

# SPANISH MOUNTAIN GOLD ANNOUNCES LARGER SCALE PRELIMINARY ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT WITH A BASE CASE NPV5% AFTER-TAX OF C\$1.0 BILLION, 18.2 % IRR AND 3.4 YEAR PAYBACK AT US\$ 2,450/OZ GOLD PRICE; AT US\$3,300/OZ SPOT GOLD PRICE NPV5% C\$2.3 BILLION, 32.0% IRR AND 2.0 YEAR PAYBACK; INCLUDING AN UPDATED MINERAL RESOURCE ESTIMATE FOR ITS SPANISH MOUNTAIN GOLD PROJECT

<u>Vancouver, July 3, 2025</u> - Spanish Mountain Gold Ltd. ("Spanish Mountain" or the "Company") (TSX-V: SPA; FSE: S3Y; OTCQB: SPAUF) is pleased to announce the results of a Preliminary Economic Assessment ("PEA"), including an updated mineral resource estimate ("MRE"), for the Spanish Mountain Gold Project (the "Project"), located within central British Columbia, Canada. The PEA is a conceptual study of the potential economic viability of the Main Deposit Mineral Resource, that includes the Main Zone and North Zone. The PEA will be published in an independent National Instrument ("NI") 43-101 Technical Report within 45 days of this news release and filed on SEDAR+. Once filed on SEDAR+, the PEA will supersede the Spanish Mountain Gold Project Prefeasibility Study ("NI") 43-101 Technical Report (PFS) dated May 31, 2021. The PEA study was commissioned by the Company and prepared by a consortium of consultants led by Ausenco Engineering Canada ULC ("Ausenco"). The PEA envisions a conventional open pit mining and milling operation with a projected 24.5-year life of mine ("LOM") producing 3 million ounces ("Moz") of payable gold, with a front weighted production profile and attractive economics. All currency amounts herein are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated.

President and CEO, Peter Mah stated:

"The re-envisioned, larger scale Spanish Mountain Gold Project and the completion of a new robust, de-risked PEA with updated MRE marks a significant achievement for the Company's transformation from explorer to developer. With over 235,000 metres ("m") of drill information our confidence in the resource quality and proposed mine confirm our strategy to advance the Project towards feasibility and ultimately a build decision by 2027. Project upside is supported by drill success in 2024 to 2025 reinforcing the potential for new additional discoveries of high grade near surface gold mineralization in prospective gold host rocks over the 10 km long property wide corridor. With a regional setting of nearby experienced First Nations, communities, currently producing mines, a power interconnection point near William's Lake, B.C. that is progressing through Stage 2 of B.C. Hydro's system impact study, established mining infrastructure plus workforce, and year round paved road access to within 6 km of the Project site, the Project's favourable location and jurisdiction speak volumes to the Project's overall quality and likelihood to advance to production. Spanish Mountain's commitment to create BC based jobs, business opportunities, and sustainable shared benefits for the First Nation's and surrounding communities has been demonstrated during the 2024-25 drill programs. We've heard the First Nations' and communities' feedback regarding the environment and are pleased to have found a way to address those shared concerns to derisking tailings, waste, and water management. Considering the rising gold price environment supporting the need to rapidly advance gold projects in Canada, and alongside the amazing regional support we've received in British Columbia for the Project to date, we look forward to continuing to earn support for our Project, while conserving and improving the economic sustainable value for all stakeholders. Spanish



Mountain Gold has a bright future ahead creating a new definition of responsible sustainable mining that generations of Canadians will be proud of!"

# <u>Highlights</u>

- Robust Economics: Base case after-tax NPV5% of C\$1,025 million with an after-tax IRR of 18.2% using a gold price assumption of US\$2,450/ounce ("oz"). Using a spot gold price of US\$3,300/oz gold, after-tax NPV5% increases to C\$2,315 million and the after-tax IRR to 32.0%.
- Significant Production and Low Cost: 203,265 oz average annual gold production in the first 5 years at an all-in sustaining cost net of by-product credits ("AISC") of US\$1,024/oz and 122,041 oz average annual gold production over a 24.5-year LOM at an AISC of US\$1,338/oz.
- Rapid Payback of Capital Expenditures: C\$1,250 million initial capital paid back over 3.4 years at PEA base case and decreasing to 2.0 years at spot gold price of \$3,300/oz gold.
- High Degree of Resource Confidence: Economic analysis is based on Measured and Indicated Resources sub-totalling 33.3% and 65.1% respectively or grand total of 98.4% but excludes potential upside opportunities from the 2025 drill results and MRE from the Phoenix deposit.
- **Low Risk:** Conventional open pit and milling operation with road access and hydro-electric power.
- New Innovative, De-risked Tailings Facility: Dry stack plus coarse free draining tailings, waste and water management facilities that are integrated and significantly reduce volume of tailings impacted runoff for treatment and discharge. The proposed tailings facility includes 100% reuse of process water, avoids discharge near the Cedar Point Provincial Park and minimizes the disturbance of fish bearing waters. The proposed tailings facility utilizes feedback obtained from the First Nations, nearby communities and industry to utilize best in class available environmental solutions that the Company anticipates will significantly reduce risks at closure and promote protection of the land and waterways to perpetuity.
- Significant Opportunities: Potential to further enhance Project economics and expand production rate have been identified with the addition of the maiden Phoenix deposit MRE, ongoing endowment potential extensions and preconcentration technologies such as mineralized material sorting to boost mill feed grade.
- Strong Discovery Growth Potential: Exploration diamond drill programs completed in 2024 and 2025 extended gold mineralization and intercepted higher-grade mineralization adjacent to Project infrastructure over a strike length in excess of 3 km.

Table 1: PEA Results Summary

Date:	July 3, 2025	
News Release:	25-11	

Ticker Symbols: SPA-V, S3Y-FSE, SPAUF-OTCQB



Open Pit PEA Study Results	2025 PEA Base Case	Spot Prices (as of July 1, 2025) <sup>1</sup>
After-Tax NPV (C\$M, 5% discount rate)	\$1,025	\$2,315
After-Tax IRR (%)	18.2%	32.0%
Annual Average Free Cash Flow (C\$M) <sup>4</sup>	\$85	\$173
Annual Average Free Cash Flow Yr. 1-5 (C\$M) <sup>4</sup>	\$311	\$454
Initial Capex (C\$M)	\$1,250	\$1,250
Total Cash Cost (US\$ / Au oz) <sup>2</sup>	\$1,194	\$1,201
AISC (US\$ / Au oz) <sup>3</sup>	\$1,338	\$1,345
Payback Period (years) After-Tax	3.4	2.0
Nominal Processing Throughput (tpd)	26,000	26,000
Strip Ratio (waste:mill feed resource)	2:1	2:1
Mine Life (years)	24.5	24.5
Annual Average Throughput (Mtpa)	9,340	9,340
Annual Average Production (koz/a)	122	122
Average Gold Head Grade (g/t)	0.46	0.46
Average Gold Recovery (%)	89.3%	89.3%
Metal Prices (US\$ / oz)	\$2,450 Au	\$3,300 Au
	\$28.50 Ag	\$36.00 Ag
Exchange Rate USD/CAD	1.35	1.35
Total LOM Au ounces produced (Moz)	3.0	3.0
Total LOM Ag ounces produced (Moz)	2.1	2.1

Notes for Table 1

1. Spot price is based on the LBMA gold price as of the close of business on July 1, 2025, rounded down to the nearest \$100/oz for gold and \$1/oz for silver.

2. Cash Costs consist of mining costs, processing costs, mine-level G&A, offsite charges, and royalties less by-product credits. Refer to the "Non-Gaap Financial Measures" section in Appendix B of this news release for more information.

3. All-In Sustaining Costs (AISC) includes cash costs plus sustaining capital, closure costs, and salvage credits. Refer to the "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" section in Appendix B of this news release for more information.

4. Free cash flow is calculated as after tax cash flow from mine-site operating activities less capital expenditures, including closure costs (net of salvage value). Refer to the "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" section in Appendix B of this news release for more information.

The economic analysis contained in this news release is preliminary in nature and is based primarily on Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources totalling 33.3% and 65.1% respectively, and in part, Inferred Mineral Resources totalling 1.6% of the proposed mill feed from the Main deposit. Inferred Mineral Resources are considered too geologically speculative to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as Mineral Resources. There is no certainty that economic forecasts on which this PEA is based will be realized. Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. Table 2 lists the breakdown by resource category of the run of mine ("ROM") mill feed for the PEA life of mine plan.



Table 2: ROM mill feed and ounces by resource category

Category	ROM Mill Feed (Mt)	ROM Au (Moz.)	ROM Ag (Moz.)
Measured	76.2	1.22	1.62
Indicated	148.9	2.10	3.09
Total M+I	225.1	3.32	4.72
Inferred	3.7	0.03	0.05

#### Mineral Resource Estimate for the Main Deposit

Note: The Main Deposit is included in the financial modelling for the 2025 PEA.

The updated MRE for the Main deposit is based on the amalgamation of what have been historically described as the Main Zone, North Zone, Slipper Zone, and K Zone, effective January 10, 2025, and it is reported at a 0.15 g/t gold cut-off (see Table 3). There is no certainty that Mineral Resources will be converted into Mineral Reserves. Mineral Resources that are not Mineral Reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. Mineral Resources include Inferred Mineral Resources which have had insufficient work to classify them as Indicated Mineral Resources. It is uncertain but reasonably expected that Inferred Mineral Resources could be uplifted to Indicated Mineral Resources with additional drilling.

Geological and resource domain modelling and estimation for the Project was completed using Leapfrog 2024.1. The lithological model was developed based on data from the extensive re-logging program of 170,000 m drill core that was completed in 2023 and 2024, in addition to geochemical classification of 56,550 previously sampled intervals. Mineralization domains are modelled by identifying zones with gold values greater than 0.3 g/t over a minimum width of 3 m. Two primary styles of mineralization were recognized. Early mineralization includes disseminated stratabound mineralization in argillite-bearing lithologies. Late mineralization includes gold associated with late-stage quartz veins. Three high-confidence faults were modelled, including the North Fault, South Fault, and Fault 1. The Main Block is bound by the North and South Faults, representing significant discontinuities in stratigraphy and mineralization. Within the Main Block, Fault 1 introduces a minor offset in the main block.

Reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction were evaluated by performing a pit optimization using the Lerchs-Grossman algorithm with the following parameters: gold price of US\$2,400/oz, silver price of US\$30/oz, and gold selling costs of C\$7/oz for offsite charges, and a 1.5% royalty. Mining costs for mineralized material and waste are C\$3.75/t, with incremental mining costs of C\$0.03/t. Processing costs are C\$12/t for mill processing and include site G&A. Payability for gold is 99.8%, and payability for silver is 90%. Process recovery for gold is 90%, while process recovery for silver is 50%. The exchange rate used is C\$0.73 to US\$1.

Total Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources for the Main deposit includes 292.1 Mt at an average grade of 0.44 g/t gold and 0.66 g/t silver, for a total of 4.2 M contained ounces of gold and 6.2 M contained ounces of



silver. Total Inferred Mineral Resources for the Main deposit includes 14.8 Mt at an average grade of 0.33 g/t gold and 0.95 g/t silver, for a total of 0.2 M ounces of gold and 0.5 M ounces of silver.

#### Table 3: Mineral Resource for the Main deposit

Category	Cut-off Grade	Tonnes (kt)	Au Avg. Grade	Au (koz)	Ag Avg. Grade	Ag (koz)
Measured	0.15	77,370	0.53	1,321	0.68	1,701
Indicated	0.15	214,702	0.41	2,842	0.65	4,463
Measured & Indicated	0.15	292,072	0.44	4,163	0.66	6,163
Inferred	0.15	14,830	0.33	155	0.95	454

Notes for Table 3:

5. The qualified person responsible for the Main deposit MRE, with an effective as of as of January 10, 2025, is Bahram Bahrami, P.Geo of Equity Exploration Consultants Ltd.

6. Mineral Resources are classified in accordance with CIM (2014) definition standards

7. Bulk density assigned on a block per block basis

8. Mineral Resources are reported using a 0.15 g/t gold cut-off grade

9. Metal price assumptions include US\$2,400/oz Au and US\$30/oz Ag

10. Metallurgical recoveries assumptions are 90% recovery for gold and 50% for silver.

11. 99.8 payability for gold and 90% for silver

12. Numbers may not add due to rounding

13. Mineral resources are not Mineral reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.

14. The qualified persons responsible for this section of the technical report are not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socioeconomic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the Mineral Resource estimate other than those disclosed in this news release and in the PEA Technical Report.

#### Mineral Resource Estimate for the Phoenix Deposit

Note: The Phoenix Deposit is not included in the financial modelling for the 2025 PEA.

The inaugural MRE for the Phoenix deposit is reported at a 0.20 g/t gold cut-off. Total Indicated Mineral Resources for the Phoenix deposit include 0.05 Mt at an average grade of 0.35 g/t Au, for a total of 0.6 thousand ounces (koz) of contained gold. Inferred Mineral Resources include 25.4 Mt at an average grade of 0.44 g/t Au, for a total of 357 koz of contained gold (see Table 4).

Table 4: Mineral Resources for the Phoenix deposit

Resource Classification	Cut-off Grade (Au, g/t)	Tonnes (kt)	Gold Grade (Au, g/t)	Contained Gold (Au, koz)
Indicated	0.2	52	0.35	0.57
Inferred	0.2	25,426	0.44	357

Notes for Tables 4 and 5:

1. The qualified person responsible for the Phoenix deposit MRE, with an effective as of as of June 17, 2025, is Bahram Bahrami, P.Geo of Equity Exploration Consultants Ltd.

2. Mineral Resources are classified in accordance with CIM (2014) definition standards

3. Mineral Resources are reported using a 0.20 g/t gold cut-off grade

4. Metal price assumptions include US\$2,400/oz Au

5. Metallurgical recoveries assumptions are 90% recovery for gold

6. 99.8 payability for gold

7. Numbers may not add due to rounding



8. Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.

9. The qualified persons responsible for this section of the technical report are not aware of any environmental, permitting, legal, title, taxation, socioeconomic, marketing, political, or other relevant factors that could materially affect the Mineral Resource estimate other than those disclosed in this news release and in the PEA Technical Report

Geological and resource modelling for the Phoenix deposit was completed using Leapfrog 2024.1 and Micromine Origin & Beyond 2025. The lithological model was developed based solely on geochemical classification, with six principal stratigraphic units identified: Upper Mafic Tuff, Upper Sedimentary Sequence, Lower Mafic Tuff, Intermediate Sedimentary Sequence, Intermediate Tuff, and Lower Sedimentary Sequence. These units generally dip gently to the northeast. A steeply dipping north-south trending fault divides the Phoenix deposit into eastern and western blocks. The eastern block contains the full stratigraphic sequence, while the western block includes only the two lowermost stratigraphic units found in the eastern block.

Gold mineralization was modelled based on downhole structural data measured from oriented drill core. This interpretation includes identifying two principal sets of mineralized structures: flat to gently east-dipping and steeper northeast-dipping orientations. These define three mineralized lenses—two upper, gently dipping zones and a deeper, steeper-dipping zone.

Capping values for the Phoenix deposit were determined using decile analysis and log-scaled probability plots of length-weighted gold assays. Outlier restrictions were applied to lithological domains during the second estimation pass, excluding samples above 0.2 g/t gold where search distances exceeded 30% of the variogram range. No outlier restrictions were applied to mineralized domains. A semi-hard boundary approach was applied to specific lithological contacts reflecting gradational contacts of lithological units. These included the Lower Mineralized Zone (Domain 630) with a distance threshold of 5 m, the Lower Mafic Tuff with 15 m, and the Lower Sedimentary unit with 50 m. This approach was used to reduce artefacts and better represent grade continuity in stratigraphically complex or sparsely drilled areas.

The block model was constructed using a parent block size of 5m x 5m x 5m, with sub-blocks refined down to 1.25 m to accurately honor geological boundaries and minimum mining widths. Grade estimation was conducted using a combination of Ordinary Kriging (OK) and inverse distance cubed (ID3) methods. OK was used for all mineralized domains where variograms could be reliably modelled; ID3 was applied to other domains where variogram stability could not be achieved. Locally varying anisotropy (LVA) was applied within mineralized domains to reflect observed structural controls.

Resource classification followed the CIM Definition Standards (2014) and was guided by geological confidence, data spacing, and estimation support. The current drilling density supports predominantly Inferred classification. These are supported by at least two drill holes within a spacing of  $\leq$ 155 m. Indicated Mineral Resources are supported by drill hole spacing of  $\leq$ 70 m with minimum of 3 drill holes used for estimation.

Reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction were applied by performing a resource pit optimization and applying the following parameters: a gold price of US\$2,400/oz, gold selling costs of C\$7/oz for offsite charges, a 1.5% royalty, Mining costs of C\$3.75/t with incremental costs of C\$0.03/t, and combined processing

<sup>10.</sup> Refer to Appendix C for the estimation methodology



and site G&A costs of C\$12/t. Gold payability was assumed to be at 99.8%, with a metallurgical recovery of 90%. The exchange rate used was C\$0.73 to US\$1.00. No by-product metals were included in the estimate.

For Phoenix, a cutoff grade of 0.20 g/t gold is used due to limited metallurgical data compared to the Main deposit. This higher cut-off accounts for increased geological and metallurgical uncertainty for the Phoenix deposit. Cut-off sensitivities of the Phoenix deposit mineral resource are summarized in Table 5.

Table 5: Mineral Resource for the Phoenix deposit at varying gold cut-off grades

Resource Classification	Cut-off Grade (Au, g/t)	Tonnes (kt)	Gold Grade (Au, g/t)	Contained Gold (Au, koz)
	0.15	96	0.27	0.8
Indicated	0.2	52	0.35	0.6
muicateu	0.25	35	0.41	0.5
	0.3	23	0.47	0.4
	0.15	33,451	0.37	402
Informed	0.2	25,426	0.44	357
merreu	0.25	20,152	0.49	319
	0.3	16,827	0.54	290

Notes: See Table 4

#### Spanish Mountain Project Consolidated Mineral Resources

Total combined Mineral Resources for the Spanish Mountain Gold Project are summarized in Table 6. Total Measured and Indicated mineral resources include 292.1 Mt at 0.44 g/t gold for total 4.16 M contained gold ounces. Total inferred mineral resources include 40.3 Mt at 0.40 g/t gold for total 512 k contained gold ounces.

Table 6: Consolidated Minera	Resources for the Spanish	Mountain Gold Project
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Area	Classification	Cut Off Gold Grade (g/t)	Tonnes (Mt)	Gold (g/t)	Contained Gold (koz)	Silver (g/t)	Contained Silver (koz)
	Measured		77.4	0.53	1,321	0.68	1,701
Main Donasit	Indicated	0.15	214.7	0.41	2,842	0.65	4,463
	M&I	0.15	292.1	0.44	4,163	0.66	6,163
	Inferred		14.8	0.33	155	0.95	454
Dhaaniy Danasit	Indicated	0.20	0.1	0.35	0.58	-	-
Phoenix Deposit	Inferred	0.20	25.4	0.44	357	-	-
Total Spanish Mountain Cold	M&I		292.1	0.44	4,164	0.66	6,163
Project	Inferred		40.3	0.40	512	0.95	454

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Notes for Table 6:

- 1. The Mineral Resource for the Main Deposit is reported using a cut-off grade of 0.15 g/t Au, while the Phoenix Deposit uses a 0.20 g/t Au cut-off.
- The Mineral Resources are constrained within an optimized pit shell generated using Lerchs-Grossman pit optimization based on a gold price of US\$2,400/oz, 99.8% payability, 90% gold recovery, C\$12/t processing and G&A, C\$3.75/t mining for ore and waste, C\$0.03/t incremental mining cost, 1.5% royalty, C\$7/oz offsite charges, and an exchange rate of 0.73:1 (CAD:USD).
- 3. Mineral Resources are derived from resource statements for each deposit and area, prepared by Bahram Bahrami, P.Geo., a Qualified Person as defined under NI 43-101.
- 4. Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.
- 5. The Mineral Resource estimate complies with NI 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects (May 2016) and CIM Definition Standards for Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (May 2014).
- 6. Any discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.
- 7. The effective date of the Mineral Resource statement is January 10, 2025 for the Main Deposit and June 17, 2025 for the Phoenix Deposit.

#### **Mining and Processing**

Open pit mine designs, mine production schedules and mine capital and operating costs have been developed for the Main deposit, at a scoping level of engineering. The mineral resources, including inferred resources, form the basis of the mine planning. The Phoenix deposit MRE are not included or considered as part of the mine plan.

Open pit mining activities are designed for approximately 24.5 years of operation. Mine planning is based on large scale conventional drill/blast/load/haul open pit mining methods suited for the Project location and local site requirements. The subset of mineral resources contained within the designed open pits are summarized in Table 7, with a 0.2 g/t Au cut-off grade, and form the basis of the mine plan and production schedule, which is summarized in Figure 5.

Mine Plan Pit Contents	Total
PEA Mill Feed	229 Mt
Mill Feed Au Grade	0.46 g/t
Mill Feed Au Metal	3.3 Moz.
Mill Feed Ag Grade	0.65 g/t
Mill Feed Ag Metal	4.8 Moz.
Waste Overburden and Rock	458 Mt
Waste: Resource Ratio	2.0

Table 7: PEA Mine Plan Production Summary

Mill feed quantities and grades include estimates of mining dilution and recovery based on a 10 m selective block size and 2 m dilution skins applied to all waste contacts. This results in an addition of 16% dilution and 2% loss to the original resource block model.

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Figure 5: PEA Mine Production Schedule Summary

Processing of the mill feed at 26,000 tpd (or 9.5 Mt per annum) is by means of a conventional process flowsheet including primary grinding, gravity concentration, flotation, and regrinding of the concentrate followed by cyanidation via a CIL circuit to produce doré. The process achieves an average overall LOM gold recovery of 89%. The average silver recovery as a by-product of the milling process for the life of the Project is 44%. Non-Acid Generating ("NAG") tailings from the plant are dewatered by screening and filtering and conveyed to a dry stack tailings facility, where it will be spread and compacted in engineered lifts. All site water is managed through a separate water management pond that includes a water treatment plant for any water to be discharged during the LOM.

The tailings storage facilities proposed for construction and development at Project are primarily based on utilization of filtered tailings technology for the base case scenario. Multiple tailings storage locations, designs, and technologies were analyzed to arrive at the preferred location and tailings technology.

# **Initial Capital Costs**

The initial capital expenditures for the Project as estimated by Ausenco are summarized in Table 8 and the capital expenditures to be incurred after the start-up of operations are assigned to sustaining capital and are projected to be covered by operating cash-flows. Project contingencies have been added where applicable,



excluding capitalized operating costs, which results in an overall contingency of \$270.3M or 22.6% (excluding taxes).

The Project will benefit from established infrastructure in central British Columbia, noting that the Project is approximately 100 km by road to the city of Williams Lake. Local infrastructure in Likely will further support the Project development. The estimated initial capital cost of \$1,250 M is inclusive of applicable taxes.

Table 8: Initial Capital Cost Estimate

	2025 PEA Total (C\$M)
Mining (Including contingency)	\$113
Process Plant and Facilities <sup>(1)</sup>	\$419
On-site Infrastructure (including tailings, water management,	\$152
water treatment, environmental, site costs, and earthworks) <sup>(1)</sup>	
Off-site Infrastructure	\$159
Project Indirects	\$38
EPCM, Owners Cost, Consultants	\$112
Project Contingency (excluding mining contingency)	\$259
TOTAL <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1,250

Notes on Table 8:

1. Direct process plant capital costs are based on benchmarking and not from engineering design.

2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sum of the components due to rounding adjustments; not all cost components are illustrated in this table.

#### **Sustaining Capital Costs:**

Ausenco estimates the LOM sustaining capital for Project to be C\$443 M, which is expected to be funded by operating cash flows. The sustaining capital estimate is primarily for the expansion of the tailing storage facility, mining fleet additions as total material movements increase with depth, and reclamation and closure. The PEA has assumed C\$163 M in closure and reclamation costs.

# On Site Direct Operating Costs ("Opex")

The estimated Opex for Project is US\$15.33/t of mill feed – see Table 7. Ausenco and MMTS have estimated the Opex based on first-principles calculation, industry benchmarking, proprietary information and its professional experience.



Metric	Unit	2025 PEA
Open pit mining cost (excl. pre-prod)	US\$/t milled	7.60
Processing cost (excluding G&A)	US\$/t milled	6.66
G&A	US\$/t milled	1.07
Total site operating cost	US\$/t	15.33

Table 9: On Site Operating Cost for Base Case

Notes on Table 9:

1. Totals do not necessarily equal the sum of the components due to rounding adjustments; not all cost components are illustrated in this table.

#### <u>Royalties</u>

There is a 1.0 to 1.5% Net Smelter Royalty ("NSR") payable to two royalty holders. These are the only royalties that apply to the current Mineral Resources as mill feed for the Project and has been incorporated into the economic analysis of the 2025 PEA. The Company plans to exercise its right to buydown the NSRs to 1.5% and 1% respectively, for a total buydown payment of \$1 million as provided in the agreements.

#### **Infrastructure**

The major infrastructure items considered and costed in the PEA support a mining and milling operation that is expected to operate 24-hours per day, seven-days per week. The design of Project infrastructure has prioritized environmental protection, workforce safety, and operating efficiency while minimizing community impacts. The Project site will consist of the open pit mine and mining related workshops, a processing plant, waste rock and tailings stack, and support service infrastructure such as warehousing, offices and workshops.

The Project site-wide water balance is positive for which water capture, treatment and discharge infrastructure has been allowed for and designed. The Project will draw water from within the property and contain process water and tailings within the water management pond and tailings stack, effectively. Water management and treatment has been included to treat both open pit dewatering and surface facilities run-off to required environmental discharge standards.

The site will be supported by renewable electrical grid power through a new, 75 km long 230kV, transmission line constructed by the Company from site to a new switching station designated as SMM, which is currently being designed by BC Hydro, located near the McLeese Lake Capacitor station. The mine and process operations are supported by functional maintenance and administration infrastructure located on site as well as off-site locations for non-critical administrative functions. Select local access roads will be upgraded and maintained throughout the mine life.

The proposed tailings storage method is placement of dewatered material containing both tailings and minor amounts of process water. The minor proportion of Potential Acid Generating ("PAG") tailings will be managed within a dedicated conventional tailings lined cell contained within the tailings stack. NAG waste rock, PAG waste rock and over burden will be split by type and placed in suitably designed facilities that will be designed for physical stability and collect and manage run-off from the waste rock storage facilities. All facilities are located near the open pit mine to maximize efficiencies and minimize impact, subject to condemnation drilling.



# **Environmental and Community Matters**

All exploration permits with the Government of British Columbia are in good standing. During its recent 2024 to 2025 exploration drill programs, the Company has regularly engaged communities and pro-actively sought shared benefits opportunities with each local to regional businesses, contractors and workers. The Company recognizes and respects the First Nations asserted aboriginal rights and title in the Project area and looks forward to continuing meaningful engagement with each First Nation on our proposed next steps to advance the Project. The Company has continued baseline studies during the PEA on the climate and waterways. Further work is anticipated during the next stages of advancement due to the new vision proposed in the PEA for a larger scale operation and associated tailings, waste and water management facilities as compared to the 2021 PFS.

# **Opportunities and Future Work**

Ausenco, the team of consultants, and the Company have identified several areas and opportunities that may provide significant costs savings and improved economics for the Project. Post-PEA the Company will embark on additional technical work and engineering studies to better position and further de-risk the Project, including but not limited to the following:

# Mining

- Optimization of the pit phasing and mine production schedule, especially as the Mineral Resource is modified through further exploration and infill drilling;
- Optimization of the open-pit design through collection of additional geotechnical information;
- Further work to increase confidence in the Mineral Resource and lead to the definition of a Mineral Reserve;
- Detailed equipment costing to determine potential discounts to list price for all major components, as well as review purchase versus leasing options for mining equipment;
- Further planned electrification of the mine fleet, specifically the mine hauling function, as cutting-edge technologies for battery and trolley operations become commercialized in the near future; and
- Back-filling of waste rock into the open pit.

# Milling and Metallurgy

- Additional metallurgical work to optimize results from geometallurgical domains and continue research on the optimum grind size, analyze recoveries of the gold and silver, and the effects of the higher grade coming from the mineral sorters on metal recoveries;
- Optimize reagents to reduce costs and improve metallurgy;
- Investigate the potential for a gold recovery circuit from a pyrite concentrate not currently in the PEA; and
- Ore sorting of low grade for expansion scenarios.

# **Tailings Storage and Waste Rock Facilities**

• Detailed analysis of tailings storage and waste rock storage facilities for an integrated waste management plan and design to optimize the management of mine-impacted runoff and associated collection and treatment costs;



- Phasing of tailings and water storage starter structures to reduce initial capex;
- Alternative water treatment solutions being considered to the included reverse osmosis that meet BC discharge regulations; and
- Whole tailings belt filtration options to dewater tails before placement.

# Other

- Construction camp location, and a trade-off study between at site accommodation versus daily commutes to the Project from local communities;
- Investigate regional quarry sites and quality of quarry material for construction purposes, notably the tailing storage facility;
- Water supply for the Poject, and a trade-off study between a constructed reservoir with Project infrastructure or a water pipeline from a local source; and
- Addition of the 2025 drill results and Phoenix maiden resource.

Changes to the conceptual mine plan and mine design that may be recommended in the PEA study, if approved and implemented as the Project moves forward, could impact the capital and operating costs, profitability and cash flows and an eventual timeline to production, the impact of which cannot be quantified at this time. As a result, there are additional uncertainties with respect to the size and grade of the Mineral Resources that may become Mineral Reserves in the future, and that will serve as the basis for future studies.

In addition, the Company will continue to conduct exploration activities within the 11,633-hectare ("ha") SMG mineral claims property which encompasses the estimated MRE, which the PEA is based upon. The objective of continuing regional exploration is to develop and assess targets that could further maximize the Company's flexibility with respect to future development decisions on the Project.

# **Additional Considerations Related to the PEA**

Investors should be cautioned that there is no guarantee that the future construction and development of the Project that will be completed in accordance with the 2025 PEA results set forward in this news release. There is no certainty that production will begin, or that operating capital, or that financial results will be consistent with the 2025 PEA.

# <u>Technical Information and Quality Control & Quality Assurance ("QAQC")</u>

Once received from the drill and processed, all drill core samples were sawn in half, labeled, and bagged. The remaining half of the drill core was securely stored on-site. Numbered security tags were applied to sample shipments to ensure chain of custody compliance. The Company inserts quality control (QC) samples at regular intervals, including blanks and reference materials, for all sample shipments to monitor laboratory performance. Standards and blanks account for a minimum of 15% of the samples in addition to the laboratory's internal quality assurance programs. The QAQC program was overseen by the Company's Qualified Person, Julian Manco, P.Geo, Director of Exploration (as described below).



Drill core samples from the 2025 drill program were submitted to MSALABS' analytical facility in Prince George, British Columbia, for sample preparation and PhotonAssay<sup>TM</sup> analysis. The MSALABS facilities are accredited to the International Standards ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 9001 standard for gold and multi-element assays, with all analytical methods incorporating quality control materials at defined frequencies and established data acceptance criteria. MSALABS Inc. is independent of the Company. Details on the historical assay work before 2025 will be included in the 43-101 Technical Report to be published within 45 days.

#### **PhotonAssay**<sup>™</sup>

The PhotonAssay<sup>™</sup> method utilizes gamma ray analysis for gold detection using the Chrysos PhotonAssay<sup>™</sup> instrument (PA1408X). This non-destructive, fully automated technique offers high accuracy for analyzing crushed core and pulps. Sample preparation begins with drying and crushing up to 1 kg of material to achieve at least 70% passing through a 2-millimetre (mm) sieve. The sample is then riffle split to obtain a suitable aliquot for 2 testing cycles (MSALABS Method CPA-Au1).

The PhotonAssay<sup>™</sup> instrument bombards 400 to 600-gram samples contained in sealed containers with gamma rays. These containers remain sealed throughout the process, preserving the sample for potential further testing. The analysis is performed robotically, with results that integrate into existing laboratory management systems.

Each sample is accompanied by a reference disc traceable to a Certified Reference Material (CRM). Both the sample and reference disc undergo gamma ray exposure, with signals detected and analyzed to ensure accurate and reliable results.

The method offers a gold detection range from 0.015 parts per million (ppm - lower limit) to 10,000 ppm (upper limit). Quality control includes the use of reference materials and blanks, with all results reviewed by a competent person before reporting.

Spanish Mountain Gold implemented two QAQC methodologies to validate the accuracy of PhotonAssay<sup>™</sup> results, both demonstrating good comparability: 1) comparative analysis of diverse mineralization styles using Total Au screen metallic methods with both FAS-415 (gravimetric finish) and FAS-211 (AAS finish), and 2) comprehensive testing of both sample aliquots and rejects using FAS-211 (AAS finish).

QAQC Testing typically can include the following spot checks: 1) Pulverizing tests to evaluate variability in sample preparation, 2) Cross-analysis at external laboratories using screen metallic method, and 3) Four-cycle radiation testing to identify and calibrate potential variability in gold results with variable radiation intensity.

To effectively manage the nugget effect on high-grade gold samples MSALABS tested samples to "extinction" (CPA-Au1E method). This approach divides samples into multiple splits, analyzes each separately using PhotonAssay<sup>™</sup>, and then calculates a weighted average of the results. By testing various portions of the sample independently and combining their values proportionally, this method provides significantly more representative gold values than traditional single-split analysis for samples with a large nugget effect.



#### **Multi-Elemental Analysis**

For the 2025 drilling campaign Spanish Mountain Gold used IMS-230 method to provide multi-element determination using a four-acid digestion followed by ICP-OES and ICP-MS analysis.

#### **Key Process Steps:**

Sample Preparation: Samples are dried and ground to specific criteria (85% passing 75 microns (µm) for rocks and drill core; 180µm for soils and sediments). A homogeneous 10-gram sample is required.

Digestion: Samples undergo sequential digestion with nitric, perchloric, hydrofluoric, and hydrochloric acids, followed by dilution with deionized water. Analysis: The solution is analyzed via ICP-OES and ICP-MS for multielement quantification. Quality Control: The process includes reference materials, blanks, and duplicates, with corrections for spectral interferences and thorough review before final reporting.

# **Qualified Persons**

Various consultants provided input and helped write the forthcoming PEA Technical Report. Consultants that are responsible for elements of the Technical Report are independent qualified persons ("QP") as defined within NI 43-101.

- Geology: Ron Voordouw, P.Geo., Equity Exploration
- Mineral Resource for Main Deposit: Bahram Bahrami, P.Geo., Equity Exploration
- Mineral Resource for Phoenix Deposit: Bahram Bahrami, P.Geo., Equity Exploration
- Metallurgy, Processing, Infrastructure, and Economic Evaluation: Kevin Murray, P.Eng., Ausenco
- Mining: Marc Schulte, P.Eng., Moose Mountain Technical Services
- Tailings and Water Management: Brad Russell, P.Eng., BGC
- Water Treatment: Lee Josslyn, PE, Linkan Engineering
- Geochemistry: Andrea Samuels, P.Geo., pHase Geochemistry
- Off-site Power and Electrical: Neil Brazier, P.Eng., WN Brazier Associates
- Environmental & Community: James Millard, P.Geo., Ausenco

The QPs have reviewed the information in this news release that pertain to the sections of the forthcoming PEA Technical Report for which they are responsible. All scientific and technical information in this press release in respect of the PEA is based on information prepared by or under the supervision of those individuals. The Mineral Resource estimate in this news release has been classified in accordance with CIM Definition Standards – For Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (May 14, 2014) and CIM Estimation of Mineral Resources & Mineral Reserves Best Practice Guidelines (November 29, 2019).

In accordance with NI 43-101, the PEA Technical Report will be filed on SEDAR within 45 days of the disclosure of this news release.



Julian Manco, M.Sc., P.Geo., Director of Exploration with Spanish Mountain Gold, is the Qualified Person as defined under National Instrument 43-101 who has reviewed and has approved the contents of this news release.

#### About the Company

Spanish Mountain Gold Ltd. is focused on advancing its 100%-owned Spanish Mountain Gold Project (Project) towards construction of the next gold mine in the Cariboo Gold Corridor, British Columbia. The Company will publish, within 45 days of this news release, a new NI 43-101 Technical Report setting out the new executable vision to advance the Project. This new NI 43-101 Technical Report, with a de-risked and optimized Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) with an updated Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE), will supersede the prior technical report of the Company. Upon receipt of the new PEA and updated MRE, the Company will decide the next steps to advance the Project to position the Company to make a construction decision in or before 2027. We are striving to be a leader in community and Indigenous relations by leveraging technology and innovation to build the 'greenest' gold mine in Canada. The Relentless Pursuit for Better Gold means seeking new ways to achieve optimal financial outcomes that are safer, minimize environmental impact and create meaningful sustainability for communities. Details of the Company are available on <u>www.sedarplus.ca</u> and on the Company's website: <u>www.spanishmountaingold.com</u>.

For more information, contact: Peter Mah, President, CEO, and Director +1 (604) 601-3651 info@spanishmountaingold.com

#### **Cautionary Statement on Mineral Resource Estimates**

All Mineral Resource estimates of the Company disclosed or referenced in this news release have been prepared in accordance with the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum ("CIM") Definition Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves dated May 10, 2014 ("2014 CIM Definition Standards"), whose definitions are incorporated by reference in National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"):

Mineral resource: is a concentration or occurrence of material of economic interest in or on the earth's crust in such form, grade or quality, and quantity that there are reasonable prospects for economic extraction. A mineral resource is a reasonable estimate of mineralization, taking into account relevant factors such as cut-off grade, likely mining dimensions, location or continuity, that, with the assumed and justifiable technical and economic conditions, is likely to, in whole or in part, become economically extractable.

Inferred mineral resource: is that part of a mineral resource for which quantity and grade or quality can be estimated on the basis of geological evidence and limited sampling and reasonably assumed, but not verified, geological and grade continuity. The estimate is based on limited information and sampling gathered through appropriate techniques from locations such as outcrops, trenches, pits, workings and drill holes. An inferred mineral resource has a lower level of confidence than that applying to an indicated mineral resource and must not be converted to a mineral reserve. It is reasonably expected that the majority of inferred mineral resources could be upgraded to indicated mineral resources with continued exploration.

Indicated mineral resource: that part of a mineral resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics can be estimated with a level of confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters to support mine planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit. The estimate is based on detailed and reliable exploration and testing information



gathered through appropriate techniques from locations such as outcrops, trenches, pits, workings and drill holes that are spaced closely enough for geological and grade continuity to be reasonably assumed. An indicated mineral resource has a lower level of confidence than that applying to a measured mineral resource and may only be converted to a probable mineral reserve.

Measured mineral resource: that part of a mineral resource for which quantity, grade or quality, densities, shape and physical characteristics are so well established that they can be estimated with confidence sufficient to allow the appropriate application of technical and economic parameters to support production planning and evaluation of the economic viability of the deposit. The estimate is based on detailed and reliable exploration, sampling and testing information gathered through appropriate techniques from locations such as outcrops, trenches, pits, workings and drill holes that are spaced closely enough to confirm both geological and grade continuity. A measured mineral resource has a higher level of confidence than that applying to either an indicated mineral resource or an inferred mineral resource. It may be converted to a proven mineral reserve or to a probable mineral reserve.

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION:

Certain of the statements and information in this press release constitute "forward-looking information". Any statements or information that express or involve discussions with respect to predictions, expectations, beliefs, plans, projections, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance (often, but not always, using words or phrases such as "expects", "anticipates", "believes", "plans", "estimates", "intends", "targets", "goals", "forecasts", "objectives", "potential" or variations thereof or stating that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, or the negative of any of these terms and similar expressions) are not statements of historical fact and may be considered forward-looking information. The Company's forward-looking information is based on the assumptions, beliefs, expectations and opinions of management as of the date of this press release and include but are not limited to information with respect to, the potential to extend mineralization within the near-surface environment; the potential to expand resources and to find higher-grade mineralization at depth; the timing, size and budget of a winter drill program, and the results thereof; and the delivery of a maiden resource for the Phoenix Deposit within the Phoenix Target, and the timing and results thereof. Other than as required by applicable securities laws, the Company does not assume any obligation to update forward-looking information if circumstances or management's assumptions, beliefs, expectations or opinions should change, or changes in any other events affecting such statements or information. For the reasons set forth above, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information.



#### **APPENDIX A**

#### Key PEA Improvements and Optimizations vs. 2021 PFS

The 2025 PEA incorporates several important improvements and de-risking initiatives compared to the 2021 Prefeasibility Study, all of which better positions the Project for a successful next phase of development. Notable changes include:

- Larger Project Scale: The project has increased the production rate from 20 ktpd to 26 ktpd, which increases the LOM average gold production profile by 19% to 122 koz per year, and 203 koz per year in the first five years. For the project, this will bring greater efficiency, lower unit costs, and uplift to the NPV, in addition to expanding Life of Mine (LOM) to 24.5 years and total gold production to 3.0Moz. Preconcentration of mill feed to uplift feed grade to the proposed 26 ktpd mill such as mineralized material sorting was investigated during the PEA. It was identified as a target case opportunity to 'bolt-on' to the base case which will be further assessed during the next stages of project development.
- Improved Flowsheet Design: Updated metallurgical studies and testing has resulted in modification to a coarse mill feed floatation circuit with cleaner and scavenger stages and two gravity circuits, lowering power costs while boosting throughput These circuit modifications, when combined with a rougher and cleaner flotation circuit, resulted in overall project gold recovery of 89.3% with approximately 20% of gold expected to be recovered by gravity.
- Optimized Open Pit Mine Design: Through targeting lower strip ratios based upon improved geotechnical assessments, additional resource included in the mine plan and better stockpile management, an optimum open pit was selected to maximize efficiency. A selective mining unit (SMU) analysis was completed on bench mining dimensions, block model block sizes and equipment sizing, selection concluding that larger 240 t class trucks and associated fleet are optimal for the project. This also means higher productivities and less cost moving material to either the process plant or waste rock pads are possible. The LOM waste to resource strip ratio reduces to 2:1 in the PEA from 4:1 in the PFS.
- Electrification: The future electrification of the mine and equipment is expected to increase productivity with a significantly lower carbon intensity. The upsized power from 30 MW in the PFS to 60 MW included in the PEA is expected to potentially support the future electrification of the mine fleet and equipment. Equipment proposed in the PEA includes renewable diesel capable haul trucks and electrification of drills and shovels.
- New Tailings Stack: With coarser sized tailings material from coarse mill feed floatation, screening and filtered tailings, dewatering and placement of landforms has been selected. This is expected to result in improved geotechnical stability and enabling a safer site. This Tailings Stack location avoids the large Cedar Creek water catchment. As well, moving from a conventional slurry containment to a free draining, filtered tails means this coarser product minimizes borrow pit and starter dyke construction costs,



meaning more placement flexibility and reduced starter material costs while lowering the potential for mineral endowment sterilization.

Mineral Resource Estimate: Constrained geological interpretation and estimation methodology resulted in a decrease of the Main deposit Indicated and Inferred contained gold ounces. The decrease of Inferred total contained gold ounces of the Main deposit are partially offset by an increase of Inferred contained gold ounces of the Phoenix deposit. The Main deposit and Phoenix deposit show potential for resource expansion and classification uplift.



# APPENDIX B Proposed site layout



# **General End Notes (excluding tables)**

- In this news release the Company uses certain abbreviations, including: net present value ("NPV"); NPV at a 5% discount rate ("NPV5%"); internal rate of return ("IRR"); measured and indicated ("M&I"); million ("m"); thousand ("k"); metric tonne ("t"); troy ounce ("oz"); grams per tonne ("g/t"); gold ("Au"); silver ("Ag"); life of mine ("LOM"); tonnes per day ("tpd"); free cash flow ("FCF"); years ("yrs"); per annum ("pa"); average ("avg."); life-of-mine ("LOM"); versus ("vs."); non acid generating ("NAG"); potentially acid generating ("PAG").
- Payback is calculated from commercial production, which is defined as the achievement of reaching a minimum of 30 consecutive days of operations during which the mill operated at an average of 60% of nameplate throughput of 26,000 tpd.
- Spot price is based on the LBMA gold price as of the close of business on July 1, 2025, rounded down to the nearest \$100/oz for gold and \$1/oz for silver.



#### USE OF NON-GAAP MEASURES

- Certain financial measures referred to in this news release are not measures recognized under IFRS and are referred to as non-GAAP financial measures or ratios. These measures have no standardized meaning under IFRS and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. The definitions established and calculations performed by Ausenco are based on the QP's reasonable judgement and are consistently applied. These measures are intended to provide additional information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures prepared in accordance with IFRS.
- The non-GAAP financial measures used in this news release and common to the gold mining industry are cash costs and all-in sustaining cost per ounce of gold produced and free cash flow.
- Free cash flow, Cash costs, and All-in sustaining cost per ounce of gold sold are non-GAAP financial measures or ratios and have no standardized meaning under IFRS Accounting Standards ("IFRS") and may not be comparable to similar measures used by other issuers. As the Company is not in production, the Company does not have historical non-GAAP financial measures nor historical comparable measures under IFRS, and therefore the foregoing prospective non-GAAP financial measures or ratios may not be reconciled to the nearest comparable measures under IFRS.
- Cash Costs consist of mining costs, processing costs, mine-level G&A, offsite charges, and royalties less by-product credits.
- All-In Sustaining Costs (AISC) includes cash costs plus sustaining capital, closure costs, and salvage credits.
- > Free cash flow is calculated as after-tax cash flow from mine-site operating activities less capital expenditures, including closure costs (net of salvage value).

# APPENDIX C

The estimation methodology for the Main Deposit is similar to Phoenix Deposit except for: (1) outlier restrictions for the lithology domains use higher gold thresholds (3 g/t vs 0.2 g/t) with different search distance criteria (20-33% vs 30% of range); (2) boundary treatment applies semi-hard boundaries with uniform thresholds (15-25m) to lithological domains while mineralized domains used hard boundaries for initial passes, whereas Phoenix applied semi-hard boundaries to specific lithological contacts with variable thresholds (5-50m); (3) grade estimation uses exclusively ID3 interpolation instead of the hybrid OK/ID3 approach; (4) resource classification employs more stringent drill hole spacing requirements ( $\leq 30m/\leq 70m/\leq 138m$  vs  $\leq 70m/\leq 155m$ ) and incorporates Sequential Gaussian simulation for statistical validation; and (5) includes Measured resource classification not reported for the Phoenix Deposit.