



News Release

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WESTMIN RESOURCES LIMITED

LAYOFF AT MYRA FALLS OPERATIONS

Vancouver, B.C. (April 19, 1993) - Westmin Resources Limited announces that it is taking decisive measures to counteract the effects of a continuing deterioration of international metal markets. By June 15, 1993, Westmin will reduce its workforce at Myra Falls Operations by 73 people, including both staff and hourly rated employees. The reduction will be accomplished by layoff although there may be some accommodation for early retirement. Adjustment programs are being made available to assist affected employees.

The Lynx Mine will be put on a care and maintenance basis, and where possible, employees will be moved from there to the H-W Mine. There are some modest-sized lenses of high grade ore at the H-W, presently not being mined, which can be brought on stream to replace the 400 tonnes per day shortfall resulting from the closure of the Lynx. Although all areas of the property will be further streamlined, most of the redundant positions result from elimination of duplicate support facilities required for running the second mine.

The employees at Lynx Mine have done an outstanding job over the last two years in improving productivity while supporting a major exploration program. In spite of their efforts, the declining metal markets have rendered the Lynx uneconomic. The mine can be restarted on short notice once better markets return.

This cutback will not affect the development of the Gap and Battle Zones which are currently being readied for production, but the access for continued exploration west along strike and to the North of those Zones will be temporarily unavailable. The exploration emphasis on the property will shift to other promising targets which can be reached from the H-W Mine and are generally more to the East of the recent area of concentration.

The action announced today is obviously very difficult for the employees who will lose their jobs and for the community in general and for Westmin, but it is the only action that can keep Myra Falls viable until prices recover and Battle/Gap ore reaches the mill in significant quantities.

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