



Sitting on a Gold Mine: a Golden Opportunity in Peru

Minera IRL



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Led by experienced CEO, Diego Benavides Norlander, who has spent 30 years within the Peruvian mining industry, and supported by a skilled and knowledgeable team, Minera IRL are ready to scale-up its outputs as well as its impact.

Minera IRL are the owners of two gold mining projects in Peru – Corihuarmi and Ollachea.

Corihuarmi Gold Mine - The Golden Woman

Minera IRL's premier asset is the Corihuarmi (which translates from Quechua to "golden woman") Gold Mine, located at approximately 5000 metres above sea level in the Peruvian Mountains and situated southeast of Peru's capital, Lima.

This open pit mine, which has been in production since 2008, has already seen great success with opportunity for future growth. In its first seven months of operation, it recovered the US\$ 20 million invested into its construction and development. Meanwhile, in its first year of life the mine produced nearly 52,000 oz of gold, with an average value of US\$ 1000 per oz.

With a strong leadership team, sound operating results, and opportunity for, **Minera IRL** is focused on sustainable value creation for its stakeholders. At the heart of this mining company is its desire to nurture the community in which it works.





Since it began operating, Minera IRL has produced 407,000 oz of gold, with the 2021 Mineral Resource Estimate developed by Mining Plus extending the mine's life to the third quarter of 2024. Since its construction, the life of mine has been extended three times.

The Corihuarmi Gold Mine continues to yield encouraging results. Mining Plus used a cut-off grade of 0.1 g/t Au inside the latest pit design for 2021, along with a low strip ratio. Both the pit design and cut-off grade were calculated using a gold price of US\$ 1,500.

“Corihuarmi gave us the opportunity to evidence to our stakeholders that we had the expertise to deliver successful gold exploration and production,” shared CEO, Diego, “Corihuarmi is incredibly beneficial to Minera IRL as it provides us with the finance to run the business and support our communities”.

Ollachea - A Shovel Ready Project

With the expected success of Corihuarmi, Minera IRL's investors were hungry for more, and in 2006 instructed the business to discover a bigger, flagship mine.

It has done just that in its greenfield project, Ollachea.

Acquired from Rio Tinto in 2006, Ollachea is a shovel ready project found in Puno, south-east Peru. The mine region expands nearly 10,000 hectares with two key zones for mine development and gold production - Minapampa and Minapampa Far East.

A Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) completed by Mining Plus, in accordance with Canadian National Instrument 43-101, indicates the mine has an estimated life of 11 years, with 1.13 million oz in the indicated mineral

resource category and 0.6 million oz in the inferred mineral resource category.

A planned expansion of the project at year four estimates the production of 3000 tonnes per day, producing more than 85,000 oz per year to the end of the mine's life. Based on the PEA, the project requires US\$89 million in CapEx, a figure which the business has worked to reduce by 50% from the 2012 Bankable Feasibility Study completed by AMEC which estimated a CapEx of nearly US\$180 million.

Whilst Minapampa Far East offers an opportunity to extend the estimated life beyond the initial 11 years, further potential exists in the Concurayoc zone, an exploration target just 400 meters west of Minapampa. In 2011, a maiden inferred mineral resource was estimated by Coffey Mining to contain 0.9 million ounces of gold.

“Ollachea is a shovel ready project, with an approved environmental and social impact assessment. It's been fully permitted by the Peruvian Government since 2014,” shared Pedro Valdez, Head of Investor Relations, “a 1.2km access and production tunnel has already been built, utilising the skilled labour in the community.”

Once funds have been raised for the construction of Ollachea, the mine can be fully operational in 17 months.

“The goal is to have a proposal launched in early 2023 with a conclusion mid-2023, ultimately producing by 2025,” explained Diego.

With “green mining” being a crucial topic within the industry, Minera IRL will implement



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gravity concentration in its gold processing operations at Ollachea.

Not only does gravity concentration reduce environmental impact by using less chemicals, it also requires low capital and operating costs.

Success Fostered by Philosophy

Combating an industry which has traditionally received a bad reputation for its conduct, Diego and his management team have worked hard to ensure Minera IRL is a mining company with heart.

“For Minera IRL, leadership is horizontal rather than vertical,” explained Diego, “I believe collaboration is key and that decisions should be made collectively”.

In 2021, Diego was recognised by the Peruvian Congress awarding him for his contributions to the economic and social development of the Puno region. This was followed by another recognition awarded by the Regional

Government of Puno, once again for his contribution to the development of the region and particularly the Ollachea community.

“It’s important to know and understand the culture in the region you’re working in, and to leave it better than when you started,” he continued.

In order to develop a strong relationship with the people of Ollachea, Minera IRL invested US\$100,000 in the build of a community centre. This gave the local community an opportunity to develop their own committees, including those for women, children, and healthcare.

“A year after the community centre was delivered, the people of Ollachea invited Minera IRL to work with them on the development of the mine, including complete access to the existing tunnels,” shared Pedro, “in return, they received a 5% share in the subsidiary that will operate the project along with a 30-year surface rights agreement”.

As part of its commitment to the people of Ollachea, Minera IRL has launched 26 social projects, which include medical support, scholarships, the incorporation of community businesses, and the development of a school of performing arts.

“To foster relationships with the young people of Ollachea, we have implemented projects which teach the traditional dance and music of Peru,” said Pedro, “uptake is usually around 90-120 6-18 year olds. Afterall, they will become our colleagues of the future”.

Minera IRL have also established a pilot farm with the people of Ollachea, giving the community the opportunity to sell or consume the produce. Similar projects have been established with reforestation, guinea pig breeding and the production of garments using traditional Peruvian methods. The latter project has received recognition from Peru’s Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism, as well as the UN.

Of its 400 employees, 40% come from the local community.

“The people in the regions where we work are very skilled and this, along with Minera IRL’s expertise, will be reflected in the construction and output of the Ollachea Gold Project,” said Diego.

Ultimately, Minera IRL are on a mission to set an example to the industry whilst raising awareness of the golden opportunities in Peru and becoming the number one gold operator in Peru’s southern region.

“Minera IRL are a fantastic example of what success can look like in Peruvian mining, as well as displaying the flexibility of a medium-sized business,” said Diego, “but at the core we aim to drive impact for our shareholders and communities whilst improving, assuring and shielding labour”.

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