

encouragement so we are moving out regionally to bring those shallow, high-grade ounces up.”

Beacon hardly let smoke from the New Year’s Eve fireworks settle before it hit the Barlee gold project again.

A further drilling campaign had begun by February, anticipated to further expand the mineralised region at Barlee and define additional Halleys East-type targets.

The program will complete around 2000 geochemical samples, 10,000m of RAB drilling and 5000m of RC drilling focused on defined target areas.

“We are evaluating the regional geology based on the reprocessing of aeromagnetic data, and then we start off with the geochemical sampling, then move into the RAB drilling, and finally RC and diamond drilling based on targets,” Harris explained.

“Over 20 priority structural targets have been identified, so we are doing a lot of further regional work with that focus in mind.”

The goal of Beacon Minerals is fairly straightforward at this stage. That is to become a producer within a short timeframe, with a

stand-alone operation at Barlee based on a current exploration target of more than 500,000 ounces of contained gold.

“The aim of the whole thing is to get, as a starting point, a 300,000 to 500,000 ounce resource,” Harris continued.

“Because what we have seen so far has been high grade and shallow, it is anticipated that will give us very, very low operating costs and 300,000 to 500,000 ounces will support a second-hand, refurbished plant.

“That would give us a very good margin, obviously, between gold price and cash costs and quick plant payback and the ability to pour cash into more deeper and regional exploration.”

Most of the mineralisation Beacon has encountered so far has been contained in a relatively small area.

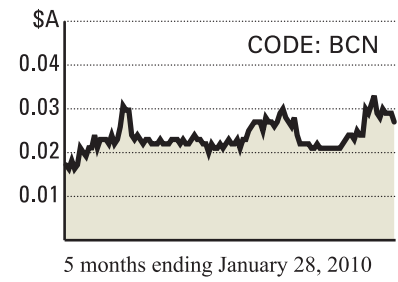
That said, it is also high grade and open along strike and at depth. The company also has a good number of regional targets that it is yet to explore.

There is little wonder Beacon Minerals is confident of attaining success at the Barlee gold project.

– Wally Graham

The Barlee gold project has a number of prospective targets

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MARKET CAPITALISATION
 \$A20.5 million (at press time)

MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS
 Geocrystal Limited 2.9%
 Paticoa Nominees 2.6%
 Forty Traders Limited 2%