

## Taseko Mines Limited

VTS → GIBRALTAR

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### TASEKO ACQUIRES REMAINING EQUITY IN COPPER REFINERY ENGINEERING BUSINESS

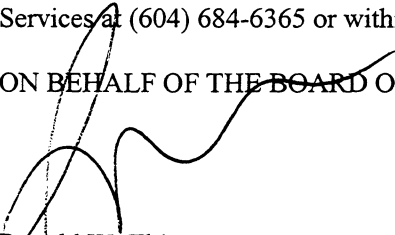
**April 17, 2003, Vancouver, BC** – Ronald W. Thiessen, President and CEO of Taseko Mines Limited (TSX Venture:TKO; OTCBB:TKOCF) announces that the Company has acquired the remaining business of Gibraltar Engineering Services Limited Partnership (“GESL Partnership”) under a plan of arrangement. In 2002, Taseko acquired a 38% initial position in these assets comprising primarily technology rights. The current transaction results in a reduction of certain existing Taseko liabilities, which would increase its book value by Cdn\$3 million. Further, the acquisition consolidates Taseko’s 100% ownership of the copper refinery engineering business of the GESL Partnership. The Company will issue 7.4 million common shares having a deemed value of Cdn\$0.47 per share, for total consideration of Cdn\$3.5 million. The recipient of the Taseko shares is Vancouver businessman, Norman Cressey, who advises that he has acquired the shares for investment purposes and not with a view to influencing control of the Company. The acquisition has now received necessary TSX Venture and judicial approvals that has resulted in completion of the transaction.

The GESL Partnership is an integrated engineering and contract services business, and it has financed a defined work program and advanced feasibility work for commercializing a new copper refining technology which could potentially be used in connection with the operations at Taseko’s Gibraltar copper refining facility.

Gibraltar is a largely equipped 35,000 tonnes per day mine and mill facility maintained on standby with a successful 27-year operating history. Approximately 760 million tonnes of measured and indicated resources are currently outlined on the property, containing 4.7 billion pounds of copper. This amount includes an in-pit (15-year mine plan) sulphide resource of about 189 million tonnes grading 0.31% copper, plus in-pit oxide resources that would be processed in the existing solvent extraction-electrowinning plant. Gibraltar could be made operable in the near term and is an established operation that could quickly capitalize on rising copper market prices.

For further details on Taseko Mines Limited, please visit our website at [www.hdgold.com](http://www.hdgold.com) or contact Investor Services at (604) 684-6365 or within North America at 1-800-667-2114.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

  
Ronald W. Thiessen  
President and CEO

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Responsible  
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### TASEKO CLOSSES \$4.24 MILLION FINANCING

**January 7, 2003, Vancouver, BC** – Ronald W. Thiessen, President and CEO of Taseko Mines Limited (TSX Venture:TKO; OTCBB:TKOCF) (“Taseko”), is pleased to announce that Taseko has closed equity private placements of its securities including \$655,500 of Common Shares, \$1,269,600 of Units, and \$2,315,000 of Flow-Through Units. The subscription prices were \$0.30 per Common Share, \$0.30 per Unit and \$0.40 per Flow-Through Unit. “Flow-through” designates the securities as being tax-advantaged securities in Canada but which are otherwise equivalent to regular Taseko Common Shares.

Each Unit consists of one Common Share and one non-transferable Common Share Purchase Warrant. Each Flow-Through Unit consists of one Flow-Through Common Share and one-half of a non-transferable Common Share Purchase Warrant.

Each whole Common Share Purchase Warrant will entitle the holder to purchase one Common Share at a price of \$0.50 for a twenty-four month period ending December 31, 2004. No flow-through benefits will be attached to any Common Shares issued upon the exercise of the Common Share Purchase Warrants. The Common Share Purchase Warrants are subject to an accelerated expiry if, at any time following the expiration of the four-month hold period, the published closing trade price of the Common Shares on the TSX Venture Exchange is greater than or equal to \$0.75 for any 10 consecutive trading days, in which event the Holder will be given notice that the Warrants will expire 45 days following the date of such notice. The Common Share Purchase Warrants may be exercised by the Holder during the 45 day period between the notice and the expiration of the Common Share Purchase Warrants.

Dundee Securities Corporation, to the extent of \$1,725,000, and Strand Securities Corporation and certain other agents, to the extent of \$250,000, have collectively acted as Agents for the private placement of Flow-Through Units. The Agents’ compensation included a cash fee equal to 6% of the gross proceeds and Broker Warrants entitling them to purchase that number of Common Shares which is equal to 6% of the number of Flow-Through Units sold. The Broker Warrants are exercisable at \$0.40 per Common Share and expire on December 31, 2003. Finders’ fees will be payable on other portions of the financing and may be payable in the issued securities.

The Common Shares, the Flow-Through Common Shares, the Warrant Common Shares and the Broker Warrant Common Shares are subject to a hold period in Canada until May 1, 2003.

Taseko owns substantial copper and gold resources and is well positioned to take advantage of the improving metal market conditions for copper and gold. The Company’s main assets are the Gibraltar copper mine, and the advanced staged Prosperity gold-copper and Harmony gold projects. All are located in British Columbia, Canada.

Gibraltar is a largely equipped 35,000 tonnes per day mine and mill facility maintained on stand-by with a successful 27-year operating history. Approximately 760 million tonnes of measured and indicated resources are currently outlined on the property, containing 4.7 billion pounds of copper. This amount includes an in-pit (15-year mine plan) sulphide resource of about 189 million tonnes grading 0.31% copper, plus in-pit oxide resources that would be processed in the existing solvent extraction-electrowinning plant. Gibraltar could be made operable in the near term and is an established operation that could quickly capitalize on a rising copper market.



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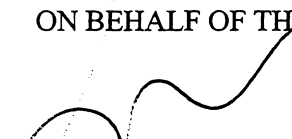
The Company's Prosperity project is a large copper-gold deposit. Estimated measured and indicated resources within an open pit designed for a potential 70,000 tonnes per day operation are 491 million tonnes grading 0.22% copper and 0.43 grams of gold per tonne, containing 2.3 billion pounds of copper and 6.7 million ounces of gold. Increasing metals prices present an excellent opportunity to re-assess the huge resource at Prosperity.

The Harmony property, located on British Columbia's west coast, hosts an estimated measured and indicated resource of 64 million tonnes grading 1.53 grams of gold per tonne, containing 3 million ounces of gold. Taseko acquired Harmony near the bottom of the gold market. The next step for the project would involve detailed engineering studies to assess the full potential of this major gold resource.

The net proceeds of the Units and Common Shares will be used for general working capital purposes. Taseko will utilize the gross proceeds of the Flow-Through financing to undertake a comprehensive core-drilling program near the Gibraltar property. The Company will work to discover additional resources through drilling new deposit targets that were outlined by extensive geophysical (induced polarization) surveys completed on the property.

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ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Ronald W. Thiessen  
President and CEO

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### **RISING GOLD AND COPPER PRICES EXPECTED TO FAVOURABLY IMPACT TASEKO**

**June 24, 2002, Vancouver, B.C.** - Ronald W. Thiessen, President and CEO of Taseko Mines Limited (OTCBB: TKOCF; TSX Venture: TKO) is pleased to provide an update on the Company's activities. With rising gold and copper prices, exciting new opportunities are opening up for the Company's three major projects: the Gibraltar copper mine, and the advanced exploration staged Prosperity gold-copper and Harmony gold projects.

Gold prices have been steadily improving during the year, and recently have reached a high of US\$331 per ounce. Analysts are now projecting prices of US\$340 per ounce or more. As the global economy improves, copper prices as well are responding in kind. Following lows in late 2001, prices have risen to over \$0.76 per pound. Analysts forecast that this upward trend will continue, with prices to reach US\$0.95/lb to US\$1.00/lb in the period of 2003-2005.

Taseko's comprehensive strategic plan is designed to utilize its assets, to take advantage of the forecast rising market conditions, and adapt to cycling metal markets over the long term. The initial steps of the plan are focused on the restart of the long life, 35,000 tonnes per day Gibraltar copper mine, sequentially followed by the construction of a new copper refining facility that will reduce the cost of copper production and produce a high purity copper product.

Gibraltar has produced copper over 27 years with current measured and indicated resources of 760 million tonnes, containing some 4.7 billion pounds of copper. The mine also produces by-product molybdenum. Molybdenum prices can be very volatile but huge profits can be made during market peaks; moly prices are also on the rise! According to recent reports, the copper concentrate market will be in deficit in 2002 by some 213,000 tonnes. In order to secure supply, smelters are willing to reduce smelting & refining charges by US\$0.05-0.08/lb over a two to three year period. When combined with rising copper and moly prices, conditions are shaping up to restart the mine, as is, with concentrate production and sales, then follow up with construction of the copper refinery to begin production before the top of the copper price cycle.

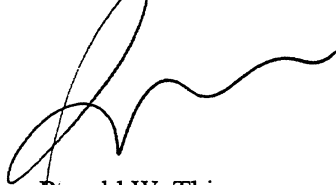
The Company has advanced its joint initiative with Cominco Engineering Services Ltd. ("CESL"), a subsidiary of Teck Cominco Ltd., to sequentially integrate new refinery technology into the Gibraltar operation. The refinery would produce pure, London Metal Exchange (LME) grade copper on site from copper concentrate produced from the existing Gibraltar mill facilities, eliminating the need to transport concentrate to smelters and substantially reducing the cost of copper production. Gibraltar and CESL recently completed a detailed work plan. The work plan included extraction and transportation of some 900 tonnes of mineralized material from site to the CESL facility in Vancouver BC, production and extensive metallurgical testing of seven tonnes of concentrate, and feasibility-level capital and operating cost studies by an independent engineering firm. Analysis of the results of this work are being finalized to confirm that application of the technology in an on-site refinery at Gibraltar would considerably enhance the profitability of the operation.

The Prosperity property hosts a huge porphyry gold-copper deposit. Drilling by Taseko at Prosperity outlined a one billion tonne measured and indicated resource, grading 0.43 g/t gold and 0.24% copper. Detailed engineering studies have been undertaken of a 70,000 tonnes per day operation, based on an in-pit resource of 490 million tonnes at an average grade of 0.43 g/t gold and 0.22% copper at a \$3.25 net smelter return (NSR) per tonne cut-off, containing 6.79 million ounces of gold and 2.3 billion pounds of copper. Over the last year, with the Company's focus turning to potential near-term cash flow offered by the Gibraltar Project, further work on Prosperity was deferred. As metal market conditions improve, the Prosperity Project should be re-assessed with the reduced costs that potentially could be realized by having its concentrates treated at a Gibraltar refinery.

Taseko acquired the Harmony gold project near the bottom of the gold market. Over three million ounces of gold has been outlined at Harmony, in an estimated measured and indicated resource of 64 million tonnes grading 1.53 g/t gold at a 0.60 g/t cut-off. The next step for Harmony would be to initiate detailed engineering studies in order to assess the full potential of this major resource.

Mr. Thiessen stated, "We are very encouraged by the rapidly improving market conditions for both copper and gold, and the new opportunities that this opens up for the Company. We believe that Taseko is now on the threshold of major metal production, with the first step being re-start of the Gibraltar mine when copper prices reach the target range."

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Ronald W. Thiessen  
President and CEO

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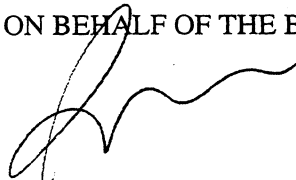
### TASEKO TO ACQUIRE COPPER REFINERY ENGINEERING BUSINESS

**January 23, 2002, Vancouver, B.C.** – Ronald W. Thiessen, President and CEO of Taseko Mines Limited (NASDAQ:TKOCF;CDNX:TKO) announces that Taseko has agreed to acquire, subject to regulatory approval, the shares of Gibraltar Refinery (2002) Ltd. and Gibraltar Refinery (2002) No. 2 Ltd. which, following the completion of a share exchange take-over bid by these companies, will own all of the limited partnership units of Gibraltar Engineering Services Limited Partnership (the “GESL Partnership”). In 2001, the GESL Partnership successfully completed a private placement of Units for aggregate proceeds of \$1.85 million. A further \$3 million of expenditures were incurred by the GESL Partnership which was financed by a separate partnership, GESL Refinery Process Partnership. If secure funding is not obtained, Taseko will effectively issue 4.9 million common shares for the business of the GESL Partnership. If the additional funding is secured, Taseko will issue 12.9 million common shares valued at a market price of \$0.44 per share. In return, Taseko will acquire the benefits of a going concern business with the intent of carrying on future projects and undertaking further business activities.

The GESL Partnership is an integrated engineering and contract services business, and it has used the financing proceeds to carry out a defined work program and advance feasibility work for commercializing a new copper refining technology. The technology was developed by Cominco Engineering Services Limited (“CESL”), a subsidiary of Teck Cominco Metals Ltd., for use at a proposed refinery to be located at Gibraltar Mines Ltd. (“Gibraltar”) mine site in Williams Lake, B.C. The proposed Refinery would process concentrate from existing mine facilities, and possibly other mines in the area, to produce London Metal Exchange (LME) grade “A” cathode copper.

Under the terms of the defined work program, the GESL Partnership initiated feasibility studies to determine the capital and operating costs of the proposed refinery to an accuracy of +/- 15%, rates of return, net present values and other viability parameters. The GESL Partnership and CESL jointly engaged Bateman Engineering Pty Ltd. (“Bateman”) to carry out a feasibility-level Capital and Operating Cost Study (the “Study”) for the construction of a hydrometallurgical copper refinery (the “Refinery”) at the Gibraltar Mine. The steady state operating cost for the production of copper metal from concentrate in the Refinery was determined to be US\$0.147 per pound of copper produced. Currently, concentrate transportation plus smelting and refining costs average US \$0.33 per pound of copper produced, resulting in a projected net cost reduction of over US \$0.18 per pound of copper. These savings would result in an overall property operating cost of about US \$0.70 per pound of copper.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Ronald W. Thiessen  
President, CEO and Director

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## **TASEKO SUBSIDIARY COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF HARMONY GOLD PROJECT AS PART OF MISTY MOUNTAIN REORGANIZATION**

**October 16, 2001 – Vancouver, British Columbia:** Ronald W. Thiessen, President of Taseko Mines Limited (CDNX:TKO; OTCBB:TKOCF) and President of Misty Mountain Gold Limited (CDNX:MGL; OTCBB:MGLCF), announces that the companies have completed their earlier announced transaction pursuant to which Misty Mountain Gold Limited (“Misty Mountain”) has transferred its Harmony gold project to the wholly-owned subsidiary of Taseko Mines Limited (“Taseko”), Gibraltar Mines Ltd. (“Gibraltar”) for tracking preferred shares of Gibraltar plus Cdn. \$2.23 million. The Gibraltar tracking preferred shares are designed to track and capture the value of the Harmony gold project and will be convertible into Taseko common shares upon a value realization event such as a sale to a third party or commercial production at the Harmony gold project. The Harmony property, located on British Columbia’s west coast hosts a measured and indicated resource (at a 0.60 g/t Au cut-off) of 64 million tonnes grading 1.53 g/t Au. This is based on a resource estimation done by M. Nowak, P. Eng., and Misty Mountain staff in 1997 and classification reported by G. Giroux, P. Eng., M. Novak, P. Eng. and others in February 2001.

The sale of the Harmony gold project to Taseko is part of a Misty Mountain reorganization that was approved by its shareholders at an Annual and Extraordinary General Meeting convened on March 29, 2001. The reorganization was subject to the approval of a special resolution approved by the requisite 75% shareholder majority and a simple majority of the disinterested shareholders of both Misty Mountain and Taseko as well as the British Columbia Supreme Court and the CDNX.

The reorganization changes the name of Misty Mountain Gold Limited to Continental Minerals Corporation (“Continental”). Pursuant to the terms of the court ordered Arrangement which completes the transaction, the shareholders of Misty Mountain will receive ten Continental redeemable preferred shares plus one Continental common share for each ten Misty Mountain shares held. The record date for the exchange is October 16, 2001. Continental’s transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company of Canada is in the process of sending letters of transmittal to the Misty Mountain shareholders, which provide instructions on how each shareholder will exchange their Misty Mountain shares for Continental redeemable preferred shares and Continental common shares. The Continental common shares will begin trading on the Canadian Venture Exchange (“CDNX”) under the symbol “KMK” at the open of the market on October 18, 2001. The Continental Common Shares will begin trading on the United States OTCBB under the symbol “KMKCF” at the open of the market on October 18, 2001. The Continental preferred shares will not be stock exchange listed but will be RRSP eligible in Canada.

The Gibraltar tracking preferred shares issued to Continental have a paid up amount of Cdn. \$62.77 million and are redeemable for Taseko common shares upon the occurrence of certain value realization events for the Harmony project. The Gibraltar tracking preferred shares are redeemable at specified prices per Taseko share starting at Cdn. \$3.39 and escalating by Cdn. \$0.25 per year. If a realization event does not occur within ten years, the Gibraltar tracking preferred shares shall be redeemable for

Taseko common shares at a deemed price of the greater of the average 20 day trading price of Taseko shares and Cdn. \$10.00 per Taseko share, being approximately 50% of Taseko’s all time trading high. The Taseko shares issued to Continental on the realization event will in turn be distributed pro-rata after adjustment for any taxes, to the holders of the Continental redeemable preferred shares.

Under the Arrangement, Misty Mountain's existing indebtedness of Cdn. \$3.5 million has been extinguished by the following: a Cdn \$2 million cash payment and the balance through the issuance of 15.5 million Continental common shares valued at Cdn. \$0.10 each which will be subject to a three-year staged escrow. The Arrangement also includes the transfer from Gibraltar to Continental of the Westgarde porphyry copper prospect in northern British Columbia in exchange for Cdn \$230,000. The Westgarde prospect, recently renamed the Copper Star property hosts a very prominent geophysical anomaly ready for drill testing.

Continental also raised Cdn \$350,000 by the issuance of 3.5 million Continental units (each unit comprised of one Continental common share and two year share purchase warrant), the proceeds of which will be used for working capital. Of these units, Cdn \$200,000 are designated flow-through. The share purchase warrants are exercisable into common shares at Cdn \$0.10 each for two years. After the reorganization, Continental has 20,248,391 common shares outstanding of which former Misty Mountain shareholders hold 1,248,391, the 15.5 million debt settlement shares are under option to Continental's management and others and a further 3.5 million shares will be held by investors as a consequence of the working capital financing. Full details of the arrangement are available for review at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) in the Misty Mountain proxy materials. Taseko is also issuing 606,061 shares to a director in consideration of a loan guarantee of Cdn \$2 million to Taseko which enabled the closing of the transaction.

Ronald Thiessen stated, "This brings to a close a reorganization that provides Continental shareholders with all the advantages of a revitalized company while at the same time maintaining a substantial economic interest in any upside potential of the Harmony gold project without the necessity to continue funding the project. For Taseko shareholders, they benefit from owning an advanced project in which over Cdn \$62.77 million in prior exploration work has already been completed plus the related tax pools; all of which was achieved without undue share dilution. We believe the purchase of the Harmony gold project has been organized in such a way as to balance the interests of the shareholders of both Misty Mountain and Taseko, and at the same time making good business sense. We look forward to a rewarding future for the Harmony gold project and for shareholders of both companies."

For further details on Taseko Mines Limited and Misty Mountain Gold Limited, please visit our website at [www.hdgold.com](http://www.hdgold.com) or contact Investor Services at (604) 684-6365 or within North America at 1-800-667-2114.

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Ronald W. Thiessen  
President, CEO and Director

#### **MISTY MOUNTAIN GOLD LIMITED**



Ronald W. Thiessen  
President, CEO and Director

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### **SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE ON DETAILED STUDIES FOR COPPER REFINERY AND PROMISING RESULTS FROM EXPLORATION WORK AT GIBRALTAR MINE**

**March 26, 2001, Vancouver, B.C.** - Ronald W. Thiessen, President and CEO of Taseko Mines Limited (NASDAQ: TKOCF, CDN: TKO), is pleased to provide an update on the detailed investigation of the feasibility of a copper refinery, and the promising results from exploration work, at the Gibraltar mine. Gibraltar is located near the City of Williams Lake in central British Columbia.

In mid-2000, Gibraltar Mines Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Taseko, and Cominco Engineering Services Ltd. (CESL), a subsidiary of Cominco Ltd., completed a scoping study of a copper refinery to produce copper cathode from copper concentrates from the existing Gibraltar mining and milling operations. The refinery is based on an innovative hydrometallurgical process developed by CESL. The study showed that the cash cost of copper produced at the mine could be reduced by up to US\$0.20 per pound, due mainly to the elimination of off-site concentrate shipping and smelting/refining costs.

In October, Gibraltar and CESL signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to jointly complete an evaluation of the development of the refinery at the Gibraltar mine. Work began immediately after the MOA was signed. CESL and Gibraltar are co-directing the engineering and design work, and each is funding 50% of the \$3 million cost. Work is advancing well and \$1.4 million of the budget has been expended to date.

As part of the current work program, Bateman Hatch Engineering was engaged to complete a review and validation of the CESL/Gibraltar scoping study. Bateman was involved with process development, design and construction of the Mt Gordon copper project in Australia, which successfully commenced production in 1998. The Mt Gordon process integrates low pressure oxidation for treating run of mine ore to produce cathode copper and is, in many respects, similar to the flow sheet for the copper refinery at Gibraltar. Bateman reviewed the CESL/Gibraltar process design, and capital and operating costs projected in the scoping study, and concluded that the process is technically sound and the projected costs are reasonable.

Nine hundred tonnes of crushed ore has been trucked from the Gibraltar mine to CESL's demonstration plant in a suburb of Vancouver, British Columbia, where it was processed to produce seven tonnes of concentrate for detailed testing. The testing program includes an assessment of hydrometallurgical leaching of a concentrate grading 24% copper, in the CESL pilot plant. Test work to date confirms operating parameters, such as copper recoveries and the autoclave retention time, used in the scoping study.

The pilot plant test work is planned to be completed in March and detailed engineering for the feasibility study will commence in April. Bateman Hatch Engineering has been retained to prepare the feasibility study and is expected to report by June 30, 2001.

Taseko has also commenced work and initiated agency consultation in preparation for submitting an application to the BC Environmental Assessment Office for the refinery project. The objective is to ensure that a thorough environmental review of the new refinery is completed in parallel with the other studies.

Gibraltar is a fully equipped 35,000 tonnes per day mine and mill facility that has a successful 27-year operating history. The mine was shut down in late 1998 by Boliden Westmin (Canada) Ltd. when the copper price was about US\$0.66 per pound. Taseko acquired the mine in 1999, and has employed a workforce of key

employees to maintain plant and equipment on standby and complete ongoing environmental reclamation work, ensuring that the site is ready for re-opening. As the copper price improved, Taseko initiated discussions to develop commercial arrangements for concentrate sales and to secure funding to re-open the mine. It is forecast that copper prices will reach US\$0.90 or more per pound later this year, justifying re-commencement of concentrate production. Subject to feasibility results and financing, construction of the copper refinery would follow.

When operations at Gibraltar resume, 280 jobs will be created. Subsequent development of the CESL/Gibraltar refinery would add another 100 jobs during construction and 50 jobs during operation. This will provide substantial economic benefits to the people of the region and to the Province of British Columbia.

Gibraltar's estimated sulphide mineral resources at a 0.2% copper cut-off are 745 million tonnes, containing 4.7 billion pounds of copper. This includes measured and indicated resources of 149 million tonnes grading 0.31% copper and 0.01% molybdenum in the 12-year mine plan, plus additional measured and indicated resources of 596 million tonnes grading 0.28% copper and 0.01% molybdenum. There are also in-pit oxide resources that would be processed in the existing solvent extraction-electrowinning plant. The studies currently underway will encompass re-evaluation of the mineral resources to develop a 15-year mine plan.

Taseko also carried out an extensive induced polarization geophysical survey on the Gibraltar property in the latter half of 2000. A number of high potential deposit-scale targets were outlined (see Induced Polarization Results Map attached). Comprehensive drilling is expected to further expand the copper resources.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

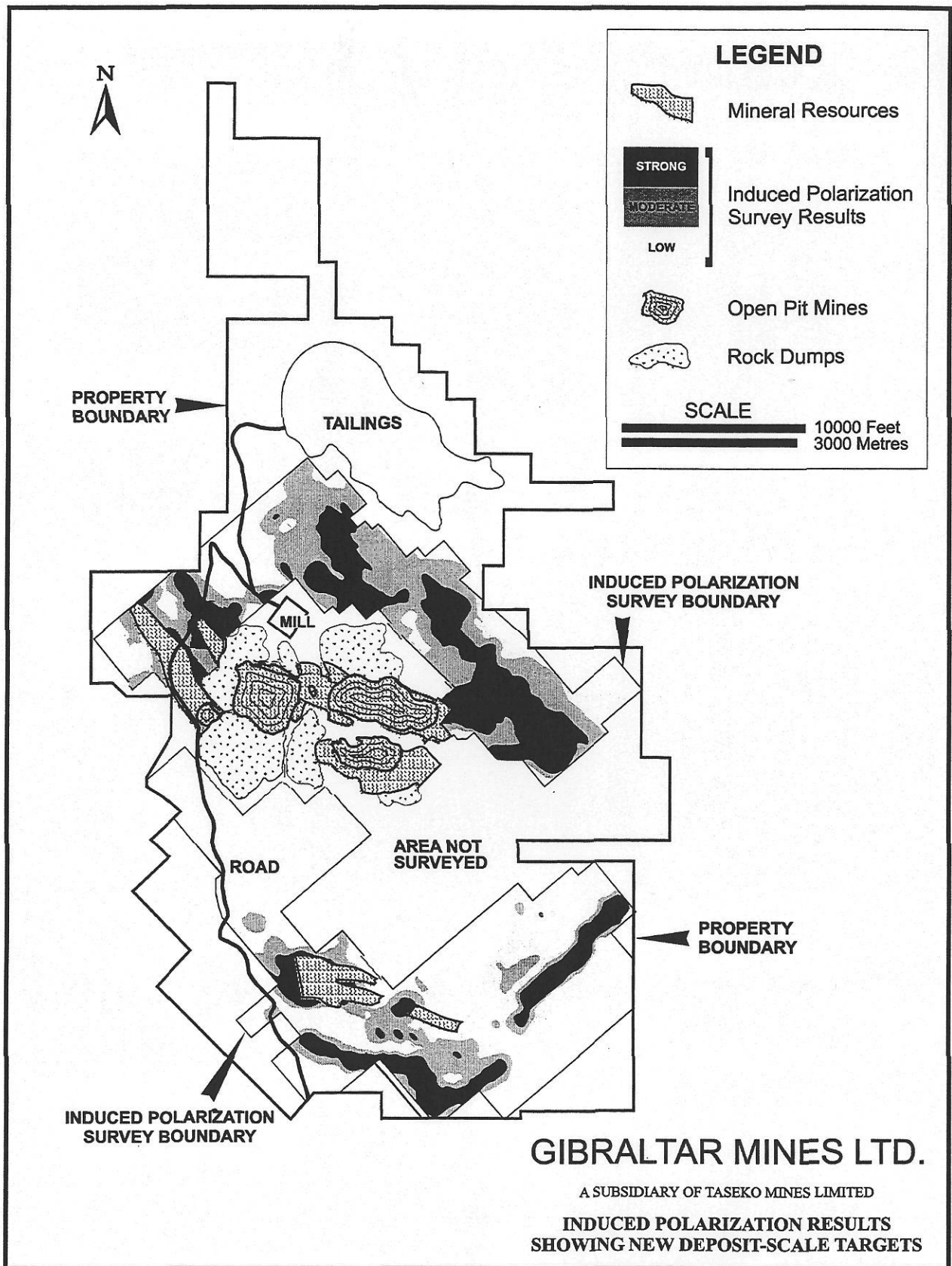


Ronald W. Thiessen  
President, CEO and Director

#### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

The U.S. securities laws provide a "safe harbour" for certain forward-looking statements. This news release contains both historical information and forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. Examples of the latter include, without limitation, statements regarding potential mineralization, exploration results, and future plans and objectives of the Company, all of which involve risks and uncertainties. In accordance with the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Company cautions that there can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, and actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements, given that resource exploration is inherently a high risk business. All written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to Taseko Mines Limited or persons acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this notice.

No regulatory authority has approved or disapproved the information contained in this news release.



**GIBRALTAR MINES LTD.**

A SUBSIDIARY OF TASEKO MINES LIMITED

**INDUCED POLARIZATION RESULTS  
SHOWING NEW DEPOSIT-SCALE TARGETS**