



Noble raises \$30m to fund extensive drilling campaign

Placement closes heavily oversubscribed

Key Points

- Proceeds will fund aggressive drilling campaign of up to 55,000m a month for 12 months at the Bibiani Gold Project in Ghana
- Drilling expected to result in significant increase to current Resource of 1.98moz and Reserve of 605,000oz
- Plant refurbishment well underway – 90% strip out complete
- Bibiani on track for first production in mid-2011, rising to + 150,000oz a year
- \$30m Share placement to Australian and overseas institutions at 39c
- BGF Equities and Patersons Securities report strong demand for the placement

Noble Mineral Resources (ASX:NMG) is pleased to advise that it has received firm commitments for the placement of approximately 77m shares at 39 cents to raise \$30m to fund an extensive drilling campaign that is expected to result in substantial increases in reserve and resource estimates at its Bibiani Gold Project in Ghana.

The capital raising will be completed in two tranches. Tranche one will comprise the issue of approximately 44m shares and tranche two, comprising approximately 33m shares, will be issued subject to shareholder approval at an EGM to be convened at a later date.

The placement was undertaken by BGF Equities and Patersons Securities as Joint Lead Managers and reported strong interest from domestic and Asian based institutions.

The proceeds will be used to underpin an aggressive exploration campaign at Bibiani, which will see up to five rigs operating at the same time, drilling as many as 55,000m a month for the next 12 months.

The results of the drilling program are expected to generate a series of regular reserve and resource upgrades at Bibiani. Resources currently stand at 1.98m ounces, including 605,000oz in Reserves.



The first phase of this drilling campaign will focus on the west wall of the main pit which was initially earmarked for a significant cut back. However, recent data compilation and subsequent remodelling, coupled with recent drilling from underground which intersected substantial mineralisation to within 300m of the surface, indicates that a significant portion of this area is mineralised and remains open.

Drilling will now take place from the surface to confirm the extent of mineralisation in this area with a view to including it in the resource-reserve model.

Noble believes the strong potential for this region to be reclassified as ore represents a highly significant point in the re-development of Bibiani. Under this scenario, the Company will re-optimize the pit design, review its mining schedule and reassess other operational requirements to ensure it takes full advantage of what would be a substantial boost to the project's life and economics.

Noble also notes that the expansion of the cutback of the western wall will enable the pit to be deepened, allowing access to mineralisation previously classified as underground ore reserves to be exploited by much cheaper open cut mining methods.

Part of the proceeds from the share placement will also be used to fund infill drilling around known satellite deposits at Bibiani to enable this mineralisation to be brought into the resource-reserve estimate.

Noble Managing Director Wayne Norris said the Bibiani Gold Project was going from strength to strength. Refurbishing of the processing plant was proceeding rapidly, with the latest assessment suggesting that its total annual capacity would now be up to 3.2 million tonnes compared with initial estimates of 2.7 million tonnes. This refurbishment, which is forecast to cost about \$12 million, is being funded from existing cash reserves and will not consume any of the proceeds of the current raising.

"We are well on track to commission the plant in May-June next year and ramping up quickly to a production rate of + 150,000oz a year," Mr Norris said. "However, with the aggressive drilling campaign that is about to start and the superb results being achieved with the mill refurbishment, we see significant scope to increase our annual output.

"It is clear that Noble is fast emerging as a major West African gold producer that will have substantial production with robust margins and significant exploration upside."

Authorised by:

Wayne Norris
Managing Director



Competent Person's Statement

The information in this announcement that relates to Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimates is based on information compiled by Mr Phillip Schiemer (BSc (Hons), Geology and Geophysics), who is a Corporate Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Schiemer is employed by Noble Mineral Resources Ltd, and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation being reported herein as Mineral Resources, Ore Reserves and Exploration Results to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves' (JORC Code). Mr Schiemer consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information in the form and content in which it appears.

About Noble Mineral Resources Limited

Noble Mineral Resources Limited listed on the Australian Stock Exchange on 26th June 2008 with a focus on exploring for large-scale gold deposits in the world-class Ashanti Gold Belt in Ghana, West Africa.

In November 2009, the Company entered into an agreement for the acquisition of the **Bibiani Gold Mine**, a project located in the Sefwi-Bibiani Gold Belt in Ghana. On July 20th 2010 the final Share Transfer Form was executed to consummate the purchase.

Noble's other primary gold concessions are Exploration Licences at **Cape Three Points, Brotet and Tumentu**, which cover some 141.3km² and all are located within the world-class Ashanti Gold Belt in south western Ghana. Ghana is the second largest gold producer in Africa and is the 10th largest gold producing nation in the world, with annual production of approximately 2.9 Million Ounces.

Noble's ongoing focus will be to expand the drilling program at Bibiani to target new shallow resources near the Bibiani Mine and adjacent tenements while still progressing the **Cape Three Points, Brotet and Tumentu** Concessions within the Southern extension of the Ashanti Gold Belt. Initial exploration at Cape Three Points will be targeted towards the **Satin Mine Project** and the **Morrison Project**, both of which lie in an area of historic underground gold exploration. Noble believes that there is significant potential for the delineation of additional high-grade gold mineralisation relating to the down-plunge and strike extension to these zones. When added to the potential now available at Bibiani it will place Noble in a strong position to achieve its goal in building Australia's next major gold mining house.

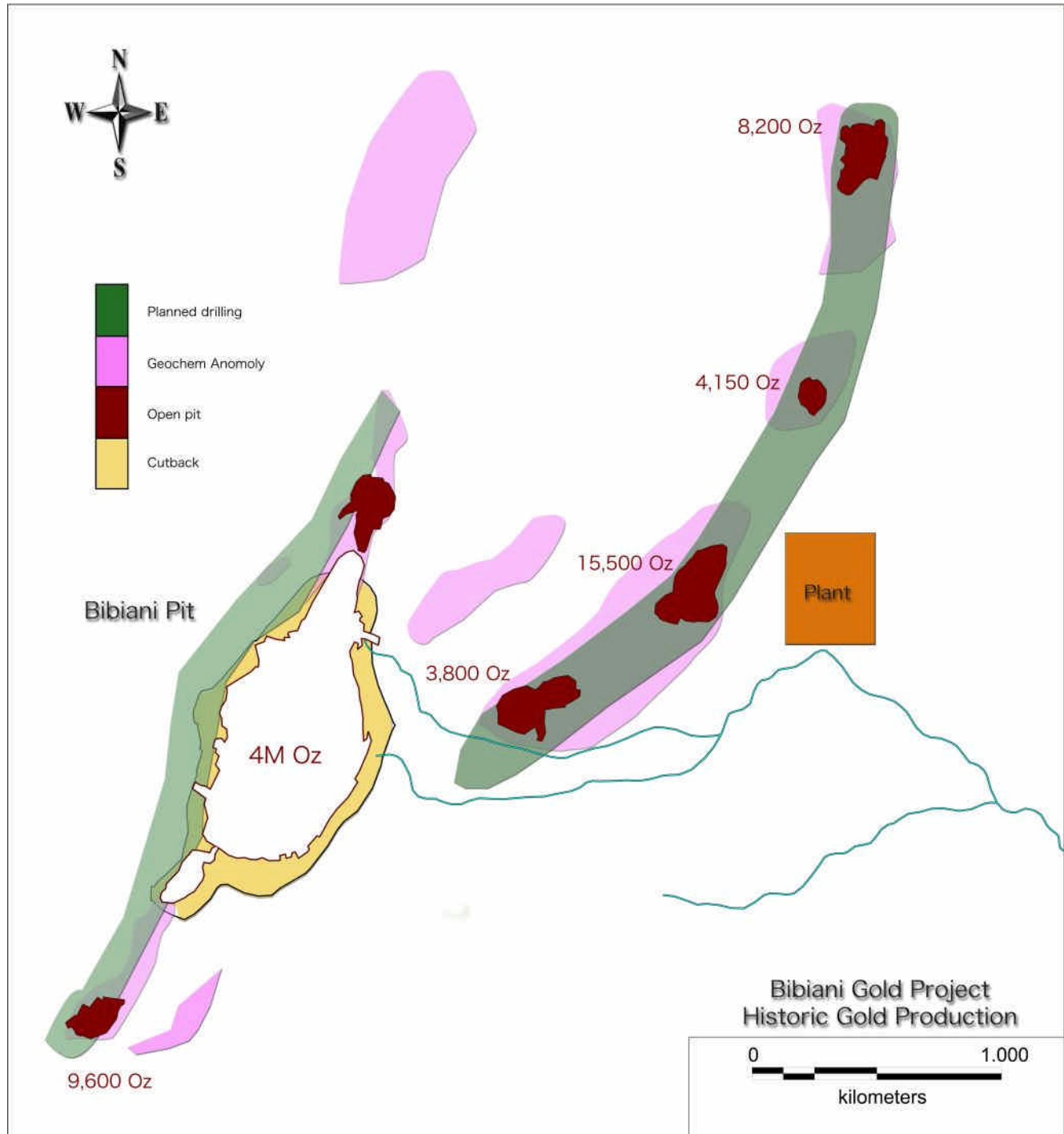
The Company recognises the **Bibiani, Cape Three Points, Brotet and Tumentu** Concessions are relatively under explored, highly prospective projects and aims to rapidly redefine JORC-compliant resources for development. In this regard Noble has allocated \$9M of the recent capital raising to achieve this goal over the 2010/11 years.

ASX Code: NMG

www.nobleminres.com.au



Figure 1 – Planned Drilling





Appendix 1 – Proved and Probable Ore Reserves as at March 2010

Bibiani Open Pit Detailed Design Cutback Proved and Probable Ore Reserves – March 2010												
	Oxide			Fresh			Fill			Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces	Tonnes	Grade	Ounces
	Mt	G/t	Mozs	Mt	G/t	Mozs	Mt	G/t	Mozs	Mt	G/t	Mozs
Proved	-	-	-	3.45	2.29	0.254	-	-	-	3.454	2.29	0.254
Probable	0.30	1.45	0.014	4.40	2.28	0.323	0.25	1.79	0.014	4.946	2.21	0.351
Total	0.30	1.45	0.014	7.85	2.28	0.577	0.25	1.79	0.014	8.400	2.24	0.605

Derived from Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources using a cut-off grade of 0.7g/t

Appendix 2 - March 2010 JORC Mineral Resource Estimate

	TONNAGE	GRADE	METAL	CONT'D GOLD
	Tonnes (million)	(Au g/t)	(tonnes Au)	Ounces (million)
Measured	6.56	2.05	13.44	0.43
Indicated	13.37	1.77	23.66	0.76
Inferred	13.06	1.89	24.61	0.79
Total	32.98	1.87	61.70	1.98