

Exploration Update – April 20, 2022

The Company's exploration focus during the first three quarters of 2021 was directed to drill evaluation of copper in soil anomalies and a relatively weak induced polarisation response below the Omu Prospect and a total magnetic intensity inversion anomaly interpreted to be present at depth below the Waki Prospect, a contiguous eastern extension of Omu. In both areas narrow shear-controlled quartz-carbonate veins containing high-grade copper mineralisation (i.e. > 1 % Cu) are present in outcrop. However, the Company has pursued an exploration model of the likelihood of extensive development of porphyry copper mineralisation present at perhaps 500 m depth. Drilling at Omu was abandoned in highly sheared rock at 217 m and at Waki drilling was also abandoned in highly sheared rock at 98 m.

A reassessment of the geology and mineralisation of Omu-Waki was undertaken during the last quarter of 2021, utilising the acting CEO's field geological mapping and previous experience with similar mineralised systems and integrating detailed petrological descriptions of 35 surface rocks and drillcore (from Omu), prepared by Anthony Coote of Applied Petrologic Services & Research, Wanaka, New Zealand. It was concluded that the best copper mineralisation occurs at Omu and Waki where hydrothermal fluids followed fault zones in this highly block-faulted terrane, e.g. along the la'au Fault, which was encountered in both drillholes, and other elements of the regional through-going Keveri Fault. The passage of hydrothermal fluids resulted in the deposition of quartz as fracture fillings and cement. Petrological observations indicate that chalcopyrite deposition was the result of remobilisation of chalcopyrite of metasomatic origin. Furthermore, the low-grade albite-epidote-hornfels facies contact metamorphism of the predominantly pillow basalt lava host rock sequence is consistent with a distal setting from the causative intrusion.

The style of mosaic to drusy quartz in an assemblage with illite, chlorite, pyrite, rutile and Fe/Mg/Ca carbonates with chalcopyrite±sphalerite±gold is typical of mesothermal carbonate-base metal gold systems. This type of alteration and mineralisation is located midway between epithermal and porphyry regimes. The observation of only one porphyry-style quartz vein during petrological studies is consistent with this conclusion. B-type veins are normally restricted to the immediate porphyry intrusion.

A programme of detailed lithological, structural and alteration mapping with supporting petrological work is planned for completion on the entire 4 km long Omu to Urua copper-gold zone. Two drillholes were completed at Urua in 2011-2012. These holes encountered long lengths of low-grade copper (70 m @ 0.1 % Cu) and narrow zones of high-grade copper-gold mineralisation. The Urua mineralisation is hosted in charcoal-bearing diatreme rock draped over the top of a multiphase monzonite stocks. Urua represents an highly prospective extinct Pliocene volcano. It is associated with a very strong 400 m x 400 m induced polarisation anomaly that extends to the depth of data reliability (400 m).

Exploration activity has been redirected to the nearby (5 km distant) Doriri Ni-Pt-Pd lode. The shear-zone hosted Doriri lode is a unique metal accumulation and represents Earth's only known example of this style of low temperature epithermal (~ 120°C) Ni-Pt-Pd mineralisation. Several shear-zone hosted examples of similar mineralisation have been

described from North America, all with significantly higher temperatures of formation in the order of >300°C. All three metals are regarded to be metals of the new economy and as such are of considerable interest.

Doriri prospect is a drill-ready project, having been thoroughly explored during a programme of exploration trenching, detailed 1:250 scale lithological, structural and alteration mapping and sampling and petrological studies under the supervision of/completed by the acting CEO between 2007-2008. A consequence of this work was the recognition of the epithermal nature of the Doriri deposit. Four mineralised drillholes were completed in March-April 2012. Fieldwork and drilling has defined a lode of 10-15 m width and a strike length of perhaps 520 m. Average grades of Ni across the width of the lode vary between 1 to 2.5 %. Pd values up to 1.0 m averaging 4.07 g/t and Pt values up to 1.0 m averaging 0.5 g/t have been encountered during trenching and drilling.

Preparations for drilling at Doriri were made during the first quarter of 2022. The Company is using a lightweight manportable ID200 drill rig, with a depth capability of 200 m in HQ rod size, for the present programme. The rig can be readily broken down into components that are man portable, with obvious cost savings without the use of a helicopter. Three drill pads have been excavated on the exceedingly steep slopes (45°) at the southeastern end of the lode. From these drill pads four holes will be completed.

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