Argentina Metals CEO Roger Clegg Sees Copper Opportunity Across the Chilean Border

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Argentina Metals Corp. (TSXV: VLLC | OTCQB: VLLCF | FSE: VA5) is preparing to turn one of Mendoza Province's largest early-stage copper exploration portfolios into an active field program, with its flagship Las Estrellas Project targeted for drilling in the first quarter of 2027. In an InvestorNews interview with Tracy Hughes, newly appointed CEO and Director Roger Clegg outlined his strategy for advancing 26 projects covering approximately 146,700 hectares, strengthening the company's exploration team and capitalizing on Argentina's changing investment climate.

For Clegg, who became CEO in August 2026, the opportunity combines his background in exploration geology, international mining finance and advisory work in copper-producing countries, including Zambia. Argentina's efforts to improve investment conditions, including greater tax stability and mechanisms for repatriating capital, helped convince him that Mendoza represents an increasingly attractive destination for mineral exploration.

"When I was approached for the CEO of Argentina Metals, I looked at this and saw that this was one of the few places in the world that is regarded as a new frontier for exploration," Clegg explained. His immediate priority has been transforming a young company with a substantial land position into an operating exploration business capable of evaluating its properties systematically.

The company's 26 wholly owned projects in Mendoza extend across

roughly 147,000 hectares, an area Clegg compared to approximately 200,000 football pitches. Although the portfolio offers considerable exploration ground, the company is concentrating its initial resources on Las Estrellas and seven additional priority targets selected through a risk-weighted process incorporating geophysics, geochemistry, satellite imagery and geological structures.

At Las Estrellas, initial surface exploration identified copper mineralization, with reported rock samples returning values of up to approximately 1% copper. These early results have supported further investigation of potential copper-bearing systems, although the extent and continuity of mineralization remain unproven. Clegg said the other seven priority targets exhibit characteristics similar to those identified at Las Estrellas, providing a basis for the upcoming field season.

“Everything turned out as we expected,” Clegg said of the initial exploration at Las Estrellas. The company is now working toward defining drill targets and commencing an initial drilling campaign in the first quarter of 2027, subject to permitting, financing and field conditions.

To prepare for the campaign, Argentina Metals announced three senior exploration and operational appointments on November 10: Alex Raab as Head of Exploration, Carlos Giustozzi as Senior Geologist and Víctor Rioseco as Head of Logistics. Clegg emphasized that the appointments reflect not only technical expertise in copper and porphyry exploration but also experience working with local communities and addressing environmental considerations in emerging mining jurisdictions.

Speaking from Mendoza, Clegg said he was preparing to visit the company’s principal properties to assess helicopter access, camp locations and the logistics required to begin fieldwork. The

recruitment effort is part of a broader operational transition, drawing on professional relationships established throughout his career.

The geological comparison with neighbouring Chile remains central to the company's exploration thesis. Clegg pointed to the proximity of Chile's established copper industry and the continuation of geological structures across the Andes into Argentina, where much of Mendoza remains relatively unexplored.

"The one thing I love is that geology doesn't stop at the border," Clegg told Hughes.

He noted that Chile accounts for approximately one-quarter of global copper production, while Argentina has yet to establish a comparable producing copper industry. For Argentina Metals, the significance lies in exploring geological trends associated with major copper systems across the border, including the broader structural setting of Chile's El Teniente district. Geological similarities, however, do not establish the presence of an economic deposit on the company's properties.

Alongside its exploration preparations, Argentina Metals has been working to secure capital and broaden investor access. The company announced a non-brokered private placement of up to C$3 million in October and subsequently closed its first tranche on November 12, raising approximately C$1.53 million. The proceeds are intended to support exploration activities in Mendoza, working capital and general corporate requirements.

Clegg also discussed the importance of improving share liquidity through the company's Canadian, U.S. and German trading platforms. Following its TSX Venture Exchange listing in June and OTCQB commencement in July, the company has worked to make its shares more accessible to North American investors. According to Clegg, trading activity has improved as the company

expands beyond its historically concentrated European shareholder base.

Looking ahead, shareholders can expect a more detailed exploration program, financing updates and regular reporting from Las Estrellas and the seven other priority targets during the field season. Clegg also intends to increase the company's visibility through international mining conferences, including the upcoming Toronto conference season, once the exploration team is fully operational.

For Argentina Metals, the next six months will be an important test of execution. Its substantial Mendoza land position and proximity to established Chilean copper geology provide the exploration rationale, but the immediate milestones are more practical: securing access, completing fieldwork, identifying credible drill targets and testing whether early surface indications can translate into meaningful results at depth.

As Clegg moves from building the team to directing exploration on the ground, the company's progress will increasingly be measured by what its geologists can demonstrate beneath Mendoza's largely unexplored terrain.

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