



**National Stock Exchange
Company Announcements Office**

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By E-Lodgement

Meridien wishes to advise that it has reached a provisional agreement on commercial terms with Australasian Nominees Pty Ltd to acquire Manganese NSW Pty Ltd which holds an exclusive right to acquire up to a 100% interest in the Doherty Manganese Project (Exploration License 7761-formerly EL 4184). No formal documents have been entered into and the transaction is non-binding at present.

This potential acquisition is a key part of the company's strategy to move its listing from the NSX to ASX first half of 2013.

The Doherty Manganese Project ("Project") is located in NSW, 75 kilometres north of Tamworth. The tenement covers 189.7 square kilometres and was granted on 11 June 2011.

There are numerous recorded mineral occurrences within the Project including manganese, gold, copper, chromite and diamonds. The Project hosts the two largest historic manganese mines in New South Wales – the Doherty and Junior manganese mines located in the northeast corner of the license (refer Figure 1).

Mineralisation at Doherty reportedly extends up to 300 metres in length whilst Junior, located 2.4 kilometres south west of Doherty, has been worked for a strike length of approximately 60 metres.

No drilling has been reported around either of these historic mines and recent field investigations indicate potential for extensions to the mineralisation. The apparently high specific gravity suggests that industry standard bulk mining and gravity beneficiation may be applied to a commercial operation subject to sufficient reserve tonnages being identified.

Furthermore, there are numerous other recorded significant occurrences of manganese occurring throughout the project, particularly in the northern half of the tenement. In close proximity, to the south west lies the King Solomon goldfield which host several historic gold mines and workings. These, together with the Spring Creek and Wilpena Copper Mines have yet to be assessed.

The Doherty Project area is geologically divided into two structural elements which are separated by the Peel Fault system. This thrust fault zone consists of highly faulted, folded and altered serpentinite, andesite, cherty to clastic sediments and limestone. The ultramafics form the Great Serpentinite Belt, comprising the Woodsreef Formation including, serpentinite, gabbro and harzburgite units. The Woolomin Group (including the Nagahrah and Bobs Creek Formations) are predominantly cherty beds that cover a large area of the Doherty Project, east of the Peel Fault.

The northeast corner of the Doherty Project is dominated by the Permian Bundarra Plutonic Suite which consists of coarse to very coarse grained, porphyritic & equigranular biotite-muscovite-

garnet granites. The units west of the Peel Fault are Carboniferous mudstones and siltstones, making up the Namio and Lowana Formations and the Noumea Beds.

The manganese deposits of the New England Fold Belt are developed as stratiform and locally discordant manganese oxide lenses inter-layered with Middle Silurian to Early Carboniferous, deep-water marine sediments and in some cases, basaltic lavas.

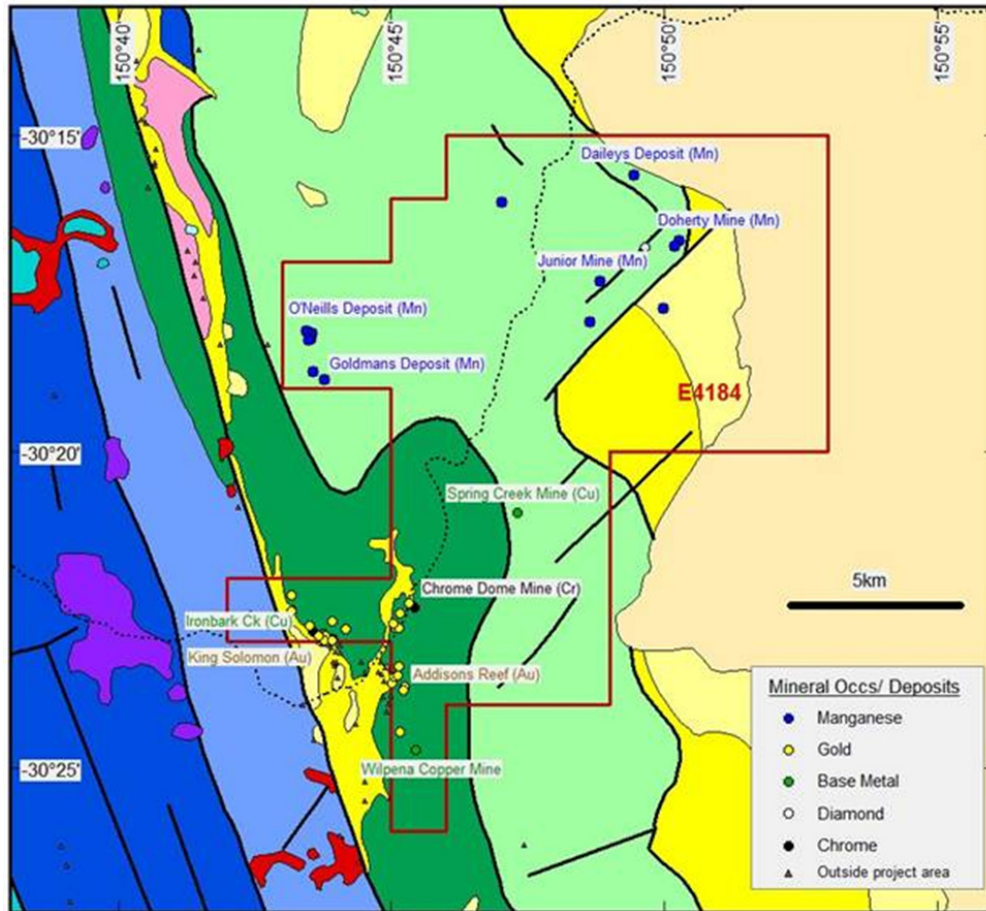


Figure 1: Geology of Project Area

**For More Information
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