

# Orion Minerals Ltd

12:35 23 Jan 2020

## Orion Minerals begins partnering process for Prieska Copper-Zinc Project in South Africa

Orion Minerals Limited (ASX:ORN) has begun a formal process which may lead to the introduction of a strategic project-level equity partner and investor in its flagship Prieska Copper-Zinc Project in South Africa.

The company has fielded expressions of interest from third parties in relation to the potential acquisition of, or subscription for, a project-level ownership interest.

These include unsolicited approaches from interested parties which could potentially enhance project value through the provision of technical or financial support.

Considering the potential of these approaches, Orion has decided to run a formal process to engage with these parties.

Should the process be successful, the company will participate in the joint development of the Prieska project, providing the foundations for its transformation into a new mid-tier base metals mining company.

### Discussions with potential parties

Managing director and CEO Errol Smart said, "We believe there are a number of significant benefits from evaluating alternative funding and development pathways that could include the sale of a project-level strategic equity interest.

"We believe that identifying and engaging with the right partner could help us to unlock the full potential of this world-class deposit and ultimately deliver an integrated funding and development package that will minimise dilution for Orion shareholders while retaining significant exposure to the substantial cash-flows that will be generated by a long-life base metal operation.

"We have already held discussions with a number of parties that could bring technical, financial, corporate and strategic expertise to the table."

### Partnering process

Smart added that he was looking forward to engaging formally with these and other parties over the coming months to see if a positive transaction for all stakeholders could be crystallised to help fast-track the development of a substantial new-generation African base metals mine.

Orion is targeting to complete the partnering process during the September quarter of 2020 following completion of the value engineering and optimisation process and delivery of an updated Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS).

Completion of a transaction (if any) is likely to be subject to shareholder

**Price:** 0.015

**Market Cap:** \$43.49 m

### 1 Year Share Price Graph



### Share Information

**Code:** ORN

**Listing:** ASX

| 52 week | High  | Low  |
|---------|-------|------|
|         | 0.035 | 0.01 |

**Sector:** Rare earths & specialist minerals

**Website:** [www.orionminerals.com.au](http://www.orionminerals.com.au)

### Company Synopsis:

*Orion Minerals Ltd (ASX: ORN | JSE: ORN) is a mineral explorer and developer set to join the ranks of international base metal producers through the development of its flagship Prieska Zinc-Copper Project in South Africa's Northern Cape Province.*

[action@proactiveinvestors.com.au](mailto:action@proactiveinvestors.com.au)

approval in accordance with the Corporations Act and Listing Rules.

Orion has engaged Macquarie Capital to act as the financial adviser in relation to the transaction.

Ongoing engineering and optimisation work

Ongoing value engineering and optimisation work have been undertaken since the completion of the BFS in October 2019 with positive results including:

- Water treatment trials investigating supplementary means of dealing with the water to be pumped out from the underground workings so that the dewatering timeline and costs can be reduced;
- Value engineering of the ore processing plant designs and layouts to reduce both capital and operating costs; and
- Mine-to-market enterprise optimisation of the Foundation Phase mining plan, in order to optimise the mine plan and operating parameters to realise maximum value from the Prieska Project.

These studies, which are due for completion and independent sign-off early in the June quarter of 2020, highlight the opportunity for an expanded and improved project development which takes into consideration the substantial upside in Prieska.

Proactive Investors facilitate the largest global investor network across 4 continents in 4 languages. With a team of analysts, journalists & professional investors Proactive produce independent coverage on 1000's of companies across every sector for private investors, private client brokers, fund managers and international investor communities.

Contact us +61 (0)2 9280 0700 [action@proactiveinvestors.com.au](mailto:action@proactiveinvestors.com.au)

#### No investment advice

The Company is a publisher. You understand and agree that no content published on the Site constitutes a recommendation that any particular security, portfolio of securities, transaction, or investment strategy is suitable or advisable for any specific person. You understand that the Content on the Site is provided for information purposes only, and none of the information contained on the Site constitutes an offer, solicitation or recommendation to buy or sell a security. You understand that the Company receives either monetary or securities compensation for our services. We stand to benefit from any volume which any Content on the Site may generate.

You further understand that none of the information providers or their affiliates will advise you personally concerning the nature, potential, advisability, value, suitability or profitability of any particular security, portfolio of securities, transaction, investment, investment strategy, or other matter.

You understand that the Site may contain opinions from time to time with regard to securities mentioned in other products, including Company-related products, and that those opinions may be different from those obtained by using another product related to the Company. You understand and agree that contributors may write about securities in which they or their firms have a position, and that they may trade such securities for their own account. In cases where the position is held at the time of publication and such position is known to the Company, appropriate disclosure is made. However, you understand and agree that at the time of any transaction that you make, one or more contributors may have a position in the securities written about. You understand that price and other data is supplied by sources believed to be reliable, that the calculations herein are made using such data, and that neither such data nor such calculations are guaranteed by these sources, the Company, the information providers or any other person or entity, and may not be complete or accurate.

From time to time, reference may be made in our marketing materials to prior articles and opinions we have published. These references may be selective, may reference only a portion of an article or recommendation, and are likely not to be current. As markets change continuously, previously published information and data may not be current and should not be relied upon.

The Site does not, and is not intended to, provide investment, tax, accounting, legal or insurance advice, and is not and should not be construed as providing any of the foregoing. You should consult an attorney or other relevant professional regarding your specific legal, tax, investment or other needs as tailored to your specific situation.

In exchange for publishing services rendered by the Company on behalf of Orion Minerals Ltd named herein, including the promotion by the Company of Orion Minerals Ltd in any Content on the Site, the Company receives from said issuer annual aggregate cash compensation in the amount up to Twenty Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000).