



**Press Release**  
11 May 2017

## Fortnum Gold Project Update

The Board of Westgold Resources Limited (**Westgold**) is pleased to provide the following update for the Fortnum Gold Project, Westgold's fourth gold operation:

- Wet commissioning of the refurbished gold plant has commenced.
- Open pit mining has commenced.
- Dewatering of the proposed Starlight underground mine has rapidly advanced.
- First gold production is expected soon.

### About the Fortnum Gold Project (FGP)

The FGP was acquired by Westgold in October 2015. The FGP is located in the western Bryah Basin approximately 150 km northwest of Meekatharra. The FGP encapsulates the historic mining centres of Labouchere, Fortnum, Horseshoe and Peak Hill. A 1.0 million tonne-per-annum carbon-in-leach (CIL) plant, a 100 person village and all the plant and infrastructure required to operate the project is in place. Production last ceased in May 2007.

The operation is leveraged to take advantage of the historical production base, synergies with Westgold's nearby Central Murchison Gold Project (**CMGP**) and by utilising the existing 1.0 Mtpa processing plant and operating infrastructure base. Historical production from the plant totals 780k ounces, with 1.7M ounces produced in the entire WGX Fortnum consolidated tenement package.

Westgold devised a simple four phase development plan to renovate, resuscitate and return the FGP to its previous gold production status:

- Phase 1** Refurbish the plant, re-align permits and approvals, commission and operate on existing low grade ore stockpiles (expected to be able to provide an initial 12 months of feed on their own).
- Phase 2** Commence open pit mining from planned cutbacks to the existing open pits and extensions. Start the mining of these when the plant is operational and slowly replace the lower grade stocks with the higher grade open pit ores.
- Phase 3** Dewater and recommission the Starlight Underground mine and replace/supplement the other ores with these higher-grade ores increasing overall production.
- Phase 4** Explore and develop the numerous targets and opportunities to create sustainable production from the existing resource base and additions to it.

Westgold has successfully completed Phase 1 of the development plan and refurbishment of the Fortnum Plant is complete.

Wet commissioning of the refurbished plant has commenced with the feeding of ROM stockpiles (51 kt @ 1.3 g/t for 2.1k oz). Historical stockpiles totalling 1.1 Mt @ 1.0 g/t for 36 koz are available as a base feed for processing. It is anticipated that first gold production will occur within the next few weeks.

**Westgold Resources Limited**  
ACN 009 260 306

t: +61 8 9462 3400 | e: reception@westgold.com.au | w: www.westgold.com.au  
PO Box 1353 West Perth WA 6872 | Level 3, 18-32 Parliament Place, West Perth WA 6005



*Fortnum Processing Plant*

Westgold has begun Phase 2 of the Fortnum development plan with the commencement of open pit mining in the localised Fortnum district. Toms Pit (historical production 194 kt @ 2.3 g/t for 14.3 koz) is the first of the pits being mined.

Subsequent open pit cut backs at Yarlurweelor, Nathans, Horseshoe and Cassidy will be mined over the ensuing three years. Mining will use a combination of contractor and the group's internal open pit mining fleets to complete these works. These open pits will provide more than half of the expected plant feedstock over the next 3 - 4 years.



*Mining at the Toms Open Pit*

Westgold has also significantly advanced Phase 3 of the development plan by substantially dewatering the Starlight underground mine and regained access to the upper declines and return airway/escapeway. Starlight Underground has historical production of 612 kt @ 5.8 g/t for 113.2 koz during the period of 1999-2001.

To date 850k cubic metres of water have been pumped from the pit and underground excavations with a remaining 250k cubes scheduled in May and June 2017. Access to the historical upper decline and secondary ventilation adit is now possible. Available platforms for drilling the upper horizons of the ore systems will become available in June 2017. It is expected that underground ore production will commence in the September 2017 quarter.



*Starlight Pit - Exposed Portals and Stope Void*

Refer to previous ASX disclosures by both Westgold (WGX:ASX) and Metals X Limited (ASX:MLX) for more detail.

## **Enquiries**

### **Peter Cook**

Managing Director  
peter.cook@westgold.com.au

### **Steve Norregaard**

Operations Director  
steve.norregaard@westgold.com.au

### **Rod Corps**

Manager – Investor Relations  
rod.corps@westgold.com.au

## **Compliance Statements**

### **FGP Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves**

The information is extracted from the report entitled 'Initial Fortnum Development Plan' created on 15 July 2016 by Metals X Limited and is available to view on Metals X's website ([www.metalsx.com.au](http://www.metalsx.com.au)) and the ASX ([www.asx.com.au](http://www.asx.com.au)). The company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.