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NEWS RELEASE

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SOUTHERN ARC SECURES WEST LOMBOK PROPERTY FOR RESUMPTION OF DRILLING IN SEPTEMBER

August 18, 2011 – Vancouver, BC – Southern Arc Minerals (TSX-V: SA) (“Southern Arc” or “the Company”) has made significant progress in resolving security issues at its West Lombok exploration project in Indonesia and is on track to resume drilling in September. The Provincial Government has assigned the services of the Mobilized Police Brigade (“MPB”), an elite security force used nationally to provide stability in times of unrest and civil disturbance, to maintain security within Southern Arc’s tenement area. In addition, the Company has retained the services of Bryan Disher as a security consultant and appointed Mr. Disher to its Board of Advisors, and has appointed a new Security Coordinator to its West Lombok team.

“With the Mobilized Police Brigade in place, we are confident in our ability to execute Southern Arc’s exploration program without disruption,” said John Proust, Southern Arc’s CEO. “We will continue to leverage the expertise and connections of our Advisory Board and our in-country team as we work with the Regional, Provincial and National authorities to bring long-term stability to the region.

“Southern Arc’s ability to recruit individuals of the highest caliber is testament to the quality of its projects,” continued Mr. Proust. “We will continue to build our team as the projects advance.”

MPB has been patrolling the project to make its presence known, and all field teams are accompanied by MPB personnel. When drilling resumes in September, Southern Arc will focus its efforts in one area and then move on to the next, so that security forces can establish a perimeter around the exploration site. Drilling will start with the high-priority Waterfall and Bising targets in the Mencanggah area.

Technical teams have continued with exploration activities, including recovering and logging core and geologic mapping of the North Mencanggah-South Pelangan area seeking further evidence of epithermal Au-Ag and porphyry Cu-Au mineralization. Southern Arc is awaiting assays for drill holes PLD024 to PLD027 and will release the results shortly, and has sent core samples from an additional six holes to the lab, with results expected in early September.

Southern Arc currently has three drill rigs on site and expects to receive three more by the end of August, with additional rigs scheduled for delivery in September. The Company expects to be drilling an average of 6,000 metres a month at the West Lombok project by the end of October, and is on track to complete National Instrument 43-101 compliant reports for both Pelangan and Mencanggah in the first half of 2012.

New Security Personnel

Bryan Disher has worked as a security and government relations expert in Indonesia since 1996. During his career Mr. Disher has implemented safety and security plans and managed community and government relations for a number of large, complex mining and construction projects in Indonesia, including Avocet Mining’s Lanut Gold Project, Archipelago Resources’ Toka Tindung Project, and the major gold mining projects at Kelian (Rio Tinto) and Mount Muro (Aurora Gold). Mr. Disher has developed an extensive network of connections with Indonesian security and regulatory officials. His expertise and insight will be invaluable as Southern Arc’s projects advance through exploration and development.

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Lieutenant Colonel (ret.) Lalu Darma Setiawan has been appointed as on-site Security Coordinator for the West Lombok project. Lt. Col. Setiawan is a Lombok native with a law degree from University of Mataram. Following a distinguished career in the Indonesian Police force he then served for five years as a special aide to the West Nusa Tenggara Provincial Governor. Lt. Col. Setiawan will coordinate all Company field security operations, liaising with Provincial and Regency police and army officials as well as training and tutoring village-based security personnel.

**On behalf of the Board of
Southern Arc Minerals Inc.**

“John Proust”

Chairman and CEO

About Southern Arc

Southern Arc Minerals Inc. is an Indonesia-based Canadian mineral exploration company with an aggressive exploration, acquisition and growth strategy. The Company’s portfolio includes four exploration projects with epithermal gold and gold-copper porphyry prospects on the Lombok and Sumbawa islands in Indonesia, three of which are being advanced in partnership with major mining companies. The Company’s key exploration property is its West Lombok project, with several gold-rich copper porphyry and epithermal gold vein prospects. Southern Arc is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol SA. More information is available at www.southernarcminerals.com or by emailing info@southernarcminerals.com.

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