

Taseko Mines Limited

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BANKABLE FEASIBILITY PROGRAM ADVANCING PROSPERITY

Robert G. Hunter, Chairman of Taseko Mines Limited (NASDAQ-TKOCF; VSE:TKO) is pleased to announce that Taseko's bankable feasibility program is progressing smoothly and significantly advancing its 100% owned Prosperity Gold-Copper Project, located near Williams Lake, British Columbia. Since commencing in July 1996, some \$7.0 million has been expended of the budgeted \$13.5 million program.

A four-rig, angle re-drilling program designed to confirm the grade enhancement for the Prosperity Gold-Copper Deposit of 11% for gold and 4% for copper, as previously announced, is well underway and ongoing. To date, 46,753 feet (14,250 metres) of large diameter core drilling in 29 holes have been completed within the Prosperity Deposit of the total 128,822 feet (39,265 metres) in 69 holes planned. Also, 18 geotechnical holes totalling 10,400 feet (3,169 metres) have been completed to provide important data for detailed engineering studies of open pit mine slopes and potential locations for rock dumps, tailings impoundments and other site facilities.

The angle re-drilling program, which is expected to be completed by March 1997, is advancing the mineable reserve of the Prosperity Deposit to a bankable feasibility level status. When sufficient comparative data is received from the angle re-drilling program, detailed comparisons of the angle hole grades will be made with the grade of the 744 million ton mineable reserve established by the earlier completed drilling of extensive vertical holes. Assay results received to date are positive. Highlights of results received include intercepts of 1,199 feet, grading 0.020 ounces gold per ton and 0.27% copper; 1,153 feet, grading 0.018 ounces gold per ton and 0.30% copper; 1,678 feet, grading 0.017 ounces gold per ton and 0.31% copper. These compare favourably with the average grade of the established mineable reserve of 0.013 ounces gold per ton and 0.24% copper.

Pilot plant metallurgical and process programs which will include bulk sample testing have also commenced. These programs are planned to confirm detailed process criteria for mill design. Extensive environmental and socio-economic studies are also continuing in anticipation of meeting the mine certification requirements of the citizens of the Cariboo-Chilcotin region and the British Columbia and Canada Environmental Assessment Acts.

The Prosperity Project is economically attractive using conventional mining and milling technology. It is one of the largest untapped metal resources in the world and contains in excess of 9.4 million ounces of gold and 3.5 billion pounds of copper. Established infrastructure, excellent deposit geometry, metallurgy and topography combine to make it well suited for high volume, low cost open pit mine development. Commercial production at Prosperity will result in large scale, low cost production of both gold and copper from one, long-life mine. At a throughput rate of 90,000 tonnes per day, metal production is forecast to average 376,000 ounces of gold and 156 million pounds of copper annually. Production at this rate would make Prosperity the third largest gold producer in Canada.

Proving up and confirming the attractive economics of the immense Prosperity Gold-Copper Deposit has made Taseko Mines Limited a leading North American development stage mining company. Concurrently with the finalization of the feasibility and environmental permitting programs, Taseko is assessing potential financial transaction strategies with modern, large scale mine operators that will lead to responsible mineral resource development and maximum shareholder value.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Robert G. Hunter
Chairman

The Vancouver Stock Exchange has neither approved nor disapproved the information contained in this news release.