

13 February 2017

ASX: WSA

News Release

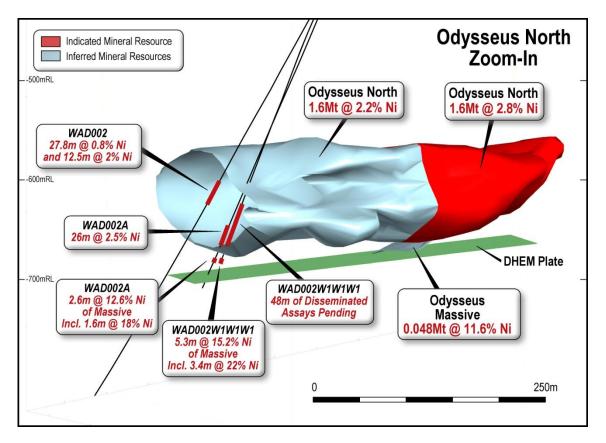
NEW AND EXTREMELY HIGH GRADE ZONE INTERSECTED AT ODYSSEUS NORTH

Western Areas Ltd (ASX:WSA, "Western Areas" or the "Company") is pleased to announce that the Company has intersected a new massive sulphide zone, including two super high grade results, immediately below the Odysseus North orebody at the Cosmos Nickel Complex (Cosmos).

The new intersections are 160m south of a high grade Inferred Mineral Resource of 0.05Mt @ 11.6% which forms part of the Odysseus North orebody. These intersections, when combined with results from geophysical surveys, represent a potentially significant extension to the high grade Resources at the broader Odysseus Project.

Key highlights include:

- ✓ WAD002A intersected massive sulphide comprising 2.6m at 12.6% nickel, including 1.6m at 18.0% nickel;
- ✓ WAD002W1W1W1 intersected massive sulphide comprising 5.3m at 15.2% nickel, including 3.4m at 22.0% nickel;
- ✓ Down-hole electromagnetic (DHEM) surveys successfully completed in WAD002 identified two strong responses at downhole depths of 1,240m and 1,290m respectively. The 1,240m response is confirmed by drilling as mineralised massive sulphide; and
- ✓ Potential to significantly extend existing high grade Resources at Odysseus North.





Western Areas Managing Director, Dan Lougher, noted that the underexplored potential of the Cosmos Nickel Complex was one of the key drivers of the acquisition.

"On acquiring Cosmos, we had the clear view that the true potential of the project, both for more nickel near existing known orebodies and for new discoveries in a wider regional setting, had not been adequately tested," Mr Lougher said.

"We've begun testing this view which has resulted in both strong potential for adding more high grade Resources near Odysseus North and some very promising exploration hits at Neptune, as reported recently. Additionally, we expect to convert more quantified Mineral Resources at Odysseus North to a higher confidence category and enhance our understanding of this significant deposit.

"Cosmos is starting to deliver on the opportunities we believe exist at the project, and we look forward to continuing this progress throughout the year," Mr Lougher said.

The position of Odysseus and Odysseus North are shown on page 3 and full Mineral Resource details can be found on page 19 of the December Quarterly Report.

The Company is also pleased to announce that the drill program, aimed at converting Odysseus North Inferred Resources to Indicated Resources, has been successful, with key highlights including:

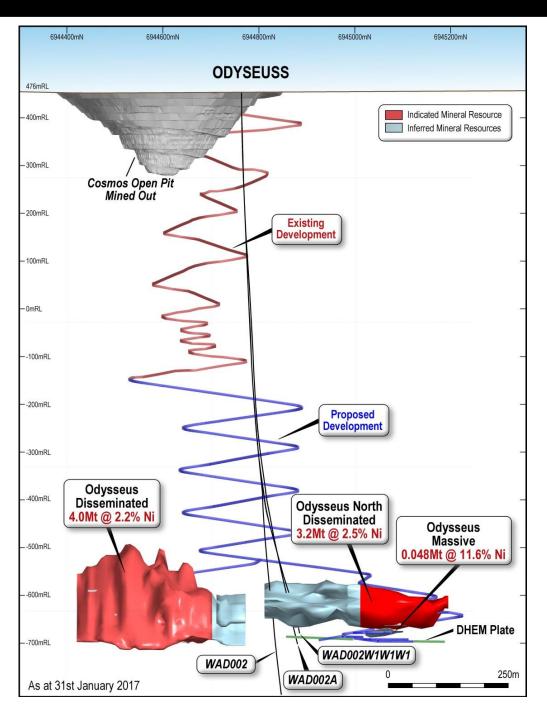
- ✓ WAD002A intersected a 26.0m at 2.5% nickel, comprising a broad continuous zone of disseminated sulphides;
- ✓ WAD002 intersected 27.8m at 0.8% nickel, comprising disseminated sulphides and a further zone of 12.5m at 2.0% nickel. A second thick zone of 6.0m @ 2.7% nickel was intersected from 1,167m depth;
- ✓ WAD002W1W1W1 intersected 48.0m of disseminated sulphides which are awaiting assay results; and
- ✓ A strong likelihood that a significant proportion of the Inferred portion of the Odysseus North Resource will be upgraded to the Indicated category during the next resource estimation

As previously announced, the Company expects to report the results of a pre-feasibility study (PFS) for the Odysseus Project in the current quarter. This recently completed drilling is not required for the PFS, however validates some of the PFS assumptions and will greatly assist the definitive feasibility study (DFS), should progression to a DFS be approved by the Board.

Background

The largest volume of un-mined, higher grade resources at Cosmos is hosted by the Odysseus and Odysseus North orebodies. The deposits are located at 1,000 vertical metres below surface, and approximately 500m from existing underground mining infrastructure. The existing Mineral Resources are classified under the Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resource categories.







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DISCLAIMER AND CP STATEMENT:

The information within this report as it relates to exploration results is based on information compiled by Mr Andre Wulfse. Mr Wulfse is a member of AusIMM and a full time employee of the Western Areas. Mr Wulfse has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity undertaken to qualify as a Competent Persons as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves.' Mr Wulfse consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on the information in the context in which it appears.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENT:

This release contains certain forward-looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements used in this release include: "These intersections, when combined with results from geophysical surveys, represent a potentially significant extension to the high grade Resources at the broader Odysseus Project " and, "A strong likelihood that a significant proportion of the Inferred portion of the Odysseus North Resource will be upgraded to the Indicated category during the next resource estimation". These forward-looking statements are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties beyond the Company's ability to control or predict which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements.

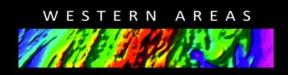
This announcement does not include reference to all available information on the Company or the Cosmos Nickel Complex and should not be used in isolation as a basis to invest in Western Areas. Any potential investors should refer to Western Area's other public releases and statutory reports and consult their professional advisers before considering investing in the Company.

For Purposes of Clause 3.4 (e) in Canadian instrument 43-101, the Company warrants that Mineral Resources which are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

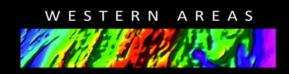
JORC 2012 TABLE 1 – Cosmos Nickel Complex Exploration

Section 1: Sampling Techniques and Data

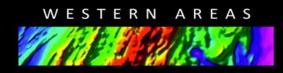
Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	Nature and quality of sampling (e.g. cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling.	 Targets were sampled using Diamond drilling, and holes were typically drilled perpendicular to the strike (north-south) of the stratigraphy, at angles ranging between 550 and 800. Drill holes were located initially with hand held GPS and later surveyed by differential GPS. Each sample is submitted to ALS laboratories at Malaga, Perth and was weighed to determine density by the weight in air, weight in water method. All sampling was conducted under WSA QAQC protocols which are in accordance with industry best practice. Diamond drill core (NQ2) is ¼ core sampled on geological intervals (0.2m to 1.5m) to achieve sample weights under 2kgs. Samples were crushed, dried and pulverised (total prep) to produce a sub sample for analysis by 4 acid digest with an ICP/AES and FA/ICP (Au, Pt, Pd) finish.
	Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.	 All samples were prepared and assayed by independent commercial laboratories whose instruments are regularly calibrated Geophysical survey QC parameters were reviewed by independent supervising geophysicists from Newexco Services Pty Ltd
	• Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report. In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (e.g. 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (e.g. submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.	 Diamond core is typically marked at 1m intervals Sample intervals are marked up by geologists based on geology Sampled mineralisation intervals are sent to a commercial laboratory for crushing and grinding before assaying.



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Drilling techniques	 Drill type (e.g. core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (e.g. core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face- sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc). 	 Diamond drilling comprises HQ and NQ2 sized core. Core is oriented using the Boart Longyear TruCore orientation system
Drill sample recovery	 Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed. Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples. Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material. 	 Diamond core recoveries have been logged and recorded in the database Diamond core is logged and recorded in the database. Overall recoveries are >95% and there was no core loss issues or significant sample recovery problems. Core loss is noted where it occurs. Diamond core was reconstructed into continuous runs on an angle iron cradle for orientation marking. Depths are checked against the depth given on the core blocks and rod counts are routinely carried out by the drillers.
Logging	Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.	 All geological logging was carried out to a high standard using well established geology codes in templated spreadsheets. All logging was recorded using Panasonic Toughbook PC tablets.
	 Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography. The total length and percentage of the relevant 	 Final logging is quantitative and core photography is done to a high standard in both dry and wet form. All holes are logged in full.
Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation	 Ine total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged. If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken. 	 Diamond core is sampled as quarter core only; cut by the field crew on site by diamond saw.
	• If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry.	All samples are core
	• For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.	• The sample preparation follows industry best practice involving oven drying, coarse crushing and pulverising.
	 Quality control procedures adopted for all sub- sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples. 	 The field crew prepares and inserts the QAQC certified reference materials into the relevant calico bags. OREAS and Geostats standards have been selected based on their grade range and mineralogical properties, with approximately 12 different standards used.
	 Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling. 	• Standards and blanks are inserted approximately every 20 samples or at least one every hole for RC drilling.
	Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.	• All geological logging was carried out to a high standard using well established geology codes in LogChief software.
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	• The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.	 All samples are assayed by independent certified commercial laboratories. The laboratories used are experienced in the preparation and analysis of nickel sulphide ores.
	• For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.	No Geophysical tools or handheld XRF instruments were used to determine any element concentrations that were subsequently used for MRE or exploration reporting purposes
	Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g. standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision	• Certified reference materials are included in all batches dispatched at an approximate frequency of 1 per 25 samples, with a minimum of two per batch.



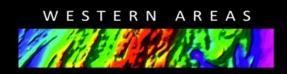
Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	have been established.	 Field duplicates are inserted into submissions at an approximate frequency of 1 in 25, with placement determined by Nickel grade and homogeneity. Lab checks, both pulp and crush, are taken alternately by the lab at a frequency of 1 in 25. Accuracy and precision were assessed using industry standard procedures such as control charts and scatter plots. Evaluations of standards are completed on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis using QAQCR.
Verification of sampling and assaying	 The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel. 	• Geological interpretation using intersections peer viewed by senior WSA geologists.
	The use of twinned holes.	Not applicable – No twinned holes
	 Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols. 	 All primary geophysical data were recorded digitally and sent in electronic format to Newexco Services Pty Ltd for quality control and evaluation. All geological logging was carried out to a high standard using well established geology codes in LogChief software. All other data including assay results are captured in Excel . Drill holes, sampling and assay data is stored in a SQL Server database located in a secure data center.
	• Discuss any adjustment to assay data.	None
Location of data points	Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation.	 Downhole surveys were completed using a gyroscopic instrument on all resource definition holes. Check surveys were done by a professional independent surveyor
	Specification of the grid system used.	• MGA94 Zone 51 grid coordinate system is used as a standard.
	Quality and adequacy of topographic control.	 The project area is flat and the topo data density is adequate for MRE purposes Collar positions were picked up by suitably qualified surveyors
Data spacing and distribution	Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.	• The WAD002 intersect is approximately 40m along strike from WAD002A and WAD002W1W1W1 daughters which are less than 10m apart at the massive sulphide elevation.
	 Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied. 	Not applicable – No Mineral Resource or Ore Reserve reported
	• Whether sample compositing has been applied.	• No sampling compositing has been applied.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	 Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type. 	• The majority of the drill holes are orientated to achieve intersection angles as close to perpendicular as possible.
	 If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material. 	• No orientation based sampling bias has been observed in the data, intercepts are reported as downhole lengths unless otherwise stated.
Sample security	• The measures taken to ensure sample security.	Standard West Australian mining industry sample security measures were observed
Audits or reviews	• The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.	• Adrian Black of Newexco Pty Ltd (a member of the AIG), an independent exploration company, has reviewed the sampling techniques employed by WSA.



Section 2: Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in Section 1, also apply to this section.)

	ection	1, also apply to th							Commont	251				
Criteria Mineral tenement			ode expla		and	• Cosmo	s Nickol C	mplay car	Commenta	-	souering c	0,000		
and land tenure	•	Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material					Cosmos Nickel Complex comprises 26 tenements covering some 226Ha, The tenements include mining lagges and miscellaneous							
status		-	9,226Ha. The tenements include mining leases and miscellaneous											
5141115			with third parties such as joint ventures, erships, overriding royalties, native title				licensesWestern Areas wholly owns 23 tenements, which were acquired from							
			5,	-							-			
		interests, historic	-		ational	Xstrata Nickel Australasia in October 2015. The remainder of the tenements (3) are subject to a Joint Venture with Alkane Resources NL, where Western Areas has earned 80.6% interest								
		park and environ		-										
	•	The security of the								80.6% intere	est			
		reporting along w	-			All ten	ements ar	e in good s	standing					
		obtaining a licenc	•								-			
Exploration done by other parties	•	Acknowledgment other parties.	and appro	isal of explo	oration by	Historical nickel exploration has been completed by Glencore PLC, Xstrata Nickel Australasia and Jubliee Mines NL								
Geology	•	Deposit type, geo mineralisation.	logical set	ting and styl	e of	 within Austra The de sulphic The min of high 	the Agnev lia posit style des. ineralisatio MgO cun	v-Wiluna E is komati on typically nulate ultr	Belt of the c ite hosted, o y occurs in c amafic rock		rn Craton, d to mass with the b	Western ive nickel asal zone		
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Drill hole	-	A			- +4		mineralis			al tradition of the state				
Drill hole Information	•	A summary of all understanding of including a tabulo	• See drill hole summary tables enclosed in the text and drill hole Summary information below.											
		information for a												
		 easting and i 												
		 elevation or 	•											
		above sea le	vel in metr	es) of the dr	ill hole									
		collar												
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		 down hole le 	ngth and i	nterception	depth									
		 hole length. 												
	•	If the exclusion of	this inforr	nation is jus	tified on									
		the basis that the	-	-	-									
		this exclusion doe												
		understanding of			tent									
		Person should cle	-	-										
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		HOLEID	Easting	Northing	RL_MINE	DEPTH (m)	Туре	DIP	Azimuth	Width (m)	Ni %	FROM (m)		
			261630.35	6944917.077	476.661	1402.23	DD	-75	275	27.82	0.83	1107.18		
	1					including				3.96	1.11	1116.04		
		WAD002				and				8.18	0.81	1146.00		
						and			12.54	1.96	1165.18			
						including				6.03	2.65	1166.97		
			261630.351	6944917.077	476.661	1274.90	DD	-75	275	25.99	2.46	1170.00		
	1					and				4.58	2.46	1198.50		
		WAD002A				including				1.28	5.30	1201.80		
	1													
	1					and				2.57	12.56	1226.66		
				1	1	including			1	1.61	18.03	1227.05		
		WAD002W1W1W1	261630.351	6944917.077	476.661	1384.10	DD	-75	275	5.27	15.23	1224.00		
						including				3.44	22.03	1224.00		
Data	•	In reporting Explo	ration Res	ults, weighti	ina	Standa	ard weight	ed averaa	ina of drill l	hole interce	ots were e	mploved.		
aggregation		averaging technic			-					cations were		1.1.1		
methods	1		truncations (eg cutting of high			estimation.								
		grades) and cut-o				• The re	ported ass	avs have h	een lenath	and bulk de	ensity weig	ahted. A		
		and should be sta		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					-	ed to the dis				
	•	Where aggregate		s incornorate	short					e intersects				
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					-	mineralisation are reported as included intervals.Metal equivalents have not been used								
	aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.					- metarequivalents have not been used								



Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	• The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.	
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	 These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (e.g. 'down hole length, true width not known'). 	• Drill hole intersections may not be true widths
Diagrams	 Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views. 	Included within report
Balanced reporting	 Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results. 	• All results above a nominal cut-off are reported for the disseminated intersects and all the massive intercepts are reported
Other substantive exploration data	 Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances. 	 Included within report Geophysics Information on structure type, dip, dip direction alpha and beta angles, texture, shape, roughness and fill material is stored in the structural logs in the database.
Further work	 The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling). Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive. 	 Preliminary plans are included within the report Future explorations programs may change depending on results and strategy