

Courier Mail

TUE 07 DEC 2004

Northwest glitters in ASX debut

By Liza Kappelle

NORTHWEST Resources made a strong debut on the Australian Stock Exchange yesterday after raising \$3 million to develop gold projects in a promising region of Western Australia.

The miner ended its first day's trading at 25, a 5 premium on the 20 a share price of its initial public offer, with 685,000 shares traded.

Managing director John Merity said the IPO had received strong support. The company was pleased that support had continued on listing.

"Now that our shares are listed, we look forward to rapidly progressing our exploration program which is directed at establishing gold mining operations in the central Pilbara," Mr Merity said. Northwest acquired 65 per cent of Tupperglenda in November 2004, giving it majority ownership over two blocks of promising gold tenements in the Nullagine district of the Eastern Pilbara in WA.

Northwest's gold projects include Camel Creek, where there are 15 historic gold mines where in many cases prospectors and miners only identified and mined near-surface mineralisation.

Executive chairman Murray Black said the company had three drilling rigs available. "And our aim is to increase and upgrade the indicated and inferred resources on the Camel Creek projects where significant results were returned from previous campaigns," Mr Black said.

Drilling will begin in January, initially focusing on the highly prospective targets identified by previous work and targets generated by an aeromagnetic survey to be completed this month. Northwest had a treatment plant located on the tenements which would allow it to fast track projects leading to early production, the company said.