

## Legend takes 3% stake in Independence Group

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**LEGEND Mining has snapped up 3.4 million shares in nickel miner Independence Group, or just over 3% of the company, for \$A4.9 million.**

Perth-based Legend purchased the Independence shares at an average price of \$1.44 per share over the past six weeks and is now a top 10 shareholder in the company.

Legend managing director Mark Wilson told *MiningNews.net* the company had reviewed a number of project opportunities over the past six months with Independence Group standing out over other opportunities in terms of lower risk and higher returns.

“This is really a treasury investment,” he said.

“We had \$10 million in cash and our choices were, do we sit on that cash and earn interest or split it up into a number of different investment criteria, and so this investment into Independence Group, it really came about from me reviewing projects.

“When you look at Independence, because \$1.10 of the \$1.44 per share we paid is cash backed, we’re essentially investing in the entire suite of Independence’s projects at a capital value of \$35 million and it’s just a joke compared to the other opportunities that I had on the desk.

“Independence’s Long mine is one of the lowest-cost nickel producers in town. It is still producing nickel at a cash positive margin for the company and it just seems so obvious to us that even though it’s a risk, it was a risk that was worth taking.”

Wilson said he was confident that Legend’s investment in Independence Group would reward shareholders in a shorter time frame than the alternative project investments.

“We therefore expect Legend to have a greater cash backing for future opportunities without any dilution of existing shareholders,” he added.

Shares in Legend were trading 0.1c higher at 0.8c, while shares in Independence Group remained unchanged at \$1.55.

Source: *Mining News*