



22 January 2021

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

**THETA APPOINTS DEBT ADVISOR  
AND STRENGTHENS EXECUTION TEAM  
(Maiden Underground Mining Reserve Expected Q1 2021)**

## Highlights

- Sydney-based financial advisory firm Kamara Group appointed as Debt Advisor to drive Theta Open-pits project financing
- Continued progress on the MR83 Open-pits EIA amendment
- SA operations team boosted with new appointments of Freddy Mocketla, (Mine Manager) and Jan Bronkhorst (Project Portfolio Manager) who both previously worked for Harmony Gold (NYSE: HMY / JSE: HAR)
- Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) for initial underground operations on track for Q1 2021
- Underground Maiden Mining Reserve to be reported this quarter
- Mechanised Long Hole Stoping chosen as the preferred underground mining method
- Work completed at Underground Mines:
  - Targeted mine areas identified
  - Access to these identified underground stopes established through existing historical adits and shafts
  - First phase metallurgical sampling and test work completed
  - Rock engineering drilling and UCS (Unconfined Compressive Strength) testwork completed at proposed start up mine sections
  - Mining method review and suitability has been confirmed
  - Mine planning and scheduling completed

Theta Gold Mines Limited ("Theta Gold" or "Company") (ASX: TGM | OTC: TGMGF) is pleased to provide this corporate and operations update.

The Company is pleased to confirm the appointment of experienced Sydney-based financial advisory firm Kamara Group to lead the debt financing efforts for Theta's Starter Open-pits project. Led by ex-Morgan Stanley banker, Mr John Kamara, the group has advised/closed many rounds of debt financing for ASX listed mining/resource clients, including New Century Resources (ASX: NCZ), Horizon Minerals (ASX: HRZ), Wiluna Mining (ASX: WMX) and Kin Mining (ASX: KIN).

The Theta Starter Open-pits permitting amendment for MR83 is progressing through the normal government departments and is currently being reviewed by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (“DMRE”) in consultation with other stakeholders. The Company will update shareholders as the permitting advances as and when information becomes available to the company.

The Theta mine team is back onsite following the New Year break and has been strengthened by the appointment of two more ex-Harmony Gold mining experts, as referenced above, forming part of the mine build and execution team. A highly competent owners team (CEO, COO, Mine Manager, Project Portfolio Manager, Consulting Metallurgist and Consulting Engineer), together with various external specialists and design partners are working towards implementing the most appropriate plant solution, with the flexibility to treat various ore sources from open cast and underground mines.

The Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) on the potential underground mining operations is progressing well with many components of work already completed. The PFS, to be completed by Q1 2021, will produce the maiden underground mining reserve for the underground mines predominantly on granted Mining Right 83 (MR83).

The first stage of the PFS is to match modern mechanized mining methods to the narrow, flat dipping reef systems. Mechanized Long Hole Stoping has been identified as the likely mining method which offers many advantageous.

The Long Hole Mining Method allows for a reduced safety and health risk, as well as improved productivity. The major advantage is the improvement in grade due to better control of dilution, as only the channel width of the orebody is mined. This reduces ore transport costs, lengthens the tailings dam life and improves cost efficiency per ounce.



**Figure 1: Dynamic Engineering Metallurgical Testing Plant and facility located at Klerksdorp**

Met 63 is supervising detailed metallurgical test work (Figure 1) at Dynamic Engineering's test plant for the underground ore feed. Scope of test work includes analysing:- crushing circuit, Dense Media Separation (DMS) (to reduce ROM feed to plant), milling curves (best grind size for gold liberation), carbon flotation, reagent selection, and build flowsheet for final design of gold plant.



**Underground ore samples from mine face 20+ mm sample size  
(5 tons of sample collected from underground mine)**



**Primary crush product 12mm + via Jaw crusher**

**Figure 2 Underground Ore Sample Test Work**  
(Sample preparation via crushing now complete samples now ready for downstream gold recovery test work).

**Theta Gold Chairman Bill Guy commented:** *"Theta is making good progress operationally and corporately. We are pleased to confirm the appointment of Kamara Group to drive debt funding discussions. They have an excellent track record in the resources sector and we are confident of securing the necessary financing on favorable terms."*

*Work on the PFS is also advancing and this is adding considerable value to our asset base. Long Hole Stopping will open the whole goldfield to modern mechanized mining. The underground resource base will need to be recalculated at different cut-off grades and reduced dilution factors. The true nature of this goldfield is emerging, as it is no longer limited by outdated*

*technology (mining by hand or using over-sized mining equipment), which were associated with high dilution, lower grades to mill, and low production rates.*

*The Board is pleased with preliminary progress of the PFS and the insights by the team on the ground. Led by the new CEO and COO, the team have spent long hours accessing and investigating the underground workings, as well as studying the immense repository of historic information, in search of easily accessible gold. Their discovery of many kilometers of accessible, on-reef, pre-developed underground tunnels, and access to old mining faces, together with the introduction of modern mining methods, have brought about this accelerated effort to bring these mines into production as soon as possible.*

*We look forward to delivering the PFS as well as delivering other key value-adding milestones, which will advance the Company through to first gold production and grow the production profile to full potential.*

This announcement was approved for release by the Board of Directors.

For more information please visit [www.thetagoldmines.com](http://www.thetagoldmines.com) or contact:

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**ABOUT THETA GOLD MINES LIMITED**

Theta Gold Mines Limited (ASX: TGM | OTCQB: TGMGF) is a gold mining development company that holds a range of prospective gold assets in a world-renowned South African gold mining region. These assets include several surface and near-surface high-grade gold projects which provide cost advantages relative to other gold producers in the region.

Theta Gold's core project is located next to the historical gold mining town of Pilgrim's Rest, in Mpumalanga Province, some 370km northeast of Johannesburg by road or 95km north of Nelspruit (Capital City of Mpumalanga Province). Following small scale production from 2011 – 2015, the Company is currently focussing on the construction of a new gold processing plant within its approved footprint at the TGME plant, and for the processing of the Theta Open Pit oxide gold ore. Nearby surface and underground mines and prospects are being evaluated.



The Company aims to build a solid production platform to over 160 kozpa based primarily around shallow, open-cut or adit-entry hard rock mining sources. Theta Gold has access to over 43 historical mines and prospect areas that can be accessed and explored, with over 6.7Moz of historical production recorded.

Theta Gold holds 100% issued capital of its South African subsidiary, Theta Gold SA (Pty) Ltd ("SGSA"). SGSA holds a 74% shareholding in both Transvaal Gold Mining Estates Limited ("TGME") and Sabie Mines (Pty) Ltd ("Sabie Mines"). The balance of shareholding is held by Black Economic Empowerment ("BEE") entities. The BEE shareholding in TGME and Sabie Mines is comprised of a combination of local community trusts, an employee trust and a strategic entrepreneurial partner.

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