

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

# ATON EXTENDS THE GOLD MINERALIZED ZONE AT THE ABU GAHARISH PROSPECT, AND ANNOUNCES THE DISCOVERY OF NEW AU-W-CU MINERALIZATION AT NORTH GAHARISH

Vancouver, December 19, 2017: Aton Resources Inc. (AAN: TSX-V) ("Aton" or the "Company") is pleased to provide investors with an update on exploration activities at the Abu Gaharish and North Gaharish prospects at the Company's 100% owned Abu Marawat Concession ("Abu Marawat" or the "Concession"), located in the Eastern Desert of Egypt.

#### Highlights:

- Follow-up channel profile sampling and individual channel and grab sampling has expanded the
  mineralized zone at the Abu Gaharish prospect, with gold mineralization now identified over a strike
  length in excess of 2.4km;
- Surface channel sample profiles returned assay intersections of up to **31.2m** @ **1.04** g/t Au, and 3.6m @ 11.05 g/t Au at Abu Gaharish. Individual channel samples returned assays of 5.50 g/t Au over a 2m interval, and a grab sample returned an assay of 11.4 g/t Au;
- The recently completed GPR survey at Abu Gaharish has indicated the possible presence of mineralized structures to the west of the Main Zone, concealed under wadi sediments;
- Surface reconnaissance has identified new zones of Au-W-Bi-Cu mineralization at the North Gaharish area, with visible gold identified from quartz veins, effectively extending the mineralization along the entire eastern contact of the Gaharish granite, over a total strike length in excess of 5km.

"If Rodruin is the new primary exploration target at the Abu Marawat Concession area, then most certainly Abu Gaharish will be a close second" said Mark Campbell, President and CEO. "The assay results that have come back coupled with its overall size, which appears to continue to increase with the more work we do, potentially make Abu Gaharish a significant large bulk minable gold deposit and a project that we intend to vigorously pursue".

#### **Abu Gaharish Prospect**

Further surface sampling has been completed at the Abu Gaharish prospect (see Figure 1) to follow up on grab and channel samples assaying up to 22.6 g/t Au and 26.6 g/t Au (see news release dated June 7, 2017). 55 profiles (GHC-001 to GHC-055) were channel sampled for a total of 505m, with the channel profiles averaging 9.2m in length. A total of 248 channel samples were collected from surface outcrop over nominal, but not exclusively 2m intervals, and were manually collected using hammer and chisel, under the supervision of senior Aton geologists (see Figure 2 for sample locations at Abu Gaharish). Details of all mineralized intervals intersected in the channel profiles are provided in Appendix A. Furthermore a total of 36 point surface samples were also collected from Abu Gaharish, including 32 individual channel samples taken over an average sample length of 1.5m, and 4 selective grab samples. Details of all individual and grab samples are provided in Appendix A.

Selected mineralized intersections from the surface channel profile sampling are presented in Table 1, and include intervals of 31.2m @ 1.04 g/t Au (GHC-001) and 8.1m @ 1.25 g/t Au (GHC-040) from the Main Zone; 1.7m @ 17.8 g/t Au (GHC-026) from the NE Extension Zone; 3.6m @ 11.05 g/t Au (GHC-007) from the area

south of the Main Zone, and **1.10m @ 45.85 g/t Au** (GHC-054) from a new high grade mineralized zone identified approximately 1.5km to the north of the Main Zone.

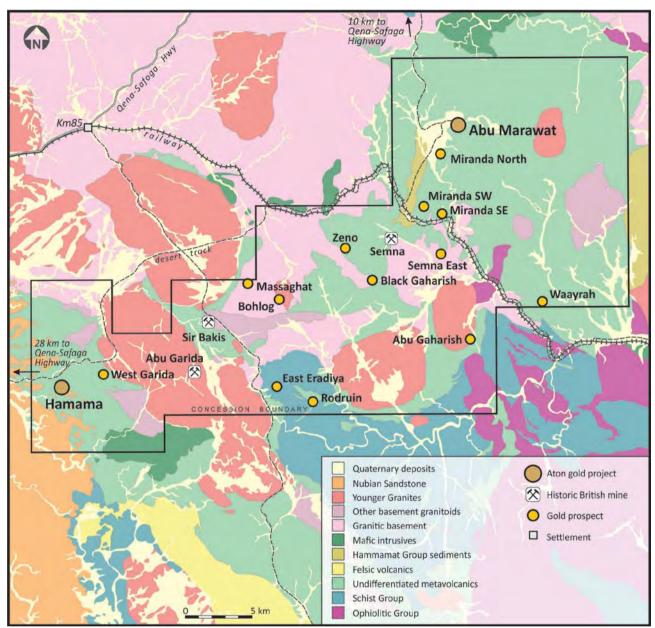


Figure 1: Abu Marawat regional geology, showing the location of the Rodruin and Abu Gaharish prospects

Channel		Inters	ection	Zone				
Profile ID	From (m)	To (m)	Width (m)	Au (g/t)	Zone			
GHC-001	0.00	31.20	31.20	1.04	Main Zone (MZ)			
GHC-007	0.00	3.60	3.60	11.05	Southern extension of MZ (500m south)			
GHC-009	2.30	4.50	2.20	7.73	Southern zone (800m south of the MZ)			
GHC-022	0.00	6.00	6.00	1.18	NE Extension Zone			
GHC-026	0.00	1.70	1.70	17.80	NE Extension Zone			
GHC-036	0.00	6.50	6.50	1.44	Main Zone			
GHC-037	0.00	2.10	2.10	8.31	Main Zone			
GHC-038	17.00	24.20	7.20	1.19	Main Zone			
GHC-039	10.60	14.90	4.30	2.28	Main Zone			
GHC-040	6.40	14.50	8.10	1.25	Main Zone			
GHC-052	0.00	2.10	2.10	5.44	Southern zone (900m south of the MZ)			
GHC-054	2.00	3.10	1.10	45.85	Northern zone (1500m north of the MZ)			

Table 1: Selected surface channel sampling mineralized intersections from Abu Gaharish

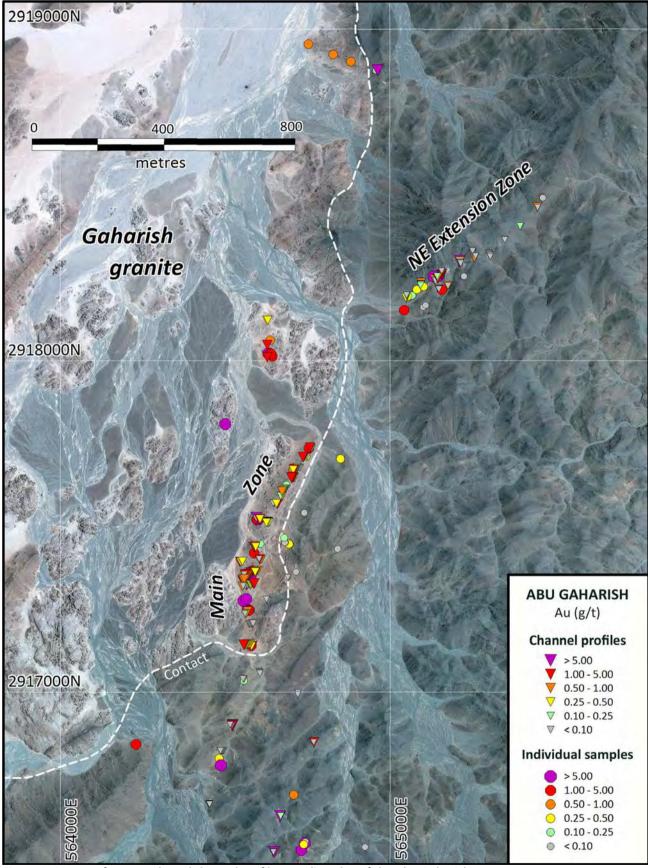


Figure 2: 2017 surface sample and channel profile sampling plan of the Abu Gaharish prospect

Individual channel samples also returned assays of up to 5.5 g/t Au over a 2m sampling interval (sample 16822) from a zone of narrow sheeted veins within the Gaharish granite, in a separate mineralized zone approximately 600m north to north-west of the Main Zone. A single grab sample (sample 16986) returned an assay of 11.4 g/t Au from a narrow quartz vein approximately 900m to the south of the Main Zone.

This sampling programme has confirmed the results from the previous sampling programme (see news release dated June 7, 2017), and has confirmed the widespread occurrence of gold mineralization at Abu Gaharish, as well as extending it further north of the Main Zone along the contact of the Gaharish granite, with mineralization now having been intersected over a 2.4km strike length. Wide zones of mineralization were intersected at surface in the Main Zone, over the main area of ancient workings. The mineralization at Abu Gaharish is strongly structurally controlled and is located close to the contact of the Gaharish granite with the surrounding country rocks. Mineralization also occurs in the NE Extension Zone in metavolcanics, where it is strongly associated with W, with extensive wolframite and scheelite identified in samples. High grade gold mineralization also occurs to the south of the Main Zone in altered serpentinites, and further to the north and west of the Main Zone within and on the contact of the Gaharish granite. The gold mineralization at Abu Gaharish is associated with accessory W, Pb and Cu minerals, and has broad similarities to the mineralization at Bohlog (see news release dated December 4, 2017), and appears to have reduced intrusion-related (RIRG) affinities.

#### Abu Gaharish GPR survey

A total of 6 deep penetrating GPR profile lines were completed at the Abu Gaharish prospect by Terravision Exploration ("TRV") during November 2017, with a combination of 3m and 6m antenna lengths (see Figure 3), using their proprietary GPR*plus* equipment. 4 long E-W profiles (GH-1 to GH-4) were completed over the Main Zone mineralization, to try and identify the mineralized structures and the granite contact between the Gaharish granite and the country metavolcanic and sedimentary sequence, and also to test for possible repetition of the generally west-dipping mineralized structures under wadi sediment cover to the west of the Main Zone. Additionally 2 shorter, more detailed profiles (GH-5 and GH-6) were run across the Main Zone mineralization using shorter 3m antennae to provide orientation over the mineralized structures and ancient workings seen at surface in the Main Zone. Profile GH-5 was coincident with the eastern end of profile GH-3.

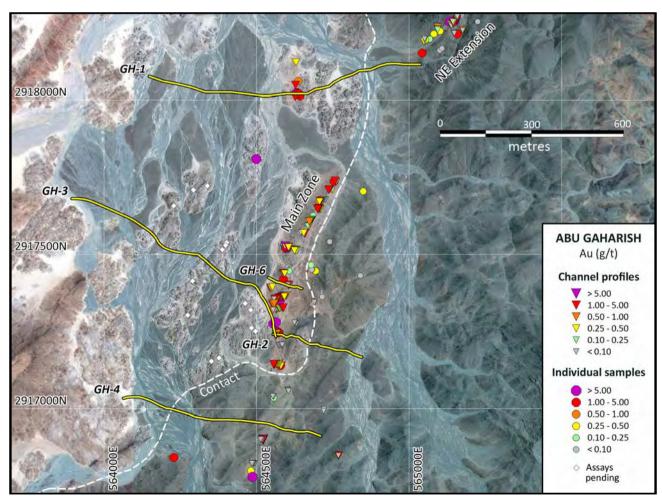


Figure 3: Location of GPR lines (GH-1 to GH-6) at the Abu Gaharish prospect, and locations of new sampling

A preliminary interpretation report has been received from TRV. Results from the Abu Gaharish prospect were generally encouraging, with significant responses being indicated to the west of the known mineralized structures in the long profiles GH-1, GH-3, and GH-4. The responses from the western ends of these lines were quite "noisy", and suggest the presence of a series of structures within the granites, causing radar velocity changes at depth (see Figure 4). These velocity changes may be caused by mineralized quartz veins, but may also be a response to faults or dykes. Nonetheless the preliminary interpretation is encouraging, with the GPR profiles suggesting a complex series of structures to the west of the Main Zone, concealed under wadi sediments.

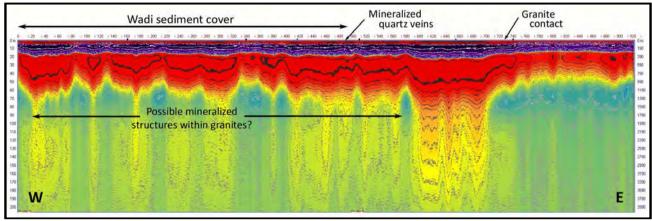


Figure 4: GPR profile GH-1, showing granite-metavolcanics contact, and possible granite-hosted mineralization

Subsequent field investigation of 'islands' of outcropping granite within the wadi sediments has revealed the presence of additional mineralized structures and veins, which have also been sampled (see Figure 3). Assay results of these samples are expected in January 2018.

The current phase of sampling has confirmed Aton's belief that the mineralized *en echelon* vein system at the Abu Gaharish Main Zone has potential for reasonable width and possible depth continuity, and that other parallel and "ladder" type structures are likely to exist near and to the west of the Main Zone. Furthermore preliminary results from the deep penetrating GPR survey indicate potential structures concealed under wadi sediments west of the Main Zone, suggesting the potential for the structurally controlled mineralization to extend to the west under cover. Mineralized quartz veins have also been identified in 'islands' of granite to the west of the Main Zone, again suggesting the potential for an areally extensive mineralized system. The current sampling and geophysical programmes continue to indicate the **potential for the existence of a substantial structurally controlled zone of gold mineralization of RIRG affinity at Abu Gaharish**.

#### **North Gaharish Prospect**

Recent field investigation of the North Gaharish area (see Figure 5) has indicated the widespread outcrop of auriferous W-Bi-Cu bearing quartz veins in an area of extensively phyllic to argillic altered rocks that appear to comprise a thick pile of felsic volcanics, close to the contact of the Gaharish granite. Large amounts of wolframite were identified in some of the veins. Mineralized veins were also identified within the Gaharish granite itself. In places this granite appears to being shelving to the east with a relatively shallow eastwards dip under the metavolcanic country rocks. There are also ultramafic rocks outcropping in the North Gaharish area. A number of ancient wadi workings were identified in the area, and also some mining on auriferous quartz veins. Visible gold has been identified in several hand specimens. A number of samples have been collected from the North Gaharish area; with assay results expected in late January 2018 (see Figure 5).

The identification of Au-W-Bi-Cu mineralization in the North Gaharish area is significant in that it effectively extends the known mineralization along the entire eastern contact of the Gaharish granite contact over a full strike length in excess of 5km. The possibility that the granite shelves gently under the metavolcanic package may also be significant in that the mineralization is related to the granite contact, and could thus extend further to the east of the mapped contact at surface, as well as into the granite itself. The mineralization has a Au-W-Bi-Cu metal assemblage similar to that identified at Abu Gaharish some 4km to the south, and again

suggests possible RIRG affinities. The discovery of gold-tungsten mineralization at North Gaharish is considered very important, and coupled with the extension of the structurally-controlled mineralized system at Abu Gaharish, it indicates the **potential development of a large system of RIRG gold mineralization along the entire eastern margin of the Gaharish granite**, greater than 5km long in strike length.

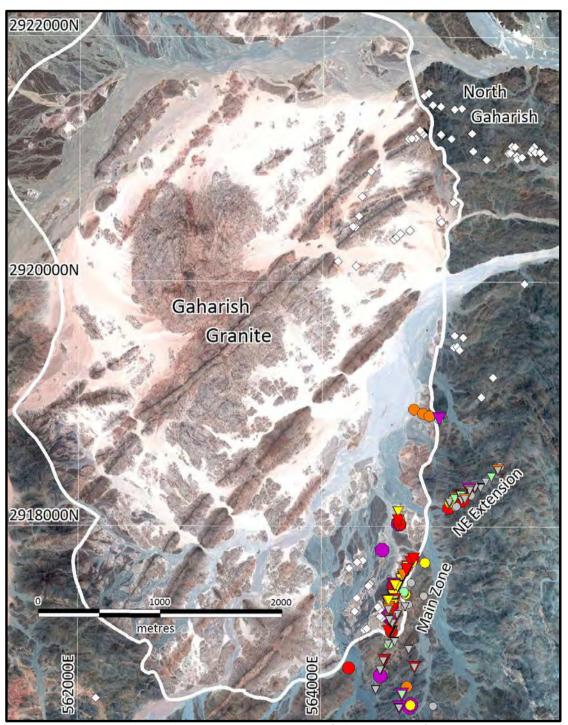


Figure 5: North Gaharish sample locations, assays pending (white diamonds)

All samples reported were analyzed for gold at ALS Minerals at Rosia Montana, Romania by fire assay, using analytical code AA-Au23 (repeated by code AA-Au25 for samples which initially returned gold grades greater than 10 g/t Au). It is noted that individual grab samples are selective, and may not be representative of the true grade of mineralization at the prospects.

## **Activity update:**

- Metallurgical testwork on the four 120kg bulk composite samples of oxide and transitional mineralized material from the Hamama West deposit continues at Wardell Armstrong International's mineral processing laboratory in the UK. Column leach tests were started on November 27, 2017. Preliminary indications after the first 14 days are that the leach kinetics are very fast, with the preliminary results indicating 70% recovery of Au from both agglomerated and non-agglomerated oxide samples (-12.5mm crush size) and from the -8mm fraction transitional sample, after 14 days of leaching. Note that these are preliminary and indicative results only, and will not be finalised until the completion of the column test.
- Cube Consulting have completed the revised block model of the Hamama West deposit, which will be incorporated into the revised mineral resource estimate.
- The preliminary report has been received from Terravision Exploration covering the results of the
  recent deep ground penetrating radar geophysical survey undertaken over the Waayrah, Miranda
  VMS, Abu Gaharish, Sir Bakis, Semna, Bohlog and East Eradiya prospects. An initial review of this
  report is being undertaken, and it is now anticipated that the final report will be issued early in 2018.

#### **About Aton Resources Inc.**

Aton Resources Inc. (AAN: TSX-V) is focused on its 100% owned Abu Marawat Concession ("Abu Marawat"), located in Egypt's Arabian-Nubian Shield, approximately 200 km north of Centamin's Sukari gold mine. Aton has identified a 40 km long gold mineralized trend at Abu Marawat, anchored by the Hamama deposit in the west and the Abu Marawat deposit in the east, containing numerous gold exploration targets, including three historic British mines. Aton has identified several distinct geological trends within Abu Marawat, which display potential for the development of RIRG and orogenic gold mineralization, VMS precious and base metal mineralization, and epithermal-IOCG precious and base metal mineralization. Abu Marawat is over 738km² in size and is located in an area of excellent infrastructure, a four-lane highway, a 220kV power line, and a water pipeline are in close proximity.

#### **Qualified Person**

The technical information contained in this News Release was prepared by Roderick Cavaney BSc, MSc (hons), MSc (Mining & Exploration Geology), FAusIMM, GSA, SME, Vice President, Exploration, of Aton Resources Inc. Mr. Cavaney is a qualified person (QP) under National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects.

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#### **Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Some of the statements contained in this release are forward-looking statements. Since forward-looking statements address future events and conditions; by their very nature they involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Actual results in each case could differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements.

Neither TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

# Appendix A – Abu Gaharish channel profile intersections

Channel	Length (m)	Start Location		End Location		Intersection			
Profile		Х	Υ	х	Υ	From	То	Width	Grade
ID						(m)	(m)	(m)	(g/t)
GHC-001	33.5	564586	2917363	564558	2917356	0.00	31.20	31.20	1.04
GHC-002	10.2	564627	2917514	564635	2917514	0.00	3.90	3.90	1.11
GHC-004	4.0	564582	2917139	564580	2917139	0.00	2.00	2.00	1.71
GHC-006	1.9	564589	2917436	564588	2917436	0.00	0.60	0.60	3.03
GHC-007	11.6	564523	2916901	564514	2916902	0.00	3.60	3.60	11.05
GHC-008	5.0	564771	2916848	564768	2916849	2.00	3.00	1.00	3.46
GHC-009	9.0	564664	2916626	564670	2916626	2.30	4.50	2.20	7.73
GHC-022	15.9	565157	2918257	565158	2918271	0.00	6.00	6.00	1.18
GHC-023	8.4	565146	2918248	565144	2918254	0.00	2.30	2.30	3.73
GHC-024	4.0	564626	2918010	564628	2918010	2.00	4.00	2.00	1.56
GHC-025	3.9	564627	2918049	564628	2918048	2.00	3.90	1.90	2.31
GHC-026	9.9	565212	2918301	565215	2918294	0.00	1.70	1.70	17.80
GHC-030	6.3	564659	2917567	564656	2917569	0.00	2.00	2.00	1.63
GHC-031	3.6	564591	2917439	564593	2917439	0.00	1.60	1.60	1.34
GHC-033	8.8	564611	2917400	564603	2917402	6.00	8.20	2.20	2.09
GHC-036	6.5	564603	2917522	564607	2917523	0.00	6.50	6.50	1.44
GHC-037	4.7	564596	2917526	564594	2917525	0.00	2.10	2.10	8.31
GHC-038	26.4	564727	2917678	564707	2917671	17.00	24.20	7.20	1.19
GHC-039	14.9	564748	2917710	564736	2917710	10.60	14.90	4.30	2.28
GHC-040	14.5	564711	2917647	564701	2917647	6.40	14.50	8.10	1.25
GHC-042	22.1	564576	2917146	564556	2917144	17.60	22.10	4.50	1.70
CHC 04E	28.3	564563	2917322	564588	2917328	2.20	4.40	2.20	1.51
GHC-045						26.20	28.30	2.10	1.36
GHC-047	9.1	564553	2917337	564558	2917341	0.00	9.10	9.10	0.95
GHC-048	13.3	564542	2917391	564552	2917395	4.10	6.20	2.10	1.35
GHC-052	4.7	564648	2916518	564646	2916517	0.00	2.10	2.10	5.44
GHC-054	3.1	564964	2918878	564963	2918876	2.00	3.10	1.10	45.85
GHC-055	6.7	564764	2917736	564758	2917738	6.40	6.70	0.30	1.26

### Notes:

- 1) Channel profiles sampled over nominal, but not exclusively, 2m intervals
- 2) Intersections calculated using a 0.5 g/t Au cutoff grade
- 3) Intersections both less than 2m in width and grading less than 1 g/t are not included in this table
- 4) Start location refers to the start coordinate of the first channel sample; end locations refers to the start coordinate of the end sample, and not its end coordinate
- 5) All coordinates are UTM (WGS84) Zone 36R

Appendix B – Abu Gaharish grab samples and individual channel samples

Sample ID	Sample Type	Length (m)	х	Υ	Au (g/t)	Sample Description
16743	Channel	2.0	565068	2918197	0.20	Highly altered oxidised rock with 1mm to 3cm sheeted quartz veins
16748	Channel	1.0	565054	2918195	0.31	Altered fine-grained rock, with 5-10cm sheeted quartz veins
16749	Channel	0.5	565081	2918214	0.47	Altered fine-grained rock with 0.5 to 3cm sheeted quartz veinlets
16759	Channel	0.8	565102	2918223	0.41	Main quartz vein
16785	Grab		565464	2918491	0.01	Altered serpentinite
16809	Channel	0.8	565225	2918254	0.04	Quartz vein
16811	Channel	2.0	565158	2918215	0.01	Sheared altered fine-grained rock with 10cm quartz vein
16815	Channel	1.2	565158	2918214	1.23	Altered, sheared fine-grained rock
16816	Channel	0.4	565108	2918167	0.01	Quartz vein
16817	Channel	2.0	565101	2918161	0.02	Highly sheared altered rock
16818	Grab		565043	2918152	1.07	Quartz vein
16822	Channel	2.0	564631	2918022	5.50	5-15cm sheeted parallel quartz veins
16823	Channel	2.0	564636	2918022	1.87	2-15cm sheeted parallel quartz veins
16824	Channel	2.0	564639	2918021	2.04	2-15cm sheeted parallel quartz veins
16825	Grab		564637	2918062	0.59	Quartz vein with malachite; sericite-albite alteration
16833	Channel	2.0	564959	2918876	0.11	Sericite-albite altered fine-grained rock
16834	Channel	0.7	564753	2918955	0.90	Sheared quartz vein
16835	Channel	0.5	564828	2918924	0.84	Sheared quartz vein
16836	Channel	0.2	564882	2918902	0.55	Quartz vein
16845	Channel	2.0	564745	2917711	0.41	Altered, sheared granite with sheeted quartz veins
16898	Channel	2.0	564591	2917443	0.20	Highly altered granite, sericite-albite alteration, some sulphides
16968	Channel	0.7	564557	2917035	0.12	Quartz vein
16982	Channel	2.0	564689	2917347	<0.005	Altered, sheared granite with sheeted quartz veins
16985	Channel	1.5	564715	2917363	<0.005	Quartz vein
16986	Grab		564741	2916545	11.40	10cm quartz vein
16987	Channel	2.0	564743	2916550	0.04	Altered fine-grained rock
16988	Channel	2.3	564738	2916541	0.38	Altered, sheared fine-grained rock, with sericite- albite alteration
16996	Channel	1.2	564708	2916690	0.83	Highly sheared altered rock, with 30cm quartz vein
17031	Channel	2.5	564697	2917446	0.22	Sheared friable granite, with sericite-albite alteration, some sulphides
17032	Channel	2.4	564694	2917447	0.34	Sheared friable granite, with sericite-albite alteration, some sulphides
17033	Channel	2.8	564683	2917451	0.07	Sheared granite, with sericite-albite alteration, some sulphides
17034	Channel	2.0	564681	2917451	0.04	Sheared friable granite, with sericite-albite alteration, some sulphides
17035	Channel	1.0	564679	2917466	0.15	Main quartz vein
17036	Channel	0.8	564740	2917541	0.07	Quartz vein
17037	Channel	0.9	564850	2917704	0.38	Quartz vein
17038	Channel	0.9	564841	2917432	0.01	Quartz vein
Notes:						

## Notes:

<sup>1)</sup> Channel profiles sampled over nominal 2m intervals, actual sample intervals are indicated in the table

<sup>2)</sup> All coordinates are UTM (WGS84) Zone 36R