



ASX Announcement

14 December 2012

REVISED DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REQUIREMENTS IN LINE WITH ARGENT MINERALS EXPECTATIONS

Argent Minerals Limited ("Argent Minerals" or "Company") is pleased to announce that the revised Director General's Requirements ("DGRs") for Stage 1 of the Kempfield Silver Project have been received and are in line with the Company's expectations. Preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") remains on track for submission to the NSW Government by 31 March 2013.

Stage 1 of the project is an open cut operation, designed to mine up to 8.8 million tonnes of leachable material at a strip ratio of approximately 0.7:1¹ to produce in excess of 9.5 million ounces of silver and 15,000 ounces of gold with estimated operating costs after gold credits at just over \$16 per silver bullion ounce².

In summary, the principal revisions to the DGRs are as follows:

- The EIS must be accompanied by a report from a quantity surveyor confirming the proposed Capital Investment Value. This is consistent with previously released NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure ("DP&I") policies;
- The EIS must take into account the newly released Aquifer Interference Policy. This is also consistent with previously released DP&I policies;
- The EIS will be required to fully assess dust emissions associated with processing operations, consistent with standard air quality management procedures; and
- A range of updated documents, plans, guidelines and policies must be considered, including for risk management, Agricultural Impact Assessments and water sharing and management.

The revised DP&I DGRs were required as a result of the removal of the flotation and associated Tailings Storage Facility and inclusion of heap leaching operations for the first stage of the Kempfield Silver Project. The Kempfield Silver Project is classified as a State Significant Development, with the result that the NSW Minister for Planning & Infrastructure is the determining authority. The intention of the State Significant Development approval process is to streamline the approval process for projects of significant importance to the State of NSW.

Argent Minerals and its advisors have reviewed the revised requirements and determined that they will not impose any significant imposition on the assessment process, nor have any adverse impact on the Kempfield Silver Project, preparation of the EIS, or timeframes to take the project into production.

RW Corkery & Co Pty Ltd is advising Argent Minerals in relation to environmental impact assessment and management and has a proven track record in NSW project approvals.

¹ Total waste volume:total leachable material volume

² Gold credits have been calculated at \$1,500/oz



Argent Minerals Limited

ABN 89 124 780 276

Argent Minerals CEO David Busch said, "The release of the DGRs in their revised form is in line with our expectations and another important step forward for the Kempfield Silver Project. This defines the path forward for the approval process in a tangible, dependable and accountable manner. We are confident that we will fulfil all of the requirements and in doing so, should expect a relatively straight forward approval process. The Kempfield Silver Project is on track for EIS submission in March 2013 and completion of the revised feasibility study in the third quarter of 2013 as announced in November this year, with construction to follow once project financing is in place and the Development Approval process is completed."

For Further Information:

David Busch
Managing Director
Argent Minerals Limited
Ph: 0415 613 800

Disclaimer

This report contains certain forward looking statements, including possible or assumed production levels, rates, costs, prices or future performance. Such statements are not a guarantee of future performance and include unknown risks and uncertainties, as well as other factors which are beyond the control of Argent Minerals Limited. Actual results and developments may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward looking statements depending on a variety of factors. Nothing in this report should be construed as an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell securities.