

4 October 2024 | ASX: SLS

# **Solstice Accelerates Drilling at Yarri Gold Project**

# **Highlights**

- > Field work is underway in preparation for the next phases of drilling at the Company's extensive Yarri Gold Project. Pending programs include:
  - ❖ Infill and follow-up aircore drilling at Bunjarra where recent drilling has returned aircore hits to 10m @ 3.61g/t Au¹ in composite sampling over an evolving 2km trend. Drilling is scheduled for commencement in mid-October.
  - ❖ Solstice's first ever Reverse Circulation (RC) drilling at the advanced Bluetooth Gold Prospect to progress historical shallow, strong RC gold results² which included 12m @ 1.31g/t Au, 15m @ 0.95g/t Au and 8m @ 1.66g/t Au over a 1km trend of outcropping mineralisation.
- > First-pass aircore drilling is complete over promising soil-covered litho-structural targets at Edjudina Range and Cosmo. Samples have been submitted for analysis and results will be reported when available.
- Planned activities further the Company's strategy to bring forward new, commercially relevant gold prospects in this highly prospective and productive sector of WA's Eastern Goldfields.

Solstice Minerals' Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Mr Nick Castleden, said:

"Solstice is ramping up its gold drilling activities following recent exploration successes, with field preparation underway for follow-up aircore drilling at Bunjarra - aimed at tightening traverse spacing to fine-tune maiden RC drilling - and at Bluetooth, where we intend to kick-off an exciting program of shallow RC to advance strong historical gold results. Separately, samples are now in the lab from the latest round of recce aircore drilling over geological targets at Edjudina Range (along strike from our Statesman Well Gold Prospect) and Cosmo (close to Northern Star's Porphyry mining hub), and we look forward to reporting material results generated by this work".

Solstice Minerals Limited (ASX: SLS, **Solstice**, the **Company**) is pleased to report that field preparation and site-works are now underway to advance drilling at the Company's emerging **Bunjarra Project** and bring forward planned RC drilling at the advanced **Bluetooth Gold Prospect**, an area of historical drilling within the **Box Soak** tenement group.

### **Bunjarra Follow-up Aircore**

Site works are underway ahead of additional aircore drilling following the receipt of significant composite sample results<sup>1</sup> to **10m @ 3.61g/t Au** in the Company's most recent aircore program at this Prospect.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to ASX:SLS 9 September 2024 "Significant 10m @ 3.61g/t Gold Intercept at Bunjarra".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Refer to ASX: ORR announcement dated 31 October 2019



This round of drilling will start in coming weeks and is designed to tighten line spacing to a density that will allow optimal design of maiden RC drill-testing (**Figure 1**).

Drilling to date remains widely spaced, with traverses between 200m and 500m apart and holes at 80m to 200m intervals. Infill aircore is planned on up to 14 drill lines (Figure 1). Traverses will straddle existing lines in the southern part of the Licence where a 2km trend of gold anomalism is taking shape that includes 10m @ 3.61g/t Au (5m composite samples) in BJWAC066 (supported by 2m @ 1.85g/t Au in adjoining BJWAC002), and 1m @ 4.49g/t Au in BJWAC041 located 800m to the north.

Additional drilling is also planned around strong anomalism in historical drilling<sup>3</sup>, including **1m @ 14.8g/t Au** adjacent to a local felsic intrusive in the north-west of the Licence, and in other places where past drilling has returned base-of-oxidation gold anomalism in consecutive drillholes.

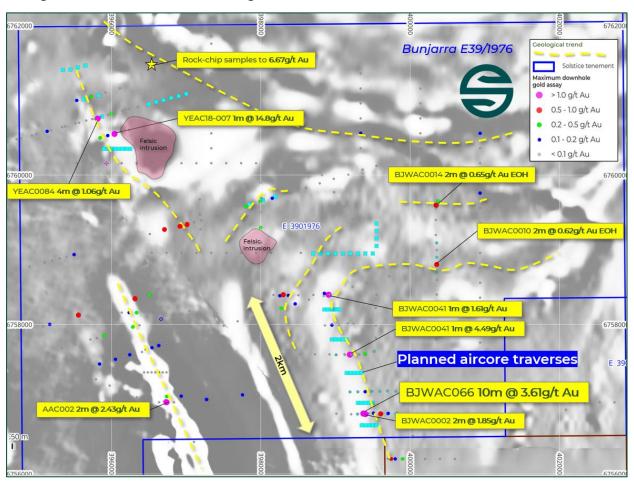


Figure 1: Bunjarra Project – planned next phase aircore drilling (light blue squares), all drill collars (coloured for peak down-hole gold values) and significant Solstice and historical intercepts (in yellow text boxes). Background is aeromagnetic imagery.

The combined gold results to date at Bunjarra point to the potential for mineralised bedrock structures in multiple locations, with widespread >0.10g/t Au anomalism in drillholes over many kilometres of strike. Gold mineralisation typically sits at the interface between oxidised and unoxidised bedrock, a classic Goldfields geochemical setting and an indicator of proximal bedrock gold mineralisation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Refer to ASX: ORR announcement dated 8 February 2022



Bunjarra lies approximately 70km northwest of Northern Star's (ASX: NST) **Porphyry** mining centre, 20km southeast of Saturn Metals' (ASX: STN) **Apollo Hill** gold deposit and along strike from a significant gold drill-out to the south (**Figure 2**). The Licence is covered by a blanket of shallow transported alluvial material that has limited the effectiveness of previous exploration.

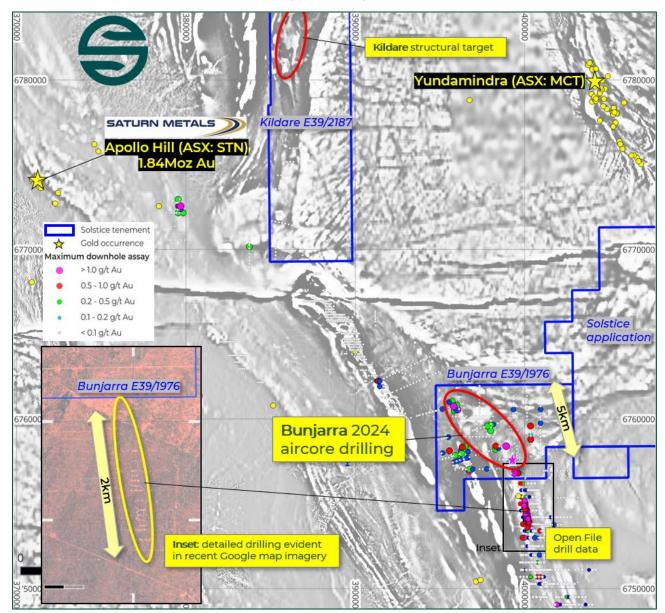


Figure 2: Bunjarra and Kildare tenure on aeromagnetic imagery and Solstice and Open File drill collars with peak downhole gold values. Google Earth inset shows drilling activity immediately south of Licence boundary.

#### **Bluetooth RC Drilling**

On-ground preparations are underway for first-stage RC drilling at the Company's advanced Bluetooth Gold Prospect on the Box Soak tenement group. The Prospect has been shallowly drilled in the 1990's and hosts historical drill intercepts<sup>4</sup> that include **12m @ 1.31g/t Au**, **15m @ 0.95g/t Au**, **8m @ 1.66g/t Au** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Refer to ASX: ORR announcement dated 31 October 2019



and **2m @ 5.07g/t Au** that report to zones of silicified chert, ironstone and quartz veining extending over more than 1km of strike (**Figure 3**). Historical RC drilling is at 100m line-spacing, and in places with only one effective hole per drill section.

Approximately 20 shallow RC holes are planned (Figure 3), a program which is designed to improve the understanding of geological controls at this Prospect. Results will guide future infill, step-out and extensional exploration drilling. Drilling will commence in the December 2024 Quarter once site work is completed.

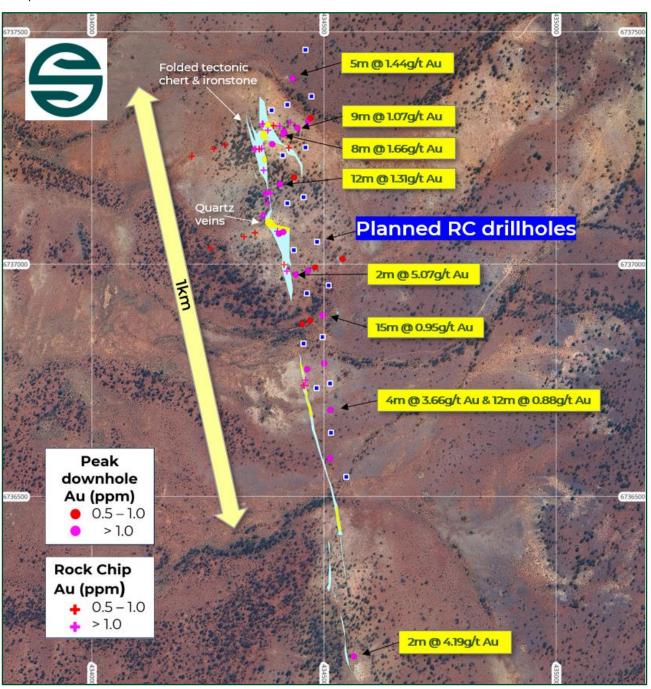


Figure 3: Bluetooth Gold Prospect showing geological trends on photo imagery and the location of planned RC drill collars (blue squares), historical RAB and RC drilling (circles coloured for peak downhole gold values) and >0.5g/t Au rock-chip locations (crosses).



Bluetooth is located approximately 35km north of the Porphyry mining centre, and 40km south-west of AngloGold Ashanti's **Sunrise Dam** gold deposit (**Figure 4**). Gold prospectivity in the area is supported by a new 800m long trend of gold anomalism in Solstice's most recent Box Soak aircore drilling<sup>5</sup> and recent RC and diamond drilling on tenure immediately along strike to the north.

# Reconnaissance Aircore Programs - Edjudina Range and Cosmo

First-pass aircore drilling has been completed over promising soil-covered litho-structural targets at **Edjudina Range** and **Cosmo** (Figure 4), continuing Solstice's strategy to explore soil-covered areas of its prime Yarri tenure. This style of work aims to define completely new gold mineralisation suitable for either stand-alone scale development or delivery to nearby processing plants.

Edjudina Range targets are along strike from the Company's advanced **Statesman Well Project**<sup>6</sup>, with previous drilling intersecting the host banded iron formation stratigraphy below shallow transported cover.

Cosmo lies immediately north of the **Hobbes** tenement recently sold to a subsidiary of Northern Star Resources Limited (ASX: NST) for \$12.5M<sup>7</sup>, with recent drilling testing below a local alluvial channel that obscures underlying prospective geology.

All composite samples have been submitted for analysis and results will be reported when available.

#### **Forward Plan**

The Company continues to work-up further quality greenfield gold targets on its 1,730 square kilometres of Yarri Project tenure, with a focus on testing targets that offer potential for 'stand-alone' scale. The current aircore drilling campaign at Yarri is likely to continue through the remainder of 2024, with the aim of bringing forward more new targets for RC drilling.

Some recent presentations and commentary on the Company's strategy and methodology can be viewed at: <a href="https://solsticeminerals.com.au/investor-centre/media-insights">https://solsticeminerals.com.au/investor-centre/media-insights</a>

### **About the Yarri Project**

The Company's Yarri landholding is close to existing infrastructure, with dedicated haul roads and ore processing facilities typically within 50–100km. In this infrastructure-rich area, even modest scale gold mineralisation has potential to be commercialised, as underscored by the sale of the Company's Hobbes tenement.

With an extensive belt-scale footprint in WA's Eastern Goldfields, the Company continues to offer strong leverage to gold exploration success. The robust cash position of \$17.5 million (at 30 June 2024) provides Solstice with excellent flexibility to expand its asset base beyond its current Projects, and the Company continues to review a number of compelling business development opportunities.

<sup>5</sup> Refer to ASX:SLS 9 September 2024 "Significant 10m @ 3.61g/t Gold Intercept at Bunjarra".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Refer to ASX:SLS 7 May 2024 "Strong Drill Targets at Statesman Well Gold Prospect".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Refer to ASX: SLS announcement dated 16 April 2024



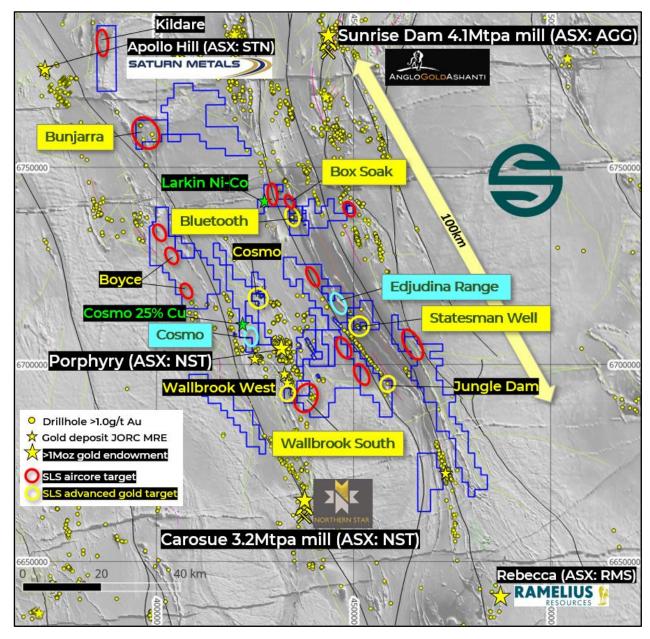


Figure 4: Solstice's Yarri Project tenement group showing the location of Edjudina Range and Cosmo target areas, Bluetooth and Bunjarra, and all gold targets flagged for aircore drilling (red circles). The Company's more advanced targets with existing >1g/t Au gold intercepts are shown as yellow circles.

All exploration releases are available on the Company's website at: <a href="https://solsticeminerals.com.au/investor-centre/asx-announcements">https://solsticeminerals.com.au/investor-centre/asx-announcements</a>.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board.

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## **Forward-Looking Statements**

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# **Compliance Statement - Previously Reported Results**

The information in this announcement that relates to historical Exploration Results is extracted from the Company's ASX announcements (**Original Announcements**) dated 7 May 2024 and 9 September 2024 as footnoted. Solstice confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the Original Announcements and, in the case of Estimates of Mineral Resources, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the Original Announcements continue to apply and have not materially changed. Solstice confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original announcement.