### ARGENT MINERALS LIMITED and its controlled entities

A.B.N. 89 124 780 276

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

### **Corporate Information**

**DIRECTORS** 

Peter Wall - Non-Executive Chairman

George Karageorge - Managing Director/CEO

Emmanuel Correia – Non-Executive Director

Peter Michael - Non-Executive Director

Stuart Till - Non-Executive Director

**COMPANY SECRETARY** 

Vinodkumar Manikandan

**Emmanuel Correia** 

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS AND REGISTERED Brisbane QLD 4000

Level 2, 66 Hunter Street

Sydney NSW 2000

Australia

T: 02 9300 3390

F: 02 9921 6333

E: admin@argentminerals.com.au

W: www.argentminerals.com.au

ABN: 89 124 780 276

**ASX CODES:** 

ARD (ordinary shares)

ARDOA (options)

ARDOB (options)

**SOLICITORS** 

Steinepreis Paganin

Level 4, The Read Buildings

16 Milligan Street

Perth, WA 6000

**AUDITORS** 

**KPMG** 

Level 16, Riparian Plaza

71 Eagle Street

**SHARE REGISTRY** 

Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited

Level 3, 60 Carrington Street

Sydney, NSW 2000

Australia

T: 1300 850 505

F: +61 3 9473 2500

### Contents

	Highlights	1
	Operations Review	2
	Directors' Report	6
	Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration	10
	Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	11
	Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Financial Position	12
	Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Cash Flows	13
	Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Changes in Equity	14
	Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements	15
	Directors' Declaration	21
	Independent Auditor's Review Report to the Members of Argent Minerals Limited	22
	5	
2		

### Argent Minerals Limited and its controlled entities Highlights

Argent Minerals Limited ('Argent' or the 'Company') has concluded the first half of the 2020 financial year with significant advancement of the West Wyalong Porphyry, Pine Ridge Gold Mine and divestment of the Sunny Corner project.

Highlights of this period include:

#### **EXPLORATION**

#### **Pine Ridge Gold Mine**

- Geophysical survey completed over the historic Pine Ridge Gold Mine and entire tenement.
  - Silver Mines Limited and Alkane Resources Limited completed their independent geophysical survey over adjoining tenements with a shared cost arrangement with Argent.
- Pine Ridge project drilling programme
  - NSW Government Resources Regulator approval received for the extension infill RC drilling programme over the Pine Ridge Gold Mine.
  - Drill targets review pending imminent geophysical survey report.

#### **West Wyalong**

- Geophysical survey completed over 22.5 km<sup>2</sup>.
  - Six new targets identified.
  - West Wyalong porphyry copper gold project drilling programme approval process underway.

#### **Sunny Corner**

Sunny Corner project sale agreement in progress.

#### Kempfield

- Kempfield project drilling programme.
  - The existing regulatory approvals in place will enable the Company to fast track drilling project.

#### **CORPORATE**

- \$1,901,350 before costs raised through private placement.
- New \$0.025 options listed under ASX ticker ARDOB.
- Appointment of George Karageorge as the new Managing Director/CEO.
- AusIndustry Internal Independent Review and Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 2015/16 and 2016/17 R&D tax incentive claims.
- Cash position \$1,647,796.

#### **Exploration**

#### PINE RIDGE GOLD MINE

#### GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY PINE RIDGE GOLD MINE COMPLETED

Argent completed the airborne magnetic and radiometric geophysical survey over the historic Pine Ridge Gold Mine on 8 December 2019.

The historical Pine Ridge Gold Mine lies within EL8213, located 80km south of Orange in New South Wales, and within 10km of the Argent Minerals Limited Kempfield Polymetallic Deposit.

The Pine Ridge area consists of a series of historic hard rock gold mines which operated from the 1820's until the 1940's and produced grades in excess of 250g/t Au (NSW Government reports). Recent diamond drilling conducted by Argent confirmed the position and tenor of gold mineralisation that was reported in historic drill intersections and produced 19m @ 3.2g/t Au from 98.4m, including 1m @ 40.7 g/t Au from 106m in APDD031.

The Heli-borne geophysical survey flew in excess of 645-line kilometres across the entire tenement area of EL8213 (Pine Ridge) at a line spacing of 100m and was flown at approximately 30m height. The survey data collected is being annotated in the Geophysical Interpretation Report which will assist in infill and extension targets for the approved Phase 2 RC Drill Hole Programme.

#### GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY SHARED COST AND ADJOINING TENEMENT HOLDERS

In early November 2019, Argent along with Silver Mines Limited and Alkane Resources agreed to share mobilisation and associated operating costs to jointly save expenditure for the survey.

Initial discussions have commenced with Silver Mines Limited to share data sets once both companies receive their independent Geophysicist's Interpreted Data Reports. Silver Mines Limited is the adjoining tenement holder of the Tuena Project (gold-silver) EL8526.

#### NSW REGULATORY APPROVAL PINE RIDGE DRILLING PROGRAMME

On 6 December 2019, the NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment notified Argent that it had approved the Phase 2 RC Drill Programme over the Pine Ridge Gold Mine. Once the Geophysical Interpretation Report is reviewed, Argent will design upgraded drill targets and prepare drill pads for commencement of the Phase 2 RC Drilling Programme.

#### WEST WYALONG PROJECT

#### WEST WYALONG PORPHYRY GOLD COPPER MOLYBDENUM UPDATE

On 26 August 2019, Argent announced the results of geophysical exploration activities performed by the Company at its majority-owned (78%) West Wyalong exploration Porphyry Cu-Au- Mo Project in central NSW.

Argent identified six new drill targets through a 22.5 km2, 2,200 station ground gravity geophysical survey and subsequent 3D inversion modelling by combining the Company's substantial data base on the project. The database includes results from the Company's 2017 drilling programme, the 2014 high resolution airborne magnetic survey, extensive basement geochemical data and historical induced polarisation (IP) survey data.

The most recent drill programme design was completed late in December 2019 for the proposed West Wyalong Discovery Drilling Programme at target areas Hyperion, Theia and Narragudgil.

Argent has reviewed all data on hand implementing a target rationale generated by the 3D inversion modelling. Following this, Argent's team used an assessment matrix measuring the copper, gold, molybdenum, magnetic gravity intensity, chargeability and alteration mineralogical data on hand to generate the upgraded targets.

#### SUNNY CORNER PROJECT

#### SUNNY CORNER SILVER MINE SALE AGREEMENT

The Company announced the sale of the historic Sunny Corner Silver Mine on Exploration Licence 5964 to Sunshine Reclamation Pty Ltd (SRP).

The Company and SRP entered into a binding agreement where SRP will pay Argent \$540,000 in instalments by 17 October 2020 as below.

- a. A non-refundable payment of \$30,000 (initial deposit) on execution of the binding term sheet (which has been paid). Argent then paid this deposit to Golden Cross Operations (GCO) to dissolve the original JV between GCO and Argent and to get GCO to transfer its 30% legal and beneficial interest in Exploration Licence 5964 into Sunny Silver Pty Ltd.
- A non-refundable payment of \$110,000 (commitment payment) (which the parties acknowledge includes \$10,000 as reimbursement of cash security with the regulator), This payment shall be the means by which SRP shall communicate its election to complete this transaction and;
- c. A subsequent and non-refundable payment \$400,000 to Argent's nominated bank account (Final Payment) as a remaining obligation of SRP falling due and payable by 17 October 2020.

The Commitment Payment was paid by SRP to Argent on 17 December 2019 and Argent is in the process of transferring the remaining 70% interest in the Exploration licence 5964 to Sunny Silver Pty Ltd. Argent will register a security on the Personal Property Security Register (PPSR) and with the Regulator (Security Registration) before the legal and beneficial interest in Sunny Silver Pty Ltd is transferred from Argent to SRP. Argent will be free carried for any current and planned expenditure by SRP.

Upon receiving the final payment, Argent shall do all things necessary to discharge both the security interest created by Security Deed and Security Registration. If SRP does not make the Final Payment by 17 October 2020, Argent will then take ownership of 100% interest in Sunny Silver Pty Ltd and in turn will own 100% of Exploration Licence 5964.

#### ABOUT SUNSHINE RECLAMATION PTY LTD AND ARGENT

Sunshine Reclamation Pty Ltd is a mine reclamation and rehabilitation group specialising in complex environmental and metallurgical problems. The main Sunny Corner mine is a contaminated site with significant acid mine drainage and metal contamination issues. It has a mining history going back almost 150 years and has been classified as a derelict mine site under the Mining Act 1992.

Sunshine Reclamation plans to process the contaminated waste from the site and ameliorate the acid mine drainage as part of its site reclamation.

The Sunny Corner project has a small resource compared to the Company's Kempfield Silver Project (which is more than 20 times larger) and the Kempfield deposit has less complicated metallurgy with no legacy issues. The West Wyalong and Pine Ridge projects offer potential significant upside and Sunny Corner was considered a lower priority project. The opportunity to divest this project for a significant sum is opportune and provides additional capital to commit towards Argent's core projects.

As SRP is not an exploration or mining company, potential future collaboration exists for Argent and SRP regarding exploration targets within the exploration licence or to re-acquire the project once reclamation has been undertaken. This deal allows Argent to participate in improving the environment and addressing our industry's historic legacies while keeping the Company's options open for future exploration and realise capital during this important time for the Company.

#### KEMPFIELD PROJECT

#### KEMPFIELD PROJECT DRILLING PROGRAMME

Kempfield Stage 3A Drilling Programme was reviewed late November subsequent to a reconnaissance site visit in early October. The new drilling programme will have up to 22 RC Drill hole versus 7 diamond drill holes targeting the Cu-Au footwall and feeder zone areas to the west of the known deposit.

#### **CORPORATE**

#### PRIVATE PLACEMENT RAISES \$1.9 MILLION

On 25 October 2019, Argent Completed a Private Placement Offer to sophisticated investors that raised \$1,901,350 before costs.

A total of 90,540,475 new fully paid ordinary shares were issued at \$2.1 cents per share (Placement Shares), 22,635,119 attaching listed options (ASX: ARDOA) on a 1:4 basis and 90,540,475 new attaching listed options on a 1:1 basis (ASX: ARDOB).

#### ARDOB - NEW CLASS OF QUOTED OPTIONS

The new 90,540,475 ARDOB options offered under the Placement Offer were quoted on the ASX on 30 October 2019 under the ticker code ARDOB.

The ARDOB Options have an exercise price of \$0.025 each and are exercisable at any time on or before 5.00 pm (AEST) on 29 October 2020.

#### **CASH POSITION**

Argent's cash position as at 31 December 2019 was \$1,647,796.

#### APPOINTMENT OF NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR/CEO

On 21 October 2019 the Argent board announced the appointment of George Karageorge as the Company's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.

George is a geologist and a rare, base and precious metal expert with over 25 years' experience in the mining sector. He has worked in senior technical and executive management roles for exploration and mining companies across the globe including Western Mining Corporation, ASARCO, Anglo Gold Ashanti, Barrick

Mines, and Bluebird Battery Metals.

George is best known for his role as one of the founding geologists and the first registered alternate mine manager of Pilbara Minerals (ASX: PLS), where he was instrumental in the discovery of the Pilgangoora Lithium and Tantalum deposits. His role was paramount in developing the project from the first drill hole through to the first lithium concentrate and he was part of the project team that took the company into production, helping it grow it into a \$1.5 B market cap mining company in less than 4 years.

#### AUS INDUSTRY FINDINGS AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS TRIBUNAL

Argent received advice in January 2019 from AusIndustry (as the Delegate of Innovation and Science Australia) in relation to its review of the R&D Tax Incentive claims made by the Company for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years (R&D Tax Claims), advising that the activities were not eligible for the R&D Tax Incentive.

Subsequent to this, the Company then requested an internal review of the negative finding. The internal review was conducted by AusIndustry's Victorian Branch. The internal review was completed, and the Company was notified that all of the activities registered in 2015/16 and 2016/17 R&D Tax claims were not eligible for the Research and Development Tax Incentive.

The Company remains of the view that the R&D claims were made in compliance with the applicable legislation and is now evaluating its options. The Company notes that the decision is a reviewable decision and that the Company has chosen to apply to the Administrative Appeal Tribunal (AAT) for a review of this decision.

#### **COMPETENT PERSON STATEMENTS**

#### PREVIOUSLY RELEASED INFORMATION

This ASX announcement contains information extracted from the following reports which are available for viewing on the Company's website <a href="http://www.argentminerals.com.au">http://www.argentminerals.com.au</a>

- 27 July 2017 Copper and Gold in West Wyalong Porphyry Final Assays<sup>1</sup>
- 26 August 2019 Maiden Pine Ridge Results Significant Intercept Recorded<sup>1</sup>
- 15 November 2019 Airborne Survey Over Old Pine Ridge Gold Mine<sup>1</sup>
- 23 December 2019 Argent AusIndustry Review Findings

#### Competent Person:

#### Clifton Todd McGilvray

The Company confirms it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcements and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, Exploration Targets, and historical Pre-JORC Code mineralization estimates ('Historical Estimates'), that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcements continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

The Directors are pleased to submit their report on Argent Minerals Limited ("Argent" or "the Company") and its consolidated entities ("the Group") for the half-year ended 31 December 2019.

#### **DIRECTORS**

The names of the directors who held office during or since the end of half- year are:

Peter Wall LLB BComm MAppFin FFin Non-Executive Chairman

Appointed: 23 April 2018.

Mr Wall is a corporate lawyer and has been a Partner at Steinepreis Paganin (Perth based corporate law firm) since July 2005. Mr Wall graduated from the University of Western Australia in 1998 with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce (Finance). He has also completed a Master of Applied Finance and Investment with FINSIA.

Mr Wall has a wide range of experience in all forms of commercial and corporate law, with a particular focus on resources (hard rock and oil/gas), technology companies, equity capital markets and mergers and acquisitions. He also has significant experience in dealing in cross border transactions.

During the past three years he has also served on the board of the following listed companies:

Company	Date of Appointment	Date of Resignation
Minbos Resources Limited	February 2014	Not Applicable
MMJ PhytoTech Limited	August 2014	Not Applicable
MyFiziq Ltd	May 2015	Not Applicable
Transcendence Technologies Limited	October 2015	Not Applicable
Pursuit Minerals Limited	January 2016	Not Applicable
Sky & Space Global Ltd	October 2015	4 December 2018
Bronson Group Limited	June 2017	5 August 2019
Activistic Ltd	June 2015	February 2018
Zyber Holdings Limited	January 2015	January 2018
Ookami Limited	October 2015	January 2018

George Karageorge BAppSc. Geology, MAusIMM Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

Appointed: 21 October 2019

Mr Karageorge is a geologist and is a rare, base and precious metal exploration expert with over 25 years' experience in the mining sector. He has worked in senior technical and executive management roles for exploration and mining companies across the globe, including Western Mining Corporation, ASARCO, Anglo Gold Ashanti, Barrick Mines, Pilbara Minerals and Bluebird Battery Metals.

Mr Karageorge has had multiple management and technical roles as Project Geologist, Project Manager, and most recently President and Chief Executive Officer of TSX listed company Bluebird Battery Metals. He has extensive expertise in taking projects from exploration through to development and production stages.

Mr. Karageorge is best known for his role as the founding geologist and registered mine manager of lithium producer, Pilbara Minerals Limited (ASX: PLS). He was instrumental in the discovery of the Pilbara Minerals multi-Billion Dollar Pilgangoora Lithium and Tantalum Deposit. His role was paramount in developing the project from the first drill hole through to the first Lithium Concentrate, taking the company into production and growing it into a A\$1.5B market cap mining company in less than 4 years.

In addition to his technical and corporate leadership roles, Mr. Karageorge has occupied the position of company director for a number of private, public listed and unlisted public companies over the last 30 years. He holds a Bachelor Degree, BAppSc. (Geology) and is a senior member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AUSIMM).

#### EMMANUEL CORREIA BBus, CA

Non-Executive Director and Joint Company Secretary

Appointed: 6 December 2017.

Mr Emmanuel Correia has over 25 years' public company and corporate finance experience in Australia, North America and the United Kingdom and is a founding director of Peloton Capital and Peloton Advisory.

Mr Correia is an experienced public company director/officer and, prior to establishing Peloton Capital in 2011, he was a founder and major shareholder of Cardrona Capital which specialised in providing advisory services to the small/mid cap market in Australia. Cardrona was acquired by a UK backed private advisory firm seeking advisory capabilities in Australia.

Mr Correia has also held various senior positions with Deloitte and other boutique corporate finance houses. Mr Correia's key areas of expertise include IPOs, secondary capital raisings, corporate strategy, structuring, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance.

Mr Correia is currently a non-executive director of Canyon Resources Limited. Mr Correia is also the Company Secretary of Bluglass Limited.

During the past three years he served on the board of the following listed companies:

Company	Date of Appointment	Date of Resignation
Canyon Resources Limited	July 2016	Not Applicable
Orminex Limited	April 2018	August 2019

#### PETER MICHAEL

Non-Executive Director

Appointed: 16 September 2015.

Peter has over 20 years' experience in the property sector encompassing the arrangement and execution of commercial and residential property transactions, land development, construction and joint venture operations utilising an extensive network of contacts throughout Australia.

Peter is currently the Managing Director of a private aged care business, a private property development business and privately-owned Real Estate Agency. Peter is also the Managing Director of a private investment firm, based in Subiaco, specialising in developing resource exploration companies. He is also a director of a not for profit group that specialises in delivering exercise programs for people with diabetes in WA and Vanuatu.

### STUART TILL BApp Sc. Geology, MAusIMM Non-Executive Director

Appointed: 6 March 2020.

Mr Till has more than 35 years' experience as a successful geologist in mineral exploration and mining for numerous commodities including, but not limited to, precious metals, base metals and industrial minerals.

For the last 12 years Mr Till has been a consultant and director to numerous companies. He has held roles as an Exploration Manager with Thor Mining PLC & Consultant Chief Geologist with Tennant Creek Gold, Davenport Resources, Orion Minerals, Bardoc Gold, and more recently Chief Geologist for Pilbara Minerals during the DFS resource definition of the world class Pilgangoora Lithium deposit.

TIM HRONSKY B.Eng (Geology) Mausimm, MSEG Non-Executive Director
Appointed 6 December 2017.
Resigned 6 March 2020.

Mr Tim Hronsky is a geologist with 30 years of international experience in the mining and exploration industry. Tim has had a strong focus on precious metals, base metals and nickel exploration. He is highly experienced in exploration targeting and management. Previously, Tim spent 18 years with Placer Dome Inc, one of the largest gold companies in the world at that time.

Tim has extensive global consulting experience within the mining industry, providing clients with value-adding solutions. He worked in the fields of business improvement, strategic management and sustainable development demonstrating a track record in establishing new businesses and creating value in the early phases of exploration in Junior mining company development.

Tim has strong conceptual and analytical skills and has been able to integrate geological exploration and operational information to create unique technical and commercial solutions.

During the past three years he served on the board of the following listed company:

Company	Date of Appointment	Date of Resignation
St George Mining Limited	November 2009	2 January 2019

#### VINOD MANIKANDAN B.Comm, CPA, GradDipACG Joint Company Secretary

Appointed: 4 November 2015.

Vinod Manikandan graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Mahatma Gandhi University and also attained a Graduate Certificate of Professional Accounting from Deakin University. He has completed his post graduate studies in Applied Corporate Governance and is a member of CPA Australia. For the past three years, Vinod has provided financial reporting, accounting and company secretarial services to a range of public listed companies in Australia.

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Group has been undergoing a review by AusIndustry in relation to the R&D claims it made for the 2016 and 2017 financial years totaling \$1,402,997.

On 23 December 2019, Argent announced that the AusIndustry Independent Internal Review issued negative findings on the R&D Claims made by the Company for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years (R&D Claims).

The law provides the Company with full rights to a multi-stage review and dispute resolution process, with the rights of appeal to both the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) and thereafter the Federal Court.

The Company remains of the view that the R&D claims were made in compliance with the applicable legislation and is now evaluating its options. The Company has commenced preliminary discussions with advisors for representation at the AAT.

Argent was under a payment plan with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) whereby the Company, made a nominal \$5,000 monthly payments for an interim period until AusIndustry completed its Independent Internal Review process and issued its Determination. On receiving an outcome from the AusIndustry Independent Internal Review, the Company proposed a new payment plan to the ATO.

On 24 January 2020, the Commissioner agreed to the proposal submitted by Argent whereby the Company continues to make nominal \$5,000 monthly payments until there is an outcome on the Company's AAT review with respect to its R&D claims. Upon finalisation of the AAT review, if unsuccessful, the payment arrangement will

be renegotiated, and the Company will need to consider how payment can be made within the shortest possible timeframe whilst taking into its account its financial position.

The Company accrued a General Interest Charge (GIC) for interest incurred from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019 of \$59,093. As at 31 December 2019, payments totaling \$20,000 under the payment arrangement were made towards the payment of the potential tax liability in accordance with the payment arrangements outlined above.

At 31 December 2019, a provision for \$1,434,368 has been recognised equal to the amount repayable (including general interest charges) in relation to the R&D claim for the 2016 and 2017 financials years.

Except for the above, no other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period, which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group in future financial years.

#### LEAD AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration on page 10 as required under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is attached to and forms part of the Directors' Report for the half-year ended 31 December 2019.

This report has been signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors and is dated 9 March 2020.

Peter Wall Chairman **George Karageorge Managing Director** 

MM



# Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

#### To the Directors of Argent Minerals Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the review of Argent Minerals Limited for the half-year ended 31 December 2019 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

KPMG BRISBANE 9 March 2020 Adam Twemlow Partner

# Argent Minerals Limited and its controlled entities Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the half-year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	31 December 2019 \$	31 December 2018 \$
CONTINUING OPERATIONS			
Research & Development claim – (expense)/income	7	-	(1,402,997)
Administration and Consultants' expenses		(60,000)	(60,000)
Depreciation		(22,115)	(23,368)
Employee and director expenses		(251,496)	(163,090)
Exploration and evaluation expenses		(495,620)	(421,430)
Legal expenses		(15,332)	(9,046)
Share based payment	5	(163,861)	(27,326)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(194,207)	(294,343)
Operating loss before financing income	<del>-</del>	(1,202,631)	(2,401,600)
Interest income		5,186	8,684
Interest expense	7	(59,093)	(110,778)
Net finance income	<del>-</del>	(53,907)	(102,094)
Loss before tax		(1,256,538)	(2,503,694)
Income tax expense	_	-	-
Loss for the period		(1,256,538)	(2,503,694)
Other comprehensive income for the period	_	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the period	-	(1,256,538)	(2,503,694)
EARNINGS PER SHARE			
Basic and diluted loss per share (cents per share)		(0.21)	(0.53)

The above condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

### Argent Minerals Limited and its controlled entities Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2019

	Note	31 December 2019 \$	30 June 2019 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,647,796	725,933
Trade and other receivables		14,564	19,562
Asset licence held for sale	10	39,000	-
Other assets		27,630	22,904
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,728,990	768,399
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Other financial assets- security deposits		79,000	93,100
Property, plant and equipment		340,591	362,707
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	_	419,591	455,807
TOTAL ASSETS		2,148,581	1,224,206
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		230,075	101,542
Deferred income	10	130,000	-
Employee entitlements		2,573	104,746
R&D claims repayable	7	1,434,368	1,395,276
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,797,016	1,601,564
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,797,016	1,601,564
NET ASSETS	=	351,565	(377,358)
EQUITY			
Issued capital	4	32,284,209	30,462,609
Reserves	4	375,376	211,515
Accumulated losses	_	(32,308,020)	(31,051,482)
TOTAL EQUITY	_	351,565	(377,358)

The above condensed consolidated statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Argent Minerals Limited and its controlled entities Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Cash Flows for the half-year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	31 December 2019 \$	31 December 2018 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Expenditure on mining interests		(432,279)	(438,679)
Payments to suppliers and employees		(546,744)	(568,412)
Interest received		5,186	8,684
Net cash used in operating activities	-	(973,837)	(998,407)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Sunny Corner asset licence	10	(30,000)	-
Payment from Sunny Corner divestment	10	130,000	-
Security deposit		14,100	(10,000)
Net cash from/(used) in investing activities	-	114,100	(10,000)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Issue of shares	4	1,901,350	627,994
Capital raising costs	4	(119,750)	(42,229)
Net cash from financing activities	-	1,781,600	585,765
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		921,863	(422,642)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	-	725,933	1,649,466
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		1,647,796	1,226,824

The above condensed consolidated statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Argent Minerals Limited and its controlled entities Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Changes in Equity for the half-year ended 31 December 2019

) —————————————————————————————————————	SHARE CAPITAL \$	ACCUMULATED LOSSES \$	RESERVES	Total Equity \$
Balance as at 1 July 2019	30,462,609	(31,051,482)	211,515	(377,358)
Loss for the half-year	-	(1,256,538)	-	(1,256,538)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the				
period .	-	(1,256,538)	-	(1,256,538)
Transactions with owners recorded directly in equity				
Shares issued during the period	1,901,350	-	-	1,901,350
Share based payments	40,000	-	163,861	203,861
Share issue expenses	(119,750)	-	-	(119,750)
Balance at 31 December 2019	32,284,209	(32,308,020)	375,376	351,565
Balance as at 1 July 2018	29,274,380	(27,530,820)	193,529	1,937,089
Loss for the half-year	-	(2,503,694)	-	(2,503,694)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the				
period	-	(2,503,694)	-	(2,503,694)
Transactions with owners recorded				
directly in equity				
Shares issued during the period	627,994	-	-	627,994
Share based payments	-	-	27,326	27,326
Share issue expenses	(42,463)	-	-	(42,463)
Balance at 31 December 2018	29,859,911	(30,034,514)	220,855	46,252

The above condensed consolidated statement of changed in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

#### 1. REPORTING ENTITY

Argent Minerals Limited (the 'Company') is a company domiciled in Australia. The condensed interim financial statements of the Company as at and for the half-year ended 31 December 2019 comprise the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the 'Group'). The Group is primarily engaged in mineral exploration in Australia.

The Consolidated annual financial statements of the Group as at and for the year ended 30 June 2019 are available upon request from the Company's registered office at Level 2, 66 Hunter Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000 or at www.argentminerals.com.au.

#### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting.

The condensed consolidated interim financial report is intended to provide users with an update on the latest annual financial statements of Argent Minerals Limited. It is recommended that this interim financial report be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements of the Group for the year ended 30 June 2019, together with any public announcements made during the half-year.

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 9 March 2020.

#### **Going Concern**

The consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

The Group recorded a loss attributable to equity holders of the Company of \$1,256,538 for the half year ended 31 December 2019 and has accumulated losses of \$32,308,020 at 31 December 2019. The Group has cash and cash equivalents of \$1,647,796 at 31 December 2019 and used \$973,837 of cash in operations, including payments for exploration and evaluation, for the half year ended 31 December 2019. The Group has been issued negative findings subsequent to undergoing an independent review by AusIndustry in relation to R&D claims totaling \$1,402,997. The Company remains of the view that the R&D claims were made in compliance with the applicable legislation and is pursuing its rights under the law by lodging an application with the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT).

The Group is also under a payment plan with the Australian Taxation Office ('ATO') whereby the Company continues to make monthly payments of \$5,000 until an outcome is reached on the Company's AAT review with respect to its R&D claims. Upon finalisation of the AAT review, if unsuccessful, the payment arrangement will be renegotiated, and the Company will need to assess how payment can be made within the shortest possible timeframe whilst taking into its account its financial position.

The Directors have prepared cash flow projections that support the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern. These cash flow projections assume the Group obtains sufficient additional funding from shareholders or other parties, maintains expenditure in line with available funding and either successfully resolves the review of the R&D claims at the AAT or it negotiates a repayment plan with the ATO. If such funding is not achieved and the Group does not successfully resolve the R&D Claims, the outcome of which is uncertain at the date of this report, the Group plans to reduce expenditure significantly.

These conditions give rise to a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt upon the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. The ongoing operations of the Group are significantly dependent upon the Group raising additional funding from shareholders or other parties and the Group reducing expenditure in-line with available funding.

In the event the Group does not obtain additional funding and reduce expenditure in-line with available funding, including successfully resolving the review of the R&D claims at the AAT or negotiates a repayment plan with the ATO, it may not be able to continue its operations as a going concern and therefore may not be able to realise its

#### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION (Cont.)

assets and extinguish its liabilities in the ordinary course of operations and at the amounts stated in the interim financial report.

#### 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies applied in these interim financial statements are the same as those applied in the Group's consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended 30 June 2019.

The Group has initially adopted AASB 16 Leases from 1 July 2019. The adoption of this standards did not have a material effect on the Group's financial statements.

#### 4. ISSUED CAPITAL

(a)	Issued and paid up capital	
-----	----------------------------	--

(a) Issued and paid up capital	31 December 2019 31 December	
	\$	\$
At the beginning of the reporting period	30,462,609	29,274,380
Shares issued for cash on 9 September 2019 @ \$0.021	1,238,089	-
Shares and attaching options issued for cash on 25 October 2019		
@ \$0.021	663,261	-
Shares issued for non-cash on 6 December 2019 @ \$0.016	40,000	-
Shares issued for cash on 28 November 2018 @ \$0.05	-	273
Shares and attaching options issued for cash on 28 November 2018		
@ \$0.015	-	43,000
Shares and attaching options issued for cash on 20 November 2018		
@ \$0.015	-	584,721
Share issue costs	(119,750)	(42,463)
Balance at 31 December	32,284,209	29,859,911

#### (b) Movement in ordinary shares

	Number	Number
At the beginning of the reporting period	539,561,347	463,959,479
Shares issued during the reporting period	93,069,203	41,853,553
Balance at 31 December	632,630,550	505,813,032

#### 4. ISSUED CAPITAL (Cont.)

Fully paid ordinary shares carry one vote per share and carry the right to dividends.

	31 December 2019 31 \$	December 2018 \$
At the beginning of the reporting period	211,515	193,529
Employee Share Options at \$0.031	160,181	-
Employee Share Options at \$0.03	1,635	8,099
Employee Share Options at \$0.06	935	1,428
Employee Share Options at \$0.10	1,110	17,799
Balance at 31 December	375,376	220,855

#### 5. SHARE BASED PAYMENTS

The Company has an Executive Option Plan to provide eligible persons, being employees or directors, or individuals whom the Plan Committee determine to be employees for the purposes of the Plan, with the opportunity to acquire options over unissued ordinary shares in the Company. The number of options granted or offered under the Plan will not exceed 10% of the Company's issued share capital and the exercise price of options will be the greater of the market value of the Company's shares as at the date of grant of the option or such amount as the Plan Committee determines. Options have no voting or dividend rights. The vesting conditions of options issued under the plan are based on a minimum service periods being achieved. There are no other vesting conditions attached to options issued under the plan.

In the event that the employment or office of the option holder is terminated, any options which have not reached their exercise period will lapse and any options which have reached their exercise period may be exercised within two months of the date of termination of employment. Any options not exercised within this two month period will lapse.

#### 5. SHARE BASED PAYMENTS (Cont.)

The terms and conditions of the options granted and on issue during the half-year were as follows:

Grant date	Expiry date	Vesting date	Exercise price	Fair value of options granted	Granted/ on issue during the period Number	Exercised/ cancelled during the period Number	Balance at end of the period Number
28 October 2019	27 October 2022	28 October 2019	\$0.031	\$160,181	16,000,000	_	16,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021		•	\$5,600	1,000,000	_	1,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021	30 June 2019	\$0.03	\$5,600	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021	30 June 2020	\$0.03	\$5,600	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021	30 June 2019	\$0.06	\$3,200	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021	30 June 2020	\$0.06	\$3,200	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
9 October 2018	30 September 2021	30 June 2020	\$0.10	\$3,800	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
2 November 2016	30 September 2021	2 November 2016	\$0.03	\$41,982	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
2 November 2016	30 September 2021	31 December 2017	\$0.06	\$37,417	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
2 November 2016	30 September 2021	31 December 2018	\$0.10	\$50,397	3,000,000	-	3,000,000
24 October 2016	30 September 2021	24 October 2016	\$0.03	\$30,154	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
24 October 2016	30 September 2021	31 December 2017	\$0.06	\$26,826	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
24 October 2016	30 September 2021	31 December 2018	\$0.10	\$24,052	1,500,000	_	1,500,000
			_	\$398,009	33,500,000		33,500,000

On 28 October 2019, the Company issued 4,000,000 3.1 cent unlisted options to Peter Wall under the Executive Option Plan. The options vested immediately and expire on 27 October 2022.

On 28 October 2019, the Company issued 4,000,000 3.1 cent unlisted options to Emmanuel Correia under the Executive Option Plan. The options vested immediately and expire on 27 October 2022.

On 28 October 2019, the Company issued 4,000,000 3.1 cent unlisted options to Peter Michael under the Executive Option Plan. The options vested immediately and expire on 27 October 2022.

On 28 October 2019, the Company issued 4,000,000 3.1 cent unlisted options to Tim Hronsky under the Executive Option Plan. The options vested immediately and expire on 27 October 2022.

On 6 December 2019, the Company issued 2,528,728 ordinary shares for nil consideration to Mr. Clifton McGilvray as part of his employment contract. The transaction was recorded at a fair value of \$40,000 at an issue price of 1.5 cent per share, based on the one month volume weighted average price immediately prior to his 2018 employment anniversary date being 14 September 2018.

#### Fair value of options

The fair value of options granted is measured at grant date and recognised as an expense over the period during which the key management become unconditionally entitled to the options. The fair value of the options granted is measured using an option valuation methodology, taking into account the terms and conditions upon which the options were granted. The amount recognised as an expense is adjusted to reflect the actual number of options that vest.

The fair value of options granted on 28 October 2019 was \$160,181. The Black-Scholes formula model inputs were the Company's share price of \$0.019 at the grant date, the volatility factor of 101% based on historic share price performance, a risk free interest rate of 0.74% based on government bonds, and a dividend yield of 0%.

During the half-year, share based payment expense of \$163,861 in relation to options issued was recorded in the profit and loss (2018: \$27,326). In addition the \$40,000 share based payment in relation to ordinary shares issued to Clifton McGilvray was recorded as an exploration and evaluation expense in the profit and loss during the period.

#### 6. RELATED PARTIES

#### Key management personnel and director transactions

A number of key management persons, or their related parties, hold positions in other entities that result in them having control or joint control over the financial or operating policies of those entities.

These entities transacted with the Group during the half-year as follows:

During the half-year, Peter Wall had a beneficial interest in an entity, Steinepreis Paganin Lawyers & Consultants, which provided legal consulting services on ordinary commercial terms. Fees paid to Steinepreis Paganin Lawyers & Consultants amounted to \$34,145 (2018 - \$26,669). There was \$3,485 outstanding at 31 December 2019 (2018 - \$3,418).

#### 7. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Group has been undergoing a review by AusIndustry in relation to the R&D claims it made for the 2016 and 2017 financial years totaling \$1,402,997.

On 23 December 2019, Argent announced that the AusIndustry Independent Internal Review issued negative findings on the R&D Claims made by the Company for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years (R&D Claims).

The law provides the Company with full rights to a multi-stage review and dispute resolution process, with the rights of appeal to both the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) and thereafter the Federal Court.

The Company remains of the view that the R&D claims were made in compliance with the applicable legislation and is now evaluating its options. The Company has commenced preliminary discussions with advisors for representation at the AAT.

Argent was under a payment plan with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) whereby the Company, made a nominal \$5,000 monthly payments for an interim period until AusIndustry completed its Independent Internal Review process and issued its Determination. On receiving an outcome from the AusIndustry Independent Internal Review, the Company proposed a new payment plan to the ATO.

On 24 January 2020, the Commissioner agreed to the proposal submitted by Argent whereby the Company continues to make nominal \$5,000 monthly payments until there is an outcome on the Company's AAT review with respect to its R&D claims. Upon finalisation of the AAT review, if unsuccessful, the payment arrangement will be renegotiated, and the Company will need to consider how payment can be made within the shortest possible timeframe whilst taking into its account its financial position.

The Company accrued a General Interest Charge (GIC) for interest incurred from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019 of \$59,093. As at 31 December 2019, payments totaling \$20,000 under the payment arrangement were made towards the payment of the potential tax liability in accordance with the payment arrangements outlined above.

At 31 December 2019, a provision for \$1,434,368 has been recognised equal to the amount repayable (including general interest charges) in relation to the R&D claim for the 2016 and 2017 financials years.

Except for the above, no other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period, which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group in future financial years.

#### 8. ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements have not changed since the last annual reporting date, except for note 5 Share Based Payments.

#### **Future Rehabilitation**

The Group measures the cost of future rehabilitation in relation to its tenements based on probable cost estimations at the date upon which tenements are altered from their original date. Fair values are determined using local data available. No material rehabilitation provision is considered necessary at 31 December 2019.

#### 9. OPERATING SEGMENTS

The Group operates in predominantly one business and geographical segment, being mineral exploration in Australia.

#### 10. SUNNY CORNER DIVESTMENT

Argent is pleased to announce the sale of the historic Sunny Corner Silver Mine on Exploration Licence 5964 to Sunshine Reclamation Pty Ltd (SRP).

The Company and SRP have entered into a binding agreement where SRP will pay Argent \$540,000 in instalments by 17 October 2020 as below;

- a. A non-refundable payment of \$30,000 (Initial deposit) on execution of the binding term sheet (which was received on 19 September 2019). Argent transferred the Initial Deposit to Golden Cross Operations (GCO) to dissolve the original JV between GCO and to get GCO to transfer its 30% legal and beneficial interest in Exploration Licence 5964 into Sunny Silver Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Argent.
- b. A non-refundable payment of \$110,000 (**Commitment Payment**) (which the parties acknowledge includes \$10,000 as reimbursement of cash security with the regulator), the payment shall be the means by which SRP shall communicate its election to complete this transaction and;
- c. A subsequent and non-refundable payment \$400,000 to Argent's nominated bank account (**Final Payment**) as a remaining obligation of SRP falling due and payable by 17 October 2020.

Upon receipt of Commitment Payment and Final Payment, Argent is obliged to make a payment of \$9,000 and \$120,000 respectively to GCO as consideration for the 30% legal and beneficial interest in the tenement. Argent received the Commitment Payment from SRP on 17 December 2019. As at 31 December 2019, payment of \$9,000 to GCO was outstanding.

Argent is in the process of transferring the remaining 70% interest in the Exploration licence 5964 to Sunny Silver Pty Ltd. Argent will register a security on the Personal Property Security Register (PPSR) and with the Regulator (Security Registration) before the legal and beneficial interest in Sunny Silver Pty Ltd is transferred from Argent to SRP. Argent will be free carried for any current and planned expenditure by SRP.

In the opinion of the Directors of Argent Minerals Limited ('the Company'):

- (a) The interim financial statements and notes set out on pages 11 to 20 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 including:
  - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2019 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
  - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting' and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This report has been signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors and is dated 9 March 2020:

Peter Wall Chairman

George Karageorge Managing Director

MM



### Independent Auditor's Review Report

#### To the members of Argent Minerals Limited

#### **Report on the Interim Financial Report**

#### Conclusion

We have reviewed the accompanying *Interim Financial Report* of Argent Minerals Limited
(the Company) and its controlled entities
(collectively referred to as the Group).

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the Interim Financial Report of Argent Minerals Limited is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the *Group's*financial position as at 31 December 2019
  and of its performance for the half-year
  ended on that date; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

The Interim Financial Report comprises:

- Condensed consolidated interim statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019
- Condensed consolidated interim statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, condensed consolidated interim statement of changes in equity and condensed consolidated interim statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date
- Notes 1 to 10 comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- The Directors' Declaration.

The *Group* comprises Argent Minerals Limited the Company and the entities it controlled at the half year's end or from time to time during the half-year.

#### Material uncertainty related to going concern - emphasis of matter

We draw attention to Note 2 Going Concern in the interim financial report. The conditions disclosed in Note 2, indicates a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and, therefore, whether it will realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business, and at the amounts stated in the interim financial report. Our conclusion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Interim Financial Report

The Directors of the Group are responsible for:

- the preparation of the Interim Financial Report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001; and
- for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Interim Financial Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's responsibility for the review of the Interim Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the Interim Financial Report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the Interim Financial Report is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 including: giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2019 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and complying with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and the Corporations Regulations 2001. As auditor of Argent Minerals Limited, ASRE 2410 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the audit of the annual financial report.

A review of an Interim Period Financial Report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standards* and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

KPMG BRISBANE

9 March 2020

Adam Twemlow Partner