

ASX RELEASE (1 MAY 2024)

# Tartana drilling to verify upgrading of 45,000 tonne copper resource

## **Highlights:**

- AED commissioned to drill a PQ diamond hole for metallurgical sampling
- Drill path is sited below TRC098 which previously intersected 77 m @ 0.62% Cu with the hole also improving geological interpretation and resource integrity
- Metallurical testwork will focus on ore sorting testwork where initial samples returned a 100% increase in grade and retained 76% of the metal content
- Copper flotation testwork will also be conducted to verify earlier reports which indicated high recoveries to a copper concentrate
- Positive results from the testwork will support the development of the Tartana open pit copper resource which currently stands at 45,000 t of contained copper and remains open at depth

Tartana Minerals Limited (ASX: **TAT**) (the **Company**), is pleased to advise that it has commissioned AED drilling to complete a 300m diamond core PQ hole to provide bulk samples for both Tomra ore sorting and for standard copper flotation testwork. Drilling is scheduled to commence this week and will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Tartana Minerals Managing Director, Stephen Bartrop, commented:

"It is great news that we have been able to secure a rig to complete this important hole in a time when there is a high demand for drilling across the industry.

"The results of the testwork will contribute to the mine plan for the Tartana open pit and the Company is investigating options for treating the primary ore. Oxide and transition ore can be treated by the existing heap leach – solvent extraction crystallisaion plant which is current producing copper sulphate pentahydrate and which is sold through our offtake partner, Kanins International."

## Tartana Primary Copper Project Background

The Company submitted copper mineralised samples in 2022 to Tomra for ore sorting testwork given that the primary copper mineralisation in the Tartana open pit appears restricted to stockwork and bedding plane veins in a host rock of benign arkosic sandstone. As expected, the preliminary testwork was positive and indicated a potential 100% increase in copper grade using the Tomra X-ray transmission sorter and adding back the finer material after crushing to 30 mm. The contained copper recovery was 76% of the overall samples.

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The Company reported the following JORC 2012 resource on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at various copper cut-off grades. While the average copper grade can increase using higher cut-off grades, there is strong incentive to use lower cutoff grades and apply ore sorting to upgrade the ore for processing. This improves the economics of the mine plan by using a lower strip ratio and having less waste rock.<sup>1</sup>

Cutoff Grade (% Cu)	TRANSITIONAL & OXIDE RESOURCES			TOTAL PRIMARY AND TRANSITIONAL		
	Tonnage (t)	Cu (%)	Contained Cu (t)	Tonnage (t)	Cu (%)	Contained Cu (t)
0	4,082,062	0.38	15,577	13,214,997	0.37	48,935
0.1	3,676,819	0.42	15,351	12,299,127	0.39	48,026
0.2	2,971,516	0.48	14,371	10,037,553	0.45	45,008
0.3	2,090,093	0.58	12,183	7,086,167	0.53	37,515
0.4	1,503,603	0.67	10,090	4,623,416	0.63	29,080
0.5	1,044,386	0.78	8,102	3,044,249	0.72	21,996
0.6	707,985	0.88	6,225	1,981,924	0.81	16,137
0.7	456,542	1.01	4,601	1,176,296	0.93	10,894

Figure 1. Transitional & Oxide and Total Primary and Transitional Copper resources at Tartana open pit at various copper cut-off grades.

The new hole DH15, will be drilled at the larger PQ core size to provide samples for the metallurgical testwork. It will decrease to HQ size based on drill rig performance and this is expected at around 200 m depth in the 300 m hole. Data from the drilling including assays will also contribute to the integrity of the resource estimation.

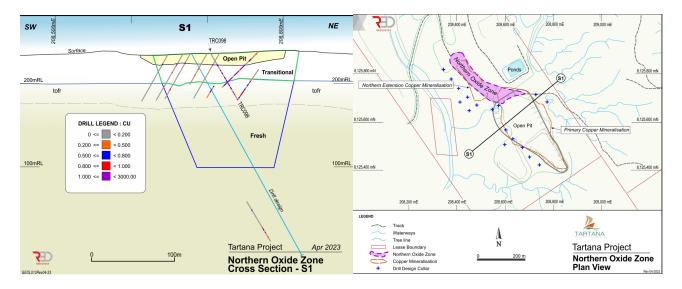


Figure 2. (a) Cross-section showing planned D15 hole path. (b) Plan view and location of S1 cross-section where D15 will be collared.

AED moved the drilling rig to the site this week. The hole will take around two weeks to drill.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please refer to further information at the bottom of the document in regards to the mineral resource estimate.



Confirmation of the earlier metallurgical testwork will provide confidence for the Company to implement the drill programme designed to increase the contained copper to above 100,000 tonnes in the resource by increasing the drill density between 100 m and 250 m depth.

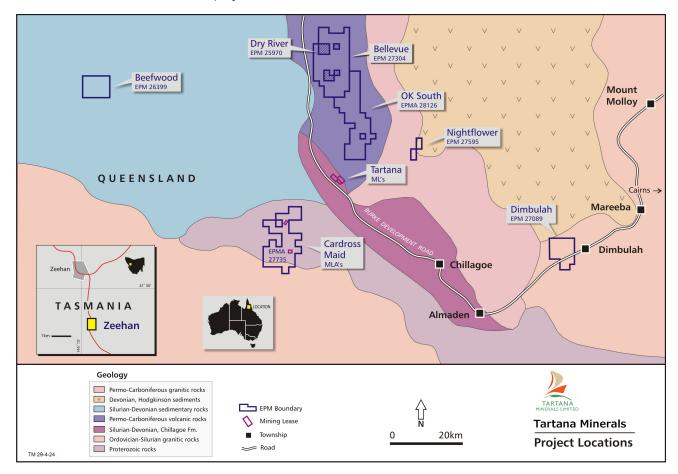
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This announcement has been approved by the Disclosure Committee of Tartana Minerals Limited.

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#### About Tartana Minerals Limited (ASX:TAT)

Tartana Minerals Limited (ASX:TAT) is a significant copper, gold, silver and zinc explorer and developer in the Chillagoe Region of Far North Queensland. TAT owns several projects of varying maturity, with the most advanced being the Tartana mining leases, which contain an existing heap leach – solvent extraction – crystallisation plant nestled between its Tartana (45,000 tonnes Copper) Queen Grade (39,000 tonnes Zinc) and Mountain Maid (415,000 oz Gold) projects.





#### **Streamlining Statement**

The Company confirms that in respect of the Tartana MRE dated 9 February 2023, the Queen Grade MRE dated 14 February 2023, and the Mountain Maid MRE dated 20 February 2023, it is not aware of any new information or data which materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcement, and all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcements continue to apply and have not materially changed.