

Technical Office: Unit 8, Castle Street  
Castlepark Industrial Estate, Ellon, AB41 9RF  
Website: [www.aberdeenminerals.com](http://www.aberdeenminerals.com)  
Email: [info@aberdeenminerals.com](mailto:info@aberdeenminerals.com)  
Freephone: 0800 047 8736  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aberdeenminerals>  
Twitter: @AberdeenMin



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## Update On Heliborne Geophysical Survey

Dear landowners, residents, and business owners,

I am writing to provide you with an update on our planned heliborne geophysical survey, due to commence in September over parts of Aberdeenshire. You may already be aware of the survey and its goals, and we wanted to take this opportunity to share with you the latest key information about our plans.

You can check the survey areas on the map overleaf to see if it covers your location. This low-level helicopter survey is being run by SkyTEM, a Danish specialist contractor, under permission of the Civil Aviation Authority for flight plans and low-level flying. Key information updates are provided below, and a “Frequently Asked Questions” section is being added to our website to provide more details about what we are doing and why.

We appreciate all of the feedback we have received so far, and we continue to work with SkyTEM to minimize any potential disruption to the communities within and around the survey area. Ensuring minimum disturbance to farming operations and animals in particular is a priority consideration for us in our ongoing preparation for the work, and we are actively engaging with individuals, stakeholder and interest groups about our plans.

We are keen to keep hearing from the community so if you have any questions before, during or after the survey work please do get in touch so that our team can discuss the survey with you in more detail.

Bringing this world class survey technology to North East Scotland for the first time is a very exciting opportunity to explore within our own country for the metals needed by society to meet the growing demand for EV batteries and electrical infrastructure. Our company’s aim is to work positively with communities and stakeholders to create opportunities in the North East for responsible mineral exploration as a vital contribution to a sustainable energy transition in Scotland and the UK.

I therefore wish to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding while we carry out our work.

Yours Sincerely,

*Fraser Gardiner, Chief Executive Officer*

### Key Information

<b>Start date:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022.
<b>Duration:</b>	Approximately four to five weeks to progressively cover the whole survey area. The September-October period was selected to balance farming, wildlife and operational safety considerations.
<b>Geophysics Contractor:</b>	SkyTEM Surveys ApS (Denmark) <a href="http://www.skytem.com">www.skytem.com</a> . SkyTEM is a world leading survey contractor and is a member of the International Airborne Geophysics Safety Association.
<b>Helicopter operator:</b>	KMN Koopmann Helicopter gmbh (Germany), flying an Airbus Helicopters H125.
<b>Flight planning:</b>	Weather permitting, there will be two flights per day. Survey lines are spaced 200 metres apart, and the helicopter’s presence in any one area will be brief. Flight schedules will be published on our website and we encourage people to register their details with us for the duration of the survey so that we can directly communicate updates and provide as much advance notice as possible.

**Survey method:**

This is an electromagnetic survey to study the underlying rock formations and explore for possible deposits of nickel and copper. The small, single engine helicopter flies slowly at around 80 kilometres (50 miles) per hour and at around 100 metres (330 feet) elevation. The survey monitoring equipment is suspended from the helicopter in the form of a “loop” at around 40 metres (130 feet) elevation (see [www.skytem.com](http://www.skytem.com) for more information).

**Safety:**

The technology used is not harmful to people or animals. The pilot will not fly directly over towns and buildings, and will navigate at a safe distance around pylons, wind turbines, and communication towers. The slow speed of approach, rolling countryside and brief presence at any single location mean that whilst you may be aware of it, you are unlikely to be startled by the helicopter while it passes through your area.

These factors also minimize the potential for farm animals to be disturbed by brief survey overflights at this time of year. Animal safety is a priority consideration in our risk assessments and we are working to make sure that discussions with horse owners in particular are part of our plans.

**More info:**

Please contact us using the details at the top of this letter to find out more about the survey and the work of Aberdeen Minerals, and to register for updates. We will be offering “drop-in” sessions to meet our team in our Ellon office, and we can also arrange to meet you at your location to discuss enquiries.

Please visit our website for more information including “Frequently Asked Questions”.

**Survey Areas:**

The planned survey areas are indicated by the blue outlines:

