

10 January 2018

ASX Announcements Office 152–158 St Georges Terrace Perth WA 6000 Australia

# **Update on Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program at Kitotolo**

- Initial 43 test pits and 9 trenches completed in December 2017.
- In-situ and fresh spodumene observed in exposed pegmatite in test pits and trenches near to and at 500m and 1km step outs from Katamba Pit.
- Test pits and trenches confirm pegmatite extending well in excess of an initial 1km strike length, that remains open towards NE and SW directions and down dip and dipping progressively shallower to the NE.
- 42 test pit samples and 153 trench samples for a total of 195 samples dispatched to the
   ALS Laboratory in Lubumbashi for analyses.
- Test pitting and trenching confirms continuous strike pegmatite interpretations along the NE/SW orientation and reinforces the regional pegmatite orientation across the Kitotolo Mining and Exploration licences.
- Results and observations from work already completed from Phase 1 Lithium Exploration
   Program are highly encouraging.
- Company progressing balance of Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program and to immediately commence Phase 2 Lithium Exploration Program at Kitotolo.
- Appointment of additional Congolese field geologists to hasten activity.
- Initial drilling program to be brought forward at Kitotolo Lithium Project with planning work underway and discussions with drilling contractors advancing.

Force Commodities Ltd (**Force** or the **Company**) (ASX Code: 4CE) is pleased to provide an update in respect of work completed to date on Phase 1 of its maiden Lithium Exploration Program at the Kitotolo Lithium Project located in in Tanganyika Province in the south east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (**DRC**).

The Kitotolo Lithium Project comprises Mining License PE13247 and Exploration Licence PR12453 which collectively extends over 400km² and is located approx. 30km south-west of AVZ Minerals Limited (ASX:AVZ) 'world-class' Manono and Kitotolo deposits.



## **Kitotolo Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program**

The Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program, commenced at the Kitotolo Lithium Project in late November 2017. It immediately followed the execution of the Joint Venture Agreement with state-owned mining company La Congolaise d'Exploitation Miniere (**Cominiere SA**).

Initial exploration activities in the Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program at the Kitotolo Lithium Project comprised test-pitting and trenching of Mining License PE13247 and Exploration License PR12453 and was initially focused on the area surrounding large artisanal workings at the Katamba Pit where spodumene in pegmatite has been identified and where assays from the Company's initial independent due diligence review had returned high-grade lithium mineralisation (refer ASX Announcement dated 9 October 2017 - Assays Confirm High Grade Lithium Mineralisation at Kitotolo).





Figures 1 and 2. Commencement of Trench 003 and channel sampling exposed pegmatite at base of Trench 001.

Detailed deposit scale geological mapping over the Katamba Pit commenced in late November 2017. Geological mapping was followed up by the commencement of a systematic test pitting and trenching program designed to test the mapped surface pegmatite and spodumene mineralisation along strike of the Katamba Pit where spodumene in pegmatite was earlier observed.

In the initial Phase 1 activities, over 220 data points have been recorded over the known pegmatite area and used in geological interpretations. All current mapping has been digitised in GIS format. 100m strike lines have also been created and number at 100m spacings across all licences.

Mapping has highlighted areas of surface spodumene mineralisation and spodumene mineralisation in the pit walls and along strike of historical pit which the Company is now proposing to target in the first phase of drilling.







**Figures 3 and 4.** Trench 008 showing exposed and weathered pegmatite from surface dipping 10° to 15° west and providing upper contact structural data

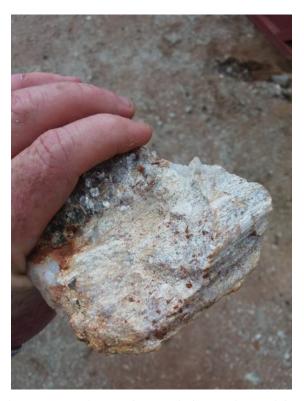


**Figure 5.** One of several examples of partially weathered spodumene mineralisation – from Trench 008 observed in the trench walls and trench floor.

In total, 195 geochemical samples have been collected so far in the initial Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program. This included dip and strike information of the major rock types mapped. The detailed mapping confirms structural interpretations in a broad sense over the Katamba Pit and within the wider regional geology.







**Figures 6 and 7.** Partially weathered spodumene lithium mineralisation- exposed in Trench 002 and white spodumene lithium mineralisation from Test Pit 036

A total of 43 test-pits were completed. A further 78 test-pits are to be finalised in January and February, completing the initially planned 121 test pits.

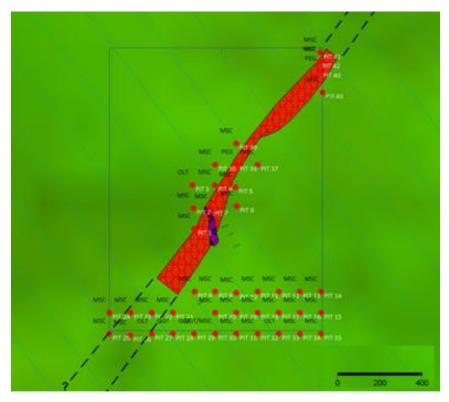
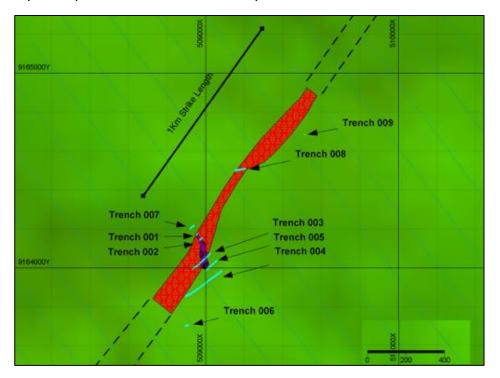


Figure 8. Test pitting completed in initial Phase 1 Lithium Exploration at the Kitotolo Lithium Project



The test-pitting was completed to expose pegmatite at depths of 0.5m to a maximum depth of 6.0m using the excavator that arrived on site in late November. The test-pitting program provided a relatively quick method of mapping and sampling the pegmatite over an extended area of the Kitotolo Lithium Project area.

In total 42 test pit samples were collected for analyses.



**Figures 9.** Trenching completed in initial Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program Interpreted Pegmatite in red hatch with purple hatch showing original Katamba artisanal pit outline.

Nine trenches designed across the regional strike were also completed, predominantly in the immediate vicinity of the Katamba Pit.

A combined length of 586 line meters of trenching was completed, with 153 samples sent for analyses at the ALS Laboratory in Lubumbashi.

Trenches 001, 002, 003 and 008 in particular were observed to contain significant quantities of fresh and partially weathered spodumene mineralisation.

Significantly, Trench 008 was completed approx. 500m to the NE of the Katamba Pit and was successful in exposing significant quantities of fresh and weathered spodumene mineralisation in the pegmatite. Given initial interpretations, from the pegmatite exposures in trenches 002 and 008, a regional step out of 500m from trench 008 was completed.

Test pitting in the furthermost NE corner of the initial Phase 1 program area, successfully identified pegmatite lithologies in test pit 040 – located approx. 1km NE of the Katamba Pit and interpreted to add a continuous strike along the NE/SW orientation and bolstering the regional pegmatite orientation interpretations across the Kitotolo Mining and Exploration licences.



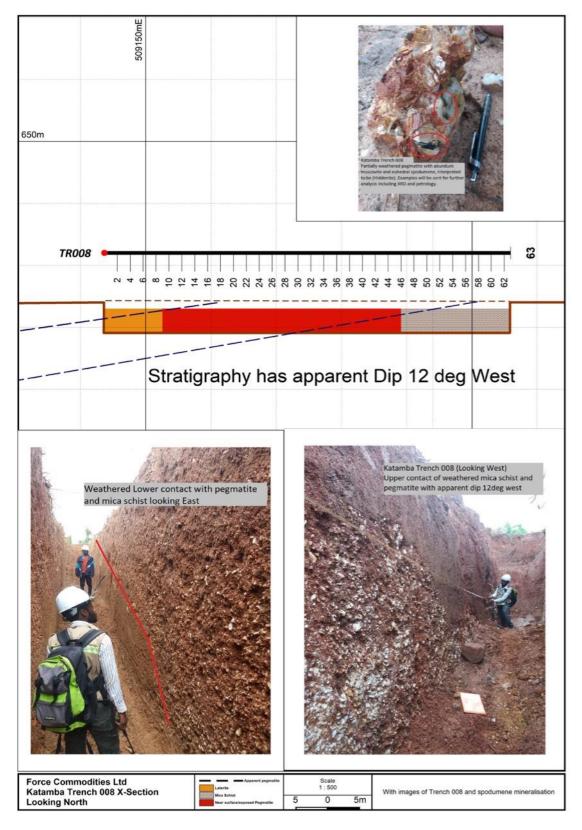


Figure 10: Stylised cross section of Katamba Trench 008 with images of weathered pegmatite and mineralisation.



Whilst no near surface pegmatitic exposures were observed in trenches 004, 005, 006, 007, 009, considered likely due to the depth limitations of the excavator, further work is planned at these trench locations and this may include drilling as part of the initial drilling program that has now been brought forward to better understand these current exploration targets.

The main pegmatite exposed in the test pits and trenching completed as part of the initial Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program is interpreted to strike approximately 035°, has a current initial strike length of over 1000m and is approx. 100m widest. It is exposed in trenches 001, 002, 003 and 008. It is interpreted to dip towards the west at approx. 12° and the dip is interpreted to have a-shallower dip towards the NE.

The main pegmatite remains remains open towards NE and SW directions.

These initial dimensions are expected to change with the completion of the Phase 1 program and the commencement of additional trenching in Phase 2 and the planned regional test pitting and trenching to commence in Phase 3 using wider step outs based on the results from Phase 1 and 2, also planned on the NE-SW trend. This will assist in determining the overall near surface regional strike length potential of the pegmatite mineralization within the Kitotolo Lithium Project area.

Following the observations and results of the initial Phase 1 work, the Company is now proposing to bring forward its initial drilling program at the Kitotolo Lithium Project. The Company's Head of Exploration Mr James Sullivan has commenced planning work for this and is in discussions with a number of drilling contractors capable of completing the work. It is intended to commence work at the end of the current wet season.

In addition, to accelerate the Company's regional mapping and planned test pitting and trenching work, the Company's is proposing to immediately appoint two additional Congolese field geologists to commence work on the Kitotolo Lithium Project.

Commenting on the initial Phase 1 Lithium Exploration Program results, Mr Sullivan said:

"Mapping, trenching and test-pitting has confirmed near surface pegmatite exposures and interpretations that the Katamba pegmatite extends over 1km and is open in all directions."

"Fresh and weathered spodumene mineralisation has been identified in trenches 002 and 008 and test-pitting work and samples have been collected for further analytical work, including XRD/petrology for mineral identification and confirmation. Shareholders can now look forward to those results becoming available in due course."

"The trench and test pitting results are highly encouraging by exposing near surface pegmatite outcrops and hosting spodumene mineralisation which lends support to the region as being a fast emerging world-class hard rock lithium province."

"Given initial interpretations, from pegmatite exposures in trenches 002 and 008, a regional step out of approx. 500m from trench 008 was competed using test pitting in the furthermost NE corner of the initial Phase 1 program, which again identified pegmatite lithologies in test pit 040. This is extremely positive interpreted to add a continuous strike along the NE/SW orientation and bolsters



the regional pegmatite orientation interpretations across the Kitotolo Mining and Exploration licences."

"We are now moving forward to complete Phase 1 and step out with the Phase 2 work which will incorporate further trenching to map the near surface expression and extensions of the pegmatite and most significantly will involve the commencement of our maiden drilling program."

## **END**

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#### **Competent Person Statement**

The information in this release that relates to sampling techniques and data, exploration results, geological interpretation and Exploration Targets, Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves has been compiled by Mr James Sullivan is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Sullivan is engaged by Force Commodities as a consultant geologist.

Mr Sullivan has sufficient experience of relevance to the styles of mineralisation and the types of deposits under consideration, and to the activities undertaken, to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Sullivan consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on information in the form and context in which it appears.

### **Forward looking statements**

Information included in this release constitutes forward-looking statements. Often, but not always, forward looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward looking words such as "may", "will", "expect", "intend", "plan", "estimate", "anticipate", "continue", and "guidance", or other similar words and may include, without limitation, statements regarding plans, strategies and objectives of management, anticipated production or construction commencement dates and expected costs or production outputs.

Forward looking statements inherently involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the Company's actual results, performance and achievements to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements. Relevant factors may include, but are not limited to, changes in commodity prices, foreign exchange fluctuations and general economic conditions, increased costs and demand for production inputs, the speculative nature of exploration and project development, including the risks of obtaining necessary licences and permits and diminishing quantities or grades of reserves, political and social risks, changes to the regulatory framework within which the company operates or may in the future operate, environmental conditions including extreme weather conditions, recruitment and retention of personnel, industrial relations issues and litigation.

Forward looking statements are based on the Company and its management's good faith assumptions relating to the financial, market, regulatory and other relevant environments that will exist and affect the Company's business and operations in the future. The Company does not give any assurance that the assumptions on which forward looking statements are based will prove to be correct, or that the Company's business or operations will not be affected in any material manner by these or other factors not foreseen or foreseeable by the Company or management or beyond the Company's control.

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