

MEDIA RELEASE

24 APRIL, 2006

NORTHERN STAR LAUNCHES 2006 FIELD SEASON

DRILLING TO TARGET GOLD, NICKEL AND PLATINUM AND NEW URANIUM EXPLORATION INITIATIVE ANNOUNCED FOR THE EAST KIMBERLEY

Northern Star Resources Ltd (**ASX: NST**) today announced the commencement of a wide-ranging 2006 exploration field season in the East Kimberley region of WA, with initial drilling focussed on priority gold, nickel sulphide and platinum targets. The drilling, scheduled to start in early May, will include follow up of last year's outstanding high-grade intersections at its **Wilson River Project**.

In addition, as part of one of the most active field seasons in the Company's history, Northern Star today also announced plans to assess the uranium potential of a number of East Kimberley projects. This follows a comprehensive review of previous exploration during the wet season, which highlighted anomalous uranium mineralisation in a number of areas.

The 2006 exploration field season will kick off in the first week of May with a 5,000 metre program of reverse circulation (RC) and aircore drilling covering key gold, nickel and platinum prospect areas. The initial focus will include a 2,000 metre RC drilling program at the **Range Prospect**, part of the Wilson River Project, to follow up the emerging epithermal gold potential of this area.

Drilling at the Range Prospect last year returned outstanding high-grade intercepts including **5m @ 15.08g/t Au** and **34.94g/t silver** from 23m, **6.15m @ 10.48g/t gold** and **45.03g/t silver** from 21.5m and **3.65m @ 2.45g/t Au** and **1.23g/t Ag** from 6.35m.

"These were considered to be very significant results for reconnaissance exploration, and confirmed the potential for the Range Prospect area, and the region in general, to host low sulphidation-style epithermal gold deposits," commented Northern Star's Managing Director, Mr Charles Wilkinson. "The next stage of exploration will focus on drilling to further evaluate the mineralisation already intersected, as well as to determine the overall scale and potential of the mineralised system."

Mr Wilkinson said the silicified quartz veins identified at the Range and Hunter Prospects within the Wilson River Project were analogous to the style of mineralisation in Queensland's Drummond Basin, which hosts the multi-million ounce Pajingo-Vera-Nancy and Cracow deposits.

The key nickel component of the 2006 program comprises an initial program of 800m of RC drilling at the **West Robin Prospect**, part of Northern Star's Springvale Project, 45km north of Halls Creek, targeting electromagnetic anomalies identified by ground geophysical surveys. A moving loop EM survey completed last year identified a number of conductors which represent priority exploration targets for nickel sulphide mineralisation.

Mr Wilkinson said the limited strike length of the electromagnetic anomalies, the associated geochemistry and ultramafic lithologies indicated a high probability that the conductors are sourced by sulphides.

Northern Star will also carry out a 2,000 metre program of aircore and RC drilling to follow up the significant platinum mineralisation intersected last year at the **Bond Prospect**, part of the Red Billabong Project. RC drilling returned an intersection of **9m @ 0.3g/t platinum, 0.4g/t palladium and 0.06g/t gold (0.78g/t PGE+Au)** from 26m including **1m @ 1.08g/t Pt, 1.3g/t Pd, 0.11g/t Au (2.49g/t PGE+Au)**, confirming the presence of significant platinum mineralisation.

URANIUM EXPLORATION INITIATIVE

Northern Star has added a new dimension to its 2006 exploration field season with the announcement that it will assess the potential of a number of areas within its East Kimberley portfolio to host economic uranium mineralisation.

The decision follows a review of the mineral potential of the East Kimberley district conducted by Northern Star during the wet season. The review highlighted a number of prospect areas with highly anomalous uranium mineralisation, as identified from previous exploration. These include rock chip samples assaying **1.23% U₃O₈**, **0.76% U₃O₈** and **0.38% U₃O₈** within the Dunham Project, **0.15% U₃O₈** within the Wilson River Project and **0.157% U₃O₈** from the Tunganary Project.

Mr Wilkinson said that the review of historical exploration open files also indicated that no drilling had been conducted in the areas where elevated uranium values were returned from reconnaissance exploration.

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Information in this announcement is based on information compiled by Mr CS Wilkinson, MAusIMM, Managing Director of the Company, who is a competent person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Wilkinson has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which is being undertaken, and consents to the inclusion in the announcement of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

Background

Northern Star Resources Ltd was formed in May 2000 to explore for and develop mineral resources in the largely under-explored, highly prospective Kimberley region of Western Australia.

The Company successfully raised \$5 million through an oversubscribed Initial Public Offer, listing on the ASX on 17 December 2003.

The emergence of successful Australian nickel miner, Jubilee Mines NL, as a major shareholder and appointment of two senior Jubilee executives, Mr Gary Lethridge and Mr Neville Bergin, as non-executive directors, brought a wealth of knowledge and potential ongoing support to assist Northern Star in achieving its objectives.

Northern Star manages a large strategic tenement position covering 4,200 km² in the East Kimberley region. All tenements are 100% beneficially owned by Northern Star, subject to a 1% net smelter return to Biscay Resources Pty Ltd (the current holder of the tenements and controlled by founding members of Northern Star). The Company's project groups are centred on Halls Creek in the East Kimberley and are highly prospective for nickel-copper-cobalt and platinum group metals mineralisation, as well as gold, diamonds and base metals.

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