

Stock Exchange Release
Talvivaara Mining Company Plc
8 April 2013

Leakage detected at Talvivaara mine's gypsum pond

– safety capacity in dams and water treatment capacity sufficient to manage the leakage

Talvivaara Mining Company Plc ("Talvivaara" or the "Company") announces that a leakage has been detected at the gypsum pond of its Sotkamo mine on Sunday evening 7 April 2013. The leakage is located at the pond section adjacent to the section where a leakage occurred in November 2012, and is potentially linked to the previous leakage.

The Company estimates that approximately 250,000 m3 of water has leaked from the pond by now and that the remaining water volume in the pond section is approximately 370,000 m3. The safety capacity at Talvivaara's Southern water treatment unit is currently approximately 1,000,000 m3 and also the water treatment capacity to treat the water leaking into the dams is sufficient. No untreated water is therefore expected to be directed outside of the mine area. The leakage however consumes safety capacity in advance of the spring melt, and the Company has therefore increased discharge of purified water to the Southern direction to approximately 800 m3/h and the discharge rate is estimated to be further increased to approximately 1,500 m3/h later in the week.

As the risk level of the leaking pond section has been known to be elevated, the Company has during the current year focused on maximizing safety capacity in dams through improving dam structures, increasing water neutralization capacity and discharging treated waters. Under normal circumstances the water in the gypsum pond would have been treated at the metals recovery plant, but will now be neutralized at the Southern water treatment unit instead.

Pumping arrangements at Talvivaara's metals recovery plant are currently being altered such that water purification capacity at the plant can be maximized and as much as possible of treated water can also be discharged to the Northern direction.

## **Enquiries**

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## **Talvivaara Mining Company Plc**

Talvivaara Mining Company is an internationally significant base metals producer with its primary focus on nickel and zinc using a technology known as bioheapleaching to extract metals out of ore. Bioheapleaching makes extraction of metals from low grade ore economically viable. The Talvivaara deposits comprise one of the largest known sulphide nickel resources in Europe. The ore body is estimated to support anticipated production for several decades. Talvivaara has secured a 10-year off-take agreement for 100 per cent of its main output of nickel and cobalt to Norilsk Nickel and entered into a long-term zinc streaming agreement with Nyrstar NV. Talvivaara is listed on the London Stock Exchange Main Market and NASDAQ OMX Helsinki. Further information can be found at <a href="https://www.talvivaara.com">www.talvivaara.com</a>.