

ASX/JSE RELEASE: 9 April 2018

# Mining Right Application submitted for the Prieska Zinc-Copper Project

- Mining Right Application submitted to convert Prospecting Right to a Mining Right.
- Environmental Authorisation Application submitted simultaneously.

Orion Minerals Limited (ASX/JSE: ORN) (Orion or Company) is pleased to announce that its subsidiary company, Repli Trading No 27 (Pty) Ltd (Repli), has submitted an application for a Mining Right (Mining Right) covering 723ha of executed Prospecting Rights on the Prieska Zinc-Copper Project (Figure 1).

The Mining Right Application is supported by a comprehensive Environmental Authorisation Application and a provisional Mining Works Programme.

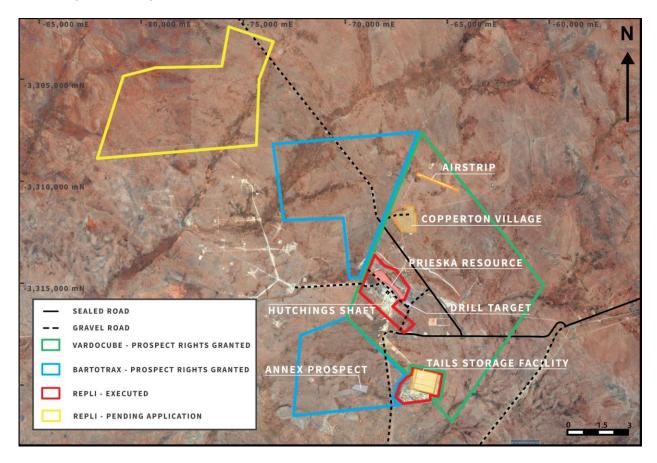


Figure 1: Plan showing the location of the executed Prospecting Rights, the Repli Prospecting Right (red outline) is now under application for a Mining Right.

The Mining Works Programme contemplates both open pit and underground mining operations taking place and use of a froth flotation metallurgical process to produce separate high-quality zinc and copper concentrates that can be transported by existing road or rail to established ports and exported to international buyers.

The Mining Right Application also covers the possible toll treatment and/or joint operations with surrounding future Mining Right Holders.

## Orion's Managing Director and CEO, Errol Smart, commented on the application:

"The application for the Mining Right marks an important milestone for Orion. Our Bankable Feasibility Study is well on track for completion in early Q4 2018. The Mining Right application will allow us to meet our objective of commencing mine construction in mid-2019, subject to the anticipated successful completion of the BFS."

The Mining Right will allow the Company the use of the existing underground access development, on which Orion has completed comprehensive engineering studies. Importantly, these studies have confirmed the underground infrastructure is in good condition and is suitable for future use, resulting in reduced capital and time requirements, to reach the Deep Sulphide Target. The Deep Sulphide Mineral Resource straddles the Repli and Vardocube Prospecting Rights and is accessed via shafts and declines located on the Repli Mining Right Application (Figures 2 and 3) (refer ASX release 9 April 2018).

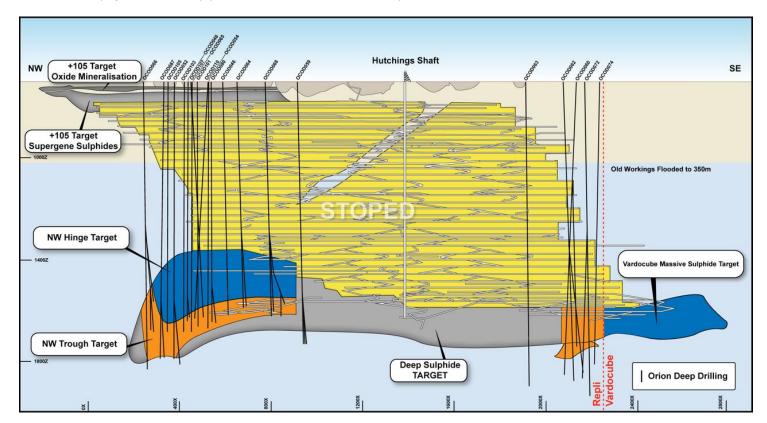


Figure 2: Locality of the +105 Level Target (Open Pit) and Deep Sulphide Mineral Resource at the Prieska Zinc-Copper Project, with the lower Deep Sulphide Target area subdivided into areas with infill drilling almost complete (orange), areas for priority infill drilling (blue) and priority 2 targets (grey) (refer ASX release 9 April 2018).

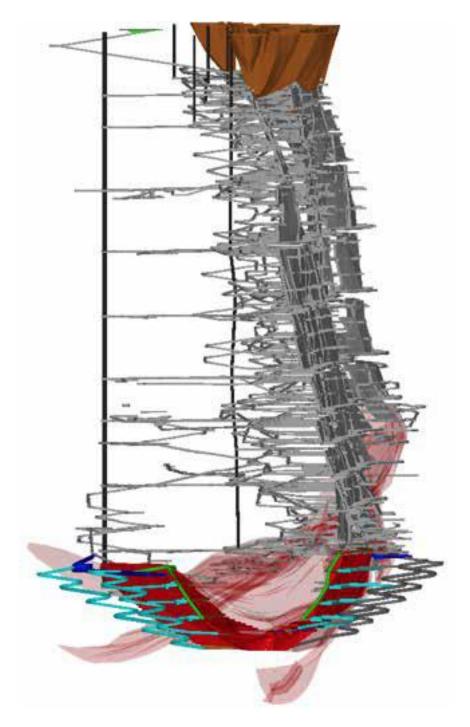


Figure 3: Cross-section looking north through the Prieska Zinc-Copper deposit showing existing key primary mine development (in grey and black) to access the main Deep Sulphide Target area (red), and planned future mine development (light and dark blue).

## **Mining Right Application Process**

Repli's Mining Right Application has been submitted as required in terms of Section 22, read together with Regulation 11(1)(g) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act 28 of 2002) of the Republic of South Africa.

The statutory process following the lodgement of a Mining Right Application in South Africa runs for a prescribed period of 300 business days and includes extensive consultation with all interested and affected parties (refer to Table 1).



Table 1: Diagrammatic explanation of the Mining Right adjudication process in South Africa and Orion's expected timeline.

GEMART

**Errol Smart** 

**Managing Director and CEO** 

### **ENQUIRIES**

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