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Underground mining and surface sources operation

**OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS**

Evander Mines' underground operations are currently focused on mining the 24 Level, substituting production volumes from 8 Shaft's pillar, consistent with its mine plan.

Steady-state production from 24 Level is anticipated to reach approximately 50,000oz annually. Once development of 25 Level is completed in FY26, Evander Mines' underground production, excluding projected production from Egoli, is expected to increase to an average of approximately 65,000oz annually over the remaining 11-year life of the 8 Shaft.

Plans are also in place for sweeping and vamping operations at 7 Shaft, with the gold from these operations included in the scheduled production plan over the next two years.

**24 AND 25 LEVELS**

Development of 8 Shaft's 24 and 25 Levels is progressing well, with ramped-up mining operations at 24 Level already contributing to the replacement of ounces as mining from the 8 Shaft's pillar is depleted. Significant capital expenditure has been invested in these levels to improve and optimise infrastructure, and to ensure sustainable production of an average of approximately 50,000oz to 60,000oz annually over the mine's life.

The phase 2 refrigeration plant project is being commissioned in phases, following remedial welding on the horizontal pipe sections to facilitate mining at depth. This plant will provide chilled water to a bulk air cooler on 24 Level, with a nominal cooling capacity of 3.5MW to create improved working conditions on 24 and 25 Levels.

At Evander Mines' underground 8 Shaft, the existing ventilation shaft between 17 and 24 Levels was equipped for hoisting and commissioned during January 2025, with ramp-up to its hoisting capacity of 600t per day achieved during April 2025, enabling full production from 24 and 25 Levels. Delays were reported in the commissioning and ramp-up relative to planning as a result of difficult conditions underground, however, FY25Q4 yielded much-improved production results. Use of the ventilation shaft has streamlined the ore handling process, resulting in significant efficiencies as approximately 4km of cumbersome underground conveyor belts have been eliminated.

Development of the existing 24 Level footwall infrastructure to access 25 Level, through an on-reef decline layout, commenced in FY25. The planned mining method for 25 Level will be a hybrid of mechanised trackless on-reef development and conventional breast mining. The existing 24 Level footwall infrastructure intersects the Kimberley Reef horizon on 25 Level. A twin-barrel on-reef decline system will then access the higher-grade ore extending deeper to the north-west of the current 24 Level mining area. Due to the shallower dip in the area, sublevels will be introduced to limit mining back-lengths to approximately 150m.

Stope faces will be drilled using handheld pneumatic-driven air leg-assisted rock drills. Blasted ore will be cleared using a series of scraper winches from the face into strike and centre gullies. Ore will be collected in ore loading bays at the bottom of the raise and tipped onto haul trucks, which will then tip the ore into bins on 24 Level. Ore will then be drawn from the 25 Level footwall development to 24 Level and transferred by locomotives to the ventilation shaft, where the ore will be hoisted to 17 Level and tipped down to 18 Level. As a result of the on-reef development layout, limited waste from 25 Level will have to be blended with the ore stream and processed at the Kinross metallurgical plant.

All underground mining development and infrastructure placement for the mining of 24 Level progressed according to plan, with all mining crews now active on 24 Level. Phase 2 of the refrigeration plant will be commissioned during FY26 and allows for additional mining crews to be placed on 24 Level and subsequent mining on 25 Level.

Furthermore, 8 Shaft holed the 24 Level B raise, which is in the middle of the high-grade payshoot, which improved production in FY25Q4. The high-grade 24 Level B raise line has been established with ledging yielding an average grade of 6,500cmg/t (47.79g/t over 1.36m) over the raise development. LIB drilling from 24 Level into the 25 Level mining area intercepted reef at 3,725cmg/t over 76.3cm (48.82g/t). Four additional deflections from this LIB are currently being drilled.

The Group has subsequently evaluated the potential for continued mining on 25 Level from 24 Level at 8 Shaft, where the 2 decline extends from the bottom of 18 Level. Development leading from the existing 24 Level footwall infrastructure allows access to 25 Level, with an on-reef decline layout. The mining of 25 Level demonstrates a compelling business case and holds the bulk of 8 Shaft's remaining modelled production profile.

Mining of the 26 Level orebody requires further investment in phase 3 of the refrigeration plant, consisting of an ice plant, and will be considered as mining progresses towards 25 Level.

**EGOLI PROJECT**

7 Shaft's Egoli project is a stand-alone underground operation which will utilise existing mining and metallurgical infrastructure, including 7 Shaft's hoisting systems and processing facilities at the Kinross metallurgical plant. Egoli will use a mining method similar to 8 Shaft's 25 Level, which combines mechanised trackless on-reef development and conventional breast mining. Egoli will be accessed directly from 7 Shaft's 15 Level using existing declines down to 19 Level, where a new on-reef decline will be established to access the orebody down to 23 Level. All the required permits for the Egoli project, valid until 2038 under Evander Mines' mining right, have been approved. Leveraging existing infrastructure, Egoli can materially increase Evander Mines' production profile with relatively low capital costs and within a relatively short time frame.

Egoli's first phase development involved dewatering the 3 Decline infrastructure to 19 Level, which was completed in FY24. The second phase included establishing a drilling platform on 19 Level, which commenced in FY25Q1, from which LIB drilling is underway to accurately define short-term grade variability and geological structures to finalise short-term mine planning. The Egoli project's phased development approach and production profile will coincide with the depletion of the 24 Level Mineral Reserves.

**Focus for FY26**

Our primary objective for the upcoming year is to achieve optimal performance at our underground operations, and develop into deeper levels to maintain 8 Shaft's long-term production profile. We are committed to maximising the value extracted from our orebody through continuous optimisation, adherence to mine plans and diligent management of capital expenditure, which is aligned with mining requirements and our organic growth objectives.

To accomplish these goals, we have identified several key focus areas for the year ahead:

- Continuing the development of the raise lines on 24 Level to extract the ore to sustain the 24 Level steady-state production
- Commissioning phase 2 of the refrigeration plant to allow for additional mining crews on 24 and 25 Levels
- Initiating development towards the 25 Level orebody
- Completing deflection LIB drilling to confirm geological structure and grade to assist with mine planning
- Quantifying requirements for phase 3 of the refrigeration plant in preparation for access to 26 Level
- Concluding Egoli's LIB drilling delineation programme
- Continuation of brownfield exploration programmes to identify additional organic growth opportunities within Evander Mines' existing mining right.

Through a focused and dedicated approach to fulfilling these objectives, we have confidence in our ability to drive performance and pursue sustainable growth in the year ahead.