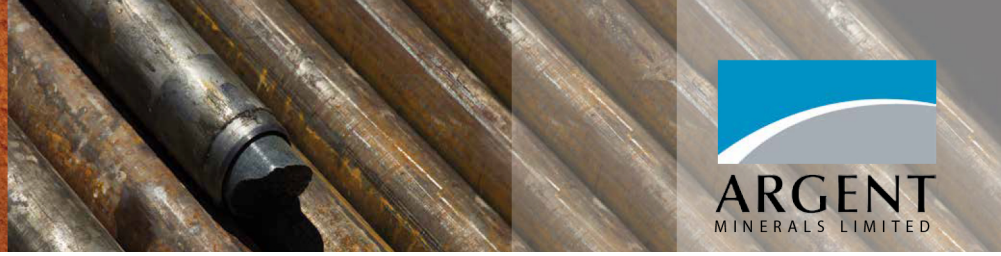

ASX/MEDIA RELEASE

ARGENT MINERALS LIMITED

12 July 2017

ARGENT COMMENCES LOCH LILLY DRILLING PROGRAMME

Argent at a glance

ASX-listed Company focused on the expansion and development of its significant existing base and precious metal projects in NSW and to leverage its expertise to pursue value accretive acquisitions of other significant projects identified by the Company.

Facts

ASX Codes:	ARD, ARDO[1]
Share price (11 July 2017):	$0.031
Option price (11 July 2017):	$0.010
Shares on issue:	421.4 M
Market capitalisation	$13.1 M

[1] $0.10 exercise price, 27 June 2019 expiry.

Directors and Officers

Stephen Gemell
Non-Executive Chairman

David Busch
Chief Executive Officer

Peter Nightingale
Non-Executive Director

Peter Michael
Non-Executive Director

Vinod Manikandan
Company Secretary

Contact details

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Highlights:

- Drilling commencing next week – testing Loch Lilly for porphyry copper style mineralisation.
- Expert analysis indicates that the Loch Lilly – Kars Belt is an extension of the Western Tasmania Mt. Read Volcanics Belt with potential to host world class deposits.
- Two of four identified targets to be tested - Eaglehawk and Netley, each by a 500 metre diamond drill hole.
- Eaglehawk and Netley targets identified by advanced geophysics coupled with new petrological, lithogeochemical and geochronological studies on historical drill core.
- 75% of the direct drilling costs up to $150,000 will be co-funded by the NSW Government, merit-based, Cooperative Drilling fund.
- Completion of the drilling programme will result in Argent earning a 51% interest in the Loch Lilly project.

Argent Minerals Limited (**ASX: ARD**, **Argent**, or the **Company**) is pleased to report that the Loch Lilly drilling programme will commence during the week of the 17th July, testing two identified targets in the Loch Lilly – Kars Belt in western NSW, both having geophysical signatures indicative of large scale porphyry copper deposits.

The Loch Lilly - Kars Belt, located approximately 80 kilometres south of Broken Hill, is considered to be a an extension of the Mount Read Volcanics Belt in western Tasmania, which hosts several world class mineral deposits. These include Mt. Lyell, to date producing more than 62 tonnes of gold, 1.8 million

tonnes of copper and 1,300 tonnes of silver[1], and major VHMS deposits at Rosebery, Que River and Hellyer featuring high grade silver, lead and zinc. The Mt. Read Volcanics Belt also includes the shear-hosted Henty gold mine, which has produced more than 1.5 million ounces of gold[2]. Poorly exposed in western Victoria, the same broad belt hosts the Stawell gold mine that has produced more than 2.5 million ounces of gold[3].

Two identified targets in the Loch Lilly – Kars Belt, Eaglehawk and Netley, will each be drilled by a 500 metre diamond hole.

ABOUT THE EAGLEHAWK TARGET AND DRILLHOLE ALE001

Eaglehawk is one of four 'walk-up' target areas defined in the Loch Lilly - Kars Belt JV area by a collaborative effort between Anglo American Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd (**AngloAmerican**) and Dr. Anthony Crawford during 2014/15. AngloAmerican completed a 3D interpretation of the available aeromagnetic data and a 501 station infill ground gravity survey on tenement EL8199, where four historical holes had been drilled. New lithogeochemical and geochronological data was obtained from these drillholes and analysed by Dr. Crawford.

Encouraged by strong fertility signals together with skarnoid and calc-potassic alteration revealed by the drill core analysis, AngloAmerican conducted the first global trial of an in-house magnetic-induced polarisation (**MIP**) geophysical survey. The survey, which was conducted over an area in the central section of EL8199 that included the four historical holes, detected several significant resistivity-chargeability anomalies that remain untested to date.

These anomalies were to be the focus of future drilling until AngloAmerican cancelled all metals exploration in Australia in August 2015 as part of the company's global balance sheet restructuring programme. After entering into the joint venture with Dr. Crawford, Argent is now continuing this work as manager/operator, with the right to earn up to a 90% interest in the project. Argent will earn a 51% interest by completing this drilling programme.

Figures 1a, b and c illustrate the planned collar positioning and direction of drillhole ALE001 in relation to the three coincident geophysical anomalies identified within the same geographical area (that is also indicated by the violet 'Target detail' rectangle at the Eaglehawk location in Figure 4).

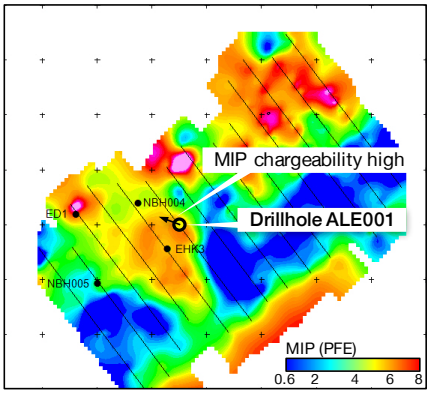

Figure 1a – Eaglehawk drillhole ALE001 design in relation to chargeability high, over MIP percentage frequency effect (PFE) background (plan view).

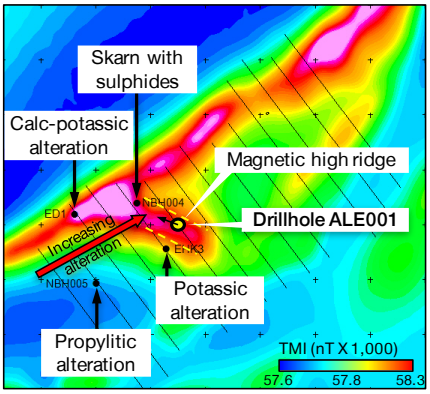

Fig 1b Drillhole ALE001 design in relation to alteration and magnetic high ridge, over magnetics reduced to pole (RTP) background (plan view).

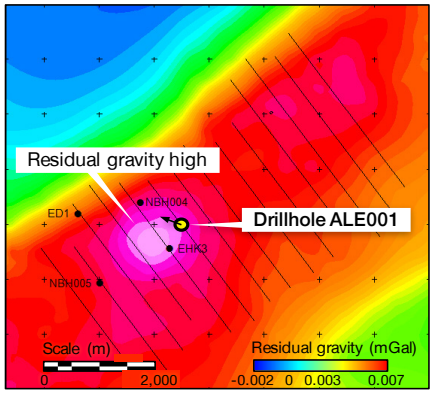

Fig 1c Drillhole ALE001 design in relation to residual gravity high, over 0.5 km spacing residual gravity background (plan view).

Drilled for 500 metres at a dip of 70° in the 290° azimuth direction, diamond hole ALE001 has been designed primarily to test the most compelling MIP chargeability high anomaly (Figure 1a) that is also coincident with both a magnetic high ridge (Figure 1b) and a residual gravity high (Figure 1c).

Hole ALE001 will test the interpretation of the denser, more magnetic features of known basalt and andesite units and a possible interaction with a fertile porphyry intrusion which would be responsible for intersected skarn mineralisation in historical drillhole NBH004.

ABOUT THE NETLEY TARGET AND DRILLHOLE ALN001

The Netley target was defined through 3D modelling performed by AngloAmerican on a dataset comprising a 400 station ground gravity survey, a magnetic survey, and historical drill core. Inversion modelling was conducted on available geophysical data to improve the resolution and depth expression of the magnetic response.

The modelling revealed near-coincident magnetic high and gravity low anomalies reminiscent of the scale and detail of the Northparkes mineralised finger porphyries rising from a basal monzodiorite pluton, and that the historic drilling failed to intersect the magnetic source body. The target remains untested to date.

At a 70˚ dip toward the northwest (315˚ azimuth), drillhole ALN001 has been designed to intersect the discrete magnetic high feature illustrated in Figures 2a and 3a. This hole design also complements the test of the magnetics feature by drilling across the end of the gravity high ridge in the gravity low area (Figure 3b).

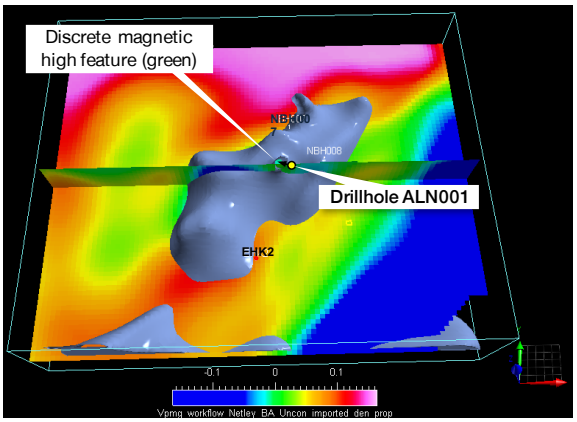

Figure 2a – Netley drillhole ALN001 design targeting the discrete magnetic high within the 3D magnetic response surface, overlaid on a two dimensional residual gravity plot, and intersected by a vertical residual gravity 'slice'.

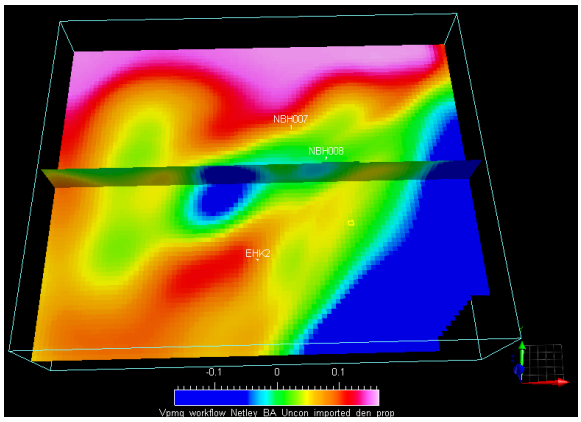

Fig 2b – Illustrating the underlying 2D residual gravity plot, and the vertical residual gravity 'slice' produced by the inversion modeling.

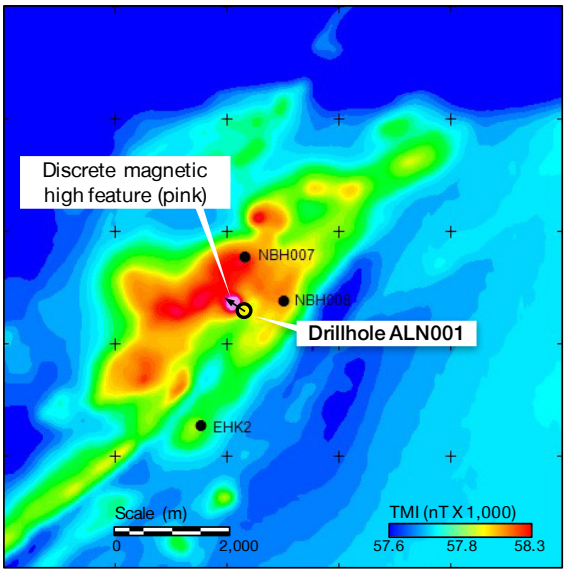

Figure 3a – Netley drillhole ALN001 design targeting the discrete magnetic high, a two dimensional version of the magnetic response (plan view). The plot area is indicated by the 'Target detail' square at the Netley location in Figure 4.

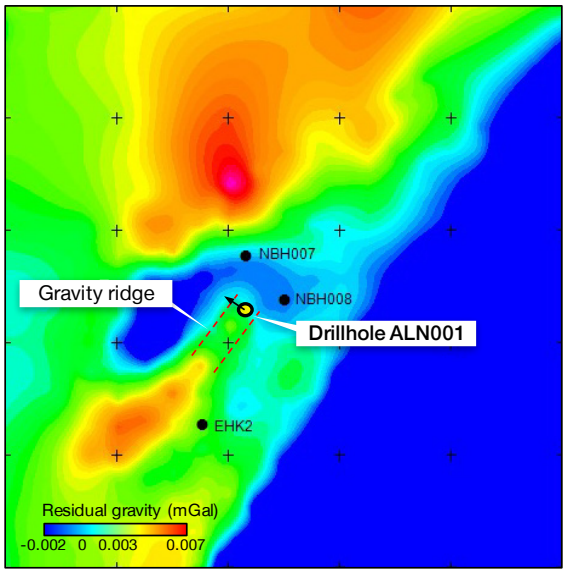

Fig 3b – Netley drillhole ALN001 design in relation to the residual gravity low, over a Bouguer gravity plot for the same area covered by Figure 3a, using a different gravity scaling/shading to that in Figures 2 a and b.

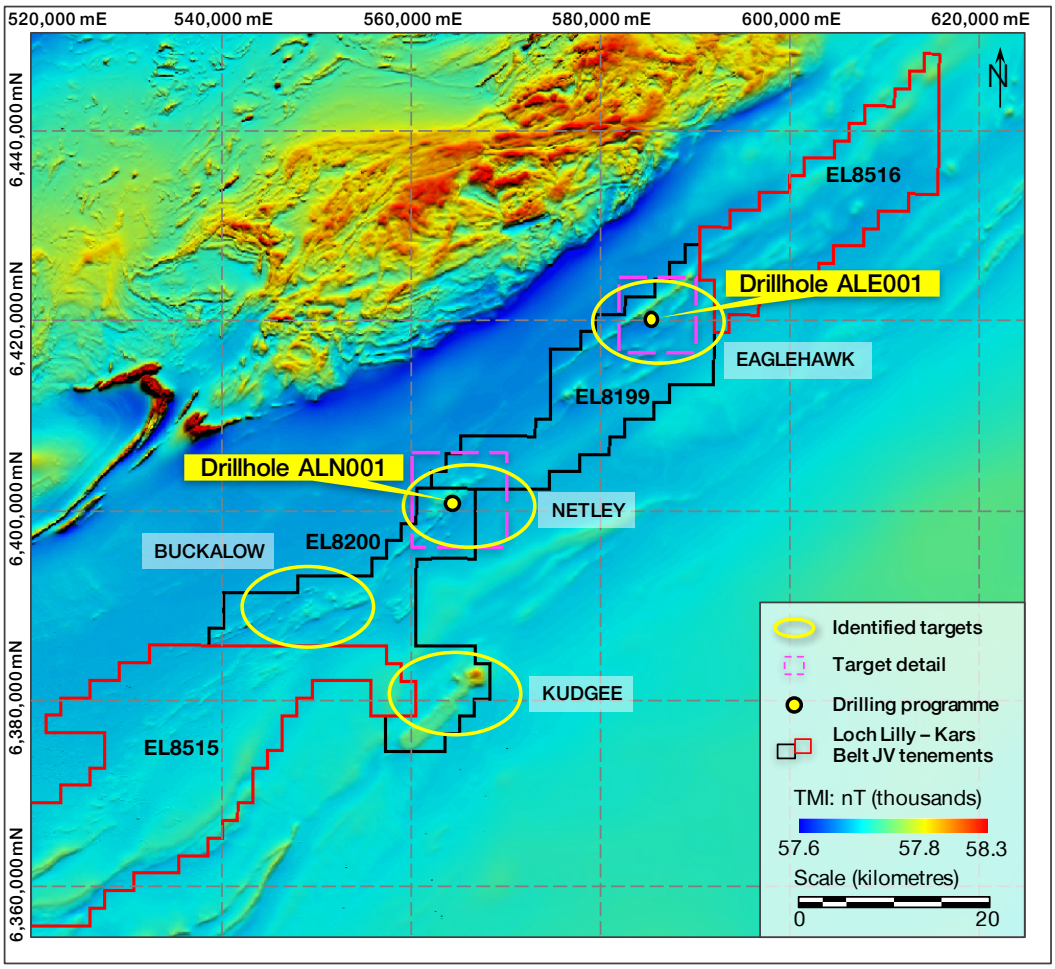

Figure 4 – Plan view illustrating the locations of the collars for drillholes ALE001 and ALN001 over a total magnetic intensity (TMI) background, with the Loch Lilly - Kars Belt project tenements in the foreground and the key identified targets highlighted with yellow ellipses.

ABOUT THE LOCH LILLY – KARS BELT PROSPECTIVITY

The new lithogeochemical and geochronological data obtained during the 2014/2015 analysis of the drill core from the 10 historical drillholes in the Loch Lilly – Kars Belt confirmed the interpreted correlation of this belt with those exposed in western Tasmania and western Victoria.

The impressive mineral endowment of this belt of rocks in western Tasmania and Victoria is the single best justification for exploring poorly known, even more poorly explored sections of the same geological domain further north in the exploration-accessible Loch Lilly – Kars Belt.

An unexpected bonus of the studies was the revelation that high-level monzodiorite-monzonite intrusives and andesite porphyries in a number of these historical drillholes, historically assumed to be of Middle Cambrian age, are in fact Late Silurian – Early Devonian, with 'fertile' lithogeochemical signatures for porphyry copper-hosting intrusions. These later granites are responsible for the Mt Bischoff (10.54 Mt @ 1.1% Sn) and Renison Bell (24.54 Mt @ 1.41% Sn) tin deposits[4], and the Avebury nickel deposit (29.3 Mt @ 0.9% Ni)[5] in Western Tasmania.

A significant outcome of the analysis performed by Dr. Crawford, AngloAmerican, and Argent is that the Loch Lilly – Kars Belt geology is prospective for volcanic-hosted massive sulphide (VHMS) and porphyry copper-gold, with further prospectivity of Sedex silver-lead-zinc, nickel sulphide and sedimentary copper.

ABOUT THE NSW GOVERNMENT 75% CO-FUNDING

The direct per-metre drilling costs of the drilling programme are 75% co-funded by the NSW Government to a maximum of $150,000.

The highly sought after Government funding was awarded to the project based on project prospectivity and technical merit as assessed by an independent expert advisory panel.

All three of Argent's main projects have been awarded NSW Government Cooperative Drilling funding grants, based on project prospectivity and technical merit as assessed by independent expert panels appointed by the NSW Government.

ABOUT THE DRILLING PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Site preparations are currently underway. The drilling contractor is currently scheduled to mobilise to site for drilling to begin during the week of the 17 July 2017.

The drilling programme is scheduled to operate on a 24/7 basis, and is expected to be completed within a 3-4 week period, subject to drilling conditions and weather. Drill core logging and sampling will be conducted at a facility in Broken Hill for maximised efficiency.

This report must be read in conjunction with Appendix 1 – JORC 2012 Edition Table 1.

For further information please contact:

David Busch

Chief Executive Officer

Argent Minerals Limited

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E: david.busch@argentminerals.com.au

References

1. Mount Lyell historical production figures were obtained from the Copper Mines of Tasmania Pty Ltd (previously known as Mount Lyell Mining Company Limited) website http://www.cmt.com.au.
2. The Henty Gold Mine historical production was obtained from Diversified Minerals Pty Ltd's statement to ABC News 16 January 2017.
3. The Stawell Gold Mine historical production was obtained from http://earthresources.vic.gov.au/earth-resources/victorias-earth-resources/minerals/prospectivity.
4. Mt Bischoff and Renison Bell Tin Mines historic production (Tasmanian Geological Survey Bulletin 72).
5. Avebury Nickel Mine Resource 2016 (http://www.mmg.com/en/Our-Operations).

APPENDIX 1 - JORC 2012 EDITION TABLE 1

APPROVED LOCH LILLY DRILLING PROGRAMME

The following information follows the requirements of JORC 2012 Table 1 Sections 1, 2 and as applicable for ASX Report related to the Loch Lilly drilling programme.

Section 1 - Sampling Techniques and Data

<table>
<tr><th>Criteria</th><th>Commentary</th></tr>
<tr><td>Sampling techniques</td><td>No Drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Drilling techniques</td><td>Reported historic drilling was conducted using rotary mud drilling to basement and NQ diamond core thereafter.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Drill sample recovery</td><td>No drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Logging</td><td>No drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sub-sampling techniques and sample separation</td><td>No drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Quality of assay data and laboratory tests</td><td>No drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Verification of sampling and assaying</td><td>No Drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Location of data points</td><td>All data used in this Report are in:
Datum: Geodetic Datum of Australia 94 (GDA94)
Projection: Map Grid of Australia (MGA)
Zone: Zone 54
Data stations were recorded using a Leica GS14 GPS DGPS</td></tr>
<tr><td>Data spacing and distribution</td><td><u>Magnetics</u>
<table>
<tr><th>Prospect</th><th>Survey</th><th>Line Spacing</th><th>Survey Ht</th><th>Year</th></tr>
<tr><td>Eaglehawk</td><td>P633</td><td>100 m / 200 m*</td><td>150</td><td>1995</td></tr>
<tr><td>Netley</td><td>P744</td><td>150 m</td><td>90</td><td>1999</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

	Gravity The gravity surveys consisted of 500 m station spacing for 450 stations at Eaglehawk, and 160 stations at Netley: The surveys were conducted by Atlas Geophysics using a Scintrex CG-5 digital automated gravity meter with an instrument error of better than 0.005 mGal. Multiple dual-frequency Leica GS14 DGPS were utilised to allow for real-time-kinematic (RTK) or post processed (PPK) centimetre level accuracy 3D positions. A GPS/GNSS and gravity control station was established in the survey area and the data tied to the Australian Fundamental Gravity Network (AFGN). This allowed for all field gravity observations to be tied to the AAGD07 gravity datum and for the data to be merged with the existing regional gravity dataset. Magnetic-Induced Polarisation GAP Geophysics conducted the survey on NE-SW profiles. A line spacing of 450 m was adopted for the survey and readings were collected every 100 m along the profile. An inductive loop current source of 800 m x 400 m was used with loops sequentially placed on the southeast lines. Several instruments were used for the survey including: 2 SQUID sensors; 2 SmarTEM receivers; 800 m x 400 m inductive loop source with 30 gauge wire; GAP HPTX-70 High powered trailer mounted transmitter.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	Drilling was focused on targeting geophysical results. Vertical holes were utilised or were aimed at 328° at -60° dip.
Sample security	No drilling was conducted.
Audits or reviews	An internal review of the available geophysical data was conducted and found to be satisfactory.

Section 2 - Reporting of Exploration Results

Criteria	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	• The Loch Lilly Project comprises four NSW exploration licences EL8516, EL8199, EL8200 and EL8515. Whilst the titles to EL8515 and EL8516 are held by Loch Lilly Pty Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of Argent Minerals Limited), and EL8199/EL8200 by San Antonio Exploration Pty Ltd, all four exploration licences are the subject of a joint venture between Loch Lilly Pty Ltd and San Antonio Exploration Pty Ltd (JVA). • Under the terms of the JVA, Loch Lilly has an initial interest of 0% in the project, with the right to earn up to a 90% interest. Loch Lilly Pty Ltd will earn a 51% interest by completing the drilling programme set out in this ASX announcement. • EL8199 and EL8200 were each granted a four year term to 5 November 2017, and both EL8515 and EL8516 each a three year term to 15 February 2020.

Exploration by other parties

Several exploration companies have explored Loch Lilly intermittently for more than 40 years, of which are outlined in Table 1.2.1.

Earlier exploration was performed to the industry standard of the time.

Table 1.2.1 – Exploration History

Company	Period	Exploration activities
Argent Minerals Limited	2016-current	Data review and geological and geophysical review
Anglo American Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd	2013-2014	Geochemical and geophysical review, re-logging and sampling of historic core
Vincent Resources Pty Ltd	2010-2014	Aeromagnetic survey, rock chip sampling, geophysical review
Iluka Resources Limited	2009-2012	Ground magnetics, drilling
Standard Mines Pty Ltd/ Altius Mining Limited	2008-2012	Geological and geophysical review, airborne magnetic and radiometric survey, drilling
Inco Australia Limited Partnership	2008-2010	Data review, geological and geophysical review
Platsearch NL/ Newcrest Mining Ltd	1998-2003	Ground magnetics, drilling
Pasminco Australia Limited	1995-1996	Aerial photography survey, ground electromagnetic survey ground magnetic survey, and drilling
CRA Exploration Pty Limited	1984	Ground magnetics, gravity surveys, IP surveys, and Schlumberger vertical electrical sounding
Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited	1982	Aeromagnetic survey, ground magnetic survey, drilling and downhole geophysics
North Broken Hill Limited	1980-1982	Geological mapping, rock/auger chip and stream sediment sampling
Mines Administration Pty. Limited	1970-1971	Groundwater survey, airborne radiometric survey, drilling and downhole geophysics

Geology

The Loch Lilly – Kars Belt (LLKB) is an Early to Middle Cambrian volcanic belt within the Delamerian Orogeny in southwestern NSW.

The LLKB is located on the southeast margin of the Palaeoproterozoic Broken Hill Block and the Curnamona Craton. The LLKB is linked in the northeast with the Koonenberry Volcanic Belt and with the Stavely Volcanic Belt in the southwest.

Mineralisation potential in the LLKB area ranges from Sedex PB-Zn-Ag, VHMS and porphyry Cu-Au, to Ni sulphide and sedimentary copper.

Drill hole Information

Hole ID	Prospect	Grid	Easting	Northing	EOH (m)	RL (m)	Dip 0^0	Az 0^0
EHK2	Netley	MGA94_54	543521.85	6398568.7	197.5	116	-60	328
NBH007	Netley	MGA94_54	544296.85	6401568.7	155.85	115	-90	0
NBH009	Kudgee	MGA94_54	546851.82	6382491.7	267.2	99	-90	0
NBH010	Kudgee	MGA94_54	542577.8	6378397.7	166.8	105	-90	0

Hole ID	Prospect	Grid	Easting	Northing	EOH (m)	RL (m)	Dip 0^0	Az 0^0
EHK1	Eaglehaw k	MGA94_54	556761	6411898	129.5	116	-60	328
EHK3	Eaglehaw k	MGA94_54	565271	6419578	306	116	-60	328
NBH004	Eaglehaw k	MGA94_54	564737	6420401	195.3	114	-90	0
NBH005	Eaglehaw k	MGA94_54	563996	6418950	186.8	114	-90	0

Data aggregation methods

No drilling results are reported.

<table>
<tr><td>Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths</td><td>No drilling results are reported.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Diagrams</td><td>Figures are accompanied by a description on each occasion.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Balanced reporting</td><td>All available exploration data relevant to this report has been provided.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Other substantive exploration data</td><td>
<u>Magnetics</u>
<table>
<tr><td>Prospect</td><td>Survey</td><td>Line Spacing</td><td>Survey Ht</td><td>Year</td></tr>
<tr><td>Eaglehawk</td><td>P633</td><td>100 m / 200m*</td><td>150</td><td>1995</td></tr>
<tr><td>Netley</td><td>P744</td><td>150 m</td><td>90</td><td>1999</td></tr>
</table>
There is no other available information to date.

<u>Gravity</u>

A gravity surveys consisted of 500 m station spacing for 450 stations at Eaglehawk, and 160 stations at Netley:

The surveys were conducted by Atlas Geophysics using a Scintrex CG-5 digital automated gravity meter with an instrument error of better than 0.005 mGal. Multiple dual-frequency Leica GS14 GPS were utilised to allow for real-time-kinematic (RTK) or post processed (PPK) centimetre level accuracy 3D positions.

A GPS/GNSS and gravity control station was established in the survey area and the data tied to the Australian Fundamental Gravity Network (AFGN). This allowed for all field gravity observations to be tied to the AAGD07 gravity datum and for the data to be merged with the existing regional gravity dataset.

<u>Magnetic-Induced Polarisation</u>

GAP Geophysics conducted the survey on NE-SW profiles. A line spacing of 450 m was adopted for the survey and readings were collected every 100 m along the profile. An inductive loop current source of 800 m x 400 m was used with loops sequentially placed on the southeast lines.

Several instruments were used for the survey including: 2 SQUID sensors; 2 SmarTEM receivers; 800 m x 400 m inductive loop source with 30 gauge wire; GAP HPTX-70 High powered trailer mounted transmitter.

<u>3D Geophysical Modelling</u>

An unconstrained gravity (terrain corrected bouguer data) and magnetic (publicly available GA aeromagnetic data) data inversion model using VPMG software.
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Further work</td><td>Diamond drilling to test the defined targets.</td></tr>
</table>

COMPETENT PERSON STATEMENTS

Previously Released Information

This ASX announcement contains information extracted from the following reports which are available for viewing on the Company's website http://www.argentminerals.com.au :

- 20 February 2017 Argent secures strategic stake in Mt. Read equivalent belt

The Company confirms it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcements. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

Exploration Results

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Results is based on information compiled by Mr. Clifton Todd McGilvray who is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, an employee of Argent, and who has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activities being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves' (JORC Code). Mr. McGilvray consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears.