

# Great Atlantic Resources Partner Expands Newly Discovered Blind Massive Sulphide Lens at Pilley's Island Project

## North-Central Newfoundland

Vancouver, British Columbia--(Newsfile Corp. - July 9, 2026) - **GREAT ATLANTIC RESOURCES CORP. (TSXV: GR) (the "Company" or "Great Atlantic")** is pleased to provide an update on diamond drilling by HM Exploration Corp. ("HM Exploration") at Great Atlantic's Pilley's Island Project at Pilley's Island, north-central Newfoundland. HM Exploration holds an option to earn a 100% interest in the project. HM Exploration has provided an update for the ninth to twelfth drill holes (PI-26-009 to PI-26-012) completed this year at the project (see HM Exploration news release of July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026). The four holes were all drilled within the area of Great Atlantic's Pilley's Island Project.

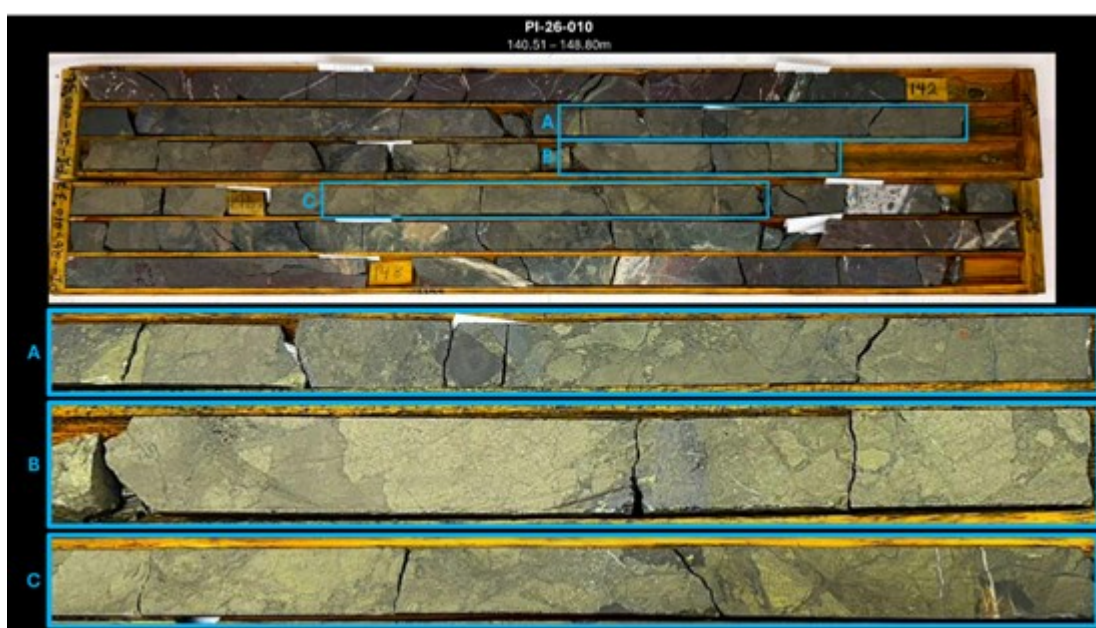


Figure 1 (by HM Exploration): Drill core (lower zone) in hole PI-26-010 from 140.51 – 148.80m downhole. Detailed photo from core box, outlined in blue, **highlighting sections of massive chalcopyrite + pyrite sulphide mineralization**. See Table 2 for detailed visual descriptions.

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*"We are pleased to see HM Exploration complete their 2026 Phase One drilling program at the Pilley's Island Project," states Anderson, CEO of Great Atlantic. "The visual observations from their drilled holes are encouraging and we look forward to HM's pending assay results as it advances its planned downhole EM survey and Phase Two drilling program."*

Drill holes PI-26-009 to PI-26-012 discussed in this news release represent an additional 1,115.60 metres for a total drilled meterage of 2,747.87 metres. HM Exploration states that planning is already underway for a Phase Two drilling program in fall 2026 based on the encouraging visual observations.

### **Highlights as stated by HM Exploration include:**

- Holes nine and ten have successfully intersected the **new blind discovery of massive sulphide mineralization extending the strike length of the lower-zone to approximately 40m**

**northwest. The upper-zone mineralized trend can be traced consistently over approximately 130m northwest.**

- The mineralization observed in the lower-lens of holes **nine and ten displays similar characteristics as PI-26-008 (see [HM Exploration press release dated June 29-2026](#)).**
- **Multiple mineralized intervals were encountered displaying varying types of mineralization ranging from disseminated – semi-massive – massive sulphide, including:**
  - PI-26-009\*
    - From **17.00 – 22.45m** down-hole; **5.45m drilled length.**
    - From **155.03 – 157.66m** down-hole; **2.63m drilled length.**
  - PI-26-010\*
    - From **141.81 – 145.90m** down-hole; **4.09m drilled length.** (Figure 1)
- **Abundant angular copper-bearing clasts observed, potentially indicating limited transport from the source and proximity to a hydrothermal vent environment.**
- Planning is underway for a downhole electromagnetic (EM) survey, followed by a Phase Two diamond drilling program designed to further test the expanding mineralized system.
- Assay results for the Phase One drilling program are expected to be released shortly.

States Nick Rodway, CEO of HM Exploration, "Holes 9 and 10 have successfully intersected the newly discovered lower massive sulphide lens extending the zone approximately 40 metres to the northwest at a vertical depth of only ~135 metres. These visual results continue to strengthen our geological model and reinforce the potential that we are vectoring toward the source of the mineralized system. With assays pending from all twelve Phase One drill holes, we are already planning a downhole EM survey followed by a Phase Two drilling program for fall 2026."

HM Exploration states the 2026 Phase One Drilling program was focused on evaluating the continuity of the mineralized system below known surface showings and along strike of the Clifford Jones Zone (the "Zone") to improve their understanding of the geological controls on mineralization (Figure 4). Visual observations from drilled holes indicate that the upper targeted copper-bearing debris flow was successfully intersected, with zones of alteration and massive to semi-massive sulphide mineralization observed in the drill core.

HM Exploration states that drill holes 9 and 10 have successfully intersected a lower mineralized sulphide lens that was previously undiscovered. Core samples have been submitted to the laboratory for analysis. Assay results will be released once they have been returned to HM Exploration.

**HM Exploration states the holes intersected a wide range of massive, semi-massive and disseminated sulphide mineralization over the following drill core lengths\*:**

- PI-26-009\*
  - From 17.00 – 22.45m down-hole; 5.45m drilled length. (Figure 2)
  - From 155.03 – 157.66m down-hole; 2.63m drilled length. (Figure 3)
- PI-26-010\*
  - From 141.81 – 145.90m down-hole; 4.09m drilled length. (Figure 1)
- PI-26-011
  - From 143.57 – 144.94m down-hole; 1.37m drilled length.
- PI-26-012
  - From 22.32 – 23.15m down-hole; 0.83m drilled length.

HM Exploration states observations from drill core continue to support the interpretation that the new lower mineralized sulphide lens may represent debris deposited closer to the original hydrothermal vent system (Figure 5).

HM Exploration states that mineralization can be described as clast-dominated debris zones predominantly consisting of sub-angular to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy +

Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock. Matrix-dominated debris flow composed of fragments of sub-rounded to angular clasts of massive sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and felsic ± mafic lithic fragments suspended in a matrix of fine-grained sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock. More detailed classifications for individual intercepts are referenced in Table 2 below\*.

\*HM Exploration and Great Atlantic caution that the presence of visible sulphides and visual estimates of mineral abundance are not indicative of grade and should not be considered a substitute for laboratory analysis. Assay results are pending. True widths of mineralized intersections are currently unknown.

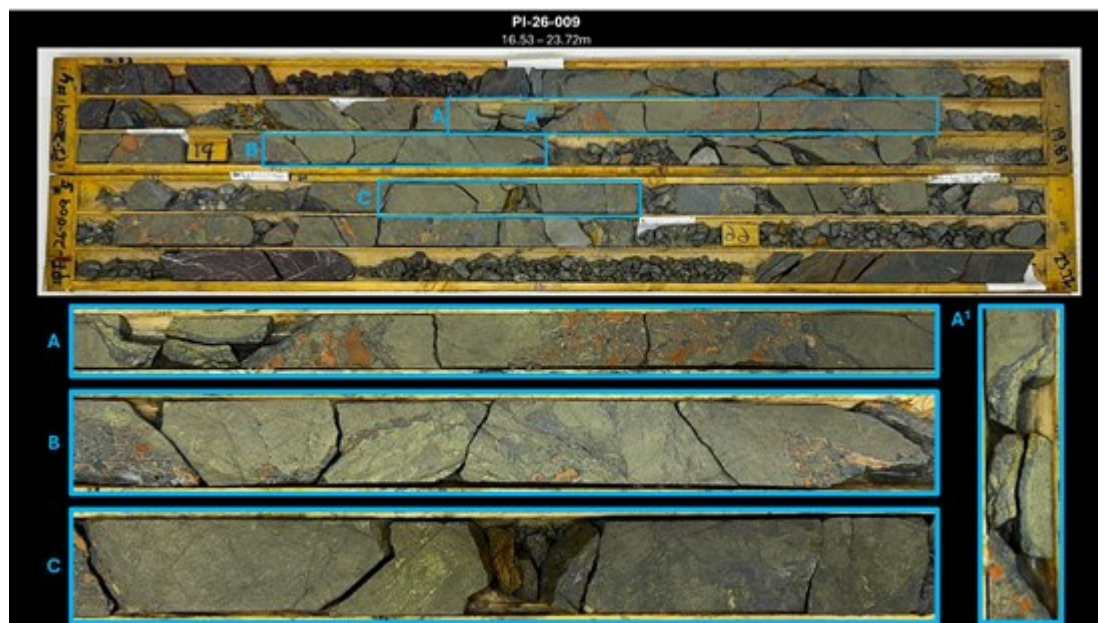


Figure 2 (by HM Exploration): Drill core (upper zone) in hole PI-26-009 from 16.53 – 23.72m downhole. Detailed photo from core box, outlined in blue, highlighting sections of massive chalcopyrite + pyrite sulphide mineralization. See Table 2 for detailed visual descriptions.

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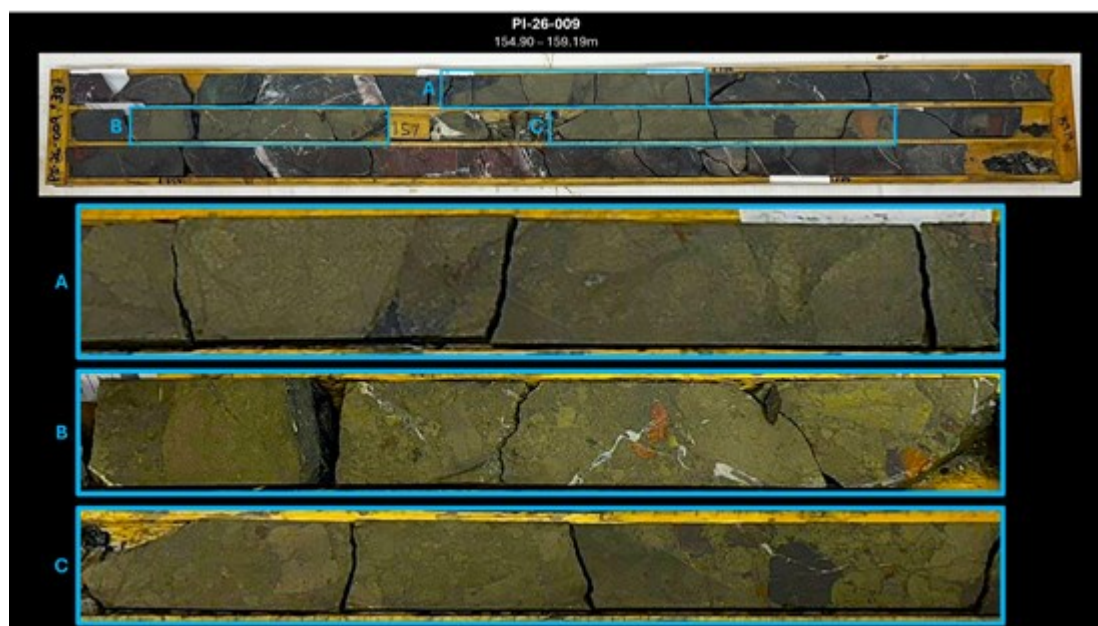


Figure 3 (by HM Exploration): Drill core (lower zone) in hole PI-26-009 from 154.90 – 159.19m downhole. Detailed photo from core box, outlined in blue, highlighting sections of massive chalcopyrite + pyrite sulphide mineralization. See Table 2 for detailed visual descriptions.

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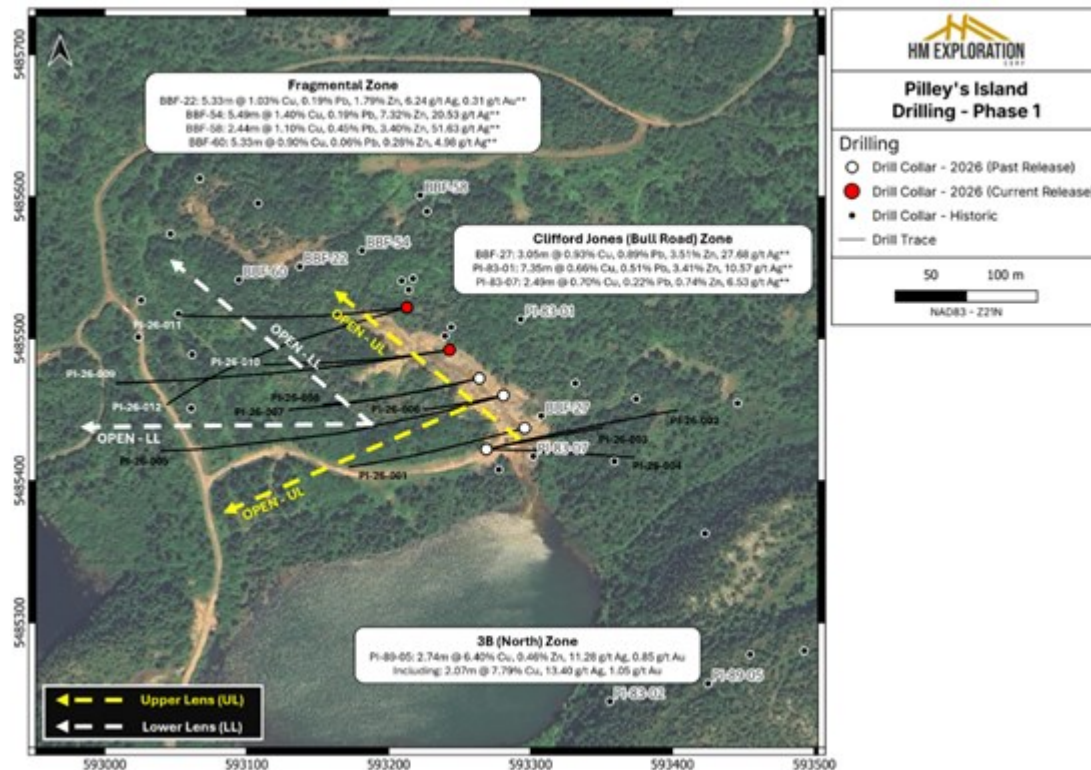
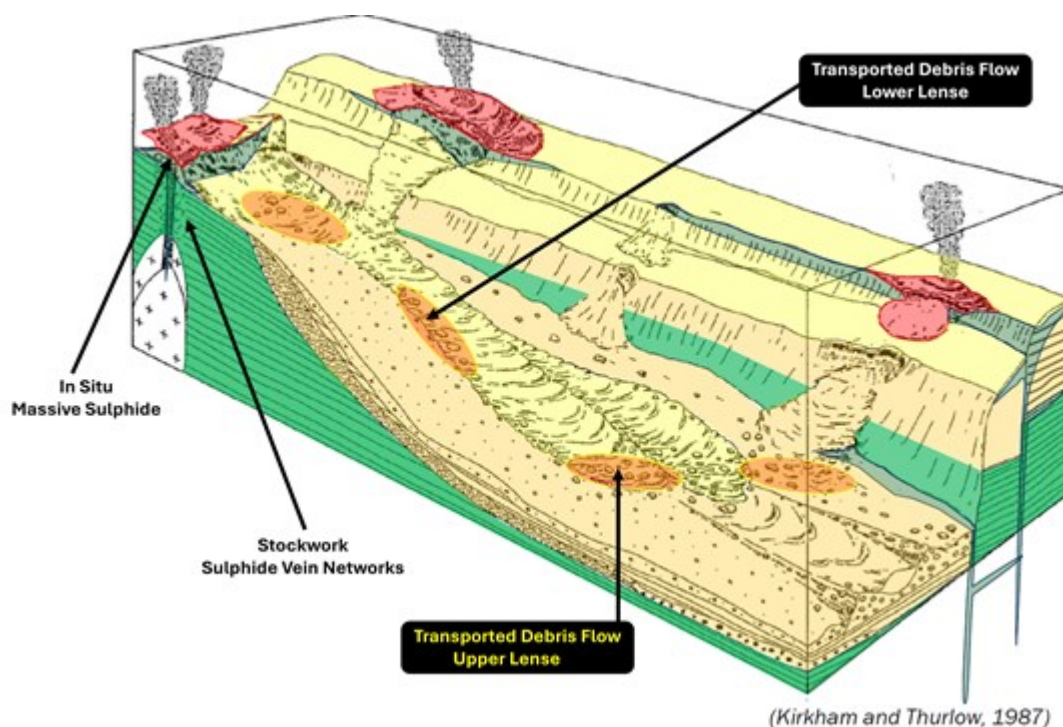


Figure 4 (by HM Exploration): Plan map of 2026 diamond drilling at the Clifford Jones (Bull Road) Zone. 'This Release' drill collars shown as red circles; 'Past Release' drill collars shown as white circles; Historic drill collars shown as black circles. Currently the upper lens (UL) and lower lens (LL) mineralization remains open along strike and at depth.

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(Kirkham and Thurlow, 1987)

Figure 5 (by HM Exploration): Conceptual model of VMS mineralization and the locations of where various types of mineralization may be located within the system. Mineralization intersected at the Clifford Jones Zone appears to be transported from source; however, the angularity of the massive-

sulphide clasts may indicate limited transport distance from the source vent (Modified after Kirkham and Thurlow, 1987).

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Table 1 (by HM Exploration): 2026 drill collar data; Coordinates reported in NAD83 - Zone 21N.

| Hole ID   | East   | North   | Azi | Dip | Depth (m) | Assay Status |
|-----------|--------|---------|-----|-----|-----------|--------------|
| PI-26-001 | 593296 | 5485437 | 255 | -45 | 187.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-002 | 593269 | 5485422 | 75  | -45 | 199.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-003 | 593269 | 5485422 | 75  | -65 | 199.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-004 | 593269 | 5485422 | 90  | -45 | 151.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-005 | 593281 | 5485460 | 255 | -45 | 352.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-006 | 593281 | 5485460 | 255 | -65 | 133.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-007 | 593264 | 5485472 | 255 | -45 | 191.27    | Pending      |
| PI-26-008 | 593264 | 5485472 | 255 | -60 | 220.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-009 | 593243 | 5485492 | 260 | -45 | 341.60    | Pending      |
| PI-26-010 | 593243 | 5485492 | 260 | -60 | 259.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-011 | 593213 | 5485522 | 260 | -50 | 253.00    | Pending      |
| PI-26-012 | 593213 | 5485522 | 235 | -45 | 262.00    | Pending      |

Table 2 (by HM Exploration): Mineralized interval descriptions.

| Hole_ID   | From_m | To_m   | Length_m | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------|--------|--------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PI-26-009 | 17.00  | 18.00  | 1.00     | Matrix-dominated debris flow composed of fragments of sub-rounded to angular clasts of massive sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and felsic ± mafic lithic fragments suspended in a matrix of fine-grained sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                 |
|           | 18.00  | 19.45  | 1.45     | Clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                       |
|           | 19.45  | 20.00  | 0.55     | Matrix-dominated debris flow composed of fragments of sub-rounded to angular clasts of massive sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and felsic ± mafic lithic fragments suspended in a matrix of fine-grained sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                 |
|           | 20.00  | 22.00  | 2.00     | Clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                       |
|           | 22.00  | 22.45  | 0.45     | Sections of fractured clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock |
| PI-26-009 | 155.03 | 155.62 | 0.59     | Patchy sections of predominantly fine-grained disseminated mineralization (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) observed in matrix                                                                                                                                                                    |
|           | 155.62 | 155.98 | 0.36     | Clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                       |
|           | 155.98 | 156.64 | 0.66     | Patchy sections of predominantly fine-grained disseminated mineralization (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) observed in matrix                                                                                                                                                                    |
|           | 156.64 | 157.66 | 1.02     | Clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                       |
| PI-26-010 | 141.81 | 143.07 | 1.26     | Matrix-dominated debris flow composed of fragments of sub-rounded to angular clasts of massive sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and felsic ± mafic lithic fragments suspended in a matrix of fine-grained sulphide (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                 |
|           | 143.07 | 145.90 | 2.83     | Clast-dominated debris zone predominantly consisting of sub-rounded to angular fragments of massive sulphide composed of Cpy + Py ± Sph ± Gn suspended in interstitial fine-grained disseminated sulphides (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) and milled felsic ± mafic rock                       |
| PI-26-011 | 143.57 | 144.94 | 1.37     | Patchy sections of predominantly fine-grained disseminated mineralization (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) observed in matrix                                                                                                                                                                    |
| PI-26-012 | 22.32  | 23.15  | 0.83     | Patchy sections of predominantly fine-grained disseminated mineralization (Py + Cpy ± Sph ± Gn) observed in matrix                                                                                                                                                                    |

## **Geology & Mineralization (as stated by HM Exploration)**

The Project is located within the Notre Dame Subzone of the Dunnage Tectonostratigraphic Zone. Of note, most of the Project is underlain by Ordovician submarine volcanic rocks of the Roberts Arm Group which is regionally identified as part of a mature arc sequence referred to as the Buchans-Roberts Arm Belt that also hosts the historic Buchans mine (after Dunning *et Al.*, 1987). Mineralization occurs as lower grade (Spencer's Dock); medium grade (Old Mines); and high grade (3B-Zone/Clifford Jones) deposits that are of both sub-seafloor replacement and exhalative varieties. The deposits are often flanked by extensive chlorite, sericite, silica, K-feldspar and epidote alteration often observed in bimodal-felsic VMS systems. The Spencer's Dock area displays sericite/silica alteration that generally increases in intensity near mineralized zones, while the 3B/Old Mine areas display sericite/silica alteration that is abundant but less widespread and is more intense when proximal to mineralized zones (after Kerr, 1996).

VMS deposits are a globally significant source of copper, zinc, lead, silver, and gold. The Project's geology shares key characteristics with known Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide ("**VMS**") districts in Newfoundland, including the past producing Buchans, Ming and Rambler Mines, supporting the exploration potential of the Project.

## **About the Lewis Pilley's Project (as stated by HM Exploration)**

The Project is road accessible and situated approximately twenty-five (25) km east of the town of Springdale, approximately fifty-five (55) km southeast of Firefly Metals' Green Bay Project and approximately one hundred fifty (150) km from the Pine Cove Mill and Port by way of major roads (Figure 6).

The Project has a long history of mining and exploration dating back to the late 1800s when the Pilley's Island Pyrite Company Ltd. produced approximately 450,000 tonnes of massive pyritic ore from the Pilley's Island Mine-Old Mines (after Kerr, 1996).

The Project hosts a cluster of VMS systems and prospects with demonstrated high-grade Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag+/-Au intersections. Mineralization is typical bimodal-felsic VMS, with both massive sulphide and sulphide-clast breccias (Thurlow, 1996). The geological setting is directly analogous to the Buchans camp (Thurlow, 1996), and the presence of sulphide-clast breccias is a strong vector toward proximal massive sulphide lens.

Most of the historic showings that fall within the extent of the Project have not seen systematic exploration. Many of the historic drill holes were shallow and drilled in a vertical orientation limiting the geological knowledge of the extents of the underlying lithology and mineralization. Work is being planned to validate historic assay results as well as collect new data from the 3B-Zone, Clifford Jones (Bull Road) Extension, Bouzanne Shaft, Henderson, Mansfield and Pilley's Cove Showings.

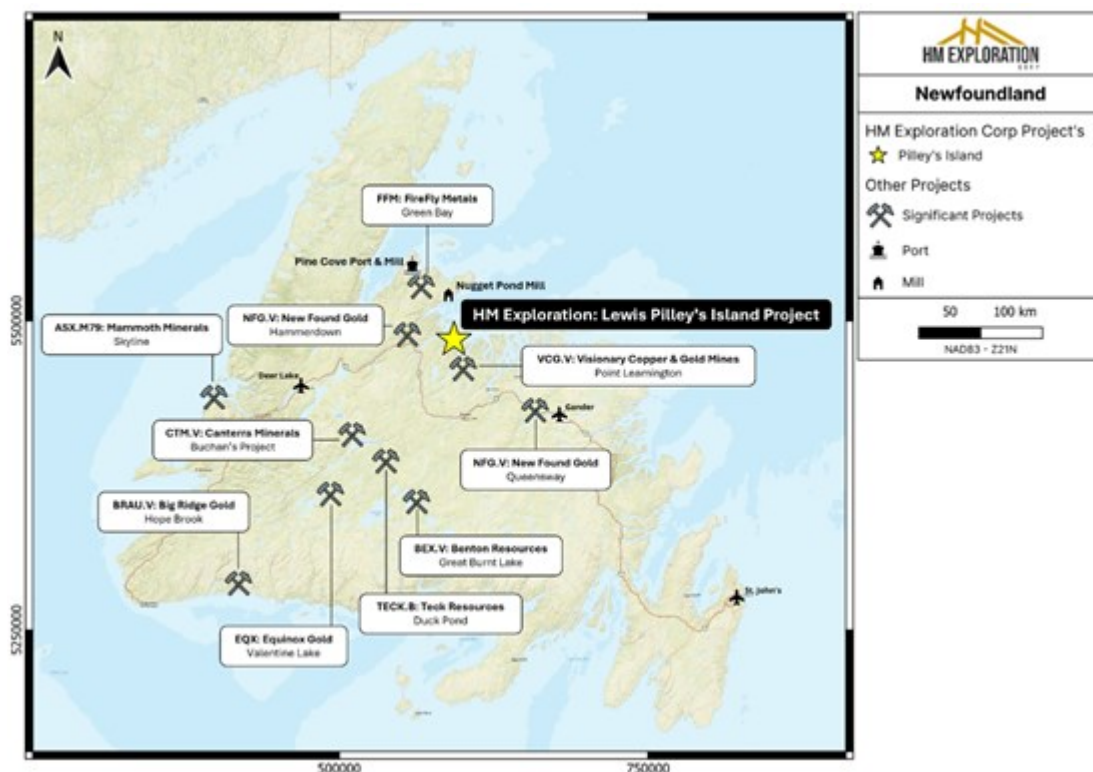


Figure 6 (by HM Exploration): Regional map of Newfoundland displaying the location of the Property and other significant mineral exploration and mining projects in Newfoundland – Canada.

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### Sampling, Preparation & QA/QC (as stated by HM Exploration)

Drill collar locations were determined from hand-held GPS (NAD83-Zone 21N) and the drill rig was aligned using a Reflex TN-14 Gyrocompass alignment tool. All samples are given a unique sample ID and number and shipped directly to Eastern Analytical Ltd. (403 Little Bay Road, Springdale, NL), a commercial laboratory that is ISO/IEC 17025 accredited and completely independent of the HM Exploration and Great Atlantic. Analytical methods include ICP-OES (34 element) with four-acid digestion, Au Fire Assay (30g) with AA finish, and Ore Grade Assay (multi-acid digestion) with AA finish. The Company inserts standard, blank, and duplicate samples as part of its standard QA/QC procedures.

### National Instrument 43-101 Disclosure (as stated by HM Exploration)

Nicholas Rodway, P.Geo, (Licence# 46541) (Permit to Practice# 1000359) is CEO and Director of the HM Exploration, and a qualified person as defined by National Instrument 43-101- *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects*. Mr. Rodway has supervised the preparation, verified and approved the technical content in this news release. Verification included review of drill logs, sample tags, chain of custody procedures and analytical protocols. No limitations were noted during the verification process.

### References

- Dunning, G.R., Kean, B.F., Thurlow, J.G and Swinden, H.S. (1987): *Geochronology of the Buchans, Roberts Arm and Victoria Lake Groups and Mansfield Cove Complex, Newfoundland*. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, Volume 24, pages 1175-1184.
- Kerr, A. (1996) *New perspectives on the stratigraphy, volcanology, and structure of the island-arc volcanic rocks in the Ordovician Roberts Arm Group, Notre Dame Bay*. In *Current Research, Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Report 96-1*, pages 283-310.
- Thurlow, J.G (1996): *Geology of a newly discovered cluster of blind massive sulphide deposits, Pilley's Island, central Newfoundland*. In *Current Research, Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Report 96-1*, pages 181- 189.

David Martin, P.Geo., (New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador), a Qualified Person as defined

by NI 43-101 and VP Exploration for Great Atlantic, reviewed and approved the technical information contained in this News Release. Great Atlantic has not verified sulphide bearing drill core intervals stated in this news release.

On Behalf of the board of directors

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