



## NI 43-101 Technical Report

# Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project

Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec

Prepared for:

Sirios Resources Inc.



Prepared by the following Qualified Persons:

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Effective Date: July 20, 2022

Signature Date: December 23, 2022



Sirios Resources Inc.

NI 43-101 Technical Report

Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project, in  
Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec



## DATE AND SIGNATURE PAGE

This report is effective as of the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

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*December 23, 2022*

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## CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFIED PERSON

Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., M.Sc.

This certificate applies to the Technical Report titled "NI 43-101 Technical Report and Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project, in Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec" (the "Technical Report"), prepared for Sirios Resources Inc. dated December 23, 2022, with an effective date of July 20, 2022.

I, Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., M.Sc., do hereby certify that:

1. I am Geologist and President of PLR Resources Inc. located at 2000 McGill College Avenue, Suite 600, Montréal, Québec, Canada, H3A 3H3.
2. I am a graduate of Université du Québec à Montréal in Resource Geology (2004). I also obtained a M.Sc. from Université du Québec à Chicoutimi in Earth Sciences in 2012.
3. I am a member in good standing of the Ordre des Géologues du Québec (OGQ Member No. 1119), the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (APGO Member No. 1714), and the Northwest Territories Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists (NAPEG Member No. L2465).
4. I have worked in the mining industry for more than 20 years. My exploration expertise has been acquired with Richmont Mines Inc., the Ministry of Natural Resources of Québec (Geology Branch), and numerous companies through my career as a consultant. My mining expertise was acquired at the Beaufor mine and several other producers through my career. I managed numerous technical reports, mineral resource estimates, and audits as a consultant from 2007 to 2022 for InnovExplo and BBA, and for PLR Resources since 2022.
5. I have read the definition of "qualified person" set out in NI 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (NI 43-101) and certify that, by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association, and past relevant work experience, I fulfil the requirements to be a qualified person for the purposes of NI 43-101.
6. I am independent of the issuer applying all the tests in Section 1.5 of NI 43-101.
7. I am author and responsible for preparing Chapters 1-12, and 14-27 (except Section 14.9) of the Technical Report.
8. I visited the Cheechoo Property that is the subject of this Technical Report from October 10 to 15, 2019, and from August 19 to 22, 2022 as part of this current mandate. I also visited the core cutting and storage facility on September 16, 2019, November 27, 2020, and November 11, 2022.
9. I have been involved with the Property that is the subject of the Technical Report in 2017 as a consultant. I have also been an independent QP on multiple Technical Reports on the Property.
10. I have read NI 43-101 and the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible have been prepared following NI 43-101 rules and guidelines.
11. As at the effective date of the Technical Report, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible contain all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the portions of the Technical Report for which I am responsible not misleading.

Signed and sealed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2022.

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## CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFIED PERSON

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I, Dario Evangelista, P. Eng., do hereby certify that:

1. I am a Mining Engineer with BBA Inc. located at 1050 West Pender Street, Suite 800, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6E 3S7.
2. I am a graduate of McGill University with a bachelor's degree in Mining Engineering obtained in 2009.
3. I am a member in good standing of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (OIQ Member No. 5011259) and of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia (EGBC Member No. 50612).
4. I have worked in the mining industry for more than 12 years. My relevant experience includes working for several mining operations and as a consultant on numerous mining projects. I have participated in the production of several NI 43-101 technical reports.
5. I have read the definition of "qualified person" set out in NI 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101") and certify that, by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association, and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a qualified person for the purposes of NI 43-101.
6. I am independent of the issuer applying all the tests in Section 1.5 of NI 43-101.
7. I am author and responsible for preparing Section 14.9.
8. I have not visited the Cheechoo Property that is the subject of the Technical Report.
9. I have had no prior involvement with the properties that are the subject of the Technical Report, except for authoring Technical Reports in the past.
10. I have read NI 43-101 and the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible have been prepared following NI 43-101 rules and guidelines.
11. As at the effective date of the Technical Report, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible contain all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the portions of the Technical Report for which I am responsible not misleading.

Signed and sealed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2022.

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## CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFIED PERSON

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This certificate applies to the Technical Report titled "NI 43-101 Technical Report and Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project, in Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec" (the "Technical Report"), prepared for Sirius Resources Inc. dated December 23, 2022, with an effective date of July 20, 2022.

I, Kevan Ford, as a co-author of the Technical Report, do hereby certify that:

1. I am a Principal Metallurgist specialized in Extractive Metallurgy with the firm BBA Inc., located at 10 Carlson Court, Suite 420, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M9W 6L2.
2. I am a graduate of the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa (1984) with a BSc. Engineering degree (Mineral processing and Metallurgy), and from Natal University, Durban South Africa (1990) with a MSc. Engineering (Chemical Engineering).
3. I am a member CIMM (Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum), Member no: 138416 (since 2001), and Fellow Member of SAIMM (South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy), Member no: 35833 (since 1985). I am a qualified QP under NI 43-101, for Mineral Processing and Metallurgy.
4. My relevant experience includes 40 years in the mining-metals industry, with 21 years in Canada. This with experience in global mineral processing and metallurgical projects and plant operations, particularly in gold.
5. I have read the definition of "qualified person" set out in the NI 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101") and certify that, by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association, and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a qualified person for the purposes of NI 43-101.
6. I am independent of the issuer applying all the tests in Section 1.5 of NI 43-101.
7. I am author and responsible for the preparation of Chapter 13. I am also co-author for the relevant portions of Chapters 1, 2, 24, 25, 26 and 27 of the Technical Report.
8. I have not visited the Cheechoo Property that is the subject of the Technical Report, as it was not required for the purpose of this mandate.
9. I have not been involved with the Property that is the subject of the previous Technical Report and have not participated as QP on the earlier MRE Update Technical Report for the Cheechoo Project, dated December 18, 2020.
10. I have read NI 43-101 and the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible that have been prepared following NI 43-101 rules and guidelines.
11. As at the effective date of the Technical Report, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible contain all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the portions of the Technical Report for which I am responsible not misleading.

Signed and sealed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2022.

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Kevan Ford, MS. Eng., Fellow Member SAIMM



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## List of Abbreviations and Units of Measurement

Abbreviation	Description
\$/t	Dollars per metric tonne
%	Percent
%solids	Percent solids by weight
°C	Degrees Celsius
3D	Three dimensional
a	Annum (year)
AA	Atomic absorption
ALA	Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation Inc.
Ag	Silver
Ai	Abrasion index
ALS	ALS Metallurgy
As	Arsenic
Au	Gold
BBA	BBA Inc.
Bi	Bismuth
Btu	British thermal units
BWi	Bond work index
CAD or \$	Canadian dollar (examples of use: CAD2.5M / \$2.5M)
CaO	Calcium oxide (lime)
CC	Cone crushers
CIL	Carbon in leach
CIM	Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum
conc.	Concentrate
CRM	Certified reference material
CSA	Canadian securities administrators
Cu	Copper
CWi	Crusher work index
d	Day (24 hours)
DDH	Diamond drillhole
deg. or °	Angular degree
DGPS	Differential global positioning systems
D.O.	Dissolved oxygen
DWT	Drop weight tests
EW	East-west
et al.	And others



## List of Abbreviations and Units of Measurement

Abbreviation	Description
FA	Fire assay
g	Gram
g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Gram per cubic centimetre
g/t	Grams per tonne
GESTIM	<i>Gestion des titres miniers</i>
GSC	Geological Survey of Canada
h	Hour (60 minutes)
ha	Hectare
HG	High-grade
HLEM	Horizontal loop electromagnetic
HPGR	High pressure grinding roll
ICP-MS	Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
ID	Identification
ID <sup>2</sup>	Inverse distance square
in. or "	Inch
JBNQA	James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement
JKMRC	Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre
K	Potassium
K <sub>2</sub> O	Potassium oxide
K <sub>80</sub>	80% passing – Particle size
KCA	Kappes, Cassiday & Associates
kg	Kilogram
kg/t	Kilograms per tonne
km	Kilometres
KNA	Kriging neighbourhood analysis
L	Litre
LG	Low-grade
m	Metre
m.a.s.l.	Metres above sea level
m <sup>2</sup>	Square metre
m <sup>3</sup>	Cubic metre
Ma	Mega annum (million years)
MELCC	<i>Ministère de l'Environnement et Lutte contre les changements climatiques</i>
MERN	<i>Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles</i>
mesh	US mesh



## List of Abbreviations and Units of Measurement

Abbreviation	Description
Mg	Magnesium
mg	Milligram
MgO	Magnesium oxide
mm	Millimetre
MLA	Mineral liberation analysis
MRE	Mineral resource estimate
MS	Metallic sieve (method)
Mt	Million metric tonnes
MT	Mort terrain
Na	Sodium
Na <sub>2</sub> O	Sodium oxide
NaCN	Sodium cyanide
Ni	Nickel
NN	Nearest neighbour
NNW	North-northwest
No.	Number
NQ	NQ- Caliber drillhole
NS	North-south
NTS	National Topographic System
OK	Ordinary kriging
OREAS	Ore Research & Exportation Pty Ltd. Assay Standards
OVB	Overburden
oz	Troy ounce
P <sub>80</sub>	80% passing - Product size
Pb	Lead
PEA	Preliminary economic assessment
pH	Potential of hydrogen
PLR	PLR Resources Inc.
PLS	Pregnant liquor solution
ppm	Parts per million
QA/QC	Quality assurance / quality control
QP	Qualified person
RC	Reverse circulation
RF	Revenue factor
RIRGS	Reduced intrusion-related gold system



## List of Abbreviations and Units of Measurement

Abbreviation	Description
rpm	Revolutions per minute
RQD	Rock quality designation
RWi	Rod work index
SMC	SAG mill comminution
SCC	Standards Council of Canada
SD	Standard deviation
SDBJ	<i>Société de développement de la Baie-James</i>
SEDAR	System for electronic document analysis and retrieval
SG	Specific gravity
Sirios	Sirios Resources Inc.
SMC	SAG mill comminution
SO <sub>4</sub>	Sulphate
t	Tonne (1,000 kg) (metric ton)
tpy	Tonnes per year
TSX	Toronto stock exchange
UNK	Unknown
USD	United States dollar (examples of use: USD2.5M)
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
W	Tungsten
WAD	Weak acid dissociable
WOL	Whole ore leach
Zn	Zinc



# 1. Summary

## 1.1. Introduction

The Cheechoo Project (the “Project”) is a gold property located in the Province of Québec, in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay region. The Project is 100% owned by Sirios Resources Inc. (Sirios).

In July 2022, Sirios commissioned BBA Inc. (BBA) to lead and perform a Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) on the Project in accordance with the guidelines of the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) and Form 43-101 F1.

This Report is in support of the Sirios press release dated December 6, 2022, entitled “Sirios announces indicated resources of 1.4 Moz at 0.94 g/t Au and inferred resources of 0.5 Moz at 0.73 g/t Au at Cheechoo”. The overall effective date of this Report is July 20, 2022. The Report has a number of close-out dates for information:

- Drill Database close-out date: July 20, 2022;
- Effective date of the mineral resource: July 20, 2022;
- Claim Status: October 27, 2022.

It should be understood that the mineral resources presented in this Report are estimates of the size and grade of the deposits. The estimates are based on a certain number of drillholes and samples, and on assumptions and parameters currently available. The level of confidence in the estimates depends upon a number of uncertainties. These uncertainties include but are not limited to: future changes in metal prices and/or production costs, differences in size, grade and recovery rates from those expected, and changes in Project parameters. In addition, there is no assurance that the Project implementation will be carried out.

## 1.2. Property Description, Location and Ownership

The Cheechoo Property (Main Block) is located 9 km east of the Éléonore gold mine whereas the Cheechoo deposit is approximately 15 km southeast of the Éléonore gold mine, in the Opinaca Reservoir area of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay region, in the Province of Québec, Canada. The Project is located approximately 200 km east of the Cree community of Wemindji, 330 km north of the towns of Matagami and Chibougamau, and 815 km north of Montreal.

The coordinates for the approximate centre of the Project are latitude 52°38' N and longitude 75°54' W (438920E and 5833483N: NAD 83 / UTM Zone 18N) on NTS map sheets 33B12 and 33C09.



As of October 27, 2022, the Cheechoo Property consists of three non-contiguous groups of 156 electronic map-designated mining claims for the Cheechoo main block, 35 electronic map-designated mining claims for the west block and 34 electronic map-designated mining claims for the south block. Together they form what is called the Cheechoo Property (the “Property”).

Sirios holds a 100% interest in the 225 mining claims included in the Cheechoo Project.

The total area of the Cheechoo Property is 11,763.37 hectares.

### 1.3. Accessibility, Climate, Local Resources, Infrastructure and Physiography

The Cheechoo Project is located about 350 km north of the mining town of Matagami or about 500 km north of Val-d’Or. The area can be accessed via the paved James Bay Highway (extension of Highway #109), about midway between Matagami and Radisson, or via the all-weather gravel road Route Du Nord from Chibougamau. Various secondary gravel roads give access to the Opinaca Reservoir and other Hydro-Québec infrastructure, as well as to the Éléonore mine.

The main block of the Cheechoo Property is accessible by land via the Éléonore mine all-weather gravel road. At km 54 road marker of this road, an access to the Cheechoo camp or worksite is via a dirt access road.

The west block and the south block of the Cheechoo Property are partially located on islands within the Opinaca Reservoir and are currently only accessible by boat or helicopter.

The Opinaca Reservoir represents the easternmost extent of the James Bay lowlands, whose limit coincides with the Cheechoo Property. To the west, the landscape is dominated by a flat plain with an altitude of approximately 220 m.a.s.l. This plain is poorly drained with abundant marshes and meandering streams or inundated by the reservoir. It is punctuated by many hills typical of the Canadian Shield. Lakes are abundant, either shallow in muskegs, or more crystalline on hilltops.

The eastern area has a more rugged topography, typical of the Canadian Shield, with abundant lakes, dense drainage, and ubiquitous rounded hills reaching an altitude of 405 metres. Drainage is composed of the Opinaca River to the north and the Gipouloux River to the south; both flow into the Opinaca Reservoir, then subsequently into Sakami Lake, the La Grande River, and James Bay.



## 1.4. Geological Setting and Mineralization

The Cheechoo project is located at the boundary between the La Grande and Opinaca Subprovinces. The La Grande Subprovince is separated into a northern (La Grande River) and a southern domain (Eastmain River). These domains consist of Paleo- to Mesoarchean basement, overlain by Meso- to Neoarchean volcano-sedimentary sequences and injected by syn- to late-tectonic intrusions.

The Opinaca Subprovince occurs between the Eastmain domain to the south and the La Grande domain to the north. The Opinaca belongs to metasedimentary belts, interpreted as accretionary prisms. The Opinaca Subprovince is characterized by paragneiss and migmatites, intruded by syn- to post-tectonic, locally ultramafic intrusions

In the vicinity of the Éléonore mine, syn- to late-tectonic intrusions and pegmatite dykes (2620-2603 Ma) intruded the La Grande Subprovince supracrustal rocks. One of those, the 2612±1 Ma Cheechoo intrusion, is located 15 km southeast of the Éléonore mine. The Cheechoo intrusion contains pegmatite dykes, mafic schist enclaves and hosts gold mineralization at Cheechoo. Various prospects and showings in the area occur along a NW-trending corridor characterized by a strong metamorphic gradient, roughly subparallel to the Opinaca-La Grande boundary.

The inferred contact, affected by open folds, is defined by the appearance of migmatite towards the northeast. This is illustrated on the Cheechoo Property by the preponderance of paragneissic rocks and migmatites (metatexites with local diatexites). Other lithologies include the Cheechoo intrusion, leucogranitic dykes and veins, banded iron formations, amphibolites and conglomerates from the Low formation. The 10 km<sup>2</sup> Cheechoo intrusion has homogeneous, very low magnetic susceptibilities, with local high magnetic domains at its margins, potentially associated with the presence of iron-rich formation with skarn-like assemblages in the metasedimentary package.

The vein network of the Cheechoo Property is composed of various types of auriferous veins including sheeted extensional, en-echelon quartz-dominated veins, as well as pegmatitic quartz-feldspar veins. Mainly occurring within the intrusion, but also in the surrounding paragneissic rocks, the vein network is commonly 40 m to 50 m wide and, at least, 100 m long. The vein density increases (from 15% to 50% of the rock volume) towards intrusion margins and with the occurrence of pegmatite dykes, tonalite apophyses and mafic schist. The gold grade is controlled by the presence of sulphides (particularly arsenopyrite), the density of veins, and deformation gradients.

The Main Zone gold occurrence is localized in the south part of the Cheechoo Property. It includes the eastern extremity of the Cheechoo granodiorite intrusion and the adjacent paragneissic rock. The Main zone consists of a network of various generations of deformed and auriferous quartz to





quartz ± k-feldspar veins and veinlets (mm to cm) hosted by the granodiorite intrusion, particularly developed along the margins. The mineralization is defined essentially by free gold associated with stockwork of quartz and quartz-amphibolite breccia and veinlets with arsenopyrite grains.

The Eclipse gold occurrence is localized in the centre of the Cheechoo granodiorite intrusion, west of the Main Zone. Eclipse is defined by a folded quartz and feldspar veins and veinlets system with coarse gold grains. These veins have a pegmatitic texture and are hosted by the granodiorite stock associated with a strong to moderate alteration.

## 1.5. Status of Exploration and Drilling

Since the latest technical report in December 2020, some exploration work was completed: outcrop sampling, overburden stripping, trenching and channel sampling.

As of July 20, 2022 (close out date of the MRE database), Sirios has completed a total of 32 new DDH and two RC holes during the 2021 campaign on the Property, totalling 6,836 m since the last Technical Report.

## 1.6. Drilling, Sampling Method, Approach and Analysis

The 2021 summer drilling campaigns were performed by Synee Drilling Inc. with the collection of NQ size core from a diamond drill on skids and by Boart Longyear for the collection of 4" RC chips from a Foremost MPD 1500 tracked rig.

After being logged on-site, drill cores were sent to the Technominex facility in Rouyn-Noranda where they were sawed in half and sampled based on geologist's instructions. Individual sample bags were placed in larger rice bags along with the list of samples. QA/QC samples were inserted by Technominex personnel in each batch following the geologist's instructions. Batches were shipped via a transport company to a certified laboratories Actlabs in Ste-Germaine-Boulé and to ALS laboratories in Rouyn-Noranda.

Both ALS and Actlabs have the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation through the Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation Inc. (ALA). They are both independent commercial laboratories.

As per National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101), quality control samples were inserted into the sample batches sent to the laboratory. Inserts included pulp duplicate samples, blank samples, standards, and check assays.



The QP reviewed the sample preparation, analytical and security procedures, as well as insertion rates and the performance of blanks, standards, and duplicates for the 2021 drilling programs, and concluded that the observed failure rates are within expected ranges and that no significant assay biases are present. According to the QP, the procedure and the quality of the data are consistent with industry standards and support the Mineral Resource Estimate.

## 1.7. Data Verification

Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., QP, visited the Property from October 10 to October 15, 2019, and from August 19 to August 22, 2022. Mr. Richard also visited the core cutting and storage facility on September 16, 2019, November 27, 2020, and on November 11, 2022. The purpose of the visits was to review the Project with the Sirios team. The visits included an overview of the general geological conditions, a tour of the core storage facility, visual inspections of selected mineralized drill core samples, survey of numerous drillhole casings, and a visit of various mechanically stripped outcrops. A review of assaying, QA/QC and drillhole procedures was also completed. Mr. Richard also visited the Sirios office in Montreal on several occasions to exchange ideas with the geologists.

For the purpose of this MRE, BBA performed a basic verification on the entire Project database.

The QP is of the opinion that the drilling protocols in place are adequate. The database for the Cheechoo Project is of good overall quality. Minor issues have been noted during the validation process but have no material impact on the 2022 MRE. In the QP's opinion, the Cheechoo database is appropriate to be used for the estimation of Mineral Resources.

## 1.8. Mineral Processing and Metallurgical Testing

### 1.8.1. Testwork Programs

A preliminary assessment of the response of metallurgical samples from the Cheechoo Gold Project was conducted at ALS Metallurgy (Sloan and Mehrfert), March and October 2015). A second program designed to explore the heap leach performance of metallurgical samples was conducted at Actlabs (Steyn, 2017). The third testwork program was conducted at COREM as follows: Mineralogy (Perez, 2019); and Comminution and Metallurgical (Tremblay-Bouliane et al., 2019). This was followed by a fourth testwork program conducted at Kappes, Cassiday & Associates (KCA) laboratories in Reno, Nevada (February 2021).

Sirios selected and prepared the samples used for all testwork programs.



The testwork objective was to evaluate the gold recovery through the following processes:

- Gravity separation and leaching of gravity tails;
- Gravity separation and flotation of gravity tails;
- Whole ore leach (WOL);
- Heap leaching;
- High Pressure Grinding Roll (HPGR) versus Conventional Crushing Cone (CC).

Testwork was conducted in four programs:

- ALS (whole ore leach, gravity and leaching of gravity tails);
- Actlabs (heap leach);
- COREM (whole ore leach); and Gravity Recovery Gold (GRG) testwork with leaching of GRG tails or flotation of gravity tails); and
- Kappes Cassidy KCA (Column Leach, Bottle Roll Leaching and Crushing Testwork - Conventional Cone and HPGR).

### 1.8.2. Metallurgical Processing Options

For this 2022 MRE Update, overall gold recovery estimates were compiled and estimated based on the former programs of metallurgical testwork, completed to give preliminary results for the metallurgical recoveries of gold and silver.

The focus for this 2022 MRE Update was on two selected processing options, namely:

- Crushing, grinding and gravity concentration with cyanide leaching of both the gravity concentrates and gravity separator tails,
- Heap leaching with cyanide of crushed and agglomerated materials.

Full details of the basis of testwork on which these overall gold recovery estimates was based, is presented and discussed in Chapter 13.

A summary of the estimated overall gold recoveries applied to material types and for three different grade classes is summarized below.



### 1.8.3. Overall Gold Recovery Estimates Summary (Used in the 2022 MRE Update)

#### 1.8.3.1. Gravity Concentration and Gravity Tails CN Leach Operation

The overall gold recoveries for the Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails Cyanide Leaching option (Grind + Gravity + Gravity Tails Leach), are based on data from the COREM testwork, and are tabled below in Table 1-1.

These overall gold recoveries are used in this 2022 MRE Update for the resource estimation, and pit shell modeling.

Table 1-1 Overall gold recoveries Grind + Gravity + Gravity Leach

Metallurgical Process Operation	Material Type - Lithology	Material Gold Grade Class Au g/t	NaCN Leach Duration hours	Crush Size P80 mm	Overall Gold Recovery %
Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails NaCN Leaching	I1D and I1G	< 0.3	48	75	84
	I1D and I1G	> 0.3 < 0.5	48	75	88
	I1D and I1G	> 0.5	48	75	92
	S3	< 0.3	48	75	84
	S3	> 0.3 < 0.5	48	75	88
	S3	> 0.5	48	75	92

The following notes support the data in Table 1-1:

- Material types – Lithologies are tagged here as I1D and I1G, and S3. These correlate to the lithological domain rock types and sample composite numbers as reported in the testwork in the 2020 MRE Update, as follows:
  - I1D and I1G as Tonalite /Pegmatites (Sample Composites 9 and 12);
  - S3 as Meta-Sediments (Sample Composite 26).
- For the 33 composite samples submitted to COREM for gravity and gravity tails leaching, the bulk of the samples is mainly classed as material type I1D and I1G, which represents approx. 90% of the deposit.
- A limited number of samples were classed as S3. However, the same Au grade classes and gold recoveries were applied to the S3 material type, which were consistent with the testwork data, and the grade classes used for the material types I1D and I1G.
- The selected Au grade classes cover a representative range of gold grades (Au g/t), as assayed in the 33 Cheechoo composite samples. The gold grade classes are as follows:
  - Less than 0.3 Au g/t, Average 0.19 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.06 – 0.21 Au g/t;
  - Greater than 0.3 Au g/t, less than 0.5 Au g/t, Average 0.38 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.32 Au – 0.48 g/t
  - Greater than 0.5 Au g/t, Average 0.74 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.56 – 0.93 Au g/t.



5. The gravity concentration recovery and gravity concentrate and tails leach gold recovery data from the COREM testwork were used to estimate the overall plant gold recoveries for an actual operation, with downward corrections applied to the GRG gold recovered to gravity concentrates. These gravity concentrates would feed an intensive CN leach, with electrowinning of PLS followed by doré smelting.
6. The estimated gold recoveries are aligned with three Au grade classes defined above and applied to the main material rock types currently representing the Cheechoo deposit.
7. The overall estimated gold recoveries are tabled below in Table 1-2. Applicable on-plant Au recoveries typically seen in such operating plants are estimated, namely those for the % GRG gold recovery to concentrates. An Acacia intensive cyanide leach recovery was assumed at 99% of contained gold in the gravity concentrates.
8. The gravity tails CN leaching of gold recoveries were based on the testwork, with average values of 78%, 80% and 85% applied for each gold grade class. A carbon elution – electrowinning – smelter circuit gold recovery was estimated at 99%.
9. *From the above, the overall gold recoveries for the overall Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity tails leach process operation were calculated and have been applied in this 2022 MRE Update.*

Table 1-2 Overall plant Au recovery for Gravity and Gravity Tails Leach Operation

Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails CN Leaching with Carbon to Dore Au			
Material Type – Lithology	I1D and I1G and S3		
Gold Grade Class Average Grade g/t Au	0.19	0.38	0.74
Testwork GRG Gold Recovery %	56.5	81.4	88.0
GRG Recovery Correction for Plant operation % Au recovered to Gravity Concentrate	52	56	60
Acacia PLS Recovery to Doré gold %	99	99	99
Gravity tails CN Leach recovery %	78	80	85
Gravity tails Leach – Carbon in Leach(CIL) Au Recovery to Doré %	99	99	99
Overall Plant Gold Recovery %	84	88	92

### 1.8.3.2. Heap Leach Operation

The heap leach gold recoveries used in this 2022 MRE Update are tabled below in Table 1-3.

From the Actlabs and KCA testwork described in Chapter 13, the overall heap leach gold recoveries are estimated for the given Au grade classes in the given material types.



Table 1-3: Heap leach operation overall gold recoveries

Metallurgical Process Operation	Material Type	Material Gold Grade Class Au g/t	Leach Duration Minimum Hours	Crush size P100 mm	Overall Gold Recovery %
Heap leaching	I1D and I1G	< 0.3	151	6.3	64
	I1D and I1G	> 0.3 < 0.5	151	6.3	68
Crushing, agglomeration with cement and NaCN leaching on a permanent pad	I1D and I1G	> 0.5	151	6.3	80
	S3	< 0.3	151	6.3	64
	S3	> 0.3 < 0.5	151	6.3	68
	S3	> 0.5	151	6.3	80

From Table 1-3, the following summary notes apply:

- For the lower Au grades less than 0.3 g/t Au, gold recoveries averaging 66% were seen from the Actlabs testwork although only for 21 days of leaching. The KCA Column test Au recoveries ranged from 60-68%. These data confirm a gold recovery set at 64% which includes a deduction of 2% in gold recovery from testwork into actual operation - giving an average overall gold recovery of 64%.
- For Cheechoo materials with gold grades > 0.3 < 0.5 g/t the gold recovery value of 68% is closer to the KCA column data but is also supported by Actlabs intermittent bottle roll leach data.
- Gold recoveries of 73%-80 % apply to higher gold grades of > 0.5 g/t and are based on the KCA column leach testwork with HPGR crushing, for a leach duration of 151 days.
- From the leach kinetic curves presented in Figure 13-4, in Chapter 13, extended leach times of +151 days on a permanent heap leach pad in operation, would likely add approximately 3% extra Au leach recovery. However, with a typical on-heap operation a 2% reduction in gold recovery is applied in going from testwork to an actual operation. Therefore, as the long-term heap leach recovery, an estimate of 80% Au recovery is reasonable, and has been applied as the overall heap leach operation's gold recovery, for materials with gold grades > 0.5 g/t.
- A crush size of a P100 = 6.3 mm is recommended with agglomeration using cement to ensure adequate downward percolation of cyanide leach solutions through the heap, to maximize gold recovery from the materials placed on heap.
- The testwork data supports the use of a High Pressure Grinding Roll (HPGR) as the secondary/tertiary crusher unit. HPGR compaction crushing would likely reduce power consumption and likely generate of micro-cracks in the rock particles. These micro-cracks would enhance leaching rates and potentially increase gold recovery. The HPGR testwork reported by KCA gives evidence of such increased gold recoveries, over those from conventional crushed materials.



## 1.9. Cheechoo Mineral Resource Estimate

BBA was retained by Sirios to prepare a Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) for the Cheechoo Project (the "Project"), which incorporates recent drilling and channel sampling programs. Drillhole information up to July 20, 2022, was considered for this estimate. BBA subcontracted Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., from PLR Resources Inc. to act as the QP for this MRE.

Geological wireframes were created by Sirios' geologist Jordi Turcotte in Leapfrog Geo™ and were reviewed and validated by the QP. Leapfrog Geo™ was also used for the modelling of the overburden unit and of the topography surface. Geovia® Surpac 2022 Refresh 1 was used for the compositing, 3D block modelling, interpolation, and classification. Statistical studies were conducted using Excel and Snowden Supervisor. The pit optimization analysis and reporting was carried out using Deswik mining software.

The methodology for the estimation of the mineral resources involved the following steps:

- Database verification and validation;
- Review of the 3D model;
- Drillhole intercepts;
- Basic statistics and composite generation for each unit;
- Capping;
- Geostatistical analysis including variography;
- Block modelling and grade interpolation;
- Block model validation;
- Resource classification;
- Cut-off grade calculation and pit shell optimization;
- Mineral resource statement.

The pit-constrained Mineral Resource Estimate for the Project is presented in Table 1-4.

Table 1-4: Pit-constrained Mineral Resource Estimate for the Cheechoo Project

Cut-off Grade	Indicated			Inferred		
	Tonnage	Au	Au	Tonnage	Au	Au
(g/t Au)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)
0.35	46.3	0.94	1,404,000	21.1	0.73	494,000





## Notes to Table 1-4:

1. The independent qualified person for the 2022 MRE, as defined by NI 43-101 guidelines, is Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., of PLR Resources Inc. The effective date of the estimate is July 20, 2022.
2. These mineral resources are not mineral reserves as they do not have demonstrated economic viability. The quantity and grade of reported Inferred resources in this MRE are uncertain in nature and there has been insufficient exploration to define these resources as Indicated or Measured; however, it is reasonably expected that the majority of Inferred Mineral Resources could be upgraded to Indicated Mineral Resources with continued exploration.
3. Resources are presented as undiluted and pit constrained, and are considered to have reasonable prospects for economic extraction. Although calculated cut-off grade is 0.32 g/t Au, a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au was used for the MRE. The pit optimization was done using Deswik mining software. The constraining pit shell was developed using pit slopes of 45 to 50 degrees in hard rock and 26 degrees in overburden. The cut-off grade and pit optimization were calculated using the following parameters (amongst others): Gold price = USD1,650; CAD:USD exchange rate = 1.29; Hard Rock Mining cost = \$2.90/t mined with incremental bench costs of \$0.05 per 10 m bench; Overburden Mining Cost = \$5.00/t mined; Mining Recovery = 95%; Mining dilution = 5% at 0 g/t Au; Metallurgical Recovery varying from 88% to 92%; Processing cost = \$14.57/t processed; G&A = \$5.42/t processed; and Refining and Transportation cost = \$5.00/oz. The conceptual pit-constrained resource has a 2.3:1 stripping ratio at the 0.35g/t Au cut-off grade. The cut-off grade will be re-evaluated in light of future prevailing market conditions and costs.
4. The MRE was prepared using Surpac 2022 Refresh 1 and is based on 329 surface drillholes (76,713 m) and 386 surface channel samples (3,217 m), with a total of 55,566 assays. The resource database was validated before proceeding to the resource estimation. Grade model resource estimation was interpolated from drillhole and channel data using an OK interpolation method within blocks measuring 10 m x 10 m x 10 m in size. The cut-off date for drillhole database was July 20, 2022.
5. The model comprises 20 mineralized zones (which have a minimum thickness of 3 m, with rare exceptions mostly between 2 m and 3 m), and two low-grade mineralized body mostly included in the tonalite intrusive unit, each defined by drillhole intercepts. The block model was re-blocked to 10 m x 10 m x 10 m using the weighted average grade and tonnage from high grade and low-grade zones.
6. High-grade capping was done on the composited assay data and established on a per zone basis. Capping grades vary from 3 g/t Au to 55 g/t Au. A value of zero grade was applied in cases where core was not assayed.
7. Fixed density values were established on a per unit basis, corresponding to the median of the SG data of each unit ranging from 2.65 t/m<sup>3</sup> to 2.76 t/m<sup>3</sup>. A fixed density of 2.00 t/m<sup>3</sup> was assigned to the overburden.
8. The MRE presented herein is categorized as Indicated and Inferred Resources. The Indicated Mineral Resource category is defined for blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is less than 50 m for the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10 m x 10 m x 10 m re-blocks. The Inferred Mineral Resource category is defined for blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is less than 100 m for the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10 m x 10 m x 10 m re-blocks. Where needed, some materials have been either upgraded or downgraded to avoid isolated blocks.
9. The number of tonnes (metric) and ounces were rounded to the nearest hundred thousand.

CIM definitions and guidelines for mineral resource estimates have been followed.



## 1.10. Interpretation and Conclusions

The understanding of the regional geology, lithological and structural controls of the mineralization at Cheechoo are sufficient to support estimation of Mineral Resources.

- The 2022 MRE was built with the use of 20 mineralized zones (which have a minimum thickness of 3 m, with rare exceptions mostly between 2 m and 3 m), and two low-grade mineralized body, mostly included in the tonalite intrusive unit, each defined by drillholes intercepts;
- Using a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au, the Indicated In-pit Resources amounts to 46.3 Mt grading 0.94 g/t Au containing approximately 1,404,000 ounces of gold;
- Using a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au, the Inferred In-pit Resources amounts to 21.1 Mt grading 0.73 g/t Au containing approximately 494,000 ounces of gold;
- No Measured Resources have been defined in the 2022 MRE;
- It is likely that further diamond drilling would upgrade most of the inferred resources to indicated resources.

As with all mineral projects, there is an inherent risk associated with mineral exploration. Many of these risks are based on a lack of detailed knowledge and can be managed as more sampling, testing, design, and engineering are conducted at the next study stages. The mineral resources may be affected by a future conceptual study assessment of mining, processing, environmental, permitting, taxation, socio-economic and other factors.

External risks are, to a certain extent, beyond the control of the Project proponents and are much more difficult to anticipate and mitigate, although, in many instances, some risk reduction can be achieved. External risks are things such as the political situation in the Project's region, metal prices, exchange rates and government legislation. These external risks are generally applicable to all mining projects. Negative variance to these items from the assumptions would affect the mineral resource estimate.

## 1.11. Recommendations

Based on the results of the 2022 MRE, the QPs recommend initiating a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) to investigate the likelihood of the Project to be economically viable. Following a positive PEA, additional exploration/definition drilling and further geological and metallurgical interpretation is warranted to gain a better understanding of the deposit before updating the current Mineral Resource Estimate.

The QPs recommend the two-phase work program described below, in which Phase 2 depends on the success of Phase 1.



### Phase 1:

- Complete additional metallurgical testwork;
- Complete an exploration drilling program (20,000 m);
- Complete a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) report.

### Phase 2:

- Conversion drilling should be done on the remaining inferred resources at a drill spacing of about 50 m, or smaller, in order to further delineate the geological and resources model and to potentially upgrade the remaining Inferred resources to the Indicated category. Approximately 10,000 m would be required.
- A bulk sample is recommended on the Project in order to improve the understanding of the grade distribution for further mineral resource estimate updates;
- Implement a geotechnical field program to complement existing information.

Expenditures for Phase 1 are estimated at \$8,050,000 (including 15% for contingencies). Expenditures for Phase 2 are estimated at \$4,715,000 (including 15% for contingencies). The grand total is \$12,765,000 (including 15% for contingencies).



## 2. Introduction

The Cheechoo Project (the "Project") is a gold property located in the Province of Québec, in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay region. The Project is 100% owned by Sirios Resources Inc. (Sirios).

In July 2022, Sirios commissioned BBA Inc. (BBA) to lead and perform a Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) on the Project in accordance with the guidelines of the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) and Form 43-101 F1.

BBA ([www.bba.ca](http://www.bba.ca)) is an independent engineering consulting firm headquartered in Mont-Saint-Hilaire, Québec, with its mining group based in downtown Montréal and Val-d'Or, Québec. The firm's expertise is recognized in the fields of energy, mining and metals, biofuels and oil and gas. BBA is supported by a network of offices across Canada to serve its clients and carry out mandates at the local, national, and international levels.

### 2.1 Scope of Study

The following Technical Report (the "Report") presents the results of the Mineral Resource Estimate for the Cheechoo Project. Sirios is a Canadian based exploration company listed on the TSX Venture Exchange (TSXV) under the trading symbol SOI with its head office located at:

1000 St-Antoine Ouest, #410  
Montreal (Québec)  
H3C 3R7

This Report, titled "NI 43-101 Technical Report and Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project, in Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec", was prepared by Qualified Persons (QPs) following NI 43-101 guidelines and regulations, and in conformity with the guidelines of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) Standards on Mineral Resources and Reserves.

### 2.2 Report Responsibility and Qualified Persons

The following individuals, by virtue of their education, experience and professional association, are considered QPs as defined in NI 43-101, and are members in good standing of appropriate professional institutions.

- Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo. PLR Resources Inc.
- Dario Evangelista, P. Eng. BBA Inc.
- Kevan Ford, MS. Eng. BBA Inc.



The preceding QPs have contributed to the writing of this Report and have provided QP certificates, included at the beginning of this Report. The information contained in the certificates outlines the sections in this Report for which each QP is responsible. Each QP has also contributed figures, tables and portions of Chapters 1 (Summary), 2 (Introduction), 25 (Interpretation and Conclusions), 26 (Recommendations) and 27 (References). Table 2-1 outlines the responsibilities for the various sections of the Report and the name of the corresponding Qualified Person.

Table 2-1: Qualified Persons and areas of report responsibility

Chapter	Description	Qualified Person	Company	Comments and Exceptions
1.	Summary	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All QPs contributed based on their respective scope of work and the Chapters/Sections under their responsibility.
2.	Introduction	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All QPs contributed based on their respective scope of work and the Chapters/Sections under their responsibility.
3.	Reliance on Other Experts	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 3
4.	Project Property Description and Location	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 4
5.	Accessibility, Climate, Local Resource, Infrastructure and Physiography	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 5
6.	History	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 6
7.	Geological Setting and Mineralization	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 7
8.	Deposit Types	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 8
9.	Exploration	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 9
10.	Drilling	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 10
11.	Sample Preparation, Analyses and Security	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 11
12.	Data Verification	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 12
13.	Mineral Processing and Metallurgical Testing	K. Ford	BBA	All Chapter 13
14.	Mineral Resource Estimate	P.-L. Richard D. Evangelista	PLR BBA	All Chapter 14 except 14.9 Section 14.9
15.	Mineral Reserve Estimate	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
16.	Mining Methods	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate



Chapter	Description	Qualified Person	Company	Comments and Exceptions
17.	Recovery Methods	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
18.	Project Infrastructure	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
19.	Market Studies and Contracts	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
20.	Environmental Studies, Permitting, and Social or Community Impact	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
21.	Capital and Operating Costs	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
22.	Economic Analysis	P.-L. Richard	PLR	Not required for a resource estimate
23.	Adjacent Properties	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 23
24.	Other Relevant Data and Information	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All Chapter 24
25.	Interpretation and Conclusions	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All QPs contributed based on their respective scope of work and the Chapters/Sections under their responsibility.
26.	Recommendations	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All QPs contributed based on their respective scope of work and the Chapters/Sections under their responsibility.
27.	References	P.-L. Richard	PLR	All QPs contributed based on their respective scope of work and the Chapters/Sections under their responsibility.

## 2.3 Effective Dates and Declaration

This Report is in support of the Sirios press release dated December 6, 2022, entitled “SIRIOS ANNOUNCES INDICATED RESOURCES OF 1.4 MOZ AT 0.94 G/T AU AND INFERRED RESOURCES OF 0.5 MOZ AT 0.73 G/T AU AT CHEECHOO”. The overall effective date of this Report is July 20, 2022. The Report has a number of close-out dates for information:

- Drill Database close-out date: July 20, 2022;
- Effective date of the mineral resource: July 20, 2022;
- Claim Status: October 27, 2022.

This Report was prepared as National Instrument 43-101 Technical Report for Sirios by Qualified Persons from PLR Resources Inc. (PLR) and BBA Inc. collectively the “Report Authors”.



The quality of information, conclusions and estimates contained herein is consistent with the level of effort involved in the Report Authors' services, based on: i) information available at the time of preparation; ii) data supplied by outside sources; and iii) the assumptions, conditions and qualifications set forth in this Report. This Report is intended for use by Sirios, subject to terms and conditions of its respective contracts with the Report Authors. Except for the purposes legislated under Canadian provincial and territorial securities law, any other uses of this Report by any third party is at that party's sole risk.

It should be understood that the mineral resources presented in this Report are estimates of the size and grade of the deposits. The estimates are based on a certain number of drillholes, channel samples, and on assumptions and parameters currently available. The level of confidence in the estimates depends upon a number of uncertainties. These uncertainties include but are not limited to: future changes in metal prices and/or production costs; differences in size; grade and recovery rates from those expected; and changes in Project parameters. In addition, there is no assurance that the Project implementation will be carried out.

As of the effective date of this Report, the QPs are not aware of any known litigation potentially affecting the Project. The QPs did not verify the legality or terms of any underlying agreement(s) that may exist concerning the Project ownership, permits, off-take agreements, license agreements, royalties or other agreement(s) between Sirios and any third parties.

BBA is not an insider, associate or an affiliate of Sirios and neither BBA nor any affiliate has acted as Advisor to Sirios, its subsidiaries or its affiliates, in connection with this Project. The results of the technical review by BBA are not dependent on any prior agreements concerning the conclusions to be reached, nor are there any undisclosed understandings concerning any future business dealings. The QPs are being paid fees for this work in accordance with the normal professional consulting practice.

The opinions contained herein are based on information collected throughout the course of investigations by the QPs, which in turn reflects various technical and economic conditions at the time of writing. Given the nature of the mining business, these conditions can change significantly over relatively short periods of time. Consequently, actual results can be significantly more or less favourable.

## 2.4 Sources of Information

This Report is based in part on internal company reports, maps, published government reports, company letters and memoranda, and public information, as listed in Chapter 27 "References" of this Report. Sections from reports authored by others may have been directly quoted or summarized in the report and are so indicated, where appropriate.



This MRE has been completed using available information contained in, but not limited to, the following reports, documents and discussions:

- Technical discussions with Sirios management and personnel;
- QPs' personal inspection of the Cheechoo Project site, including drill core and facilities;
- Review of exploration data provided by Sirios;
- Agreements, technical data and internal technical documents supplied by Sirios;
- Internal unpublished reports from Sirios;
- Additional information from public domain sources (SEDAR, etc.).

The QPs believe that the basic assumptions contained in the information above are factual and accurate, and that the interpretations are reasonable. The QPs have relied on this data and have no reason to believe that any material facts have been withheld or doubt the reliability of the information used to evaluate the mineral resources presented herein. The authors have sourced the information for this Report from the collection of documents listed in Chapter 27 (References).

## 2.5 Site Visit

Pierre-Luc Richard, P.Geo., QP, visited the Property from October 10 to October 15, 2019, and from August 19 to August 22, 2022. Mr. Richard also visited the core cutting and storage facility on September 16, 2019, November 27, 2020, and November 11, 2022. The purpose of the visits was to review the Project with the Sirios team. The visits included an overview of the general geological conditions, a tour of the core storage facility, visual inspections of selected mineralized drill core samples, survey of numerous drillhole casings, and a visit of various mechanically stripped outcrops. A review of assaying, QA/QC and drillhole procedures was also completed.

Kevan Ford and Dario Evangelista, both QPs and employees of BBA, did not visit the Property that is the subject of the Technical Report.





## 2.6 Currency, Units of Measure, and Calculations

Unless otherwise specified or noted, the units used in this Report are metric. Every effort has been made to clearly display the appropriate units being used throughout this Report.

- Currency is in Canadian dollars ("CAD" or "\$"), unless otherwise stated;
- A Canadian dollar (CAD) to United States dollar (USD) exchange rate of CAD1.29 for USD1.00 was used;
- Block model and maps are in UTM NAD 83 zone 18N coordinates;
- This Report may include technical information that required subsequent calculations to derive subtotals, totals and weighted averages. Such calculations inherently involve a degree of rounding and consequently introduce a margin of error. Where these occur, the QPs consider them immaterial.

## 2.7 Acknowledgment

The Report Authors would like to acknowledge the general support provided by Sirios personnel during this assignment. Their collaboration is greatly appreciated. The Project also benefitted from the inputs of the following specific individuals:

- Jordi Turcotte, Senior Geologist – Sirios
- Samuel Martel, P. Eng., Project Director – Sirios
- Dominique Doucet, President – Sirios
- Guillaume Doucet, Geologist – Sirios
- Roger Moar, Geologist – Sirios
- Alexandra Blanchette, Geologist – Sirios
- Clovis Cameron Auger, Geologist – BBA
- Manon Dussault, Project Assistant – BBA
- Mary Norman, Project Assistant – BBA
- Clara Nencu, Project Assistant – BBA

Their commitment, contributions, and teamwork are gratefully acknowledged and appreciated.



## 3. Reliance on Other Experts

### 3.1 Introduction

The Qualified Person (QP) relied on reports, information sources, and opinions provided by Sirios for certain aspects of the Project, such as the Project's mineral rights, 3<sup>rd</sup> party agreements, surface rights, property agreements, royalties, and environmental status.

As of the date of this Report, Sirios indicated that there are no known litigations potentially affecting the Cheechoo Project.

A draft copy of the Report has been reviewed for factual errors by Sirios. Any changes made as a result of these reviews did not involve any alteration to the conclusions made. Hence, the statements and opinions expressed in this document are given in good faith and in the belief that such statements and opinions are neither false nor misleading at the date of this Report.

### 3.2 Mineral Tenure and Surface Rights

Sirios supplied information regarding mining titles, options agreements, royalty agreements, environmental liabilities and permits. Pierre-Luc Richard, QP from PLR Resources, consulted the GESTIM online Québec government claim management system for the latest status regarding ownership and mining titles.

Although the QP has reviewed the option agreements and available claim status documents, he is not qualified to express any legal opinion with respect to the property titles, current ownership, or possible litigations. A description of such agreements, the property, and ownership thereof, is provided for general information purposes only. In this regard, the QP relied on information supplied by Sirios and the work of experts he understands to be appropriately qualified.

This information is used in Chapter 4 of the Report. The information is also used in support of the Mineral Resource Estimate in Chapter 14.

### 3.3 Environmental Studies, Permits, and Social or Community Impact

The QP relied on information with respect to the Project's environmental status, permits, and Social and Community Impact as provided by Jordi Turcotte, P. Geo., of Sirios. This information is used in Chapter 4 of the Report.



## 4. Property Description and Location

### 4.1 Property Description and Location

The Cheechoo Property (Main Block) is located 9 km east of the Éléonore gold mine, whereas the Cheechoo deposit is approximately 15 km southeast of the Éléonore gold mine, in the Opinaca Reservoir area of the Eeyou Istchee James Bay region, in the Province of Québec, Canada. The Project is located approximately 200 km east of the Cree community of Wemindji, 330 km north of the towns of Matagami and Chibougamau, and 815 km north of Montreal (Figure 4-1).

The coordinates for the approximate centre of the Project are latitude 52°38' N and longitude 75°54' W (438920E and 5833483N: NAD 83 / UTM Zone 18N) on NTS map sheets 33B12 and 33C09.



Property overview map

Projection: UTM NAD83 Zone 18N



Figure 4-1: Overview map of the Cheechoo Property





## 4.2 Mineral Tenure

Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., verified the status of the mineral claims using the Québec government online claim management tool GESTIM. As of October 27, 2022, the Cheechoo Property consists of three non-contiguous groups of 156 electronic map-designated mining claims for the Cheechoo main block, 35 electronic map-designated mining claims for the west block and 34 electronic map-designated mining claims for the south block (Figure 4-2). Together they form what is called the Cheechoo Property (the “Property”).

Sirios holds a 100% interest in the 225 mining claims included in the Cheechoo Project.

The total area of the Cheechoo Property is 11,763.37 hectares. A detailed list of the Project mineral claims is shown in Table 4-1.

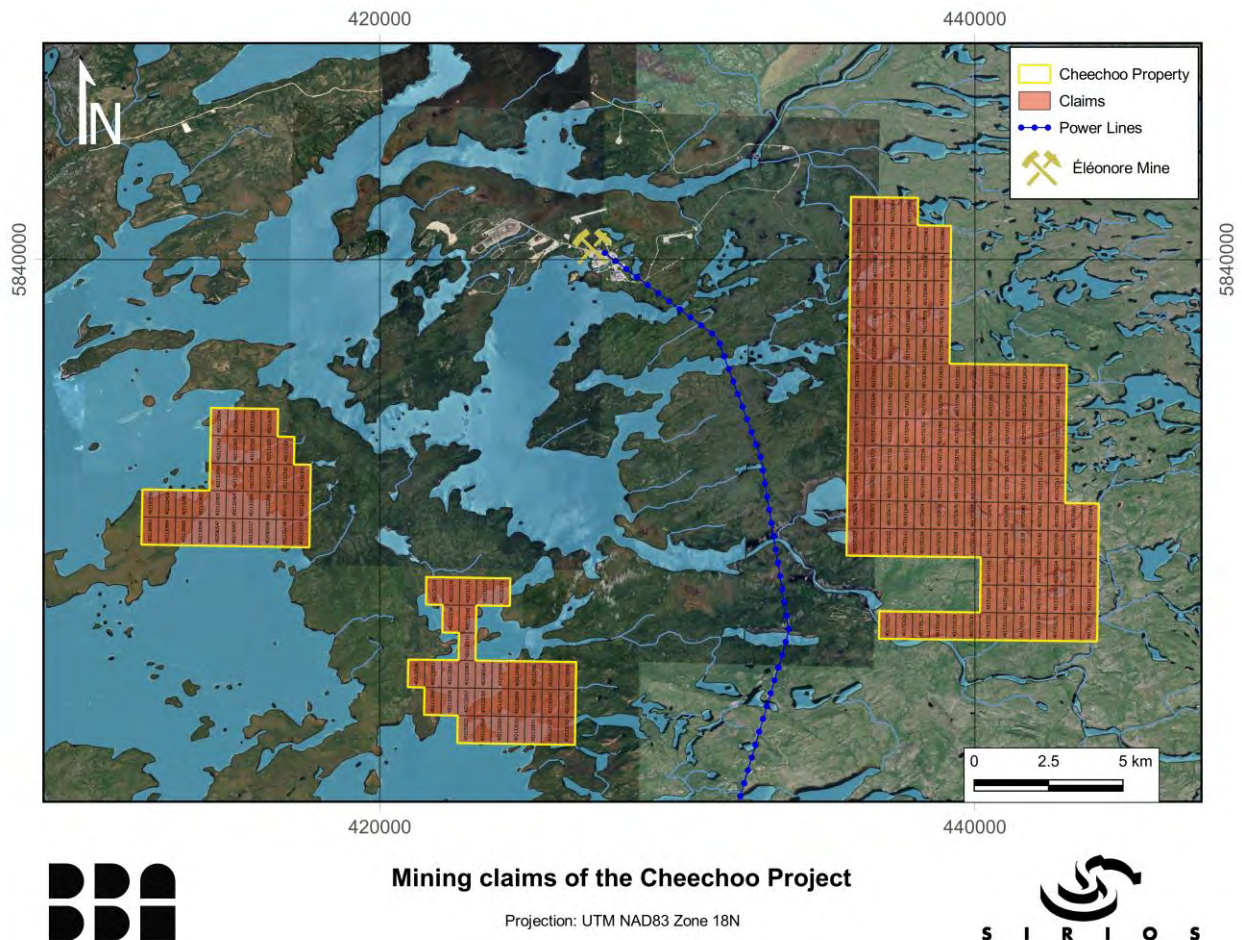


Figure 4-2: Cheechoo Property claims as of October 27, 2022

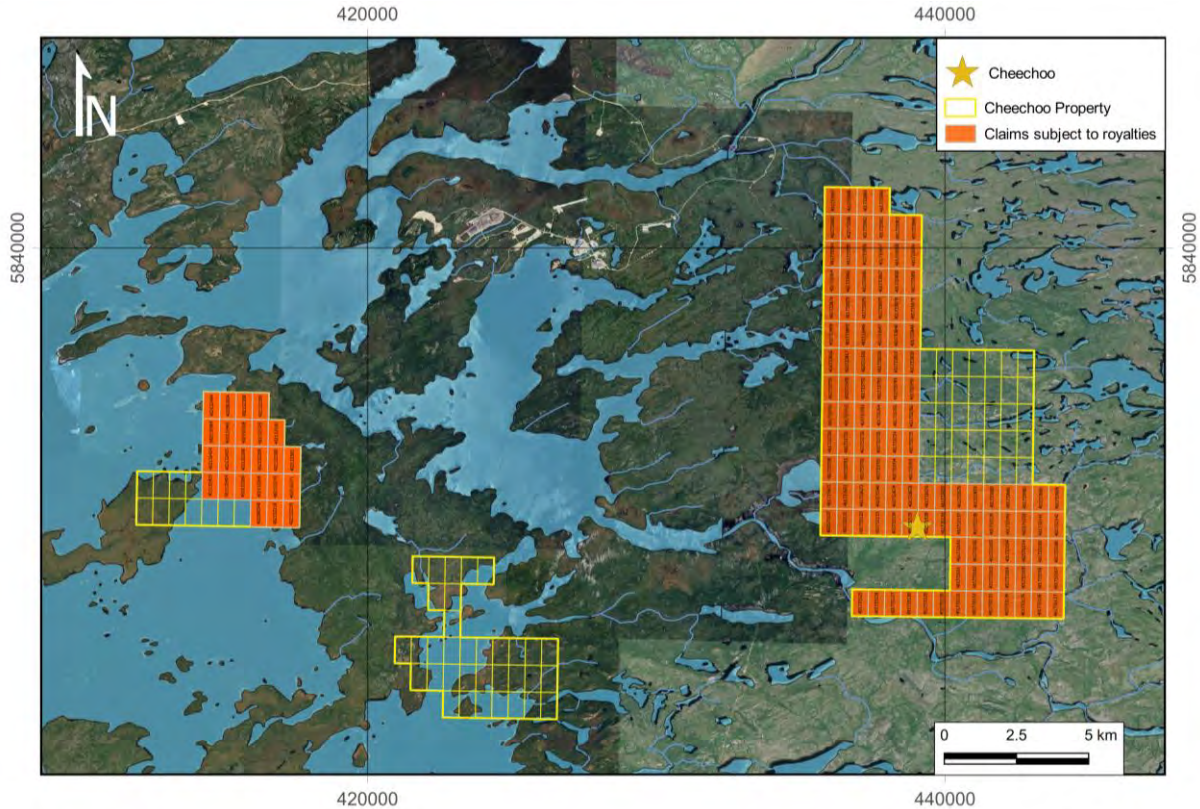


### 4.3 Royalties, Agreement and Encumbrances

Some of the mineral claims comprising the Project are subject to certain agreements and royalties. Figure 4-3 shows the claims with active royalties. Those royalties were part of the Sirios and Golden Valley 2012 binding sheet agreement. On July 27, 2016, Sirios confirmed that it had completed its fulfillment obligations and that the remaining 55% interest held by Golden Valley was transferred to Sirios. Sirios now holds 100% interest of the Cheechoo Property.

The Cheechoo Property is subject to the following royalties: Sirios granted Golden Valley a royalty equal to 4% of the net returns from all mineral products mined or removed from the Property. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the royalty relevant to gold mineral products mined or removed from the Property (the "Gold Portion") may be reduced as follows depending on the market price of the Gold at the time of the payment of the Gold Portion:

1. If the price of gold is less than \$3,000 per ounce and higher than \$2,400 per ounce, a 3.5% royalty on the Gold Portion shall be payable to Golden Valley.
2. If the price of gold is less than \$2,400 per ounce and higher than \$1,200 per ounce, a 3% royalty on the Gold Portion shall be payable to Golden Valley.
3. If the price of gold is less than \$1,200 per ounce, a 2.5% royalty on the Gold Portion shall be payable to Golden Valley.



### Royalties on the Cheechoo Project

Projection: UTM NAD83 Zone 18N



Figure 4-3: Cheechoo Property royalties

## 4.4 Environmental Liabilities

There are no known environmental liabilities on the Project.

## 4.5 Permitting

A forest intervention permit is required for any logging activity, including clearing for roads, camps, and drill pads. Documentation for such a permit must be submitted by a forest engineer to the Chibougamau or Amos forest management unit, part of the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (*Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles – MERN*). In accordance with the *Paix des Braves* protocols, a representative from the MERN will contact the Cree Tallyman who owns the trap line where logging is needed; the Tallyman then has 45 days to provide his approval. A small logging royalty is deemed payable to the Ministry.





A “special intervention permit” is required to conduct drilling. This permit is very similar to and replaces the forest intervention permit. Road construction necessitating any earthmoving requires authorization from the MERN. This request is made concomitantly with the forest intervention permit request and may take a few months to be approved.

Installation of a temporary or permanent camp, such as needed to operate at Cheechoo, requires a permit to be issued by the *Municipalité de la Baie-James*, from Matagami. Installation must comply with municipal regulations as well as the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change (*Ministère de l'Environnement et Lutte contre les changements climatiques* – MELCC), especially concerning wastewater management. Sirios currently has a temporary camp permit at the time of writing this report.

No specific permit is required to conduct geophysics, line cutting, or other activities not requiring significant logging.

## 4.6 First Nations Rights

The Cheechoo Property is covered by the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA) (*Entente de la Baie-James et du Nord Québécois*), binding the Cree Nation, the Québec government and the Canadian federal government. This agreement includes a set of rules covering territory management and project development. The rules differ from the rest of the province and add a general agreement concerning the rights of First Nations. Within this agreement, the territory was divided into different categories, with different sets of rights for the First Nations communities. Subsequently, the *Paix des Braves* agreement has been signed between the Québec government and the Cree Nation, which further clarifies the rules, mainly concerning forestry and traditional activities.

The Cheechoo Project is located on Category III lands according to the JBNQA, meaning that there is no substantial restriction to mineral exploration as far as the First Nations community is concerned. A courteous relationship is a prerequisite and notice of work must be forwarded to communities and tallymen prior to initiating any exploration work.

The Cheechoo Property is located within the traditional lands attributed to the Wemindji and Eastmain communities. The Cheechoo main block, as well as parts of the west and south blocks, are located on trap line VC-29 (currently assigned to Mr. Angus Mayappo, Wemindji). Part of the west block is located on trap line VC-34 (assigned to Thomas Mayappo, Eastmain), while part of the south block is located on trap line VC-35 (assigned to Roderick Mayappo, Eastmain). Figure 4-4 presents the Cheechoo main block, west block, south block, and the local trap line delimitations.



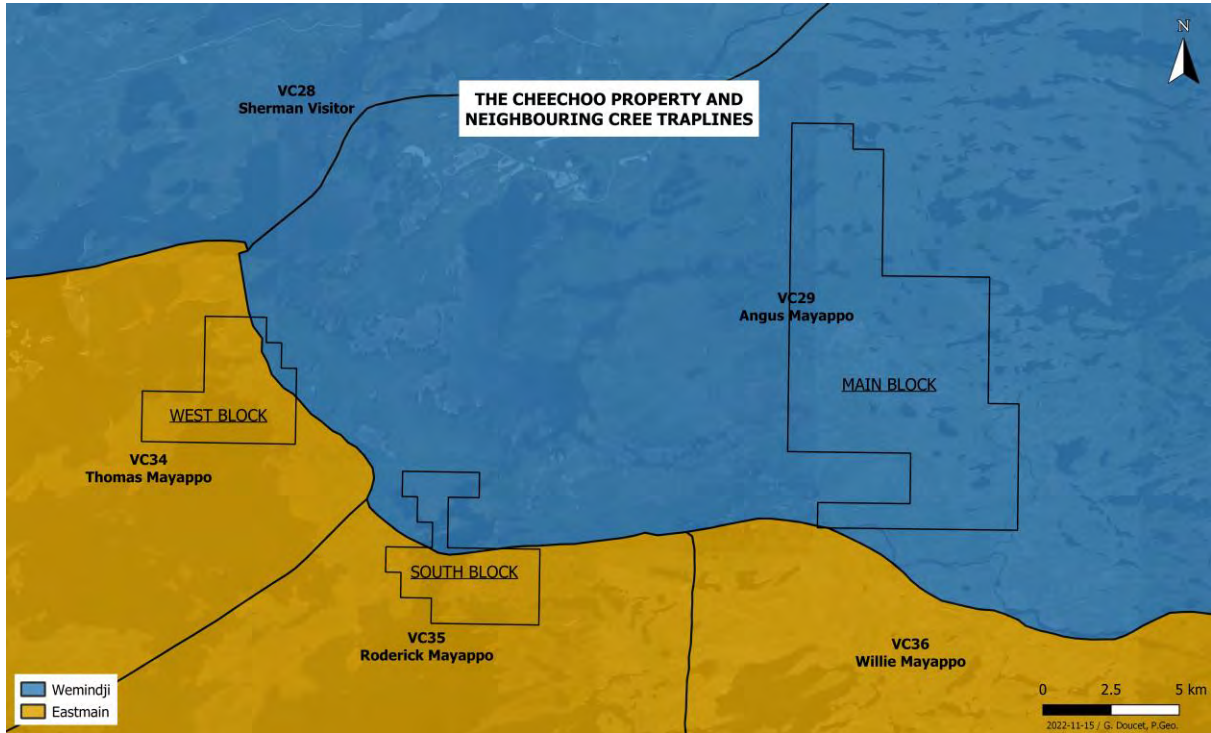


Figure 4-4: Trap line delimitation and Cheechoo's property blocks

## 4.7 Other Significant Factors and Risks

There are no known significant factors and risks that may affect access, title, or the right or ability to perform work on the Property.

Table 4-1: Detailed list of the Project mineral claims (verified on October 27, 2022)

Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
401733125	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39989
401733126	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39990
401733127	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39991
401733128	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39992
401733129	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39993
401733130	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39994
401733131	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39995
401733132	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39996



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
401733133	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39997
401733134	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39998
401733135	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	39999
401733136	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40000
401733137	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40001
401733161	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40002
401733162	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40003
401733163	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40004
401733164	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40005
401733165	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40006
401733166	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40007
401733167	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40008
401733191	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40009
401733192	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40010
401733193	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40011
401733194	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40012
402571534	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40013
401733195	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40014
401733196	Active	2004-09-27	2023-09-26	52.31	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	40015
402571537	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43408
401732131	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43409
401732132	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43410
401732133	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43411
401732134	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43412
401732135	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43413
402571538	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43414
401732136	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43415
401732137	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43416
401732138	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43417
401732139	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43418
401733671	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43419
401733672	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43420
401733673	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43421



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
402571548	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43422
401733674	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43423
401733675	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43424
401733676	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43425
401733677	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43426
401733678	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43427
401733679	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43428
401733680	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43429
401733700	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43430
401733701	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43431
401733702	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43432
401733703	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43433
401733730	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43436
401733731	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43437
401733732	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43438
401733733	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43439
401733761	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43442
401733762	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43443
401733763	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43444
401733764	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43445
401733791	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43448
402571549	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43449
401733792	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43450
401733793	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43451
401733816	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43454
401733817	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43455
402571556	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43456
401733818	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43457
401733844	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43460
401733845	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43461
401733846	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43462
401733847	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43463
401733874	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43466



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
401733875	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43467
401733876	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43468
401733877	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43469
401733904	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43472
401733905	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43473
401733906	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43474
401733907	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43475
401733934	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43478
401733935	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43479
401733936	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43480
401733937	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43481
401733960	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43484
402571568	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43485
401733961	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43486
401733962	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43487
401733987	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.18	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43490
401733988	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.18	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43491
401733989	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.18	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43492
401733990	Active	2004-09-29	2023-09-28	52.18	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	43493
401733704	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45442
401733705	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45443
401733734	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45444
401733735	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45445
401733765	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45446
401733766	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45447
401733794	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45448
401733795	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45449
401733819	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45450
401733820	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45451
401733848	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45452
401733849	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.23	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45453
401733878	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45454
401733879	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.22	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45455



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
401733908	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45456
401733909	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.21	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45457
401733938	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45458
401733939	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.2	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45459
401733963	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45460
401733964	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.19	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45461
401732140	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45509
402571539	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45510
401732141	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45511
401732142	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45512
401733681	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45515
401733682	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45516
401733683	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45517
401733684	Active	2004-11-17	2023-11-16	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	45518
402580548	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	47998
402132218	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	47999
402132219	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48000
402132403	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48005
402132404	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48006
402132434	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48007
402132435	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48008
402132464	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48009
402132465	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48010
402132494	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48011
402580554	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48012
402132268	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48013
402132269	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48014
402132270	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48015
402132271	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48016
402132298	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48017
402132299	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48018
402132300	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48019
402132301	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48020





Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
402132328	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48021
402132329	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48022
402132330	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48023
402132358	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48024
402132359	Active	2004-12-10	2023-12-09	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	48025
402130993	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2427997
402130994	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2427998
402130995	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2427999
402130996	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428000
402580547	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428001
402130997	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428002
402132217	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.3	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428003
402132399	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428004
402132400	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428005
402132401	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428006
402132402	Active	2015-05-25	2024-05-24	52.29	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2428007
401733706	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638384
401733707	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638385
401733708	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638386
401733709	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638387
401733710	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638388
401733711	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638389
401733712	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.28	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638390
401733736	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638391
401733737	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638392
401733738	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638393
401733739	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638394
401733740	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638395
401733741	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638396
401733742	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.27	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638397
401733767	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638398
401733768	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638399
401733769	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638400



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
401733770	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638401
401733771	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638402
401733772	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638403
401733773	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.26	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638404
401733796	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638405
401733797	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638406
402571550	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638407
401733798	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638408
401733799	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638409
401733800	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638410
401733801	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.25	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638411
401733821	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638412
401733822	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638413
402571557	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638414
401733823	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638415
401733824	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638416
401733825	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638417
401733826	Active	2022-03-07	2025-03-06	52.24	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2638418
402132033	Active	2022-04-05	2025-04-04	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644050
402132087	Active	2022-04-05	2025-04-04	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644051
402132088	Active	2022-04-05	2025-04-04	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644052
402132027	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644289
402132028	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644290
402132029	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644291
402132030	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644292
402132031	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644293
402132032	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.37	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644294
402132055	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644295
402132056	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644296
402132057	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644297
402132058	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644298
402132059	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644299
402132060	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644300



Claim No.	Claim Status	Issue Date	Anniversary Date	Area (ha)	Owner	Claim No.
402132061	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644301
402132062	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644302
402132063	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.36	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644303
402132080	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644304
402132081	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644305
402132082	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644306
402132083	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644307
402580534	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644308
402132084	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644309
402132085	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644310
402132086	Active	2022-04-06	2025-04-05	52.35	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2644311
402132110	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.34	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645449
402132139	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645450
402132140	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.33	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645451
402132169	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645452
402132170	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645453
402132171	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645454
402132172	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645455
402132173	Active	2022-04-14	2025-04-13	52.32	Ressources Sirios Inc. (13467) 100%	2645456





## 5. Accessibility, Climate, Local Resources and Infrastructure, Physiography

### 5.1 Accessibility

The Cheechoo Project is located about 350 km north of the mining town of Matagami or about 500 km north of Val-d'Or. The area can be accessed via the paved James Bay Highway (extension of Highway #109), about midway between Matagami and Radisson, or via the all-weather gravel road *Route Du Nord* from Chibougamau. Various secondary gravel roads give access to the Opinaca Reservoir and other Hydro-Québec infrastructure, as well as to the Éléonore mine.

The main block of the Cheechoo Property is accessible by land via the Éléonore mine all-weather gravel road. At km 54 road marker of this road, an access to the Cheechoo camp or worksite is via a dirt access road.

The west block and the south block of the Cheechoo Property are partially located on islands within the Opinaca Reservoir and are currently only accessible by boat or helicopter.

Helicopters are available at Radisson or Chibougamau, about 1-1.5 hours away. A regional airport is located at Nemiscau, about 100 km south of the Project. Arrangements can also be made to land and fuel at the Éléonore mine (helicopter/plane) or KM-381 relays (helicopter only).

### 5.2 Climate and Vegetation

The area experiences a subarctic climate, characterized by short, cool summers and long, cold winters. The nearest permanent weather monitoring station maintained by Environment Canada ([climat.qc.ca](http://climat.qc.ca)) is the La Grande Riviere A. According to the available data collected at this weather station from 1981-2010, the daily average temperature for January was -23.2°C and the daily average temperature in July was 14.2°C. The record low during this period was -44.6°C, and the record high was 37.3°C.

Data collected from the weather station from 1981 to 2010 indicates that the total annual precipitation was 697.2 mm, with peak rainfall occurring during August (91.1 mm average), and September (110.6 mm average). Snowfall is light to moderate, with an annual average of 261.3 cm. Snow typically accumulates from November to April, with a peak snowfall occurring in November (60.3 cm average), December (44.4 cm average), with a maximum snowpack depth of approximately 46 cm. On average, the Property is frost-free for 92 days.



Although tempered by James Bay and the abundant reservoirs, the climate remains cold continental with extreme seasonal variations. Precipitation is not abundant, although fog and mist can be common in the autumn. Ideal period for exploration work is in summer, from May to early September or in spring from late February to early April for programs requiring winter access.

The area is covered by a scattered boreal forest, taiga subzone, dominated by black spruce strands. Local stands of jack pine and poplar dominate the well-drained areas. Shrubs consist mostly of alders and willows, while Ericaceae can form dense carpets.

Mining and drilling operations can be conducted year-round, whereas surface exploration work (mapping, channel sampling) can take place from May to October.

## 5.3 Local Resources and Infrastructure

### 5.3.1 Local Work Force

Local workforce could be provided from the neighbouring Cree communities as well as specialized mining personnel from the Abitibi and Chibougamau regions.

### 5.3.2 Additional Support Services

Services in the vicinity of the project are limited:

- Newmont's Éléonore mine is located about 15 km to the north-west of the Cheechoo main block. Emergency services are available, such as a nurse and an airstrip;
- Hydro-Québec EM-1 camp is located about 40 km to the south of Cheechoo;
- KM-381 Roadstop is the most convenient outpost in the area, located along the James Bay Highway. Services such as lodging, cafeteria, fuel, heliport, garage, and an ambulance are available;
- Optical fiber is available about 12 km from the Cheechoo Exploration Camp;
- LG3 airport is located about 105 km to the north, while Nemiscau airport is located about 105 km to the south-east. Both are serviced by Air Creebec, with daily scheduled flights to Montreal's Trudeau Airport;
- The Cree community of Nemaska, located about 100 km to the southeast, offers various services such as lodging, grocery store, garage, and fuel, as well as a dispensary. Nemaska is the site of the Grand Conseil des Cris.

Other services are available in the town of Radisson, 160 km to the north of Matagami, but mainly in the Abitibi region, 500 km to the south, where all the services and amenities necessary for industrial development or mining operations are available.



## 5.4 Physiography

The Opinaca Reservoir represents the easternmost extent of the James Bay lowlands, whose limit coincides with the Cheechoo Property. To the west, the landscape is dominated by a flat plain with an altitude of approximately 220 m.a.s.l. This plain is poorly drained with abundant marshes and meandering streams or inundated by the reservoir. It is punctuated by many hills typical of the Canadian Shield. Lakes are abundant, either shallow in muskegs, or more crystalline on hilltops.

The eastern area has a more rugged topography, typical of the Canadian Shield, with abundant lakes, dense drainage, and ubiquitous rounded hills reaching an altitude of 405 m. Drainage is composed of the Opinaca River to the north and the Gipouloux River to the south; both flow into the Opinaca Reservoir then subsequently into Sakami Lake, the La Grande River and James Bay.

Outcrops are not abundant, especially in the western area. Most outcrops are located on hill sides or tops. Overburden deposits are either thin till blankets to the east or a complex assemblage of periglacial and glacio-marine sediment to the west.

## 5.5 Infrastructure

Although the Project is located in a relatively isolated region, the Cheechoo Project benefits from its proximity to the Éléonore mine, which is 15 km away. On top of the mining infrastructure, the support facilities for the Éléonore mine include: an oversized access road accessible year-round, an airstrip and a camp that can accommodate more than 400 people. The mine is supplied with electricity by a 120/25 kV substation, which is itself supplied by the substation at the Eastmain distribution point. The 161 kV power line serving the Éléonore mine runs 5 km to the west of the main Cheechoo block.

Sufficient water is available on the Property from surface water sources for both exploration and mining needs.

The Cheechoo work camp, located on the main property block, is reached via a 12-kilometre dirt access road. The quality of the road varies greatly with the seasons. The access road has two 40-foot bridges with a load-bearing capacity of 65 t. The work camp can presently lodge up to 40 people. Partial cellular phone coverage is available on the Property.

Railheads are available in Matagami and Chibougamau, about 350 km and 450 km to the south. There is a seasonal seaport at Chisasibi, about 235 km to the northwest.



## 6. History

The earliest recorded mineral exploration in the area was undertaken by Noranda Inc. in 1964 and led to the discovery of the Ell Lake showing. Subsequently, various works were carried out in the region by governmental geological survey teams.

In 1972, regional low-density aeromagnetic surveys were carried out by the federal government. A geological framework was then established in the SDBJ period by Franconi (1978). More recent and accurate geological maps were made for NTS 33B (1/250 000) (Simard and Gosselin, 1999), 33C/09-33C/16 (1/50000) (Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007), 33C/10 and 33C/15 (Bandyayera and Lacoste, 2009) and 33B/12-33B/13 (Bandyayera et al., 2010). A low-density aeromagnetic survey (GSC) and more recent medium density aeromagnetic and aerospectrometric surveys (Goldak, 2008) are available, along with a geochemical survey of lake-bottom sediments (Gleeson, 1976), reanalyzed by Beaumier and Kirouac (1995) for NTS sheet 33B and in 2004 for NTS sheet 33C (Beaumier and Leduc, 2005).

In 2001, Virginia Gold Mines Inc. resumed exploration in the Lac Ell area, which led to the discovery of the Roberto zone in 2004, from which the Éléonore gold mine was developed. This discovery launched a massive claim staking rush in the region. Initial staking in the area by Sirios coincided with this event.

### 6.1 Historical Mineral Exploration Work on the Cheechoo Property

In 2004, when the discovery of the Roberto zone by Virginia Gold Mines was announced, Sirios acquired hundreds and later in 2005 up to a few thousands of claims in the area immediately east and southeast of what is now the Éléonore mine. Close to 600 of these claims formed the property blocks formerly known as Shark, Cheechoo-A, Cheechoo-B (subsequently Cheechoo-B West and Cheechoo-B East) and Cheechoo-C. These claim blocks were progressively reduced to the Cheechoo-A and Cheechoo-B West blocks which, together, now make up the current Cheechoo Property. Based on available data, no previous exploration work was conducted within the Property boundaries prior to staking by Sirios in 2004.

In the same year, Golden Valley signed an option agreement with Sirios to acquire a 60% interest in the Cheechoo and Sharks projects. Golden Valley Mines initiated their prospecting work in the summer of 2005. Intensive efforts continued until 2007, followed by a drilling program in 2009.

In 2009, Golden Valley acquired their 60% interest of the Cheechoo Property after completing \$4M of exploration work on the Property. Work continued sporadically until 2011. In 2012, Sirios took over the Project and subsequently reacquired a 100% interest of the Property in June 2016, after the completion of \$5M in exploration work and the issuance of 4,148,374 common shares to Golden Valley following the terms of a second agreement signed in 2012.



## 6.1.1 Golden Valley Mines

### 2005

In the winter of 2005, Golden Valley Mines commissioned an aeromagnetic and electromagnetic survey (DIGHEM) covering their properties in the area (Smith, 2005). The strategy of Golden Valley was then to outline electromagnetic conductors, using a traditional base-metal exploration approach.

In the summer, Golden Valley completed a lake bottom sediment geochemical survey (Lalancette and Girard, 2006a to 2006d; Allou and Girard, 2006a to 2006g). A prospecting and geological mapping program was also conducted. The prospecting work mainly targeted the identified AEM conductors. The main discovery, a cluster of gold-bearing boulders, was made on the western block of the Cheechoo Property (formerly Cheechoo A). Of the 177 samples collected, 23 graded between 0.1 g/t Au and 3.98 g/t Au, with local copper values up to 1.6% and 1.7% Cu and silver at 37.4 g/t Ag and 52.9 g/t Ag (Girard et al., 2006a). Only marginal gold values were obtained on the Cheechoo main block (formerly part of Cheechoo B) (Girard et al., 2006b). No significant results were found on Cheechoo C (Girard et al., 2006c) and Shark (Girard et al., 2006d).

### 2006

Pursuing with its approach of targeting AEM conductors, Golden Valley commissioned line cutting for a total of 93 km and a geophysical survey on the northeast corner of Cheechoo A. Geophysical work, performed by Geosig (Hubert, 2006), included induced polarization (77 km), horizontal loop electromagnetic (Max-Min) (13.3 km) and ground magnetic surveys (93 km). The anomalies detected were related to the electromagnetic conductors outlined in the airborne survey (Smith 2005).

A prospecting program was conducted in late summer (Harnois and Boubakour, 2009a,b,c). Targets included geophysical anomalies, lake-bottom anomalies as well as mineral occurrences discovered in 2006. Abundant rock samples were collected, leading to the discovery of three gold-bearing occurrences: Letang (Cheechoo A, 209 g/t Au in a selected sample), Marchand (Shark-Cheechoo B; 11.96 g/t Au in a selected sample) and Garrioch (Cheechoo-B, 0.39 g/t Au in a selected sample). Fourteen trenches were excavated over gossanous zones, most of them on AEM anomalies, for 142 channel samples, without any significant results except for arsenic. Three new gold-bearing boulder fields were also found on Cheechoo-A, with similar gold grade distribution as in 2005, between 0.1 g/t Au and 2.1 g/t Au.



## 2007

Pursuing its approach of targeting AEM conductors, Golden Valley commissioned line cutting over four grids as follows:

- Grid #1: Shark, North of Gladman Lake, 73.2 km, (Dubois, 2007);
- Grid #2: Straddling Shark and Cheechoo-B, Marchand occurrence, 45.8 km (Dubois and Alvarado, 2007);
- Grid #3: South-east of Cheechoo-B, 29.0 km, Garrioch occurrence, (Alvarado and Lalande, 2007);
- Grid #4: South-east of Cheechoo-B, Last Day occurrence, 45.4 km, (Dubois 2008).

Geophysical surveys were conducted on part of the Property and included a combination of induced polarization, horizontal loop electromagnetic (Max-Min) and ground magnetic surveys with total field and measured vertical gradient (Dubois, 2007). The rationale for the grid selection is not indicated but, seems to relate to mineralized occurrences found during the 2005 or 2006 prospecting. Grids were apparently tailored to AEM conductors although HLEM was not conducted on every grid.

A Golden Valley team conducted a wide array of field work in 2007, as indicated in an exhaustive consolidated report (Harnois and Boubakour, 2009a). This fieldwork aimed to follow up on 2006 results. Very limited work was conducted outside of the geophysical grids. Although well illustrated with photographs, the grid mapping is poorly documented, with the geological features described only near the known occurrences.

The best result obtained during this campaign was 3.83 g/t Au from Cheechoo A from 82 collected grab samples. The program also included trenching and channel sampling of the Trap zone, Outcrop 150 and Outcrop 159 on Cheechoo A (Cheechoo western block). A total of 22 trenches, for 118 m, were excavated by hand and 150 channel samples were collected. Broad low-grade gold was intersected on Outcrop 159. A humus geochemical survey was also conducted with 5,496 samples collected over six grids. Gold by fire assay was the only element analyzed.

Finally, in autumn 2007, Golden Valley conducted an exploratory drilling program (Harnois and Boubakour, 2009b). A total of 19 short holes were drilled for 2,506.7 m and 682 samples collected on the Cheechoo A, Shark and B blocks. Twelve of these holes were drilled on the western block (formerly Cheechoo-A). All these holes targeted AEM conductive or IP chargeable zones. The holes intersected only slightly anomalous gold grades.



## 6.1.2 Golden Valley Mines and Sirios

### 2010

In the summer of 2010, Golden Valley commissioned a ground magnetometer and a soil geochemical survey in the Cheechoo B West area (main block) (Girard et Gao, 2010). The objective was to outline the source of the geochemical dispersion train found down-ice on the Éléonore-South property of Eastmain Resources (Canova et al., 2010). The surveys were conducted along uncut grids. The geochemical survey included 1,555 humus samples analyzed by ICP-MS after sodium pyrophosphate digestion. The same team conducted a magnetometer survey, using GEM sensor plus a base station located in the centre of the survey. Camille St-Hilaire interpreted the geophysical results.

Upon reception of the preliminary results, Golden Valley and Sirios conducted a ground follow-up prospecting program targeting the main geochemical anomalies (Girard, Aubin and Boubakour, 2011). The program consisted of prospecting, with abundant gold bearing samples being collected, most of them from a slightly altered granitoid. Of the 168 selected samples, 26 contained 0.1 g/t Au to 2.58 g/t Au. Numerous mineralized samples were coincident with soil anomalies.

### 2011

In the summer of 2011, a second prospecting program was initiated on the main block (formerly Cheechoo B-West) by Golden Valley. The objective was to cover the poorly explored northern and south-eastern part of the Property (Barrette and Ali, 2012). A total of 51 grab samples were collected and assayed, without any significant results.

## 6.1.3 Sirios Resources

### 2012

In the summer of 2012, line cutting of 51.45 km, followed by induced polarization and ground magnetic survey, was carried out (Dubois, 2012). The grid covers the southeast corner of the main block, encompassing roughly the same area as the 2010 soil geochemical survey.

Following the June 2012 agreement, Sirios became the operator of the Project. At that time, Sirios' interest in the Project was 40% and Golden Valley 60%.

A drilling program was initiated in the fall on the main block (Cheechoo B-West). Eight short, NO-size holes (CH12-001 to CH12-008) were drilled in October, for 938 m and 792 samples collected. Five of the holes intersected broad low-grade gold mineralization.





## 2013

In February 2013, Sirios notified Golden Valley regarding the completion of the first terms of the option agreement, which grants the right to acquire a 5% supplementary interest in the Project. Later that year, Sirios notified Golden Valley of its acquisition of the 5% supplementary interest and of its intent to proceed with a complete acquisition of the Project. In the summer, Sirios released a NI 43-101 technical report on the Cheechoo Project (effective date June 14, 2013; Girard, 2013).

In the fall of 2013, four short diamond drillholes (DDH) (CH13-009 to CH13-012), consisting of 750 m of drilling, were initiated with a total of 763 samples sent for analysis. Positive results were obtained in three of the four DDH. These results confirmed the gold zone discovered by the 2012 drilling (Turcotte, 2014a).

## 2014

In February 2014, a high-resolution heliborne magnetic survey was carried out by Geodata Solutions GDS Inc. for Sirios on the main property block (Cheechoo-B West at the time). A total of 1,411 linear kilometres were flown to cover the Property. Traverse line spacing was 50 m, with a nominal height of 30 m above ground level. The goal of the survey was to identify geological structures that could potentially be associated to the positive drill results obtained in 2012 and 2013. Geological structural elements in relation with the tonalite that forms a large low-grade gold envelope were of particular interest. A detailed interpretation of the survey is presented in a report prepared by St-Hilaire (2014).

In the spring of 2014, five additional DDH (CH14-013 to CH14-017) were drilled by Sirios for a total of 1,035 m. A total of 672 samples, covering 813 m, were sent for analysis. All five DDH returned mineralized intervals (Turcotte, 2014b).

In June of 2014, a short prospecting/sampling program was carried out by Sirios in the northern portion of the main property block and along the 2012 grid. In total, 212 grab samples were collected; with seven samples returning grades higher than 0.1 g/t Au, but none exceeding 0.5 g/t Au (Allard, 2014).

In the fall of 2014, two DDH (CH14-018 and CH14-019) were drilled. The previous DDH, CH14-017, was also extended by 100 m. In total 522.4 m of additional drilling was completed. A total of 446 samples, covering 504.3 m, were sent for analysis (Joly, 2015).

## 2015

In the summer of 2015, mechanical outcrop stripping and channel sampling were carried out in the main area, at the same period as the soil and glacial sediment surveys. Four channels (CHRN15-001 to CHRN15-004), totalling 113 m, were sampled.





In the summer of 2015, IOS Services Geoscientifiques Inc. carried out a humus soil geochemical survey on the main property block for Sirios. The survey covered two grids (A and B) and totalled 313 samples (Villeneuve and Fournier, 2016). The campaign followed up on the previous 2009 (Éléonore-South) and 2010 (Girard et al., 2011) soil geochemical surveys. Interpreted results of the 2015 survey revealed that gold was relatively abundant in the survey area and that it correlated locally with arsenic anomalies (Villeneuve and Fournier, 2016). Further investigation was recommended without mention of any specific targets.

This ground survey was conducted concurrently with a campaign of glacial sediment sampling where a significant number of gold grains were observed in two samples located inside Grid B (2015 soil survey). Out of the 36 samples collected, 131 grains of gold were counted in sample #91920011, while sample #91920012 contained 46 gold grains. Samples were characterized using the ARTGold® process (Villeneuve, 2015).

In the fall of 2015, 11 DDH were completed (CH15-20 to CH15-30), totalling 1,962 m. High-grade intervals were reported in some of the DDH (Turcotte, 2018).

## 2016

In winter 2016, drilling resumed from the 2015 drilling campaign, with 27 DDH (CH16-22E and CH16-031 to CH16-056), totalling 4,431 m. Highlights include nearly half of the analyzed samples showing assay results equal to or greater than 0.1 g/t Au, as well as DDH CH16-052 with 12.1 g/t Au over 20.3 m (Turcotte, 2018).

In the summer 2016, 44 grab samples were collected from outcrops. These samples were mostly collected during the regional structural mapping work carried out on the main property block. Few samples returned slightly anomalous gold grade (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018). Eleven additional grab samples were collected from a cluster of large boulders located near drillhole CH16-038, at the border of the Éléonore-South property near the “Moni” prospect area. Two of these samples yielded high-grade gold results, 31.2 g/t Au (sample #1201006) and 113.5 g/t Au (sample #1201007) (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018).

In the summer and fall of 2016, a large mechanical outcrop stripping and excavation program was undertaken. The “Main Stripping” was excavated in the central mineralized area connecting multiple, already partially exposed, outcrops. The total stripped surface (including outcrops) covers an area of approximately 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>. From this surface, a grid totalling 910.6 m of channel sampling was collected and sent for analysis (CHRN16 #11 to 25, CHRN16 #26 to 31 and CHRN16 #43 to 177) (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018).



Two trenches were also excavated to follow up on the 2015 glacial sediment survey and the 2016 soil survey. The "Till Trench" (CHRN16 #5 to 10), located approximately 3 km northwest of the "Main Stripping", did not yield any significant results that could explain the glacial sediment anomaly trend. In total, 36.2 m of channel samples were sent for analysis (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018).

The "November Trench" (CHRN16 #32 and 33), located 600 m northwest of the "Main Stripping", was excavated to follow up on a gold and arsenic soil anomaly from the 2015 soil survey. Results yielded 4.1 g/t Au over 8.1 m (including 25.4 g/t Au over 1 m). In total, 19.29 m of channel sampling were collected (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018).

In 2016, a large soil geochemical survey (2,495 humus samples), connecting the 2010 and 2015 grids and extending in the southeastern part of the Property, was carried out by Sirios. The survey prolonged previous coverage by about 3.5 km to the northwest and by 6.5 km to the southeast. Sampling procedures and sample preparation were done by Sirios following similar protocols to the 2010 and 2015 campaigns (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018). Sirios mandated the consultant IOS Services Geoscientifiques Inc. to level the data and interpret the results. The combination of all soil surveys on the Cheechoo Property covered an area of approximately 23.5 km<sup>2</sup>.

In the fall of 2016, following the results of the winter 2016 drilling campaign, drilling was resumed. The drilling consisted of 44 DDH (CH16-057 to CH16-093, CH16-025E, CH16-052E, CH16-081A, CH16-081B, CH16-083A and CH16-085A) totalling 9,539 m. Multiple mineralized intervals were encountered with mainly broad low-grade samples locally punctuated by higher gold grade intervals (Turcotte et al., 2018).

## 2017

In the winter of 2017, 18 DDH were completed, adding 5,322.1 m of drilling to the Cheechoo Project (CH17-094 to CH17-107, CH17-036E, CH17-037E, CH17-082E and CH17-100A). Drilling results were similar to previous campaigns and consisted of broadly low-grade gold over large intervals with localized higher-grade intervals (Turcotte et al., 2018).

In March 2017, ten borehole diagraphy surveys with acoustic and optical televiewer were completed by Wireline Services Group for Sirios. The goal of the surveys was to provide structural oriented data and a 3D core visualization. The information collected was presented to Sirios in the form of raw data to be integrated into its database, and mainly describes fractures, contacts, veins and veinlets, chlorite breccias, and foliations.



In the summer of 2017, a prospecting program was carried out to explore parts of the main property block where coverage was considered poor or insufficient. The prospecting targeted three sectors in particular: 1) the southern sector (main mineralized area); 2) the southeast sector (mainly sediments and previously poor exploration coverage); and 3) the northwest sector (follow-up on the 2015 glacial sediments anomalies and Synee target), paragneiss boulder found nearby outside the Property by Goldcorp, with reported 21 g/t Au). A total of 371 grab samples were collected (111 outcrops and 260 boulders). No significant results were obtained (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018).

In the summer of 2017, 15 trenches were excavated on the Cheechoo main property block. These trenches were excavated with the objective of providing additional geological information on the Project and help guide exploration drilling (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018). Trench "2-2", located approximately 150 m to the north of the "Main Stripping area", yielded results of 4.0 g/t Au over 21.6 m (including 23.5 g/t Au over 3.1 m) (CHRN17 #212 and 213). Trench "3" (CHRN17- #354 to 382) yielded values equal to or greater than 0.1 g/t Au in 50 samples and up to 10.8 g/t Au. Additional channel sampling was carried out in the "November Trench" (CHRN17-301) with a new combined interval of 1.4 g/t Au over 26.1 m. Following observations made while prospecting, a trench was manually excavated to the northwest of the "Main Stripping" and yielded channel sampling results of 1.2 g/t Au over 3.7 m (Boudreau and Turcotte, 2018). This new mineralized zone is known as the "Mafic Dyke" showing. Lastly, the "Main Stripping" was expanded and 1,083 m of channel sampling (CHRN17- #258 to 261; CHRN17- #264; CHRN17- #303 to 334 and CHRN17- #341 to 344) was added to the grid for a new total of 1,994.2 m. Many of the trenches were subsequently restored with only the most relevant sites being maintained.

In the summer of 2017, a glacial sediment survey was carried out to follow up on the 2015 survey. In total, 43 samples were collected. The results of the survey confirmed the anomalous trend detected in 2015 but failed to produce any other significant results (Charbonneau and Robillard, 2018).

In the fall of 2017, a high-resolution heliborne magnetic survey was carried out by Novatem Inc. for Sirios on the Property. A total of 1,710 linear kilometres were flown to cover the entire Project. The goal of the survey was to increase the level of detail obtained in the 2014 survey by flying a tighter grid. However, the quality of the survey was considered disappointing as it did not provide the anticipated increase in detail due to the higher sensor elevation above the ground.

In the fall of 2017, 35 DDH (CH17-108 to CH17-140, CH17-111A and CH17-123A), totalling 10,774.4 m, were completed. Drilling results were similar to previous campaigns and consisted of broadly low-grade gold over large intervals with localized higher-grade intervals (Turcotte et al., 2019). Thirteen borehole diagraphy surveys with acoustic and optical televiewer were completed by Wireline Services Group for Sirios.



## 2018

In the winter of 2018, 61 DDH and four PQ size DDH (CH18-141 to CH18-198, CH18-020E, CH18-033E, CH18-125E, CH18-162A, CH18-162B, CH18-181A and Ch18-195A), totalling 15,588.6 m, were drilled. Again, results revealed large low-grade intervals as well as some higher-grade intervals (Turcotte et al., 2019). The PQ drill core was sent to COREM for metallurgical testing.

In April 2018, 34 borehole diagraphy surveys with acoustic and optical televiewer were completed by Wireline Services Group for Sirios. A total of 57 NQ holes were surveyed and represent a total of 16,150.1 m of structural data, from which 64,471 structural measurements were taken.

In the summer of 2018, prospecting work around the “Mafic Dyke” showing was done. A total of 63 channel samples were collected. Eleven samples had values greater than or equal to 0.1 g/t Au, with three samples yielding results ranging between 1.22 g/t Au and 4.3 g/t Au. The “Mafic Dyke” trench was slightly enlarged manually, and an additional 28 m of channel sampling was collected (CHRN18- #386 to 391). Results yielded 3.05 g/t Au over 4.4 m, including 11.38 g/t Au over 1.1 m (CHRN18-388).

## 2019

In the winter of 2019, 51 DDH (CH19-199 to CH19-245, CH19-207A, CH19-207B, CH19-215A and CH19-226A) were completed, totalling 11,320.7 m. The main results include the discovery of the Éclipse zone. The high-grade vein first identified in DDH CH17-112 was also confirmed in DDH CH19-240 and CH19-245 (Turcotte and Blanchette, 2020).

In 2019, Sirios received the interpreted results of its 2016 soil geochemical survey. The results revealed the presence of seven discrete arsenic, copper, and molybdenum anomalies (Girard, 2019). A small program of soil anomaly verification following the 2016 survey was carried out. Seven grab samples were collected (five outcrops and two boulders). No significant results were obtained, and the source of the soil anomaly was not discovered, no new outcrops were found in the vicinity.

## 2020

In the winter of 2020, 25 DDH (CH20-246 to CH20-267, CH20-253A, CH20-256A and CH20-267A) were completed, totalling 5,463.1 m. The results extended the gold mineralization outside of the conceptual pit defined in the 2019 MRE and allowed the development of additional ounces of gold within the new pit boundary (Turcotte and Blanchette, 2021).



## 7. Geological Setting and Mineralization

This following description of the geology is mostly taken from the recent scientific paper from the Geological Survey of Canada on the Cheechoo Property by Fontaine et al. (2018).

### 7.1 Regional Geology

The study area is located at the boundary between the La Grande and Opinaca Subprovinces, which is defined by: i) a gradual transition from greenschist to upper amphibolite and granulite metamorphic rocks (Gauthier et al., 2007; Bandyayera et al., 2010), ii) a regional aeromagnetic discontinuity (Bandyayera et al., 2010); and iii) the appearance of orthopyroxene and migmatites in the paragneissic rocks to the north (Bandyayera et al., 2010). Locally, the contact is obscured by tonalite and granodiorite intrusions (Hocq, 1994), such as the Janin and Boyd suites or the Rotis and Menouow intrusions (Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007; Bandyayera and Lacoste, 2009; Bandyayera et al., 2010).

#### 7.1.1 La Grande Subprovince

The La Grande Subprovince is separated into a northern (La Grande River) and a southern domain (Eastmain River) (Gauthier and Larocque, 1998). These domains consist of Paleo- to Mesoarchean basement, overlain by Meso- to Neoproterozoic volcano-sedimentary sequences and injected by syn- to late-tectonic intrusions (Card and Ciesielski, 1986; Hocq, 1994; Goutier et al., 2001). The La Grande River domain is interpreted to reflect a peri-cratonic environment, located directly to the south of the "Superior proto-craton" (Card, 1990; Percival et al., 1994; Stern et al., 1994; Gauthier, 2000). The Eastmain River domain has been mapped and studied, in detail, by the Geological Survey of Canada (Low, 1896) and the *Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources Naturelles* (Remick, 1977; Franconi, 1978; Simard and Gosselin, 1999; Moukhsil, 2000; Moukhsil et al., 2003). The Eastmain River domain is characterized by greenstone belts composed of four volcanic cycles dated from 2752 to 2703 Ma comprising komatiitic to rhyolitic lavas and tuffs with tholeiitic to local calc-alkaline affinities (Moukhsil et al., 2003). Conglomerate and turbiditic wacke (Roberto host rocks) containing local iron-rich units of the Low Formation overlie volcanic sequences (Franconi, 1978; Moukhsil et al., 2003; Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007). Gold exploration activity is focused on the La Grande Subprovince and its margins with the Opinaca and Nemiscau Subprovinces, and within the Middle and Lower Eastmain belt, the largest greenstone belt in the Eeyou Istchee Baie-James municipality.



## 7.1.2 The Opinaca Subprovince

The Opinaca Subprovince occurs between the Eastmain domain to the south and the La Grande domain to the north. The Opinaca belongs to metasedimentary belts, interpreted as accretionary prisms, such as the Quetico, the Nemiscau and the Ashuanipi Subprovinces (Card, 1990; Williams, 1990; Goutier et al., 2001; Thurston, 2002; Percival et al., 2012; Morfin et al., 2014). The Opinaca Subprovince covers 35,000 km<sup>2</sup>, characterized by paragneiss and migmatites, intruded by syn- to post-tectonic, locally ultramafic intrusions (Simard and Gosselin, 1999; Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007; Morfin et al., 2013). Tonalitic to granitic intrusions and leucogranitic dykes and veins have a S-type peraluminous composition, suggesting a derivation from partial melting of metasedimentary rocks and fractionated magmas (Moukhsil et al., 2003; Morfin et al., 2014).

The Opinaca Subprovince has been interpreted as an injection complex by Morfin et al. (2013, 2014). As defined by Weinberg and Searle (1998), an injection complex is an accumulation of evolved anatectic melt in the lower crust, at a depth close to the solidus (Morfin et al., 2014). The timing of episodic partial melting is constrained between 2671 Ma, the age of the oldest metamorphic zircons and the 2637 Ma intrusion of leucogranitic dykes and veins, coeval with the main D2 phase of deformation in the Opinaca (David et al., 2010; Morfin et al., 2013). This long-lived tectonometamorphic event was first initiated in the highly metamorphosed core of the Opinaca Subprovince (Morfin et al., 2013) and later along its margins, within the lower grade La Grande Subprovince supracrustal rocks at 2620-2600 Ma (Dubé et al., 2011). Evidence of retrogression (hydration of orthopyroxene into biotite and/or amphibole) is restricted to late shear zones (Simard and Gosselin, 1999; Morfin et al., 2013). These shear zones are locally truncated by younger granitic and granodioritic intrusions (Morfin et al., 2013), associated with the Vieux Comptoir granitic with younger phases (nAvcr2) dated between 2640 and 2613 Ma (David and Parent, 1997; Goutier et al., 1999; Goutier, 2017). Leucogranitic dykes and veins of the Opinaca Subprovince have been interpreted as highly evolved leucogranites formed by partial melting of metasedimentary source, experienced an early fractional crystallization of plagioclase (Morfin et al., 2013; Morfin et al., 2014). Those intrusions are distinguished from the Tonalite-Trondjemite-Granodiorite (TTG) suite that originated from melting of subducted oceanic crust (Condie, 1981; Jahn et al., 1981), such as the Desliens igneous suite in the Ashuanipi Subprovince (Percival et al., 2003), based on their Ni content, generally < 15 ppm (Morfin et al., 2014) and MgO content (< 2 wt%). The Vieux Comptoir suite (nAvcr2) is composed of ovoids alkaline granite and granite, containing biotite and magnetite, with youngest phases dated between 2640-2613 Ma (Goutier et al., 1999; Goutier, 2017). Those intrusions can contain up to 10% of tonalitic enclaves (Goutier et al., 1999; Bandyayera and Lacoste, 2009). The Rotis pluton, dated at 2671 Ma (David et al., 2010), is a massive to locally foliated granodiorite containing 10% of mafic minerals, which intruded and stitches the Opinaca- La Grande contact (Bandyayera and Lacoste, 2009; Bandyayera et al., 2010). The Janin suite, in the Opinaca Subprovince, is composed of several units from pegmatite, tonalite, granite to granodiorite with hornblende and biotite (Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007;





Bandyayera et al., 2010). In the vicinity of the Éléonore mine, syn- to late-tectonic intrusions and pegmatite dykes (2620- 2603 Ma) intruded the La Grande Subprovince supracrustal rocks (Ravenelle et al., 2010; Dubé et al., 2011; Fontaine et al., 2015). One of those, the 2612±1 Ma Cheechoo intrusion (Fontaine et al., 2015), is located 15 km southeast of the Éléonore mine. The Cheechoo intrusion contains pegmatite dykes, mafic schist enclaves and hosts gold mineralization at Cheechoo and Éléonore South properties (Sirios Inc., 2016). The Éléonore gold mine (Newmont), Cheechoo (Sirios Resources), Moni, JT (Fury Gold Mines and Newmont), Synee (Newmont) prospects and Sakami (Canada Strategic Metals) and Lac Menarik (Harfang Exploration) properties occur along a NW-trending corridor characterized by a strong metamorphic gradient, roughly subparallel to the Opinaca-La Grande boundary (Gauthier et al., 2007).

## 7.2 Local Geology

The Cheechoo Property straddles the transition zone between the La Grande Subprovince with the high-grade metasedimentary rocks of the Opinaca Subprovince (Figure 7-1). The inferred contact, affected by open folds, is defined by the appearance of migmatite towards the northeast. This is illustrated on the Cheechoo Property by the preponderance of paragneissic rocks and migmatites (metatexites with local diatexites). Other lithologies include the Cheechoo intrusion, leucogranitic dykes and veins, banded iron formations, amphibolites and conglomerates from the Low formation. The 10 km<sup>2</sup> Cheechoo intrusion has homogeneous, very low magnetic susceptibilities, with local high magnetic domains at its margins, potentially associated with the presence of iron-rich formation with skarn-like assemblages in the metasedimentary package.

The main stripped area exposes three distinct domains of the Cheechoo intrusion (Figure 7-2): 1) A more restricted highly foliated domain near its margins (25-30 m thick), which is associated with numerous leucogranitic pegmatite dykes (40-50%) that are generally sub-concordant to the foliation. This domain is characterized by mineral assemblage of quartz, feldspars matrix and biotite porphyroblasts marking the foliation. A potassium (K<sub>2</sub>O) enrichment is also noted in this domain; 2) A more massive domain, characterized by fine-to medium-grain size quartz, feldspars, and biotite matrix. This domain is cross-cut by numerous quartz veinlets; 3) A recrystallized saccharoidal domain, characterized by quartz, feldspars matrix and actinote, diopside replacing the biotite. A sodium (Na<sub>2</sub>O) enrichment is noted in this domain. The Cheechoo intrusion is strongly recrystallized with saccharoidal texture, and progressively foliated towards its margins. The foliation within the intrusion is generally subparallel to the contact with biotite-rich paragneissic rocks. The high variability of mineral assemblages and proportions, enrichment in volatile elements (e.g. boron, and phosphorus) and the presence of miarolitic cavities suggest that these complex pegmatites are possibly at the magmatic-hydrothermal transition (exsolution of magmatic volatile phases from silicate melt).



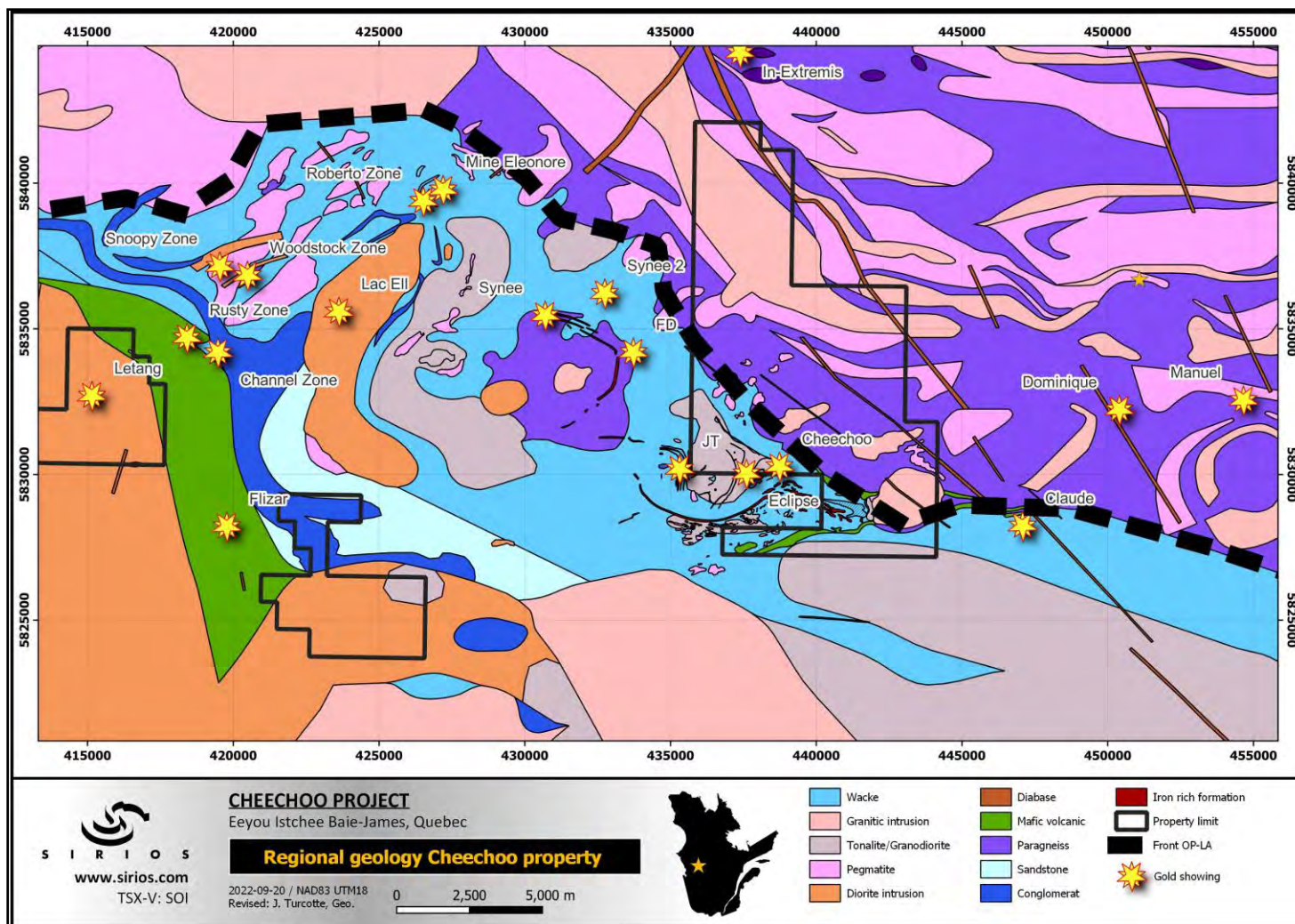


Figure 7-1: Simplified geological map of the Cheechoo property  
(Source: Sirios)

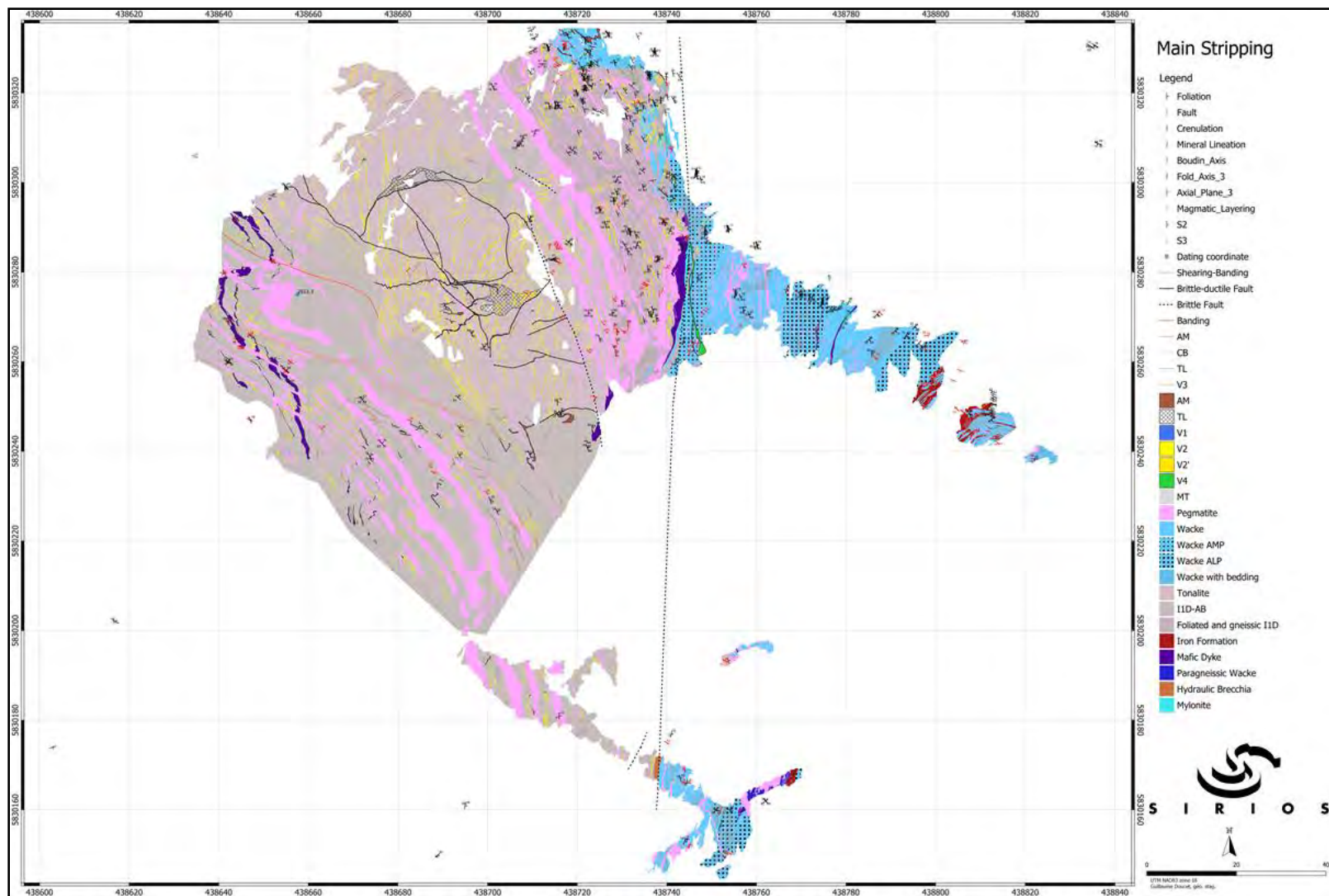


Figure 7-2: Geology of the main stripped area (modified from Fontaine et al. (2018))



## 7.3 Structural Elements

### 7.3.1 Regional Framework

The Cheechoo Property is located a few kilometres south of the tectonic contact between the Opinaca and La Grande subprovinces (Bandyayera et al., 2010; Ravenelle et al., 2010). Here, deformed high-grade metasedimentary rocks are ubiquitous (e.g., migmatites with pygmatitic folds) and similar to those described elsewhere in the area by Morfin et al. (2013). Within the Opinaca Subprovince, deformations commonly occur during granulite facies metamorphism and partial melting (Simard and Gosselin, 1999). The  $S_1$  fabric is totally obliterated by the main phase of deformation and regional metamorphism although transposed  $S_0$  is locally preserved in metatexites or inferred by variations in grain sizes and mineral proportions (Bandyayera et al., 2010; Morfin et al., 2013). The main  $S_2$  fabric is a paragneissic fabric and/or migmatitic layering (Ravenelle et al., 2010). Leucocratic veins and dykes commonly strike parallel to the transposed bedding, and some are asymmetrically folded (Morfin et al., 2013; Morfin et al., 2014), while others cut this fabric, suggesting that migmatization occurred during and outlasted  $D_2$  (Ravenelle et al., 2010). The generally subvertical  $S_2$  fabric is defined by biotite or amphibole alignments, with mineral and stretching lineations plunging to the east or the west (Bandyayera et al., 2010). The Cheechoo study area is part of the structural domain 2 of Bandyayera et al. (2010), characterized by EW-striking transposed bedding subparallel to  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  foliation, except along  $F_2$  fold hinges that generally plunge to the west (Bandyayera et al., 2010).

The E-striking  $S_2$  fabric and compositional layering of paragneiss are locally refolded by doubly plunging folds forming an elongated dome-and-basin pattern (Ravenelle et al., 2010), as originally described by Remick (1977) (Figure 7-3). This specific pattern is due to  $F_3$  folds and/or local doming associated with diapiric emplacement of late-tectonic intrusions (Bandyayera and Fliszár, 2007; Ravenelle et al., 2010; Fontaine et al., 2017). A  $S_3$  crenulation cleavage and associated inclined small-scale folds, deforms the  $S_2$  fabric and migmatitic layering (Bandyayera et al., 2010). As proposed by Bandyayera et al. (2010), late-tectonic intrusions (e.g., Rotis, Menouow plutons and Vieux Comptoir, Janin suites), also influenced the trend of the  $S_2$  fabric with local concentric distribution, as illustrated in the vicinity of the Rotis pluton. Flanks of  $F_2$  and/or  $F_3$  folds are locally truncated by EW-striking subvertical high-strain zones, attributed to a  $D_4$  event (Morfin et al., 2013). The regional pattern is coherent with a NS-oriented shortening (Morfin et al., 2013).



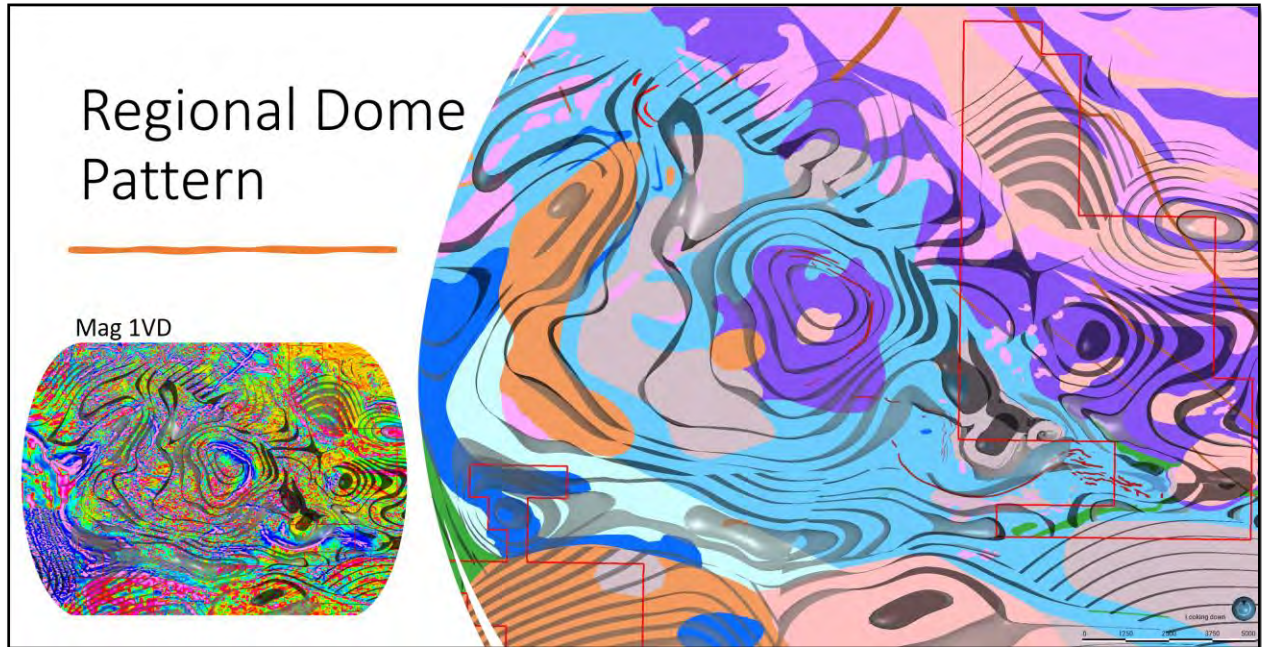


Figure 7-3: Regional dome-and-basin structural pattern and domain  
(Source: Sirios)

### 7.3.2 Planar Fabrics

The margins of the Cheechoo intrusion are foliated to gneissic (Figure 7-2), and characterized by elongated biotite porphyroblasts, commonly attributed to the sub-magmatic  $S_2$ . The latter is commonly reoriented along the NW- to N-striking  $S_3$  foliation. On the main stripped area, the  $S_2$  foliation is visible in the gneissic margins of the Cheechoo intrusion, spatially associated with the presence of sheeted pegmatite dykes. The  $S_3$  foliation dips steeply to the E-NE, similar to the  $S_2$  foliation within the paragneiss and mafic schists, to the north of the main stripped area. In the paragneissic wacke, the  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  foliations are characterized by EW-striking bedding-parallel foliation and NW-striking crenulation cleavage, respectively. The  $S_3$  crenulation cleavage is also present within mafic schist enclaves. On the 6-9 trench, the E-striking moderately dipping  $S_2$  foliation is present within the intrusion, while the dip of the  $S_2$  foliation is steeper in the paragneissic wacke. Pegmatite dykes are commonly oriented sub-parallel to intrusion margins.



### 7.3.3 Folds

At least two generations of folds can be mapped in the Cheechoo intrusion. The most common type is the  $F_3$  fold, affecting the  $S_2$  foliation and pegmatite dykes.  $F_3$  microfolds and axial-planar  $S_3$  crenulation cleavage are also developed in the paragneissic rocks.  $F_3$  folds are open, tight to isoclinal with strong asymmetries suggesting a close link with high-strain zone during late- $D_2$  to  $D_3$ .  $F_3$  fold axes are often curvilinear, locally shallow plunging to the east or to the west, a feature also observed in the Opinaca Subprovince (Ravenelle et al., 2010). Refolded planes ( $S_2$  foliation, vein and pegmatite dykes) in  $F_3$  folds suggest the presence of  $F_2$  folds. Earlier folding ( $F_1$  and/or  $F_2$ ) can be inferred based on the geometry of Mafic Dyke and the local refolded pegmatite dykes (Figure 7-4). In the paragneissic rocks,  $F_2$  folds with  $S_2$  axial planar are locally identified.

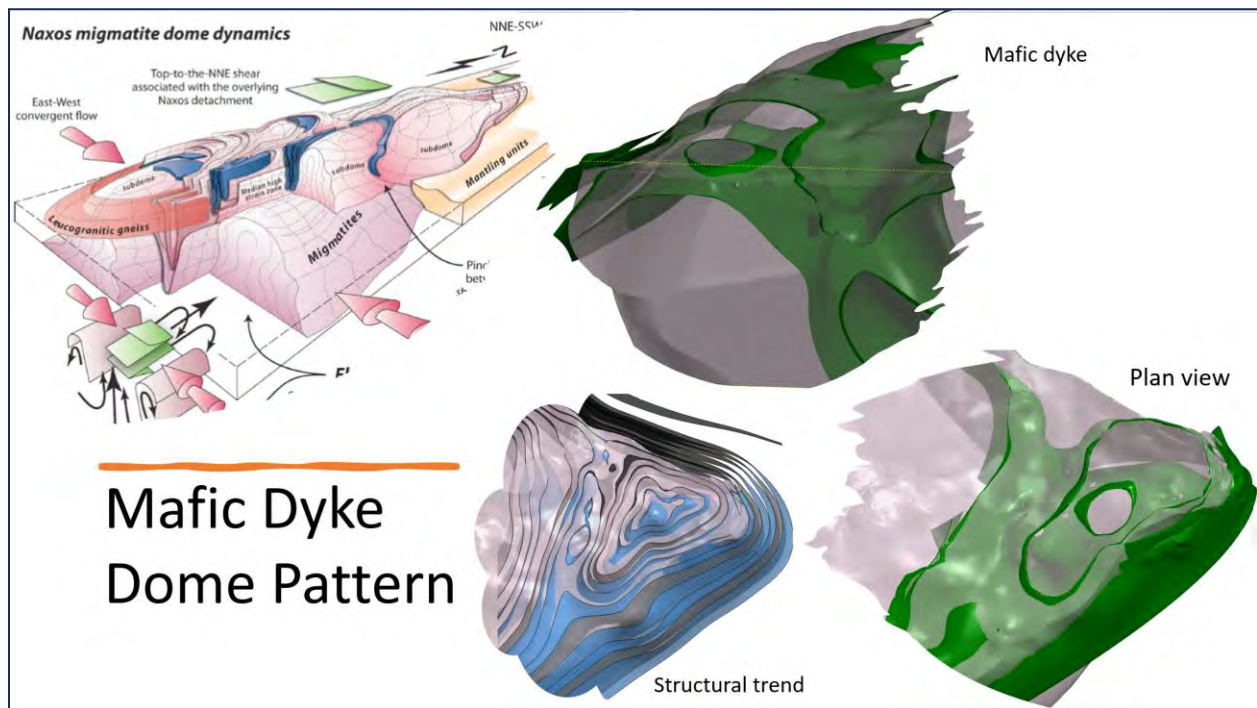


Figure 7-4: Mafic Dyke (green) geometry in the Cheechoo tonalite intrusion and structural trend compared to literature Naxos migmatite dome (Kruckenberg et al., 2011) (Source: Sirios)



## 7.4 Mineralization Types

The vein network of the Cheechoo Property is composed of various types of auriferous veins including sheeted extensional, en-echelon quartz-dominated veins, as well as pegmatitic quartz-feldspar veins. Mainly occurring within the intrusion, but also in the surrounding paragneissic rocks, the vein network is commonly 40 m to 50 m wide and, at least, 100 m long. The vein density increases (from 15% to 50% of the rock volume) towards intrusion margins and with the occurrence of pegmatite dykes, tonalite apophyses, and mafic schist. The gold grade is controlled by the presence of sulphides (particularly arsenopyrite), the density of veins, and deformation gradients. The vein types ( $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $V_2'$ ,  $V_3$ , and  $V_4$ ) are essentially based on crosscutting relationships and are not related to the nomenclature of deformation events. The early  $V_1$  auriferous vein network (about 10% of the vein network) is composed of millimetric to centimetric veins characterized by quartz, feldspar, and minor amounts of diopside, actinolite and scheelite in association with pyrite, pyrrhotite, arsenopyrite, and local visible gold. Veins are generally dismembered, with diopside, actinolite, albite-rich centimetric halos. Those veins are mainly perpendicular or at a high angle with the margins of the Cheechoo intrusion.  $V_2$  veins (about 70% of the vein network) cut the  $V_1$  vein network and are composed of quartz, feldspar, phlogopite, arsenopyrite and pyrrhotite.  $V_2$  veins are oriented subparallel or at a low-angle with the intrusion margins and form a sheeted vein array. For instance, in the southern part of the 6-9 trench, the auriferous en-echelon  $V_2$  vein network is oriented at a low-angle with the contact between the paragneiss and the intrusion. It is interpreted to represent ENE-trending dextral shear component associated with discrete high-strain zones.  $V_2'$  veins (about 15% of the vein network) are composed of quartz  $\pm$  feldspar and characterized by actinolite and feldspar-rich selvages. In all of those veins, feldspar is commonly interstitial to quartz grains, like those of some auriferous pegmatitic quartz-feldspar veins hosted by the Cheechoo granodiorite (Moni showing) or by paragneiss at the Éléonore gold mine. Locally, pegmatites laterally evolve into  $V_2$  and  $V_2'$  veins, while some pegmatite dykes cut veins, suggesting that some of them may be contemporaneous.  $V_3$  are extensional veins from D3 event (roughly 5% of the vein network) composed of quartz, actinolite, and feldspar. Those veins are NNW-striking on the main stripped area. Late  $V_4$  are commonly barren. They are composed of chlorite  $\pm$  (epidote, quartz) and oriented to the N-NNW in the northeastern part of the main stripped area.  $V_4$  veins locally contain pyrite and visible gold in association with chlorite. They are associated with late brittle fault.

The hydrothermal and gold mineralization features of the Cheechoo Property, temporal and/or spatial association with a reduced intrusion, pegmatites, and mafic enclaves or dykes, share analogies with reduced intrusion-related gold systems (Thompson and Newberry, 2000; Hart, 2007). The composition of the Cheechoo intrusion shares similarities with reduced ilmenite series and gold-associated granitoids (Fontaine et al., 2017) described in Yukon, and Alaska (Hart et al., 2004) and in New Brunswick (Yang et al., 2008). In New Brunswick Appalachians, Yang et al. (2008) have proposed that intrusion-related gold systems are controlled by magma sources, magmatic



processes, redox conditions (country-rock nature), and local structural regimes. As suggested by Hart et al. (2004), the nature of the host rocks and the redox state of the magma is the most important factor controlling the metallogeny of intrusion-related systems. Particularly, during fractionation, redox features controlled the behaviour of metals (Ishihara, 1981; Hart et al., 2004). The crosscutting relationship between vein types can be explained by temperature variations and a possible steep thermal gradient on fluid chemistry, as described in detail by Hart (2007). In this scenario,  $V_1$  veins, could have formed at 400-300°C, just below the brittle-ductile transition, whereas  $V_2$ ,  $V_2'$  and  $V_3$  veins were later emplaced at 250-300°C (Hart, 2007). According to Thompson and Newberry (2000), the early feldspathic alteration stage followed by a younger sericite-carbonate alteration, a feature described at Cheechoo, could illustrate the shift in sulphidation state from pyrite-pyrrhotite (early, Au-poor) to pyrite-arsenopyrite (late, Au-rich). Gold mineralization hosted by the 2612 Ma Cheechoo reduced intrusion is a new style of gold mineralization in the Éléonore gold mine area and elsewhere in the Eeyou Istchee Baie-James. The age and composition of the intrusion may represent a new regional metalotect, especially where occurring near the contact between the Opinaca and La Grande Subprovinces.

## 7.5 Mineralized Zones

### 7.5.1 Main Zone

The Main Zone gold occurrence is localized in the south part of the Cheechoo Property. It includes the eastern extremity of the Cheechoo granodiorite intrusion and the adjacent paragneissic rock. The intrusive-metasediment contact is generally sharp but can show presence of granodiorite apophyses and/or dykes, pegmatites, and a NNE-trending pegmatitic  $V_2$  vein network. The Main zone consists of a network of various generations of deformed and auriferous quartz to quartz  $\pm$  k-feldspar veins and veinlets (mm to cm) hosted by the granodiorite intrusion, particularly developed along the margins. The mineralization is defined essentially by free gold associated with stockwork of quartz and quartz-amphibolite breccia and veinlets with arsenopyrite grains.

Veins are typically composed of sheeted quartz and feldspar with diverse shape (extension, en-echelon, pegmatite) and size (micrometre to centimetre). The mineralized veins are generally associated with a Na-K-Mg alteration envelope. The metallic signature is defined by bismuth, arsenic and tungsten, and more rarely by tellurium, selenium and lead. Sulphides associated with the mineralization account for a maximum of 1% of vein material and occur in the centre, on the margin, and disseminated throughout the veins network. The most common sulphide minerals are arsenopyrite, pyrrhotite and pyrite and their size varies from micrometre to millimetre. They are disseminated and are automorph. The gold grains are relatively coarse, from ten micrometres to a few millimetres. Those grains are isolated, locally in cluster or in fractures.





The structural control of the main zone mineralization seems to be syn to late  $D_2$  and occurs on the margin of the Cheechoo granodiorite and on the roof of the intrusion. The mineralization is also deformed by  $D_3$  and  $D_4$ , that can be seen in the veins and the folded zones.

### 7.5.2 Eclipse Zone

The Eclipse gold occurrence is localized in the centre of the Cheechoo granodiorite intrusion, west of the Main Zone.

Eclipse is defined by a folded quartz and feldspar veins and veinlets system with coarse gold grains. These veins have a pegmatitic texture and are hosted by the granodiorite stock associated with a strong to moderate alteration.

Vein composition varies from coarse quartz to pegmatitic quartz and feldspar. In the pegmatitic facies called "giraffe texture", the automorph quartz grains are found in a matrix of feldspar and account for 50% to 80% of the vein composition. In addition to the free gold associated with this vein network, various sulphides and other minerals are found in trace to 1%. Those minerals are mainly arsenopyrite, pyrite, pyrrhotite, and scheelite.



## 8. Deposit Types

### 8.1 Reduced Intrusion-Related Gold Systems

Currently, the Cheechoo deposit is being interpreted as a Reduced Intrusion-Related Gold System (RIRGS), as described in detail by Fontaine et al. (2018). Most of the following deposit type description is borrowed and slightly modified from Hart (2007) and references therein, unless specified otherwise. The most diagnostic deposit style within the RIRGS classification is intrusion-hosted, sheeted arrays of thin, low-sulphide quartz veins with an Au-Bi-Te-W signature, which typically comprises bulk tonnage, low-grade Au resources.

RIRGS also include a wide range of intrusion-related mineral deposit styles (skarns, replacements, veins) that form within the region of hydrothermal influence surrounding the causative pluton and are characterized by proximal Au-W-As and distal Ag-Pb-Zn metal associations, thereby generating a zoned mineral system.

RIRGS are distinct from intrusion-related Au deposits as defined by Sillitoe (1991,1995). The RIRGS are a distinct class that lacks anomalous Cu, have associated W, low sulphide volumes, and a reduced sulphide mineral assemblage, and that are associated with felsic, moderately reduced (ilmenite-series) plutons; whereas oxidized intrusion-related Au deposits are mostly Au-rich (or relatively Cu-poor) variants of the porphyry Cu deposit model associated with mafic, oxidized, magnetite-series plutons. Therefore, within the intrusion-related clan, two different types of Au mineralizing systems can be identified using the prefixes “reduced” and “oxidized”.

The magmas have a reduced primary oxidation state that forms ilmenite-series plutons. This reduced state causes associated sulphide assemblages to be characterized by pyrrhotite, and quartz veins that host methane-rich inclusions. RIRGS mostly form at a depth of 5 km to 7 km and generate mineralizing fluids that are low salinity, aqueous carbonic in composition and are, therefore, unlike typical porphyry Cu deposits.

#### 8.1.1 Grade and Tonnage

The most characteristic deposit style, intrusion-hosted sheeted vein deposits, is best represented by mineralization at active mines of Fort Knox (Kinross) and Eagle Gold Mine (Dublin Gulch, Victoria Gold Corp.). The grades of individual veins are 5 g/t Au to 50 g/t Au within otherwise barren host rocks, thus yielding ~1 g/t. Gold grade is, therefore, mainly controlled by vein density. Whereas Fort Knox and Dublin Gulch have similar overall grades, The low-grade mineralization at Fort Knox is enriched by higher-grade and overprinting, late-stage quartz shear veins. Sheeted vein arrays also occur at deposits such as Brewery Creek (Classic Zone), Dolphin, Shotgun, and Gil, but are not the main mineralization hosts because each deposit has other features that control grade distribution.



## 8.1.2 Geological Settings and Mineralization Controls

The RIRGS are best developed in and surrounding the apices of small, cylindrical-shaped plutons that intruded sedimentary or metasedimentary country rocks. Intrusion-hosted mineralization is preferentially sited in tensional zones that develop in the pluton's brittle carapace near the country rock contact.

Pluton size is important because batholiths are unlikely to develop into mineralizing systems. The RIRGS are generally well developed, surrounding small (< 2 km<sup>2</sup>) isolated plutons with mineralization in the intrusion and in the hornfelsed thermal aureole. Larger plutons (2–10 km<sup>2</sup>) may have apophyses or later phases that are preferentially mineralized. Roof zones immediately above plutons may also be mineralized, in particular where there is a large surface area of contact between the pluton and reactive country rocks.

Pluton geometry is also important. Elongate plutons reflect structural controls on pluton emplacement and indicate a dominant extensional direction that may be important for localizing later mineralization. Cylinder-shaped plutons with steep sides and domed or cupola-like roofs are preferred geometries because these features enhance fluid focusing (Figure 8-1). Sharp shoulders also provide regions of structural and rheological contrast that may enhance development of fluid focusing structures (Stephens et al., 2004).

Depth of pluton emplacement may be a feature critical to RIRGS formation. These systems generally lack multidirectional, interconnected vein stockworks that are characteristic of porphyry deposits. This is likely due to their deeper levels of emplacement (5–9 km; Baker and Lang, 2001; Mair et al., 2006a), whereby the increased confining pressure prevents rapid fluid exsolution and explosive pressure release, and the development of high permeability stockworks and breccias. As well, the depth precludes the entraining of significant volumes of meteoric water and the formation of broad alteration haloes. As a result, fluid flow and mineralization in most RIRGS systems is largely controlled by structural features that impinge on the thermally driven hydrothermal system (Hart et al., 2000b; Stephens et al., 2004; Mair, 2004).

The dominant structural control on RIRGS is a weak extension that forms arrays of parallel fractures in the brittle carapace, filled with thin (0.1–5 cm), auriferous, low-sulphide quartz veins that form extensive, intrusion-hosted sheeted arrays. Hornfels quartzite forms a brittle host lithology for mineralized quartz veins that range from shattered “stockworky” fractures to veins several metres in width (O'Dea et al., 2000). Solitary fracture, fissure, and shear-hosted veins occur in the pluton, in the hornfels, and as far as several kilometres from the pluton, and may fill structures that were active while creating space during pluton emplacement (Stephens et al., 2004).

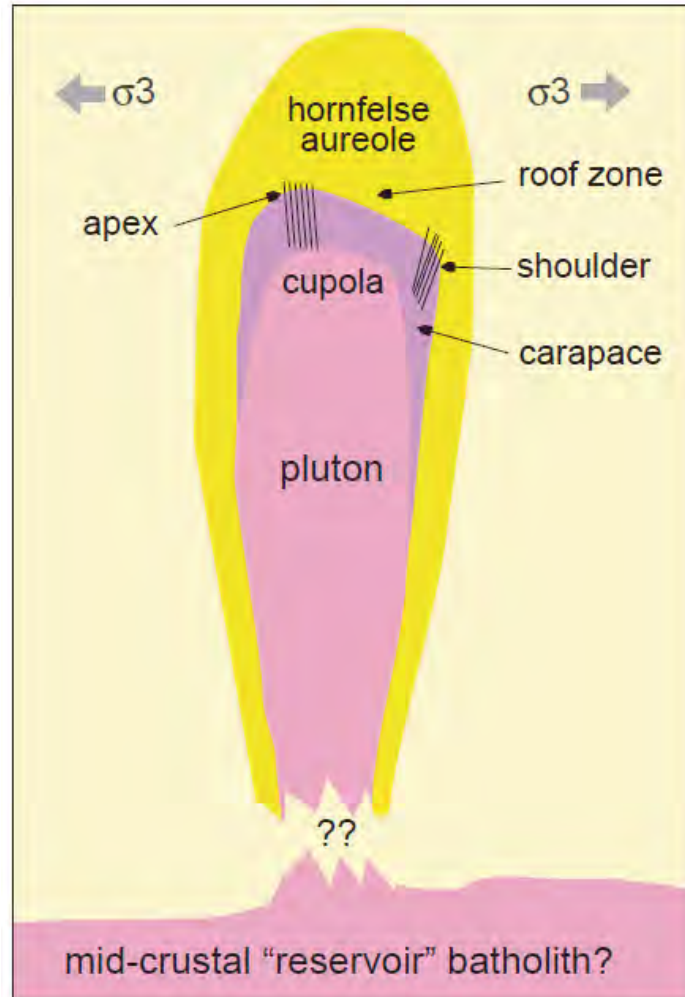


Figure 8-1: Hypothetical cross-section of a small (100 m-5k m across) pluton (Probably derived from a larger magmatic reservoir and intruding into extensional regimes at higher crustal levels. Of note are the asymmetric hornfels aureole and the early-chilled and more brittle marginal carapace. Preferred sites of intrusion-hosted Au mineralization are above the cupola, where exsolved fluids **will accumulate, and mineralized fractures developed in the pluton's** apex and shoulders. Epizonal styles of mineralization are associated with dike and sill complexes that would be hosted near the top of the hornfels aureole (Hart, 2007).)

### 8.1.3 Deposit Size

Areas influenced by fluid interactions from the causative pluton in RIRGS are generally restricted to the limits of the hornfelsed zones, which themselves may extend for as far as 3 km from the pluton's margins. Deposit size and geometry are also dependent on the style of mineralization.



#### 8.1.4 Alteration

Alteration in intrusion-hosted mineralization is neither extensive nor intensive and is typically limited to 0.5 cm to 3 cm-wide selvages adjacent to the veins with intervening, apparently fresh, barren rock. Alteration proximal to veins most commonly consists of either texture-destructive K-feldspar replacement (Maloof et al., 2001) or pervasive carbonate replacement of mafic minerals. An adjacent sericite-dominant  $\pm$  pyrite  $\pm$  carbonate assemblage overprinting plagioclase and mafic minerals is common.

#### 8.1.5 Genetic Model

The RIRGS genetic model requires that the mineralization-generating cooling pluton reach volatile saturation and that a fluid exsolve from the melt. Metals and volatiles such as sulphur and halogens presumably preferentially partition from the melt into an exsolving aqueous-carbonic mineralized fluid phase. Pressure, or depth of emplacement, exerts the greatest control on volatile saturation, particularly because volatiles are easily dissolved in felsic melts under higher pressures (Burnham and Ohmoto, 1980). However, volatile saturation is also induced by magmatic processes such as fractional crystallization, magma mixing, or simple cooling. Pluton emplacement depth appears, therefore, to be critical and explains why RIRGS are typically associated with a specific suite of plutons distributed over a broad area; such plutons likely represent melt crystallization at the same general crustal level.

At the pluton scale, mineralization is limited to regions above and outward from the site of volatile saturation. Being less dense than the melt, fluids will migrate to the uppermost parts of the less viscous portion of the magma chamber, which is usually the volatile-rich magmatic cupola immediately under the earlier-formed carapace (Candela and Blevin, 1995). Fluids will invade fractures in the carapace and opportunistically leak into and react with adjacent country rocks. Mineral occurrences are, therefore, most commonly sited at the pluton's apex, in the igneous carapace, or in hornfelsed country rocks adjacent to and above the pluton. The host plutons to many RIRGS likely have magma volumes that are too small to provide the large amount of metals and volatiles contained in these deposits, thereby suggesting the participation of larger volumes of primary magmatic fluids and metals (Candela and Piccoli, 2005). These could include deeper unexposed batholiths or mafic lamprophyric melts.



## 9. Exploration

Exploration work completed prior to 2020 is described in Chapter 6 (History). All exploration work described in the sub-sections below was carried out by, or under the supervision of, Sirios Resources.

### 9.1 Surface Exploration

#### 9.1.1 Surface Outcrop Sampling

In June and July of 2022, a surface outcrop sampling program was carried out east of the Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) conceptual pit. A total of 61 samples were taken in this area, returning grades up to 0.36 g/t Au. This prospection program highlighted the exploration potential of the meta-greywackes sector, also called the “metasediments area”. This sector is bordered to the west by the Cheechoo tonalite and to the east by the paragneiss of the Opinaca Subprovince. The relative scarcity of outcrops in this area prompted Sirios to carry out a subsequent overburden stripping program.

#### 9.1.2 Overburden Stripping, Trenching, and Channel Sampling

In August and September of 2022, Sirios carried out mechanized trenching and channel sampling of three areas in the metasediments east of the MRE conceptual pit (Figure 9-1). A total of 218 samples from 216 m of channels were sent to the ALS laboratory in Val-d'Or for analysis. Assay results from these samples returned up to 2.65 g/t Au over 11.0 m (Figure 9-2), confirming the presence of gold mineralization beyond the tonalite in the metasediments.

Significant results from the three trenches (2022-A, B and C) are presented in Table 9-1.

Table 9-1: Results from the three trenches (2022-A, B, and C)

Trench	Channel	Sample	Length (m)	Grade (g/t Au)	Significant Intervals
2022-A	CHRN22-401	Y092346	1	2.86	1.61 g/t Au / 2 m
		Y092347	1	0.36	
2022-A	CHRN22-401	Y092441	1	0.26	
2022-B	CHRN22-416	Y092075	1	0.33	0.33 g/t Au / 4 m
		Y092076	1	0.33	
		Y092077	1	0.16	
		Y092079	1	0.51	
		Y092080	1	0.18	



Trench	Channel	Sample	Length (m)	Grade (g/t Au)	Significant Intervals
2022-B	CHRN22-417	Y092081	1	0.85	2.65 g/t Au / 11 m
		Y092082	1	0.44	
		Y092083	1	0.57	
		Y092084	1	10.9	
		Y092085	1	4.68	
		Y092086	1	1.06	
		Y092087	1	0.72	
		Y092089	1	4.93	
		Y092090	1	1.11	
		Y092091	1	2.85	
		Y092092	1	1.05	
		Y092094	1	0.17	
		Y092095	1	0.23	
		Y092496	1	0.15	
2022-B	CHRN22-418	Y092097	1	2.59	1.33 g/t Au / 2.7 m
		Y092099	1	0.81	
		Y092100	0.7	0.27	
2022-B	CHRN22-419	E0000001	1	0.31	0.39 g/t Au / 3 m
		E0000002	1	0.22	
		E0000003	1	0.64	
2022-B	CHRN22-422	E0000010	0.7	0.27	
2022-B	CHRN22-423	E0000012	1	0.44	
2022-C	CHRN22-402	Y092443	1	0.39	0.63 g/t Au / 3m
		Y092444	1	1.13	
		Y092445	1	0.37	
		Y092447	1	1.28	
		Y092368	1	0.22	
		Y092375	1	0.27	
		Y092377	1	0.24	0.37 g/t Au / 8 m
		Y092379	1	0.55	
		Y092380	1	0.72	
		Y092381	1	0.40	
		Y092382	1	0.21	
		Y092383	1	0.05	
		Y092384	1	0.15	
		Y092385	1	0.61	
		Y092391	1	0.22	0.19 g/t Au / 4 m
		Y092392	1	0.04	
		Y092393	1	0.29	
Y092394	1	0.19			
Y092399	1	0.21			



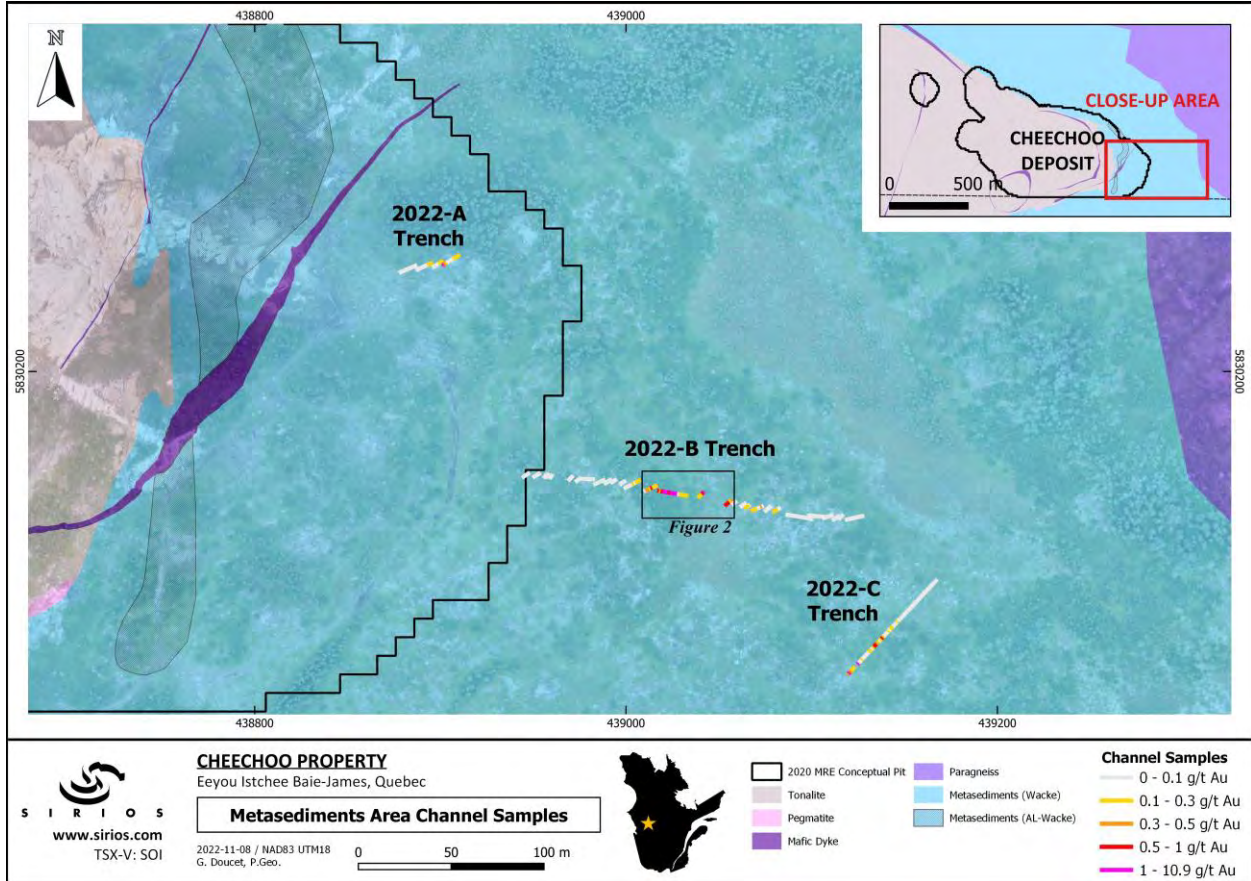


Figure 9-1: Location of the three trenches completed in 2022 within the metasediments

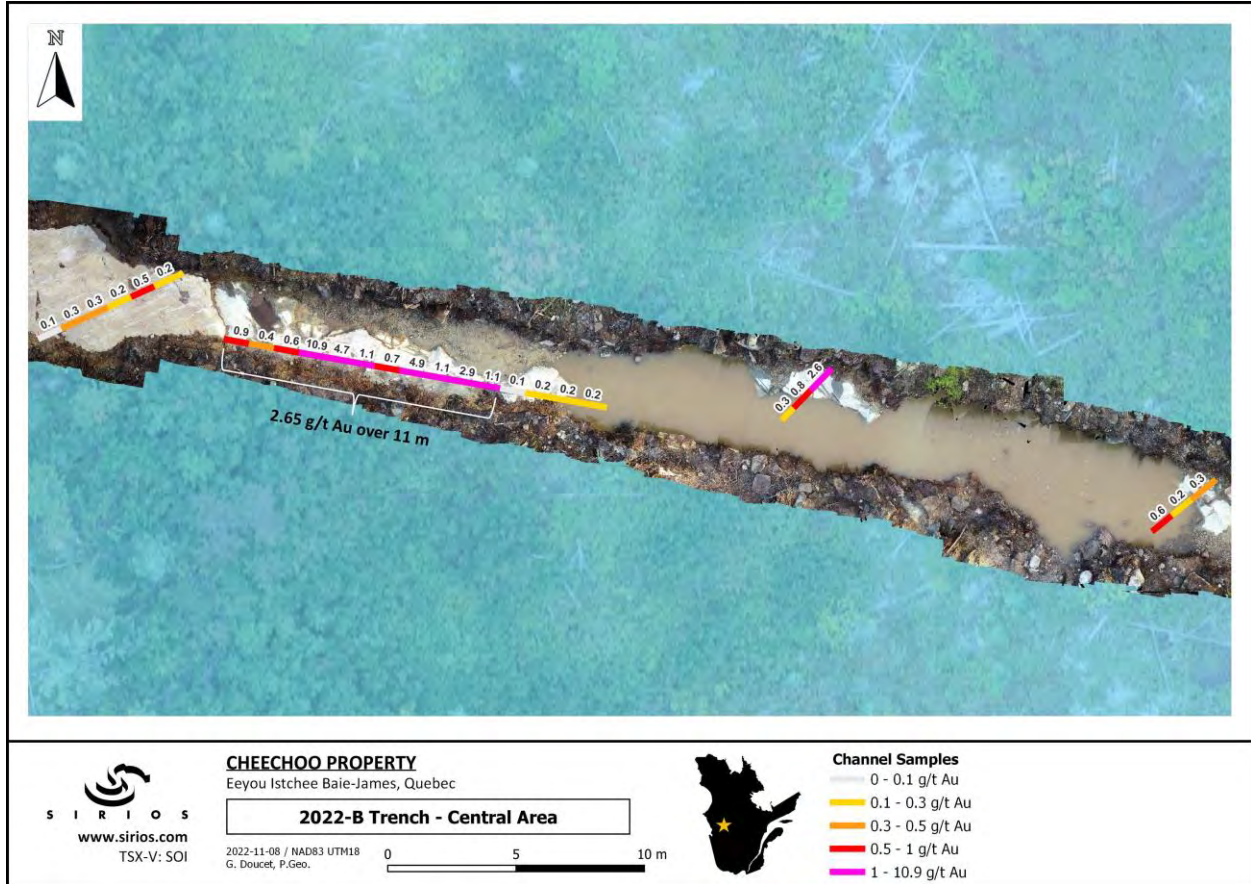


Figure 9-2: Central part of Trench 2022-B



The high-grade gold results obtained during this program are hosted in metasediments with 2-3% pyrrhotite and arsenopyrite, as well as millimetric quartz-feldspar veinlets (Figure 9-3), which represents a new geological context for gold mineralization for the Cheechoo deposit.



Figure 9-3: Channel sample Y092084 (10.9 g/t Au over 1,0 m)

Metasediments (meta-greywacke) with 3% pyrrhotite, 3% arsenopyrite and 5% millimetric quartz-feldspar veinlets.

Intrusive rocks (tonalite and pegmatite) were previously thought to be the only host rocks for gold mineralization at Cheechoo. The discovery of these new gold zones in the metasediments now confirms the presence of gold mineralization more than 400 metres outside of the tonalite.





## 10. Drilling

This chapter presents the drilling program carried out by Sirios between June 28, 2021 and September 22, 2021 (the “2021 Program”) on the Cheechoo Project.

### 10.1 Drilling Methodology

The 2021 summer drilling campaign was performed by Synee Drilling Inc., with the collection of NQ size core from a diamond drill on skids, and by Boart Longyear for the collection of 4" RC chips from a Foremost MPD 1500 tracked rig.

#### 10.1.1 Drillhole Location/Set-up

Diamond drillholes (DDH) and reverse circulation holes (RC) for the 2021 program were focused on infill drilling.

The coordinate system in use was UTM NAD83 zone 18N.

The software used were QGIS and Leapfrog to visualize the drillholes and GeoticLog to record and store the information. Hole collars were spotted (wooden pickets) by the geologist with a handheld GPS Garmin 60cx. The drillers aligned the drill according to the wooden pickets and with an azimuth alignment tool (APS 2 from Reflex). Once the drilling was completed, the drill casings were surveyed by the Sirios geologist using a high-precision differential GPS (DGPS Trimble R8s). Collar azimuth and dip were measured when possible.

#### 10.1.2 Drillhole Orientation During Operation

The drillhole orientation is checked and monitored using a downhole surveying device as follows:

- During drilling, the orientation, including the azimuth and dip as well as the magnetic field of the drillhole are measured every 50 m with a Reflex instrument. The data is collected and recorded by the driller. The geologist verifies the information afterward and transfers the data into the GeoticLog software.
- At the completion of every drillhole, the driller collects continuous data readings every 3 m with a Reflex device until the instrument reaches the surface (multi-shots test). The orientation data collected includes the azimuth, dip, and magnetic field of the drillhole. This data is then transferred onto a USB device by the geologist or the drill foreman. The raw file is saved in the database. The geologist verifies the file, modifies the format for the importation (this manipulation is performed automatically using a macro), and invalidates the inconsistent data. The modified file is then imported into the GeoticLog software.



The same procedure was applied for RC holes CHRC21-001 and CHRC21-002, with a Reflex Gyro to take measurements inside the tubing.

### 10.1.3 Drilling and Core Handling

Recovered drill cores by the drilling contractor are in NQ size. The core is collected in a standard drilling tube and the driller's helper carefully places the core into wooden core boxes at the drill rig. The helper also marks the depth (m) after each 3-m run with wooden blocks and closes the box with fiber tape. Core trays are numbered with a permanent marker indicating the drillhole number and the sequential box number.

RC chip samples from the 4-inch dual wall tubing RC rig were collected by the driller's helper using a cone splitter at the rig every 1-m interval. Two duplicate subsamples of approximately 3-4 kg were collected in a pre-labelled 12" x 16" plastic bag containing a barcode tag inside. One was sent to the laboratory for gold assay and the other was kept for reference. A bulk reject RC sample of approximately 30 kg was collected in a pre-labelled 20" x 30" plastic bag with the hole ID and depth information.

Generally, the drillhole is stopped at a specific depth determined by the project manager or following the instructions of the field geologist.

Once the drillhole is completed and the final downhole survey reading is collected, the drill crew pulls the rods for mobilization to the next drill site. A metallic cap with a metal tag displaying the hole number is put on the collar of the hole. All casing has been left in place, except for the drillholes that had been stopped and restarted due to a bad orientation or dip. No drillholes have been grouted or cemented.

### 10.1.4 Core Logging and Measurement

In the core shack, Sirios employees place the boxes on the logging tables. The geologists rotate the core so that all pieces are fitted together, showing a cross-sectional view. They verify that distances are correctly indicated on the wooden blocks placed every 3 m. The core is then measured.

For RC chip, Sirios geologists were present at the rig during the drilling process. Geologists verified the continuity and the integrity of the sample sequence. All samples were weighed with a digital scale. Two representative sub-samples were collected. One sub-sample of approximately 100 g is placed in a pre-labelled plastic bag with a tag containing the hole ID, depth, and sample barcode. This subsample is used for XRF analysis. Another subsample, of approximately 1,000 g,



was sieved at 2 mm, washed, and put on a chip tray rack of 20, for visual description. The chip tray was identified with the hole ID and depth information.

Sirios geologists log and record the data using GeoticLog software. Lithologies (principal and secondary), alteration, mineralization, veins, structures, magnetism, sample, and assay results are compiled in the database.

#### 10.1.4.1 Core Recovery

The core recovery is calculated by measuring the core in the core tray divided by the theoretical drilled length as shown by the meterage blocks. Core recovery is recorded for each drill run (3 m). Specific areas of loss are noted, if possible, and marked by a wooden marker and the estimated loss. The ideal core recovery is 100%. However, it is not always possible due to ground conditions or sometimes loss of drill core during the coring process (e.g., grinding, etc.). For the 2021 Program, the average core recovery is 99.7%.

#### 10.1.4.2 Rock Quality Designation (RQD)

The rock quality designation is designed to give qualitative and quantitative information on the stability of rock surrounding and included in mineralized material. This information is used to determine the mineability and rock control procedures that will be required to extract the mineralized material.

RQD is a quantitative index of rock quality based on a core recovery procedure in which the core recovery is determined by incorporating only those pieces of hard, solid core longer than twice the diameter of the core. For NQ core, the nominal diameter is 5 cm, so the length index is 10 cm; shorter lengths of core are ignored. RQD is determined for each core run as these are the only definitively known distance markers. RQD is determined using the following formula for each core run:

$$\text{RQD (\%)} = 100 \times \frac{\text{sum of the core pieces length equal to or longer than 10 cm}}{\text{Core run length}}$$

It is important to distinguish between mechanical breaks and natural breaks identified in the core.

RQD is valid for solid core only and should not be used for very poorly disaggregated materials such as highly weathered rock, clays, or un-cemented aggregates.

The average RQD for the 2021 Program is 99.0% based on 2,125 measurements.



### 10.1.5 Core Photography

Once logged by the geologist, all drill core is photographed wet, four boxes at a time. The objective of core photos is to have a digital image recorded with sufficient details to clearly see core features prior to destructive sampling procedures. This record can be used later to qualify rock quality features and to examine core images against geological logging if the core is unavailable for examination. The photos are also used, as required, during the construction of geological sections.

Once the core is photographed, the boxes are closed with a core box lid and two screws at each end. A total of 36 boxes are then piled on wooden pallets and every pallet is then attached with metal straps and shipped by truck to the Technominex installation in Rouyn-Noranda. Once there, it is assigned to the core saw operator for splitting and sampling.

### 10.1.6 Core Storage

After the sampling process, the core boxes are stored at the Technominex facilities. Every box is labelled with an aluminum tag displaying the hole number, box number, and From-To meterage. All boxes are stored outside in the secured and locked yard of Technominex. They are piled on wooden pallets or stored on metallic racks. Pulps and rejects are stored in locked containers in Technominex's yard. For RC chip, reference subsamples are put in batches of five in pre-labelled rice bags; XRF samples and chip trays are placed in pre-labelled show boxes and everything is stored in containers on the Cheechoo site.

All core prior to the 2021 Program were sent back to the Cheechoo camp site in James Bay.

## 10.2 Recent Diamond Drilling

Since the latest Technical Report, and as of July 20, 2022 (close-out date of the current MRE database), Sirios has completed a total of 32 new DDH (CH21-268 to CH21-296, CH21-051E, CH21-289A and CH21-296A) and two RC holes (CHRC21-001 and CHRC21-002) during the 2021 campaign on the Property, totalling 6,836 m (Table 10-1; Figure 10-1). Most of these holes were infill drilling aimed at converting a portion of the Inferred resources to Indicated resources.





Sirios Resources Inc.

[NI 43-101 Technical Report](#)

Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Project, in  
Eeyou Istchee James Bay, Québec



Table 10-1: Summary of the drilling completed on the Property during the 2021 Program  
(included in this MRE)

Year	Drillhole Count	Total Length (m)
2021 DDH	32	6,625
2021 RC hole	2	211
Total	34	6,836

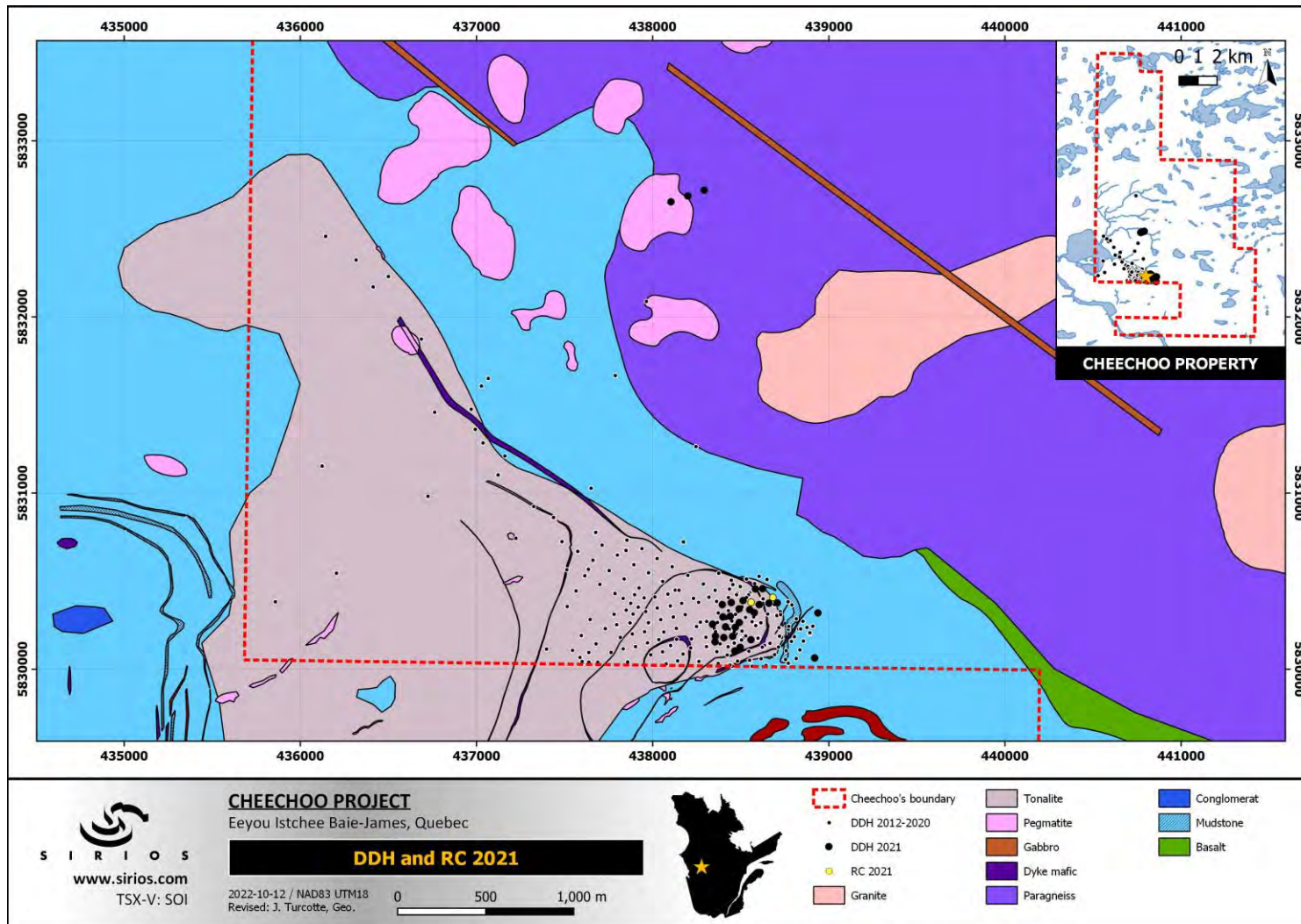


Figure 10-1: Location of the drillholes throughout the Property as of July 20, 2022  
(Close-out date of the current MRE database)  
(32 DDH and 2 RC holes from 2021)



## 11. Sample Preparation, Analyses, and Security

### 11.1 Core Handling, Sampling, and Security

The following sections describe Sirios' core handling, sampling, and security procedures for the 2021 diamond drilling programs. The QP did not conduct any drilling or sampling on the Project and the data in this chapter was provided by Jordi Turcotte, P. Geo., Sirios Senior Geologist.

#### 11.1.1 Core Handling, Sampling, and Security

The drill core is boxed and sealed at the drill rigs and transported, by the drillers, skidoo sleigh or pick-up truck to the on-site core shack. After being logged on-site, the drill core is shipped to an external facility.

Drill core were sent to the Technominex facility in Rouyn-Noranda, where they were sawed in half and sampled based on geologist's instructions. Individual sample bags were placed in larger rice bags along with the list of samples. QA/QC samples were inserted by Technominex personnel in each batch following the geologist's instructions. Batches were shipped via a transport company to certified laboratories, Actlabs in Ste-Germaine-Boulé and ALS laboratories in Rouyn-Noranda.

#### 11.1.2 Gold Assays Samples

With some exceptions and as the mineralization continues, all the drill core intervals were sampled. To create representative and homogenous samples, sampling honours as best as possible the lithological contacts, alteration boundary or mineralization boundary.

Sampling intervals are determined by the geologist during logging and marked on the core itself using red coloured lumber pencils with a line drawn at right angles to the core axis. Sample lengths typically range from 0.5 m to 2.0 m, with a preferred length of 1.0 m for the mineralized zones. The sampled cores are considered representative.

Samples are numbered in consecutive order using sample tag books containing sequences of 50 pre-labeled triplicate waterproof sample tags (three tags per sheet) or waterproof tags printed directly from the database. The first of the tags remains with the sample tag book as an archival record of the samples' parameters. The second tag is used to indicate the position of the sample in the core box. This is a permanent sample reference that will remain in the wooden core box. The third and last tag is inserted inside the sample bag. From each sample sheet, the last two tags are separated from the page and tucked under the core at the beginning of each sample by the geologist.



The sample sequence includes blank samples, duplicate samples, and Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) that are inserted into the sample stream using sample numbers in sequence with the core samples. A CRMs sample, consisting of material of known metal content and internationally recognized and verified, is included in the sample sequence by the trained core sampler. A “blank” sample is material technically devoid of any metals. Blanks and CRMs are stored in a designated secure area at the sample preparation facility. There is never a written reference to the location of any control samples on sample bags, sample tags, or dispatch documentation for the assay lab.

Once logged and labelled, the core of each selected interval is sawed in half using a typical table-feed circular rock saw. The core saw operator, trained in core cutting procedures, executes the core cutting at the external facility. The logging geologist has already clearly marked out all pertinent cores for cutting and sampling. The core is sawn in half, along its length, with a diamond bladed saw. One half (consistently from the same half of the split core) is put into the plastic sample bag and the other half is retained and kept in the core box for later reference. The paired sample tags are then torn with one tag stapled in the core box at the start of its sample interval and the other tag placed into the sample bag with the core sample.

Sample tag number of the core sample is also written on the outside of the sample bag using a permanent marker. The bag is then sealed using a zip tie and stored in sequence prior to sample dispatch preparation. Sample bags are packed in large “rice” bags and the rice bag is sealed with a zip tie, which is only ‘broken’ or opened at the assay laboratories. The range of sample numbers inside the bag is written on the ‘rice’ bag. The sealed rice bags are stored inside a secure facility until shipping to the laboratories.

### 11.1.3 Core Density Samples

Specific gravity (SG) was measured by water displacement method at the core shack.

Approximately 0.10 m to 0.20 m of core was selected for each density measurement. The dry mass was measured on the scale top plate, followed by the submerged mass, by placing the sample in the submerged wire basket under the scale. Both measurements were recorded in the database and the density was measured using the following formula:

$$Density = \frac{Mass_{Dry}}{(Mass_{Dry} - Mass_{Submerged})}$$

In 2021, 147 additional samples were tested, consisting of mineralized and host rock samples (Table 11-1).



Table 11-1: Measured specific gravity for the different lithologies, summer 2021

Specific Gravity, 2021 Drillings					
Lithology	Quantity	Mean	Median	Min	Max
I1D	91	2.65	2.65	2.62	2.68
I1G	23	2.61	2.61	2.57	2.66
M4	10	2.75	2.75	2.72	2.76
M8	8	2.89	2.9	2.84	2.94
S3	15	2.78	2.77	2.71	3.00
Total	147	-	-	-	-

### 11.1.3.1 Lab Accreditation and Certification

ALS and Actlabs both have the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation from the Standards Council of Canada (SCC). They are both independent commercial laboratories.

### 11.1.3.2 ALS Sample Analysis Procedure

At ALS laboratories, samples are sorted, bar-coded and logged into the ALS Webtrieve program. Damaged samples are documented and Sirios personnel is informed. Samples are dried to constant weight and weighted (WEI-21). The sample is then crushed to P<sub>90</sub> 2,000 µm (CRU-32). A split is collected using a riffle splitter (SPL-21) and a reject duplicate split is prepared from that original sample (SPL-21d). A pulverization split of 1,000 g is then prepared (PUL-32) at P<sub>85</sub> 75 µm. A pulp duplicate is also prepared from the original sample (SPL-34). When a metallic sieve analysis is conducted (Au-SCR21), a pulverization of 1,000 g P<sub>95</sub> 106 µm is done (PUL-35a).

For holes CH21-291 to CH21-296, samples were analyzed by fire assay (FA) with atomic absorption (AA) spectroscopy from 50 g pulps (Au-AA24). The lower detection limit was 0.005 g/t. When assay results were higher than 0.2 g/t Au or with visible gold, the sample was re-assayed by metallic sieve method (Au-SCR24) on a 1,000-g pulp sample.

Results are provided through a secure server and downloaded by the geologist in charge of the project, in Excel format and the official certificate (sealed and signed) in PDF format.

As part of ALS internal quality control program, four QA/QC samples are inserted by ALS per batch of 24 samples (one blank, two standards, and one pulp duplicate). A method blank and certified reference material is applied and reported for each furnace load to monitor the fire assay process. A duplicate crushed sample is drawn at random and assayed for each work order to monitor precision.



### 11.1.3.3 Actlabs Sample Analysis Procedure

Once the samples are received at the Actlabs facility, they are sorted, bar-coded, and logged into the Actlabs LIMS program. Damaged samples are documented and Sirios personnel is informed with photographs. Samples are dried at 60°C, crushed to P<sub>90</sub> passing 10 mesh, and split into 250 g to 300 g using a Jones riffle splitter. The sub-sample is pulverized to P<sub>85</sub> passing 75 µm (200 mesh).

For holes CHRC21-001 and CHRC21-002, CH21-268 to CH21-290, and CH21-051E, samples were analyzed by FA with AA spectroscopy from 50 g pulps. The lower detection limit was 0.005 g/t. When assay results were higher than 2 g/t Au or with visible gold, samples were re-assayed by metallic sieve (MS) method on a 1,000 g pulp sample. Eight holes (CHRC21-001 and 002, CH21-268, 269 and 271 to 274), were re-assayed by MS method on a 1,000 g pulp sample when first FA returned higher than 0.2 g/t Au.

Results were sent by email to the geologist in charge of the Project, in Excel format, and the official certificate (sealed and signed) in PDF format.

As part of Actlabs' internal quality control program, four QA/QC samples are inserted by Actlabs per batch of 24 samples (one blank, two standards, and one pulp duplicate).

### 11.1.4 Sample Shipping and Security

The following procedures are applied to ensure a safe and secure management of materials and data as it pertains to core samples of the Cheechoo Project:

- All core samples submitted for preparation and analysis to the laboratories are secured in rice bags with zip ties and sent directly to the laboratories;
- The lab is notified by email that the samples are sent and is instructed to notify Sirios geologists, Jordi Turcotte, P. Geo., and Nathalie Schnitzler, P. Geo., when they arrive at the preparation lab;
- The sample shipment contains a sample submittal form as well as a sample dispatch list detailing the security tag number, rice bag number, and the number of samples contained in each rice bag;
- The sample submittal form and sample dispatch list is electronically transmitted to the laboratories once the shipment has left the Sirios core shack;
- Samples are sent to:

Actlabs  
184, rue Principale, P.O. Box 208  
Ste-Germaine-Boulé, QC, J0Z 1M0

ALS Geochemistry  
1324 rue Turcotte  
Val-d'Or, QC, J9P 3X6





- Results are downloaded by Nathalie Schnitzler, the data base manager, via a secure server, as Excel files and PDF format;
- QA/QC data is evaluated when the samples are integrated into the master database;
- The core boxes are stored in roofed racks in the outdoor core storage in an area enclosed by secure fencing located in Rouyn-Noranda. The exact location of each hole in the outdoor core library is recorded in an Excel spreadsheet for future reference;
- The sample pulps and rejects are stored in Rouyn-Noranda.

## 11.2 Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC)

Canadian National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects requires mining companies reporting results in Canada to comply with the CIM Best Practice Guidelines. The guidelines describe the elements required in the reports, but do not provide guidance for Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) programs.

QA/QC programs have two components: Quality Assurance (QA) deals with the prevention of problems using established procedures, while Quality Control (QC) aims to detect problems, assess them, and take corrective actions. QA/QC programs are implemented, overseen, and reported on by a Qualified Person (QP) as defined by NI 43-101.

QA programs should be rigorous, applied to all types and stages of data acquisition and include written protocols for: sample location, logging, and core handling; sampling procedures; laboratories and analysis; data management; and reporting.

QC programs are designed to assess the quality of analytical results for accuracy, precision, and bias.

The materials conventionally used in mineral exploration QC programs include standards, blanks, and duplicates. Definitions of these materials are presented hereunder:

- Standards are samples of known composition that are inserted into sample batches to independently test the accuracy of an analytical procedure. They are acquired from a known and trusted commercial source. Standards are selected to fit the grade distribution identified in the Sirios mineralization;
- Blanks consist of material that is predetermined to be free of elements of economic interest to monitor for potential sample contamination during analytical procedures at the laboratory;
- Duplicates are samples submitted to assess both assay precision (repeatability) and homogeneity of mineralization. Duplicates can be submitted from all stages of sample preparation with the expectation that better precision is demonstrated by duplicates further along in the preparation process.



As per NI 43-101, quality control samples were inserted into the sample batches sent to the laboratory. Inserts included pulp duplicate samples, blank samples, and standards. For illustration purpose, values below detection limit were assigned half of the detection limit value. Values above the maximum detection limit were ignored and not used in the scatterplots.

Table 11-2 summarizes the QA/QC samples submitted to the laboratories along with routine drill core samples.

Table 11-2: Samples submitted to the laboratories for analysis, summer 2021

Type of Sample	Quantity	%	Comments
Primary drill core samples	4,673	81%	
Field blanks	121	2%	
CRM	361	6%	Included 106 assay pills
Pulp duplicates	280	5%	Included 55 saw and crushing duplicates
Check-assays	300	5%	
Total	5,735	100%	

### 11.2.1 Duplicates

Duplicate samples are submitted to assess both assay precision (repeatability) and homogeneity of mineralization.

Coarse duplicates consist of second splits of crushed material. This material will then need to be pulverized.

Pulp duplicates consist of second splits of prepared samples ready to be analyzed and are indicators of analytical precision, which may also be affected by the quality of pulverization and homogenization.

As part of the Sirios QA/QC program, the laboratory assayed one coarse duplicate for every drillhole. The QA/QC program also included one pulp duplicate for every 20 samples. Figure 11-1 shows the scatterplots of the pulp duplicate for both laboratories. The correlation plot is 99%, which is good reproducibility. Figure 11-2 shows the scatterplots of the saw and crushed duplicate for both laboratories.

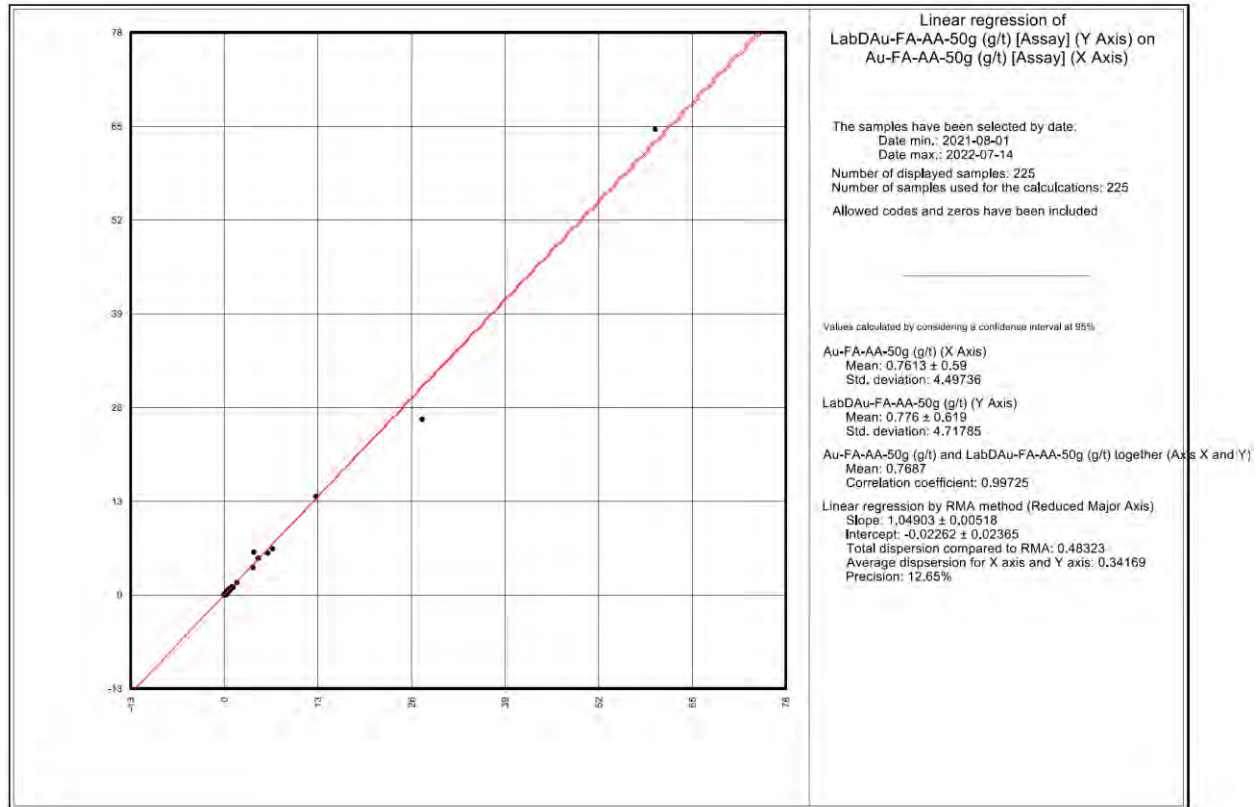


Figure 11-1: Scatterplot with linear trend of pulp duplicates and original sample results from Actlabs and ALS - Summer 2021 drilling program (n=225)

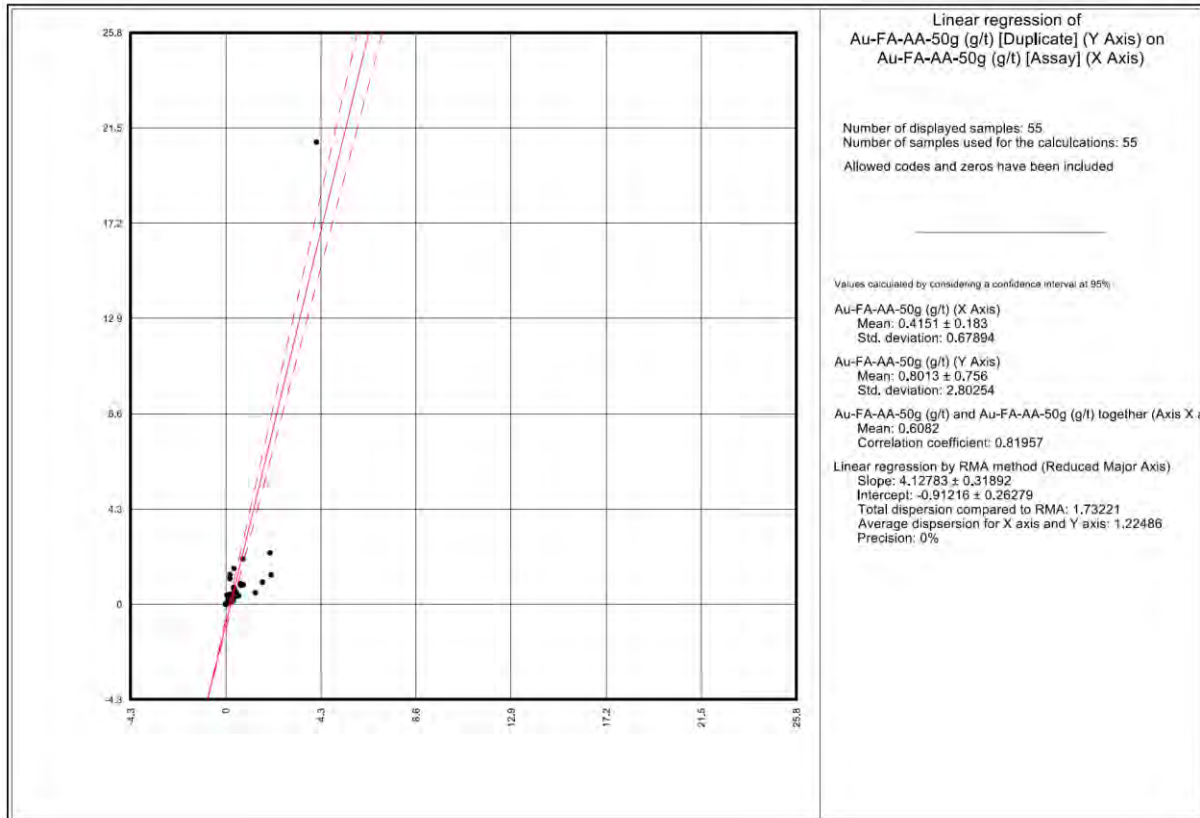


Figure 11-2: Scatterplot with linear trend of saw and crushed duplicates and original sample results from Actlabs and ALS - Summer 2021 drilling program (n=55)

### 11.2.2 Blanks

Blanks are used to monitor for potential sample contamination that may take place during sample preparation and/or assaying procedures at the laboratory. Samples of barren crushed white quartz (blank) were used by Sirios.

One blank sample was inserted for every 20 samples. According to Sirios QA/QC protocol, if any blank yields a gold value above 0.1 g/t Au, all samples from the 20-sample batch should be reanalyzed. From the 121 inserted blanks, one blank sample failed the protocol, which represents 0.8%. Figure 11-3 shows the results of the blanks used during the 2021 programs on the Project.

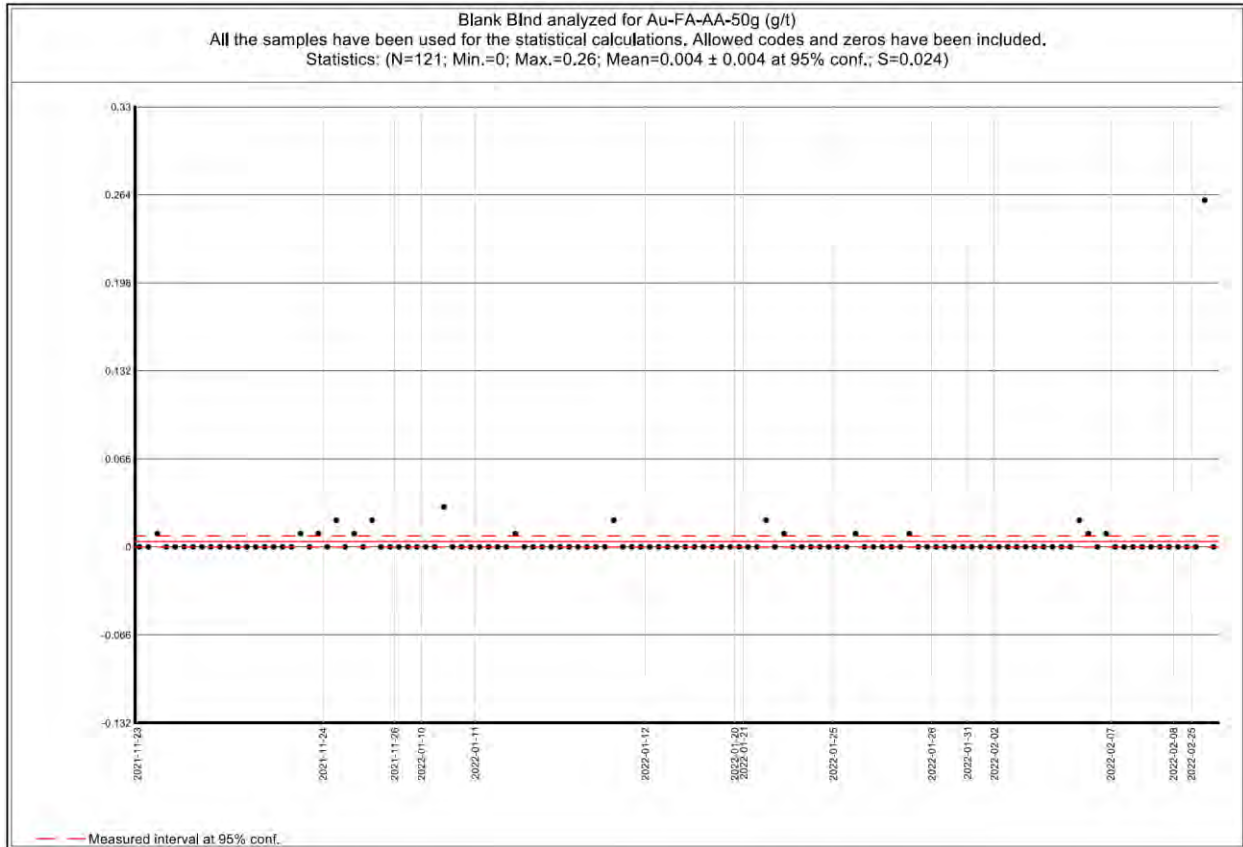


Figure 11-3: Results for blanks used during the 2021 drilling program (121 samples assayed by Actlabs and ALS; detection limit was from 0.005 to 0.01 g/t)

A blank failure can indicate a contamination problem at the laboratories. In every case where a failure was observed, adequate follow-up has been put in place to explain, or re-assay affected samples.

### 11.2.3 Certified Reference Materials (Standards)

Accuracy and precision are monitored by the insertion of CRMs. A suite of commercially available CRMs is used at Cheechoo (Table 11-3). One CRMs sample was inserted for every 20 samples.



Table 11-3: Standard reference materials used at Cheechoo – 2021 drilling campaigns

Standard (CRMs)	Method	Lab	Certified Gold Value (g/t)	Quantity Inserted	Standard Deviation	Minimum Limit	Maximum	Failed	Gross Outliers	(% Passing QC)
						(mean-3SD)	Limit (mean+3SD)			
SE86	AA	ALS	0.595	21	0.026	0.517	0.673	0	0	100.0%
SE86	AA	Actlabs	0.595	88	0.026	0.517	0.673	0	0	100.0%
SN91	AA	ALS	8.679	7	0.194	8.097	9.261	0	0	100.0%
SN91	AA	Actlabs	8.679	31	0.194	8.097	9.261	0	0	100.0%
OREAS 152b	AA	ALS	0.134	10	0.005	0.119	0.149	0	0	100.0%
OREAS 152b	AA	Actlabs	0.134	39	0.005	0.119	0.149	0	0	100.0%
OREAS 153b	AA	ALS	0.313	11	0.009	0.286	0.34	0	0	100.0%
OREAS 153b	AA	Actlabs	0.313	48	0.009	0.286	0.34	0	0	100.0%
Total				255				0	0	100.0%

CRMs were considered failed by Sirios when a result exceeded three standard deviations ( $\pm 3$  SD) beyond the expected value. During the 2021 drilling programs, all CRMs passed. Considering the low failure rate and actions taken when such failures occurred, the QP is of the opinion that the failed CRMs are not material for the purpose of this MRE and show the natural statistical spread in the data.

#### 11.2.4 Check Assays

Pulp check assays are conducted in a second lab for about 1 in 20 samples. A total of 102 samples from ALS and 198 samples from Actlabs were reanalyzed by IGS. Figure 11-4 shows the scatterplot of the results conducted by IGS on ALS and Figure 11-5 shows the scatterplot of the results conducted by IGS on Actlabs. The correlation coefficient varies from 80% to 87%. Considering the nugget effect and the fact that the population is low grade, the QP considers these results acceptable.



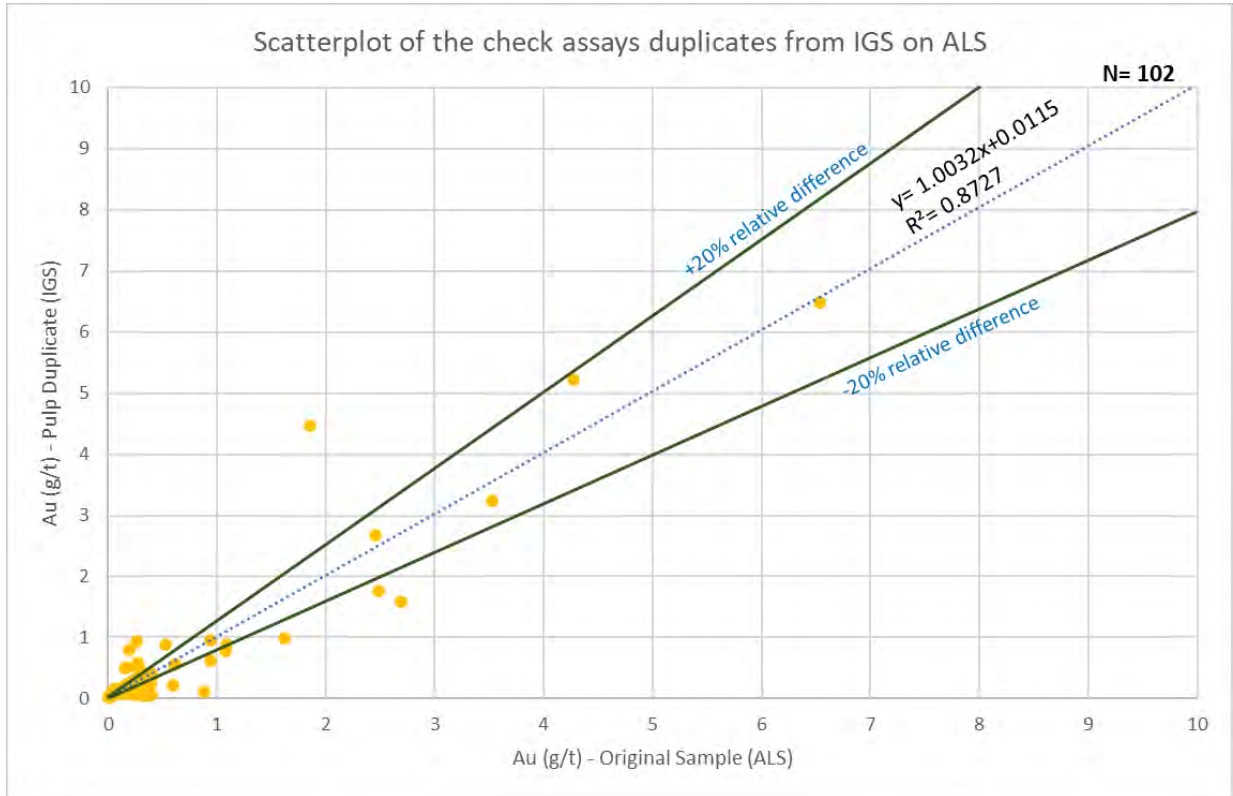


Figure 11-4: Scatterplot of lab check assays duplicates from IGS on ALS for the 2021 drilling program (n=102)

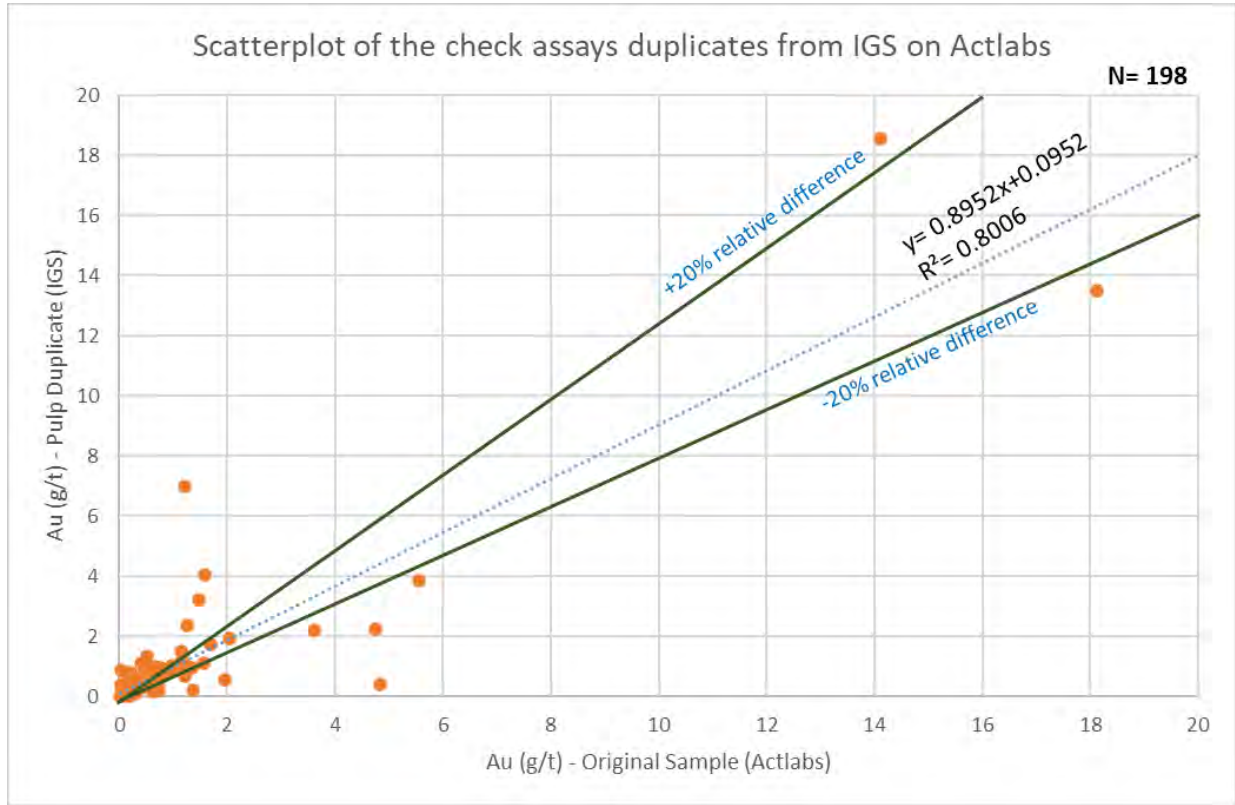


Figure 11-5: Scatterplot of lab check assays duplicates from IGS on Actlabs for the 2021 drilling program (n=198) (Results above 20 g/t are not shown)

### 11.3 Rock Sampling

Grab samples from outcrops and boulder were sent to ALS and Actlabs for assaying. Same procedure as drill core samples was applied for the shipping, security, and QA/QC protocols.

### 11.4 Channel Sampling

Channel samples from outcrops and stripping were sent to ALS and Actlabs for assaying. Same procedure as drill core samples was applied for the shipping, security, and QA/QC protocols.



## 11.5 Conclusion

The QP reviewed the sample preparation, analytical and security procedures, as well as insertion rates and the performance of blanks, standards, and duplicates for the 2021 drilling programs. The QP concluded that the observed failure rates are within expected ranges and that no significant assay biases are present. According to the QP, the procedure and the quality of the data are consistent with industry standards and support the Mineral Resource Estimate.



## 12. Data Verification

The Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) in this Report is based on drillholes from 2012 and more recent ones. Therefore, numerical data and quality control on assaying has been implemented from the beginning.

For the purpose of this MRE, BBA performed a basic verification on the entire Project database. All data was provided by Sirios in UTM coordinates. The database close-out date for the resource estimate is July 20, 2022; data from 329 diamond drillholes (DDH) (76,712.85 m) and 386 channels (3,216.88 m) was incorporated in the resource estimate block model area. The last hole included in the database was CH21-296A.

### 12.1 Site Visit

Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., QP, visited the Property from October 10 to October 15, 2019, and from August 19 to August 22, 2022. Mr. Richard also visited the core cutting and storage facility on September 16, 2019, November 27, 2020, and November 11, 2022. The purpose of the visits was to review the Project with the Sirios team. The visits included an overview of the general geological conditions, a tour of the core storage facility, visual inspections of selected mineralized drill core samples, survey of numerous drillhole casings, and a visit of various mechanically stripped outcrops. A review of assaying, QA/QC and drillhole procedures was also completed.

Mr. Richard also visited the Sirios office in Montreal, on several occasions, to exchange ideas with the geologists.

### 12.2 Sample Preparation, Analytical, QA/QC and Security Procedures

Sirios procedures are described in Chapters 10 and 11 of the current Report. Discussions held with on-site geologists confirmed that the procedures were adequately applied.

Pierre-Luc Richard reviewed sections of mineralized core while visiting the Project. All core boxes were labelled and properly stored either in roofed core storage or palleted (Figure 12-1). Sample tags were present in the boxes, and it was possible to validate sample numbers and confirm the presence of mineralization in witness half-core samples from the mineralized zones. Rejects and pulps are securely kept in maritime containers.

All the data used in this MRE was taken after the implementation of the NI 43-101. Information about sample preparation, analytical, QA/QC or security procedures is mostly available and conducted in accordance with the industry standards.



Figure 12-1: Storage and sampling procedures reviewed during some visits at the Rouyn-Noranda facilities  
A) Palletted drill core boxes; B) Core saw used to sample the core; C) Roofed drill core storage

### 12.2.1 Drillhole Location

For the 2012 drilling campaign, collars were located with the use of cut grids and hand-held GPS. The 2012 casings were removed. Collars were implemented with a handheld GPS Garmin 60cx afterwards. In February 2018, Corriveau J.L. & Associés Inc. implemented six reference stations to use a DGPS instrument (Trimble R8s) in order to properly survey the collar locations.

### 12.2.2 Downhole Survey

Downhole survey data for the drilling programs were checked for discrepancies. Spurious measurements were tagged by the Sirios geologist as “false” in the database and were not considered by the software for the modelling. For the 2012 drilling campaign, acid tests were done at the end of the holes with acid tubes. From 2013 up to fall 2015, downhole surveying was carried out with a Flexit device at 30 m intervals. Starting in the fall 2015 campaign, deviation tests were carried out as described in Chapter 10, Section 10.1.2.



### 12.2.3 Assays

BBA was granted access to the original assay certificates directly from ALS and Actlabs for all the holes drilled by Sirios on the Project since the 2020 MRE. All certificates received were verified against the Sirios database. Values lower than the detection limits were set to 0.005 ppm. No major discrepancies were noted.

In the assay table, the final gold value (AuMoy) is calculated using a conditional priority. Metallic screen procedure results always have priority over the gravimetric finish results. The gravimetric finish results always have priority over atomic absorption finish (AA). If more than one assay is done using the same analytical method, the weighted mean of the results is used but still considering the priority listed above.

## 12.3 Conclusion

The QP is of the opinion that the drilling protocols in place are adequate. The database for the Cheechoo Project is of good overall quality. Minor issues have been noted during the validation process but have no material impact on the 2022 MRE. In the QP's opinion, the Cheechoo database is appropriate to be used for the estimation of Mineral Resources.





## 13. Mineral Processing and Metallurgical Testing

### 13.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the results of four testwork programs conducted on mineralized material from the Cheechoo deposit during the period of 2015 to present.

A preliminary assessment of the response of metallurgical samples from the Cheechoo Gold Project was conducted at ALS Metallurgy (Sloan and Mehrfert, March and October 2015). A second program designed to explore the heap leach performance of metallurgical samples was conducted at Actlabs (Steyn, 2017). The third testwork program was conducted at COREM as follows: Mineralogy (Perez, 2019); and Comminution and Metallurgical (Tremblay-Bouliane et al., 2019). This was followed by a testwork program conducted at Kappes, Cassiday & Associates (KCA) laboratories in Reno, Nevada (February 2021).

Sirios selected and prepared the samples used for all testwork programs.

### 13.2 Mineralogy

A mineralogy study of the Cheechoo material was conducted by COREM in 2019 (Perez, 2019).

As part of project T2450, mineralogical and chemical characterization was performed on 12 samples:

- Three composite samples having different P80: Composite 9 (P80 = 106 µm), Composite 12 (P80 = 112 µm) and Composite 26 (P80 = 140 µm);
- Three Knelson concentrates were obtained after Knelson concentration of Composites 9, 12 and 26;
- Six samples obtained after flotation of each composite Knelson tailings (one concentrate and one tailings sample for each composite Knelson tailings).

The goal of this study was to obtain the mineralogical composition of the samples, as well as a detailed gold department of Knelson concentrate and tailings.

The analyses performed on the composite samples showed that Composites 9, 12 and 26 had gold grades of 0.5 g/t, 1.3 g/t and 0.3 g/t respectively. Granodiorite Composites 9 and 12 were quite similar regarding their mineralogical composition, and they were mostly composed of plagioclase, feldspar, and quartz, while sulphide minerals composed 0.7% of both composites, being the amount of arsenopyrite 0.3% in both composites.



Metasediment Composite 26 presented a higher amount of micas (almost 20%) than the other two composites with traces of arsenopyrite (0.01%).

The mineralogical and chemical characterization performed on Knelson concentrates showed that the Knelson concentrate from Composite 12 contained 28.8 g/t of gold, while Knelson concentrates from Composites 9 and 26 were richer with gold grades of 67.0 g/t and 75.2 g/t respectively.

According to the characterization of gold deportment of Knelson concentrates, gold was present in the form of native gold and electrum. The characterization of gold liberation performed on Knelson concentrates showed that free gold represented 50% of gold in Knelson concentrate for Composite 12 and 65% of gold in Knelson concentrate for Composite 26. No free gold particles were observed in Knelson concentrate for Composite 12. Exposed gold accounted for 28%, 87% and 6% of Knelson concentrates on Composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively. Locked gold (non-exposed gold) represented 22%, 13% and 29% of gold in Knelson concentrates for Composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively, based on particle counts.

In all Knelson concentrates, the most frequent association of gold was with arsenopyrite, being the proportion of gold surfaces associated with this mineral, at 63%, 46%, and 14% respectively in Knelson concentrates from all three composites. Locked gold in the form of very fine inclusions (< 5 µm) represented 11%, 3% and 3% of gold weight proportion in Knelson concentrates from Composites 9, 12, and 26 respectively.

The characterization of flotation products obtained after flotation of Knelson tailings of leach concentrate showed that gold grade was 4.2 g/t, 5.2 g/t and 2.3 g/t respectively in flotation concentrate of Knelson tailings for Composites 9, 12 and 26. In flotation tailings of all three composites Knelson tailings, gold assays were lower than 0.2 g/t.

The few gold grains observed during the mineralogical analysis of these samples showed that gold was in the form of very fine inclusions (< 2 µm) disseminated in arsenopyrite. No observations were made of gold associated with silicates. However, it should be noted that this lack of observations might be due to an insufficient number of polished sections analyzed considering the low gold grades of the samples.

### 13.3 Testwork

The objective of the testwork was to provide data to select metallurgical unit operations, develop preliminary flowsheets and produce a preliminary process design criteria for the process engineering and associated operating and capital cost estimations.



The work has been conducted from 2015 to 2020 at four different laboratories: ALS Metallurgy (2015), Actlabs (2017), COREM (2019), with column leach testwork conducted at Kappes, Cassiday & Associates (KCA) laboratory in Reno, Nevada (December 2020).

### 13.3.1 Sample Preparation

#### 13.3.1.1 ALS Testwork

The material tested in the ALS testwork program included 72 samples of crushed rock weighing a total of approximately 97 kg. Three samples were prepared under the instructions of Sirios (Sloan and Mehfert, March 2015). All assays were performed at the ALS geochemistry laboratory located in Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec. Table 13-1 presents the composite feed assays.

Three composites named Composite 1, Composite 2 and Composite 3 were prepared. Each composite was constructed according to Sirios instructions, homogenized, and rotary split into 2 kg charges for metallurgical testing. The composite construction information is included in report by Sloan and Mehfert (March 2015; Appendix II - KM4609). A sub-sample was split from Composite 1 and Composite 2 for comminution testing.

Table 13-1: Composite feed assays ALS testwork

Composite ID	Calculated Au (g/t) (Average of Fire Assay Triplicates)	Assay Au (g/t) Metallic
Composite 1	0.37	0.30
Composite 2	0.37	2.21
Composite 3	2.59	4.87

Some variability in the gold content by fire assay was measured, particularly with Composite 2 and Composite 3. Coarse gold particles were suspected; therefore, a screen metallic determination was performed with a 1 kg sub-sample of each composite. The sub-sample was first pulverized and then screened at 106 µm (Tyler 150-mesh). The entire screen oversize fraction was fire assayed, as well as representative duplicate splits from the screen undersize fraction. Screen metallic results are shown in Table 13-1 and may be more representative of the gold head assays for the three composites.



### 13.3.1.2 Actlabs Testwork

Three samples at three different crush sizes were prepared under the instructions of Sirios (Steyn, 2017).

Each sample was crushed to -3/4 inch and a 3.5-4-kg sub-sample was taken. The remainder of each sample was further crushed to -3/8 inch and another split was reduced further to -10 mesh. A split of the -10 mesh was also retained for a head assay. Due to the difficulty in obtaining a small representative head split from the larger crush size (above 10 mesh), only the -10 mesh fraction of each sample was assayed.

Table 13-2: Composite feed assays Actlabs testwork

Composite ID	Calculated (g/t)		Assay (g/t)
1306720	-19 mm	0.27	0.64
	-12.5 mm	0.22	
	-2 mm	1.14	
1306721	-19 mm	0.40	0.43
	-12.5 mm	0.80	
	-2 mm	0.47	
1306722	-19 mm	26.20	43.50
	-12.5 mm	34.20	
	-2 mm	29.40	

The testing procedure is presented below in Figure 13-1.

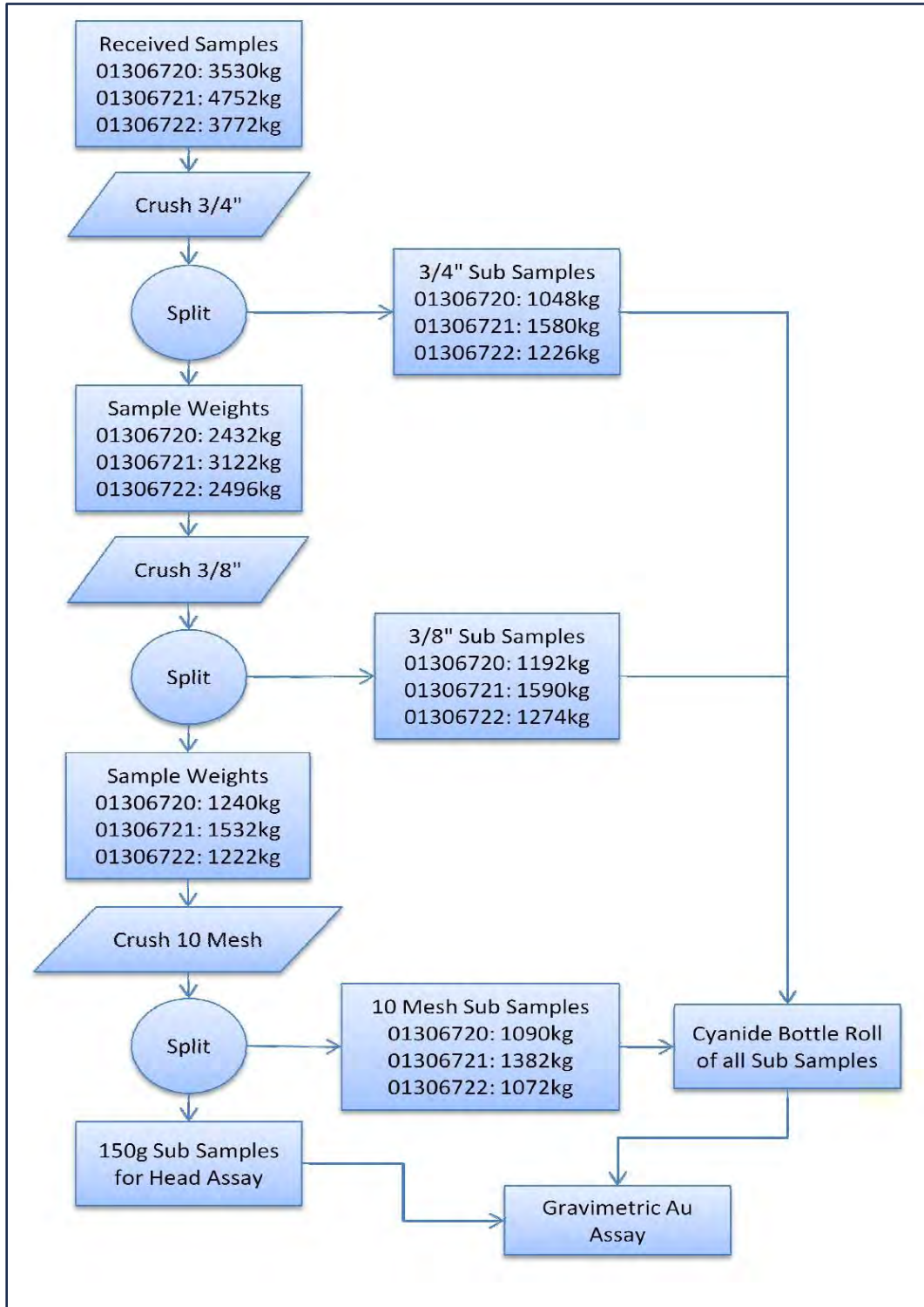


Figure 13-1: Actlab testing procedure protocol



### 13.3.1.3 COREM Testwork

A series of metallurgical tests were planned on composite samples selected by Sirios. The work was designed to study the response of gold recovery to different gold grades of mineralized samples. A mineralogical study (Perez, 2019) and comminution and metallurgical testwork (Tremblay-Bouliane et al., 2019) programs were performed.

Phase 1 of the project was limited to three composite samples of varying lithologies and gold grades: Composite 9 (tonalite, survey CH18-195, 0.66 g/t Au expected), Composite 12 (tonalite, pegmatite and mafic dyke, survey CH18-195, 4.38 g/t Au expected) and Composite 26 (sediment, survey CH18-198, 0.22 g/t Au expected).

Based on Sirios evaluation, Composite 9 is expected to represent 70% of the processed material, while Composites 12 and 26 are expected to represent 20% and 5% of the deposit respectively.

All three composite samples were subjected to head assays, grinding characterization, mineralogical characterization, gravity separation (GRG), bottle roll cyanidation and bulk sulfide flotation tests. The results from Phase 1 will help define the optimal conditions and flow sheet for the larger testwork planned in future Phase 2, which implies the processing of 30 samples of 100-200 kg each.

For each composite (Composites 9, 12 and 26), some pieces of drill core were randomly chosen and cut into pieces (-75 mm +50 mm) for Bond crusher work index testing (CWi) and part of the drop weight test. Then, all the material was crushed for the other comminution characterization testing. Figure 13-2 presents the comminution sample preparation protocol.



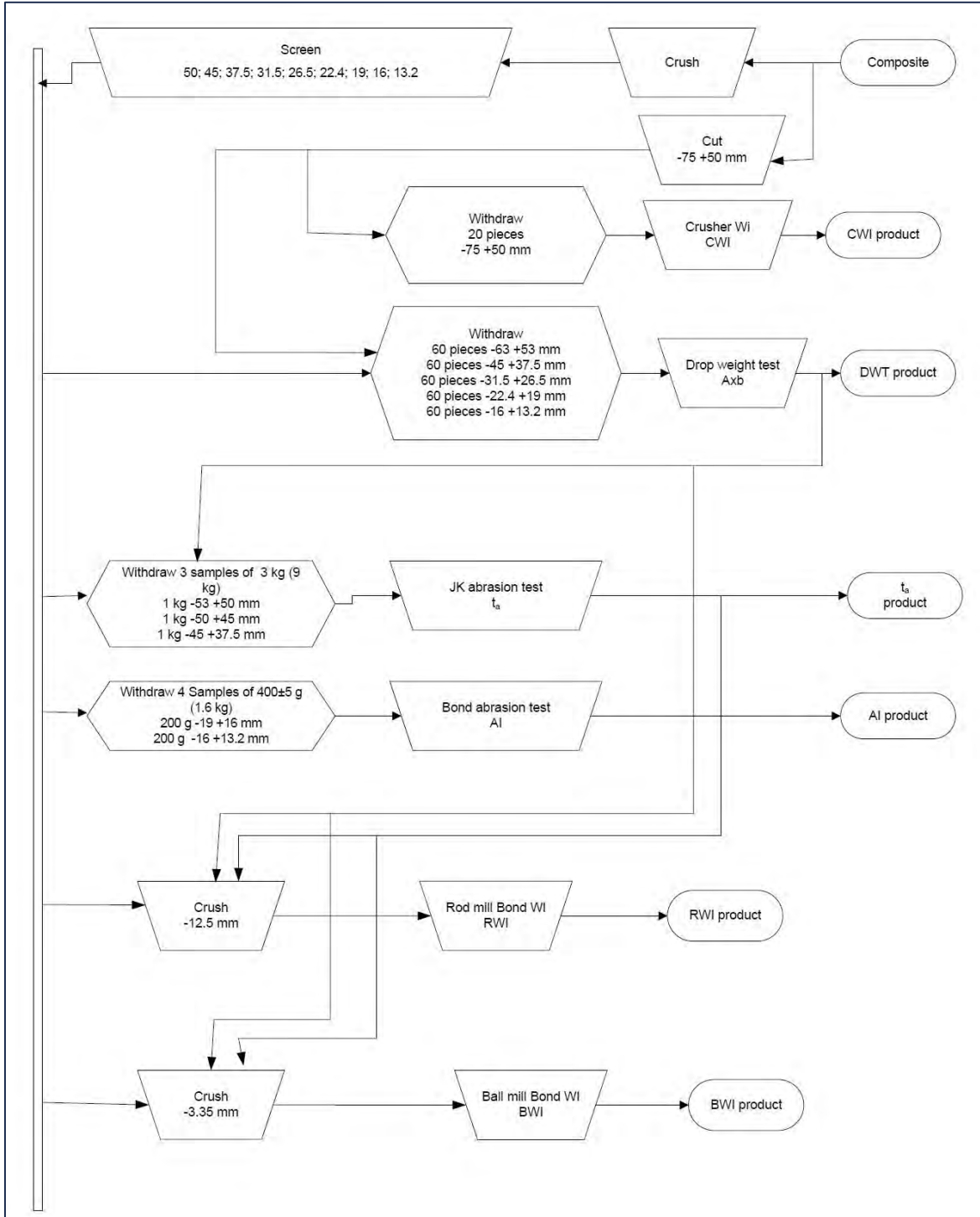


Figure 13-2: COREM comminution testwork protocol



Following the comminution testwork, the SMC, RWI, Ai, JK abrasion and DWT products of each composite were combined and crushed to  $P_{100}=850\ \mu\text{m}$ . Each composite was then homogenized through three passes on a rotary splitter; at this point, 30 kg of each composite was reserved for the GRG tests, while the rest of the material was split in 2-kg bags (Figure 13-3).

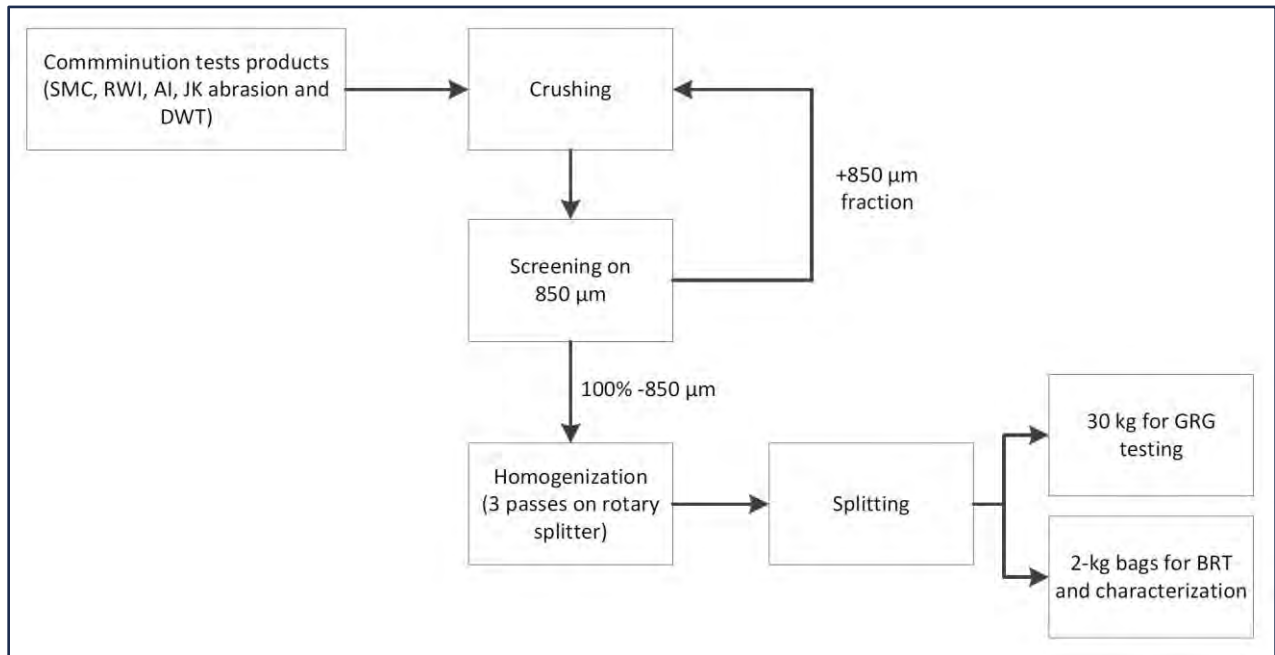


Figure 13-3: COREM metallurgical samples preparation flow diagram

Table 13-3 presents the composite Au feed from COREM testwork. Composite 12 presents the highest difference between the direct assays and the calculated assays; this could be explained by the presence of coarse gold. As in ALS testwork, it can be solved by performing a metallic gold analysis in the feed samples.



Table 13-3: Composite feed assays COREM testwork

Composite Number	P <sub>80</sub> (microns)	Calculated Au Feed (g/t)	Assay Feed Au (g/t)
9	105	0.60	0.56
	75	0.53	
	50	0.54	
12	105	1.67	3.06
	75	1.68	
	50	2.44	
26	105	0.34	0.27
	75	0.31	
	50	0.27	

### 13.3.2 Comminution

Comminution testwork was conducted at ALS (only Bond mill work index, report KM4609), COREM (report T2450) and JKTech (SMC testwork conducted at SGS under the instructions of COREM). Results analysis presented in JKTech job No 19007/P6; Feb. 2019).

Samples were selected by Sirios to provide representative samples for the testwork.

#### 13.3.2.1 ALS Testwork

Bond ball mill work index (BWi) was conducted on two composites (1 and 2) with closing aperture of 106 microns. Table 13-7 indicates the testwork results. The samples were classified as hard based on the Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre (JKMRC) evaluation.

#### 13.3.2.2 COREM Testwork

The comminution testwork was conducted on three of the main mineralized zones (composites 9, 12 and 26). Table 13-3 indicates the composites characteristics.

Table 13-4 indicates the results of the Bond crusher work index (CWi). The results are classified as hard material under COREM's evaluation.



Table 13-4: Bond crusher work index

Sample's ID	CWi (kWh/t)
Composite 9	15.3
Composite 12	14
Composite 26	13.9

Table 13-5 and Table 13-6 present the results of the drop weight tests (DWT), abrasion test results and SMC respectively. Composites are classified as relatively soft (12), normal (26) and relatively hard (9) for DWT based on JKMRRC evaluation. Regarding the SAG mill comminution (SMC) test, the composites are classified as relatively soft (12 and 26) and normal (9) according to JKMRRC evaluation.

Table 13-5: Drop weight and abrasion test results

Sample ID	DWT				ta	
	A	b	Axb	Classification*		Classification*
Composite 9	93.1	0.453	42.2	Relatively hard	0.24	Hard
Composite 12	73.5	0.876	64.3	Relatively soft	0.34	Hard
Composite 26	76.5	0.699	53.5	Normal	0.36	Relatively hard

\* Classification based on JKMRRC evaluation.

Table 13-6: SMC testwork results

Sample Name	A	b	Axb	Hardness Percentile	ta	DWI (kWh/m <sup>3</sup> )	Mia (kWh/t)	Mih (kWh/t)	Mic (kWh/t)	SCSE (kWh/t)	Relative Density
Composite 9	97.5	0.48	46.8	48	0.46	5.7	17.4	12.4	6.4	9.1	2.65
Composite 12	80.6	1.01	81.4	17	0.80	3.2	11.1	7.1	3.7	7.3	2.65
Composite 26	77.5	0.91	70.5	22	0.66	3.9	12.4	8.2	4.2	7.8	2.76

Table 13-7 presents the results of the Bond ball and rod mill index results for ALS and COREM test programs. Composites are classified as hard and very hard (26) based on JKMRRC evaluation for the BWi. In terms of RWi, the results indicate that the mineralized material is soft according to JKMRRC evaluation.



Table 13-7: Bond ball and rod mill work index

Sample's ID	Reference Screen (microns)	BWi (kWh/t)	Hardness*	RWi (kWh/t)	Hardness*
Composite 1 (ALS)	106	16.2	Hard		
Composite 2 (ALS)		14.1	Hard		
Composite 9 (COREM)		15.1	Hard	8	Soft
Composite 12 (COREM)		16.5	Hard	8.5	Soft
Composite 26 (COREM)		22.8	Very hard	6.3	Soft

\* Classification based on JKMRC evaluation.

Table 13-8 presents the results of the Bond abrasion index (Ai). Additionally, the wear rate estimations for rods, balls, and liners are presented. Composites are classified as low abrasion index (26) to medium (9 and 12) based on BBA database.

Table 13-8: Bond abrasion test results

Sample ID	Ai (g)	Wear rate (kg/kW)					
		Rod Mill		Ball Mill		Gyr/Jaw/Cone	Roll Crusher
		Rod	Liner	Ball	Liner	Liner	Liner
Composite 9	0.457	0.1347	0.0125	0.1211	0.0094	0.0278	0.0581
Composite 12	0.352	0.1276	0.0115	0.1107	0.0086	0.0235	0.0489
Composite 26	0.229	0.1162	0.0101	0.0951	0.0075	0.0184	0.0366

### 13.3.3 Metallurgical Testwork

The testwork objective was to evaluate the gold recovery through the following processes:

- Gravity separation and leaching of gravity tails;
- Gravity separation and flotation of gravity tails;
- Whole ore leach (WOL);
- Heap leaching;
- High Pressure Grinding Roll (HPGR) versus Conventional Crushing Cone (CC).

Testwork was conducted in four programs:

- ALS (whole ore leach, gravity and leaching of gravity tails);
- Actlabs (heap leach);



- COREM (whole ore leach); and Gravity Recovery Gold (GRG) testwork with leaching of GRG tails or flotation of gravity tails); and
- Kappes Cassidy KCA (Column Leach, Bottle Roll Leaching and Crushing Testwork - Conventional Cone and HPGR).

### 13.3.4 Gravity

Gravity testwork was conducted at two locations: ALS (Report 4609 and 4836, dated March and October 2015) and COREM (Report T2450 – Phase 1; dated August 29, 2019).

#### 13.3.4.1 ALS Testwork

Gravity separation tests with a Knelson separator and panning of the Knelson concentrate were performed to assess the potential for gold recovery to a gravity concentrate. Nominal primary grind sizings of 100 and 150  $\mu\text{m}$   $K_{80}$  (Sloan and Mehrfet, March 2015; KM4609); and 200 and 250  $\mu\text{m}$   $K_{80}$  (Sloan and Mehrfet, October 2015; KM4836) were tested.

On the first series of gravity tests, 2 kg samples of Composites 1, 2 and 3 were tested. The Knelson concentrate was hand panned to achieve a mass recovery that is somewhat more representative of a Knelson unit operation in a concentrator. Feed gold recovery to the pan concentrate ranged between 66% and 75% for Composites 1 and 2. Between 0.2% and 0.7% of the feed mass was recovered to the pan concentrates grading between 65 g/t and 368 g/t gold. The calculated gold feed grade for Composite 1 was between 0.7 g/t and 1.1 g/t, higher than the gold head grade measured by fire assay and screen metallic methods.

A single gravity recovery test with Composite 3 was completed at a primary grind sizing of about 157  $\mu\text{m}$   $K_{80}$ . Feed gold was about 76% recovered to a pan concentrate grading 295 g/t gold, and about 1.2% of the feed mass was recovered. The results indicate that there is potential for including a gravity recovery circuit for the three feed types.

On the second series of gravity tests, 4 kg charges of Composite 1 and 2 kg charges of Composite 2. Feed gold recovery to the pan concentrate ranged between 28% and 49% for Composite 1, and between 52% and 73% for Composite 2. Mass recovery to the pan concentrate averaged 0.3% and 0.5% for Composite 1 and Composite 2 respectively. Although gravity gold recovery decreased for Composite 1 at coarser primary grind sizings, an increase in gravity gold recovery at a coarser sizing was recorded for Composite 2. The higher gold recovery for Composite 2 for the test completed at a coarser grind sizing might be attributed to a “nugget” effect gold in the feed, given the difference in calculated gold head grade between the two tests.





The gravity testwork was followed by a series of cyanidation on either gravity tailings or direct feed for grind sizes of 100, 150, 200 and 250  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Table 13-9: ALS: Gravity recovery results

Program	Composites	P <sub>80</sub> microns	Au Head Grade g/t	Gravity Recovery %
KM4609	1	146	1.08	70.4
		109	0.70	72.5
	2	146	1.09	74.8
		100	0.90	65.8
	3	157	4.52	76.2
	KM4836	1	196	0.40
242			0.49	27.8
2		202	0.64	52.3
		245	0.95	72.9

#### 13.3.4.2 COREM Testwork

Following the preparation and the homogenization of the material, a GRG test was carried out according to the standard 3-stage methodology developed by André Laplante.

The composite sample was processed with a MD3 Knelson separator to perform the three stages GRG test. These three stages were realized successively on reground samples: 100% -850  $\mu\text{m}$  for stage 1, 50% -75  $\mu\text{m}$  for stage 2, and 80% -75  $\mu\text{m}$  for stage 3. Each concentrate and tailings were screened, and each size fraction was analyzed by fire assay with an atomic adsorption finish to estimate its gold grade. A metallurgical balance was realized at each stage to evaluate the gold recovery at all stages.

The gravity testwork was followed by a series of cyanidation on either gravity tailings ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) or direct feed for grind sizes of 106  $\mu\text{m}$ , 75  $\mu\text{m}$  and 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

An additional Knelson test, as well as sulfide flotation on the gravity tailings, was carried out for each of the three composites to produce material for the mineralogical characterization.

Table 13-10 shows the results of the gravity test.



Table 13-10: COREM: Gravity recovery results

Composites	P <sub>80</sub> microns	Au Head Grade g/t	Gravity Recovery %
9	75	0.92	81.4
12	75	2.81	88.0
26	75	0.31	56.5

### 13.3.5 Leaching of Gravity Tails

Leaching of gravity tails testwork was conducted at two locations: ALS (Sloan and Mehrfet, March and October 2015) and COREM (Tremblay-Bouliane et al, 2019).

#### 13.3.5.1 ALS Testwork

Cyanidation leach bottle roll tests at grind size between 100 µm and 150 µm on the combined gravity tail were performed on Composites 1, 2 and 3 to measure overall gold recovery (report KM4609); and at coarser grind (200 µm to 250 µm) Composites 1 and 2 (report KM4836). No material was available for Composite 3 (report KM4836). The combined Knelson and pan tail was subjected to cyanidation bottle roll leaching for 48 hours at a sodium cyanide concentration of 1,000 ppm with interval samplings at 2, 6, 24 and 48 hours. The slurry was sparged with oxygen and the pH was maintained at a target of 11.0 during the cyanidation leach test with lime. Table 13-11 presents the results of both programs.

Regarding leaching conducted at grinds between 100 µm to 150 µm, it was observed that:

- Combined gold recovery by gravity concentration followed by cyanidation leach extraction of the gravity tail averaged about 92% for the three composites tested. Overall gold recovery varied between 1% and 3% for Composite 1 and Composite 2 at the two primary grind sizes tested; additional testing would be required to determine whether the difference was significant.
- Gold leach kinetics recorded for tests at a nominal primary grind sizing of 150 µm K<sub>80</sub> appeared to be more rapid than for tests performed with gravity tails at 100 µm K<sub>80</sub>. Additional testing would be required to confirm. Sodium cyanide and lime consumption averaged about 0.4 kg/t over the tests completed.

Regarding leaching at coarser grind results (200 µm to 250 µm) leach feed:

- Combined gold recovery by gravity concentration followed by cyanidation leach extraction of the gravity tail averaged about 88% for Composite 1 and 93% for Composite 2. This represents a 4% decrease from the 92% overall gold extraction recorded for Composite 1 at



146  $\mu\text{m}$   $K_{80}$  in the previous test program. For Composite 2, the combined gold recoveries recorded at coarser primary grind sizings averaged 93%, similar to gold recoveries recorded in the previous test program at 146  $\mu\text{m}$   $K_{80}$ .

- Sodium cyanide and lime consumption averaged about 0.1 kg/t and 0.3 kg/t respectively, for tests completed in this program, a substantial decrease from the 0.4 kg/t average recorded in the previous test program at finer primary grind sizings.

Table 13-11: ALS: Leaching of gravity tails results

Program	Composites	$P_{80}$ microns	Calculated Au Head Grade g/t	Au Recovery %	NaCN kg/t	Lime kg/t
KM4609	1	146	0.25	74.4	0.5	0.47
		109	0.12	67.3	0.4	0.55
	2	146	0.18	67.5	0.34	0.30
		100	0.22	84.1	0.30	0.40
	3	157	0.89	69.2	0.54	0.32
	KM4836	1	196	0.21	80.7	0.16
242			0.26	80.6	0.08	0.28
2		202	0.24	79.1	0.13	0.36
		245	0.28	82.2	0.10	0.39

### 13.3.5.2 COREM Testwork

Approximately 1 kg of sample was used for leaching tests in 4-L bottles. Leaching parameters were duration 48h, % solids 50%, pH (lime) 10.25-10.75,  $[\text{NaCN}]_{\text{maintained}}$  1,000 mg/L NaCN, Aeration Natural (open bottles).

In preparation for the bottle roll cyanidation, the ground mineralized material is introduced in a 4-L bottle, followed by the addition of the required demineralized water. The mixture is stirred, and the pre-leach pH noted and adjusted to the required pH using slaked lime powder. The bottle is then rolled for approximately 15 minutes and the pH is adjusted, if necessary, followed by the initial cyanide addition to start the cyanidation reaction.

Sampling and assays schedule for bottle roll tests was at 2, 6, 24 hours (with control of pH, residual cyanide/cyanide addition, dissolved oxygen (D.O.), dissolved Au by atomic absorption), and 48 hours (with control of pH by total lime addition, residual cyanide, D.O., dissolved Au by atomic absorption, Au in solid tailings by metallic sieve on 500 g).



A total of nine bottle roll cyanidation tests were carried out. Bottle roll cyanidation results are presented in Table 13-12.

Testwork observations:

- Au recovery for the GRG tailings BRTs was lower when compared to the direct feed BRTs. The 48-hour Au recovery was 81.7%, 75.6% and 79.2% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively. The lower cyanidation recovery can be explained by the generally lower feed grade, as most of the gold was recovered during the GRG tests. With the lower feed grades, the encapsulated gold represents a higher proportion of the total gold present in the GRG tailings, resulting in a lower calculated recovery for the cyanidation step.
- Consumption was slightly higher for the leaching of gravity tailings: 0.67 kg/t, 0.67 kg/t and 0.89 kg/t for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively.

The cyanide concentration was maintained at a notably high setpoint of 1,000 mg/L NaCN throughout the cyanidation tests to provide adequate leaching kinetics for proper evaluation of the achievable final Au recovery. Furthermore, for some of the tests (more specifically for the GRG tailings cyanidation tests), the pH dropped slightly below 10 overnight, which probably caused some amount of hydrocyanic acid (HCN) volatilization.

Cyanide concentration optimization through additional leaching tests would most likely lead to the determination of a lower setpoint and to overall lower cyanide consumption, even more so when combined with a pH maintained over 10.5 for the whole duration of the leaching.

Lime consumption can be considered low for most of the tests. Among the three composites, Composite 26 has the highest lime consumption. Lime consumption values of 0.70 kg/t, 0.73 kg/t and 1.23 kg/t were measured respectively for composites 9, 12 and 26.



Table 13-12: COREM: Gravity tails leach results

Composite	Product	P <sub>80</sub> µm	Replicate	Calc Feed g/t	Assayed Feed g/t	Au Recovery, 48 hours %	NaCN Consumption kg/t	CaO Consumption kg/t	CaO Equivalent kg/t
9	GRG tailings	75	1	0.14	0.17	83.2	0.51	1.14	0.86
			2	0.18		81.2	0.75	0.74	0.56
			3	0.11		80.5	0.76	0.90	0.68
			Average	0.15		81.7	0.67	0.93	0.70
12		75	1	0.35	0.29	76.6	0.5	1.0	0.76
			2	0.36		76.0	0.8	0.9	0.70
			3	0.36		74.1	0.7	1.0	0.73
			Average	0.36		75.6	0.67	0.97	0.73
26		75	1	0.12	0.12	80.6	0.9	1.8	1.32
			2	0.13		75.9	0.9	1.2	0.93
			3	0.12		81.1	0.9	1.9	1.42
			Average	0.13		79.2	0.89	1.62	1.23

### 13.3.6 Flotation of Gravity Tails

#### 13.3.6.1 COREM Testwork

Bulk sulphide flotation test was carried out on gravity separation tailings from each composite to study the gold-sulphide mineral associations. Testwork was conducted at COREM (Tremblay-Bouliane et al, 2019).

A 12-kg sample from each composite sample was subjected to a single Knelson gravity separation step at P<sub>80</sub>=75 µm. The tailings were filtered, dried, and split in 4-kg sub-samples to undergo flotation tests. Flotation tests were carried out in a 10-litre Denver cell at the following operating conditions: 30-35% solids, pH = 9.5, air flowrate = 50 L/min, rotation speed 900 rpm. The reagent additions were: 40 g/t of CuSO<sub>4</sub> at the rougher stage and PAX51 additions of 40, 20 and 20 g/t for the rougher and two stages of scavenger flotation. These conditions were set to recover as much sulphides as possible, while still obtaining a grade high enough to facilitate the mineralogical characterization of Au-sulphide associations.

Table 13-13 shows the bulk sulphide flotation results.



Table 13-13: COREM: Flotation of gravity tails results

Composite	Conc. Mass %	Tails Mass %	Sulphur Mass Balance				Gold Mass Balance			
			Conc. Grade %	Tail Grade %	Calc. Feed %	Recovery %	Conc. Grade %	Tail Grade %	Calc. Feed %	Recovery %
9	2.72	97.3	3.8	< 0.1	0.15	51.5	4.2	0.07	0.18	62.7
12	5.30	94.7	2.7	< 0.1	0.19	60.1	5.2	0.15	0.42	65.8
26	3.70	96.3	4.2	< 0.1	0.20	61.8	2.3	0.06	0.14	59.5

\* The sulphide calculated feed was based on a 0.1% S grade in the tailings since the assay was under the detection limit. Thus, sulphide recovery is probably underestimated.

### 13.3.7 Whole Ore Leach \*

Whole ore leach (WOL) testwork was conducted at two locations: ALS (Sloan and Mehrfet, March and October 2015) and COREM (Tremblay-Bouliane et al, 2019).

\* Note, in the context of this 2022 MRE Update report, here the reference to “ore” in the commonly used expression “Whole Ore Leach (WOL)” means *whole mineralized material*, not “whole ore” with economic value, so as to be consistent with the Resource classifications used in this MRE update report.

#### 13.3.7.1 ALS Testwork

Cyanidation leach bottle roll tests (WOL) using feed charges at a nominal primary grind sizing of 150 µm K<sub>80</sub> were performed on Composite 1, Composite 2 and Composite 3 to measure gold extraction to benchmark with leaching of gravity tails results. The selection of the primary grind sizing was based on the previous gravity and cyanidation leach test results. Bottle roll leaching was carried out over 48 hours at a sodium cyanide concentration of 1,000 ppm with interval sampling at 2, 6, 24 and 48 hours. The slurry was sparged with oxygen and the pH was maintained to a target of 11.0 over the duration of the test with lime. The following comments relate to the test data (in comparison to Table 13-11):

- Gold extraction values by cyanidation leaching were 24% and 14% lower than the values measured for combined gravity and cyanidation leaching of the gravity tails for Composite 1 and Composite 2 respectively, at a similar primary grind sizing. However, the gold extraction by whole ore leaching for Composite 3 was only about 2% lower.
- Gold extraction kinetics were slower for the whole ore cyanidation leach tests than those measured for cyanidation leaching of gravity tails. Peak gold extraction was reached within about 24 hours for Composite 1 and Composite 2 in the whole ore leach tests but required





only about 6 hours for the gravity tails. Peak gold extractions were measured after 24 hours or longer with the higher-grade Composite 3.

- Sodium cyanide consumption was between 0.2 kg/t and 0.3 kg/t higher for whole ore cyanidation leach tests than values measured for cyanidation leach tests with gravity tails.

Table 13-14: ALS: Direct cyanidation (WOL) and gravity recovery followed by leaching of gravity tails (Grav + CN)

Composites	P <sub>80</sub> microns	Test Type	Calculated Au Head Grade g/t	Au Recovery %	NaCN kg/t	Lime kg/t
1	146	WO	0.36	68.2	0.70	0.27
	146	Grav + CN	1.08	92.4	0.50	0.47
2	146	WO	0.73	78.1	0.66	0.31
	146	Grav + CN	1.09	91.8	0.34	0.30
3	157	WO	6.8	91.1	0.88	0.34
	157	Grav + CN	4.52	92.7	0.54	0.32

### 13.3.7.2 COREM Testwork

The same protocol was used to test the direct cyanidation (WOL) as presented in Section 13.3.5.2.

A total of 27 bottle roll cyanidation tests were carried out. Bottle roll cyanidation results are presented in Table 13-15.

Direct leach (WOL) tests observations:

- For the direct feed cyanidation tests, Au recovery generally increases with finer grind sizes. At a grind size of P<sub>80</sub>=50 µm, the 48-hour Au recovery reached 88.1%, 92.0% and 87.8% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively.
- The smaller grind sizes also led to an increase in Au leaching kinetics, which is probably the result of an increase in the exposed gold surface.
- Cyanide consumption was moderate to low for all three composites tested for direct cyanidation and were slightly higher for coarser grind sizes; it ranged between 0.49-0.58 kg/t, 0.22-0.48 kg/t and 0.19-0.29 kg/t for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively.
- Lime consumption was moderate to low for all three composites tested for direct cyanidation and were slightly higher for coarser grind sizes; it ranged between 0.56-0.70 kg/t, 0.65-0.88 kg/t and 0.84-1.09 kg/t for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively.



Table 13-15: COREM: Direct cyanidation (WOL) testwork results

Composite	Product	P <sub>80</sub> µm	Replicate	Calc Feed g/t	Assayed Feed g/t	Au Recovery 48 hours %	NaCN Consumption kg/t	CaO Consumption kg/t	CaO Equivalent kg/t
9	Direct feed (WOL)	105	1	0.75	0.56	83.0	0.40	0.73	0.55
			2	0.53		73.6	0.70	0.56	0.42
			3	0.53		75.1	0.63	0.50	0.38
			Average	0.60		77.9	0.58	0.59	0.45
		75	1	0.56		82.4	0.50	0.66	0.50
			2	0.54		82.8	0.66	0.56	0.42
			3	0.49		81.4	0.35	0.48	0.36
			Average	0.53		82.2	0.50	0.56	0.43
		50	1	0.55		89.0	0.41	0.50	0.38
			2	0.47		87.0	0.54	0.93	0.70
			3	0.60		88.1	0.51	0.69	0.52
			Average	0.54		88.1	0.49	0.70	0.53
12	Direct feed (WOL)	105	1	1.80	3.06	86.8	0.44	0.74	0.56
			2	1.62		85.9	0.58	0.33	0.25
			3	1.61		86.3	0.41	0.88	0.66
			Average	1.67		86.4	0.48	0.65	0.49
		75	1	1.86		87.7	0.19	1.00	0.74
			2	1.62		86.5	0.23	0.66	0.49
			3	1.57		86.0	0.27	0.67	0.49
			Average	1.68		86.8	0.23	0.78	0.57
		50	1	2.67		92.8	0.20	0.91	0.67
			2	2.46		92.0	0.25	0.99	0.73
			3	2.18		91.1	0.21	0.75	0.56
			Average	2.44		92.0	0.22	0.88	0.65
26	Direct feed (WOL)	105	1	0.33	0.27	85.2	0.27	0.87	0.64
			2	0.37		86.1	0.32	0.86	0.63
			3	0.33		84.2	0.28	0.79	0.58
			Average	0.34		85.2	0.29	0.84	0.62
		75	1	0.33		88.1	0.22	0.92	0.68
			2	0.31		88.9	0.23	1.28	0.94
			3	0.28		84.8	0.26	1.07	0.79
			Average	0.31		87.4	0.24	1.09	0.80
		50	1	0.25		87.0	0.20	0.97	0.71
			2	0.28		88.9	0.05	1.01	0.75
			3	0.27		87.4	0.19	0.95	0.70
			Average	0.27		87.8	0.19	0.98	0.72



### 13.3.8 Heap Leach

Heap leach amenability testwork was conducted at Actlabs on behalf of Sirios Resources Inc.

The objective of the testwork was to study the gold extraction at three crush sizes: 19 mm (-3/4 inch), 12.5 mm (-3/8 inch) and 2 mm (-10 mesh). The cyanidation testwork was conducted using intermittent bottle rolls (as a proxy for heap leach) on three samples of mineralized material. Table 13-16 shows the results of the testwork.

Table 13-16: Actlabs: Heap leach amenability testwork

Material Type (ID)	Crush Size mm	Au Head Assay g/t	Calc Head g/t	Leach Residue %	Au Final Solution ppm	Au Adjusted Solution ppm	Cyanide Consumption kg/t	Au recovery %
Met Sed (01306720)	-19	0.64	0.27	0.22	0.05	0.06	1.31	21
	-12.5		0.22	0.13	0.09	0.10	1.29	43
	-2		1.14	0.17	0.90	1.00	1.47	85
Ton (01306721)	-19	0.43	0.40	0.22	0.16	0.17	1.16	45
	-12.5		0.80	0.47	0.31	0.33	1.21	41
	-2		0.47	0.16	0.28	0.31	1.22	66
Peg (01306722)	-19	43.5	26.20	18.20	7.46	7.99	1.25	30
	-12.5		34.20	18.10	15.42	16.20	1.20	46
	-2		29.40	12.70	15.56	16.70	1.25	57

Actlabs report indicates that:

- The best results were found for the finer crushed size: 2 mm;
- Analysis of the leaching kinetics curves indicated that the gold dissolution rate increase between the 7th and 14th days indicating potential higher gold recovery with longer leaching time;
- The cyanide consumption (from 1.16 kg/t to 1.47 kg/t) was in an average range and lime consumption was negative, an indication that the samples were alkaline, and the pH increased during the leaching time.



### 13.3.9 KCA Bottle Roll and Column Leach Testwork

Both heap leach amenability (column leach testwork) and bottle roll testwork was conducted at Kappes Cassiday & Associates Laboratories (KCA) in Reno, Nevada on behalf of Sirios Resources Inc in 2020.

#### 13.3.9.1 Sample Receipt and Preparation

On March 18, 2020, the laboratory facility of KCA in Reno, Nevada received 30 5-gallon buckets of bulk material from the Cheechoo Project in Québec (KCA, 2020). The received material represented a single bulk sample.

Upon receipt, each bucket was weighed. The material from the buckets was then combined into a single sample with a total mass of 506.6 kg. The sample was photographed and described geologically.

One half of the sample was conventionally crushed using laboratory scale jaw and cone crushers (CC). The remaining half was crushed utilizing a High Pressure Grinding Roll unit - PILOTWAL (HPGR). The crushed products were individually prepared and utilized for metallurgical testwork.

Additional sample preparation was conducted to provide material for metallic screen head analyses, head screen analyses with metallic screen assays by size fraction, bottle roll leach testwork, agglomeration testwork, and column leach testwork.

All preparation, assaying and metallurgical studies were performed utilizing accepted industry standard procedures.

The above sample preparation and handling procedures appear to have been completed acceptably according to international standards of metallurgical sample testwork at laboratory.

#### 13.3.9.2 Bottle Roll Testwork

Bottle roll leach test work was conducted on the bulk material sample to evaluate the following:

- Effect of crush type - Conventional versus High Pressure Grinding Roll (HPGR);
- Crush size (P100 9.5 mm and P100 6.3 mm);
- Leach temperature (20°C and 4°C).

Each set of test parameters were conducted using a series of five individual bottle roll tests, which were run for a leach period of 21 days.



The results of each bottle roll test series were averaged, as discussed below:

### Conventionally Crushed Material

Average gold extractions for the conventionally crushed material ranged from 51% to 58% based on calculated heads, which ranged from 0.739 g/t to 0.968 g/t. The sodium cyanide consumptions ranged from 0.19 kg/t to 0.38 kg/t. The material utilized in leaching was blended with 0.50 kg/t lime.

### HPGR Crushed Material

The average gold extractions for the HPGR crushed material ranged from 61% to 71% based on calculated heads, which ranged from 0.637 g/t to 0.832 g/t. The sodium cyanide consumptions ranged from 0.25 kg/t to 0.54 kg/t. The material utilized in leaching was blended with 0.50 kg/t lime.

### Bottle Roll Leach Conclusions

The following points on the testwork with key conclusions should be noted:

- For the conventionally crushed material, at a coarse crush size (P100 9.5 mm), and leached at 20°C, averaged 2% higher gold extraction than tests leached at 4°C;
- The finer crush tests (P100 6.3 mm) leached at 20°C averaged 7% higher gold extraction than tests leached at 4°C;
- For the HPGR crushed material, the coarse crush tests leached (P100 9.5 mm) at 20°C averaged 4% higher gold extraction than tests run at 4°C;
- The fine crush tests (P100 6.3 mm) run at 20°C averaged 9% higher gold extraction than tests leached at 4°C;
- For both crush methods, the finer crush size (P100 6.3 mm) results in a significantly higher gold leach recovery of 7-9%, over the coarse crush size (P100 9.5 mm);
- The warmer leach temperature at 20°C, under an HPGR crush method, appears to result in higher gold leach recoveries. The colder temperature at 4°C is likely to retard the mass transfer of NaCN solutions into the material, to the gold particles, and could be a cause of the lower gold recoveries;
- The use of HPGR as the material crush method should be investigated further on additional samples from the Cheechoo deposit.



Importantly, the duration of the bottle roll leach testwork was only for 21 days (3 weeks). Comparatively, on the same material, the column leach testwork was run over 151 days. The bottle roll leach time is 7 times shorter, which is likely to be the main cause of lower gold recoveries seen in the bottle roll testwork.

The comparative gold recoveries, as shown in Table 13-17, are as follows:

- For bottle roll leaching: 51% to 58% (on conventionally crushed material) and 61% to 71% (HPGR crushed material); versus
- For the column leach testwork: 68% (conventionally crushed material) and 80% (for HPGR compaction crushed material).

The estimation of gold recoveries for heap leaching is discussed later in Section 13.3.10 with the calculation of overall gold recoveries, as applied to the Cheechoo deposit for the 2022 MRE Update.

Table 13-17 Gold recovery comparison – KCA Column versus Bottle Roll Leach Testwork

KCA Column Leach Sample	Temp °C	Crush Size P100 mm	Crush Type	Days of Column Leach	Column Leach Extracted % Au	Days of Bottle Roll Leach	Bottle Roll Average Extracted % Au
88301 C	20	6.3	Conv.	151	68%	21	51%
88301 C	4	6.3	Conv.	151	73%	21	58%
88303 A	20	6.3	HPGR	151	80%	21	61%
88303 A	4	6.3	HPGR	151	76%	21	68%

### 13.3.9.3 Agglomeration Testwork

The results of agglomeration testwork on crushed Cheechoo material (P100 6.3 mm) show that the addition of cement at a minimum of 2.0 kg/t material is required. According to the KCA metrics presented in Table 13-18, the percolation flow result was scored as a “Fail” with zero cement addition.

During the four column tests, no bed slumping was observed, indicating adequate cement addition rates at 2.0 kg/t. Further load compressibility testwork is recommended to optimize the cement addition rates on further material samples from Cheechoo.



During cyanide leaching of materials placed in lifts on a permanent heap pad, the cemented agglomerates will give both valuable additional in situ alkalinity and will agglomerate the fines to provide sufficient cured strength of the agglomerates. This will lead to:

- Adequate percolation flow-rates of leach solutions downward through the lifts;
- Sufficient material compression strength for multiple lifts played on top of each other, for the heap not to collapse and prevent percolation of pregnant liquor solution (PLS) through each lift;
- Stability to the heap preventing slumping and run-outs from the side slopes.

For heap leaching of Cheechoo materials at a fine crush size of P100 = 6.3 mm, agglomeration of the material with the use of cement is recommended.





Table 13-18: KCA Summary of preliminary agglomeration testwork

KCA Sample No.	Description	Cement, kg/t dry ore	pH on Day 3	pH Comment	% Slump	Slump Result	Flow Out, L/hr/m <sup>2</sup>	Flow Result	Visual Estimate of % Pellet Breakdown	Pellet Result	Out Flow Solution, Color and Clarity	Solution Result	Overall Test Result
88301 C	Bulk Material, Conventional Crush P100 6.3 mm	0	7.6	Low	0%	Pass	204	Fail	N/A	--	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Fail
		2	11.2	Good	0%	Pass	1,868	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass
		4	11.6	High	0%	Pass	11,425	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass
		8	11.9	High	0%	Pass	9,221	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass
88303 A	Bulk Material, HPGR Crush P100 6.3 mm	0	7.7	Low	0%	Pass	99	Fail	N/A	--	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Fail
		2	11.2	Good	0%	Pass	1,933	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass
		4	11.5	Good	0%	Pass	7,752	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass
		8	11.8	High	0%	Pass	8,046	Pass	< 3	Pass	Colorless & Clear	Pass	Pass



#### 13.3.9.4 KCA Column Leach Testwork Conditions

KCA completed column leach tests utilizing conventionally crushed material as well as HPGR crushed material. Based on the results of the bottle roll leach tests, column leach tests were conducted with material crushed to 100% passing 6.3 mm. For both types of crushed material, agglomeration of each column charge sample was completed with 2.01 kg of cement per tonne of material.

One portion of agglomerated material from each crush type was leached at a temperature of 20°C, and the second portion of material was leached at a temperature of 4°C. This cold column leach was conducted in a refrigerated room, maintained at 4°C. This was to simulate the extreme cold weather conditions likely to occur near James Bay, Ontario.

During testing, the material was leached for 151 days with a sodium cyanide solution, percolating through the column at an average of 10 -12 L/h/m<sup>2</sup>.

The initial leach solution for each column test contained 1.0 gram of sodium cyanide per liter of leach solution (1,000 ppm). The cyanide strength of the return on-flow solution was maintained at a target level of 0.5 grams of sodium cyanide per liter (500 ppm).

Protective alkalinity in the test was maintained by the initial addition of cement during column setup. The leach solution was monitored to ensure that a high pH range was maintained throughout testing. The pH was maintained in the PLS at above pH 10.5, with regular additions of NaCN solution (1.0 g/L NaCN).

The initial and final leach solutions exiting from the column base were monitored for colour and clarity in each column test.

All four column tests exhibited no change in solution colour and no generation of fines over the duration of each column test. Initial exit solutions were clear and colourless, and then light brown (expected) and clear, indicating no buildup of leached metals. The observation results are tabled below in Table 13-19.



Table 13-19 Column leach solution observations at KCA

KCA Sample No.	KCA Test No.	Description	Temp °C	Crush Type	Colour and Clarity of Initial Column Effluent	Colour and Clarity of Final Column Effluent
88301 C	88315	Bulk Material	20	Conv.	Colorless & Clear	Brown and Clear
88301 C	88318	Bulk Material	4	Conv.	Colorless & Clear	Brown and Clear
88303 A	88321	Bulk Material	20	HPGR	Colorless & Clear	Brown and Clear
88303 A	88324	Bulk Material	4	HPGR	Colorless & Clear	Brown and Clear

### 13.3.9.5 KCA Column Leach Testwork Results - Gold and Silver Recovery

Key column test results from the KCA testwork are summarized below in Table 13-20 and Table 13-21, showing gold and silver recoveries from the four column leach tests conducted at KCA over a period of 151 days.



Table 13-20 KCA column leach results – Gold

KCA Sample No.	Description	Temp °C	Crush Size P100 mm	Crush Type	Calculated Head g Au/Mt	Extracted g Au/Mt	Extracted, % Au	Calculated Tail p80 Size mm	Days of Leach	Consumption NaCN kg/Mt	Addition Cement kg/Mt
88301 C	Bulk Material	20	6.3	Conv.	0.807	0.549	68%	4.09	151	2.35	2.01
88301 C	Bulk Material	4	6.3	Conv.	0.912	0.662	73%	4.04	151	1.41	2.01
88303 A	Bulk Material	20	6.3	HPGR	0.967	0.771	80%	3.53	151	2.45	2.02
88303 A	Bulk Material	4	6.3	HPGR	0.802	0.607	76%	3.23	151	1.40	2.02

Table 13-21 KCA column leach results – Silver

KCA Sample No.	Description	Temp °C	Crush Size P100 mm	Crush Type	Weighted Avg. Head Assay g Ag/Mt	Extracted g Ag/Mt	Estimated Extracted % Ag	Calculated Tail p80 Size mm	Days of Leach	Consumption NaCN kg/Mt	Addition Cement kg/Mt
88301 C	Bulk Material	20	6.3	Conv.	0.45	0.30	68%	4.09	151	2.35	2.01
88301 C	Bulk Material	4	6.3	Conv.	0.45	0.26	57%	4.04	151	1.41	2.01
88303 A	Bulk Material	20	6.3	HPGR	1.09	0.42	39%	3.53	151	2.45	2.02
88303 A	Bulk Material	4	6.3	HPGR	1.09	0.39	36%	3.23	151	1.40	2.02



For the column leach testwork tabled above in Table 13-20 and Table 13-21 the kinetics of gold leaching in the four KCA column leach tests are shown below in Figure 13-4 ( KCA Report Figure 6-1).

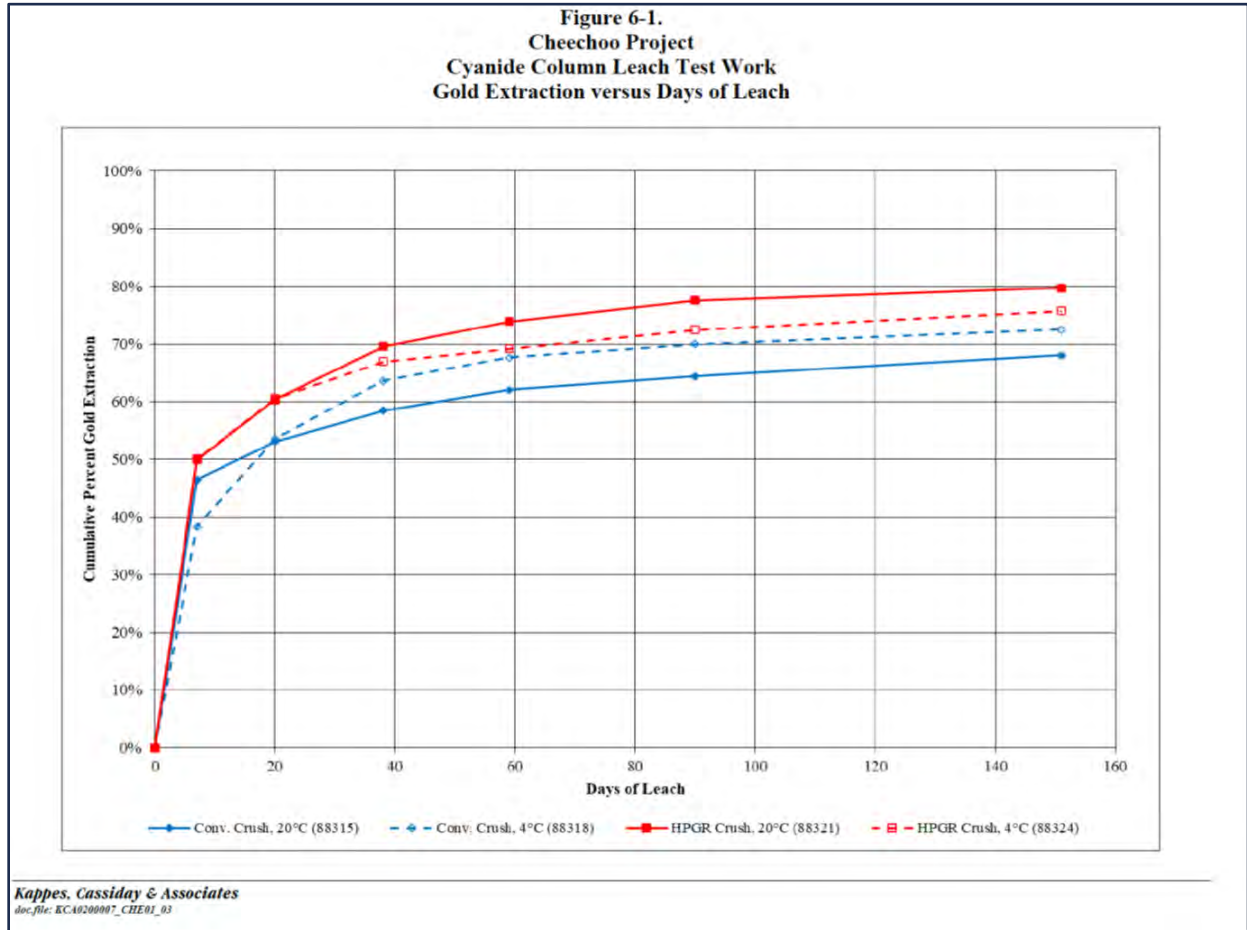


Figure 13-4: KCA column leach kinetics for Au leaching

From the leach kinetic curves in Figure 13-4, the upward slope of the gold recovery leach curves, from 90 days approaching 151 days suggests that for a longer leach time on a heap, increased gold recovery is likely to occur. In the overall gold recovery estimations recommended for heap leaching of Cheechoo materials, this important observation was taken into account.



### 13.3.10 Gold Recovery Estimation

The gold recovery estimates applied in the earlier BBA 2020 Mineral Resource Estimate Update (2020 MRE Update) (Richard et al., 2020) are presented below in Section 13.3.10.1 where estimates are still relevant.

In Section 13.3.10.2, for this 2022 Mineral Resource Estimate Update (2022 MRE Update), a revised set of gold recoveries, are discussed and presented for the two metallurgical operations:

1. Crush – Grind Gravity + Gravity Tails Cyanide Leach;
2. Crush – Agglomeration – Heap Leaching on a permanent pad.

The heap leaching gold recoveries used are based on the additional KCA column leach testwork data, as discussed above.

It should be noted that the estimated overall gold recoveries used in this 2022 MRE Update are drawn from the available testwork data on the given selected samples taken by Sirios from the Cheechoo deposit. The testwork results tabled in this Report are from samples that are limited in number and further metallurgical variability testwork on multi-samples is recommended. These additional samples should be taken across the deposit to cover the spatial range and depth of the deposit more fully. This is to map and confirm the metallurgical performance with varying locations, rock type with variable gold and silver grades. This is also recommended given the strong gold nugget effect present with varying sizes and amounts of free gold present.

However, for this 2022 MRE Update, the available data was interrogated, and based on these data the estimated gold recoveries presented in Section 13.3.10.2 are reasonable estimates for this level of resource definition. The gold recoveries that are tabled are based on three gold grade classes for each material rock type zone.

#### 13.3.10.1 Gold Recovery Estimates Applied in the 2020 MRE Update

Overall gold recoveries were calculated using results from the above testwork programs and assuming four processing methods: 1) gravity recovery followed by leaching of gravity tails; 2) gravity recovery followed by flotation of gravity tails; 3) whole ore leach (1 to 3 as part of COREM testwork); and 4) heap leach (only the Actlabs testwork).

The Au head grades of composites used for the heap leach testwork were 0.64 g/t, 0.43 g/t and 43.5 g/t for composites 01306720 (Metasediments), 01306721 (Tonalite) and 01306722 (Pegmatite) respectively. In contrast, the Au head grades of composites 9, 12 and 26 were 0.92 g/t, 2.81 g/t and 0.31 g/t respectively. Those composites were used for whole ore leach; gravity recovery followed by leach of gravity tails and gravity recovery followed by flotation of gravity tails.



The whole ore leach testwork was conducted at three different particle sizes ( $P_{80}$ ) of 50, 75 and 105 microns, and leaching or flotation of gravity tails were conducted at  $P_{80} = 75$  microns (product of the third stage of GRG testwork). A particle size of 75 microns was selected to estimate the gold recovery and to compare results of WOL versus gravity recovery followed by leaching or flotation of gravity tails testwork.

Summaries of each gold recovery method are presented in Table 13-22 to Table 13-25.

In the case of the testwork involving gravity recovery, the overall gold recoveries reported by COREM were:

- Gravity recovery (GRG): 81.4%, 88% and 56.5% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 75.3%);
- For gravity recovery followed by leach of gravity tails: 96.6%, 97.1% and 91.0% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 94.9 %);
- Gravity recovery followed by flotation of gravity tails: 93.1%, 95.9% and 82.4% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 90.5%).

These overall gold recovery values were calculated assuming a gold gravity recovery of 100% of the GRG. The GRG results are only referential from testwork. At industrial scale it is common to recover 40% to 50% of the GRG in a well-designed gravity recovery circuit. BBA recommends that 50% of the GRG index is to be assumed when estimating the gold gravity recovery. Therefore, the average recovery decreases by 7.7% when the gravity circuit recovery is assumed to be 50% instead of 100% of the GRG. The recalculated overall recoveries are:

- Gravity recovery (corrected): 41.0%, 44.0% and 28.0% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 38%);
- For gravity recovery followed by leach of gravity tails: 89.1%, 86.3% and 85.0% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 86.8%);
- Gravity recovery followed by flotation of gravity tails: 77.9%, 80.8% and 70.9% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 76.6%).

The gold recovery (at 75 microns) for the whole ore leach method was 82.2%, 86.8% and 87.4% (average = 85.5%) for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively.





Table 13-22: Gravity gold recovery estimation from COREM testwork

Criterion	Unit	Composite		
		9	12	26
Average Feed Grade	g/t Au	0.92	2.81	0.31
Gravity (GRG) recovery	%	81.4	88.0	56.5
GRG correction factor	%	50.0	50.0	50.0
Corrected gold gravity recovery	%	41.0	44.0	28.0

Table 13-23: Gold recovery estimation by flotation of gravity tails method from COREM testwork

Criterion	Unit	Composite		
		9	12	26
GRG tailings gold flotation recovery (P <sub>80</sub> of 75 microns)	%	62.7	65.8	59.5
Overall gold recovery (GRG corrected)	%	77.9	80.8	70.9

Table 13-24: Gold recovery estimation by leaching of gravity tails method from COREM testwork

Criterion	Unit	Composite		
		9	12	26
GRG tailings gold leach recovery (P <sub>80</sub> of 75 microns)	%	81.7	75.5	79.1
Overall gold recovery (GRG corrected)	%	89.1	86.3	85.0

Table 13-25: Gold recovery estimation by whole ore leach method from COREM testwork

Criterion	Unit	Composite		
		9	12	26
Whole ore leaching gold recovery (P <sub>80</sub> of 75 microns)	%	82.2	86.8	87.4

In the ALS heap leach testwork, it was observed that the best results were found at a crush size of -2 mm. However, this particle size is not applicable on an industrial scale in an operating heap. To overcome this situation, the gold recovery was plotted versus particle size and using heap leach results as presented in Table 13-16; the gold recovery was interpolated for two particle sizes: -6.5 mm and -9 mm; Table 13-26 presents the results. The average gold recovery at 6.5 mm and 9 mm are 58.6% and 53% respectively.



Table 13-26: Heap leach Au recovery from Act labs testwork

Criterion	Unit	Composite		
Composite ID	-	01306720	01306721	01306722
Material type	-	Meta-Sediments	Tonalite	Pegmatite
Average feed grade	g/t Au	0.64	0.43	43.5
a) Au Recovery interpolated at crush particle size = -9 mm	%	57.9	53.6	47.7
b) Au Recovery interpolated at crush particle size = -6.5 mm	%	67.3	56.9	51.5

From the 2020 MRE Update conclusions on overall gold recoveries were:

The best gold recovery results were found when the mineralized material was processed by gravity recovery followed by leach of gravity tails, but the results were comparable to the whole ore leach results. An optimization and variability testwork program are recommended to validate the best method of processing Cheechoo mineralized material.

- For gravity recovery followed by leach of gravity tails: 89.1%, 86.3% and 85.0% for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively (average of 86.8%);
- Cyanide consumption was slightly higher for the leaching of gravity tailings: 0.67 kg/t, 0.67 kg/t and 0.89 kg/t for composites 9, 12 and 26 respectively;
- Lime consumption can be considered low for most of the tests. Among the three composites, Composite 26 has the highest lime consumption. Lime consumption values of 0.70 kg/t, 0.73 kg/t and 1.23 kg/t were measured respectively for composites 9, 12 and 26.

Heap leach Au recovery results were maximized at finer crushed size. It is recommended to use a crushed size of -6.3 mm, but it requires future percolation testwork at the recommended particle size.

- The estimated Au recovery for heap leach process is 67.3%, 56.9% and 51.5 % for composites 01306720 (Meta- Sediments), 01306721 (Tonalite) and 01306722 (Pegmatite) respectively;
- The cyanide consumption (from 1.16 kg/t to 1.47 kg/t) was in an average range and lime consumption was negative, an indication that the samples were alkaline, and the pH increased during the leaching time.



### 13.3.10.2 Overall Gold Recovery Estimates for this 2022 Mineral Resource Estimate Update

#### Gravity Concentration and Gravity Tails CN Leach Operation

The overall gold recoveries for the Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails NaCN Leaching option (Grind + Gravity + Gravity Tails Leach), based on data from the COREM testwork, are tabled here below in Table 13-27.

These overall gold recoveries are used in this 2022 MRE Update for the resource estimation, and pit shell modeling.

Table 13-27 Overall gold recoveries Grind + Gravity + Gravity Leach

Metallurgical Process Operation	Material Type - Lithology	Material Gold Grade Class Au g/t	NaCN Leach Duration hours	Crush Size P80 mm	Overall Gold Recovery %
Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails NaCN Leaching	I1D and I1G	< 0.3	48	75	84
	I1D and I1G	> 0.3 < 0.5	48	75	88
	I1D and I1G	> 0.5	48	75	92
	S3	< 0.3	48	75	84
	S3	> 0.3 < 0.5	48	75	88
	S3	> 0.5	48	75	92

The following notes support the data in Table 13-27:

- Material types – Lithologies are tagged here as I1D and I1G, and S3. These correlate to the lithological domain rock types and sample composite numbers as reported in the testwork and used in the 2020 MRE Update, as follows:
  - I1D and I1G as Tonalite /Pegmatites (Sample Composites 9 and 12);
  - S3 as Meta- Sediments (Sample Composite 26).
- For the 33 composite samples submitted to COREM for gravity and gravity tails leaching, the bulk of the samples is mainly classed as material type I1D and I1G, which represents approx. 90% of the deposit.
- A limited number of samples were classed as S3. However, the same Au grade classes and gold recoveries were applied to the S3 material type, which were consistent with the testwork data, and the grade classes used for the material types I1D and I1G.
- The selected Au grade classes cover a representative range of gold grades (Au g/t), as assayed in the 33 Cheechoo composite samples.



The gold grade classes with values are as follows:

- Less than 0.3 Au g/t, Average 0.19 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.06 – 0.21 Au g/t;
- Greater than 0.3 Au g/t, less than 0.5 Au g/t, Average 0.38 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.32 Au – 0.48 g/t;  
Greater than 0.5 Au g/t, Average 0.74 Au g/t, Range Min – Max: 0.56 – 0.93 Au g/t;
- The gravity concentration recovery and gravity concentrate and tails leach gold recovery data from the COREM testwork were used to estimate the overall plant gold recoveries for an actual operation, with downward corrections applied to the GRG gold recovered to gravity concentrates. These gravity concentrates would feed an intensive CN leach, with electrowinning of PLS followed by doré smelting;
- The estimated gold recoveries are aligned with the three Au grade classes defined above and are applied to the main material rock types currently representing the Cheechoo deposit;
- The overall estimated gold recoveries are tabled below in Table 13-28. Applicable plant Au recoveries typically seen in such operating plants are estimated, namely those for % GRG gold recovery to concentrates with Acacia intensive leach recovery at 99%;
- Also, gravity tails CN leaching of gold recoveries are taken from testwork, with average values of 78%, 80% and 85% for each gold grade. A carbon elution – electrowinning – smelter circuit gold recovery was set at 99%;
- The overall gold recoveries for the Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity tails leach process operation have been applied in this 2022 MRE Update.

Table 13-28 Overall plant Au recovery for gravity and gravity tails leach operation

Crush - Grind - Gravity and Gravity Tails CN Leaching with Carbon to Dore Au			
Material Type – Lithology	I1D and I1G and S3		
Gold Grade Class Average Grade g/t Au	0.19	0.38	0.74
Testwork GRG Gold Recovery %	56.5	81.4	88.0
GRG Recovery Correction for Plant operation % Au recovered to Gravity Concentrate	52	56	60
Acacia PLS Recovery to Doré gold %	99	99	99
Gravity tails CN Leach recovery %	78	80	85
Gravity tails Leach – Carbon in Leach(CIL) Au Recovery to Doré %	99	99	99
Overall Plant Gold Recovery %	84	88	92



## Heap Leach Operation

The heap leach gold recoveries used in this 2022 MRE Update are tabled below in Table 13-29.

From the Actlabs and KCA testwork described earlier, the gold recoveries are estimated for the given Au grade classes and for the given material types.

Table 13-29: Heap leach operation gold recoveries

Metallurgical Process Operation	Material Type	Material Gold Grade Class Au g/t	Leach Duration Minimum Hours	Crush size P100 mm	Overall Gold Recovery %
Heap leaching	I1D and I1G	< 0.3	151	6.3	64
	I1D and I1G	> 0.3 < 0.5	151	6.3	68
Crushing, agglomeration with cement and NaCN leaching on a permanent pad	I1D and I1G	> 0.5	151	6.3	80
	S3	< 0.3	151	6.3	64
	S3	> 0.3 < 0.5	151	6.3	68
	S3	> 0.5	151	6.3	80

From the above table, note the following:

- For the lower Au grades less than 0.3 g/t Au, gold recoveries averaging 66% were seen from the Actlabs testwork although only for 21 days of leaching. The KCA Column test range from 60 - 68%. These data confirm a gold recovery set at 64% which includes a deduction of 2% in gold recovery from testwork into actual operation - giving an average overall gold recovery of 64%.
- For Cheechoo materials with gold grades > 0.3 < 0.5 g/t the gold recovery value of 68% is closer to the KCA column data but is also supported by Actlabs intermittent bottle roll leach data.
- Gold recoveries of 73% - 80 % for higher gold grades of > 0.5 g/t are taken from the KCA column testwork with HPGR crushing, for the leach duration of 151 days. From the leach kinetic curves presented in Figure 13-4, extended leach times of +151 days on a permanent pad in an actual operation would likely add about 3% extra Au leach recovery. However, with the typical 2% reduction in gold recovery applied in going from testwork to an actual operation, the long-term heap leach recovery estimate of 80% Au recovery is reasonable, and has been applied as the overall heap leach operation's gold recovery, for materials with gold grades > 0.5 g/t.



- A crush size of a P100 = 6.3 mm is recommended with agglomeration using cement to ensure adequate downward percolation of cyanide leach solutions through the heap, to maximize gold recovery from the materials placed on heap.
- The testwork data supports the use of a High-Pressure Grinding Roll as the secondary / tertiary crusher, to likely reduce power consumption and create the generation of micro-cracks in the rock particles. These micro-cracks do enhance leaching rates and increase gold recovery. The HPGR testwork reported by KCA gives evidence of such increased gold recoveries, over those from conventional crushed materials. However, further HPGR crushing with leach testwork, and mineralogy is needed here to confirm these initial findings.

### 13.3.11 Recommendations for Future Work

The following future testwork is recommended for the Cheechoo deposit:

- A comminution testwork program to study the mineralized material hardness variability;
- HPGR testwork with NaCN leaching on the Cheechoo rock type materials. This to confirm the use of HPGR for crushing on a range of hardness materials;
- A more extensive sampling campaign is recommended to prepare composite core samples that cover the full spatial extent of the Cheechoo deposit in both surface plan and with depth – suitably logged. From these samples GRG gravity recovery tests, with cyanide leaching should be conducted. These samples and data would investigate Au recovery variability with Au head grade, at depth and with rock type. Include composition analyses (Multi-element ICP) with some mineralogy work (MLA) with several polished sections for Qemscan testwork. These would enhance existing data on the mineralogy and gold occurrence;
- Heap leach testwork results should be validated using intermittent bottle rolls over much longer leach durations 90 - 180 days. Additional column leach testwork should also be completed using columns (15 cm diameter per 2 m high) on multiple composite samples. Testwork should consider the influence of variables such as cyanide and lime addition, leaching time > 151 days, particle size, percolation rate, and at colder temperatures (at conditions to be seen at site);
- For heap leaching with a permanent pad operation, important testwork in a PFS should include load compressibility testwork to optimize cement addition rates in agglomeration on further material samples from Cheechoo;
- As a result of the favourable response of the material to the gravity GRG concentration and gravity tails leach testwork, it is recommended by BBA to prepare composites for further batch gravity testwork followed by cyanide leaching of gravity tails, to investigate:
  - Optimization of the gravity feed size to investigate the effect of coarser particle sizing on GRG Au recovery;



- Optimization testwork program of the leaching variables applied to both GRG concentrates and gravity tails leaching, namely NaCN addition rates, leach residence time < 48 hours, use of oxygen versus air sparging, lead nitrate addition, CIL carbon in leach parameters - carbon concentration in pulp, pulp temperature, density, and pulp viscosity measurements.
- A preliminary NaCN and WAD cyanide destruction testwork program based on the future tailings handling system;
- Dynamic and static pulp settling testwork program to optimize flocculant addition;
- Conduct a more detailed trade-off study of the economics of heap leach vs a gravity + leach of gravity tails flowsheet;
- Preliminary heap leach operations modeling (simple dynamic METSIM model with kinetics, solids, water, and gold balances) to cover life of mine materials supply, materials loading profiles and gold extraction. Such modeling will allow more accurate estimates of water and cyanide consumptions, residual gold lock up, and prediction of gold Dore production profiles with time. This would significantly improve the accuracy of the Project's cash flow modeling and reveal cost savings and revenue opportunities.





## 14. Mineral Resource Estimate

### 14.1 Introduction

BBA was retained by Sirios to prepare a Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) for the Cheechoo Project (the "Project"), which incorporates recent drilling and channel sampling programs. Drillhole information up to July 20, 2022, was considered for this estimate. BBA subcontracted Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., from PLR Resources Inc. to act as the QP for this MRE.

### 14.2 Methodology

Geological wireframes were created by Sirios' geologist Jordi Turcotte in Leapfrog Geo™ and were reviewed and validated by the QP. Leapfrog Geo™ was also used for the modelling of the overburden unit and of the topography surface. Geovia® Surpac 2022 Refresh 1 was used for the compositing, 3D block modelling, interpolation, and classification. Statistical studies were conducted using Excel and Snowden Supervisor. The pit optimization analysis and reporting was carried out using Deswik mining software.

The methodology for the estimation of the mineral resources involved the following steps:

- Database verification and validation;
- Review of the 3D model;
- Drillhole intercepts;
- Basic statistics and composite generation for each unit;
- Capping;
- Geostatistical analysis including variography;
- Block modelling and grade interpolation;
- Block model validation;
- Resource classification;
- Cut-off grade calculation and pit shell optimization;
- Mineral resource statement.



### 14.3 Resource Database

The resource database for the Project, as of July 20, 2022, consisted of 329 diamond drillholes (DDH) totalling 76,712.85 m and 386 channels for 3,216.88 m with a total of 55,566 assays, all of which were completed by Sirios between 2012 and 2022 (Figure 14-1).

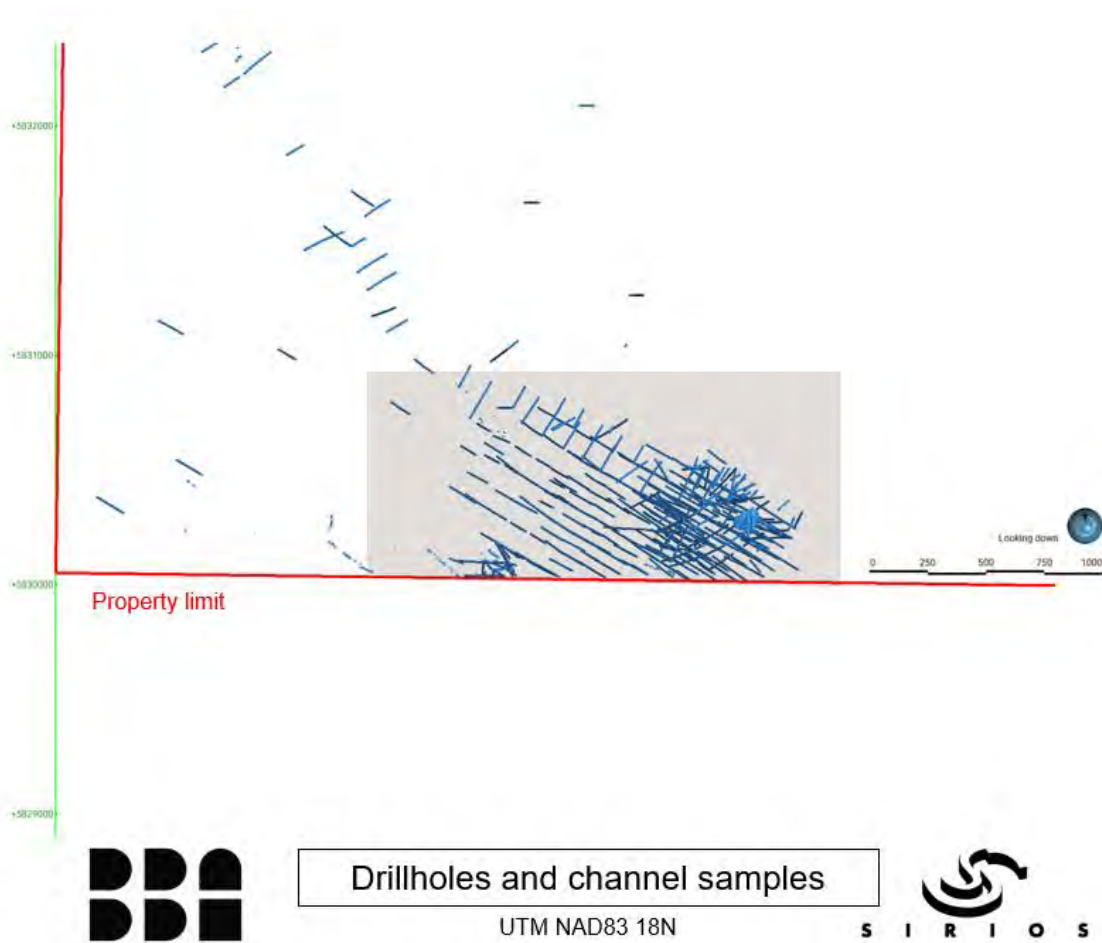


Figure 14-1: 2022 MRE block model, drillholes and channels location, with the block model boundary in shaded grey

The resource estimation for the Project relies on recent drilling and channel sampling programs. BBA included the channel sampling information into the resource estimation for the following reasons: 1) channel sampling data was validated as part of the mandate and no discrepancies were found; 2) drillholes were drilled in the vicinity of channel samples and the results show comparable geology and mineralization; and 3) statistical analysis was made to compare the two populations and no bias exists between the drilling samples and the channel samples.



The resource database was validated, and the protocols were reviewed before proceeding to the resource estimation. The validation steps are detailed in Chapter 12 of this Report.

The QP is of the opinion that the database is appropriate for the purposes of the mineral resource estimation and that the sample density, quality and spatial distribution allow to make a reliable estimate of the geometry, tonnage and grade continuity of the mineralization in accordance with the level of confidence established by the mineral resource categories as set forth in the CIM Standards.

### 14.4 Geological Interpretation and Modelling

A total of 20 high-grade domains and two low-grade envelopes were interpreted for the purpose of this MRE (Table 14-1).

Table 14-1: Domains of the 2022 MRE

Domain	Rockcode	Blockcode
High-grade	Zone 10	100
	Zone 14	140
	Zone 15	150
	Zone 18	180
	Zone 19	190
	Zone 20	200
	Zone 21	210
	Zone 22	220
	Zone 23	230
	Zone 25	250
	Zone 26	260
	Zone 1	310
	Zone 2	320
	Zone 4	340
	Zone 5	350
	Zone 7	370
	Zone 8	380
	Zone 9	390
	Moni	400
	Dike Mafic	450



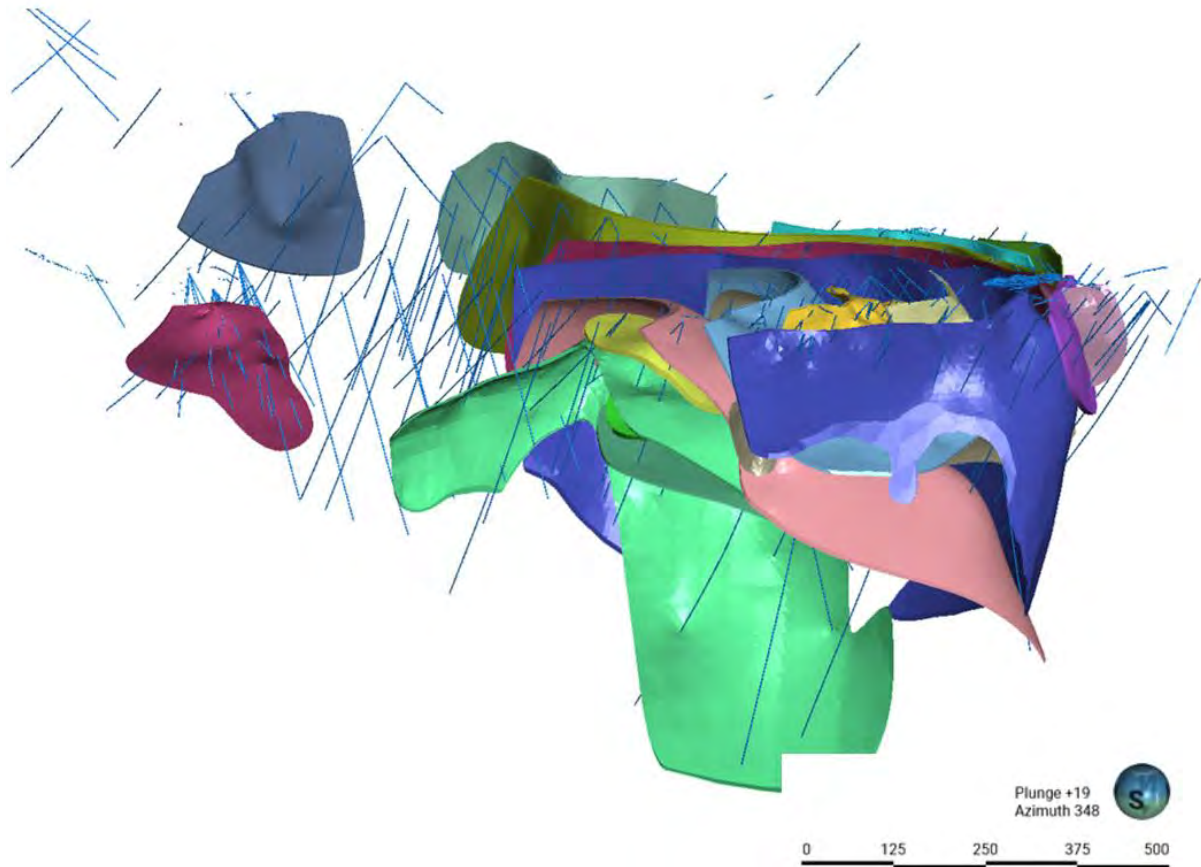
Domain	Rockcode	Blockcode
Low-grade	Low-Grade S3	800
	Low-Grade I1D	850
OVB	MT	900
UNK	Unknown	950

#### 14.4.1 Geological Model

Geological wireframes were created in Leapfrog Geo™ by Jordi Turcotte of Sirios and validated by the QP. The model comprises 20 mineralized zones that have generally a minimum thickness of 3 m and two wide low-grade envelopes, one being comprised within the tonalite and the other within the sediment unit (Figure 14-2 and Figure 14-3).

They were modelled using geological knowledge of the deposit, geological mapping from the strippings, grade continuity, and geological information provided in the DDH and channel logs (i.e., lithology, alteration, and structure).

The QP reviewed the geological model in 3D view, plan view and cross-section and is of the opinion that the level of detail to which the geology model was constructed represents adequately the complexity of the deposit. In the QP's opinion, the geological model is appropriate for the size, grade distribution and geometry of the mineralized zones and is suitable for the resource estimation of the Project.

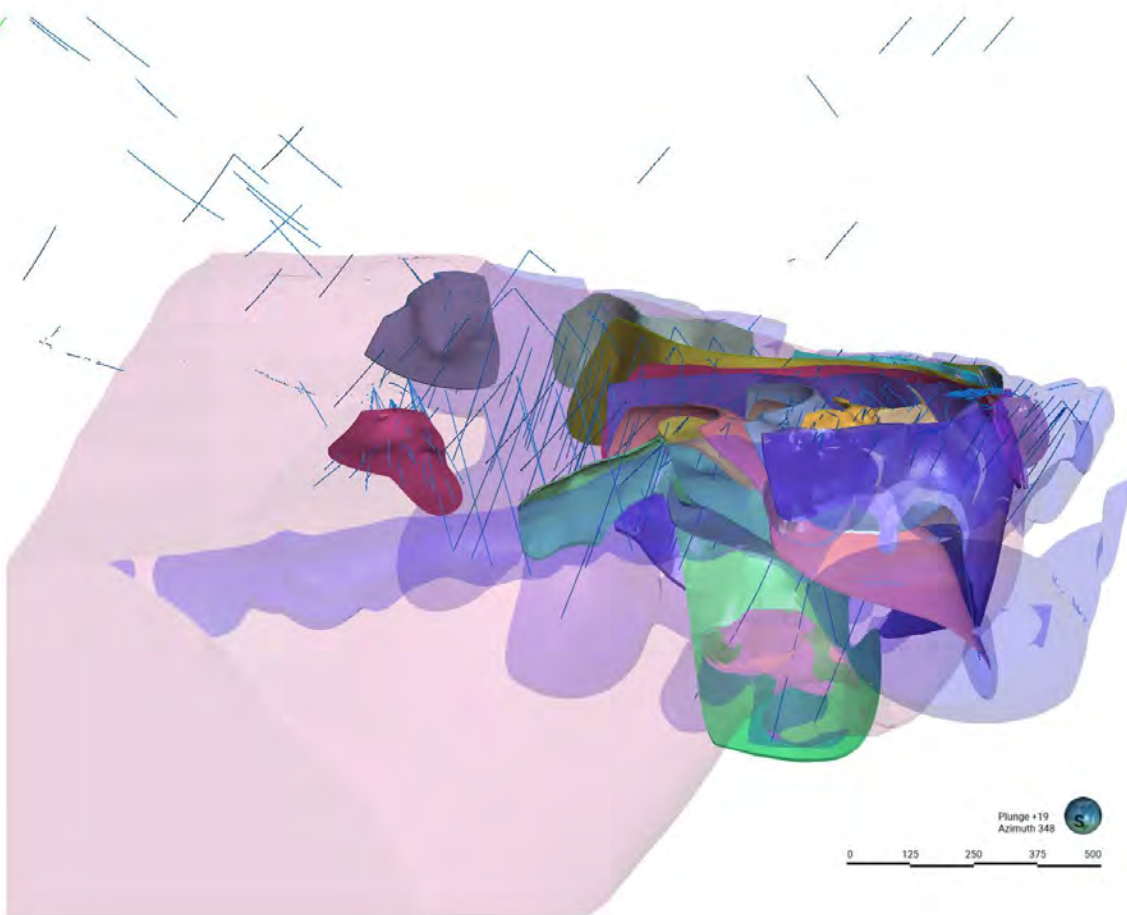


High-grade mineralized zones

UTM NAD83 18N



Figure 14-2: 3D view looking north-northwest (NNW) of the high-grade mineralized zones and of the drillholes and channels included in this resource estimate



High-grade and low-grade mineralized zones

UTM NAD83 18N



Figure 14-3: 3D view looking north-northwest (NNW) of the high-grade and low-grade mineralized zones with the drillholes and channels included in this resource estimate

#### 14.4.2 Voids Model

No excavation has been done on the Project.



### 14.4.3 Overburden and Topography

A Lidar survey (2018) was used for the topographic surface. The overburden-rock interface was created by Sirios in Leapfrog Geo™ and is based on the drillholes collar coordinates, elevation, and lithological description.

## 14.5 Data Analysis

### 14.5.1 Raw Assay Statistics

All raw assay data that intersected the mineralized zones were assigned respective rock codes. These coded intercepts were used to produce basic statistics on sample lengths and grades. A total of 5,434 assays is included in the high-grade domains and 47,808 assays in the low-grade domains.

Basic statistics on the raw assays are presented in Table 14-2.

Table 14-2: Basic statistics on raw assays for each mineralized zone

Mineralized Zones	Raw Assays				
	Count Sample	Min (g/t Au)	Max (g/t Au)	Mean (g/t Au)	COV
100	370	0.010	59.09	1.73	2.75
140	212	0.010	130.55	2.92	3.52
150	363	0.005	201.54	4.31	4.50
180	236	0.005	46.04	1.11	3.08
190	52	0.150	112.00	7.04	2.68
200	71	0.040	50.67	3.28	2.43
210	108	0.005	269.65	11.16	3.18
220	35	0.010	30.88	1.93	2.97
230	601	0.005	121.61	2.59	4.41
250	131	0.010	39.60	2.26	2.81
260	121	0.080	25.38	1.49	1.83
310	393	0.020	867.06	7.03	6.74
320	352	0.005	165.00	5.16	3.97
340	533	0.005	102.00	1.73	4.00
350	128	0.010	38.14	1.79	2.33
370	789	0.005	147.85	1.70	4.38
380	490	0.010	124.00	2.42	4.33





Mineralized Zones	Raw Assays				
	Count Sample	Min (g/t Au)	Max (g/t Au)	Mean (g/t Au)	COV
390	228	0.010	53.17	1.58	3.27
400	173	0.010	315.00	8.34	4.67
450	48	0.005	11.38	1.13	1.78
800	5508	0.005	13.36	0.12	3.76
850	42300	0.005	159.28	0.24	4.73

## 14.5.2 Compositing

Compositing of drillhole samples was conducted to homogenize the database for the statistical analysis and remove any bias associated to the sample length that may exist in the original database. The composite length was determined using original sample length statistics and the thickness of the mineralized zones. Compositing was done within each domain in order that composite samples do not cross domain boundaries.

Inside the high-grade domains, the average sample length is 1.15 m and the median is 1.1 m. Less than 5% of the assays are between 1.5 m and 2.0 m and no samples are longer than 2.0 m. Figure 14-4 shows the sample length distribution within the high-grade mineralized zones.

As a result, 2,982 composites were generated in the high-grade domains and 33,207 in the low-grade domains with a targeted length of 2.0 m, ranging mostly between 1.00 m to 2.90 m and occasionally outside of this range after redistributing the tails.

A grade of 0.00 g/t Au was assigned to all missing intervals during the compositing process.

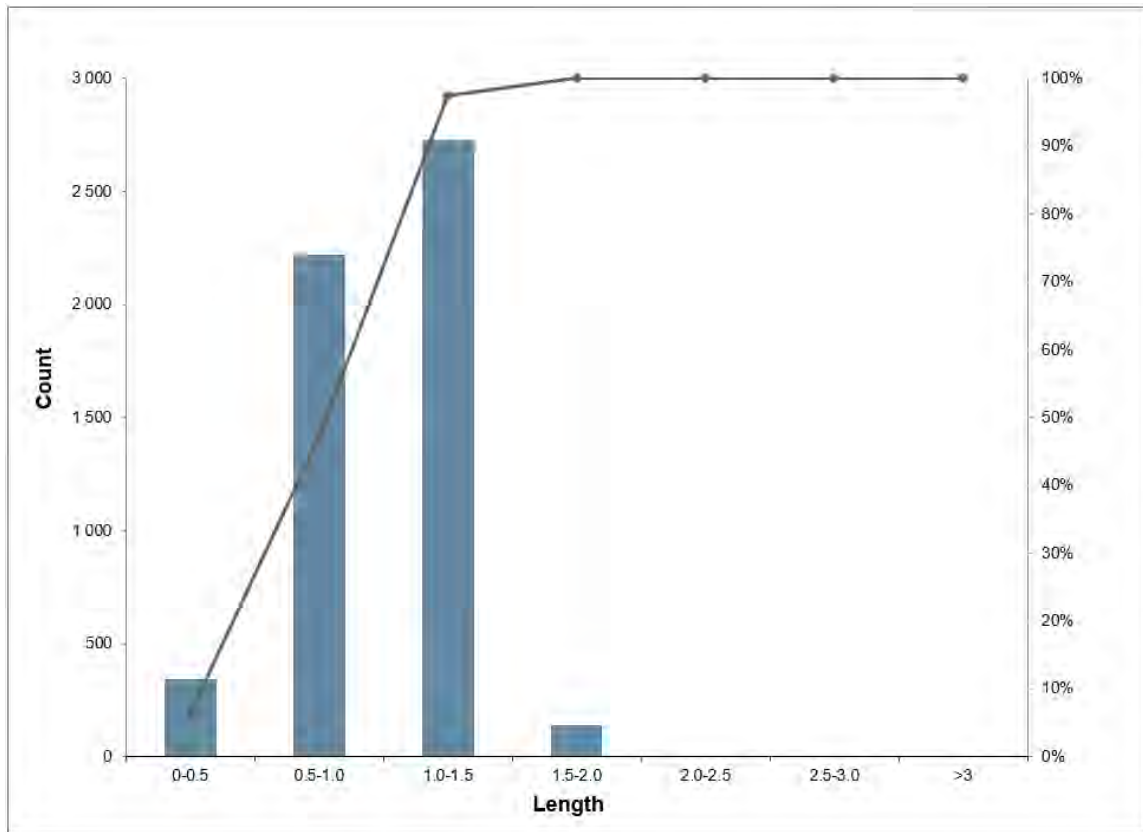


Figure 14-4: Sample length distribution within the high-grade domains

### 14.5.3 Outlier Handling

An outlier is an observation that appears to be inconsistent with most of the data. It is common practice to statistically examine the higher grades within a population and to trim the outlier to a lower grade value based on the results of a statistical study. The capping is performed on high-grade values considered to be outliers. High-grade capping was done on the composited assay data and established on a per zone type basis.

The capping values were defined by searching for abnormal breaks or change of slope on the grade distribution probability plot while making sure that the coefficient of variation of the capped data was ideally lower than, or around 2.00 and no more than 10% of the total contained metal was enclosed within the first 1% of the highest-grade samples. The use of various statistical methods allows selecting the capping threshold in a more objective and justified manner.



Basic statistics for composited assays and capped composites are summarized in Table 14-3. Figure 14-5 to Figure 14-7 show graphs supporting the capping threshold decisions for some of the zones.

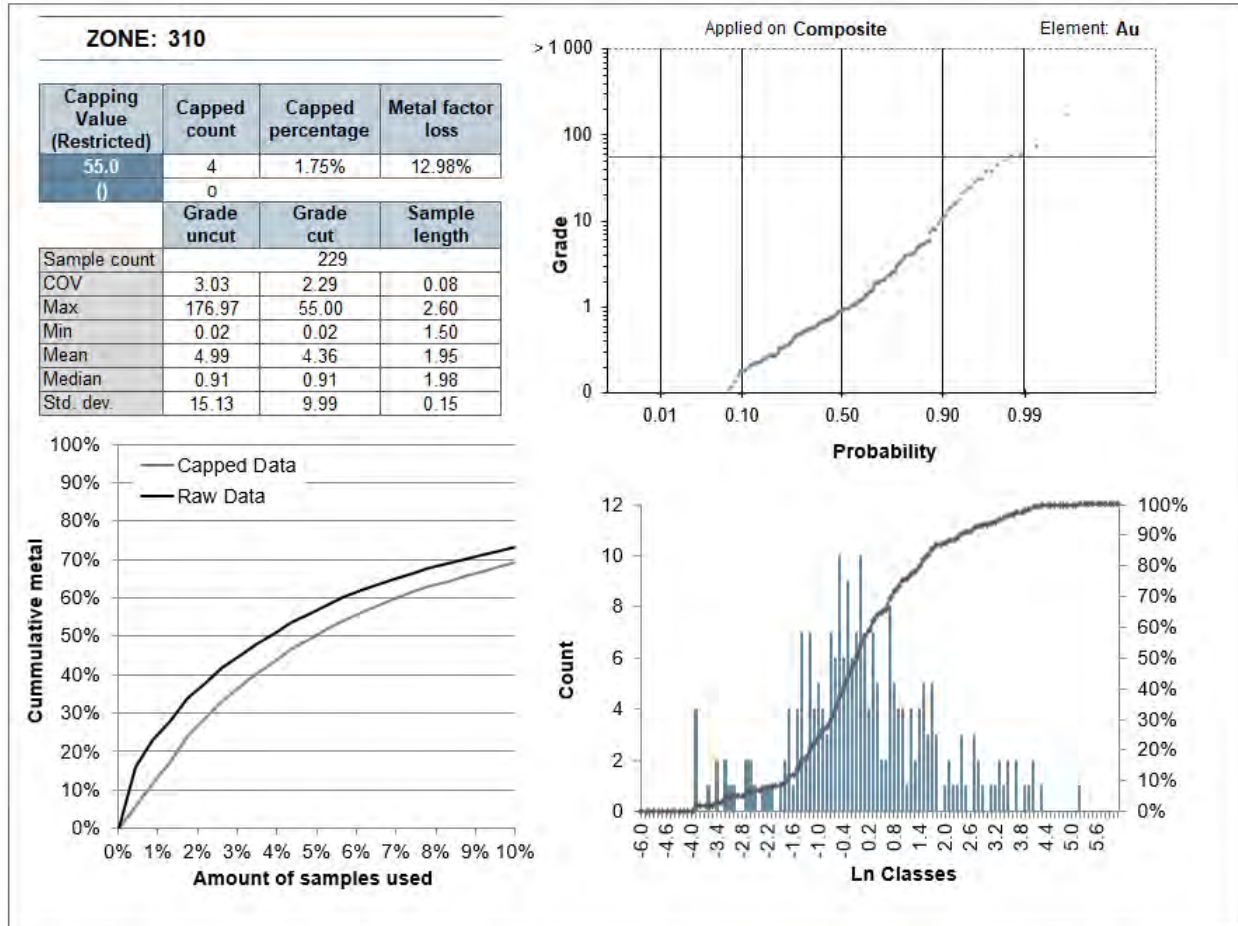


Figure 14-5: Graphs supporting capping threshold 55 g/t Au for the 310 high-grade mineralized zone

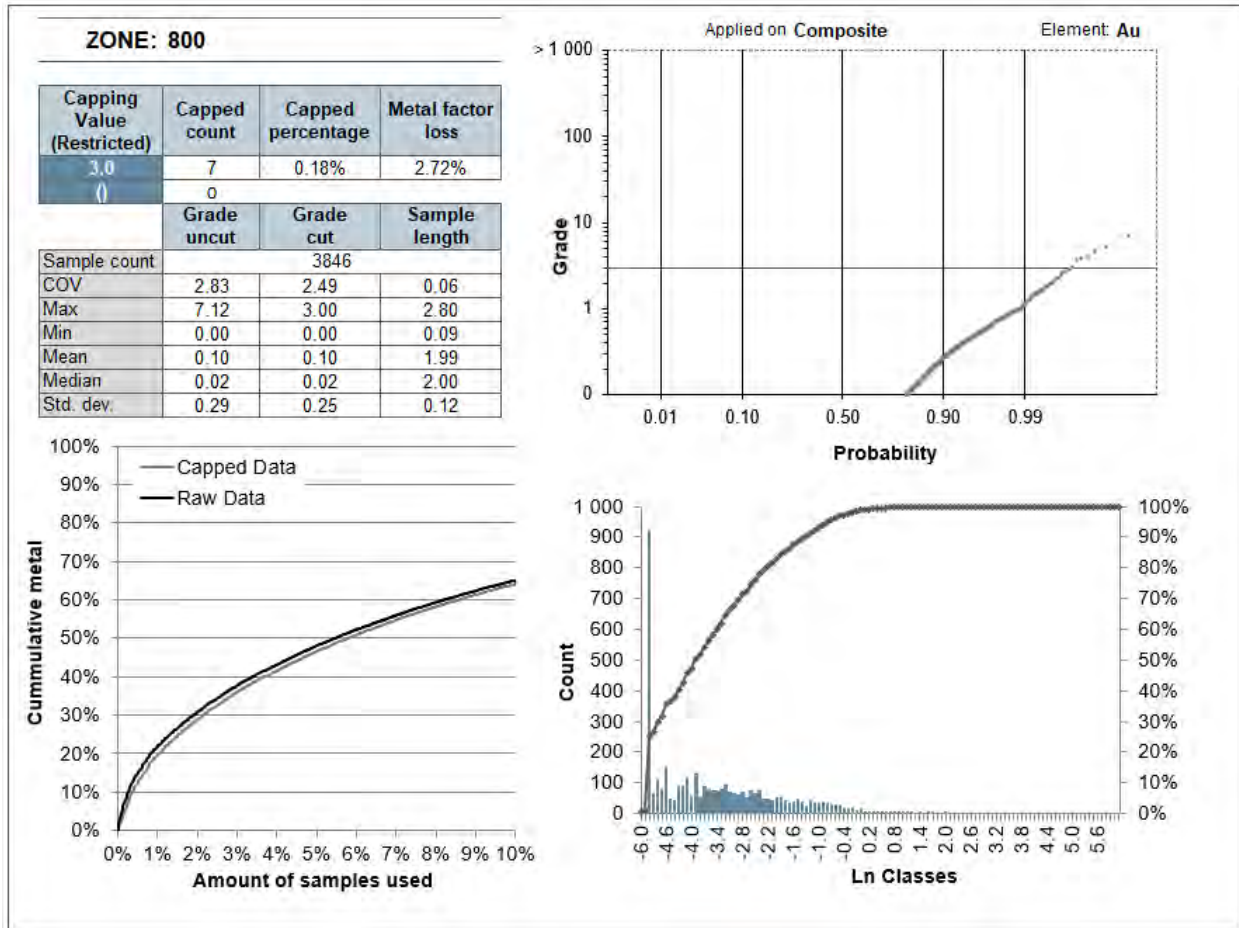


Figure 14-6: Graphs supporting capping threshold 3 g/t Au for the 800 low-grade mineralized zone

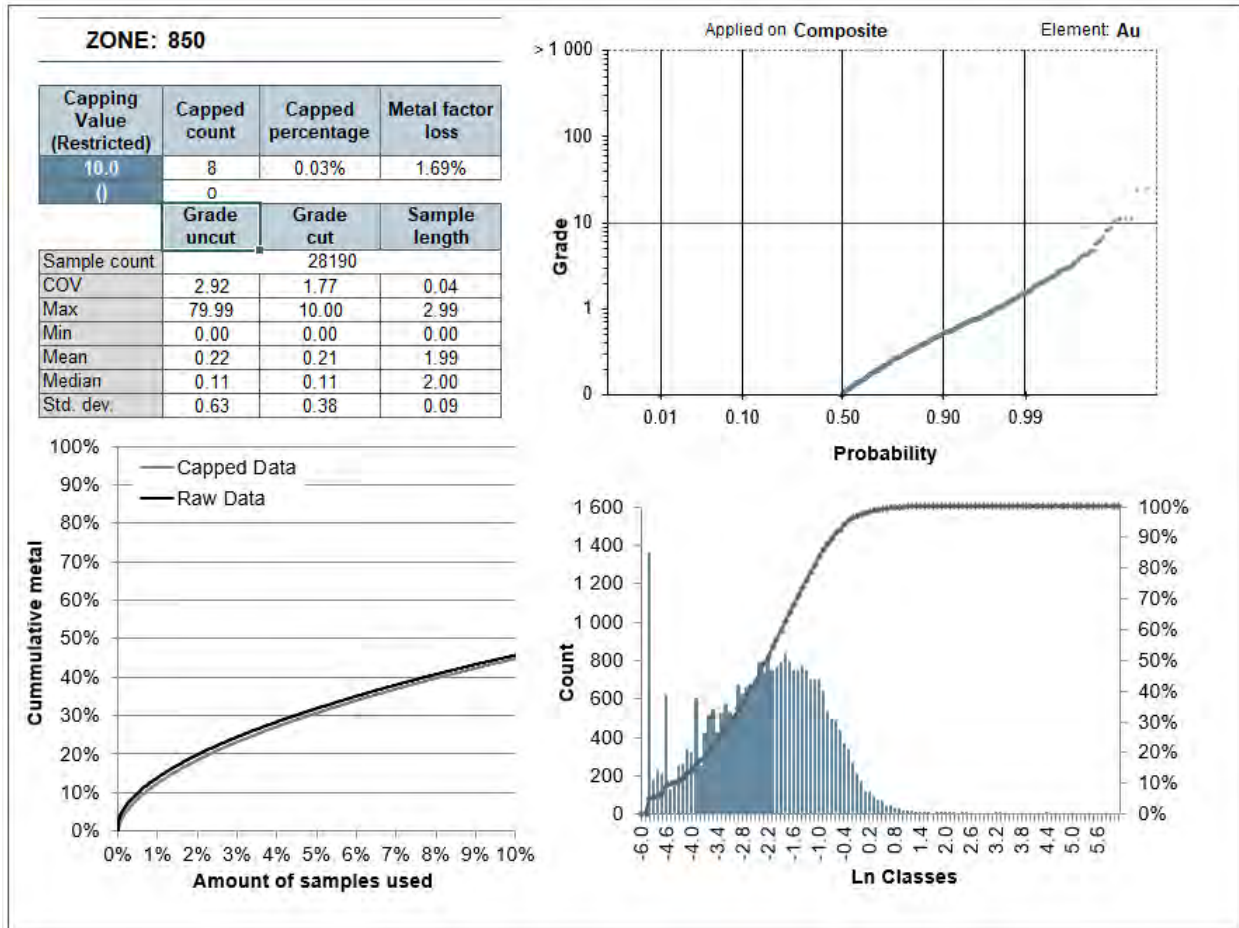


Figure 14-7: Graphs supporting capping threshold 10 g/t Au for the 850 low-grade mineralized zone



Table 14-3: Basic statistics on composites and high-grade capping value for each mineralized zone

Zone	Composite Count	COV	Max	Min	Uncut Mean	Uncut Median	Capping Value	Number Capped	% Capped	Metal Loss	Cut COV	Cut Mean	Cut Median
100	216	1.81	24.68	0.01	1.44	0.69	10	3	1.39%	8.55%	1.36	1.31	0.69
140	124	2.32	52.37	0.04	2.27	0.85	20	1	0.81%	11.60%	1.57	2.01	0.85
150	203	3.00	84.47	0.01	3.28	0.75	30	5	2.46%	21.13%	2.20	2.61	0.75
180	123	2.08	22.35	0.01	1.06	0.62	10	1	0.81%	9.91%	1.41	0.96	0.62
190	29	1.83	60.39	0.30	7.44	2.38	40	2	6.90%	12.26%	1.65	6.68	2.38
200	42	1.48	16.17	0.26	2.58	1.17	15	2	4.76%	1.29%	1.45	2.54	1.17
210	60	2.60	90.63	0.01	5.89	0.81	30	3	5.00%	30.93%	1.95	4.09	0.81
220	22	2.56	25.67	0.01	2.09	0.61	10	1	4.55%	35.96%	1.76	1.38	0.61
230	349	2.97	60.11	0.01	2.26	0.65	35	5	1.43%	9.14%	2.55	2.06	0.65
250	93	2.41	30.35	0.01	1.95	0.54	20	2	2.15%	7.85%	2.14	1.79	0.54
260	74	1.19	11.82	0.16	1.47	0.93	NC	0	0.00%	0.00%	1.19	1.47	0.93
310	229	3.03	176.97	0.02	4.99	0.91	55	4	1.75%	12.98%	2.29	4.36	0.91
320	203	2.84	81.87	0.01	3.62	0.61	40	5	2.46%	12.38%	2.47	3.19	0.61
340	326	3.21	72.71	0.00	1.69	0.71	30	4	1.23%	10.31%	2.40	1.51	0.71
350	79	1.29	16.00	0.20	1.57	1.13	NC	0	0.00%	0.00%	1.29	1.57	1.13
370	469	2.62	41.86	0.01	1.61	0.59	30	3	0.64%	3.88%	2.39	1.55	0.59
380	290	3.45	93.14	0.01	2.11	0.60	30	4	1.38%	15.95%	2.44	1.78	0.60
390	137	1.54	13.53	0.02	1.17	0.63	NC	0	0.00%	0.00%	1.54	1.17	0.63
400	88	3.04	155.46	0.01	8.31	0.43	25	7	7.95%	54.66%	2.11	3.69	0.43
450	26	1.26	5.70	0.01	1.12	0.59	NC	0	0.00%	0.00%	1.26	1.12	0.59
800	3,846	2.83	7.12	0.00	0.10	0.02	3	7	0.18%	2.72%	2.49	0.10	0.02
850	28,190	2.92	79.99	0.00	0.22	0.11	10	8	0.03%	1.69%	1.77	0.21	0.11



#### 14.5.4 Density

Bulk density is an important parameter used to estimate tonnages for the estimated volumes derived from the resource-grade block model.

A total of 933 density measurements were collected by Sirios within the mineralized zones. The samples selected were from a variety of lithologies located across the Property and also included a range of associated gold grades. The specific gravity (SG) measurement was determined by the water displacement method. A summary of the SG data is presented in Table 14-4.

Table 14-4: Summary of the density measurements

Specific Gravity					
Lithology	Quantity	Mean	Median	Min	Max
I1D (LG)	777	2.67	2.65	2.56	3.11
S3 (LG)	76	2.76	2.76	2.59	3.01
I1D (HG)	79	2.7	2.65	2.2.6	2.96

For this MRE, fixed density values were established on a per lithology basis, corresponding to the median of the SG data. Therefore, the tonalite was assigned 2.65 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and the sedimentary unit was assigned 2.76 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

A fixed density of 2.00 g/cm<sup>3</sup> was assigned to the overburden.

#### 14.5.5 Variogram Analysis

A semi-variogram is a common tool used to measure the spatial variability within a zone. Typically, samples taken far apart will vary more than samples taken close to each other. A variogram gives a measure of how much two samples taken from the same mineralized zone will vary in grade depending on the distance between those samples, and therefore allowing building search ellipsoids to be used during interpolation.

Three dimensional directional variography using the Snowden Supervisor v8.14 software was carried out on the composites. Variograms were modelled in the three orthogonal directions to define a 3D ellipsoid for each domain. The three directions of ellipsoid axes were set by using the variogram fans and visually confirmed with geological knowledge of the deposit. Lag distances were set according to drillhole grid spacing specific to the structural domain analyzed.





Then, a mathematical model was interpreted in order to best-fit the shape of the calculated variogram for each direction. When the domain did not have enough composites, the variography result of a representative domain was used. Three components were defined for the mathematical model: the nugget effect, the sill, and the range.

All variography tests were modelled with a nugget effect, as determined from the downhole semi-variograms and two spherical structures.

Table 14-5 presents the chosen variogram model parameters for each zone. Figure 14-8 and Figure 14-9 illustrate an example of the variography results. In some cases, sub-domaining was used to assert for curved zones.

In the QP's opinion, the data density and spatial distribution of this project are adequate to produce acceptable experimental variograms to which models can be fitted with confidence.

Table 14-5: Variogram model parameters for each mineralized zone

Zone	Nugget	First Structure				Second Structure			
		Sill	Range X (m)	Range Y (m)	Range Z (m)	Sill	Range X (m)	Range Y (m)	Range Z (m)
100	0.65	0.20	42	65	4	0.15	85	70	20
140	0.41	0.29	17	22	9	0.30	70	70	20
150	0.57	0.23	45	22	12	0.20	85	85	20
180	0.54	0.27	43	30	9	0.20	90	85	20
190	0.42	0.15	10	20	8	0.43	50	50	20
200	0.63	0.13	56	33	8	0.25	100	60	20
210	0.52	0.26	52	30	5	0.22	70	50	20
220	0.74	0.16	6	8	10	0.10	50	50	20
230	0.52	0.38	69	47	10	0.11	80	80	20
250	0.68	0.09	52	18	20	0.23	70	80	20
260	0.28	0.44	23	34	10	0.28	75	90	20
310	0.59	0.22	35	42	12	0.20	70	90	20
320	0.20	0.46	25	53	9	0.34	75	60	20
340	0.40	0.44	17	19	7	0.16	70	60	20
350	0.18	0.70	26	50	11	0.12	60	60	20
370	0.58	0.25	26	32	14	0.17	75	40	20
380	0.60	0.21	62	43	8	0.19	95	75	20
390	0.64	0.16	58	21	7	0.19	95	80	20
400	0.68	0.08	20	58	13	0.24	90	95	20



Zone	Nugget	First Structure				Second Structure			
		Sill	Range X (m)	Range Y (m)	Range Z (m)	Sill	Range X (m)	Range Y (m)	Range Z (m)
450	0.63	0.24	18	20	18	0.14	60	60	20
800	0.55	0.34	49	40	18	0.11	80	65	30
850	0.52	0.26	35	29	24	0.22	80	65	30

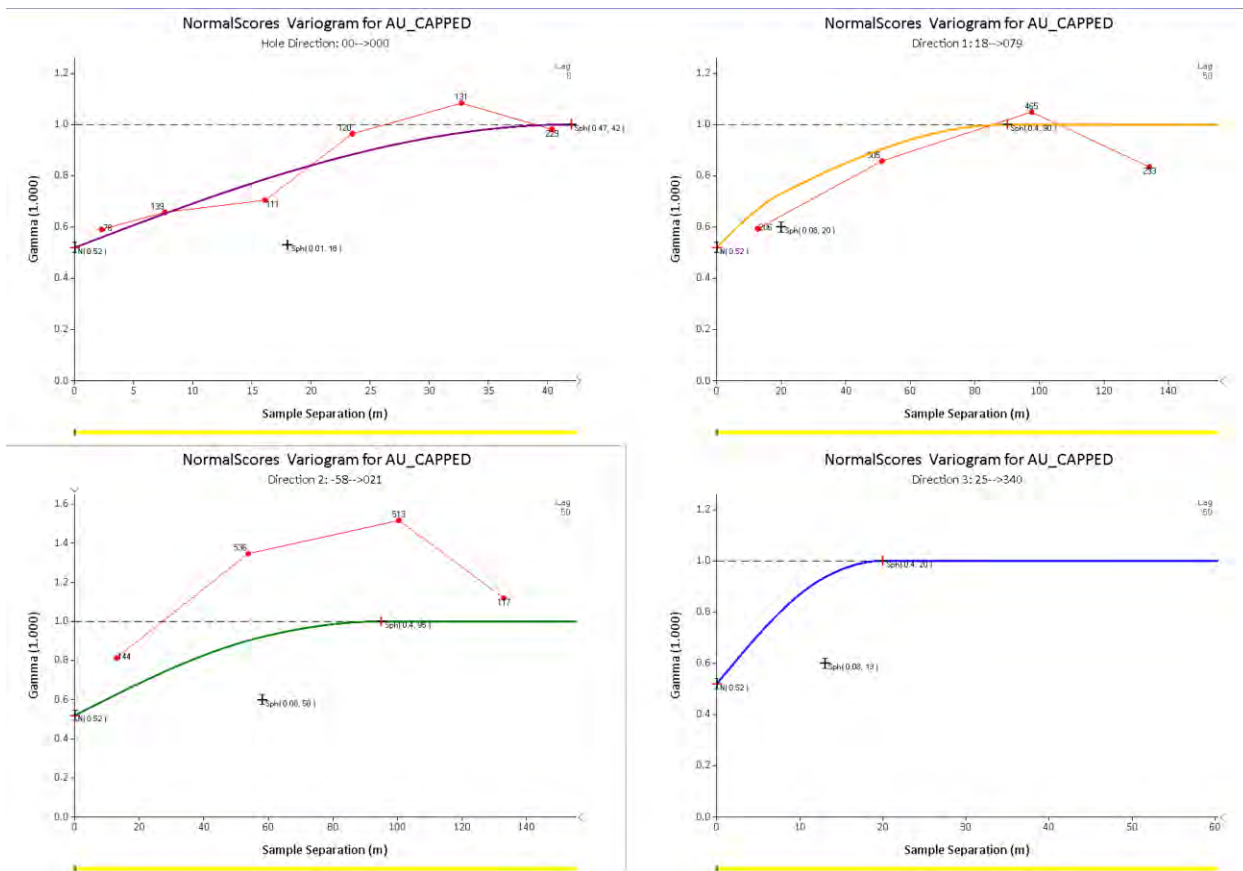


Figure 14-8: Example of the variography study for high-grade domain 400

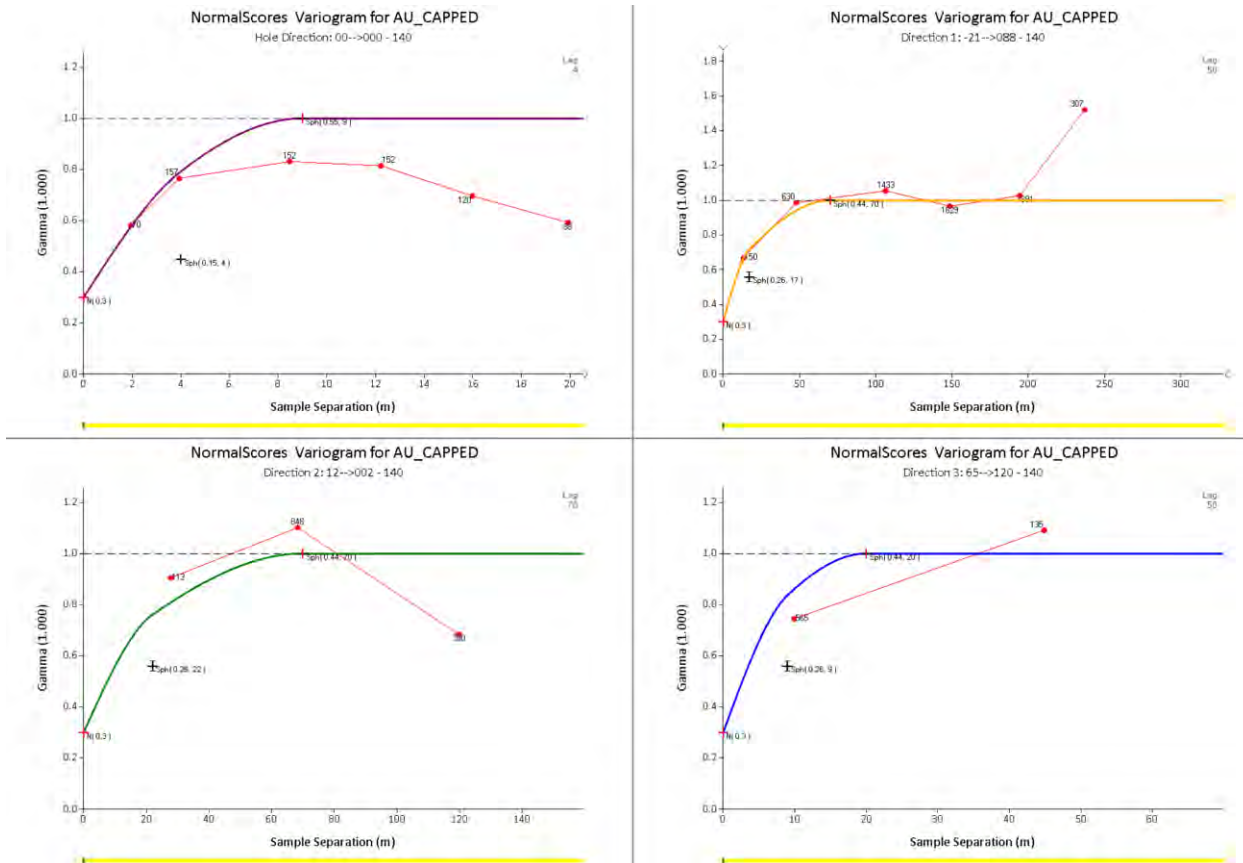


Figure 14-9: Example of the variography study for high-grade domain 140

### 14.5.6 Contact Plot

Contact plots compare the nature of grade between two domains; they graphically display average grades of all pairs of data from both populations at increasing distances. It is commonly used to determine if a hard or a soft interpolation boundary is justified. If there is a significant difference in grade across a domain boundary, the resource geologist must figure out a way to take that into consideration in the model (generally by applying a hard boundary). Conversely, if a more gradual change in grade occurs across the boundary, a soft boundary can be applied between both domains.

A contact plot was done to determine if it would be possible to use a soft boundary between both low-grade domains (850;800). No significant difference in grade between the two domains (Figure 14-10) was noted and therefore a soft boundary approach was used for the interpolation of both low-grade domains.

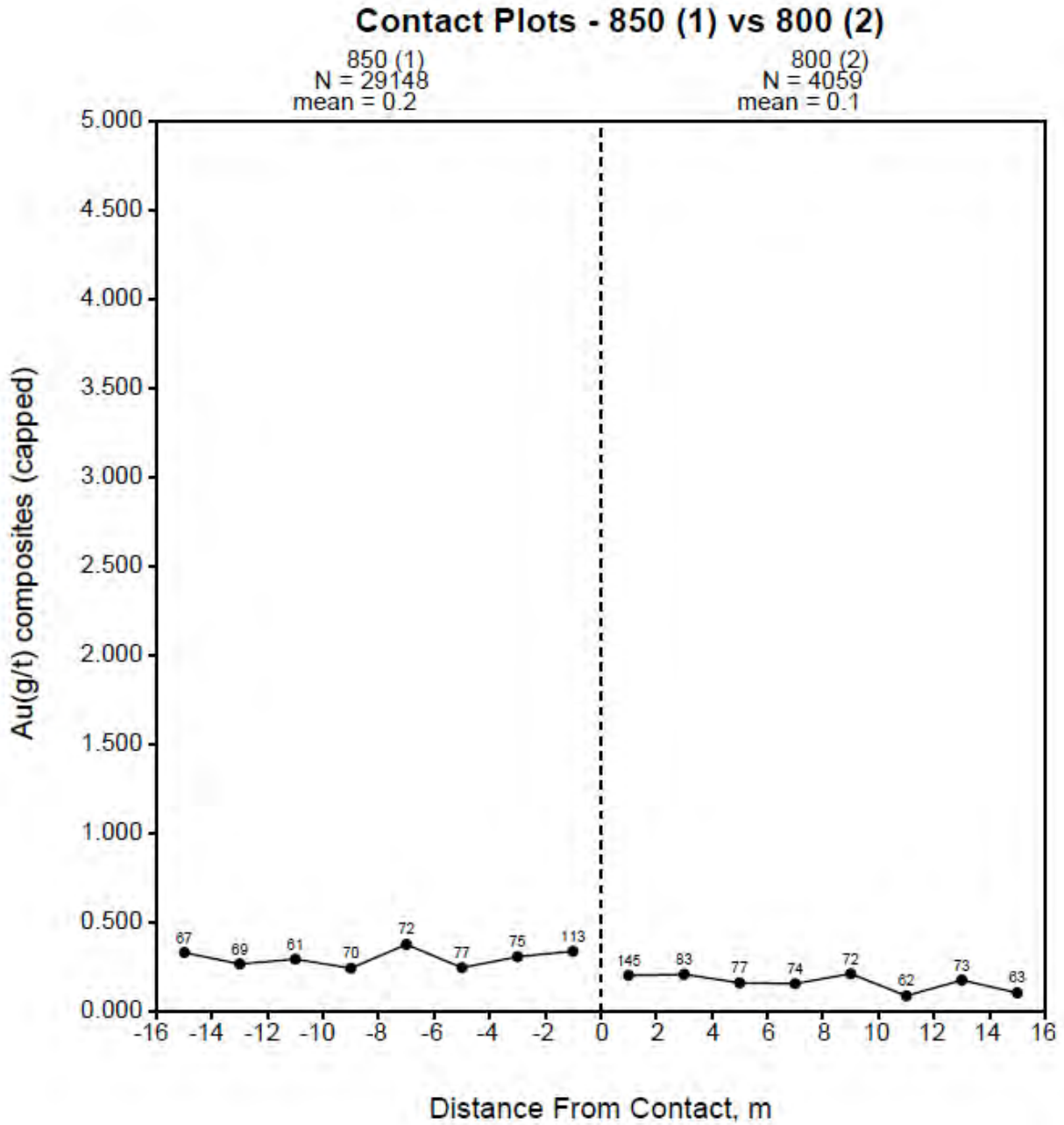


Figure 14-10: Contact analysis on the capped composites between the two low-grade domains (850;800)



## 14.6 Block Modelling

The block model for the Project was built using Geovia® Surpac 2022 Refresh 1.

### 14.6.1 Block Model Parameters

The parameters provided in Table 14- were used for the current mineral resource estimate. Individual block cells have dimensions of 10 m long (X-axis) by 10 m wide (Y-axis) by 10 m vertical (Z-axis).

The size of the blocks was chosen to best match the drilling pattern, thickness of the zones, complexity of the geology model and a plausible future mining method.

Table 14-6: Cheechoo block model parameters

Properties	X (column)	Y (row)	Z (level)
Origin coordinates	436,750	5,828,850	330
Number of blocks	270	270	85
Block model extent (m)	2,700	2,700	850
Block size (m)	10	10	10
Rotation	0		

The block model was coded using a sub-block model with a child size of 1.25x1.25x125 m. All sub-blocks falling within a domain were assigned the corresponding domain block code. Once the interpolation was completed, a combined block model was created and therefore a single weighted grade was estimated for each whole block. This combined block model was used for pit optimization and official reporting. This approach was deemed appropriate in order to avoid giving too much weight to high grade zones within an overall low-grade deposit.

### 14.6.2 Search Ellipsoid Strategy

The ranges of the ellipsoids used for the interpolation were established using the variography study and correspond to the half of the range of the second structure for the first pass, to approximately the second structure for the second pass and 1.5x times the second structure for the third pass.

It is noteworthy to mention at this point that the classification was mostly based on drillhole spacing and, therefore, some interpolated blocks were not converted into the Inferred classification. Refer to section Mineral Resource Classification (Section 14.8) for more details.

Table 14-6 presents the orientation and ranges of the search ellipsoids for each pass



Table 14-6: Search ellipsoid ranges by interpolation passes

Zone	Surpac Orientation			First Pass Range			Second Pass Range			Third Pass Range		
	Z	X	Y	X	Y	Z	X	Y	Z	X	Y	Z
100	az	-20	dip	43	35	10	85	70	20	127.5	105	30
140	az	-21	dip	35	35	10	70	70	20	105.0	105	30
150	az	45	dip	43	43	10	85	85	20	127.5	128	30
180	az	-5	dip	45	10	42	90	20	85	135.0	30	127
190	az	44	dip	25	25	10	50	50	20	75.0	75	30
200	az	-17	dip	50	30	10	100	60	20	150.0	90	30
210	az	7	dip	35	25	10	70	50	20	105.0	75	30
220	az	72	dip	25	25	10	50	50	20	75.0	75	30
230	az	5	dip	40	40	10	80	80	20	120.0	120	30
250	az	4	dip	35	40	10	70	80	20	105.0	120	30
260	az	23	dip	38	45	10	75	90	20	112.5	135	30
310	az	-9	dip	35	45	10	70	90	20	105.0	135	30
320	az	69	dip	38	79	13	75	159	27	112.5	238	40
340	az	14	dip	35	30	10	70	60	20	105.0	90	30
350	az	55	dip	30	30	10	60	60	20	90.0	90	30
370	az	80	dip	38	20	10	75	40	20	112.5	60	30
380	az	7	dip	48	37	10	95	75	20	142.5	112	30
390	az	-3	dip	48	40	10	95	80	20	142.5	120	30
400	az	18	dip	45	48	10	90	95	20	135.0	143	30
450	az	-26	dip	30	30	10	60	60	20	90.0	90	30
800	17	65	35	40	32	15	80	65	30	120.0	97	45
850	115	1	5	40	32	15	80	65	30	120.0	97	45



### 14.6.3 Interpolation Parameters

Estimation and search parameters were evaluated through Kriging Neighbourhood Analysis (KNA).

KNA was conducted on each domain using Supervisor. KNA provides a quantitative method for testing different estimation parameters (i.e., block size, discretization and min/max of composites used for the interpolation) by evaluating their impact on the quality of the results. The interpretation of these helps select the optimal value for each parameter.

Following this study, the parameters provided in Table 14-7 were chosen to interpolate the block model.



Table 14-7: Interpolation parameters

		Blockcode	Pass	Min. of composites used	Max. of composites used	Max. per DDH	Pass	Min. of composites used	Max. of composites used	Max. per DDH	Pass	Min. of composites used	Max. of composites used	Max. per DDH
Hard Boundary Dynamic Anisotropy	High-grade	100	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		140	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		150	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		180	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		190	1	5	14	4	2	4	14	3	3	1	14	14
		200	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		210	1	5	17	4	2	4	17	3	3	1	17	17
		220	1	5	12	4	2	4	12	3	3	1	12	12
		230	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		250	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		260	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		310	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
		320	1	5	16	4	2	4	16	3	3	1	16	16
		340	1	5	13	4	2	4	13	3	3	1	13	13
		350	1	5	12	4	2	4	12	3	3	1	12	12
		370	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20
380	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20		
390	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20		
400	1	5	20	4	2	4	20	3	3	1	20	20		
450	1	5	13	4	2	4	13	3	3	1	13	13		
Soft Boundary	Low-grade	800	1	5	15	4	2	4	15	3	3	1	15	15
		850	1	5	14	4	2	4	14	3	3	1	14	14



#### 14.6.4 Interpolation Methodology

The interpolation was run on a set of points extracted from the capped composited data. Grades were estimated using ordinary kriging (OK) methods. For high-grade domains, hard boundaries were used in order to prevent grades from adjacent zones being used during interpolation. Soft boundaries were applied between the two low-grade domains.

For comparison purposes, additional grade models were generated using: 1) inverse distance squared (ID<sup>2</sup>) and 2) nearest neighbour (NN).

### 14.7 Block Model Validation

Every step of the block modelling process was revised to ensure fair representation and consistency of the primary data in the Block Model resource model.

More specific validations were completed on the block model including visual review of the interpolated grades in relation to the raw and composited data, checks for global and local bias, graphical validation (swath plots), statistical analysis of the model, and comparison to other estimation methods.

#### 14.7.1 Visual Validation

Block model grades were visually compared against drillhole composite grades and raw assays in cross-section, plan, longitudinal and 3D views (Figure 14-11 and Figure 14-12). This visual validation process also included confirming that the proper coding was done within the various domains and checks for global and local bias.

The visual comparison shows that the block model is consistent and correlates well with the primary data without excessive smoothing. Although dynamic anisotropy was not used to interpolate the low-grade domains, visual inspection suggests it might be interesting to do so using Sirios' structural model. It is recommended that dynamic anisotropy be tested on the low-grade domains in a future update.

Visual comparisons were also conducted between ID<sup>2</sup>, OK and NN interpolation scenarios. The OK scenario used for the resource estimate produced a grade distribution honouring drillhole data and the style of mineralization observed on the Cheechoo Project.

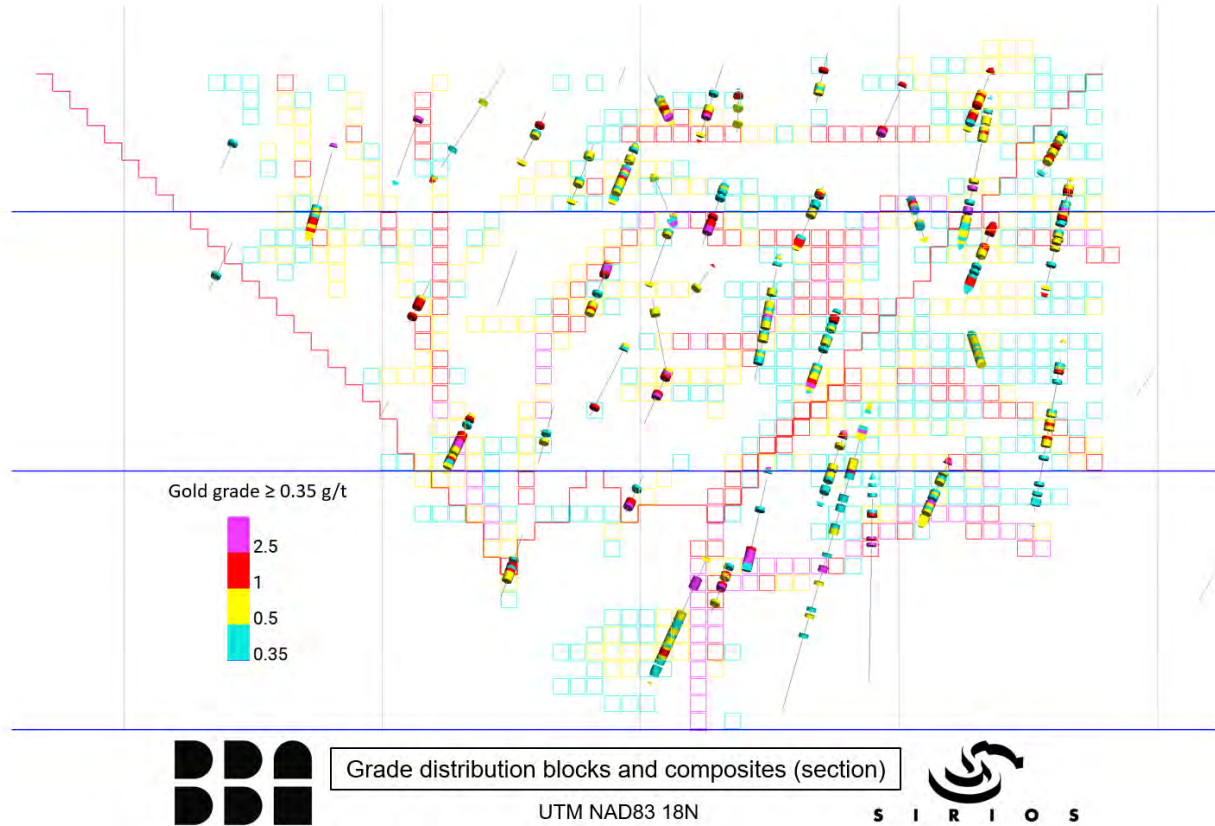


Figure 14-11: Comparative example of the grade distribution between blocks and composites in cross-section view.  
The section is oriented north-south on easting 438402 and has a thickness of 20 m. Note that only blocks and composites above the cut-off grade (0.035 g/t Au) are shown.

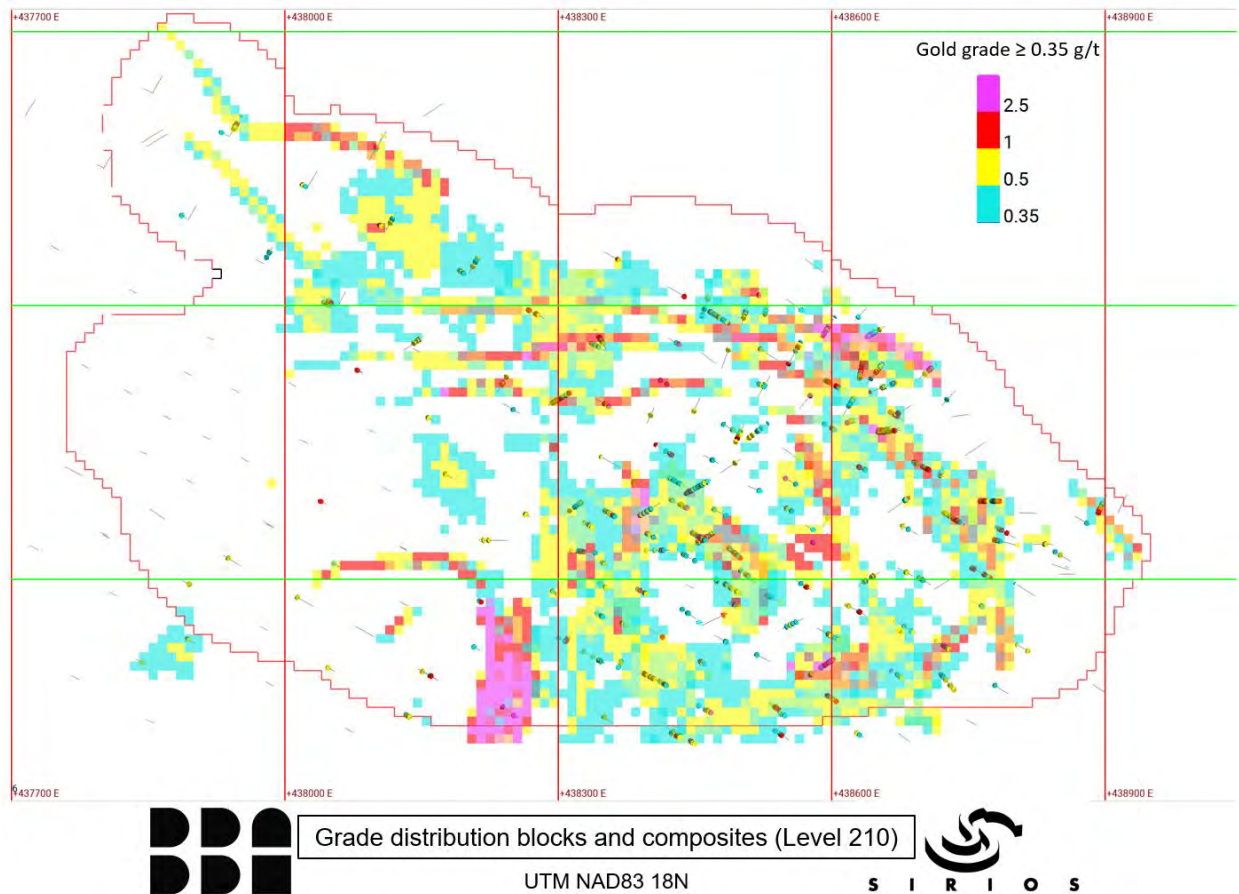


Figure 14-12: Comparative example of the grade distribution between blocks and composites in plan view (Level 210). The plan view has a thickness of 25 m. Note that only blocks and composites above the cut-off grade (0.35 g/t Au) are shown.

## 14.7.2 Statistical Validation

Grade averages for OK, NN and ID2 models were tabulated in Table 14-8. This comparison did not identify significant issues. As expected, block grade averages are generally lower than the composite grades. Overall, drillhole information is well represented throughout the estimation process.

The average grades generated by the ID2 interpolation method are very close to those reported by the OK interpolation method.



Table 14-8: Comparison of the block model grade and composite mean grades at a zero cut-off grade

Domain	Number of Composite	Composite Grade (g/t Au)	Composite Grade (g/t Au capped)	Number of Blocks	OK Grade Model (g/t Au)	ID <sup>2</sup> Grade Model (g/t Au)	NN Grade Model (g/t Au)
All	36,498	0.40	0.36	374,168	0.21	0.22	0.23

### 14.7.3 Swath Plots

Swath plots were also generated as part of the block model validation using Snowden Supervisor software v. 8.14. A swath plot is a graphical display of the grade distribution derived from a series of bands (or swaths), generated in several directions throughout the deposit. Using the swath plots, grade variations from the OK model are compared to the distribution of grade interpolated with the NN and ID<sup>2</sup> methods and to the composite grades. This validation method also works as a visual mean to identify possible bias in the interpolation.

Figure 14-13 to Figure 14-15 illustrate a series of swath plots in the three main directions. Generally, the grades estimated in the blocks are close to the average grades provided by the data source; no bias was found in the resource estimate in this regard.

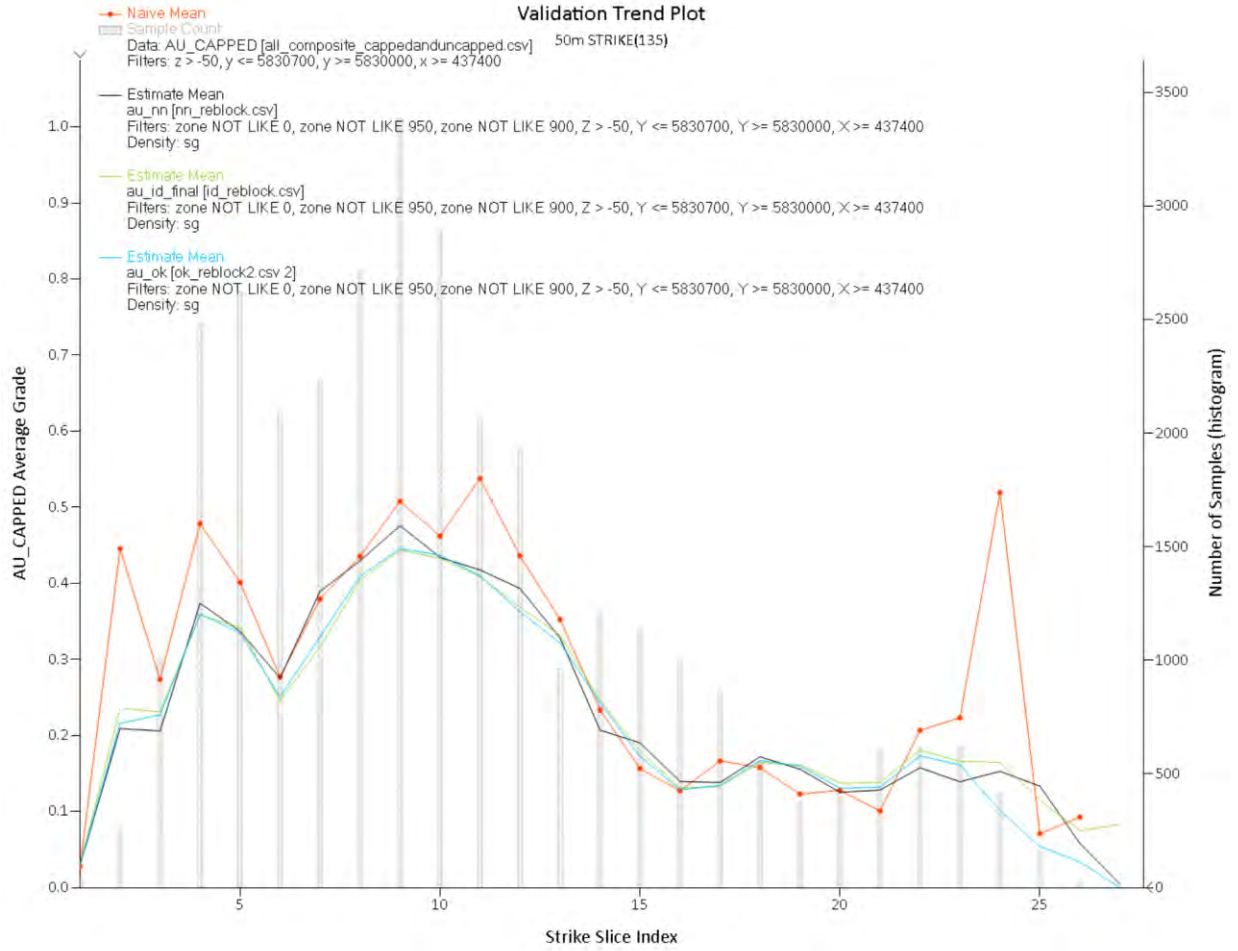


Figure 14-13: Swath plot along strike

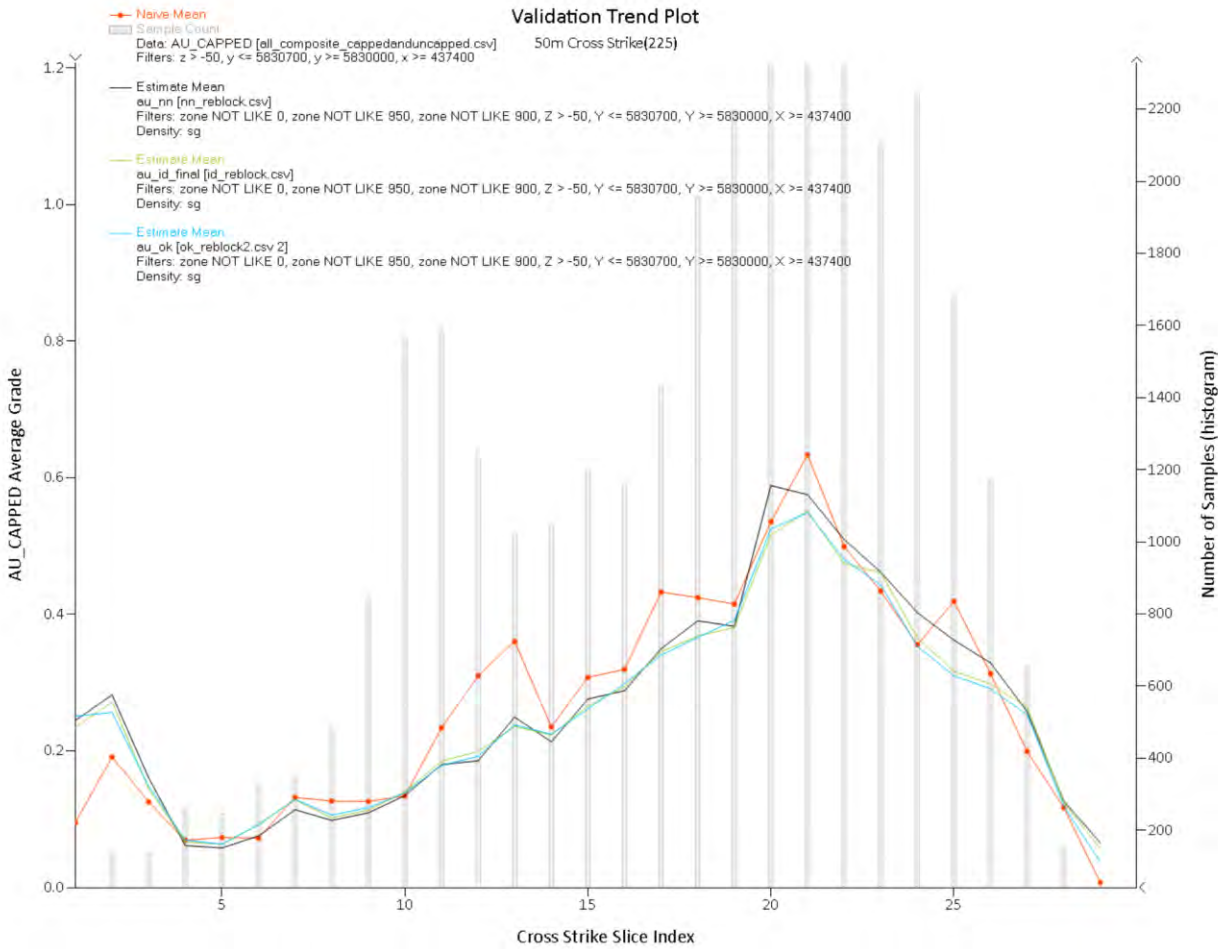


Figure 14-14: Swath plots across strike



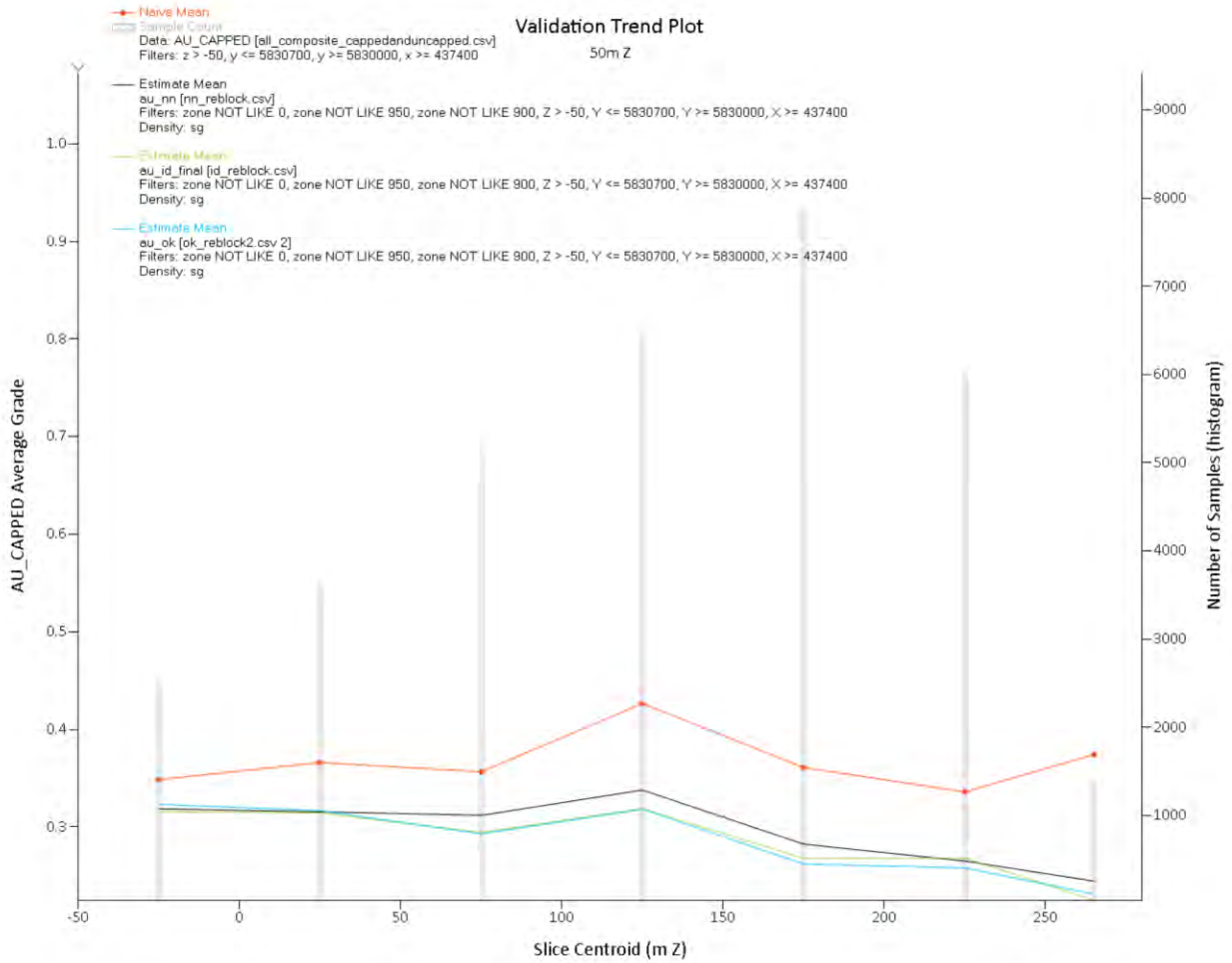


Figure 14-15: Swath plots along elevation

Based on visual and statistical reviews, it is the QP's opinion that the Cheechoo block model provides a reasonable estimate of in situ gold resources.



## 14.8 Mineral Resource Classification

The mineral resources for the Cheechoo Project were classified in accordance with CIM Standards.

### 14.8.1 Mineral Resource Definition

The “CIM Definition Standards for Mineral Resources and Reserves” prepared by the CIM Standing Committee on Resource Definitions and adopted by the CIM council on May 10, 2014, provides standards for the classification of Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves estimates as follows:

*Inferred Mineral Resource:*

*An Inferred Mineral Resource is that part of a Mineral Resource for which quantity and grade or quality are estimated on the basis of limited geological evidence and sampling. Geological evidence is sufficient to imply but not verify geological and grade or quality continuity.*

*An Inferred Mineral Resource has a lower level of confidence than that applying to an Indicated Mineral Resource and must not be converted to a Mineral Reserve. It is reasonably expected that the majority of Inferred Mineral Resources could be upgraded to Indicated Mineral Resources with continued exploration.*

*Indicated Mineral Resource:*

*An Indicated Mineral Resource is that part of a Mineral Resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape, and physical characteristics are estimated with sufficient confidence to allow the application of Modifying Factors in sufficient detail to support mine planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit.*

*Geological evidence is derived from adequately detailed and reliable exploration, sampling and testing and is sufficient to assume geological and grade or quality continuity between points of observation.*

*An Indicated Mineral Resource has a lower level of confidence than that applying to a Measured Mineral Resource and may only be converted to a Probable Mineral Reserve.*

*Measured Mineral Resource:*

*A Measured Mineral Resource is that part of a Mineral Resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape, and physical characteristics are estimated with confidence sufficient to allow the application of Modifying Factors to support detailed mine planning and final evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit.*



*Geological evidence is derived from detailed and reliable exploration, sampling and testing and is sufficient to confirm geological and grade or quality continuity between points of observation.*

*A Measured Mineral Resource has a higher level of confidence than that applying to either an Indicated Mineral Resource or an Inferred Mineral Resource. It may be converted to a Proven Mineral Reserve or to a Probable Mineral Reserve.*

## 14.8.2 Block Model Classification

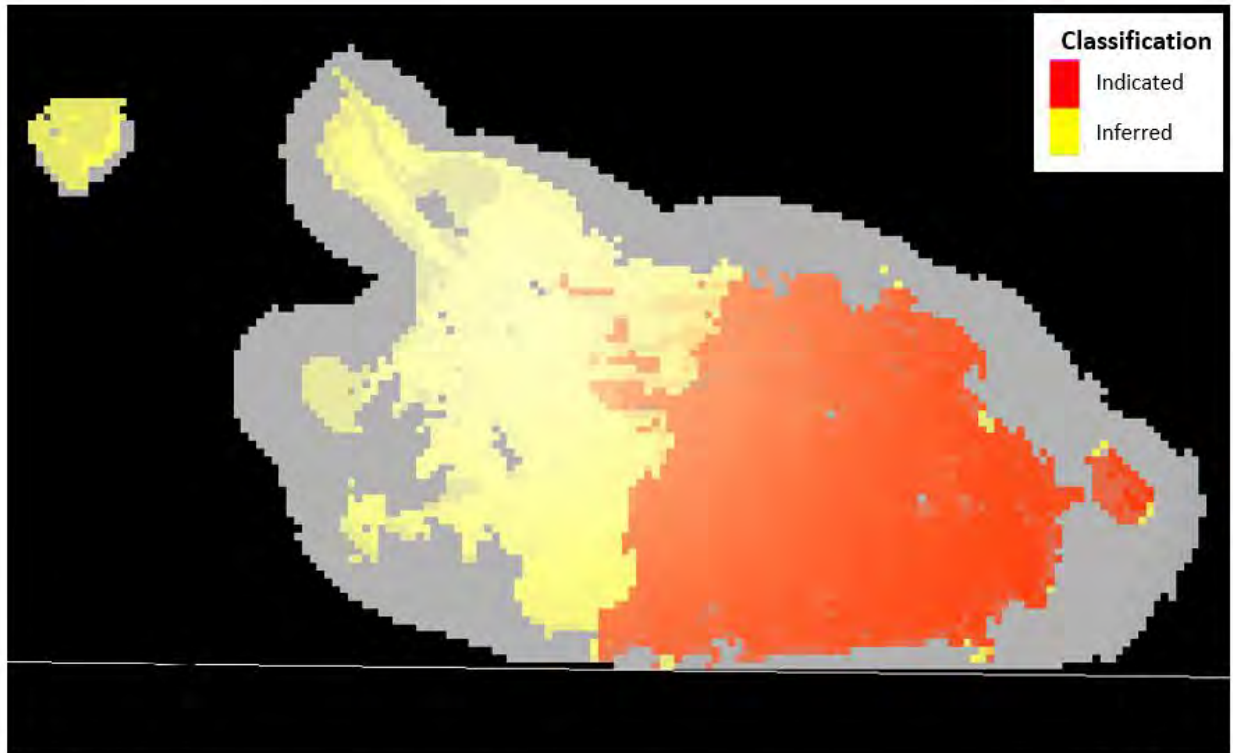
Following the CIM definitions, the estimated block grades were classified into Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resource categories using drill spacing, a minimum number of drillhole and recognition of grade and geological continuity.

No Measured resources were defined for the Project at this stage.

The Indicated Mineral Resource is defined by blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is generally less than 50 m within the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10x10x10 m re-blocks. The Inferred Mineral Resource is defined by blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is generally less than 100 m within the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10x10x10m re-blocks.

When needed, a series of clipping boundaries were created manually in plan, longitudinal, and 3D views to either upgrade or downgrade classification in order to homogenize the groups of resources by removing artificial features and isolated blocks due to automatically generated classification. All remaining estimated but unclassified blocks were flagged as "Exploration Potential".

Figure 14-16 and Figure 14-17 show examples of the classification.



Indicated and inferred blocks above cut-off grade within the MRE  
conceptual pitshell (grey)

UTM NAD83 18N



S I R I O S

Figure 14-16: Plan view showing block classification above the cut-off grade

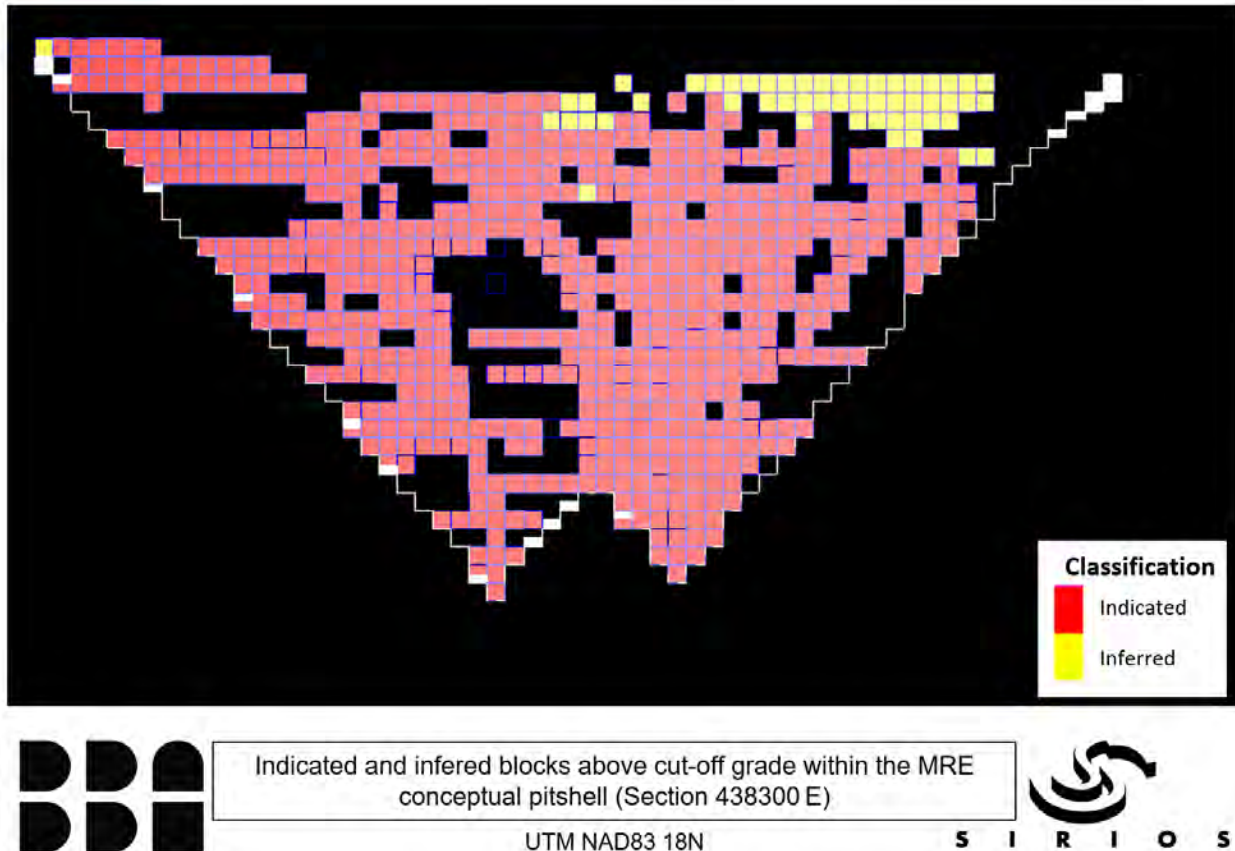


Figure 14-17: Section view (438300 E) showing block classification above the cut-off grade

## 14.9 Cut-off Grade and Pit Optimization Parameters

According to CIM's Definition Standards, for a deposit to be considered a Mineral Resource it must be proven that there are "reasonable prospects for economic extraction". This requirement implies that the quantity and grade estimates meet certain economic thresholds and that the Mineral Resources are reported at an appropriate cut-off grade that considers extraction scenarios and processing recoveries. Various costs and parameters were determined based on similar projects and a given metallurgical process. It is assumed that a metallurgical plant will be located on the Property. These parameters were used to calculate a cut-off grade of 0.32 g/t Au for the study.

In order to determine the quantity of mineralization that shows "reasonable prospects for economic extraction" using open pit mining methods, BBA carried out a pit optimization analysis using the Deswik mining software's Pseudoflow algorithm to generate a series of nested pit shells.



The pit optimization analysis evaluates the potential profitability of each mineralized block in the model.

Only the material classified as Indicated and Inferred was considered as mineralized, all other material was considered as waste. As previously mentioned, no material was classified as Measured. While the limits of the resource block model extend beyond Sirios Resources' claims, the pit optimization analysis was constrained to the claim limits. Lastly, the costs and revenues of each block were evaluated. The pit optimization parameters are presented in Table 14-9.

Table 14-9: Cut-off grade and pit optimization parameters

Pit Optimization Parameters	Unit	Value
Process Plant Throughput	tpy	7,665,000
Mining Cost – Fresh Rock	CAD/t mined	2.90
Mining Cost – Overburden	CAD/t mined	5.00
Incremental Bench Cost (10m)	CAD/t mined	0.05
Refining & Transportation Cost	CAD/oz	5.00
Process Cost	CAD/t processed	14.57
General & Administration Cost	CAD/t processed	5.42
Mining Recovery	%	95
Mining Dilution	%	5
Mining Dilution Grade	g/t	0.00
Process Recovery		
▪ Grade $\geq 0.3$ to $< 0.5$ Au g/t	%	88
▪ Grade $\geq 0.5$	%	92
Gold Selling Price	USD/oz	1,650
Gold Selling Price	CAD/oz	2,140
Exchange Rate	CAD/USD	1.29
Royalty	%	0
Grams per troy ounce	g/oz	31.1035
Overall Slope Angle – Tonalite	°	50
Overall Slope Angle – Sediments	°	45
Overall Slope Angle – Overburden	°	26



For this updated MRE, royalties were excluded from the pit optimization analysis. The royalty agreement mentioned in Section 4.3 of this technical report is under review by Sirios Resources. Nevertheless, the impact of including a royalty on the pit optimization analysis was evaluated and is not significant.

It should be noted that all parameters are either based on similar projects or reasonable technical and economic factors. It is of the opinion of Dario Evangelista, P. Eng. of BBA Inc., the QP of this report section, that the calculated cut-off grades and the parameters used are relevant for a mineral resource estimate, as they are relevant to the grade distribution of the Project and that the mineralization exhibits sufficient continuity. However, these parameters must be analyzed in future studies and, subsequently, may change. Furthermore, the results of this pit optimization analysis are used solely for testing the reasonable prospects for economic extraction by open pit mining methods and do not represent an economic study.

The pit optimization analysis was evaluated solely for revenue factor (RF) 1.0. The resulting shell incorporated one main pit, with a shallow satellite pit to the northwest. Other insignificant pits were also obtained in the analyses but were excluded from the estimate. The final shell for this MRE is shown in Figure 14-18.

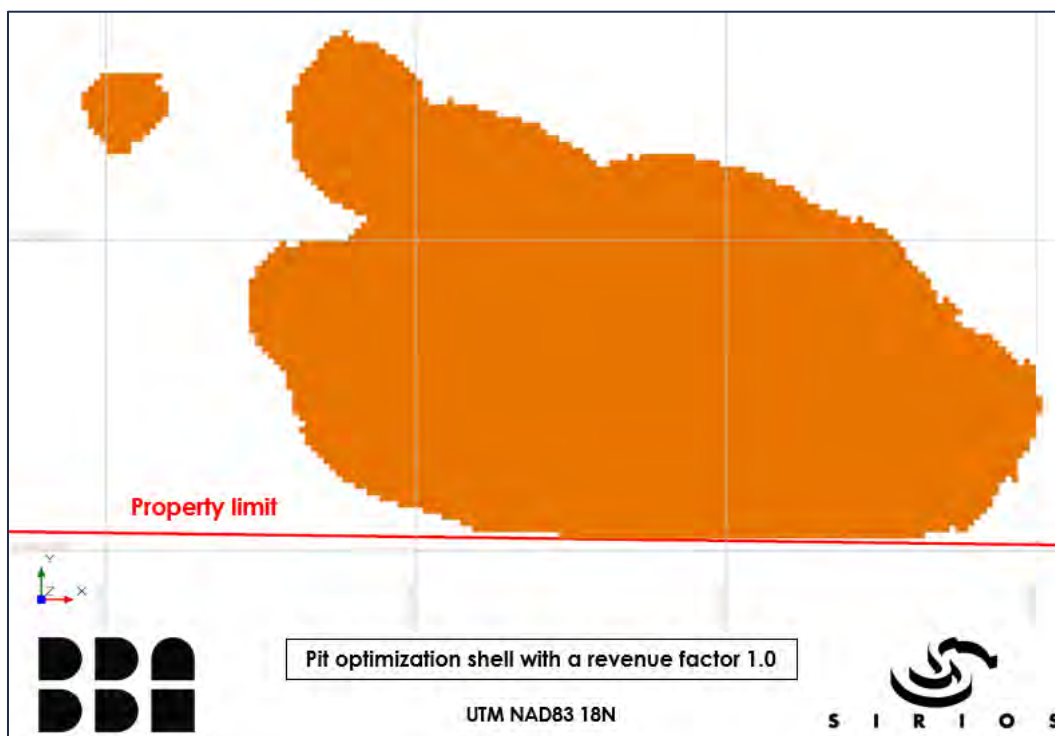


Figure 14-18: Revenue factor 1.0 pit shell for the MRE





Although the calculated cut-off grade used in for the pit optimization is 0.32 g/t Au, a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au was used for the Mineral Resource Estimate reporting.

## 14.10 Cheechoo Gold Deposit Mineral Resource Estimate

The pit-constrained Mineral Resource Estimate for the Project is presented in Table 14-10.

Table 14-10: Pit-constrained Mineral Resource Estimate for the Cheechoo Project

Cut-off Grade	Indicated			Inferred		
	Tonnage	Au	Au	Tonnage	Au	Au
(g/t Au)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)
0.35	46.3	0.94	1,404,000	21.1	0.73	494,000

Notes to Table 14-10:

1. The independent qualified person for the 2022 MRE, as defined by NI 43-101 guidelines, is Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., of PLR Resources Inc. The effective date of the estimate is July 20, 2022.
2. These mineral resources are not mineral reserves as they do not have demonstrated economic viability. The quantity and grade of reported Inferred resources in this MRE are uncertain in nature and there has been insufficient exploration to define these resources as Indicated or Measured; however, it is reasonably expected that the majority of Inferred Mineral Resources could be upgraded to Indicated Mineral Resources with continued exploration.
3. Resources are presented as undiluted and pit constrained, and are considered to have reasonable prospects for economic extraction. Although the calculated cut-off grade is 0.32 g/t Au, a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au was used for the MRE. The pit optimization was done using Deswik mining software. The constraining pit shell was developed using pit slopes of 45 to 50 degrees in hard rock and 26 degrees in overburden. The cut-off grade and pit optimization were calculated using the following parameters (amongst others): Gold price = USD1,650; CAD:USD exchange rate = 1.29; Hard Rock Mining cost = \$2.90/t mined with incremental bench costs of \$0.05 per 10 m bench; Overburden Mining Cost = \$5.00/t mined; Mining Recovery = 95%; Mining dilution = 5% at 0 g/t Au; Metallurgical Recovery varying from 88% to 92%; Processing cost = \$14.57/t processed; G&A = \$5.42/t processed; and Refining and Transportation cost = \$5.00/oz. The conceptual pit-constrained resource has a 2.3:1 stripping ratio at the 0.35 g/t Au cut-off grade used for reporting. The cut-off grade will be re-evaluated in light of future prevailing market conditions and costs.
4. The MRE was prepared using Surpac 2022 Refresh 1 and is based on 329 surface drillholes (76,713 m) and 386 surface channel samples (3,217 m), with a total of 55,566 assays. The resource database was validated before proceeding to the resource estimation. Grade model resource estimation was interpolated from drillhole and channel data using an OK interpolation method within blocks measuring 10 m x 10 m x 10 m in size. The cut-off date for drillhole database was July 20, 2022.
5. The model comprises 20 mineralized zones (which have a minimum thickness of 3 m, with rare exceptions mostly between 2 m and 3m), and two low-grade mineralized body mostly included in the tonalite intrusive unit, each defined by drillhole intercepts. The block model was re-blocked to 10m x 10m x 10m using the weighted average grade and tonnage from high-grade and low-grade zones.



6. High-grade capping was done on the composited assay data and established on a per zone basis. Capping grades vary from 3 g/t Au to 55 g/t Au. A value of zero grade was applied in cases where core was not assayed.
7. Fixed density values were established on a per unit basis, corresponding to the median of the SG data of each unit ranging from 2.65 t/m<sup>3</sup> to 2.76 t/m<sup>3</sup>. A fixed density of 2.00 t/m<sup>3</sup> was assigned to the overburden.
8. The MRE presented herein is categorized as Indicated and Inferred Resources. The Indicated Mineral Resource category is defined for blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is less than 50 m for the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10 m x 10 m x 10 m re-blocks. The Inferred Mineral Resource category is defined for blocks that are informed by a minimum of two drillholes where drill spacing is less than 100 m for the intrusive-related mineralization applied to 10 m x 10 m x 10 m re-blocks. Where needed, some materials have been either upgraded or downgraded to avoid isolated blocks.
9. The number of tonnes (metric) and ounces were rounded to the nearest hundred thousand.
10. CIM definitions and guidelines for mineral resource estimates have been followed.

Table 14-11 shows the sensitivity of the estimate to grade cut-off for the in situ MRE. The reader is cautioned that the numbers presented in the following table should not be misconstrued with a mineral resource statement.

Table 14-11: Cheechoo Project cut-off grade sensitivity table

Method	Cut-off Grade	Indicated			Inferred		
		Tonnage	Au	Au	Tonnage	Au	Au
	(g/t Au)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)
Pit-constrained mineral resources	0.70	19.6	1.56	985,000	6.7	1.27	272,000
	0.60	24.2	1.39	1,081,000	8.7	1.12	315,000
	0.50	30.6	1.21	1,193,000	12.0	0.96	373,000
	0.40	39.9	1.03	1,326,000	17.3	0.81	448,000
	0.35	46.3	0.94	1,404,000	21.1	0.73	494,000
	0.32	50.7	0.89	1,451,000	24.3	0.68	529,000
	0.30	54.1	0.85	1,484,000	26.6	0.65	551,000
0.25	63.8	0.77	1,570,000	33.6	0.57	613,000	

## 14.11 Potential Heap Leach Scenario

In parallel to the official MRE (see Table 14-11), a potential heap leach scenario was produced to assess the amount of tonnage, grade, and in situ gold ounces that such an extraction method could yield on the mineralization of the Cheechoo Project.



Table 14-12 shows tonnage, grade, and ounces that would yield the same block model as the official 2022 MRE, but applying Heap Leach recovery parameters described in Chapter 13. A cut-off grade of 0.23 g/t Au was estimated for this alternative scenario. The reader is cautioned that the numbers presented in the following table should not be misconstrued with an official mineral resource statement. This scenario is only presented as a potential alternative scenario.

Table 14-12: Potential alternative pit-constrained scenario using Heap Leach for the Cheechoo Project

Method	Cut-off Grade	Indicated			Inferred		
		Tonnage	Au	Au	Tonnage	Au	Au
	(g/t Au)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)	(Mt)	(g/t)	(oz)
Pit-constrained mineral resources (Heap leach)	0.70	19.7	1.56	989,000	6.9	1.26	281,000
	0.60	24.4	1.39	1,086,000	9.2	1.11	327,000
	0.50	30.8	1.21	1,198,000	12.6	0.95	388,000
	0.40	40.2	1.03	1,334,000	18.3	0.80	469,000
	0.35	46.9	0.94	1,415,000	22.8	0.71	523,000
	0.30	54.9	0.85	1,497,000	28.7	0.63	585,000
	0.25	64.7	0.76	1,584,000	36.2	0.56	651,000
	0.23	69.2	0.73	1,619,000	39.7	0.53	677,000
	0.20	76.5	0.68	1,669,000	45.5	0.49	718,000



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## 15. Mineral Reserve Estimate

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



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## 16. Mining Methods

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



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## 17. Recovery Methods

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



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## 18. Project Infrastructure

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.





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## 19. Market Studies and Contracts

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## 20. Environmental Studies, Permitting, and Social or Community Impact

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



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## 21. Economic Analysis

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



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## 22. Capital and Operating Costs

This chapter is not required for a Technical Report on Mineral Resources.



## 23. Adjacent Properties

Several junior exploration companies and prospectors (listed as others in the figure) are active in the Éléonore Mine area as illustrated in Figure 23-1. The author has not been able to verify the information presented below and the information is not necessarily indicative of the mineralization on the Cheechoo Project (the subject of this Report).

### 23.1 Éléonore Mine Property

In April 2019, Newmont bought all the shares of Goldcorp and changed its name to Newmont Goldcorp. Subsequently, it changed its name back to Newmont in January 2020. One of the company's assets, the Éléonore mine, is located 15 km northwest of the Cheechoo Project on claims adjacent to the Cheechoo property.

The deposit is located in Archean rocks of the Superior Province, in the transition zone between the Opinaca and the La Grande subprovinces. The contact between the two subprovinces is not well known, and generally corresponds to regional-scale deformation zones and a sharp change in the metamorphic gradient. The Éléonore deposit is considered to have many aspects in common with greenstone-hosted quartz-carbonate vein deposits but represents a clastic sediment-hosted stockwork disseminated end member.

### 23.2 Opinaca A, B, and D Properties

Located 18 km north and 36 km northwest of the Cheechoo Project, the Opinaca A and Opinaca D properties are held by Azimut Exploration. They consist respectively of 55 and 5 claims. These properties contain some gold prospects with various exploration work carried out since 2005. The Opinaca B is located 8 km east of the Cheechoo Project and has a couple of gold prospects consisting of 248 claims, held by Azimuth Exploration, Molécule Holdings, and Hécla Québec.

### 23.3 Éléonore South Joint Venture Property

The Éléonore South Joint Venture is held by Fury Gold Mines, and Newmont. It is adjacent to the Cheechoo Project to the west. The property is in an exploration-drilling-stage consisting of 282 mining claims.



## 23.4 Éléonore Joint Venture Property

The Éléonore Joint Venture property is held by Midland Exploration (50%) and Osisko Gold Royalties (50%). A part of the property is adjacent to the south of the Cheechoo Project and the majority of the property is located about 20 km southeast. Numerous gold anomalies in the paragneiss have been found.

## 23.5 Wildcat Property

The Wildcat property is adjacent to the east of the Cheechoo Project. The 100% Hecla Quebec owned property consists of 347 claims. Various exploration work has been carried out since 2010 on the property, including 44 diamond drillholes (DDH).

## 23.6 O3 Mining

O3 Mining has a property east of the Cheechoo west block.

## 23.7 Osisko Baie-James SENC

Osisko Baie-James SENC has a property north of the Cheechoo west block, as well as scattered claims in the area.

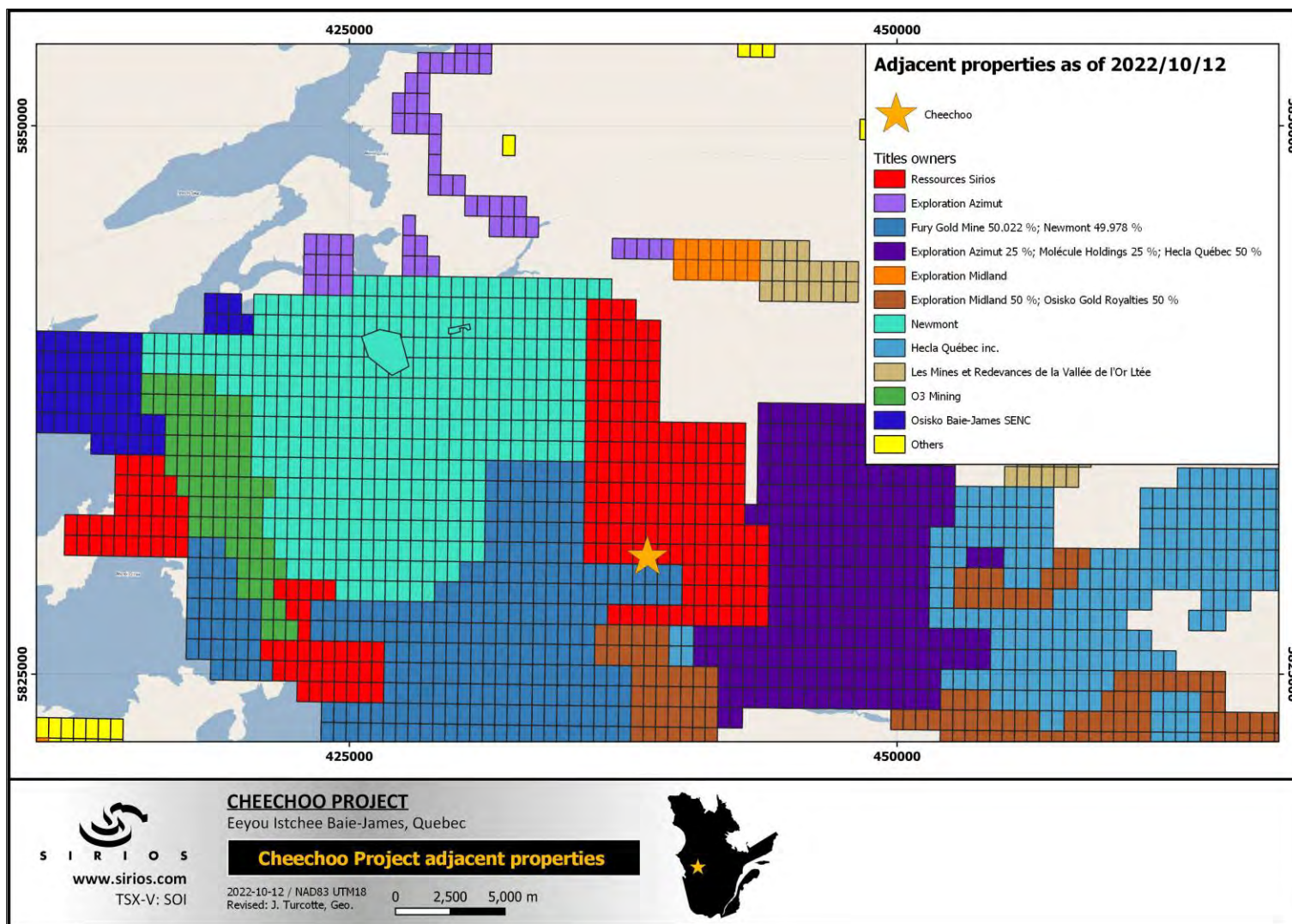


Figure 23-1: Cheechoo Project adjacent properties





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## 24. Other Relevant Data and Information

QPs are not aware of any additional relevant data that might materially impact the interpretations and conclusions presented in this Technical Report.



## 25. Interpretation and Conclusions

### 25.1 Overview

The objective of BBA's mandate was to produce a Mineral Resource Estimate Update for the Cheechoo Gold Project and a supporting NI 43-101 Technical Report. This Report and the 2022 MRE herein meet this objective.

Geological wireframes were constructed by Sirios geologist Jordi Turcotte. The mineral resource estimation parameters for the Cheechoo Project were established by BBA and PLR Resources.

### 25.2 Mineral Tenure, Surface Rights, Agreements, and Royalties

The information provided by Sirios supports the conclusion that the mining claims held are valid.

### 25.3 Environmental

The Project is not subject to any known environmental liabilities. As the area has a long history of exploration and recently mining, the QPs do not anticipate any barriers to access the Project for work planned going forward.

### 25.4 Geology and Mineralization

The hydrothermal and gold mineralization features of the Cheechoo Property, temporal and/or spatial association with a reduced intrusion, pegmatites and mafic enclaves or dikes shares analogies with reduced intrusion-related gold systems (Thompson and Newberry, 2000; Hart, 2007). The composition of the Cheechoo intrusion shares similarities with reduced ilmenite series and gold-associated granitoids (Fontaine et al., 2017) described in Yukon, and Alaska (Hart et al., 2004) and in New Brunswick (Yang et al., 2008). In New Brunswick Appalachians, Yang et al. (2008) have proposed that intrusion-related gold systems are controlled by magma sources, magmatic processes, redox conditions (country-rock nature), and local structural regimes.

The vein network of the Cheechoo Property is composed of various types of auriferous veins including sheeted extensional, en-echelon quartz-dominated veins, as well as pegmatitic quartz-feldspar veins. The vein network is commonly 40 m to 50 m wide and, at least 100 m long and mainly occurs within the intrusion, but also in the surrounding paragneissic rocks. The vein density increases (from 15% to 50% of the rock volume) towards intrusion margins and with the occurrence of pegmatite dikes, tonalite apophyses and mafic schist. The gold grade is controlled by the presence of sulphides (particularly arsenopyrite), the density of veins, and deformation gradients. The understanding of the regional geology, lithological and structural controls of the mineralization at Cheechoo are sufficient to support estimation of Mineral Resources.



## 25.5 Resources Database

The resource database for the Project, as of July 20, 2022, consisted of 329 diamond drillholes (DDH) totalling 76,712.85 m and 386 channels for 3,216.88 m with a total of 55,566 assays, all of which were completed by Sirios between 2012 and 2022. The QP reviewed the drilling, sample preparation, analytical and security procedures, as well as insertion rates and the performance of blanks, standards, and duplicates for the 2013-2021 drilling programs and concluded that the observed failure rates are within expected ranges and that no significant assay biases are present.

The QP is of the opinion that the protocols in place are adequate and followed. The database for the Cheechoo Project is of good overall quality and meets industry standards. The QP is of the opinion that the database is appropriate for the purposes of the Mineral Resource Estimation and that the sample density allows for a reliable estimate to be made of the size, tonnage, and grade of the mineralization in accordance with the level of confidence established by the Mineral Resource categories in the CIM Standards.

## 25.6 2022 Cheechoo Project Resource Estimate

The 2022 Cheechoo Mineral Resource Estimate (the "2020 MRE") was prepared by Pierre-Luc Richard, P. Geo., using all available information.

The mineral resources are not mineral reserves as they do not have demonstrated economic viability. The estimate is categorized as Inferred and Indicated Resources based on data density, geological and grade continuity, search ellipse criteria, drillhole density and specific interpolation parameters. The effective date of the estimate is July 20, 2022 based on the compilation status and cut-off grade parameters.

The QP considers the 2022 MRE to be reliable and based on quality data, reasonable hypotheses and parameters that follow CIM Definition Standards. After completing the MRE and a detailed review of all pertinent information, the QP concluded the following:

- The 2022 MRE was built with the use of 20 mineralized zones (which have a minimum thickness of 3 m, with rare exceptions mostly between 2 m and 3 m), and two low-grade mineralized body, mostly included in the tonalite intrusive unit, each defined by drillholes intercepts;
- Using a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au, the Indicated In-pit Resources amounts to 46.3 Mt grading 0.94 g/t Au containing approximately 1,404,000 ounces of gold;
- Using a cut-off grade of 0.35 g/t Au, the Inferred In-pit Resources amounts to 21.1 Mt grading 0.73 g/t Au containing approximately 494,000 ounces of gold;
- No Measured Resources have been defined in the 2022 MRE;



- It is likely that further diamond drilling would upgrade most of the inferred resources to indicated resources.

## 25.7 Exploration Potential

Following an overall review of all pertinent information, including the MRE, the QPs concluded the following:

- The exploration potential remains high at the property scale, justifying compilation and target generation programs;
- The potential is high for adding additional resources to the Project by drilling lateral extensions to the west;
- It is likely that drilling additional holes, therefore improving the current drill spacing, would translate into upgrading Inferred resources to the Indicated category.

## 25.8 Risk and Opportunities

As noted in Chapter 4, the QPs are not aware of any known environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political or relevant issues could be expected to affect the reliability or confidence in the exploration information and Mineral Resource discussed herein or the right or ability to perform future work on the Cheechoo Project.

As with all mineral projects, there is an inherent risk associated with mineral exploration. Many of these risks are based on a lack of detailed knowledge and can be managed as more sampling, testing, design, and engineering are conducted at the next study stages. The mineral resources may be affected by a future conceptual study assessment of mining, processing, environmental, permitting, taxation, socio-economic and other factors.

Table 25-1 identifies what are currently deemed to be the most significant internal project risks, potential impacts and possible mitigation approaches that could affect the Project.

External risks are, to a certain extent, beyond the control of the Project proponents and are much more difficult to anticipate and mitigate, although, in many instances, some risk reduction can be achieved. External risks are things such as the political situation in the Project's region, metal prices, exchange rates and government legislation. These external risks are generally applicable to all mining projects. Negative variance to these items from the assumptions would affect the mineral resource estimate.



There are opportunities that could improve the Project. The major opportunities that have been identified at this time are summarized in Table 25-2, excluding those typical to all mining projects, such as changes in metal prices, exchange rates, etc. Further information and assessments are needed before these opportunities should be included in the Project economics.

Table 25-1: Project risks (preliminary risk assessment)

Risk Description and Potential Impact	Mitigation Approach
The interpreted mineralized zones could be affected by some structures (faults or folds) that could displace or stop the mineralized zones.	Definition drilling and eventually Grade Control will improve the confidence in the interpretation.
Presence of a nugget effect in the gold distribution of the deposit could lead to local variability within the mineralized zones.	A bulk sample could provide a better understanding of the nugget effect on this Project.
The mineralized corridors might have slightly different shapes and orientations due to the complex geometry of the deposit.	Definition drilling and eventually Grade Control will help define with more precision the mineralized zones.

Table 25-2: Project opportunities

Opportunity Explanation	Benefit
The deposit remains open at depth and laterally to the west.	Potential to increase resources by adding drillholes.
Reducing the drill spacing by adding infill drilling in the remaining inferred resources.	Could potentially upgrade Inferred resources to the Indicated category.
Improve metallurgical knowledge on the Project.	Could improve assumptions.

Additional technical factors that may impact the MRE include:

- Mill terms and valuation assumptions;
- Changes to technical inputs used to estimate gold content (e.g., bulk density estimation and grade model methodology);
- Changes to geotechnical, hydrogeology, and mining assumptions, including the application of alternative mining methods;
- Changes to process plant recovery estimates if the metallurgical recovery in certain domains is less or greater than currently assumed, including the application of alternative processing methods;
- Social acceptability is an inherent risk for all mining projects. This could affect the Project's development.



## 26. Recommendations

### 26.1 Overview

Based on the results of the 2022 MRE, the QPs recommend initiating a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) to investigate the likelihood of the Project to be economically viable. Following a positive PEA, additional exploration/definition drilling and further geological and metallurgical interpretation is warranted to gain a better understanding of the deposit before updating the current Mineral Resource Estimate.

The QPs recommend the two-phase work program described below, in which Phase 2 depends on the success of Phase 1.

### 26.2 Recommended Activities – Phase 1

The following activities are recommended for the Phase 1.

#### 26.2.1 Metallurgical Testwork

Additional metallurgical studies should be conducted on the Project in order to improve the understanding of the deposit for further mine planning and valuation. The following future testwork is recommended for the Cheechoo deposit:

- A comminution testwork program to study the mineralized material hardness variability;
- HPGR testwork with NaCN leaching on the Cheechoo rock type materials. This to confirm the use of HPGR for crushing on a range of hardness materials;
- A more extensive sampling campaign is recommended to prepare composite core samples that cover the full spatial extent of the Cheechoo deposit in both surface plan and with depth – suitably logged. From these samples GRG gravity recovery tests, with cyanide leaching should be conducted. These samples and data would investigate Au recovery variability with Au head grade, at depth and with rock type. Include composition analyses (Multi-element ICP) with some mineralogy work (MLA) with several polished sections for Qemscan testwork. These would enhance existing data on the mineralogy and gold occurrence;
- Heap leach testwork results should be validated using intermittent bottle rolls over much longer leach durations 90 - 180 days. Additional column leach testwork should also be completed using columns (15 cm diameter per 2 m high) on multiple composite samples. Testwork should consider the influence of variables such as cyanide and lime addition,



leaching time > 151 days, particle size, percolation rate, and at colder temperatures (at conditions to be seen at site);

- For heap leaching with a permanent pad operation, important testwork in a PFS should include load compressibility testwork to optimize cement addition rates in agglomeration on further material samples from Cheechoo;
- As a result of the favourable response of the material to the gravity GRG concentration and gravity tails leach testwork, it is recommended by BBA to prepare composites for further batch gravity testwork followed by cyanide leaching of gravity tails, to investigate:
  - Optimization of the gravity feed size to investigate the effect of coarser particle sizing on GRG Au recovery;
  - Optimization testwork program of the leaching variables applied to both GRG concentrates and gravity tails leaching, namely NaCN addition rates, leach residence time < 48 hours, use of oxygen versus air sparging, lead nitrate addition, CIL carbon in leach parameters - carbon concentration in pulp, pulp temperature, density, and pulp viscosity measurements;
- A preliminary NaCN and WAD cyanide destruction testwork program based on the future tailings handling system;
- Dynamic and static pulp settling testwork program to optimize flocculant addition;
- Conduct a more detailed trade-off study of the economics of heap leach vs a gravity + leach of gravity tails flowsheet;
- Preliminary heap leach operations modeling (simple dynamic METSIM model with kinetics, solids, water, and gold balances) to cover life of mine materials supply, materials loading profiles, and gold extraction. Such modeling will allow more accurate estimates of water and cyanide consumptions, residual gold lock up, and prediction of gold Dore production profiles with time. This would significantly improve the accuracy of the Project's cash flow modeling and reveal cost savings and revenue opportunities.

### 26.2.2 Exploration Drilling

Exploration drilling should be done to continue investigating any potential lateral extensions of the currently identified mineral resources as well as other target on the Property. A provision of approximately 20,000 m should be considered.

### 26.2.3 Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA)

A Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) is recommended based on the results of the MRE presented in the current Report.





## 26.3 Recommended Activities – Phase 2

Conditional to the success of Phase 1, the following activities are suggested for the Phase 2.

### 26.3.1 Conversion Drilling

Conversion drilling should be done on the remaining inferred resources at a drill spacing of about 50 m, or smaller, in order to further delineate the geological and resources model and to potentially upgrade the remaining Inferred resources to the Indicated category. Approximately 10,000 m would be required.

### 26.3.2 Bulk Sample

A bulk sample is recommended on the Project in order to improve the understanding of the grade distribution for future mineral resource estimate updates.

### 26.3.3 Geotechnical Study

Implement a geotechnical field program to complement existing information by performing conventional overburden characterization and sampling (test pits and drilling), laboratory analyses, and engineering analyses and reporting. Open pit design will require oriented core drilling in a few locations. Results will be used to define the appropriate slopes for overburden excavations, verify stability for all impoundments and provide or confirm parameters for the open pit designs.

## 26.4 Work Plan Budget

The recommendations are budgeted at an estimate based on current site costs with details provided in Table 26-1.



Table 26-1: Work program budget

Description	Cost (\$)
<b>Phase 1 – Work Program</b>	
Metallurgical Testwork	500,000
Exploration Drilling (20,000 m)	6,000,000
Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA)	500,000
Contingencies (15%)	1,050,000
<b>Total Phase 1</b>	<b>8,050,000</b>
<b>Phase 2 – Work Program</b>	
Conversion Drilling (10,000 m)	3,000,000
Bulk Sample	1,000,000
Geotechnical study	100,000
Contingencies (15%)	615,000
<b>Total Phase 2</b>	<b>4,715,000</b>
<b>Total Phase 1 and Phase 2</b>	<b>12,765,000</b>



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