

Northgate Minerals Reports Excellent Cash Flow from Operations of \$56.5 Million in the Fourth Quarter of 2010

08.03.2011 | [CNW](#)

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

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Adjusted Net Earnings of \$17.2 Million

Notice: Conference Call and Webcast Today at 10:00 am ET
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VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ - (All figures in US dollars except where noted) - Northgate Minerals Corporation ('Northgate' or the 'Corporation') (TSX: NGX) (NYSE Amex: NXG) today announced its financial and operating results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2010. The Company reported adjusted net earnings of \$17.2 million or \$0.06 per diluted share and cash flow from operations of \$56.5 million or \$0.19 per diluted share for the fourth quarter of 2010.

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Fourth Quarter and Year End 2010 Highlights

- Adjusted net earnings(1) of \$17.2 million or \$0.06 per diluted share for the fourth quarter and \$19.2 million or \$0.07 per diluted share for the full year 2010.
- Excellent cash flow from operations of \$56.5 million or \$0.19 per diluted share for the fourth quarter, a 36% increase compared to the same period last year.
- Production of 66,077 ounces of gold and 10.6 million pounds of copper in the fourth quarter, bringing full year production to 272,713 ounces and 40.7 million pounds, respectively, in 2010.
- Average net cash cost in the fourth quarter was \$646 per ounce of gold, bringing the average net cash cost for the full year to \$660 per ounce.
- Fourth quarter metal sales were 70,145 ounces of gold at a realized price of \$1,393 per ounce and 12.4 million pounds of copper at a realized price of \$4.27 per pound.
- Northgate's cash balance at the end of the year was \$334.8 million.
- At December 31, 2010, open pit reserves at Young-Davidson increased by over 20% to 325,000 ounces of gold.
- Recently released an updated NI 43-101 compliant resource estimate for the Kemess Underground project with an Indicated Resource of 136.5 million tonnes ('Mt') containing 2.6 million ounces of gold and 860.6 million pounds of copper.
- At the end of February, Northgate announced the sale of its entire portfolio of auction rate securities ('ARS') for total consideration of \$40.9 million.

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'We finished the 2010 year strong with solid operating and financial results, posting excellent cash flow from operations of \$56.5 million in the fourth quarter' commented Ken Stowe, Northgate's President and Chief Executive Officer. 'We also started 2011 on a positive note. In February, we released an updated resource estimate for the Kemess Underground project, which now contains an indicated resource of 2.6 million ounces of gold and 861 million pounds of copper. The project represents a significant organic growth opportunity for the company and would boost our growing production profile. We are also pleased to report that open pit reserves have increased by over 20% to 325,000 ounces at Young-Davidson. We look forward to the year ahead, where ongoing exploration at Young-Davidson is expected to further add to the current 15-year mine-life.'

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Financial Performance

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Revenue in the fourth quarter of 2010 was a record \$148.7 million, compared with revenue of \$110.7 million

in the same period last year. The record revenue in the most recent quarter was attributable to strong metal sales and higher realized metal prices. For the full year 2010, Northgate recorded consolidated revenue of \$485.0 million.

Adjusted net earnings for the fourth quarter were \$17.2 million or \$0.06 per diluted share. For the full year 2010, Northgate reported adjusted net earnings of \$19.2 million or \$0.07 per diluted share. Adjusted net earnings do not include certain non-cash items from its calculation of net earnings prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ('Canadian GAAP'). Northgate has provided this figure as it may be a useful indicator to investors.

The net loss for the fourth quarter was \$72.0 million, compared with a net loss of \$67.8 million in the corresponding period last year. The fourth quarter net loss includes a non-cash impairment charge of \$76.9 million for the Fosterville Gold mine in Victoria, Australia, and a negative mark-to-market hedging adjustment of \$12.0 million relating to Northgate's copper forward sales contracts, which were put into place in order to secure a significant portion of cash inflow over Kemess South's remaining mine-life.

During the fourth quarter of 2010, Northgate's cash flow from operations increased by 36% to \$56.5 million or \$0.19 per diluted share. For the full year 2010, Northgate generated cash flow from operations of \$87.3 million or \$0.30 per diluted share.

During the year, Northgate's cash and cash equivalents increased by \$81.3 million. Our strong balance sheet now boasts cash and cash equivalents of \$334.8 million at the end of 2010.

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Corporate Development

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Sale of Auction Rate Securities

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At the end of February, Northgate announced the sale of its entire portfolio of ARS for total consideration of approximately \$40.9 million. At December 31, 2010, Northgate had estimated the fair market value of its ARS at \$36.0 million based on an independent third-party valuation. The proceeds from the sale were used to repay, in full, the outstanding balance of the loan of approximately \$40.0 million. The loan was originally made by Lehman Brothers Inc. ('Lehman'), which was collateralized by the ARS held in the Corporation's investment account managed by Lehman. The loan and associated ARS account were subsequently acquired by Barclays plc in September 2008 as part of its court-approved purchase of the assets of then-bankrupt Lehman.

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Organic Growth at Kemess Underground

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In February, Northgate released a new resource estimate for its Kemess Underground Project, located five kilometres ('km') north of the Kemess South mine. The new resource estimate represents an 18% increase in tonnes, a 10% increase in contained gold and a 9% increase in contained copper when compared to the May 2010 resource. The total Indicated Resource now stands at 136.5 Mt containing 2.6 million ounces of gold and 860.6 million pounds of copper.

Northgate has engaged an independent mining consulting firm to complete technical studies, which will be incorporated into a Preliminary Assessment and will be used to determine the economics and development concept for the Kemess Underground Project that could be milled using the existing Kemess facilities. Production at Kemess Underground would further strengthen Northgate's growing production profile and significantly reduce the Corporation's average net cash cost of production.

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Sale of Kemess South Equipment

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As mining activities come to a close at the Kemess South mine, Northgate has appointed an international mining services firm to market for sale its open pit mining fleet and some limited milling infrastructure that will no longer be needed once production ceases. Northgate will continue to maintain a majority of its Kemess milling facilities for the development and operation currently being contemplated at Kemess Underground.

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Results from Operations

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The results from operations for the fourth quarter and year ended 2010 follows on the press release dated January 13, 2011, when Northgate released production figures for the same periods. The results from operations contained in this press release should be read in conjunction with Northgate's fourth quarter MD&A report, available on our website at www.northgateminerals.com.

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Fosterville Gold Mine

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Fosterville achieved quarterly production of 23,108 ounces of gold, which was better than forecast, due to higher than expected ore grades in the stopes that were mined. For the second straight year, production at Fosterville exceeded the 100,000-ounce mark, producing 100,441 ounces of gold in 2010. The average net cash cost of production for the fourth quarter and full year 2010 was \$856 and \$738 per ounce, respectively, in line with the most recent forecast. However, the net cash cost was impacted by the substantial appreciation of the Australian dollar during the year. The Australian dollar averaged slightly below parity with the US dollar for the last three months of 2010.

During the fourth quarter of 2010, a total of 163,404 tonnes of ore were mined for a total 729,080 tonnes mined in 2010. Also during the quarter, mill throughput was excellent, achieving a record 214,593 tonnes of ore. As a result, overall unit operating costs dropped to A\$93 per tonne of ore milled compared to \$101 per tonne in the same period last year. Mill throughput for all of 2010 was 817,535 tonnes of ore, which was better than the 781,879 tonnes milled last year.

For the full year 2010, the mill head grade was 4.57 grams per tonne (g/t). Gold recoveries averaged 82% for the year, slightly lower than forecast as a result of processing low-grade stockpile ore.

In 2011, production at Fosterville is forecast to be in the range of 97,000 - 102,000 ounces of gold.

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Impairment Charges for Fosterville

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At the end of each year, Northgate re-estimates reserves at all of its properties and revises its life-of-mine ('LOM') plans. LOM plans incorporate management assumptions and estimates of revenues and related costs, as well as the conversion of a portion of resources to reserves over the LOM. When this annual exercise was performed in early 2011, there were indicators of impairment at the Fosterville Gold mine. In accordance with Canadian GAAP, a recoverability test was performed for the long-lived assets, which identified them as potentially impaired as of December 31, 2010. The fair value of the Fosterville mine as at December 31, 2010 was established by using a LOM discounted cash flow model incorporating the following assumptions: gold prices of A\$1,350/oz for 2011, A\$1,300/oz for 2012 to 2013, A\$1,250/oz for 2014 to 2015 and A\$1,200/oz thereafter; a discount rate of 6.5%; and, a net asset value multiplier of 1.0x.

As a result of this analysis, an impairment charge of \$76.9 million was recorded in earnings for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2010.

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Stawell Gold Mine

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During the year, the Stawell Gold mine steadily improved operations since its low in the second quarter, producing 17,882 ounces of gold at a net cash cost of \$1,129 per ounce. Production for the entire year totalled 71,482 ounces at an average net cash cost of \$969 per ounce. The net cash cost for 2010 was negatively impacted primarily by lower than forecast production resulting from lower than expected ore grades and also by a stronger Australian dollar relative to the US dollar. Production in 2011 is expected to increase by at least 20% from 2010 to between 86,000 - 91,000 ounces of gold. In years 2012 and 2013, this improvement in production is expected to continue with production forecast to be in the range of 105,000 - 117,000 ounces as ore is increasingly sourced from the higher-grade GG6 zone. The net cash cost of production is also expected to decrease from 2010 by approximately 15% in 2011 and 20% in 2012 as ore is sourced from the higher-grade GG6 zone.

During the quarter, mine production improved to 209,644 tonnes of ore and mine development advanced 1,506 m. In addition, the mill performed extremely well, with approximately 211,405 tonnes of ore milled during the quarter, which was the highest quarterly throughput for the year. Mining costs were A\$66 per tonne of ore mined and milling costs were A\$23 per tonne of ore milled. For all of 2010, mill throughput of 826,454 tonnes of ore was achieved, which was 9% higher than mill throughput of 759,819 tonnes in 2009.

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Kemess South

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The Kemess South mine posted production of 25,087 ounces of gold and 10.6 million pounds of copper in the fourth quarter of 2010, bringing full year production to 100,790 ounces of gold and 40.7 million pounds of copper, which was in line with forecast. The net cash costs for the fourth quarter and full year 2010 were \$109 and \$363 per ounce, respectively, which were slightly higher than forecast due to lower copper production in the fourth quarter of the year.

The Kemess South mine is scheduled to close in March 2011. Total gold and copper production for 2011 is

anticipated to be 12,000 ounces and 5.3 million pounds, respectively, at a net cash cost of \$285 per ounce of gold. With the recent surge of copper prices in the first quarter of 2011, the net cash cost may be lower than previously forecast.

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Summarized Consolidated Results

(Thousands of
US dollars,
except where
noted)

	Q4 2010	Q4 2009	2010	2009
Financial Data				
Revenue	\$ 148,701	\$ 110,698	\$ 485,047	\$ 484,976
Adjusted net earnings(1) Per share (diluted)	17,198 0.06	27,862 0.10	19,184 0.07	73,191 0.28
Net loss Per share (diluted)	(72,020) (0.25)	(67,755) (0.23)	(71,704) (0.25)	(49,506) (0.19)
Cash flow from operations	56,482	41,510	87,285	187,161
Cash and cash equivalents	334,840	253,544	334,840	253,544
Total assets	\$ 905,484	\$ 741,679	\$ 905,484	\$ 741,679
Operating Data				
Gold production (ounces)				
Fosterville	23,108	26,615	100,441	103,360
Stawell	17,882	23,221	71,482	85,998
Kemess	25,087	30,917	100,790	173,040
Total gold production	66,077	80,753	272,713	362,398
Gold sales (ounces)				
Fosterville	22,427	25,166	100,544	103,518
Stawell	17,679	22,695	71,025	87,110
Kemess	30,039	30,154	97,730	180,040
Total gold sales	70,145	78,015	269,299	370,668
Realized gold price (\$/ounce)(2)				
	1,393	1,181	1,256	994
Net cash cost (\$/ounce)(3)				
Fosterville	856	720	738	576
Stawell	1,129	732	969	616
Kemess	109	234	363	348
Average net cash cost (\$/ounce)	646	537	660	477

Copper production (thousands pounds)	10,625	11,750	40,666	52,496
Copper sales (thousands pounds)	12,363	10,393	38,939	51,188
Realized copper price (\$/pound)(2)	4.27	3.54	3.61	2.87

(1) Adjusted net earnings is a non-GAAP measure. See section entitled 'Non-GAAP Measures' in the Corporation's interim MD&A Report.

(2) Commencing in the fourth quarter of 2010, metal pricing quotational period is three months after the month of ship loading for copper and one month after the month of ship loading for gold produced at Kemess South. Previously, the metal pricing quotational period was three months after the month of arrival ('MAMA') at the receiving facility for copper and one MAMA for gold. Therefore, realized prices reported will differ from the average quarterly reference prices, since realized price calculations incorporate the actual settlement

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ -- period sales, as well as the forward price profiles of both metals for unpriced sales at the end of the quarter.

(3) Net cash cost per ounce of production is a non-GAAP measure. See section entitled 'Non-GAAP Measures' in the Corporation's interim MD&A Report.

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Northgate has provided its proven and probable mineral reserves and measured, indicated and inferred resources for the year ended December 31, 2010. A summary table for mineral reserves and resources are as follows:

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Contained Gold (ounces)	At December 31, 2010
Proven Reserves	714,000
Probable Reserves	2,840,000
Total Proven and Probable Reserves	3,555,000
Measured Resources	195,000
Indicated Resources(2)	3,369,000
Total Measured and Indicated Resources	3,564,000
Total Inferred Resources	1,449,000

Contained Copper (000s pounds)	
Total Proven Reserves(3)	9,247
Total Indicated Resources(2)	861,000

- (1) Mineral reserves and resources are rounded to 1,000 ounces and 1,000 pounds. Minor discrepancies in summations may occur due to rounding.
- (2) The new Kemess Underground Resource was announced on February 15, 2011. This resource is a subset of the Kemess North deposit that has Measured and Indicated Resources of 719,190,000 tonnes at a grade of 0.30 g/t gold and 0.15% copper containing 6,939,000 ounces of gold and 2,353,000,000 pounds of copper.
- (3) Proven reserves for contained copper are for the Kemess South mine, which is scheduled for mine closure in March 2011.
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At December 31, 2010, Northgate reported Proven and Probable reserves of 3.6 million ounces.

At Young-Davidson, open pit reserves increased by over 20% to 325,000 ounces. Underground reserves at the end of 2010 remained unchanged at 26.2 million tonnes containing 2.5 million ounces of gold, as no revisions were made to price assumptions used for the mine plan.

During 2010, Northgate undertook a \$3 million exploration program to better define the geometry and grade of the high-grade core of the Kemess North deposit for the purposes of evaluating the potential for mining a portion of the original 719 million tonne resource using bulk underground methods. As at December 31, 2010, a new indicated resource has been estimated for the Kemess Underground Project of 136.5 million tonnes containing 2.6 million ounces of gold at a grade of 0.56 g/t and 860.6 million pounds of copper at a grade of 0.29%. The total resource at Kemess Underground has increased by 18% in tonnes, 10% in contained gold and 9% in contained copper from the May 2010 resource estimate. Engineering studies are currently underway to determine the feasibility of converting a portion of this resource into a reserve.

At the Fosterville mine, reserves decreased slightly to 3.1 million tonnes containing 475,000 ounces. Fosterville was successful in resource to reserve conversion of approximately 100,000 ounces as a result of extending the Phoenix and Harrier orebodies (approximately 73,000 ounces) and from infill drilling within Phoenix (approximately 24,000 ounces). However, resource conversion was offset by mining depletion of 124,000 ounces during the course of 2010.

Indicated Resources at Fosterville increased by 65,000 ounces to 470,000 ounces as a result of successful drilling within the Phoenix and Harrier orebodies.

At Stawell, Proven and Probable Reserves at December 31, 2010 stood at 2.0 million tonnes containing 234,000 ounces. During the year, approximately 86,000 ounces were mined with a conversion of approximately 33,000 ounces to reserves to partially offset mine depletion.

The complete mineral reserves and resource estimates for Northgate as at December 31, 2010, including accompanying notes, can be found in Appendix I at the end of this press release.

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Interim Consolidated Balance Sheets

Thousands of US dollars	December 31 2010	December 31 2009
	(Unaudited)	
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 334,840	\$ 253,544
Trade and other receivables	62,051	27,961
Income taxes receivable	2,236	-
Inventories	44,569	44,599
Prepaid expenses	2,367	2,566
Future income tax asset	5,619	5,541
	451,682	334,211
Other assets		
Other assets	40,819	27,544
Future income tax asset	9,381	14,507
Mineral property, plant and equipment	367,083	327,416
Investments	36,519	38,001
	\$ 905,484	\$ 741,679
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 109,385	\$ 59,132
Income taxes payable	-	29,395
Short-term loan	40,161	41,515
Equipment financing obligations	7,945	5,995
Provision for site closure and reclamation obligations	22,460	23,501
Future income tax liability	-	867
	179,951	160,405
Equipment financing obligations		
Equipment financing obligations	10,763	4,656
Convertible senior notes	131,235	-
Other long-term liabilities	2,803	8,995
Provision for site closure and reclamation obligations	25,453	23,989
Future income tax liability	11,343	-
	361,548	198,045
Shareholders' Equity		
Common shares	407,036	402,879
Equity component of convertible senior notes	33,832	-
Contributed surplus	7,798	6,202
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	28,716	(3,705)
Retained earnings	66,554	138,258
	543,936	543,634
	\$ 905,484	\$ 741,679

Interim Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income
(Loss)

Thousands of US dollars, except share and per share amounts,	Three Months Ended Dec 31	Twelve Months Ended Dec 31
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unaudited	2010	2009	2010	2009
Revenue	\$ 148,701	\$ 110,698	\$ 485,047	\$ 484,976
Cost of sales	95,386	72,789	322,558	300,800
Depreciation and depletion	35,579	26,733	114,031	104,126
Administrative and general	3,468	3,617	12,524	10,679
Net interest income	(562)	(558)	(2,176)	(1,580)
Exploration	4,199	2,765	22,129	14,637
Currency translation (gain) loss	(6,795)	(3,495)	(8,614)	1,143
Accretion of site closure and reclamation costs	433	952	1,677	3,253
Write-down of mineral properties	80,411	84,849	80,411	84,849
Write-down of investments	-	31	374	10,979
Other income	(400)	(170)	(1,895)	(1,123)
	211,719	187,513	541,019	527,763
Loss before income taxes	(63,018)	(76,815)	(55,972)	(42,787)
Income tax recovery (expense)				
Current	(1,062)	981	1,309	(29,472)
Future	(7,940)	8,079	(17,041)	22,753
	(9,002)	9,060	(15,732)	(6,719)
Net loss for the period	\$ (72,020)	\$ (67,755)	\$ (71,704)	\$ (49,506)
Other comprehensive income (loss)				
Unrealized gain (loss) on available for sale securities	(616)	1,845	(1,465)	(1,463)
Reclassification of realized loss on available for sale securities to net earnings	-	-	232	-
Reclassification of other than temporary loss on available for sale securities to net earnings	-	31	374	10,979
Unrealized gain on translation of self-sustaining operations	13,583	5,700	33,280	76,282
	12,967	7,576	32,421	85,798
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (59,053)	\$ (60,179)	\$ (39,283)	\$ 36,292
Net loss per share				

Basic	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.23)	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.19)
Diluted	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.23)	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.19)
Weighted average shares outstanding								
Basic		291,149,012		290,500,196		290,922,452		264,603,527
Diluted		291,149,012		290,500,196		290,922,452		264,603,527

Interim Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Thousands of US dollars, unaudited	Three Months Ended Dec 31		Twelve Months Ended Dec 31	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Operating activities:				
Net loss for the period	(72,020)	\$ (67,755)	\$ (71,704)	\$ (49,506)
Non-cash items:				
Depreciation and depletion	35,579	26,733	114,031	104,126
Unrealized currency translation losses	97	724	511	4,543
Accretion of site closure and reclamation costs	433	952	1,677	3,253
Net loss (gain) on disposal of assets	54	(766)	(1,280)	(490)
Amortization of deferred charges	-	-	-	196
Stock-based compensation	513	361	2,952	1,467
Accrual of employee severance costs	452	650	1,845	2,177
Future income tax expense (recovery)	7,940	(8,079)	17,041	(22,753)
Change in fair value of forward contracts	12,002	15,055	13,768	37,674
Write-down of investments	-	31	374	10,979
Inventory obsolescence provision	584	363	584	363
Write-down of mineral properties	80,411	84,849	80,411	84,849
Loss on sale of investments	-	-	232	-
Changes in operating working capital and other	(9,563)	(11,608)	(73,157)	10,283
	56,482	41,510	87,285	187,161
Investing activities:				
Increase in restricted cash	(301)	(113)	(10,191)	(220)
Purchase of mineral property, plant and equipment	(28,475)	(3,695)	(61,024)	(30,528)

Mineral property development	(25,229)	(18,801)	(94,119)	(51,468)
Proceeds from sale of equipment	114	-	627	-
Proceeds from insurable asset disposition	-	-	1,619	-
Transaction costs paid	(300)	-	(378)	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	-	-	119	-
	(54,191)	(22,609)	(163,347)	(82,216)
Financing activities:				
Repayment of equipment financing obligations	(2,185)	(1,225)	(7,621)	(5,029)
Repayment of short-term loan	(306)	(312)	(1,354)	(1,581)
Repayment of other long-term liabilities	(264)	(218)	(910)	(546)
Issuance of convertible senior notes, net transaction costs	164,239	-	163,419	-
Issuance of common shares	2,143	846	2,801	89,647
	163,627	(909)	156,335	82,491
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	748	(377)	1,023	3,689
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	166,666	17,615	81,296	191,125
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	168,174	235,929	253,544	62,419
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 334,840	\$ 253,544	\$ 334,840	\$ 253,544
Supplementary information				
Cash paid during the period for:				
Interest	\$ 575	\$ (274)	\$ 2,160	\$ 2,298
Income taxes	-	-	26,913	587
Purchase of mineral property, plant and equipment through financing arrangements	1,239	2,734	13,936	2,734
Mine construction financed by accounts payable and accrued liabilities	8,935	-	18,836	-
Insurance premiums financed by a loan facility	650	-	650	856
Investment tax credit recorded as a				

reduction to mineral property, plant and equipment	1,878	-	5,366	-
Interest capitalized to mineral property, plant and equipment	1,435	-	1,435	-
Accretion on convertible senior notes capitalized to mineral property, plant and equipment	1,293	-	1,293	-
Deferred transaction costs transferred to liability or equity	820	-	-	775
Future income tax benefits recorded in equity	354	(211)	354	1,565

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This press release should be read in conjunction with the Corporation's fourth quarter MD&A report and accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, which can be found on Northgate's website at www.northgateminerals.com.

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Financial figures for the fourth quarter and full year 2010 are unaudited estimates and are subject to revision. Northgate will file its complete 2010 audited annual financial statements, including the notes to the consolidated financial statements, with both the Canadian and US Securities regulatory authorities on SEDAR (www.sedar.com) and EDGAR (www.sec.gov) by March 31, 2011.

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Appendix I - Mineral Reserves and Resources

Mineral Reserves - Proven & Probable

At December 31, 2010	Category	Quantity (tonnes)	Grades		Contained Metal	
			Gold (g/t)	Copper (%)	Gold (ounces)	Copper (000s lbs)
Kemess South	Proven	3,495,000	0.24	0.12	27,000	9,247
Fosterville	Proven	446,000	7.19	n/a	103,000	n/a
	Probable	2,659,000	4.35	n/a	372,000	n/a
		3,105,000	4.76		475,000	
Stawell						
(underground)	Proven	254,000	3.69	n/a	30,000	n/a
(open pit)	Probable	452,000	1.96	n/a	28,000	n/a
(underground)	Probable	1,342,000	4.06	n/a	175,000	n/a
		2,048,000	3.55		234,000	
Young-Davidson						
(open pit)	Proven	3,793,000	1.60	n/a	195,000	n/a
(open pit)	Probable	2,388,000	1.69	n/a	130,000	n/a
(underground)	Proven	3,469,000	3.22	n/a	359,000	n/a
(underground)	Probable	22,740,000	2.92	n/a	2,135,000	n/a
		32,390,000	2.64		2,819,000	
Total Proven & Probable Reserves		41,038,000			3,555,000	9,247

Mineral Resources - Measured & Indicated

At December 31, 2010	Category	Quantity (tonnes)	Grades		Contained Metal	
			Gold (g/t)	Copper (%)	Gold (ounces)	Copper (000s lbs)
Kemess						
Underground	Indicated	136,500,000	0.56	0.29	2,610,000*	861,000
Young-Davidson (underground)	Indicated	132,000	3.08	n/a	13,100	n/a
Fosterville						
(less than 100m from surface)	Measured	2,745,000	2.21	n/a	195,000	n/a
(less than 100m from surface)	Indicated	4,760,000	1.54	n/a	236,000	n/a
(greater than 100m from surface)	Indicated	1,556,000	4.67	n/a	234,000	n/a

		9,061,000	2.28	665,000		

Stawell						
(less than 100m from surface)	Indicated	2,975,000	2.19	n/a	209,000	n/a
(greater than 100m from surface)	Indicated	448,000	4.62	n/a	67,000	n/a
		3,423,000	2.51	276,000		

Total Measured & Indicated Resources		149,116,000	3,564,000			

* Includes silver contribution @ 55 ounces of silver to one ounce of gold.

Mineral Resources - Inferred

At December 31, 2010	Category	Quantity (tonnes)	Grades		Contained Metal	
			Gold (g/t)	Copper (%)	Gold (ounces)	Copper (000s lbs)

Kemess						
Underground	Inferred	6,000,000	0.42	0.22	90,000*	30,000

Young-Davidson						
(open pit)	Inferred	20,000	1.76	n/a	1,000	n/a
(underground)	Inferred	5,950,000	3.40	n/a	650,000	n/a
		5,970,000	3.40	651,000		

Fosterville						
(less than 100m from surface)	Inferred	2,379,000	1.70	n/a	130,000	n/a
(greater than 100m from surface)	Inferred	3,044,000	4.77	n/a	467,000	n/a
		5,423,000	3.42	597,000		

Stawell						
(less than 100m from surface)	Inferred	25,000	2.30	n/a	2,000	n/a
(greater than 100m from surface)	Inferred	680,000	4.97	n/a	109,000	n/a
		705,000	4.90	111,000		

Total Measured & Indicated Resources		18,098,000	1,449,000			

* Includes silver contribution @ 55 ounces of silver to one ounce of gold.

Notes to Mineral Reserves and Resources

1. Mineral reserves and mineral resources for Kemess South, Kemess Underground and Young-Davidson have been estimated in accordance with the definitions contained in the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum ('CIM') Standards and National Instrument 43-101 ('NI 43-101').
2. Mineral reserves and mineral resources for Fosterville and Stawell have been estimated in accordance with the AusIMM JORC Code and have been reconciled to CIM Standards as prescribed by NI 43-101.
3. All mineral resources are exclusive of mineral reserves.
4. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.
5. Mineral reserves and resources are rounded to 1,000 tonnes, 0.01 g/t gold and 1,000 ounces. Minor discrepancies in summations may occur due to rounding.
6. Mineral reserves were calculated using the following parameters:
 - Kemess South: exchange rate Cdn\$/US\$1.03; gold price \$1,300/oz; copper price \$4.00/lb; and, silver price \$15.00/oz. Operating assumptions were as follows: gold recovery 57.5%; copper recovery 77.8%; mining costs Cdn\$1.20/tonne; milling costs Cdn\$4.00/tonne; and, G&A costs Cdn\$1.50/tonne.
 - Young-Davidson: Underground mineral reserves were estimated using an average long-term gold price of \$725/oz (Cdn\$853/oz). A 1.7 g/t gold cut-off grade was applied to the underground resource model for the sublevel cave and longhole shrinkage mining methods based on 15% dilution, mining costs of Cdn\$21.74, process costs of Cdn\$11.40, G&A costs of Cdn\$2.75 and a gold recovery of 92.5%. A 2.3 g/t gold cut-off grade was applied to the longhole retreat mining method to account for the additional capital development and lower productivity of this mining method. The open pit gold cut-off considers ore-based operating costs of \$12.11/tonne (processing and G&A), a gold recovery of 91%, a \$0.68/tonne stockpile rehandle cost and royalty costs as appropriate. A 0.62 g/t cut-off was applied within royalty free claims, 0.68 g/t cut-off and 0.69 g/t cut-off applied to claims subject to royalty agreements. For open pit reserves, the following parameters were used: exchange rate Cdn\$/US\$1.00, gold price \$1,200/oz, a 91.5% gold recovery and a Cdn\$18.82/tonne open pit operating cost to estimate a breakeven cut-off of approximately 0.6 g/t gold. A minimum true thickness of approximately five metres was employed in defining the mineralized drill intercepts.
 - Fosterville: gold price A\$1,165/oz; cut-off grade applied was variable for underground ore depending on width, mining method and ground conditions; dilution of 5%-30% and mining recovery of 70%-100% were applied depending on mining method.
 - Stawell: gold price A\$1,165/oz; cut-off grade applied was variable for underground ore depending upon width, mining method and ground conditions. Wonga surface and Magdala surface above 130 mRL and above, a nominal 0.8 g/t gold cut-off was applied.
7. Mineral resources were calculated using the following parameters:
 - Young-Davidson: Mineral resources were estimated using an average long-term gold price of \$750/oz (Cdn\$806/oz). Underground mineralized wireframes constructed based on approximately a 1.70 g/t gold cut-off grade, a 1.3 g/t incremental cut-off grade

and a minimum true thickness of three metres. Open pit mineralized wireframes constructed based on approximately a 0.60 g/t gold cut-off grade and a minimum true thickness of five metres.

- Kemess Underground: Mineral resources were estimated using an average long-term exchange rate Cdn\$/US\$1.00, gold price of \$1,100/oz, copper price of \$ 2.80/lb and silver of \$20.00/oz. Gold recoveries of 68% and copper recoveries of 90% were used.
- Fosterville: gold price A\$1,250/oz; cut-off grade applied were 0.5 g/t gold for oxide, 1.0 g/t gold for near-surface sulphide (above 5050mRL) and 3.0 g/t gold for underground sulphide (below 5050mRL).
- Stawell: gold price A\$1,250/oz; Wonga Surface and Magdala surface above 130 mRL and above, a nominal 0.8 g/t gold cut-off was applied.

8. Mineral reserve estimates were prepared by:

- Kemess South: Gordon Skrecky, Chief Mine Geologist, Kemess mine. Mr. Skrecky is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia and has over 24 years of experience in mineral resource estimation.
- Young-Davidson: Underground mineral reserve estimates were prepared by Gary Taylor, Mining Manager, AMEC Americas Limited ('Amec'), Jay Melnyk, Principal Mining Manager, Amec, and Carl Edmunds, Exploration Manager, Northgate Minerals Corporation. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Saskatchewan and the Association of Professional Engineers of the Province of Manitoba and has over 37 years of relevant geological experience. Mr. Melnyk is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia and has over 20 years of relevant geological experience. Mr. Edmunds is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of British Columbia and has 23 years of experience in mineral resource estimation. Open pit mineral reserve estimates were prepared by Jim Grey, GR Technical Services Ltd. Mr. Gray is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the province of British Columbia, the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta and the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has over 31 years of relevant engineering experience.
- Fosterville: Ion Hann, Mining Manager, Northgate and Marcus Binks, Processing Manager, Northgate. Mr. Hann is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has over 20 years of relevant engineering experience. Mr. Binks is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has over 18 years of relevant metallurgical experience.
- Stawell: Austin Hemphill, Mine Technical Superintendent, Northgate. Mr. Hemphill is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has over eight years of relevant engineering experience.

9. Mineral resource estimates were prepared by:

- Young-Davidson: Carl Edmunds, Exploration Manager, Northgate.
- Kemess Underground: Northgate's geological staff, which includes a number of individuals who are Qualified Persons as defined under NI 43-101 and under the supervision of Carl Edmunds, Exploration Manager, Northgate.

- Fosterville: Simon Hitchman, District Exploration Geologist, Northgate and Paul Napier, Senior Mine Geologist, Northgate. Mr. Hitchman is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and has over 24 years of relevant geological experience. Mr. Napier is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and has 13 years of relevant geological experience.
- Stawell: Mark Haydon, Geology Manager, Stawell Gold Mines. Mr. Haydon is a member of the Australasian Institute of Geoscientists and has over 16 years of relevant geological experience.

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VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Q4 and Year End 2010 Financial Results - Conference Call and Webcast

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

You are invited to participate in today's live conference call and webcast discussing our fourth quarter and

year-end financial results. The conference call and webcast will be held at 10:00 am Toronto time.

You may participate in our conference call by calling 647-427-7450 or toll free in North America at 1-888-231-8191. To ensure your participation, please call five minutes prior to the scheduled start of the call.

A live audio webcast and presentation package will be available on Northgate's homepage at www.northgateminerals.com.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Conference Replay

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

For those unable to participate in the conference call at the scheduled time, a replay of the conference call will be available beginning on March 8, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. ET until March 15, 2011 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

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    Replay Access No. 416-849-0833    Passcode: 432 128 03 No.
    Replay Access No. 800-642-1687    Passcode: 432 128 03 No.
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VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

A podcast will also be made available at <http://podcast.newswire.ca/feeds/newswire/97360-en.xml>.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Northgate Minerals Corporation is a gold and copper producer with mining operations, development projects and exploration properties in Canada and Australia. Our vision is to be the leading intermediate gold producer by identifying, acquiring, developing and operating profitable, long-life mining properties.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Qualified Person

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

The program design, implementation, quality assurance/quality control and interpretation of the results are under the control of Northgate's geological staff, which includes a number of individuals who are qualified persons as defined under NI 43-101. Carl Edmunds, PGeo, Northgate's Exploration Manager, has reviewed the geologic content of this release.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Note to Investors:

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

The terms 'Qualified Person', 'Mineral Reserve', 'Proven Mineral Reserve', 'Probable Mineral Reserve', 'Mineral Resource', 'Measured Mineral Resource', 'Indicated Mineral Resource', and 'Inferred Mineral Resource' used in this news release are defined in accordance with NI 43-101. All mineral resources are exclusive of mineral reserves. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements and Information:

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

This Northgate press release contains 'forward-looking information', as such term is defined in applicable Canadian securities legislation and 'forward-looking statements' within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, concerning Northgate's future financial or operating performance and other statements that express management's expectations or estimates of future developments, circumstances or results. Generally, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as 'expects', 'believes', 'anticipates', 'budget', 'scheduled', 'estimates', 'forecasts', 'intends', 'plans' and variations of such words and phrases, or by statements that certain actions, events or results 'may', 'will', 'could', 'would' or 'might' 'be taken', 'occur' or 'be achieved'. Forward-looking information is based on a number of assumptions and estimates that, while considered reasonable by management based on the business and markets in which Northgate operates, are inherently subject to significant operational, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. Northgate cautions that forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause Northgate's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such information, including, but not limited to gold and copper price volatility; fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and interest rates; the impact of any hedging activities; discrepancies between actual and estimated production, between actual and estimated reserves and resources or between actual and estimated metallurgical recoveries; costs of production; capital expenditure requirements; the costs and timing of construction and development of new deposits; and the success of exploration and permitting activities. In addition, the factors described or referred to in the section entitled 'Risk Factors' in Northgate's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2009 or under the heading 'Risks and Uncertainties' in Northgate's 2009 Annual Report, both of which are available on the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com, should be reviewed in conjunction with the information found in this press release. Although Northgate has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking information, there can be other factors that cause results, performance or achievements not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate or that management's expectations or estimates of future developments, circumstances or results will materialize. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. The forward-looking information in this press release is made as of the date of this press release, and Northgate disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise such information, except as required by applicable law.

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Cautionary Note to US Investors Regarding Mineral Reporting Standards:

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

The Company prepares its disclosure in accordance with the requirements of securities laws in effect in Canada, which differ from the requirements of U.S. securities laws. Terms relating to mineral resources in this press release are defined in accordance with National Instrument 43-101-Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects under the guidelines set out in the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves. The Securities and Exchange Commission (the 'SEC') permits mining companies, in their filings with the SEC, to disclose only those mineral deposits that a company can economically and legally extract or produce. The Company uses certain terms, such as, 'measured mineral resources' 'indicated mineral resources', 'inferred mineral resources' and 'probable mineral reserves', that the SEC does not recognize (these terms may be used in this press release and are

included in the Company's public filings which have been filed with securities commissions or similar authorities in Canada).

VANCOUVER, March 8 /CNW/ --

Ms. Keren R. Yun, Director, Investor Relations, Tel: 416-216-2781, Email: ngx@northgateminerals.com, Website: www.northgateminerals.com; Follow us on Twitter: @Northgate_NGX

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