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Orion Minerals selected for BHP Xplor's 2026 Accelerator Program

- Orion has been selected to be part of the 2026 BHP Xplor accelerator program.
- Various South African project companies, in which Orion has an interest, will receive an aggregate of US\$500,000 in equity-free funding.
- The BHP Xplor Program provides Orion and its various South African exploration project companies access to BHP's global exploration expertise and networks.
- The BHP Xplor Program will support advancement of geological concepts at Orion's portfolio of exploration projects in South Africa's Northern Cape Province.

Orion Minerals Limited (**ASX/JSE: ORN**) (**Orion** or the **Company**) is pleased to announce that a number of its South African exploration project companies have been selected to join the 2026 BHP Xplor accelerator program (**Program**). This year's cohort includes the largest number of exploration and technology projects since the Program began in 2023, reflecting strong global interest in progressing early-stage concepts for future-facing commodities.

As part of the Program, a number of Orion's South African exploration project companies will receive an aggregate equity-free grant of US\$500,000, access to BHP's technical specialists and structured support to advance geological concepts at its Northern Cape Exploration projects in South Africa.

Orion's flagship Prieska Copper Zinc Mine and the New Okiep Mining Company 'Flat Mines Project' are not participants in the Program, as these projects are further advanced, with development plans in place.

Tony Lennox, Orion Managing Director and CEO said:

"This is a significant milestone for Orion and a strong endorsement of the potential of our Northern Cape exploration portfolio. Being selected for the 2026 BHP Xplor Program provides access to technical expertise, experienced mentors and industry perspectives that will help us strengthen our geological understanding and progress our current program of work. The structure and support available through the Program will assist us in refining our approach, assessing key uncertainties and building capability within our team in pursuit of new discoveries. We welcome the opportunity to work with BHP and the other cohort participants over the months ahead."

Tim O'Connor, BHP Group Exploration Officer, said:

"Orion demonstrated a clear and well-supported geological concept, with potential in a future-facing commodity. Their technical approach, combined with the capability of their team and their commitment to disciplined testing, make them a strong addition to this year's cohort. The Xplor program supports early-stage explorers who are working to progress and mature their concepts. We look forward to supporting Orion as they advance their work through the Program."

Marley Palin, Head of BHP Xplor, said:

"The exploration companies joining this year's cohort presented concepts supported by well-considered technical thinking and strong fundamentals. Orion showed a clear commitment to progressing their projects responsibly and

systematically, which aligns with the focus of the Xplor program. Our aim is to provide early-stage explorers with access to the expertise, tools and guidance needed at this point in their development. We are pleased to welcome Orion to the 2026 cohort."

For and on behalf of the Board.



Tony Lennox
Managing Director & CEO

ENQUIRIES

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