



Alba Mineral Resources Plc (“Alba” or the “Company”)

Mauritania Fieldwork Recommences

Alba Mineral Resources plc, the UK-based exploration company announces it’s 50% owned UK subsidiary Mauritania Ventures Limited (MVL) has commenced a new season of uranium exploration fieldwork in northern Mauritania.

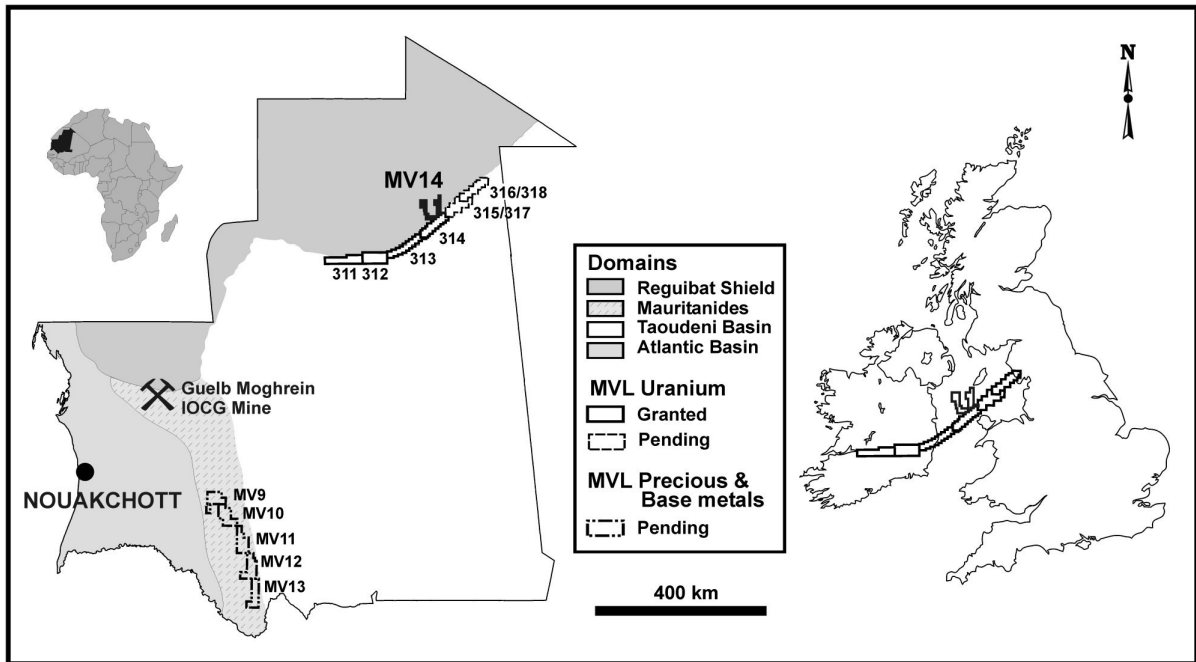
Highlights

- Recommencement of uranium fieldwork in northern Mauritania
- Remote sensing alteration and structural study of ASTER satellite images completed with 27 targets for follow-up investigation identified
- 10 additional uranium targets identified based on airborne gamma-ray interpretation
- The first phase of Iron oxide-copper-gold (IOCG) reconnaissance exploration in southern Mauritania has been completed and results will be announced shortly

The Company is pleased to announce that MVL, their 50% owned UK subsidiary has commenced fieldwork on their two uranium exploration permits (315 and 316), which cover an area of 2,993 km², in northern Mauritania. In addition, the Mauritanian Department of Mines has given permission to MVL to conduct exploration in an area under application known as MV14, totalling 1,496 km².

The initial phase of fieldwork is currently being undertaken in the licence areas. This fieldwork is focusing on 37 targets identified by Alba technical staff and an ASTER satellite (remote sensing) study by Murphy Geological Services. Ten (10) highly anomalous areas, within the 37 targets, were also identified using airborne radiometric survey data commissioned by the Government of Mauritania and flown by Fugro Airborne Surveys. Work that will be carried out will include ground-based radiometric surveying, lithochemical sampling and reconnaissance mapping. Analytical results and an interpretation of this phase of fieldwork will be the subject of a future update.

Results from the reconnaissance field programme carried out in 5 areas under application in mid-December are pending. This fieldwork was carried out to investigate the iron oxide-copper-gold (IOCG) potential and logistics of MV9 to MV13. The Mauritanide Belt hosts the Guelb Moghrein mine (23.7 Mt grading 1.88 % Cu, 1.41 g/t Au, and 143 ppm Co), which lies 260 km to the northwest of MVL’s southern licences.



Map showing Mauritania Ventures Ltd. permit position in Mauritania and (for comparison) a map of the UK and Ireland with the Mauritanian uranium permits superimposed. The Guelb Moghrein iron oxide-copper-gold mine is also illustrated.

Managing Director's Statement

Michael Nott, Group Managing Director and Chairman, commented, "We are pleased to report that our second phase of fieldwork in northern Mauritania has begun, and look forward to reporting the results of our reconnaissance work on the northern permits as well as our sampling programme on the IOCG targets in the south of the country. We believe Mauritania to be under-explored and that the country has excellent potential to host additional economic mineralization."

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Enquiries

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Notes to Editors

Alba Mineral Resources plc is a committed, technically driven explorer with a commodity focus on uranium, nickel and gold. Alba currently has interests in a number of well researched properties owned in its own right or in conjunction with other parties, primarily in Scotland, Mauritania and Sweden. The Company also has gold and base metal interests in Scotland and Ireland.

The Company's overall corporate and exploration strategy will continue to be one of developing a portfolio of well-researched, promising and prospective exploration properties that will be pursued further, either in the Company's own right or in conjunction with other parties.

To create value, projects will be either sold outright (in whole or part), spun off into a separate company, joint ventured to include a cash consideration and/or maintaining a 'Net Smelter Return' or developed into operating mines. The Company will have a principal focus on the Arthrath nickel-copper-platinum group elements project in Scotland, uranium and copper-gold in Mauritania, and nickel and copper-gold in Sweden.

Alba will actively assess, as a priority, the uranium potential of the three uranium permits awarded in Mauritania, and are fully committed to continuing nickel exploration in Sweden as part of a collaborative exploration effort part funded by the Altius Minerals Corporation of Canada.

Precious- and base- metal properties in Ireland and Scotland will continue to form part of the company portfolio and will be carried forward on a timely basis, with a view to seeking joint ventures on each where warranted.

Geology and Mineral Potential of the Mauritania Permits

The three uranium permits held, and the three uranium permits pending, by MVL are considered by the Company to be highly prospective for hosting unconformity-type uranium mineralization, analogous to that seen in the Athabasca region of Canada. The permits awarded cover significant areas of an unconformable contact between early Proterozoic reworked granitic terrane and overlying sediments of late Proterozoic to Carboniferous age.

Airborne geophysics flown on behalf of the Mauritanian Government indicates radiometric anomalies within organic-rich units near the base of these sedimentary sequences, coincident with large, deep-penetrating crustal shear structures. Uranium mineralization is known to the north and northwest of the permit area, and is hosted in granites and rhyolites cut by these shear structures. Airborne radiometrics has been shown to be an effective technique in uranium exploration in Niger where radiometric anomalies are associated with all known uranium deposits in the area surrounding the Arlit and Akouta uranium mines in the east of the country. Niger, some 2000 km east of MVL's current exploration activity, is the world's third largest producer of uranium after Canada and Australia.

Dr Sandy M. Archibald (B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.) Technical Director of Alba has reviewed the information contained herein. Dr. Archibald has sufficient experience, which is relevant to the style of mineralization under consideration and to the activity he is undertaking as a qualified person as defined by the Guidance Note for Mining and Oil & Gas Companies under the AIM Rules for Companies.

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