



ASX / MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

8 DECEMBER 2009

PORPHYRY COPPER CONFIRMED AT LA TORTUGA

Mexican focused precious and base metals explorer, **Azure Minerals Limited** (ASX: **AZS**) is pleased to confirm that porphyry copper and skarn copper-zinc mineralisation has been intersected by drilling on its La Tortuga Project located in the state of Sonora, Mexico.

An intercept of **26.9m @ 0.5% copper, 0.4% zinc & 12g/t silver** was returned from a depth of 130.0m, within an overall interval of **159.6m @ 0.2% copper and 0.2% zinc** from surface.

The La Tortuga Project is a joint venture with Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (**JOGMEC**) which is sole funding the first US\$3 million of exploration expenditure to earn a 51% interest in the project.

The drilling program comprised six diamond core holes (TOR-DD-002 to TOR-DD-007) totalling 2,245m. Four holes tested the La Tortuga porphyry and adjoining limestone skarn on an east-west hole spacing of 500 metres. Two holes tested blind targets identified by coincident aeromagnetic and IP anomalies further to the north. See Figure 1.

Drilling of the La Tortuga porphyry intersected copper oxide, copper sulphide and molybdenum mineralisation hosted within strong phyllic (quartz-sericite-pyrite) alteration and stockworked quartz veining. The mineralised porphyry system is large, with an extent of at least 2.5km east-west by 1km north-south. The system remains open to the east and south and to depths in excess of 400m.

Strong iron-copper skarn mineralisation is developed in limestones around the western end of the La Tortuga porphyry. Copper mineralisation is present on surface and throughout the limestone intersected in drill hole TOR-DD-006. **An interval of 159.6m @ 0.2% copper and 0.2% zinc was intersected from surface, with the bottom 26.9m of limestone skarn returning 0.5% copper, 0.4% zinc & 12g/t silver.** Highest grades include **2.0m @ 1.6% copper, 1.7% zinc & 48g/t silver.** This style of mineralisation is very similar to the nearby Tecolote Copper-Zinc Mine.

The results of this drilling program have been very encouraging, and JOGMEC and Azure have commenced detailed evaluation of the geology and geochemistry to assist with vectoring in to higher grade areas of the porphyry system.

Table 1 details the better mineralised drill intercepts.

TABLE 1 - SIGNIFICANT DRILL INTERCEPTS

| Hole No | From (m) | To (m) | Interval (m) | Copper (%) | Comments |
|------------------|--|--------|--------------|------------|---|
| TOR-DD-001# | 48.0 | 86.0 | 38.0 | 0.2 | Copper oxide mineralisation hosted in strongly altered and quartz vein stockworked porphyry |
| TOR-DD-001# | 112.6 | 126.6 | 14.0 | 0.2 | |
| TOR-DD-002 | Geophysical Target - Magnetite-rich conglomerate – no significant intercepts | | | | |
| TOR-DD-003 | Geophysical Target - Pyrite-rich sediment - no significant intercepts | | | | |
| TOR-DD-004 | 152.2 | 182.1 | 29.9 | 0.3 | Copper oxide mineralisation hosted in strongly altered and quartz vein stockworked porphyry |
| TOR-DD-005 | Minor copper mineralisation in weakly altered porphyry | | | | |
| TOR-DD-006 | 0.0 | 156.9 | 156.9 | 0.2 | Copper-zinc mineralised skarn |
| <i>including</i> | 130.0 | 156.9 | 26.9 | 0.5 | |
| TOR-DD-007 | Minor copper mineralisation in weakly altered porphyry | | | | |

Note: TOR-DD-001 drilled previously by Azure Minerals in February 2009

TABLE 2 - DRILL HOLE DETAILS

| Hole No | North (mN) | East (mE) | Dip | Azimuth | Hole Length (m) |
|------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------------|
| TOR-DD-001 | 3 305 194 | 462 814 | -75° | 270° | 502.1 |
| TOR-DD-002 | 3 309 063 | 458 999 | Vertical | 0° | 300.4 |
| TOR-DD-003 | 3 307 400 | 460 000 | Vertical | 0° | 246.7 |
| TOR-DD-004 | 3 305 193 | 462 308 | Vertical | 0° | 500.0 |
| TOR-DD-005 | 3 305 192 | 463 298 | -75° | 270° | 500.0 |
| TOR-DD-006 | 3 305 123 | 461 848 | -75° | 090° | 250.0 |
| TOR-DD-007 | 3 305 021 | 463 662 | -75° | 270° | 448.2 |

Background

The La Tortuga Project is a joint venture with Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (**JOGMEC**) which is sole funding the first US\$3 million of exploration expenditure to earn a 51% interest in the project. The joint venture's objective is the discovery of large copper deposits, and mineralised porphyry and skarn systems have been identified.

JOGMEC is a Japanese Government corporation established to assist in the stable supply of oil, gas and mineral resources to the Japanese economy. JOGMEC seeks to gain entry into high-potential mineral exploration projects through providing funding and technical assistance, with a view to the later introduction of commercial Japanese interests.

The La Tortuga Project comprises the La Tortuga and Los Nidos properties, covering 207km² (Figure 1). It is situated only three kilometres east of the El Tecolote Mine (previous production of 1.6Mt @ 1.8% copper, 6.9% zinc and 50g/t silver) and is located 90 kilometres northwest of Hermosillo, the capital of Sonora State, where Azure has its exploration and administration base. The Joint Venture is managed and staffed by Azure with technical assistance from JOGMEC.

-ENDS-

For further information, please contact:

Tony Rovira
Executive Chairman
Azure Minerals Ltd
+61 8 9481 2555

Or visit www.azureminerals.com.au

Competent Person Statement:

Information in this document that relates to Exploration Results and Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by Mr Tony Rovira, who is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Rovira is a full-time employee of Azure Minerals Limited. Mr Rovira has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Mr Rovira consents to the inclusion in the documents of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

Figure 1: La Tortuga – Drilling in Northern Portion of Project Area

