



ASX and AIM Release
4 January 2010

Maiden resource pending; Exploration generating highly promising results

HIGHLIGHTS

- Maiden JORC resource for Bir En Nar Uranium Project expected to be completed in first quarter of 2010, subject to final assay results
- Resource core drilling program set for completion in mid-January.
- Planned R/C drilling program around the town of Bir Moghreïn has been tripled from 2000m to about 6000m, or 300 holes, across 14 prospects. This is set to commence February 2010.
- Encouraging observations continue to be made from field exploration elsewhere on Mauritanian licence areas, in particular, calcrete hosted uranium anomalies near Bir Moghreïn.
- The Leg Beïja radiometric anomaly has now been defined over an area 10km long and up to 500 metres wide. Sampling pits encountered hard calcrete with secondary uranium minerals down to more than 3 metres depth.
- Pit sampling at Anomaly 252 shows high radiation levels with secondary uranium minerals in calcrete.
- Calcrete mineralisation also observed at Anomaly 238 together with a granite dyke or mylonite zone showing high Uranium readings on hand-held spectrometer.

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- **Detailed radiometric airborne surveys over 9 areas within Forte's Mauritanian licences scheduled for completion in January 2010.**

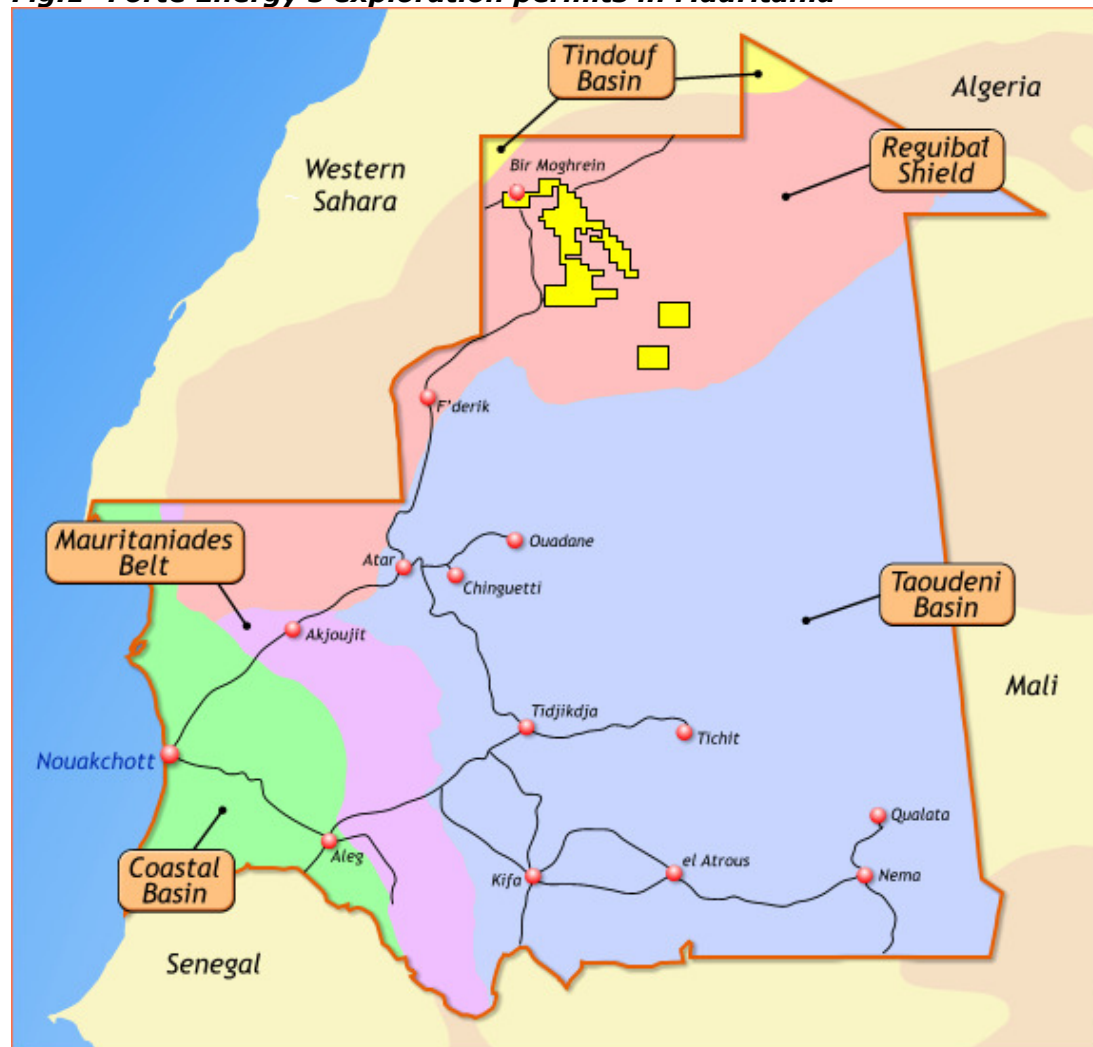
International uranium company Forte Energy NL ("**Forte**" or "**the Company**") (**ASX/AIM: FTE**) is pleased to provide the following update on its resource drilling and exploration activities at its 100 per cent-owned exploration licences near **Bir En Nar** and **Bir Moghreïn** in **Mauritania**, West Africa.

Resource Drilling at Bir En Nar:

The Company's key focus is the resource core drilling program of up to 6,000m being carried out at the **Bir En Nar** prospect where Forte completed more than 4,000m of Reverse Circulation drill testing during 2007. Results included intercepts in excess of 5,000ppm eU_3O_8 with a maximum intersection of 1.55m at 18,280ppm eU_3O_8 .

Most of the drilling in the current program has been completed. This is despite some delays encountered by the drilling contractors due to logistical and mechanical problems. Drilling is expected to be finalised in mid-January. An initial JORC code-compliant resource for Bir En Nar, which is being calculated by consultants Coffey Mining, is expected to be published in the 1st Quarter of 2010, subject to timing of assay results.

Fig.1 Forte Energy's exploration permits in Mauritania



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Field observations from the diamond core drilling generally confirm what was found during the previous R/C drilling program, with readings from the core samples taken on site using handheld instruments indicating similar high grades. From the core orientation control the Company believes that the steep dipping mineralisation is displaced (but still within the 100 metre wide zone) in two low dipping (3-5 degrees to the East) faults marked by thin mafic dykes. The mineralisation occurs in granite of different mode, both as impregnation and as fissure fillings. Mostly there is a visible vague alteration but there is also high radiation mineralisation without any sign of alteration. The rock is hard with few crush zones and core recovery is good.

Samples are transported initially to the Mauritanian capital of Nouakchott to await inspection by the Ministry of Mines before being transported to ALS Chemex in Bamako, Mali for initial preparation. They are then sent to ALS Chemex laboratory in Vancouver, Canada, for multi-element analysis, including uranium. Assay results from the first samples sent to Canada are expected to be available within days.

Fig.2 Diamond core drilling at Bir En Nar



Field Exploration:

Forte Energy currently holds a total of nine uranium exploration licences within the Pre-Cambrian Reguibat Shield in Northern Mauritania covering a total of 11,895sqkm. The ground selected was highlighted by available airborne radiometric survey data and extends southeast for over 340km from the town of Bir Moghreïn. The principal radiometric targets tested lie within the vicinity of two major north-northwest to south-southeast trending structural zones containing local areas of supracrustal rocks within the granite dominated Reguibat Shield.

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While resource drilling is underway at Bir En Nar, field exploration of other uranium targets has continued within Forte's exploration licences near Bir Moghreïn, including trenching, geophysical surveying, geological study and rock sampling.

Anomaly 252 is on the main track to Algeria. The VLF-EM survey shows two parallel conductors 300m apart trending NE-SW. Pit sampling showed high radiation levels in the calcrete.

Recent activity has concentrated on the Leg Beija and the nearby Anomalies 237 and 238. The **Leg Beija** anomaly has been found to extend more than 10 kilometres and is up to 500 metres wide. Sampling pits encountered hard calcrete down to more than 3 metres depth with secondary uranium minerals. In the bottom of some back-hoe pits (3-4 metres depth), the calcrete contained quartz and feldspar fragments of granite type. Yellow uranium minerals occur frequently in the calcrete as in the brecciated granite.

In addition to the calcrete mineralisation observed at **Anomaly 238**, there was also an interesting granite dyke or mylonite zone observed which showed high uranium readings on a hand-held spectrometer.

Fig.3 Sites of planned R/C drilling and airborne surveys

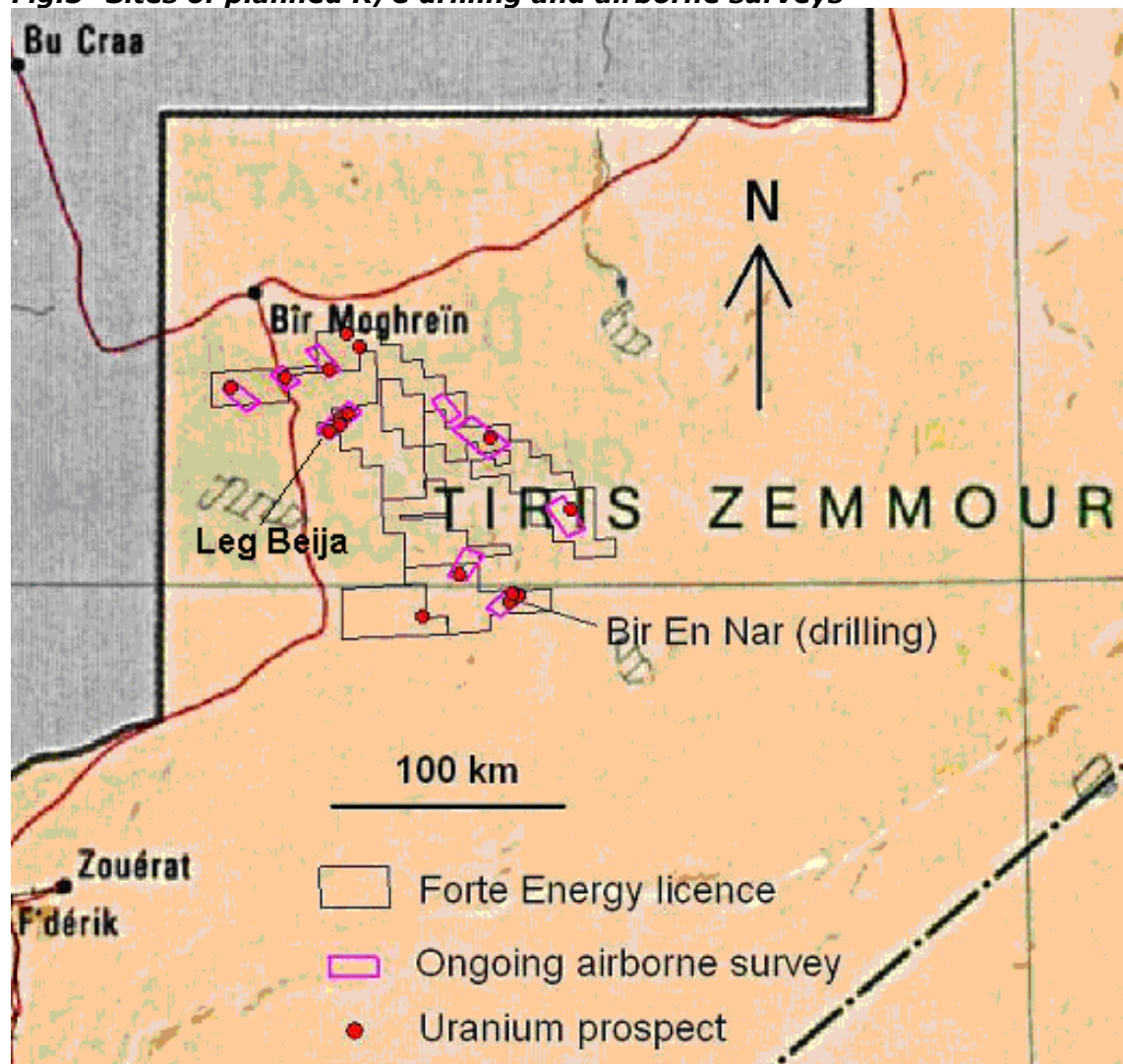
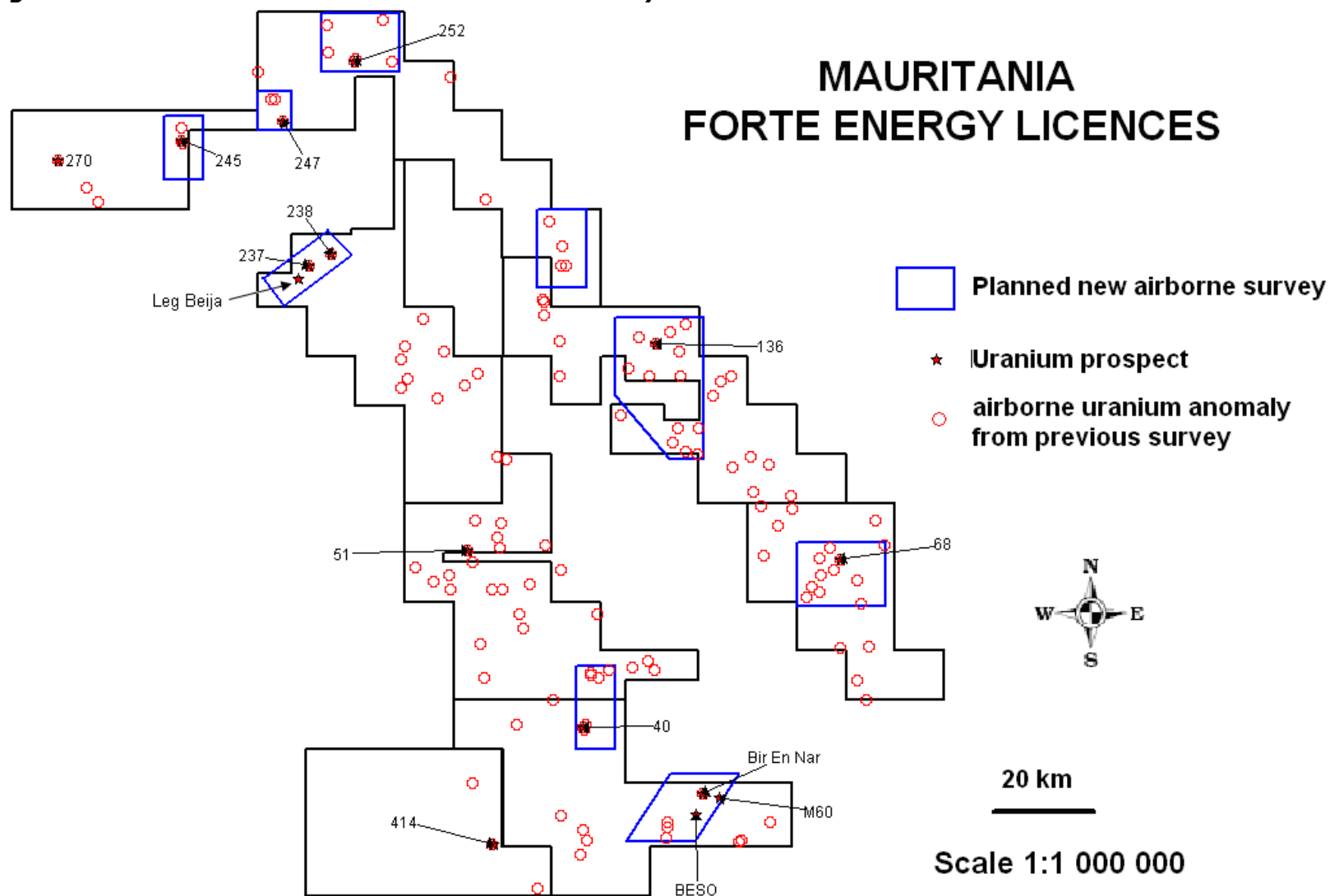


Fig.4 Sites of uranium anomalies and airborne surveys



Assays from sampling pits at the above anomalies have been submitted to ALS Chemex, though no results have been received as yet. The latest observations from the exploration of these anomalies compliments the progress reported on other anomalies in the previous update issued on 30 October 2009.

R/C Drilling Program:

Following the continued successes of the current field exploration activities, the planned **Reverse Circulation drilling program** has been significantly increased from 2000m over six prospects to around 300 holes totalling up to 6000m across fourteen uranium prospects. This is set to commence in early February, 2010. Results from this drilling program are expected to identify priority targets for follow-up resource drilling.

Airborne Radiometric Surveys:

Detailed radiometric airborne surveys over nine areas within Forte's Mauritanian licences are scheduled for completion in January. The surveys are being carried out by the German company Terrascan Airborne. It is using a light-weight remote controlled aircraft equipped with a 4-litre Cs crystal multichannel spectrometer and a GEM potassium GSMP40 magnetometer. Measurements will be carried out along lines with 200 metre spacing and at an altitude of 60 metres. Flight direction will be selected individually for the various areas.

The Company is eagerly awaiting the completion of its current exploration activities and looks forward to announcing its initial JORC code compliant uranium resource for Bir En Nar and the results of its sampling and R/C drilling programs at Bir Moghreïn in 2010.



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About Forte

Forte Energy NL is an Australian-based no liability company whose principal activity is minerals exploration. The Company is an emerging international uranium company focused on the exploration and development of a high-quality portfolio of uranium assets in the Republics of Mauritania and Guinea, West Africa.

Shares in the company are listed on both the Australian Stock Exchange (**ASX - FTE**) and the AIM market (**AIM - FTE**) of the London Stock Exchange.

Forte is progressing its Mauritanian assets through a Strategic Alliance and Cooperation Agreement with the French-based multinational industrial and nuclear energy giant, Areva NC, a global expert in nuclear energy. Areva also holds a strategic 11.29% equity interest in Forte Energy.

Forte Energy and Areva have agreed to establish a joint venture to develop the Company's Mauritanian assets if a minimum 60-80 million pounds of JORC Code compliant inferred uranium resources are established within the next two years. Forte is targeting the discovery of a maiden JORC resource at its Bir-En-Nar prospect in Mauritania by the end of 2009.

The Firawa Project is the most advanced of Forte's three uranium exploration projects in Guinea and the Company announced its maiden JORC resource for the Firawa project on 1st July 2009. Using a cut-off grade of 100ppm U3O8, the initial Inferred Resource estimate is 17.7Mt grading 296ppm U3O8 for 11.6 million pounds of contained U3O8.

Forte Energy's growth strategy in the international uranium industry is being driven by an accomplished Board and management team focused on maximising shareholder value and returns.

Note:

The information in this report that relates to exploration results in Mauritania, West Africa is based on information compiled by Mr. Bosse Gustafsson of Forte Energy NL, EurGeol Dr. W.A. Sheppard MIMM, MAusIMM, PGeo of LiaMin Consulting and Dr. G.A. Reynolds MSc, MBA of Metrics Consulting.

Mr. Gustafsson has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Mineral Resources and Reserves". Mr. Gustafsson is a member of the European Federation of Geologists a Recognised Overseas Professional Organisation ("ROPO"). Mr Bosse Gustafsson is a full time Technical Director of Forte Energy NL and is responsible for exploration activities in Mauritania and Guinea. Mr. Gustafsson consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.

Downhole gamma logging/probing of drill holes provides a powerful tool for uranium companies to explore for, and evaluate, uranium deposits. Such a method measures the natural gamma rays emitted from material surrounding a drill hole out to around 0.5 metre from its centre - the gamma probe is therefore capable of sampling a much larger volume than that which would normally be recovered from a core or RC hole. These measurements are used to estimate uranium concentrations with the commonly accepted initial assumption being that the uranium is in (secular) equilibrium with its daughter products (or radio-nuclides) which are the principal gamma emitters. If uranium is not in equilibrium (viz. in disequilibrium) – as a result of the redistribution (depletion or enhancement) of uranium and/or its daughter products – then the true uranium concentration in the holes logged using the gamma probe will be higher or lower than those reported in the announcement.

Total count gamma logging does not account for energy derived from thorium and potassium but is calibrated on the uranium band and factor applied to account for the average effect of thorium and potassium and thus the result is expressed as an equivalent value or ppm eU3O8. The logging program was undertaken by Poseidon Geophysics (Pty) Ltd utilising an Auslog Logging System using instruments calibrated at Pelindaba, South Africa, an IAEA accepted

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and approved standard facility. Data was converted from raw counts per second of natural gamma rays to eU3O8 using the calibration constant obtained from measurements made at the Pelindaba calibration borehole. Poseidon Geophysics carried out regular checks to validate the accuracy of probe data using a test hole, BNR14, located on site. Uranium mineralisation grades through this report annotated with a sub-prefix 'e' have been reported as uranium equivalent grades derived from downhole gamma ray logging results and should be regarded as approximations only.