

Drilling Contractor Appointed for 35,300 Metres Grade Control and Infill Drilling - Gold Duke Project

HIGHLIGHTS

- Western Gold Resources has selected VM Drilling as the preferred drilling contractor for the Gold Duke Project in Western Australia, following a competitive tender process involving several experienced Goldfields-based contractors.
 - The 35,300 metre grade control and infill drilling program is expected to be completed within 8 weeks and samples will be delivered to the assay laboratory every 7 to 8 days.
 - This step to undertake a significant grade control program will provide:
 - high level of flexibility in mine scheduling as all pits will be fully drilled.
 - remove the requirement for grade control drilling when Gold Duke Project is in production i.e. drill up front no more to do and less activity on site.
 - This appointment aligns with Western Gold Resources' strategy to engage highly experienced and locally embedded contractors, reinforcing the Company's commitment to sourcing capability from the WA Goldfields mining hub.
 - The drilling program is scheduled to commence mid-August, with mobilisation, execution, and duration well aligned with Western Gold Resources broader rapid path-to-production timetable.
 - Survey mark-up and preparatory works are well advanced, ensuring site readiness and seamless commencement of drilling activities.
 - VM Drilling will deploy Epiroc Smartroc D65 drill rigs, offering high penetration rates, onboard rod carousels, and approximately 30% lower fuel consumption—supporting both cost, operational efficiency and ESG performance.
 - VM Drilling will source much of its workforce from the Goldfields region, supporting local employment and regional development.
 - This represents yet another key step in advancing the Gold Duke Project, building operational momentum as Western Gold Resources moves toward development readiness.
 - The company remains confident it will commence mining operations late 4Q25.
 - The Company anticipates announcing a significant improvement to the already impressive and robust project economics with the Gold Duke Project Scoping Study update expected to be announced in the coming weeks.
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Western Gold Resources Limited (**ASX: WGR**) ("**WGR**" or "**the Company**") is pleased to announce the appointment of VM Drilling Pty Ltd (**VM Drilling**) as the drilling contractor for its upcoming drill program at the **Gold Duke Project**, located in the prolific Western Australian Goldfields.

VM Drilling was selected following a competitive tender process involving several high-quality, like-for-like drilling contractors. The selection of VM Drilling aligns with WGR's strategy to engage proven and experienced contractors with deep operational ties to the WA Goldfields mining hub.

The company will undertake a total drilling program of 35,300 meters with maximum depth 30m and is expected to be completed within 8 weeks. Samples will be sent for assays every 7-8 days and the company will update the market with its drilling progress.

The key objectives of this final drill program are:

Increase geological confidence in all the resources within the Stage 1 of the Gold Duke Project (Emu, Eagle, Golden Monarch and Gold King) including upgrading the categorisation of the current JORC Resource.

1. Remove the requirement for grade control drilling when Gold Duke Project is in production i.e. drill up front not more to do.
2. Provides high level of flexibility in mine scheduling as all pits will be fully drilled.
3. Reduction in overall activities during production stage of Gold Duke as grade control has already been performed.

The program will be undertaken using **Epiroc Smartroc D65 drill rigs**, which deliver high penetration rates, significantly reduced fuel usage (approximately 30% lower than previous models), and onboard rod-carrying carousels—ensuring efficient and continuous drilling operations.

Importantly, a significant proportion of VM Drilling's workforce will be sourced from within the Goldfields, further supporting local employment and community engagement.

Preparatory works, including survey mark-up activities, are well advanced and tracking on schedule for the commencement of drilling later this month. The timing of mobilisation and execution of the program is strongly aligned with WGR's **rapid path-to-production strategy** for Gold Duke.

Western Gold Resources Managing Director Cullum Winn commented:

"We are pleased to partner with VM Drilling, a highly experienced and trusted contractor with a strong track record in the WA Goldfields. Their technical capabilities, local operational base, and operational readiness are ideally suited to our development strategy at Gold Duke. We look forward to a safe and efficient drilling campaign."

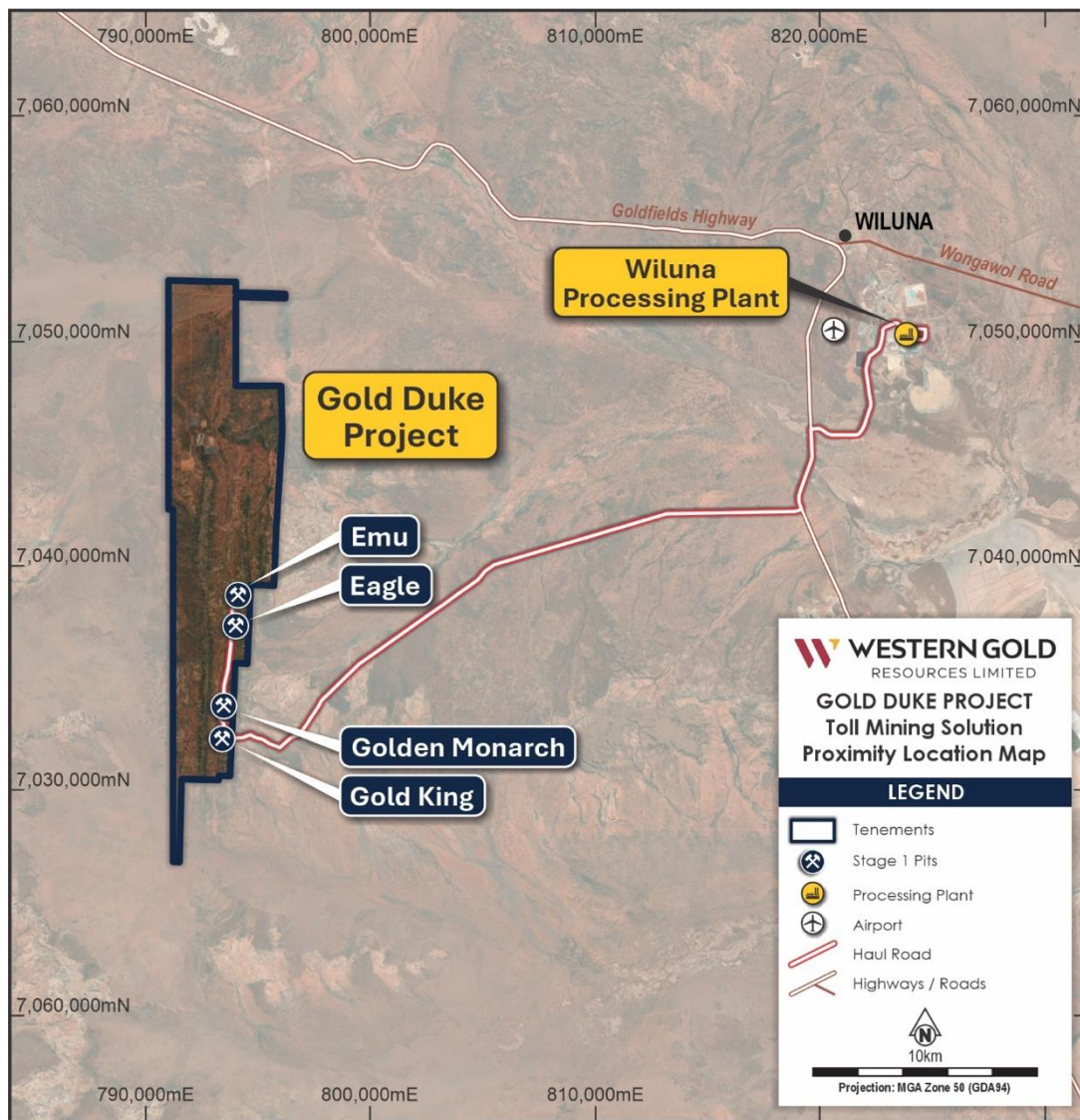


Figure 1. Location of Gold Duke Project to Wiluna Processing Plant

The Company will continue to provide regular market updates on project development activities and report on updates as soon as they become available.

AUTHORISED FOR RELEASE ON THE ASX BY THE COMPANY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Forward looking statements

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