



AIM and PLUS code: MARL

22 April 2009

**Promising initial assays from the La Aurora epithermal gold property,
Deseado Massif, Argentina**

Mariana Resources Ltd. (“Mariana”) has received promising reconnaissance rock sample assays from its wholly-owned 6,000 hectare “**La Aurora I**” property, located in the Deseado Massif of southern Argentina. The latest results come from a new trend which forms a 70m wide structural corridor within the principal 2.5 x 2.5km target area.

Mineralization is present in quartz vein stockworks and sulfide-rich breccias which occur along a NW-SE regional fracture and associated N-S faults. Reconnaissance sampling of float and sub-outcrop of these host rocks has returned strongly anomalous gold (up to 3.0 g/t Au) and molybdenum (up to 0.1 % Mo). Pathfinder elements were also highly anomalous with mercury up to 73 ppm and arsenic up to 2,210 ppm. Potential for high-level epithermal-style gold mineralization is strongly indicated by this mineral array and geological setting.

The Aurora I property forms part of Mariana’s 18,000 hectare Aurora Group of concession applications which are well advanced in the process to grant title. Initial reconnaissance in these other areas has also identified hot-spring style silicification (sinters) and chalcedony breccias with anomalous gold and silver values that warrant immediate follow up sampling.

Commenting today, Managing Director of Mariana Resources Ltd, John Sutcliffe said

“The extensive stockwork-style mineralization identified at Aurora I, characterized by gold, molybdenum and strong pathfinder elements is very encouraging and indicates significant potential for epithermal mineralization under the thin basalt and colluvium cover. This NW part of the Deseado precious metal district is considered to be highly prospective, with two important deposits located some 40 km to the NW”

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

John Sutcliffe
Managing Director

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The exploration programme is being directed by the Argentina Exploration Manager, Dr Gustavo A. Rodriguez under supervision of Managing Director Mr John Sutcliffe. Exploration information in this announcement has been compiled by John Sutcliffe who is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London, a Chartered Engineer and a Member of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Sutcliffe has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralization and types of gold deposit under consideration and to the activity that he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the JORC Code.

Quality Assurance/Quality Control

All technical information for the Company's Argentina projects is obtained and reported under a quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) program. All samples are collected under the supervision of the Company geologists and dispatched via commercial transport to ALS Chemex laboratories in Mendoza, Argentina, and assayed in Santiago de Chile. ALS Chemex's quality system complies with the requirements for the International Standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 17025: 1999. Samples returning greater than 10 g/t gold and/or greater than 100 g/t silver are assayed using gravimetric analyses. Systematic assaying of sample duplicates and commercially prepared standards and blanks is performed for analytical reliability.

