

Resolute Mining says it's committed to new float

Resolute Mining says it will be a "committed" 33.2 per cent investor and support the development of new sharemarket float Viking Ashanti, which will house its erstwhile Ghanaian gold exploration assets.

However, Viking is yet to stipulate an escrow period for Resolute's cornerstone shareholding ahead of the junior's float on the Australian Securities Exchange next month.

Viking has lodged a prospectus for its initial public offering under which it plans to raise \$8 million to fund exploration on gold-prospective tenements in the Ashanti belt, Ghana, previously owned by Resolute.

Viking already has a JORC-compliant inferred resource of 496,000

ounces at its flagship project Akoase East. The junior says it wants to boost the resource figure to more than one million ounces within two years, with drilling about to get under way.

Viking should have a \$20 million market capitalisation at the time of listing, based on the IPO's 30¢ issue price. Resolute has spent \$7 million on advancing the projects, with Viking planning to invest a further \$4 million over the next two years.

Shareholders in Resolute, which will be left to focus on its Syama mine in Mali and Golden Pride producing asset in Tanzania, will be given a priority entitlement to Viking's IPO.

Resolute shares eased 1.5¢ to 98.5¢.

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