | <b>Co</b> % | Ni % | Pyrite % |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|--------|-------------|------|----------|
| Measured  | 6.4  | 0.24 | 0.85 | 1.20 | 19.5   | 0.10        | 0.04 | 44.4     |
| Indicated | 11.7 | 0.25 | 0.99 | 1.03 | 21.8   | 0.09        | 0.04 | 38.5     |
| Inferred  | 0.9  | 0.20 | 1.27 | 0.72 | 23.7   | 0.09        | 0.04 | 39.3     |
| Total     | 19.0 | 0.24 | 0.96 | 1.07 | 21.1   | 0.09        | 0.04 | 40.5     |

(600ppm Co cut-off on blocks that are outside of Copper Mineral Resource)

#### Amy Copper Mineral Resource (April 2021)

| Category | Mt  | Cu % | Pb % | Zn % | Ag ppm | <b>Co</b> % | Ni % | Pyrite % |
|----------|-----|------|------|------|--------|-------------|------|----------|
| Inferred | 5.1 | 1.25 | 1.35 | 0.63 | 36.9   | 0.15        | 0.08 | 37.7     |

(0.5% Cu cut-off)

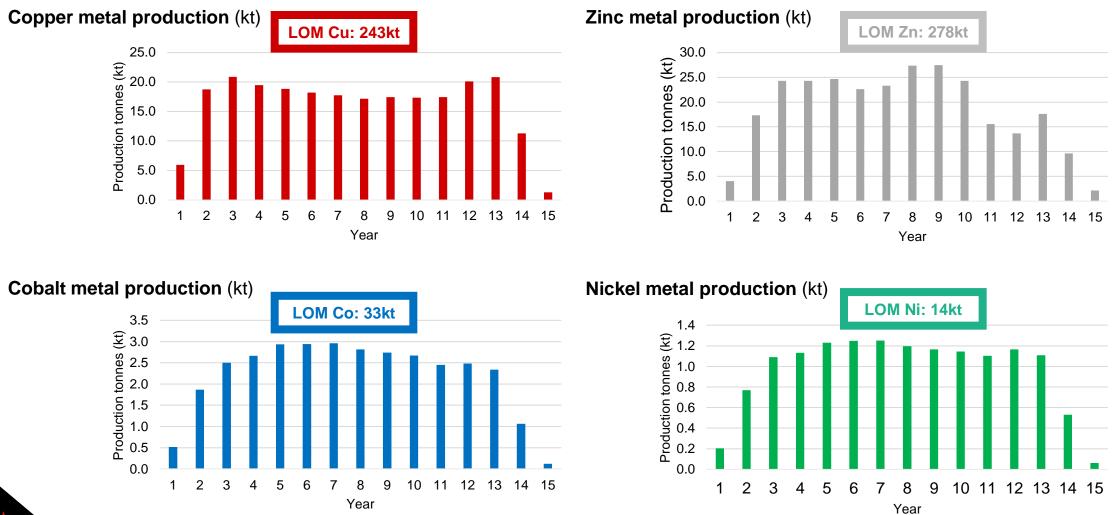




Refer to Aeon's ASX release of 19 April 2021 (*Walford Creek Resource Update*) for full details of the Mineral Resources Estimates update. Aeon confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in that ASX release. All material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in that ASX release continue to apply and have not materially changed.

# Life-of-mine portfolio metal output

Walford Creek to deliver 590kt CuEq at ~50kt nameplate CuEq over an initial 14-year life





# Underpinned by high value end product mix

Copper and cobalt make up approx. 70% of the projected life-of-mine revenue mix

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% 2 3 5 12 13 1 4 6 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 Year

■Cu ■Zn ■Ag ■Co ■Ni

1. Based on spot commodity and FX pricing in Revised Scoping Study release.

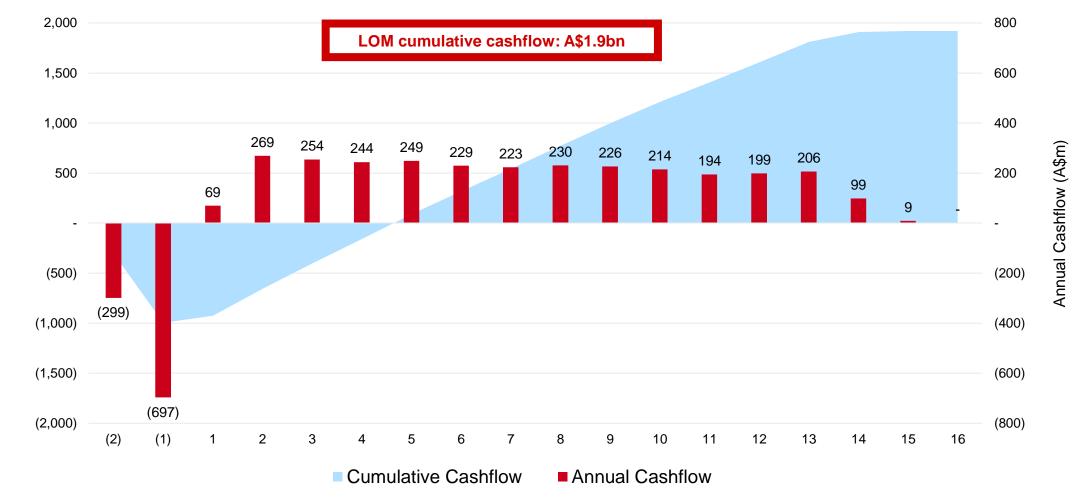
**Revenue Split by Metal<sup>1</sup>** (%)

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# Strong free cash flow generation

Substantial life-of-mine cashflow of A\$1.9bn is forecast at current metal prices

Annual and cumulative cashflow<sup>1</sup> (A\$m)



1. Based on spot commodity and FX pricing in Revised Scoping Study release.

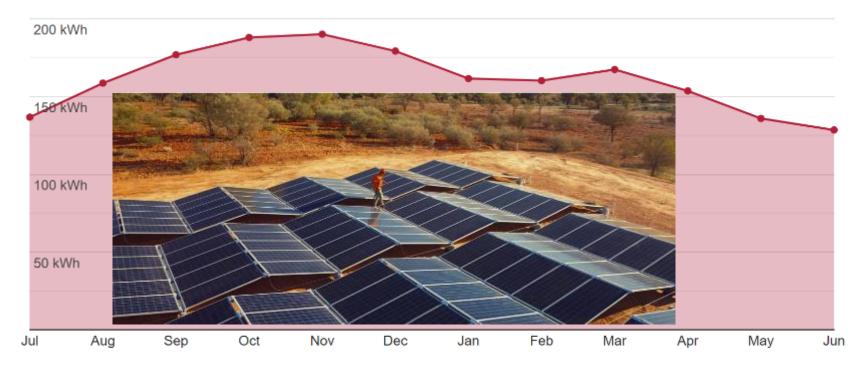
Refer to Aeon's ASX release of 30 June 2021 (*Walford Creek Revised Scoping Study Results*) for full details of the Revised Scoping Study (including the specific equation and assumptions utilised for calculation of CuEq volumes). Aeon confirms that all material assumptions underpinning the production target and forecast financial information within the Revised Scoping Study continue to apply and have not materially changed.

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# **Embracing renewable energy**

**4EON METALS** 

Lower cost solar PV expected to contribute >30% of total power requirement

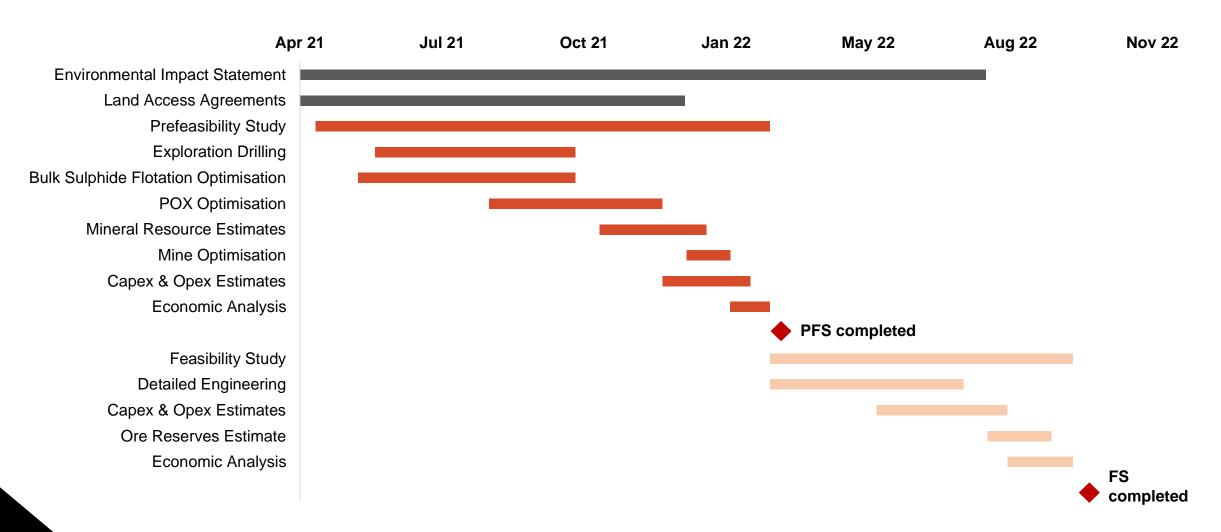


- Annual mean solar irradiation: ~6kWhr/m<sup>2</sup>
- Annual mean sunshine: ~10hr/day
- Total electricity pricing (estimated capex + opex):
  - Solar <10c/kWhr</li>
  - Diesel >25c/kWhr
- Potential for >30% of total project electricity demand (54 MW) to be met by solar

|                         | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Electricity Output(kWh) | 137 | 159 | 177 | 188 | 190 | 179 | 162 | 160 | 167 | 154 | 136 | 129 |

## **Proposed project timeline**

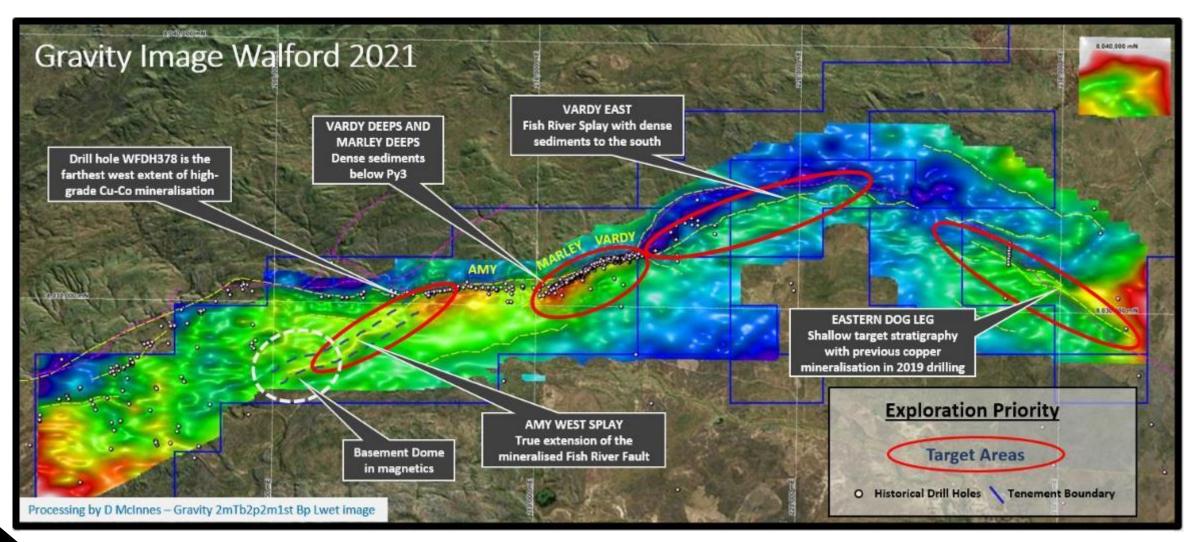
Targeting development decision in CY2022 to deliver potential first production in CY2025





# **Exciting new Walford Creek drill targets**

Recent geophysical surveys highlight potential major extensions to mineral resources





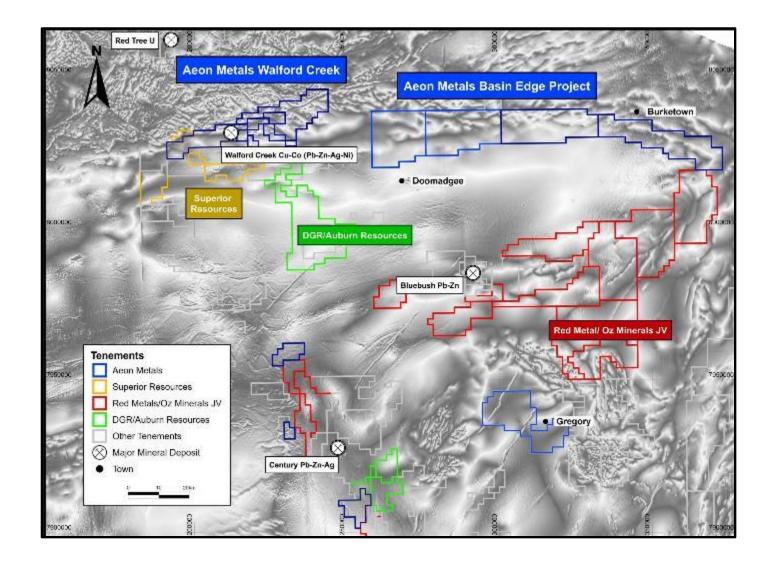
# The wider basin has more to offer

Emerging base metals mineral province that is attracting broader interest

#### **Basin Edge Project**

**4 ON METALS** 

- Strategic tenement holding in what is a World Class Mineral Province
- Under cover and under explored
- Walford Creek mineralisation strike extent suggests potential for further large systems along basin margin
- Recent research shows the regional prospectivity of area associated with changes in lithospheric thickness
- Bluebush Zn-Pb project identified on south side of basin
- Red Metal has secured southern basin edge and is in JV with OZ Minerals (ASX:OZL)



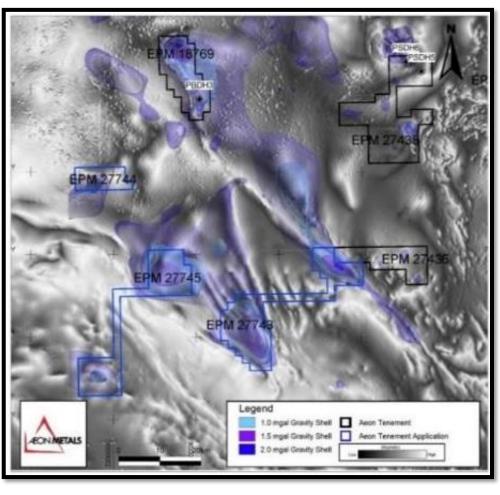
# **Promising IOCG targets on Isa West tenements**

Beauchamps drilling in CY2020 demonstrated presence of large-scale system

#### Isa West IOCG Project

- Substantial ground holding of 1,241km<sup>2</sup>
- Three holes drilled in 2020 to test coincident regional magnetic and gravity anomalism with a moderate AEM response
- Shallow cover with basement at 100 to 150m
- Significant fault architecture and geophysical anomalies
- Large scale red rock (NaCI)/magnetite/haematite IOCG alteration with specular haematite found in cross-cutting veins closely associated with chalcopyrite





Aeon tenements with 3D inverted gravity shells and BW magnetics underlain

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Core from Beauchamps showing the haematite pervasive alteration

# **Compelling investment rationale**

Delivering a portfolio of decarbonising metal exposures in a single project vehicle

Responsibly sourced future energy metals from a Tier 1 jurisdiction

Heavily de-risked Mineral Resource Estimates: >80% Vardey + Marley in M&I PFS expected Q1 CY2022 with first production targeted for CY2025

Diversified portfolio of highvalue metal products for ethical supply chains Initial operating life of 14 years with substantial extension potential under evaluation

Exciting new hi-res geophysics-driven drill targets at Vardy and Marley deeps

Sustainable development targeting a low carbon footprint via solar utilisation Attractive forecast cash cost curve and AISC: US\$2.0 - 2.2/lb CuEq Extensive regional exploration upside and Isa West Tier 1 IOCG targets

# CONTACT

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