

# West Wits Secures Toll Processing Agreement for the Witwatersrand Basin Project

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Secured **cost-effective toll treat agreement with Sibanye-Stillwater Ltd's subsidiary** for the Witwatersrand Basin Project
- Advancing debt funding initiatives with appointed corporate advisory firm, Taurum International
- Re-commencement of mining operations for **rapid production ramp-up planned for Q1 2023** as part of formal mine plan under the recently updated Definitive Feasibility Study

West Wits Mining Limited (ASX: WWI) (OTCQB: WMWWF) ("West Wits" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that the Company has secured a definitive agreement for cost-effective toll treatment of its ore with Ezulwini Mining Company (Pty) Ltd ("Ezulwini"), a subsidiary of Sibanye-Stillwater Ltd ("Sibanye-Stillwater"). Finalisation of this toll treat arrangement is a key step to completing the Phase 1 Qala Shallows Witwatersrand Basin Project ("WBP") funding process.

West Wits Managing Director Mr Jac van Heerden said, "Securing a tolling treatment agreement with a subsidiary of major mining house, Sibanye-Stillwater, after extensive negotiations gives great confidence in the WBP's project credentials and provides the catalyst to ramp up development. In March this year we paused our mining operations at the WBP with the objective to rearrange our mining and equipment supply contracts, with these initiatives completed June 2022. Operationally, we have completed all essential infrastructure and established access to the ore body face, ready to commence mining. The toll treatment agreement has now provided the green light to proceed with the primary debt funding initiative to secure project finance and execute West Wits development strategy."

Image 1 showcases Qala Shallows' infrastructure.





### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

West Wits has secured a toll treating agreement ("Agreement") with Sibanye-Stillwater to process ore from Stage 1, Qala Shallows, of its WBP. The partnership with Sibanye-Stillwater (via its wholly owned subsidiary Ezulwini) provides a mutually beneficial venture, supplying Ezulwini with approximately 15,000 tonnes of gold bearing material ("Material") per month (but increasing over time up to 54,000 tonnes of Material per month) improving plant efficiencies and utilising spare capacity at the Cooke 4 Ezulwini Processing Facility ("Facility").

Securing the Agreement further de-risks the WBP. West Wits intends funding the WBP through a combination of traditional debt and equity markets and its appointed corporate advisory firm, Taurum International, will now commence a debt raising process to secure the debt funding component of the project funding. The Company anticipates the primary funding options to be significantly advanced by the end of Q4 2022 which would enable the Company to mobilise mining equipment and the mine contractor's workforce in Q1 2023 to execute the revised definitive feasibility study released in August 2022<sup>1</sup>.

The plan is to build-up a stockpile of up to circa 30 000t and to start delivering the ore to Sibanye-Stillwater at a constant rate of 15 000t per month before building to 20 000t and 54 000t peak production within 3-years<sup>1</sup>. The graph in **Figure 1** outlines the ramped-up production profile<sup>3</sup>.

Production & Plant Feed Schedule

30,000
25,000
15,000
10,000
5,000

Ore Tonnes Mined Plant Feed Schedule

Stockpile

FIGURE 1: NEAR TERM QALA SHALLOWS PRODUCTION PROFILE

Further terms of the Agreement are set out in the Annexure to this announcement.

Approved for release by the Company's Managing Director.

Jac van Heerden

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer West Wits Mining Limited

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### **ABOUT WEST WITS MINING LIMITED**

West Wits Mining Limited (ASX: WWI) (OTCQB: WMWWF) is focused on the exploration, development and production of high value precious and base metals for the benefit of shareholders, communities and environments in which it operates. Witwatersrand Basin Project, located in the proven gold region of Central Rand Goldfield of South Africa boasts, a 4.28Moz gold project at 4.58g/t². The Witwatersrand Basin is a largely underground geological formation which surfaces in the Witwatersrand. It holds the world's largest known gold reserves and has produced over 1.5 billion ounces (over 40,000 metric tons), which represents about 22% of all the gold accounted for above the surface. In Western Australia, West Wits is exploring for gold and copper at the Mt Cecilia Project in a district that supports several world-class projects such as Woodie Woodie manganese mine, Nifty copper and Telfer gold/copper/silver mines.

- 1. The original report was "Revised DFS Provides Improved Results for WBP" which was issued with consent of the Competent Person, Mr. Andrew Pooley. The report was released to the ASX on 04/08/2022 and can be found on the Company's website (https://westwitsmining.com/). The Company is not aware of any new information or data that materially effects the information included in the relevant market announcement and, in the case of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.
- 2. The original report was "WBP's Global JORC Mineral Resource Expands by 724,000oz to 4.28MOZ at 4.58 g/t Gold" which was issued with consent of the Competent Person, Mrs Cecilia Hattingh. The report was released to the ASX on 3 December 2021 and can be found on the Company's website (https://westwitsmining.com/). Comprising 8.8MT at 4.60g/t for 1.449Moz measured, 11.3MT at 4.19g/t for 1.517Moz Indicated and 8MT at 5.10g/t for 1.309Moz inferred. The Company is not aware of any new information or data that materially effects the information included in the relevant market announcement and, in the case of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.
- 3. WWI ASX Release "Quarterly Activities and Cash Flow Reports" on 29/07/2022.



## **ANNEXURE – SUMMARY TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT**

- Ezulwini agrees to receive and treat the gold bearing material to be supplied by West Wits from the Qala Shallows Mine.
- West Wits agrees to deliver approximately 15,000 tonnes of Material per month, but increasing over time up to 54,000 tonnes of Material per month ("Target Tonnage") to the Facility Already.
- The Agreement commences on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 and will continue for a minimum of 2-years from the date of first delivery of Material ("Minimum Term"). Either Party, after the expiry of the Minimum Term, may terminate the Agreement with written notice of not less than 6-months.
- Ezulwini may suspend the purchase and treatment of the Material in events where plant
  operations at the Facility are forcibly suspended by events outside of Sibanye-Stillwater's control,
  but only if no spare capacity is available at any of Sibanye-Stillwater's alternative processing
  facilities. Ezulwini and Sibanye-Stillwater agree to use reasonable endeavours to provide West
  Wits with alternative processing facilities should they be available at any of Sibanye-Stillwater's
  alternative processing facilities.
- West Wits may suspend the delivery and sale of the Material to Ezulwini if it is no longer economically profitable to extract the Material.
- Additional tonnage of Material in excess of the Target Tonnage can and will be treated by Ezulwini
  subject to available milling capacity. If the threshold of 90% of the Minimum tonnages of the
  Target Tonnage is not achieved for a period of two months consecutively, an additional 5%
  Treatment Fee will be charged up to the point that the Target Tonnage is met, unless otherwise
  agreed upon by both parties.
- The Toll Treating Fee is commercially sensitive in nature, however, indicatively it is not expected to be materially different to assumptions utilised in West Wits definitive feasibility study<sup>1</sup>. The Toll Treating Fee is a variable rate based on:
  - o Facility operating cost allocation based on tonnage plus margin,
  - o Displacement Fee for Ezulwini's ore displaced by Material, and
  - Variable Base Margin rate per tonne based on the average gold price received.
- The allocation of gold will be based on total gold sold using the delivered recoverable gold ratio from each source to the Facility.
- Revenue from the sale of the Company's gold sold will be paid monthly net of toll treating fees.