



Mineral project advances

TRI Origin Minerals Limited is moving quickly to advance the feasibility study for its Woodlawn underground zinc project near Tarago, following successful completion of the pre-feasibility study.

Managing director Bruce Robertson said on Monday the annual ore production target would be 440,000 tonnes with an initial mine life of eight years.

Tri Origin's prefeasibility study showed the Woodlawn mine had the potential to achieve production of greater than 80,000 tonnes of concentrate a year.

"These initial targets provide an

excellent starting point and would put us in the league of other major zinc mines in Australia," Mr Robertson said.

"The potential for a lengthy initial mine life which would be expected

to be further extended is encouraging."

Tri Origin previously announced a JORC-compliant resource of 10.1 million tonnes comprising 8.5 million tonnes of combined Measured and Indicated resources, grading 10.3 per cent zinc, 1.8pc copper, 4.0pc lead, 0.53 grams per tonne gold and 85 grams per tonne silver, with the remainder Inferred

resources. Mr Robertson said the report laid the groundwork for the immediate launch of a definitive feasibility study and commencement of the statutory approval process, with the aim of achieving development next year.

"On current prices, the project's total resource in situ metal content has a significant contained metal value. The feasibility study will define what can be extracted eco-

nomically and hopefully show the benefit of improved metallurgical processing techniques since the mine last operated in 1998," he said.

The feasibility study will also

focus on underground access to confirm the mine's geotechnical parameters, allowing resources to be converted to reserves.

Tri Origin has budgeted \$2.6 million to complete the feasibility study, with a further \$5 million to gain access to the underground workings as part of the evaluation process.

Metallurgical test work is on track and the results have been encouraging, Mr Robertson said.

Managing the feasibility study will be newly appointed general manager-development Richard Procter, a mining engineer with over 30 years industry experience.