**Auking Mining Limited** 

Suite 2208, Level 22 127 Creek Street Brisbane Queensland 4000 ASX:AKN

ABN 29 070 859 522 Phone 07 3535 1208 www.aukingmining.com



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# **ASX RELEASE**

# AuKing to proceed with extensive drilling at Mkuju; drilling tenders being called

AuKing Mining Limited (ASX: AKN) is pleased to announce details of its proposed Stage 2 exploration drilling program at the Mkuju Uranium Project in southern Tanzania.

**AuKing CEO, Paul Williams said** AuKing is looking forward to proceeding with its Stage 2 drilling program at Mkuju, after the initial Stage 1 activities identified some significant areas of uranium mineralization.

"The planned 75 drill hole (11,000m) air core/RC drilling program at Mkuju is expected to commence in late May, after cessation of the wet season. The work we carried out last year in the Stage 1 program identified several key target areas for the proposed drilling. Under local content rules in Tanzania a tender is required to be called from drilling service companies and that process has now commenced," Mr Williams said.

# 2024 Mkuju Exploration Program (Stage 2)

# (a) Program Aims

There are some key aims associated with the proposed Stage 2 drilling program at Mkuju as follows:

- Carry out the first detailed exploration drilling program in this region to the immediate south of Nyota;
- Test the high priority target areas that have emerged from the Stage 1 program and sit within the historical Mantra Resources radiometric survey;
- Carry out a drilling pattern of several holes for each target area in order to maximise the prospects of intersecting uranium mineralization;
- Test the potential mineralized extents of certain target areas in the three new Eastern PLs that coincide with the Mantra radiometric anomaly; and
- Generally, provide the basis for a further Stage of drilling that will primarily be focused on establishing an initial mineral resource estimate (MRE) at Mkuju.

#### (b) Proposed activities

The principal activity of the Stage 2 program will be the planned 75 drill hole (circa 11,000m) program utilizing a track-mounted air core/RC drilling rig. The proposed drill hole locations are shown in Figure 1 below. This particular rig is being sought for the program for two main reasons:

- The access tracks and general terrain in the proposed drill sites are very rough and not at all suitable for the standard truck-mounted drilling rig; and
- Having the ability to switch to RC drilling could be important if a drill hole is in mineralization but the air core drilling does not have the capacity to go deeper in the hole.

It is likely that (subject to crew availability) further soil and rock chip sampling and general mapping will also be undertaken, particularly in the new eastern PL areas, with a focus on continuing to see correlation between sampled material and the Mantra radiometric anomaly.

Another aspect of the planned drilling is to continue the practice of utilizing a portable pXRF unit out in the field to test potential mineralization of the drilling samples. The general approach would be to continue drilling in a hole location (beyond the planned number of holes in that location) in order to maximise the data that is obtained from this location. The flip aide to this approach is if drilling in a certain location fails to identify any mineralization after a few planned holes, then a decision may be taken to mobilise the rig to another area and not just drill for the sake of drilling. On that basis, the planned 75 holes (over an average 150m depth) is likely to be a reasonable estimate of the additional drilling in good areas, and less drilling in the areas of little success.

Furthermore, in the event of some success with the drilling program, there may also be the opportunity to secure an additional drilling rig for mobilization to the area in order to bring forward some of the planned Stage 3 MRE drilling activities.

#### (c) Stage 2 Program Time Period

There is an expectation of mobilizing the drilling rig in late May/earlyJune at the latest. Knowledge gained from last year's activities is that the ground is still very wet (and virtually inaccessible) until 2 months after completion of the annual wet season in the Mkuju area. At the other end of the calendar, the preference will be to cease operations by the end of November and not taking risks with an early-onset of rainfall in December. That effectively provides 5 months of concerted drilling time. Even though the air core/RC drilling should proceed relatively quickly, there will always be machinery breakdowns and failures as well as some time delays with the rig being trammed around to the various target sites.

Samples derived from the drilling will be regularly sent to the laboratory for assay, as the drilling continues.

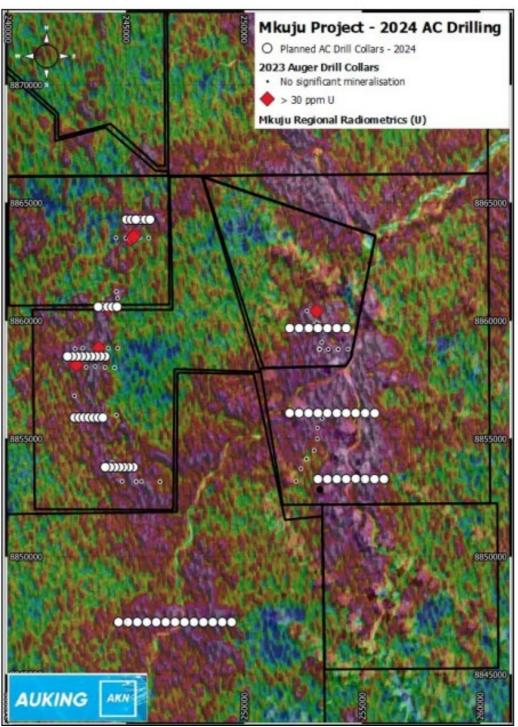


Figure 1 – Proposed Stage 2 Mkuju drilling locations.

# (d) Personnel/Drilling Contractors

AuKing has now established a reliable and very competent team of field geologists and field hands as a result of the drilling that was undertaken last year at Mkuju.

From a drilling rig perspective, because of the size of the program (more than US\$100k) AuKing is required to carry out a tender for the drilling services under the Tanzanian local content rules. This process has already commenced.

#### (e) Proposed Budget

Based on the experiences gained from the Stage 1 drilling in 2023, AuKing has budgeted an estimated US\$800k cost for the Stage 2 program (including a 10% project contingency). This estimate may vary depending on the levels of success being achieved with the drilling (for example, another rig may be brought to site to commence MRE drilling in the event of success in certain target areas). AuKing will announce details shortly of its funding plans for the Stage 2 program, with the intention being to minimize significant dilution to existing holders.

#### For more information, please contact:

Paul Williams	Gareth Quinn
Chief Executive Officer	Investor Relations
Mobile +61 419 762 487	Mobile + 61 417 711 108
p.williams@aukingmining.com	gareth@republicpr.com.au

#### **About AuKing Mining**

AuKing Mining (ASX:AKN) is a mining exploration company focused on uranium, copper and zinc projects in both Tanzania and Australia.

AuKing is focussed on the exploration and development of six uranium and copper projects in Tanzania including:

*Mkuju* – near to the world class Nyota uranium project in southern Tanzania; the subject of significant previous exploration

*Manyoni/Itigi* – the subject of significant exploration situated in central Tanzania, just west of Dodoma

*Mpanda/Karema* – prospective copper areas in western Tanzania that were the subject of historic mining operations but largely untouched by modern exploration methods.

The Company also holds the Koongie Park Copper Zinc Project in Western Australia's Halls Creek Region hosts a JORC resource and is neighboured by several significant mining and development operations including Nicholson's Gold Mine and Savannah Nickel Mine. Koongie Park has already been the subject of significant exploration drilling and analysis since the 1970's, hosting over 300 RC and diamond drill holes consisting of more than 60,000m of drilling in total. AuKing announced the promising results of its Koongie Park Scoping Study in June 2023 on a proposal to commence mining operations around a central processing facility at Sandiego.

For further information

www.aukingmining.com



