

Rating Hold

North America Canada

Industrials

Metals & Mining

Company Barrick Gold Alert

Reuters Bloombe ABX.N ABX US Exchange Ticker NYS ABX

Date 1 August 2013

Company Update

Price at 1 Aug 2013 (USD)	16.81
Price target	20.00
52-week range	42.86 - 13.76

Conference call highlights: proactively responding to commodity weakness

Comprehensive plan to manage cash flow makes equity issuance less likely: While we concede that management action was likely dictated by Barrick's highest-NA Gold-coverage debt load (2.2x Net Debt/EBITDA), we are nonetheless impressed by the comprehensive cash management program rolled out today. Plan includes \$4bn in capex cuts/deferrals over 4 years, an immediate 6% reduction in cash operating costs and a 15% cut to exploration expenditures. A 75% reduction in dividends will save further \$600m p.a. A portfolio review should see some marginally profitable mines (defined as those with AISC>\$1,000/oz) either shuttered or sold. If Barrick is able to deliver on these targets, we believe a potential equity raise may be averted even in a ~\$1,300/oz gold price environment. We reiterate Hold rating and \$20/sh PT.

Net debt to grow ~\$1.2bn p.a., but IG unlikely to be at risk near-term: We expect Barrick will need to raise \$1.2bn in debt p.a. at going production rate/commodity prices to fund its discretionary capex. With \$3.8bn in capacity before reaching 2.5x Net Debt/EBITDA, we believe the company's investment grade rating (from S&P and Moody's) is not in immediate jeopardy.

600k oz in production capacity could be sold or shuttered: Barrick announced a portfolio review, focusing on 12 high-cost (>\$1,000/oz AISC) mines currently contributing 25% of its production volumes. Pierna (96k oz 2013 DBe @ \$1,765/oz AISC) was singled out for closure. Plutonic and Yilgarna (110 and 397k oz DBe) were earmarked for divestitures. Management revealed on the call that it has multiple offers for at least some of the assets, though we don't expect the consideration received for the two to be meaningful, given they are two of the highest cost facilities in Barrick's portfolio. Taken together, the trio accounts for 602k oz, or 8.4% of 2013E production. In addition to the aforementioned operations, Porgera (464k oz DBe) is also under review and appears next-in-line for a "tough decision" bringing the total to >1m oz and more than explaining the elimination of Barrick's prior "8m oz by 2016" target.

2013E AISC guidance cut 10% amidst weakening market cost pressures: Barrick lowered its AISC guidance to \$900-975/oz, saving \$700-925m. At expected levels, the yr/yr cost would drop similarly by ~10%. Management flagged that the cost discipline is helped by wider industry trends: the slowing pace of labor cost inflation as well as a loosening equipment, machinery and consumables markets which could see Barrick negotiate prices down 15% YoY.

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Stock & option liquidity data	
Market Cap (USDm)	16,826.8
Shares outstanding (m)	1,001.0
Free float (%)	100
Volume (1 Aug 2013)	3,290,110
Option volume (und. shrs., 1M avg.)	2,873,118
Source: Deutsche Bank	

Key data			
FYE 12/31	2012A	2013E	2014E
1Q EPS	1.09	0.92A	0.52
2Q EPS	0.78	0.66A	0.50
3Q EPS	0.85	0.53	0.49
4Q EPS	1.11	0.54	0.50
FY EPS (USD)	3.83	2.65	2.01
P/E (x)	10.4	6.3	8.4
Source: Deutsche Bank			

* Includes the impact of FAS123R requiring the expensing of stock

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