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Joint ASX and Media Announcement

4 December 2003

Pioneer Nickel Limited lists on the Australian Stock Exchange Drilling commences immediately at Acra Prospect

Nickel explorer **Pioneer Nickel Limited** (ASX:PIO) today made its debut on the Australian Stock Exchange following a successful \$5.5 million Initial Public Offering, by issuing 27.5 million shares at \$0.20.

Pioneer will use the funds raised in the IPO to explore for high-grade nickel sulphide deposits in the Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia using the most advanced techniques, including modern high power electromagnetic (TEM) technology.

The Company has seven strategically located nickel sulphide projects, all within close proximity to existing nickel sulphide deposits or mines. The tenement package includes more than 2,400 km² of highly prospective land.

In many cases, the Company will be the first to complete modern exploration programmes for nickel sulphides on these prospects since the 1970s. Advancements in technology, including detailed aeromagnetic surveys, TEM and geochemistry have resulted in a number of recent discoveries, and Pioneer will continue to use this proven exploration strategy.

Pioneer's Managing Director David Crook said the Company's immediate focus was to test its advanced Acra deposit located 80km east of Kalgoorlie and to generate data to permit accurate targeting at its Pioneer, Higginsville and Wattle Dam projects, located near the Widgiemooltha and Pioneer Domes.

"I am pleased to report that today Pioneer commenced a 1,500 metre RC drilling program and TEM survey at Acra. The drilling program is targeting priority offhole TEM anomalies that are prospective for nickel sulphides," Mr Crook said.

"Drilling at Acra is part of a three-phase programme. Pioneer is concurrently flying aeromagnetic surveys at two other prospects, Wattle Dam and Higginsville, as well as completing detailed geochemistry and TEM at Acra. Results from these programmes will be releases within two months."

Pioneer's Chairman Craig Readhead added that the strong institutional and retail interest for the IPO was pleasing after more than eighteen months of planning.

"The considerable support for this IPO is in recognition of the quality of Pioneer's team, the portfolio of its Eastern Goldfields assets, and the continuing strong nickel price," said Mr Readhead.

About Pioneer Nickel Limited

Pioneer's project portfolio includes: Acra; Pioneer; Wattle Dam; Higginsville; and Maggie Hayes Lake (a joint venture with LionOre Australia (Nickel) Ltd).

Pioneer's extensive tenement portfolio is largely within the Eastern Goldfields and targets proven nickel sulphide geological provinces with several high grade nickel sulphide mines in close proximity. The Company has also secured tenements prospective for nickel in Tasmania

Pioneer has also acquired the JH and BB Nickel Sulphide deposits from WMC Resources Limited. As part of the acquisition, Pioneer granted to WMC a first right to negotiate an ore purchase agreement.

Following today's listing, Pioneer will have 43.9 million shares on issue with 27.6 million shares tradable. Heron Resources Limited shareholders, via an in-specie share distribution, will own upon the distribution approximately 34% of the Pioneer shares issued. This distribution to Heron shareholders will occur between 6 to 24 months post listing.

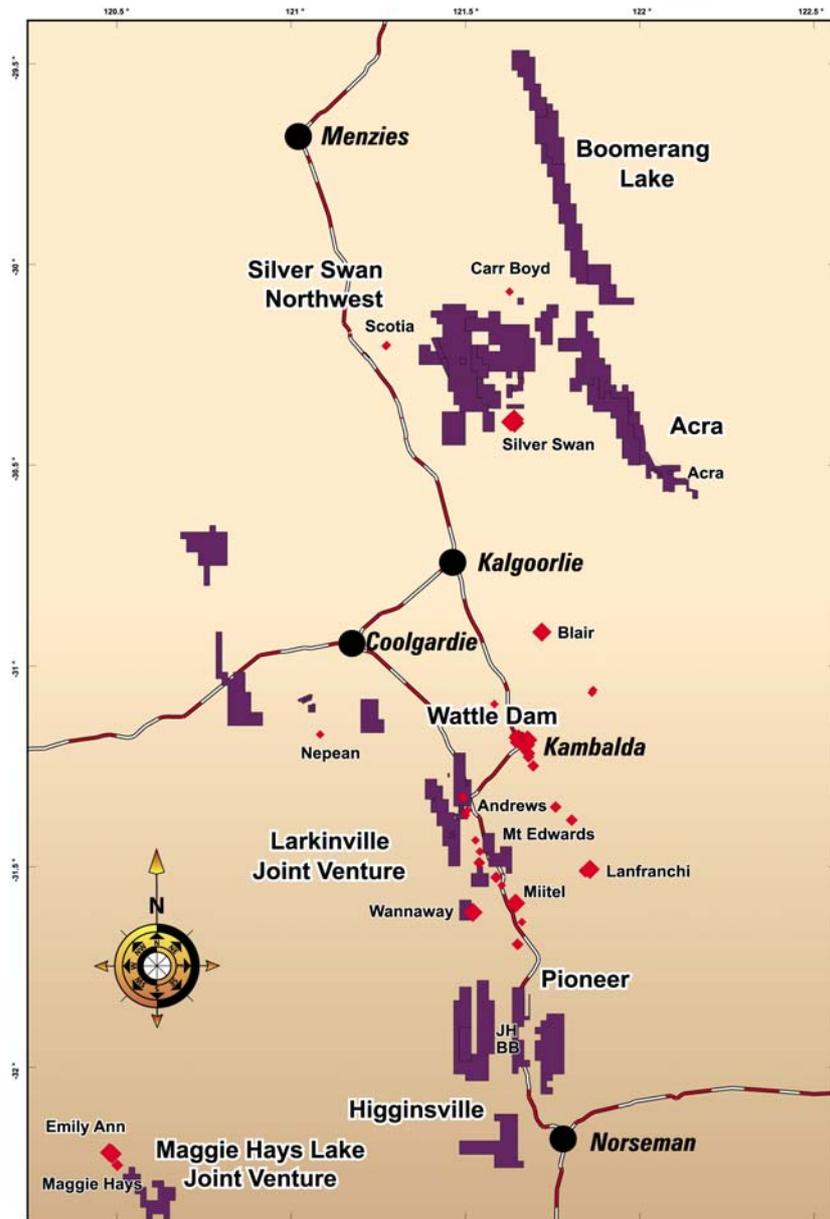
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Pioneer Nickel Ltd Tenement Portfolio



- Pioneer Tenement
- Town
- Nickel Mine (operational)
- Nickel Mine (suspended)