

Attention Business/Financial Editors:

Avnel Gold Mining Limited - Temporary suspension of production due to mechanical failure

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ST. PETER PORT, Guernsey, Dec. 11 /CNW Telbec/ - Avnel Gold Mining Limited ("Avnel" or the "Company") (TSX: AVK) announces that following a routine inspection of the No. 2 Shaft winder gearbox on December 2, 2008 it was decided to fly out a specialist gearbox diagnostic engineer from Stork Gears & Services BV in Rotterdam. Following the examination of the gearbox by the Stork Engineer it was decided to suspend production on Friday December 5, 2008.

The failure in the gearbox occurred in the intermediate pinion gear which is now in Holland en route to the Stork workshop for refabrication. The gearbox itself is being shipped to Stork in Rotterdam for complete testing and reassembling. Stork currently estimate that the gearbox will be airfreighted back to the Kalana mine at the end of this month to enable production to recommence.

Shaft No. 1 continues to be fully operational providing access to the mine although it is not currently a rock hoisting shaft. Ore production and development is continuing at present but will be constrained by the surge capacity in the mine.

About the Company:

Avnel is a gold mining producing company operating the Kalana gold mine and is engaged in the exploration of the Kalana Exploitation Permit and Fougadian exploration permit.

Avnel's principal asset is an 80% interest in Société d'Exploitation des Mines d'Or de Kalana ("SOMIKA"). SOMIKA is the holder of a 30 year exploitation permit encompassing 387.4 sq. km. around and to the south of the operating Kalana gold mine in South West Mali. Avnel also holds the Fougadian exploration permit covering an area of 150 sq. km. which lies to the South of the main Kalana exploitation permit.

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Forward-Looking Information

This release includes certain statements that may be deemed "forward-looking statements". All statements in this release, other than statements of historical facts are forward-looking statements. Although Avnel believes the expectations expressed in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, such statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward looking statements include market prices, continued availability of capital and financing and general economic, market or business conditions. Investors are cautioned that any such statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Avnel does not assume any obligation to update or revise its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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