

# **ASX RELEASE**3 JANUARY 2023

# MCB Project starts securing Government approvals

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Mines and Geosciences Bureau has approved the MCB Project's Five-Year Social Development and Management Program (SDMP) and Care and Maintenance Program (CMP).
- Approval of the SDMP and CMP are prerequisites for the approval of the Declaration of Mining Project Feasibility and consequently, a Mineral Production and Sharing Agreement.
- Specifically, the SDMP was developed in line with local development plans and Global Sustainable Development Goals.

Celsius Resources Limited ("Celsius" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that its Philippine subsidiary, Makilala Mining Company, Inc. ("MMCI") has received interim Certificates of Approval from the Regional Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) for its Five-Year Social Development and Management Program as well as its Care and Maintenance Program of the Maalinao-Caigutan-Biyog Copper-Gold Project ("MCB" or "the Project"). Both are vital program documents which are part of the Company's application for the Declaration of a Mining Project Feasibility and consequently the issuance of a Mineral Production and Sharing Agreement (MPSA).

While Certificates of Approval have been secured, this was referred to as "interim", to indicate that the Company is not obliged to action on its commitments under the said programs until after the issuance of the Company's MPSA.

Under the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, all mining permit holders are required to develop and implement a Social Development and Management Program (SDMP) in consultation and partnership with the host and neighboring communities. The overarching goal of the SDMP is to help create responsible, self-reliant, and resource-based communities capable of developing, implementing, and managing community development programs, projects and activities in a manner consistent with the principles of sustainable development. Specifically, the SDMP covers the following primary areas of concern:



- a. Human resource development and institution building;
- b. Enterprise development and networking;
- c. Assistance to infrastructure development and support services;
- d. Access to education and educational support programs;
- e. Access to health services, health facilities and health professionals; and
- f. Protection and respect of socio-cultural values.

The Care and Management Program (CMP), on the other hand, is prerequisite document which details the Company's safety and health, social, and environmental commitments as integral components of the MCB Project in cases of operational constraints (i.e. voluntary or involuntary stoppage).

Celsius' Executive Director and MMCI Country Operations Director, Peter Hume said:

"The approval of the SDMP and CMP is not only an indication of the national government's firm commitment to the mining industry and the MCB Project as one of its key economic drivers post-pandemic, but also a clear manifestation of CLA's strong resolve to advance the project and create real, purposeful, and ethical projects creating value for both the shareholders and stakeholders. These programs will also be among the many avenues where the Company will be able to demonstrate its adherence to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards in partnership with the Balatoc community as well as the local and national government units."

#### MCB COPPER-GOLD PROJECT

The MCB Copper-Gold Project (MCB) is located in the Cordillera Administrative Region in the Philippines, approximately 320km north of Manila (Figure 1). It is the flagship project within the Makilala portfolio which also contains other key prospects in the pipeline for permit renewal/extension.

A maiden JORC compliant Mineral Resource Estimate was declared for the MCB Project on 12 January 2021, comprising 313.8 million tonnes @ 0.48% copper and 0.15 g/t gold, for 1.5 million tonnes of contained copper and 1.47 million ounces of gold, of which 290.3 million tonnes @ 0.48% copper and 0.15 g/t gold is classified as Indicated and 23.5 million tonnes @ 0.48% copper and 0.10 g/t gold is classified as Inferred.

An updated JORC Mineral Resource was announced on 12 December 2022 with a Global Mineral Resource estimate of 338 Mt of 0.47% copper and 0.12g/t gold, for a total of 1.6Mt of contained copper and 1.3Mozs of contained gold reported to a preferred lower cut-off grade of 0.2% copper.

A Scoping Study for the MCB Project was announced by CLA on 1 December 2021, which identified the potential for the development of a copper-gold operation with a 25-year mine life. The Scoping Study was based on an underground mining operation and processing facility to produce a saleable copper-gold concentrate.

Highlights from the Scoping Study include a Post tax NPV (8%) of US\$464m and IRR of 31, assuming a copper price of US\$4.00/lb and gold price of US\$1,695/oz. Initial capital expenditure is estimated to be US\$253m with a payback period of approximately 2.7 years. The designed mine production is matched to a 2.28Mtpa processing plant which will treat ore with



an estimated average grade of 1.14% copper and 0.54g/t gold for the first 10 years of planned production with a C1 cash costs at just US\$0.73/lb copper, net gold credits.

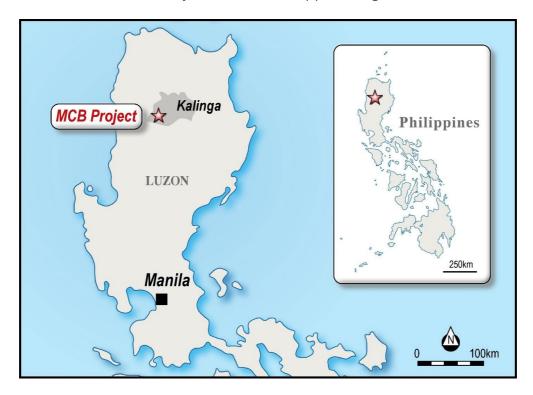


Figure 1. Location of the MCB Project in the province of Kalinga, Northern Luzon, Philippines.

This announcement has been authorised by the Board of Directors of Celsius Resources Limited.

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## **Listing Rule 5.23 Disclosure**

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that relates to Exploration Results and Mineral Resources at the MCB Project and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Mineral Resource continue to apply. The Company notes that, as disclosed in this announcement and in previous announcements, a drilling program is currently underway at the MCB Project the results of which will be incorporated into an updated Mineral Resource in the future and that the current Scoping Study may provide new assumptions and parameters for use in that Mineral Resource.