



# Technical Report

on the Los Helados Project, Chile and Argentina

## NGEx Minerals Ltd.

Prepared by:

**SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd.**

SLR Project No.: 233.065503.00001

Effective Date:

July 29, 2025

Signature Date:

August 22, 2025

Revision: 0

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## 1.0 Summary

### 1.1 Executive Summary

SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. (SLR) was retained by NGEx Minerals Ltd. (NGEx) to prepare an independent Technical Report on the Los Helados Project (the Project or the Property), located in Chile and Argentina. The Los Helados deposit (Los Helados), is located within the Property boundary, in Region III, Chile, and is the subject of the Mineral Resource estimate (MRE) reported in this Technical Report. The purpose of this Technical Report is to support the disclosure of the Los Helados Project contained in the management information circular of NGEx to be delivered to NGEx shareholders in connection with the special meeting of NGEx shareholders to be held to consider and approve a statutory plan of arrangement pursuant to Section 192 of the *Canada Business Corporations Act* which involves, among other things, NGEx distributing common shares of 17156138 Canada Inc. (Spinco) to NGEx shareholders on the basis of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a common share of Spinco for each common share of NGEx held.

This Technical Report conforms to National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (NI 43-101). The classification for Mineral Resources in this Technical Report conforms to the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) Definition Standards for Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves dated May 10, 2014 (CIM [2014] definitions). The SLR Qualified Person (QP) visited the Project from September 18 to 22, 2023. The QPs for this report are Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng., and Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo.

NGEx is a TSX listed copper and gold exploration company based in Vancouver, Canada, with projects in Argentina and Chile. NGEx holds a majority interest in the large-scale Los Helados copper-gold Project and a 100% interest in the nearby Lunahuasi copper-gold-silver exploration project in Argentina.

### 1.2 Property Description and Location

The Project is located approximately 125 kilometres (km) southeast of the city of Copiapó, in Chile. The approximate latitude and longitude centroid of the Los Helados deposit is 28.3408° S, 69.5857° W.

#### 1.2.1 Land Tenure

The Project is comprised of claims in Chile owned by NGEx's Chilean subsidiary, Minera Frontera del Oro SpA (MFDO) (the MFDO Properties) and claims in Argentina owned by its Argentine subsidiaries RioEx S.A. (the La Rioja Properties) and Pampa Exploración S.A. (the Pampa Claim). NGEx Minerals holds an indirect approximate 69.1% interest in the MFDO Properties, a 60% interest in the La Rioja Properties, and a 100% interest in the Pampa Claim. The MFDO Properties and the La Rioja Properties are subject to a joint exploration agreement with Nippon Caserones Resources Co. Ltd. (NCR), which holds the remaining approximately 30.9% and 40% respective interests. The combined area of the mineral tenures comprising the Project is approximately 37,783 ha.

The NGEx Los Helados Project is subject to a protocol, the "*Proyecto de Prospección Minera Vicuña*" (Vicuña Mineral Prospecting Project) established under the "*Tratado entre la República de Chile y la República Argentina sobre Integración y Complementación Minera*" (Mining Integration and Complementation Treaty between Chile and Argentina; or the Treaty) between Chile and Argentina. The Treaty provides a legal framework to facilitate the development of



mining projects located in the border area of both countries. The Treaty objective is to facilitate the exploration and exploitation of mining projects within the area of the Treaty.

This protocol allows for prospecting and exploration activities in the Los Helados area, on both sides of the international border. The main benefit of the protocol is the authorization which allows for people and equipment to freely cross the border in support of exploration and prospecting activities within an area defined as an “operational area”.

The Los Helados Mineral Resource is entirely located in Chile, on the MFDO Properties.

NGEx has executed two royalty purchase agreements pursuant to which it has agreed to sell royalties over the sale or transfer of minerals extracted from the MFDO Properties, as follows: (i) a 1.38% NSR royalty in favour of Spinco; and (ii) a 0.62% NSR royalty in favour of NCR, together comprising a 2% NSR royalty over the sale or transfer of minerals extracted from the MFDO Properties.

Three of the concessions in the Las Rioja Properties (Petro I, Petro II, and Petro III) are subject to payment of US\$2.0 million in the event that any of these claims become productive as mining projects. Furthermore, NGEx shall pay a NSR royalty of 0.5% of the amount of the project benefits over 10 years, less costs. Both these payments are due to the original owners of the claims.

The Pampa Claim, Solitario 17, is subject to a payment of 7% Net Profits Interest to the original owner.

### **1.3 Accessibility, Climate, Local Resources, Infrastructure and Physiography**

The Property spans the border between Chile and Argentina, with the Los Helados deposit located entirely within Chile.

Access to Los Helados is most direct from Copiapó, Chile, a total driving distance of approximately 177 km (three hours). Copiapó has a modern airport, with several daily flights to Santiago, the capital city.

The Property is in a high altitude dry to arid climate. It is characterized by low temperatures throughout the year, typically below 15°C in the summer.

Elevation on the Property ranges from less than 3,000 MASL to 5,800 MASL. The area is mountainous with steep west facing slopes on the Chilean side, and more moderate topography on the eastern Argentinian side.

The most important logistics centre in the region is Copiapó. Copiapó has a population of approximately 150,000 people, an airport with daily scheduled flights to Santiago and Antofagasta, and companies that offer mining and exploration services.

### **1.4 History**

Prior to NGEx acquiring the Property, there is no record of significant exploration activity in the area. The first mineral exploration work was carried out by Shell (subsequently Billiton) at the end of the 1980s. This work apparently included geological mapping, rock, talus and stream sediment geochemical sampling, test pits for sampling and mapping, and some geophysical surveying, but there are no available reports. In 1994, Barrick Gold Corporation apparently worked in the general area of Los Helados for approximately 15 days, sampling stream sediments and rocks for geochemistry, however, results are unknown.





## 1.5 Geological Setting and Mineralization

The Property is located within the Oligocene-Miocene porphyry belt of the central Andes, in the Vicuña District.

The Los Helados porphyry copper-gold system is situated in the northern part of the Vicuña structural magmatic corridor, along the Los Helados fault. The host rocks of the deposit are largely Permo-Triassic in age, with Permian-age granite being the oldest and most regionally extensive unit. In the deposit area, it is intruded by Triassic rhyodacitic intrusive complex and tonalitic to dioritic dykes and stocks, both approximately 230 Ma to 225 Ma.

Los Helados occurs within a mid-Miocene porphyry-breccia system that was emplaced into basement rocks. Copper-gold mineralization is predominantly hosted within the magmatic-hydrothermal breccias and contemporaneous biotite-hornblende dacitic porphyries, with some peripheral mineralization also within the immediate country rock although grades rapidly decline away from the breccia and porphyry intrusive contacts.

There are two other areas of known mineralization, Cerro Blanco and Solitario, that occur towards the eastern side of the Property. They are aligned along a north-south trend that also includes the Josemaria porphyry copper-gold deposit to the south of the Project. All of the dated intrusions related to mineralization along this trend are approximately 25 Ma (Late Oligocene) and they define the eastern, Late Oligocene domain within the Vicuña belt.

## 1.6 Exploration

The Los Helados area of the Property was staked in 2004 with initial exploration work beginning that year. ASTER and LandSAT imagery identified an alteration target in the Los Helados area and preliminary mapping, rock-chip sampling, and talus sampling were conducted early in 2005. Additional geochemistry as well as 22 km of induced polarization (IP) resistivity and magnetometry survey were done during the 2005-2006 summer season. It was a geological interpretation supported by IP geophysics and surface geochemistry that led to targeting the first drilling of Los Helados in the 2006-2007 season.

A deep-penetration geophysical survey (MIMDAS) was completed in 2009. Between 2010 and 2011, existing and new IP-resistivity lines were surveyed using a 200 m dipole in order to investigate deeper parts of the deposit. New geological mapping of the deposit was completed in 2015 and subsequently updated in 2017 with new surface information from relogging of several sections in the deposit area.

Simultaneous with the new geological interpretation, the existing geophysics data was reprocessed by Condor North Consulting ULC, Canada, resulting in a series of drill target recommendations.

Geophysical surveys consisting of a drone magnetometry survey, a direct current IP (DCIP) survey, and a magnetotelluric (MT) survey over the Los Helados deposit area were completed between 2021 and 2023.

During the 2022-2023 season, extensive new surface geological mapping and compilation was completed, complemented by a district-wide structural study that included detailed work in the Los Helados area, as well as more extensive work along the Vicuña belt to the south. The Los Helados geology team brought together a new geological map that includes new structural insights as well as additional detail and new interpretation of the deposit area geology.

During October and November 2024, a Z-axis Tipper ElectroMagnetic (ZTEM) survey was completed by Geotech Ltd. over the entire Chilean portion of the property. A very strong, distinct





geophysical response was noted over the Los Helados deposit, along with more subtle features which remain to be evaluated in detail.

## **1.7 Drilling**

A total of 10 drilling campaigns were carried out at the Los Helados deposit between 2006 and 2023 resulting in a total of 96,448 m drilled in 110 holes of which 105 were diamond core holes and five were reverse circulation. The Los Helados deposit was discovered by drilling during the 2007-2008 season.

Recent drilling has discovered two new high-grade zones, the Fenix and Alicanto zones, within the main breccia unit. These zones need further drilling to define their limits, and both are open to depth with existing drilling ending in high-grade mineralization. Similarly, the high-grade central Condor Zone remains open to depth.

Drill core was transported by truck by company personnel from the drill sites to the Los Helados permanent core logging and sampling facility located in Copiapó for sampling, detailed logging, and core storage.

In 2015, specific geotechnical core logging was performed on six drill holes totalling 3,350 m to estimate the rock mass rating. Subsequent to this, a dedicated block cave geomechanics study was conducted, which included drilling two oriented geotechnical drill holes (2,241 m). Testing included televiwer surveys, Lugeon testing, and 230 point load tests.

Core recovery at Los Helados is typically very good due to the competent rock, averaging better than 95%.

Drill collar locations were surveyed using a differential global positioning system (GPS).

Downhole surveys were carried out using a Reflex multi-shot instrument until the 2012–2013 campaign when a spring disk resonator gyroscope (SRG) survey was completed for each drill hole by Comprobe Limitada. For the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 drilling campaigns, drill hole trajectory measurements were conducted by Comprobe Limitada, using a north-seeking fibre optic gyroscope system.

## **1.8 Sampling, Analysis and Data Verification**

### **1.8.1 Drill Hole Sampling**

RC holes drilled during the 2006–2007 campaign were sampled on two-metre intervals.

Drill core was sampled continuously from the beginning of recovery to the end of the hole. Samples are generally two metres long (except for the initial drill holes, LHDH01 to LHDH04, which were sampled on one-metre intervals). Drill core was cut in half using a circular, water-cooled rock saw with one half of the core used as a geochemical sample and the other half stored in boxes or trays for reference and future revisions.

### **1.8.2 Density Determinations**

Specific gravity (SG) has been systematically measured beginning with the 2010–2011 drilling program. A total of 25,158 core samples has been measured for SG by NGEx technicians using the water immersion method at the company's core logging and sampling facility in Copiapó.



### 1.8.3 Analytical and Test Laboratories

ALS in Chile was used as the primary analytical laboratory for the five RC holes. At the time of analysis, ALS held ISO 9001 accreditations for selected procedures.

The primary assay laboratory for the pre-2021 core drilling programs was ACME Laboratories in Chile (ACME). ACME is an internationally certified laboratory. In 1994, ACME began adapting its Quality Management System to an ISO 9000 model. ACME implemented a quality system compliant with the ISO 9001 Model for Quality Assurance and ISO/IEC17025 General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories. In 2005, the Santiago laboratory received ISO 9001:2000 registration and in July 2010, the Copiapó facility was added to the Santiago registration. The Santiago hub laboratory has also been ISO 17025:2005 compliant since 2012. ISO/IEC 17025 includes ISO 9001 and ISO 9002 specifications, CAN-P-1579 (Mineral Analysis) for specific registered tests by the Standard Council of Canada. CAN-P-1579 is the Standard Council of Canada's requirements for the accreditation of mineral analysis testing laboratories.

During the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 campaigns, drill core for Los Helados was delivered directly to the ALS sample preparation facilities in Copiapó and analyzed at the ALS facility in Santiago, Chile, or Lima, Peru. ALS facilities are accredited to ISO 9001-2008 and ISO 17025.

All laboratories are independent of NGEx.

### 1.8.4 Sample Preparation and Analysis

Sample preparation consisted of:

- Drying in a large electric oven with temperature control
- Crushing to better than 85% passing 10 mesh
- Splitting to a 0.5 kg subsample
- Pulverizing the subsample to 95% passing 200 mesh
- Screening to pass 200 mesh

Multi-acid digestion was used for all NGEx samples with the exception of one submission during the 2009–2010 campaign.

Gold was determined mostly on 30 g aliquots and some 50 g aliquots using fire assay with an atomic absorption spectroscopy (AAS) finish. A suite of 37 elements, including copper and silver, was analyzed by inductively coupled plasma (ICP)-emission spectroscopy (ES).

Prior to 2010, copper was analyzed only by ICP, with re-assay by AAS only if the ICP result exceeded the upper detection limit of 10,000 ppm Cu. From 2010 to 2012, all samples with copper grades over 5,000 ppm Cu were re-assayed by AAS. Starting in 2012, all samples were analyzed for copper by both ICP and AAS. Copper was also analyzed by sequential leach if the ICP result exceeded 500 ppm. Starting in 2021, silver was also analyzed at ALS using AAS (AA-62 method code).

Mercury analyses by cold vapour / atomic absorption (AA) were performed on all samples until 2010, after which they were discontinued as no significant mercury values were present.



## 1.9 Quality Assurance and Quality Control

No quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) program was in place for diamond drill holes prior to LHDH005 from the 2009–2010 drill program, which corresponds to 3,249 samples representing 2.7% of the metres drilled.

A quality control (QC) program was implemented for the 2009-2010 drilling campaign, beginning with hole LHDH005, and has been in place for all subsequent drill programs. The 2010–2011 campaign included two standards, whereas for subsequent campaigns three standards were used. Coarse blank samples and duplicate samples were inserted and collected from the beginning of the QA/QC programs. Sample collection, preparation, analysis, and security are in line with industry-standard methods for porphyry deposits and QA/QC program results do not indicate any issues with the analytical programs.

QA/QC insertion rates are listed in Table 1-1.

**Table 1-1: QC Insertion Rates at Los Helados Project**

Season	Samples	Blank	Standard	DUPa	DUPf	DUPp
2006-2007	127					
2007-2008	1,742					
2008-2009	1,507					
Sub-Total	3,376					
2009-2010	2,136	60	61	30	31	30
2010-2011	4,681	143	122	66	63	66
2011-2012	10,466	297	299	137	129	139
2012-2013	15,456	370	557	196	193	196
2014-2015	1,639	14	21	7	6	7
2021-2022	5,437	138	207	69	67	69
2022-2023	4,708	119	179	59	59	60
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>44,523</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>567</b>
<b>Average Insertion Rate</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

Note: DUPa, DUPf, and DUPp correspond to assay, field, and preparation duplicates, respectively.

### 1.9.1 Databases

Data was migrated to MX Deposit in May 2022, which is hosted on Amazon's cloud service. Since then, all quality assurance has been performed in this software prior to release of assays.

Data stored for each drill hole include collar information, downhole surveys, codes and comments for lithology, alteration and mineralization, assays, SG, magnetic susceptibility, recovery, rock quality designation (RQD), and metallurgical sample information.

### 1.9.2 Sample Storage

Drill core boxes are stored in racks inside a warehouse in a core storage facility in Copiapó. RC drill chips are stored in lidded, plastic core trays, most of which are also kept in Copiapó.



The laboratory returned the pulps and coarse reject for each sample that was sent for analysis. These are stored at the Copiapó facility.

## 1.10 Data Verification

The QP visited the Los Helados deposit in Chile and the core logging facility in Copiapó, Chile, from September 18 to 22, 2023. The QP was accompanied by NGEx geologists for the visit. Surface exposures and a number of diamond drill hole collars were examined.

The QP visited the core, pulp, and reject storage and core logging and sampling facility in Copiapó, which is conveniently located next to the Copiapó office of NGEx. The QP examined core from Los Helados drill holes LHDH076, LHDH083, and LHDH084, which were representative of the mineralization at the Condor, Alicanto, and Fenix zones, respectively.

There has been no technical work completed on the Project since the date of this visit, with the exception of the airborne ZTEM geophysical survey.

Data verification of the drill hole database included manual verification against original digital sources, a series of digital queries, and a review of the QA/QC procedures and results, and visual comparisons between the assay results and three drill holes from Los Helados.

The QP's review of the resource database included collar, survey, lithology, mineralization, and assay tables. Database verification was performed using tools provided within Leapfrog Geo Version 2023.1.0 software package (Leapfrog). A visual check on the drill hole Leapfrog collar elevations and drill hole traces was completed. No major discrepancies were identified.

In addition, the QP completed database validity checks for out-of-range values, overlapping intervals, gaps, and mismatched sample intervals. Overall, the QP found no significant issues with the Los Helados drill hole databases.

SLR carried out cross-checks between the Los Helados MX Deposit assay database and the ACME and ALS assay certificates. SLR compiled 33,270 samples from 300 certificates from 2008 to 2023 and compared values for copper, gold, and silver against the MX Deposit assay database. This allowed for approximately 60% the MX Deposit database to be verified. No significant errors were identified.

## 1.11 Mineral Processing

The Los Helados metallurgical test work program was conducted at SGS in Santiago, Chile in two phases, Phase I in 2013 and Phase II 2015. The work was completed under the supervision of Amec International Ingeniería y Construcción Ltda., acquired by Wood Group in 2017, and included:

- Sample selection for the metallurgical test programs
- Chemical characterization including mineralogical analysis
- Physical characterization
- Gold recovery using gravity processing techniques
- Copper, gold and silver recovery using conventional sulphide flotation practices
- Settling test work

Vendor testing of High-Pressure Grinding Rolls (HPGR) was also conducted by ThyssenKrupp AG on selected samples from the Los Helados deposit.



Upon completion of the Phase I metallurgical test work program, it was concluded that the Condor Zone of the deposit was largely homogeneous throughout with respect to chemical and physical characteristics. An updated geological model was subsequently developed for Los Helados, which led to the second test work phase which focused primarily on the characteristics of the deposit at different periods within a conceptual block cave production plan. In the second round of metallurgical test work, the deposit homogeneity was confirmed. Three separate composites were created representing production periods from a conceptual mine schedule.

Metal recoveries from the Locked Cycle Tests carried out in the two programs ranged from 83.1% to 93.1% for copper, 68.1% to 82.5% for gold, and 31.0% to 77.8% for silver.

The mineralogical analysis indicated that the main copper sulphide mineral present is chalcopyrite (97% average by weight) with traces of chalcocite/digenite and bornite.

No deleterious elements issues were noted in the concentrates produced from the test work completed and the concentrates are considered to be marketable without incurring penalties for deleterious elements.

Metallurgical test work samples were collected only from the Condor Zone, as the Fenix and Alicanto Zones had not been discovered at the time of the test work.

## 1.12 Mineral Resource Estimate

An updated Mineral Resource estimate (MRE) was completed by SLR using the database provided by NGEx. The MRE was prepared in accordance with CIM (2014) definitions as incorporated by reference into NI 43-101.

The updated MRE is based on results from 106 drill holes, totalling 93,750 m of drilling.

The estimate is based on an interpreted breccia body intruding the local country rock. The breccia hosts three internal higher-grade zones: Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto. The mineralization model was created in Leapfrog Geo 2023.1 by NGEx geologists and refined by SLR.

The sub-block model was created, and the Mineral Resource estimation was completed in Leapfrog Edge software. The parent block size used was 20 m x 20 m x 20 m, with sub-blocking to 2.5 m x 2.5 m x 2.5 m. Grades for copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum were estimated into parent blocks using ordinary kriging (OK). Inverse distance cubed (ID<sup>3</sup>) and nearest neighbour (NN) interpolations were also carried out for validation purposes. Geometallurgical wireframes prepared for the previous 2019 MRE were used to generate a geometallurgical model in Leapfrog Geo 2023.1 to assign domains with different metallurgical recoveries onto the block model.

Mineral Resources were classified into Indicated and Inferred categories using a combination of drill hole spacing and confidence in the continuity of mineralization. Drill hole spacings of up to approximately 150 m for Indicated and up to approximately 300 m for Inferred have been used to support the classification.

To meet the reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction (RPEEE) requirement for Mineral Resources, an underground bulk mining scenario was considered. The Mineral Resource is reported within a block cave shape generated at a 0.33% copper equivalent (CuEq) cut-off grade. A series of block cave shapes were also prepared using increasing cut-off grades to allow for an assessment of the Project's sensitivity to different cut-off grades.

A summary of the updated MRE is provided in Table 1-2.



**Table 1-2: Summary of Mineral Resources – October 31, 2023**

Category	Tonnage (Bt)	Grade				Metal Content		
		Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	CuEq (%)	Cu (Mlb)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)
Indicated	2.08	0.40	0.15	1.5	0.51	18,426	10.2	97.5
Inferred	1.08	0.34	0.10	1.5	0.42	8,152	3.6	50.2

Notes:

1. CIM (2014) definitions were followed for Mineral Resources.
2. Mineral Resources are estimated at a cut-off grade of 0.33 g/t CuEq based on an underground block cave mining cost of US\$8/t, a processing cost of US\$12/t, and a G&A cost of US\$1/t.
3. Mineral Resources are estimated using a long-term copper price of US\$3.90 per pound, a gold price of US\$1,800 per ounce, and a silver price of US\$20 per ounce.
4. Metallurgical recoveries used correspond to three geometallurgical zones:
  - a. Upper: Cu 83.1%, Au 72.8%, Ag 31.0%
  - b. Intermediate: Cu 90.2%, Au 80.3%, Ag 54.9%
  - c. Deep: Cu 93.1%, Au 82.5%, Ag 70.5%
5. The formulas used for the CuEq calculation are:
  - a. Upper:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.681008 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.002989 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
  - b. Intermediate:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.692039 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.004877 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
  - c. Deep:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.688852 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.006068 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
6. Bulk density is 2.67 t/m<sup>3</sup>.
7. Mineral Resources are reported within an optimized underground block cave mining shape to demonstrate RPEEE. The block cave considered a column size of 20 m x 20 m x (≥ 80 m).
8. There are 40 Mt of unclassified material excluded from inside the block cave shape.
9. Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.
10. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Table 1-3 presents the Los Helados Mineral Resource tabulated within conceptual block cave shapes developed using increasing cut-off grades. This is presented to provide grade-distribution data that allows for an assessment of the Project's sensitivity to various cut-off grades.



**Table 1-3: Cut-off Grade Sensitivity**

Cut-Off Grade CuEq (%)	Category	Tonnage (Bt)	Grade				Metal Content		
			Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	CuEq (%)	Cu (Mlb)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)
0.25	Indicated	2.39	0.38	0.15	1.4	0.49	19,881	11.3	106.6
	Inferred	1.84	0.30	0.10	1.3	0.38	12,247	5.8	75.4
0.3	Indicated	2.20	0.39	0.15	1.4	0.50	19,044	10.7	101.2
	Inferred	1.30	0.33	0.10	1.4	0.41	9,462	4.3	58.0
<b>0.33</b>	<b>Indicated</b>	<b>2.08</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>18,426</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>97.5</b>
	<b>Inferred</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>8,152</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>50.2</b>
0.4	Indicated	1.65	0.43	0.16	1.5	0.55	15,696	8.5	82.2
	Inferred	0.60	0.38	0.11	1.6	0.46	5,012	2.1	31.5
0.5	Indicated	0.88	0.50	0.19	1.7	0.64	9,698	5.4	48.8
	Inferred	0.18	0.47	0.12	2.1	0.56	1,877	0.7	12.0
0.6	Indicated	0.51	0.56	0.21	1.8	0.72	6,271	3.5	30.2
	Inferred	0.04	0.62	0.09	2.4	0.70	593	0.1	3.4

The QP is not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the MRE.

## 1.13 Conclusions

The QPs offer the following conclusions:

### 1.13.1 Geology and Mineral Resources

- The Los Helados deposit is classified as a porphyry copper-gold system. A number of other large deposits and mines in the Vicuña metallogenic belt occur nearby.
- The Project database consists of drill holes at approximately 75 m to 450 m spacing. It includes 47,254 assays from 106 drill holes, totalling 93,750 m of drilling. Most of the drill holes are diamond drill holes, with just five RC drill holes.
- An MRE as of October 31, 2023, was prepared in accordance with CIM (2014) definitions as incorporated by reference into NI 43-101.
  - To meet the RPEEE requirement for Mineral Resources, an underground bulk mining scenario was considered. The Mineral Resource is reported within a block cave shape generated at a 0.33% CuEq cut-off grade based on an underground block cave mining cost of US\$8/t, a processing cost of US \$12/t, a G&A cost of US \$1/t and using a long-term copper price of US\$3.90 per pound, a gold price of US\$1,800 per ounce, and a silver price of US\$20 per ounce. Metallurgical recoveries used correspond to three geometallurgical zones.
  - Underground Indicated Mineral Resources are estimated to total 2.08 Bt averaging 0.40% Cu, 0.15 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 18.4 Blb of copper, 10.2 Moz of gold, and 97.5 Moz of silver. In addition, Inferred Mineral Resources are estimated to





- total 1.08 Bt averaging 0.34% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 8.2 Blb of copper, 3.6 Moz of gold, and 50.2 Moz of silver.
- The QP is not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the MRE.
  - Block cave shapes generated at higher cut-off grades demonstrate good continuity and potential for higher grade scenarios with lower tonnages. For example, at a 0.6% CuEq cut-off grade, Indicated Mineral Resources are estimated at 510 Mt averaging 0.56% Cu, 0.21 g/t Au, and 1.8 g/t Ag and containing 6.3 Blb of copper, 3.5 Moz of gold, and 30 Moz of silver.
  - The sample collection, preparation, analytical, and security procedures and the QA/QC program, as designed and implemented by NGEx, are adequate, and the assay results within the database are suitable for use in Mineral Resource estimation.
  - The QP is of the opinion that the Los Helados diamond drill hole assay results and database management procedures are of high quality and the assay results for gold, copper, and silver are acceptable for the purposes of Mineral Resource estimation.
    - The QA/QC program indicates good precision for copper and gold, negligible sample contamination, and the CRM results confirm that no significant biases exist for the copper and gold results. The silver grades at Los Helados are nearing the detection limit and exhibit poor precision. There is more uncertainty in the silver resource grades, however, they contribute less than 2% of the total copper equivalent value. Copper and gold contribute approximately 78% and 20%, respectively.
    - SLR carried out cross-checks between the Los Helados MX Deposit assay database and the ACME and ALS assay certificates. SLR compiled a subset of 33,270 samples from 300 certificates from 2008 to 2023 using python scripts and compared values for copper, gold, and silver against the MX Deposit assay database, which has 48,927 samples. SLR found matches for 28,416 samples, which represents 58% of the MX Deposit database. SLR found no significant errors.
  - Miocene copper-gold mineralization at Los Helados is volumetrically most significant within the magmatic-hydrothermal breccia. The breccia forms a pipe-like body with minimum dimensions of 1,100 m east-west, 1,200 m north-south, and at least 1,500 m vertically. The breccia body is surrounded by a broad halo of moderate to low grade copper-gold mineralization which diminishes in grade with increasing distance from the breccia contact.
  - There are a number of targets at Los Helados that warrant more diamond drilling including:
    - The high-grade Fenix Zone
    - A potential northeast-trending link between the Fenix and Alicanto zones
    - The South Breccia Target





### 1.13.2 Mineral Processing

- Extensive metallurgical test work completed on representative samples from the Condor zone between 2013 and 2015 demonstrate that a saleable concentrate containing copper, gold and silver with no penalty elements can be produced through a standard crush-grind-float flowsheet.

## 1.14 Recommendations

### 1.14.1 Geology and Mineral Resources

Additional work is recommended by the QP at Los Helados, with three main objectives:

- 1 Continue to upgrade Inferred Mineral Resources to Indicated, with a focus on the high-grade Fenix Zone.
- 2 Investigate a potential northeast-trending link between the Fenix and Alicanto zones.
- 3 Investigate the high-potential South Breccia Target through additional data collection and compilation, followed by exploration drilling. This target has been enhanced by the 2024 ZTEM airborne geophysical survey results.

NGEx is currently focused on advancing its newly discovered Lunahuasi Project located in San Juan Province, Argentina. The timing of the next phase of work at Los Helados is not recommended for the immediate future and will depend on results at Lunahuasi, general corporate strategy, and the financial and logistical capacity of NGEx.

The Fenix Zone represents an underexplored high-grade hydrothermal breccia which warrants additional drilling in order to fully define its size, geometry, and grade distribution. This drilling should utilize directional drilling to minimize the metres required to achieve the objective. The experience gained during the 2022-2023 campaign with directional drilling shows that this is an effective technique given the competent rock and good drilling conditions at Los Helados, with the ability to branch off multiple daughter holes from each pilot hole and to hit targets with good accuracy.

Now that the geometry of the Fenix Zone has been largely established, an efficient program of infill and expansion holes can be planned. Highest priority should be given to drilling to the south of hole LHDH084 (390 m at 1.13% CuEq; 1.02% Cu, 0.15 g/t Au, 2.4 g/t Ag plus 187 ppm Mo), below LHDH076 (including 142 m at 1.38% CuEq; 1.14% Cu, 0.35 g/t Au, 3.8 g/t Ag plus 77 ppm Mo), and below LHDH081-2, which ended in strong mineralization with the final 63.8 m at 1.25% CuEq; 1.14% Cu, 0.14 g/t Au, 3.6 g/t Ag plus 741 ppm Mo).

Another key target is the top of the Fenix breccia body. Intersecting it closer to surface would improve the potential economics of mine planning at a shallower depth. In addition, there is some evidence to suggest that gold values in particular are high along the contacts of the hydrothermal breccias.

Geological mapping conducted during the 2022-2023 season identified an area of outcropping hydrothermal breccias approximately 300 m to 500 m south of the Condor Zone. This cluster comprises numerous sulphate-clay rich breccias over an area of 250 m x 150 m, and has been named the South Breccia Target. Where weathered, these breccias appear as outstanding cones with gypsum-clay cement, forming a cauliflower-like surface with degassing holes. In road cuts they display a stockwork array of anhydrite/gypsum veinlets, dissemination of sulphides in wall rock, and frequent sulphide-rich hydrothermal breccia injections. These breccia occurrences might reflect centres of magmatic hydrothermal activity at depth.



This area is also coincident with an magnetotelluric (MT) anomaly which is similar to the anomalies associated with the Fenix and Condor zones, and has not been drill tested. At least one hole into the centre of this area should be completed, as the combination of the breccia cluster mapped at surface and the MT anomaly could be indicating another high-grade hydrothermal breccia, similar to Fenix or Alicanto, at depth. Detailed interpretation of the recently-completed ZTEM geophysical survey may help to refine targets in this area.



## 2.0 Introduction

SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. (SLR) was retained by NGEx Minerals Ltd. (NGEx) to prepare an independent Technical Report on the Los Helados Project (the Project or the Property), located in Chile and Argentina. The Los Helados deposit (Los Helados), is located within the Property boundary, in Region III, Chile, and is the subject of the Mineral Resource estimate (MRE) reported in this Technical Report. The purpose of this Technical Report is to support the disclosure of the Los Helados Project contained in the management information circular of NGEx to be delivered to NGEx shareholders in connection with the special meeting of NGEx shareholders to be held to consider and approve a statutory plan of arrangement pursuant to Section 192 of the *Canada Business Corporations Act* which involves, among other things, NGEx distributing common shares of 17156138 Canada Inc. (Spinco) to NGEx shareholders on the basis of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a common share of Spinco for each common share of NGEx held.

This Technical Report conforms to National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (NI 43-101). The classification for Mineral Resources conforms to the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) Definition Standards for Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves dated May 10, 2014 (CIM [2014] definitions).

NGEx is a TSX listed copper and gold exploration company based in Vancouver, Canada, with projects in Argentina and Chile.

The Los Helados Mineral Resource is located entirely in Chile, on claims owned by NGEx's Chilean subsidiary, Minera Frontera del Oro SpA (MFDO) (the MFDO Properties). NGEx holds an indirect approximate 69.1% interest in the MFDO Properties. The MFDO Properties are subject to a joint exploration agreement with Nippon Caserones Resources Co. Ltd. (NCR), which holds the remaining approximately 30.9%. NCR is a Japanese company that is owned by JX Advanced Metals Corporation (JX). JX, together with certain affiliates, holds a 49% interest in the Caserones open pit copper mine that is located approximately 17 km north of Los Helados.

## 2.1 Sources of Information

Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng., visited the Los Helados deposit, and the office and core logging facility in Copiapó, Chile, from September 18 to 22, 2023. Mr. Evans is the Qualified Person (QP) responsible for the entire Technical Report except Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13, and 25.2 (Table 2-1). There has been no technical work completed on the Project since the date of this visit, with the exception of the airborne ZTEM geophysical survey.

All aspects that could materially impact the integrity of the data informing the MRE for Los Helados were reviewed by the QP, including outcrop inspection, core logging, sampling methods and security, analytical and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures, and database management.

The QP was given full access to relevant data and conducted interviews with NGEx personnel to obtain information on exploration work and to understand the procedures used to collect, record, store, and analyze historical and current exploration data.

Dr. Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo., President of Terra Mineralogical Services Inc. (Terra) based in Ontario, is the QP responsible for Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13 and 25.2 (Table 2-1). Dr. Di-Prisco was the QP for Section 13 on previous NI 43-101 Technical Reports, dated December 13, 2023 and August 6, 2019. There has been no further update on metallurgical testing for the Project since the 2019 Technical Report.



**Table 2-1: Qualified Persons and Responsibilities**

QP, Designation, Title	Company	Responsible for
Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng. Principal Resource Geologist Global Technical Director, Geology Group Leader	SLR	Entire report except Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13, 25.2
Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo. President	Terra Mineralogical Services Inc.	Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13, 25.2

SLR would like to acknowledge the excellent co-operation in discussions and transmittal of technical material by the NGEx geology team and Terra. SLR would also like to thank specifically Fionnuala Devine, M.Sc., P.Geo., for assistance in assembling the geology and history sections of this report. Ms. Devine is familiar with Los Helados and was a QP in the previous Technical Reports in 2018 and 2019.

Discussions were held with the following personnel from NGEx:

- Wojtek Wodzicki, President and CEO
- Bob Carmichael, P.Geo., Vice President Exploration
- Richard Flynn, P.Geo., Principal Resource Geologist
- Humberto Brockway, Independent Consulting Geologist
- Aylén Ibis Tremea, Chief Geologist
- Fernando Richard, Manager, Services
- Fabian Wagner Soto, Project Geologist
- Eduardo Espinosa, Junior Geologist
- Yasmin Godoy, Junior Geologist

Past Technical Reports on Los Helados include:

- Evans, L., Di Prisco, G. 2023: Technical Report on the Los Helados and Lunahuasi Projects, Chile and Argentina; Effective Date: October 31, 2023, Report Date: December 13, 2023.
- Devine, F., Zandonai, G., and Di Prisco, G., 2019: Technical Report on the Los Helados Porphyry Copper-Gold Deposit, Chile; Effective Date: April 26, 2019, Report Date: August 6, 2019.
- Devine, F., et al., 2018: Technical Report on the Los Helados Porphyry Copper-Gold Deposit, Chile; Effective Date: May 27, 2017, Report Date: December 14, 2018.
- Ovalle, A., et al., 2016: Constellation Project; Incorporating the Los Helados Deposit, Chile and the Josemaria Deposit, Argentina, NI43-101 Technical Report on Preliminary Economic Assessment; Effective Date February 12, 2016, Amended March 31, 2016.
- Quiñones, C., Ovalle, A., Frost, D., Prisco, D., Khera, V., Pizarro, N., and Zandonai, G., 2014: Los Helados Cu-Au Deposit, Atacama Region III, Chile, NI 43-101 Technical Report on Preliminary Economic Assessment: technical report prepared by AMEC and Behre Dolbear for NGEx Resources Inc., effective date October 1, 2014.



- Zandonai, G., and Frost, D., 2013: Updated Mineral Resource Estimate for the Los Helados Property, Region III of Atacama, Chile: technical report prepared by Behre Dolbear and AMEC for NGEx Resources Inc., effective date October 15, 2013, amended March 24, 2014
- Zandonai, G., Carmichael, R., Charchaflié, D., and Frost, D., 2013: Updated Mineral Resource Estimate for the Los Helados Property, Region III of Atacama, Chile: technical report prepared by Behre Dolbear, NGEx, LPF Consulting SRL, and AMEC for NGEx Resources Inc., effective date October 15, 2013
- Zandonai, G., Carmichael, R., and Charchaflié, D., 2012: Mineral Resource Estimate for the Los Helados Property, Region III of Atacama, Chile: technical report prepared by LPF Consulting SRL, NGEx and Micron Geological Limited for NGEx Resources Inc., effective date October 15, 2012
- Charchaflié, D. and LeCouteur, P.C., 2012: Geological Report on the Los Helados Property, III Region of Atacama, Chile: technical report prepared by LPF Consulting SRL and Micron Geological Limited for NGEx Resources Inc., effective date February 15, 2012

The documentation reviewed, and other sources of information, are listed at the end of this Technical Report in Section 27 References.



## 2.2 List of Abbreviations

Units of measurement used in this Technical Report conform to the metric system. All currency in this Technical Report is US dollars (US\$) unless otherwise noted.

μ	micron	kVA	kilovolt-amperes
μg	microgram	kW	kilowatt
a	annum	kWh	kilowatt-hour
A	ampere	L	litre
bbl	barrels	lb	pound
Blb	billion pounds		
Bt	billion tonnes		
Btu	British thermal units	L/s	litres per second
°C	degree Celsius	m	metre
C\$	Canadian dollars	M	mega (million); molar
cal	calorie	m <sup>2</sup>	square metre
cfm	cubic feet per minute	m <sup>3</sup>	cubic metre
cm	centimetre	MASL	metres above sea level
cm <sup>2</sup>	square centimetre	m <sup>3</sup> /h	cubic metres per hour
d	day	mi	mile
dia	diameter	min	minute
dmt	dry metric tonne	μm	micrometre
dwt	dead-weight ton	mm	millimetre
°F	degree Fahrenheit	mph	miles per hour
ft	foot	MVA	megavolt-amperes
ft <sup>2</sup>	square foot	MW	megawatt
ft <sup>3</sup>	cubic foot	MWh	megawatt-hour
ft/s	foot per second	oz	Troy ounce (31.1035g)
g	gram	oz/st, opt	ounce per short ton
G	giga (billion)	ppb	part per billion
Gal	Imperial gallon	ppm	part per million
g/L	gram per litre	psia	pound per square inch absolute
Gpm	Imperial gallons per minute	psig	pound per square inch gauge
g/t	gram per tonne	RL	relative elevation
gr/ft <sup>3</sup>	grain per cubic foot	s	second
gr/m <sup>3</sup>	grain per cubic metre	st	short ton
ha	hectare	stpa	short ton per year
hp	horsepower	stpd	short ton per day
hr	hour	t	metric tonne
Hz	hertz	tpa	metric tonne per year
in.	inch	tpd	metric tonne per day
in <sup>2</sup>	square inch	US\$	United States dollar
J	joule	USg	United States gallon
k	kilo (thousand)	USgpm	US gallon per minute
kcal	kilocalorie	V	volt
kg	kilogram	W	watt
km	kilometre	wmt	wet metric tonne
km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometre	wt%	weight percent
km/h	kilometre per hour	yd <sup>3</sup>	cubic yard
kPa	kilopascal	yr	year



The following symbols are used for chemical elements:

Au – gold

Ag – silver

As - arsenic

Cu – copper

CuEq – copper equivalent

Fe - iron

Hg - mercury

Mo – molybdenum

S - sulphur



### 3.0 Reliance on Other Experts

This Technical Report has been prepared by SLR for NGEx. The information, conclusions, opinions, and estimates contained herein are based on:

- Information available to SLR at the time of preparation of this Technical Report.
- Assumptions, conditions, and qualifications as set forth in this Technical Report.

For the purpose of this Technical Report, SLR has relied on ownership information provided by NGEx. The client has relied on an opinion by Bofill Mir Abogados Limitada dated July 29, 2025 for the Los Helados Project mineral titles in Chile and an opinion by Randall Legal dated July 20, 2025 for Los Helados Project mineral titles in Argentina. These legal opinions are relied on in Section 4 and the Summary of this Technical Report. SLR has not researched property title or mineral rights for the Los Helados Project and expresses no opinion as to the ownership status of the Property.

Except for the purposes legislated under provincial securities laws, any use of this Technical Report by any third party is at that party's sole risk.





## 4.0 Property Description and Location

### 4.1 Project Location

The Project is located approximately 125 km southeast of the city of Copiapó, in Chile (Figure4-1). The approximate latitude and longitude centroid of the Los Helados deposit is 28.3408° S, 69.5857° W.

### 4.2 Project Ownership

The Property is comprised of claims in Chile owned by NGEx's Chilean subsidiary, Minera Frontera del Oro SpA (MFDO) (the MFDO Properties), and claims in Argentina owned by its Argentine subsidiaries RioEx S.A. (the La Rioja Properties) and Pampa Exploración S.A. (the Pampa Claim). NGEx holds an indirect approximate 69.1% interest in the MFDO Properties, a 60% interest in the La Rioja Properties, and a 100% interest in the Pampa Claim. The MFDO Properties and the La Rioja Properties are subject to a joint exploration agreement with Nippon Caserones Resources Co. Ltd. (NCR), which holds the remaining approximately 30.9% and 40% respective interests. The combined surface area of the mineral tenures comprising the Project is approximately 37,783 ha.

The Los Helados Mineral Resource is entirely located in Chile, on the MFDO Properties.



The map displays the Los Helados area, showing the intersection of Chile and Argentina. Key features include:

- Geographic Labels:** Copiapó, Candelaria, Los Loros, Vizcachas, Co. Casale, Pircas Negras, Barrancas Blancas, Carnerio Peak, Fandango Peak, Carnerio Peak, La Rioja, San Juan, La Brea, El Inca, El Morro, El Toro Peak, Jarilla, Relincho, Algarrobal, Paica Peak, Bonetto Peak, De Las Tortolas Peak, Vizcacha Peak, Las Juntas, Los Hornos, Quebrada Seca, Cadillal, Caserones, Lunahuasi, Josemaria, Mogotes, Amarillo Peak, El Inca, La Brea, Los Sagitos Peak.
- Provinces:** Copiapó Province, Huasco Province, La Rioja Province, San Juan Province, Antofagasta Province, Coquimbo Province, Valparaíso Province, Magallanes Province.
- Rivers:** Copiapó River, Huasco River, Maipo River, Colorado River, Bío-Bío River, Maipo River, Colorado River, Bío-Bío River.
- Infrastructure:** Highway 5, Highway 31, Highway 33, Highway 350, Highway 411, Highway 451, Highway 459, Highway 395, Highway 479.
- Project Locations:** Los Helados Project (marked with a red 'X'), Other projects and mines (marked with a black 'X').
- Legend:**
  - Los Helados Project (Red 'X')
  - Other projects and mines (Black 'X')
  - Main cities (Red dot)
  - Localities (Black dot)
  - Access to project (Red line)
  - Highway (Orange line)
  - Paved road (Grey line)
  - Gravel road (Black line)
  - Airports (Blue circle with 'A')
  - Border:
    - International border (Dashed line)
    - Interprovincial border (Dotted line)
- Scale:** 0, 25, 50 Kilometers.
- Map Information:** Ellipsoid: WGS1984, Aug. 2025.
- Inset Map:** Shows the location of Los Helados within Chile and Argentina, with a scale bar from 0 to 200 Kilometers.

### 4.3 Joint Exploration Agreement

Part of the Project is subject to a Joint Exploration Agreement with NCR (the NCR JEA), whereby NGEx holds an approximate 69.1% interest and NCR holds an approximate 30.9% interest in the MFDO Properties, and NGEx holds a 60% interest and NCR holds a 40% interest in the La Rioja Properties. NCR is a Japanese company that is owned by JX Advanced Metals Corporation.

The NCR JEA applies to the MFDO Properties and the La Rioja Properties, however, the terms of the agreement are slightly different for each property.

On the MFDO Properties, each party (Participant) in the NCR JEA is expected to fund its pro-rata share of expenditures or be diluted. If the Participant interest in the NCR JEA is diluted to below 5%, the Participant interest will automatically convert to a 0.5% net smelter return (NSR) royalty. The NCR JEA includes a reciprocal right of first offer if one Participant wishes to sell its interest.

NCR did not contribute to its share of expenditures on the MFDO Properties under the NCR JEA between 2015 and 2021. As a result, it has incurred dilution of its Project interest resulting in the NGEx interest increasing and the NCR interest decreasing to the current 69.1/30.9 split. Beginning with the 2021-2022 work program, NCR began contributing its proportion of the project costs ending the dilution and fixing the project interests as above.

On the La Rioja Properties, NCR is deemed to have funded US\$3.5 million in expenditures which is offset against future funding obligations of NCR. Therefore, the ownership interest on the La Rioja Properties is 60% in favour of NGEx and 40% in favour of NCR.

For as long as NGEx holds at least a 50% interest in the NCR JEA, NGEx has the right to act as the Operator.

### 4.4 Mineral Tenure (Chile)

Legal opinion was provided that MFDO holds 220 mining concessions in Chile, of which: 97 are constituted exploration mining concessions; 86 are exploitation mining concessions in the process of being granted; and 37 are constituted exploitation concessions (collectively, the MFDO Properties).

The exploitation mining concessions in the process of being granted will replace the granted exploration mining concessions. Exploitation mining concessions do not expire as long as the annual payments are kept up-to-date.

Aggregate tenure areas in Chile can be misleading as the mineral tenure system allows for valid overlapping tenures, creating the potential for several “layers” of claims to cover the same ground. The first layer holds the actual legal tenure, however, if for some reason this tenure lapses then ownership automatically transfers to the second layer. This system leads to essentially two categories of tenure areas: legal tenure and pre-emptive tenure. The legal tenure is the aggregate area of the tenures owned by an entity, regardless of which layer they occupy. The pre-emptive tenure is the aggregate area of tenures owned by an entity which occupy the first layer, giving the entity effective ownership of the mineral rights to this area.

The total area of the MFDO Properties legal tenure is 31,428 ha. Of this total, MFDO holds 19,998 ha with pre-emptive rights. The Los Helados deposit is covered by concessions “Limite 23 1/245” and “Limite 24 1/215”.



All of the property in Chile, including the option agreements, is subject to the NCR JEA as described above.

Details of the name and area in hectares of the titles are presented in Table 4-1 to Table 4-3. Figure 4-2 is a location plan showing the mineral tenures.

**Table 4-1: MFDO Exploitation Mining Concessions (Granted)**

N°	Concession Name	Area (ha)
1	EL RANCHO 1/60	300
2	EL RANCHO III 1/36	158
3	ODILIA 1/20	80
4	LOS HELADOS 1/5	30
5	ANDREA 1/10	100
6	EVELYN 1/10	100
7	NAPOLEON II 1/10	100
8	LIMITE 1 1/40	200
9	LIMITE 2 1/40	200
10	LIMITE 3 1/26	116
11	LIMITE 4 1/35	168
12	LIMITE 5 1/51	255
13	LIMITE 6 1/49	234
14	LIMITE 7 1/30	131
15	LIMITE 23 1/10	50
16	LIMITE III 1/100	100
17	LIMITE 8 1/174	174
18	LIMITE 9 1/158	158
19	LIMITE 10 1/96	96
20	LIMITE 11 1/235	235
21	LIMITE 12 1/141	141
22	LIMITE 13 1/20	20
23	LIMITE 14 1/200	200
24	LIMITE 15 1/200	200
25	LIMITE 16 1/220	220
26	LIMITE 17 1/198	198
27	LIMITE 18 1/199	199
28	LIMITE 19 1/190	190
29	LIMITE 20 1/143	143



N°	Concession Name	Area (ha)
30	LIMITE 21 1/110	110
31	LIMITE 22 1/14	14
32	LIMITE 23 1/245	245
33	LIMITE 24 1/215	215
34	LIMITE 25 1/129	129
35	LIMITE 26 1/190	190
36	LIMITE 26-A 1/11	11
37	LIMITE 27 1/218	218

**Table 4-2: MFDO Exploration Mining Concessions (Granted)**

N°	Name	Area (ha)	Expiration Date DD-MM-YYY
1	REFUGIO III 28	200	08-04-2026
2	REFUGIO III 29	200	23-04-2026
3	LOS HELADOS IV 1	300	07-03-2026
4	LOS HELADOS IV 2	300	12-09-2026
5	LOS HELADOS IV 3	200	05-04-2026
6	LOS HELADOS IV 4	300	07-03-2026
7	LOS HELADOS IV 5	300	07-03-2026
8	LOS HELADOS IV 6	300	07-03-2026
9	LOS HELADOS IV 7	300	13-03-2026
10	LOS HELADOS IV 8	300	07-03-2026
11	LOS HELADOS IV 9	300	19-04-2026
12	LOS HELADOS IV 10	300	19-04-2026
13	LOS HELADOS IV 11	100	07-03-2026
14	LOS HELADOS IV 12	200	10-03-2026
15	LOS HELADOS IV 13	300	19-04-2026
16	LOS HELADOS IV 14	300	22-04-2026
17	LOS HELADOS IV 15	300	07-03-2026
18	LOS HELADOS IV 16	300	10-03-2026
19	LOS HELADOS IV 17	300	19-04-2026
20	LOS HELADOS IV 18	300	22-04-2026
21	LOS HELADOS IV 19	300	07-03-2026
22	LOS HELADOS IV 20	300	10-03-2026



<b>N°</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Expiration Date DD-MM-YYY</b>
23	LOS HELADOS IV 21	300	19-04-2026
24	LOS HELADOS IV 22	100	22-04-2026
25	LOS HELADOS IV 23	200	07-03-2026
26	LOS HELADOS IV 24	300	10-03-2026
27	LOS HELADOS IV 25	300	19-04-2026
28	LOS HELADOS IV 26	300	22-04-2026
29	LOS HELADOS IV 27	300	07-03-2026
30	LOS HELADOS IV 28	300	22-04-2026
31	LOS HELADOS IV 29	300	14-03-2026
32	LOS HELADOS IV 30	300	05-04-2026
33	LOS HELADOS IV 31	300	22-04-2026
34	LOS HELADOS IV 32	300	14-03-2026
35	LOS HELADOS IV 33	300	05-04-2026
36	LOS HELADOS IV 34	300	22-04-2026
37	LOS HELADOS IV 35	200	14-03-2026
38	LOS HELADOS IV 36	200	05-04-2026
39	LOS HELADOS IV 37	200	22-04-2026
40	LOS HELADOS IV 38	200	07-03-2026
41	LOS HELADOS IV 39	300	05-04-2026
42	LOS HELADOS IV 40	300	22-04-2026
43	LOS HELADOS IV 41	300	13-03-2026
44	LOS HELADOS IV 42	200	05-04-2026
45	LOS HELADOS IV 43	300	22-04-2026
46	LOS HELADOS IV 44	300	07-03-2026
47	LOS HELADOS IV 45	300	13-03-2026
48	LOS HELADOS IV 46	100	22-04-2026
49	LOS HELADOS IV 47	200	07-03-2026
50	LOS HELADOS IV 48	300	13-03-2026
51	LOS HELADOS IV 49	300	22-04-2026
52	LOS HELADOS IV 50	300	07-03-2026
53	LOS HELADOS III 51	200	28-01-2026
54	MAGDA III 27B	100	06-04-2026
55	LOS HELADOS IV A	300	28-12-2027





<b>N°</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Expiration Date DD-MM-YYY</b>
56	LOS HELADOS IV B	300	18-01-2028
57	LOS HELADOS IV C	300	27-11-2027
58	LOS HELADOS IV D	300	27-11-2027
59	LOS HELADOS IV E	300	28-12-2027
60	LOS HELADOS IV F	300	18-01-2028
61	LOS HELADOS IV G	300	27-11-2027
62	LOS HELADOS IV H	300	30-11-2027
63	LOS HELADOS IV I	300	28-12-2027
64	LOS HELADOS IV J	300	18-01-2028
65	LOS HELADOS IV K	300	30-11-2027
66	LOS HELADOS IV L	300	30-11-2027
67	LOS HELADOS IV M	300	28-12-2027
68	LOS HELADOS IV N	300	30-01-2028
69	LOS HELADOS IV O	300	11-01-2028
70	LOS HELADOS IV P	300	30-11-2027
71	REFUGIO IV 1	200	28-12-2027
72	REFUGIO IV 2	300	18-01-2028
73	REFUGIO IV 3	300	27-11-2027
74	REFUGIO IV 4	200	30-11-2027
75	REFUGIO IV 5	200	28-12-2027
76	REFUGIO IV 6	300	18-01-2028
77	REFUGIO IV 7	200	27-11-2027
78	REFUGIO IV 8	300	30-11-2027
79	REFUGIO IV 9	300	28-12-2027
80	REFUGIO IV 10	300	18-01-2028
81	REFUGIO IV 11	300	27-11-2027
82	REFUGIO IV 12	300	28-12-2027
83	REFUGIO IV 13	300	30-11-2027
84	REFUGIO IV 14	300	17-01-2028
85	REFUGIO IV 15	200	27-11-2027
86	REFUGIO IV 16	200	28-12-2027
87	REFUGIO IV 17	100	30-11-2027
88	REFUGIO IV 18	200	17-01-2028



N°	Name	Area (ha)	Expiration Date DD-MM-YYY
89	REFUGIO IV 19	200	23-11-2027
90	REFUGIO IV 20	200	28-12-2027
91	REFUGIO IV 21	300	30-11-2027
92	REFUGIO IV 22	300	17-01-2028
93	REFUGIO IV 23	300	24-11-2027
94	REFUGIO IV 24	300	28-12-2027
95	REFUGIO IV 25	200	30-11-2027
96	REFUGIO IV 26	200	17-01-2028
97	REFUGIO IV 27	300	24-11-2027

**Table 4-3: MFDO Exploitation Mining Concessions in the Process of Being Granted**

N°	Name	Area (ha)
1	LOS HELADOS III 51, 1/30	150
2	LOS HELADOS IV 1, 1/60	300
3	LOS HELADOS IV 2, 1/60	300
4	LOS HELADOS IV 3, 1/40	200
5	LOS HELADOS IV 4, 1/60	300
6	LOS HELADOS IV 5, 1/60	300
7	LOS HELADOS IV 6, 1/60	300
8	LOS HELADOS IV 7, 1/60	300
9	LOS HELADOS IV 8, 1/60	300
10	LOS HELADOS IV 9, 1/60	300
11	LOS HELADOS IV 10, 1/50	250
12	LOS HELADOS IV 11, 1/20	100
13	LOS HELADOS IV 12, 1/30	150
14	LOS HELADOS IV 13, 1/60	300
15	LOS HELADOS IV 14, 1/60	300
16	LOS HELADOS IV 15, 1/60	300
17	LOS HELADOS IV 16, 1/60	300
18	LOS HELADOS IV 17, 1/60	300
19	LOS HELADOS IV 18, 1/60	300
20	LOS HELADOS IV 19, 1/60	300
21	LOS HELADOS IV 20, 1/50	250





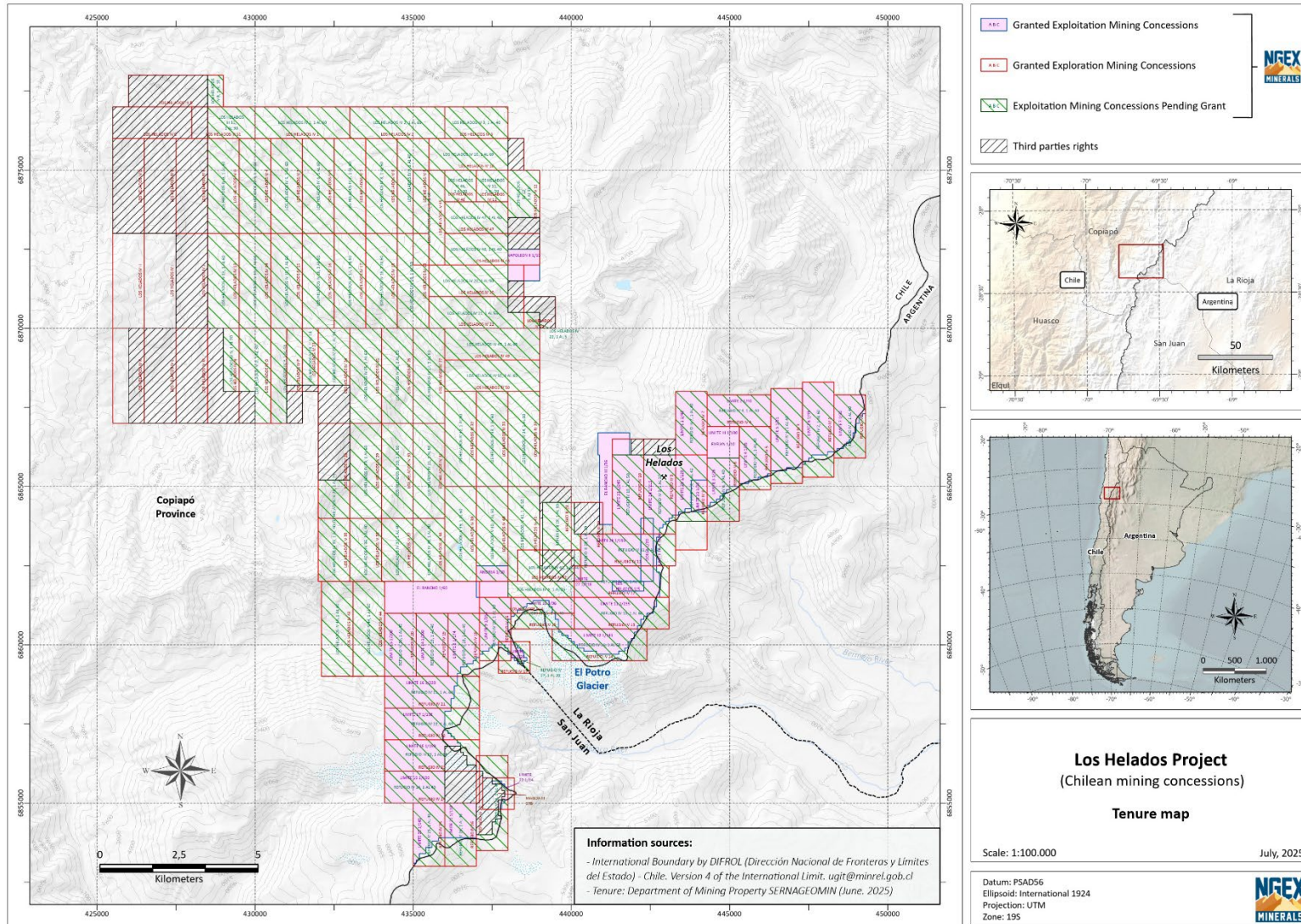
N°	Name	Area (ha)
22	LOS HELADOS IV 21, 1/55	300
23	LOS HELADOS IV 22, 1/5	100
24	LOS HELADOS IV 23, 1/18	200
25	LOS HELADOS IV 24, 1/36	300
26	LOS HELADOS IV 25, 1/60	300
27	LOS HELADOS IV 26, 1/60	300
28	LOS HELADOS IV 27, 1/60	300
29	LOS HELADOS IV 28, 1/24	300
30	LOS HELADOS IV 29, 1/60	300
31	LOS HELADOS IV 30, 1/60	300
32	LOS HELADOS IV 31, 1/60	300
33	LOS HELADOS IV 32, 1/60	300
34	LOS HELADOS IV 33, 1/60	300
35	LOS HELADOS IV 34, 1/60	300
36	LOS HELADOS IV 35, 1/40	200
37	LOS HELADOS IV 36, 1/40	200
38	LOS HELADOS IV 37, 1/40	200
39	LOS HELADOS IV 38, 1/40	200
40	LOS HELADOS IV 39, 1/60	300
41	LOS HELADOS IV 40, 1/50	300
42	LOS HELADOS IV 41, 1/50	300
43	LOS HELADOS IV 42, 1/40	200
44	LOS HELADOS IV 43, 1/60	300
45	LOS HELADOS IV 44, 1/60	300
46	LOS HELADOS IV 45, 1/60	300
47	LOS HELADOS IV 46, 1/20	100
48	LOS HELADOS IV 47, 1/40	200
49	LOS HELADOS IV 48, 1/40	300
50	LOS HELADOS IV 49, 1/60	300
51	LOS HELADOS IV 50, 1/60	300
52	LOS HELADOS IV A, 1/25	300
53	LOS HELADOS IV B, 1/10	50
54	LOS HELADOS IV G, 1/60	300



<b>N°</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>
55	LOS HELADOS IV N, 1/20	300
56	LOS HELADOS IV O, 1/50	300
57	LOS HELADOS IV P, 1/48	300
58	REFUGIO III 28, 1/40	200
59	REFUGIO III 29, 1/40	200
60	REFUGIO IV 1, 1/40	200
61	REFUGIO IV 2, 1/60	300
62	REFUGIO IV 3, 1/60	300
63	REFUGIO IV 4, 1/40	200
64	REFUGIO IV 5, 1/40	200
65	REFUGIO IV 6, 1/40	300
66	REFUGIO IV 7, 1/40	200
67	REFUGIO IV 8, 1/42	300
68	REFUGIO IV 9, 1/50	300
69	REFUGIO IV 10, 1/60	300
70	REFUGIO IV 11 1/50	300
71	REFUGIO IV 12, 1/60	300
72	REFUGIO IV 13, 1/60	300
73	REFUGIO IV 14, 1/60	300
74	REFUGIO IV 15, 1/40	200
75	REFUGIO IV 16, 1/40	200
76	REFUGIO IV 17, 1/20	100
77	REFUGIO IV 18, 1/40	200
78	REFUGIO IV 19, 1/40	200
79	REFUGIO IV 20, 1/40	200
80	REFUGIO IV 21, 1/60	300
81	REFUGIO IV 22, 1/60	300
82	REFUGIO IV 23, 1/54	300
83	REFUGIO IV 24, 1/40	300
84	REFUGIO IV 25, 1/40	200
85	REFUGIO IV 26, 1/40	200
86	REFUGIO IV 27, 1/60	300



**Figure 4-2: Los Helados Mineral Tenure Map (Chile)**



#### 4.4.1 Surface Rights

In accordance with the provisions set forth in the Chilean Mining Code any titleholder of a mining concession, whether for exploration or exploitation, shall have the right to establish an occupation easement over the surface land as required for the exploration or exploitation of its concessions. If the surface property owner is not agreeable to grant the easement voluntarily, the titleholder of the mining concessions may request said easement before the relevant Court of Justice, which shall grant it upon determination of the compensation to be paid to the surface property owner.

MFDO has entered into three agreements related to the surface property of the Project, the key terms of which are summarized as follows.

##### 4.4.1.1 Intention Agreement with Comunidad Civil Ex Estancia Pulido (the “Intention Agreement”)

Public deed dated January 26, 2021, granted before the Copiapó Notary Public Ms. Gaby Hernández Soto, and expiring on January 26, 2026.

*Comunidad Civil Ex Estancia Pulido (Comunidad)* authorizes MFDO to enter their surface property, which covers a portion of the Property location, for the sole purpose of carrying out environmental monitoring tasks, measuring water flows and, in general, those activities necessary to comply with the obligations and commitments established by law or the authority for the maintenance of the Project.

Also, the parties declared their intention to enter into a new agreement, establishing an authorization for MFDO to enter the surface property in broad terms for the Project’s development, once the technical, economic, and financial circumstances allow MFDO to restart the Project’s development.

Compensation for the Intention Agreement was agreed as outlined in Table 4-4.

**Table 4-4: Compensation under Intention Agreement**

Amount (US\$)	Due Date	Status
200,000	January 26, 2021	Paid
200,000	January 26, 2022	Paid
250,000	November 22, 2022	Paid
250,000	November 22, 2023	Paid
250,000	November 22, 2024	Paid

##### 4.4.1.2 Pascuala Irma Cruz Easement

Public deed dated November 3, 2016, granted before the Copiapó Notary Public Mr. Luis Contreras Fuentes, and expiring on January 26, 2026.

Ms. Cruz Olivares, owner of the surface property, granted MFDO an easement for the transit of vehicles and equipment through the private road located inside of her property. Additionally, MFDO is entitled to purchase that part of the surface property required for the construction and operation of the Project, the price and terms of such purchase will be negotiated in good faith by the parties, considering the amounts paid under the easement agreement.



In accordance with this agreement, MFDO must pay the compensation for the easement as outlined in Table 4-5.

**Table 4-5: Compensation for Pascuala Irma Cruz Easement**

Amount (US\$)	Due Date	Status
15,000	January 26, 2021	Paid
15,000	January 26, 2022	Paid
18,500	November 22, 2022	Paid
18,500	November 30, 2023	Paid
18,500	November 30, 2024	Paid

#### 4.4.1.3 Abel Cruz Olivares Easement

Public deed dated November 3, 2016, granted before the Copiapó Notary Public Mr. Luis Contreras Fuentes, and expiring on January 26, 2026.

Mr. Cruz Olivares, owner of the surface property, granted MFDO an easement for the transit of vehicles and equipment through the private road located inside of his property. Additionally, MFDO is entitled to purchase that part of the surface property required for the construction and operation of the Project, the price and terms of such purchase will be negotiated in good faith by the parties, considering the amounts paid under the easement agreement.

In accordance with this agreement, MFDO must pay compensation for the easement as outlined in Table 4-6.

**Table 4-6: Compensation for Abel Cruz Olivares Easement**

Amount (US\$)	Due Date	Status
3,250	January 26, 2021	Paid
3,250	January 26, 2022	Paid
4,000	November 22, 2022	Paid
4,000	November 30, 2023	Paid
4,000	November 30, 2024	Paid

#### 4.4.2 Royalties and Encumbrances

Chilean government royalties are levied in the form of a mining tax on dividends paid by any Chilean company. There is also a specific tax on mining activities. This tax is levied on the operational income obtained by any individual or legal entity that extracts mineral substances and sells them at any state of production. The mining tax rate depends on the values of annual production expressed by the equivalent value of the metric tonne of fine copper. The metric tonne value is calculated using average copper price at the London Metal Exchange.

NGEx has executed two royalty purchase agreements pursuant to which it has agreed to sell royalties over the sale or transfer of minerals extracted from the MFDO Properties, as follows:

(i) a 1.38% NSR royalty in favor of Spinco; and (ii) a 0.62% NSR royalty in favor of NCR,





together comprising a 2% NSR royalty over the sale or transfer of minerals extracted from the MFDO Properties.

#### 4.4.3 Permits

The two most recent drill campaigns at Los Helados were permitted under an Environmental Relevance Consultation ("*Consulta de Pertinencia*") which concluded that the planned programs did not require mandatory entry into the Environmental Impact Assessment System (SEIA). Future programs at Los Helados would be permitted under the same system, which is typically initiated during the program planning stage such that permission would be expected to be granted prior to the commencement of physical work.

#### 4.4.4 Environmental Liabilities

Existing environmental liabilities are limited to those associated with exploration-stage properties and would involve rehabilitation of drill sites and drill site access roads.

### 4.5 Mineral Tenure (Argentina)

Legal opinion was provided that NGEx owns five exploitation licences (*minas*) in La Rioja Province; four are owned by the subsidiary ReoEx S.A. and one is owned by the subsidiary Pampa Exploración S.A.. Concessions held by NGEx total approximately 6,355 ha although the actual area is smaller due to uncertainty over the international boundary between Chile and Argentina and the Provincial boundary between La Rioja Province and San Juan Province.

Details of the identification number, status, area in hectares, and name of the titles are presented in Table 4-7. Figure 4-3 illustrates the NGEx mineral tenure in Argentina.

An annual exploration fee due to the Province of La Rioja or San Juan is paid in proportion to the number of mining units covered by each exploitation licence (*mina*). All required fees have been paid as of 2025. The concessions do not expire as long as the annual fees are paid.

The Argentine Mining Code also requires the presentation of a plan of investment for each exploitation licence (*mina*).

**Table 4-7: Exploitation Mining Concessions for the Los Helados Project in Argentina**

Concession	File Number	Area (ha)	Mining Units	Annual Fee (ARP\$)
Chola 1*	037-F-04	2,500	25	475,000
Potro I*	169-F-97	1,073	11	209,000
Potro II*	170-F-97	531	6	114,000
Potro III*	48-F-99	151	2	38,000
Solitario 17**	61-P-96	2,100	21	399,000
Notes: ARP\$ = Argentinean peso * Part of the La Rioja Properties – owned 60% by NGEx ** The Pampa Claim – owned 100% by NGEx				



**Information sources:**

- International Boundary Argentine Military Geographic Institute (IGN) linea\_de\_limite\_FA004
- <https://www.ign.gob.ar/Nuestras/Actividades/InformacionGeoespacial/CapasSIG>
- Tenure: Ministry of Mining of La Rioja(v.2023)

**Legend:**

- Pampa Exp. S.A. Concessions
- RioEx S.A. Concessions

**Los Helados Project Tenure map Argentinian concessions**

Scale: 1:100,000

Reference frame: POSGAR 94  
Ellipsoid: WGS84  
Projection: Gauss-Krüger  
Band: 2

**NGEX MINERALS**

#### 4.5.1 Surface Rights

The Argentine Mining Code (AMC) sets out rules under which surface rights and easements can be granted for a mining operation, and covers aspects including land occupation, rights-of-way, access routes, transport routes, rail lines, water usage, and any other infrastructure needed for operations.

In general, compensation must be paid to the affected landowner in proportion to the amount of damage or inconvenience incurred. However, no provisions or regulations have been enacted as to the nature or amount of the compensation payment.

In instances where no agreement can be reached with the landowner, the AMC provides the mining right holder with the right to expropriate the required property.

The properties in La Rioja are located in the Iglesias Department of the Province of La Rioja, in the area called “*Usos Múltiples*” (Multiple Uses), which is the marginal area of the Laguna Brava Provincial Reserve, where mining activities are fully authorized.

#### 4.5.2 Royalties and Encumbrances

The properties Potro I, Potro II, and Potro III are subject to payment of US\$2.0 million in the event that any of these claims become productive as mining projects. Furthermore, NGEx shall pay a NSR royalty of 0.5% of the amount of the project benefits over 10 years, less costs. Both these payments are due to the original owners of the claims.

The property Solitario 17 is subject to a payment of 7% Net Profits Interest to the original owners of the claim.

#### 4.5.3 Permits

The La Rioja Properties and Solitario 17 do not have current permits to allow for exploration activities to take place, as no work is currently contemplated on these claims.

#### 4.5.4 Environmental Liabilities

Environmental liabilities on the Argentina properties are limited to reclamation of a few drill platforms and associated access roads.

### 4.6 Mining Integration and Complementarity Treaty

On December 29, 1997, Chile and Argentina signed the “*Tratado entre la República de Chile y la República Argentina sobre Integración y Complementación Minera*” (Mining Integration and Complementarity Treaty between Chile and Argentina; or the Treaty), in an effort to strengthen their historic bonds of peace and friendship, and intensify the integration of their mining activities.

The Treaty provides a legal framework to facilitate the development of mining projects located in the border area of both countries. The Treaty objective is to facilitate the exploration and exploitation of mining projects within the area of the Treaty.

On August 20, 1999, Chile and Argentina subscribed to the Complementary Protocol and, as a result, on July 18, 2001, an Administrative Commission was created.

Additional Protocols have been signed between Chile and Argentina which provide more detailed regulations applicable to specific mining projects.





One of these protocols, and the first granted for exploration purposes, is NGEx's "*Proyecto de Prospección Minera Vicuña*" (Vicuña Mineral Prospecting Project), dated January 6, 2006. This Protocol allows for prospecting and exploration activities in the Los Helados area, on both sides of the international boundary. The main benefit of the Vicuña Additional Protocol is the authorization which allows for people and equipment to freely cross the border in support of exploration and prospecting activities within an area defined as an "operational area".

In September 2012, the "*Proyecto de Prospección Minera Vicuña*" was amended by the "Protocol of Amendment to Article 8". With this amendment, the defined "operational area" was expanded, enabling a new border crossing area to be demarcated.

The QP is not aware of any environmental liabilities on the Property. Although NGEx does not currently have all required permits necessary to conduct the proposed work on the Property, the QP understands that the necessary permits can be obtained, based on the process followed for the past two work programs. The QP is not aware of any other significant factors and risks that may affect access, title, or the right or ability to perform the proposed work program on the Property.



## 5.0 Accessibility, Climate, Local Resources, Infrastructure and Physiography

### 5.1 Accessibility

The Property spans the border between Chile and Argentina, and access is possible from either country under the limits of NGEx's "*Proyecto de Prospección Minera Vicuña*" (Vicuña Mineral Prospecting Project, described in subsection 4.6). There is a well-developed network of mining roads on the Property that connects with neighbouring project infrastructure, allowing for several route options to reach different parts of the Property.

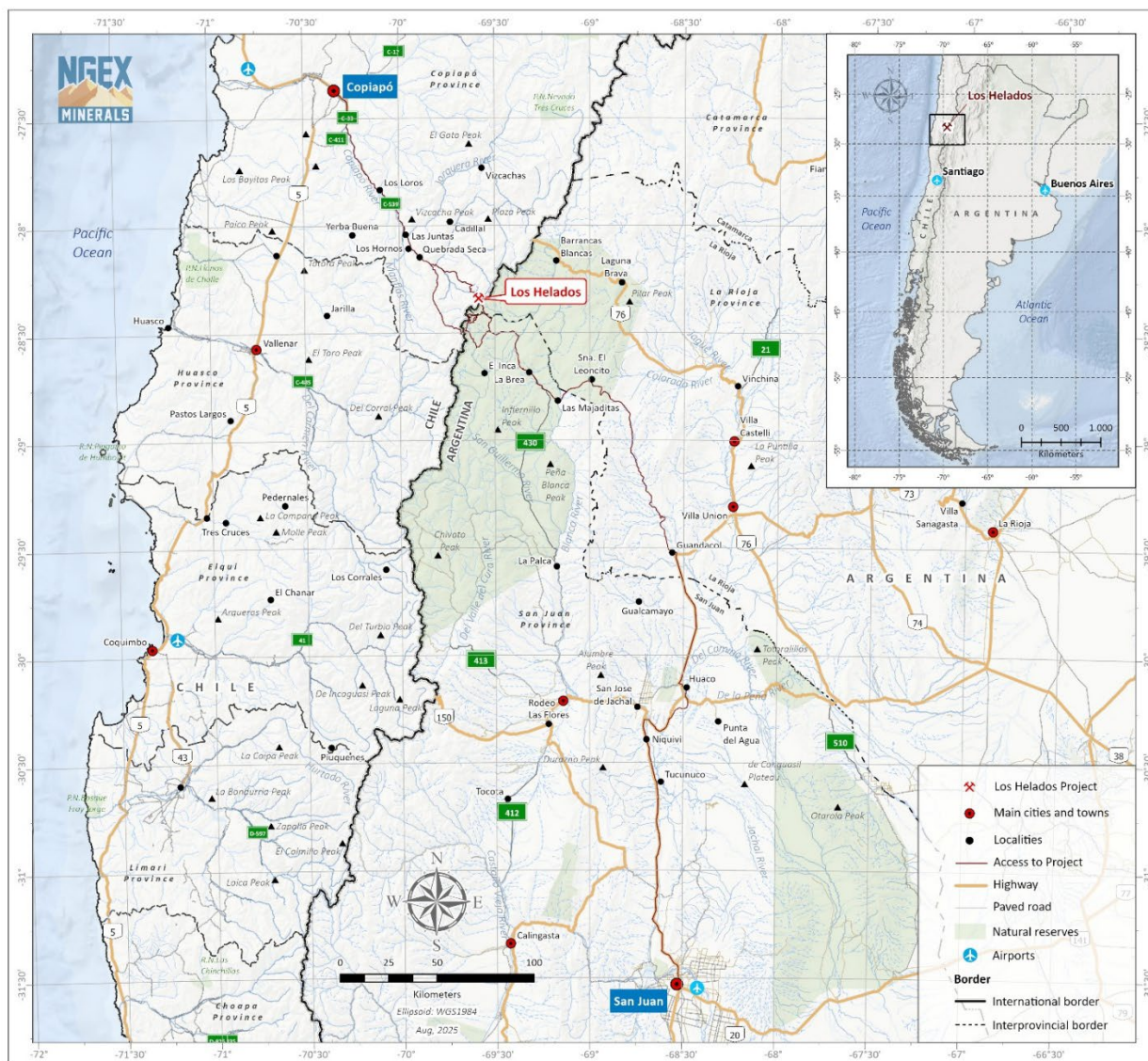
Access to Los Helados is most direct from Copiapó, Chile, a total driving distance of approximately 177 km (three hours; Figure 5-1). Copiapó has a modern airport, with several daily flights to Santiago, the capital city. The C-35 paved road route leaves Copiapó travelling in a southeasterly direction through the towns of Tierra Amarilla and Punta del Cobre, along the Copiapó River valley, through the small villages of Pabellon, Los Loros, La Guardia, and Iglesia Colorada. After these small villages, the road continues towards the El Potro bridge. Close to kilometre 130, the paved road ends, and the last 42 km to the Los Helados deposit area are gravel. To travel to the rest of the Property, including the claims in Argentina, one continues through Los Helados and climbs up on a mining road to the international border and on to the mining road network on the Argentina side.

Another access option to the Property from Chile is to enter through the Filo del Sol Project (Filo del Sol) via Route 31 CH and C-33 along the Copiapó River until the junction with the Quebrada de Montosa road that leads to Filo del Sol. From Filo del Sol there is an 18 km mining road with a general northeast direction that passes through the Los Portones site to the Río Blanco valley.

Access from Argentina is via the city of San Juan. The road route travels northward from San Juan for 264 km on National Route No. 40 passing through the towns of San José de Jáchal and Huaco to Guandacol in the Province of La Rioja (Figure 5-1). At Guandacol, the route transitions to a gravel road for 210 km northwestward through the La Brea field site to the Batidero camp, owned by Vicuña Corp.



**Figure 5-1: Project Access**



## 5.2 Climate

The Property is in a high altitude dry to arid climate. It is characterized by having low temperatures throughout the year, typically below 15°C in the summer. Exploration fieldwork is typically carried out from mid-October to early-May, although year-round operations would be possible with additional preparation.

Precipitation is almost always in the form of snow with most precipitation occurring during the winter. The average precipitation for the Project area is approximately 193 mm per year.

The entire region is known for adiabatic winds where air masses are forced up the western side of the Andes, then cool with possible resulting precipitation, and descend onto the eastern side of the mountain range. Wind speed can be significant, particularly at the higher, exposed elevations.

## 5.3 Local Resources and Infrastructure

There is no local infrastructure in the vicinity of Los Helados.

The most important logistics centre in the region is Copiapó, Chile. Copiapó has an airport with daily scheduled flights to Santiago and Antofagasta, and there are companies that offer services for mining and exploration.

## 5.4 Physiography

The Property straddles the border between Chile and Argentina in the high Andes. The border runs along the height of land between the two countries with elevations up to 5,800 MASL. The area is mountainous with steep west facing slopes on the Chilean side, and more moderate topography on the eastern Argentinian side.

Los Helados is located in a steep sided northwest-facing cirque at the head of a valley that leads down into Chile. The main area of drilling in the base of the cirque is at 4,500 MASL. The area is largely covered in colluvium, with no vegetation.

The Property is in a seismically active area, however, no Project-specific seismic profiling has been completed.



## **6.0 History**

### **6.1 Prior Ownership**

The Property was originally part of a larger block of claims that formed the NGEx Resources Inc. (NGEx Resources) holding in the area. Starting in 1999, NGEx Resources' precursor companies put together a land package that covered a large part of what is now called the Vicuña District. Starting in 2016, two companies were spun out of NGEx Resources to hold different assets within the district; Filo Mining Corp. and NGEx Minerals Ltd. As a result of these changes, NGEx Minerals Ltd. now holds the Property described in this report that includes the Los Helados deposit.

### **6.2 Exploration and Development History**

In the Los Helados area, the first mineral exploration work was carried out by Shell (subsequently Billiton) at the end of the 1980s. This work apparently included geological mapping, rock, talus and stream sediment geochemical sampling, test pits for sampling and mapping, and some geophysical surveying, but there are no available reports. In 1994, Barrick Gold Corporation apparently worked in the general area of Los Helados for approximately 15 days, sampling stream sediments and rocks for geochemistry, however, results are unknown.

### **6.3 Historical Resource Estimates**

There are no historical resource estimates from the Property.

### **6.4 Past Production**

There is no past production from the Property.



## 7.0 Geological Setting and Mineralization

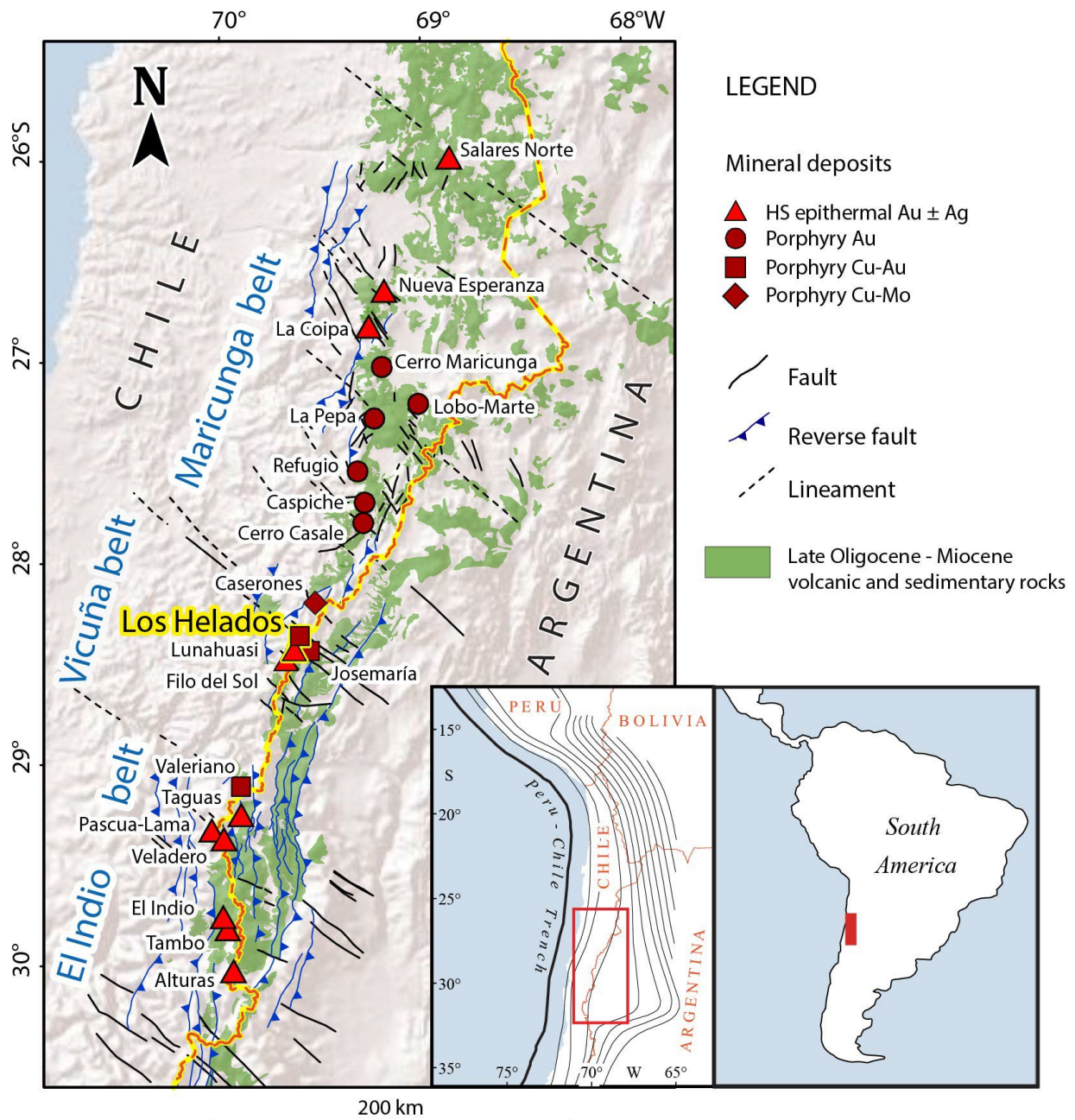
### 7.1 Regional Geology

The Property is located within the Oligocene-Miocene porphyry belt of the central Andes, in the Vicuña District (Figure 7-1, 28.5°S). Located between the prolific Maricunga and El Indio belts, the Vicuña metallogenic belt (Vicuña belt) is host to several large porphyry copper-gold and epithermal copper-gold-silver deposits. The belt is known to have both Late Oligocene porphyry copper-gold mineralization, for example at the Josemaría porphyry copper-gold deposit, and also significant Miocene-age mineralization. The Los Helados deposit is situated along a north-northeast trending structural corridor hosting several Miocene-age mineral deposits and prospects. The Los Helados porphyry copper-gold deposit occurs 10 km to the north of the recently-discovered Lunahuasi epithermal copper-gold-silver deposit, and the Filo del Sol epithermal copper-gold-silver and porphyry copper-gold deposit occurs eight kilometres further south of Lunahuasi. The Caserones porphyry copper mine is along the same general trend, approximately 18 km to the north of Los Helados.





**Figure 7-1: Location of Los Helados within the Vicuña Belt**



Source. NGEx 2025.



## 7.2 Local Geology

The deposits in the Vicuña belt are located along, or at intersections of, major structures, some of which are lithospheric-scale structures (Farrar et al. 2023). In the Vicuña belt, some of these structures and their ancillary faults were inverted as reverse faults through compression during Oligocene and Miocene Andean arc building. These faults dominate the geology of the area placing Permian-Triassic basement rhyolite and granites adjacent to, and over, both Cretaceous sedimentary and volcanoclastic sequences as well as Late Oligocene to Miocene volcanic rocks (Figure 7-2).

The Miocene-age mineralization within the district occurs within a north-northeast trending fault-bound block of uplifted volcano-sedimentary rocks along the crest of the Andes. The block is approximately five kilometres wide by 20 km long, and is bound by two major north-northeast trending structures, the Los Helados fault on the east and the Ventana and Vicuña faults to the west. These faults have oppositely oriented apparent reverse fault motion that places Permo-Triassic basement granite and rhyolites over and adjacent to Cretaceous to Lower Miocene volcanic rocks. Recent mapping has defined a more focused structural domain within the block, which is known as the Vicuña structural magmatic corridor (Dietrich 2023). Mid-Miocene aged porphyry and epithermal mineralization is focused along this structural domain, emplaced into the Cretaceous sedimentary rocks and/or the immediately underlying Permo-Triassic basement rocks.

The mid-Miocene Vicuña structural magmatic corridor within the district is defined by a one- to two-kilometre-wide domain of faults and fault zones that coincide with occurrences of contemporaneous mineralization. In the northern part of the belt, the Los Helados fault defines the northern segment of the structural corridor, which then steps westward towards the southern part of the district. The Filo del Sol deposit and associated prospects are situated along the structural corridor in the southern segment. The west-stepping nature corresponds to the intersection of a series of northeast-trending faults that cut across the dominant north-northeast trend of the belt. These northeast faults correspond to a deep lithospheric-scale structure that transects the region in this area (Farrar et al. 2023). The new Lunahuasi discovery and its associated broad zone of alteration occur at this important intersection.

The location of the Los Helados deposit along the northern segment of the Vicuña structural magmatic corridor is also correlated with an important structural intersection. A series of northwest-trending faults cut through the deposit area and influence the northwest orientation of the northwest-trending porphyry phases. They are part of a trend of northwest faults across the district that run up Rio Blanco and through the Los Helados area, all of which are part of a larger, northwest structural trend that is a recognizable 80 km lineament at a regional scale that trends down the Copiapó valley.





**Figure 7-2: Geology of the Vicuña Belt**



Source. NGEx 2025.



## 7.3 Property Geology

The Los Helados porphyry copper-gold system is exposed in a northwest-facing cirque with high topographic relief. The bottom of the cirque, where the uppermost part of the deposit is exposed at surface, is at 4,500 MASL, while the sides of the valley rise steeply above to 5,300 m on the eastern side: a difference of at least 800 m (Figure 7-3 and Figure 7-4). The abundant rock exposures on this steep eastern slope provide the best outcrop for mapping geological relationships at surface, including excellent alteration vectors towards the largely talus-covered deposit in the cirque bottom.

The deposit is located along the Los Helados fault, a district-scale structure that is part of the structural corridor that defines the Miocene mineralization within the district. Minor faults of northwest and west-northwest orientation cut across the deposit area, and intrusive bodies and breccias have a preferential northwest trend. In addition, faults in the area have altered gouge and damage zones, suggesting that structural adjustment coincided with porphyry and breccia emplacement and that the structural intersection of the two major trends (north-northeast and northwest) was important for localizing the deposit.

The host rocks of the deposit are largely Permo-Triassic in age. Permian-age granite is the oldest and most regionally extensive unit. In the deposit area, it is intruded by Triassic rhyodacitic intrusive complex and tonalitic to dioritic dykes and stocks, both approximately 230 Ma to 225 Ma.

The deposit occurs within a mid-Miocene porphyry-breccia system that was emplaced into basement rocks. Copper-gold mineralization is predominantly hosted within the magmatic-hydrothermal breccias and contemporaneous biotite-hornblende dacitic porphyries, with some peripheral mineralization also within the immediate country rock although grades rapidly decline away from the breccia and porphyry intrusive contacts.

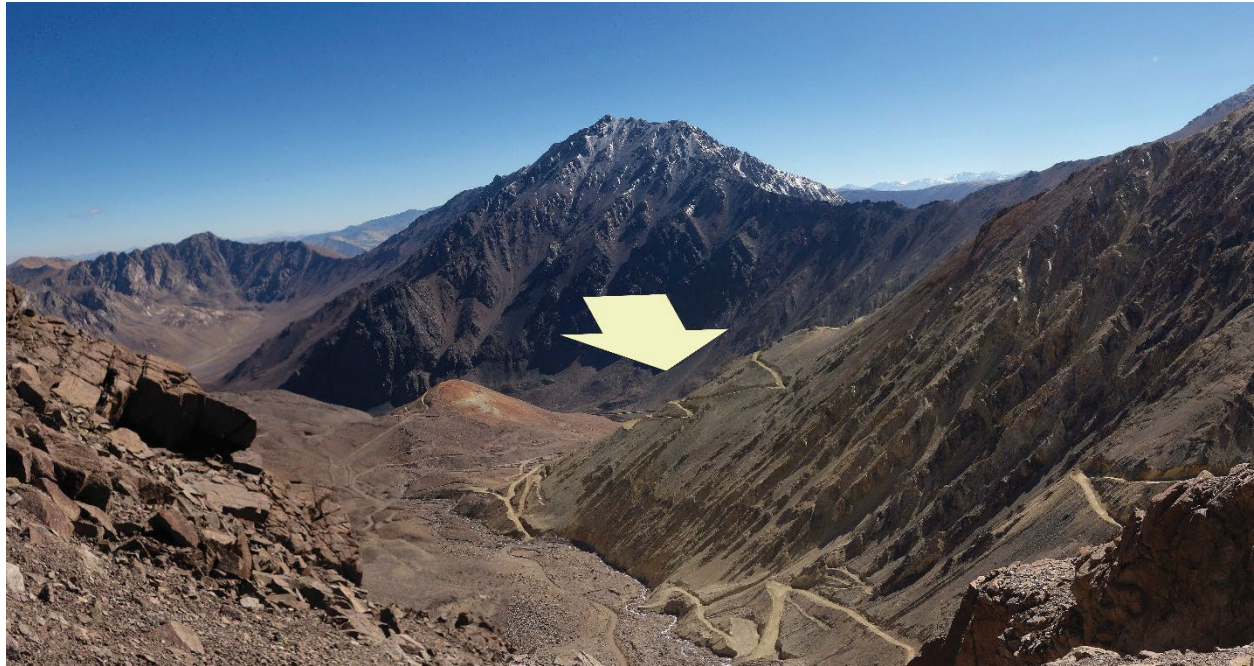
A progressive intrusive sequence is defined that includes emplacement of a main phreato-magmatic breccia, with hydrothermal breccia centres, all associated with the development of a dacitic porphyry intrusive complex with dates ranging from approximately 14 Ma to 13.5 Ma (Guitart 2020). An early magmatic pulse is represented by an early-mineral quartz-feldspar porphyry intrusion with associated potassic alteration and an envelope of porphyry-type stockwork veining. The second magmatic pulse intruded into and around the first, and includes two phases of feldspar-porphyry dykes, one intermineral and one late-mineral, along with an associated large body of phreato-magmatic breccia. Copper and gold grades increase within the phreato-magmatic breccia and are especially enhanced within several identified centres of hydrothermal breccia where copper and gold-rich mineral cement replaces the earlier breccia matrix. The late-mineral porphyry dyke phase occurs as northwest-trending narrow dykes with low copper and gold grades.

Where presently defined, the entire breccia complex measures at least 1.2 km north-south and 1.3 km east-west at its widest dimensions, with a northward-tapering footprint. Within the overall phreato-magmatic breccia, there are three main centres of copper-gold-rich hydrothermal breccia development. The central Condor Zone is the locus of the early quartz-feldspar porphyry body that is engulfed by a 500 m wide hydrothermal breccia body. Two other main centres of enhanced mineralization, the Alicanto and Fenix Zones, do not have the early porphyry phase, but are defined by rich hydrothermal breccia bodies. There is significant potential to expand the size of the complex particularly towards the south.





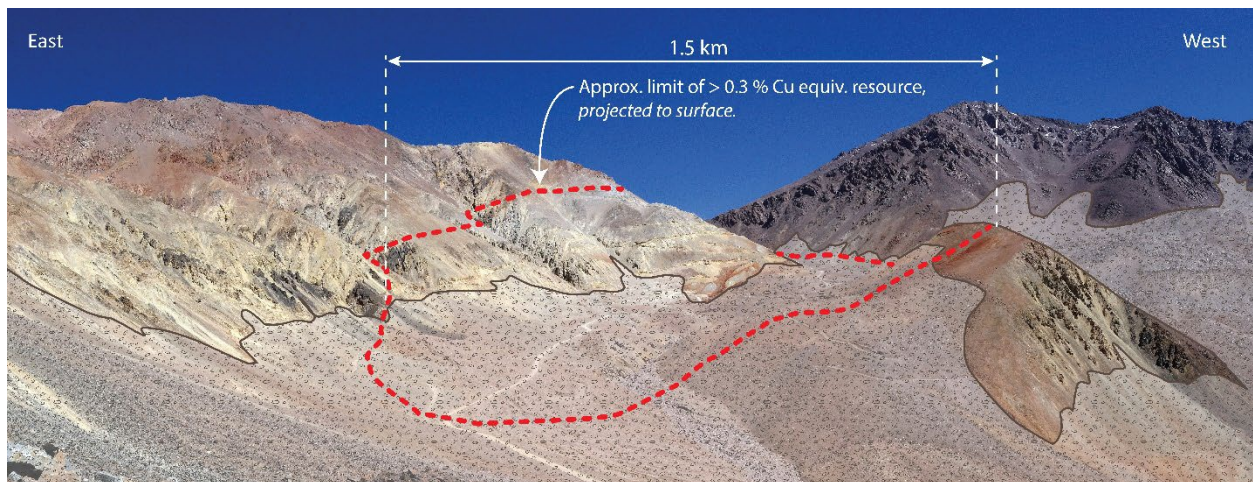
**Figure 7-3: View North towards the Los Helados Deposit**



Source. Photograph courtesy of NGEx 2025.

Note. The arrow shows the direction of view for Figure 7-4.

**Figure 7-4: View South across the Los Helados Deposit**



Source. Photograph courtesy of NGEx 2025.

### 7.3.1 Lithology

The lithology map of the Los Helados area is shown in Figure 7-5.

#### 7.3.1.1 Permo-Triassic Basement Units

Granite underlies much of the Project area, particularly outside of the deposit area (Figure 7-6). The medium- to fine-grained granite with minor granodiorite is included within the Montosa-El



Potro plutonic complex (265 Ma to 245 Ma; Martínez et al. 2015). Granite in the Project area returned an age of 257 Ma (Guitart 2020).

A sub-volcanic feldspar-phyric rhyolitic to rhyodacitic intrusive complex with a northeast trend intrudes the granite to the east of the Los Helados fault. It is dated at approximately 230 Ma.

An intrusive complex comprised of stocks and dykes of tonalitic, dioritic, and quartz-diorite composition cuts the granite and rhyodacite intrusions. It has been dated at 230 Ma to 225 Ma (Guitart 2020). The main mass of the mafic intrusive complex is situated in the north of the Los Helados area. Intrusive breccia textures with coarse-grained tonalite are common, although the unit ranges to plagioclase porphyritic in places. Clasts of the mafic intrusive complex are entrained within the Los Helados breccias. Fine-grained dykes (andesitic), which are inferred to be related to the complex, trend northeast, including those that cut across the rhyodacite on the slope above the east side of the deposit.

### 7.3.1.2 Miocene Porphyry System

The Los Helados porphyry system is defined by three main intrusive phases of porphyritic granodioritic intrusions in the deposit area that are punctuated by the emplacement of a mineralized phreatic-magmatic breccia body and associated hydrothermal breccia centres. Copper and gold grades are highest in the early porphyry phase, lower in the intermineral phase, and minimal within the late porphyry phase.

The early-mineral porphyry phase is the quartz-feldspar porphyry (QFP), occurring as a northwesterly elongate body in the southeastern part of the deposit, in the Condor area. It is also identified in one drill hole in the Alicanto Zone, but it is absent from the Fenix Zone. Early potassic alteration within the system is linked to this phase which also developed a surrounding A-type quartz veinlet stockwork. Quartz and feldspar phenocrysts make up approximately 60% of the rock, within a groundmass of microcrystalline quartz and fine-grained feldspar aggregate, with minor biotite and hornblende. It is included as distinctive quartz-phyric clasts within the later breccias and intrusive phases.

The intermineral porphyry phase (PF1) is contemporaneous with the emplacement of the phreatic-magmatic breccia and hydrothermal breccia centres. A northwest-trending swarm of 15 m to 40 m wide PF1 dykes cuts across the Condor Zone. They are plagioclase and K-feldspar phyric and have scarce quartz, with a crowded porphyritic texture. They display minor development of A-type quartz veinlets. Fluidized juvenile clasts of PF1 are documented within the breccia near contacts with the porphyry unit.

The breccias at Los Helados are related to one main intermineral magmatic-hydrothermal breccia event. They include textural variation related to clast size, type and density, as well as type of matrix or cement. The main body of phreatic-magmatic breccia (BXF) has a dominant rock flour matrix, while the hydrothermal breccias (BXH) have a mineral cement. The variation in cement (and associated mineralization) is the result of differing permeability within the overall heterogeneous breccia body. For the purposes of geological modelling at Los Helados, the breccia has been divided into the two types.

The breccia body at Los Helados has a central domain in the Condor Zone that is polymictic including a variety of clast types that are found within the basement and early porphyry phase, with clasts ranging up to several metres in size. The overall breccia body changes outward into monomictic clast-supported breccia towards its margins, and is transitional into the country rock, grading from areas with transported breccia fragments, to jigsaw fit textures, out to fractured and then coherent wall rock. Several discrete centres within the phreatic-magmatic breccia are recognized to have a dominant sulphide mineral cement, with associated copper and gold grade



increases. These areas are designated 'hydrothermal breccia' (unit BXH) where increased permeability within the main breccia body has allowed for hydrothermal fluid flow and mineral cement precipitation and replacement of the original rock flour matrix.

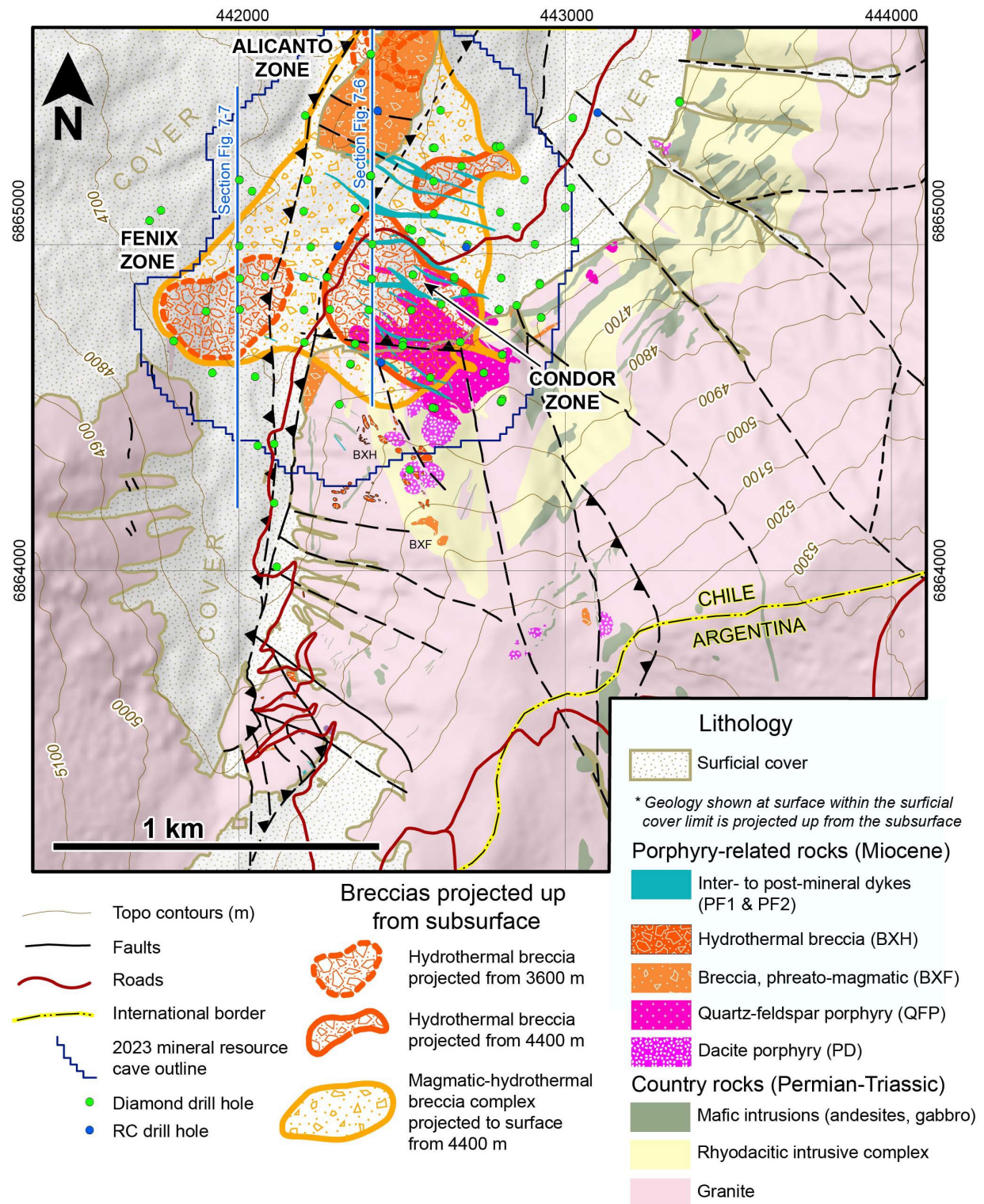
The hydrothermal breccia domains include the Condor, and recently recognized Alicanto and Fenix zones (Figure 7-6 and Figure 7-7). The Alicanto Zone is located at the northern end of the main breccia body, while Fenix is located to the west and both are blind to the surface. The breccias in these areas have a mineral cement (Figure 7-8) that is typically tourmaline-pyrite-hematite-gypsum in the relatively shallow areas, anhydrite>gypsum-hematite>magnetite-pyrite-chalcopryite-molybdenum in intermediate levels, and magnetite-biotite-chalcopryite-anhydrite-molybdenum in deeper parts.

The late mineral porphyry phase (PF2) occurs as west-trending dykes, similar in location and orientation to the PF1 phase, with narrower width (5 m to 10 m). It is plagioclase and K-feldspar phyrlic (approximately 40% volume, more weakly porphyritic than PF1), with biotite and hornblende. It contains few A-type porphyry veinlets and is only weakly mineralized.





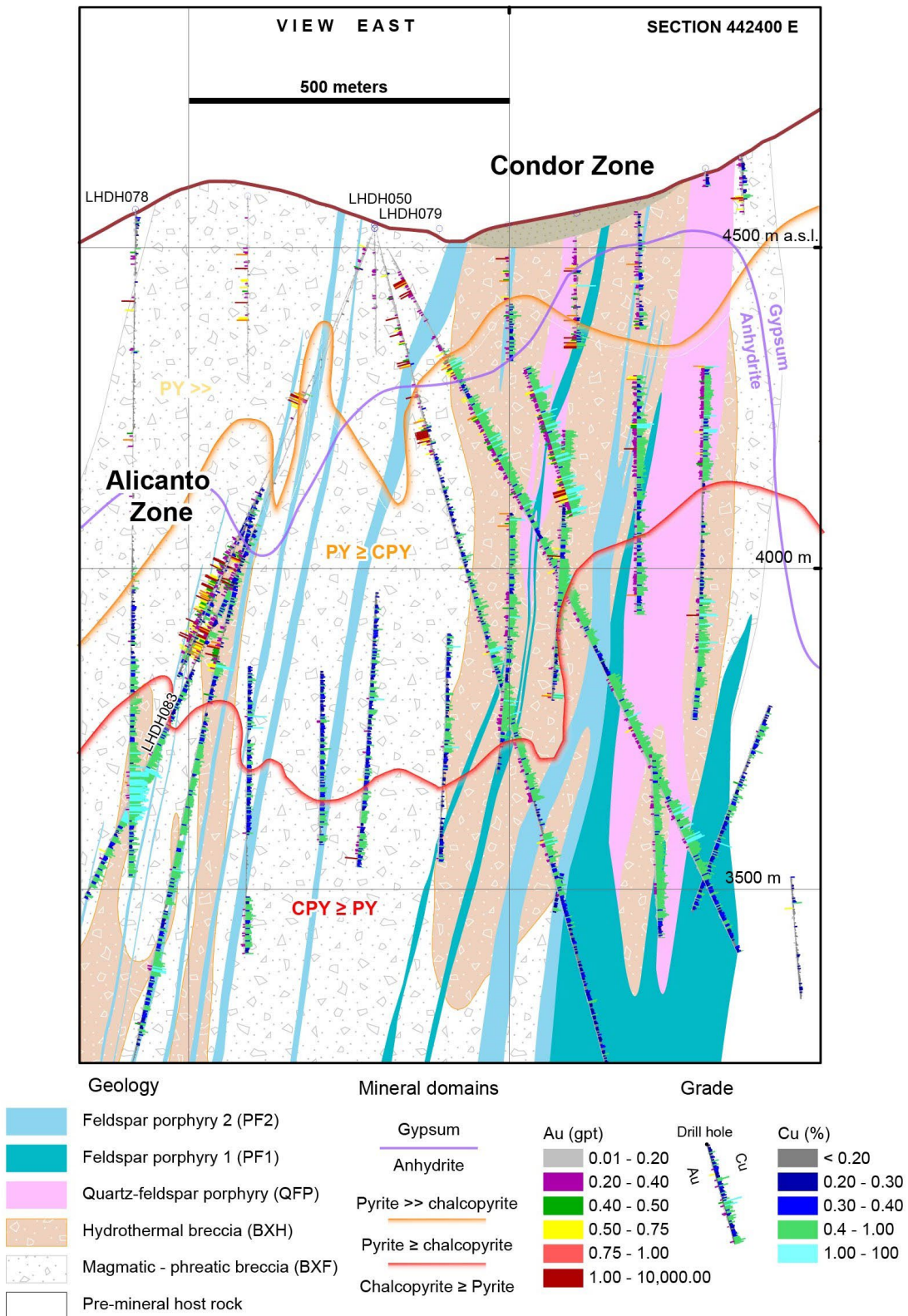
**Figure 7-5: Los Helados Surface Map – Lithology**



Source: NGEx 2025.



**Figure 7-6: Los Helados Section 442,400E**

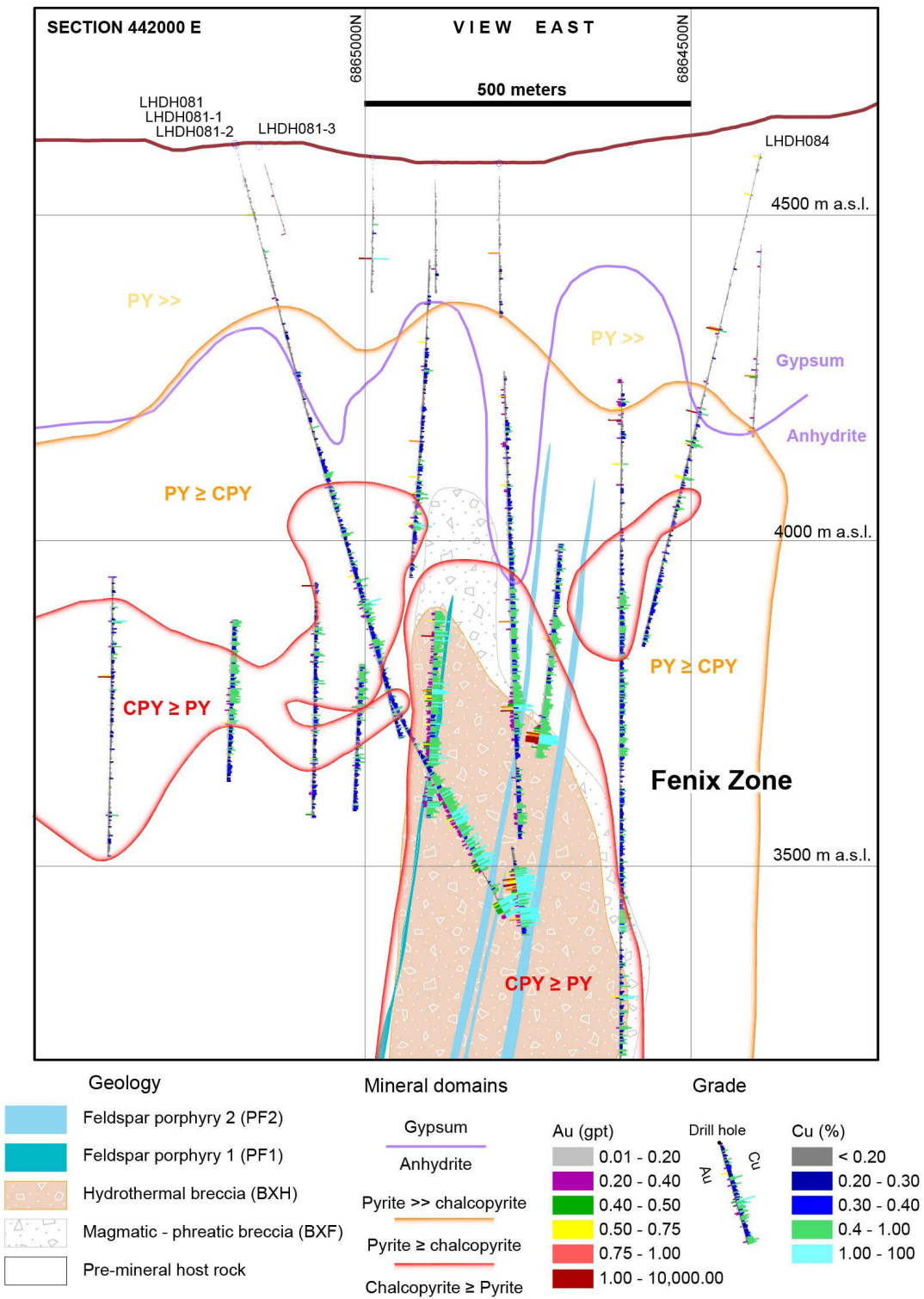


Source: NGEx 2025.





**Figure 7-7: Los Helados Section 442,000E**



Source. NGEx 2025.



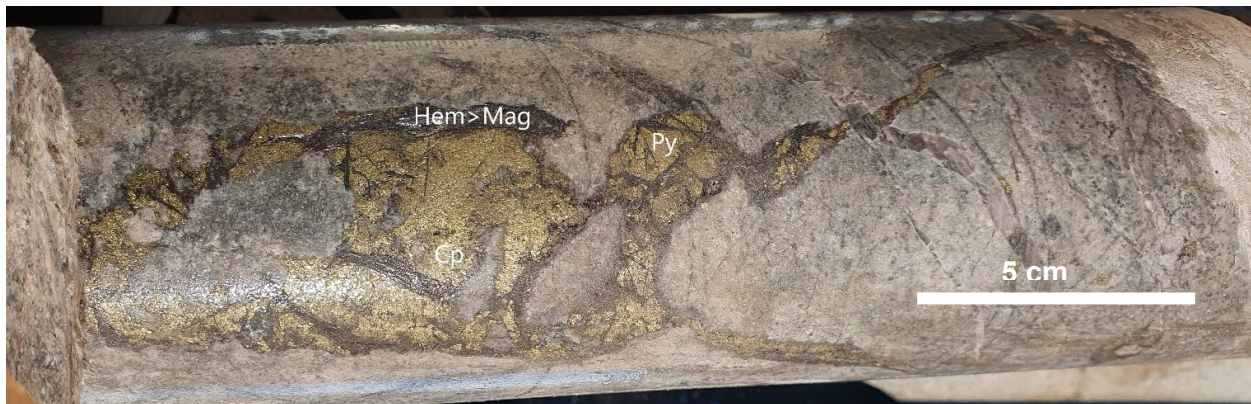


**Figure 7-8: Core Photographs of Unit BXH (Hydrothermal Breccia)**



Source. Photograph courtesy of NGEx. 2025.

Note. From hole LHDH12 at 640 m with a mineral cement of pyrite, chalcopyrite, magnetite, hematite, anhydrite with chlorite-sericite alteration.



Source. Photograph courtesy of NGEx 2025.

Note. From Hole LHDH073 at 471 m, with chalcopyrite-pyrite-hematite-magnetite breccia cement cutting rhyodacitic host rock.

### 7.3.2 Alteration

Five main alteration types are recorded within the Los Helados system: potassic, chlorite-sericite, sericitic, advanced argillic, and argillic. Each has a distinctive mineral assemblage, which can be significantly controlled by the host rock lithology with a large difference between assemblages in felsic and mafic rock types. Together, when mapped on surface, these types define an alteration footprint of approximately three kilometres north-south and two kilometres east-west (Figure 7-9). The steep topography and erosion in the valley bottom into the uppermost part of the deposit allowed for clear alteration vectoring to the central part of the system.

The deepest assemblage, in the potassic domain, is not exposed at surface, and is intersected in drilling from approximately 200 m below surface to the deepest part drilled to date at approximately 1,500 m. Biotite is the defining mineral of the potassic domain where mafic host rocks are altered, while K-feldspar dominates in the more felsic units. Remnants of overprinted potassic alteration are found in the lowermost outcrops at surface, as inherited quartz-sulphide and quartz-tourmaline veins within intense sericitic alteration.

Chlorite-sericite alteration overprints the potassic assemblage and is the predominant alteration within the deposit area. A chlorite-hematite assemblage defines the alteration within mafic lithologies changing to chlorite-sericite-clay in the felsic host rocks.



The predominant alteration at surface around the deposit area is quartz-sericite. The sericitic alteration is strong to intense in the lowermost exposures on the slope above the deposit with a quartz-sericite-pyrite assemblage that gives way upslope and outwards to a sericite-quartz-dominant assemblage with no pyrite. Sericite gives way to illite in the outermost regions with a transition to a weak propylitic halo.

Argillic alteration is recorded locally, particularly intense along some fracture zones within the peripheral parts of the system.

Advanced argillic alteration is present at surface in exposures of magmatic-hydrothermal breccia. Small breccia bodies up slope from the deposit to the south also display advanced argillic alteration.

### 7.3.3 Mineral Zones

Four mineral zones are recognized within the deposit based on sulphide occurrence. Zone definition does not include late pyrite veinlets, or the total volume of sulphides present in the rock. In order of increasing depth, the zones are pyrite-only (Py); pyrite>chalcopyrite (Py>Cpy); chalcopyrite>pyrite (Cpy>Py); and chalcopyrite-only (Cpy).

This sulphide zoning sequence reflects a progressive downward increase in the amount of chalcopyrite relative to pyrite.

### 7.3.4 Mineralization

Miocene copper-gold mineralization at Los Helados is hosted within the early and intermineral intrusive phases but is volumetrically most significant within the magmatic-hydrothermal breccia.

The Condor Zone breccia limits have been established by drilling to the west, east and south, although the low drilling density still allows for significant room for further high-grade discoveries within the breccia limits. The system also remains open at depth, and the lateral extent of the breccia at depth is also poorly constrained by the current drilling. The eastern contact appears to be subvertical, whereas the western contact dips outwards at approximately 70°, hence the width of the breccia body increases progressively downwards.

The copper grade increases downwards, either in the lower parts of the sericitic zone or in the underlying chlorite-sericite alteration zone, and elevated grades are maintained into the potassic alteration zone. In the central part of the breccia body, within the Condor Zone, consistent grades in the order of 0.5% Cu and 0.2 g/t Au to 0.3 g/t Au in the core zone are flanked by domains of approximately 0.3% Cu to 0.4% Cu and 0.1 g/t Au to 0.2 g/t Au. High-grade zones within mineral cemented breccia exceeding 1% Cu and 1.5 g/t Au are found locally.

The discoveries of high-grade zones at Alicanto and Fenix, on the margins of the main body, are in chalcopyrite mineral-cemented breccias that return grades in the order of 0.6% Cu to greater than 1% Cu and 0.2 g/t Au to 1 g/t Au. Both zones contain significant molybdenum values, which are not typically seen in the Condor Zone. Best intersections include 343.8 m at 0.81% Cu, 0.12 g/t Au and 204 ppm Mo, including 63.8 m at 1.14% Cu, 0.14 g/t Au, and 741 ppm Mo in hole LHDH081-2 in the Fenix Zone, and 122.1 m at 0.94% Cu, 0.14 g/t Au, and 190 ppm Mo in hole LHDH083 in the Alicanto Zone.

Gold grades generally correlate well with copper, however, within the sericitic alteration zones in the upper part of the deposit, where pyrite content exceeds chalcopyrite, high gold grades can be locally independent from copper values and are typically higher than in the underlying potassic zone. High gold grades are also associated with the apex of at least the Alicanto hydrothermal breccia (Figure 7-6, e.g., hole LHDH083 with 46 m at 0.96 g/t Au) and sporadic

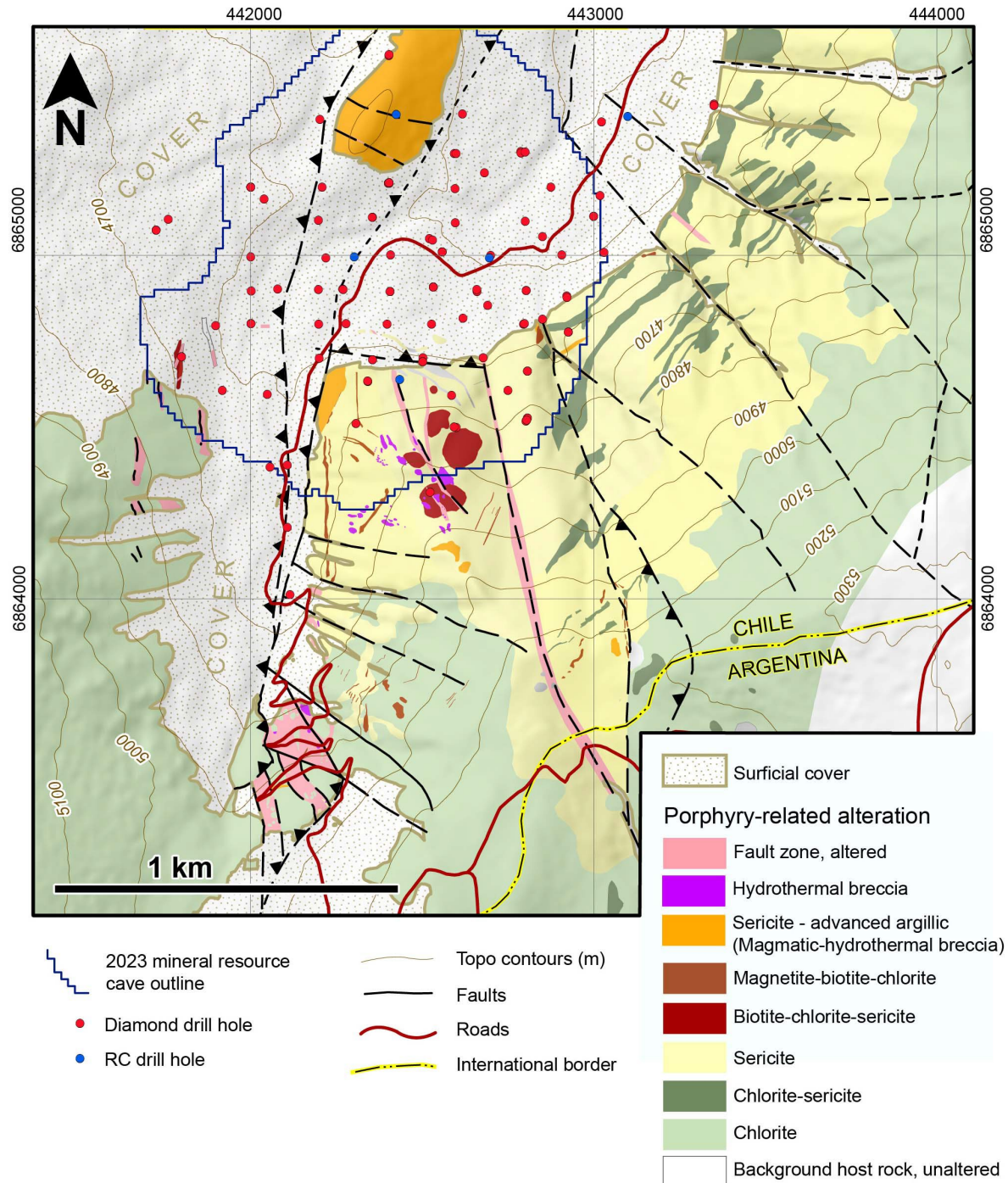




very high grade gold-quartz veins have been intersected peripheral to the main breccia (e.g., LHDH086-1 with 4 m at 11.2 g/t Au and LHDH087 with 4 m at 17.9 g/t Au).

Consistently high copper and gold grades are present in the potassic and chlorite-sericite zones where chalcopyrite is more abundant than pyrite.

**Figure 7-9: Los Helados Surface Map – Alteration**



Source. NGEx 2025.



## 7.4 Mineralization in Other Parts of the Property

There are two other areas of known mineralization that both occur towards the eastern side of the Property (Figure 7-2). They are aligned along a north-south trend that also includes the Josemaria porphyry copper-gold deposit to the south of the Project. All the dated intrusions related to mineralization along this trend are approximately 25 Ma (Late Oligocene) and they define the eastern, Late Oligocene domain within the Vicuña belt.

The Cerro Blanco porphyry prospect is centred on a main plagioclase-biotite-quartz-hornblende porphyry intrusion (with few satellite dykes) that in exposed dimension is approximately 200 m wide and 750 m long, north-south elongate. Potassic alteration is preserved within the porphyry intrusions and is overprinted and surrounded by strong sericite-chlorite-clay (SCC) alteration in the host granites. The entire SCC alteration domain is one kilometre wide by 2.5 km long and open to the north. Phyllic alteration flanks and locally overprints the SCC alteration. A marginal propylitic alteration of secondary hematite and chlorite occurs outboard of all other alteration and is in part overprinted by the younger Los Helados system to the west. Mineralization is centred on the potassic zone and is strongly spatially coincident with the strongest SCC alteration. Single stage quartz  $\pm$  chalcopyrite veins define a north-south trending domain two kilometres long and 500 m wide. Values of 1,000 ppm (0.1%) Cu are consistently measured in talus in the area affected by SCC alteration. The upper parts of this zone are strongly oxidized, and secondary copper and iron minerals are most common. Three drill holes in the 2007-2008 season returned several two to ten metre intervals of 0.1% Cu to 0.2% Cu and up to 0.2 g/t Au.

The Solitario prospect is a deep red gossan associated with a series of five to ten metre wide northeast-trending dacite porphyry dykes. The dykes have moderate sericite-chlorite-clay alteration, which is inferred to be locally continuous with copper-gold porphyry-related mineralization to the south of the Property. Surface mineralization is lacking at Solitario; however, the gossan is related to a coarse muscovite alteration that is controlled by northwest- and northeast-trending minor faults. The northwest-trending faults align with the orientation of the northwest faults that trend through the Los Helados system and localized mineralization.



## 8.0 Deposit Types

Based on geological features and location, the Los Helados deposit is classified as a porphyry copper-gold system. Porphyries are well documented along the Andes and represent a widespread type of deposit in Chile and Argentina.

Porphyry deposits in general are large, low- to medium-grade magmatic-hydrothermal deposits in which primary (hypogene) sulphide minerals occur as veinlets and disseminations within large volumes of altered rock. They are spatially and genetically related to felsic to intermediate porphyritic intrusions (Seedorf et al. 2005). The large size and styles of mineralization (e.g., veins, vein sets, stockworks, fractures, 'crackled zones', and breccia pipes), and association with intrusions distinguish porphyry deposits from a variety of other deposit types that may be peripherally associated, including skarns, high-temperature mantos, breccia pipes, peripheral geothermal veins, and epithermal precious metal deposits. Secondary minerals may be developed in supergene-enriched zones in porphyry copper deposits by weathering of primary sulphides. Such zones typically have significantly higher copper grades, thereby enhancing the potential for economic exploitation (Sinclair 2007).

Porphyry deposits occur throughout the world in extensive, relatively narrow, linear metallogenic provinces. They are predominantly associated with Mesozoic to Cenozoic orogenic belts in western North and South America and around the western margin of the Pacific Basin, particularly within the South East Asian Archipelago. However, major deposits also occur within Paleozoic orogens in Central Asia and eastern North America, and to a lesser extent, within Precambrian terranes (Sinclair 2007).

Porphyry deposits are large and typically contain hundreds of millions of tonnes of mineralization, although they range in size from tens of millions to billions of tonnes. Grades for the different metals vary considerably but generally average less than one percent copper and one gram per tonne gold. In typical porphyry copper deposits, copper grades range from 0.2% to more than 1%; molybdenum content ranges from approximately 0.005% to approximately 0.03%; gold contents range from 0.004 g/t to 0.35 g/t; and silver content ranges from 0.2 g/t to 5 g/t (Sinclair 2007).



## 9.0 Exploration

The Los Helados area of the Property was staked in 2004 with initial exploration work beginning that year. ASTER and LandSAT imagery identified an alteration target in the Los Helados area and preliminary mapping, rock-chip sampling, and talus sampling were conducted early in 2005. There was no road access into the deposit area at this time, and access was gained on horseback. Additional geochemistry as well as 22 km of induced polarization (IP) resistivity and magnetometry survey were done during the 2005-2006 summer season. It was a geological interpretation, supported by IP geophysics and surface geochemistry that led to targeting the first drilling of Los Helados in the 2006-2007 season.

A deep-penetration geophysical survey (MIM Distributed Acquisition System [MIMDAS]) was completed in 2009. Between 2010 and 2011, existing and new IP-resistivity lines were surveyed using a 200 m dipole in order to investigate deeper parts of the deposit. The IP surveys outlined a pyritic halo that showed as a high-chargeability ring feature around the breccia body. New geological mapping of the deposit was completed in 2015 and subsequently updated in 2017 with new surface information gleaned from relogging of several sections in the deposit area.

In the lead-up to the renewed drilling that began early in 2022, an intensive relogging program was initiated in December 2021 with the objective of developing a comprehensive geology model. The goal was to understand the geometry of the high-grade copper-gold zones identified in previous drill campaigns, and look for indications of extensions both laterally and vertically of the known high-grade core zone. A total of 22 existing diamond drill holes were relogged, comprising 15,780 m. Geological sections were compiled on both north-south and east-west sections.

Simultaneous with the new geological interpretation, the existing geophysics data was reprocessed by Condor North Consulting ULC, Canada, resulting in a series of drill target recommendations over discrete semi-circular to elongate shapes of combined resistivity, chargeability, and magnetic anomalies.

A drill hole geochemistry study was completed by Scott Halley to provide criteria to discriminate porphyry phases belonging to the mineralized porphyry event from those magmatic events of Upper Paleozoic to Permian-Triassic that represent the main host rock of the system.

Geophysical surveys consisting of a drone magnetometry survey (Pioneer Exploration Consultants Ltd.), a direct current IP (DCIP) survey (DIAS Geophysical Ltd.), and a magnetotelluric (MT) survey (Quantec Geoscience) covered the Los Helados deposit area.

During the 2022-2023 season, extensive new surface geological mapping and compilation was completed. This was complemented by a district-wide structural study by Andreas Dietrich that included detailed work in the Los Helados area, as well as more extensive work along the Vicuña belt to the south. The Los Helados geology team brought together a new geological map that includes new structural insights as well as additional detail and new interpretation of the deposit area geology.

A helicopter-borne ZTEM geophysical survey was carried out across the entire Chilean extent of the property by Geotech Ltd. in late 2024. The Los Helados deposit was clearly defined by a coincident low magnetic susceptibility and low resistivity anomaly.

### 9.1 Exploration in Other Parts of the Property

Prospecting and follow-up work with talus fines sampling was conducted by field crews at the Solitario and Cerro Blanco prospects. In the 2008-2009 season, diamond drilling of three holes



into the Cerro Blanco porphyry prospect was completed. The holes were targeted on surface geochemistry and geological mapping to drill the central potassic zone and peripheral sericite-chlorite-clay alteration with porphyry-type veining. Results returned weak to moderate copper and gold values, with best two metre to 10 m intervals at 0.1% Cu to 0.2 % Cu and 0.2 g/t Au. Geological mapping was undertaken around the Cerro Blanco and Solitario prospects in 2016 and 2017 as part of a property-wide geological compilation.





## 10.0 Drilling

All of the early drilling at Los Helados was completed by NGEx Resources, including the deposit discovery holes. A total of nine drilling campaigns were carried out from 2006 to 2015. After a hiatus and a company name change, NGEx Minerals resumed exploration and drilling at Los Helados with diamond drilling campaigns over two seasons (2021-2022 and 2022-2023).

The Los Helados deposit was discovered by drilling during the 2007-2008 season. The first diamond drill hole, LHDH001, intersected the main breccia body and returned 518 m grading 0.47% Cu and 0.31 g/t Au from 12 m down hole. This hole was following up on encouraging results from reverse circulation (RC) drill holes drilled the previous season. The true significance of the discovery was not recognized until the drilling of hole LHDH016 in the 2010-2011 season. This hole intersected a 737 m interval of 0.64% Cu and 0.30 g/t Au from 40 m down hole, with the last eight metres averaging 1.0% Cu.

Drilling completed by NGEx includes 96,448 m in 110 drill holes (Table 10-1), of which five holes (1,366 m) are RC and 105 holes (95,081 m) are core. The core drilling produced NQ (47.6 mm diameter) and HQ size (63.5 mm) core. This drilling includes two holes (LHDHG02 and LHDHG03) completed for geotechnical purposes which were not sampled for assay until 2021. A summary of the drilling at Los Helados is shown in Table 10-1 and drill hole locations are illustrated in Figure 10-1.

The drilling included a number of holes drilled in one season and subsequently re-entered and deepened in a later season. If this deepening was successful, no new drill hole name was created. For some holes, however, the drill string wedged off the main hole creating a daughter hole starting at the branch-off depth in the main hole. In these cases, the daughter hole was indicated by a -1 or -2 following the original drill hole name.

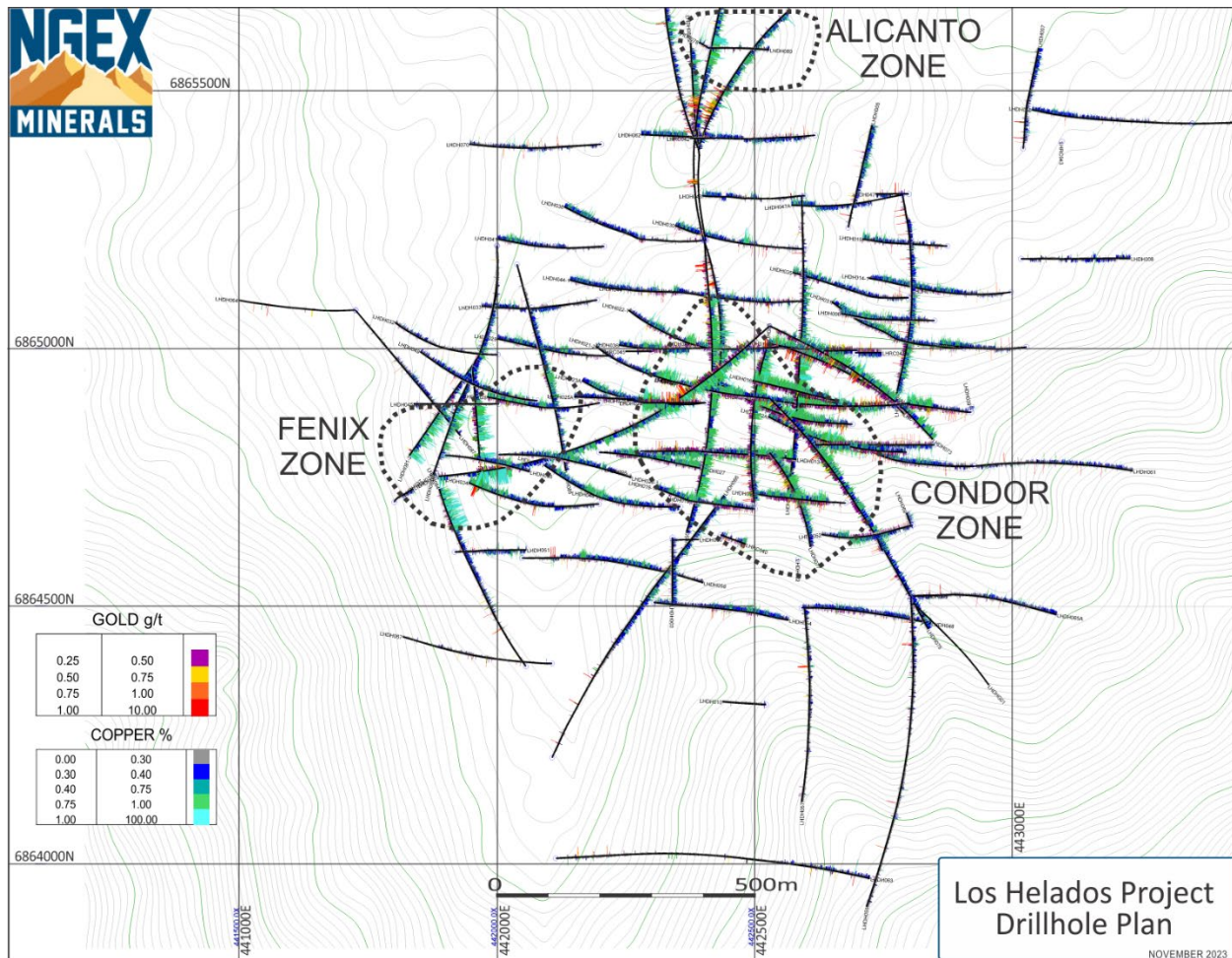
**Table 10-1: Summary of Early Drilling at Los Helados**

Season	Drill Type	Number of Holes	Metres
2006–2007	RC	5	1,366
2007–2008	Core	2	1,037
2008–2009	Core	2	1,529
2009–2010	Core	6	4,031
2010–2011	Core	14	9,641
2011–2012	Core	25	22,022
2012–2013	Core	32	32,707
2013–2014	Core	—	—
2014–2015	Core	3	3,341
2021-2022	Core	10	10,264
2022-2023	Core	11	10,509
<b>Total</b>		<b>110</b>	<b>96,448</b>





**Figure 10-1: Los Helados Drill Hole Locations**



Source. NGEx 2023.

### 10.1.1 Geological Logging

Drill core was transported by truck by company personnel from the drill sites to the Los Helados camp until 2015. Starting in 2021, Cabañas Quebrada Seca was used as a camp, and drill core was transported to this location. At the field core logging facility, the core was photographed, logged for rock quality designation (RQD) and recovery, and a quick log of the key geological features was prepared. The core was then packaged for delivery by NGEx personnel to the company's permanent core logging and sampling facility located in Copiapó for sampling, detailed logging, and core storage.

Geological logging information was entered into MX Deposit software, and interpretation was performed on north-south sections. New drill logs were added to the database that was established for the deposit-wide relogging program in 2021-2022.

### 10.1.2 Geotechnical Logging and Testing

In 2015, specific geotechnical core logging was performed on six drill holes totalling 3,350 m to estimate the rock mass rating (RMRL<sub>90</sub>) with 18 unconfined compressive strength (UCS) laboratory tests and 717 point load tests also performed.



Subsequent to this, a dedicated block cave geomechanics study was conducted, which included drilling two oriented geotechnical drill holes (2,241 m). Testing included; televiewer surveys, Lugeon testing (also known as Packer testing, which is an in-situ testing method widely used to estimate the average hydraulic conductivity of rock formations), and 230 point load tests.

An additional geomechanics laboratory testing program was conducted consisting of 84 UCS tests, 46 elastic property tests, 51 tensile tests, and 55 triaxial tests. Geotechnical logging, televiewer surveys, and Lugeon tests were also performed on a single core hole (1,100 m) drilled as part of this campaign.

Beginning in 2022, geotechnical logging of specific holes was completed, including detailed structure and fracture measurements. X-ray fluorescence (XRF)-Niton measurements for first-pass geochemistry were conducted on the holes. Magnetic susceptibility of the core and density determinations for all representative rock types were also completed.

### **10.1.3 Recovery**

Core recovery data was not systematically collected on holes drilled before the 2010–2011 campaign. Visual inspection by Charchaflié (as reported in Charchaflié and Le Couteur 2012), indicated that overall recovery was very good and was estimated to be more than 90%.

Starting with the 2011–2012 field season, core recovery and RQD were measured at the camp. Recovery was measured with a metric tape between drill core marks, annotated, and the percentage recovery calculated. RQD was calculated as the total length of recovered core that exceeded or equalled 10 cm.

Core recovery from holes drilled between 2012 and 2015 averages 97%.

Over the final two seasons (2021-2022 and 2022-2023), the drilling programs used the same process. Core recovery averaged 94%.

### **10.1.4 Collar Surveys**

Drill collar locations were surveyed using a differential global positioning system (GPS).

### **10.1.5 Downhole Surveys**

The RC holes and the first four core holes were not surveyed down hole for azimuth or inclination. Measurements from LHDH23 and LHDH24 were accidentally erased before being downloaded to a computer. All other holes were surveyed for downhole deflection.

Downhole surveys were carried out using a Reflex multi-shot instrument up to the 2011–2012 drilling campaign. On average, measurements were collected at 50 m intervals down the hole.

For the 2012–2013 and 2014–2015 drilling, a spring disk resonator gyroscope (SRG) survey was completed for each drill hole by Comprobe Limitada. On average, measurements were collected at 30 m intervals down the hole.

For the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 drilling campaigns, drill hole trajectory measurements were conducted by Comprobe Limitada, using a north-seeking fibre optic gyroscope system with a north finder; it offers the advantage of not requiring an azimuth reference on the surface, which integrates an electronic accelerometer for inclination measurements. Measurements were taken every 10 m. Where directional drilling was used, trajectory measurements were calculated using the orientation of the mother hole up to the branch-off redirection, then using an average of the measurements provided by STYR Directional Core Drilling from Santiago, Chile who was



contracted to complete the directional drilling, and the gyroscope measurements from Comprobe Limitada.

Downhole imaging was conducted for holes LHDH081-1, LHDH083, LHDH084, LHDH085, LHDH086-2, and LHDH087 using a BHTV 42 acoustic televiewer (Electromind S.A.). The images were used to calculate the orientation of structures down the hole, which were then converted to a true orientation using the drill hole trajectory measurements.

#### **10.1.6 Sample Length/True Thickness**

Los Helados is a porphyry deposit with disseminated mineralization. Reported and described interval thicknesses are considered to be true thicknesses. A drill section through the deposit illustrating the typical drill orientations in relation to the mineralization is illustrated in Figure 7-6.



## **11.0 Sample Preparation, Analyses, and Security**

### **11.1 Sampling Methods**

#### **11.1.1 Surface Sampling**

Soil and talus samples were collected from small holes deep enough to sample the interval below the iron-cemented horizon. Talus samples were composited from 10 stations located within five metres along 100 m long, east-west or north-south oriented lines. Sampled material was finer than #10 Tyler mesh.

Rock outcrops and trenches were sampled by collecting approximately one kilogram to three kilograms of chips. The sample location, length, and a geological description were recorded.

#### **11.1.2 Drill Hole Sampling**

RC holes drilled during the 2006–2007 campaign were sampled on two-metre intervals.

Drill core was sampled continuously from the beginning of recovery to the end of the hole. Samples are generally two metres long (except for the initial drill holes, LHDH01 to LHDH04, which were sampled on one-metre intervals). Core was oriented in the core box prior to sampling to ensure that vein material would be evenly sampled. Drill core was cut in half using a circular, water-cooled rock saw. Half-cores were randomly weighed and compared in order to verify that 50% of the material was sampled.

One half of the core was used as a geochemical sample and the other half was stored in boxes or trays for reference and future revisions. Prior to 2011, rice sacks were delivered to the laboratory using a private courier with dispatch tracking. Beginning in October 2011, samples were delivered directly to the ACME Laboratories (ACME) preparation facilities in Copiapó by NGEx personnel, considerably reducing turn-around times from previous programs.

During the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 campaigns, drill core was sampled by NGEx personnel and delivered directly to the ALS Chemex (ALS) preparation facilities in Copiapó.

#### **11.1.3 Density Determinations**

Specific gravity (SG) has been systematically measured beginning with the 2010–2011 drilling program. A total of 25,158 core samples have been measured for SG by NGEx technicians using the water immersion method at the company's core logging and sampling facility in Copiapó.

### **11.2 Analytical and Test Laboratories**

ALS in Chile was used as the primary analytical laboratory for the five RC holes. At the time of analysis, ALS held ISO 9001 accreditations for selected procedures.

The primary assay laboratory for the pre-2021 core drilling programs was ACME, in Chile. ACME is an internationally certified laboratory. In 1994, ACME began adapting its Quality Management System to an ISO 9000 model. ACME implemented a quality system compliant with the ISO 9001 Model for Quality Assurance and ISO/IEC17025 General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories. In 2005, the Santiago laboratory received ISO 9001:2000 registration and in July 2010, the Copiapó facility was added to the Santiago registration. The Santiago hub laboratory has also been ISO 17025:2005 compliant



since 2012. ISO/IEC 17025 includes ISO 9001 and ISO 9002 specifications, CAN-P-1579 (Mineral Analysis) for specific registered tests by the Standard Council of Canada. CAN-P-1579 is the Standard Council of Canada's requirements for the accreditation of mineral analysis testing laboratories.

During the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 campaigns, drill core was delivered directly to the ALS sample preparation facilities in Copiapó and analyzed at the ALS facility in Santiago, Chile, or Lima, Peru. ALS facilities are accredited to ISO 9001-2008 and ISO 17025.

Vigalab SA (Vigalab; now part of the Intertek Group) was used as an umpire (check) laboratory. At the time of the analyses, Vigalab held ISO9001:2009 accreditation.

All laboratories are independent of NGEx.

## 11.3 Sample Preparation and Analysis

### 11.3.1 RC

For the RC drill program, a 27-element suite was used with four-acid digestion and analysis by atomic emission spectroscopy with an inductively coupled plasma finish (ICP-AES). Gold was analyzed by fire assay with an atomic absorption (AA) finish and mercury, by cold vapour/AA.

### 11.3.2 Core

Upon receipt of samples, the laboratory assigned a job order and organized the batches. Samples were sorted and weighed. If the number of samples differed from that indicated on the requisition, NGEx was contacted. Sample preparation consisted of:

- Drying in a large electric oven with temperature control
- Crushing to better than 85% passing 10 mesh
- Splitting to a 0.5 kg subsample
- Pulverizing the subsample to 95% passing 200 mesh
- Screening to pass 200 mesh

Bags with 150 g of pulp were submitted internally to ACME's assaying facilities in Santiago.

Multi-acid digestion was used for all NGEx samples with the exception of one submission during the 2009–2010 campaign.

Gold was determined mostly on 30 g aliquots and some 50 g aliquots using fire assay with an atomic absorption spectroscopy (AAS) finish. A suite of 37 elements, including copper and silver, was analyzed by inductively coupled plasma emission spectroscopy (ICP-ES).

Prior to 2010, copper was analyzed only by ICP, with re-assay by AAS only if the ICP result exceeded the upper detection limit of 10,000 ppm Cu. From 2010 to 2012, all samples with copper grades over 5,000 ppm Cu were re-assayed by AAS. Starting in 2012, all samples were analyzed for copper by both ICP and AAS. Copper was also analyzed by sequential leach if the ICP result exceeded 500 ppm. Starting in 2021, silver was also analyzed at ALS using AAS (AA-62 method code).

Mercury analyses by cold vapour/AA were performed on all samples until 2010, after which they were discontinued as no significant mercury values were detected.





## 11.4 Quality Assurance and Quality Control

### 11.4.1 RC

Thirty-two field duplicates representing 3.2% of total RC samples were analyzed, however, no blanks or standard materials were inserted in sample batches to control laboratory performance.

As there are only five RC holes in the deposit, representing 1,366 m of drilling, or 1.4% of the current overall metres drilled, the lack of quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) data for the RC drilling is not a significant risk to the MRE.

### 11.4.2 Core

#### 11.4.2.1 Insertion Rates

No quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) program was in place for diamond drill holes prior to LHDH005 from the 2009–2010 drill program, which corresponds to 3,249 samples representing 2.7% of the metres drilled.

A quality control (QC) program was implemented for the 2009-2010 drilling campaign, beginning with hole LHDH005, and has been in place for all subsequent drill programs. The 2010–2011 campaign included two standards, whereas for subsequent campaigns three standards were used. Coarse blank samples and duplicate samples were inserted and collected from the beginning of the QA/QC programs. QA/QC insertion rates are listed in Table 11-1.

**Table 11-1: QC Insertion Rates at Los Helados Project**

Season	Number Submitted					
	Samples	Blank	Standard	DUPa	DUPf	DUPp
2006-2007	127					
2007-2008	1,742					
2008-2009	1,507					
Sub-Total	3,376					
2009-2010	2,136	60	61	30	31	30
2010-2011	4,681	143	122	66	63	66
2011-2012	10,466	297	299	137	129	139
2012-2013	15,456	370	557	196	193	196
2014-2015	1,639	14	21	7	6	7
2021-2022	5,437	138	207	69	67	69
2022-2023	4,708	119	179	59	59	60
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>44,523</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>567</b>
<b>Average Insertion Rate</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

Note: DUPa, DUPf, and DUPp correspond to assay, field, and preparation duplicates, respectively.





### 11.4.3 Certified Reference Materials

NGEx acquired certified reference materials (CRMs) from SGS Minerals S.A. (SGS) Argentina and CDN Resource Laboratories Ltd. (CDN) and used these CRMs for drill programs completed prior to 2012.

NGEx used materials from Los Helados to create in-house CRMs for the 2011–2012 and 2012–2013 drilling campaigns. The samples were prepared by Vigalab. Coarse rejects were selected from drill hole intervals in the database with assayed copper and gold grades. Each grade range was used to generate a standard for that range. The resulting standard material was subject to round-robin analysis at four laboratories in Chile: ACME, Actlabs, ALS, and Vigalab. Each laboratory received one envelope of each of the three standard materials. Data from the four laboratories were considered in assigning best values to the CRMs. For the seasons 2021–2022 and 2022–2023, CRMs were sourced from Ore Research & Exploration Pty Ltd (OREAS), Australia. All specifications for CRMs used can be found at their website, [www.oreas.com](http://www.oreas.com). CRM performance has been summarized in Table 11-2. Failures that are deemed inaccurate are followed up at the ALS laboratory for re-assay. Accepted CRM failures have been scrutinized against the preceding and following assays to determine the significance of the failure as well as how far outside the three standard deviation (3SD) tolerance limit the value lies. Most of the accepted failures are very close to the tolerance limits as illustrated in Figure 11-1 and Figure 11-2. One exception is the silver performance in three low-grade CRMs using an AA assay method which had a failure rate of 16%. The mean silver value was below 6 ppm with tolerance of  $\pm 0.6$  ppm 3SD. The failures are not of concern because the AA methods are accurate at higher grades of silver, which are of interest.



**Table 11-2: CRM Performance 2009 through 2023 at Los Helados Project**

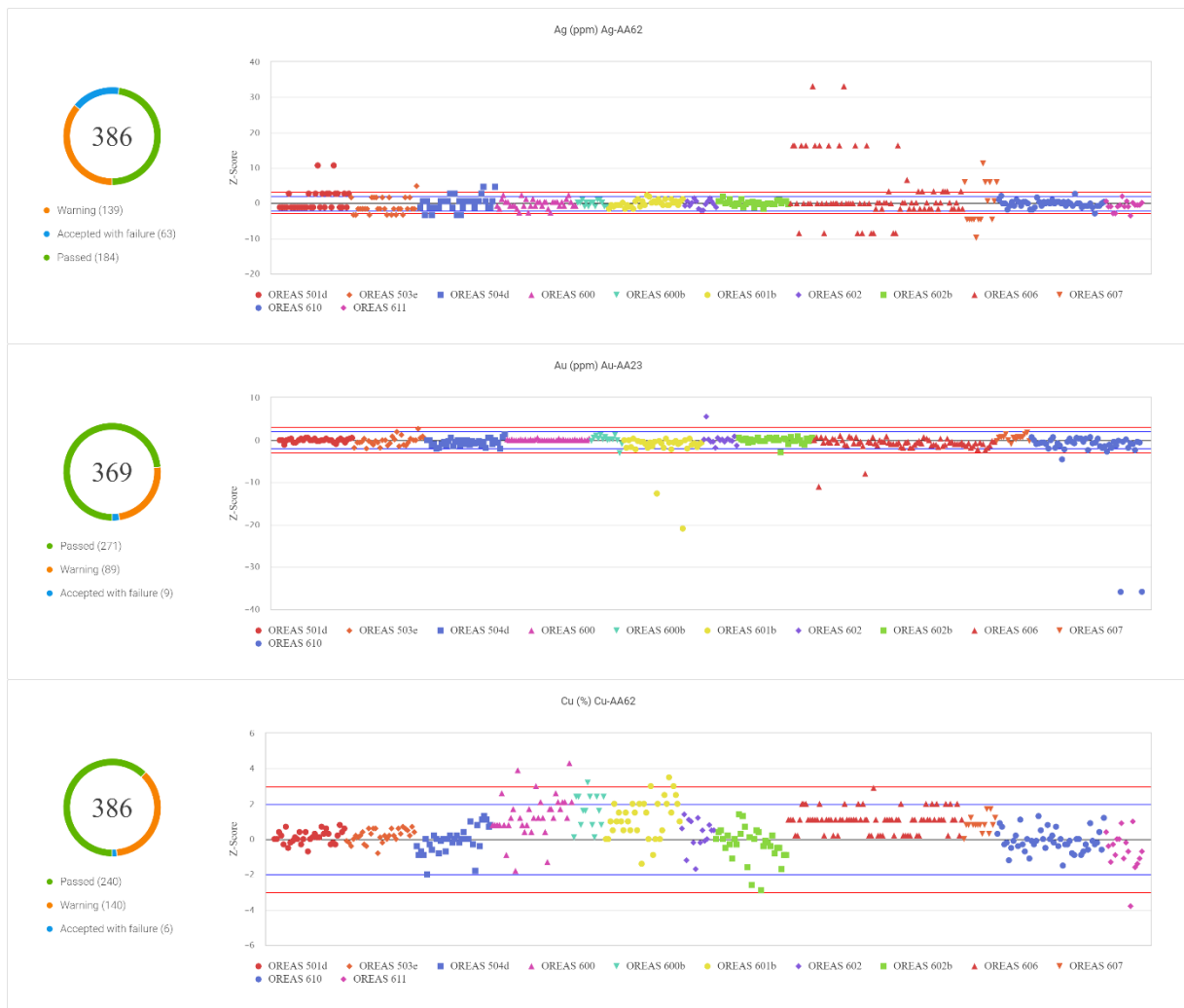
<b>Season</b>	<b>Ag</b>	<b>Au</b>	<b>Cu</b>
<b>2009-2010</b>	-	<b>56</b>	<b>61</b>
Passed	-	33	46
Warning	-	11	8
Accepted with failure	-	12	7
<b>2010-2011</b>	-	<b>132</b>	<b>122</b>
Passed	-	80	80
Warning	-	19	23
Accepted with failure	-	33	19
<b>2011-2012</b>	-	<b>302</b>	<b>299</b>
Passed	-	291	263
Warning	-	8	31
Accepted with failure	-	3	5
<b>2012-2013</b>	-	<b>557</b>	<b>557</b>
Passed	-	540	521
Warning	-	17	36
<b>2014-2015</b>	-	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>
Passed	-	20	21
Warning	-	1	-
<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>207</b>
Passed	124	154	110
Warning	55	30	91
Accepted with failure	28	6	6
<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>179</b>
Passed	60	117	130
Warning	84	59	49
Accepted with failure	35	3	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>1,437</b>	<b>1,446</b>



**Figure 11-1: Los Helados Certified Reference Material Performance for the 2009-2010 through 2014-2015 Seasons**



**Figure 11-2: Los Helados Certified Reference Material Performance for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Seasons**



## 11.4.4 Coarse Blanks

NGEx obtained blank material from an andesite outcrop located near Los Helados for the 2011–2012 drilling campaign. During the 2012–2013 and for subsequent campaigns, material used for blanks was white quartz, which was purchased in Copiapó.

### 11.4.4.1 Blank Performance

Blank performance is summarized in Table 11-3. Failures were scrutinized against their locations in the assay sequence to determine if contamination was present. Further, the inserted blanks preceding and following the Accepted Failure Blank were also validated to ensure that any contamination, if present, was isolated. Performance of the 2009-2010 through 2022-2023 seasons are illustrated in Figure 11-4 and Figure 11-5.

**Table 11-3: Blank Performance 2009 through 2023 at Los Helados Project**

Season	Ag	Au	Cu
<b>2009-2010</b>	-	<b>60</b>	-
Passed	-	60	-
<b>2010-2011</b>	-	<b>143</b>	<b>143</b>
Passed	-	139	142
Accepted with failure	-	4	1
<b>2011-2012</b>	-	<b>297</b>	<b>297</b>
Passed	-	296	296
Accepted with failure	-	1	1
<b>2012-2013</b>	-	<b>370</b>	<b>370</b>
Passed	-	368	369
Accepted with failure	-	2	1
<b>2014-2015</b>	-	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
Passed	-	14	14
<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>138</b>
Passed	136	134	131
Accepted with failure	2	4	7
<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>119</b>
Passed	119	119	119
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1,081</b>



Blank : Au (ppm) HIST

884

Passed (877)

Accepted with failure (7)

Au (ppm)

Max value = 0.015

Completed Date

Blank : Cu (%) HIST

824

Passed (821)

Accepted with failure (3)

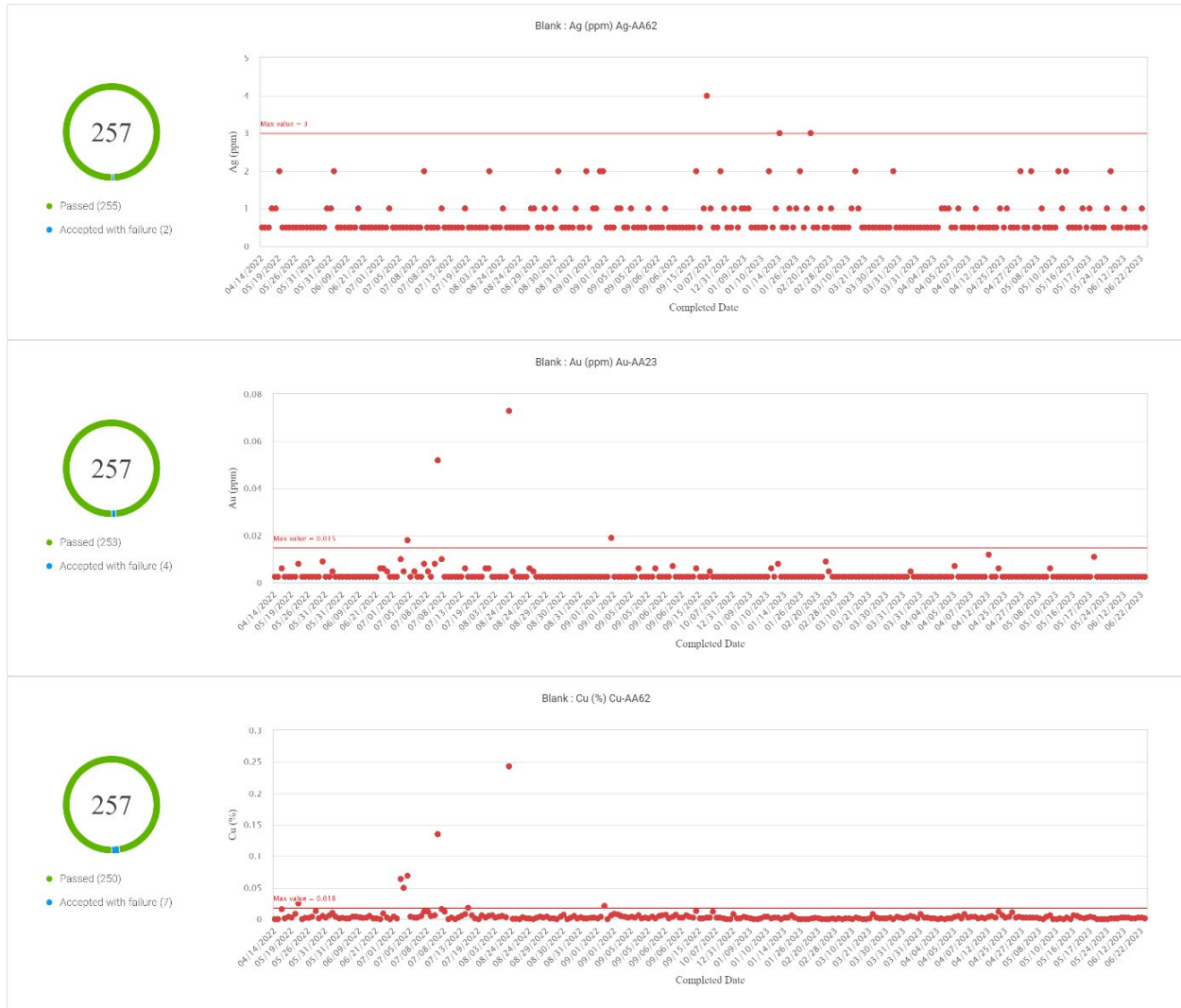
Cu (%)

Max value = 0.018

Completed Date



**Figure 11-4: Los Helados Blank Performance for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Seasons**



## 11.4.5 Duplicates

NGEx collected field duplicates, coarse duplicates, and pulp duplicates beginning in the 2011–2012 drilling campaign.

### 11.4.5.1 Duplicate Assay Performance

Field duplicates were obtained taking a second split of the sample to be analyzed independently. Both preparation (reject) and assays (pulp) duplicates were made by the laboratory and assigned a specific number in the sequence. The preparation duplicate consisted of a second pulp from the original sample whereas the assay duplicate was a subsample made from the original pulp.

Note that DUPa, DUPf, and DUPp correspond to assay, field, and preparation duplicates, respectively.

Both assay and preparation duplicates have very good copper and gold coefficients of determination (Pearson  $r^2 > 0.99$ ). Field duplicates also have good correlation coefficients for copper and gold and display absolute differences expected in natural systems. The duplicate assays for silver exhibit poor correlation for all three types of duplicates. The differences are due to the lack of precision of the Ag-AAS62 method at low silver grades. Performance of the duplicates is outlined below in Table 11-4.

Performance of the duplicates is illustrated with scatterplots in Figure 11-5 and Figure 11-6. The assay duplicates show a higher correlation than the field duplicates, specifically in the precious metals gold and silver, which is typical. Preparation duplicates are not shown.

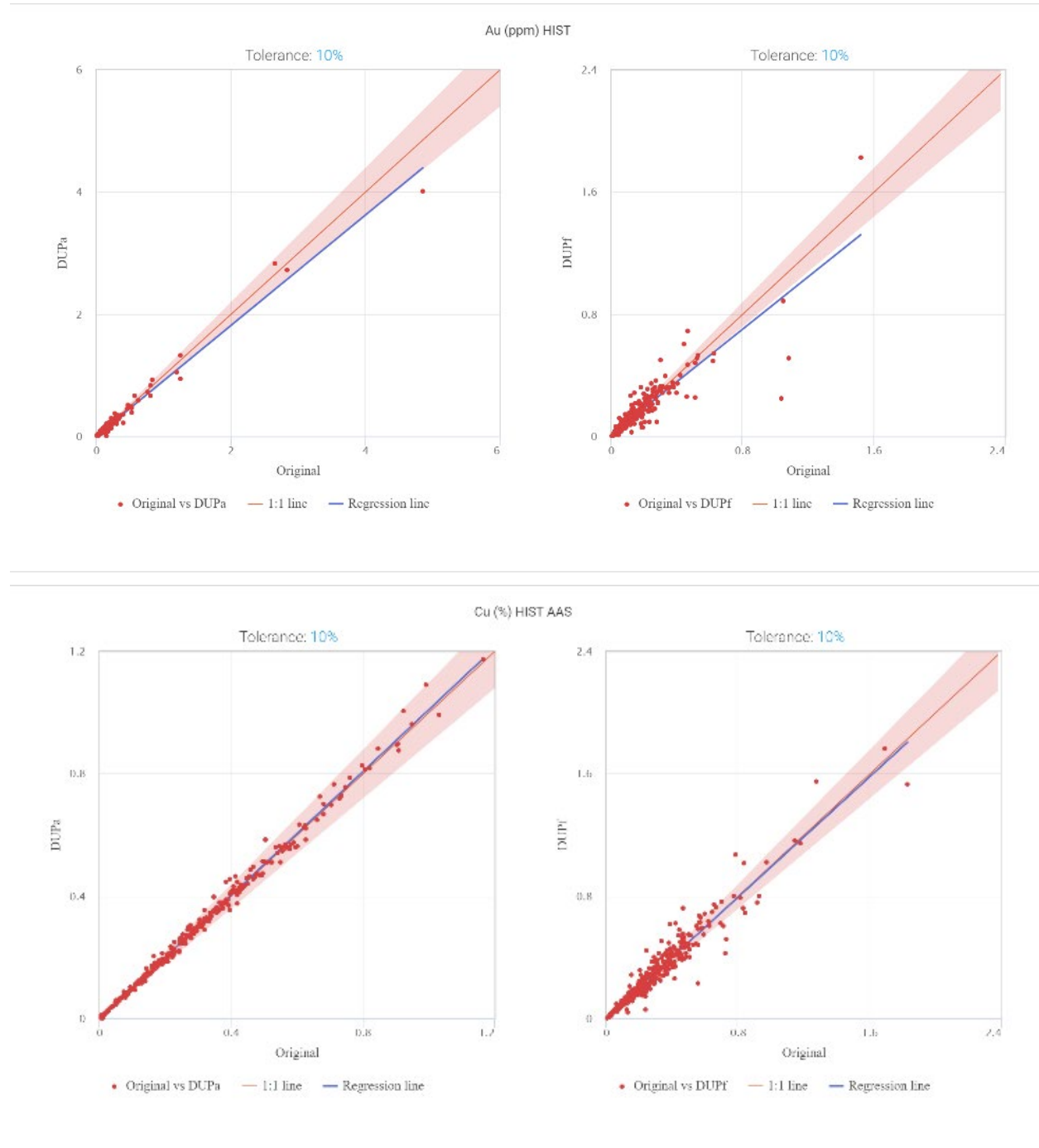


**Table 11-4: Duplicate Performance 2009 through 2023 at Los Helados Project**

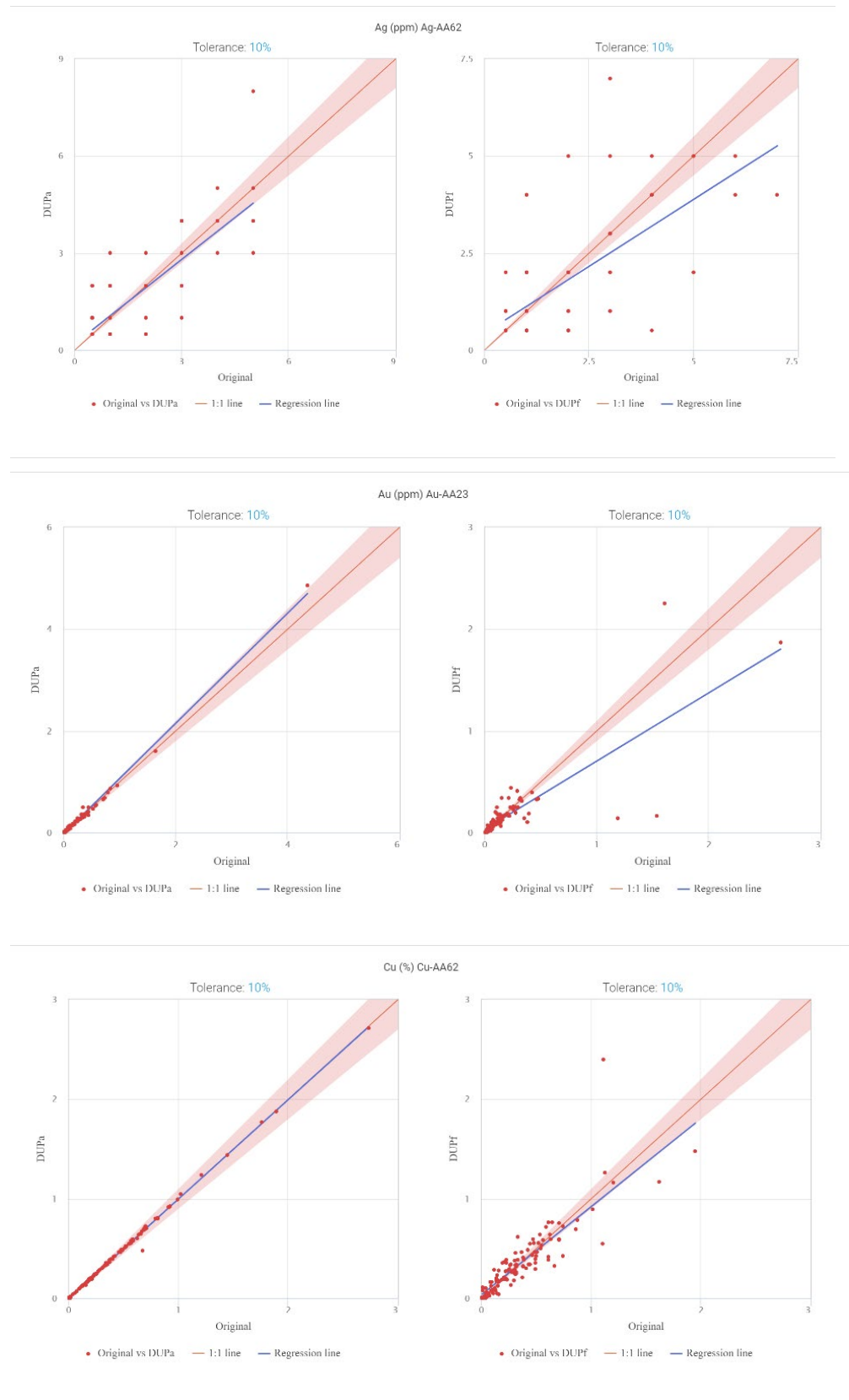
Season	Number of Duplicates			Pearson $r^2$		
	Ag	Au	Cu	Ag	Au	Cu
<b>2009-2010</b>	-	<b>91</b>	-			
DUPa	-	30	-	-	0.99	-
DUPf	-	31	-	-	0.76	-
DUPp	-	30	-	-	0.98	-
<b>2010-2011</b>	-	<b>195</b>	<b>11</b>			
DUPa	-	66	5	-	1.00	0.91
DUPf	-	63	2	-	0.83	1.00
DUPp	-	66	4	-	0.97	0.99
<b>2011-2012</b>	-	<b>405</b>	<b>395</b>			
DUPa	-	137	133	-	0.99	0.99
DUPf	-	129	126	-	0.97	0.96
DUPp	-	139	136	-	0.97	0.99
<b>2012-2013</b>	-	<b>585</b>	<b>582</b>			
DUPa	-	196	196	-	1.00	1.00
DUPf	-	193	192	-	0.76	0.96
DUPp	-	196	194	-	0.99	0.99
<b>2014-2015</b>	-	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>			
DUPa	-	7	7	-	0.96	1.00
DUPf	-	6	6	-	0.94	0.95
DUPp	-	7	7	-	0.99	1.00
<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>205</b>			
DUPa	69	69	69	0.85	1.00	1.00
DUPf	67	67	67	0.77	0.96	0.92
DUPp	69	69	69	0.82	0.99	1.00
<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>			
DUPa	59	59	59	0.70	0.99	1.00
DUPf	59	59	59	0.62	0.83	0.83
DUPp	60	60	60	0.66	0.99	1.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>1,679</b>	<b>1,391</b>			



**Figure 11-5: Los Helados 2009-2010 through 2014-2015 Seasons Duplicate Performance**



**Figure 11-6: Los Helados 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Seasons Duplicate Performance**





#### **11.4.6 External Assay Checks**

A set of 522 pulps, representing 3.5% of total samples for the 2012–2013 drilling campaign, were selected for a second analysis round at ALS in Chile. No bias between the ALS and ACME laboratories was detected for any of the metals tested.

#### **11.4.7 Databases**

Data was migrated to MX Deposit in May 2022, which is a database hosted on Amazon's cloud service. All quality assurance is performed in this software prior to release of assays. Prior to MX Deposit, drill hole data was stored in a GEOVIA GEMS database, which is a Microsoft (MS) Access database platform created and manipulated using GEMS.

Data stored for each drill hole include collar information; downhole surveys; codes and comments for lithology, alteration, and mineralization; assays; SG; magnetic susceptibility; recovery; RQD; and metallurgical sample information.

### **11.5 Sample Storage**

Drill core is stored in a core storage facility in Copiapó. RC drill chips are stored in lidded, plastic core trays, most of which are also kept in Copiapó.

The laboratory returned the pulps and coarse reject for each sample that was sent for analysis. These are stored at the Copiapó facility.

During 2015, due to abnormally heavy rains, a small portion of the drill core stored in the facility was affected by flooding, and the core and sample pulps and rejects were moved to a new facility, also in Copiapó.

### **11.6 Sample Security**

The logging facility is fenced, locked when not occupied, and is secure. Samples are handled only by company employees or their designates (i.e., laboratory personnel).

NGEx noted that samples are in the control of an NGEx employee or contractor to NGEx from the time they leave the site until they arrive in Copiapó.

### **11.7 The QP's Comments on Section 11**

Sample collection, preparation, analysis, and security are in line with industry-standard methods for porphyry deposits.

Data for SG are collected using industry-standard methods. There are sufficient estimates to support tonnage estimates for the various lithologies.

Drill programs included insertion of blank, duplicate, and CRM samples. QA/QC program results do not indicate any issues with the analytical programs.

The QP is of the opinion that the quality of the copper and gold analytical data is sufficiently reliable to support Mineral Resource estimation without limitations on Mineral Resource confidence categories. The silver grades at Los Helados are nearing the detection limit and exhibit poor precision. There is more uncertainty in the silver resource grades at Los Helados, however, they contribute less than two percent of the total copper equivalent value. Copper and gold contribute approximately 78% and 20%, respectively.



## 12.0 Data Verification

### 12.1 Site Visits

The QP visited the Los Helados deposit in Chile, and the core logging facility in Copiapó, Chile, from September 18 to 22, 2023. The QP was accompanied by NGEx geologists Fabian Wagner Soto and Eduardo Espinosa. Surface exposures and a number of diamond drill hole collars were examined (Figure 12-1 and Figure 12-2). No ground-based exploration work has been carried out subsequent to the QP visit.

**Figure 12-1: Los Helados Deposit Looking East**



Source: SLR 2023.

**Figure 12-2: Los Helados LHDH088 Drill Hole Collar**



Source: SLR 2023.



The QP visited the core, pulp, and reject storage and core logging and sampling facility in Copiapó (Figure 12-3) that is conveniently located next to the NGEx Copiapó office. The QP examined core from Los Helados drill holes LHDH076, LHDH083, and LHDH084, which were representative of the mineralization at the Condor, Alicanto, and Fenix zones, respectively.

**Figure 12-3: NGEx Core Logging Facility in Copiapó**



Source: SLR 2023.

## 12.2 SLR Drill Hole Database Validation

Data verification of the drill hole database included manual verification against original digital sources, a series of digital queries, and a review of the QA/QC procedures and results, and visual comparisons between the assay results and three drill holes from Los Helados.

The QP's review of the resource database included collar, survey, lithology, mineralization, and assay tables. Database verification was performed using tools provided within Leapfrog Geo Version 2023.1.0 software package (Leapfrog). A visual check on the drill hole Leapfrog collar elevations and drill hole traces was completed. No major discrepancies were identified.

In addition, the QP completed database validity checks for out-of-range values, overlapping intervals, gaps, and mismatched sample intervals. Overall, the QP found no significant issues with the Los Helados drill hole database.

### 12.2.1 SLR Verification of Assay Certificates

SLR prepared a MS PowerPoint presentation that summarizes its database verification work and the detailed comparison results are documented in an MS Excel file. The comparison revealed no significant errors.

SLR carried out cross-checks between the Los Helados MX Deposit assay database and the ACME and ALS assay certificates provided in .pdf, .xls and .csv format. SLR compiled 33,270 samples from 300 certificates from 2008 to 2023 using python scripts and compared values for copper, gold, and silver against the MX Deposit assay database. This allowed for approximately 60% the MX Deposit database to be verified. SLR found a small number of discrepancies, mostly related to gold and silver assays. Most of the discrepancies are related to low grades. Overall, no significant errors were identified. The QP is of the opinion that the small number of discrepancies identified are minor and they have no impact on the MRE.



## 12.3 QP Opinion

The QP is of the opinion that the Los Helados diamond drill hole assay results and database management procedures are of high quality and the assay results for gold, copper, and silver are acceptable for the purposes of Mineral Resource estimation.



## 13.0 Mineral Processing and Metallurgical Testing

### 13.1 Metallurgical Test Work

#### 13.1.1 Introduction

The Los Helados metallurgical test work program was conducted at SGS in Santiago, Chile in two phases, Phase I in 2013 and Phase II 2015. The work was completed under the supervision of Amec International Ingeniería y Construcción Ltda. (Amec Foster Wheeler 2013, 2015), acquired by Wood Group in 2017. Two separate reports were produced by SGS for the Los Helados Project:

- Programa Metalúrgico de Conminución y Flotación en Mineral de Cobre - Oro, Proyecto Los Helados (Comminution and Flotation Metallurgical Testing of Copper-Gold Mineralization, Los Helados Project) - 2013
- Programa Metalúrgico de Conminución y Flotación en Mineral de Cobre - Oro, Proyecto Los Helados – Fase II (Comminution and Flotation Metallurgical Testing Copper-Gold Mineralization, Los Helados Project – Phase II)- 2015

Vendor testing was also conducted by ThyssenKrupp AG on selected samples from the Condor Zone of the Los Helados deposit, successfully demonstrating that this is an alternative method for grinding of Los Helados mineralized material.

The main activities completed during the development of the metallurgical test program were:

- Sample selection for the metallurgical test programs
- Chemical characterization including mineralogical analysis
- Physical characterization
- Gold recovery using gravity processing techniques
- Copper, gold, and silver recovery using conventional sulphide flotation practices
- Settling test work

#### 13.1.2 Geometallurgical Domains

In Phase I of the program, tests were conducted on three different composite samples representing different depths within the Condor Zone of the deposit (Table 13-1). Each composite was made up of 20 individual drill core subsamples. The goal at the time was to select samples that were representative of the deposit grades and lithologies from three depth intervals: Upper, Intermediate, and Deep. Upon completion of the Phase I metallurgical test work program, it was concluded that the deposit was largely homogeneous throughout with respect to chemical and physical characteristics.





**Table 13-1: Composite Description, Phase I**

Deposit Zone	Depth from Surface (m)	Proportion of Cu This Zone Represents in the Deposit (%)	Proportion of Tonnage This Zone Represents in the Deposit (%)
Upper	0 to 200–250	6	9
Intermediate	200–250 to 500–600	32	34
Deep	deeper than 500–600	62	57

An updated geological model was subsequently developed for Los Helados, which led to the Phase II work phase which focused primarily on the characteristics of the deposit at different periods within a conceptual block cave production plan. In the second round of metallurgical test work, the deposit homogeneity was confirmed. Three separate composites were created representing production years 1-7, production years 8-15, and production years 16 onward (16+) of a conceptual production plan (Table 13-2). Generally, material for years 1-7 is located at the bottom of the core of the deposit, years 8-15 material is concentrically outward of the core, and years 16+ material is near-surface and around the periphery of the deposit.

No samples were collected from either the Fenix or Alicanto Zones, as both were undiscovered at the time of the test work programs.

The portions of the individual samples that remained following creation of the Phase II samples were used to create 30 variability samples for comminution and flotation test work.

### 13.1.3 Head Sample Characterization

Representative splits from each of three different composite samples from each of the Phase I and II programs were chemically analyzed for contained elements. The results show that there was some variability in copper feed grades for all of the composite samples, and low levels of molybdenum, mercury and arsenic throughout the deposit (Table 13-3 and Table 13-4).

**Table 13-2: Composite Description, Phase II**

Deposit Zone	Main Characteristic	Proportion of Tonnage This Zone Represents in the Deposit (%)	Sample ID
Years 1–7	Early production period	13	Years 1–7
Years 8–15	Mid production period	17	Years 8–15
Year 16 onward	Later production period	70	Year 16+

**Table 13-3: Head Grade Chemical Characterization, Phase I**

Sample ID/Test	CuT (%)	Fe (%)	S (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Mo (ppm)	As (ppm)	Hg (ppm)
Upper zone	0.293	3.71	4.29	0.244	0.85	4	20	<2
Intermediate zone	0.468	3.72	3.61	0.205	1.45	71	7	<2
Deep zone	0.812	4.14	2.96	0.249	2.70	54	<1	<2



**Table 13-4: Head Grade Chemical Characterization, Phase II**

Sample ID/Test	CuT (%)	Cu Sol (%)	Fe (%)	S (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Mo (ppm)	As (ppm)	Hg (ppm)
Years 1–7	0.543	0.006	3.28	2.78	0.17	2.7	30	5	<0.1
Years 8–15	0.585	0.003	4.34	3.59	0.22	2.5	28	4	<0.1
Year 16+	0.456	0.003	3.88	3.19	0.17	0.5	66	5	<0.1
Note: CuT = total copper; Cu Sol = soluble copper.									

### 13.1.4 Mineralogy

A quantitative evaluation of minerals by scanning electron microscopy (QEMSCAN) mineralogical analysis was completed on representative splits of each of the samples for the Phase I and Phase II programs to better understand the mineralogy of each of the zones in the deposit. The analysis showed that the samples contain mainly quartz and phyllosilicates, indicating that the amount and type of gangue minerals are consistent at different depths within the deposit.

Other minor minerals noted in the samples include feldspars, iron and titanium oxides, pyrite, and copper sulphide minerals.

The pyrite (Py) to copper sulphide (Cp) weight ratio is shown in Table 13-5. The higher the pyrite to copper sulphide ratio, the more difficult it can be to separate copper minerals from pyrite using conventional sulphide flotation techniques.

**Table 13-5: Py:Cp Ratios**

Sample	Py : Cp Ratio
Upper	6.4
Intermediate	2.8
Deep	0.8
1-7 years	1.5
8-15 years	2.5
+16 years	2.7
Note: Py = pyrite; Cp = copper sulphide	

In order to improve this separation, the Phase II test work program targeted:

- Use of optimum regrind sizes in cleaner flotation
- Pyrite depression using lime buffering
- Selective flotation techniques using selective collectors

The mineralogical analysis indicated that the main copper sulphide mineral present is chalcopyrite (97% average by weight) with traces of chalcocite/digenite and bornite (Figure 13-1).



### 13.1.5 Physical Characterization

Physical characterization test work was carried out on representative splits for each of the three samples for the Phase I program. The characterization work included Bond ball mill work indices (BWi), Bond rod mill work indices (RWi), abrasion indices (Ai), semi-autogenous grinding (SAG) power index (SPI) testing, and SAG mill competency (SMC) tests. The average results for these tests are provided in Table 13-6.

The results show that the three composite samples tested can be classified as hard material according to the SMC test results. This classification was also confirmed by the results of the SPI test conducted. In relation to the BWi and RWi results, the three composite samples tested can be considered as moderately hard. Finally, all the samples tested reported a low Ai classification (low to moderate consumption rates of grinding media and other process plant wear consumables).

In Phase II of the program, physical characterization test work was carried out on three composite samples and 30 variability samples. Specifically, the characterization work included BWi, RWi, and SMC testing. Additional work included specific gravity and Ai determinations for each of the three composite samples (Table 13-7). The variability test results (Table 13-8) show that the hardness of the material within each zone defined is very homogeneous and classified as very hard material ( $A \times b < 30$ ) to hard material ( $A \times b$  30 to 38). This confirmed the Phase I tests results that the deposit is homogeneous from a hardness perspective and contains very competent material throughout.

**Table 13-6: Composite Samples Head Physical Characterization Phase I**

Sample ID/Test	Specific gravity	Bond Ball BWi (kWh/t)	Bond Rod RWi (kWh/t)	Bond Abrasion Index (Ai)	SMC (A x b)	Dwi (kWh/m <sup>3</sup> )	Mia (KWh/t)	Mih (kWh/t)	Mic (kWh/t)
Upper zone	2.78	16.03	16.3	0.081	31.9	8.54	23.5	18.2	9.4
Intermediate zone	2.82	17.10	16.4	0.155	29.1	9.31	25.4	20.1	10.4
Deep zone	2.83	16.12	15.8	0.185	28.1	9.50	26.2	20.8	10.7

**Table 13-7: Composite Samples Head Physical Characterization, Phase II**

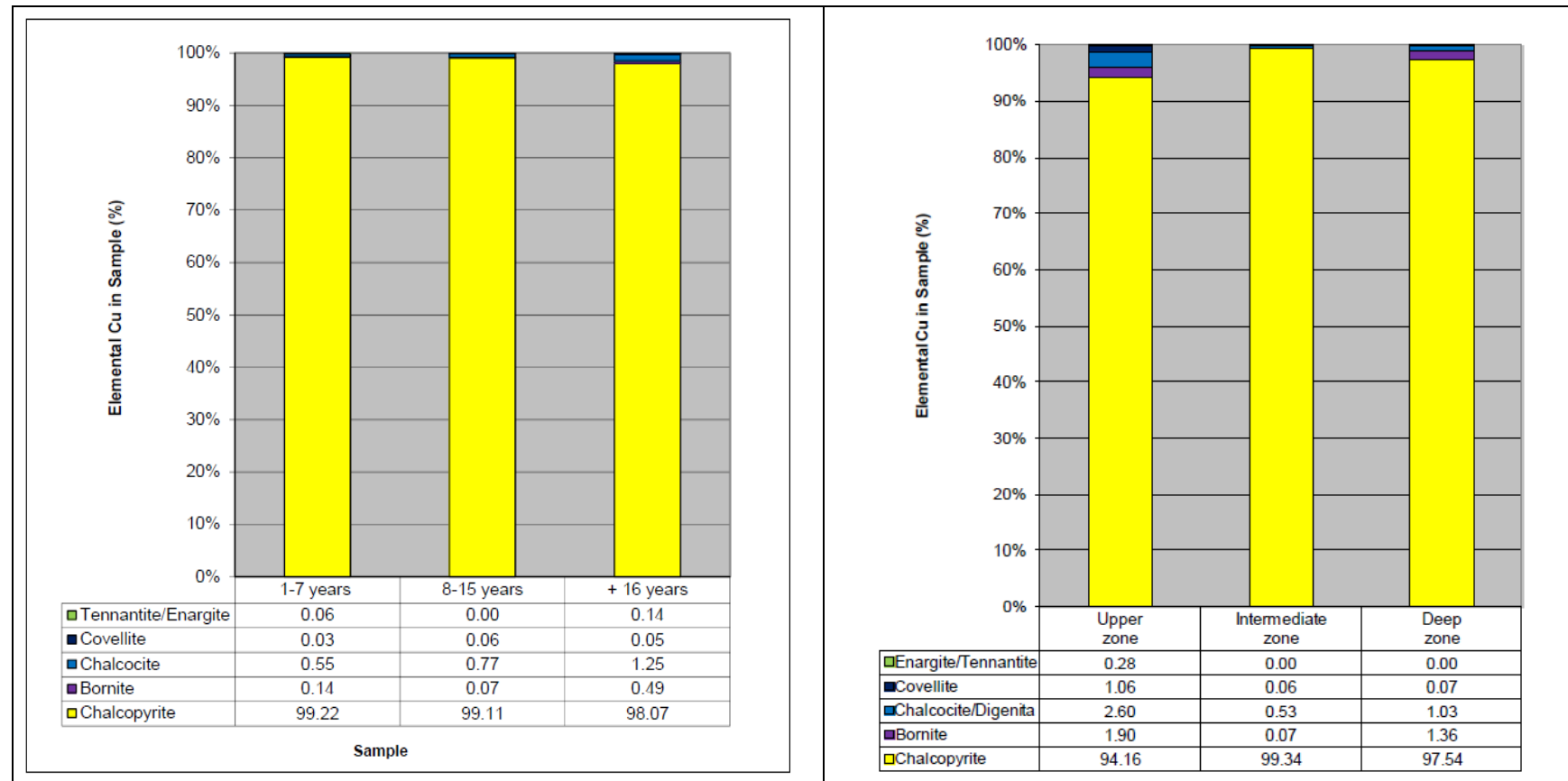
Sample ID/Test	Specific Gravity	Bond Abrasion Index (Ai)
Years 1–7	2.762	0.265
Years 8–15	2.792	0.223
Years 16+	2.760	0.197

**Table 13-8: Variability Samples Physical Characterization Phase II**

Zone/Parameter	Sample ID/Test	Specific Gravity	Bond BWi (kWh/t)	Bond RWi (kWh/t)	SMC (A x b)
Years 1–7	VAR 1 to VAR 10	2.61 to 2.74	15.16 to 20.18	13.48 to 17.90	22.0 to 28.7
Years 8–15	VAR 11 to VAR 20	2.66 to 2.77	15.82 to 18.73	14.84 to 17.82	22.0 to 26.0
Years 16+	VAR 21 to VAR 30	2.66 to 2.76	15.57 to 18.92	14.53 to 18.28	23.0 to 31.8



**Figure 13-1: Elemental Copper Deportment**



Source: Amec Foster Wheeler 2013 and 2015.

Note: Phase I to right, Phase II to left.



### 13.1.6 Gravity Recoverable Gold

Standard Knelson three-stage gravity recoverable gold tests were conducted. The results indicate that the deposit does not contain appreciable coarse gold and that most of the gold in the deposit is contained in sulphide minerals. This conclusion is supported by the results of the sulphide flotation test work which has good gold recoveries.

### 13.1.7 Conventional Flotation

A sulphide flotation program was developed in the Phase I program on three fresh composite samples for the production of gold-silver rich copper concentrates, using a conventional sulphide flotation circuit flowsheet. The flotation program consisted of the evaluation of roughing and cleaning stages with the following variables assessed:

- Primary grind and cleaner regrind size effects
- Collector, frother, and pulp solids percentage effect on rougher flotation
- Evaluation of pH on rougher and cleaner flotation stages

Four separate locked cycle tests (LCT) were completed for each zone of the deposit utilizing different conditions. The optimized results for each sample from the LCTs considering the average of the last three cycles are presented in Table 13-9 where the metal recoveries are reported.

For the Phase II program, the flotation test work was performed on three new composites and 30 variability samples in order to improve the copper recoveries and grades from the first program and to understand the deposit variability. Flotation parameter evaluations were performed on the three composite samples, and the optimum parameters then applied to the variability samples in open circuit tests (OCT).

Variables for the OCTs included:

- Rougher flotation:
  - Primary grind feed size effect
  - Collector effect
  - pH and depressor effect for pyrite depression
  - Rougher stage flotation residence time
- Cleaning flotation:
  - Rougher concentrate regrind size effect
  - pH and depressor effect for pyrite depression
  - First cleaning stage flotation residence time

The variables were optimized and then applied to the LCTs conducted on the composite and variability samples. Tests were predominantly completed using fresh (tap) water, although some initial OCTs were also conducted using seawater.

In general terms, the composite samples tested reported good results using conventional sulphide flotation with respect to global copper and gold grades and recoveries (Table 13-10 and Table 13-11).



Three out of the 30 variability samples were additionally tested using LCTs. The variability samples tested reported high global copper and gold recovery results using conventional sulphide flotation (Table 13-12 and Table 13-13). Thus, the recovery results from the variability samples confirm those for the composite sample LCTs.

In terms of third cleaner copper concentrate grade, high recovery results were reported for the years 1–7 and years 8–15 composite samples. However, a low final copper concentrate grade was reported for the years 16+ composite sample. This is explained by the high percentage of pyrite estimated to be contained in the final concentrate (Table 13-14), because the increased pyrite recovered to the concentrate dilutes the recovered copper.

**Table 13-9: Metal Recovery from Flotation LCT, Phase I**

Sample ID	Calculated Feed Cu Grade (%)	Mass to Concentrate (%)	Global Recovery to Final Concentrate				
			Cu %	Au %	Ag %	Fe %	S %
Upper zone	0.264	1.0	83.1	72.8	31.0	7.7	7.8
Intermediate zone	0.464	1.6	90.2	80.3	54.9	15.3	19.9
Deep zone	0.805	2.4	93.1	82.5	70.5	18.0	34.4

**Table 13-10: Composite Samples Metal Recovery from Flotation LCT, Phase II**

Sample ID	Zone/ Parameter	Calculated Feed Cu Grade %	Mass to Concentrate (%) Cu %	Global Recovery to Final Concentrate			
				Au %	Ag %	Fe %	S %
Years 1–7	0.522	1.59	91.1	69.7	77.8	15.5	19.3
Years 8–15	0.569	1.95	90.8	73.1	49.3	14.2	19.5
Years 16+	0.454	1.78	91.8	68.1	66.1	14.1	20.7





**Table 13-11: Composite Samples Elements and Impurities Contained in the LCT Final Concentrate, Phase II**

Element	Final Concentrate Grades		
	Years 1–7	Years 8–15	Years 16+
Calculated feed Cu grade %	0.522	0.569	0.454
Cu %	29.9	26.5	23.4
Au g/t	6.5	8.3	6.8
Ag g/t	70	50	53
Fe %	28.1	29.5	31.8
S %	33.7	34.7	37.3
Cu Sol %	0.042	0.088	0.091
Cd %	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Zn %	0.284	0.062	0.108
As %	0.024	0.013	0.005
Insoluble %	6.17	8.58	7.52
Hg ppm	3.1	1.2	0.7
Sb %	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
Cl %	0.021	0.031	0.011

**Table 13-12: Variability Samples Metal Recovery from Flotation LCT, Phase II**

Sample ID	Zone/ Parameter	Calculated Feed Cu Grade %	Mass to Concentrate (%) Cu %	Global Recovery to Final Concentrate			
				Au %	Ag %	Fe %	S %
VAR 5	0.663	2.15	92.1	76.0	66.4	18.3	25.2
VAR 17	0.510	1.73	90.8	72.7	66.2	10.5	18.7
VAR 29	0.490	2.45	89.5	70.7	40.0	20.9	18.1



**Table 13-13: Variability Samples Elements and Impurities Contained in the LCT Final Concentrate, Phase II**

Element	Final Concentrate Grades		
	VAR 5	VAR 17	VAR 29
Calculated feed Cu grade %	0.663	0.510	0.490
Cu %	28.3	26.8	17.9
Au g/t	9,0	7.0	7.4
Ag g/t	70	63	18
Fe %	28.5	27.7	36.6
S %	33.3	31.7	39.8
Cu Sol %	0.112	0.111	0.126
Cd %	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Zn %	0.132	0.097	0.036
As %	<0.005	<0.005	0.009
Insoluble %	5.03	7.12	4.31
Hg ppm	<0.1	0.4	0.7
Sb %	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005
Cl %	0.01	<0.005	0.013

**Table 13-14: Pyrite Content Estimation in Feed and Concentrate LCT, Phase II**

Zone/ Parameter	Sample ID	Calculated Feed Cu Grade (%)	Feed Estimated Pyrite Content (%)	Concentrate Cu Grade (%)	Concentrate Estimated Pyrite Content (%)
Years 1–7	Years 1–7	0.522	5.1	29,9	3.9
Years 8–15	Years 8–15	0.569	7.8	26,5	13.4
Years 16+	Years 16+	0.454	7.6	23,4	24.2
Years 1–7	VAR 5	0.663	6.0	28.3	7.73
Years 8–15	VAR 17	0.510	8.7	26.8	8.90
Years 16+	VAR 29	0.490	8.2	17.9	44.84

Additional optimization work will need to be conducted for the years 16+ years sample in order to improve the overall concentrate copper grade.

### 13.1.8 Metallurgical Variability

The metallurgical test work to date is based on samples which adequately represent the variability of the deposit with respect to physical and chemical characterization for this stage of



study. Additional test work will be required to support more advanced mining studies. Physical characterization was conducted on variability samples with relatively consistent results. Flotation OCTs confirmed that the deposit is reasonably homogeneous with respect to physical and chemical properties.

#### **13.1.9 Deleterious Elements**

No major deleterious elements issues were noted in the concentrates produced from the test work completed. The concentrates are considered to be marketable without incurring penalties for deleterious elements.



## 14.0 Mineral Resource Estimate

### 14.1 Summary

An updated MRE was completed in 2023 by SLR Senior Geologist Sarah Conolly, P.Geo., under the supervision of Mr. Evans, using the database provided by NGEx. The MRE was prepared in accordance with CIM (2014) definitions as incorporated by reference into NI 43-101. There has been no update to the MRE since the 2023 update.

The 2023 MRE includes 23 surface diamond drill holes totalling 23,014 m drilled after the previous MRE was completed in 2019 (NGEx 2019). A summary of the 2023 MRE is provided in Table-14-1. As of October 31, 2023, underground Indicated Mineral Resources are estimated to total 2.08 Bt averaging 0.40% Cu, 0.15 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 18.4 Blb of copper, 10.2 Moz of gold, and 97.5 Moz of silver. In addition, Inferred Mineral Resources are estimated to total 1.08 Bt averaging 0.34% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 8.2 Blb of copper, 3.6 Moz of gold, and 50.2 Moz of silver.

The Mineral Resources for the Los Helados deposit are summarized in Table-14-1. They are constrained by an underground block cave mining shape based on a copper equivalent (CuEq) cut-off value of 0.33% to ensure continuity and comply with the requirement of reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction (RPEEE).

**Table-14-1: Summary of Mineral Resources – October 31, 2023**

Category	Tonnage (Bt)	Grade				Metal Content		
		Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	CuEq (%)	Cu (Mlb)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)
Indicated	2.08	0.40	0.15	1.5	0.51	18,426	10.2	97.5
Inferred	1.08	0.34	0.10	1.5	0.42	8,152	3.6	50.2

Notes:

- CIM (2014) definitions were followed for Mineral Resources.
- Mineral Resources are estimated at a cut-off grade of 0.33 g/t CuEq based on an underground block cave mining cost of US\$8/t, a processing cost of US\$12/t, and a general and administrative (G&A) cost of US\$1/t.
- Mineral Resources are estimated using a long-term copper price of US\$3.90 per pound, a gold price of US\$1,800 per ounce, and a silver price of US\$20 per ounce.
- Metallurgical recoveries used correspond to three geometallurgical zones:
  - Upper: Cu 83.1%, Au 72.8%, Ag 31.0%
  - Intermediate: Cu 90.2%, Au 80.3%, Ag 54.9%
  - Deep: Cu 93.1%, Au 82.5%, Ag 70.5%
- The formulas used for the CuEq calculation are:
  - Upper:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.681008 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.002989 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
  - Intermediate:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.692039 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.004877 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
  - Deep:  $\text{CuEq \%} = \text{Cu \%} + (0.688852 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.006068 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
- Bulk density is 2.67 t/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Mineral Resources are reported within an optimized underground block cave mining shape to demonstrate RPEEE. The block cave considered a column size of 20 m x 20 m x (≥ 80 m).
- There are 40 Mt of unclassified material excluded from inside the block cave shape.
- Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.
- Numbers may not add due to rounding.



The QP is not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the MRE.

## 14.2 Resource Database

The Project database consists of drill holes at approximately 75 m to 450 m spacing. It includes 47,254 assays from 106 drill holes, totalling 93,750 m of drilling. Most of the drill holes are diamond drill holes, with just five RC drill holes. All drilling was conducted from surface and is maintained in Seequent's MX Deposit drill hole database system.

The data was imported into Seequent's Leapfrog Geo and Edge 2023.1 software for data review, statistical analysis, wireframe building, and block modelling.

## 14.3 Geological Interpretation

The Los Helados MRE is based on an interpreted breccia body emplaced within the local country rock. The breccia hosts three internal higher-grade zones: Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto. A series of steep, sub-parallel dykes are found cross cutting both the breccia and higher-grade zones. The dykes appear to terminate relatively close to the breccia boundary. Three-dimensional views of this geological interpretation are illustrated in Figure 14-1 and Figure 14-2.

The mineralization model was created in Leapfrog Geo 2023.1 by NGEx geologists and refined by SLR. The breccia was modelled using interpreted contacts drawn onto level plans by the site project geologists. Higher-grade mineralized zones (Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto) were modelled within the breccia at a modelling threshold of approximately 0.5% Cu. The breccia has a footprint of approximately 1,000 m x 650 m at its widest with a vertical extension of 1,600 m. Condor and Alicanto are broad oval shaped bodies, while Fenix is more pipe-like in geometry. The dykes were flagged from the original logged lithology and refined with assay results. They are modelled as steep, narrow domains, dipping at approximately 80° north-northeast. A colluvium surface was also created in this model, using the base of logged colluvium intervals and an offset surface from the topography.

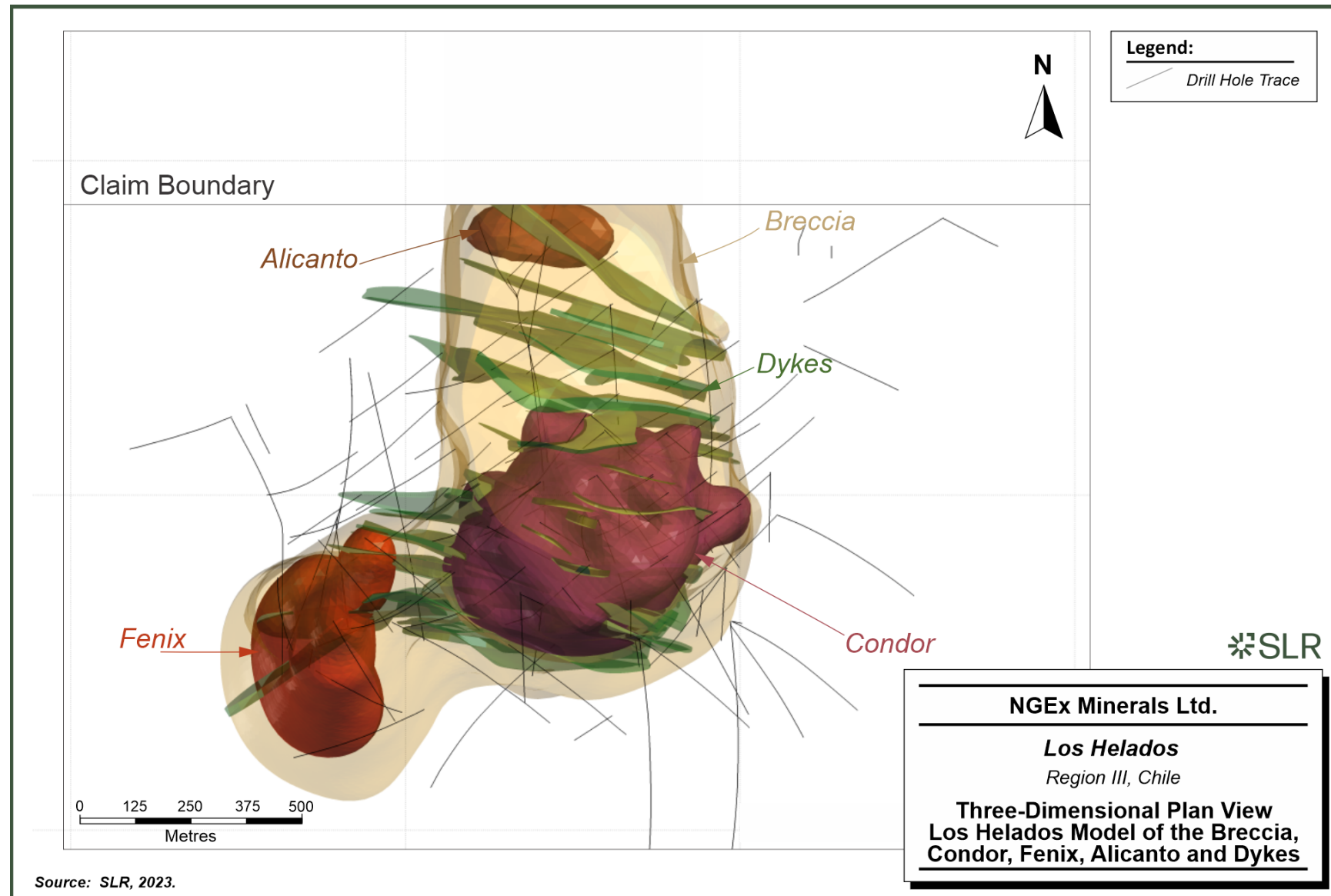
A broad lithology model, displayed in Figure 14-3, was created by NGEx geologists to define the host rocks in more detail: granite, andesite, and porphyries. This lithology model is used to designate bulk density values to the block model.

## 14.4 Assay Statistics and Treatment of High-Grade Assays

Table 14-2 summarizes the uncapped and capped assay statistics from the Project. Raw assays were reviewed for each estimation domain using basic statistics, histograms (Figure 14-4 and Figure 14-6), and log probability plots (Figure 14-5 and Figure 14-7) to determine capping levels.

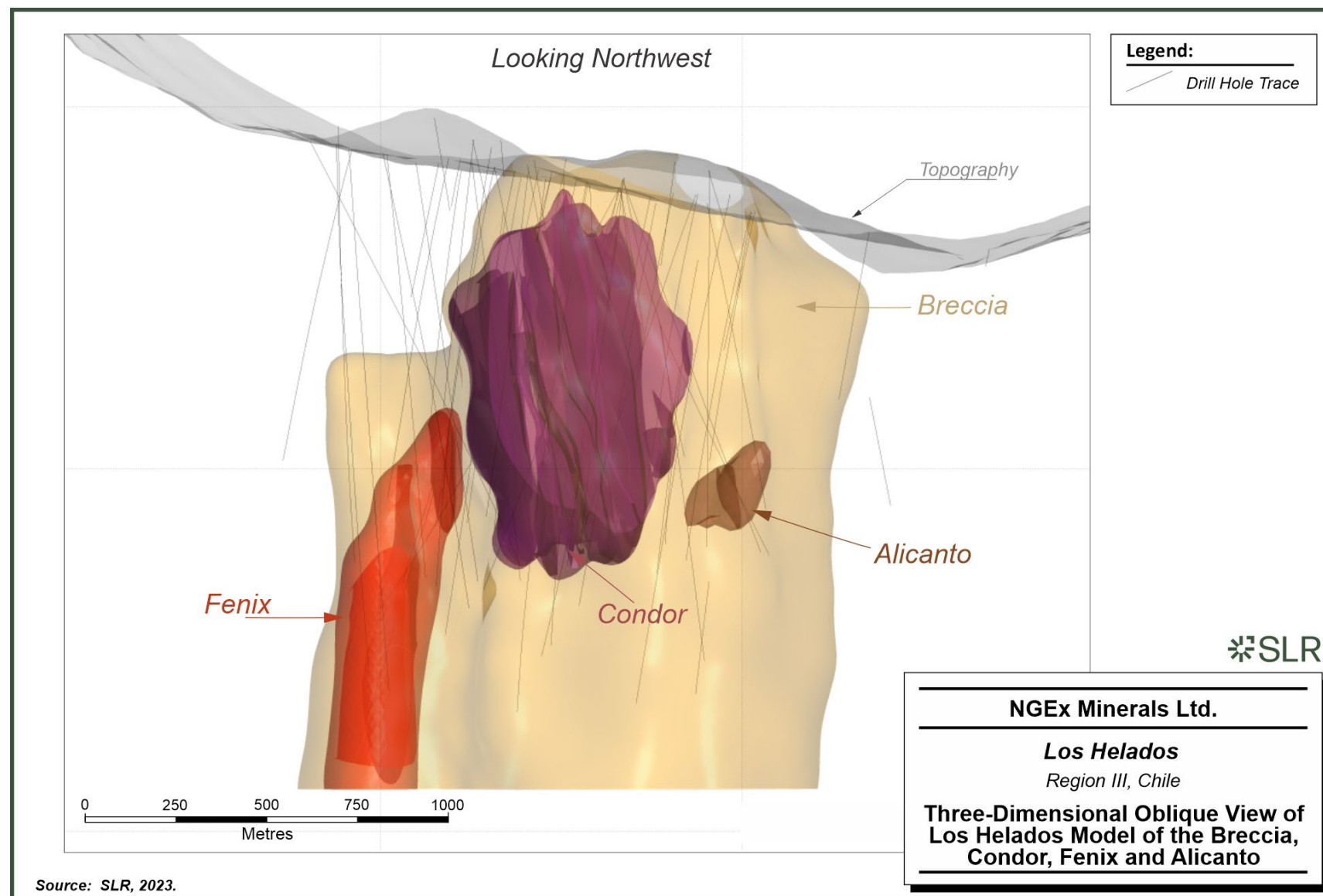


**Figure 14-1: Three-Dimensional Plan View of Los Helados Model of the Breccia, Condor, Fenix, Alicanto and Dykes**

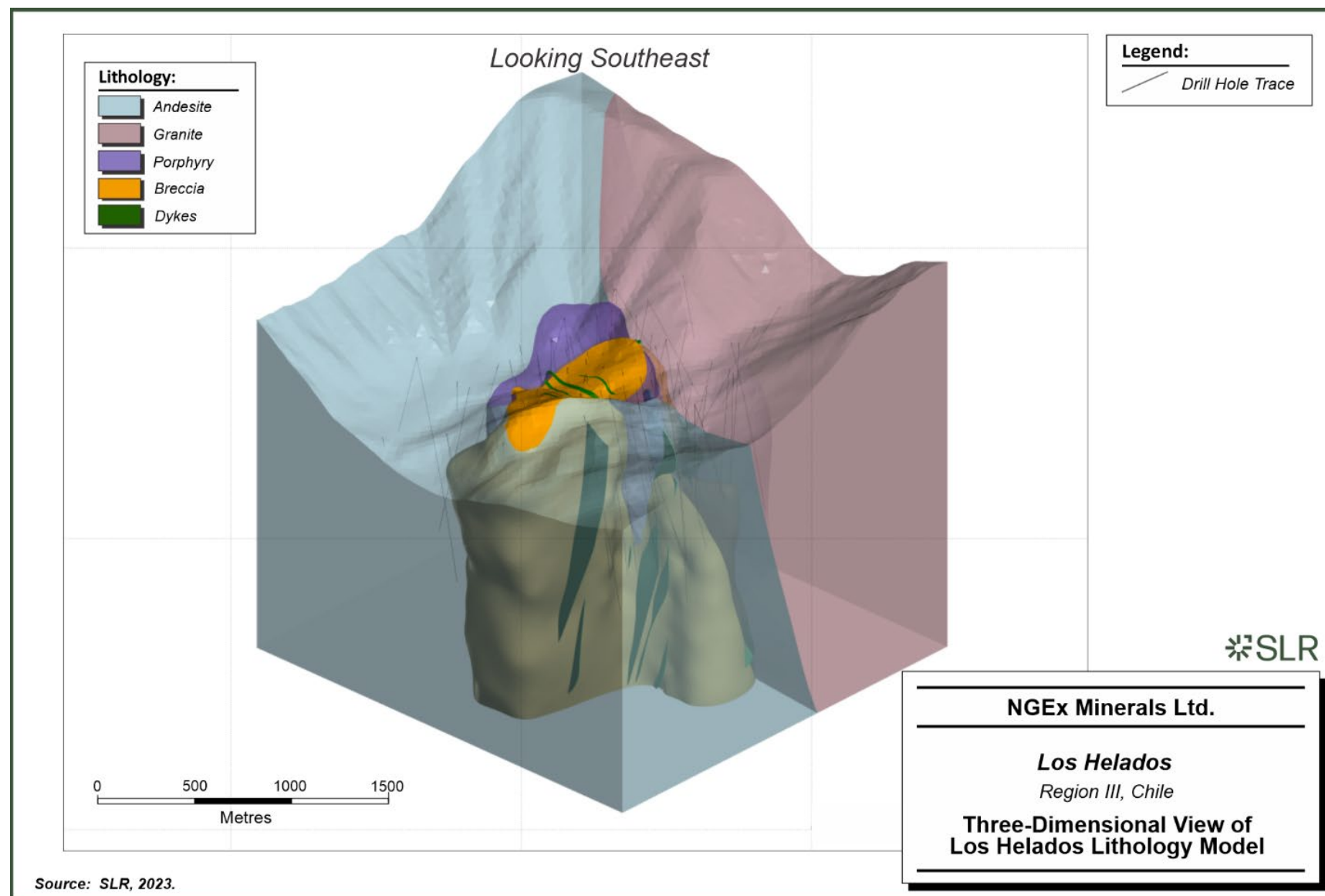




**Figure 14-2: Three-Dimensional Oblique View of Los Helados Model of the Breccia, Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto**



**Figure 14-3: Three-Dimensional View of Los Helados Lithology Model**



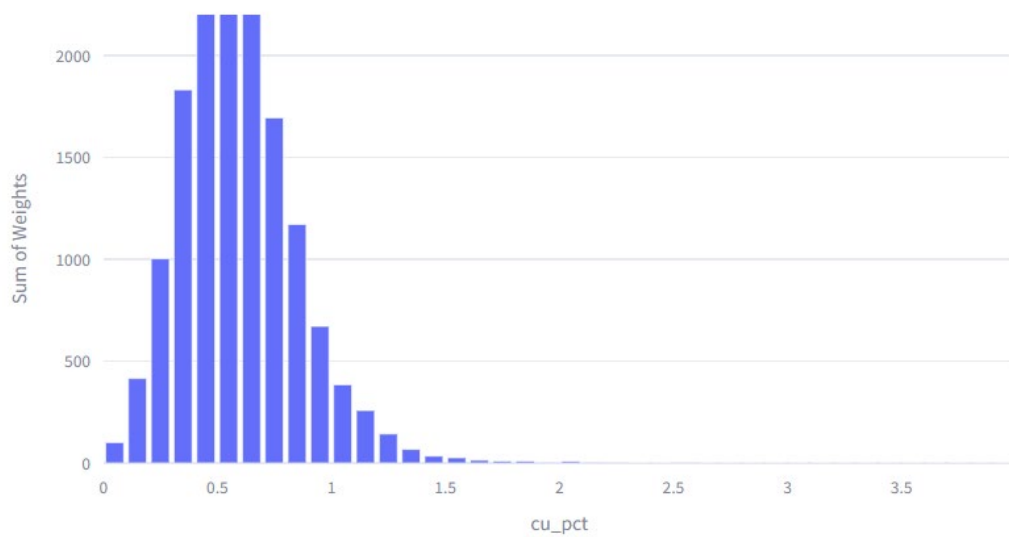
**Table 14-2: Raw Assay Statistics and Capping Levels**

Variable	Domain	Count	Cap	No. Capped	Mean	Capped Mean	Min.	Max.	Capped Max.	CV1	Capped CV
Cu %	Condor	8,086	2	10	0.59	0.59	0.031	8.02	2	0.5	0.43
	Fenix	948	3	2	0.82	0.82	0.043	4.3	3	0.59	0.58
	Alicanto	258	2	1	0.71	0.71	0.017	2.49	2	0.6	0.56
	Breccia	13,667	2	2	0.28	0.28	0.0005	3.79	2	0.76	0.75
	Dykes	2,660	1	6	0.23	0.23	0.0005	1.95	1	0.74	0.72
	Country Rock	22,017	1.5	5	0.22	0.22	0.0005	5.38	2	0.8	0.78
Ag g/t	Condor	8,086	10	8	1.88	1.87	0.15	47.1	10	0.7	0.59
	Fenix	948	10	11	2.63	2.5	0.25	49	10	1.11	0.68
	Alicanto	258	NA	NA	2.02	NA	0.5	8	NA	0.62	NA
	Breccia	13,667	10	28	1.22	1.19	0.15	94.8	10	1.4	0.84
	Dykes	2,660	10	3	1	0.99	0.15	25	10	0.98	0.84
	Country Rock	21,972	10	10	0.96	0.95	0.15	70.2	20	1.32	1.02
Au g/t	Condor	8,086	6	2	0.26	0.26	0.0025	12.3	6	1.06	0.9
	Fenix	948	3	1	0.2	0.2	0.0025	5.67	3	1.37	1.13
	Alicanto	258	NA	NA	0.11	NA	0.008	1.72	NA	1.24	NA
	Breccia	13,667	10	5	0.14	0.14	0.0025	20.5	10	2.83	2.28
	Dykes	2,660	2	1	0.09	0.09	0	3.49	2	1.3	1.23
	Country Rock	21,972	10	10	0.1	0.1	0.025	27.4	10	3.14	2.29

Note. CV – coefficient of variation



**Figure 14-4: Histogram of Copper (%) for Condor Domain, Capped at 2%**



**Figure 14-5: Log Probability Plot of Copper (%) for Condor Domain, Capped at 2%**

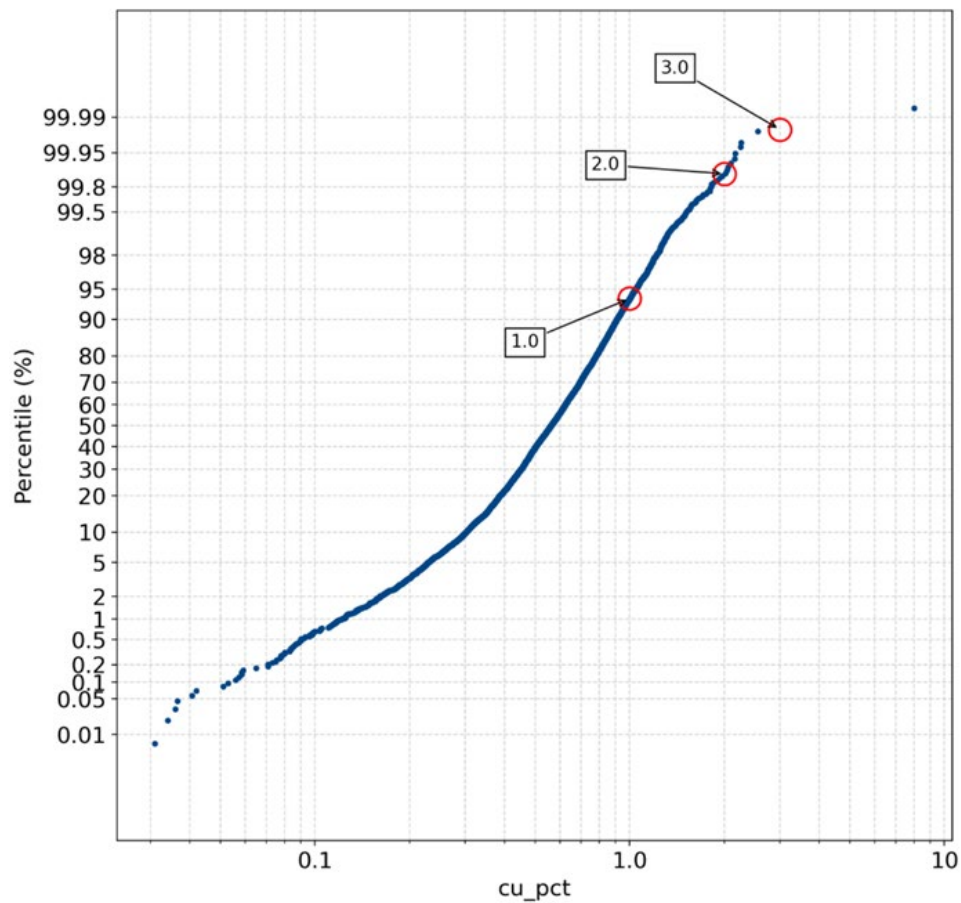


Figure 14-6: Histogram of Gold (g/t) for Condor Domain, Capped at 6 g/t

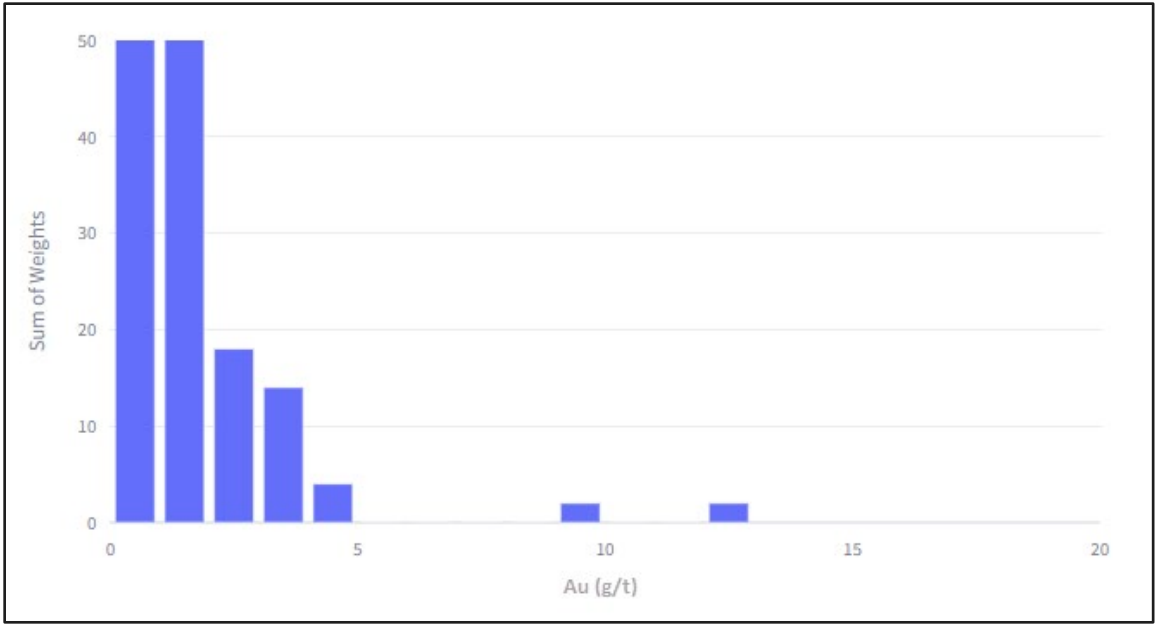
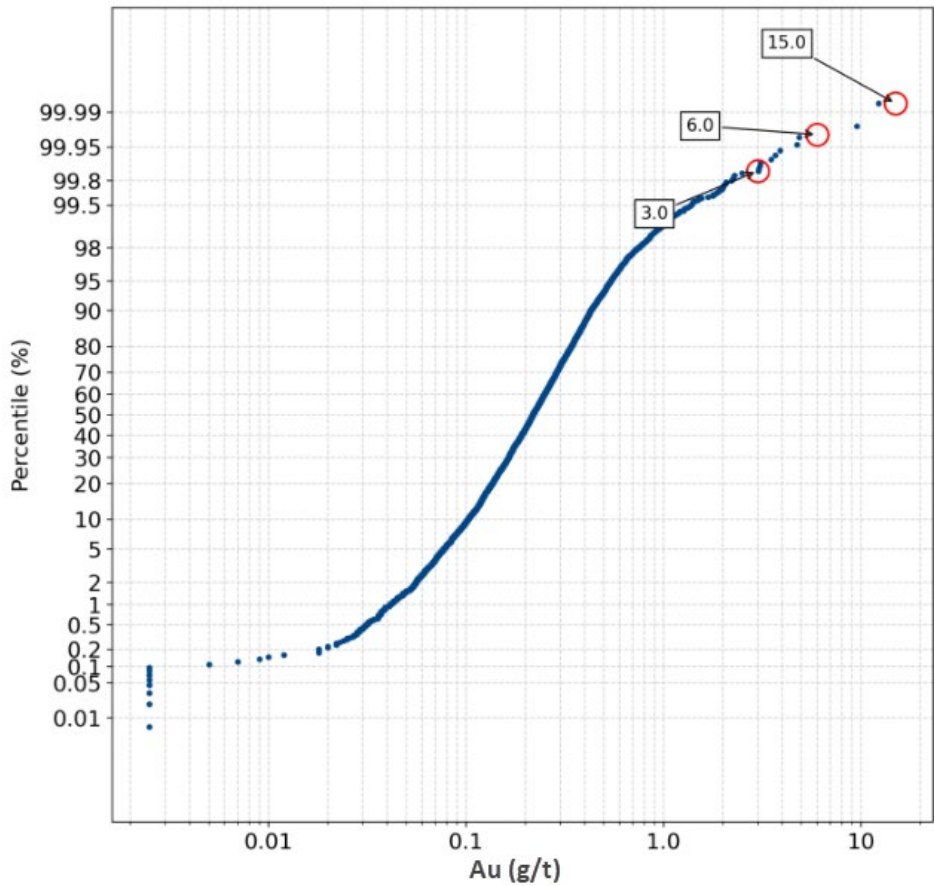


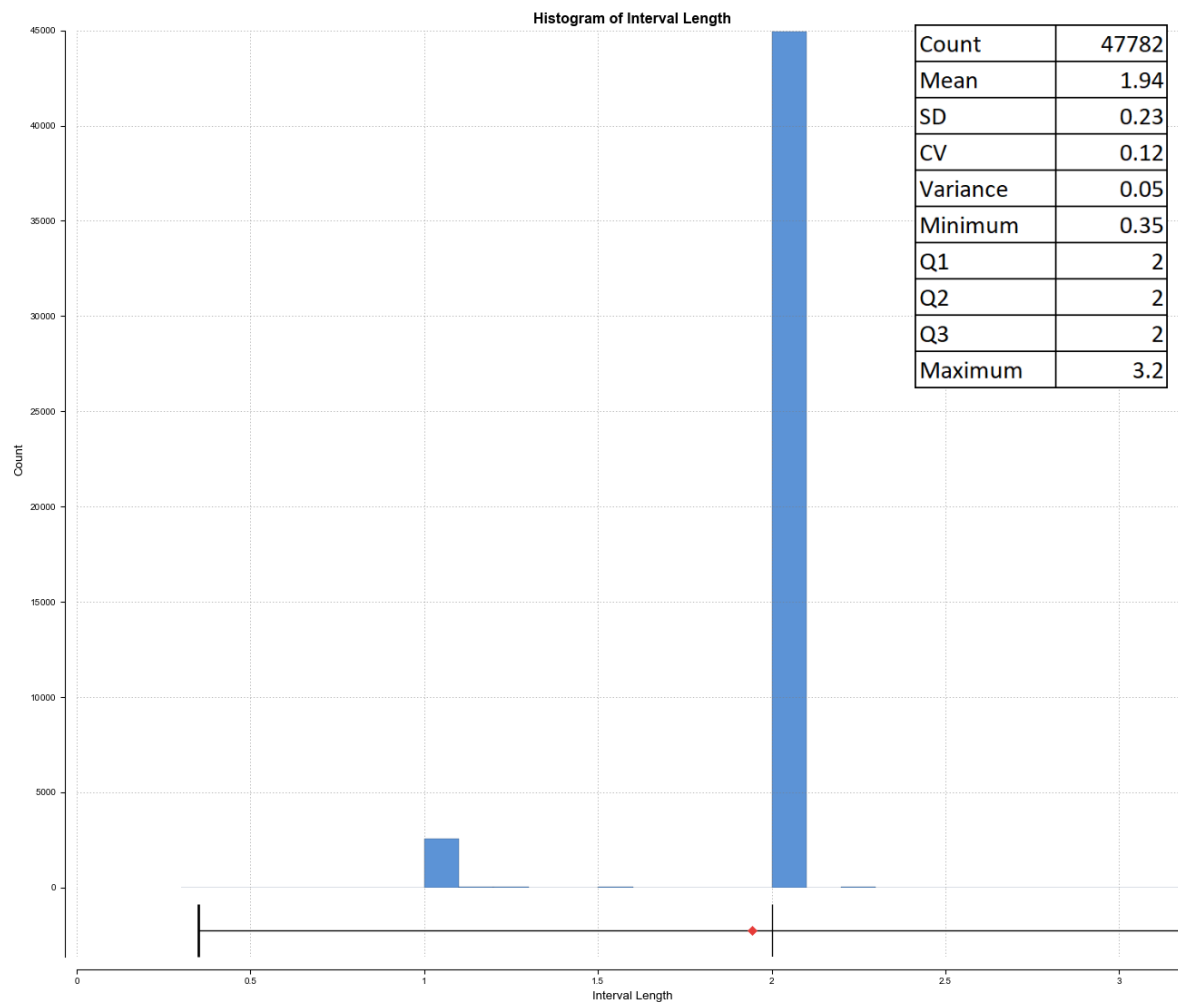
Figure 14-7: Log Probability Plot for Gold (g/t) for Condor Domain, Capped at 6 g/t



## 14.5 Compositing

The dominant interval length for the Project is two metres. The block size, driven by the anticipated mining scenario, is 20 m x 20 m x 20 m. As such the capped assay samples were composited to 10 m and broken at domain boundaries. A histogram of assay lengths is presented in Figure 14-8 and composite statistics are summarized in Table 14-3.

**Figure 14-8: Histogram and Summary Statistics of the Assay Lengths**





**Table 14-3: Summary of Composite Statistics by Domain**

Variable	Domain	Count	Length (m)	Mean	CV	Min	Max
Cu (%)	Condor	1,549	15,105.1	0.60	0.31	0.10	1.45
	Fenix	195	1,887.8	0.82	0.45	0.22	2.33
	Alicanto	54	516.1	0.71	0.48	0.13	1.45
	Dykes	594	5,372.3	0.24	0.58	0.00	0.80
	Breccia	2,706	26,417.9	0.28	0.62	0.00	1.22
	Country rock	4,260	42,251.2	0.22	0.65	0.00	1.00
Au (g/t)	Condor	1,549	15,105.1	0.27	0.58	0.03	1.71
	Fenix	195	1,887.8	0.20	0.86	0.02	1.40
	Alicanto	54	516.1	0.11	1.06	0.02	1.34
	Dykes	594	5,372.3	0.09	0.84	0.00	0.87
	Breccia	2,706	26,417.9	0.14	1.38	0.00	3.39
	Country rock	4,260	42,251.2	0.10	1.20	0.00	2.40
Ag (g/t)	Condor	1,549	15,105.1	1.88	0.45	0.25	6.54
	Fenix	195	1,887.8	2.50	0.51	0.60	10.00
	Alicanto	54	516.1	2.02	0.44	0.70	6.50
	Dykes	594	5,372.3	1.02	0.59	0.25	4.04
	Breccia	2,706	26,417.9	1.19	0.63	0.15	8.10
	Country rock	4,260	42,251.2	0.95	0.64	0.15	5.06
Note. CV – coefficient of variation							

## 14.6 Trend Analysis

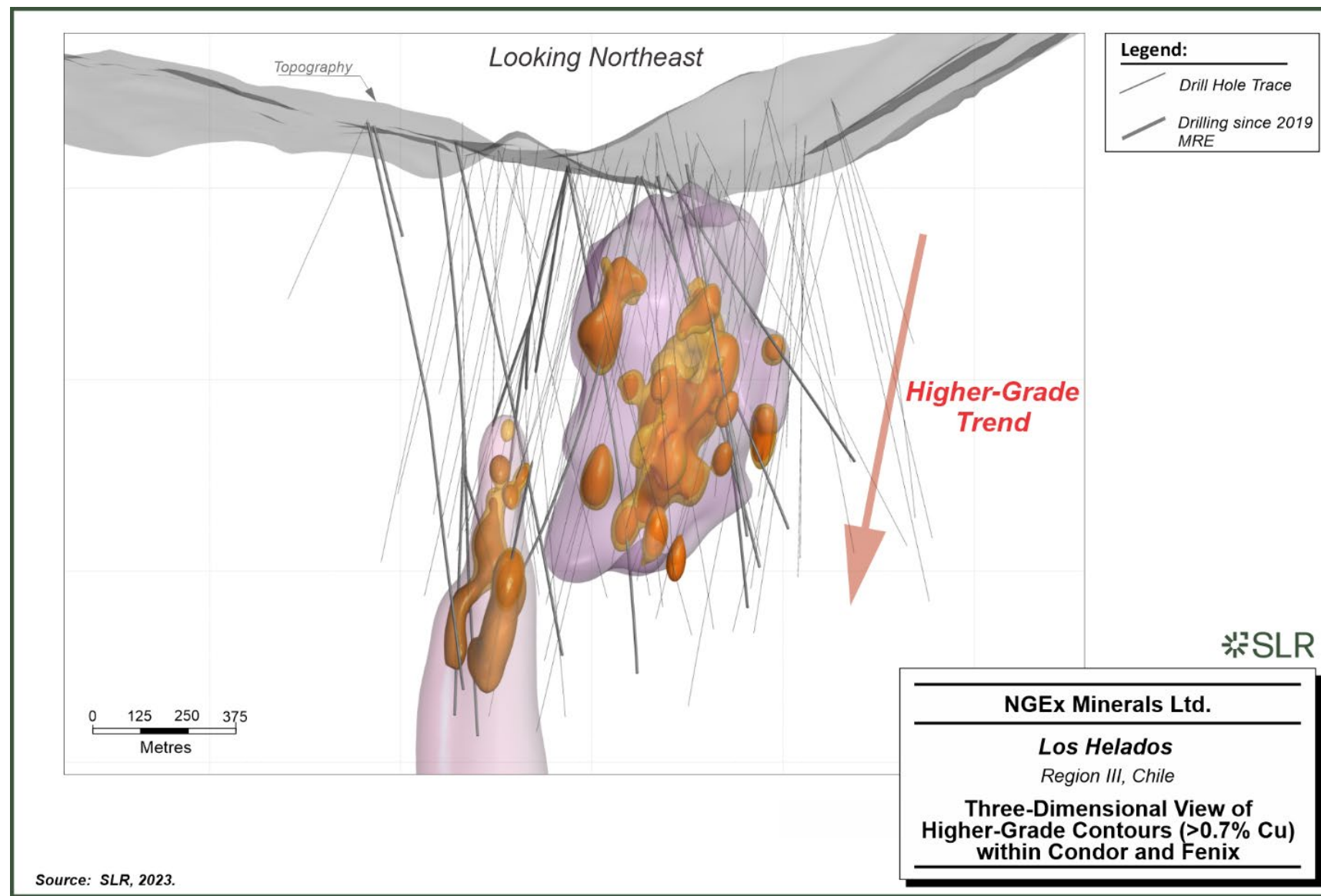
### 14.6.1 Grade Contouring

Three-dimensional grade contouring was carried out to assess prevalent trends through the deposit. Unconstrained contouring supports the higher-grade mineralized domains for Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto and the overall geometry of the modelled mineralization.

Further grade contouring was carried out within Condor and Fenix, shown in Figure 14-9. These highlight internal high-grade trends within the domains.



**Figure 14-9: Three-Dimensional View of Higher-Grade Contours (>0.7% Cu) within Condor and Fenix**



### 14.6.2 Variography

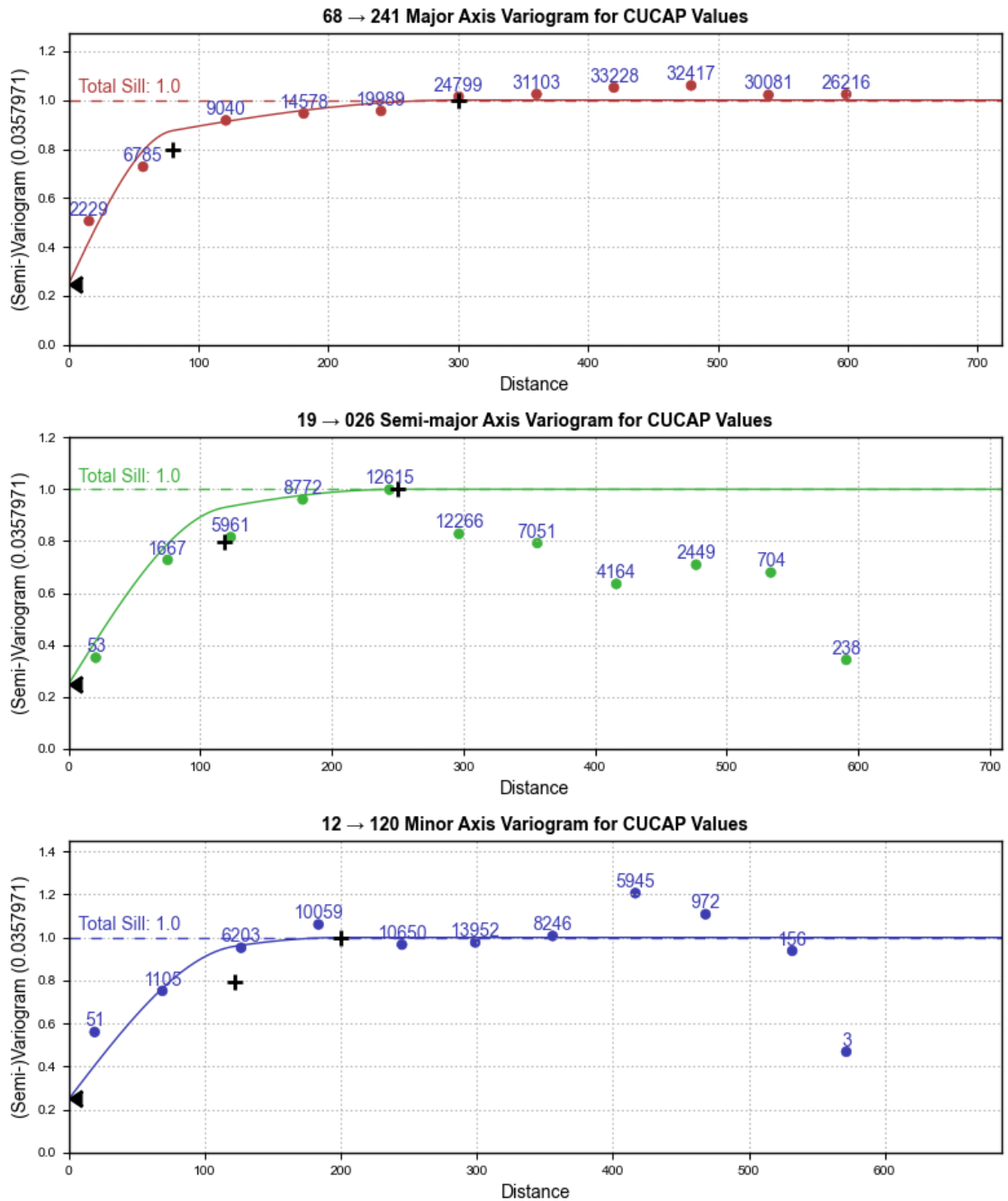
SLR prepared variograms for copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum across various domains. The major axis of the variograms was aligned with the trends highlighted during the grade contouring exercise. Robust variograms could be modelled for copper, especially for the larger domains (Breccia and Condor). The variograms were not as robust for Fenix. This has been reflected in the classification model at depth in Fenix where the continuity and plunge of mineralization is not as well supported.

Example variogram maps are presented in Figure 14-10 and Figure 14-11. The variograms range from 170 m to 600 m along the major axis depending on the domain and variable.

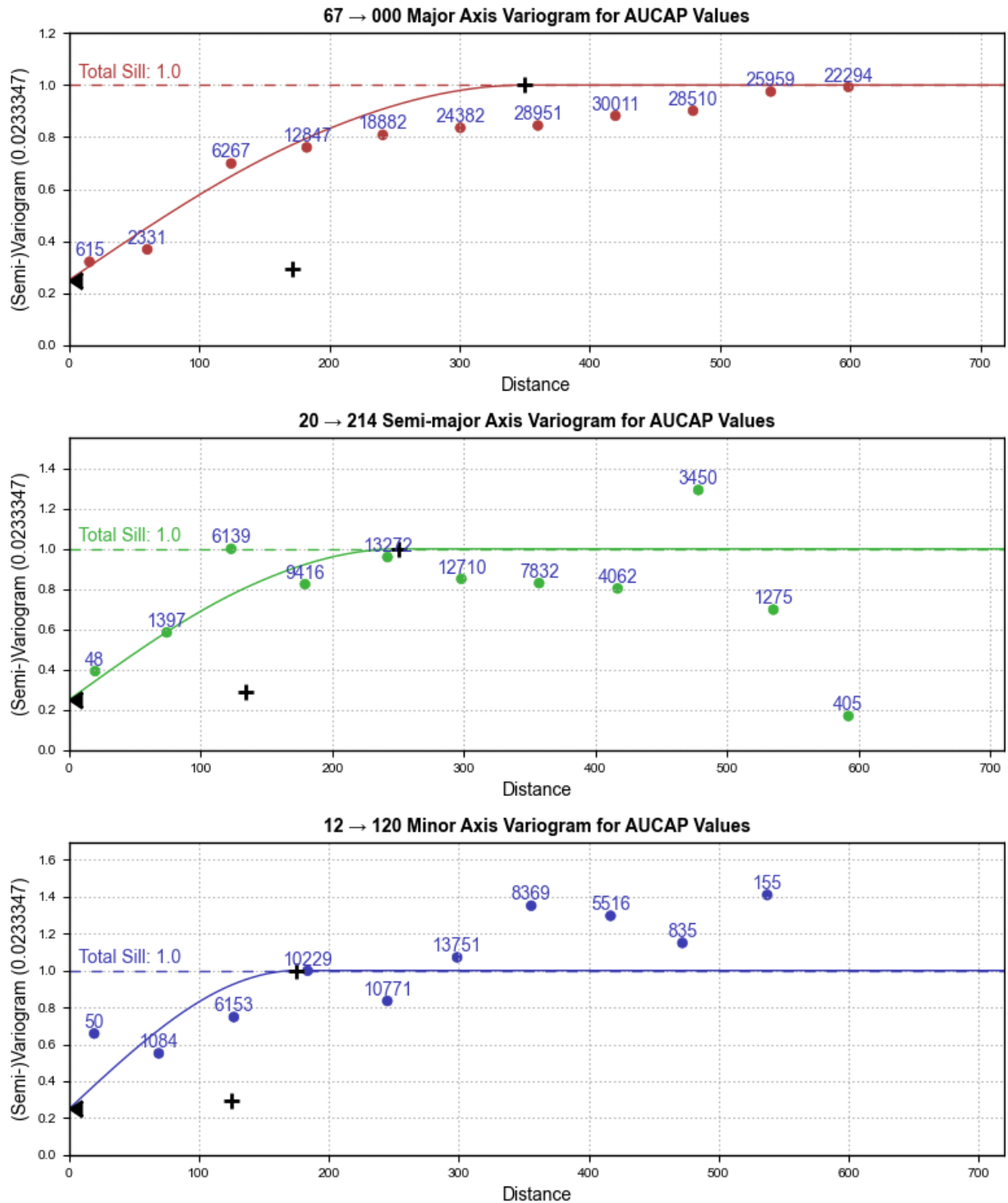
The variogram model parameters that were used for grade interpolation are summarized in Table 14-4.



**Figure 14-10: Variogram for Copper within the Condor Domain**



**Figure 14-11: Variogram for Gold within the Condor Domain**



**Table 14-4: Variogram Model Parameters**

	Domain	Nugget	First Structure				Second Structure			
		C <sub>0</sub>	Sill C <sub>1</sub>	Major Range (m)	Semi Major Range (m)	Minor Range (m)	Sill C <sub>2</sub>	Major Range (m)	Semi Major Range (m)	Minor Range (m)
Cu	Condor	0.25	0.54	80	118	122	0.21	300	250	200
	Fenix	0.2	0.62	50	180	40	0.18	280	180	80
	Breccia, Alicanto and Host Rock	0.05	0.22	39	135	15	0.73	600	300	200
	Dykes	0.1	0.90	240	200	30	-	-	-	-
Au	Condor	0.25	0.04	171	135	125	0.71	350	250	175
	Fenix	0.1	0.30	39	155	63	0.6	280	180	80
	Breccia, Alicanto and Host Rock	0.2	0.46	53	117	14	0.34	600	300	120
	Dykes	0.1	0.90	240	200	30	-	-	-	-
Ag	Condor	0.25	0.53	82.00	110.00	58	0.22	300	150	100
	Fenix	0.2	0.80	180.00	180.00	80	-	-	-	-
	Breccia, Alicanto and Host Rock	0.2	0.20	31.00	117.00	14	0.6	500	200	120
	Dykes	0.25	0.15	35	95	30	0.6	350	160	30

## 14.7 Bulk Density

Sporadic bulk density measurements, particularly through Condor, prevented density from being interpolated. Mean bulk density values for each lithological domain were assigned as the density attribute in the block model. These values are summarized in Table 14-5. Outliers from the input data were removed (below 2.25 and above 3.05) prior to calculation of the mean.

**Table 14-5: Summary of the Density Values Assigned to the Block Model**

Lithology	Number of samples	Mean Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )
Breccia	9,285	2.67
Granite	6,140	2.66
Andesite	6,373	2.71
Porphyry	2,758	2.66
Dykes	1,057	2.63
Colluvium	103	2.57





## 14.8 Block Model

The block model and Mineral Resource estimation were completed in Leapfrog Edge software. Block model dimensions are presented in Table 14-6. The block model is not rotated. SLR considers the block model to be appropriate for the deposit geometry and proposed mining methods. Sub-block size is based on the lithology and mineralization models.

**Table 14-6: Block Model Dimensions and Location**

Parameter	X	Y	Z
Base Point	441,270.0	6,863,650.0	5,500.0
Boundary Size (m)	2,500	2,400	2,600
Parent Block Size (m)	20	20	20
Minimum Sub-block Size (m)	2.5	2.5	2.5

## 14.9 Search Strategy and Grade Interpolation Parameters

Grades for copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum were estimated into parent blocks using ordinary kriging (OK). Inverse distance cubed (ID<sup>3</sup>) and nearest neighbour (NN) interpolation were also carried out for validation purposes. The search strategy and composite selections are outlined in Table 14-7 to Table 14-9. Search ellipses were oriented to align with the trends observed during the trend analysis and variography. Second passes were used in domains to ensure blocks were filled on the margins of the domains. The same search strategy and interpolation parameters were applied for all variables estimated: copper, gold, silver, and molybdenum.

**Table 14-7: Search Parameters and Interpolation Strategy for Condor, Alicanto, Breccia, and Country Rock**

Parameter	Pass 1
Search Ellipse	450 x 375 x 300 (metres)
Minimum/Maximum Samples	2/20
Maximum Samples per Hole	7

**Table 14-8: Search Parameters and Interpolation Strategy for Fenix**

Parameter	Pass 1	Pass 2
Search Ellipse	420 x 270 x 120 (metres)	560 x 360 x 160 (metres)
Minimum/Maximum Samples	2/20	1/20
Maximum Samples per Hole	7	7

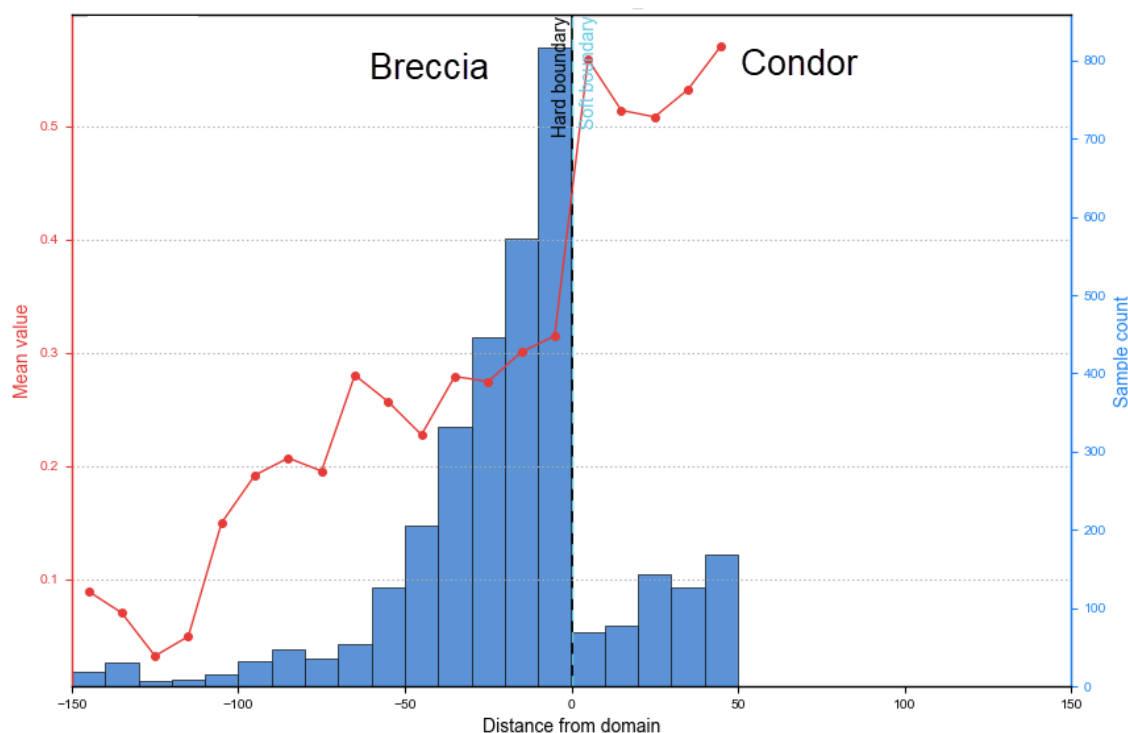


**Table 14-9: Search Parameters and Interpolation Strategy for Dykes**

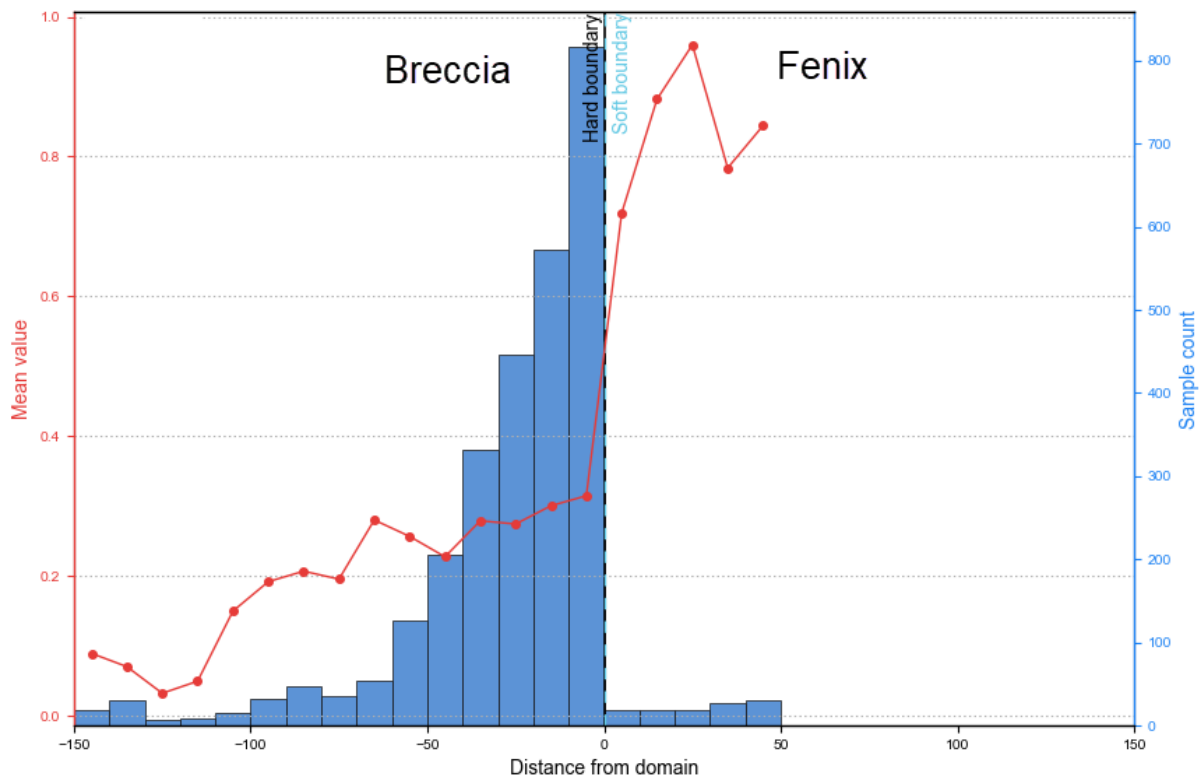
Parameter	Pass 1	Pass 2
Search Ellipse	400 x 300 x 30 (metres)	600 x 450 x 30 (metres)
Minimum/Maximum Samples	2/20	1/20
Maximum Samples per Hole	7	7

Estimation domains were defined as per the mineralization model, described in subsection 14.3, however, prior to estimation, contact analysis was carried out to determine the treatment of samples across domain boundaries. The analysis supports the use of hard boundaries for both the dykes and higher-grade mineralization zones (Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto) but a soft boundary between the Breccia and Country Rock. Example contact plots are shown in Figure 14-12 to Figure 14-14.

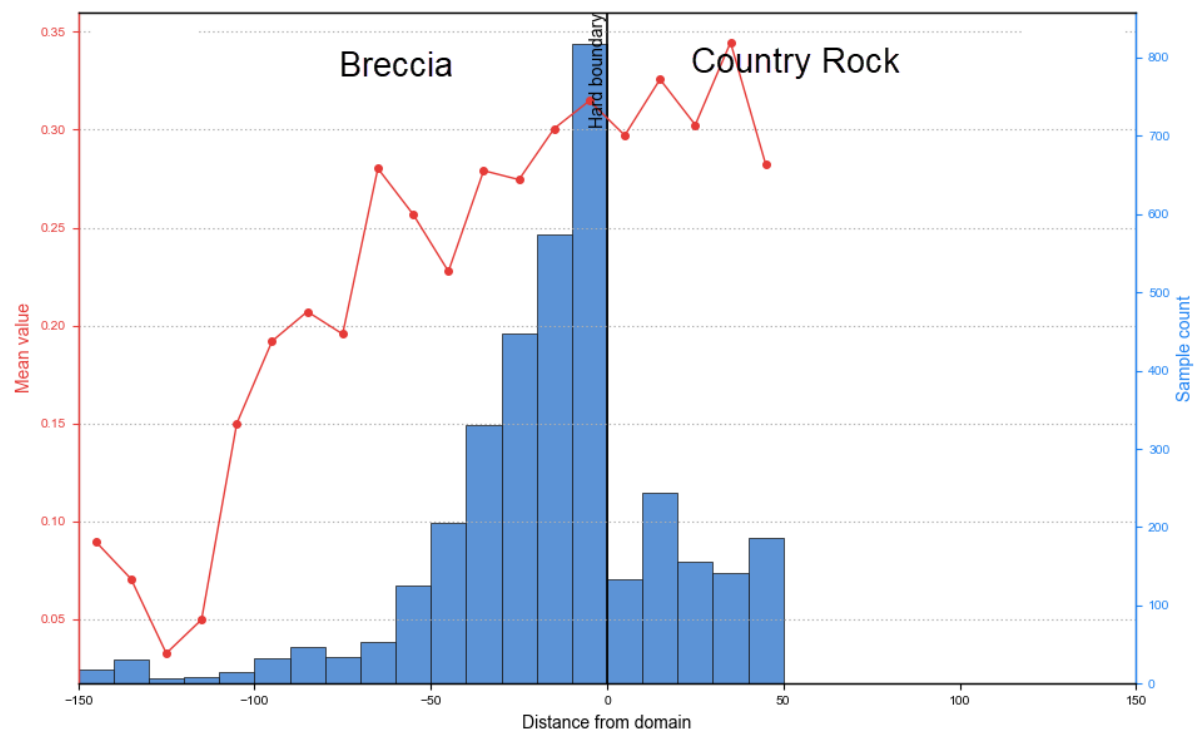
**Figure 14-12: Contact Plot for Copper between the Breccia and Condor Domains**



**Figure 14-13: Contact Plot for Copper between the Breccia and Fenix Domains**



**Figure 14-14: Contact Plot for Copper between the Breccia and Country Rock Domains**



## 14.10 Geometallurgical Model

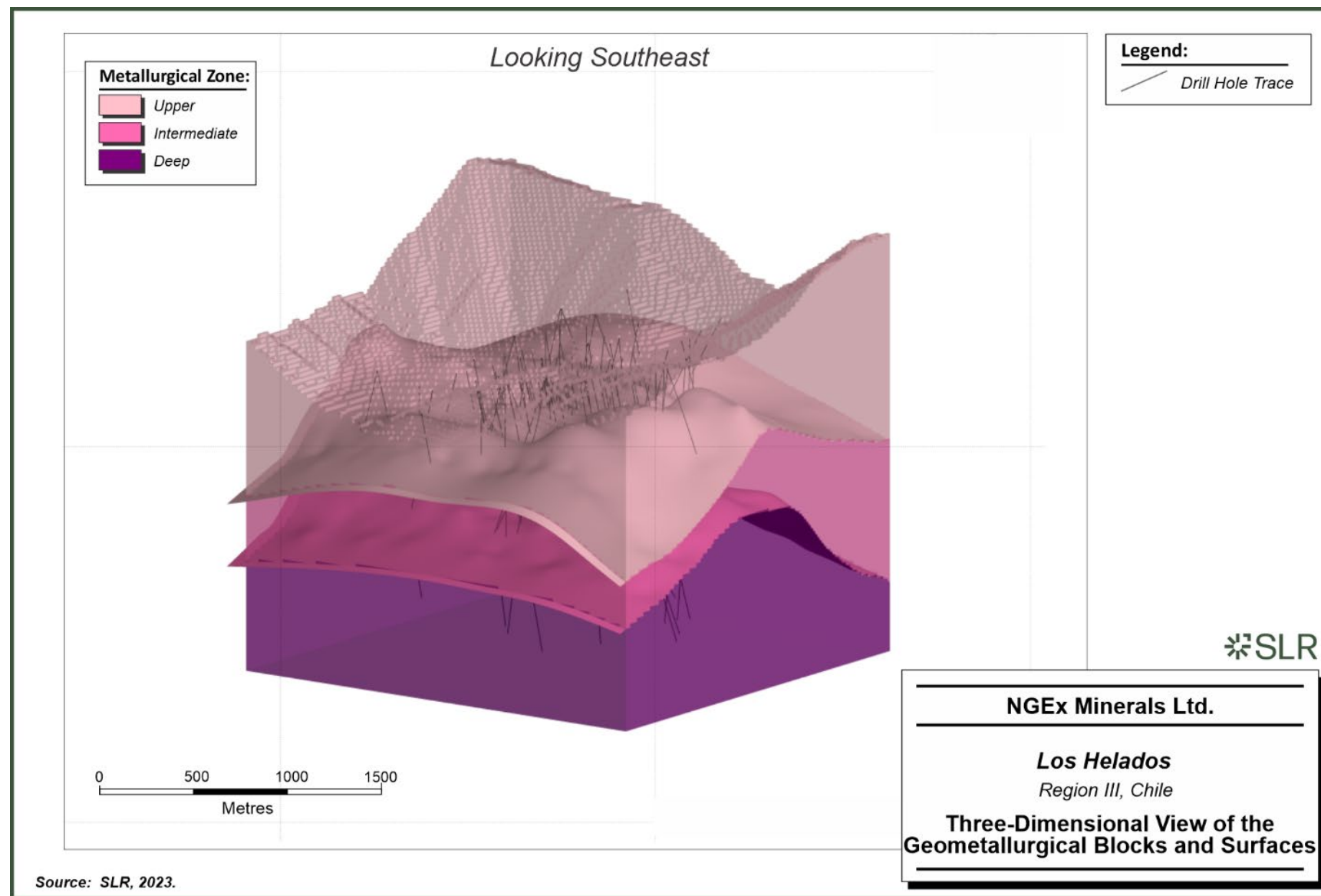
The geometallurgical domains for Los Helados were developed for the 2019 technical report (NGEx 2019). These wireframes were provided to SLR and have been used to generate a geometallurgical model in Leapfrog Geo 2023.1 to assign domains onto the block model. The three zones are summarized in Table 14-10 and displayed in Figure 14-15.

**Table 14-10: Summary of Geometallurgical Zones Assigned to Block Model**

Geometallurgical Zone	Approximate Depth from Surface (m)
Upper	0 to 200-250
Intermediate	200-250 to 500-600
Deep	Below 500-600



**Figure 14-15: Three-Dimensional View of the Geometallurgical Blocks and Surfaces**



Source: SLR, 2023.



### 14.11 Classification

Definitions for resource categories used in this Technical Report are consistent with those defined by CIM (2014) and adopted by NI 43-101. In the CIM classification, a Mineral Resource is defined as “a concentration or occurrence of solid material of economic interest in or on the Earth’s crust in such form, grade or quality and quantity that there are reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction”. Mineral Resources are classified into Measured, Indicated, and Inferred categories. A Mineral Reserve is defined as the “economically mineable part of a Measured and/or Indicated Mineral Resource” demonstrated by studies at Pre-Feasibility or Feasibility level as appropriate. Mineral Reserves are classified into Proven and Probable categories. No Mineral Reserves have been estimated.

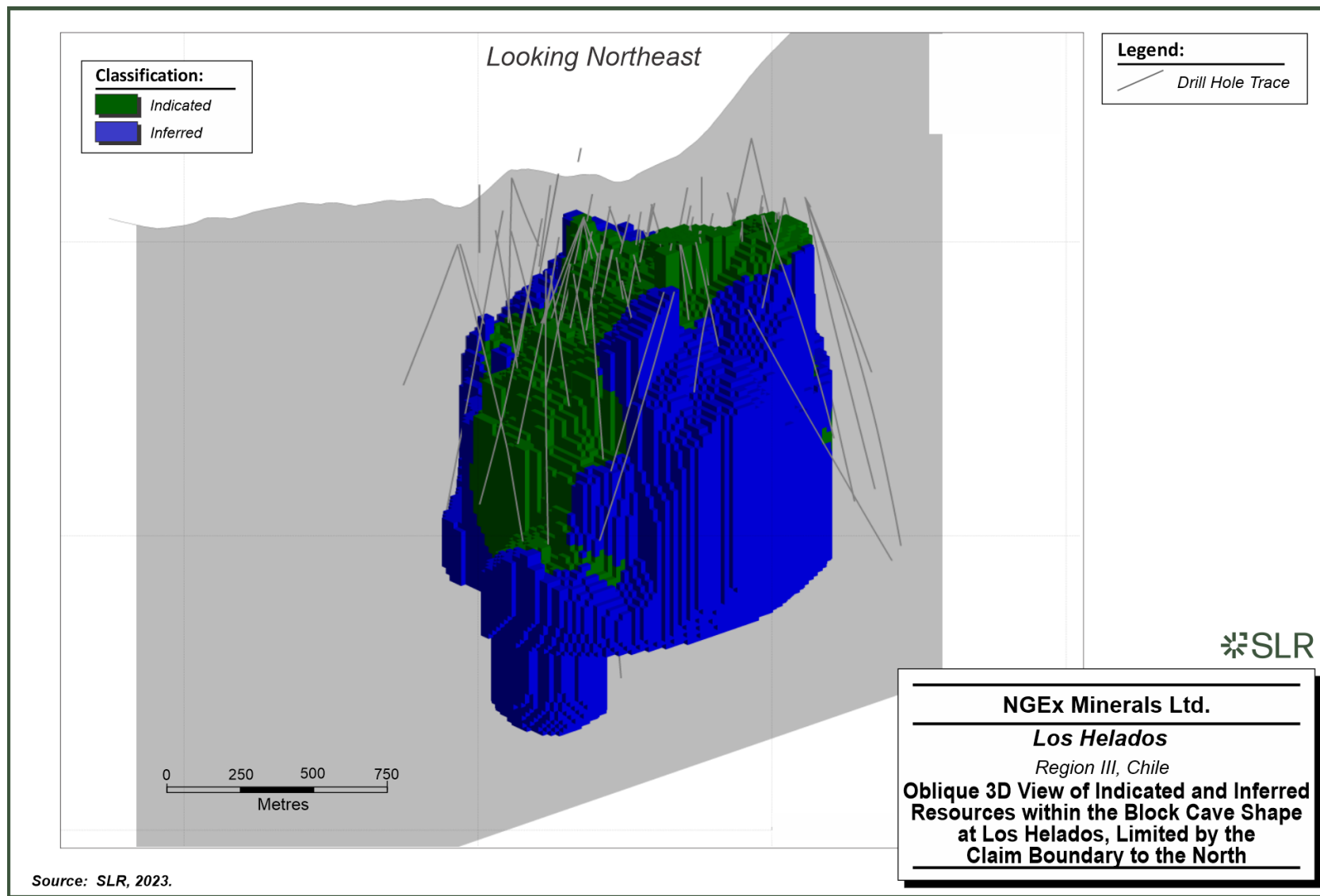
Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources have been defined using a combination of drill hole spacing and confidence in the continuity of mineralization. Drill hole spacings, supported by a minimum of three drill holes of up to approximately 150 m for Indicated and up to approximately 300 m for Inferred have been used to support the classification. The lower zone of Fenix has been classified as Inferred, despite satisfying the drill hole spacing threshold for Indicated, due to the inability to confidently determine the mineralization trends along with a high variance to the local NN estimate.

All blocks outside of the block cave shape are unclassified and both Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources are limited to the north by the Project’s claim boundary. The Indicated and Inferred material are displayed, alongside the claim boundary in Figure 14-16.





**Figure 14-16: Oblique 3D View of Indicated and Inferred Resources within the Block Cave Shape at Los Helados, Limited by the Claim Boundary to the North**



## 14.12 Block Model Validation

Blocks were validated using various techniques, including:

- Statistical comparison of assay, composite, and block statistics
- Visual inspection of composite versus block grades
- Wireframe to block model volume confirmation
- Swath plots comparing OK to NN values

Table 14-11 to Table 14-13 summarize the assay, composite, and block comparisons. SLR observes that the block grades exhibited general accord with the samples and NN estimates, with some slightly larger variance in domains with clustered or limited data. The minimum and maximum NN copper grades do not match the composite values because SLR used 20 m composites for the NN interpolation.

Evaluation of the accuracy of the estimate was also carried out by visually comparing the composites against the estimated block grades in plan and cross-sectional views. Examples are presented in Figure 14-17 to Figure 14-22.



**Table 14-11: Los Helados Assay, Composite, and Block Comparisons for Copper**

Domain	Dataset	Count	Mean Grade (Cu %)	Coefficient of Variation	Minimum (Cu %)	Maximum (Cu %)
Condor	Raw Assays	8,095	0.595	0.45	0.03	8.02
	Composites	1,582	0.594	0.32	0.10	1.45
	OK	1,024,362	0.597	0.18	0.26	1.06
	NN	1,024,362	0.592	0.28	0.11	1.25
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,024,362	0.597	0.18	0.26	1.06
Fenix	Raw Assays	948	0.821	0.59	0.04	4.30
	Composites	195	0.819	0.45	0.22	2.33
	OK	159,443	0.748	0.23	0.29	1.54
	NN	159,443	0.723	0.50	0.29	1.79
	ID <sup>3</sup>	159,443	0.761	0.34	0.29	1.68
Alicanto	Raw Assays	258	0.714	0.57	0.02	2.49
	Composites	54	0.713	0.48	0.13	1.45
	OK	37,230	0.698	0.28	0.23	1.30
	NN	37,230	0.675	0.45	0.20	1.32
	ID <sup>3</sup>	37,230	0.698	0.28	0.23	1.30
Dykes	Raw Assays	2,660	0.233	0.73	0.00	1.95
	Composites	515	0.230	0.59	0.00	0.63
	OK	2,556,622	0.219	0.55	0.00	0.68
	NN	2,556,622	0.216	0.57	0.01	0.75
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,556,622	0.215	0.58	0.00	0.74
Breccia	Raw Assays	13,658	0.278	0.76	0.00	3.79
	Composites	2,747	0.278	0.64	0.00	1.22
	OK	2,935,353	0.288	0.44	0.00	0.78
	NN	2,935,353	0.287	0.58	0.00	1.04
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,411,781	0.283	0.51	0.00	1.13
Country Rock	Raw Assays	21,972	0.220	0.80	0.00	5.38
	Composites	4,312	0.220	0.66	0.00	1.00
	OK	1,995,449	0.205	0.55	0.01	0.68
	NN	1,995,449	0.199	0.66	0.00	1.04
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,995,449	0.202	0.58	0.00	0.79



**Table 14-12: Los Helados Assay, Composite, and Block Comparisons for Gold**

Domain	Dataset	Count	Mean Grade (Au g/t)	Coefficient of Variation	Minimum (Au g/t)	Maximum (Au g/t)
Condor	Raw Assays	8,095	0.263	1.05	0.00	12.30
	Composites	1,582	0.261	0.59	0.02	1.71
	OK	1,024,362	0.253	0.34	0.08	0.71
	NN	1,024,362	0.251	0.52	0.04	1.00
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,024,362	0.253	0.34	0.08	0.71
Fenix	Raw Assays	948	0.200	1.37	0.00	5.67
	Composites	195	0.197	0.86	0.02	1.40
	OK	159,443	0.160	0.54	0.04	0.69
	NN	159,443	0.144	0.89	0.03	1.11
	ID <sup>3</sup>	159,443	0.159	0.61	0.03	0.98
Alicanto	Raw Assays	258	0.113	1.21	0.01	1.72
	Composites	54	0.113	1.06	0.02	1.34
	OK	37,230	0.114	0.45	0.06	0.65
	NN	37,230	0.104	0.79	0.04	1.34
	ID <sup>3</sup>	37,230	0.107	0.37	0.04	0.90
Dykes	Raw Assays	2,660	0.093	1.26	0.00	3.49
	Composites	515	0.092	0.87	0.00	0.87
	OK	2,556,622	0.067	0.69	0.00	0.72
	NN	2,556,622	0.074	1.06	0.00	0.76
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,556,622	0.069	0.66	0.00	0.47
Breccia	Raw Assays	13,658	0.137	2.88	0.00	20.50
	Composites	2,747	0.136	1.41	0.00	3.39
	OK	2,935,353	0.114	0.62	0.01	0.92
	NN	2,935,353	0.110	1.05	0.00	1.85
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,935,353	0.111	0.77	0.00	2.49
Country Rock	Raw Assays	21,972	0.102	3.07	0.00	27.40
	Composites	4,312	0.101	1.22	0.00	2.34
	OK	1,995,449	0.086	0.63	0.01	1.38
	NN	1,995,449	0.083	1.07	0.00	2.00
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,995,449	0.084	0.75	0.00	1.95



**Table 14-13: Los Helados Assay, Composite, and Block Comparisons for Silver**

Domain	Dataset	Count	Mean Grade (Ag g/t)	Coefficient of Variation	Minimum (Ag g/t)	Maximum (Ag g/t)
Condor	Raw Assays	8,095	1.88	0.70	0.15	47.10
	Composites	1,582	1.87	0.46	0.25	6.54
	OK	1,024,362	1.90	0.28	0.38	4.64
	NN	1,024,362	1.87	0.41	0.25	5.30
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,024,362	1.89	0.31	0.27	5.75
Fenix	Raw Assays	948	2.63	1.11	0.25	49.00
	Composites	195	2.50	0.51	0.60	10.00
	OK	159,443	2.50	0.26	1.21	6.67
	NN	159,443	2.39	0.45	0.70	10.00
	ID <sup>3</sup>	159,443	2.55	0.31	1.05	8.58
Alicanto	Raw Assays	258	2.02	0.63	0.50	8.00
	Composites	54	2.02	0.44	0.70	6.50
	OK	37,230	2.00	0.20	0.89	4.96
	NN	37,230	1.96	0.34	0.75	6.50
	ID <sup>3</sup>	37,230	2.00	0.20	0.89	4.96
Dykes	Raw Assays	2,660	1.00	0.98	0.15	25.00
	Composites	515	0.98	0.59	0.25	4.04
	OK	2,556,622	0.93	0.48	0.00	2.77
	NN	2,556,622	0.97	0.57	0.25	3.00
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,556,622	0.92	0.53	0.00	3.31
Breccia	Raw Assays	13,658	1.22	1.36	0.15	94.80
	Composites	2,747	1.19	0.63	0.15	8.10
	OK	2,935,353	1.30	0.40	0.15	4.15
	NN	2,935,353	1.27	0.61	0.15	5.83
	ID <sup>3</sup>	2,935,353	1.28	0.47	0.15	5.32
Country Rock	Raw Assays	21,972	0.96	1.32	0.15	70.20
	Composites	4,312	0.95	0.64	0.15	5.30
	OK	1,995,449	0.93	0.40	0.15	2.89
	NN	1,995,449	0.90	0.61	0.15	5.83
	ID <sup>3</sup>	1,995,449	0.91	0.48	0.15	3.66



Looking Down

A

0 100 200 300 400 500  
Metres

+441500 E +442000 E +442500 E +443000 E

+5865500 N +5865000 N

A'

Cu%:

- > 1.0
- 0.8 - 1.0
- 0.6 - 0.8
- 0.4 - 0.6
- 0.3 - 0.4
- 0.2 - 0.3
- 0.1 - 0.2
- < 0.1

N

A A'

500  
Metres

Plan Section +3750.00

SLR

NGEx Minerals Ltd.

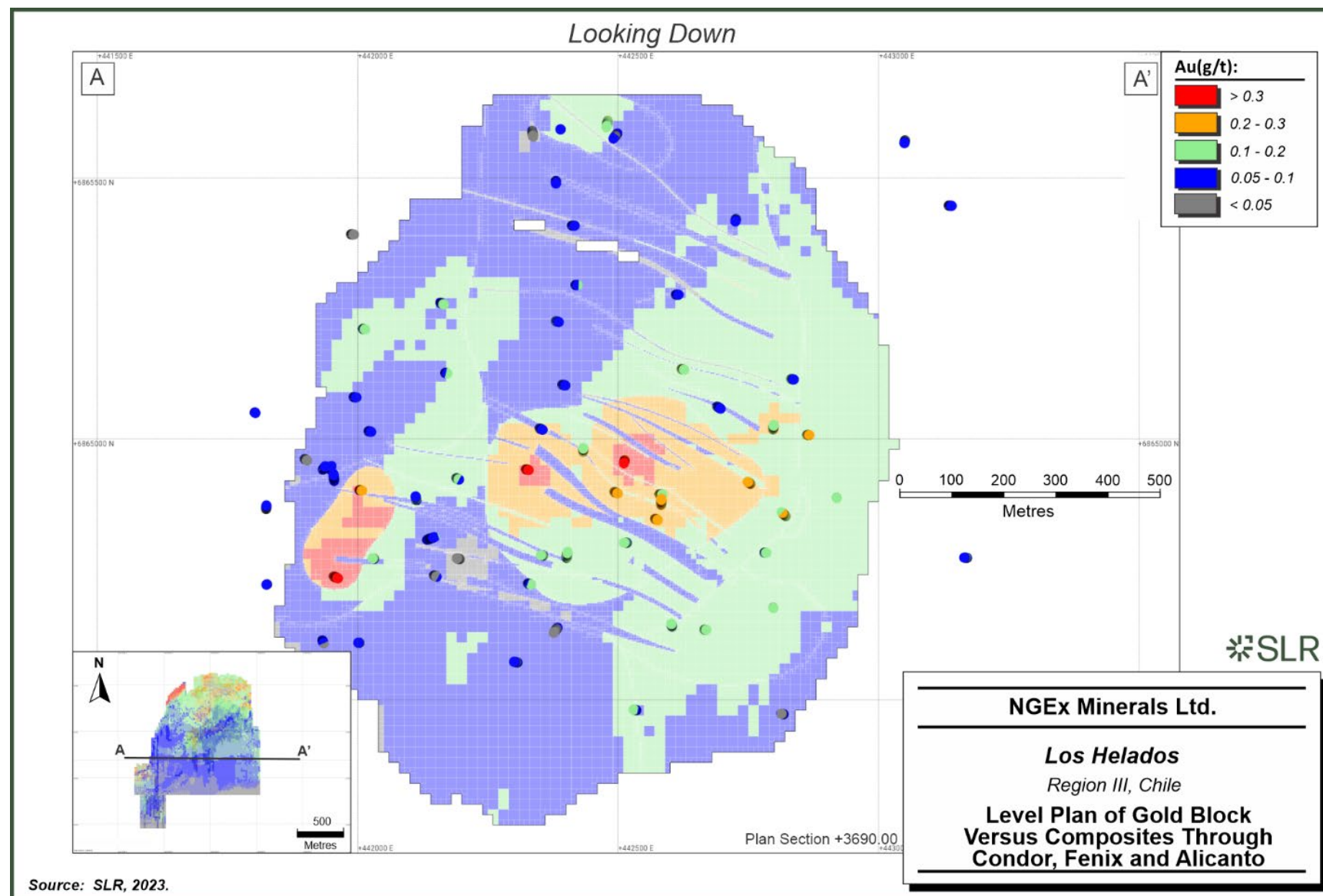
**Los Helados**  
Region III, Chile

**Level Plan of Copper Blocks  
Versus Composites Through  
Condor, Fenix and Alicanto**

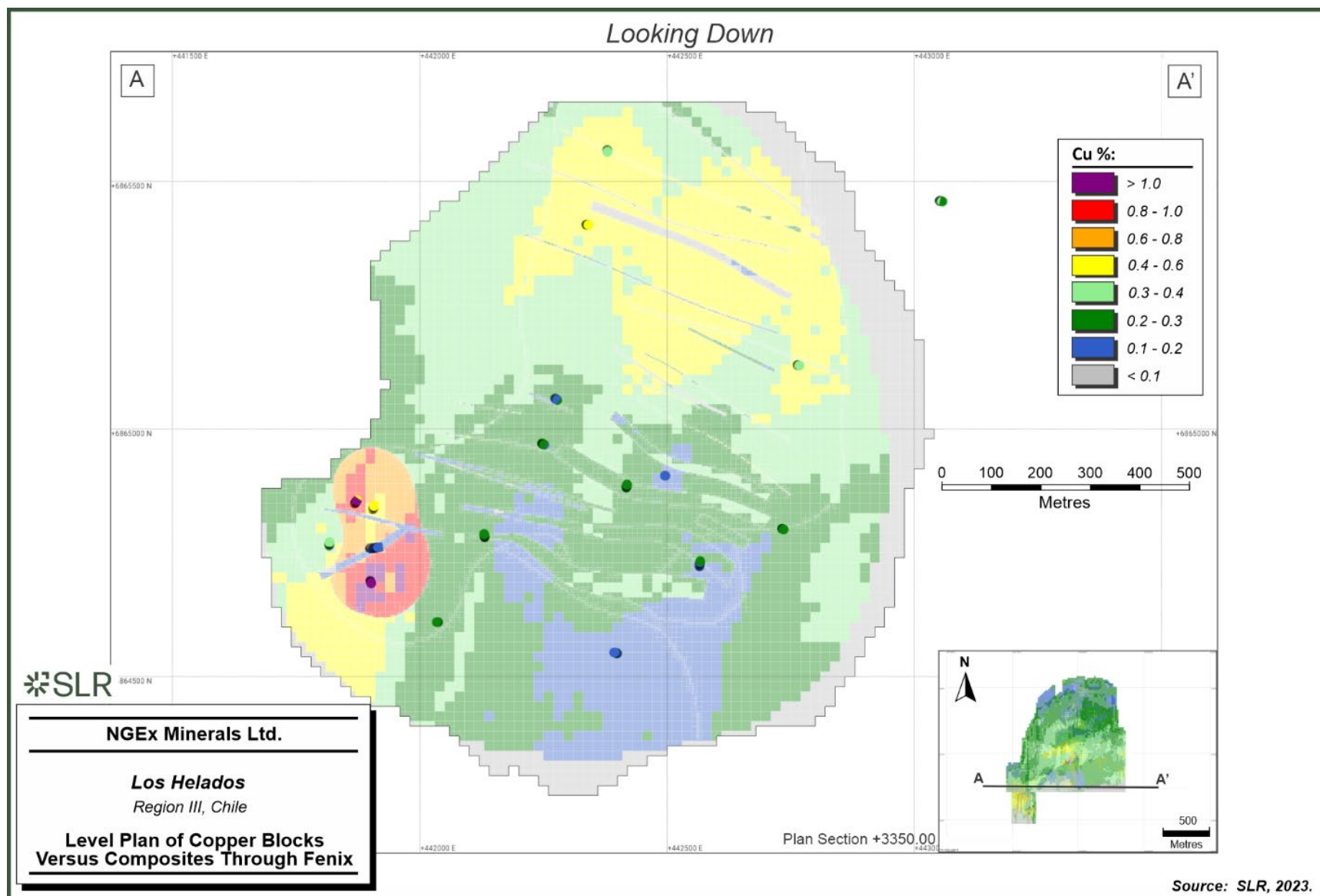
Source: SLR, 2023.



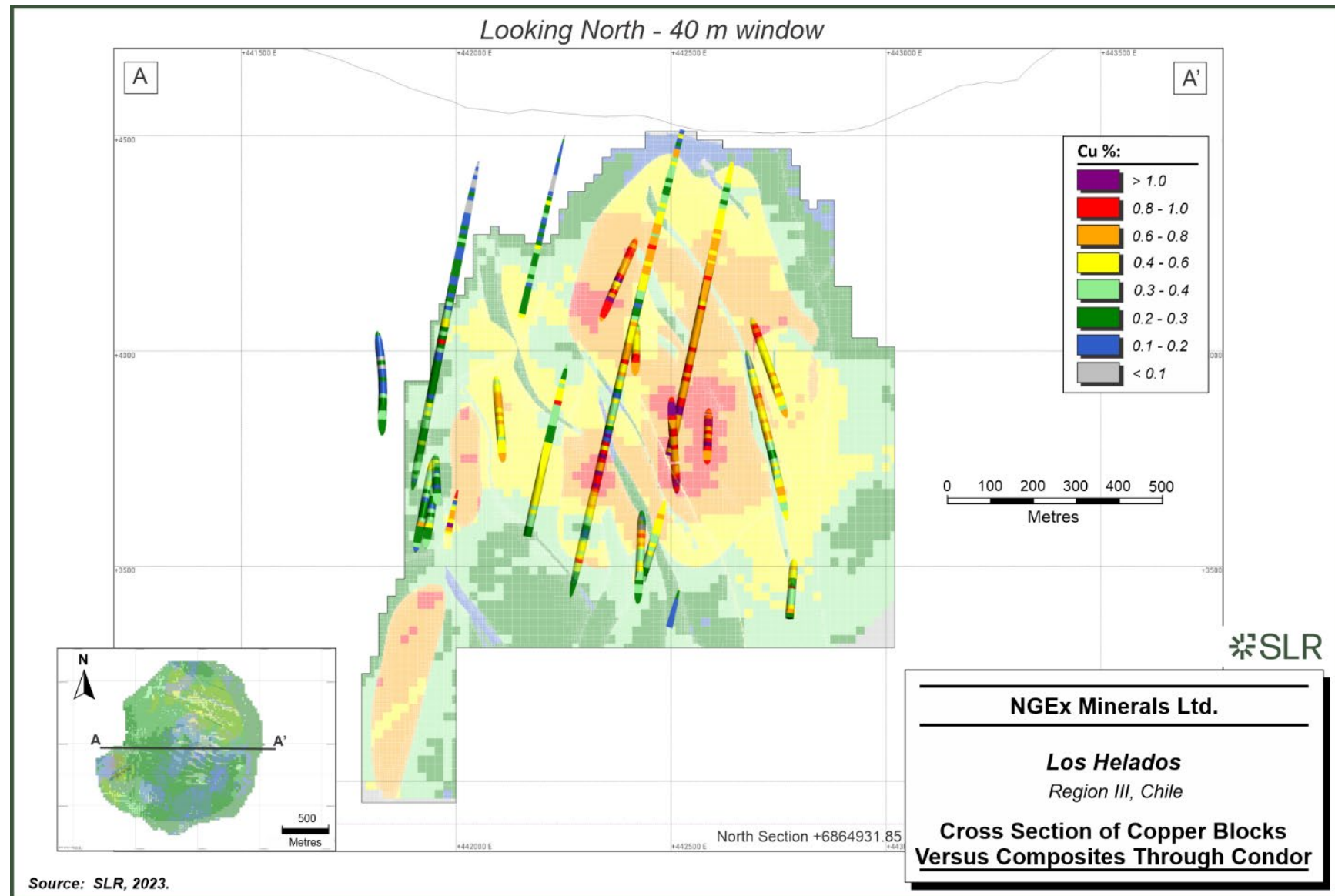
**Figure 14-18: Level Plan of Gold Blocks Versus Composites Through Condor, Fenix, and Alicanto**



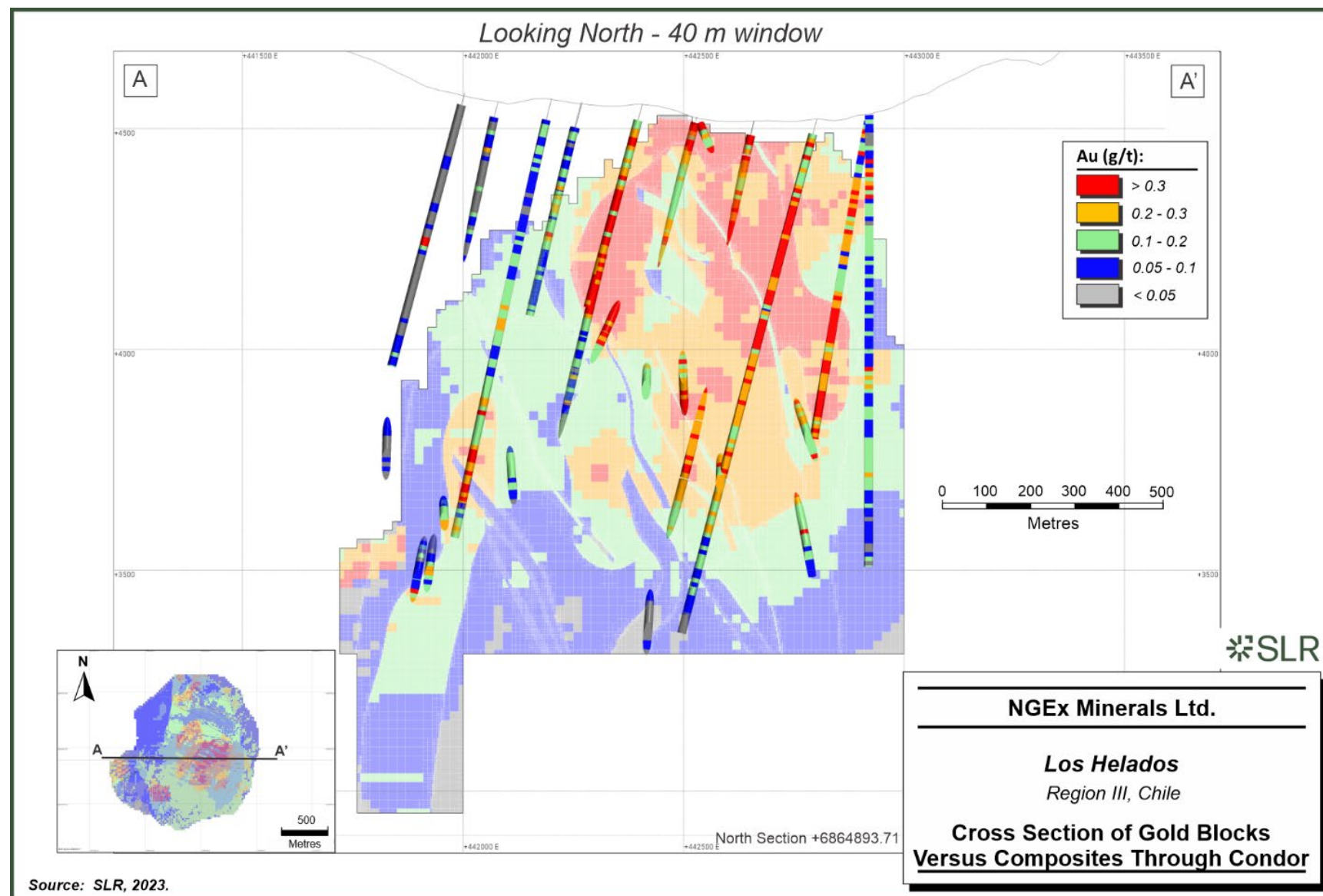
**Figure 14-19: Level Plan of Copper Blocks Versus Composites Through Fenix**



**Figure 14-20: Cross Section of Copper Blocks Versus Composites Through Condor**



**Figure 14-21: Cross Section of Gold Blocks Versus Composites Through Condor**





Looking North - 40 m window

A

A'

0 100 200 300 400 500  
Metres

Cu %:

- > 1.0
- 0.8 - 1.0
- 0.6 - 0.8
- 0.4 - 0.6
- 0.3 - 0.4
- 0.2 - 0.3
- 0.1 - 0.2
- < 0.1

North Section +6864751.85

Source: SLR, 2023.

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Los Helados  
Region III, Chile

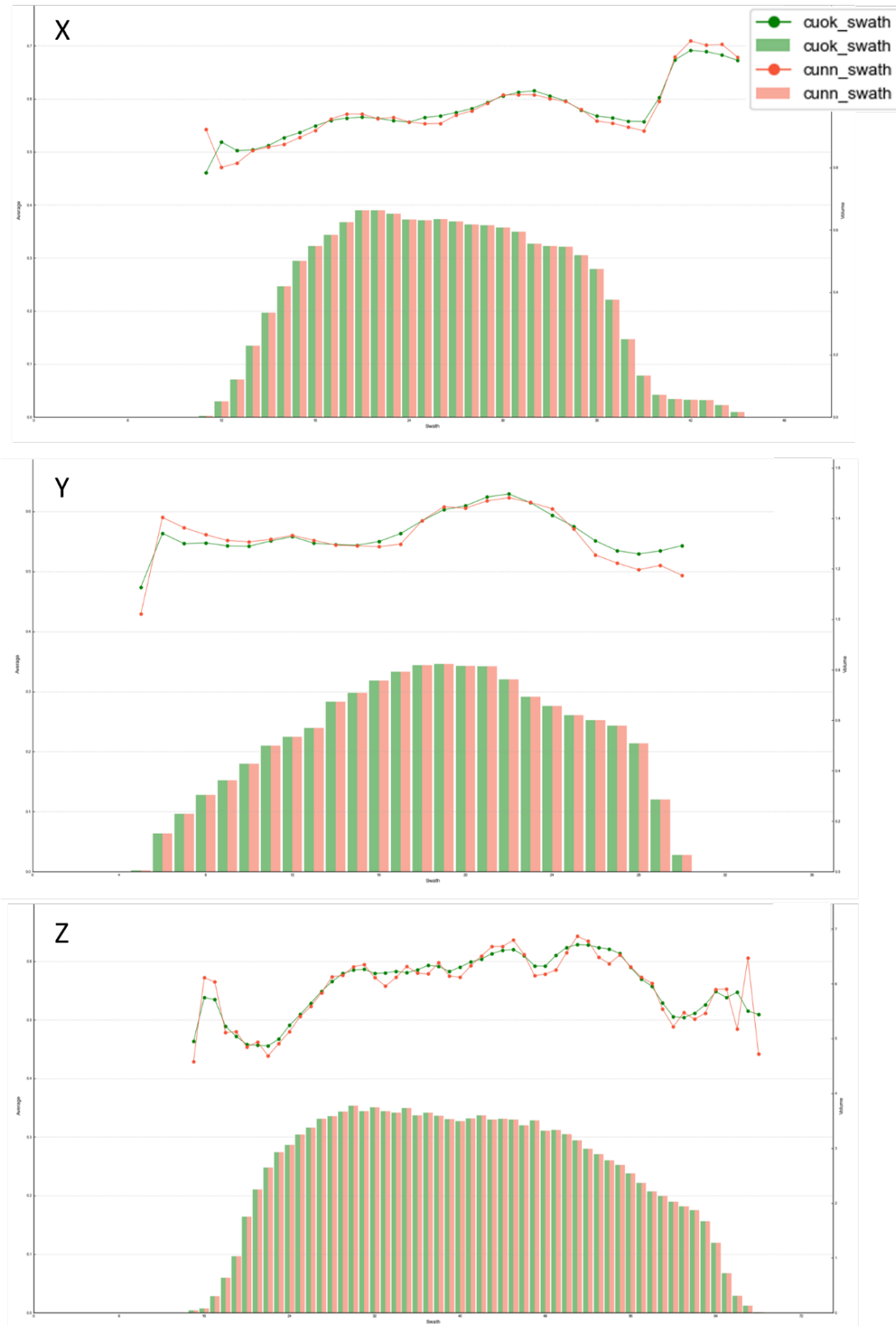
Cross Section of Copper Blocks Versus  
Composites Through Condor and Fenix

Example swath plots are presented to compare OK to NN results and are presented in Figure 14-23 to Figure 14-25. Figure 14-23 and Figure 14-24 show good correlation between the OK and NN results for copper and gold within Condor. Figure 14-25 demonstrates higher variance for copper within Fenix. This variance and therefore confidence in the estimation, due to the search orientation and lack of drilling projecting higher grades into lower Fenix at depth, has been managed by ensuring only Inferred Mineral Resources are defined in this area. Further drilling, considering improved drill hole angles, could reduce uncertainty in this area.

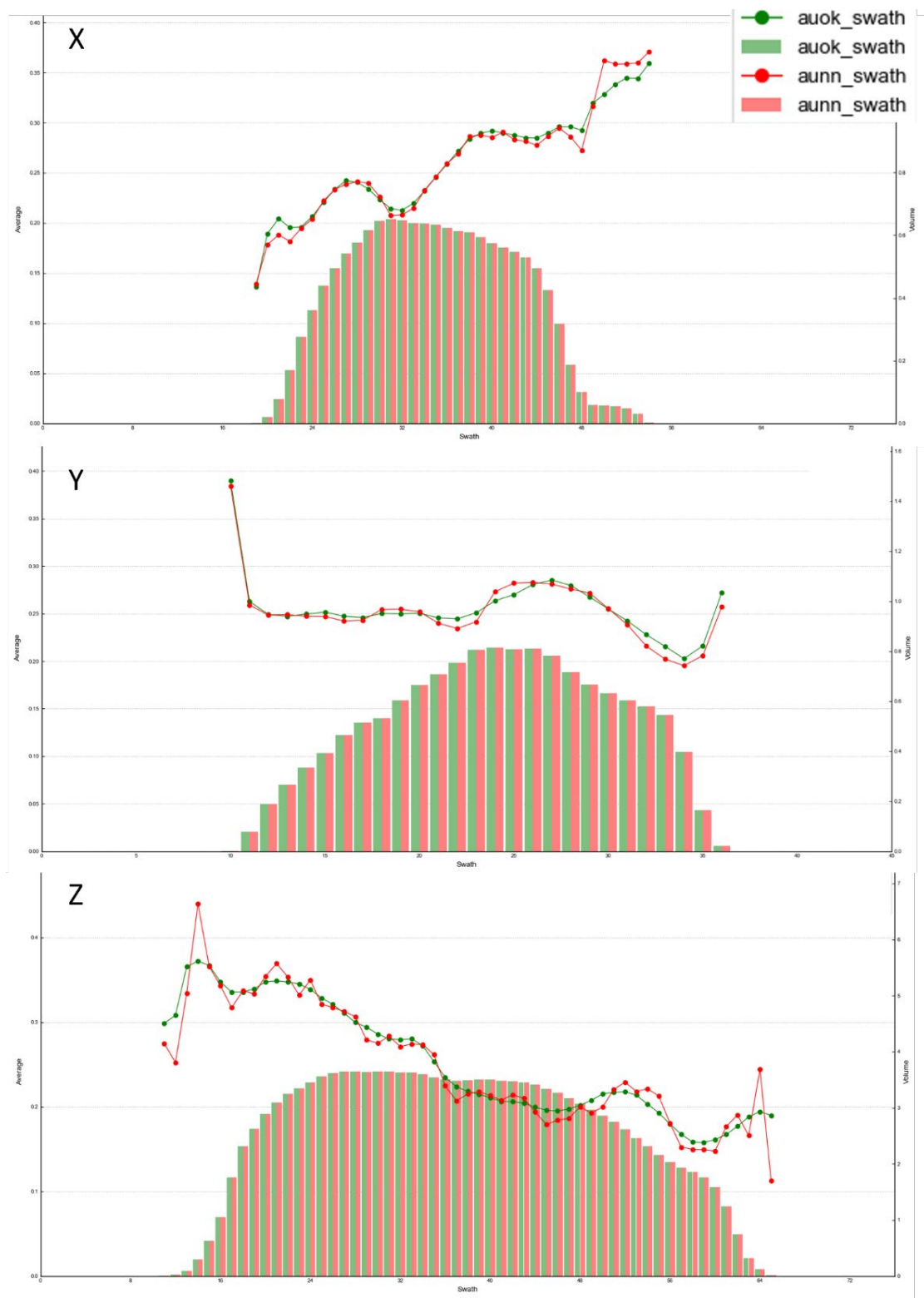




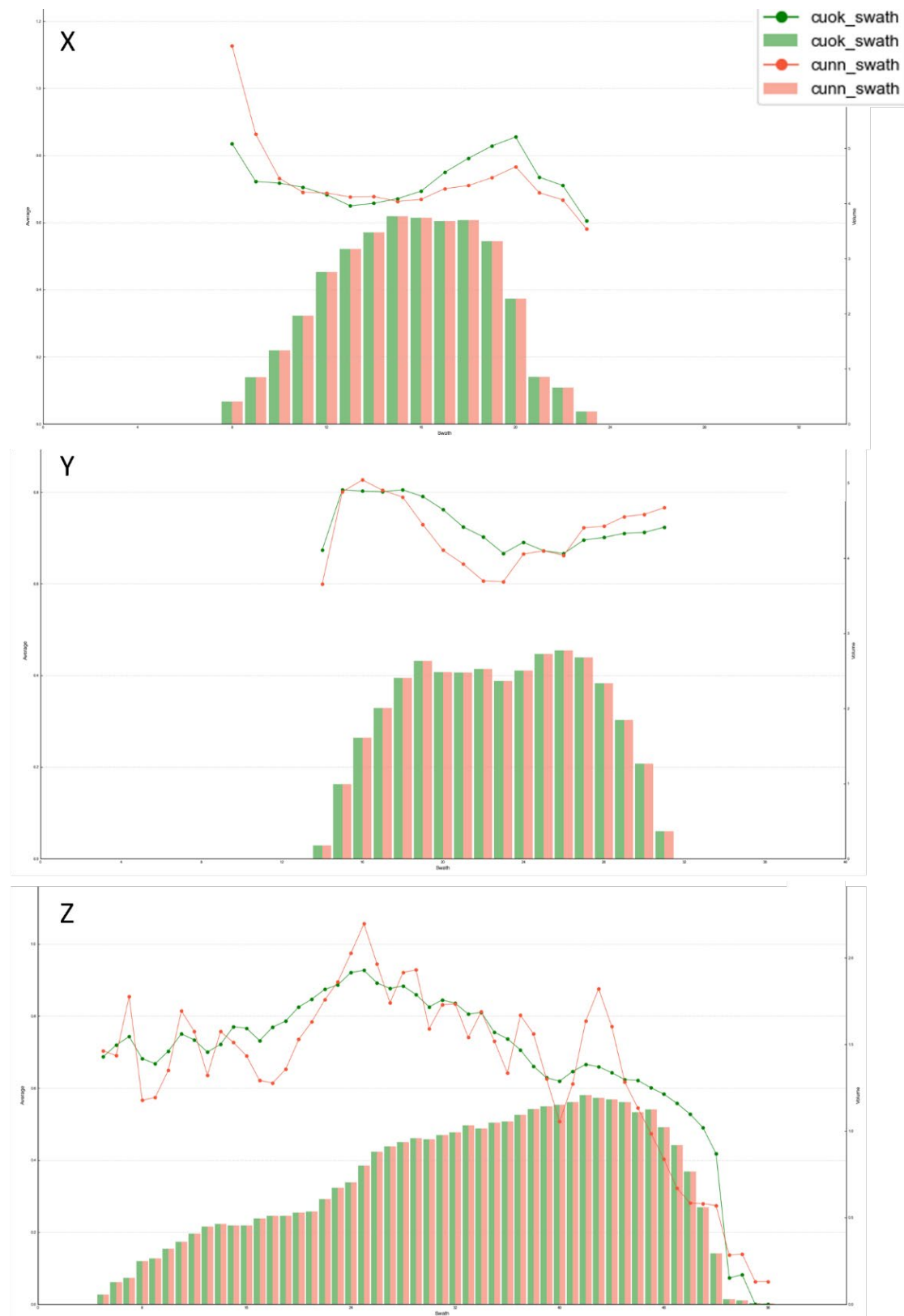
**Figure 14-23: Swath Plot for Copper OK and Copper NN in Condor**



**Figure 14-24: Swath Plot for Gold OK and Gold NN in Condor**



**Figure 14-25: Swath Plot for Copper OK and Copper NN in Fenix**



## 14.13 Copper Equivalent and Cut-off Grade

A CuEq cut-off value was determined using the Mineral Resource metal prices, metal recoveries, transport, treatment, and refining costs, as well as mine operating cost. Metal prices used for Mineral Resources are based on consensus, long-term forecasts from banks, financial institutions, and other sources.

The CuEq calculation considers the price assumptions in Table 14-14. These prices are based on consensus between NGEx and SLR and are supported by SLR's internal mineral resource cut-off grade price guidance.

**Table 14-14: Metal Price Assumptions**

Metal	Unit	Price
Copper	US\$/lb	3.90
Gold	US\$/oz	1,800
Silver	US\$/oz	20

Metallurgical recoveries, concentrate water content, grade and payables, transport, treatment, and refining costs all contribute to the CuEq calculation and are outlined in Table 14-15.

**Table 14-15: CuEq Input Variables**

Parameter	Upper Zone	Intermediate Zone	Deep Zone
Au Recovery	72.8%	80.3%	82.5%
Ag Recovery	31.0%	54.9%	70.5%
Cu Recovery	83.1%	90.2%	93.1%
Concentrate Water Content	8 %		
Cu Conc. Grade	23.9 %		
Concentrate Payable Au	95.5%		
Concentrate Payable Ag	90.0%		
Concentrate Payable Cu	95.8%		
Transport	104 \$/wmt conc.		
Treatment	108.29 \$/dmt conc.		
Au Refining Cost	6.37 \$/oz		
Ag Refining Cost	0.38 \$/oz		
Cu Refining Cost	0.11 \$/lb		

The resultant CuEq equations for the three geometallurgical zones are presented in Table 14-16.



**Table 14-16: CuEq Equations**

Geometallurgical Zone	Copper Equivalent
Upper	$\text{Cu \%} + (0.681008 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.002989 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
Intermediate	$\text{Cu \%} + (0.692039 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.004877 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$
Deep	$\text{Cu \%} + (0.688852 \times \text{Au (g/t)}) + (0.006068 \times \text{Ag (g/t)})$

The Mineral Resource cut-off grade is based on unit mining, processing, and general and administration (G&A) costs as summarized in Table 14-17 and equate to a cut-off grade of 0.33% CuEq.

**Table 14-17: Operating Costs for Los Helados**

Item	Unit	Cost
Mining (Underground)	\$/t moved	8.00
Processing	\$/t milled	12.00
G&A	\$/t milled	1.00
Total Unit Operating Cost	\$/milled	21.00
Cut-off Grade CuEq	%	0.33

## 14.14 Block Cave Optimization and RPEEE

To meet the RPEEE requirement for Mineral Resources, an underground bulk mining scenario was considered. Mining Plus prepared a series of block cave mining shapes to constrain the block model for Mineral Resource reporting purposes.

Datamine StudioUG v3.0.47.0 with the Stope Optimisation Engine v2.0.4.0 was used to generate the optimized block cave outlines using several input parameters presented in Table 14-18. The Mineral Resource is reported within a block cave shape generated at a 0.33% CuEq cut-off grade, however, a series of block cave shapes were prepared using increasing cut-off grades to allow for an assessment of the Project's sensitivity to different cut-off grades. All classified blocks located within the block cave shape, including blocks below the cut-off grade, were used to report the MRE. SLR notes that the block cave shape includes approximately 40 Mt of unclassified material located mostly around the basal perimeter of the block cave shape that was not included in the MRE. This excluded material is likely mineralized but requires more drilling before it can be included. It represents approximately 1% of the current Mineral Resource.

**Table 14-18: Block Cave Input Parameters**

Parameter	Value
Mining Cost	\$8/t
Processing Cost	\$12/t
G&A	\$1/t
Column Size	20 m x 20 m x ( $\geq 80$ m)
Grade Blending	Full Column: grades not broken down by elevation nor diluted/smeared at this stage



## 14.15 Cut-off Grade Sensitivities

Table 14-19 presents the Los Helados Mineral Resource tabulated within conceptual block cave shapes developed using increasing cut-off grades. This is presented to provide grade-distribution data that allows for an assessment of the Project's sensitivity to various cut-off grades.

Figure 14-26 and Figure 14-27 show the block model and block cave outlines prepared at increasing cut-off grades in both plan and cross section. All cut-off grade block cave shapes are displayed in Figure 14-26 and Figure 14-27, however, the 0.33% CuEq and 0.6% CuEq cut-off block cave shapes have been highlighted with a slightly thicker line to, respectively, show both the selected MRE scenario and also demonstrate the continuity observed at a higher grade.

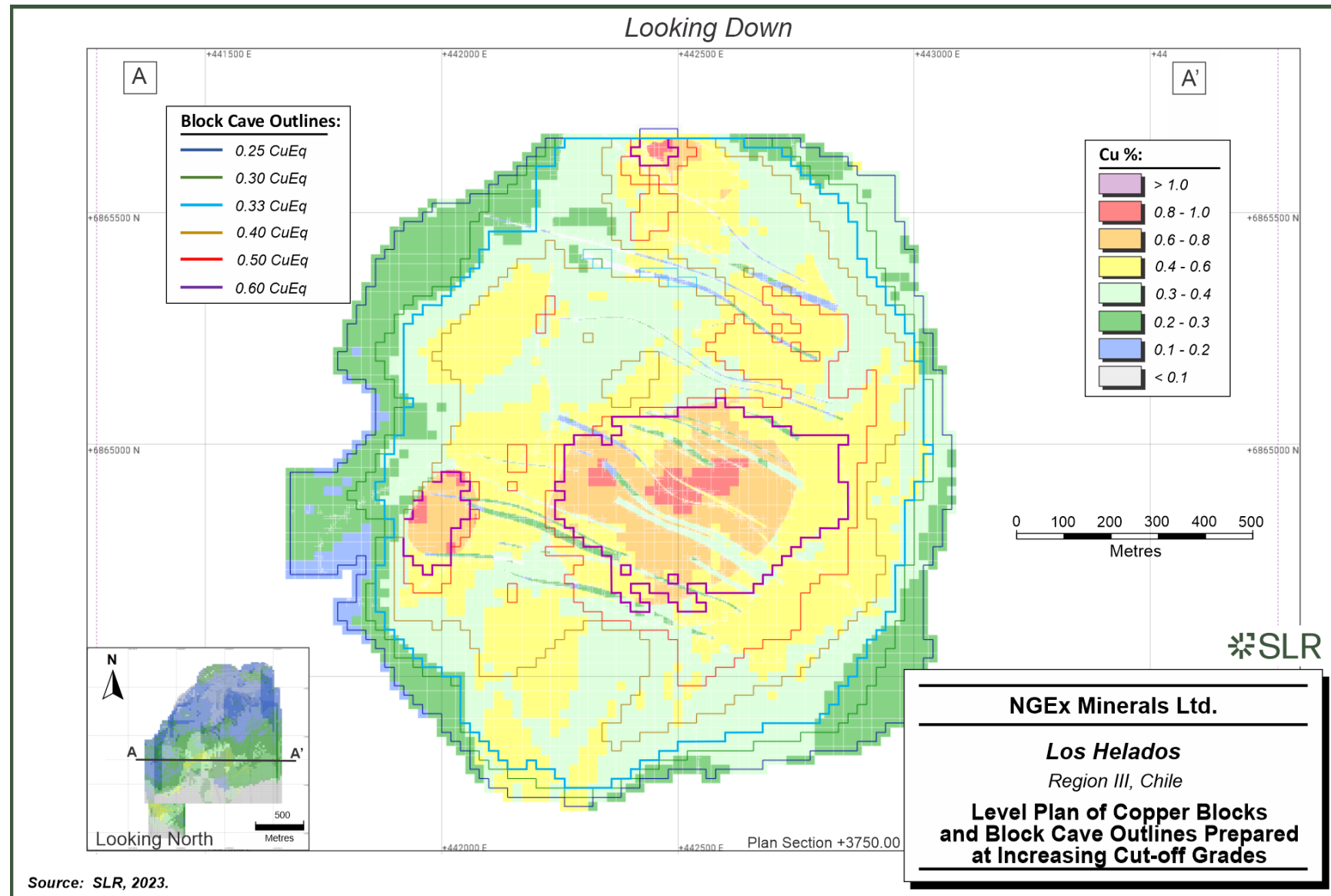
**Table 14-19: Cut-off Grade Sensitivity**

Cut-Off Grade CuEq (%)	Category	Tonnage (Bt)	Grade				Metal Content		
			Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	CuEq (%)	Cu (Mlb)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)
0.25	Indicated	2.39	0.38	0.15	1.4	0.49	19,881	11.3	106.6
	Inferred	1.84	0.30	0.10	1.3	0.38	12,247	5.8	75.4
0.3	Indicated	2.20	0.39	0.15	1.4	0.50	19,044	10.7	101.2
	Inferred	1.30	0.33	0.10	1.4	0.41	9,462	4.3	58.0
<b>0.33</b>	<b>Indicated</b>	<b>2.08</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>18,426</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>97.5</b>
	<b>Inferred</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>8,152</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>50.2</b>
0.4	Indicated	1.65	0.43	0.16	1.5	0.55	15,696	8.5	82.2
	Inferred	0.60	0.38	0.11	1.6	0.46	5,012	2.1	31.5
0.5	Indicated	0.88	0.50	0.19	1.7	0.64	9,698	5.4	48.8
	Inferred	0.18	0.47	0.12	2.1	0.56	1,877	0.7	12.0
<b>0.6</b>	<b>Indicated</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>6,271</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>30.2</b>
	<b>Inferred</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>

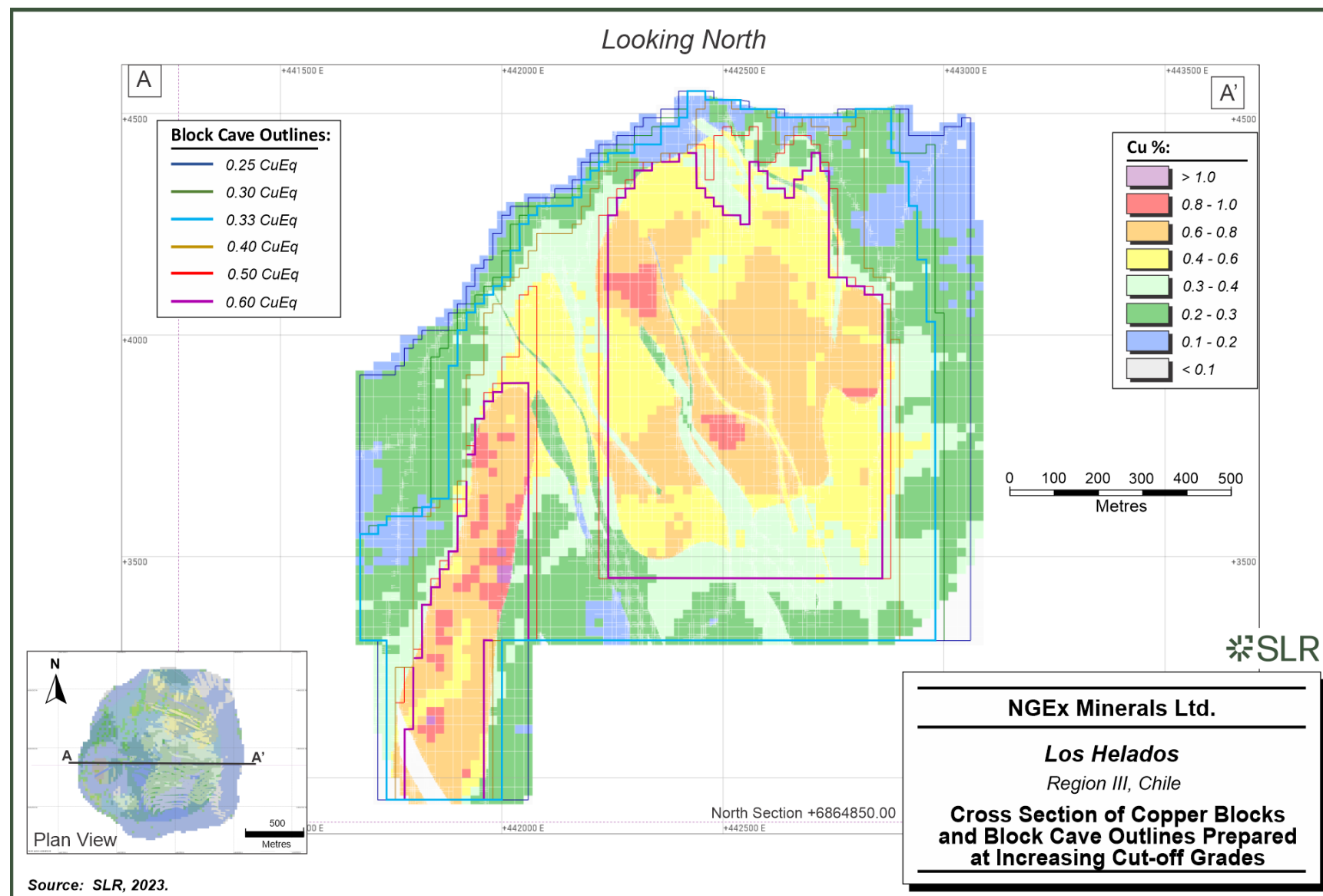




**Figure 14-26: Level Plan of Copper Blocks and Block Cave Outlines Prepared at Increasing Cut-off Grades**



**Figure 14-27: Cross Section of Copper Blocks and Block Cave Outlines Prepared at Increasing Cut-off Grades**



## 15.0 Mineral Reserve Estimate

No Mineral Reserves have been estimated for the Property.



## 16.0 Mining Methods

This chapter is not applicable.



## 17.0 Recovery Methods

This chapter is not applicable.



## 18.0 Project Infrastructure

This chapter is not applicable.





## 19.0 Market Studies and Contracts

This chapter is not applicable.



## **20.0 Environmental Studies, Permitting, and Social or Community Impact**

This chapter is not applicable.



## 21.0 Capital and Operating Costs

This chapter is not applicable.



## 22.0 Economic Analysis

This chapter is not applicable.



## 23.0 Adjacent Properties

There is no relevant information on adjacent properties to report in this section.



## 24.0 Other Relevant Data and Information

No additional information or explanation is necessary to make this Technical Report understandable and not misleading.





## 25.0 Interpretation and Conclusions

### 25.1 Geology and Mineral Resources

The QP offers the following conclusions:

- The Los Helados deposit is classified as a porphyry copper-gold system. A number of other large deposits and mines in the Vicuña metallogenic belt occur nearby.
- The Project database consists of drill holes at approximately 75 m to 450 m spacing. It includes 47,254 assays from 106 drill holes, totalling 93,750 m of drilling. Most of the drill holes are diamond drill holes, with just five RC drill holes.
- An updated MRE as of October 31, 2023, was prepared in accordance with CIM (2014) definitions as incorporated by reference into NI 43-101.
  - To meet the RPEEE requirement for Mineral Resources, an underground bulk mining scenario was considered. The Mineral Resource is reported within a block cave shape generated at a 0.33% CuEq cut-off grade based on an underground block cave mining cost of \$8/t, a processing cost of \$12/t, a G&A cost of \$1/t and using a long-term copper price of US\$3.90 per pound, a gold price of US\$1,800 per ounce, and a silver price of US\$20 per ounce. Metallurgical recoveries used correspond to three geometallurgical zones.
  - Underground Indicated Mineral Resources are estimated to total 2.08 Bt averaging 0.40% Cu, 0.15 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 18.4 Blb of copper, 10.2 Moz of gold, and 97.5 Moz of silver. In addition, Inferred Mineral Resources are estimated to total 1.08 Bt averaging 0.34% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, and 1.5 g/t Ag and contain 8.2 Blb of copper, 3.6 Moz of gold, and 50.2 Moz of silver.
  - The QP is not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the MRE.
- Block cave shapes generated at higher cut-off grades demonstrate good continuity and potential for higher grade scenarios with lower tonnages. For example, at a 0.6% CuEq cut-off grade, Indicated Mineral Resources are estimated at 510 Mt averaging 0.56% Cu, 0.21 g/t Au, and 1.8 g/t Ag and containing 6.3 Blb of copper, 3.5 Moz of gold, and 30 Moz of silver.
- The sample collection, preparation, analytical, and security procedures and the QA/QC program, as designed and implemented by NGEx, are adequate, and the assay results within the database are suitable for use in Mineral Resource estimation.
- The QP is of the opinion that the Los Helados diamond drill hole assay results and database management procedures are of high quality and the assay results for gold, copper, and silver are acceptable for the purposes of Mineral Resource estimation.
  - The QA/QC program indicates good precision for copper and gold, negligible sample contamination, and the CRM results confirm that no significant biases exist for the copper and gold results. The silver grades at Los Helados are nearing the detection limit and exhibit poor precision. There is more uncertainty in the silver resource grades, however, they contribute less than two percent of the total copper equivalent value. Copper and gold contribute approximately 78% and 20%, respectively.



- SLR carried out cross-checks between the Los Helados MX Deposit assay database and the ACME and ALS assay certificates. SLR compiled a subset of 33,270 samples from 300 certificates from 2008 to 2023 using python scripts and compared values for copper, gold, and silver against the MX Deposit assay database, which has 48,927 samples. SLR found matches for 28,416 samples, which represents 58% of the MX Deposit database. SLR found no significant errors.
- Miocene copper-gold mineralization at Los Helados is volumetrically most significant within the magmatic-hydrothermal breccia. The breccia forms a pipe-like body with minimum dimensions of 1,100 m east-west, 1,200 m north-south, and at least 1,500 m vertically. The breccia body is surrounded by a broad halo of moderate to low grade copper-gold mineralization which diminishes in grade with increasing distance from the breccia contact.
- There are a number of targets at Los Helados that warrant more diamond drilling including:
  - The high-grade Fenix Zone
  - A potential northeast-trending link between the Fenix and Alicanto zones
  - The South Breccia Target

## 25.2 Mineral Processing

- The Los Helados metallurgical test work program was conducted at SGS Minerals S.A. (SGS) in Santiago, Chile in two phases, Phase I in 2013 and Phase II 2015, under the supervision of Amec Foster Wheeler plc, acquired by Wood Group in 2017.
- The test work confirmed that the Condor zone of the deposit was largely homogeneous throughout with respect to chemical and physical characteristics. No samples were tested from either the Fenix or Alicanto zones as they had not been discovered at the time of the test work programs.
- The mineralogical analysis indicated that the main copper sulphide mineral present is chalcopyrite (97% average by weight) with traces of chalcocite/digenite and bornite.
- The higher the pyrite to copper sulphide ratio, the more difficult it can be to separate copper minerals from pyrite using conventional sulphide flotation techniques. This sulphide zoning sequence reflects a progressive downward increase in the amount of chalcopyrite relative to pyrite. The pyrite to copper sulphide ratio decreases from approximately 6.4:1 near surface to 0.8:1 at depth.
- No major deleterious elements issues were noted in the concentrates produced from the test work completed. The concentrates are considered to be marketable without incurring penalties for deleterious elements.



## 26.0 Recommendations

### 26.1 Geology and Mineral Resources

Additional work is recommended by the QP at Los Helados, with three main objectives:

- 1 Continue to upgrade Inferred Mineral Resources to Indicated, with a focus on the high-grade Fenix Zone.
- 2 Investigate a potential northeast-trending link between the Fenix and Alicanto zones (Figure 26-1).
- 3 Investigate the high-potential South Breccia Target through additional data collection and compilation, followed by exploration drilling (Figure 26-1).

NGEx is currently focused on advancing its newly discovered Lunahuasi project located in San Juan Province, Argentina. The timing of the next phase of work at Los Helados, described below, is not recommended for the immediate future and will depend on results at Lunahuasi, general corporate strategy and the financial and logistical capacity of NGEx.

The Fenix Zone represents an underexplored high-grade hydrothermal breccia which warrants additional drilling in order to fully define its size, geometry, and grade distribution. This drilling should utilize directional drilling to minimize the metres required to achieve the objective. The experience gained during the 2022-2023 campaign with directional drilling shows that this is an effective technique given the competent rock and good drilling conditions at Los Helados, with the ability to branch off multiple daughter holes from each pilot hole and to hit targets with good accuracy.

Now that the geometry of the Fenix Zone has been largely established, an efficient program of infill and expansion holes can be planned. Highest priority should be given to drilling to the south of hole LHDH084 (390 m at 1.13% CuEq; 1.02% Cu, 0.15 g/t Au, 2.4 g/t Ag plus 187 ppm Mo), below LHDH076 (including 142 m at 1.38% CuEq; 1.14% Cu, 0.35 g/t Au, 3.8 g/t Ag plus 77 ppm Mo), and below LHDH081-2, which ended in strong mineralization with the final 63.8 m at 1.25% CuEq; 1.14% Cu, 0.14 g/t Au, 3.6 g/t Ag plus 741 ppm Mo).

Another key target is the top of the Fenix breccia body. Intersecting it closer to surface would improve the potential economics of mine planning at a shallower depth. In addition, there is some evidence to suggest that gold values in particular are high along the contacts of the hydrothermal breccias, as evidenced in intersections adjacent to the contact of the Fenix Zone in holes LHDH034 (44 m at 1.56% CuEq; 1.07% Cu, 0.72 g/t Au) and LHDH076 (34 m at 2.12% CuEq; 1.65% Cu, 0.71 g/t Au) and of the Alicanto Zone in holes LHDH083 (46 m at 0.87% CuEq; 0.28% Cu, 0.96 g/t Au) and LHDH086-1 (160 m at 0.82% CuEq; 0.32% Cu, 0.80 g/t Au).

Previous experience at Los Helados shows that existing drill holes can typically be re-entered with little difficulty even two to three years after they have been drilled. This allows for the opportunity of using the existing Fenix holes as pilot holes and creating daughter holes in order to minimize drill metres required for the program. During the 2023 program, daughter holes were successfully branched off as deep as 850 m and up to two daughter holes were branched off from one pilot hole. Rock quality is very good at Los Helados, which should allow for deeper and, with careful planning, several daughter holes to be created from each pilot hole.

This program will need detailed planning to develop the most efficient geometry, and it is recommended that a drill planning consultant be used in order to maximize efficiency. It is estimated that this program would be similar in size and duration to the 2022-2023 program



which consisted of 10,325 m drilled in five full holes and three daughter holes for a total of eight intersections split between the Fenix and Alicanto zones. No additional drilling is recommended for the Alicanto Zone at this time.

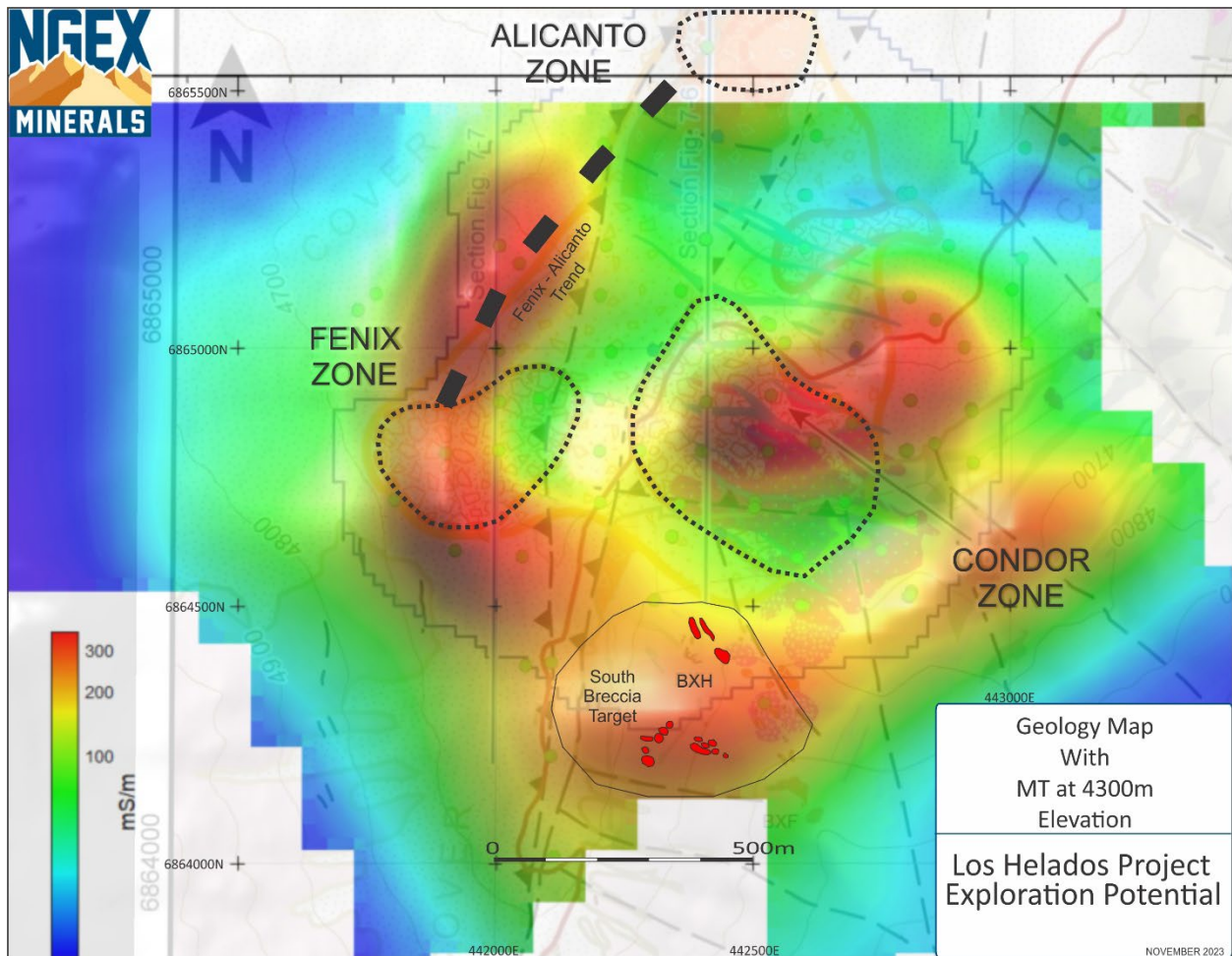
There is some evidence for a northeast-trending structural link between the Fenix and Alicanto zones. Coincident magnetic and MT anomalies form a corridor connecting the two zones, and holes drilled near this corridor show elevated molybdenum values, relative to the Condor Zone average. Elevated molybdenum is a feature of both the Fenix and Alicanto zones. Three holes should be drilled across this corridor to test for extensions of the high-grade breccias.

Geological mapping conducted during the 2022-2023 season identified an area of outcropping hydrothermal breccias approximately 300 m to 500 m south of the Condor Zone. This cluster comprises numerous sulphate-clay rich breccias over an area of 250 m x 150 m. Where weathered, they appear as outstanding cones with gypsum-clay cement, forming a cauliflower-like surface with degassing holes. In road cuts they display a stockwork array of anhydrite/gypsum veinlets, dissemination of sulphides in wall rock, and frequent sulphide-rich hydrothermal breccia injections. These breccia occurrences might reflect centres of magmatic hydrothermal activity at depth.

This area is also coincident with an MT anomaly which is similar to the anomalies associated with the Fenix and Condor zones, and has not been drill tested. At least one hole into the centre of this area should be completed, as the combination of the breccia cluster mapped at surface and the MT anomaly could be indicating another high-grade hydrothermal breccia, similar to Fenix or Alicanto, at depth. Detailed interpretation of the recently-completed ZTEM geophysical survey may help to refine targets in this area.



**Figure 26-1: Los Helados Exploration Targets**





## 27.0 References

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## 28.0 Date and Signature Date

This report titled “Technical Report on the Los Helados Project, Chile and Argentina” with an effective date of July 29, 2025 was prepared and signed by the following authors:

**(Signed & Sealed) *Luke Evans***

Dated at Toronto, ON  
August 22, 2025

Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng.  
Global Technical Director – Geology Group Leader  
Principal Geologist

**(Signed & Sealed) *Giovanni Di-Prisco***

Dated at Barrie, ON  
August 22, 2025

Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo.  
Consulting Geologist-Mineralogist  
President of Terra Mineralogical Services Inc.



## 29.0 Certificate of Qualified Person

### 29.1 Luke Evans

I, Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng., as an author of this report entitled “Technical Report on the Los Helados Project, Chile and Argentina” with an effective date of July 29, 2025 prepared for NGEx Minerals Ltd. (the Issuer), do hereby certify that:

1. I am Global Technical Director – Geology Group Leader, and Principal Geologist with SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd, of Suite 501, 55 University Ave., Toronto, ON M5J 2H7.
2. I am a graduate of University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science (Applied) degree in Geological Engineering and Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, in 1986 with a Master of Science degree in Mineral Exploration.
3. I am registered as a Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario (Reg. #90345885) and as a Professional Engineer in the Province of Quebec (Reg. # 105567). I have worked as a professional geologist for a total of 42 years since my graduation. My relevant experience for the purpose of the Technical Report includes:
  - Geological Engineer specializing in resource and reserve estimates, audits, technical assistance, and training since 1995.
  - Review and report as a consultant on numerous exploration and mining projects around the world for due diligence and regulatory requirements.
4. I have read the definition of “qualified person” set out in National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) and certify that by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association (as defined in NI 43-101) and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a “qualified person” for the purposes of NI 43-101.
5. I visited the Los Helados deposit in Chile and the core logging facility in Copiapó, Chile, from September 18 to 22, 2023.
6. I am responsible for overall preparation of, and all Sections contained in, the Technical Report, except Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13, and 25.2.
7. I am independent of the Issuer applying the test set out in Section 1.5 of NI 43-101.
8. I have had no prior involvement with the property that is the subject of the Technical Report, other than as an author of the previous technical report entitled “Technical Report on the Los Helados and Lunahuasi Projects, Chile and Argentina” dated December 13, 2023 with an effective date of October 31, 2023.
9. I have read NI 43-101, and the Technical Report has been prepared in compliance with NI 43-101 and Form 43-101F1.
10. At the effective date of the Technical Report, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible contain all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the Technical Report not misleading.

Dated this 22 day of August, 2025

**(Signed & Sealed) Luke Evans**

**Luke Evans, M.Sc., P.Eng.**



## 29.2 Giovanni Di-Prisco

I, Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo., as an author of this report entitled “Technical Report on the Los Helados Project, Chile and Argentina” with an effective date of July 29, 2025 prepared for NGEx Minerals Ltd. (the Issuer), do hereby certify that:

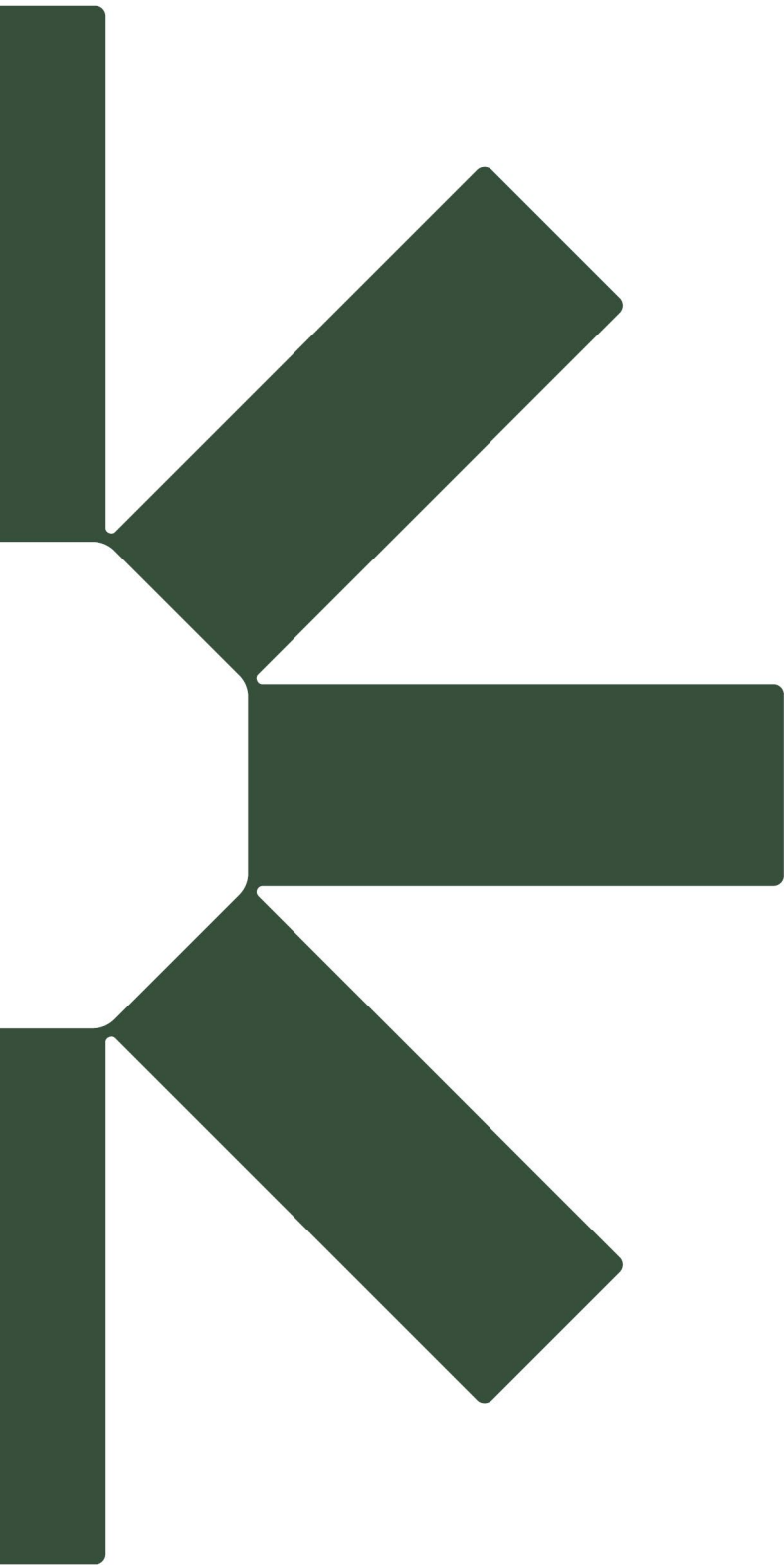
1. I am consulting geologist-mineralogist and President of: Terra Mineralogical Services Inc., of 78 Cityview Circle, Barrie, Ontario, Canada L4N 7V1.
2. I graduated with a Doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in Applied Geology/ Exploration Geology from the University of Franche Comté, in Besançon, France in 1983.
3. I am a practicing member of the Association of the Professional Geologist of Ontario (#0366). I have worked as a geologist/geometallurgist for a total of 42 years since my graduation. My relevant experience for the purpose of the Technical Report is:
  - I have 35 years of direct experience as a geometallurgist and have been directly involved with the metallurgy teams in the metallurgical test work and development of dozens of sulphide deposits, including the development and implementation of all the metallurgical work for the Antamina deposit, the early metallurgical test work of the Oyu Tolgoi deposit, and the early metallurgical test work of the Filo del Sol deposit
4. I have read the definition of "qualified person" set out in National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) and certify that by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association (as defined in NI 43-101) and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a "qualified person" for the purposes of NI 43-101.
5. I am responsible for the preparation of Sections 1.11, 1.13.2, 13, and 25.2 of the Technical Report.
6. I reviewed the technical reports regarding the metallurgical test program of Los Helados. I did not visit the Project.
7. I am not aware of any material fact or material change with respect to the subject matter of the Technical Report that is not reflected in the Technical Report, the omission to disclose which makes the Technical Report misleading.
8. I am independent of the Issuer applying the test set out in Section 1.5 of NI 43-101.
9. I have prepared a previous technical report dated August 6, 2019 on the metallurgical work that is the subject of the Technical Report and was an author of the previous technical report entitled “Technical Report on the Los Helados and Lunahuasi Projects, Chile and Argentina” dated December 13, 2023 with an effective date of October 31, 2023.
10. I have read NI 43-101, and the Technical Report has been prepared in compliance with NI 43-101 and Form 43-101F1.
11. At the effective date of the Technical Report, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the sections of the Technical Report for which I am responsible contain all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the Technical Report not misleading.

Dated this 22 day of August, 2025

**(Signed & Sealed) Giovanni Di-Prisco**

**Giovanni Di-Prisco, Ph.D., P.Geo.**





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