

Board Appointments LSE – June 2015

**Mining**

**Acacia Mining Plc**  
**Alba Mineral Resources Plc**  
**Altona Energy Plc**  
**Berkeley Resources Ltd**  
**Coal of Africa Ltd**  
**ECR Minerals Plc**  
**Edenville Energy Plc**  
**Lonmin Plc**  
**New World Resources Plc**  
**Strategic Minerals Plc**

**Acacia Mining Plc**

Acacia Mining has announced the appointment of Michelle Ash as Chief Operating Officer. Michelle joined Acacia in October 2013 as Executive General Manager, Business Improvement and Planning and has driven significant change across their operations in that time. She has led the creation of their Business Improvement structures and strategy, playing an integral role in bringing more discipline into planning processes, enhancing operational performance and implementing their cultural change programme. Michelle has more than 20 years of experience within the mining and manufacturing industries across a range of senior roles including at Head of Alliance Planning and Co-ordination for the BHP Mitsubishi Alliance and General Manager Strategy for MMG.

In addition to her existing responsibilities Michelle is currently Acting General Manager of Bulyanhulu, but following the recruitment of a new mine General Manager will relinquish this role in the coming months. As COO, Michelle will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, with a key element of her role being to ensure Acacia fully realises the geological potential of their assets.

Commenting on the appointment, CEO Brad Gordon said: "I am delighted that Michelle will be taking on the role of Chief Operating Officer within Acacia. I feel that now is the appropriate time to split the role of CEO and COO to continue to embed and enhance the changes we have made since 2013 and Michelle's technical expertise, people skills and energy make her a natural choice for the role. She has already made a significant contribution to the evolution of the company over the past 18 months and I look forward to working closely with her as we seek to become a lowest cost quartile producer and realise the significant potential of our mines and our people."

**Alba Mineral Resources Plc**

Alba Mineral Resources plc have announced that Chade van Hatch has been appointed to the board as Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary.

Ms. van Hatch has a Bachelor of Commerce from University of Western Australia and is a member of the Australian Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAA). She

commenced her career at Ernst & Young and has worked as Group Financial Controller to a number of ASX-quoted companies, including Cape Lambert Resources Limited (ASX: CFE), where she worked from 2009 until earlier this year.

Nigel Duxbury, the outgoing Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary, has agreed to remain as a consultant to the Company for the transition.

George Frangeskides, Chairman, commented: "We are delighted to welcome Chade to the Alba Board. At the same time, we would like to take the opportunity to thank Nigel for all the support and wise counsel he has given to the Board over the years."

### **Altona Energy Plc**

Altona Energy plc has announced the appointment of Mr Nicholas (Nick) Lyth as a Non-executive Director to the Board of Altona.

Mr. Lyth is an experienced AIM Board Director and qualified accountant with over five years' experience advising a number of publically quoted companies. He is a Mandarin speaker and has used this skill in his capacity as a Director on the Boards of various AIM companies including Univision Engineering Ltd, China Rerun Chemical Company Ltd and Taihua plc.

Prior to his recent public company experience, he was Group Finance and Purchasing Director of Belle Group, a manufacturer of engineering equipment operating across Europe, the US and China. He was also Head of Finance at Fothergill Group, a UK manufacturer of technical industrial fabrics, between 1996 and 2003. In his early career, Nick was a management accountant at Courtaulds plc and Rotunda plc.

Mr Zhang, Executive Chairman of Altona, commented: "We welcome Nick to the Board of Altona. He brings with him a wealth of AIM market and finance experience. We also hope Nick's knowledge of Mandarin will enhance communications between our UK shareholders and our Chinese management team."

### **Berkeley Resources Ltd**

Berkeley Resources Limited has announced the appointment of Mr Paul Atherley as Managing Director of the Company based in London.

Mr Atherley is an accomplished mining executive with over 30 years resource industry experience in UK, Australia and China. The Board is delighted that an executive of Mr Atherley's calibre has agreed to join the Company at a pivotal time in the development of Berkeley's wholly owned flagship Salamanca Project in Western Spain and is confident that the appointment will greatly enhance the Company's ability to fulfil its vision of becoming a uranium producer in the near to medium term.

He is a Mining Engineer from Imperial College London and holds postgraduate qualifications including an MBA and has held numerous Senior Executive and Board positions during his career. He served as Executive Director of the Investment Bank arm of HSBC Australia where he undertook a range of advisory roles in the resources sector. He has completed a number of acquisitions and financings of resource projects in Australia, South East Asia, Africa and Western Europe, and has well-established relationships with European and Australian capital markets.

As the Managing Director of ASX/AIM listed Leyshon Resources Limited, he was responsible for the exploration, development and successful sale of the Zheng Guang Gold-Zinc Project in Northern China. Having been based in Beijing since 2005, he has developed strong connections within Chinese business, industry bodies and senior government officials, including the most senior levels of the state owned

energy companies.

Until recently he was the Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce in China, Vice Chairman of the China Britain Business Council in London and served on the European Union Energy Working Group in Beijing. He has been a regular business commentator on China, hosting events in Beijing and appearing on CCTVNews and China Radio International.

Berkeley is focused on advancing the Salamanca Project through the development phase. The results of a Pre-Feasibility Study confirmed the Project's potential to support a significant scale, long life, low cost uranium operation.

The Project is now at the Definitive Feasibility Study stage with a number of key work programs well advanced and a number of the important development approvals already granted. His immediate focus will be the integration of the high-grade Zona 7 deposit into the project's development plans, thereby potentially increasing the scale of the project and to arrange the project's development finance. He will also be marketing the Company to investors in Europe, Asia and Australia as well as to potential strategic and off-take partners.

### **Coal of Africa Ltd**

Coal of Africa Limited has announced the appointment of De Wet Schutte as the Company's Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director.

De Wet Olivier Schutte, aged 44, is a Chartered Accountant, CA (SA) and completed an MBA at the University of Virginia in 2002. He has been involved at the senior level in the mining and natural resources industry for the past 16 years, most notably as Managing Director, Natural Resources at Macquarie Bank and CFO at the listed platinum producer, Atlatsa Resources Corporation. Prior to these positions De Wet worked for Harmony Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd as its New Business and Exploration Executive for a period of three years. De Wet has a strong corporate finance background and will lead the Company's funding and business development strategy.

David Brown Chief Executive Officer of CoAL, commented: "I am delighted to have De Wet on board as we enter the exciting stage of Makhado's development, our hard coking and thermal coal project in Limpopo Province. De Wet's experience is perfectly suited to assist CoAL in the search and execution of a strategic partner and funding for this flagship project. His wealth of experience will be vital as we look to fulfil our strategy of becoming a significant coking coal producer in South Africa. His experience in the sector will help to develop options for the company."

### **ECR Minerals Plc**

ECR Minerals plc has announced the appointment of William John Selwood Howell as a Director of ECR and as Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors. Paul Johnson, the previous Non-Executive Chairman of the Board, has stepped down as a Director of ECR.

William (Bill) Howell (aged 70) is a geologist with 48 years of experience in the minerals industry. Bill holds British and Australian nationality and is currently based in Vietnam. He graduated from Southampton University, UK with an honours degree in geology in 1966. Bill is a Fellow of both the Australasian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy (AusIMM) and the Society of Economic Geologists, and is a Competent/Qualified Person for JORC Code and NI43-101 reporting purposes. He is listed as a Senior Associate Geologist with UK-based geological and mining consultancy ACA Howe International Ltd.

Bill has served as a Director of several public companies, including as Exploration

Director of Triple Plate Junction plc (now named Eurasian Minerals plc), a company admitted to trading on AIM, until 2011, having co-founded that company in 2003. From 2009 to 2012 he was also a Director of Asian Mineral Resources Ltd, which is quoted on the TSX Venture Exchange, and held the role of Non-Executive Chairman during that company's reorganisation in 2012. Asian Mineral Resources commenced production at the Ban Phuc nickel sulphide mine in Vietnam in 2013.

In his career to date he has specialised mainly in the countries of South East Asia and the Pacific, including, from 1995 to 2003, as Managing Director and Regional Exploration Manager South East Asia for Normandy Mining Ltd and later Newmont Mining Corporation following its takeover of Normandy. He was employed by the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Ltd (BHP) from 1967-81, including as Superintendent Geologist South East Asia from 1975-81, and was responsible for opening and managing BHP's first mineral exploration offices in Papua New Guinea (1968), in East Malaysia (1973) and in the Philippines (1976). In these roles he led teams through the exploration to feasibility stages of a number of gold and copper-gold discoveries, four of which are now significant operating mines in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Laos.

He currently heads the Mining Working Group of the Vietnam Business Forum established by the World Bank, and has previously provided contributions on mineral policy to the Chinese and Philippine governments, the Pacific Basin Economic Council and the Ian Clunies Ross Foundation in Australia.

Paul Johnson, former Non-Executive Chairman of ECR, commented: "Since my appointment as a director of ECR in May 2012 and as Non-Executive Chairman in January 2013 the Company has undergone considerable change. This process of change has been undertaken against a backdrop of severely deteriorating sentiment in the mineral sector. The survival and development of ECR over this period required greater focus, strategic discipline and operating efficiency. The restructured business is now focused on two gold exploration assets which the Board consider to be promising, one in Argentina and the other in the Philippines, with an overarching drive to become a gold producer and/or position ECR as a compelling takeover target. There is still work to be done to achieve this, but a key part of doing so is to make sure the Company is led by a Board with the right balance of skills. In this respect there is a need to add a geological capability to the Board and to ensure that the chairman has the time available to commit to the next phase of the Company's development. I am pleased that Bill Howell is able and willing to take on the role as Non-Executive Chairman of ECR and I wish him and the Company well with the work ahead. Bill's experience and knowledge will I believe be an asset to the Company both in respect of current operations and the ongoing review of new opportunities."

Bill Howell, newly appointed Non-Executive Chairman of ECR, commented: "On behalf of all at ECR I wish to acknowledge and thank Paul Johnson for the commitment and steadying hand with which he has chaired the Company through difficult times of restructure and development. I am delighted to take on the challenging role of Non-Executive Chairman of ECR at this time, as I believe that with continued hard work and good technical judgement, ECR has the people, the exploration assets and the ability to evaluate new opportunities to position the Company well in the straitened conditions which currently prevail in the sector and for the next minerals cycle upswing when it occurs."

### **Edenville Energy Plc**

Edenville Energy plc, the company focussed on generating new sources of coal-based energy in southern Tanzania has announced a reorganisation of the Board of Directors.

The Board reorganisation reflects the needs of the business going forward, maintaining a carefully managed cost base whilst retaining the experience and knowledge of key Directors relevant for this stage of the Company's development.

As previously announced, a number of partners have shown significant interest in the Company's projects in Tanzania. This, coupled with increasing activity in Tanzania as the Company positions itself with the Tanzanian government authorities to progress the power plant opportunity, has resulted in a need for an appropriate Board reorganisation which is being achieved as follows: Mark Pryor, currently Non Executive Director, will step into an Executive Director position as Edenville's Chief Operating Officer. Mark has extensive knowledge of Edenville's Rukwa Coal assets, being part of the Board since the AIM admission in 2010 and was responsible for the two drilling campaigns on the Rukwa Coal Project which culminated in defining a Measured and Indicated Coal resource of 170 million tonnes. Mark's involvement with Edenville, both in the UK and Tanzania, has increased during recent months and the Executive position better reflects his key role in driving the business forward. To maintain the balance of the Board, Sally Schofield, currently the Company's Executive Chairman, will become Non Executive Chairman of the Company with a commensurate reduction in fees. As an additional cost reduction measure, Finance Director Rakesh Patel, will step down from the Board, but will continue to provide financial and accountancy services to the Company on a consultancy basis.

Following the reorganisation the Board of Edenville will consist of Sally Schofield, Non-Executive Chairman, Rufus Short, Executive Director and CEO, Mark Pryor, Executive Director and COO and Arun Srivastava, Non-Executive Director. These changes also help the Company keep fixed costs at an appropriate level whilst the Company progresses discussions with potential financial and technical partners for the next phase of its development.

Rufus Short, CEO of Edenville plc commented: "I would like to thank Sally and Rakesh for helping the Company achieve significant milestones since its inception and placing the Company in a position where we are able to present potential partners with an attractive coal to power project supported by a strong feasibility report. I am delighted that we will retain the knowledge, expertise and support of both Sally and Rakesh. In addition, we formally recognise Mark's contribution to the Company by bringing him back to an Executive level position, better enabling us to benefit from his vast experience of Tanzania and the Rukwa Coal Project. I am continuing to lead discussions with a number of potentially interested parties and will advise shareholders once these discussions progress to an appropriate stage."

### **Lonmin Plc**

The Board of Lonmin Plc has announced the appointment of Ben Moolman, the current Chief Operating Officer, to the Board as an Executive Director.

Commenting on Ben Moolman's appointment, Ben Magara, the Chief Executive Officer said: "I am very pleased with Ben Moolman's appointment to the Board. It emphasises the importance the Board places on operational performance and safety, particularly as we face significant challenges in these areas as highlighted in our Q2 production report. Ben plays a key role on the team, overseeing the operational restructuring and improving safety, operational productivity and efficiencies."

Brian Beamish, the Chairman of the Board, said: "Ben's appointment as an Executive Director is further confirmation of the Lonmin Board's determination to secure and maintain operational excellence. Together with Ben Magara, Simon Scott and the rest of the executive team, he will make a vital contribution to delivering value for our shareholders."

Before re-joining Lonmin in August 2014 to head the newly created Business Support Office, Ben worked at Glencore Xstrata where he headed up their Platinum Division with responsibility for the value chain across all mining and processing operations. Prior to this, in his previous service to Lonmin, he served in a variety of operational management positions, including Vice President Mining. He is a mining engineer by profession, holds a BSc in Engineering (Mining) from the University of the Witwatersrand and has more than 30 years' experience in the Platinum mining industry.

### **New World Resources Plc**

New World Resources Plc with its subsidiaries have announced the following changes to the Board of Directors of NWR and the Group's management: Mr. Marek Jelínek has resigned from the Board and as the Group's Chief Financial Officer, with effect from 1 September 2015. He has also resigned from all his Group directorships; Mr. Boudewijn Wentink, currently the Group's Chief Legal Officer, will become the Finance and Legal Director of NWR and it will be recommended to the Board that he joins the Board as an Executive Director; and From 1 January 2016, Mr. Dale R. Ekmark will become the Group's Chief Executive Officer, while retaining his position as Managing Director of OKD. Following this change, Gareth Penny, currently Executive Chairman of NWR, will continue as Chairman of NWR, focusing, in particular, on the development of the Company's strategy and its response to evolving conditions in the coal markets.

Mr. Gareth Penny, Chairman of NWR, said: "Marek joined the Group upon its formation in 2004 and served as its CFO and on the Boards of Group companies since 2007. He has indicated that after 11 years it is now time for him to pursue other opportunities. We respect his decision. His financial and management skills have helped to navigate NWR through good and difficult times. Among Marek's achievements as our CFO are the 2008 IPO that brought NWR to three stock exchanges, and the securing of competitive financing for the complete overhaul and renewal of OKD's mining machinery and technology. In 2014 Marek led the successful negotiations with all NWR stakeholders and creditors in the restructuring of NWR's balance sheet. The Board and management of NWR would like to thank Marek for his great commitment and dedication to NWR and wish him well in his future business ventures. Recently, the Company has undergone important structural changes as it adapts to market conditions and pursues its stated strategic goal of becoming Europe's leading miner and marketer of coking coal in a safe and sustainable way. The changes that we are announcing today, following Marek's decision to resign, are another step towards greater alignment, the focus on priorities for NWR and OKD and the drive for further efficiencies in the way we run our business. Boudewijn joined NWR in March 2013 and has since been instrumental in maintaining the financial stability and good stakeholder relationships of the Company. He brings continuity to the Board and management in that he is the natural successor to Marek, and he possesses both the legal and financial skills necessary in today's commercial environment. Boudewijn has the full trust and support of the Board. I am delighted that as from next year, Dale will take responsibility for the combined post of OKD and NWR CEO. This will provide for a more efficient operating structure and greater synergies across the Group. Dale has been highly successful at transforming OKD under difficult circumstances and will contribute even more now in this combined executive role. It is clear that we have still a lot of work ahead. But with this executive team and each and every one of our dedicated employees, I am confident that we will succeed in weathering the continued depressed coal market environment."

Marek Jelínek said: "I would like to thank all the colleagues I have worked with during my time with NWR. The last couple of years have been challenging for NWR, and indeed the broader coal mining industry, as price levels have declined. But NWR

has responded responsibly and positively to the challenges it has faced, and I am proud to have played my part in ensuring the stability of the Company. In my view, the worst is over for NWR and I believe that the Company is in good hands under Gareth, the Board, Dale, Boudewijn and the management team."

### **Strategic Minerals Plc**

Strategic Minerals plc, the diversified mineral development and production company, has announced the appointment of Mr Alan Broome as Chairman and Non-Executive Director of Strategic Minerals. His appointment has been made to provide the depth of management skills required to support the execution of the growth strategy Strategic Minerals has undertaken with the acquisition of the Tatu Coal Mine in the north island of New Zealand and the other projects currently under review, including the Wanbao project, China.

Mr Michael Wong has decided not to stand for re-election as a Non-Executive Director at the Company's Annual General Meeting on 2 July due to the increased workload from his investment banking business in Australia and Asia, and therefore will cease to be a director of the Company on conclusion of the AGM. The Board has thanked Mr Wong for his contributions to the Company and wishes him the best in his future ambitions.

Mr Alan Broome, AM, I.Eng.; F.AusIMM; FAICD; FICME; FIMMM; CFnstD (NZ), is a professional Director and business advisor with over 40 years' experience in the metals, mining and energy industries. He is a metallurgist by training who developed an extensive background in metal casting and steel production before joining the mining industry as Managing Director of a major Australian coal industry owned group.

Alan has extensive knowledge of the mining industry accumulated through involvement with mining technology companies, government agencies and major international mining companies in promoting Australian mining and developing global trade.

He is a director and Chairman of a number of Australian mining technology companies including Micromine Pty Ltd., Hedweld Group Pty Ltd., CB3 Mining Ltd, Emeritus Chair of the Australian mining technology export group, Austmine (having been previous Chairman for 22 years), previous Chair of the Australian Government Action Agenda promoting Mining Technology, and previously the Deputy Chair of one of the world's largest Internet based mining procurement companies, Quadrem.

In mining, he is Chairman of ASX listed company New Age Exploration Ltd.; while in New Zealand, he is Chairman of CRL Energy Ltd and Nuenz Ltd. and a previous director of the New Zealand State owned coal mining company Solid Energy Ltd.

Alan also sits on the Mineral Resources Sector Advisory Council of the CSIRO and is a Director of the New Zealand Coal Association.

In 1999, Alan was awarded the Westpac/Institute of Export award for Mining and in 2000, the Order of Australia (AM) for services to mining. In 2005 he was awarded the AusIMM President's Award for contributions to the development of the Australian mining supply sector and in 2013 awarded the inaugural Life Member Award from Austmine.

Mr Alan Broome commented: "I look forward to bringing my experience, network and understanding of the mining industry to help the existing management execute its expansion plans. In particular, I consider my deep understanding of the New

Zealand coal market and the likely domestic customers will help to ensure the Tatu project is a success."

Mr John Peters, Managing Director, said: "The appointment of a Chairman as experienced as Mr Alan Broome is a real coup for Strategic Minerals. Not only does Alan bring with him broad mining industry experience and corporate governance skills but he has demonstrated an in depth understanding of the New Zealand coal market and his network of contacts has already assisted the Company in relation to planned operations, regulators and opened dialogue with likely customers at a senior level. I very much look forward to Alan working with the management team and believe we now have a well-balanced, strong and reliable team with which to execute our plans."

The Company continues to review its board structure and expects to appoint an additional UK Non-Executive Director at the appropriate time.