

# **Advancing the** pershing gold Relief Canyon Mine



# pershing gold Forward-looking Statements

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements: Statements made regarding matters which are not historical facts, such as the Company's strategy to create shareholder value, permit expansion potential re-rating of our stock price, estimated resources and our ability to continue to grow our resource base, results of Preliminary Economic Estimate, estimated Capex to bring project into production, our ability to start production quickly, projected recovery rates, internal economics and cash costs of the project, expectation of near-term free cash flow upon production, potential of greenfields exploration and potential benefits of acquisition and mergers and acquisitions activity; are "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, targeted or implied including delays in or not making a start-up decision, failure to realize the results of the PEA, permitting problems or delays; metals price volatility or lower metals prices than anticipated; exploration risks and results; changes in interpretation of geologic information; problems or delays with production that result in looses or negative or delayed free cash flow; whether we complete any acquisitions or mergers and acquisitions activity and whether such have positive results, world economic and capital markets conditions; inability to raise sufficient external financing to commence production and other risks identified in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and other SEC filings.

Cautionary Note to United States Investors Regarding Estimates of Measured, Indicated and Inferred Resources: We use certain terms in this presentation, such as "measured", "indicated" and "inferred resources", that are defined in Canadian National Instrument 43-101; however these terms are not recognized under the U.S. SEC Industry Guide 7. US investors are cautioned not to assume that any or all of measured, indicated or inferred resources are economically or legally mineable or that these resources will ever be converted into reserves. "Inferred mineral resources" have a high degree of uncertainty as to their existence and it cannot be assumed that all or any part of an inferred mineral resource will ever be upgraded to a higher category. U.S. investors are urged to consider closely the disclosure in our Form 10-K and other SEC filings. You can review and obtain copies of these filings from the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml.

# pershing gold

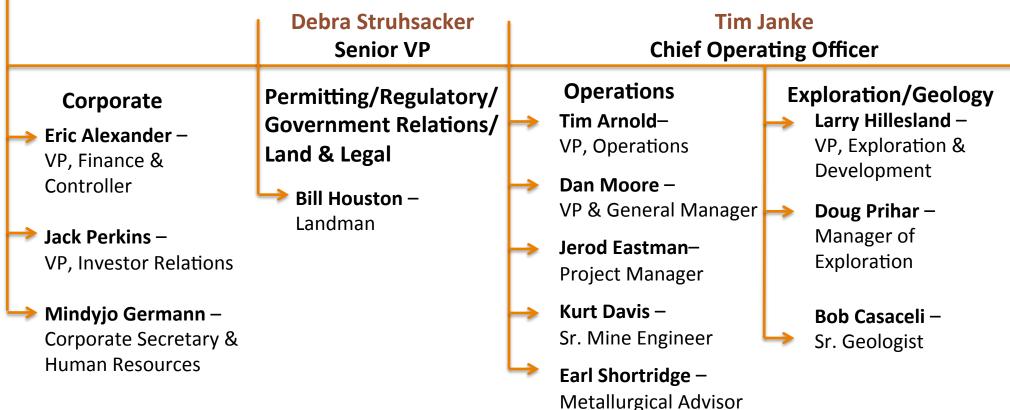
# Experienced Leadership: Management



#### **STEVE ALFERS**

#### **Executive Chairman, CEO & President**

- 30+ years experience in mining industry
- Well known executive and attorney responsible for many landmark mining royalty and property transactions worldwide
- Provided strategic advice on Long Canyon land consolidation and development, and many other Nevada and international projects
- Formerly CEO, New West Gold & Chief of US Operations, Franco Nevada





# Experienced Leadership: Board of Directors

#### **STEVE ALFERS**

#### **Executive Chairman, CEO & President**

- 30+ years experience in mining industry
- Formerly CEO, New West Gold & Chief of US Operations, Franco Nevada

#### **Barry Honig**

#### **Director, Founder**

- President, GRQ Consultants
- Successful investor with extensive knowledge of capital markets

#### **Ed Karr**

#### **Director**

- 20+ years capital markets experience
- CEO and Founder, Strategic Asset Management SA

#### **Alex Morrison**

#### **Director**

- CPA with 25+ years experience in mining industry
- Formerly CFO, Franco Nevada

#### **Scott Barr**

#### **Director**

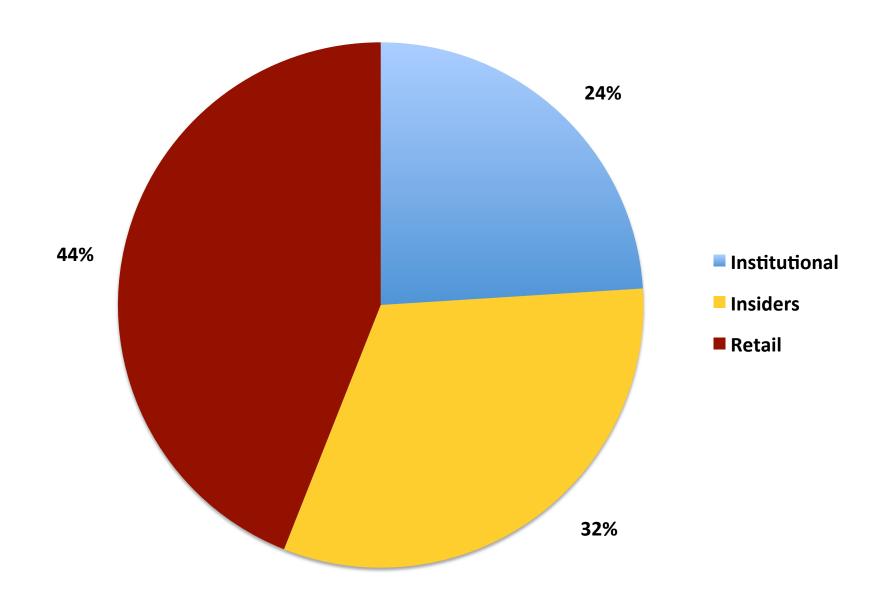
- 25+ years metallurgical and mine operations experience
- Former executive at Newmont Mining

# pershing gold Capital Structure

Capital Structure	
Common Shares Outstanding <sup>1</sup>	28,389,378
Series E Convertible Preferred Stock <sup>2</sup>	2,725,092
Warrants <sup>1</sup>	3,282,808
Warrant Terms: 785,045 warrants - \$7.92 strike price/expire Apr 2017 120,187 warrants - \$5.85 strike price/expire Oct 2017 1,322,019 warrants - \$5.06 strike price/expire Aug 2018 925,000 warrants - \$4.35 strike price/expire Sept 2018 8,334 warrants - \$5.40 strike price/expire Nov 2018 100,000 warrants - \$3.45 strike price/expire Jan 2019 22,223 warrants - \$8.10 strike price/expire Mar 2022	
Restricted Stock Units <sup>3</sup>	986,994
Stock Options <sup>1</sup>	1,794,453
Debt <sup>4</sup>	\$0MM
Cash <sup>4</sup>	\$9.7MM
Gross Proceeds from Recent Offering	\$7.5MM
Insiders & Significant Shareholders <sup>5</sup>	49%
NASDAQ, TSX	PGLC

- 1. As of 2/24/2017. Warrants have an avg. strike price of \$5.44 and avg. remaining life of 1.2 years. Options have an avg. exercise price of \$7.21.
- 2. Common stock resulting from conversion of Series E Preferred Stock. Series E shares pay no interest or dividends.
- 3. Includes 280,000 units subject to vesting upon the attainment of certain performance-based milestones.
- 4. As of 9/30/16.
- 5. Includes Barry Honig, Director, 28.3%; Donald Smith & Co., 10.4%; Levon Resources Ltd., 6.3%; Steve Alfers, CEO, 2.5%; and all other directors and officers, 1.3%. Based on total voting securities, including 2,386,662 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the conversion of Series E preferred stock.





6 As of 2/17

### pershing gold Upcoming Catalysts

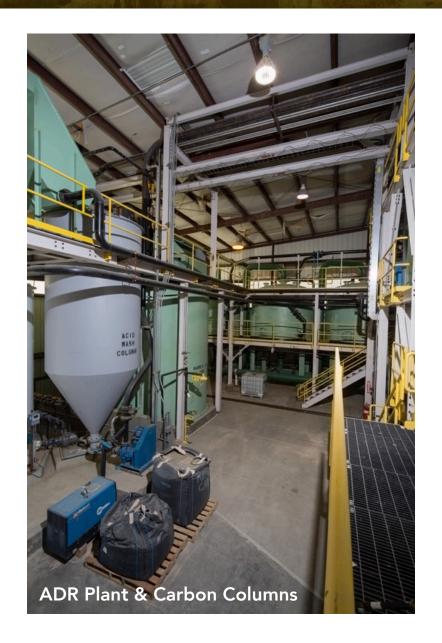
#### **Pre-Feasibility Study & Startup Decision**

- Expected Q2 2017
- Allows for reserves under NI 43-101
- Refines assumptions used in June 2016 PEA
- Incorporates pit slope evaluation
- Contract vs. self-mining detailed capital and operating cost comparison
- Truck vs. conveyor stacking detailed capital and operating cost comparison
- Incorporates additional metallurgical testing
- Line vs. generated electrical power trade-off study

Refined costs for all capital and operating expenses for restart of Relief Canyon

# pershing gold Resource Growth

- Near term production from Relief Canyon
  - Re-rating of stock as Relief
     Canyon moves to production
  - Leverage to gold price
- Resource expansion
  - Deposit is open to west, east and south
  - Drilling results indicate expansion potential
- New discovery potential through exploration of 25,000 acre land package
- Strategic acquisitions and M&A activity



### pershing gold Investment Highlights

### Robust Economics<sup>1</sup>

- Self Mining Option: Cash Cost of \$677/oz Au, AISC of \$709/oz Au, \$22MM Initial CAPEX, \$15.8MM Sustaining CAPEX, Pre-tax Net Cash Flow of \$247.6MM
- Contract Mining Option: Cash Cost of \$772/oz Au, AISC of \$804/oz Au, \$12.2MM Initial CAPEX, \$16.6MM Sustaining CAPEX, Pre-tax Net Cash Flow of \$206MM
- Average LOM production of 88,500 oz Au/year

### Attractively Valued

- Potential for multiple re-rating as Relief Canyon approaches production
- ~\$179MM NPV at \$1,225/oz Au on Relief Canyon alone, PGLC trading at ~\$95MM market capitalization<sup>2</sup>
- Exploration of land package with future discovery potential

#### Growing Resource Base and Significant Exploration Potential

- 2016 Resource Estimate: Measured and Indicated, 778,000 oz Au, Inferred 47,500 oz Au
- Large and prospective land position with significant exploration potential
  - Over 25,000 acres of claims with only ~10% that has been explored to date
  - Located in the Pershing Gold & Silver Trend which as produced over 3.5 Moz of gold historically
- Strong potential for resource expansion, deposit geologically open to the west, east and south
- 2017 Drilling Program now underway

#### Fully Permitted Processing Facility

- State-of-the-art ~14,000 tpd heap-leach production rated facility
- ADR plant size can accommodate future growth and process discoveries from satellite deposits
  - 3,000 gpm capacity and permitted leach pad capacity of 21 million tons

#### Low Risk, Proven Mining Jurisdiction

- Relief Canyon is located in Nevada, one of the lowest risk mining jurisdictions in the world
- Excellent access to infrastructure with processing facilities in place, and electricity and water available

<sup>1.</sup> Based on Relief Canyon PEA published 6/2/2016. Assumes \$1,250/oz Au

<sup>2.</sup> Self-mining, Pre-Tax, 5% discount rate, as of 2/13/17

# pershing gold Relief Canyon PEA Highlights

	Self Mining	<b>Contract Mining</b>
Life of Mine ("LOM")	5.8 years	5.8 years
Average LOM production	88,500 oz Au/year	88,500 oz Au/year
Cash Cost	\$677/oz Au	\$772/oz Au
All in Sustaining Cost ("AISC")	\$709/oz Au	\$804/oz Au
Initial Capital Expenditure ("CAPEX")	\$22 million	\$12.2 million
Sustaining CAPEX	\$15.8 million	\$16.6 million
Pre-tax Net Present Value ("NPV"), 5%	\$189 million	\$159 million
Pre-tax Internal Rate of Return ("IRR")	98%	125%
Pre-tax Net Cash Flow	\$247.6 million	\$206 million
LOM Strip Ratio	3.45	3.45
LOM Crush and Agglomerate Recoveries	80%	80%

#### **Decreased Risk**

- Low CAPEX
- Low Cash Cost
- Low AISC
- Low Strip Ratio

#### **Increased Upside**

- High Leverage to Gold Price
- High NPV
- High Net Cash Flow
- High Recoveries

### pershing gold | Strong Leverage to Gold Price

Gold	Self Mining	Self Mining	<b>Contract Mining</b>	Contract Mining
Price / oz	NPV, 5%	IRR	NPV, 5%	IRR
\$1,100	\$128 million	67%	\$98 million	76%
\$1,150	\$148 million	77%	\$118 million	91%
\$1,200	\$169 million	88%	\$138 million	108%
\$1,250	\$189 million	98%	\$159 million	125%
\$1,300	\$209 million	109%	\$179 million	143%
\$1,350	\$230 million	120%	\$199 million	162%
\$1,400	\$249 million	131%	\$219 million	181%
\$1,450	\$270 million	143%	\$239 million	201%

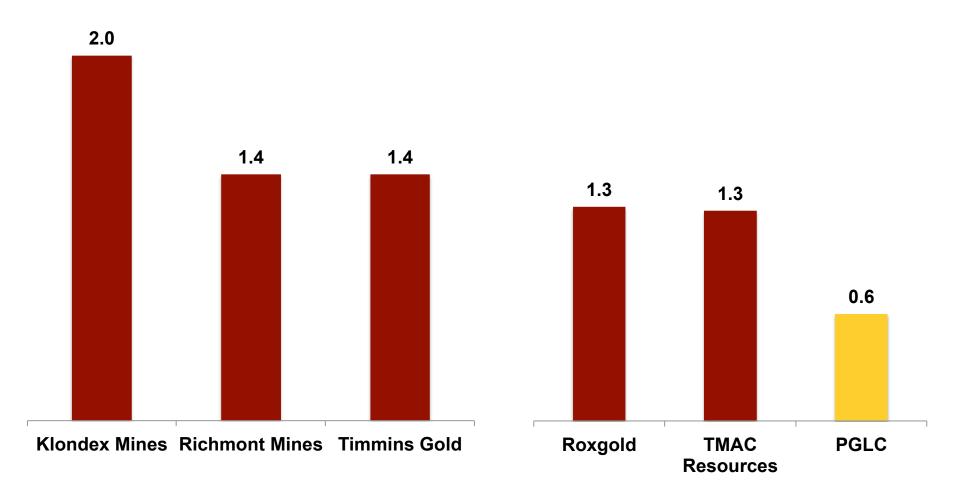
#### Leverage to gold price:

Each \$50 increase in gold price creates ~\$20 million in Net Asset Value

# pershing gold Opportunity for Re-Rating

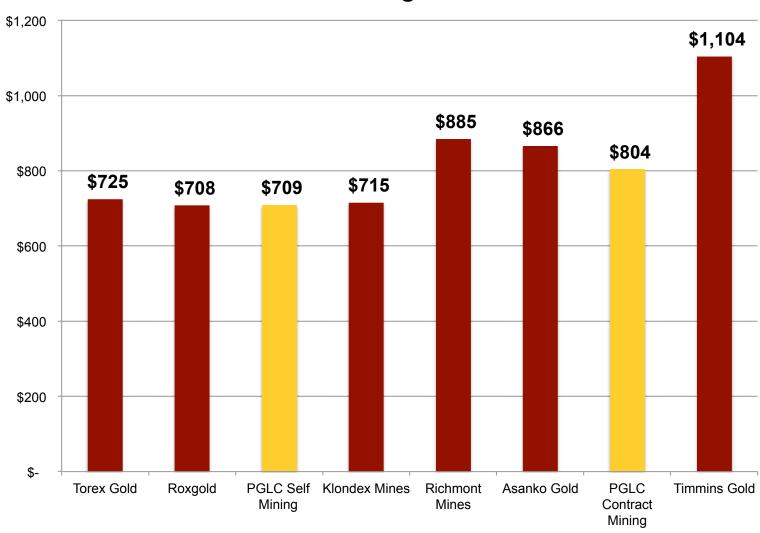


### Developers: Ratio of Share Price to NPV/Share



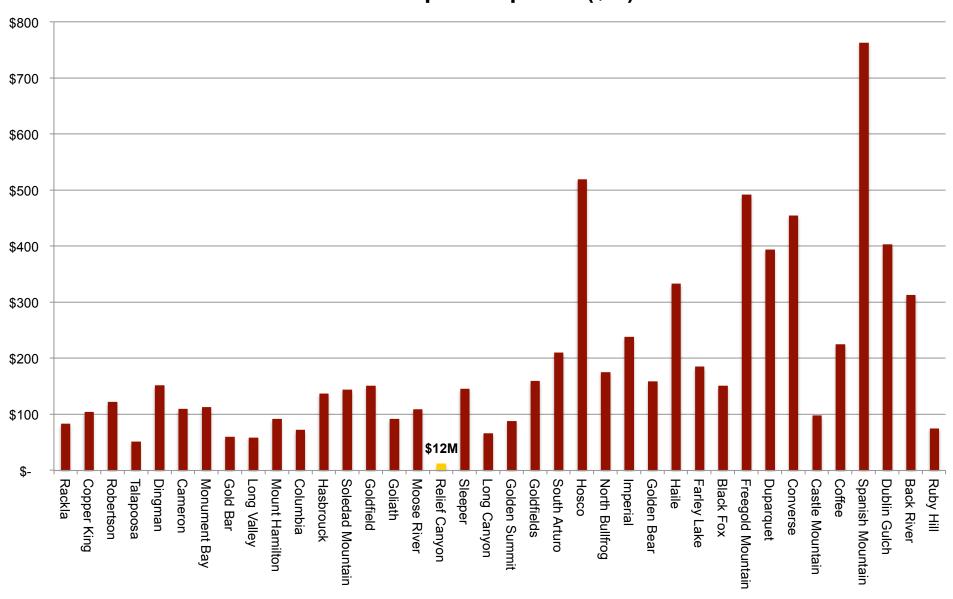
### pershing gold | Peer Comparison: Low AISC

#### 2017E All In Sustaining Costs Per Ounce



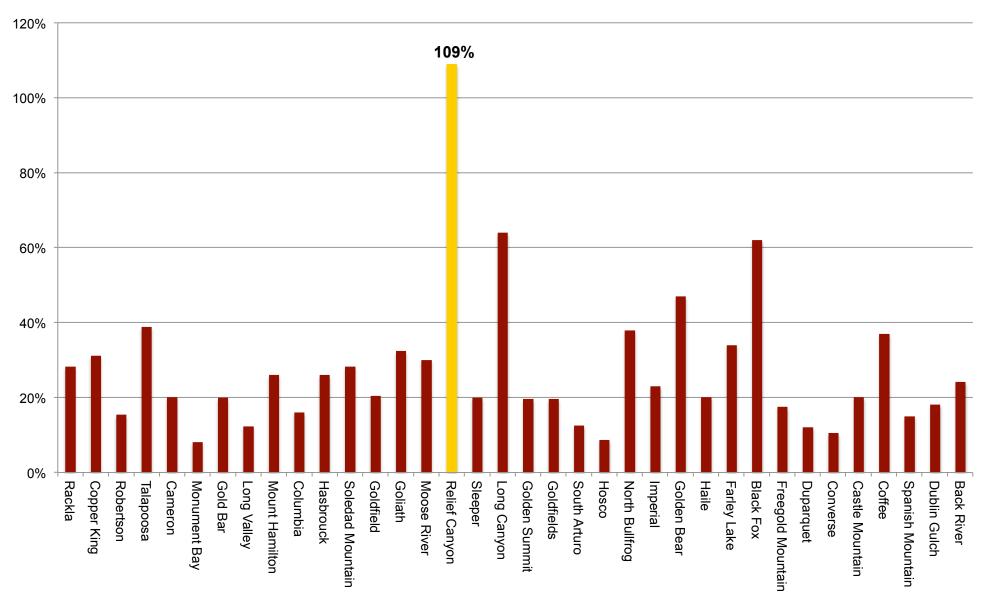
# pershing gold | Peer Comparison: Low Initial CAPEX

#### Initial Capital Expense (\$M)



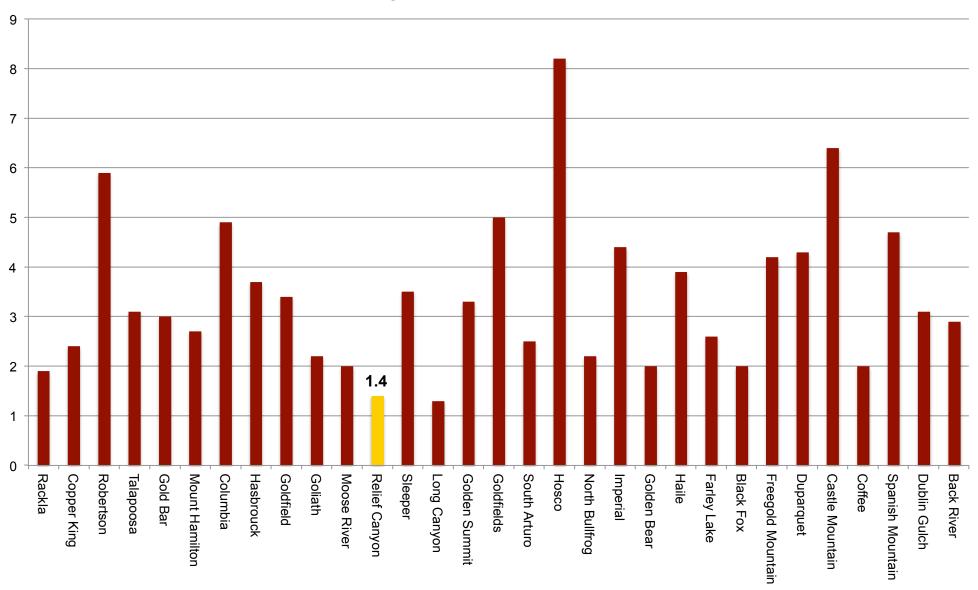
# pershing gold Peer Comparison: High IRR

#### Post-Tax IRR %

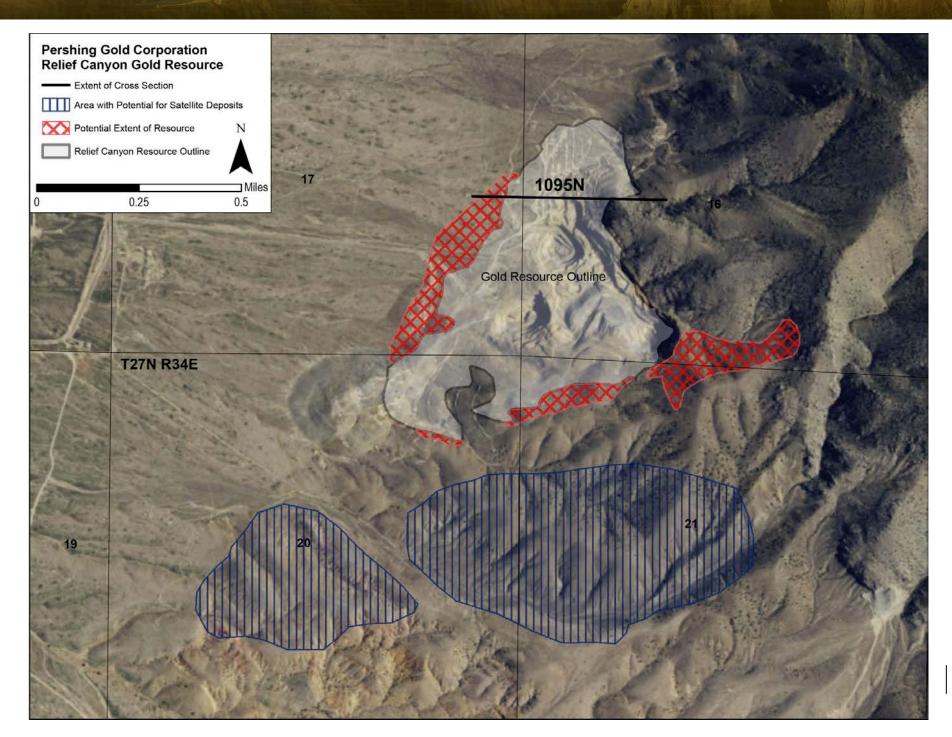


### pershing gold Peer Comparison: Rapid Payback

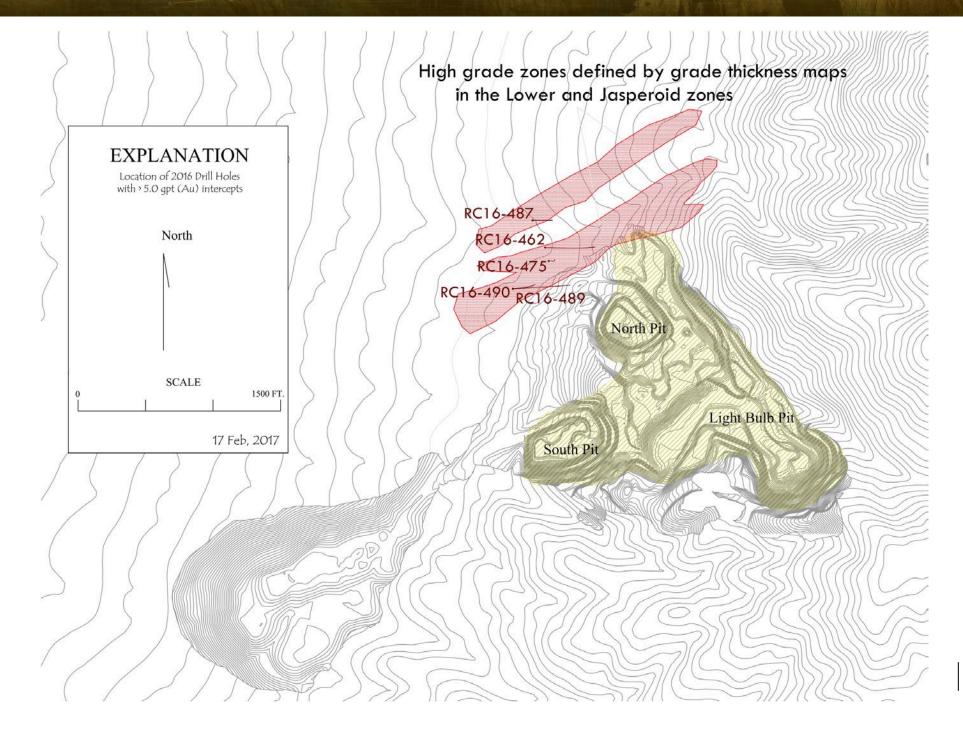
#### Payback Period (Years)



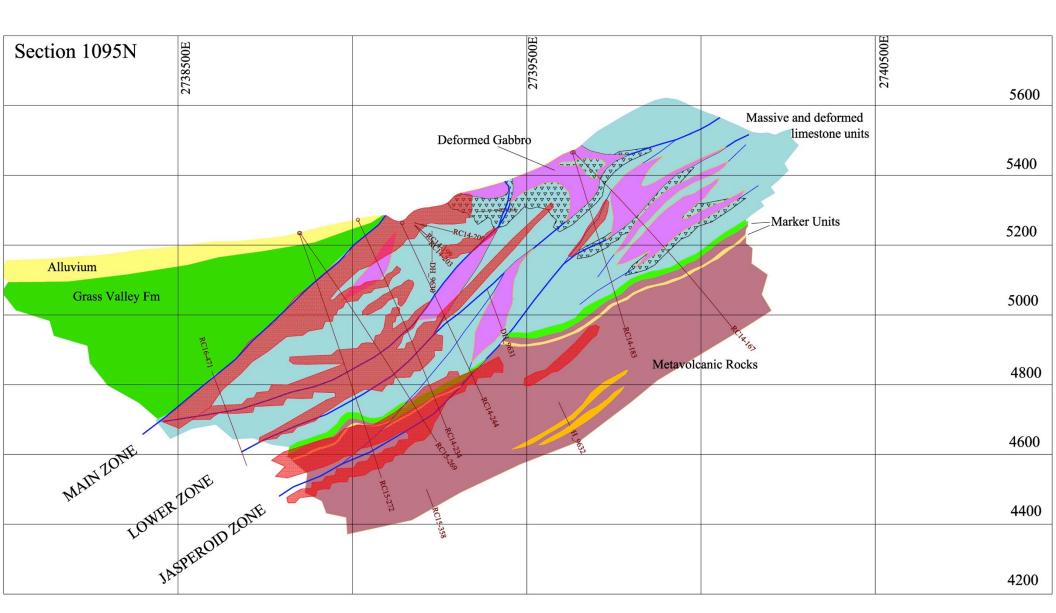
# pershing gold 2017 Drilling Program



# pershing gold | 2017 Drilling Program



### pershing gold | Cross Section 1095N



### pershing gold Situated in a Proven Mining Jurisdiction

- Nevada is ranked the 2<sup>nd</sup> most mining friendly jurisdiction in the world (Fraser Institute)
  - Stable tax regime
  - Robust legal framework
  - Streamlined permitting process
  - Unparalleled access to qualified labor
  - Nearby infrastructure
- Large gold mining industry
  - 23 major gold mines
  - 5 Moz Au produced annually
  - >152 Moz Au have been mined since 1835
- Relief Canyon is situated at the southern edge of the Pershing Gold & Silver Trend along the Humboldt Range
  - The city of Lovelock lies ~19 miles by road west-southwest of the property and had an estimated population of 1,987 in 2013
  - ~95 miles northeast of Reno, Nevada
  - Electricity is available on the property, and water is available from two wells located east of the process plant



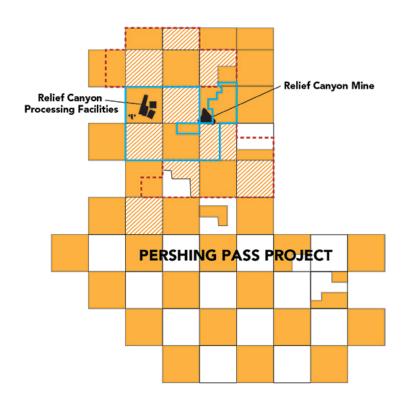
Pershing Gold & Silver Trend has yielded over 5.7 million gold equivalent ounces

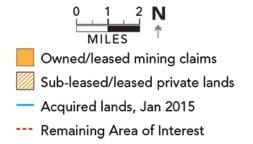
	Willard	Florida Canyon	Relief Canyon	Rochester	Total
Total Historical Production (koz Au Eq.)(1)	67	1,817	130	3,759	5,773

#### Located in a low risk, highly prospective historic mining district

### pershing gold | 25,000 Acre Land Position

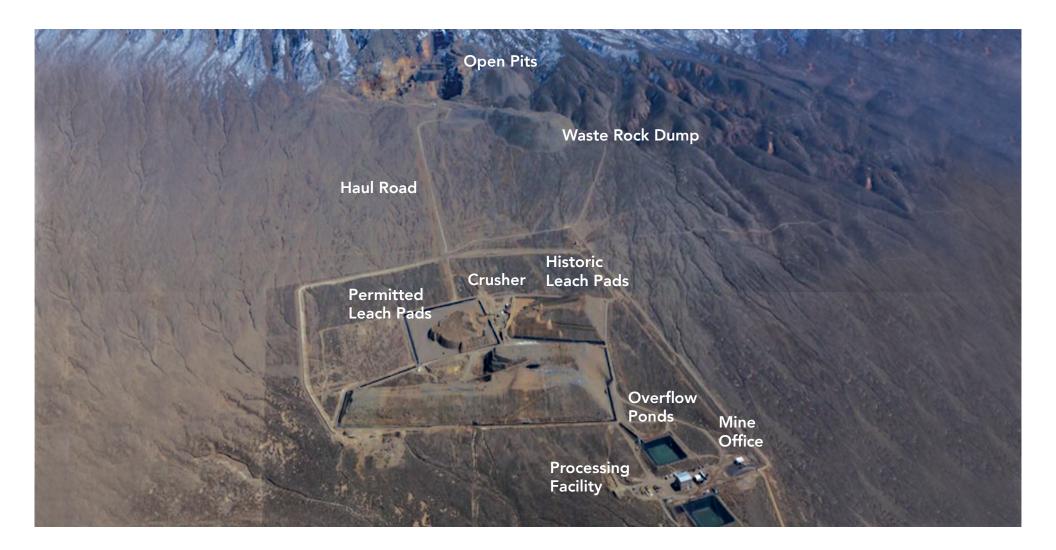
- Grew land position from 1,100 to ~25,000 acres
- Control all land in and around mine site
- Resource geologically open on three sides
- Significant exploration upside
- Potential for satellite deposits
- Existing royalties
  - ~2% total on expected production
  - Net Smelter Return
  - Royal Gold, Newmont & New Nevada Resources





New Discovery Potential through Exploration of 25,000 acre Land Package

# pershing gold | Relief Canyon Mine and Processing Facility



Fully permitted processing facility with key infrastructure in place and short timeline to production

### pershing gold | Fully Permitted Processing Facility

- Heap-leach facility: state-of-the-art ~14,000 tpd production rated facility
- Leach pads: permitted 21 million ton capacity, ¼ currently built
- ADR plant: 3,000 gpm capacity
- Can accommodate growth of deposit
- Ideally situated to process satellite deposits

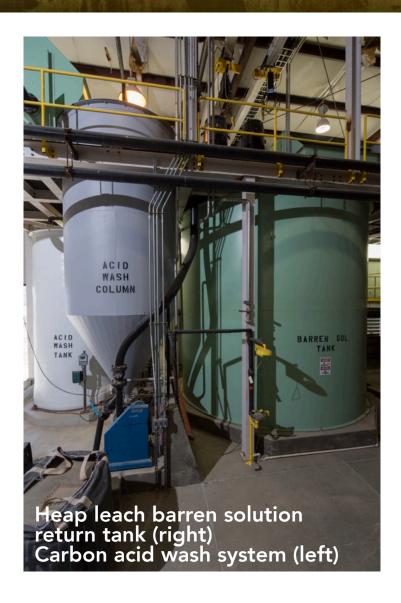




Fully Permitted Mine and Processing Facility with Key Infrastructure in Place

### pershing gold | Extensive Metallurgical Test Work

- >96% of resource is oxide
  - Amenable to heap leach processing
- Anticipating 78% crushed and agglomerated, 22% run-of-mine
  - 80% average recovery for crushed and agglomerated material
  - 60% recovery for run-of-mine processing
- Single-stage-crushing to 80% minus three inch
- Crushing plant annual capacity of 5.4 million tons



### pershing gold | Seamless Permitting Strategy

- Phase I permit modification approved Q3 (BLM) and Q4 (NDEP) 2016
  - Expands pit boundary, deepens the pit (5,080 ft amsl pit bottom), authorizes new waste rock dump, and expands drilling areas
- Phase II permit to expand and deepen the pit to be submitted in 2017
  - Sequential permitting allows simultaneous mining while permitting for next phase
  - Similar phased permitting strategy used for other successful Nevada projects, (e.g. Long Canyon)
- Water pollution control issued January 2017 and air quality permits expected Q1 2017
- No sage grouse habitat issues or other sensitive environmental issues
- Processing facility fully permitted and ready to operate



Fully permitted mine and processing facility with sequential and seamless permitting strategy to expand mineable area

# pershing gold | 2016 Resource Estimate

Category	Cutoff (opt Au)	Tons	Gold (	Grade (gpt)	Total Gold (Ounces)
Measured- Oxide	0.005	13,201,000	0.024	0.82	315,000
Indicated – Oxide Indicated - Sulfide Indicated Total	0.005 0.020 <i>Variable</i>	24,654,000 613,000 25,267,000	0.057		428,000 35,000 463,000
Measured & Indicated Total	Variable	38,468,000	0.020	0.68	778,000
Inferred - Oxide Inferred - Sulfide Inferred Total	0.005 0.020 <i>Variable</i>	5,267,000 16,000 5,283,000	0.029	0.31 0.99 0.31	47,000 500 47,500

<sup>1.</sup> Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum definitions were used to categorize the Mineral Resource.

<sup>2.</sup> Mine Development Associates Geologist, Paul Tietz, is the qualified person responsible for this resource estimate.

<sup>3.</sup> This updated resource estimate includes the results from the ~160 core hole drilling program (~95,000 feet, ~24,000 meters) completed in 2015.

<sup>4.</sup> Rounding may cause apparent inconsistencies.

See Cautionary Notes on page 1.

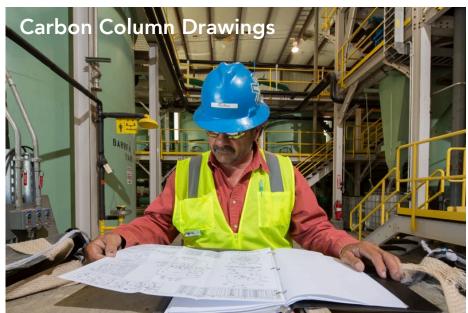
### pershing gold Advancing the Relief Canyon Mine

#### **Business Model**

- Advance Relief Canyon to commercial production
- Expand and upgrade deposit through development drilling
- Explore land position to discover and develop additional gold deposits
- Create value through strategic acquisitions

#### **Investment Highlights**

- Opportunity for re-rating
- Low AISC
- Fast payback period
- Lowest Initial CAPEX among peers
- Highest Post-tax IRR among peers
- Resource expansion through drilling







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