



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Orion Minerals wins AAMEG Award for Emerging ESG Leader

Johannesburg (5 September 2024) – Orion Minerals (Orion), a globally diversified metal explorer and developer poised to become a new-generation Australian-South African base metals producer, is honoured to have received the 2024 Australia-Africa Minerals & Energy Group's (AAMEG) Emerging ESG Leader Award.

The AAMEG Africa Awards winners were announced at a ceremony held on Thursday at the Africa Down Under conference in Perth. The AAMEG Emerging ESG Leader Award recognises Australian companies that have made outstanding contributions to environmental, social and governance (ESG) in Africa.

This year's award, Orion's third AAMEG award, recognises Orion's work in successfully developing host community service provider, Quebar Electrical and Civil Construction (Quebar), as the company progresses with site development and early mining at its flagship Prieska Copper Zinc Mine (PCZM) in South Africa's Northern Cape Province. Previously, Orion was awarded AAMEG's inaugural Emerging ESG Leader Award in 2020 and in 2023 the company was again recognised for its pioneering approach to community participation across its projects, particularly its Community Participation Framework.

Through mentorship and expert guidance, Quebar was able to increase the scope and complexity of their work and transitioned to become a core service provider in the fields of electrical and civil construction at PCZM, in both the surface infrastructure and underground mining environments.

A key focus of Quebar has been to employ and uplift members of the local community, including women and youth, by training them to become qualified electricians. At PCZM Quebar currently employs 46 people, of which 43 are from the local community. Nine of the Quebar employees at PCZM are females, which reinforces Orion's commitment to gender equality in the workplace.

“Our relationship with our local communities is just as important as the technical and commercial needs of the business. This award underpins Orion's commitment to developing



host community economic participation as we progress towards full production at PCZM," said Orion Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Errol Smart.

Orion has been a positive catalyst in its host communities – demonstrating that a junior exploration company can deliver benefits and change for the communities surrounding its operations. Quebar's growth and success exemplify the relationships Orion has built within its host communities and importantly, much-needed contribution to socio-economic development in South Africa's Northern Cape Province.

"Quebar has completed projects of the highest technical quality and is an example and a template for other community enterprises that aspire to develop into sustainable suppliers or service providers to Orion's operations," said Marcus Birch, Executive Sustainability and Business Support.

Orion continues to uphold strong ESG principles in all that it does. In addition to ensuring Orion's operations will remain viable in the long-term, prioritising the development of local suppliers also benefits the social and economic well-being of the community.

"Through its engagement on these contracts, working with the Engineering and Mining teams at PCZM, Quebar has successfully expanded its areas of competency into the underground mining environment. This will position the company to expand its horizons beyond its traditional areas of strength in the renewable energy sector and enable it to compete in the mining sector – within the rest of the Northern Cape Province and potentially throughout South Africa," Errol Smart, Orion's CEO concluded.

Ends

For editors:

Orion Minerals holds a portfolio of high-quality exploration, development and near-production assets in South Africa's Northern Cape, with Mineral Rights including known deposits of copper, zinc, nickel, cobalt, Platinum Group Elements (PGE), gold, silver, tungsten, Rare Earth Elements (REE) and lithium.



Orion Minerals

Orion's South African operations are in the Northern Cape province:

- Prieska Copper Zinc Mine (PCZM) – situated approximately 3km south of Copperton and 53km south-west of the town of Prieska.
- Okiep Copper Project (OCP) - located near Springbok and 450km west of PCZM.
- Jacomynspan Nickel-Copper-Cobalt-PGE sulphide (JMP) project - located near the town of Prieska and 65km north of PCZM.

In Australia, Orion has an exploration joint venture with IGO Limited in the world-class Fraser Range Province.

For more information, please visit www.orionminerals.com.au