26 August 2025



# Commencement of 35,300 Metres Grade Control and Infill Drilling Ahead of Production - Gold Duke Project

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Following the appointment of VM Drilling, utilising high-performance Epiroc Smartroc D65 rigs, grade control and infill drilling is scheduled to commence on 27th of August 2025.
- Total 35,300 metres grade control and infill drilling program across Stage 1 pits: Emu, Eagle, Golden Monarch, and Gold King is expected to be completed within 8 weeks and samples will be delivered to the assay laboratory every 7 to 8 days.
- This pre-production drilling is designed to de-risk operations and enhance mine scheduling flexibility, effectively eliminating the need for grade control during production.
- This program supports rapid advancement towards late Q4 2025 mining start and will assist to strengthen Western Gold Resources' low-cost, high-efficiency production strategy.
- The Company is revisiting the Updated Scoping Study for the Gold Duke Project in light of gold prices sustained above A\$5,000/oz since April. The Study remains on track for release within the next four weeks.
- The Company has also submitted a Miscellaneous Licence to provide optionality for its haulage route to the Wiluna Processing Plant.

Western Gold Resources Limited (**ASX: WGR**) ("**WGR**" or "**the Company**") is pleased to confirm that grade control and infill drilling operations is scheduled to commence at the Gold Duke Project on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025, following the recent appointment of VM Drilling Pty Ltd as the primary contractor. The campaign marks a significant step in pre-production readiness as the Company moves decisively toward making a final investment decision, with the objective of first mining in late Q4 2025.

Grade control and infill drilling is a critical step in transitioning from exploration to production and WGR is choosing to undertake it upfront and in full. By drilling all Stage 1 pits in advance Emu, Eagle, Golden Monarch and Gold King, the Company will have full

visibility of mineralised zones. This enables dynamic mine planning, increased operational flexibilities, and maximises ore production efficiency.

The Company firmly believes drilling now means less capital-intensive activity later, aligning with WGR's commitment to low-cost gold production. It also allows better upfront reconciliation of resource models and mine designs, improving financial forecasting accuracy.

The program comprises a total of 35,300 metres of reverse circulation drilling, with individual holes targeting a maximum depth of 30 metres. Drilling will occur across the Stage 1 pit zones: Emu, Eagle, Golden Monarch and Gold King. VM Drilling will execute the campaign using Epiroc Smartroc D65 drill rigs, known for their high penetration rates, automated rod carousels, and approximately 30% lower fuel consumption. Drilling is expected to be completed within eight weeks, with assay samples submitted every 7–8 days.



Figure 1: Planned grade control and infill drill holes at the Gold Duke Project.

The strong and sustained gold price above A\$5,000/oz since April has the potential to further enhance the economics of the Gold Duke Project. Against this positive backdrop, the Company is advancing its review of the Updated Scoping Study, which remains on track for release within the next four weeks.

The Company has submitted a Miscellaneous Licence application to provide flexibility in potential haulage routes to the Wiluna Processing Plant. The Company currently intends to utilise existing haul roads adjacent to the relevant tenements under a Deed of Cooperation and or the Miscellaneous Licence to provide access from the Gold Duke Project to the public road network and processing facilities.

This grade control program is a cornerstone of WGR's broader 'path-to-production' strategy. **Managing Director Cullum Winn commented:** 

"The scheduled commencement of drilling at the Gold Duke Project on 27 August is yet another critical and exciting milestone for our company. By completing this work upfront, we significantly de-risk operations, strengthen mine scheduling flexibility, and position ourselves for a successful transition to first mining in late Q4 2025."

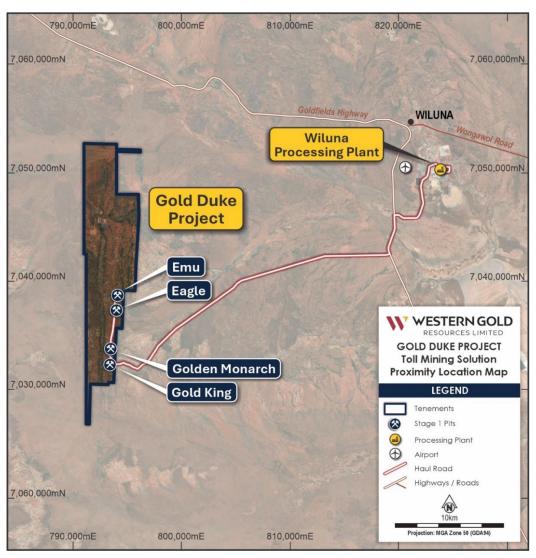


Figure 2. Location of Gold Duke Project to Wiluna Processing Plant

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

This announcement contains forward-looking statements which are identified by words such as 'may', 'could', 'believes', 'estimates', 'targets', 'expects', or 'intends' and other similar words that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements are based on an assessment of present economic and operating conditions, and on a number of assumptions regarding future events and actions that, as at the date of this announcement, are expected to take place. Such forward-looking statements does not guarantee future performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, assumptions, and other important factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, the directors and our management. We cannot and do not give any assurance that the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus will actually occur and investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We have no intention to update or revise forward-looking statements, or to publish prospective financial information in the future, regardless of whether new information, future events or any other factors affect the information contained in this announcement, except where required by law. These forward-looking statements are subject to various risk factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or anticipated in these statements.