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Lapland Diamond Exploration Claim Reservations Granted

- Three Claim Reservations granted in the Lapland region of Finland
- Kimberlite Indicator Minerals recovered in all three areas

Karelian Diamond Resources plc ("Karelian" or the "Company") (AIM: KDR, ESM: KDRI), the diamond exploration company focused on Finland, is pleased to announce that TUKES (The Finnish Mining Authority) has granted Karelian three exploration Claim Reservations in the Lapland region.

Interrogation of airborne geophysics in the region by the Company, together with till sampling and integration of data made available to Karelian under its agreement with Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited, led to the decision to apply for Claim Reservations in the area. A Claim Reservation grants exclusive rights to apply for exploration claims within the reservation area.

In all three areas kimberlitic indicator minerals were recovered.

Lapland is the largest and northernmost region of Finland. It lies predominantly within the Arctic Circle and borders Sweden, Norway and Russia. Lapland also forms part of the Archean bedrock of the Karelian Craton, the Russian sector of which has already yielded two world class diamond discoveries. The new Claim Reservations are a further addition to Karelian's diamond exploration programme which has already delineated, at Seitaperä in the Kuhmo region, the largest known diamondiferous kimberlite in Finland.

Professor Richard Conroy, Chairman commented:

"I am delighted that these additional Claim Reservations were granted, all of which are considered to have potential for diamonds. The Company's exploration programme is designed to find diamond deposits similar to the world class ones found in similar geology across the border in Russia."

This release has been approved by Andrew Murrells PGeo, a member of the Company's technical staff, who holds a BSc in Earth Science, in accordance with the guidance note for Mining, Oil & Gas Companies issued by the London Stock Exchange in respect of AIM Companies, which outlines standards of disclosure for mineral projects.

Further Information:

Professor Richard Conroy, Chairman, Karelian Diamond Resources plc
Virginia Bull / Simon Clements, Sanlam Securities UK Limited (Nomad)
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