

Processing Test work returns outstanding results at Goulamina

- ❖ **Highly encouraging test work results strongly support the processing parameters initially contemplated in the Project Scoping Study**
- ❖ **Mass balance calculated from combined Heavy Liquid Test and Flotation test results define concentrate grade of 5.85% Li₂O at 83.8% recovery.**
- ❖ **Heavy Liquid Separation (HLS) tests yield estimated HLS feed recoveries up to 69% for a concentrate grading 6% Li₂O.**
- ❖ **Mineralogy analysis confirms spodumene dominant mineral assemblage with low contaminants**
- ❖ **Interpolated flotation recovery up to 82.3% at a concentrate grade of 5.64% Li₂O**
- ❖ **Final assay results from drilling expected shortly. Mineral Resource update anticipated in May 2017**
- ❖ **Pre-feasibility study on track for June 2017 quarter**

Birimian Limited (ASX:BGS; "Birimian" and "Company") is pleased to announce results from ongoing processing test work at the Goulamina deposit within its 100%-owned Bougouni Lithium Project ("Project"), southern Mali (Figure 1).

The current Mineral Resource at Goulamina comprises **27.8 Mt @ 1.42 % Li₂O, for 393,000 tonnes of contained Li₂O**, confirming the deposit is among the highest grade lithium deposits of significant size globally.

The processing test work results received to date are consistent with expectations from historical test work and broadly support the processing parameters initially contemplated in the Project Scoping Study (ASX 30 January 2017).

Based on these results, the Company has commenced the next phase of detailed process flow sheet and engineering design for the Project Pre-Feasibility Study, which remains on track to be completed during the June 2017 quarter.

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Test Work Samples

The aim of the current phase of test work was to define key material characteristics and amenability to a range of processing alternatives for production of chemical grade spodumene concentrate. The work was undertaken at ALS Metallurgy and supervised by Como Engineers.

Processing test work was undertaken on two representative composite samples comprising approximately 160kg of drill core material from Goulamina Main Zone and West Zone as follows,

1. GMDD001, 44m-83m; Main Zone.
2. GMDD007, 98m-138m; West Zone

Assays conducted on these composites are in close agreement with analytical results from the original exploration assays.

	Li ₂ O (%)	Al ₂ O ₃ (%)	Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	Si ₂ O (%)	Ta ₂ O ₅ (ppm)	Nb ₂ O ₅ (ppm)	S (%)	Sn (ppm)	As (ppm)
GMDD001	1.61	16.2	0.62	73.8	28	43	0.002	50	<10
GMDD007	1.81	16.1	0.61	74	22	29	<0.002	50	20

Comminution Test work

Comminution test work results are within the typical range observed for similar projects. Additional UCS tests indicate the ore will be amenable to processing with standard crushing equipment. Results are summarised as follows,

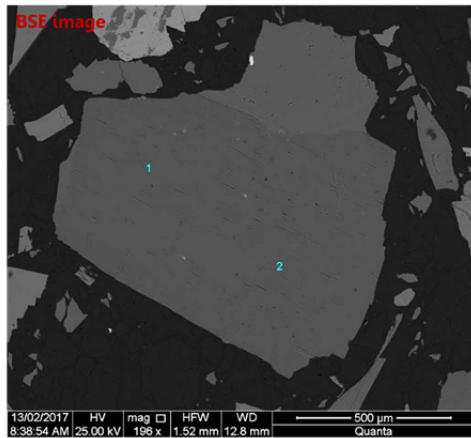
	GMDD001	GMDD007
Abrasion Index	0.3466	0.4163
Bond Ball Mill Work Index (106um)	20.0 kWhr/t	21.0 kWhr/t

Mineralogy

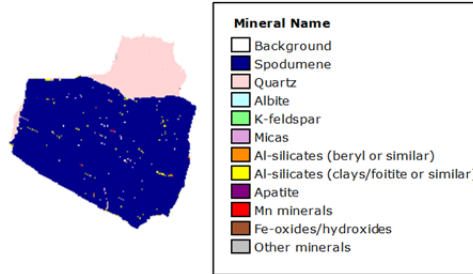
QEMSCAN mineralogical investigations were conducted on a subsample of GMDD001 after crushing to minus 6.3mm and screening into 4 size fractions. Results confirm spodumene is the dominant lithium mineral at Goulamina. Contaminants are typically low, and the spodumene is free of any significant deleterious mineral inclusions.

The main mineral species identified by QEMSCAN were spodumene (16.6%), quartz (30.3%), Albite (25.6%), K-feldspar (20.1%) and mica (5.4%). These results support earlier mineralogical studies, including semi-quantitative XRD analysis, which indicated the presence of minor mica phases, including zinnwaldite (3.4%) and muscovite (3.0%). Zinnwaldite contains small amounts of Li₂O, however it represents only a minor proportion of the Li₂O in mill feed, and is typically removed early in the processing cycle. Images from the QEMSCAN investigation are shown below.

Particle 08, GMDD 001-44-48, -0.850 mm fraction



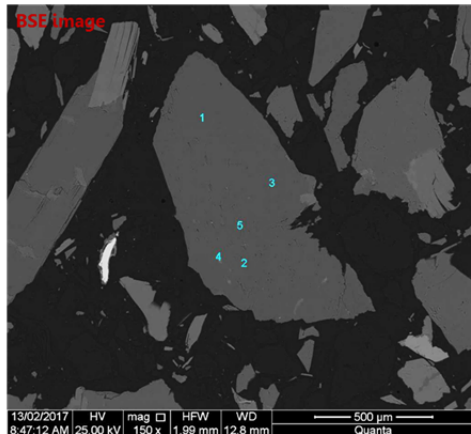
Particle image (QEMSCAN)



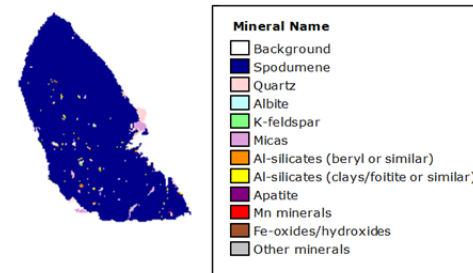
Particle	Spot	Mineral ID	O%	Al%	Si%	Fe%
8	1	spodumene	43.7	20.2	34.4	1.6
	2	spodumene	44.0	20.7	34.4	1.0

Note: (1) data presented above is semi-quantitative. Results for oxygen are likely to be underestimated;
 (2) a zero value implies that the element is 'not detected', which may still be present but at levels below QEMSCAN-EDS method.

Particle 09, GMDD 001-44-48, -0.850 mm fraction



Particle image (QEMSCAN)



Particle	Spot	Mineral ID	O%	Al%	Si%	Mn%	Fe%	K%
9	1	spodumene	44.2	20.6	34.6	--	0.7	--
	2	spodumene	44.9	20.7	33.9	--	0.5	--
	3	spodumene	44.8	20.9	33.7	--	0.6	--
	4	biotite	36.5	15.9	22.5	1.3	13.3	10.5
	5	clays/spodumene	37.9	23.1	38.2	--	0.8	--

Note: (1) data presented above is semi-quantitative. Results for oxygen are likely to be underestimated;
 (2) a zero value implies that the element is 'not detected', which may still be present but at levels below QEMSCAN-EDS method.

Heavy Liquid Separation Tests

Heavy Liquid Separation (HLS) tests were conducted on both composites after crushing to 100% passing 12.5mm, 6.3mm and 3.35mm. Interpolated recoveries at each crush size for a 6% Li₂O concentrate grade are tabulated below.

Crush Size 100% Passing (mm)	GMDD001		GMDD007	
	Li ₂ O Recovery at 6% Li ₂ O wrt		Li ₂ O Recovery at 6% Li ₂ O wrt	
	Plant Feed	HLS Feed	Plant Feed	HLS Feed
12.5	28.5	31.5	18.5	19.5
6.3	51.5	59	34	38.5
3.35	66.5	78.5	39.5	53.5

It is noted that at the finest crush size of 100% minus 3.35mm, between 24-53% of the spodumene in the feed can be recovered into a high grade concentrate greater than 7% Li₂O.

Crusher vendors have indicated a crush size of 100% minus 5mm would be achievable with conventional crushing equipment without having to resort to using capital intensive HPGR crushing equipment.

On this basis a crush size of 100% passing 5mm was selected and the HLS recovery data for 6.3mm and 3.35mm crush sizes were interpolated to yield an estimated recovery for a concentrate grading 6% Li₂O. Recoveries of 69% and 48% (with respect to HLS feed) are estimated for GMDD001 and GMDD007 respectively, with an average of approximately 58.5%. These are highly encouraging results for preliminary HLS assessments. Variability in the HLS performance between the samples will be investigated in future test work programs.

Flotation

The minus 0.5 mm fines and middlings stream from the DMS feed will contain a proportion of the Li₂O. In order to maximize overall recovery, Li₂O can be recovered from these streams by froth flotation.

Results achieved in this study, conducted on whole ore samples, are shown below. All flotation results exceed those contained within the original scoping study estimate in both grade and recovery performance. The best result, for GMDD001, is 82.3% recovery at a concentrate grade of 5.64% Li₂O in 2 cleaning stages. The results of all tests are shown in the table below.

Sample	Grind (um) (80% passing)	Li ₂ O Grade	Li ₂ O Recovery
GMDD001	106	5.64	82.3
GMDD001	106	4.22	55.9
GMDD001	125	5.08	48.1
GMDD007	106	5.18	61.7
GMDD007	125	4.65	30.9

Summary

Using the HLS and flotation test results an indicative mass balance was calculated for a combined **concentrate grade of 5.85% Li₂O at 83.8% recovery**. It should be noted that this balance will be subject to change as process design progresses and further optimisation flotation testwork is completed. However, at this stage, results strongly suggest the production of a 6% concentrate will be readily achievable at recoveries similar or better than those expressed in the project Scoping Study (75%).

The Project Scoping Study contemplated that the project be developed in two stages, with recovery of Li₂O contained in the fines and DMS middling stream being deferred until completion of a stage two flotation circuit. The DMS recoveries observed in the current testwork may warrant inclusion of the flotation circuit earlier in the project.

With the latest test work results now in hand, the Company has commenced the next phase of detailed process flow sheet and engineering design for the Project Pre-Feasibility Study, which remains on track to be completed during the June 2017 quarter.

Forward Plan

The Scoping Study for the Bougouni Lithium Project (ASX: 30 January 2017) has confirmed the outstanding potential of the Project, leading to the decision to commence a Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS). Processing test work results will be utilised for the next phase of the PFS, which remains on track to be completed during the June 2017 quarter.

On 14 March 2017 the Company provided an interim resource update at Goulamina, nearly doubling the previous estimate for contained lithia and further confirming Goulamina as among the highest grade, hard rock lithium deposits of significant size globally today. This update broadly captured resource extensions from West Zone and the new discovery at Sangar Zone. Assays from Reverse Circulation drilling targeting infill areas at Main Zone and West Zone continue to return highly encouraging results. Infill drilling shows excellent continuity of width and grade, providing significant confidence in the current geological model. A further resource update is anticipated in May. This estimate is expected to deliver substantial resource category upgrades to support ongoing Pre-Feasibility Studies.

The Company's environmental consultants have completed the next phase of detailed on-the-ground studies at the Project and in the broader community. This work will facilitate engineering studies and site selection for critical infrastructure.

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Terms of Reference was presented to relevant agencies on 13 April. This important milestone signals the commencement of the formal Environmental and Social Assessment process, which is expected to be fast-tracked for completion by January 2018.

Birimian continues to advance a number of studies as it works towards completion of the PFS. Drilling has paused briefly while the company undertakes resource estimation work and other resource related technical studies. The Company's strategy remains to expedite development of the currently defined resources at the Bougouni Project in lieu of targeting major resource expansions by drilling.

Birimian is seeking to fast-track commercialisation of Bougouni. The PFS is expected to be completed in the June 2017 quarter, which will enable the Company to progress project financing and offtake arrangements as it moves towards completion of a comprehensive Feasibility Study for the Project.

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Competent Persons Declaration

The information in this announcement that relates to Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by or under the supervision of Mr. Matt Bampton, who is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr. Bampton is a full-time employee of Cube Consulting Pty Ltd and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the styles of mineralisation and types of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results. Mr Bampton consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The information in this announcement that relates to processing test work is based on information compiled by or under the supervision of Mr. Alisdair Finnie, who is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr. Alisdair Finnie is a full-time employee of Como Engineers Pty Ltd.

Previous Reported Results

There is information in this announcement relating to previous Exploration Results at the Bougouni Project. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any other new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement, and that all material assumptions and technical parameters have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

Forward Looking Statements

Statements regarding plans with respect to the Company's mineral properties are forward looking statements. There can be no assurance that the Company's plans for development of its mineral properties will proceed as expected. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to confirm the presence of mineral deposits, that any mineralisation will prove to be economic or that a mine will successfully be developed on any of the Company's mineral properties.