

Minara Resources Limited

# +30 year, leading Australian nickel operation A great platform for growth

#### July 2010

#### ASX: MRE



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#### Minara Resources is .....

- A leading listed Australian nickel price leverage investment
- Operator and 60% owner of the Murrin Murrin nickel facility
- 71% owned by Glencore, one of the world's largest metals traders
- Over 750 committed people with specialist capabilities in high pressure acid leach and heap leach nickel production
- Financially strong with over A\$360 million at bank at 30 June 2010.
- Committed to shareholder returns, with a A\$110 million capital return expected to be paid in September 2010
- Actively pursuing growth opportunities, both organic from internal sources and externally through acquisition



### Murrin Murrin Nickel Facility





- One of the world's largest LME grade nickel facilities
- Australia's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest nickel Reserve:
  - 219 million tonnes at 1.05% nickel and 0.08% cobalt at 31 December 2009 (2.3 million tonnes contained nickel, 0.75 million tonnes contained cobalt)\*
- Australia's longest life nickel producer
  - +30 years based on current Reserves and nickel prices
- The world's only single-site laterite nickel producer; producing high purity LME grade metal adjacent the mine, near Leonora WA
- The world's only commercially successful laterite nickel heap leach producer
- A world top 10 cobalt producer.



#### Corporate snapshot



ASX: MRE	Unit	Value
Shares	millions	1,168
Management performance rights	millions	12
Total securities - fully diluted	millions	1,180
Market capitalisation (@ A\$0.68/share)	A\$ million	802
Cash @ 30 June 2010	A\$ million	363
Debt	A\$ million	Nil
Enterprise value	A\$ million	439



### Financial performance

	Unit	Year Ended 31 December 2009	Six Months Ended 30 June 2010 (unaudited)
Nickel production	tonnes	32,977	14,512
Cobalt production	tonnes	2,350	1,008
Minara's share is 60%			
Revenue	A\$ million	446.1	233.7
Cost of production	A\$ million	377.7	178.7
Gross Profit	A\$ million	68.4	55.0
Post Tax Profit	A\$ million	48.5	39.3
Cash on hand	A\$ million	247.1	363.0
Net cash from operations	A\$ million	110.5	123.8



#### Value

- Murrin Murrin replacement value estimated A\$3-4 billion
- Current enterprise value of approximately A\$439 million:
  - A\$0.37 per share
  - 2 times annualised first half 2010 cash flow (A\$116 million)
- Enterprise value per tonne of Reserves significantly below ASX peers\*

Company	ASX Code	2010 Production ('000 tonnes)	Enterprise Value (EV)(A\$M)	EV per Tonne of Nickel Reserves (A\$'000)	EV per Tonne of Nickel Resources (A\$'000)
Minara	MRE	18 - 20.4	439	0.19	0.15
Mirabella	MBN	11.7	1,064	1.47	0.67
Panoramic	PAN	16.6	347	2.52	1.24
Independence	IGO	7.8	234	4.51	2.49
Western Areas	WSA	10.1	1,010	5.32	2.72
Mincor	MCR	10.9	264	5.81	1.72





### Murrin Murrin Mine





#### Murrin Murrin Resources and Reserves as at 31 December 2009:

(Minara 60%)

MINERAL RESOURCES				
Resource Category	Tonnage (million tonnes)	Nickel Grade %	Cobalt Grade %	Cut-off Grade Nickel
Measured	108	1.04	0.075	0.8%
Indicated	126	1.00	0.076	0.8%
Inferred	12	0.96	0.062	0.8%
Scats	1	1.07	0.058	
Stockpiles (Measured)	36	1.02	0.067	
TOTAL	283	1.02	0.074	

MINERAL RESERVES				
Reserve Category	Tonnage (million tonnes)	Nickel Grade %	Cobalt Grade %	
Proven	112	1.07	0.082	
Probable	70	1.04	0.079	
Scats	1	1.07	0.058	
Stockpiles	36	1.02	0.067	
TOTAL	219	1.05	0.079	

(Refer to Statements related to Resources and Reserves at the end of this presentation)



### Murrin Murrin unit production costs (C1)



\* 2 ½ year simple average C1 production costs of US\$5.30/lb, after estimated 2,000 tonne production loss associated with T1 Pipeline Failure in May/June 2010.

### Train 1 Autoclave Pipeline Failure – May/June 2010

- No-one injured
- Insurance claim being processed
- Root cause "steam collapse"
  - First time identified in 10 years of operation
  - Plant modifications made to address root cause
  - New process controls and monitoring systems in place
- HPAL circuit (all 4 HPAL autoclaves) shut-down for 3 weeks
  - Estimated approximate 2,000 tonnes lost nickel production
  - Production continued from heap leach and nickel-in-circuit
- Minara first half cashflow of A\$116 million, despite the negative cashflow impact of the pipeline failure.



## Growth





- Minara's strong operating performance and financial position allows a new growth focus.
- Significant projects (+\$90 million invested) are currently being completed/commissioned to increase production capacity by 5-10%
- Development of the Murrin Murrin East ore-body is underway, securing the grade profile for the next 5 to 8 years.
- Five further "internal" growth projects are being studied/advanced, each with the capacity to materially increase production.
- Beyond realising the latent value of Murrin Murrin, Minara is actively seeking "second mine" acquisition opportunities.



#### Growth - internal

- +A\$90 million of Murrin Murrin growth projects are being completed/commissioned:
  - High Density Slurry (HDS): Debottlenecking leach autoclaves by increasing neutralisation capacity.

Potential 5%-10% increased throughput at "front end" of plant.

- 6<sup>th</sup> Refinery Autoclave: Increasing nickel reduction capacity.

Potential 5%-10% increased capacity at "back end" of plant.

- A further \$10-15 million of sustaining capital projects are underway:
  - Murrin Murrin East mine development: secures the grade profile for next 5 to 8 years.
  - In-pit tails disposal: Reduces operating costs and environmental footprint by depositing tailings into mined out ore pits.



• Multiple opportunities for increased production:

Initiative	Details	Status
HDS	As discussed above	Commissioning
6 <sup>th</sup> Refinery Autoclave	As discussed above	Nearing completion
Secondary feed	Process higher grade ore/concentrates from other mines.	Commenced Western Areas Ltd ore treatment Negotiating multiple other sources
Near mine exploration	Drill to identify high grade areas. Access these to lift medium term grade	Drilling underway First near mine
	profile.	exploration since 2000
First stage heap leach expansion	Increase current heap leach capacity.	Feasibility study
Marshall Pool	Identify high grade areas within this large known resource, for beneficiation to lift medium term grade profile.	Feasibility study
Acquire sulphide deposit	Acquire new sulphide nickel resource - can cope with high arsenic.	Actively pursuing



#### Growth - external

- Submitted unsuccessful bid to acquire BHPB's Ravensthorpe Nickel Project.
- Growth team re-deployed to identify the next opportunity:
  - geology, engineering, technical and operations personnel.
- Actively seeking "second mine" opportunities to leverage from strong corporate and financial position and core capabilities in:
  - technically complex production processes
  - process engineering and design
  - nickel and other metal heap leach production
- Value based approach.



#### Minara's track record

- Pioneered Australian laterite nickel production
- 10 years continuous operation and re-investment in the business
- 18 advanced nickel processing patents/patent applications
- Developed world's first commercially successful laterite nickel heap leach operation
- Delivered average 30,000 tonnes pa nickel production at Murrin Murrin over the last five years
- Delivered average C1 cash costs of US\$5.30/lb at Murrin Murrin over the last five years
- Delivered significant cash returns to shareholders
- Identified six internal growth projects currently being studied/advanced



### Why invest in Minara?

- A leading listed Australian nickel price leverage investment
- +30 year mine life, +30,000 tonnes pa Murrin Murrin nickel production
- Strong balance sheet A\$363 million cash at 30 June 2010, no debt
- History of cash returns to shareholders
- Enterprise value of A\$439 million or A\$0.37 per share
  - 2 times multiple of annualised first half 2010 cash flow
  - Significantly lower value per tonne of nickel Reserves/Resources than ASX peers
- Growth focussed both internal incremental production initiatives and actively pursuing "second mine" opportunities
- Strong, supportive shareholder: Glencore a major global metals trader



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#### RESOURCES

Minara's Resources are based on a cut-off grade of 0.8 percent nickel and depletion of the geological block models using end of period surface surveys.

The Resources classification is based on drill spacing, with the Measured category less than or equal to 50x50m, the indicated category less than or equal to 100x100m and the inferred category greater than 100x100m. The changes in Resource position are due to a combination of depletion of material from mining and processing activities and the updating of resources from new resource models in 'Resource Zones' rz19, rz21 and rz23.

#### RESERVES

Minara's Reserves are based on optimisations using US\$16,000 per tonne nickel, US\$10.00 per lb cobalt and an exchange rate of 0.70 \$AUD/\$USD. The 2009 Reserve optimisations consider the impacts of major process plant shutdowns as well as the presence of project-to-date backfill, in-pit tailings and public infrastructure. A downward revision of the moisture content of stockpiled material has increased the reserve tonnage of both scats and stockpiles. The 2009 Reserve is net of all mining, milling and stockpiling activities completed during the period and presents a net reduction in the reserve position from 2008.

The Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources include those Mineral Resources modified to produce the Ore Reserves. The process of deriving ore reserves uses the economic value of the ore blocks as the basis for inclusion in the reserve, and is in accordance with the Australian Code for the Reporting of Identified Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (JORC, 2004). The economic value is based on metal grades and projected values, processing and associated operating costs. The above Resources and Reserves have been prepared in accordance with JORC requirements for public reporting.



#### COMPETENT PERSONS STATEMENT

The information relating to exploration results is based on information compiled by Mr David Selfe, the information relating to Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Mr Rod Greenup, the information relating to Ore Resources is based on information compiled by Mr Stephen King and Mr David Selfe and the information relating to Metallurgical Results is based on information compiled by Mr John O'Callaghan.

Mr Selfe, Mr Greenup, Mr King and Mr O'Callaghan are all Members of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and are all full time employees of Minara Resources Limited. Mr Selfe, Mr Greenup, Mr King and Mr O'Callaghan all have sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking in order to qualify as Competent Persons as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves' and all consent to the inclusion of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.



#### Contact

Andrew Bantock, Chief Financial Officer Minara Resources Limited + 61 8 9212 8400 www.minara.com.au

or

David Griffiths, Gryphon Management Australia +61 8 9382 8300

**Minara Resources Limited** 

Level 4, 30 The Esplanade PERTH WA 6000 PO Box Z5523, St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6831 AUSTRALIA

www.minara.com.au

