



PROTO

RESOURCES & INVESTMENTS LTD

**BARNES HILL PROJECT
TASMANIA
EL17/2006**

ANNUAL EXPLORATION REPORT
8TH AUGUST 2012 TO 7TH AUGUST 2013

Tenement Holder/Manager
Proto Resources & Investments Ltd

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Proto Resources & Investments Ltd

Note: All figures and grids are according to the GDA94 datum and MGA94 grid system.



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SUMMARY

The Barnes Hill Project (EL17/2006) is located in northern Tasmania, 5km west of the township of Beaconsfield. The exploration licence covers an area of 79km².

The main focus of Proto Resources & Investments Ltd ("Proto") at the Barnes Hill Project is laterite nickel-cobalt mineralisation. The project area contains a 12.5 million tonne ("mt") Australasian Joint Ore Reserves Committee ("JORC") compliant indicated resource at 0.83% Ni & 0.07% Co (calculated by Douglas McKenna and Partners Pty Ltd, 2006). This laterite resource is owned and managed by Proto and consists of three interconnected mineral deposits known as Barnes Hill - contained on mining lease 1872P/M, and Mt Vulcan and Scott's Hill deposits - both contained by exploration licence EL17/2006.

The Barnes Hill Project is the priority focus of Proto and joint venture partner Metals Finance Corporation ("MFC"). The partners aim to develop an open pit mining operation at Barnes Hill with processing and production of nickel, cobalt and iron metals on site.

Since purchase of the project, Proto has reclassified the previously defined mineral resource to JORC indicated status; secured historic databases including drilling and geochemistry; purchased detailed Satellite imagery including ASTER multi-channel and Quick-bird visual band (60cm cell) datasets; undertaken extensive resource Air Core drilling and Diamond coring programmes; commenced metallurgical test work studies; completed a regional soil sampling program; undertaken flora & fauna studies; completed Aboriginal heritage and European heritage surveys; been granted an adjoining exploration licence EL53/2008 at Dazzler Range, to the west of EL17/2006; lodged a mining lease application over the Barnes Hill laterite deposit within the boundaries of EL17/2006; lodged a Notice of Intent application ("NOI") and completed studies for submission of a Development Proposal and Environmental Management Plan ("DPEMP"). In June 2011, the Tasmanian Government granted the mining lease application as 1872P/M.

Work planned for the coming year is to include follow up Air Core drilling to historic drilling programs at the Scotts Hill and Mt Vulcan prospects, associated bulk sample collection of lateritic iron, nickel and cobalt materials for metallurgical test work, follow up geochemistry work to the previous geochemical soil sampling programs conducted previously by Proto throughout EL17/2006 and EL53/2008.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Barnes Hill Project is located in northern Tasmania and contains a 12.5mt JORC compliant indicated resource at 0.83% Nickel (Ni) and 0.07% Cobalt (Co). The resource is made up of three interconnected resources known as the Barnes Hill, Mt Vulcan and Scott's Hill deposits (see Figure 1).

Recent advances in leaching techniques and the proximity of the project to grid power, roads, water, port facilities and a work force make the Barnes Hill Project a valuable addition to Proto's asset register. The project comes with a clear development path focused on upgrading confidence in the current resource estimate and metallurgical testing of the ore to determine the most viable processing technique.

In response to the NOI lodged by Proto for the Barnes Hill project with the Board of the EPA, and in accordance to the February 2010 DPEMP Guidelines received from the EPA Board, Proto submitted a DPEMP in 2010 for the Barnes Hill project. Subsequently in June 2011, the Tasmanian Government granted the mining lease application for the Barnes Hill Project – Mining Lease 1872P/M (see Figure 3).

Exploration completed during the reporting period has included planning of a geochemical soil sampling programme, geological reviews and finance reviews by Proto Management of a budget for the proposed programmes planned over the next reporting period.

2 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND TENURE

The Barnes Hill tenement EL17/2006 covers an area of 79km² and was granted on 8th August 2006 for a period of five years. The tenement is entering its second extension of term application at the time of this report.

Tasmanian Government land status plans show that EL17/2006 is covered by both Crown and Private Land. The Crown Land is variously classified. The main areas of private land relevant to the known Ni-Co resource areas are in the east and the north. Exploration and mining are permitted on Private Land but must be preceded by negotiation of an access and compensation agreement with the landowner. This agreement must be concluded in writing and lodged with Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT).

Most of the Crown Land is classified either as Multiple Use Forest ("MUF") or Recommended Area for Protection ("RAP"), both administered by the Forestry Commission. Several reserves and mining tenements also exist within the area of EL17/2006.

Superimposed over much of the licence area is the Mt Vulcan - Simmonds Hill Australian Heritage Act ("AHA") Registered Entry. This AHA area covers both Private and Crown Land. Whilst AHA areas do affect some conditions of exploration access, this classification does not represent significant impediment to access. The prime reason for the AHA and Dans Hill Recommended Area for Protection ("RAP") areas is to protect two plant species: *Tetratheca gunni* and *Epacris virgata*.

Exploration on a RAP is possible, and has occurred during past exploration, but is subject to program approval and conditions. With good planning and supervision, a RAP should not be an impediment to exploration activities.

There are gravel reserves on EL 17/2006 which may or may not be subject to the Mining Act. They are usually held by government authorities for road works and can generally be accessed for exploration by negotiation.

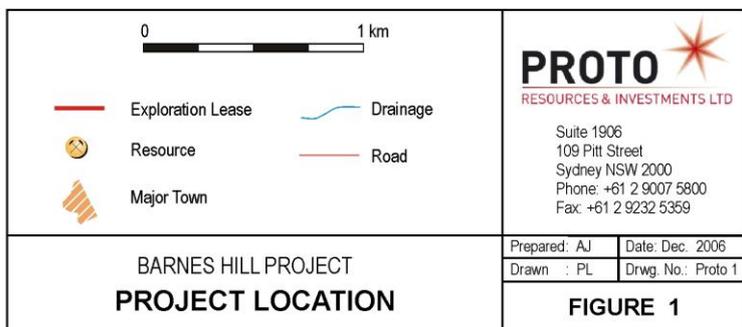
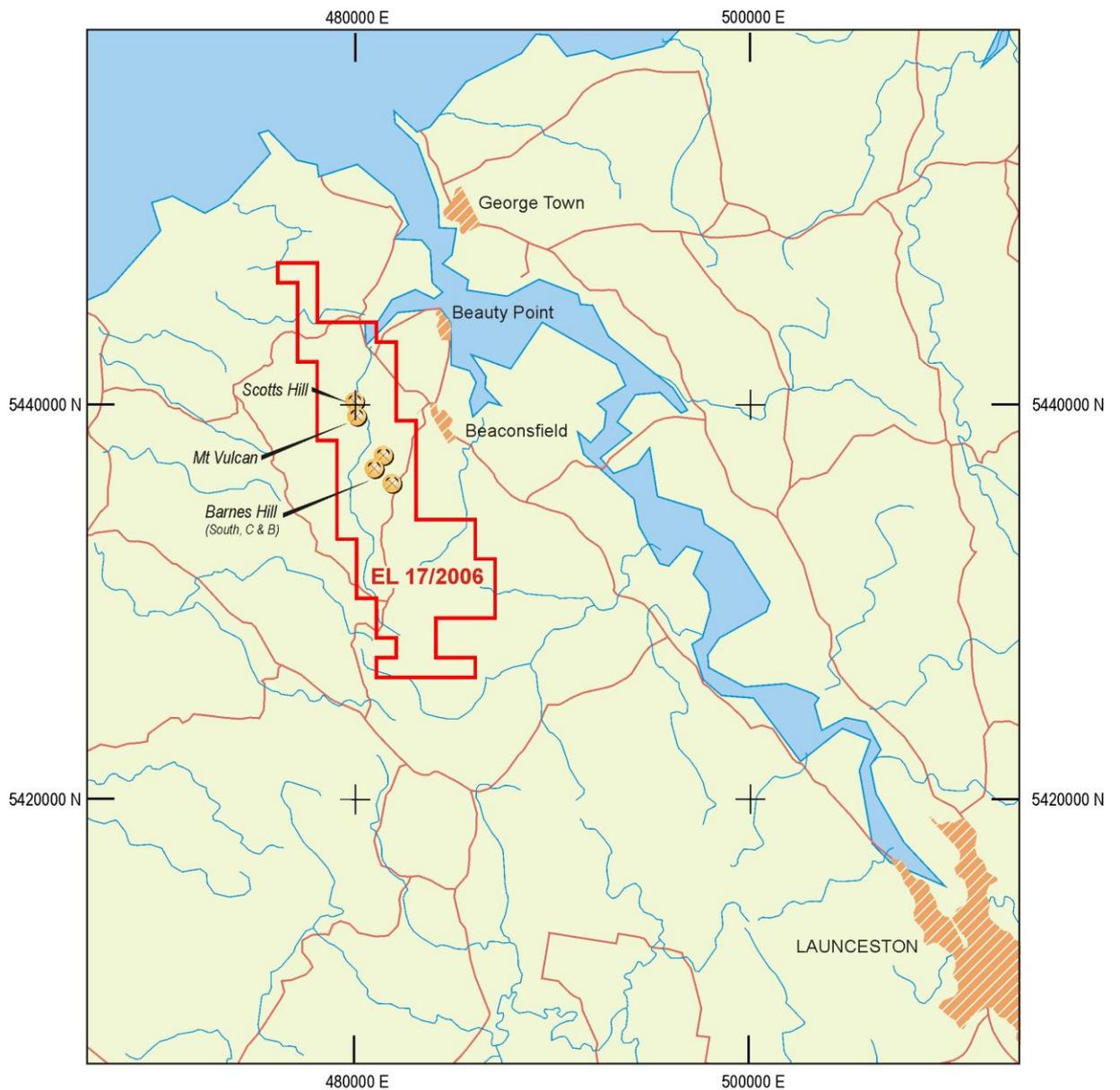


Figure 1. Barnes Hill Project & EL17/2006 location map.

3 ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Barnes Hill EL17/2006 licence is located approximately 30km north of Launceston and 5km west of Beaconsfield near the Tamar River in northern Tasmania (see Figure 1).

The Barnes Hill tenement can be accessed via a number of gazetted roads on the western side of the Tamar River. The Barnes Hill resource can be directly accessed using either Hinds or Tattersall's roads, just west of Beaconsfield.

A wide range of infrastructure and heavy industry occurs in the district including the nearby Beaconsfield Gold mining operation, the Bell Bay Power Station, the Temco Magnesium Refinery and the Bell Bay Alumina Refinery. The area also has deep water port facilities at Bell Bay and Beauty Point along with rail facilities. The regional City of Launceston has a population of over 90 thousand people and offers all the services of a major regional city including airport, university and advanced engineering facilities.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Allegiance Mining, Jervois Mining and Placeco Australia have all recognised and tabled the existence of endangered flora species in the Barnes Hill area, including *Tetratheca gunni* and *Epacris virgata*.

From existing work it seems *Tetratheca gunni* is present in only three known locations, none of these occurring over the Ni-Co resource areas. *Epacris virgata* is more widely distributed including parts of the Scott's Hill and Mt Vulcan Ni-Co resource areas.

Proto has engaged North Barker Ecosystem Services to assist with environmental assessment and requirements for exploration permitting. A "Botanical Survey and Fauna Habitat Assessment" report by North Barker on the three nickel-cobalt laterite deposit areas was included in a previous annual report for EL17/2006, and this annual report includes an additional report by North Barker which concludes that the mine plan and processing layout have successfully avoided the highest value plant populations and have minimized the environmental impact (see appendix 4).

5 GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The Barnes Hill tenement sits in the Badger Head region of northern Tasmania, an important structural location, considered to be the area in which the Tamar Fracture System separates the western and eastern Tasmanian terrains. The area has a complex nature, a result of thrusting during the Devonian and later normal faulting in the Jurassic and Tertiary. The Precambrian Badger Head Block possibly overlies younger units of the Cambrian Port Sorell Block. The ACC is considered to be a thrust slice caught up in this deformation. The magnetic data over the area is dominated by the response of the ACC with much of the surrounding geology having only subtle responses (see Figure 2). Gravity is also dominated by the considerable differences in density between the Precambrian, Cambrian and later Devonian and Permian units. The Devonian geology also contains granites of that age with stark density contrasts to surrounding units especially the ultramafics.

Further to the east Ordovician Cabbage Tree Formation is thrust over the ACC, and further east again the Beaconsfield Gold field sits on the western side of the Tamar River in possibly a zone of Devonian aged Mathinna beds. The Beaconsfield gold mineralisation has a similar nature to Mainland-Victorian quartz reef gold systems.

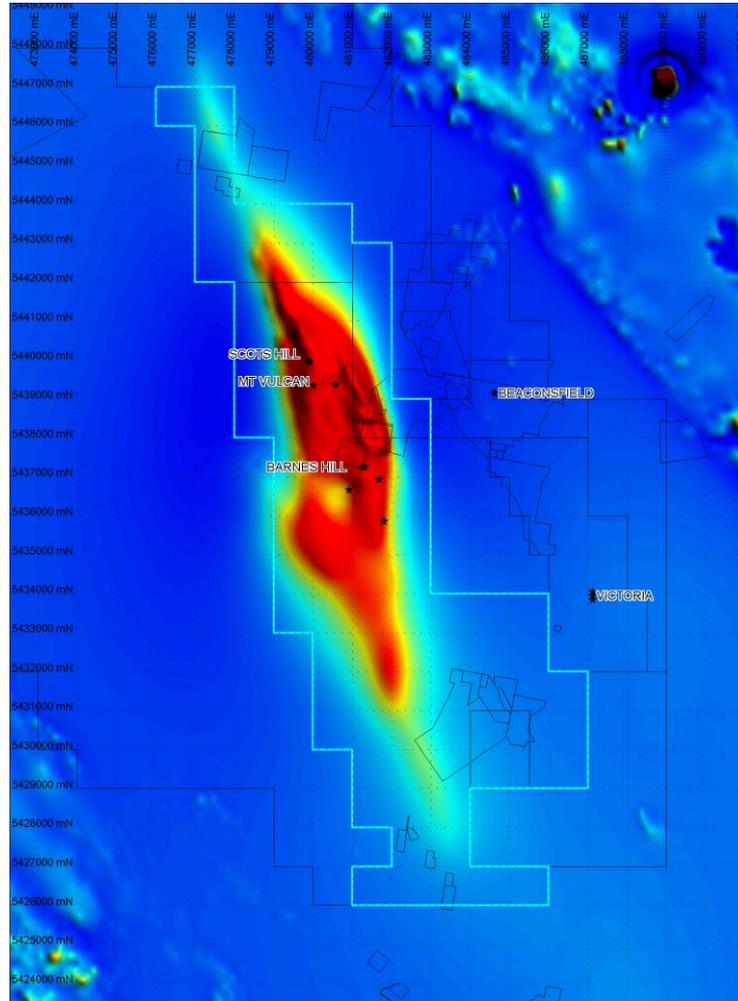


Figure 2. EL17/2006 boundaries with total magnetic intensity background showing extent of the ACC.

5.1 Tenement Geology / Nickel Laterite Geology

Precambrian metamorphosed graywackes and sub-graywackes outcrop along the western extremities of EL 17/2006.

Cambrian aged schist's and micaceous sandstone are found faulted against the Precambrian Badger Head stratigraphy and ACC to the east. These units are considered similar to the Sorell Block characterised by sandstones, graywackes, siltstones and slates (see figure 3 for regional geology groups).

The Andersons Creek Complex (ACC) is a layered wedge of Cambrian mafic and ultramafic stratigraphy consisting mainly of serpentinite, pyroxenite and gabbro (see Figure 3 for Cambrian Ultramafics distribution on EL17/2006). It has been thrust into a sequence of Cambrian sediments lying on the eastern margin of the Badger Head Precambrian Block. The ACC is probably Early Cambrian in age (neo-Cambrian) and one of 15 discrete ultramafic/mafic complexes found mainly on the north-west and west coasts of Tasmania.

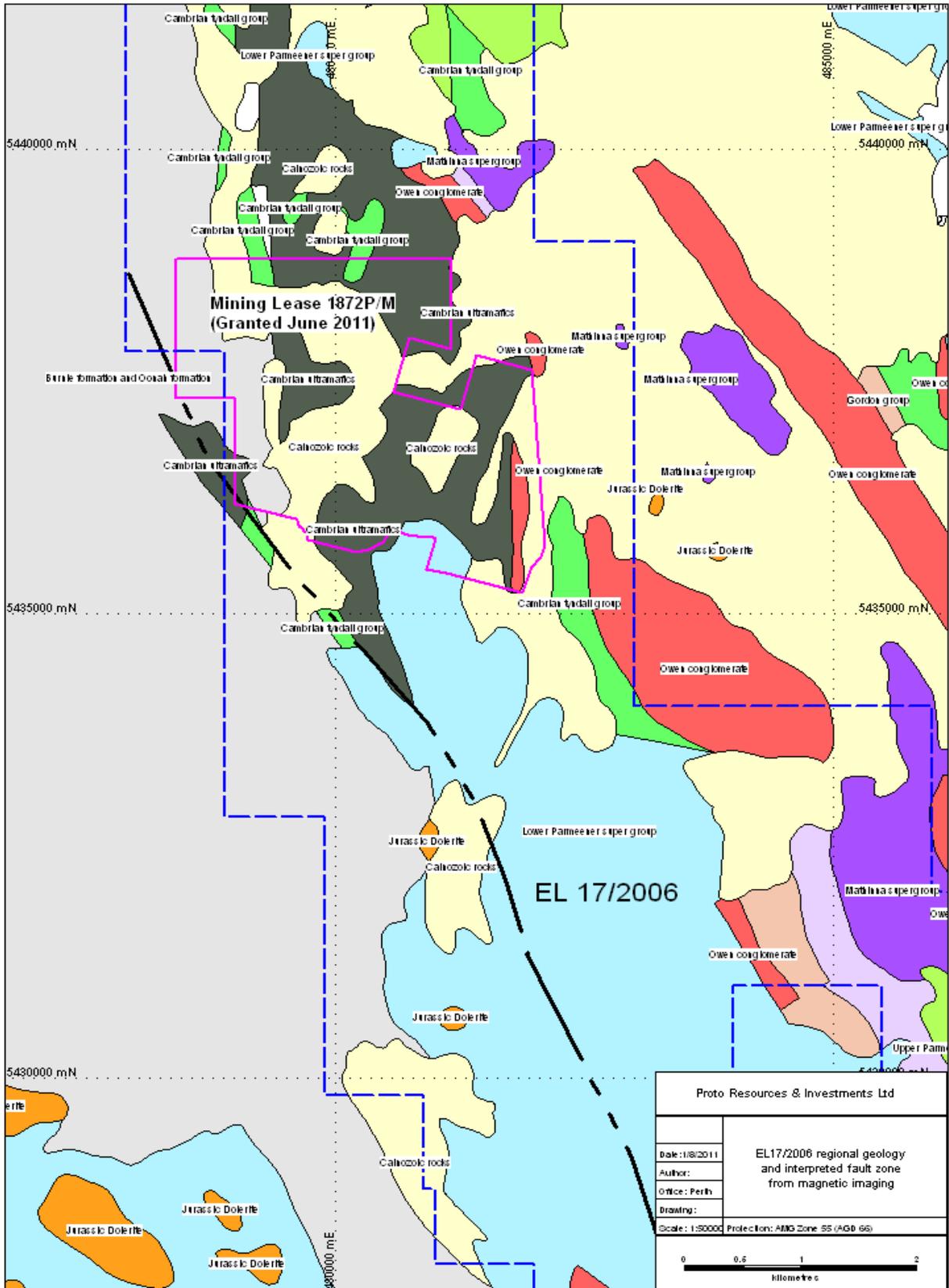


Figure 3. Regional Geological rock unit groups and interpreted fault zone from the magnetic imaging.

Upper Palaeozoic tectonism has resulted in Ordovician Cabbage Tree Formation sediments being thrust over the eastern margin of the ultramafics.

Aero-magnetics show the ACC as being a NNW trending lozenge shaped body approximately 20 km long and up to 3 km wide (see Figure 2). It outcrops over a NNW length of 6.5 km, a width of 1.5 km, and plunges to the north and south beneath Permian sediments.

The ACC has been extensively and variably altered. Serpentinisation is pervasive, and probably reflects alteration of peridotites and gabbros. In the Scott's Hill area, a pyroxenite has been described as having been replaced by amphibole and then altered to talc, magnetite and calcite.

In the Barnes Hill South area, a rock called rodingite has been formed as the result of lime metasomatism of coarse hornblende gabbro prior to serpentinisation.

Various weathering profiles with differing mineral assemblages and metal concentrations are developed on the ultramafic complex. An appreciation of the ultramafic weathering profile is important because they contain most of the higher grade Ni-Co mineralisation. In the Barnes Hill-Mt Vulcan area, the weathering profile consists of an upper zone of secondary iron oxides (goethite, hematite, limonite) overlying a clay rich zone dominated by smectite, weathered serpentinite and chlorite, which in turn overlies fresh serpentinite. Meteoric waters periodically leached soluble ions from the surface (lateritic) zone and enriched these ions (Ni) in the clay zone at the base of the weathering profile, producing distinctive material types (see Table 1).

Table 1. Idealised Barnes Hill lateritic weathering profile

<u>Laterites</u>	Pisolitic Zone	Hard ironstone with red clay matrix
	Ferruginous Red Zone	Soft red clay, pisolitic grains and black ironstone
	Limonitic Yellow Zone	Soft yellow-orange clay with some red clay
	Mottled Zone	Soft bright red, brown, yellow, purple clay with black and white specks
<u>Clays</u>	Transition Zone	Soft decomposed green serpentinite with minor red clay
	Bleached Zone	Soft, pale yellow green serpentinite with some magnetite.
<u>Serpentinite</u>	Fresh Zone	Moderately hard dark green serpentinite

Most of the Ni > 1% occurs in the Transition Zone and to a slightly lesser extent in the Mottled and Bleached Zones. The Ni is largely contained in clay (smectite), serpentinite and chlorite.

In the Scott's Hill area, the pyroxenite has been extensively replaced by amphibole, then altered to talc, magnesite and calcite which has then weathered to clay and chlorite. Ni is contained in talc, chlorite and serpentinite.

In the Barnes Hill South area, work completed in the late 1950s by Enterprise Exploration suggests the Ni (up to 3%) is concentrated in weathered serpentinite adjacent to rodingite dykes in this area. Rodingite formed as a result of lime metasomatism of coarse hornblende-gabbro dykes, prior to pervasive serpentinisation. Garnierite (hydrous nickel silicate) was developed as colloform growth layers often associated with opal. Secondary enrichment depth of Ni is highly variable with its deepest known to occur adjacent to rodingite dykes, because of the high relative permeability adjacent to these contact zones.

Ni in the Barnes Hill South area was therefore thought to occur as garnierite, in serpentinite, chlorite and hydrated iron oxides. Thus, in the three areas, Scott's Hill-Mt Vulcan, Barnes Hill and Barnes Hill South, Ni possibly occurs as different species, concentrated in different hosts in the weathering profiles of different ultramafic host rocks. However, whilst there is mineralogical and host variation, a common feature is that the greatest concentration of Ni occurs in thick clay within partly decomposed serpentinite zones towards the base of lateritic weathering profiles. Substantial tonnages of this favorable zone are only likely to exist beneath the protective cover of either ferruginous laterite caps, or transported Tertiary-aged gravels, either of which may be concealed beneath sediments of Quaternary age.

Ordovician Junee Group consists of sandstone, siltstone, slate, limestone, quartzites and quartz conglomerates. Locally the tenement covers the Blyth's Creek Formation and Cabbage Tree Conglomerate, Caroline Creek Sandstone and Gordon Limestone all of the Junee Group.

Permian Sediments are reasonably abundant in the tenement area lying unconformably over older stratigraphy. Units include the Quamby, Golden Valley, Mersey, Woodbridge and Ferntree groups and Cynet Coal measures.

Tertiary Sediments consist mainly of sandy clays and sandstones and north of Beaconsfield white quartz gravels. The laterite formed over the Andersons Creek Complex Ultramafics was formed in the Tertiary.

Igneous Rocks other than the ACC, include minor Jurassic dolerite and Tertiary basalt. Tertiary basalt overlies Tertiary sediments in most cases. Both dolerite and basalt form magnetic features in the regional magnetic data, however their responses are much less significant than the dominant ACC magnetic response.

6 EXPLORATION HISTORY

Substantial exploration has been carried out over the last 50 years. A summary table below has been compiled by assessing old reports and specifically compilations made by Lindsay Newham (1997). King Island Scheelite (KIS), Allegiance Mining, Jervois Mining and Proto Resources have completed most of the recent work on the Barnes Hill Ni-Co laterites.

Table 2 Summary of historic exploration activities

Company	Start	Finish	Focus	Work Completed	Results	Conclusion	Report/EL
Proto Resources & Investments Ltd	2008	2011	Lateritic Ni, Co	Resource drilling at Barnes Hill laterite deposit	12.5 million tonne JORC compliant indicated resource at 0.83% Nickel and 0.07% Cobalt (no cut-offs applied)	Ongoing metallurgical recovery testwork, DPEMP & mining lease application	EL17/2006
Jervois Mining	2001	2004	Ni, Co	Re-assaying, campsite sampling for met work	12.5 Mt at 1.07%Ni combined (Ni Co)	spending and budget pressure meant area dropped to focus on other projects	ETA 504
Allegiance	1996	2000	Ni, Co	Historical data compilation, Shallow drilling, Resource calculation environmental studies, metallurgical studies, 116 air core and 8 diamond holes		Low Ni prices and restricted tenement meant re focus on other projects	97_4013

CRA Exploration	1994	1995	NiS	Rock Chip surveys and IP survey	Rock chip sample 1.7% Ni in Serpentinite	not considered economic.	EL35/92
Placeco Australia	1988	1988	PGM, Au	Rock Chips composite sand samples	Failed to detect economic quantities of target minerals	No sampling of Laterite	EL 18/87
Northern Chromite	1969	1981	Cr	Cr production on western flank of Barnes hill, drilling at Rifle Range south	660,000t at 12% Cr defined at Rifle Range and Barnes Hill	Mined Cr no Ni production	
Department of Mines	1979	1980	Cr	16 percussion holes, serpentinite clays intersected but not tested		Reconnaissance Cr drilling	
Allstate Exploration	1971	1972	Ashb	15 Core holes and trenching	tope weathered section (Laterite not sampled)	No Ni Focus	
King Island Scheelite	1968	1969	Ni, Co, Cr	37 Holes , metallurgy test work resource calculation, environmental studies	6.014 long tonnes @1.04%ni and 0.06% Co	sub economic in terms of size	69_544
BHP Minerals	1965	1967	Fe, Ni, Cu, Zn, Mb, Cr, limestone	Stream sediment sampling, aero magnetic survey, Drilling, trenching, 99 - 3m deep pits	Drilling intersected magnetite bearing serpentinite. (CRA re-sampling in 1994 assayed 3m at 1g/t Au)	Sub economic mineral grades in all elements tested.	67_465
Consolidated Zinc	1957	1958	Ni	Series of auger samples at 100ft and 200ft intervals focused on previous work by Ben Lomond mining intervals resulting in	Intersected Ni grades between 1.2 to 1.8%	Didn't meet expected grade of 2.5%Ni considered economic at time.	58_0195
Ben Lomond Mining	1955	1956	Ni	Reconnaissance Sampling	Results showed Ni rich clays developed on Mafics/serpentinites were more wide spread than previously known.	JV sort with Consolidated Zinc.	
Department of Mines	1929	1929	Ni	13 holes - location information sketchy	Difficulty in locating holes	Reconnaissance Ni laterite drilling	

6.1 Barnes Hill Nickel Laterite Resource

Previous explorers of the Barnes Hill laterite have drilled 161 holes including 37 diamond drill holes for approximately 580 meters in the late 1960's. More recently, Allegiance Mining drilled 1178.4 meters in 116 aircore holes along with eight diamond drill holes in 1997. The laterites have been drilled at a density of 100 to 150 meter centres.

The nickel laterite is developed above serpentinites of the ACC. Three separate deposits are known in the area, Barnes Hill, Mt Vulcan and Scott's Hill.

Resources have been calculated using both KIS and Allegiance assay data. The lithologies are based on re-logging of the Allegiance sample chip trays. A summary of the resources is given below:

Table 3 Combined Resources for the Barnes Hill, Mt Vulcan and Scott's Hill Deposits

Lithology	Ni	Co	Tonnes	%Ni	Percentage		
	%	%		Equivalent	Tonnes	Ni	Co
Hematite	0.63	0.12	167,657	1.05	1.3%	1.0%	2.3%
Limonite	0.39	0.12	794,699	0.81	6.4%	3.0%	11.3%
Saprolite	0.88	0.07	9,213,728	1.13	73.8%	77.7%	75.9%
Weathered Serpentinite		0.82	0.042,301,870		0.96	18.5%	18.3%
	10.5%						
Totals	0.83	0.07	12,477,955	1.07			

The parameters used in the calculations were:

Area	Plan Polygonal Blocks
Volume	Area x drill thickness
Density	1.8
Minimum Thickness	2m
Cut-off Grade	0.6% Ni Equivalent (= %Ni + 3.5 x %Co)
Assay Grade	Averaged per drill hole
Minimum Overburden	1m
Overburden Ratio	0.9:1

From the calculations above it can be extrapolated that 96% of the nickel and 86.4% of the cobalt occur in the saprolite and weathered serpentinite lithologies. Furthermore, the Barnes Hill saprolite and weathered serpentinite holds 8.3 million tonnes (66.8% of total tonnage) containing 72.5% of the nickel and 57.4% of the cobalt. (Douglas McKenna & Partners Pty Ltd)

6.2 Barnes Hill Metallurgy

Allegiance Mining submitted nine composite samples to Amdel Laboratories for high pressure acid leach metallurgical testing (two from Scott's Hill, three from Mt Vulcan and four from Barnes Hill). The samples averaged 1.16% nickel oxide (0.91% nickel) and 920ppm cobalt. Lithologically this composition is fairly close to the resources calculated above, although the nickel and cobalt grades are slightly higher.

The results of the High Pressure Acid Leach ("HPAL") testing were good (especially when considered as preliminary testwork) with high recoveries and low acid consumption. Tests were done at 2400°C and 2600°C producing the following average recoveries after two hours of leaching:

Table 4 HPAL Testwork Results for the Barnes Hill, Mt Vulcan and Scott's Hill Deposits

Temperature	Recovered Ni	Recovered Co	Acid Consumption (kg/t)
2400°C	89%	83%	397
2600°C	92%	93%	326

6.3 Previous Exploration by Proto Resources & Investments Ltd

Exploration completed by Proto since grant of EL17/2006 has included:

- Completion of a high level review of the Barnes Hill Project and drillhole database by Snowden Mining Industry Consultants.
- An aircore drilling program (17 holes for 202m) completed to validate historic drilling results and to provide samples for metallurgical testwork.
- Planning of a resource drilling programme at Barnes Hill.
- Detailed flora and fauna assessment of the resource areas by North Barker Ecosystem Services,
- Cutting and assaying of some historic diamond core holes held at the MRT Rockstore in Mornington,
- Ongoing metallurgical test work at HRL Testing in Brisbane,
- A regional soil sampling program consisting of 429 samples taken along 400m spaced east-west lines.
- The first phase of a resource drilling program which consisted of 75 air core drill holes (BHA001 – 075) for 1,080m.
- A second phase of the resource air core drilling program consisting of 549 drill holes for a total of 4,839m. The hole numbers completed were BHA076 through to BHA625. Hole number BHA288 was not drilled. A close-spaced programme (10m spaced) of grade control drilling along an east-west and north-south line was also completed to verify grade and thickness variations at the deposit (holes BHA478 – BHA582).
- Aboriginal heritage and European heritage surveys of the proposed mining area.
- Column leach test work on further air core drilling samples from the Barnes Hill deposit.
- A work program of 247 proposed infill air core drill holes to existing historic drilling at Scotts Hill and Mt Vulcan was lodged to Mineral Resources Tasmania in August 2011 (see attached appendix 1 for details). The approval for this program is based on the combined outcome of a European and Aboriginal heritage survey, as well as a detailed flora and fauna assessment survey. The approval for the program remains outstanding at the date of this report.
- European and Aboriginal heritage surveys were conducted by Cultural Heritage Management Australia, throughout the proposed air core drilling areas during November 2011, and the final assessment reports completed in December 2011.
- A detailed flora and fauna survey over the proposed drilling areas was conducted by North Barker Ecosystem Services in October 2011, and a final assessment report completed in November 2011.

For a more detailed description of Proto's previous exploration activities at the Barnes Hill EL17/2006 project please refer to previous annual reports by the company.

7 EXPLORATION COMPLETED DURING THE PERIOD

Exploration completed during this reporting period has included:

- a.** Geological reviews and budget financing assessments by Proto Management, for the proposed infill Air Core drilling programmes at the Mt Vulcan and Scotts Hill laterite resources (see Figure 5);
- b.** Preliminary planning for a proposed laterite bulk sampling programme including a review of historic diamond core sampling sites, assays and metallurgical test results, conducted by King Island Scheelite in 1967-68 and by Allegiance Mining in 1997-98 (see Figure 5);
- c.** Design of a proposed infill and extensional geochemical soil sampling programme, with a focus on the potential for bedrock Cu-Pb-Zn mineralization to occur along the magnetic interpreted fault zone (see Figures 3, 5, 6 and 7).

The soil sampling programme is a follow-on from previous soil sampling programmes conducted by Proto, on EL17/2006 and the Dazzler Range tenement EL53/2008, whereby an association of elevated values for copper-lead and zinc geochemistry has been discovered along a zone defined by the underlying regional bedrock-fault trend, interpreted from regional magnetics data.

To ensure overall geochemical database integrity and reliability, the same soil sampling methodology and assaying techniques used previously, will be utilised in this programme.

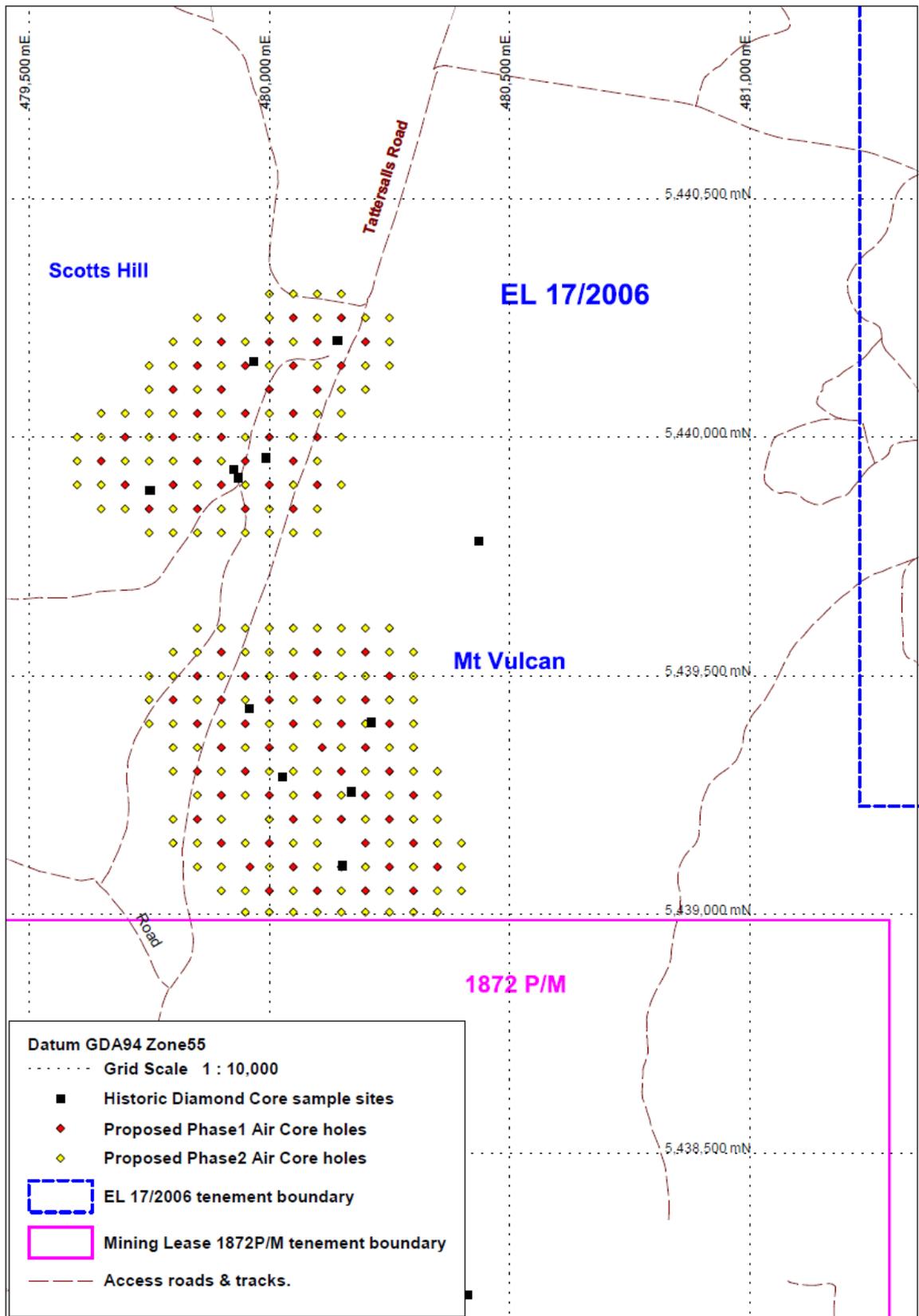


Figure 4. Locations of proposed Air Core drilling programme and historic diamond core sample sites.

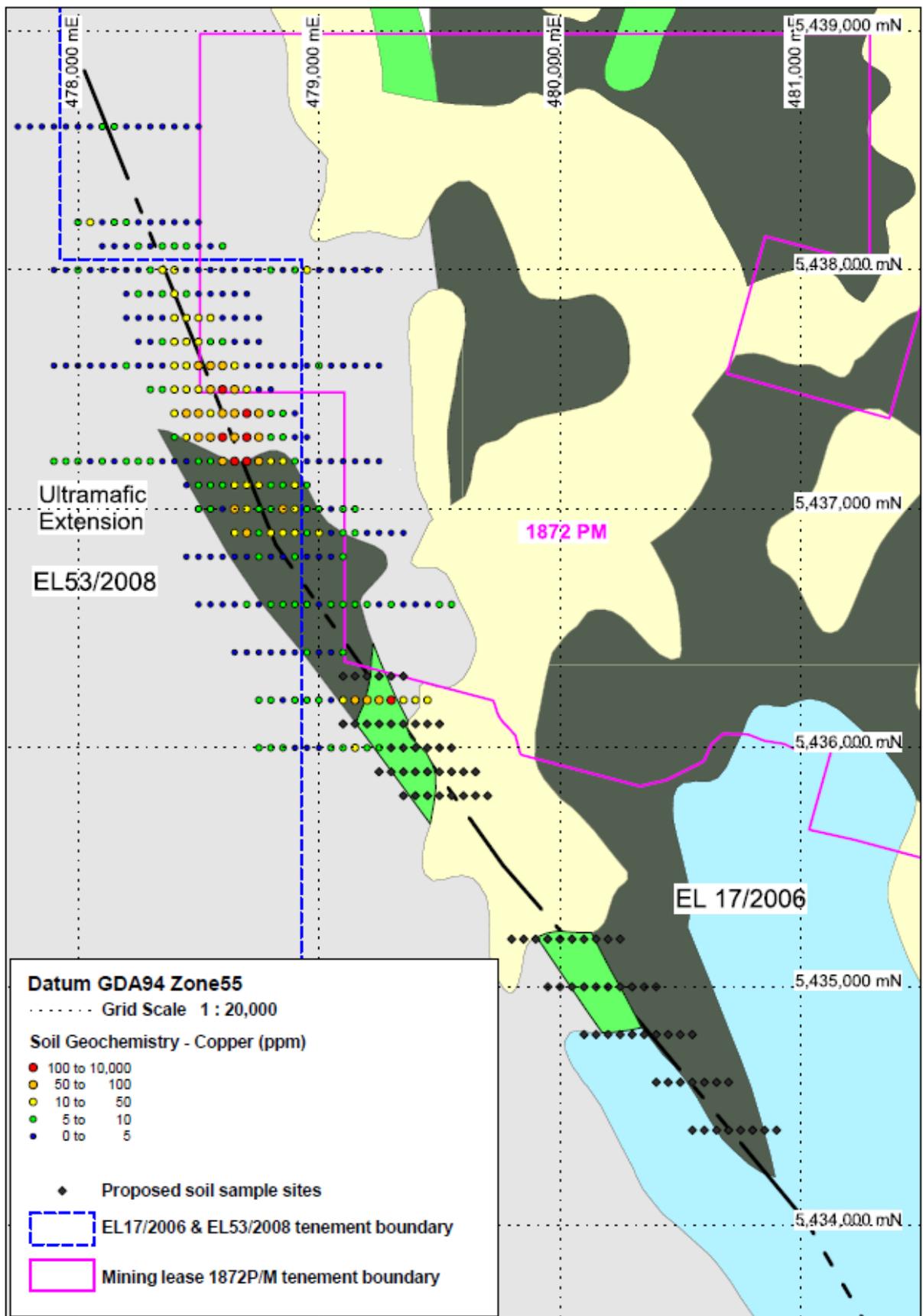


Figure 5. Proposed soil sampling programme and existing Copper soil geochemistry.

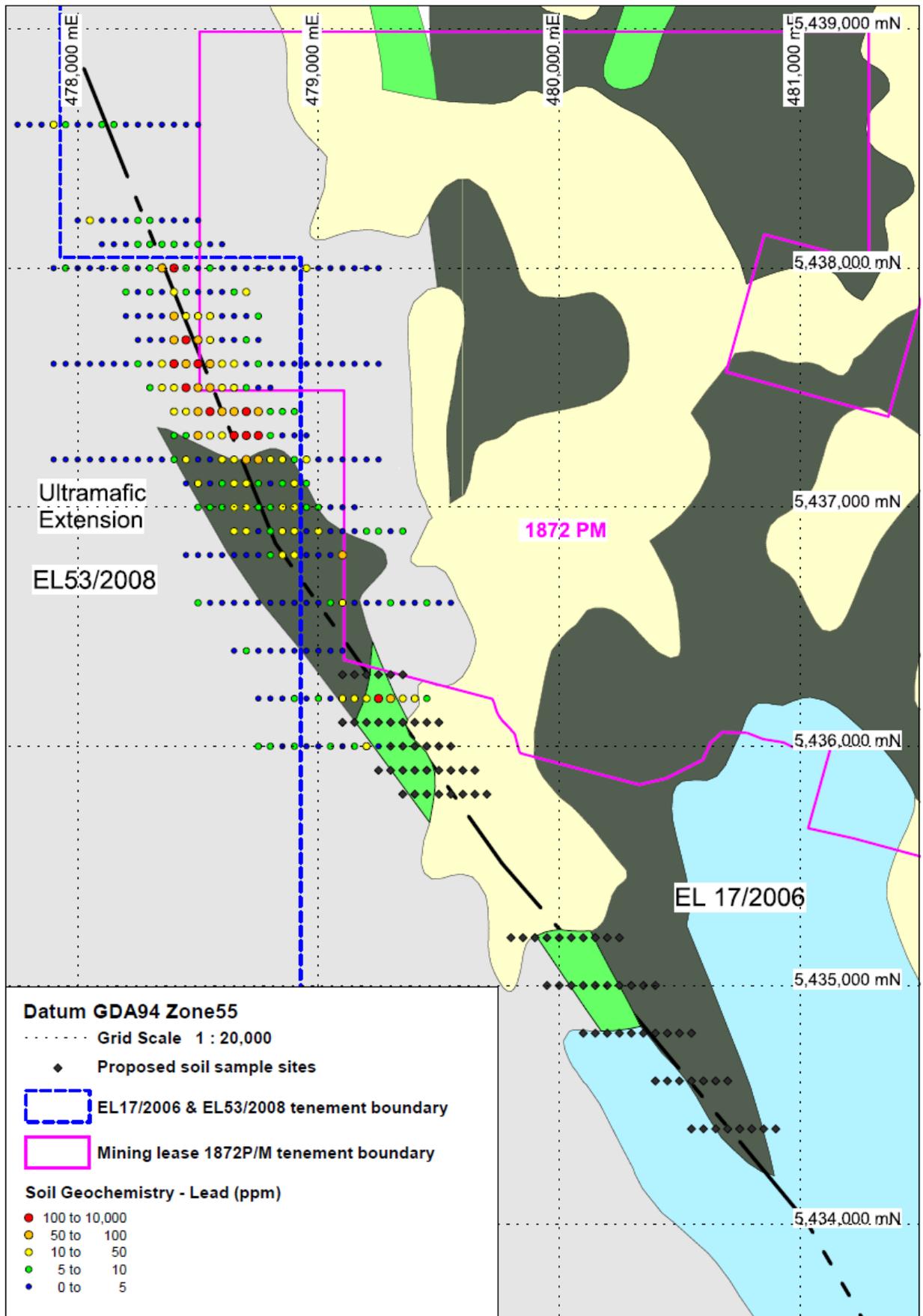


Figure 6. Proposed soil sampling programme and existing Lead soil geochemistry.

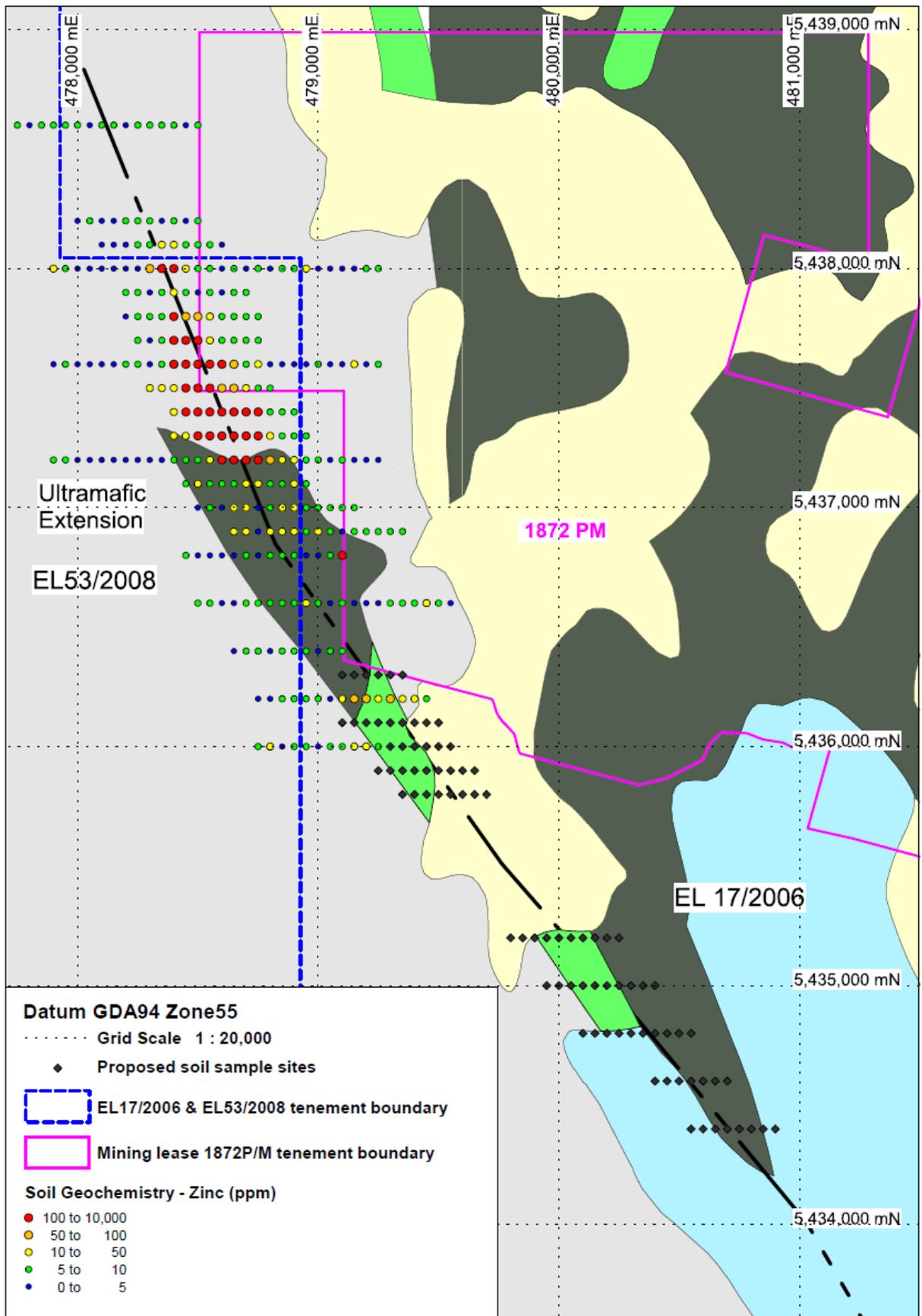


Figure 7. Proposed soil sampling programme and existing Zinc soil geochemistry.

8 EXPENDITURE

Expenditure from 8th August 2012 to 7th August 2013 is summarised below for the Barnes Hill EL17/2006 licence.

Table 7 Expenditure 8th August 2012 to 7th August 2013.

Administration & Management	\$27,792
Geological planning and budget assessment reviews	\$33,147
Other (travel, vehicle hire, accommodation, communications)	\$21,170
TOTAL	\$82,109

9 PROPOSED EXPLORATION

The activities proposed to be undertaken on EL17/2006 in the coming term include:

- Follow up Air Core drilling at the Scotts Hill and Mt Vulcan prospects. A phase 1 programme is planned utilizing a 100m x 100m drill hole spacing, followed by a Phase 2 programme of 50m x 50m drill hole spacing, in areas of significant mineralization potential delineated by the Phase 1 programme (see Figure 4).
- Metallurgical test work on bulk samples of lateritic iron and saprolitic nickel-cobalt zones at the Scotts Hill and Mt Vulcan prospects. Bulk sample sites are to be determined by the geological logging interpretations and assay result outcomes of the proposed Air Core drilling programmes.
- Follow up work on the previous geochemical soil sampling conducted in 2010 to 2011 on EL17/2006, as infill and extensions to the elevated Cu-Pb-Zn geochemical response discovered along the interpreted south-easterly trending structural lineament, extending from the ultramafic extension prospect within EL58/2008, onto and throughout EL17/2006. The portion of this geochemical trend occurring on EL17/2006 contains values of up to 143ppm Cu, 198ppm Pb and 415ppm Zn. This elevated Cu-Pb-Zn geochemical association is considered by Proto to represent a geochemical signature of the interpreted bedrock fault structure, which appears to be acting as a plumbing system for a potential base metal mineralizing event occurring at depth, and/or along the extent of its trend. Figures 5, 6 and 7 display the consistency of respective elevated levels for each element to be influenced by the positioning and trend of the interpreted structure.

10 KEY REFERENCES

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