

12 January 2023

**Arkle Resources PLC**

**("Arkle" or the "Company")**

**Lithium bearing pegmatites discovered at Mine River**

Arkle (AIM: ARK) is delighted to announce the discovery of lithium ( $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$ ) bearing pegmatites in its Mine River Block on the Wexford/Wicklow border in Ireland. Of the 34 rock chip samples collected late last year, six returned lithium grades over 0.02%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  with one sample assaying 0.09%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  from the Bunclody area. Elevated lithium also correlated with enriched levels of Caesium (Cs) Rubidium (Rb) and Tantalum (Ta), which are known pathfinder elements for Lithium. The Directors believe these results are compelling as it suggests the Mine River Block is fertile for Lithium Caesium Tantalum (LCT) pegmatite deposits.

**John Teeling, Chairman of Arkle, commented:** *"These are exciting results. We have discovered lithium on our licences. We found the rock type needed, pegmatites, and in the pegmatites found lithium and other indicator minerals. This opens compelling new opportunities for our Mine River Block. Prospecting will resume in the near future".*

*Table 1 Highlights of results for lithium as well as pathfinder elements*

SAMPLE	Li ppm	% $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$	Cs ppm	Rb ppm	Ta ppm
AA-01104	100	0.022	26	434	1
AA-01118	100	0.022	7	81	2
AA-01120	100	0.022	15	239	13
AA-01122	150	0.032	47	379	1
AA-01123	100	0.022	10	301	1
AA-01131	420	0.090	35	273	1

The six samples that returned elevated lithium were all pegmatite rock boulders collected around mapped granite bodies. The geochemical results demonstrate clear pathfinder elements, which can be used in the targeting of pegmatites in future soil surveys. The results also show a correlation between the lithium bearing pegmatites and north-west south-east trending faults. These fault structures, as well as newly identified mafic and ultramafic bodies to the south-east, have been selected as target areas for the coming months. Once the main areas of interest have been identified, follow up soil surveys will aim to locate areas for trenching and drilling.

The recent results follow on from the initial prospecting work over mapped granite bodies in the Company's Mine River licence block. Although the Company has been focused on gold until now, the markets and work of companies in neighbouring licences have driven a revaluation of the ground for other elements.

The aim of the reconnaissance work at Mine River was to locate and collect specimens of granite, pegmatite, and aplite for geochemical analysis. All three rock types were discovered and 34 samples were sent to ALS Life Sciences in Loughrea, Ireland for geochemical analysis. All samples were analysed for trace elements using lithium borate fusion prior to acid dissolution followed by ICP-MS and ICP-AES for a full suite of 44 elements. Conversion of lithium parts per million ("ppm") results to percent  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  involved dividing the ppm results by 10,000 to give a percentage and then multiplying by 2.153 to obtain  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  equivalent.

**Background**

The Mine River Block is proximal to the known lithium bearing Leinster Granite, lying to the west and contiguous with the International Lithium Corp. - Ganfeng Lithium Co. Ltd joint venture where a large zone of lithium bearing pegmatites and aplites has been discovered.

This announcement has been reviewed and approved by Gavin Berkenheger (CGeol) in his capacity as the Qualified Person for the purposes of the AIM Note for Mining, Oil and Gas Companies issued by the London Stock Exchange.

*This announcement contains inside information for the purposes of Article 7 of the Market Abuse Regulation (EU) 596/2014 as it forms part of UK domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 ("MAR"), and is disclosed in accordance with the Company's obligations under Article 17 of MAR.*

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*Information for Editors*

Arkle is a diversified exploration company with principal assets in gold, zinc and now lithium exploration licences in Ireland. The Company currently has two 100% owned gold projects (Mine River and Inishowen) and is in joint venture with Group Eleven Resources Corp. at the Stonepark Zinc Project.

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