



NEWS RELEASE

Release 01-2006

May 5, 2006

For immediate release

WESTERN COPPER CORPORATION COMMENCES OPERATIONS

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Western Copper Corporation initiated its operations at 8.00am PT on Thursday, May 4, 2006.

Western Copper Corporation is the spin-off company of Western Silver Corporation, which was acquired by Glamis Gold (GLG) on Wednesday, May 3, 2006.

The newly created Western Copper Corporation will hold the Carmacks Copper Project in Canada's Yukon Territory, and Almoloya, an early-stage Central Mexican Silver Belt project being actively explored by Queenston Mining Inc according to an option agreement, as well as approximately \$38 CAD million in cash.

Western Copper has received conditional approval for the listing of its common shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX), subject to fulfilling all the listing requirements of the TSX. Western Copper will make a further announcement when the listing requirements have been met and a formal listing date has been received from the TSX.

Further information with respect to Western Copper Corporation can be found in the information circular that was prepared for Western Silver Corporation's annual general meeting held on Monday, May 1, 2006, and in the Technical Report on the Carmacks Copper project. Both of these documents have been filed under Western Silver's profile on SEDAR and both are also available on the Company's web site at www.westerncoppercorp.com.

On behalf of the board,
"Dale Corman"
F. Dale Corman
Chairman and C.E.O.

For more information, please contact: Nicole Rizgalla, Investor Relations, ph: 604 684 9497

Statements contained in this news release that are not historical fact, such as statements regarding the economic prospects of the Company's projects, the Company's future plans or future revenues, timing of development or potential expansion or improvements, are forward-looking statements as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from estimated results. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the Company's ability to raise sufficient capital to fund development, changes in general economic conditions or financial markets, changes in prices for the Company's mineral products or increases in input costs, litigation, legislative, environmental and other judicial, regulatory, political and competitive developments in Mexico or Canada, technological and operational difficulties or inability to obtain permits encountered in connection with our exploration and development activities, labor relations matters, and changing foreign exchange rates, all of which are described more fully in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Toronto Stock Exchange has not reviewed nor accepted responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the contents of this news release, which has been prepared by management.