



Orion Minerals

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Orion Minerals receives prestigious award for pioneering ESG achievements in South Africa

Orion Minerals Limited (**ASX/JSE: ORN**) (**Orion** or the **Company**) is pleased to advise that it received the inaugural Emerging ESG Leader Award at last night's AAMEG Africa Awards (AAMEG – The Australia-Africa Minerals & Energy Group) for its innovative and pioneering environmental, social and governance (**ESG**) work at the **Prieska Copper-Zinc Project** in South Africa's Northern Cape Province.

The AAMEG Africa Awards, which were announced as part of the 2020 Africa Down Under Conference in Perth, celebrate visionary approaches to ESG which deliver long term benefits for communities—vastly improving their outcomes across employment, health, education and environmental conservation.

The awards set the benchmark for Australian mining companies delivering projects that have sustainable and tangible benefits to the communities and countries in which they operate.

The Emerging ESG Leadership Award acknowledges Orion's exemplary work as a junior mining company in developing innovative ESG strategies, forging meaningful relationships with its host communities and, importantly, making a significant contribution to the socio-economic development of South Africa's Northern Cape Province.

In announcing the award, AAMEG said Orion had implemented world-class ESG initiatives at the exploration-feasibility stage, earning its local licence to operate and proving that small companies can inspire positive change at a host government, regional and community level.

AAMEG said that not only had Orion taken its flagship Prieska Project from prospect to a fully-permitted development project in record time, it has almost single-handedly put junior mining back on the South African national agenda.

Through the Orion team's efforts, junior mining has found its voice in South Africa – in government, amongst its peers, and in the advocacy organisations that guide and represent the industry.

Orion's dynamic approach and exemplary leadership role has resulted in junior exploration earning a seat at the national negotiating table, in junior exploration companies having a say in how mining regulations impact them and in the potential of tax incentives to encourage further exploration in the country. This is all before producing its first metal.

"We hope to inspire a new generation of emerging mining companies. By turning the traditional mining approach to ESG on its head, we have shown the value of meaningful connections and insisting that ESG is a business and moral imperative," said Orion Chairman Denis Waddell, who accepted the award.

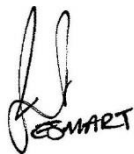
"We decided right from the outset that we need a social licence to operate," he said. "The work that we have



Orion Minerals Chairman, Denis Waddell accepting the award from Dr Muza Gondwe, Project Manager, Association of Women in Mining in Africa and AAMEG Judge.

done has resulted in some real shifts in South Africa's approach to junior mining and the role it can play in socio-economic development."

For and on behalf of the Board.



Errol Smart
Managing Director and CEO

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