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BLACKTHORN RESOURCES GRANTED NEW LARGE-SCALE PROSPECTING LICENCE IN ZAMBIA

KEY POINTS

- **A large-scale prospecting licence covering ~200 sq km has been granted to Blackthorn Resources (Zambia) Ltd.**
- **The “Masafwa” Prospecting Licence area is situated adjacent to the Mumbwa Iron Oxide Copper Gold (IOCG) Project area in the Mumbwa District in the Central province of Zambia. The ground was previously held by BHP Billiton on behalf the Mumbwa JV, prior to being relinquished as part of the licence renewal process in 2009.**
- **Blackthorn Resources is currently designing a detailed work program to continue exploration at Mumbwa.**

Blackthorn Resources Limited (ASX: BTR, “the Company” or “Blackthorn Resources”) is pleased to advise that its wholly-owned subsidiary Blackthorn Resources (Zambia) Ltd has been granted a 100% holding of a large-scale prospecting licence in the Mumbwa District, Central Province in Zambia.

Masafwa Prospecting Licence

Blackthorn Resources (Zambia) Ltd applied to the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development for vacant ground following relinquishment in 2009 by the former holders BHP Billiton as part of the necessary renewal process.

The prospecting licence area is referred to as “Masafwa” and covers approximately 200 sq km. It is situated towards the northwest of the current Mumbwa project area where the Company has been actively exploring for copper and gold through its JV with BHP Billiton. This licence area is illustrated in Figure 1.

Through the grant of this strategically important ground, the Company has increased its presence in Zambia. This tenement grant will allow Blackthorn Resources the opportunity to grow its exploration activities.



Mumbwa Prospecting Licence

Recently Blackthorn Resources announced that its JV partner BHP Billiton had advised of its intention to withdraw from the Mumbwa JV. Upon its withdrawal, BHP Billiton will be entitled to a 2% production royalty from any future mining at Mumbwa.

The Mumbwa large-scale prospecting licence is currently held by BHP Billiton on behalf of the Mumbwa JV. The companies are working together to renew the Mumbwa prospecting licence for its third exploration term, prior to transferring 100% ownership of the licence to Blackthorn Resources (Zambia) Ltd.

Exploration Activities

Blackthorn Resources is currently designing a detailed exploration program covering Mumbwa and the increased area at Masafwa, and will provide details of the work program shortly.

Managing Director Scott Lowe said:

“The granting of ground additional to the current Mumbwa licence is excellent news indeed for Blackthorn Resources and marks a positive turning point with significant growth opportunity for the Company in Zambia. It provides further opportunity for unearthing value in this highly prospective area. We are making very good progress with the design of an exploration program at Mumbwa during this transition period as we manage the hand over from BHP Billiton to Blackthorn Resources. Once the details of the exploration program are finalised, we will advise the market and set to work fast tracking operations on the ground.”

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BLACKTHORN

