

Media Release

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SUCCESSFUL EXPLORATION SUPPORTS BENDIGO'S AIM OF INCREASING RESERVES

Latest drilling extends main gold reef

In the Company's June 2005 Quarterly Report released today, Bendigo Mining Limited (ASX: BDG, "Bendigo") announced that recent drilling has successfully extended one of its main gold-bearing reefs.

Drilling at the northern end of the 450 metre long Greater Garrard reef, which currently contains 40% of Bendigo's 193,000 ounce gold Reserve, has extended it by at least another 250 metres. Infill drilling returned 11 metres at 20 g/t gold, which is consistent with bulk-sample grades from within the reef. Work will continue over the coming months to test the northerly extension.

Commenting on the results, Bendigo's Managing Director Mr Doug Buerger said, "The current mine plan includes the Greater Garrard reef, so any additions to the reef can easily be incorporated into those plans".

The extension of Greater Garrard marks the second exploration success during the quarter, following the discovery of the Alexandria reef announced in late June. The Alexandria reef is a major gold-bearing reef located close to existing mine development, and it could become a significant new source of production in the next few years.

"Success at Greater Garrard and at Alexandria provides further support to our geological model and our exploration focus. We are confident that as drilling continues, reserves can be expected to grow," Mr Buerger added.

The other major milestone in the quarter was the commencement of plant construction in May 2005. Plant commissioning remains on track for completion in the June 2006 quarter, with gold production commencing at a rate of 120,000 oz/y by June 2006.

About Bendigo Mining

Bendigo Mining Limited (ASX: BDG) is an Australian company developing one of the world's largest and highest-grade new gold projects. The Bendigo Goldfield produced some 22 million ounces of gold over a century of mining, and today contains high-grade gold mineralisation of over 11 million ounces beneath the historic workings. Once fully developed, the mine is forecast to produce over 500,000 ounces of gold a year for more than 20 years, which will position Bendigo Mining as one of Australia's largest long-life gold producers.

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