



19 October 2023

ASX Limited- [Company Announcements Platform](#)

ARMADA METALS LIMITED (ASX: AMM)

Commencement of Diamond Drilling at The Bend Nickel Project, Zimbabwe

Highlights:

- **Drill Program:** Armada Metals Limited ('Armada') have commenced exploration drilling at the Bend Nickel Project in Zimbabwe ('Project').
- **Drill Targets:** an eight-hole (2,500 metre) Phase 1 diamond drilling program aims to validate the results from historical drilling programs and test newly identified drill targets (*refer to ASX Announcement 19 September 2023*).
- **Timeline:** the Phase 1 drilling program is expected to take up to ten weeks to complete and will satisfy the Stage 1 earn-in for Armada to gain a 50% interest in the Project (*refer to ASX announcement 20 July 2023*).

Armada Metals Limited ('Armada' or 'Company') is pleased to announce the commencement of drilling at the Bend Nickel Project in Zimbabwe. A minimum of 2,500m of diamond drilling will be completed in this Phase 1 drilling program, which will target historically intersected nickel mineralisation, interpreted prospective geological contacts, and newly discovered Natural Source Audio Magnetotelluric ('NSAMT') apparent conductor targets (*refer to ASX announcement 19 September 2023 and to Figs. 1 and 2*).

The Phase 1 program is expected to take approximately eight to ten weeks to complete with assay results expected between four to eight weeks from the completion of each drill hole.

In parallel, as the drilling program advances, a further 10-line kilometre ('km') NSAMT survey has been planned to test the potential for apparent conductors along the highly prospective geological contact within the wider licence areas, to the north and east of the current drill program (*refer to Figs. 1 and 2*).



Armada's Managing Director & CEO Dr Ross McGowan commented:

"With field teams on site during September, and into early October, capturing more invaluable geophysical data, we have now begun our first diamond drill holes into the historically drilled Bend Nickel Deposit, where notable nickel mineralisation has been previously reported, and where Armada have outlined additional potential targets. In this Phase 1 program, we aim to rapidly test the style, tenor, and distribution of the existing known mineralisation, alongside testing the new apparent conductors identified by the technical team. This planned work, including the additional geophysical data being collected at the same time, will accelerate our understanding of the potential and scale of this magmatic nickel system in Zimbabwe.

Today is an exciting moment for the Company as we launch this diamond drilling program on the Bend Nickel Project. The Company looks forward to providing shareholders with updates on our exploration results as these programs are executed."

Bend Nickel Project Phase 1 Diamond Drilling Program

- The program is designed to validate historical drilling results and to test new high-priority NSAMT apparent conductors, identified by Armada, which are positioned along strike of the existing known mineralisation at the Bend Nickel Deposit (*refer to Figs. 1 and 2*).
- Planned hole depths are modelled from recently acquired NSAMT survey data in conjunction with a geological model built by Richard Hornsey Consulting (Pty) Limited ('RHC'). Drill holes in the Phase 1 program have been designed to reach 200m to 500m in depth:
 - **Bend Nickel Deposit:** a minimum of two holes are planned for a total of ~700m of drilling.
 - The first drill hole (BNDDD001, *Figs. 1 and 2*) has been positioned at the Bend Nickel Deposit targeting nickel mineralisation reported in historical drill hole 'B7' (*Appendix 2*). This is an inclined hole (-60°) planned to a depth of up to ~280m.
 - The second proposed hole (BNDDD002, *Figs. 1 and 2*) has been positioned at historical drill hole collar 'B6' (*Appendix 2*). This is a vertical hole planned to a maximum depth of up to ~450m.
 - **B1 Apparent Conductor:** this NSAMT apparent conductor (*Fig. 2*) is modelled with a steep dip (75°) to the north and east and is potentially associated with an east-west orientated, steeply dipping geological contact. Up to five drill holes (~1,500m) are planned to test this target along its length.



- **B3 Apparent Conductor:** this NSAMT apparent conductor (*Fig. 2*) is modelled with a steep dip (75°) to the east and is potentially associated with a north-south orientated, steeply dipping geological contact. One drill hole (~300m) is planned to test this target.
- The diamond drilling program will include appropriate sampling and assaying techniques on diamond drill core with multi-element assay data, and the collection of lithological and structural data. Visual estimates will be logged on site.
- Intertek laboratories in Johannesburg, South Africa will be used for core sample assays. Assay results are expected to be received approximately four to eight weeks from the completion of each drill hole.
- The drill program is subject to change dependent on the results of the drilling and examination of the core as the program progresses.

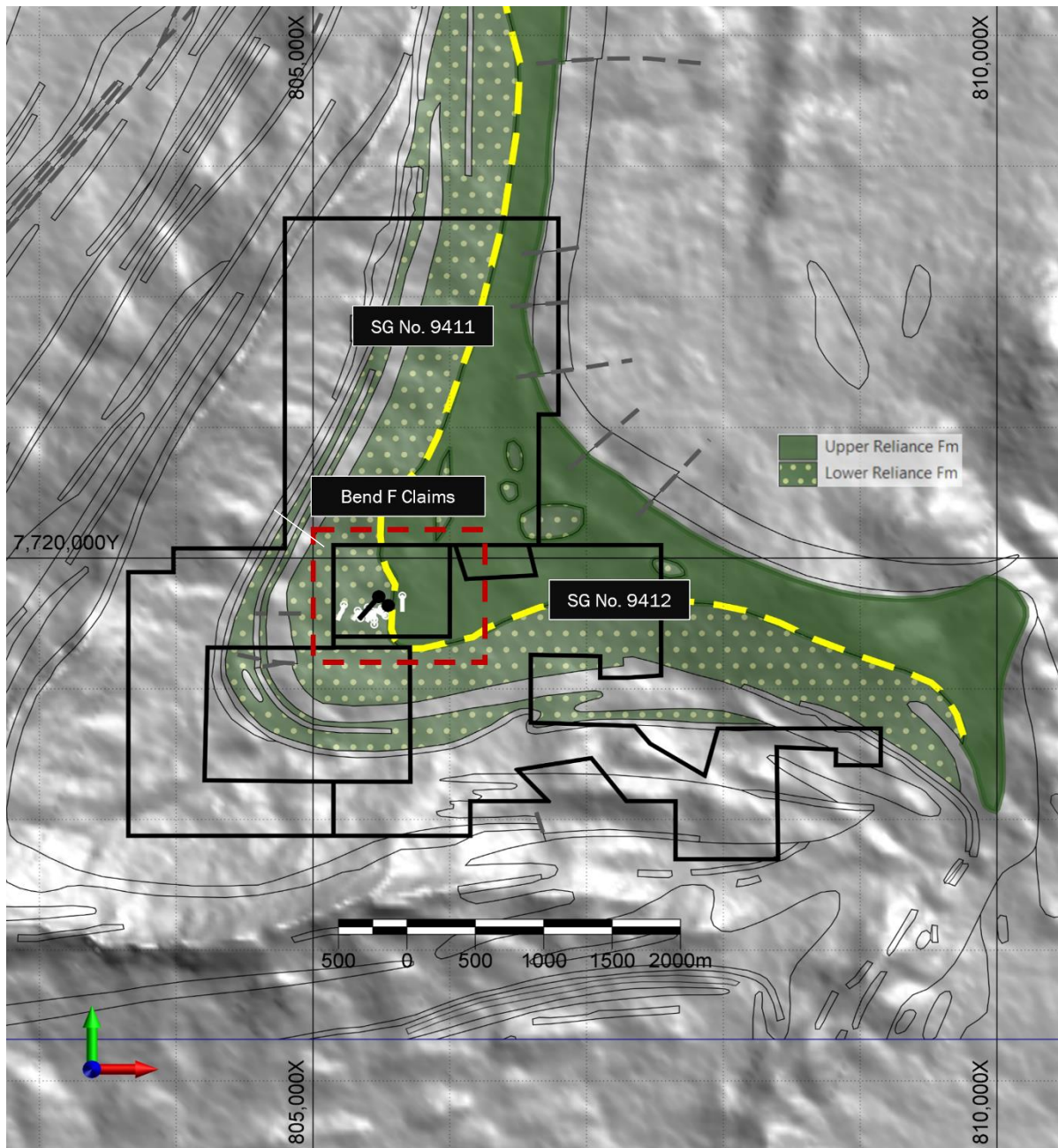


Figure 1: Bend Nickel Project – plan view. Permit areas and simplified geological map displaying the interpreted principle prospective contact with a broken yellow line. Outline of the area displayed in Figure 2 is shown as a red broken line polygon. The Lower Reliance Formation is coloured in stippled green colours. The Upper Reliance Formation is coloured in a solid green. Historical drill hole collars are coloured in white, and planned initial drill hole collars are displayed in black (refer to Fig. 2).

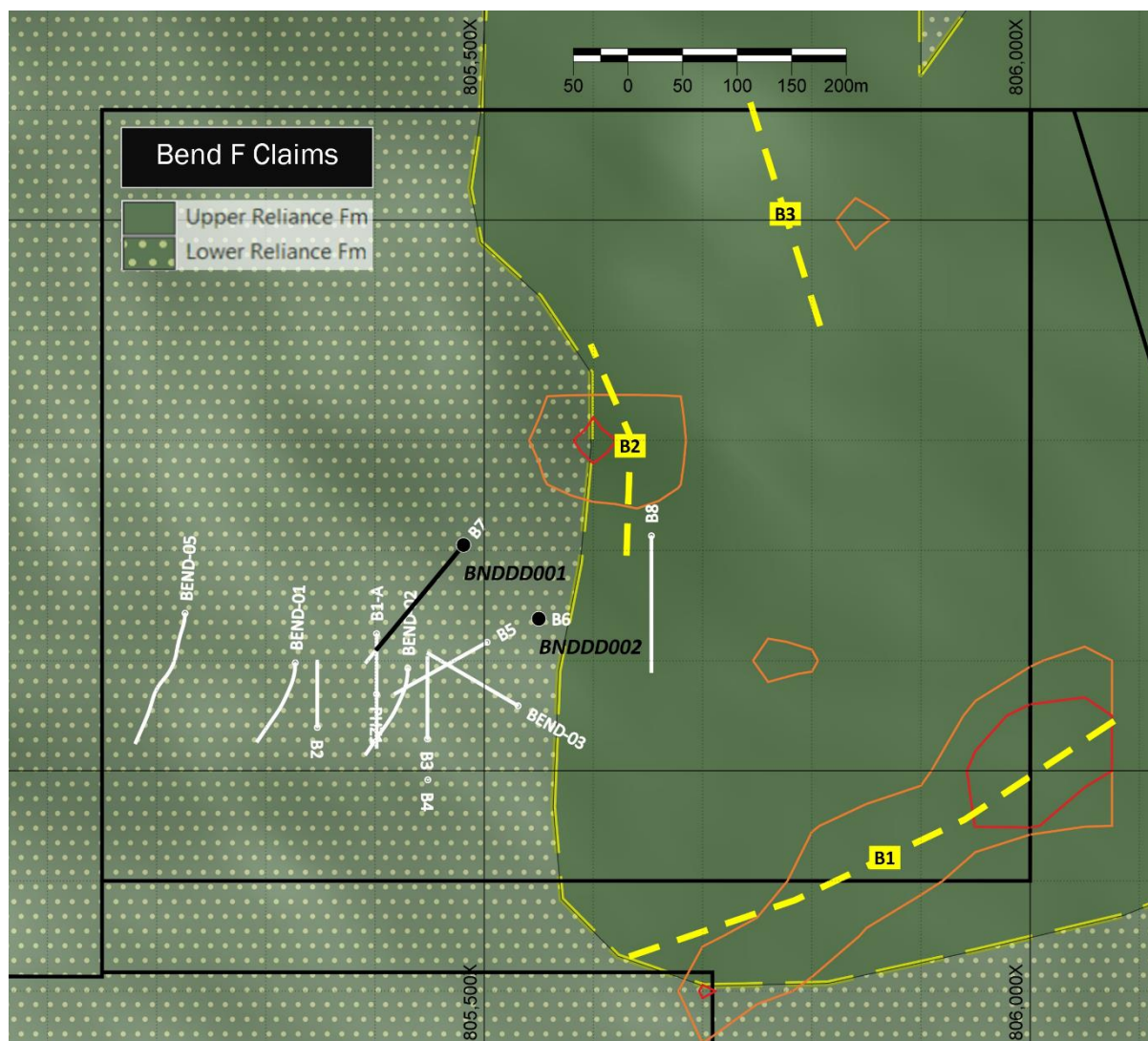


Figure 2: Bend Nickel Project – plan view. Historical drill hole collars (refer to ASX announcement of 20th July 2023) are displayed by white dots for collars and white line traces. Drill targets **B1**, **B2** and **B3**, distinct from the historical drilling, are projected to surface along their principal axis. Apparent conductivity isoshells are projected to surface: 10-ohm isoshells are displayed in red. 25-ohm isoshells are displayed in orange. Proposed drill holes are displayed as black dots with black traces. The first two diamond drill holes, BNDDDD001 and BNDDDD002 (labelled), are planned with the purpose of validating information for historical drill holes B7 and B6 respectively (Appendix 2).



Other work

Ground NSAMT Survey

- A continuation of the NSAMT survey to determine the extent of the apparent conductor **B1** will be run in parallel with the drilling program. This target remains open along strike in an easterly direction and at depth (*refer to ASX Announcement 19 September 2023*).
- A further 10-line km survey has been planned to test the potential for apparent conductors along the highly prospective geological contact within the wider licence areas, to the north and east.
- The NSAMT survey recommenced on 12 October 2023 with first results from this phase of work expected towards the end of October.

This announcement has been authorised on behalf of the Armada Metals Limited Board by: Dr Ross McGowan, Managing Director & CEO.

-ENDS-

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Background on Armada

Armada was established to define new belt-scale discovery opportunities for key commodities (principally nickel and copper) in under-explored regions of Africa. The Company is supported by a Board and Africa-based technical team, both with a track record of successful African projects. Key members of the Armada targeting team were a part of the team awarded the 2015 PDAC Thayer Lindsley Award for an International Mineral Discovery (as members of the Kamoa discovery team with Ivanhoe Mines).



Background on Richard Hornsey Consulting Pty Limited

Richard Hornsey Consulting (Pty) Ltd ('RHC') has been retained by the Company to support the Company's technical team and influence the exploration strategy.

Richard Hornsey Consulting (Pty) Ltd ('RHC') is an African-based consultancy that was established to provide specialist geological consulting services to the mineral exploration and resource sector. Richard Hornsey is the principal of RHC and is a globally recognised expert in Ni-sulphide and PGE exploration and mine development. Before RHC, Richard was engaged full time by MMG Ltd as the Ni Commodity Team Leader with a global exploration mandate. RHC have been retained by the Company to provide (but not limited to) to the following: 1) technical consulting in sulphide Ni and PGE metals exploration, geological field services, data compilation and three-dimensional interpretation, and on-site technical reviews and exploration staff mentoring.

Competent Persons Statement

The information in this report relates to mineral exploration results and exploration potential, compiled under the supervision of Mr. Thomas Rogers who is a Competent Person and a member of a Recognised Professional Organisation (ROPO). Mr. Rogers is contracted to the Company as Technical Manager with sufficient experience relevant to both the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration, and to the activity that he is undertaking 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'. Mr. Rogers is a member of the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions, a ROPO. Mr. Rogers consents to being included in this report and is aware of the information and context of the report.

Forward-Looking Statements

This document may include forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements concerning Armada Metals Limited's planned exploration program and other statements that are not historical facts. When used in this document, words such as "could," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may", "potential", "should," and similar expressions are forward-looking statements. Although Armada Metals Limited believes that its expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, such statements involve risks and uncertainties and no assurance can be given that actual results will be consistent with these forward-looking statements.



Appendix 1: The Bend Nickel Project Background

The Bend Nickel Project is located approximately 150km southeast of Bulawayo in Zimbabwe. The project is centred on 805600E / 7719750N (Datum ARC1950 Zone 35S).

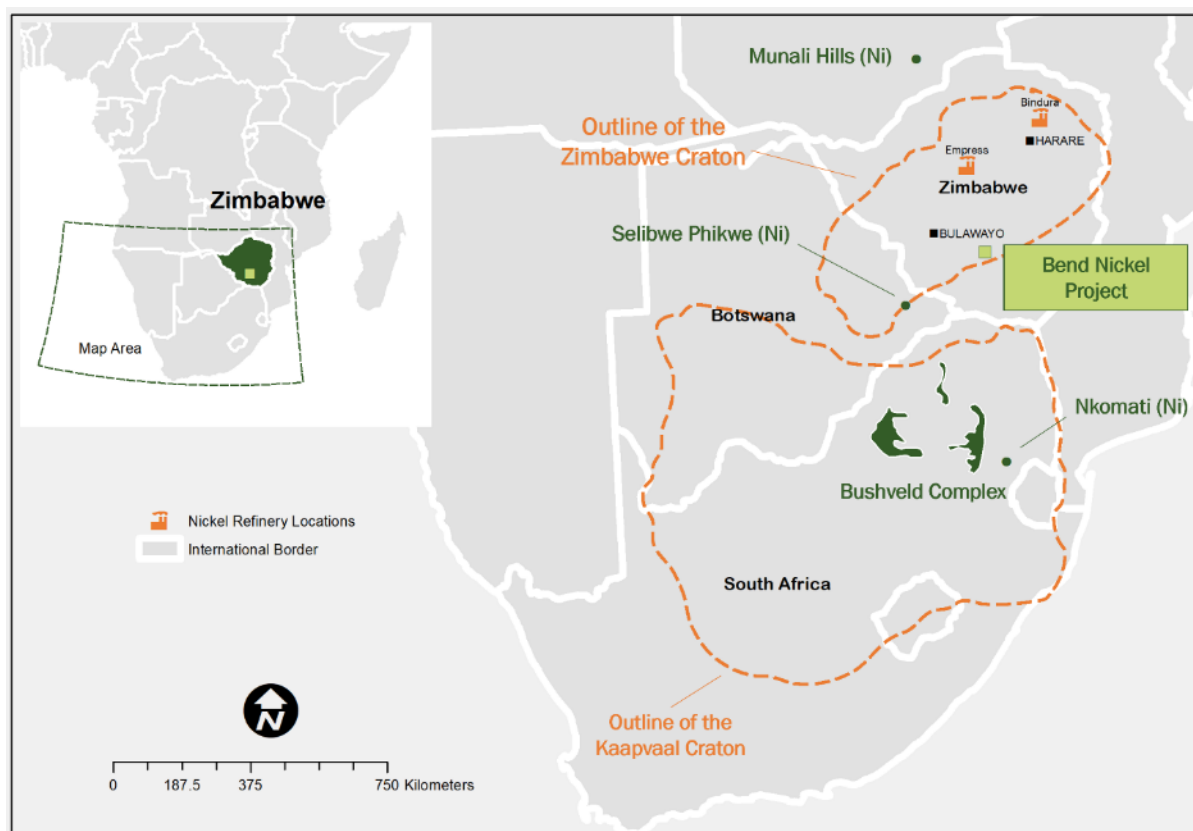


Figure A1: Location of the Bend Nickel Project in Zimbabwe, Southern Africa.

Regional Geology

The Zimbabwe Craton comprises early Archaean gneisses and Sebakwian Group greenstones (>3.2 Ga) (refer to Figs. A1 and A2). These rocks are overlain by the more widespread late Archaean Bulawayan and Shamvaian Groups greenstone sequences, intruded by various granitoids (3.0 – 2.6Ga). The 2.7Ga Reliance komatiite event, part of the Bulawayan Group (2.8 – 2.6Ga) is the thickest, most widespread, and best-preserved greenstone cover sequence of the craton. The Bulawayan sequence is a typical volcano-sedimentary sequence of basaltic metavolcanics, intercalated meta-sedimentary units, ultramafic lavas, and intrusions, and is split into the Upper and Lower Greenstones.

The Bend Formation within the Lower Greenstones of the Bulawayan Group consists of extrusive komatiites and associated sills and is overlain by the Koodoovale Formation (refer to Fig. A3). The



Koodoovale Formation is comprised of meta-sedimentary sequences. The Reliance Formation (refer to Fig. A3), within the Upper Greenstones of the Bulawayan Group, hosts nickel mineralisation (the Bend Prospect – displayed as black dots on Fig. A3) and consists of extrusive komatiites and associated ultramafic sills. This unit is overlain by a several km-thick sequence of marine flood basalt of the Zeederbergs Formation. The sequence is indicative of deposition within a large supracrustal basin of >250,000km² in extent (Hornsey, 2021).

The Reliance Formation sills and komatiites have been comprehensively studied and described both from the academic and economic perspective in many of the greenstone belts of Zimbabwe. Most of the komatiite associated Ni-sulphide deposits of Zimbabwe are hosted within this stratigraphy, including the Epoch, Shangani, Hunters Road and Trojan Mines and the Damba-Silwane, **Bend**, Trojan Hill, Kingston Hill, Tynan, Nickel Hill, and Lanninhurst Prospects.

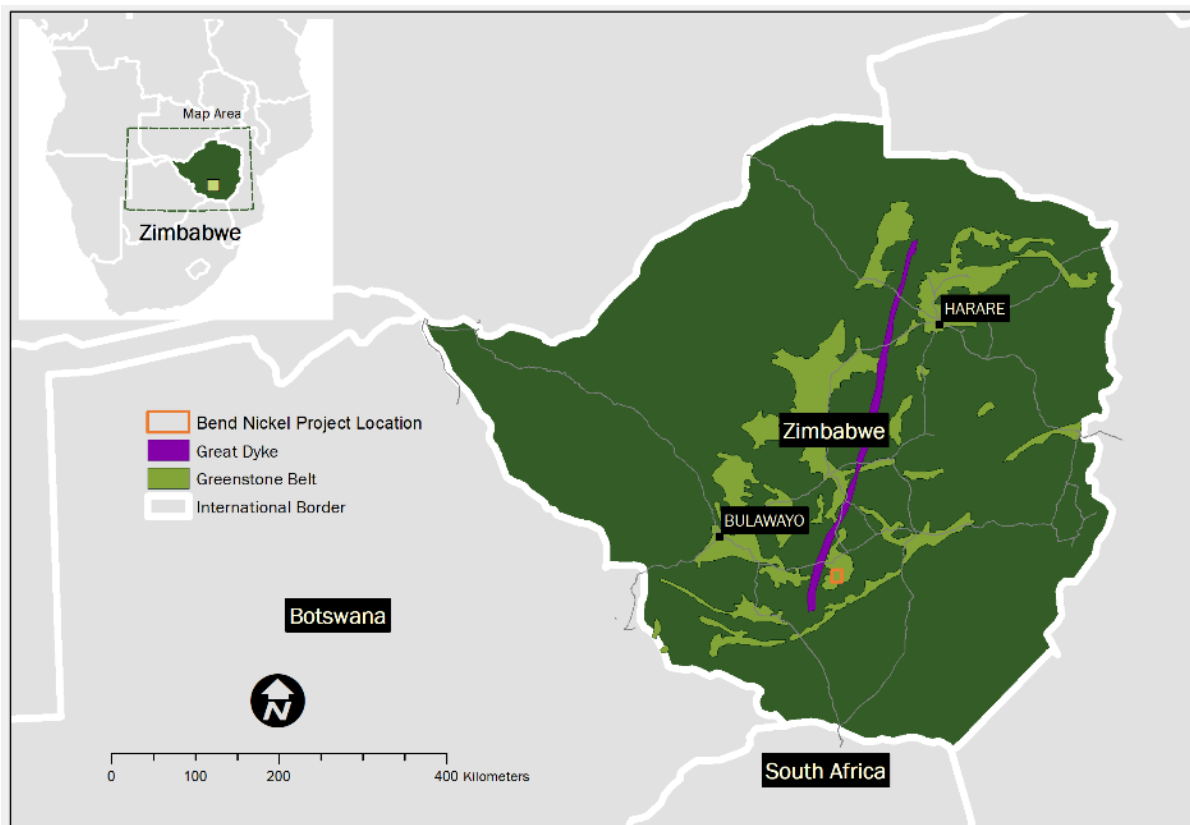


Figure A1: Zimbabwe nickel-copper greenstone belts after Markwitz et al, 2010. The Bend Nickel Project is located within the Belingwe Greenstone belt (part of the Bulawayan Group) (orange box is the location of the geological map – refer to Figure 3).



Exploration Model

The ore formation model for komatiites is that primitive, pristine magma ascends rapidly from source to surface and is extruded onto or intruded at shallow level into marine sediments and volcano-sediments. The magma/lava flow becomes channelised, forming flow focal points that accommodate large volumes of through-flowing magma that may erode and assimilate the substrate, forming deeper sinuous lava channels. If the substrate is sulphidic or carbonaceous, this process contaminates the lava, leading to sulphur saturation and sulphide liquid immiscibility. The sulphide liquid scavenges nickel from the magma due to its chalcophile characteristics. The sulphide liquid becomes concentrated as disseminated, net-textured or massive bodies, often with very high metal tenors due to the elevated nickel content of the ultramafic komatiites.

Prendergast (2003) suggests that the most important sulphur source for the Reliance Formation komatiites is the felsic volcano-sedimentary 'Koodoovale Formation'. This unit contains pyrrhotite and pyrite, hosts komatiite sills containing disseminated mineralisation, all known deposits are in komatiites that overlie this unit. No known deposits are in sills or komatiites that overlie sulphide-deficient lithologies.

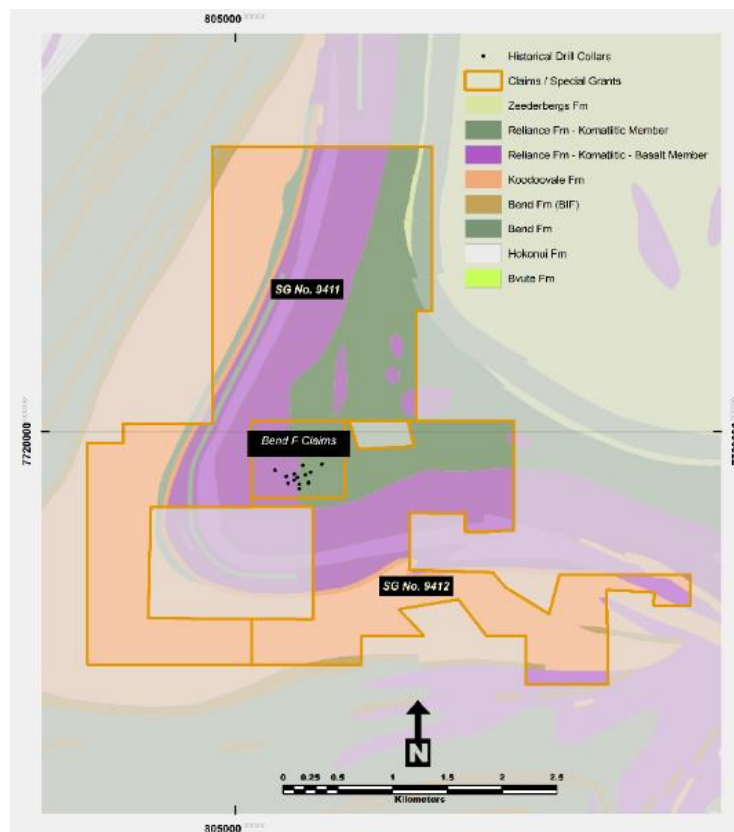


Figure A3: Bend Nickel Project – a simplified geological map of the southwest portion of the Belingwe Greenstone Belt showing the relationship between the Koodoovale Formation (orange colours) and Reliance Formations (purple and medium green colours) (source Martin 1978 and Orpen et al.1986). Black dots - the Bend Nickel Deposit historical drill collars.



Bend Nickel Deposit Geology

The Bend Nickel Deposit (“Bend”) is a classic komatiite-style deposit associated with the base of the ultramafic Reliance Formation. Markwitz et al. 2010 describe the deposit as a ‘komatiite-hosted extrusive’ ascribed to the Bulawayan Group. The host lithology is pyroxenite with 15 wt% MgO. The sulphide mineralisation is located at the base of a komatiite flow. The host rocks are carbonaceous, sulphidic sediments of the Manjeri Formation. This description suggests that the basic requirements for mineralisation are present at Bend (Hornsey, 2021).

References:

Hornsey, R.A. (2021) Technical Review of the Madziwa and Bend Projects, Zimbabwe. Reliant Nickel Ltd.

Hornsey, R.A. (2022) Technical Review of the Bend Ni Project.

Markwitz, V., Maier, W.D., Gonzalez-Alvarez, I., McCuaig, T.C., Porwal, A. (2010). Ore Geology Reviews. Magmatic Ni sulphide mineralisation in Zimbabwe: Review of deposits and development of exploration criteria for prospectivity analysis. Ore Geology Reviews, 38, 139-155.

Martin, A. (1978). The Geology of the Belingwe-Shabani Schist Belt. Geological Survey of Rhodesia. Bulletin 82. 220.

Orpen, J.L., Bickie, M.J., Nisbet, E.G., Martin, A. (1986). Belingwe Peak 1:100 000 Rhodesian Geological Survey Map (to accompany Geological Survey Short Report No. 51).

Prendergast, M.D. (2003). Economic Geology. The nickeliferous late Archaean Reliance komatiitic event in the Zimbabwe Craton – magmatic architecture, physical volcanology, and ore genesis. Econ. Geol, 98, 865-891.



Appendix 2: The Bend Nickel Project - Historical Drill Hole Collar Co-ordinates

Bend Nickel Project historical boreholes located and confirmed in the field and plotted using Datum ARC1950 Zone 35S.

Historical Drill Hole Collar Table					
Company	Date	Hole Id	UTM X	UTM Y	Total Depth
Messina Development Corporation	1976	B6*	805550	7719638	417.00m
	1976	B7*	805481	7719705	280.15m
Falconbridge	1992	Bend 1	805327	7719598	140.10m
	1992	Bend 2	805430	7719593	150.74m

**Evidence of drilling platform located in the field with concrete plinth, anchor bolts and refilled water sump trace. No hole number record was observed at the location. Collar located using georeference co-ordinates in ARC1950 format with a GIS platform.*