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Ormonde Mining plc

Drilling to Commence on Salamanca Gold Project Update on Spanish Gold Exploration Projects

DUBLIN & LONDON: 26 September 2006 - Ormonde Mining plc ("Ormonde" or "the Company") reports on progress on its gold exploration projects in northwest Spain, with drilling programmes on the Salamanca Gold Project and other properties to continue through Q4.

Highlights

- **Initial 6-8 hole drilling campaign commencing at Salamanca to test targets believed to signify a near surface, bulk tonnage gold system**
- **Drilling also to be undertaken at Tracia, focusing on new targets defined by infill soil sampling and trenching**
- **Permit applications submitted for a new project area; initial rock sampling programme has returned high grade gold values (21% of samples above 10 g/t gold)**

Kerr Anderson, Managing Director, said today,

"The opportunities within our portfolio of Spanish gold exploration projects continue to develop and complement the progress we have made at La Zarza. The period until the year-end will be one of intense activity across our properties, and we see distinct potential in particular in the Salamanca area."

Salamanca Gold Project

An initial 6-8 hole drilling campaign is commencing on the Can prospect which is located at the northern end of the previously reported, extensive gold-in-soil anomaly (strike length of around 2.5 kilometres).

New results from infill soil sampling over the prospect show a coherent gold anomaly (over 100 parts per billion gold; maximum value 504 ppb gold) over a strike length of around 500 metres and width of 50-150 metres, with more discontinuous anomalism in a second zone to the west.

These anomalies correspond to broad zones of quartz-sulphide veins and arsenopyrite-filled fractures occurring in a granite host-rock. Based upon the soil geochemical associations and the style of the mineralization, the Company considers the zone to signify a near surface, bulk tonnage gold target.

Infill soil sampling is now being extended to the south over the remainder of the initial 2.5 kilometre long anomaly to generate further targets for drilling.

At the Pino de Oro prospect, a drilling programme to test high-grade vein structures intersected by holes drilled in the 1980s is being finalised and will commence during October. Historic drilling at Pino returned best intersections of 1.0 metres @ 65.8 g/t gold from 74 metres, 2.0 metres @ 11.1 g/t gold from 132 metres and 1.0 metre @ 14.8 g/t

gold from 44 metres. Should further drilling confirm the continuity of this mineralization, then the possibility exists for a high grade vein-type deposit.

Tracia Gold Project

A drilling programme has commenced to test gold-in-soil anomalies identified by the detailed sampling completed earlier this year. This involves 4-5 holes for a total of 700-800 metres of drilling. The detailed sampling demonstrated that Ormonde's drilling in 2005 did not test the better gold targets which were defined by more widely spaced soil samples, and that further drilling is warranted based on the results to date. Recently excavated trenches show that the best soil anomalies correspond to zones of significant alteration and sulphide mineralization.

The best intersection in the previous campaign (hole TH-02, 5.2 metres @ 2.8 g/t within 19 metres @ 0.9 g/t gold) was drilled on what is now regarded as the margin of one of the main anomalies.

Salamón Gold Project

Three drill holes (total of 810 metres) were completed at Salamón between May and July. During this programme, Ormonde completed its earn-in expenditure to acquire a 51 per cent interest in the project, and activities are now being funded from monies received as grants and escrowed during the earn-in period.

One deep hole, SS-66, was drilled to follow up on results from drilling in 2005 that showed high-grade gold mineralization continuing at depth (4.8 metres @ 25.3 g/t gold). Results from hole SS-66 are disappointing and show that higher grade mineralization deeper in the deposit is discontinuous.

Consequently, the focus at Salamón is on assessing the viability of the core high-grade zone in the upper part of the deposit. Two holes which were drilled in order to better constrain this mineralization and collect samples for a metallurgical testwork programme returned the following results:

Hole	From (m)	Interval (m)	Gold (g/t)
SS-67	68.80	1.05	35.0
	77.65	20.15	4.3
<i>Including</i>	89.80	8.10	7.3
SS-68	65.70	9.20	4.7

A composite sample will be submitted for metallurgical testwork, which will primarily involve fine grinding and flotation of a sulphide concentrate to establish gold recoveries to such a concentrate.

New Projects

Applications for three new Investigation Permits in northern Spain have been submitted to the Provincial Mining Department. Ormonde will be 100% owner of the permits which cover an area of extensive gold-bearing quartz-sulphide veining within granites of a similar geological setting to Salamanca and Tracia. Several of these veins were historically worked.

Reconnaissance sampling of the veins has returned high gold results in many of the samples. Of the 68 samples collected, 49% returned over 1 g/t gold, with 21% greater

than 10 g/t gold and maximum values of 103.5, 53.6 and 35.4 g/ t gold. An aggressive exploration programme is planned upon granting of these permits.

Kerr Anderson PhD EurGeol PGeo, Managing Director of Ormonde Mining plc, and a qualified person as defined in the Guidance Note for Mining, Oil and Gas Companies, March 2006, of the London Stock Exchange, has reviewed and approved the technical information contained in this announcement.

A glossary explaining technical terms contained in this announcement can be found at www.ormondemining.com/glossary.htm.

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About Ormonde

Ormonde Mining plc is quoted on the AIM in London and the IEX in Dublin. The Company's objective is to enhance shareholder value by developing gold-focused projects in Spain and taking them into production. Ormonde has a strong local Spanish management team, supported by a Board with extensive mine development and exploration experience.

For more information and contact details including email, please visit www.ormondemining.com.