

■■■■ TRI ORIGIN EXPLORATION LTD.

NEWS RELEASE
March 21, 2000

CORPORATE SUMMARY:

Trading Symbol - TOE
Exchange - TSE
Shares Outstanding – 13.8M
Fully Diluted – 16.7M

OPERATIONS:

Tri Origin is exploring for gold and base metals in Canada, and Australia. The resource delineated at Lewis Ponds, Australia is 5.7 million tonnes of massive sulphides with Au, Ag, Zn, Pb and Cu. The Lewis Ponds deposit is open at depth and along strike. Exploration is continuing on a diverse portfolio of 100% owned projects and projects in joint venture with major partners. Properties in Canada and Australia will be explored through drilling during the coming year.

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LEWIS PONDS RESOURCE RECALCULATED AND NEW TARGETS DELINEATED

TRI ORIGIN EXPLORATION LTD. (TSE:TOE) has re-interpreted results of previous mineral resource drilling at its Lewis Ponds project and determined that the resource is larger than previously assessed. Furthermore, new targets have been outlined adjacent to the resource which exhibit excellent potential to lead to substantial increases in the size of the deposit. The Lewis Ponds deposit is 100%-owned by Tri Origin's subsidiary Tri Origin Australia N.L. and is favourably located 200 kilometres west of Sydney in the Lachlan Fold Belt, NSW, Australia. Lewis Ponds is one of the largest known undeveloped volcanic-hosted massive sulphide deposit in the Lachlan Fold Belt.

Upon completion of drilling during the 1990's the deposit was estimated to contain 3.7 million tonnes grading 3.2 grams of gold (Au) and 147 grams of silver (Ag) per tonne, 5.17% zinc (Zn), 3.31% lead (Pb) and 0.23% copper (Cu). However, a recent study has led to changes in the estimate. The Indicated Resource is now 5.7 million tonnes of 1.9 grams of Au and 97 grams of Ag per tonne, 0.19% Cu, 2.0% Pb and 3.4% Zn. It consists of two parts. The first is at the "Main Zone" extending from surface to 200 metres below surface and calculated at a 2.5% Zn equivalent cut-off grade. It comprises 3.5 million tonnes grading 0.9 grams of Au and 45 grams of Ag per tonne, 0.12% Cu, 0.8% Pb and 2.1% Zn. The second is higher-grade mineralization at the "Main Zone and Tom's Zone" which are 900 metres apart and extend from approximately 150 to 450 metres below surface. This part of the resource is calculated at a 7.5% Zn equivalent cut-off grade and comprises 2.2 million tonnes grading 3.5 grams of Au and 170 grams of Ag per tonne, 0.30% Cu, 3.7% Pb and 5.6% Zn.

The study has also led to clarification and better understanding of the structural geology at Lewis Ponds. Re-interpretation of results from over 30,000 metres of drilling indicates that there are numerous fold repetitions to the known mineralization. Drilling has, to date, identified 4 parallel "Shoots" at the Main Zone. All of the Indicated Resource is contained within Shoot 1. The others contain significant drill intersections but at too wide a spacing to define a resource. Shoot 2, for example, contains a 42 metre horizontal width averaging 2.8 grams of Au and 108 grams of Ag per tonne, 0.17% Cu, 3.8% Pb and 4.7% Zn. Delineation of resources contained within the newly identified shoots is the principal objective for the next phase of work. These targets have excellent potential for new discoveries and, consequently, definition of a much larger, viable Reserve.

This work was completed as part of preparations to seek a public listing on the Australian Stock Exchange. If successful, this will provide a facility to adequately finance the advancement of the Lewis Ponds project.

The mineral resource estimation was completed by Peter Nicholson who has over 10 years relevant experience estimating base metal Mineral Resources and Ore

Reserves. The terminology used in this report conforms to the latest JORC Code of Australia.