Almonty Completes Final Technical Review Prior To Processing Plant Equipment Installation at the Sangdong Mine

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Highlights:

- Completion of pilot plant test works for trial tungsten concentrate production across two locations: South Korea and Portugal
- Clears path for processing plant equipment installation at Sangdong by Metso.

Almonty Industries Inc. ("Almonty" or the "Company") (TSX: AII / ASX: AII / OTCQX: ALMTF / Frankfurt: ALI.F), is pleased to announce the successful completion of its pilot plant trial production, which marks the final stage of flotation processing technology development ahead of processing plant equipment installation at the Company's Sangdong Mine in South Korea.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20240911046423/en/

Pilot Processing Plant Testwork at Almonty's Pilot Plant (Photo: Business Wire)

The Company has developed a specialized flotation technique tailored to the unique properties of Sangdong's tungsten ore through a tireless number of lab-scale and continuous process tests at the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources ("KIGAM"). Scaling up this process required further verification on a larger scale. The pilot plant trial production was crucial not only for identifying potential challenges in the main plant but also for acquiring operational expertise prior to full-scale production.

Therefore, prior to the processing plant's construction, tungsten ore from the Sangdong Mine was processed at two pilot plants, each representing 1/500th the size of the actual plant. The pilot plant trial production was conducted at two locations-Portugal during September, 2023 and the Sangdong mine during July and August, 2024 -validating the stability of the Company's proprietary flotation processing technology.

These tests were carried out at the National Laboratory for Energy and Geology ("LNEG") in Portugal, and at Sangdong, using equipment commissioned by the Korea Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning ("KETEP") under the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Energy. As a result, the Company successfully produced tungsten concentrate ("WO?") with a content of over 60%.

In Portugal, the pilot plant mirrored most of the future industrial plant in Sangdong. The feed grade was around 0.45% WO?, and the concentrates consistently exceeded 60% of contained WO?, achieving recoveries around 82%.

In Sangdong, although equipment limitations and lower-grade ore (below the 0.15% WO? cutoff) presented challenges, a recovery of 86.3% was achieved thanks to an improved flotation process and optimized reagent adjustment. In particular, during the sulfide flotation stage, which removes impurities, the tungsten grade improved. This indicates that the concentration of sulfide impurities, which are typical contaminants in tungsten concentrate, can be reduced, ensuring the future stability of 60% to 65% WO? grades in concentrate production.

Based on these results, the Company and its equipment supplier Metso Outotec are now comfortable to sign off on the processing having met all the design performance parameters. Additionally, the tests at Sangdong Mine confirmed the potential to reduce reagent usage while maximizing efficiency.

Mr Lewis Black, Chairman, President and CEO commented: "With the successful completion of the pilot plant phase, all preliminary preparations related to process technology development and equipment performance validation have been finalized. With minor adjustments to the equipment and reagents at the processing plant currently under construction, we anticipate stable production of tungsten concentrate from our Sangdong Mine during 2025. The time we have spent building and operating two pilot plants in Korea and Portugal has been essential to ensure the main plant works out the gate. We have been operating the two pilot plants for almost three years, so we have been able to refine and perfect the processing which will ensure a quick and smooth processing commissioning. We are a go."

About Almonty

The principal business of Toronto, Canada-based Almonty Industries Inc. is the mining, processing and shipping of tungsten concentrate from its Los Santos Mine in western Spain and its Panasqueira mine in Portugal as well as the development of its Sangdong tungsten mine in Gangwon Province, South Korea and the development of the Valtreixal tin/tungsten project in northwestern Spain. The Los Santos Mine was acquired by Almonty in September 2011 and is located approximately 50 kilometres from Salamanca in western Spain and produces tungsten concentrate. The Panasqueira mine, which has been in production since 1896, is located approximately 260 kilometres northeast of Lisbon, Portugal, was acquired in January 2016 and produces tungsten concentrate. The Sangdong mine, which was historically one of the largest tungsten mines in the world and one of the few long-life, high-grade tungsten deposits outside of China, was acquired in September 2015 through the acquisition of a 100% interest in Woulfe Mining Corp. Almonty owns 100% of the Valtreixal tin-tungsten project in north-western Spain. Further information about Almonty's activities may be found at www.almonty.com and under Almonty's profile at www.sedarplus.ca.

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Forward-looking statements are based on assumptions management believes to be reasonable, including but not limited to, no material adverse change in the market price of ammonium para tungstate (APT), the continuing ability to fund or obtain funding for outstanding commitments, expectations regarding the resolution of legal and tax matters, no negative change to applicable laws, the ability to secure local contractors, employees and assistance as and when required and on reasonable terms, and such other assumptions and factors as are set out herein. Although Almonty has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results, level of activity, performance or achievements not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate and even if events or results described in the forward-looking statements are realized or substantially realized, there can be no assurance that they will have the expected consequences to, or effects on, Almonty. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements and are cautioned that actual outcomes may vary.

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