

3 August 2026

INDEPENDENCE SCOPING STUDY DELIVERS STRONG POST TAX NPV

Scoping Study with strong economics and low capital development based on a portion of the near-surface epithermal Independence Gold Project MRE

Highlights

- **Scoping Study outlines a conventional, low-capital open-pit heap-leach development for the near-surface epithermal mineralisation at the Independence Gold Project**
 - **Post-tax NPV₅ of ~A\$511m (A\$430m – A\$590m), 64% IRR (55% - 74%) and ~1.4-year (1.2 – 1.7 year) payback at AUD\$6,128/oz (US\$4,285/oz) gold and AUD\$93/oz (US\$65/oz) silver¹**
 - **Production Target of 31.9 Mt at 0.30 g/t gold and 6.09 g/t silver, comprising 73% Indicated and 27% Inferred Resources**
 - **Estimated recovered production of 250koz Au and 1.77Moz Ag over a 9.7-year mine life, with strip ratio of 1.20:1**
- **Low cost estimated AISC of ~A\$2,248/oz (US\$1,572/oz), net of silver by-product credits**
- **Conventional contract-mined open pits, two-stage crushing, heap leaching and Merrill-Crowe recovery at 9,000 tpd; with initial capital of ~A\$119m, plus ~A\$8m for working capital and initial fills**
- **The current epithermal MRE has grown to 1,217,400oz AuEq, 190% larger than the March 2025 MRE of 419,600oz AuEq that formed the portion of this Study, a revised Scoping Study is planned to incorporate the full MRE, infill drilling and metallurgical test work.**

¹ CAUTIONARY STATEMENT: The Scoping Study referred to above is a preliminary technical and economic study based on low-level technical and economic assessments that are not sufficient to support estimation of Ore Reserves or to provide assurance of an economic development case. The Production Target comprises approximately 73% Indicated Mineral Resources and 27% Inferred Mineral Resources. There is a low level of geological confidence associated with Inferred Mineral Resources and no certainty that further exploration will result in the determination of Indicated Mineral Resources or that the production target will be realised. The Study is based on the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal Mineral Resource reported on 13 May 2026 (**May 2026 MRE**), being the component of the resource that was included in the Mineral Resource Estimate reported in March 2025 (**March 2025 MRE**). The economic outcomes above have not optimised to incorporate the expanded component of the May 2026 MRE. Investors should not make investment decisions based solely on the results set out above. See the full cautionary statement below.

Black Bear Minerals (ASX: BKB; OTCQX: BKBMF) (“**Black Bear Minerals**” or “**the Company**”) is pleased to provide a progress update for the Independence Project (“**Independence**” of “**the Project**”), located in Lander County, Nevada, USA.

Black Bear Minerals’ Chief Executive Officer, Dennis Lindgren, commented:

“The Scoping Study demonstrates a compelling preliminary development case for Independence, outlining a conventional, low-capital heap-leach operation with strong projected returns with base case post-tax NPV₅ of approximately ~A\$511m, ~64% IRR and rapid payback of ~1.4 years. Importantly, these outcomes utilise only a portion of the current MRE and exclude both the substantially larger current epithermal resource and the high-grade skarn resource. This provides a strong foundation for the next phase of work, as we incorporate the current resource, advance technical studies and assess opportunities to further enhance the scale and value of the Project.”

SCOPING STUDY AND PRODUCTION TARGET CAUTIONARY STATEMENT

The Scoping Study referred to in this announcement has been undertaken to assess the potential viability of an open-pit, heap-leach development of the near-surface epithermal mineralisation at the Independence Gold Project and to identify the work required to advance the Project. It is a preliminary technical and economic study based on low-level technical and economic assessments that are not sufficient to support the estimation of Ore Reserves. Further evaluation work and appropriate studies are required before Black Bear Minerals Limited (Black Bear or the Company) will be in a position to estimate Ore Reserves or provide any assurance of an economic development case.

The Study has an estimated capital-cost accuracy of +/-30% and operating-cost accuracy of +/-20% and is based on the material assumptions outlined in this announcement, including assumptions regarding metal prices, metallurgical recoveries, geotechnical conditions, permitting, infrastructure, land access and funding. While the Company considers the material assumptions to be based on reasonable grounds, there is no certainty they will prove correct or that the outcomes indicated by the Study will be achieved.

The production target is based ~73% on Indicated Mineral Resources and 27% on Inferred Mineral Resources. There is a low level of geological confidence associated with Inferred Mineral Resources and there is no certainty that further exploration work will result in the determination of Indicated Mineral Resources or that the production target itself will be realised.

The Scoping Study was prepared based on the portion of the current Mineral Resource that was included in the March 2025 Mineral Resource Estimate (419,600oz AuEq) and has not been re-optimised for the expanded Mineral Resource reported on 13 May 2026. The balance of the larger May 2026 MRE, including the high-grade skarn Mineral Resource, has not been incorporated into the mine plan or financial model, and no conclusion should be drawn regarding its effect on production, costs or Project economics until an updated study is completed in respect of that component of the May 2026 MRE.

To achieve the range of outcomes indicated by the Study, pre-production funding in the order of ~AUD\$127m (US\$90m) is expected to be required. There is no certainty that the Company will be able to raise that amount when required. Funding may be dilutive or otherwise affect the value of existing shares, and the Company may consider other value-realisation strategies, including a sale, partial sale or joint venture, which could reduce its proportionate ownership. Given the uncertainties involved, investors should not make investment decisions based solely on the results of the Scoping Study.

Independence Gold Project Overview

The Independence Project is located in Lander County, Nevada, near the town of Battle Mountain and directly adjacent to Nevada Gold Mine’s Phoenix Project. Nevada is widely regarded as one of the premier mining jurisdictions in the world, known for its rich mineral resources and supportive regulatory environment. Nevada consistently ranks within the Fraser Institute top mining jurisdictions.

The Project encompasses a current 2.2Moz MRE (May 2026), comprised of a 1.0Moz Au high-grade 6.3g/t Au skarn resource and a 1.2Moz AuEq from-surface chert-hosted epithermal resource.

Gold mineralisation within chert is amenable to heap-leach extraction. Heap-leach is a widely utilised method across Nevada’s epithermal deposits, including at Nevada Gold Mine’s Phoenix Mine Complex located directly adjacent to the Independence Project, and the nearby SSR-operated Marigold Complex that was operating between 0.13 – 0.36 g/t Au in 2024 (Figure 1).

Mineral Resource Estimate

The estimation of the Mineral Resources at the Independence Project were completed by Brodie Box, an independent consultant and competent person under JORC. The Project, in 2021, was estimated and classified under Canadian National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) and CIM (2014) reporting guidelines, which are broadly aligned with JORC (2012) in technical intent and underlying principles as internationally recognized reporting frameworks. The adoption of the NI 43-101 resource estimate and subsequent conversion of the Mineral Resource to satisfy JORC 2012 Guidelines and reporting standards was completed by Brodie Box (Cadre Geology and Mining Pty Ltd) in March 2025 which included an update of the gold equivalency ratio to values relevant at the time. An updated Mineral Resource Estimate was subsequently reported by the Company on 13 May 2026 (being the May 2026 MRE), incorporating additional drilling and geological interpretation.

Mineral Resources at the Independence Project were modelled as two distinct zones based on the deposit type; a near-surface epithermal zone, and deeper skarn. The near-surface model comprises epithermal gold-silver mineralisation hosted within the cherts of the Pumpernickel Formation, while the skarn model consists of gold-only mineralisation hosted within the Battle Formation calcareous sediments. No mineral reserves are prepared or reported.

The Scoping Study considers open pit mining of near-surface epithermal material, with the deeper skarn mineralisation excluded.

The increase in the epithermal mineral resource since commencement of the Scoping Study primarily reflects the outlining of new mineralisation from extensional drilling, the removal of the pit shell constraining the previous resource, and the updated work on re-classifying oxidation states and measuring density values.

Where this Scoping Study references the MRE, readers should be aware that the economic analysis, mine planning parameters, and production assumptions contained herein were developed using the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal Mineral Resource reported on 13 May 2026, being the component of the resource that was included in the March 2025 MRE.

The balance of the expanded May 2026 MRE has not been incorporated into the mine plan or financial model, and no conclusion should be drawn regarding its effect on production, costs or Project economics until an updated study is completed in respect of that component of the May 2026 MRE.

The Company plans to update the Scoping Study to assess the balance of the current epithermal MRE, together with further infill drilling and metallurgical test work.

The Mineral Resource estimate underpinning the production target has been prepared by a competent person in accordance with the JORC Code.

Independence Scoping Study

The Scoping Study updates the 2022 preliminary economic assessment² and evaluates open-pit mining and heap-leach processing of the near-surface epithermal mineralisation. The Scoping Study was prepared using the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal MRE that was included in the March 2025 MRE, comprising 31.9Mt at 0.41g/t AuEq for 419.6koz AuEq.

All figures in this announcement are expressed in Australian dollars unless otherwise stated. The scoping study financial model is denominated in United States Dollars (USD). United States Dollar amounts have been converted to Australian dollars at an assumed exchange rate of ~A\$1.00 = US\$0.70, being the prevailing

² Ashton, J., and DeFilippi, C.E., June 2021, Technical Report of the Independence Gold Project, Battle Mountain Mining District, Lander County, Nevada, USA: NI 43-101 technical report prepared for Golden Independence Mining Corp., 168p.

AUD/USD rate as of 31 July 2026. This exchange rate assumption has been applied consistently throughout the financial model and this announcement.

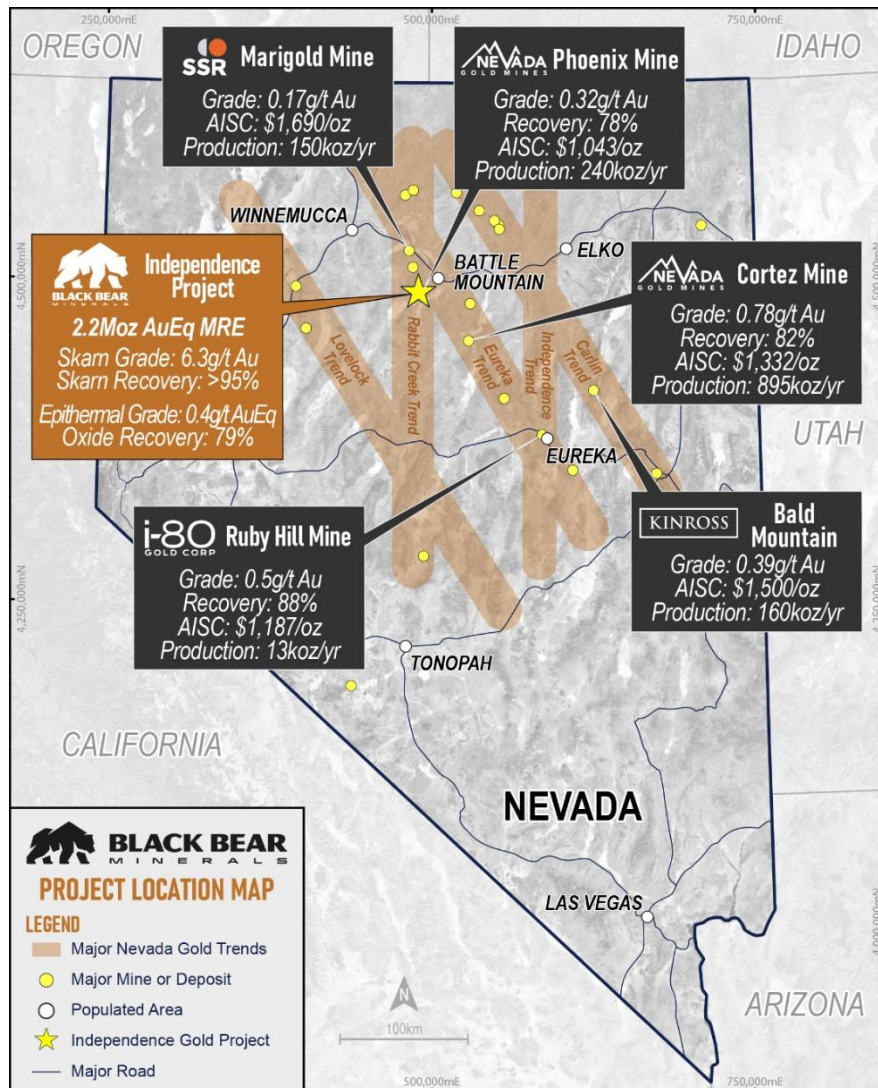


Figure 1: Independence Project in relation to major infrastructure, mining operations and significant Gold Trends in Nevada.

Key Scoping Study Outcomes

The key outcomes of the Scoping Study are summarised in Table 1 below. The Study outlines a conventional open-pit, contract-mining and heap-leach development. The Scoping Study contemplates processing at ~9,000 tpd, or 3.3m tpa, over an estimated 9.7-year mine life, based on a Production Target of 31.9Mt grading 0.30 g/t gold and 6.09 g/t silver.

At assumed prices of AUD\$6128p/oz (US\$4,285p/oz) gold and AUD\$93p/oz (US\$65p/oz) silver, the Study delivers a post-tax NPV₅ of ~AUD\$511m (US\$357m), a post-tax IRR of ~64% and a payback period of ~1.4 years, based on initial capital of ~AUD\$119m (US\$83.4m) plus ~AUD\$8m (US\$5.7m) for working capital and initial fills.

Table 1 - Scoping study economic parameter and analysis summary derived from production target

Metric	Study outcome
Study level	Scoping Study / preliminary technical and economic assessment
Study resource basis	419,600oz AuEq portion of 1,217,400oz AuEq epithermal May 2026 MRE and high-grade skarn Mineral Resource excluded
Mining method	Conventional open-pit, contract mining
Process route	Two-stage crushing, heap leach, Merrill-Crowe and dore
Processing rate	~9,000 tpd / ~3.3 Mtpa
Production target	31.9 Mt at 0.30 g/t Au and 6.09 g/t Ag
Target Recovered Gold Produced	250koz
Resource classification	~73% Indicated / 27% Inferred
Mine life	~9.7 years
Strip ratio	1.20:1
Gold recovery	76% overall; 79% oxide and 50% transition
Silver recovery	27%
Base prices	AUD\$6128/oz Au (US\$4,285/oz Au) and AUD\$93/oz Ag (US\$65/oz Ag)
Post-tax NPV ₅	~AUD\$511m (US\$357m)
Post-tax IRR	~ 64%
Pre-tax NPV ₅	~AUD\$613m (US\$429m)
Pre-tax IRR	75.1%
Payback	~ 1.4 years
Initial capital	~AUD\$119m (US\$83.4m)
Working capital / initial fills	~AUD\$8m (US\$5.7m)
LOM Sustaining Capital	~AUD\$10m (US\$7.1m)
Cost accuracy	Capital +/-30%; operating +/-20%

The production target and forecast financial information referred to above are preliminary in nature and based in part on Inferred Mineral Resources. There is no certainty the production target or forecast financial information will be realised. Refer to the cautionary statements on page 2 of this announcement. The material assumptions on which the Production Target and the forecast financial information in this announcement are based are set out in full in Annexure A to this announcement. These include assumptions as to modifying factors (mining, metallurgical, infrastructure, economic, environmental and other relevant factors), the development and production timeframe, the availability of funding, and the sequencing of Mineral Resource categories in the proposed production schedule. Investors should read Annexure A in full before making any investment decision.

Proposed Development Concept and Mine Plan

The conceptual mine plan comprises concurrent development of the North and South open pits over an estimated 9.7-year mine life. The Production Target totals approximately 31.9 Mt at 0.30 g/t Au and 6.09 g/t Ag, comprises approximately 23.2 Mt, or 73%, of Indicated Mineral Resources and 8.7 Mt, or 27%, of Inferred Mineral Resources. No Measured Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves are included. The mine plan also contemplates approximately 38.3 Mt of waste movement, resulting in a life-of-mine strip ratio of 1.20:1. Mining is initially predominantly supported by Indicated Mineral Resources, with approximately 97.9% of processed material in Year 1 and 83.1% in Year 2 classified as Indicated. A higher proportion of Inferred Mineral Resources is scheduled during the later years of the mine plan, particularly Years 8 and 9.

Table 2 – Year-by-year sequencing of Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources

Production year	Indicated (Mt)	Inferred (Mt)	Total feed (Mt)	Indicated	Inferred
Year 1	2.42	0.05	2.48	98%	2%
Year 2	2.73	0.56	3.29	83%	17%
Year 3	2.07	1.21	3.29	63%	37%
Year 4	2.75	0.53	3.29	84%	16%
Year 5	2.85	0.45	3.29	87%	14%
Year 6	3.00	0.29	3.29	91%	9%
Year 7	2.69	0.60	3.29	82%	18%
Year 8	1.09	2.20	3.29	33%	67%
Year 9	1.47	1.82	3.29	45%	55%
Year 10	2.10	1.00	3.10	68%	32%
Life of mine	23.2	8.7	31.9	73%	27%

Based on the year-by-year mine schedule, the Company is satisfied that the Inferred Mineral Resources included in the Production Target are not a determining factor in the viability of the Project. Initial production and the estimated payback period are predominantly supported by Indicated Mineral Resources, with the greater proportion of Inferred Mineral Resources scheduled in the later years of the mine plan.

Mining is proposed using conventional drill, blast, load and haul methods under a contract-mining model. Conceptual pit designs assume a nominal 9 m bench height and an overall pit slope of 38.6 degrees for optimisation purposes. These assumptions remain subject to confirmation through project-specific geotechnical investigations and more detailed mine design.

Mineralised material would be processed at a nominal rate of 9,000 tpd through a two-stage crushing circuit to a product size of 100% passing 57 mm, before conveyor stacking onto a conventional heap-leach pad. Dilute cyanide solution would be applied to the stacked material, with pregnant solution treated through an onsite Merrill-Crowe plant to recover gold and silver and produce doré. The Study assumes overall recoveries of approximately 76% for gold and 27% for silver.

Supporting infrastructure would include water supply and storage, grid power, emergency generation, process ponds, site roads, administration facilities, a laboratory, warehouse and maintenance facilities. Pre-production mining is scheduled to commence approximately three months before first crusher feed to establish initial working areas and support commissioning and ramp-up. The proposed operation is expected to require a peak workforce of approximately 92 personnel, including contractors.

Subject to Board approval, the Company intends to advance the Project through updated mine planning, infill drilling, metallurgical and geotechnical test work, environmental studies and permitting. The Scoping Study contemplates a potential development timeframe of approximately two to four years; however, timing remains subject to completion of further technical studies, permitting, funding and a future development decision.

The development concept remains preliminary and will require further metallurgical, geotechnical, hydrogeological, environmental and engineering work before advancement to a Pre-Feasibility Study.

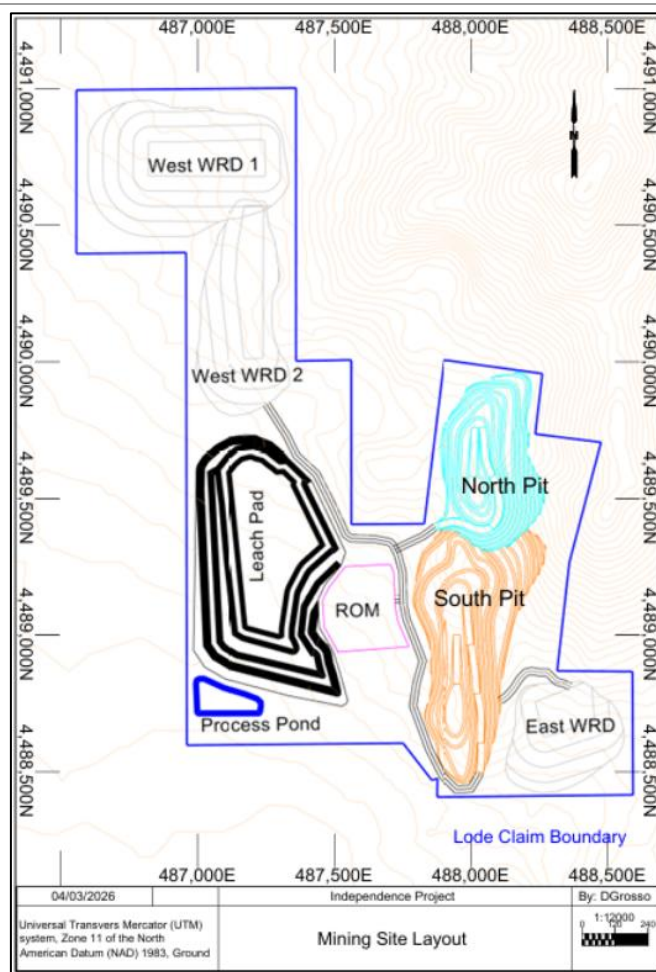


Figure 2: Conceptual mining site layout³

Table 3 - Target Mine Plan Summary

Mining parameter	Study basis
Pit configuration	North and South open pits
Mining method	Conventional drill, blast, load and haul
Mining execution	Contract mining
Bench height	9 m nominal
Pit slope assumption	38.6 degrees overall for optimisation; no project-specific geotechnical study completed
Total feed	31.9 Mt
Total waste	38.3 Mt
Strip ratio	1.20:1
Pre-production mining	Three months before first crusher feed
Maximum workforce	~92 personnel, including contractor personnel

The production target and forecast financial information referred to above are preliminary in nature and based in part on Inferred Mineral Resources. There is no certainty the production target or forecast financial information will be realised. Refer to the cautionary statements on page 2 of this announcement.

³ Source: MineBuild, draft Scoping Study, July 2026. Layout is conceptual and subject to geotechnical, environmental, permitting and land-access studies.

Processing and Metallurgy

As illustrated in Figure 3 below, the proposed process flowsheet comprises two-stage crushing at a nominal throughput of 9,000 tpd as follows:

- Crushed material would be stockpiled, reclaimed and conveyor-stacked onto a conventional heap-leach pad with an estimated capacity of ~34Mt.
- Dilute sodium cyanide solution would be applied to the stacked material, with pregnant solution collected and processed through an onsite Merrill-Crowe plant.
- Gold and silver would be recovered through zinc precipitation and subsequently smelted to produce gold-silver doré.
- The Scoping Study assumes overall gold recovery of ~76%, comprising 79% for oxide and 50% for transition material, together with silver recovery of 27%.

Metallurgical testwork completed to date indicates low to moderate reagent consumption, no apparent requirement for cement agglomeration, a proposed 9m heap-lift height and an estimated 120-day leach cycle. Recovery assumptions, particularly for transition and sulphide material, remain preliminary.

Further metallurgical testwork provides an opportunity to optimise and potentially improve the recovery assumptions applied in the Study. Representative column-leach testing across all material types, together with compacted permeability testing, sulphur speciation, diagnostic leaching and larger crush-size testing, is recommended before a PFS to better define recovery performance, particularly for transition and sulphide material.

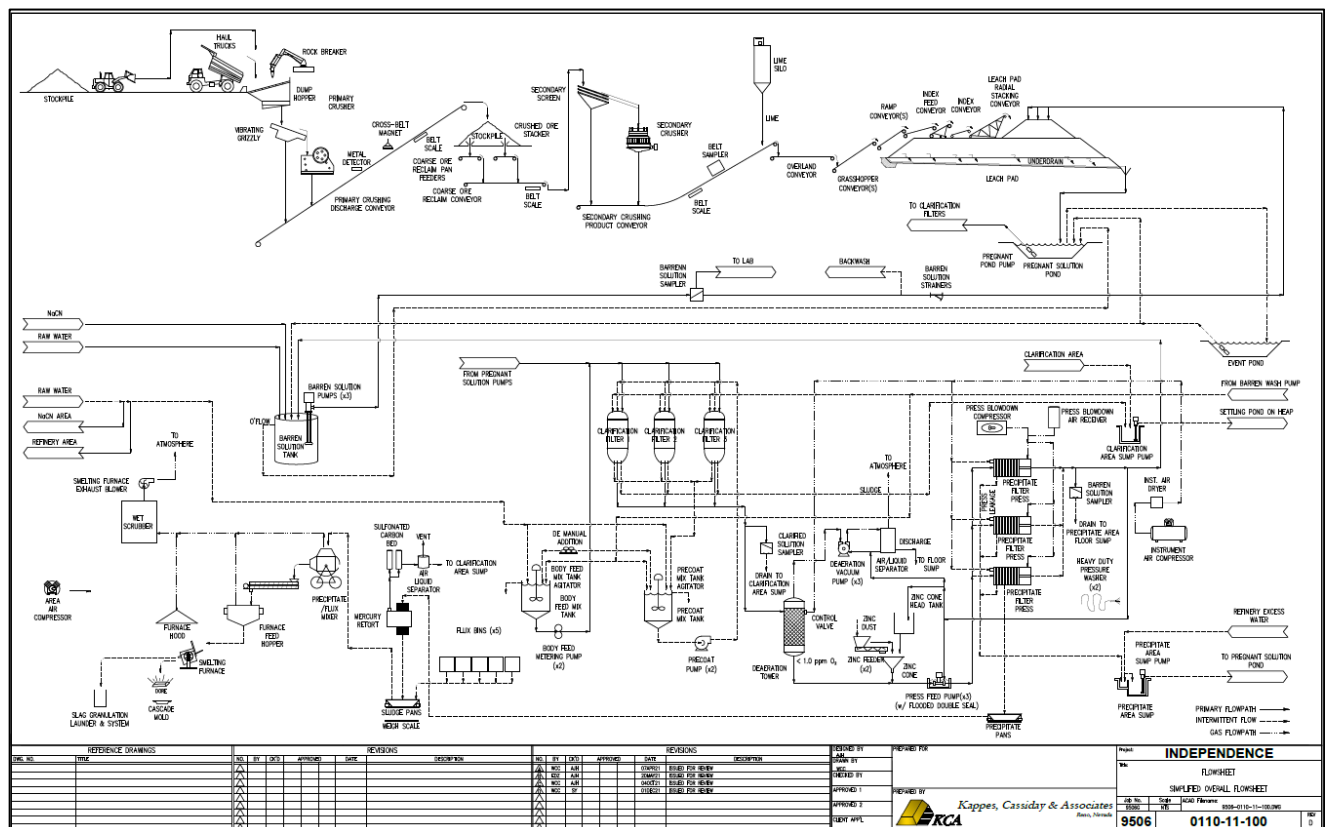


Figure 3 - Conceptual Process Flowsheet⁴

⁴ Kappes, Cassiday & Associates, Scoping Study, July 2026.

Capital, Operating Costs and Closure

The Scoping Study estimates initial capital of ~AUD\$119m (US\$83.4m), together with ~AUD\$8m (US\$5.7m) for working capital and initial consumable fills as summarised in Table 4 below. Life-of-mine sustaining capital is estimated at ~AUD\$10m (US\$7.1m) principally associated with the planned expansion of the heap-leach pad and related conveying infrastructure.

Tentative Plan for Permanent Closure would be submitted as required, with closure comprising evaporation-based fluid management, growth-media cover and revegetation of the heap, and residual drainage managed through evaporation cells. Concurrent reclamation and closure costs are estimated at AUD\$14m (US\$9.5m), or ~US\$0.30 per tonne processed.

Table 4 – Capital Cost Summary

Capital item	Study basis
Initial capital shown in economic summary	AUD\$119m (US\$83.4m)
Working capital and initial fills	AUD\$8m (US\$5.7m)
Indicative pre-production funding	AUD\$127m (US\$90m)
Sustaining capital	AUD\$10m (US\$7.1m)
Closure and reclamation	AUD\$14m (US\$9.5m)

Average life-of-mine operating costs are estimated at AUD\$22p/t (US\$14.70p/t) processed, comprising AUD\$11p/t (US\$7.57p/t) for mining, AUD\$9p/t (US\$5.97p/t) for processing and support services, and AUD\$2p/t (US\$1.15p/t) for site general and administration. The resulting all-in sustaining cost is estimated at ~AUD\$2,248 (US\$1,572) per payable ounce of gold, after crediting silver production.

The Scoping Study estimates a life-of-mine AISC of ~US\$1,572 per payable ounce of gold, calculated on a by-product basis with silver revenue credited against gold production costs. The estimate includes mining, processing, site administration, transport and refining, royalties, sustaining capital, and reclamation and closure costs. It is based on ~249,750 payable gold ounces after applying a 99.9% payability factor. Corporate overheads, financing costs and interest are excluded. As a Scoping Study estimate, the AISC remains subject to refinement through further engineering, test work, contractor pricing and closure planning.

Table 5 - Operating Cost Summary

Operating-cost item	Study basis
Mining	AUD\$11/t (US\$7.57/t)
Processing and support	AUD\$9/t (US\$5.97/t)
Site G&A	AUD\$2/t (US\$1.15/t)
Total site operating cost	AUD\$22/t (US\$14.70/t)
AISC	AUD\$2,248 (US\$1,572/oz)

Capital costs were developed using contractor submissions, recent quotations, cost-guide data and allowances benchmarked against comparable projects, while process operating costs were estimated from first principles. The estimates are preliminary, with an accuracy of ±30% for capital costs and ±20% for operating costs and will be refined through further engineering and project definition.

Economic Evaluation

The Scoping Study economic evaluation was completed using a discounted cash flow model (discount rate of 5%) on a standalone, 100%-equity-funded basis. The base case applies prices of AUD\$6,128p/oz (US\$4,285p/oz) gold and AUD\$93p/oz (US\$65p/oz) silver respectively, together with the production, recovery, capital cost, operating cost, royalty and taxation assumptions developed for the Study, as detailed in Table 5 below.

The Scoping Study economic model has been prepared on a 100% ownership basis and assumes that, following completion of the Stage 2 earn-in and acquisition of the remaining 25% interest in Independence Mining LLC, Americas Gold Exploration Inc. will be granted a 2% net smelter return royalty. The Company has the contractual right to repurchase 1% of that royalty for US\$4.0 million, payable in cash or shares under the underlying agreement. For the purposes of the Study, the repurchase is assumed to occur prior to commencement of production, reducing the aggregate project NSR burden from 4% to 3%. The financial model therefore applies a 3% NSR royalty over the life of mine and should be read as conditional on completion and funding of the US\$4.0 million

The Scoping Study assumes production of readily saleable gold-silver doré, with no formal market study or offtake agreement required at this stage, and applies standard refining, transport and payable assumptions. Commodity prices were selected in the Scoping Study using a blended forward-looking methodology comprising a near-term production price anchor, institutional consensus forecasts and long-term equilibrium pricing, consistent with the Project's anticipated two-to-four-year development timeframe and the discretion permitted under CIM 2020 guidance and the JORC Code 2012.

The selected prices are below the cited institutional consensus range and recent spot highs, while downside sensitivities have also been assessed. The Scoping Study considers the assumptions reasonable for the purposes of the preliminary economic evaluation and the assessment of reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction.

Under these assumptions, the Project is expected to generate a pre-tax NPV₅ of ~AUD\$613m (~US\$429m) and a pre-tax IRR of ~75%. On an after-tax basis, the Project is expected to generate an NPV₅ of ~AUD\$511m (~US\$357m), an IRR of ~64% and a payback period of ~1.4 years from commencement of production.

Table 6 - Key Economic Metrics

Economic metric	Base case
Post-tax NPV ₅	~AUD\$511m (US\$357m)
Post-tax IRR	~64%
Pre-tax NPV ₅	~AUD\$613m (US\$429m)
Pre-tax IRR	~75%
Payback	~1.4 years
Average annual post-tax cash flow	~US\$58m
Gold price	~US\$4,285/oz
Silver price	~US\$65/oz

Sensitivity analysis indicates that Project economics are most sensitive to changes in the gold price and less sensitive to movements in capital and operating costs. The economic evaluation remains preliminary and is based on the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal (being the portion of the MRE that was included in the March 2025 MRE). The assumptions and outcomes will be reassessed as the Project advances through further technical studies to assess the balance of the expanded current epithermal Mineral Resource.

Consistent with the preliminary nature of a Scoping Study, the outcomes above are subject to material uncertainty arising from: (i) the level of geological confidence in the Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources underpinning the Production Target; (ii) the preliminary nature of the metallurgical recovery assumptions, particularly for transitional material; (iii) the +/-30% accuracy of the capital cost estimate and +/-20% accuracy of the operating cost estimate; and (iv) uncertainty in the commodity price and exchange rate assumptions applied. This margin of error should be read together with, and does not replace, the Cautionary Statement above.

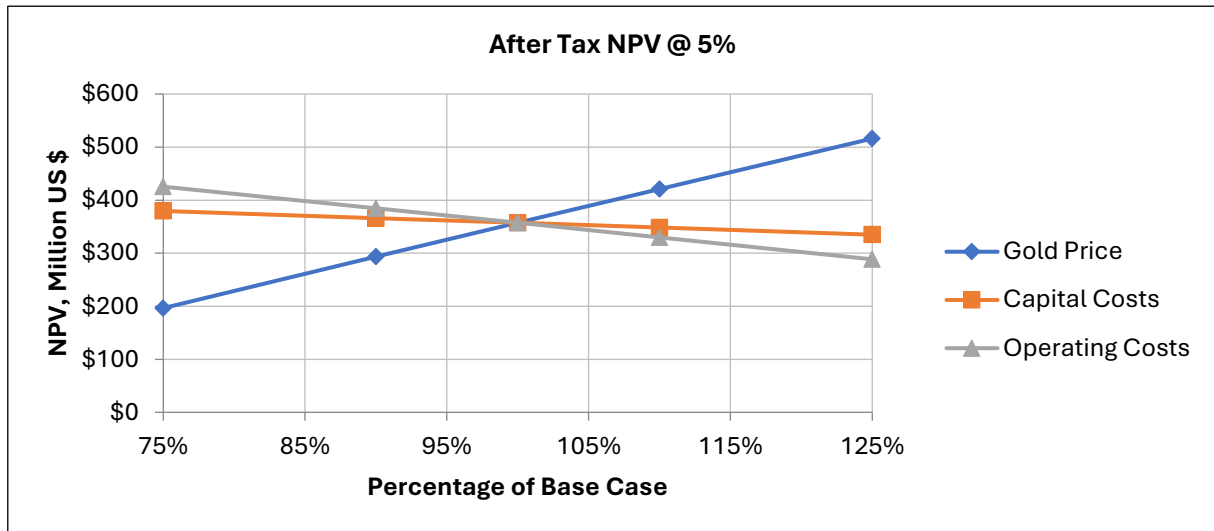


Figure 4: After-tax NPV₅ sensitivity

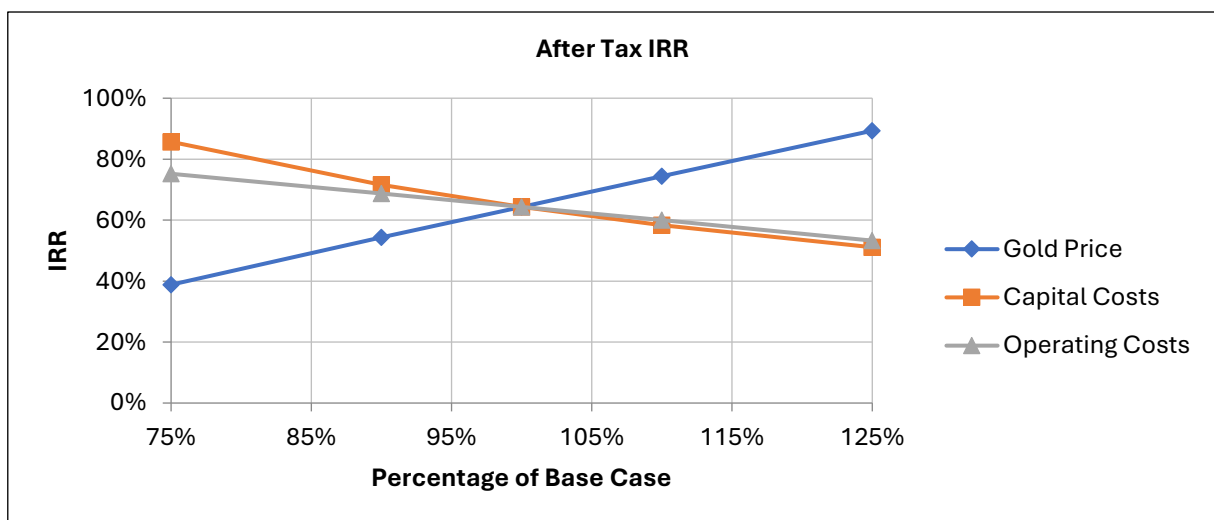


Figure 5: After-tax IRR sensitivity

Permitting, Environmental and Infrastructure

The Project would require federal and Nevada state approvals, including a Bureau of Land Management Plan of Operations and associated environmental review, a Nevada reclamation permit, water-pollution-control and air-quality permits, and other construction and operating approvals. Baseline, permitting and closure work remains incomplete.

Table 7 – Permitting, Environmental and Infrastructure Summary

Factor	Study status / qualification
Access	Existing state and county roads provide regional access; site roads require development
Power	Grid connection is contemplated; final supply arrangement and cost require confirmation
Water	Water rights are reported, but well yield and sustainable supply require to be demonstrated
Tailings	No conventional tailings storage facility; heap-leach pad and process ponds required
Waste rock	Two waste dumps and partial South Pit backfill contemplated
Permitting	Federal and state approvals not yet secured; project sits within existing NGM Phoenix Mine Complex EIS
Environmental baseline	Further baseline and waste-rock characterisation work required
Closure	Conceptual closure and reclamation estimate only with formal plan to be developed

Key Risks, Opportunities and Next Steps

The Study identifies several areas requiring further validation and optimisation, including metallurgical recovery assumptions, geotechnical design, water supply, land and title matters, permitting, funding and the exclusion of the high-grade skarn resource. These limitations also present clear opportunities to strengthen and potentially enhance the Project through updated studies, targeted drilling and test work, refined engineering, early permitting activities and consideration of strategic funding or development partnerships, as summarised in the table below.

Table 8 - Key Risk and Opportunity Summary

Area	Limitation	Potential opportunity
Resource basis	Study uses the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal MRE and includes 27% Inferred Resources	Update Scoping Study to assess the balance of the expanded 1.217Moz epithermal MRE
Metallurgy	Historical and extrapolated recovery data may overstate recoveries	Representative column tests and coarser crush-size optimisation
Geotechnical	Pit slopes and facility foundations are not supported by project-specific studies	Optimised slopes and facility design after drilling/testing
Water	Well yield and sustainable supply are unconfirmed	Hydrogeological drilling and water-balance refinement
Land / title	Potential interaction between millsite claims and underlying third-party lode claims	Commercial arrangements and possible infrastructure synergies with Nevada Gold Mines
Permitting	Federal and state approvals are not in place	Early continuation of baseline and pre-application work
Skarn	High-grade skarn excluded from economics	Separate drilling and development assessment
Funding	~AUD\$127m (US\$90m) pre-production funding may be required	Debt, equity, strategic and partnership alternatives

The Study recommends ~AUD\$4.6m (US\$3.19m) of near-term work to advance the epithermal heap-leach case toward PFS, plus ~AUD\$1.6m (US\$1.13m) for an initial three-hole deep-skarn drilling program. The proposed work programs remain subject to Board approval, permitting and funding.

Table 9 - Indicative workstreams and next steps

Workstream	Scope	Indicative cost
Infill and confirmation drilling	6,290 m	AUD\$1.2m (US\$0.8m)
Condemnation drilling	2,600 m / 13 holes	AUD\$0.4m (US\$0.3m)
Metallurgical testwork	Column, permeability, comminution and diagnostic work	AUD\$1.4m (US\$1.0m)
Environmental and permitting	Baseline, Plan of Operations and monitoring well	AUD\$0.8m (US\$0.6m)
Geotechnical studies	Pit, heap, waste dump and process-site studies	AUD\$0.2m (US\$0.1m)
PFS engineering	Trade-offs, design and PFS report	AUD\$0.6m (US\$0.4m)
Near-term epithermal program	Subtotal	AUD\$4.6m (US\$3.2m)
Deep skarn drilling	Three deep RC/core holes	AUD\$1.6m (US\$1.1m)
Total recommended program	Including skarn	AUD\$6.2m (US\$4.3m)

Funding and Reasonable Basis

The Scoping Study estimates pre-production funding of approximately AUD\$127m (US\$90m). The Company currently has cash and available funding resources of approximately AUD\$5.17m, which it intends to apply toward the next phase of technical, permitting and development work. Further funding will be required before any development decision and commencement of construction.

Future funding is expected to be sought progressively and may include equity, project debt, strategic investment, offtake-linked financing, joint venture participation or other project-level structures. The Board considers there are reasonable grounds to believe the required funding could be obtained if a development decision is made; however, no funding arrangements have been secured and there is no certainty that funding will be available on acceptable terms or at all. Any future financing may dilute shareholders or impose conditions on the development or ownership of the Project.

The forward-looking statements and Production Target in this announcement are based on the material assumptions summarised in Annexure A – Reasonable Basis for Forward-Looking Statements.

Previous Announcements

The Company's current MRE for Independence was announced on 13 May 2026. The Scoping Study mine plan and economic analysis use only the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal MRE that was included in the March 2025 MRE. The balance of the expanded May 2026 MRE has not been incorporated into the Production Target, mine plan or financial model. No new MRE or exploration results are reported in this announcement.

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information in the 13 May 2026 MRE announcement and that the material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning that current estimate of mineral resources continue to apply and have not materially changed.

Background on Black Bear Minerals

Black Bear Minerals (ASX: BKB; OTCQX: BKBMF) is a North American precious metals developer focused on advancing high-grade gold and silver assets in Tier-1 U.S. jurisdictions.

The Company's portfolio is anchored by the 100%-owned Shafter Silver Project in Texas and the Independence Project in Nevada's Battle Mountain region. Together, the assets provide exposure to large-scale domestic

silver and gold systems supported by existing infrastructure, established mining districts and strong leverage to precious and critical metals markets.

The Company also retains a non-core lithium exploration portfolio in Québec's James Bay region.

Shafter Silver Project – Texas

Project Overview

The Shafter Silver Project is an advanced-stage, high-grade silver project located in Presidio County, Texas, approximately 64km south of Marfa on private land in a mining-friendly jurisdiction.

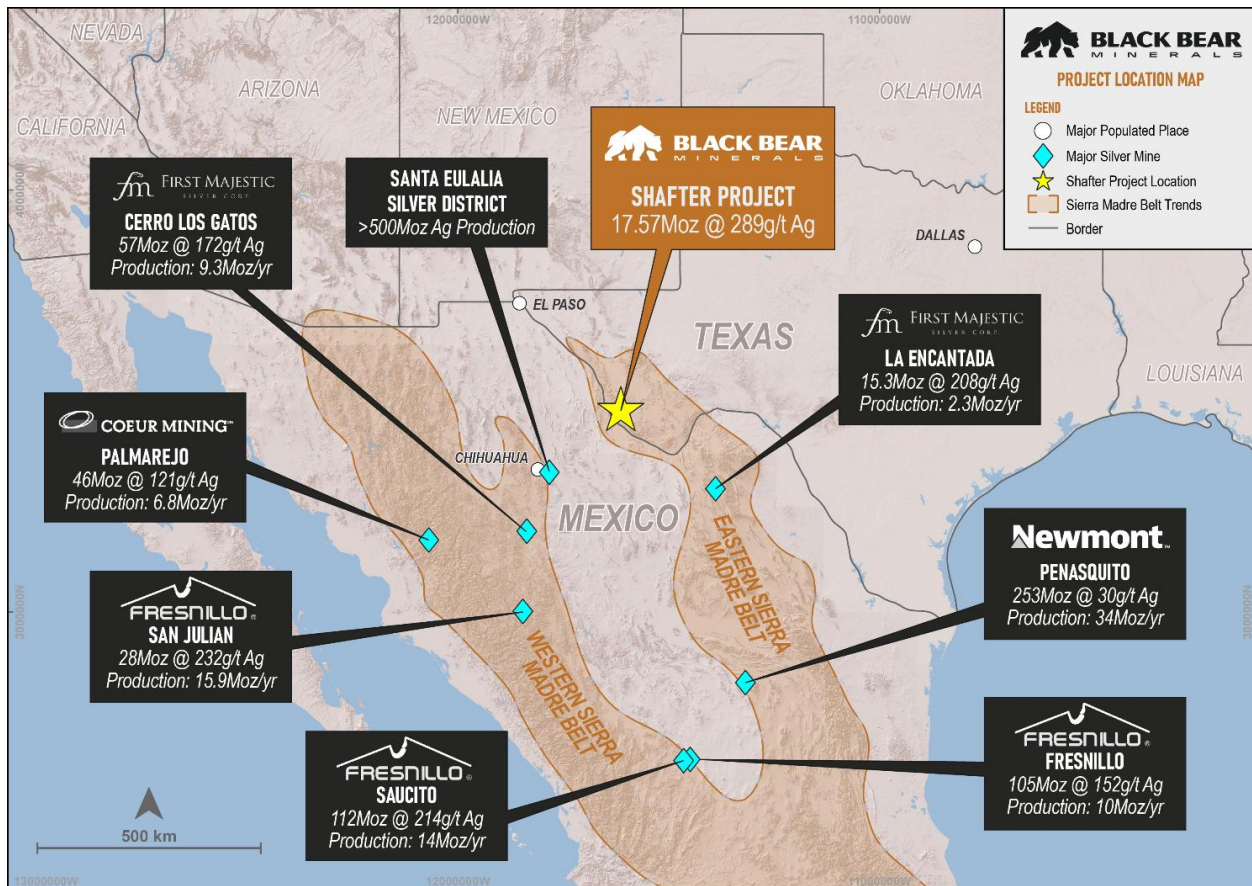


Figure 6 - Location of Shafter Project in relation to major silver mines of the Sierra Madre Belt.

Black Bear is currently undertaking exploration and technical work programs aimed at expanding and upgrading the resource base, including drilling along the largely untested 2.4km MacDaniel Trend and assessing shallow mineralisation for potential open-pit extraction. Recent rock chip sampling has also highlighted broader polymetallic potential, with results of up to 3,100g/t Ag, 4.5% Zn and 6% Pb outside the current resource area⁵.

A key differentiator of the Shafter Project is its substantial existing infrastructure, much of which was modernised between 2011 and 2012. The site includes a modern permitted Merrill-Crowe processing plant and refinery, grid-connected power, water rights, extensive support infrastructure and more than 160km of historic underground workings. The historic Presidio Mine previously produced approximately 35.2Moz silver at average grades of 521g/t Ag.

⁵ For previously reported exploration results refer to the Company's ASX announcement dated 27 November 2025.

Black Bear Minerals is progressing technical and restart studies at the Shafter Silver Project aimed at leveraging the Project's substantial existing infrastructure to support a potential low-capital operational restart strategy.

Resource & Mineralisation

The Shafter Project is situated within a basin carbonate sequence that extends 1,600km from northern Mexico through southwest Texas, sitting on the same prolific mineralised belt as the world-class Peñasquito mine.

Shafter currently hosts a high-grade foreign MRE (prepared under Canadian NI 43-101 standards) which Black Bear is currently working to convert to JORC standards and reporting.

Table 10: Shafter Silver Project Foreign MRE

Classification	Cut-Off (Ag g/t)	Tonnes (Mt)	Grade (Ag g/t)	Ag Ounces (Moz)
Measured	137	0.09	299	0.89
Indicated	137	1.01	314	10.17
Inferred	137	0.79	256	6.51
Total	137	1.89	289	17.57

The Company first announced the foreign estimate for the Shafter Project on 2 October 2025. The MRE is a foreign estimate prepared in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101. A competent person has not done sufficient work to classify the foreign estimate as a mineral resource in accordance with the JORC Code 2012, and it is uncertain whether further evaluation and exploration will result in an estimate reportable under the JORC Code 2012.

Independence Project – Nevada

Project Overview

The Independence Project consists of 80 unpatented mining claims and 84 unpatented mill sites, situated in Lander County, Nevada, and spans approximately 1,861 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands. It is adjacent to the Nevada Gold Mine's Phoenix Operation and about 16km south of Battle Mountain. In addition, the Project encompasses Section 17,470 acres of private fee surface land in the Battle Mountain Mining District where the Company holds exclusive water rights for future production wells.

Nevada – Tier 1 Jurisdiction

Nevada is widely recognised as one of the world's premier mining jurisdictions, consistently ranking among the top regions in the Fraser Institute mining survey. The state is a leading producer of gold and silver and offers a stable regulatory framework, established infrastructure, skilled mining workforce and direct access to major U.S. markets. Nevada's long history of mining development and supportive permitting environment continue to underpin strong investment and project development activity.

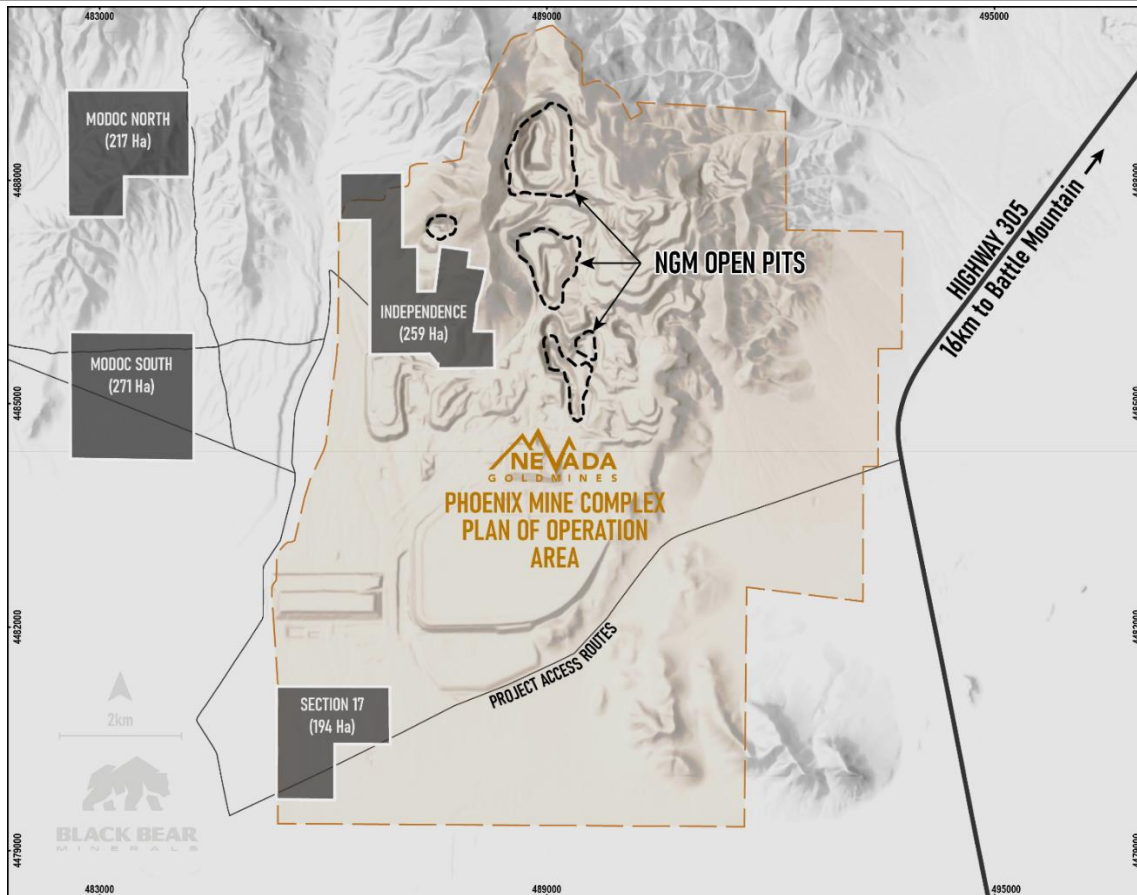


Figure 7: Independence Property overlaid with active Nevada Gold Mines (Newmont-Barrick JV) Phoenix Mine Complex, Plan of Operations.

The Independence Project contains a JORC 2012 Mineral Resource as outlined below:

Table 11: Independence Project JORC MRE⁶.

Independence Project - Mineral Resource Estimates							
Classification	Tonnes	Grade (g/t)			Ounces		
		AuEq	Au	Ag	AuEq	Au	Ag
Epithermal MRE							
Indicated	26,641,200	0.44	0.4	7.5	376,200	345,300	6,452,200
Inferred	63,279,300	0.41	0.37	6.6	841,100	755,200	13,518,200
Subtotal (Indicated + Inferred)	89,920,600	0.42	0.38	6.9	1,217,400	1,100,500	19,970,400
Skarn MRE							
Inferred	4,958,400	-	6.29	-	-	1,002,500	-

References to metal equivalents is a function of metal prices, the Gold Equivalent is based on a Gold Price of US\$2,590.60/oz and Silver Price of US\$30.50/oz, and metal recoveries for both gold and silver. The recovery of gold is stated as 79% in oxide, 50% in transitional and 22% in fresh (Au Recovery). Silver averages 27% across all material. Resultantly, the AuEq calculation is: $\text{Au g/t} + (\text{Ag g/t} \div ((2,590.6 \times \text{Au Recovery}) \div (30.5 \times 0.27)))$. The Company believes that all metals included in the metal equivalent calculation have a reasonable potential to be recovered and sold.

Quebec Lithium Assets

Black Bear Minerals has 100% interest in one of the largest lithium exploration portfolios in the James Bay region. The Joule, Aero, Aqua and La Grande East Properties are located in the La Grande sub-province along-trend from PMET Resources (ASX: PMT) Shaakichiuwaanaan deposit.

⁶ For previously released MRE refer to the Company's ASX announcement dated 13 May 2026. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information in the 13 May 2026 MRE announcement and that the material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning that current estimate of mineral resources continue to apply and have not materially changed.

This announcement is authorised for release by the Board of Directors of Black Bear Minerals.

ENDS

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Forward-looking statements

This announcement may contain certain forward-looking statements, guidance, forecasts, estimates or projections in relation to future matters (Forward Statements) that involve risks and uncertainties, and which are provided as a general guide only. Forward Statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as “anticipate”, “estimate”, “will”, “should”, “could”, “may”, “expects”, “plans”, “forecast”, “target” or similar expressions and include, but are not limited to, indications of, or guidance or outlook on, future earnings or financial position or performance of the Company. The Company can give no assurance that these expectations will prove to be correct. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements due to many important factors, risks and uncertainties. The Company does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to any “forward- looking statement” to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this announcement, except as may be required under applicable laws.

Competent Person Statement

The Scoping Study was prepared and signed by the Competent Persons as presented. The Competent Persons have prepared this technical report in accordance with the JORC 2012 guidelines for Technical Studies and NI 43-101 Guidelines for Technical Reports.

Mr. Travis Manning is a Competent Person under JORC 2012 and is an independent consultant and an employee of Kappes, Cassiday & Associates . Mr. Manning has no direct association or ownership with either Black Bear Minerals or the Property, and does not hold any securities in the Company. Mr. Manning is a Registered Member of SME and a Professional Engineer in the state of Utah and has over 22 years of experience in the mining industry. Mr. Manning visited the property on July 11, 2025. Mr. Manning met with client personnel, discussed the layout and geology, and toured the proposed areas for the mine and processing facilities. Mr Manning was principal author and responsible for the mineral processing, metallurgical test work, recovery methods, process infrastructure, associated capital and operating cost estimates and economic analysis contained in the Scoping Study. Mr. Manning consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information, in the form and context in which they appear.

Mr. Daniel Grosso is a “Qualified Person” as defined by NI 43-101 and is an Associate Principal Mining Engineer of MineBuild and an employee of Vitr Pty Ltd, an independent consulting firm that subcontracts to MineBuild. Mr. Grosso has no direct association or ownership with either Black Bear Minerals or the Property. Mr. Grosso is a Member and Chartered Professional (Mining) of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) and has over 17 years of experience in the mining industry. Mr. Grosso has not visited the Property and has no prior involvement with the Property.

Mr. Richard Delong is a “Qualified Person” as defined under NI 43-101 is an independent consultant and principal with WestLand. Mr. Delong has no direct association or ownership with either Golden Independence or the Property. Mr. Delong is a Qualified Professional with MMSA (01471QP) and a Registered Member of SME (4045773) and has over 35 years of mine permitting and environmental review experience in the mining industry. Mr. Delong visited the Independence Project site on March 31, 2021.

The information in this announcement and the Scoping Study that relates to exploration results and mineral resource estimates at the Independence Project are based on, and fairly represent, information and supporting documentation reviewed, and approved by Mr Brodie Box, MAIG. Mr Box is a geologist at Cadre Geology and Mining Pty Ltd and does not hold any securities in the Company. Mr Box has adequate professional experience with the exploration and geology of the style of mineralisation and types of deposits under consideration to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Australasian Code for reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Box consents to the form and context in which the results are presented in this announcement. Mr. Box consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information, in the form and context in which they appear.

*The information in this announcement that relates to previously reported exploration results for the Shafter Project is extracted from the Company’s ASX announcement dated 27 November 2025 (**Original Announcement**). The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the relevant information contained in the Original Announcement.*

The resource estimate for the Shafter Silver Project is a foreign estimate prepared in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101. The Company first announced the foreign estimate on 2 October 2025. The supporting information provided in the original market announcement continues to apply and has not materially changed. The Company confirms it is not in possession of any new information or data that materially impacts on the reliability of the foreign estimates or the Company’s ability to verify the foreign estimates as mineral resources in accordance with the JORC Code.

Annexure A

No Ore Reserve has been declared. This document has been prepared in compliance with the JORC Code (2012) and the ASX Listing Rules.

All material assumptions on which the Scoping Study Production Target and projected financial information are based have been included in this release and disclosed in the table below. Consideration of Modifying Factors in the Format Specified by JORC Code (2012) Section 4

Material assumption	Basis for assumption	Material qualifications
Study status	The Project has been evaluated at Scoping Study level through preliminary mine planning, metallurgical assessment, infrastructure design, capital and operating cost estimation and project-level discounted cash-flow analysis.	The Scoping Study is based on low-level technical and economic assessments that are insufficient to support the estimation of an Ore Reserve. No development decision has been made. Further drilling, testwork, engineering, permitting and economic evaluation are required.
Mineral Resource basis	The Production Target is based on the 419,600oz AuEq portion of the current epithermal MRE (being the component that was included in the March 2025 MRE). The balance of the expanded May 2026 MRE, including the deeper high-grade skarn Mineral Resource is excluded from the mine plan, Production Target and economic analysis.	The balance of the expanded May 2026 MRE has not been incorporated into the mine plan or financial model, and no conclusion should be drawn regarding its effect on production, costs or Project economics until an updated study is completed in respect of that component of the May 2026 MRE.
Production Target classification	The Production Target comprises approximately 31.9Mt, including approximately 23.2Mt, or 73%, classified as Indicated Mineral Resources and approximately 8.7Mt, or 27%, classified as Inferred Mineral Resources. No Measured Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves are included.	There is a lower level of geological confidence associated with Inferred Mineral Resources. There is no certainty that further exploration will result in the conversion of Inferred Mineral Resources to Indicated or Measured Mineral Resources or that the Production Target will be realised.
Inferred Mineral Resource sequencing	Mining is scheduled to commence in the South Pit, where approximately 92% of the material within the relevant pit inventory is classified as Indicated Mineral Resources, before progressing through the South and North pits. Initial production is therefore expected to be predominantly supported by Indicated Mineral Resources.	The production target is based ~73% on Indicated Mineral Resources and ~27% on Inferred Mineral Resources. There is a low level of geological confidence associated with Inferred Mineral Resources and there is no certainty that further exploration work will result in the determination of Indicated Mineral Resources or that the production target itself will be realised.
Mining method and schedule	Conventional open-pit mining using drill, blast, load and haul methods is assumed for the North and South pits. Contract mining is assumed to reduce upfront fleet capital requirements. The schedule includes approximately three months of pre-production mining and targets crusher feed of approximately 9,000 tpd.	Mine designs and schedules are conceptual and are based on preliminary geotechnical, productivity, equipment and contractor assumptions. Project-specific geotechnical investigations, detailed mine design, grade-control planning and contractor validation are required.
Pit-slope assumptions	Preliminary pit-slope parameters have been developed with reference to available geological information and nearby operations and applied to conceptual pit optimisation and mine design.	Project-specific geotechnical investigations sufficient to support detailed pit design have not been completed. Lower achievable slope angles could increase waste movement, land disturbance, capital and operating costs and may affect the Production Target and financial outcomes.
Processing method	The assumed process route comprises two-stage crushing, conveyor stacking, heap leaching and Merrill-Crowe recovery to produce gold-silver doré. The process route is conventional and has been selected for the oxide and transitional material included in the Production Target.	Detailed process design, equipment selection, constructability assessment, vendor engagement and optimisation of crushing, stacking and leaching parameters have not been completed.
Metallurgical recoveries	The Study assumes gold recoveries of approximately 79% for oxide material and 50% for transitional material, resulting in an estimated overall gold recovery of approximately 76%. Silver recovery is assumed to be approximately 27%. The Production Target comprises oxide and transitional material only.	Recovery assumptions are based on historical bottle-roll testwork and limited column-leach testwork and remain preliminary. Transitional recovery is less certain and may be overstated. Representative variability and column-leach testing, permeability testing, sulphur speciation, diagnostic leaching and crush-size optimisation are required before completion of a Pre-Feasibility Study.
Processing rate and mine life	The Study assumes processing at approximately 9,000 tpd, equivalent to approximately 3.3Mtpa, over an estimated operating life of approximately 9.7 years. Direct crusher feed and stockpile management are assumed to support relatively consistent plant throughput.	Actual throughput, ramp-up, operating availability, stockpile performance and production continuity have not been demonstrated through detailed engineering or operating experience at the Project.
Capital costs	The Study estimates initial development capital of approximately AUD\$119 million (US\$83.4 million), together with approximately AUD\$8m (US\$5.7 million) for working capital and initial fills. Life-of-mine sustaining capital is estimated at approximately AUD\$10m (US\$7.1m).	Capital costs are estimated to Scoping Study accuracy of approximately ±30% and are based on preliminary engineering, budget information, contractor inputs, benchmarks and allowances.

		Detailed quantities, owner's costs, vendor quotations, execution planning, escalation and contingency require further definition.
Operating costs	Mining costs are informed by preliminary contractor quotation processes. Processing and site operating costs are based on preliminary engineering, operating assumptions and industry benchmarks. Contract mining and leased or rented support equipment have been assumed.	Operating costs are estimated to Scoping Study accuracy of approximately ±20% and remain subject to contractor pricing, labour availability, fuel and power prices, reagent consumption, consumables, maintenance requirements, haulage profiles and the detailed operating strategy.
Commodity prices	The financial analysis assumes gold and silver prices of AUD\$6,128/oz (US\$4,285/oz) and AUD\$93/oz (US\$65/oz), respectively. The commodity-price assumptions were selected having regard to The Scoping Study financial model is denominated in United States dollars. United States dollar amounts have been converted to Australian dollars using an assumed exchange rate of A\$1.00 = US\$0.70, broadly consistent with the prevailing AUD/USD exchange rate as at 31 July 2026 and recent Reserve Bank of Australia published rates. The exchange rate is an assumption only and actual exchange rates may vary.	Commodity prices are material to the financial outcomes and may vary materially from the assumptions adopted. The announcement presents sensitivities at lower and higher commodity prices. The base-case prices do not represent a forecast by the Company that those prices will be achieved.
Exchange rate	US-dollar Study outcomes have been converted to Australian dollars using an assumed exchange rate of A\$1.00 = US\$0.70.	Exchange rates may vary materially over the development and operating life of the Project. Changes in the exchange rate may affect Australian-dollar capital costs, operating costs and financial outcomes. The financial model is denominated in US dollars.
Financial model	The forecast financial information is derived from a project-level discounted cash-flow model incorporating the mine schedule, metallurgical recoveries, metal prices, capital and operating costs, royalties, taxation, closure costs and assumed timing of metal recovery and revenue.	The model represents preliminary indicative Project economics and is not a forecast of the Company's financial performance. It does not establish that the Project will be developed or that funding will be available.
Financing assumption	The financial model assumes 100% equity funding and excludes debt financing costs, interest, lender fees, hedging, financing reserve accounts and other financing-related costs.	The Study does not establish the Project's debt capacity or a committed financing structure. The introduction of debt or other financing may change Project cash flows, returns, funding requirements and risk allocation.
Development funding requirement	The estimated pre-production funding requirement is approximately ~AUD\$127 million (US\$90 million), comprising initial development capital, working capital and initial fills. Potential funding sources may include equity, project debt, strategic investment, offtake-linked financing, joint-venture participation or other project-level funding structures.	No development funding has been secured. There is no certainty that the required funding will be available when required, on acceptable terms or at all. Future funding may be dilutive, may impose conditions on Project ownership or development and may require additional equity support and completion or cost-overrun arrangements.
Current financial resources and next-stage funding	As at 31 July 2026 the Company had unrestricted cash of approximately AUD\$5.17m. the next proposed phase of drilling, testwork, permitting and technical studies is estimated to cost approximately A\$6.2m subject to Board approval.	Existing cash is intended to fund the next stage of technical and permitting work and is not sufficient to fund Project construction. Further capital will be required before a development decision and commencement of construction. Only cash and facilities legally available to the Company should be included.
Development pathway	The anticipated development pathway includes infill and confirmation drilling, metallurgical and geotechnical work, hydrogeological investigations, environmental baseline studies, permitting, engineering and preparation of a Pre-Feasibility Study before any development decision.	The proposed program, timing and expenditure remain subject to Board approval, permitting, contractor availability and funding. There is no certainty that the work will be completed within the currently contemplated timetable or budget.
Infrastructure	The Study assumes the development of site roads, crushing and processing facilities, heap-leach pads, solution ponds, power, water and supporting site infrastructure. The Project's location adjacent to existing mining operations may provide potential future infrastructure or commercial synergies.	No infrastructure-sharing agreement has been entered into. Infrastructure routes, capacity, connection arrangements, land access, third-party terms and costs require further engineering and commercial engagement. The Study does not rely on any uncommitted third-party infrastructure arrangement.
Water supply	Water rights considered potentially sufficient for the contemplated operation have been identified for the Project.	Sustainable well yield and the ability to supply the required volume and quality of process water have not been demonstrated. Hydrogeological drilling, pump testing, groundwater modelling and completion of a detailed site water balance are required.
Permitting and environmental approvals	The Study identifies the principal federal and Nevada approvals expected to be required, including a Bureau of Land Management Plan of Operations and associated environmental review, reclamation approval, water-pollution-control permits, air-quality permits and other construction and operating approvals.	Required approvals have not been obtained. Permitting requirements, conditions and timeframes remain uncertain and may materially affect development timing, capital costs, operating conditions, the development concept and Project viability.

Land access and title	The Project comprises lode claims, millsite claims and associated surface interests described in the Study. The financial model assumes that the Company will obtain sufficient legal rights and access to construct and operate the contemplated Project facilities.	Potential interaction between certain millsite claims and underlying third-party lode claims requires further legal and commercial resolution. The Study does not assume the availability of third-party land, infrastructure or access arrangements unless there are reasonable grounds to expect they can be obtained.
Ownership and royalties	The financial model assumes the Company's stated Project ownership and incorporates a 3% net smelter return royalty, including the assumed repurchase of 1% of the existing royalty.	The Scoping Study economic model assumes that, following completion of the Stage 2 earn-in and acquisition of the remaining 25% interest in Independence Mining LLC, Americas Gold Exploration Inc. will be granted a 2% net smelter return royalty. The Company has the contractual right to repurchase 1% of that royalty for US\$4.0 million, payable in cash or shares under the underlying agreement. For the purposes of the Study, the repurchase is assumed to occur prior to commencement of production, reducing the aggregate project NSR burden from 4% to 3%. The financial model therefore applies a 3% NSR royalty over the life of mine and should be read as conditional on completion and funding of the US\$4.0 million.
Marketing and product sale	Gold and silver doré are internationally traded products. The Study assumes production can be sold on prevailing commercial terms, subject to customary transport, refining, treatment, payable and settlement deductions.	No binding offtake or refining agreement has been entered into. Actual refining terms, deductions, transport costs, payability and commercial conditions may differ from the assumptions adopted.
Taxation and government charges	The financial model incorporates assumed US federal corporate income tax, Nevada taxes, government charges and contractual royalties applicable to the Project.	Tax outcomes may vary depending on the final ownership and financing structure, changes in tax law, available deductions and losses, and the timing and treatment of Project expenditure. The assumptions should be confirmed by appropriately qualified US tax advisers.
Closure and rehabilitation	Preliminary closure and reclamation costs of approximately ~AUD\$14m (US\$9.5m) have been included in the financial model.	Closure design, progressive rehabilitation requirements, financial assurance, bonding and final closure obligations have not been established through detailed permitting and engineering. Actual closure costs and security requirements may be materially higher.
Economic sensitivities	The Study assesses the sensitivity of Project economics to changes in gold price, capital costs, operating costs and discount rate. The financial outcomes are most sensitive to changes in the assumed gold price.	Sensitivities generally vary individual assumptions independently and do not represent all possible combinations of adverse outcomes. They should not be interpreted as defining the full range of potential Project outcomes.
Reasonable basis for further evaluation	The Board considers there are reasonable grounds to undertake further evaluation of the Project, having regard to the proportion of Indicated Mineral Resources in the Production Target, the conventional mining and processing methods contemplated, preliminary contractor and benchmark cost inputs and the indicative economic outcomes.	This assessment supports the continuation of studies only. It does not represent a conclusion that development funding is secured, that Project development is probable, that an Ore Reserve will be estimated or that the Project will ultimately be economically viable.