



4 June 2010

## **BLACKTHORN RESOURCES ANNOUNCE START-UP OF DRILLING AT THE MUMBWA JV PROJECT, ZAMBIA**

Blackthorn Resources Limited (ASX: BTR, “the Company” or “Blackthorn Resources”) is pleased to announce that the Phase 4 drilling program has commenced at the Mumbwa Joint Venture (JV) Project in Zambia. The Mumbwa area is being explored for Iron-Oxide Copper Gold (IOCG) style of mineralisation similar to Olympic Dam, Ernest Henry and Prominent Hill in Australia.

The current Phase 4 drilling program is being managed and funded by JV partner BHP Billiton (40%) and includes drilling approximately 10,100m from 12 planned targets. The total amount of drilling proposed was increased from 9,000m following further review of geophysical data by BHP Billiton. In conjunction with the drilling program, BHP Billiton is testing the effectiveness of an Induced Polarisation geophysical survey which may generate further target sites for drilling.

The Phase 4 drilling program is focused on the Mushingashi and Mutoya anomalies as illustrated in Figure 1 which are situated along a regional-scale ‘density anomaly’ which contains some co-incident magnetic and radiometric anomalies. This geophysical feature has a strike length of approximately 19km and extends from the Kitumba inferred mineral resource area in the south towards the north-northwest.

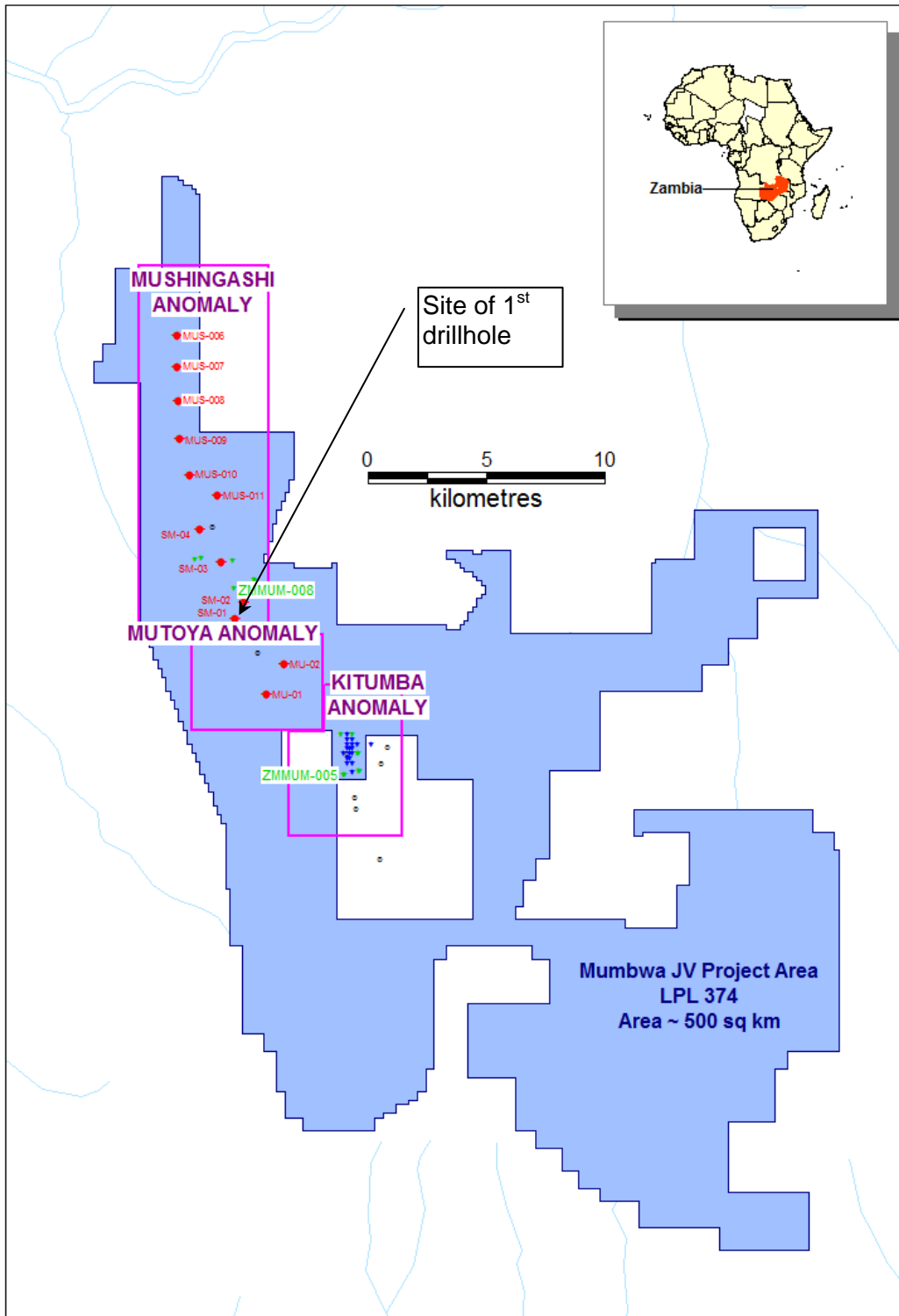
The Phase 4 program will use 2 drilling rigs capable of drilling Reverse Circulation (RC) pre-collars to a nominal depth of 250m which will be followed by diamond-core tails to approximately 800m end of hole depth. There are approximately 90 staff and contractors currently onsite at the Mumbwa camp.

The first of the drilling rigs as shown in FIGURE 2 has commenced drilling and is progressing with the RC pre-collar. The first target being drilled is situated towards the south of previously drilled hole ZMMUM-008 which was drilled during the previous drilling phase in 2009. Hole ZMMUM-008 intersected encouraging alteration and mineral assemblages including magnetite alteration after hematite and the presence of subordinate copper-iron sulphides in the form of the mineral bornite. These are some of the characteristics considered typical for IOCG style deposits.

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PRESS RELEASE



**FIGURE 1** – Mumbwa JV Project area illustrating the Mushingashi, Mutoya and Kitumba anomalies.



**FIGURE 2** – Drilling rig set up over the first hole being drilled at the Mushingashi Anomaly.

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