

Green Light for Laverton Mill

A Bankable Feasibility Study has given the go-ahead for the re-commencement of gold production from Crescent Gold Ltd's Laverton mill in Western Australia.

Crescent told the ASX yesterday that the Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) had determined that the Laverton Gold Project was economically viable.



Laverton from the Air

"The Feasibility Study has generated unexpected opportunities to increase reserves, reduce costs and improve milling performance at Laverton," Crescent Gold's Executive Director, Andrew Haythorpe, said.

"These opportunities have the potential to significantly grow the value of the project and are now being vigorously pursued," Mr Haythorpe said.

The BFS also found that the project's economics would be enhanced substantially if the mill capacity was increased to 2 million tonnes per annum (mtpa).

Mr Haythorpe said: "This study has Crescent on target to join Australia's gold producing ranks in 2005.

"Doubling the production rate to 2mtpa is very attractive on a number of fronts. It enhances profits from the existing reserves, and will enable further resources to be converted into reserves.

"It will also allow Crescent to offer competitive and profitable milling opportunities to other emerging producers in the area. The re-opening of the mill is central to our aim of profitable gold production of our own ore and profitable toll treatment for others," he said.

The Laverton gold mill, 100% owned by the Company, is located 250km northeast of Kalgoorlie.

It sits in the centre of Crescent's one million ounce (oz) gold resource and close to other existing and emerging gold producers.

The BFS covered the lead four of Crescent Gold's 10 potentially viable projects in the province – Sickle, Admiral Hill, Euro and West Laverton. The others will undergo a similar study process in 2005.