

# DRILL TESTING FOR HIGH GRADE MASSIVE MAGNETITE OUTCROPS

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Drilling campaign to test high grade massive magnetite outcrops for DSO potential at Buena Vista
- Shallow high grade massive magnetite outcrops may represent early DSO production potential
- Light drilling equipment to sidestep winter weather issues
- Contract signed with local drilling company
- Campaign to start in April and be completed within two weeks

Magnum Mining & Exploration (ASX: MGU, "Magnum" or "the Company") will undertake shallow drilling at its Buena Vista Green Pig Iron Project mine site in Nevada, USA.

The drilling campaign is designed to test the lateral and depth extent of high grade massive magnetite outcrops with the aim of outlining a possible Direct Shipping Ore (DSO) source. DSO is of sufficiently high grade to not require any beneficiating. It only needs to be crushed and sized to meet lump or fines specifications.

The Buena Vista Green Iron Project area is rich in high grade massive magnetite outcrops (Figure 1 and Figure 2). While these areas are mostly included in the



Figure 1 High grade massive magnetite outcrops in historic pit at Buena Vista showing as dark areas in centre left and right of photo.

Project's Mineral Resource Estimate of **232Mt @ 22.6% DTR and 18.6% Fe**<sup>2</sup> (ASX: MGU 23 March 2021) separating them out as a possible stand-alone, high grade DSO sources may deliver early production potential for the project. Geochemical surface rock chip sampling shows iron grades ranging up to 68% Fe in these zones (ASX: RHM 17 June 2010).



Figure 2 High grade massive magnetite outcrop on the Buena Vista Green Iron Project site. This outcrop assays 65% Fe.

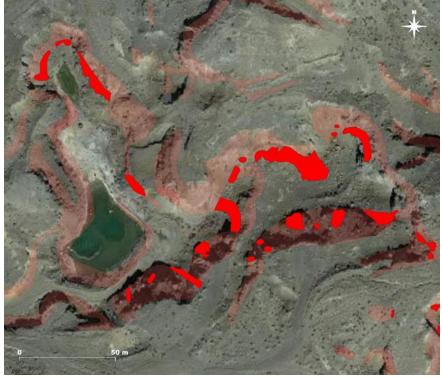
The campaign will be a maiden drill testing of the Iron Horse Prospect, an area of extensive massive magnetite outcrop that is geographically removed from the current resource area. This area is included in the recently announced Exploration Target Estimate of **450 to 540Mt @ 15 to 22% Fe<sup>1</sup>** (ASX: MGU 13 January, 2023).

A local drilling company has been contracted to drill a series of relatively shallow RC holes. The rig is a buggy mounted unit to deal with the challenging snow and rain conditions that have persisted over the project making access with heavier rigs impossible.

Mr Neil Goodman, CEO of Magnum, commented: Magnum is now in a position to drill test the visible high grade massive magnetite outcropping. The company will undertake this campaign using a light, buggy mounted RC rig. The first drill testing of the Iron Horse area has the potential to not only add to our resource base, but possibly allow Magnum to consider a DSO mining operation."

### **NEXT STEPS**

Drilling is due to start in April and take at least two weeks to complete. Results should be available six weeks or so after drilling completion, depending on lab congestion.



red areas indicate areas of disseminated magnetite outcrop.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The potential quantity and grade of the Exploration Target is conceptual in nature, there has been insufficient exploration to estimate a Mineral Resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of a Mineral Resource.

### THE BUENA VISTA IRON DEPOSIT

Buena Vista Iron Deposit is located approximately 160km east-north-east of Reno in the mining friendly state of Nevada, United States. It was discovered in the late 1890's and in the late 1950's to early 1960's around 900,000 tonnes of direct shipping magnetite ore with an estimated grade of 58% Fe was mined.

In the 1960's, US Steel Corporation acquired the Buena Vista Project and carried out an extensive exploration program including 230 diamond drill holes and considerable metallurgical test work. Richmond Mining Limited, an ASX listed company, acquired Buena Vista in 2009 and commenced a detailed exploration program culminating in a definitive feasibility study in 2013. A key component of these studies was extensive investigation of the optimal logistics plan for the deposit's development. This included the negotiation of in-principle agreements with existing rail and port operators and the securing of all major mining permits. Detailed costings were completed on the trucking or slurry pipeline options to deliver the concentrate to the rail head located some 50 kilometres from mine site. A significant decline in iron ore prices to less than US\$50/ tonne caused the then proposed development of Buena Vista to be deferred.

## Geology

The Buena Vista Project magnetite deposits are the product of late-stage alteration of a localised intrusive local gabbro that resulted in intensely scapolitised lithologies and the deposition of magnetite. The most well-known example of this type of magnetite mineralisation is the Kiruna magnetite deposit in Sweden, which has been in production since the early 1900's.

The distribution and nature of the magnetite mineralisation at Buena Vista is a function of ground preparation by faulting and fracturing, forming a series of open fractures and breccia zones. These ground conditions produce variations in mineralisation types from massive pods grading +60% magnetite to lighter disseminations grading 10-20% magnetite. Metasomatic magnetite deposits such as those at Buena Vista have important positive beneficiation characteristics over the other main type of magnetite deposit which is a banded iron hosted magnetite, also known as a taconite.

The Buena Vista ore is of magmatic origin and as a consequence is coarser grained and softer than banded iron hosted ores. Industry standard crushing, grinding and magnetic separation produces a concentrate grade of +67.5% Fe with very low levels of impurities.

#### Resource

The Mineral Resource Estimate (JORC(2012)) at Buena Vista (ASX:MGU 23 March 2021) is:

Category	Million Tonnes	Fe %	DTR %
Indicated Resource	151	19	23.2
Inferred Resource	81	18	22
Total Resource	232	18.6	22.6

The company confirms that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.

In addition, an Exploration Target Estimate has been completed (ASX:MGU this announcement):

Category	Million Tonnes	Fe %
<b>Exploration Target</b>	407 to 540	15 to 22

The potential quantity and grade of the Exploration Target is conceptual in nature, there has been insufficient exploration to estimate a Mineral Resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of a Mineral Resource.

### Development

Mining permits are in place to develop the Buena Vista Iron Mine. The Company has re-aligned the project from a simple mining, concentration and exporting model to a green pig iron producer. Using cutting edge technology in tandem with biochar sources, the Company is capitalising on a first-mover advantage to supply green pig iron to the USA steel industry.

#### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS**

In accordance with ASX Listing Rule 5.3.2, the Company advises that no mining development or production activities were conducted during the March 2022 Quarter.

<sup>1</sup> The potential quantity and grade of the Exploration target is conceptual in nature, there has been insufficient exploration to estimate a Mineral Resource over the entire area of the Exploration Target, and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of an increased Mineral Resource.

<sup>2</sup> The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in this announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the announcement of the 'Maiden JORC Resources for the Buena Vista Magnetite Project' dated 23 March 2021 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.

#### **COMPETENT PERSON'S STATEMENT – RESOURCE ESTIMATION**

The information in this report that relates to Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by Mr Jonathon Abbott, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and a full time employee of MPR Geological Consultants Pty Ltd. Mr Abbott has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Mr Abbott consents to the inclusion of the matters outlined in Appendix A in the form and context in which it appears.

The company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified.

#### **COMPETENT PERSON'S STATEMENT – EXPLORATION TARGET ESTIMATION**

The information in this report that relates to an Exploration Target is based on information compiled by Mr Marcus Flis, a Competent Person who is a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a full time employee of Rountree Pty Ltd. Mr Flis has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Mr Flis consents to the inclusion of the matters outlined in Appendix A in the form and context in which it appears.

#### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

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Table 1 - (JORC Code, 2012 Edition)

# **Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data**

CRITERIA	COMMENTARY
Sampling techniques	Bulk sampling.
Drilling techniques	<ul> <li>Drilling is not being reported</li> </ul>
Drill sample recovery	
· · ·	Drilling is not being reported
Logging	Drilling is not being reported
Sub- sampling	<ul> <li>Sampling is not being reported</li> </ul>
techniques and	
sample preparation	
Quality of assay data	Metallurgical test work was undertaken by ALS laboratories in Perth under an
and laboratory tests	independent consultant's direction.
Verification of	• All data is checked on a daily basis by field staff and consultants.
sampling and	
assaying	
Location of data	Sample locations were recorded by handheld GPS.
points	
Data spacing and	Single point samples.
distribution	
Orientation of data	• N/A
in relation to	
geological structure	
Sample security	• Samples were controlled by independent consultants to industry standard
Audits or reviews	• None.

# **Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results**

Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section

CRITERIA	COMMENTARY
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	<ul> <li>The project contains mineral rights over 234 separate claims covering an area of 2,457Ha (6,071 acres). Of these 45 are patented mining claims with the balance being either former railroad fee title land or unpatented claims</li> <li>The 45 patented mining claims covering 777 acres are all secured through lease agreements and have overriding royalties.</li> <li>The project has surface rights to the Section 5 patented land claim (528 acres). These rights provide for the housing of Buena Vista's proposed production facilities, plant, workshops stockpiles and waste dumps.</li> <li>All tenements are in good standing.</li> <li>Relevant tenements to this announcement are T24NR34E Section 4, Section 5, Section 7, Section 8, Section 17, Rover 1832, Albatross 1832, Wyoming 1832, Cactus 1832, NVFe2,3,4,5,6,7,8, Iron Mountain 2MS14880, 3MS14880, 6MS14880, 7MS14880, 10MS14880, 12MS14880, 13 MS14880, 14MS14880, 15MS14880</li> </ul>
Exploration done by other parties	• The database compiled for resource modelling comprises 218 holes for 36,084 m of drilling. Diamond drilling by Columbia Iron Mines in 1960

	provides around 50% of the combined drilling (112 holes for 18,215 m), with 2010 Richmond Mining Pty Ltd diamond drilling contributing 4% (8 holes, 1,415 m), and 2012 Nevada Iron Limited RC and diamond drilling contributing 10% and 36% respectively (19 holes, 3,431 m and 50 holes, 13,024m).
Geology	<ul> <li>Buena Vista magnetite iron mineralisation occurs within scapolite-hornblende-clinopyroxene-calcite-magnetite altered gabbro. Magnetite mineralisation varies from fine disseminations to massive pods up to tens of metres in dimensions, reflecting variable ground preparation of the gabbro. The mineralisation generally dips moderately to the north, striking approximately east-southeast (~098 to 120) for most of the property area, and trending southwest-northeast in the East Deposit area (~070).</li> <li>The magnetite mineralisation is cross cut by late-stage steep, generally east-west trending dykes ranging in thickness from less than 1m to rarely ~60 m.</li> <li>The mineralisation generally outcrops, but in the west of the project, including the Section 5 Deposit and western portions of the West Deposit it is overlain by around 3 to rarely 25m of un-mineralised surficial alluvial gravels.</li> <li>The mineralisation shows no significant oxidation, with fresh material occurring at shallow depths</li> </ul>
Drill hole information	• N/A.
Data aggregation methods	• N/A.
Relation between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	• The mineralisation dips to the north or northeast at around 35°, approx perpendicular to the generally 45° to 60° south to south-easterly inclined drill holes giving true thicknesses of mineralised intersections generally approximating 87% to 97% of intercept down-hole lengths.
Diagrams	See diagrams included in this announcement.
Balanced reporting	Summary report includes all results.
Other substantive exploration data	<ul> <li>The large number of Davis Tube Recovery tests available for Columbia's drill hole samples and more comprehensive test-work by Nevada Iron demonstrate the mineralisation is amenable to concentration by simple magnetic processes.</li> <li>Ground magnetic and gravity surveys exist over the area.</li> </ul>
Further work	<ul> <li>Ore classification will be undertake.</li> <li>Drilling may be recommended to clarify ore structure</li> </ul>

# **Section 3 Estimation and Reporting of Mineral Resources**

Criteria listed in the preceding sections also apply to this section

Mineral Resources are not being reported in this announcement.