

MARKET RELEASE

4 December 2012

Ashburton Minerals Limited

TRADING HALT

The securities of Ashburton Minerals Limited (the "Company") will be placed in Trading Halt Session State at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in Trading Halt Session State until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Thursday 6 December 2012 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code:

ATN ATNO

Dale Allen Adviser, Listings Compliance (Perth)



ASHBURTON MINERALS LTD

310 Newcastle St Perth WA 6000 PO Box 132 Northbridge WA 6865

T: +61 8 9225 9000 F: +61 8 9225 9001 E: info@ashmin.com.au www.ashburton-minerals.com.au



4 December 2012

Dave Filov Australian Securities Exchange Limited Level 8, 2 The Esplanade PERTH WA 6000

by email

Ashburton Minerals Ltd ("Ashburton" or "the Company")

Dear Dave

REQUEST FOR TRADING HALT

I confirm that Ashburton wishes to request a trading halt in its securities, effective immediately. We provide the following information in accordance with Listing Rule 17.1.

The reason for the trading halt is to allow the Company time to consider and prepare an announcement on the Mt Webb project.

The trading halt is to last until the earlier of the Company releasing an announcement or the commencement of trade on Thursday, 6 December 2012.

We expect that the trading halt will be ended by the Company making an announcement of the kind referred to above.

The Company is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Please call the undersigned if you have any queries in relation to this request.

Yours faithfully,

Rodney Dunn Company Secretary

For further information, please contact: Ashburton Minerals Ltd

Tel: +61 8 9225 9000 Fax: +61 8 9225 9001 Email: info@ashmin.com.au

or visit our website: <u>http://www.ashburton-minerals.com.au</u> and join our e-list.