

Energia appoints highly experienced operations executive to lead Gorno Zinc Project development

Energia Minerals Ltd (**ASX: EMX** or “Energia”) is pleased to announce the appointment of highly experienced Australian mining executive **Graeme Collins** to the newly-created role of Director of Operations - Italy to oversee the development of its flagship **Gorno Zinc Project** in northern Italy.

Mr Collins has an impressive 30-year career in the mining industry in both open cut and underground mining operations, including production, project development, mine planning, contractor management, safety & training, environmental management, project feasibility, budgeting and financial analysis.

He joins Energia from his most recent role as General Manager Operations for Wolfram Camp Mining Pty Ltd, where he managed a wolframite mine in Queensland.

Previously, he spent almost a decade with base metals miner Kagara Limited, commencing as Project Manager for the Mt Garnet Zinc Project before playing an instrumental role as Operations Manager and later Chief Operating Officer in that company’s growth from a junior to a \$1.2 billion, multi-mine base metals producer.

Earlier in his career, he held numerous senior operational roles including as Project Manager at the Eloise Copper Mine for Amalg Resources, Mine Manager at Tolokuma Gold Mines in PNG for Dome Resources, Mine Manager at the Mt McClure Gold Mine and Resident Mine Manager for the Bellevue Gold Project.

He also previously held senior positions with Pancontinental Mining and Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australasia.

Energia’s Managing Director Kim Robinson said the Company was delighted to have secured someone of Graeme’s experience and capability in all facets of mine planning, development and operations to join the Energia team.

“Having worked with Graeme for nearly a decade through the rapid growth of Kagara to become a substantial Queensland base metals miner, I can attest to his enormous operational experience and capability, his passion, his hands-on approach and his appetite for hard work,” Mr Robinson said.

“I can think of no one better equipped to lead the Gorno Zinc Project through

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resource development, feasibility and into development as a high-quality, high-grade underground zinc mine,” he said.

“Graeme will be relocating to Italy next year to take on this important role, and we are very much looking forward to what we know will be his very significant contribution to the Company.”

Energia is currently in the final stages of completing its previously announced A\$8.15 million funding package for the Gorno Project, with a \$2.15 million underwritten rights issue due to be finalised today.

Contracts for rehabilitation of existing underground and access are due to be awarded shortly as well, with activities scheduled to commence on site in the second week of January 2015. Mr Collins will commence with Energia at this time.

About Gorno

The funding package will enable Energia to fast-track resource definition and embark on a Feasibility Study for the Gorno Project, putting the Company in a strong position in achieving its aim of becoming a significant ASX-listed zinc company over the next few years.

Gorno was mined by ENI until the early-1980s, when mining ceased due to a Government directive to ENI to focus on its oil and gas operations, not because of any financial or resource-related issues. The project, which produced 6 million tonnes historically at an average grade of 14.5% Zn, has well-developed underground mine infrastructure.

Should the impending resource definition program and Feasibility Study determine the project to be commercially viable, the cost and time involved in bringing Gorno back into production will be relatively low compared to other projects, mainly comprising the cost of installing a new mill.

Key upcoming activities include a planned €3.3 million exploration program including 710m of additional underground development and 4,400m of underground diamond drilling. This is designed to convert 3-5Mt the current Exploration Target for the Gorno deposit of 6-10Mt grading 7-10% Zn + Pb into a JORC 2012 compliant Mineral Resource. As a cautionary note, this Exploration Target is conceptual in nature and has yet to be fully drill tested. There has been insufficient exploration (i.e. drill testing) to define a mineral resource estimate which could be reported in accordance with the JORC 2012 code and it is uncertain if future exploration will result in the determination of a mineral resource within the project.

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