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EXPLORATION PROGRAMS TO TEST EXCITING NEW TARGETS NEAR FLYING FOX (FOR NICKEL) AND COPPER HILLS (FOR URANIUM).

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The Board of Western Areas is pleased to announce two exploration programs which are planned to test a number of recently identified targets as soon as access is available. These targets are:

1. Two high quality nickel targets 1000m and 1600m north along strike from the Flying Fox Mine, below an interpreted flat lying granite intrusion in a similar geological setting to Flying Fox.
2. Ten low level uranium radiometric anomalies within WSA's tenements at Copper Hills which is located in the Rudall Metamorphic Complex, southeast of the RTZ's Kintyre uranium deposit.

The Flying Fox nickel targets are regarded as high priority targets which will be tested by diamond drilling and down hole electromagnetic surveys as soon as drill rig access is approved.

The Copper Hills uranium anomalies are located within a large metal province which includes significant copper (Nifty), uranium (Kintyre), gold (Telfer) and platinum group element ("PGE") occurrences. Western Areas has been exploring the Copper Hills project for PGE deposits and has only recently reviewed the uranium potential. An experienced uranium geologist has been sourced and a site visit is planned in mid April to evaluate and sample the radiometric anomalies.

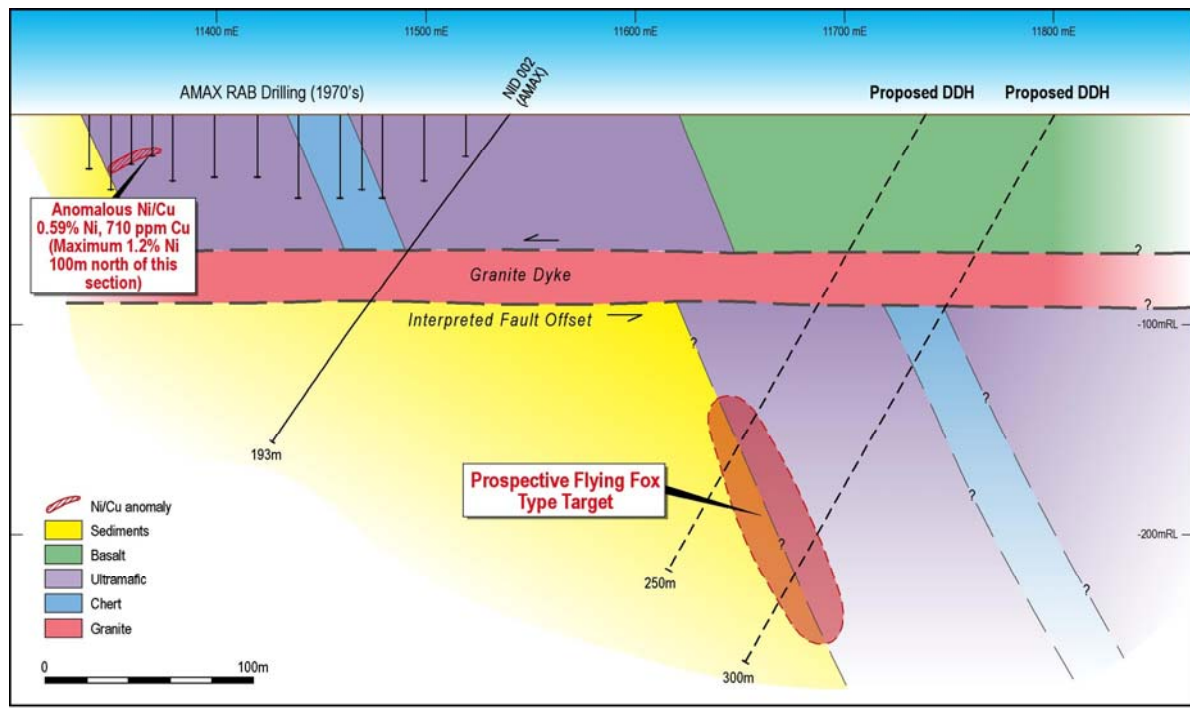
The proposed programs outlined above are in addition to the current drilling at Flying Fox which is aimed at defining potential Mineral Resources above the T1 ore body (north and south of the dolerite dyke) and at the T4 sulphide zone approximately 200m above the high grade T5 ore body.

Flying Fox North

Shallow RAB drilling by Amax Exploration (Australia) Ltd in the mid 1970's intersected highly anomalous end of hole nickel and copper assays (up to 1.2% nickel and 750ppm copper) in two areas 1000m and 1600m north of Flying Fox. Amax drilled two diamond drill holes to follow up the two geochemical targets. Both diamond drill holes intersected granite and sediments rather than the prospective ultramafic/sediment contact and no further work was carried out.

By applying current understanding of the geology at Flying Fox, Western Area's consultants Newexco have concluded that the Amax diamond drill holes appear to have intersected a flat lying granite intrusion from 60 to 90m depth. If this interpretation is correct, the geological setting shows a number of important similarities to the upper part of the Flying Fox nickel mine. The cross section (29,400N) included in this release suggests the prospective contact may be offset by a fault to the east, below the current limit of drilling.

Diamond drilling is planned to test the ultramafic/sediment contact at about 200-250m depth at both targets. This is expected to be followed by down hole electromagnetic surveys to identify potential conductors. Drilling is planned to start as soon as access approvals are received.



FLYING FOX NORTH – CROSS SECTION 29,400N
Approximately 1,000m North of Flying Fox nickel mine

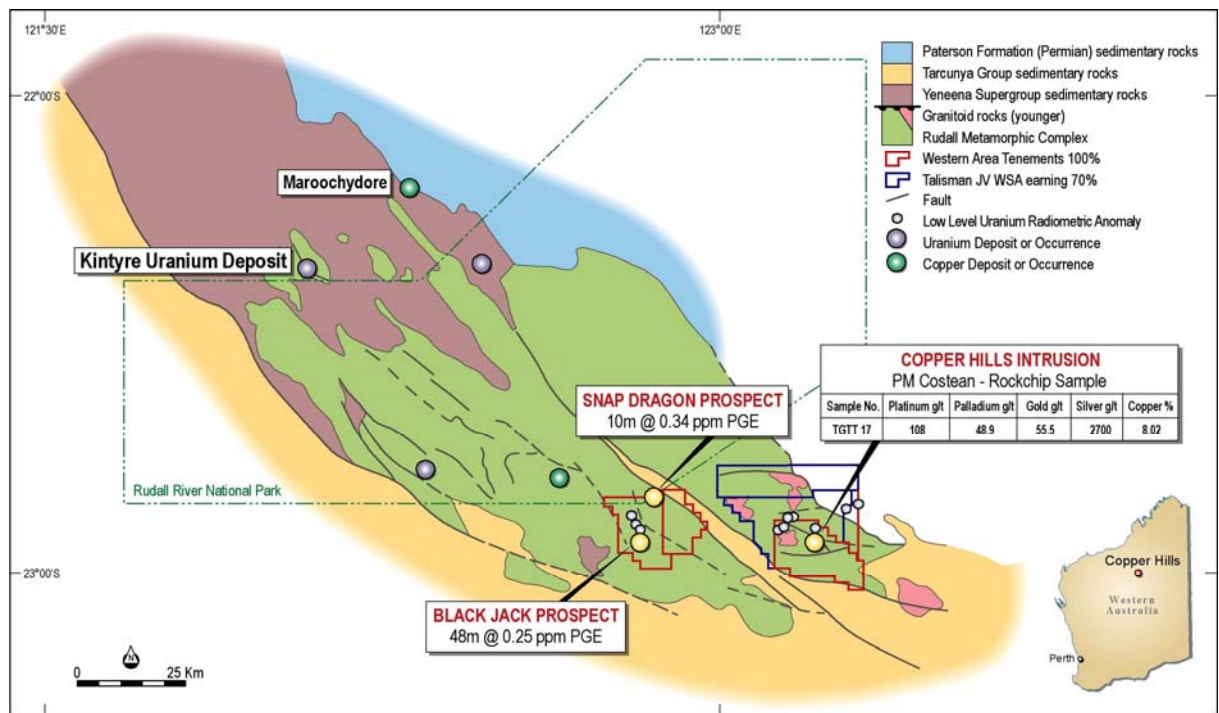
Copper Hills Project

The Copper Hills project consists of two large intrusions located in the Rudall Metamorphic Complex approximately 100km and 120km southeast of the Kintyre uranium deposit. Kintyre consists of Probable Ore Reserves plus Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources containing 36,000 tonnes of U_3O_8 located adjacent to the northern boundary of the Rudall River National Park.

During the past three years WSA has been conducting exploration south of the national park in the area around the "PM Costean" which hosts bonanza grade PGE, gold, silver and copper mineralisation. Surface samples of the PM Costean vein have produced assays up to 108g/t platinum, 70.2g/t palladium, 119g/t gold, 2,700g/t silver and 8% copper, announced previously.

Western Areas holds 100% of the southern tenements at Copper Hills and is earning 70% interest in the northern tenements in a joint venture with Talisman Mining Ltd. In addition, tenements have been applied for to cover the Harbutt Range intrusion where RTZ (formerly CRA) intersected wide zones of anomalous palladium and platinum (up to 48m @ 0.25ppm and 10m @ 0.34ppm combined PGE) in widely spaced drilling at the Black Jack and Snap Dragon prospects.

With the renewed interest in uranium, Western Areas has recently evaluated radiometric data collected in October 2002 during an airborne magnetic survey over Copper Hills. As a result of this work, ten low level uranium anomalies were identified within the Rudall metamorphic sequence which is unconformably overlain by younger Proterozoic age sediments. These anomalies occur in four distinct areas with varying amounts of surface cover. It is too early to comment on the significance of these anomalies until a site visit is conducted and surface samples are collected for assay. Field work is planned to commence in mid April.



COPPER HILLS PROJECT – INTERPRETATIVE GEOLOGY
Showing Uranium (Radiometric) Anomalies as small circles

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FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENT: This release may contain certain forward-looking statements which are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties beyond the Company's ability to control or predict and which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements. The Company does not undertake to release publicly any revisions to forward looking statements included in this release to reflect events or results after the date of this release, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

DISCLAIMER:

This release does not include reference to all available information on the Company, the Forrestania Nickel Project or the Copper Hills Project and should not be used in isolation as a basis to invest in Western Areas. Any potential investors should refer to Western Area's other public releases and statutory reports and consult their professional advisers before considering investing in the Company.

The information within this report as it relates to geology was compiled by Mr Julian Hanna from Western Areas, Mr Richard Stuart from Western Areas, Mr Adrian Black from Newexco and geological consultant Ms Sue Thornett. Mr Hanna is a member of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Ms Thornett and Mr Black are members of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and Mr Stuart is a member of ASEG. Mr Hanna, Mr Stuart, Ms Thornett and Mr Black have sufficient experience relevant to types of deposit under consideration to qualify as Competent Persons and consent to the inclusion of this information in the form and context in which it appears in this report.