



## AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

17<sup>th</sup> July 2008

### Fission/Barra JV Unearths Nickel Sulphide Gossans at Mt Thirsty

#### Highlights

- Fission/Barra JV identifies nickel-sulphide gossans at Mt Thirsty Ni-Co-Mn Project
- Gossans have returned up to 4,800ppm Nickel
- Mineralisation similar in style to Kambalda nickel deposits
- Company plans to follow up with detailed Magnetics and ground Electromagnetic Surveys.

#### Nickel Sulphide Gossans Identified

Fission Energy Limited ("Fission" or "the Company") and Barra Resources Limited (the "Joint Venture" parties) are pleased to announce the identification of several nickel sulphide gossans located 6 kilometres north-west of the Mt Thirsty Cobalt-Nickel-Manganese deposit, a 50:50 Joint Venture with ASX Listed Barra Resources Limited.

A surface reconnaissance rock-chip sampling program searching for nickel sulphide mineralisation was recently carried out within the Mt Thirsty area along a prospective basal ultramafic-basalt contact. Here seven gossanous rock-chip samples believed to be nickel sulphide bearing were collected (See Figure 1). These were analysed for a suite of elements that aid in identifying surface expressions of nickel sulphide mineralisation. One of the key indicator elements is copper. It occurs as chalcopyrite within nickel sulphide ores. Six of the seven gossans sampled at Woodcutters returned high levels of both copper and nickel. The results are tabled below.

**Table 1: Gossan rock-chip assay results.**

Sample	North	East	Nickel (ppm)	Copper (ppm)	Zinc (ppm)	Iron (%)
Gossan 1	6450970	367535	2,850	750	6,967	N/A
Gossan 2	6451095	367425	3,414	2,383	1,396	49.9
Gossan 3	6451023	367493	4,808	1,368	666	52.1
Gossan 4	6450910	367692	3,639	2,412	1,045	46.1
Gossan 5	6450910	367692	2,544	918	1,878	40.7
Gossan 6	6450777	367495	4,074	1,328	2,274	49.9
Gossan 7	6450777	367499	413	861	1,284	39.7

\* N/A denotes not available

These initial results are very encouraging and indicate clearly the presence of oxidised nickel sulphide mineralisation at the surface. The location of the gossans is also interesting in that the oxidised nickel sulphides are not only present on the basal ultramafic-basalt contact but also in potential hangingwall

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positions. This type of complexity is commonly associated with the nickel sulphide deposits of Kambalda.

### **Analogies can be drawn from the Kambalda Region**

The area was targeted primarily due to its complex aeromagnetic signatures which appear similar to basal lava channel embayment type structures observed at Kambalda. Basal lava channel embayments located on ultramafic-basalt contacts are the most preferred location for nickel sulphide accumulation in the Kambalda region. Several of these basal embayment type structures have been identified and were recently field evaluated by the Company.

The Woodcutters Prospect hosts one of the largest and most complex basal embayment type structures within the Mt Thirsty tenement package.

### **Previous Exploration**

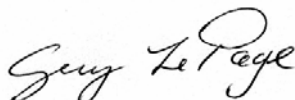
During the nickel boom days of the early 1970's, Mid-East Minerals NL and Carpentaria Exploration Company Pty Ltd were both actively exploring for nickel sulphides in the area. The Woodcutters Prospect was an area of interest to them with costeaning, gossan sampling and limited percussion drilling conducted over a wide area during a three year period. Reviews conducted recently by the Company of this data have revealed the presence of other gossans within the Woodcutters prospect area that require follow-up.

### **Exploration to be Fast Tracked**

Work to be carried in the near future by the Joint Venture will include the flying of detailed low level aeromagnetics and conducting ground EM surveys over areas of interest, including the Woodcutters prospect. Drill testing of the surface gossans at Woodcutters will be carried out once both the aeromagnetics and ground EM surveys have been completed and drill targets have been generated.

### **About the Mt Thirsty Cobalt-Nickel-Manganese Project**

The Mt Thirsty Project is located 20 kilometres north-northwest of Norseman, Western Australia. The project is under a 50/50 joint venture between Barra Resources Limited ("**Barra**") and Meteorite Metals Limited, a 100% owned subsidiary of Fission Energy Limited ("**Fission**") (collectively referred to as the "Joint Venture"). The project contains JORC Resources totalling 29 million tonnes at 0.55% Nickel, 0.12% Cobalt and 0.88% Manganese over an apparent strike of 1.3 kilometres and a width of around 800 metres. The Joint Venture parties are currently fast tracking a Feasibility Study due for completion in mid 2009.



Guy T Le Page  
Director

*The interpretations and conclusions reached in this report are based on current geological theory and the best evidence available to the authors at the time of writing. It is the nature of all scientific conclusions that they are founded on an assessment of probabilities and, however high these probabilities might be, they make no claim for complete certainty. Any economic decisions that might be taken on the basis of interpretations or conclusions contained in this report will therefore carry an element of risk.*

*The information in this announcement, insofar as it relates to Mineral Exploration and Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by Guy T Le Page, who is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and who has more than five years experience in the field of activity being reported on. Mr Le Page is a Director of the Company. Mr Le Page has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity that he is undertaking to qualify as Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Le Page consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.*

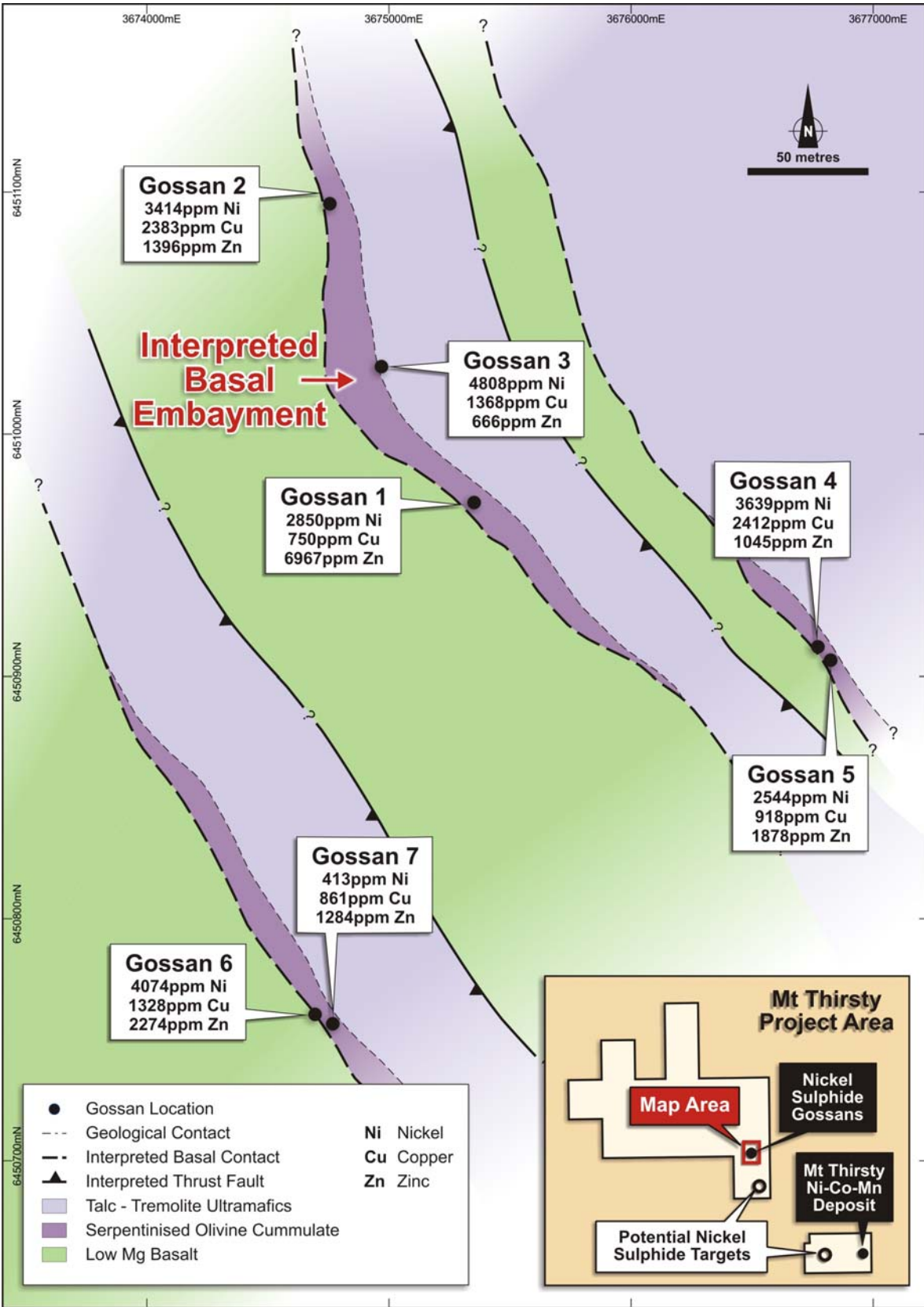


Figure 1: Woodcutters Prospect interpretive geology showing Nickel sulphide gossan locations.