FAR WEST GOLD RECOVERIES

FACT SHEET DECEMBER 2019

DRDGOLD
FAR WEST GOLD RECOVERIES

A VALUE-DRIVEN ASSET

Mine. Enhance. Sustain.

DRDGOLD Limited's (DRDGOLD) Far West Gold Recoveries (FWGR) operation, near Carletonville in South Africa's North West province, has become a value-driven asset for the company since acquired from Sibanye-Stillwater in July 2018. FWGR re-affirms DRDGOLD's reputation as a world leader in surface gold tailings retreatment. The acquisition is instrumental to the company's growth strategy, increasing its gold reserves by 90%.

ABOUT DRDGOLD

DRDGOLD (JSE, NYSE: DRD) is one of the oldest continuously listed companies on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) and has a secondary listing on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). It is the only company in South Africa focused solely on the retreatment of surface gold tailings.

The company has two major production footprints. Besides FWGR to the west, there is Ergo, a major surface gold tailings retreatment operation extending from central Johannesburg to Ekurhuleni in the east.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS (30 JUNE 2019)

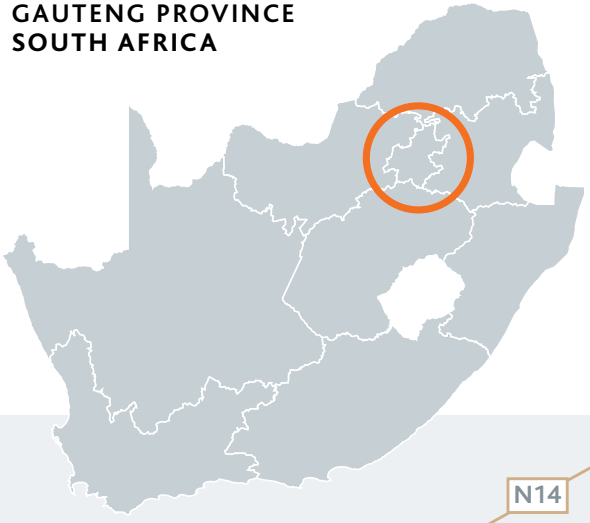
2.61Moz
Mineral Reserves and Mineral Resources

Cash operating cost of
R313 443/kg

Gold production
484kg

Planning of Phase 2 underway

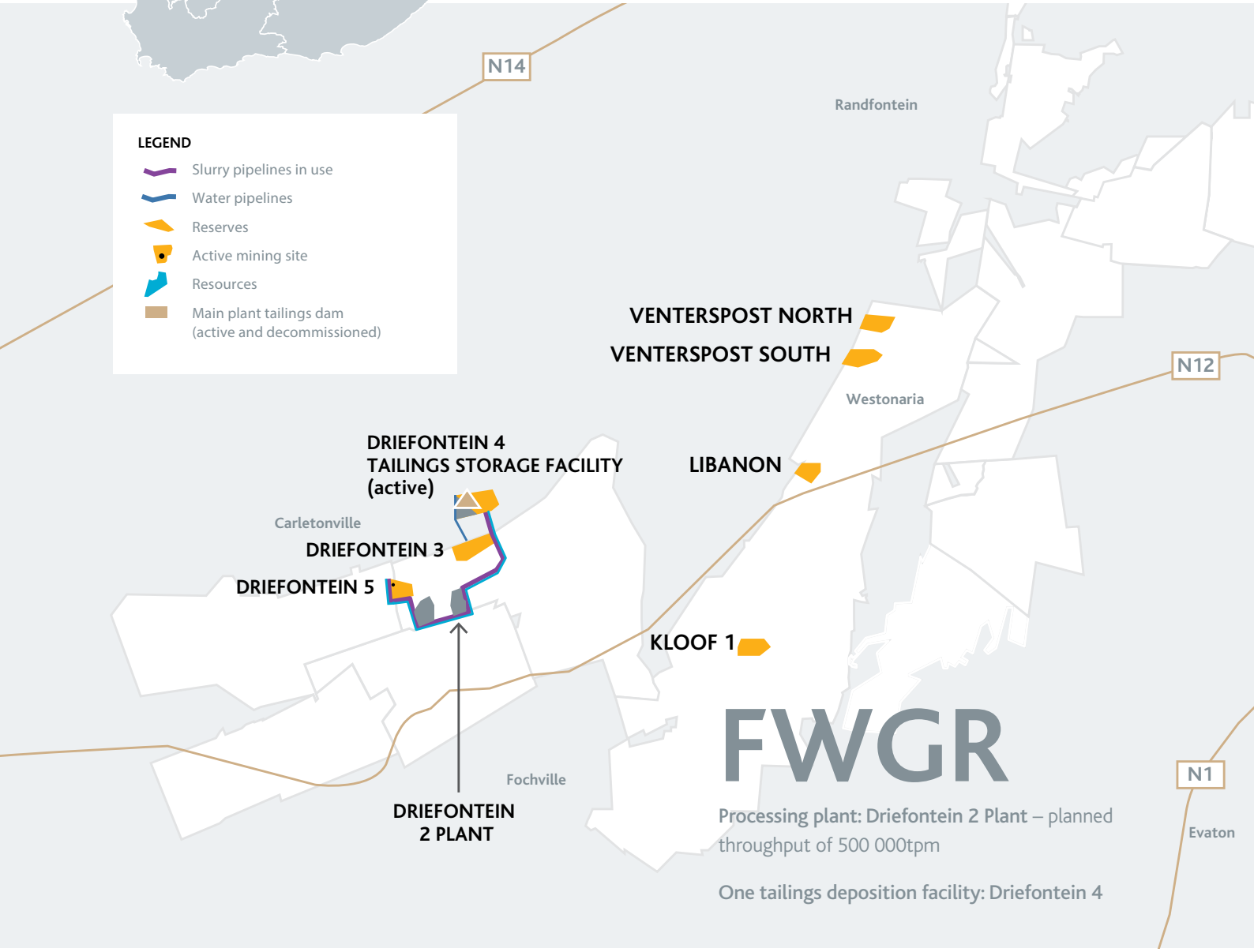
GAUTENG PROVINCE
SOUTH AFRICA



PHASED DEVELOPMENT

Phase 1 development of FWGR, costing R330.7 million, entailed the upgrading of the existing Driefontein 2 Plant (DP2) to retreat 500 000ptm of material reclaimed from the Driefontein 5 tailings dam and of the Driefontein 4 tailings storage facility (TSF) to cater for additional volumes. Phase 1 was completed within the planned budget and time parameters.

Phase 2 has begun with conceptual studies to evaluate various options to treat the remaining reserves acquired as part of the Sibanye-Stillwater transaction. One option is to construct a new retreatment plant and TSF to exploit a larger regional mineral resource, producing more gold over a longer period and rehabilitating a much bigger footprint.



BROAD-BASED LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME

DRDGOLD's successful Broad-based Livelihoods Programme, operational in the communities of Tsakane, Geluksdal and Daveyton in Ekurhuleni to the east of Johannesburg for some time, has been extended to Merafong in Carletonville, near FWGR. The purpose of the project is to empower individuals, households, existing micro-farmers and co-operatives to grow produce at home or in their communities. This helps address their own food security challenges and opens up prospects for them to enter the local economic mainstream by selling their excess produce.

THE FWGR RECLAMATION, RETREATMENT AND TAILINGS DEPOSITION PROCESS

1

TAILINGS RECLAMATION

Process water is pressurised through a four-stage pumping system and pumped through a 450mm diameter pipeline to monitoring guns at the Driefontein 5 reclamation site to form slurry. Repulped slurry then flows across a scalping screen into a sump where three slurry pumps pump the tailings into reception tanks at DP2.

2

SLURRY CLASSIFICATION

Classification of the slurry to determine whether it goes to the mills or the thickeners takes place through a three-stage cyclone system. The slurry reception tanks' contents are firstly pumped into two cyclones and underflow from these flows to a secondary sump and the overflow transfers to a tertiary sump.

3

CYCLONE PROCESSING

The slurry in the tertiary sump is then pumped to two tertiary cyclones and additional underflow is transferred to the secondary sump. Slurry in the secondary sump is pumped to a secondary cyclone, and the underflow from the secondary cyclones reports to the mill. After milling, the slurry is pumped to the carbon in leach (CIL) circuit.

4

CIL CIRCUIT PROCESSING

The CIL circuit consists of seven leach tanks each with a capacity of 1 600m^3. Cyanide is added in either the first or second tank and oxygen is injected into the first four tanks. During this process, gold metal is absorbed on to activated carbon. The gold-loaded carbon is removed at a rate of 9t per day and bagged. The bags are then transported to Sibanye-Stillwater's Driefontein 1 plant for elution, electrowinning and smelting.

5

TAILINGS DEPOSITION

Tailings from the CIL circuit are pumped to a residue tank and then to the Driefontein 4 TSF. Driefontein 4 TSF has been converted to a cyclone dam consisting of six banks with 140 by 250mm cyclones. Water is drawn off the dam through a newly installed floating penstock and is then reused for reclamation activities.

PROJECT TIMELINE

31 July 2018
Effective date of FWGR acquisition from Sibanye-Stillwater

6 August 2018
Civil works commenced on the development

6 December 2018
Commissioning of the Driefontein 5 reclamation station, slurry and water pipeline to the plant and the CIL circuit at half of planned throughput

11 January 2019
Commissioning of the residue pipeline to the Driefontein 4 TSF

21 January 2019
Commissioning of the return water pipeline from the TSF4 return water dams to DP2

20 March 2019
Commenced testing of the mills

2 April 2019
The third bank of cyclones were commissioned, enlarging Dam 4's capacity to 500ktpm

30 April 2019
Mills switched off for further configuration and testing

23 May 2019
Final bank of cyclones commissioned on Driefontein 4 TSF

July 2019
FWGR reaches 500 000tpm

September 2019
FWGR mills become operational

WATER AND WASTE-WATER MANAGEMENT

FWGR currently uses all the water harvested from Driefontein 4 TSF which amounts to approximately 40% of our process water requirements. The balance is made up from underground mine dewatering. Potable water consumption is limited to drinking, changehouses requirements and floc makeup for usage in the plant.

FWGR	2019	
	Mℓ	%
Potable water sourced externally	76	3
Underground water extracted	1 529	53
Water recycled in the process	1 287	44
Total water used	2 892	100

CONTACT DETAILS

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