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Directors/Employee
Performance Rights
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ABN 30 614 289 342

Drilling defines shallow, high-grade gold at Big Four Gold, Goongarrie

- Drilling at Ardea's Big Four gold prospect within the footprint of the Goongarrie Nickel Cobalt Project has defined strong, near-surface gold intercepts.
- Drilling confirms historic results from adjacent drill holes, boosting confidence in historic drilling data.
- Results include:
 - ABFR0270: **18 m at 3.38 g/t gold** from 18 m
including 6 m at 6.03 g/t gold from 20 m
 - ABFR0272: **14 m at 2.40 g/t gold from 6 m**
including 4 m at 5.73 g/t gold from 6 m
 - ABFR0274: **20 m at 2.91 g/t gold** from 76 m
including 2 m at 13.60 g/t gold from 76 m
and 2 m at 5.29 g/t gold from 82 m
and 2 m at 5.01 g/t gold from 92 m

Ardea Resources Limited (Ardea or the Company) has completed an 11-hole RC drilling program at the historic Big Four gold mine, south of Goongarrie. Big Four Gold is located within the footprint of the Goongarrie Nickel-Cobalt Project (GNCP), Ardea's flagship asset.

Importantly, each of the 11 drill holes completed contained significant gold intercepts.

Systematic gold exploration across the GNCP represents another opportunity to enhance overall project economics. Presently, strong, coherent, and extensive gold anomalism is associated with surface lateritic nickel-cobalt mineralisation and could be indicative of underlying primary bedrock orogenic gold mineralisation.

Ardea's Managing Director, Andrew Penkethman, said:

"Ardea is highly encouraged by these first-pass drill results from Big Four. The fact that all planned holes intersected significant gold mineralisation confirms the geological model. Mineralisation is still open at depth and a possible fault off-set structural repetition has been modeled along strike to the north and will now be tested to define the extent of this mineralised system."

Ardea will continue to test the prospectivity of its large Eastern Goldfields land holding for gold and nickel sulphides, in parallel to de-risking the nickel-cobalt resources within the broader Kalgoorlie Nickel Project."

Big Four gold prospect

The recent drill program at Big Four Gold has confirmed significant shallow gold mineralisation hosted predominantly within an alkaline, porphyritic intrusive and surrounding Siberia Komatiite that had previously been intercepted in historic drill programs. In doing so, some of the best gold mineralisation intercepts historically recorded at the deposit were encountered.

New gold intercepts

Significant gold mineralisation has been confirmed at Big Four Gold at shallow levels (see Appendix 1 for full listing). Intercept calculation parameters were 0.5 g/t cutoff, minimum intercept thickness of 1 m, and maximum internal waste of 2 m.

The shallow high-grade intercepts include:

ABFR0267	8 m at 2.28 g/t gold from 18 m <i>including 2 m at 4.94 g/t gold from 22 m</i>
ABFR0269	6 m at 2.32 g/t gold from 32 m
ABFR0270	18 m at 3.38 g/t gold from 18 m <i>including 6 m at 6.03 g/t gold from 20 m</i>
ABFR0272	14 m at 2.4 g/t gold from 6 m <i>including 4 m at 5.73 g/t gold from 6 m</i>
ABFR0273	4 m at 5.78 g/t gold from 38 m (see Figure 1) <i>including 2 m at 10.90 g/t gold from 38 m</i>
ABFR0274	20 m at 2.91 g/t gold from 76 m <i>including 2 m at 13.60 g/t gold from 76 m and 2 m at 5.29 g/t gold from 82 m and 2 m at 5.01 g/t gold from 92 m</i>
ABFR0276	6 m at 1.64 g/t gold from 30 m <i>including 2 m at 4.01 g/t gold from 30 m</i>



Figure 1 – Panned gold from a small sample of ABFR0273, 38-42 m (4 m at 5.78 g/t gold). View is approximately 20 mm across.

Orogenic gold mineralisation at Big Four Gold is hosted by both the intermediate porphyry and the host Siberia Komatiite within vein sets, shear zones, and breccia zones. Gold is associated with strong alteration that is commonly pyritic, so is visually easily identifiable.

Gold mineralisation is characterised by sporadic high grades distributed within a more moderate-grade halo. Hydraulic brecciation of the host rocks is commonly associated with highest grade gold mineralisation in the deposit, some examples of which are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Selected high-grade assay results from recent drilling at Big Four Gold

Drill hole	From (m)	To (m)	Sample No.	Gold (g/t)
ABFR0274	76	78	AR030595	13.60
ABFR0273	38	40	AR030531	10.90
ABFR0276	54	56	AR030696	10.40
ABFR0270	20	22	AR030433	10.20
ABFR0272	8	10	AR030501	8.39
ABFR0270	30	32	AR030439	6.69
ABFR0274	82	84	AR030599	5.29
ABFR0276	48	50	AR030693	5.24
ABFR0274	92	94	AR030604	5.01
ABFR0267	22	24	AR030327	4.94

The gold tenor at Big Four Gold appears to be high, with very low to below detection levels of silver, arsenic, and antimony (Appendix 3). The gold deposits of the Eastern Goldfields commonly have associations with these metals, and overly high values can be problematic for gold recoveries. This does not appear to be an issue at Big Four Gold.

Confirmation of historic intercepts

Importantly, the results of this program provide confidence in the existing archival drill results and should assist in defining a new resource to JORC Code (2012) guidelines. Historic data can now be incorporated into any modelling with increased certainty (Figure 2).

Program parameters

A total of 11 drill holes were completed in late January 2020, for a total of 738 m (Appendix 2). The program achieved its aims of validating historic drilling of the deposit, and to infill shallow gaps in the historic database. All drilling was targeted at the shallow portion of the deposit that could potentially be the subject of an open pit mining study.

A total of 304 assays were taken from the 11 drill holes completed. All assay results are from 2 m composite samples. Drilling was aimed around the historic surface and shallow underground workings. Several drill holes intercepted voids that represent underground workings and likely corresponded to gold mineralisation. These are considered to have been the location of historically mined, high-grade gold mineralisation.

History

Limited historic mining around the 1920s to 1930s recovered 571.5t of ore for 10.53kg gold (~339oz gold), at an average grade of 18.4g/t Au. This gold occurrence cropped out at surface so was discovered by prospectors. Most of Ardea's tenure is covered by shallow alluvial cover and/or the development of a laterite profile which obscures the underlying gold potential.

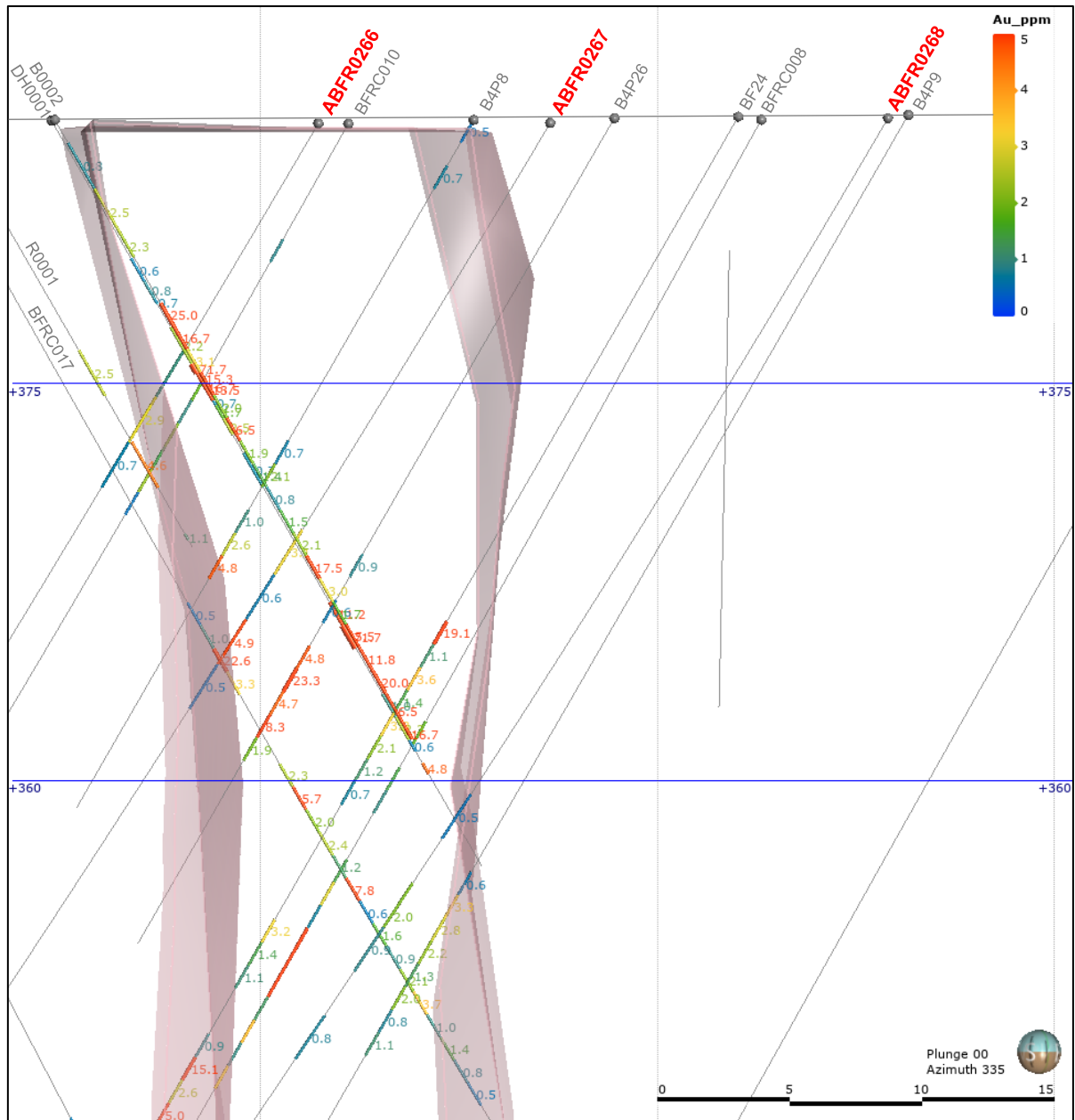


Figure 2 – Cross section 6663360mN +/- 5 m of the Big Four Gold deposit. Twinned pairs are as follows: ABFR0266 & BFRC010, ABFR0267 & B4026, ABFR0268 & B4P9. The Big Four Gold porphyry is shown in transparent pink. Looking towards 335°. Projection: GDA94 MGA Zone 51.

GNCP gold targeting strategy

Since acquiring the GNCP in 2017, Ardea has included systematic gold assays in its analytical suite, on the basis of project location within the Bardoc Tectonic Zone. Previous explorers, however, only did desultory precious metal assaying, resulting in a drill data base that is often unsuited to gold target generation, so that magnetic interpretation is the key means of gold target generation.

Fortunately, Ardea has a large archival collection of KNP drill assay laboratory pulps which are available for re-assay using the Ardea methodology (61 elements including pathfinders).

Through detailed appraisal and assessment of the structure, geology, and available geochemistry over the area covered by the GNCP, Ardea considers this part of the Bardoc Tectonic Zone represents a largely buried gold camp that extends from Goongarrie in the north to Scotia Dam 20 km away in the south. Strong gold anomalism in historic

and recent nickel-cobalt laterite drilling is comparable to or greater than that observed associated with gold deposits in greenstone belts throughout the Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia.

Nearly all of Ardea's tenure over the GNCP is covered by deep laterite development and overlying transported material, obscuring the nature of the host bedrock sequence. Despite extensive drilling of the nickel-cobalt laterites, very few of these drill holes penetrate into fresh rock, and so are considered ineffective for gold. However, many of these contain strong and coherent gold anomalism within the laterite profile. Through extensive interpretation of its high-resolution magnetic dataset, Ardea has identified several representative type targets of a number of potential structural trap styles that are slated for testing in the coming months. Big Four Gold was one such target, tested as "proof of concept". The data generated will be used to identify and zoom in on a series of potential gold prospects.

Gold exploration as a means to advance the Goongarrie Nickel-Cobalt Project

The results from Big Four Gold are being used to help refine the controls on gold mineralisation and define additional targets under surface cover. Using Ardea's close spaced magnetic data, a fault offset structural repetition to the north of Big Four Gold has already been defined, along with a number of other targets.

Presently, gold anomalism associated with high nickel and cobalt grades is, in places, exceptional. Whilst the lateritic gold itself would not be easily recovered in a nickel hydrometallurgical circuit, the strength and coherence of these anomalies are consistent with the presence of gold mineralisation in the fresh bedrock below the lateritic nickel-cobalt deposits. It is imperative that gold mineralisation distributions be further defined throughout the footprint of the GNCP (Figure 3) and elsewhere within Ardea's extensive Eastern Goldfields tenement portfolio to help realise maximum project values.

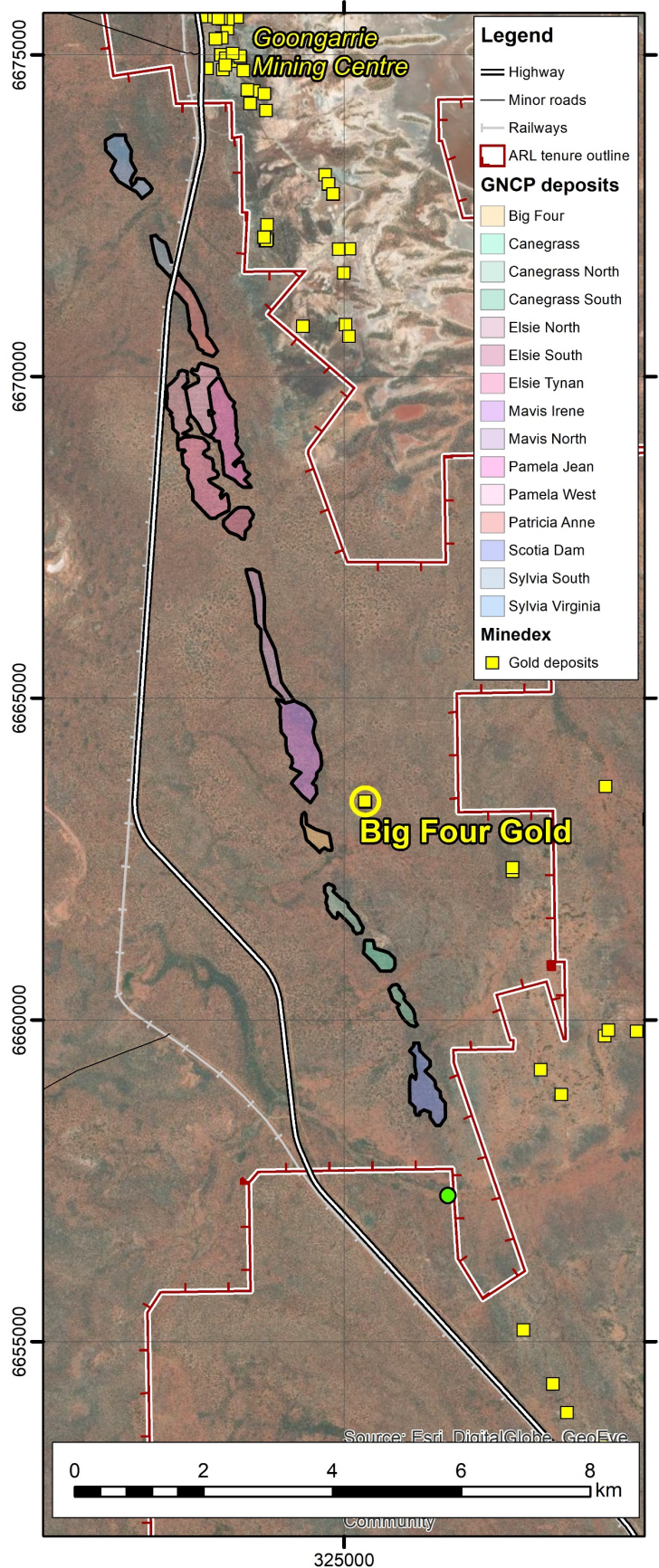


Figure 3 – Location of the Big Four Gold deposit in relation to the GNCP deposits and the Goongarrie Mining Centre. Projection: GDA94 MGA Zone 51.

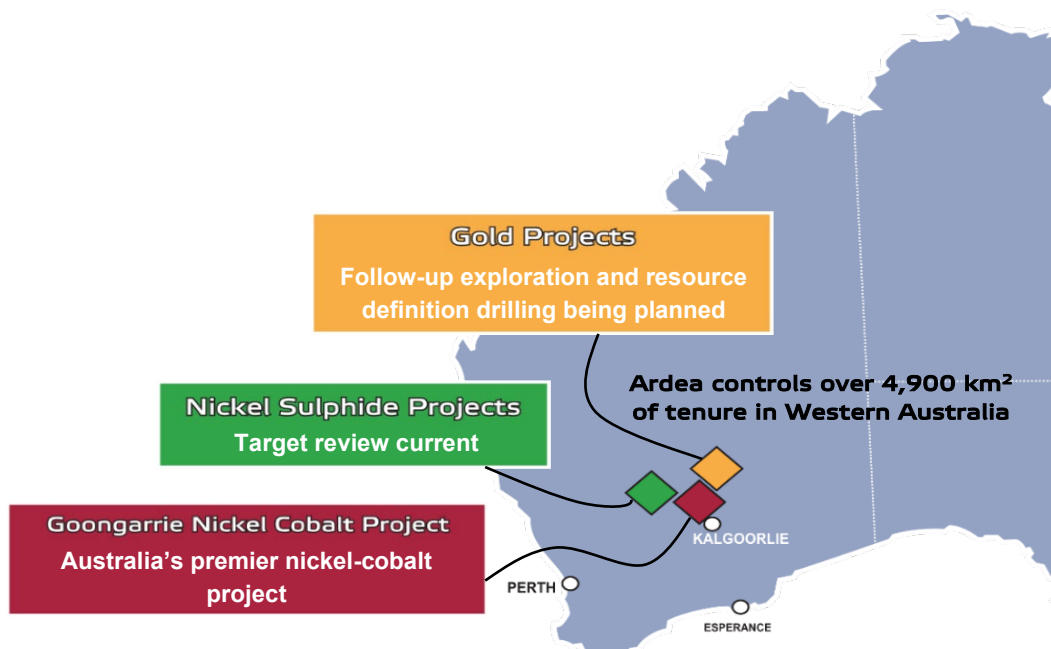
Mulga Plum and Lady Isobel drilling

Results were also received from the Mulga Plum and Lady Isobel first pass drill programs. These results are still being assessed with a peak intersection from Mulga Plum of 2 m at 8.84 g/t Au from 14 m, from drill hole AJAR0009. Several sub-grade mineralisation occurrences were also noted. Ardea will continue to assess these projects to define forward exploration strategies.

About Ardea Resources

Ardea Resources (ASX:ARL) is an ASX-listed resources company, with a large portfolio of 100% controlled West Australian-based projects, focussed on:

- Development of the Goongarrie Nickel Cobalt Project, which is part of the Kalgoorlie Nickel Project, a globally significant series of nickel-cobalt deposits which host the largest nickel-cobalt resource in the developed world, coincidentally located as a cover sequence overlying fertile orogenic gold targets; and
- Advanced-stage exploration at WA nickel sulphide and gold targets within the Eastern Goldfields world-class nickel-gold province.



For further information regarding Ardea, please visit www.ardearesources.com.au or contact:

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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This news release contains forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable Australian securities laws, which are based on expectations, estimates and projections as of the date of this news release.

This forward-looking information includes, or may be based upon, without limitation, estimates, forecasts and statements as to management's expectations with respect to, among other things, the timing and amount of funding required to execute the Company's exploration, development and business plans, capital and exploration expenditures, the effect on the Company of any changes to existing legislation or policy, government regulation of mining operations, the length of time required to obtain permits, certifications and approvals, the success of exploration, development and mining activities, the geology of the Company's properties, environmental risks, the availability of labour, the focus of the Company in the future, demand and market outlook for precious metals and the prices thereof, progress in development of mineral properties, the Company's ability to raise funding privately or on a public market in the future, the Company's future growth, results of operations, performance, and business prospects and opportunities. Wherever possible, words such as "anticipate", "believe", "expect", "intend", "may" and similar expressions have been used to identify such forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is based on the opinions and estimates of management at the date the information is given, and on information available to management at such time.

Forward-looking information involves significant risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from the results discussed or implied in the forward-looking information. These factors, including, but not limited to, the ability to complete the Ardea spin-out of Godolphin Resources Limited on the basis of the proposed terms and timing or at all, fluctuations in currency markets, fluctuations in commodity prices, the ability of the Company to access sufficient capital on favourable terms or at all, changes in national and local government legislation, taxation, controls, regulations, political or economic developments in Australia or other countries in which the Company does business or may carry on business in the future, operational or technical difficulties in connection with exploration or development activities, employee relations, the speculative nature of mineral exploration and development, obtaining necessary licenses and permits, diminishing quantities and grades of mineral reserves, contests over title to properties, especially title to undeveloped properties, the inherent risks involved in the exploration and development of mineral properties, the uncertainties involved in interpreting drill results and other geological data, environmental hazards, industrial accidents, unusual or unexpected formations, pressures, cave-ins and flooding, limitations of insurance coverage and the possibility of project cost overruns or unanticipated costs and expenses, and should be considered carefully. Many of these uncertainties and contingencies can affect the Company's actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf of, the Company. Prospective investors should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking information.

Although the forward-looking information contained in this news release is based upon what management believes, or believed at the time, to be reasonable assumptions, the Company cannot assure prospective purchasers that actual results will be consistent with such forward-looking information, as there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended, and neither the Company nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any such forward-looking information. The Company does not undertake, and assumes no obligation, to update or revise any such forward-looking statements or forward-looking information contained herein to reflect new events or circumstances, except as may be required by law.

No stock exchange, regulation services provider, securities commission or other regulatory authority has approved or disapproved the information contained in this news release.

Competent Person Statement

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Targets, Exploration Results, Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Dr Matthew Painter, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Dr Painter is a full-time employee of Ardea Resources Limited and has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Dr Painter consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

Appendix 1 – Collated intercepts

Parameters used to define gold intercepts at Big Four

Parameter	Gold	
	0.5 g/t	2.0 g/t
Minimum cut-off	0.5 g/t	2.0 g/t
Minimum intercept thickness	1 m	1 m
Maximum internal waste thickness	2 m	2 m

Gold intercepts are defined using a 0.5 g/t Au cut-off on a minimum intercept of 1 m and a maximum internal waste of 2 m. Secondary intercepts (i.e. the “including” intercepts) are defined using a 2.0 g/t cut-off and the same intercept and internal waste characteristics.

Drillhole	Interval	Gold intercept	
		(0.1 g/t cutoff)	(2.0 g/t cutoff)
ABFR0266	10–16 m	6 m at 1.53 g/t Au from 10 m	
ABFR0267	18–26 m	8 m at 2.28 g/t Au from 18 m	<i>including</i> 2 m at 4.94 g/t Au from 22 m
ABFR0268	30–42 m	12 m at 0.74 g/t Au from 30 m	
ABFR0269	32–44 m	6 m at 2.32 g/t Au from 32 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 0.81 g/t Au from 42 m	
ABFR0270	18–36 m	18 m at 3.38 g/t Au from 18 m	<i>including</i> 6 m at 6.03 g/t Au from 20 m
ABFR0271	46–50 m	4 m at 1.32 g/t Au from 46 m	
ABFR0272	6–20 m	14 m at 2.4 g/t Au from 6 m	<i>including</i> 4 m at 5.73 g/t Au from 6 m
ABFR0273	38–58 m	4 m at 5.78 g/t Au from 38 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 3.04 g/t Au from 56 m	<i>including</i> 2 m at 10.90 g/t Au from 38 m
ABFR0274	76–96 m	20 m at 2.91 g/t Au from 76 m	<i>including</i> 2 m at 13.60 g/t Au from 76 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 5.29 g/t Au from 82 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 5.01 g/t Au from 92 m
ABFR0275	26–50 m	2 m at 0.52 g/t Au from 26 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 0.89 g/t Au from 48 m	
ABFR0276	30–56 m	6 m at 1.64 g/t Au from 30 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 1.14 g/t Au from 40 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 5.24 g/t Au from 48 m <i>and</i> 2 m at 10.4 g/t Au from 54 m	<i>including</i> 2 m at 4.01 g/t Au from 30 m

Appendix 2 – Collar location data

New drill holes by Ardea Resources

Drill hole	Type	Depth (m)	Tenement	Grid	Easting (mE)	Northing (mN)	RL (mASL)	Dip (°)	Azimuth (°)	Twin hole
ABFR0266	RC	26	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325346.0	6663362.0	384.8	-60	243	BFRC010
ABFR0267	RC	48	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325355.3	6663362.8	384.8	-59	249	B4P26
ABFR0268	RC	74	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325368.6	6663364.4	385.0	-60	244	B4P9
ABFR0269	RC	70	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325358.8	6663385.0	384.8	-60	242	B4P22
ABFR0270	RC	64	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325343.1	6663391.6	384.7	-60	255	<i>New infill</i>
ABFR0271	RC	70	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325350.3	6663397.3	384.6	-60	247	<i>New infill</i>
ABFR0272	RC	23	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325334.4	6663400.5	384.5	-60	246	B4P19
ABFR0273	RC	79	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325348.1	6663405.1	384.5	-60	251	BF26
ABFR0274	RC	130	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325368.5	6663417.2	384.7	-59	247	BFRC006
ABFR0275	RC	74	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325341.3	6663421.8	384.4	-60	243	BFRC014
ABFR0276	RC	80	M24/00778	MGA94_51	325310.9	6663376.7	384.5	-60	066	<i>New infill</i>

Appendix 4 – JORC Code, 2012 Edition, Table 1 report

Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

(Criteria in this section applies to all succeeding sections)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature and quality of sampling (e.g. cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling. Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used. Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report. In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (e.g. 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases, more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (e.g. submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All holes were sampled on a 2 metre down hole interval basis, with exceptions being made for end of hole final-lengths. All sampling lengths were recorded in ARL's standard sampling record spreadsheets. Sample condition, sample recovery and sample size were recorded for all drill-core samples collected by ARL. The drill spacing was <i>ad hoc</i>, being defined by proximity to twinned drill holes, or through identification of a gap in data. Nominally, drill holes are around 10-20m apart. The drilling will also contribute to provide material for the purpose of metallurgical sampling should the need arise. Industry standard practice was used in the processing of samples for assay, with 2m intervals of RC chips collected in green plastic bags. Assay of samples utilised standard laboratory techniques with standard ICP-AES undertaken on 50 gram samples for Au, Pt and Pd, and lithium borate fused-bead XRF analysis used for the remaining multi-element suite. Further details of lab processing techniques are found in Quality of assay data and laboratory tests below.
Drilling techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drill type (e.g. core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (e.g. core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this program, Ardea drilled the Big Four Gold prospect with 11 reverse circulation (RC) drill holes. Holes were drilled to be parallel to historic twin holes, at a nominal 60°→245°. The only exception to this approximate orientation was ABFR0276 (60°→066°) as the preferred collar location was inaccessible due to historic mine workings. Twin holes were generally collared within 2 m north or south of the twin hole's collar position. RC drilling was performed with a face sampling hammer (bit diameter between 4½ and 5 ¼ inches) and samples were collected by either a cone (majority) or riffle splitter using 2 metre composites. Sample condition, sample recovery and sample size were recorded for all drill samples collected by ARL.
Drill sample recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed. Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples. Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC chip sample recovery was recorded by visual estimation of the reject sample, expressed as a percentage recovery. Overall estimated recovery was high. RC Chip sample condition recorded using a three code system, D=Dry, M=Moist, W=Wet. A small proportion of samples were moist or wet (11.5%), with the majority of these being associated with soft goethite clays, where water injection has been used to improve drill recovery. Measures taken to ensure maximum RC sample recoveries included maintaining a clean cyclone and drilling equipment, using water injection at times of reduced air circulation, as well as regular communication with the drillers and slowing drill advance rates when variable to poor ground conditions are encountered.
Logging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies. Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography. The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drilling was undertaken for confirmation of historic results and gap infill. The level of logging detail utilised supports future potential resource estimation and was as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual geological logging was completed for all drilling both at the time of drilling (using standard Ardea logging codes), and later over relevant met-sample intervals with a metallurgical-logging perspective. Geochemistry from historic data was used together with logging data to validate logged geological horizons. Visual geological logging was completed for all RC drilling on 1 metre intervals. Logging was performed at the time of drilling, and planned drill hole target lengths adjusted by the geologist during drilling. The geologist also oversaw all sampling and drilling practices. A mixture of ARL employees and contract geologists supervised all drilling. A small selection of representative chips were also collected for every 1 metre interval and stored in chip-trays for future reference. In total, 738 m were drilled during the program, with the chips generated during entire program logged in detail.
Sub-sampling techniques and sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metre composite samples were recovered using a 15:1 rig mounted cone splitter or trailer mounted riffle splitter during drilling into a calico sample bag. Sample target

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry. For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique. Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples. Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling. Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled. 	<p>weight was between 2 and 3kg. In the case of wet clay samples, grab samples taken from sample return pile, initially into a calico sample bag. Wet samples were stored separately from other samples in plastic bags and riffle split once dry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QAQC was employed. A standard, blank or duplicate sample was inserted into the sample stream 10 metres on a rotating basis. Standards were quantified industry standards. Every 30th sample a duplicate sample was taken using the same sample sub sample technique as the original sub sample. Sample sizes are appropriate for the nature of mineralisation.
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total. For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc. Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g. standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision have been established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Ardea samples were submitted to Kalgoorlie Bureau Veritas (BV) laboratories and transported to BV Perth, where they were pulverised. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The samples were sorted, wet weighed, dried then weighed again. Primary preparation has been by crushing and splitting the sample with a riffle splitter where necessary to obtain a sub-fraction which has then been pulverised in a vibrating pulveriser. All coarse residues have been retained. The samples have been cast using a 66:34 flux with 4% lithium nitrate added to form a glass bead. Al, As, Ba, Ca, Cl, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, Ga, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, P, Pb, S, Sc, Si, Sr, Ti, V, Zn, Zr have been determined by X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Spectrometry on oven dry (105°C) sample unless otherwise stated. A fused bead for Laser Ablation MS was created to define Ag_LA, Be_LA, Bi_LA, Cd_LA, Ce_LA, Co_LA, Cs_LA, Dy_LA, Er_LA, Eu_LA, Gd_LA, Ge_LA, Hf_LA, Ho_LA, In_LA, La_LA, Lu_LA, Mo_LA, Nb_LA, Nd_LA, Ni_LA, Pr_LA, Rb_LA, Re_LA, Sb_LA, Sc_LA, Se_LA, Sm_LA, Sn_LA, Ta_LA, Tb_LA, Te_LA, Th_LA, Tl_LA, Tm_LA, U_LA, V_LA, W_LA, Y_LA, Yb_LA, which have been determined by Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LAICP-MS). The samples have been analysed by Firing a 40 g (approx) portion of the sample. Lower sample weights may be employed for samples with very high sulphide and metal contents. This is the classical fire assay process and will give total separation of Gold, Platinum and Palladium in the sample. Au1, Pd, Pt have been determined by Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) Optical Emission Spectrometry. Loss on Ignition results have been determined using a robotic TGA system. Furnaces in the system were set to 110 and 1000 degrees Celsius. LOI1000 have been determined by Robotic TGA. Dry weight and wet weight have been determined gravimetrically. BV routinely inserts analytical blanks, standards and duplicates into the client sample batches for laboratory QAQC performance monitoring. Ardea also inserted QAQC samples into the sample stream at a 1 in 10 frequency, alternating between blanks (industrial sands) and standard reference materials. Additionally, a review was conducted for geochemical consistency between historically expected data, recent data, and geochemical values that would be expected in a nickel laterite profile. All of the QAQC data has been statistically assessed. There were rare but explainable inconsistencies in the returning results from standards submitted, and it has been determined that levels of accuracy and precision relating to the samples are acceptable.
Verification of sampling and assaying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel. The use of twinned holes. Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols. Discuss any adjustment to assay data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BV routinely inserts analytical blanks, standards and duplicates into the client sample batches for laboratory QAQC performance monitoring. Ardea also inserted QAQC samples into the sample stream at a 1 in 20 frequency, alternating between duplicates splits, blanks (industrial sands) and standard reference materials. All of the QAQC data has been statistically assessed. Ardea has undertaken its own further in-house review of QAQC results of the BV routine standards, 100% of which returned within acceptable QAQC limits. This fact combined with the fact that the data is demonstrably consistent has meant that the results are considered to be acceptable and suitable for reporting.
Location of data points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation. Specification of the grid system used. Quality and adequacy of topographic control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All drill holes are to be surveyed using an RTK DGPS system with either a 3 or 7 digit accuracy. The coordinates are stored in the exploration database referenced to the MGA Zone 51 Datum GDA94. All holes drilled as part of the Big Four Gold program were angled and were surveyed down hole at 30 m intervals and at EOH. The grid system for all models is GDA94. Where historic data or mine grid data has been used it has been transformed into GDA94 from its original source grid via the appropriate transformation. Both original and transformed data is stored in the digital database. A DGPS pickup up of drill collar locations is considered sufficiently accurate for reporting of resources, but is not suitable for mine planning and reserves.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Data spacing and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</i> • <i>Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied.</i> • <i>Whether sample compositing has been applied.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drill spacing ad hoc, designed to either twin a historic drill holes or infill gaps in near-surface data. Spacing between holes was generally of the order of 10-20 m. • The spacing is considered sufficient for the definition of Mineral Resources. Data will be assessed in detail prior to estimation of a Mineral Resource. • Samples were composited over 2 m for the entire drill program.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.</i> • <i>If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All drill holes in this program were angled. They were designed to parallel historic holes for twinning, and were drilled at a nominal 60°→245°. The only exception was ABFR0276 (60°→066°) as the preferred collar location was inaccessible due to historic mine workings. <p>Gold mineralisation is subvertical and striking approximately 335°-340°, associated with a subvertical, late-stage intermediate porphyry intrusive. Intercepts are as normal to the orientation of mineralisation as can be reliably defined using RC drilling. However, the detailed orientation of vein sets and breccia zones within and adjacent to the intrusive is not currently known.</p>
Sample security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The measures taken to ensure sample security.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All samples were collected and accounted for by ARL employees/consultants during drilling. All samples were bagged into calico plastic bags and closed with cable ties. Samples were transported to Kalgoorlie from logging site by ARL employees/consultants and submitted directly to BV Kalgoorlie. • The appropriate manifest of sample numbers and a sample submission form containing laboratory instructions were submitted to the laboratory. Any discrepancies between sample submissions and samples received were routinely followed up and accounted for.
Audits or reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No audit or review beyond normal operating procedures has yet been undertaken on the Big Four Gold dataset. ARL has periodically conducted internal reviews of sampling techniques relating to resultant exploration datasets, and larger scale reviews capturing the data from multiple drilling programs. • Internal reviews of the exploration data included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsurveyed drill hole collars (less than 1% of collars). • Drill Holes with overlapping intervals (0%). • Drill Holes with no logging data (less than 2% of holes). • Sample logging intervals beyond end of hole depths (0%). • Samples with no assay data (from 0 to <5% for any given project, usually related to issues with sample recovery from difficult ground conditions, mechanical issues with drill rig, damage to sample in transport or sample preparation). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assay grade ranges. • Collar coordinate ranges • Valid hole orientation data. • The BV Laboratory was visited by ARL staff in 2017, and the laboratory processes and procedures were reviewed at this time and determined to be robust.

Section 2 - Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings. The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tenement on which the Big Four Gold drilling was undertaken is M24/778-I. ARL, through its subsidiary companies, is the sole holder of the tenement. Heritage surveys were carried out prior to application for the Program of Works to undertake the program. The tenement is part of a large group of tenements that is the subject of an agreement between ARL and the Maduwongga native title applicants.
Exploration done by other parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Big Four Gold prospect has been subject to limited historic exploration, mostly as drilling. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited historic mining around the 1920s to 1930s recovered 571.5t of ore for 10.53kg gold (~339oz gold), at an average grade of 18.4g/t Au. This gold occurrence cropped out at surface so was discovered by prospectors. Historic drilling of the Big Four Gold prospect has been undertaken by several companies between 1984 and present. In total, there have been 65 RC drill holes (prior to this program), and 2 diamond drill holes. Most drilling has been less than 100 m depth. Coopers Exploration (1980s), Heron Resources (late-2000s) and now Ardea are the main companies to have drilled at Big Four.
Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineralisation at Big Four Gold is orogenic gold mineralisation. It is hosted within and around a late-stage, intermediate porphyritic hornblende-plagioclase intrusive that has intruded into the Siberia Komatiite. Pyritic, silicic, albitic, and chloritic alteration are directly associated with gold mineralisation in both shear and breccia hosts. Contrasting rheological characteristics between the porphyry and the rocks of the Siberia Komatiite (including tremolite-chlorite schist) likely result in fracturing contemporaneous with deformation and regional gold mineralising events.
Drill hole Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> easting and northing of the drill hole collar elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar dip and azimuth of the hole down hole length and interception depth hole length. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All holes drilled in this most recent program are listed in "Appendix 2 – Collar location data".
Drill hole Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All assay data relating to the metals of interest at Big Four Gold, namely gold and associated tracefinder elements arsenic, antimony, and sulphur, are listed in "Appendix 3 – Assay results from Big Four Gold". Other elements were assayed but have not been reported here. They are of use and of interest from a scientific and metallurgical perspective, but are not considered material and their exclusion does not detract from the understanding of this report.
Data aggregation methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g. cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated. Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail. The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most drill hole samples have been collected over 2 m down hole intervals. Gold intercepts at Big Four Gold are defined using a 0.5 g/t cut-off on a minimum intercept of 1 m and a maximum internal waste of 2 m. Secondary intercepts (i.e. the "including" intercepts) are defined using a 2.0 g/t cut-off and the same intercept and internal waste characteristics. All assay samples were composited over 2 m. . No metal equivalent calculations have been used in this assessment.
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. If it is not known and only the down hole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All drill holes in this program were angled. Gold mineralisation is subvertical and striking approximately 335°-340°, associated with a subvertical, late-stage intermediate porphyry intrusive. Intercepts are as normal to the orientation of mineralisation as can be reliably defined using RC drilling. However, the detailed orientation of vein sets and breccia zones within and adjacent to the intrusive is not currently known.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	<i>lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (e.g. 'down hole length, true width not known').</i>	
Diagrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported. These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sections and maps are shown in the body of the document.
Balanced reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to this report. All results are reported either in the text or in the associated appendices. Examples of high-grade mineralisation are labelled as such.
Other substantive exploration data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other data are, at this stage, known to be either beneficial or deleterious to recovery of the metals reported.
Further work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The nature and scale of planned further work (e.g. tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).</i> • <i>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further drilling is required at Big Four Gold but has not yet been defined. Further drilling could include infill drilling, and extension of programs to the north and south along strike, and or down-plunge to the north. • Metallurgical assessment of all metals of interest at Big Four Gold will be undertaken prior to progression to a Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) should such a study be warranted.