



## For immediate release

17 April 2013

**Premier African Minerals Limited**  
(“Premier” or “the Company”)

### **New near surface, high grade tungsten mineralised quartz veins identified at RHA Tungsten Project, Zimbabwe**

#### **Update on the Zulu Project option**

##### **RHA**

Premier African Minerals Limited, the AIM quoted multi-commodity natural resource company with mineral projects located in Western and Southern Africa, announces a further positive exploration update at its flagship RHA Tungsten Project, located in the prospective Kamativi Tin Belt in north-west Zimbabwe (RHA' or 'the Project'). The Company believes that the Project has the potential to be developed into a low capital and operating cost tungsten mine in the near term.

The announcement made on 18 February 2013 reported assay results from a sampling programme where the entire core from each of the boreholes was split into 3 m long samples of core. The most recent sample programme (that reported here) focussed on careful and detailed sample collection respecting changes in geology and in particular sampling of the mineralised quartz veins.

##### **Overview**

- Significant tungsten oxide ( $\text{WO}_3$ ) intersections in 68 of 198 of these samples.
- Nine samples reported values of more than 50 kg/t  $\text{WO}_3$ . Of these, three were over 100 kg/t  $\text{WO}_3$ .
- Confirmed three highly mineralised quartz veins in the hanging wall of the existing lode system and uncovered a previously unknown well-mineralised lode located under the north face of the hill.
- Tungsten mineralisation identified in the form of coarse wolframite crystals, hosted within narrow quartz veins of between 5 cm and 30 cm wide.
- Targeted trenching programme currently underway to define the surface expression of the high-grade veins in the hanging wall of the existing lode system.
- 3D datamine model being updated in light of results. A concept mine technical and economic study is underway.
- SAMREC compliant resource statement on target for H1 2013.

##### **Exploration Update**

Premier commenced a 1,302 m diamond drilling ('DD') programme in January 2012, which consisted of five holes (DD002 - DD006) inclined at -45 degrees. In an initial round of sampling, a quarter of core was sampled over 3 m intervals for the full length of each borehole and analysed for  $\text{WO}_3$ , copper ('Cu'), tin ('Sn') and tantalum ('Ta') at the SGS laboratories in Johannesburg.

The positive results received from the first round of sampling (see press release 18 February 2013) prompted Premier to conduct a further detailed logging and sampling of the drill core during Q4 2012. Intervals where assay results returned tungsten values over 0.15%  $\text{WO}_3$  were the primary target of this campaign. 198 samples were taken excluding blanks, duplicates and Certified Reference Materials. The relative density of each sample has been determined by means of a Density Scale.

These results further confirm the presence of numerous quartz veins that are highly mineralised with tungsten wolframite. Note: the widths reported are intersection widths and not the true widths. These results are tabulated below.

**Table 3: Individual Veins from DD002.**

Vein	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	W(%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (kg/t)
A	14.55	14.83	0.28	0.64	0.81	8.07
B	50.64	50.93	0.29	0.15	0.19	1.89
C	51.41	51.79	0.38	5.96	7.52	75.16
D	53.83	54.08	0.25	8.61	10.86	108.57
E	54.88	55.50	0.62	2.54	3.20	32.03
F	55.72	56.03	0.31	1.65	2.08	20.81
G	56.18	56.57	0.39	1.31	1.65	16.52
H	206.14	206.34	0.20	0.07	0.09	0.88
I	207.08	207.38	0.30	0.10	0.13	1.26
J	208.14	208.50	0.36	0.09	0.11	1.13
K	210.65	210.97	0.32	0.39	0.49	4.92

Veins B, C, D, E, F and G fall within a newly identified lode, while the deeper H,I,J and K veins fall within the known strike extension of Lodes 6 and 7. Veins B to G are of potential economic interest and further work is planned to explore them.

**Table 4: Individual Veins from DD003.**

Vein	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	W(%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (kg/t)
A	71.91	72.16	0.25	1.56	1.97	19.67
B	74.89	75.26	0.37	0.28	0.35	3.53
C	75.95	76.15	0.20	1.19	1.50	15.01
C	76.15	76.30	0.15	2.77	3.49	34.93
C	76.30	76.79	0.49	0.4	0.50	5.04
D	77.32	77.58	0.26	0.67	0.84	8.45
E	77.87	78.18	0.31	0.69	0.87	8.70
F	79.44	79.94	0.50	1.35	1.70	17.02
F	79.94	80.28	0.34	0.47	0.59	5.93
G	82.55	82.93	0.38	0.76	0.96	9.58
H	84.26	84.57	0.31	0.06	0.08	0.76

Veins A to H fall within the strike extension to the east of Veins B to F in DD003. These veins are also of potential economic interest.

**Table 5: Individual Veins from DD004.**

Vein	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	W(%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (kg/t)
A	98.81	99.00	0.19	9.05	11.41	114.12
B	109.99	110.15	0.16	0.21	0.26	2.65
C	112.35	112.58	0.23	1.61	2.03	20.30
D	112.78	112.98	0.20	4.02	5.07	50.69
E	114.85	115.07	0.22	2.05	2.59	25.85
F	115.41	115.65	0.24	0.89	1.12	11.22

Veins B to F fall on the strike extension of veins noted in boreholes 2 and 3 above and are potentially of economic interest. Vein A is located on the hanging wall; its correlation with other veins is not certain.

**Table 6: Individual Veins from DD005.**

Vein	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	W(%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (kg/t)
A	166.33	166.58	0.25	4.36	5.50	54.98
B	167.25	167.48	0.23	0.17	0.21	2.14
C	167.73	168.05	0.32	0.28	0.35	3.53
D	168.30	168.52	0.22	0.29	0.37	3.66
E	172.37	172.64	0.27	0.16	0.20	2.02
F	173.23	173.42	0.19	4.99	6.29	62.92
G	176.32	176.60	0.28	3.65	4.60	46.03
H	183.57	184.00	0.43	0.24	0.30	3.03
I	185.12	185.50	0.38	2.04	2.57	25.72
I	185.50	185.75	0.25	2.28	2.88	28.75
J	207.43	207.65	0.22	5.77	7.28	72.76
K	211.69	212.00	0.31	0.19	0.24	2.40
L	213.71	214.00	0.29	0.41	0.52	5.17

This sequence of veins marks a series of vein intersections through the depth extensions of the known lodes that were mined historically at RHA. The veins' economic significance will become clearer when Premier update the 3D Datamine model, which is currently being constructed.

**Table 7: Individual Veins from DD006.**

Vein	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	W(%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (%)	WO <sub>3</sub> (kg/t)
A	29.38	29.50	0.12	10.2	12.86	128.62
B	61.07	61.20	0.13	4.57	5.76	57.63

These vein intersections confirm the existence of previously unrecognised high grade veins in the hanging wall of the known lode mineralisation. The surface expression of these veins is the subject of a targeted trenching programme that is currently underway.

Importantly, the detailed geological logging has revealed that the tungsten mineralisation is in the form of very coarse wolframite crystals, hosted within narrow quartz veins. These veins are between 5 cm and 30 cm in width and with few exceptions are hosted within quartz-tourmaline schist bands that make up the known lodes.

#### **Techno-economic study**

Premier has commissioned mining consultants, CAE Mining of Johannesburg to construct a 3D Datamine model using information derived from historic plans and sections, and the results of the historic Falconbridge channel sampling work undertaken at RHA. This work is now at an advanced stage and the results of Premier's first round of sampling have been modelled. The analytical results from Premier's latest round of detailed sampling will be evaluated and included into the 3D Datamine model. The completed model will be used as the basis for a concept mine technical and economic study which the Company has commenced.

#### **Further Information on RHA**

Premier's RHA project covers 1,800 ha land holding and is located approximately 20 km south-east of Hwange and 270 km north of Bulawayo in the prospective multi-commodity Kamativi Tin Belt in north-west Zimbabwe. The Project has excellent infrastructure with electrical power available from a ZESA power line, industrial water available from the mine dam and domestic water available from a borehole. Furthermore, the project has easy access via the main Bulawayo-Victoria Falls tar road and 25 km of gravel road to the mine.

Intermittent small scale mining has been conducted at RHA and the adjacent Tung mine (which Premier has an option to acquire) 5 km away. Between 1931 and 1979 the mines jointly produced 1,247 tonnes of wolframite concentrate at an average concentrate grade of 65% WO<sub>3</sub>.

RHA occupies a low ridge approximately 850 m long and 300 m wide standing about 120 m above its surroundings. Historic mine workings are in the form of adits, open pits, caved stopes, trenches, roads and rock dumps that occupy the surface. Tailings dumps are located on the north and south sides of the ridge.

Previous mine development was almost entirely carried out during the 1930s where the mine was developed on 30 m levels from 945 m to 845 m, by means of horizontal adits into the sides of the ridge and a single vertical shaft down to the 845 m level. Some open pitting also occurred on the western part of the deposit.

During the mid to late 1970s Falconbridge Ltd (which is now part of Xstrata), trading as Blanket Mines in Zimbabwe, carried out underground geological mapping and extensive channel sampling on the accessible parts of the underground workings, principally on the 926, 895 and 859 levels. Exploration work was curtailed due to the political and security situation prevailing in the country at that time.

At RHA, the known mineralised lodes and veins occur within an envelope that extends over a strike of approximately 400 m with a maximum width of 150 m. The lodes are thought to converge to the east of the property. The lodes strike approximately northeast-southwest paralleling the regional trend of Kamativi Inlier. The host country-rock comprises high-grade, strongly foliated biotite schists and paragneisses of the Precambrian Dete Inlier belonging to the Tshontada Formation. The formation trends northeast on a regional scale, paralleling the trend of the Kamativi Inlier, and dips steeply to the northwest.

The tungsten mineralisation occurs in quartz veins and shear zones, within a sequence of quartz-tourmaline and pelitic schists that may be associated with granite intrusions. High metamorphic grades with localised partial melting are also evident. The schists also show that extreme deformation has occurred and mylonite bands are common. The association of quartz veins with tourmaline schists form distinct lodes which were exploited by historic mining at RHA. These lodes are steeply dipping to the northwest at 80o to 90o. Seven lodes were exploited in the past.

The tungsten mineral of primary economic interest is wolframite ( $\text{Fe,MnWO}_4$ ), with minor amounts of scheelite ( $\text{CaWO}_4$ ). The only other mineral of possible economic significance is chalcopyrite ( $\text{CuFeS}_2$ ). The wolframite occurs as euhedral crystals, laths and clusters that may be up to 50 mm by 30 mm in size. This very coarse grain size is characteristic of the quartz vein-hosted tungsten mineralisation.

#### **Qualified Person**

The technical information contained in this announcement has been prepared and reviewed by Robert Ingram BSc, C.Eng., Pr.Nat.Sci., FGSSA, MSEG, and Professor Alexander du Plessis PrEng, BSc(Eng), MSc(Eng), CertEng, FSAIMM, who are the appointed consultants to Premier African Minerals Limited. Mr Ingram is registered with The South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) Registration Number 400057/92, and Professor du Plessis with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) Registration Number 950232. They are satisfied with the accuracy and precision of this release by Premier African Minerals Limited.

#### **Zulu Project option**

Premier exercised its option to acquire the Zulu Project prior to Admission on 10 December 2012 and intended to complete this transaction shortly thereafter. Background on the transaction is included in the Admission Document. Completion has been delayed for technical reasons but once these have been resolved the transaction will proceed. Shareholders will be updated in due course.

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**Notes**

Premier African Minerals Limited is a multi-commodity exploration and development company focussed in Southern and West Africa. The Company has a diverse portfolio of multi-commodity projects which includes tungsten, phosphate, rare earth elements ('REE'), gold, lithium, tantalum, uranium and clays, in Zimbabwe and Togo, at various stages of development. Premier plans to utilise the strengths of its proven Board and management team, which is highly experienced in developing resource projects in Africa, to fulfil its strategy of developing and targeting projects which offer near term value uplift either through exploration, strategic alliances or commercial opportunities.

The Company has two flagship projects in NW Zimbabwe (tungsten and REE) which offer near-term resource and future production potential. The RHA Tungsten Project is described herein, and Premier's second priority project in Zimbabwe is the Katete REE project, which again has the potential to be developed as an open pit mine. The project, which spans 3,750 ha, has returned a peak result from trenching of 14.6% TREO. Premier is targeting to delineate a Code-compliant resource statement in H1 2013.

In Togo, the Company has prioritised a further two projects for exploration: the Southern Togo Phosphate Project and the Dapaong Gold project. The Southern Togo project, which has excellent infrastructure being only 35km from the Port of Lome, has a conceptual exploration target of 75Mt at 32% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. Additionally, it recently secured the exploration permits for its Dapaong gold project in northern Togo where there has been significant artisanal activity illustrating the prospectivity of the unexplored area.

Premier also has a pipeline portfolio of projects which further de-risks the Company's exposure and it is assessing new opportunities that complement its investment criteria to drive the Company forward and build a leading multi-commodity exploration and development company in Africa.

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