

# **Niuminco Group Limited**

# **DECEMBER 2021 QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES REPORT**

Niuminco Group Limited's objective is to establish a substantial resource base in Papua New Guinea and Australia whilst developing its Edie Creek Mine into a successful and profitable mining operation.



# HIGHLIGHTS

- Production of 3,764.4g (121.0 ounces) gold and 3,393.9g (109.1 ounces) silver for sales of AUD\$291,367 (PGK747,095).
- 17.5 tonnes of selectively mined material resulted in 22.9 wet tonnes of high-grade vein material being processed at an average recovered gold grade of 164.4g/t.
- the Company's Application for Leave to apply to the National Court of Papua New Guinea for a Judicial Review of the decision of the Minister for Mining in respect of its May River EL was granted on 14 December 2021.

## EDIE CREEK MINE

#### **Mining and Production**

During the December Quarter the Company continued its focus on selective development and mining of high-grade veins in the Ingopae vein area.

This selective mining and processing resulted in 22.9 tonnes of wet material being processed at an average recovered gold grade of 164.4g/t, producing 3,764.35grams (121.0 ounces) of gold and 3,393.9grams (109.1ounces) of silver.

This resulted in sales of AUD\$291,367 (PGK747,095) during the quarter. Significant amounts of waste material were removed to expose the high-grade vein material.

Further refurbishment of, and repairs on, the Company's mining fleet was undertaken during the quarter. This is part of an ongoing program to repair and upgrade the existing mobile mining fleet.

#### **Edie Creek Exploration**

Drill-plan preparation work for the Enterprise diatreme and the Karuka-Enterprise vein systems/stock-work areas was again put on hold for the quarter.

This drilling program, with a 12-month budget of \$100,000 - \$150,000, aims to achieve two objectives:

- 1. It will form part of the mine grade control program and assist in prioritising the mining of higher-grade vein material as feed for the processing circuit; and,
- 2. It will assist in advancing a JORC 2012 resource delineation program.

#### Mining Lease Renewal Application

The Company has been advised that subsequent to the Quarter-end the Mineral Resources Authority's Mining Advisory Council deliberated on the application at their meeting on 28 January 2022. Following this meeting a recommendation will be sent to the Minister for Mining for his ultimate determination. The determination is expected within 3-4 weeks.

#### MAY RIVER EXPLORATION

This tenement holds the highly prospective Iku Hill anomalies and base camp area at Hotmin.

Despite the rescheduled Warden's Hearing being held successfully at Hotmin village on 8 June 2021, on 21 September 2021 the Company announced that it had been advised by the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA) that the Minister for Mining had not consented to the application for an extension of its PNG subsidiary's May River exploration licence EL 2527.

So as to preserve the licence and protect its interest, the Company lodged an Application for Leave to apply to the National Court of Papua New Guinea for a Judicial Review of the decision of the Minister and an order to quash the Minister's decision, and associated orders. The Application for Leave was granted on 14 December 2021 by the presiding Judge, Kandakasi DCJ. The judge also granted a stay over the Minister's decision and restrained any dealings with tenement EL 2527 until the substantive matter is determined. The matter returns to court on 22 February 2022 for a direction's hearing and the Company will advise shareholders on progress.

#### CHILLAGOE MINING LEASES 20513, 20515 and 20516

During the December Quarter Mr. Nethery, along with another experienced geologist and field-hand continued further field work, detailed mapping and data assessment of the Sonya Hills leases. This included collecting 24 rock-chip samples, plus reviewing and collating previous mapping and data. The samples have been sent to ALS Laboratories, Townsville for assaying.

Previous traversing, remote sensing and GSQ airborne geophysical data has confirmed that Sonya Hills has similar geological and surface geochemical parameters as Harpers, immediately to the north (Figure 1), and to the other substantial gold bearing systems in the district, Red Dome and Mungana.

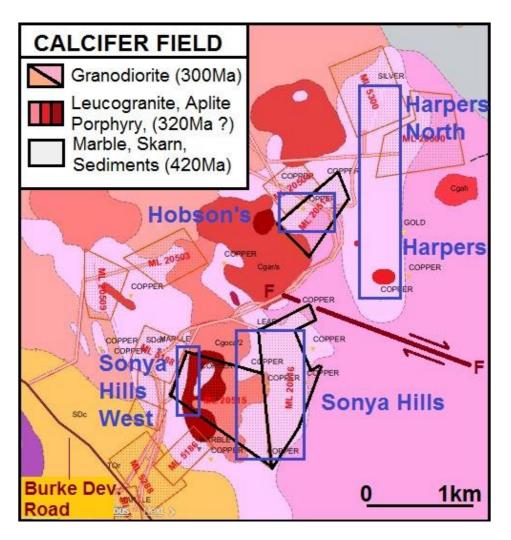


Figure 1: AFM MLs 20513, 20515 & 20516 (black outline), Target areas approximate Boundaries (blue outline), Dextral fault (dark brown), most other MLs are for marble, 1km from Burke Development Road 10km from Chillagoe

# CORPORATE

On 21 September 2021 the Company announced that it had been advised by the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA) that the Minister for Mining had not consented to the application for an extension of its PNG subsidiary's May River exploration licence EL 2527.

The extension of this exploration licence is a pre-condition of the Share Purchase Agreement ("SPA") for the sale of the May River project to Kainantu Resources Ltd (KRL). This pre-condition required satisfaction by no later than 31 October 2021 for the SPA to remain on foot, or such later date as KRL may agree at its discretion. KRL and Niuminco have agreed to extend the SPA until 31 January 2022 and to work cooperatively together to bring a mutually beneficial and satisfactory conclusion to this transaction.

So as to preserve the licence and protect its interest, the Company lodged an Application for Leave to apply to the National Court of Papua New Guinea for a Judicial Review of the decision of the Minister and an order to quash the Minister's decision, and associated orders.

The Application for Leave was granted on 14 December 2021 by the presiding Judge, Kandakasi DCJ. The judge also granted a stay over the Minister's decision and restrained any dealings with tenement EL 2527 until the substantive matter is determined. The matter returns to court on 22 February 2022 for a direction's hearing and the Company will advise shareholders on progress.

The Company has finalised the change of share registrars from Automic Pty Limited to Link Market Services Ltd. The Company's annual accounts are being finalised, which will assist in facilitating the reinstatement of trading in the Company's shares on PNGX.

Authorised for release by Tracey Lake, Managing Director on behalf of the Board of Niuminco Group Limited. 31 January 2022

The information in this report that relates to exploration/mining and production results is based on Information reviewed by John Nethery (BSc Dip Ed.) who is a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (Chartered Professional) and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Nethery is an employee of Nedex Pty Ltd which is a shareholder in the Company and is a Director of the Company, and has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Mr Nethery consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.

Niuminco confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in all PNGX announcements referenced in this release, and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in these announcements continue to apply and have not materially changed.

# SCHEDULE OF TENEMENTS

Permit Type	Permit Number	Location	Held Via	Beneficial %	Agreement Type
PAPUA NEW GU	JINEA ASSETS				
Exploration Licence	EL 2527 - expired April 2020	May River	Niuminco (ND) Limited	100	
Exploration Licence	EL 2527 Renewal refused - appeal pending.	May River	Niuminco (ND) Limited	100	
Mining lease	ML 511- expired. Renewal applicatio n	Edie Creek	Niuminco Edie Creek Limited Niuminco EC Ltd	83	
Mining lease	ML 380 Expired 21 October – not renewed	Edie Creek	Niuminco Edie Creek Limited Niuminco EC Ltd	83	
AUSTRALIAN AS		d in the Septe	ember 2020 Quarter	<i>.</i> )	1
Mining lease – transfer pending	ML 20513	Chillagoe	Niuminco Group Ltd	90	
Mining lease – transfer pending	ML 20515	Chillagoe	Niuminco Group Ltd	90	
Mining lease – transfer pending	ML 20516	Chillagoe	Niuminco Group Ltd	90	

# JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1 report to accompany the December 2021 Quarterly Activities Report on exploration/mining and production results.

#### Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	<ul> <li>Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling.</li> <li>Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.</li> <li>Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.</li> <li>In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>This is reporting a mining exercise. Only qualitative sampling by panning of small amounts of mined vein material and low grade/waste material adjoining the vein was done to establish the presence of free gold before mining, separation of waste and transporting of both vein material and/or waste to the production plant for separate processing.</li> <li>The vein was exposed by removing overburden and adjoining waste material with the use of an excavator and/or a bulldozer.</li> <li>The vein material was predominantly mined by hand or occasionally by using the small, 6-tonne excavator, loaded into tubs, or the bucket of the loader, then transported to the gold room for processing through the barrels or the bedan bowl.</li> <li>The low grade/ waste material adjoining the vein was stockpiled, panned and if showing some visible gold, trucked to the ROM pad for loading into the ball mill feed hopper, and processing through the ball mill.</li> </ul>
Drilling techniques	• Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc).	No drilling was done.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Drill sample recovery	<ul> <li>Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.</li> <li>Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.</li> <li>Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material.</li> </ul>	• No core sample recovery, as no drilling was done.
Logging	<ul> <li>Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.</li> <li>Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography.</li> <li>The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No core samples logged, as no drilling was done.</li> <li>The weight of material processed through each of the ball mill and the barrels (or rod mills) is calculated by recording the number of hopper loads processed through the ball mill and the number of barrels processed each day.</li> </ul>
Sub- sampling techniques and sample preparation	<ul> <li>If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.</li> <li>If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry.</li> <li>For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.</li> <li>Quality control procedures adopted for all subsampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.</li> <li>Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.</li> <li>Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material bains compled.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No drill core, as no drilling was done.</li> <li>The vein material and low grade/waste material were separated during the mining operation as described above and delivered separately to the gold room/processing plant.</li> <li>The vein material was taken to the gold room for processing through the barrels, where the quantity and weight of material processed and wet amalgam produced is recorded after each barrel or bowl is processed, then tallied on a daily basis</li> <li>The low grade/waste material was delivered to the ball mill ROM pad, loaded into the feed hopper and then processed through the ball mill and Inline Spinner concentrators before then being amalgamated in the bedan bowl. The quantity and weight of material processed and wet amalgam produced from the ball mill is recorded daily, along with the number of hours that the mill ran.</li> <li>The recording of each barrel or bowl processed, the daily ball mill volumes and weight and wet amalgam produced is supervised, overseen and checked by the Company's Metallurgist and Processing Manager and/or the Assistant Processing Manager and/or the Mine Manager.</li> </ul>
Quality of assay data and	<ul> <li>The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</li> <li>For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gold and silver are recovered using mercury amalgamation.</li> <li>Mercury is added directly into to the barrels (small rod mills) with the vein material and water. The vein material is then milled/processed for 1 to 2 hours, washed out of the barrels by hosing and then the residual amalgamated material has the mercury squeezed out of it. The wet amalgam is then weighed and stored in a safe before being retorted. The retorted material/dore is weighed, stored and then delivered to the Company's gold buyer</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
laboratory tests	<ul> <li>instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.</li> <li>Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (ie lack of bias) and precision have been established.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The quantity of mercury used in each barrel is also recorded. The material that has been washed from the barrels is captured/stored in a concrete drain and sump and then reprocessed through using the same processing operation. This is known as 'regrinding" and the wet amalgam produced is again recorded, weighed and stored, before retorting and delivery.</li> <li>Concentrate from the ball mill and spinners is placed in the bedan bowl, mercury and water are added and after grinding the residual amalgamated material treated the same way as the barrel material</li> </ul>
Verification of sampling and assaying	<ul> <li>The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</li> <li>The use of twinned holes.</li> <li>Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</li> <li>Discuss any adjustment to assay data.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The wet amalgam produced is recorded separately for each barrel processed and reprocessed (reground), and for each bedan bowl of ball mill concentrate or other vein material processed , and these are tallied and recorded on a daily basis.</li> <li>The total amount of wet and retorted amalgam is then recorded when a delivery and sale is to be made and the gold buyer smelts the retorted dore, and reports the quantity of gold and silver produced form that delivery batch</li> <li>This data is from the buyer's laboratory which can be audited if required</li> </ul>
Location of data points	<ul> <li>Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation.</li> <li>Specification of the grid system used.</li> <li>Quality and adequacy of topographic control.</li> </ul>	Mine extraction site is recorded by DGPS
Data spacing and distribution	<ul> <li>Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied.</li> <li>Whether sample compositing has been applied.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>As these are mining production results,, the distribution of, and area from which the vein material is recovered is not accurately recorded, but as the material and amalgam produced is recorded from separate batches, and on individual days, grade variations can be calculated , but are reported as an "average" over certain periods.</li> </ul>
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	<ul> <li>Whether sample compositing has been abbled.</li> <li>Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.</li> <li>If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>These are the results of on-going mining operations, no drilling programs are currently underway in this area.</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sample security	• The measures taken to ensure sample security.	<ul> <li>Chain of custody is managed by Niuminco. Material is supervised from mining through production to sale of production.</li> </ul>
Audits or reviews	• The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.	<ul> <li>No audits or reviews have been carried out at this stage, but are always available to be undertaken.</li> </ul>

### Section 2 Reporting of Exploration/Mining Production Results

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	<ul> <li>Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.</li> <li>The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The results reported relate to mining carried out within Mining Lease Number 462. This is one of the contiguous Mining Leases held by Niuminco collectively known as the Edie Creek Leases. They are ML, 144, 380, 384 - 392, 402 - 410, 444 - 446 &amp; 462. The Leases are issued under the Authority of the PNG Mining Act (1992).</li> <li>Niuminco holds an 100% interest in the ML's.</li> <li>A royalty on production of Kina10/oz up to 20,000oz and Kina5/oz is payable to Barrick in ML 144.(2.5 Kina are approximately equal to 1\$Aus).</li> <li>The tenements are in good standing and no known impediments exist.</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Exploration done by other parties	Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.	<ul> <li>Gold lodes were originally discovered in the area by individual prospectors in the mid 1920's. Mining has been conducted at Edie lode for almost 90 years and approximately 75,000 oz has been produced.</li> <li>Renison Goldfields Consolidated drilled 2 diamond holes in 1988 and conducted surface geochemical sampling. The sampling protocols employed are similar to those currently used by Niuminco, are of standard industry practice employing geochemical analysis of sawn half core, and are deemed appropriate for epithermal gold mineralisation. ANALABS laboratories were used for Au analyses. Method GG334; 30g sample, aqua regia digest, carbon rod.</li> <li>Niuminco are unable to verify the integrity of the sampling and assay protocols of a 12 hole program carried out by Edie Creek Mining in JV with Wayburn Resources in 1997. Until the results can be verified, the results will be deemed as a geochemical indicator guide to mineralisation.</li> <li>Sampling of core from the Niuminco 2010-2011 drill program followed identical sampling protocols as those currently used. Samples were dispatched to ALS Townsville for analysis. Assay method for Au assays was screen fire assay on all of the oversize fraction and two samples each of 30g of the undersize fraction. Other elements by ICP.</li> <li>Mincor carried out drilling, geochemistry and geophysics on the ML's during a JV with Niuminco from 2011 - 2013. The drilling and geochemical program followed identical sampling protocols to those of Niuminco in its 2010-2011 and current campaign. Intertek Lae completed the analytical work.</li> </ul>
Geology	• Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.	<ul> <li>Mineralisation at Edie Creek is classified as low sulphidation epithermal gold-silver-quartz- carbonate mineralisation in an island arc setting.</li> </ul>
Drill hole Information	<ul> <li>A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all</li> </ul>	No drilling was done

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Data aggregation methods	<ul> <li>drill holes: <ul> <li>easting and northing of the drill hole collar</li> <li>elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar</li> <li>dip and azimuth of the hole</li> <li>down hole length and interception depth</li> <li>hole length.</li> </ul> </li> <li>If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly exalain why this is the case</li> <li>In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.</li> <li>Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.</li> <li>The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No reporting of metal equivalents is used.</li> <li>The gold and silver figures recorded are the actual gold and silver produced and sold on any given day and are provided by the Company's gold buyer following their smelting and assaying of the delivered dore.</li> <li>The average grade of the gold reported for, or over, a certain period/number of days is calculated by dividing the quantity of gold produced and sold for that period by the respective weights of the vein material and waste material processed in that same period. The proportional split between the gold produced from the vein material and the low grade/waste material is calculated by using the same direct proportion of wet amalgam produced from each material over that period.</li> </ul>
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	<ul> <li>These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.</li> <li>If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known').</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The geometry of the mineralized material is incompletely known and determination of that is partly the reason for the shallow mining extraction.</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Diagrams	<ul> <li>Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.</li> </ul>	Refer to previous reports. This update does not require sections.
Balanced reporting	<ul> <li>Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Broad surface geochemical exploration results are reported as being anomalous or not. Subdivision into specific class intervals will be tabled. Reporting of continuous significant surface assays, and assays to 50m below the surface, use no Au cut-off. No top cut has been applied.</li> </ul>
Other substantive exploration data	<ul> <li>Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances.</li> </ul>	•
Further work	<ul> <li>The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large- scale step-out drilling).</li> <li>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Niuminco will carry out a scout drilling program over known veins, and gold anomalous rock/channel chip samples within the Edie Creek leases that are determined by excavation to be of adequate size and grade to warrant such a program.</li> </ul>