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**WESTERN PLAINS GOLD SET TO LIST NEXT WEEK**

**AFTER SUCCESSFUL IPO**

NSW explorer Western Plains Gold Ltd (ASX: WPG) is expected to list on the ASX next Tuesday 23 August 2005 after completing its Initial Public Offering.

WPG chairman Bob Duffin said the South Australian Department of Primary Industry and Resources had granted the company PACE funding to drill the Mulyungarie target, which is a large ironstone body with potential for Olympic Dam-style copper-uranium-gold.

WPG director and geophysicist Bob Richardson says the Mulyungarie prospect “is one of the strongest magnetic anomalies in the district and a real stand-out target located on stratigraphy that is known to be anomalous in copper and gold”.

WPG has 22 promising gold and copper-gold prospects identified and eight of these are ‘drill-ready’. Bob Duffin says WPG has a two-pronged strategy focussed on the Broken Hill Block and the Lachlan Fold Belt in NSW. “Both provinces have demonstrated that they can yield world-class ore bodies. In terms of gold production, the Lachlan Fold Belt in Central Western NSW is now the second largest gold region in Australia. Of course, the Broken Hill Block needs no introduction as the site of the world’s largest lead-zinc-silver deposit,” Mr Duffin said. Bob Duffin also said that WPG executive director Gary Jones will be back in his old stamping ground in Central Western NSW. “Gary is credited with the discovery of the large Northparkes porphyry copper-gold deposits and also contributed to the discovery of Cowal during his time as supervising geologist with Geopeko in the 1970s and 1980s. Following these discoveries, there have been 17 new gold deposits found in Central Western NSW, including the massive Cadia/Ridgeway (Newcrest) and Cowal (Geopeko and now Barrick).

“We believe that there are more such ‘elephants’ to be found – and Gary brings valuable insights to the search process based on his previous experience in the region. Initial drilling will be focussed on the Trundle area (a Northparkes porphyry-style target) and the Cargelligo area (a Cobar shear-hosted style target). In the Broken Hill region, there is renewed enthusiasm for copper-gold supported by Government funded studies which conclude that the region has similar potential for large copper-gold deposits to the bountiful Mt Isa-Cloncurry region.” Mr Duffin said.

Gary Jones says that previous exploration in the area has been dominated by the search for another Broken Hill-style lead-zinc-silver deposit and the area is under-explored for copper and gold. “One statistic that demonstrates this is the small proportion of previous shallow RAB drilling samples analysed for gold – of 38,870 samples, only 405 were analysed for gold. Within WPG’s Broken Hill tenements, we have many prospects with outcropping gossans carrying strongly anomalous gold and/or copper that have – incredibly, never been drilled,” Mr Jones said. Drilling at Broken Hill will commence over the border in SA at the Mulyungarie prospect (a large ironstone body with potential for Olympic Dam-style copper-uranium-gold), the Fairy Hill prospect (outcropping altered gneiss with rock-chip copper values up to 18.5% and gold values to 1.86 g/t), and the Chert Ridge prospect (extensive strike length with strongly anomalous gold in outcrop up to 172 g/t).

The WPG IPO was underwritten by Terrain Capital Markets Limited.

**For further information:**

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