



ASX/MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

25 September 2008

Norton's friendly takeover of Bellamel is successful

Norton Gold Fields (ASX: **NGF**) (Norton) today announced it has acquired a 92.48 per cent interest in Bellamel Mining Limited (ASX: BMM).

Norton intends to proceed to acquire compulsorily any Bellamel shares not tendered by the closing date of the Offer, and will ask the Bellamel board to proceed with delisting Bellamel.

"Norton is very pleased with the success of the Offer which will unlock value for all shareholders," Norton's Managing Director, Jon Parker, said.

"We're encouraged the overwhelming majority of Bellamel shareholders share our confidence in the value of the combined entity and welcome all new shareholders to Norton Gold Fields.

The successful acquisition adds 2.8 Moz of gold to Norton's Resources at Paddington, and further extends the life of the Paddington Mine.

"We are committed to utilising the merged assets to unlock value for all shareholders.

"There are several immediate opportunities for synergies between our respective assets around Norton's Paddington Gold Mine. A priority is to complete the evaluation and prioritisation of these and bring them into effect.

"Norton's plans to integrate the Bellamel assets into the Paddington mine plan and LOM were well advanced when the bid was declared unconditional. Since then we have commenced implementation.

"We aim to achieve a quick and efficient consolidation of our respective operations."

The current directors of Bellamel will step down from the board; Norton's board will remain unchanged.

For further information

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About Norton Gold Fields

Norton Gold Fields Limited is Australia's fourth largest ASX-listed Australian gold producer. It also has active gold, copper, and coal exploration projects.

The Bellamel acquisition provides Norton with the opportunity to develop a significant gold heap leach operation. Additionally, the Bellamel properties are prospective for underground development.

Norton operates the Paddington Gold Mine near Kalgoorlie in Western Australia and is planning to develop the Mount Morgan Mine Project in Queensland. Following the acquisition of Bellamel, Paddington has a 7.8 Moz Resource and a 3 Mtpa CIP plant capable of producing more than 150,000 oz of gold per year. Norton is also planning its first underground operations in FY2010, which is expected to further increase production at Paddington.

The Company plans to augment this with production from its Mount Morgan Mine Project.

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Competent Person's Statement

The Mineral Resource statement, with the exception of the Mt Pleasant Mineral Resource estimate, has been compiled by Mr Ian Copeland who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and qualifies as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Ian Copeland is a full time staff member of Norton Goldfields and consents to the inclusion in the release of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears.

The Mt Pleasant Mineral Resource estimate, with the exception of the Homestead Mineral Resource estimate, has been compiled with the consent of Mr David Williams, who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and qualifies as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr David Williams is a full time staff member of CSA Australia Pty Ltd and consents to the inclusion in the release of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears. The Homestead Mineral Resource estimate was compiled with the consent of Mr Ian Copeland.

The Mineral Resource estimate is tabulated inclusive of Ore Reserves. Cut-off grades used to estimate the Mineral Resource vary by deposit, ranging from 0.7g/t Au up to 1.0g/t Au. Note rounding errors may occur in the tabulation of the Mineral Resource estimate.

Measured Resources are 0.65Mt at 1.7 g/t for 35,000 oz, Indicated Resources are 41.82Mt at 2.0 g/t for 2,717,000 oz and Inferred Resources of 33.45Mt at 2.1 g/t for 2,271,000 oz. Proven Reserves are 0.12Mt at 1.2 g/t for 4,500 oz, and Probable Reserves are 18.22Mt at 1.8 g/t for 1,047,700oz.

The information in this report that relates to the Mineral Resources of Bellamel Mining Limited is based on information provided by Mr Matthew Wood who is a Member of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Wood is the Chairman of Bellamel Mining Limited. Mr Wood has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Wood consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

Measured Resources are 13.30Mt at 1.15 g/t for 491,500 oz, Indicated Resources are 15.17Mt at 1.35 g/t for 658,380 oz and Inferred Resources of 45.38Mt at 1.10 g/t for 1,628,050 oz