



EXPLORATION MANAGER APPOINTMENT

Variscan Mines Limited ("**Variscan**" or the "**Company**") (ASX:VAR) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Gareth Northam as Exploration Manager for the Company's high-quality zinc projects in Spain. Mr Northam will lead all technical aspects of the projects working closely with Variscan's local staff, consultants and contacts in Spain, where he is also based.

Mr Northam is an accomplished exploration geologist with over 15 years' experience focused on the design and execution of high-impact exploration programmes, including the management of local stakeholder relations. He has experience across a range of commodities and deposit styles in a range of jurisdictions including Europe, Africa and South America.

Mr Northam began his career at Rio Tinto, working on multi-commodity exploration projects in their Africa-Europe Region. Later he co-founded a West African focused gold exploration company, building and training exploration and support teams, delivering exploration discoveries at each project, and transitioning to the TSX Venture exchange in Canada. Additionally, Mr Northam has consulted to private and listed junior exploration and mining companies where he developed and implemented best practice exploration campaigns.

Mr Northam holds a MSci in Geology (Earth Resources) from the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College London. He is a Chartered Geologist (Geological Society of London) (CGeol-FGS), Associate of the Royal School of Mines (ARSM), a European Geologist (EurGeol), & member of the Society of Economic Geologists (SEG).

Mr Northam speaks fluent Spanish, is resident in Spain and has relocated to Cantabria, northern Spain to oversee the development of the Company's top priority; the Novales-Udias Project (refer Project Summary below).

Stewart Dickson, CEO of Variscan Mines, commented:

"I am very pleased that Gareth is leading our exploration activities in Spain. He is a first-rate exploration geologist who has the right skillset to develop the significant potential of our zinc projects in Spain; a blend of experience gained from a Tier 1 mining company coupled with smaller company entrepreneurialism. Variscan continues to attract high quality professional talent to deliver a busy year of exploration and development activity".

Project Summary

The Novales-Udias Project is located in the Basque-Cantabrian Basin, some 30km south west from the regional capital, Santander. The advanced zinc project is centred around the former producing Novales underground mine with a large surrounding area of exploration opportunities which include zinc soil anomalies over 2km long and close to 1km wide and up to 17% Zn.

Significantly, the Novales-Udias Project includes a number of granted mining tenements (refer ASX announcement dated 29 July 2019).

Novales-Udias Project Highlights

- Near term zinc production opportunity (subject to positive exploratory work)
- Large tenement holding of 68.3 km² (including a number of granted mining tenements)

- Regional exploration potential for another discovery analogous to Reocin (total past production and remaining resource 62Mt @ 8.7% Zn and 1.0% Pb¹²)
- Novales Mine is within trucking distance (~ 80km) from the Asturias zinc smelter
- Classic MVT carbonate hosted Zn-Pb deposits
- Historic production of high-grade zinc; average grade reported as ~7% Zn³
- Simple mineralogy of sphalerite – galena – calamine
- Ore is strata-bound, epigenetic, lenticular and sub-horizontal
- Reported historic production of super high grade ‘bolsas’ (ore bags) commonly 10-20% Zn and in some instances +30% Zn⁴
- Assay results of recent targeted samples taken from within the underground Novales Mine recorded 31.83% Zn and 62.3% Pb⁵
- Assay results of new samples taken over the licence area recorded⁵:
 - 33.16% Zn and 12.25% Pb at former workings near Brinia
 - 32.85% Zn and 7.69% Pb within the Motilos-Magdalena areas
 - 21.3% Zn and 3.85% Pb at former workings near Mina de Duña
- Access and infrastructure all in place
- Local community and government support due to historic mining activity

ENDS

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This ASX Announcement was authorised for release by Mr Stewart Dickson, Managing Director of Variscan Mines Limited, on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Notes

Variscan Mines Limited (ASX:VAR) is a growth oriented, natural resources company focused on the acquisition, exploration and development of high quality strategic mineral projects. The Company has compiled a portfolio of high-impact base-metal interests in Spain, Chile and Australia.

The Company’s name is derived from the Variscan orogeny which was a geologic mountain building event caused by Late Paleozoic continental collision between Euramerica (Laurussia) and Gondwana to form the supercontinent of Pangea.

Competent Person Statement

Where the Company refers to the previous ASX Announcements relating to the Novales-Udias Project, previously advised to the ASX, it confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in those market announcements.

¹ Velasco, F., Herrero, J.M., Yusta, I., Alonso, J.A., Seebold, I. and Leach, D., 2003 - Geology and Geochemistry of the Reocin Zinc-Lead Deposit, Basque-Cantabrian Basin, Northern Spain: in Econ. Geol. v.98, pp. 1371-1396.

² Cautionary Statement: references in this announcement to the publicly quoted resource tonnes and grade of the Project are historical and foreign in nature and not reported in accordance with the JORC Code 2012, or the categories of mineralisation as defined in the JORC Code 2012. A competent person has not completed sufficient work to classify the resource estimate as mineral resources or ore reserves in accordance with the JORC Code 2012. It is uncertain that following evaluation and/or further exploration work that the foreign/historic resource estimates of mineralisation will be able to be reported as mineral resources or ore reserves in accordance with the JORC Code 2012.

³ Anecdotal evidence from original Novales miners interviewed during the WAI Due Diligence supported with historical production data from the School of Mines in Torrelavega historical archives.

⁴ Anecdotal evidence from original Novales miners interviewed during the WAI Due Diligence.

⁵ Refer to ASX Announcement of 19 December 2019