

Exploration drilling program update

Key points

- Exploration drilling to further define the extent, tonnage and grade of shallow magnetite
- Program involving 21 drill holes scheduled for completion this year at a cost of \$1.3 million
- Seeking an additional 100-140 million tonnes of targeted magnetite mineralisation

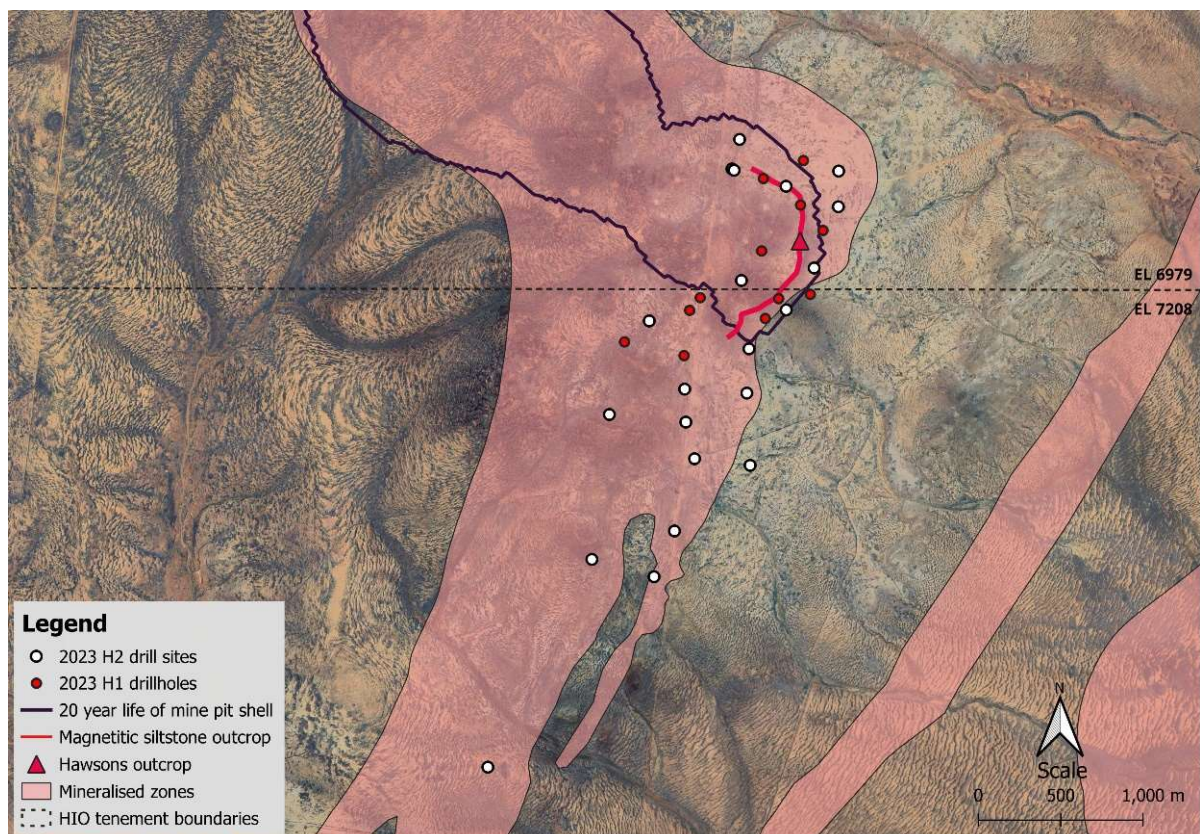
Hawsons Iron Ltd (**Hawsons** or the **Company**) is pleased to announce the start of a follow-up exploration drilling program to further define the extent, tonnage and grade of shallow magnetite mineralisation discovered in the Fold and Limb Zone south of the existing mineral resource.

The Company is targeting additional magnetite at a depth of 30-150 metres with a grade greater than 9 per cent Davis Tube Recovery (DTR) to further improve the Hawsons Iron Project's cash flow during the first few years of operation and extend the mine's projected 20-year production life.

Following the successful drilling program earlier this year, the Company is also expanding the exploration focus beyond the previously drilled Fold Zone to include the mineralised Limb Zone which continues to the south and south-west.

This new exploration program, involving 20 Reverse Circulation (RC) holes, for an estimated total of 3,150 metres, has been budgeted to cost \$1.3 million and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2023. One of the holes will also be twinned with a 150 metre Diamond Drill core hole. (See **Figure 1** for more detail).

Figure 1: New Fold and Limb Zone exploration drilling program

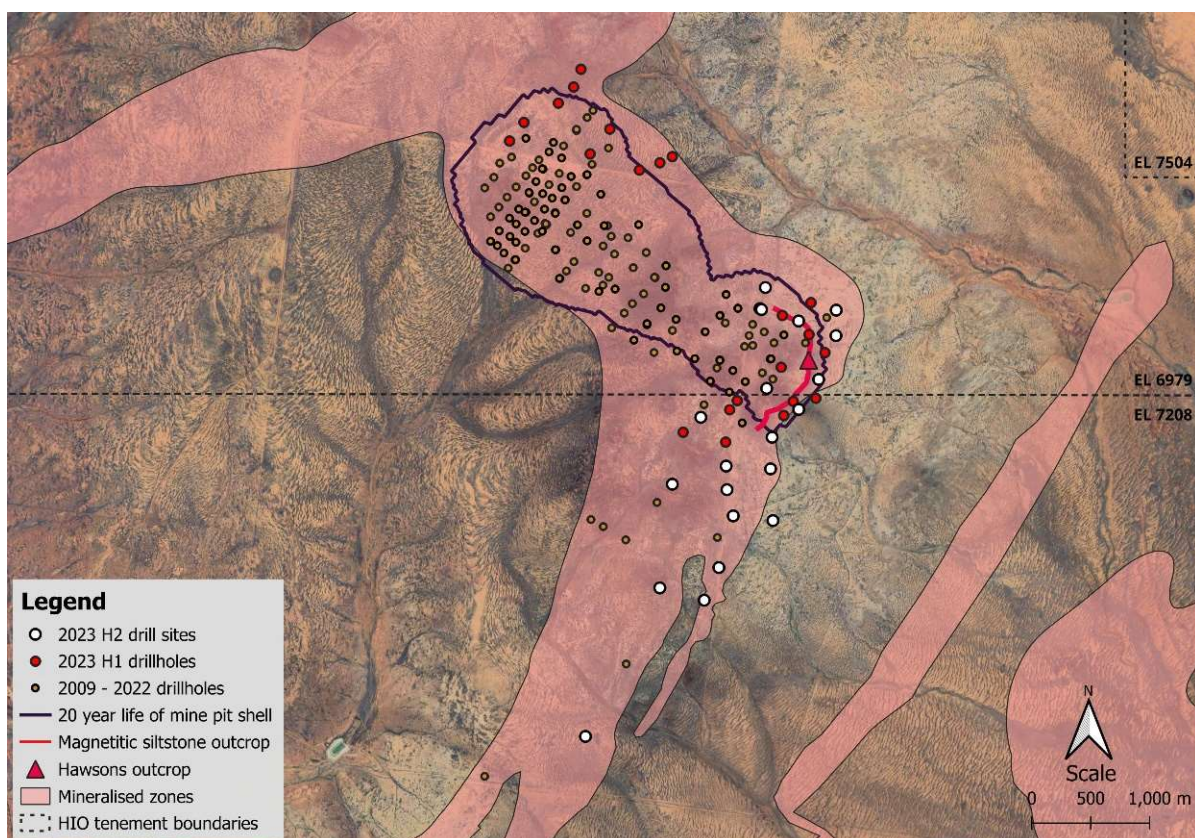


Managing Director Mr Bryan Granzien said the additional drilling sought to build on the exploration success from Stage 2 of the Strategic Review's recommended three-stage resource analysis program earlier this year. ([See ASX Announcement dated 8 August: Successful exploration program discovers mineable intersections of near-surface magnetite mineralisation](#))

"The confirmed presence of mineable widths of targeted-grade mineralisation above the base of oxidation in the southern Fold and Limb Zone supports a change in mining strategy to greatly shorten the project's ramp-up period to full production," Mr Granzien said.

"The previous drilling established the presence of approximately 100 million tonnes of magnetite mineralisation within the targeted grade and we are looking for an additional 100-140 million tonnes to further improve the project's Net Present Value," he said.

Figure 2: New exploration drilling program will expand geological database



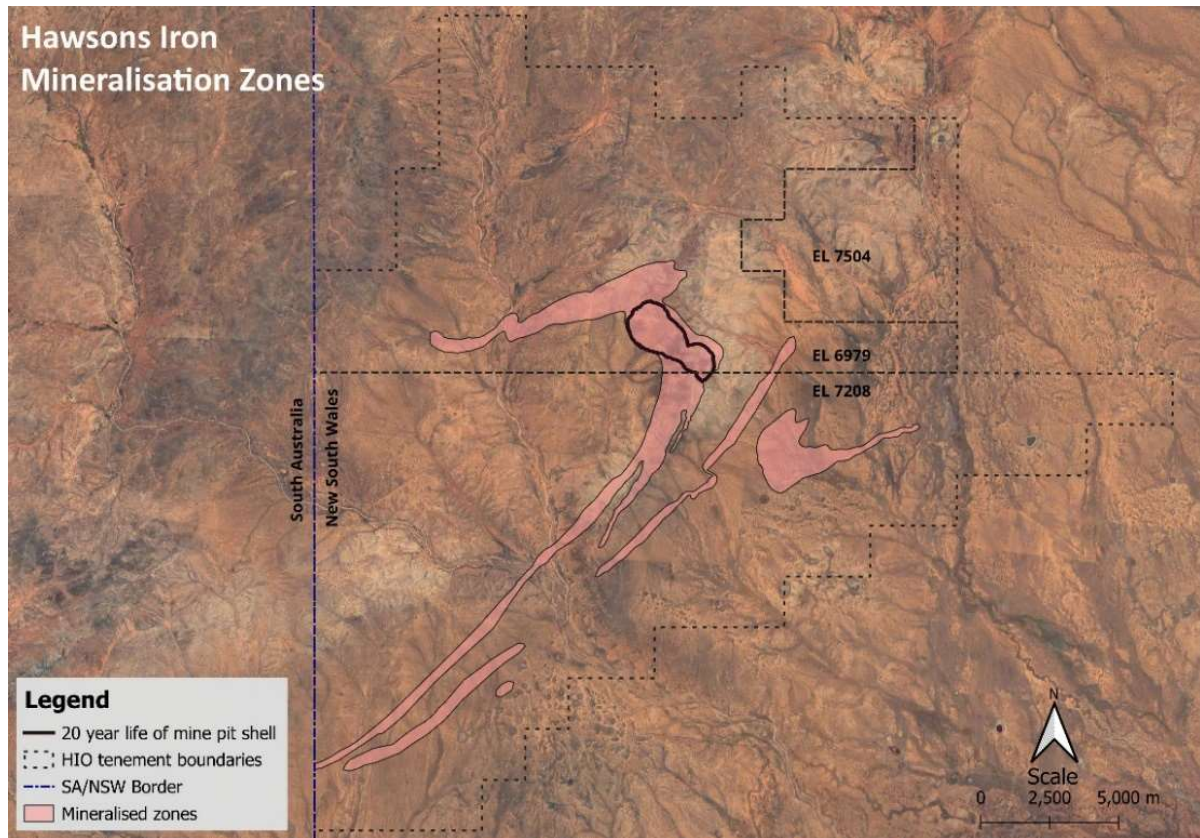
Laboratory analysis from the previous exploration drilling program revealed DTR averages in 10 holes ranging from 10.2-16.9 per cent, with samples in several holes well above 20 per cent.

Watson Drilling has been contracted for the new drilling program which will commence after mobilisation this week.

Mr Granzien said the drilling program was scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, weather permitting, although receipt of all the assay results and analysis will take longer due to the impact of the annual holiday season.



Figure 3: Extent of the Hawsons Iron mineralisation zones



As can be seen from the accompanying mapping in **Figure 2** and **Figure 3**, this program will build on the Company's considerable geological data base on the vast mineralised zones which lie within its Exploration Leases and extend beyond the South Australian border to the south-west.

The Hawsons Iron Project's current exploration target is 5–18 billion tonnes, which is in addition to its Measured, Indicated and Inferred JORC 2012 Mineral Resource estimate of 3.924 billion tonnes using a 6 per cent recovered magnetic fraction DTR cut-off constrained to a pit shell. ([See ASX Announcement date 30 September 2023: Mineral Resource Update Completed](#))

Released by authority of the Board

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About Hawsons Iron Ltd

Hawsons Iron Ltd (ASX: HIO) is an iron ore developer and producer listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. The company is focused on developing its flagship Hawsons Iron Project near Broken Hill into a premium provider of high-quality iron ore products for the global steel industry.

The Hawsons Iron Project is situated 60km southwest of Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia in the emerging Braemar Iron Province. It is potentially capable of producing the world's highest-grade iron product (70% Fe), making it among the world's leading undeveloped high-quality iron ore concentrate and pellet feed projects.

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