



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 22, 2008**

**FOR: Alhambra Resources Ltd.**

**SUBJECT: Second Quarter 2008 Operational Updates**

**CALGARY**, Alberta – Alhambra Resources Ltd. (TSX-V: ALH) (“Alhambra” or the “Corporation”) is pleased to provide an operational update for the second quarter ending June 30, 2008 on its Uzboy Project located in north central Kazakhstan. These updates include:

- Stacking operations – up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and ahead of 2007 levels
- Production – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter production up 22% to 4,116 ozs from 3,376 ozs in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008
- Sales – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter sales up 4% to 3,272 ozs from 3,140 ozs in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008
- Crushing unit – delivered, assembled and operating
- Exploration – located three new large gold anomalies at Shirotnaia

## **1. STACKING OPERATIONS**

Mining and stacking parameters for the second quarter of 2008 along with comparative information for 2007 are set out in the table below.

<b>Stacking Operations</b>	<b>Q2/08</b>	<b>Q2/07</b>	<b>6 Months YTD 2008</b>	<b>6 Months YTD 2007</b>
Waste Mined (t)	510,128	432,620	963,925	571,050
Waste to Ore Ratio	2.40	2.07	2.34	1.72
Ore Stacked (t)	212,250	209,500	411,750	332,750
Grade of Ore Stacked (g/t)	0.86	1.09	0.81	1.12
Gold Stacked on Heaps (g)	182,908	228,426	332,915	374,318
Recoverable Gold Stacked (g)	128,036	159,898	233,041	262,023

Recoverable gold estimated to be 70% over life of mine

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, Alhambra stacked 212,250 tonnes of oxide ore (“ore”) on its heaps compared to 209,500 tonnes of ore stacked in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007. Of the total amount of ore stacked in the quarter, 64% (136,500 tonnes) came from the East pit, 24% (51,250 tonnes) came from the West pit and 12% (24,500 tonnes) came from the low grade stockpile.

Waste mined during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter increased by 18% to 510,128 tonnes compared to 432,620 tonnes in the corresponding quarter of 2007 mainly due to pushing back the southeast pit wall of the West zone to access higher grade oxide gold mineralization. The amount of waste mined during the 6 months ended June 30, 2008 totalled 963,925 tonnes, an increase of 392,875 over the 571,050 tonnes in the same corresponding period in 2007. The increase in waste mined was due to the pre-stripping of waste on the East zone in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008 and pushing back the pit wall in the West zone during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to access higher grade oxide ore. These activities resulted in an increase in the waste to ore ratio for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 to 2.40, 16% higher than in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 and 6% higher than that experienced in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008.

The gold grade of ore stacked in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 averaged 0.86 grams per tonne (“g/t”), a 15% increase relative to the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008 when the gold grade averaged 0.75 g/t. The average grade of oxide ore stacked in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 was 1.09 g/t gold.

The amount of ore stacked from the West and East pits in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 decreased 3% versus that achieved during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 when 193,500 tonnes at an average grade of 1.12 g/t gold were stacked. The reason why the average grade was lower in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 was because a larger percentage of the total ore stacked in 2008 (64%) came from the lower-grade East pit. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 only 46% of the total ore stacked came from the East pit.

For the 6 months ended June 30, 2008, the amount of ore stacked from the West and East pits was up 31% versus the comparable period in 2007. The increase in ore stacked was offset by a 28% decrease in average grade from 1.16 g/t to 0.84 g/t. The lower average grade in 2008 was the result of 70% of the ore mined in 2008 coming from the East pit as compared to only 32% in the first 6 months of 2007.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008, 72,000 tonnes were added to the low grade stockpile for additional sampling to determine if the grade was sufficient to warrant stacking and leaching. After further sampling, 24,500 tonnes (34%) of material that had an average grade of 0.72 g/t gold was transferred to the heaps. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007, a total of 32,000 tonnes of material was stockpiled of which 16,000 tonnes (50%) at an average grade of 0.76 g/t gold were transferred to the heaps.

A crushing unit with a capacity of 400 tonnes per hour was delivered and commissioned for operations in mid-June 2008. Oxide ore mining operations that were temporarily suspended in the West pit during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2007 are anticipated to attain full capacity during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008. Crushing of the oxide ore from the West pit to -50 millimetres is required to ensure maximum gold recovery. With the availability of the crushing unit, it is anticipated that the average grade of the oxide ore stacked during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter should increase due to blending the lower-grade oxide ore from the East pit with the higher-grade oxide ore from the West pit.

## **2. PRODUCTION AND SALES**

A table summarizing production and sales follows:

<b>Production and Sales</b>	<b>Q2/08</b>	<b>Q2/07</b>	<b>6 Months YTD 2008</b>	<b>6 Months YTD 2007</b>
Gold Sales (ozs)	3,272	4,838	6,412	8,350
Change in Work in Progress (ozs)	844	304	1,080	78
Gold Production (ozs)	4,116	5,142	7,492	8,428

Gold production is defined as sales + the change in Work in Progress

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008, precious metals sales amounted to 3,272 ounces (“ozs”) of gold and 990 ozs of silver. Silver is recovered as a by-product of the gold production process. Revenue from silver sales is credited against the cost to produce an ounce of gold. Gold sales during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 increased by 132 ozs or 4% when compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008, however, gold sales decreased by 1,566 ozs when compared to that sold in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007.

Alhambra began the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 with 23,280 ozs of recoverable gold in work in progress. After stacking 4,116 ozs of recoverable gold and selling 3,272 ozs, the Corporation exited the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 with 24,124 ozs of recoverable gold in work in progress, up 844 ozs.

With the change in the recoverable gold contained in work in progress being 844 ozs as of the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008, production for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 was 4,116 ozs. This compares to 3,376 ozs produced in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008 and 5,142 ozs of gold produced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007.

The financial results for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008 are in the process of being prepared and Alhambra anticipates that this information will be disclosed on or around August 29, 2008.

### **3. EXPLORATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Alhambra temporarily suspended diamond drilling at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008 to allow for completion of geophysical surveys, the receipt of all outstanding analytical results and to compile the technical information for the Uzboy, Dombraly and Shirotnaia areas prior to commencement of further diamond drilling activities. Due to the gold-pyrite mineral association in all three areas, it is anticipated that the geophysical surveys should allow more cost effective exploration of these areas. Contingent on completion of the geophysical surveys, diamond drilling is expected to resume in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008.

#### **a) Shirotnaia**

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008, exploration consisted of completing a deep bedrock geochemical program at the Shirotnaia zone (see news releases dated February 7, 2008 and July 11, 2008), Reverse Air Blast (“RAB”) drilling and geophysical surveys at Aygabak and the commencement of an RAB drilling program at Kirtoge.

In 2007, Alhambra announced a significant gold discovery at the Shirotnaia zone (see news releases dated March 21 and April 26, 2007) approximately 3 kilometres (“kms”) north of the KazakhGold Group Limited mining allotment which hosts the Aksu and Quartzite Hills gold mines.

The bedrock geochemical sampling program resulted in the discovery of three new gold anomalies, the centres of which are located approximately 6 kilometres (“kms”) east of the Shirotnaia gold discovery announced in 2007. These gold geochemical anomalies were outlined using a 0.05 g/t cutoff and are interpreted to be located on and cover approximately 6 kms of the northwest trending Atansorsky Fault zone. The maximum width of the main anomaly is approximately 1.5 kms. Several shorter and narrower parallel gold anomalies occur to the north and south of the main anomaly. Gold values within these anomalies range from 0.05 g/t to a maximum of 1.65 g/t.

This bedrock sampling program also further defined the surface dimensions of two anomalies (see news release dated February 7, 2008) located northwest of the Quartzite Hills gold deposit. Gold values within these two anomalies range from 0.05 to 1.45 g/t. The locations of these anomalies show good correlation with two northwest trending faults that host the Quartzite Hills gold deposit. One anomaly, consisting of two areas of anomalous gold values, has a strike length of approximately 2 kms long and a maximum width of 0.5 kms. A second anomaly is estimated to be 2 kms long with a maximum width of 0.5 kms.

The next phase of exploration planned for the Shirotnaia zone consists of electromagnetic and total field magnetometer surveys. The electromagnetic survey is expected to locate areas of pyrite alteration that is associated with the gold mineralization in the Shirotnaia zone and the total field magnetometer survey is expected to detect lithologic contacts and map bedrock structures such as faults and shear zones.

#### **b) Aygabak**

At Aygabak, ground geophysical surveys consisting of electromagnetic and total field magnetometer surveys and a RAB drilling program commenced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. It is expected that these surveys should be completed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008.

#### **c) Kirtoge**

At Kirtoge, a RAB program commenced during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to test coincident strong electromagnetic and total field magnetometer anomalies for their gold potential. Results of this program are expected during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2008.

## **ABOUT ALHAMBRA**

Alhambra is a Canadian based gold exploration and production corporation engaged in the exploration of and production from its 100% owned Uzboy Project. Alhambra is currently in its seventh year of operations in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Alhambra common shares trade on The TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol ALH and in Germany on the Frankfurt Open Market under the symbol A4Y. The Corporation's website can be accessed at [www.alhambraresources.com](http://www.alhambraresources.com).

Elmer B. Stewart, MSc. P. Geol., a director of the Corporation and a technical consultant, is the Corporation's nominated Qualified Person responsible for monitoring the supervision and quality control of the programs completed within the Uzboy Project. Mr. Stewart has reviewed and verified the technical information contained in this news release.

**The TSX Venture Exchange Inc. has neither approved nor disapproved the information contained herein.**

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*This news release contains forward - looking information including but not limited to comments regarding the timing and content of upcoming work programs, geological interpretations and potential mineral recovery processes. Forward - looking information includes disclosure regarding possible future events, conditions or results of operations that is based on assumptions about future economic conditions and courses of action, and therefore, involves inherent risks and uncertainties. For any forward looking information given, management has assumed that the analytical results it has received are reliable, and has applied geological interpretation methodologies which are consistent with industry standards. Although management has a reasonable basis for the conclusions drawn, actual results may differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements. For such statements, we claim the safe harbor for future.*