

# LITHIUM MARKETS AND MINING It's Not Just the Metal Walter Weinig

SME Colorado Section & CSM Student Section November 15, 2018

#### **OUTLINE**





Lithium demand dynamics



Lithium end products



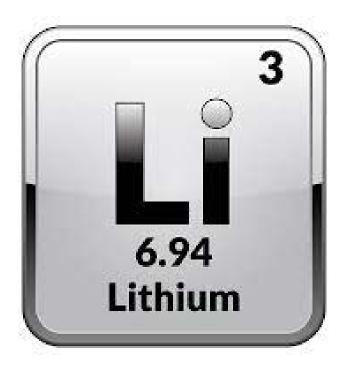
Sources and exploration



Extraction and production



Cost curve



#### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT**



Certain statements contained in this presentation, including all statements that are not historical facts, contain forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable securities laws ("forward-looking information"). Such forward-looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements or information with the respect to the overall objectives and strategic plans, work programs, exploration budgets and targets and mineral resource estimates of Pure Energy Minerals Limited ("Pure Energy" or the "Company"). Readers should review all of the Company's public disclosure including its most recent Annual Information Form and the risk factors contained therein, the technical reports on its properties, and its audited financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), all as filed on www.sedar.com from time to time.

Forward-looking information includes, but is not limited to, statements related to activities, events or developments that the Company expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future, including, without limitation; statements related to the Company's release of the PEA Technical Report ("PEA") for the Clayton Valley Lithium Project ("Project"); the economic analysis of the Project; the mineral resource estimate for the Project; the estimated annual production of LiOH-H<sub>2</sub>O and LCE; the availability and development of more sustainable technologies for use at the Project; the estimated NPV of the Project; the estimated IRR of the Project; estimated average operating costs; estimated capital costs; estimated EBITDA; the estimated payback period for the Project; the estimated timeline for construction of the Project; the estimated production schedule at the Project; anticipated chemistry of brines at the Project; expected growth in the market for lithium hydroxide; anticipated changes in battery formulation technologies; estimated market prices for lithium hydroxide; anticipated lithium recovery levels at the Project; expected pilot plant testing at the Project; design work at the Project; and the development of a timeline for completion of a feasibility study for the Project. Forward-looking information is often identified by the use of words such as "plans", "planning", "planned", "expects" or "looking forward", "does not expect", "continues", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "potential", "anticipates", "does not anticipate", or "belief", or describes a "goal", or variation of such words and phrases or states that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved. Forward-looking information is based on a number of factors and assumptions made by management and considered reasonable at the time such information is provided. Forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause

A number of other factors may adversely impact Pure Energy and the Project, including: the Company's inability to complete further mineral resource and mineral reserve estimates; the inability to complete a subsequent feasibility study; the inability to anticipate changes in brine volume or grade due a number of factors; changes to the economic analysis; the failure to obtain necessary permits to explore and develop the Project; environmental issues or delays; inability to successfully complete additional drilling at the Project; and inability to obtain financing for future exploration and development work and construction of a plant at the Project. Although Pure Energy has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual actions, events, or results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking information, there may be other factors that cause actions, events, or results not to be as anticipated, estimated, or intended. There can be no assurance that forward-looking information will prove to be accurate. The forward-looking information contained herein is presented for the purpose of assisting investors in understanding the Company's plan, objectives, and goals and may not be appropriate for other purposes. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking information. Pure Energy does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.



#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT (cont.)

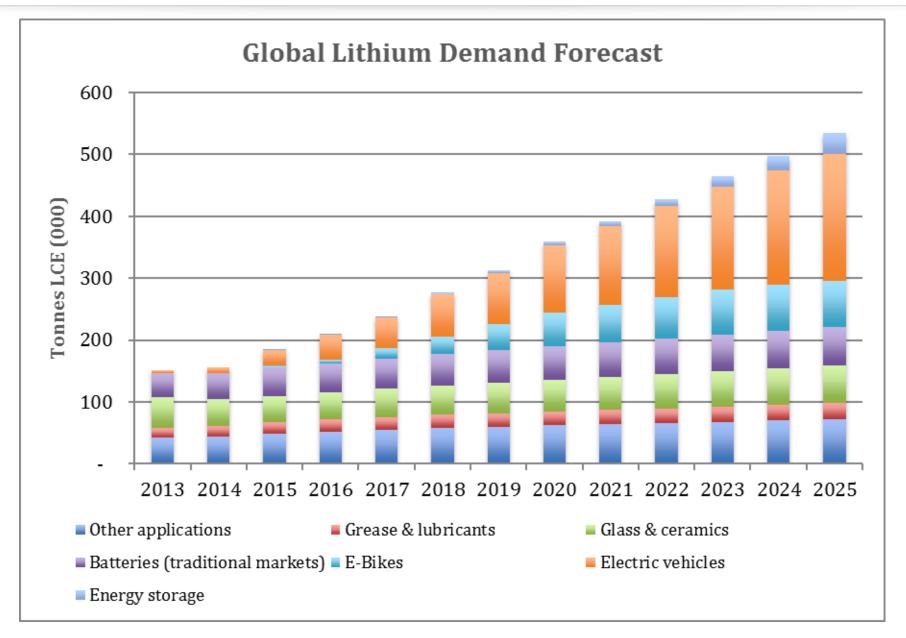


The PEA is based upon a process flow sheet that may change, which would impact all costs and estimates. Operating costs for the Project were based upon assumptions including future energy costs, water costs, labor, regulatory costs and other variables that are likely to change. Capital costs were based upon plant equipment and other items thought to be necessary for production. Lithium hydroxide monohydrate price forecasts were based upon third-party estimates and management assumptions that may change due to market dynamics. Changes in estimated costs to acquire, construct, install, or operate the equipment, or changes in projected pricing, may adversely impact Project economics.

The economic analysis included in the PEA is based upon inferred mineral resources only. Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. The PEA is preliminary in nature and includes inferred mineral resources that are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. There is no certainty that the Project envisioned by this PEA will be realized. The mineral resource estimates, upon which the PEA is based, rely upon assumptions outlined in the "Resource Estimate" section of the technical report relating to the PEA. Some figures in the resource estimate may have been calculated using a factor to convert short tons to metric tonnes.



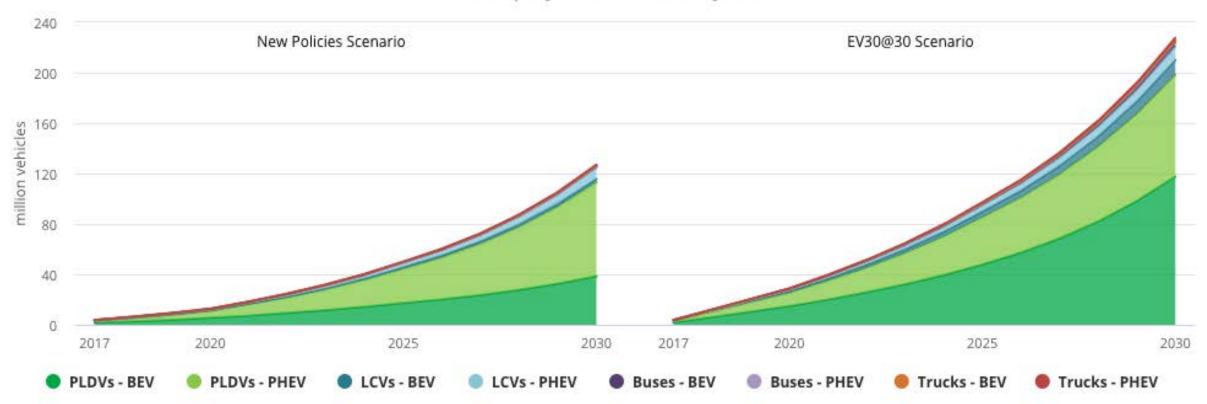




#### **GLOBAL EV MARKET DRIVES GROWTH IN BATTERY DEMAND...**



#### Global EV deployment to 2030 by scenario

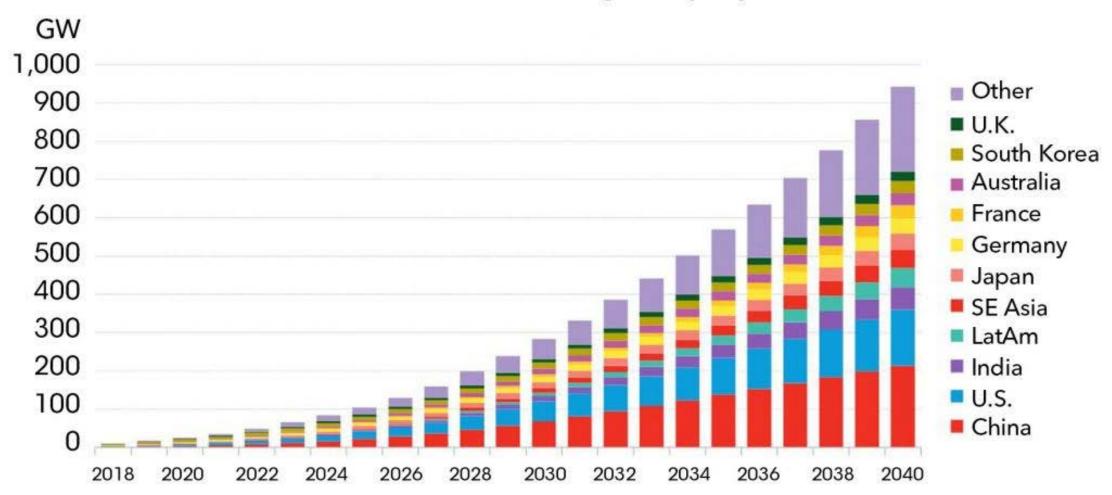


Source: IEA Global Electric Vehicle Outlook

© DECD/IEA



# Global cumulative storage deployments

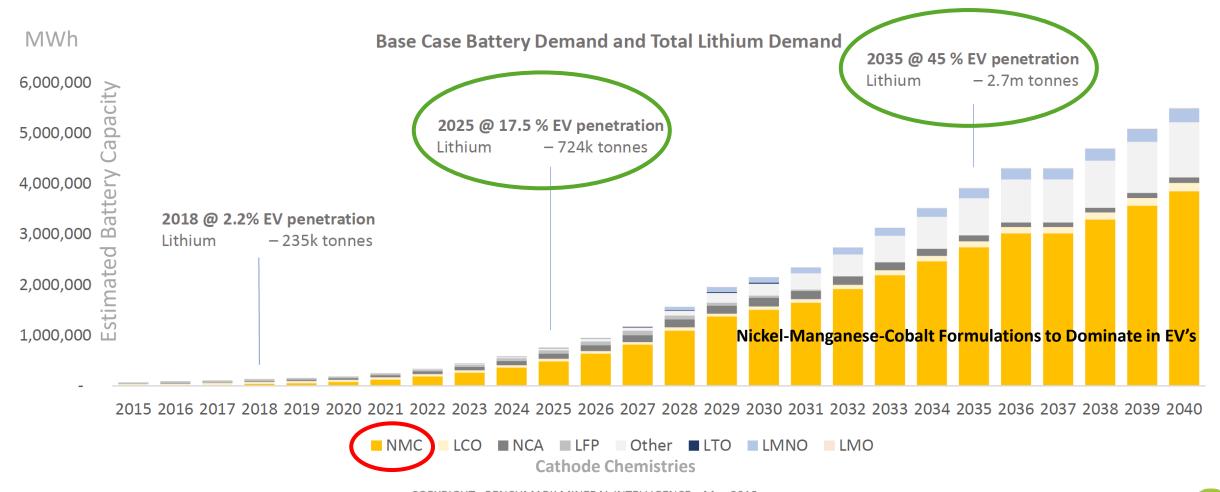


Source: BloombergNEF

#### THE BATTERY BUSINESS IS **GROWING AND RELYING ON LITHIUM**

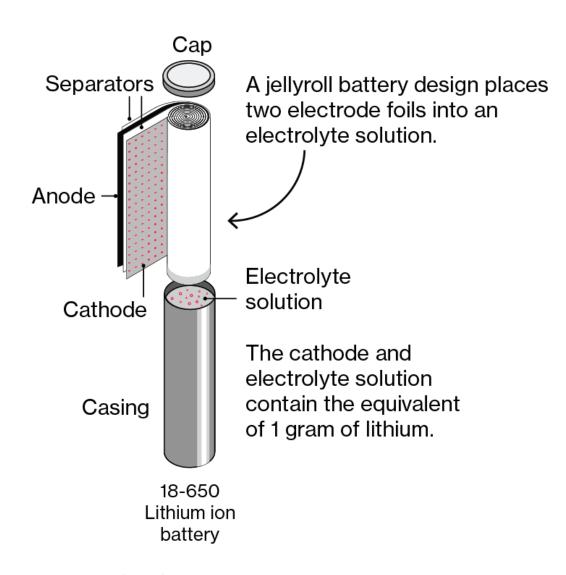


#### THE SMART FORECASTERS SEE THE MOVE TO NMC CATHODES AND LITHIUM HYDROXIDE

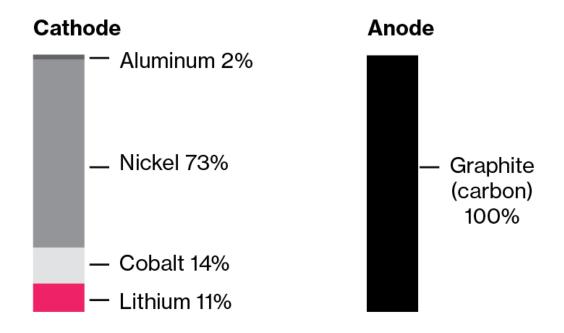


#### **COMPONENTS OF A LITHIUM ION BATTERY**





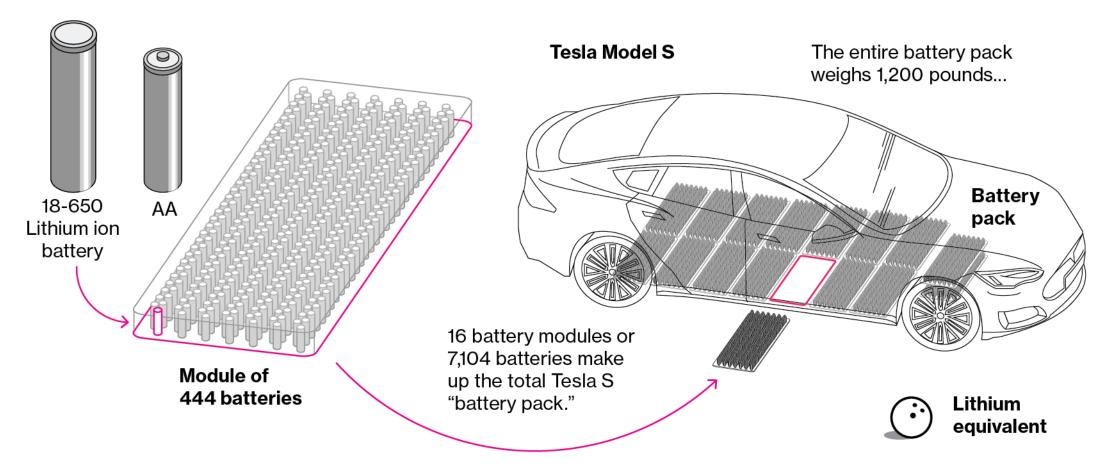
Active materials in a typical Lithium Nickel Cobalt Aluminum Oxide battery



Source: Bloomberg

#### **HOW EV BATTERIES ARE DEPLOYED**





...but only 15 pounds (7kg) is lithium. About the weight of a bowling ball.

Source: Bloomberg





### Lithium Demand Per Product 2016 - 2031

	2016	2021	2023	2026	2031	CAGR '16- '31 (%)
Battery-grade carbonate	72,200	150,600	202,100	314,200	460,100	13.1
Technical-grade mineral conc.	37,500	42,100	44,100	47,300	53,100	2.3
Technical-grade carbonate	27,000	30,400	31,900	34,200	38,600	2.4
Technical-grade	14,100	15,200	15,700	16,400	17,700	1.5
Battery-grade hydroxide	11,700	78,600	170,800	549,900	1,605,500	38.8
Butylithium	9,200	10,700	11,300	12,400	14,400	3.0
Battery-grade metal	4,300	6,200	7,200	9,500	14,200	8.3
Bromide	4,200	4,900	5,200	5,700	6,600	3.1
Other <sup>1</sup>	16,900	18,000	18,600	19,300	20,800	1.3
Total	197,100	356,700	506,900	1,008,900	2,231,000	17.6
High	-	423,900	670,343	1,633,900	4,509,400	23.6
Low		316,500	425,423	776,900	1,583,700	14.7

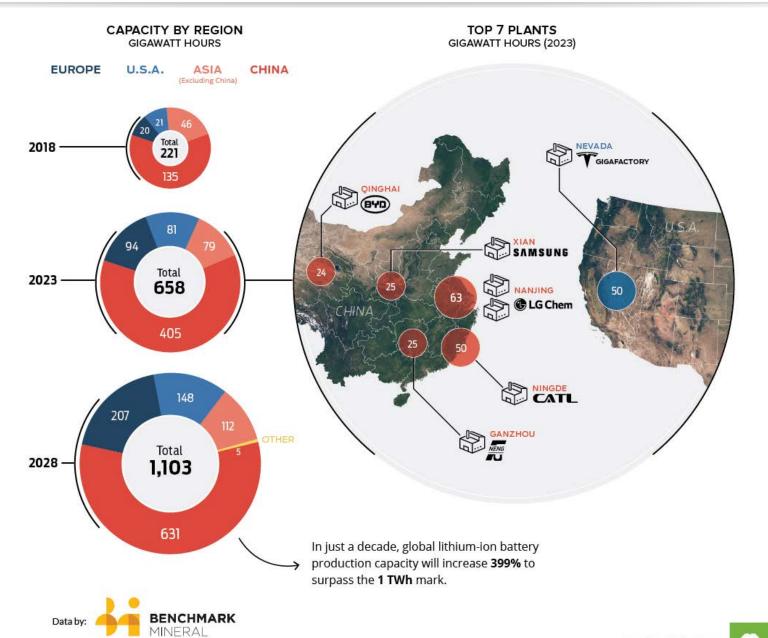
Source: Roskill estimates

Note: 1 - Includes some of the products above that have not been differentiated from the total

#### MUCH MORE THAN JUST TESLA! 1.1 TWh ANNOUNCED (SO FAR)

INTELLIGENCE





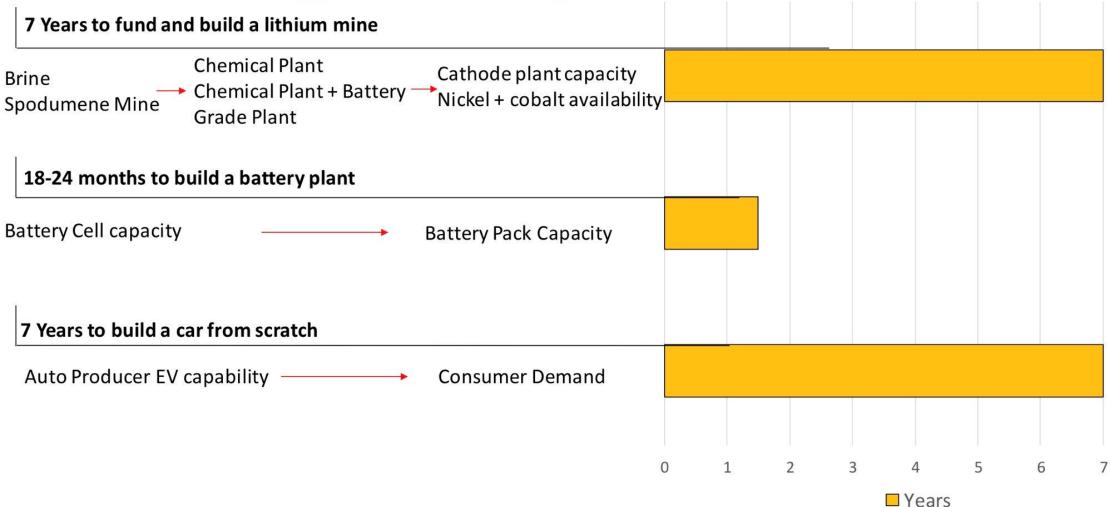
#### CAN THE SUPPLY CHAIN KEEP UP?



#### Building the lithium supply chain



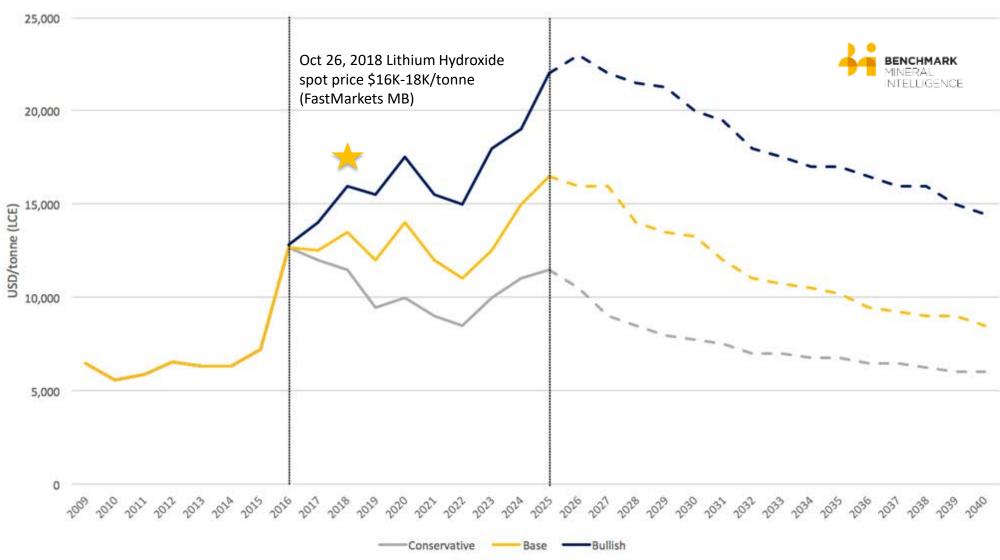
## Lithium suppliers need to stay well ahead of the curve



#### **LITHIUM PRICES ARE VOLATILE** – BUT THE LONG TERM TRENDS HIGHER

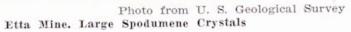


#### Outlook for Lithium Hydroxide Prices, 2017 -2040



#### IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS HARD ROCK LITHIUM MINING









#### **Greenbushes**, Australia

Highest Grade Lithium Pegmatite in the World: Drilling, Blasting, Crushing, Grinding...and **exports to China for final processing** 

#### THEN, LITHIUM BRINE CAME ALONG



First primary lithium production from brine in the world - 1967



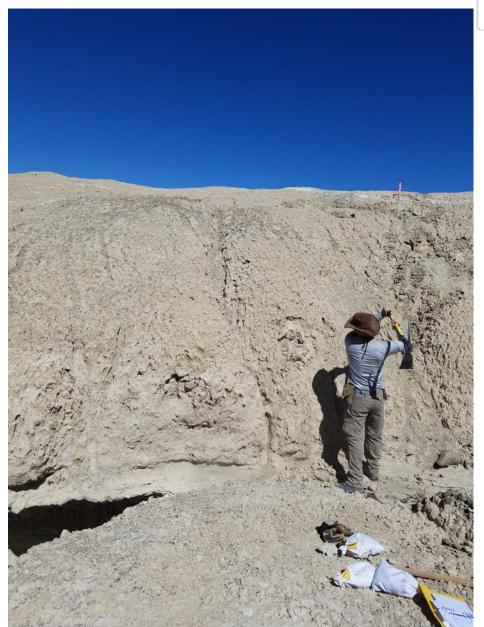
### **CLAYTON VALLEY CLAYSTONE**

**Esmeralda Formation?** Not hectorite

At Surface: Extending to >100m

Leachable? Initial results promising





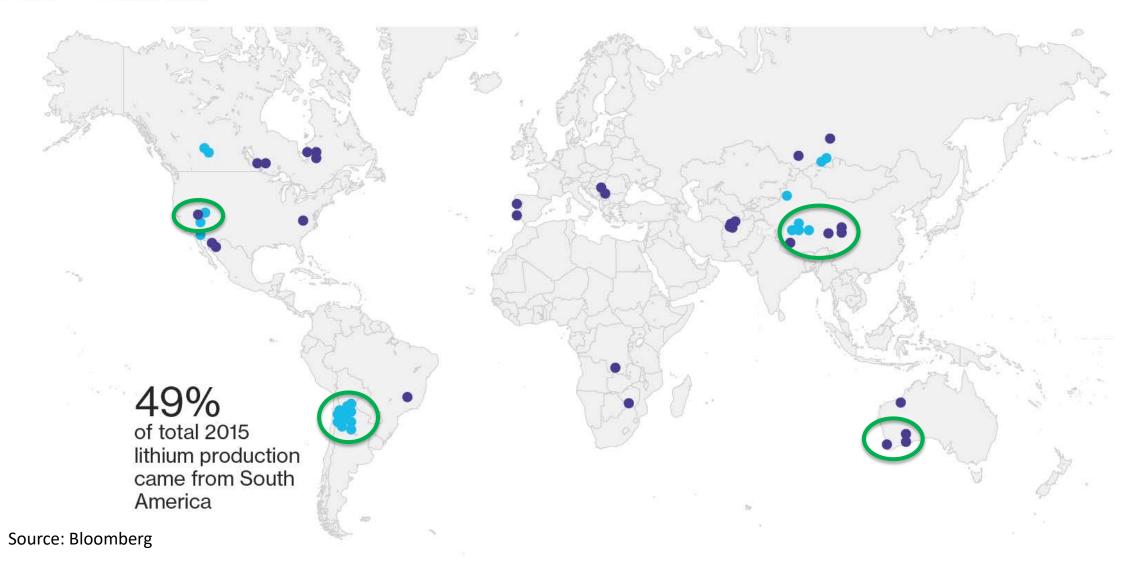
#### LITHIUM DEPOSITS AROUND THE GLOBE



Major lithium deposits by type

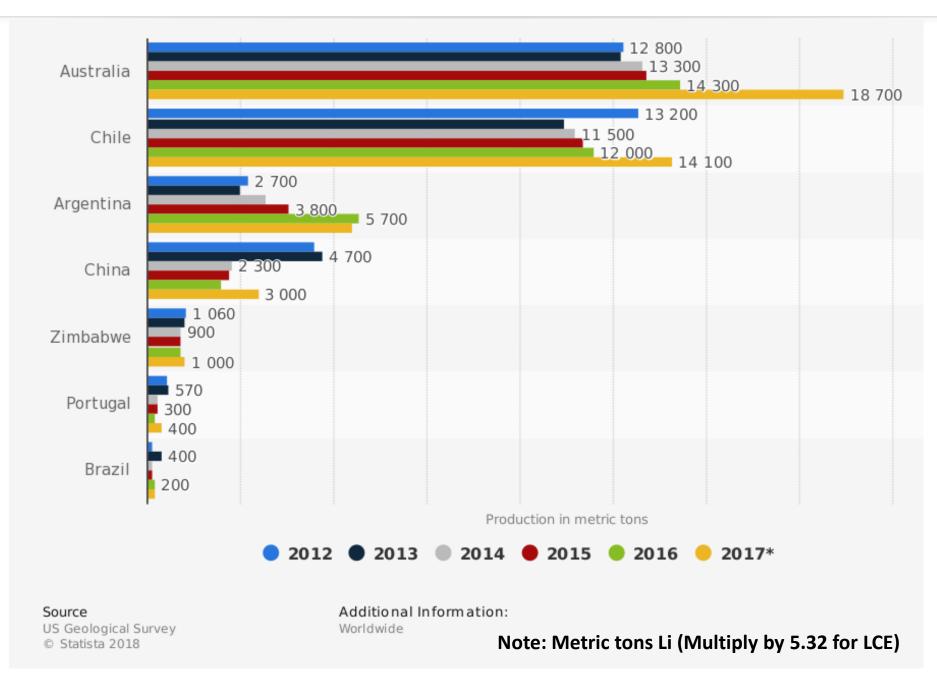
Brine

Hard rock



#### MAJOR COUNTRIES IN WORLDWIDE LITHIUM PRODUCTION 2012-2017

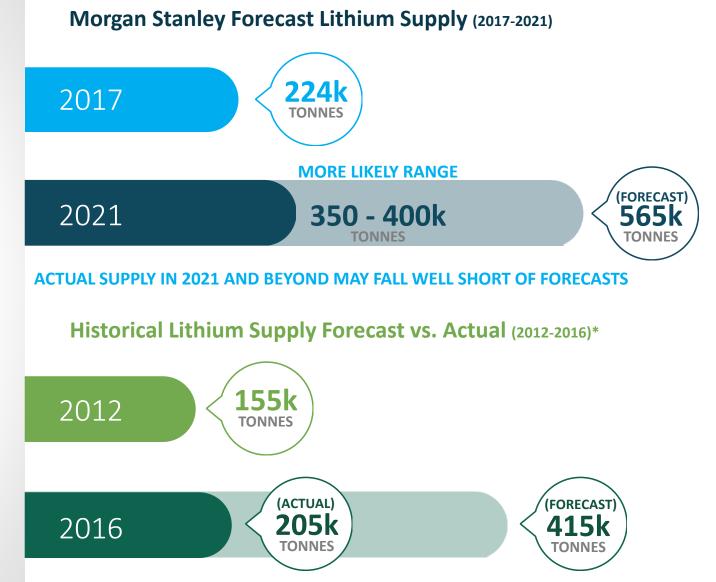






MORGAN STANLEY
FORECASTS HUGE
RAPID GROWTH IN
SUPPLY...

# WHAT IF HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF?



<sup>\* -</sup> Orocobre corporate presentation, May 2017

#### **EXPLORATION AND RESOURCE DEFINITION AT CLAYTON VALLEY**

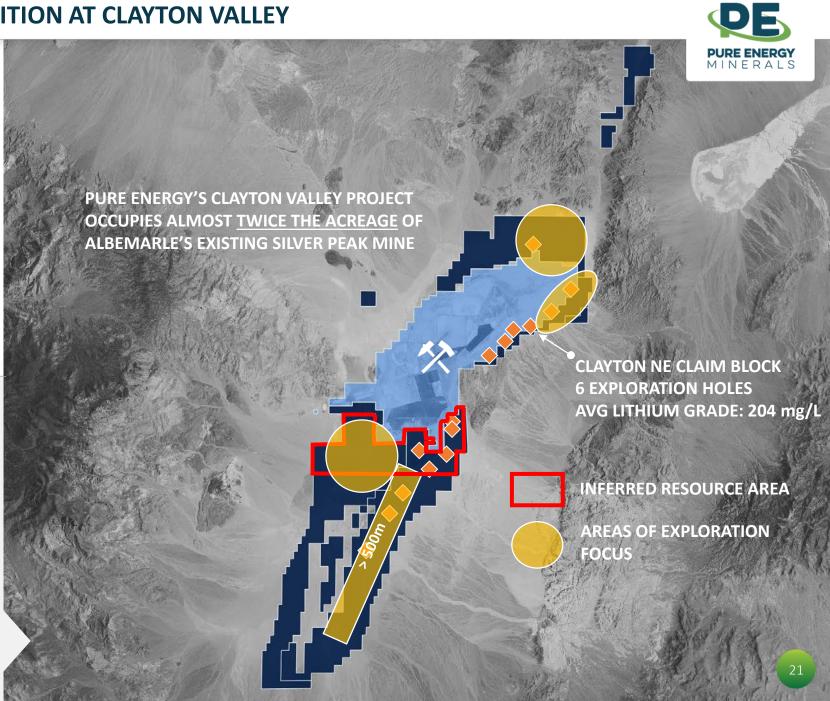
#### **EXPANDED PURE ENERGY CLAIMS:**

**TOTAL: 23,360 ACRES (9,450 HECTARES)** 

Pure Energy Claims

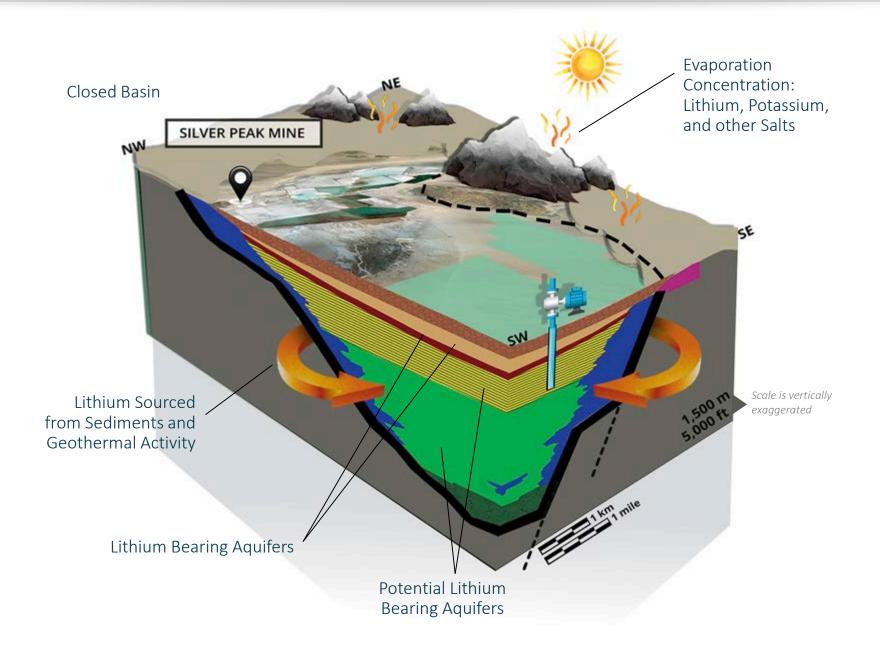
Albemarle Silver Peak Mine (~13,000 Acres)

Exploration Holes & Wells

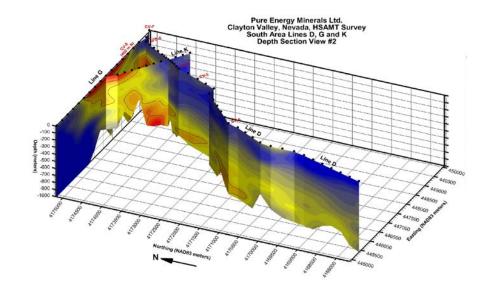


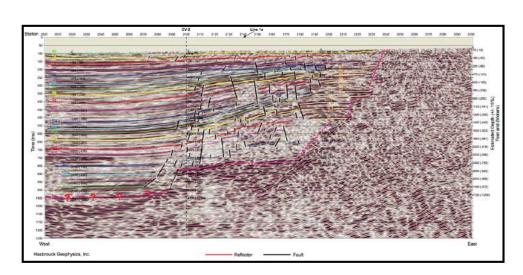
#### LITHIUM FROM BRINE HAS VERY DIFFERENT BEGINNINGS

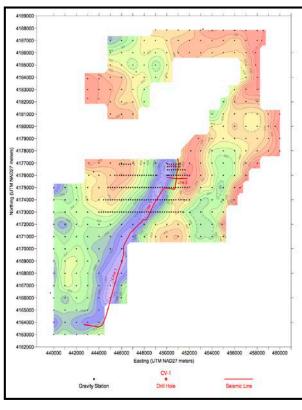




#### **EXPLORATION TAKES MANY FORMS**









#### **KEY PARAMETER: SPECIFIC YIELD/DRAINABLE POROSITY**



#### NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR POROSITY LOGGING IN LITHIUM EXPLORATION

#### Downhole NMR – 4,500 linear feet in 3 wells

- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) measures total and drainable porosity
- Pure Energy leads the way in NMR application to lithium brine
- Takes advantage of water's electromagnetic properties
- High resolution, continuous measurements to depth
- Average measurement 7%

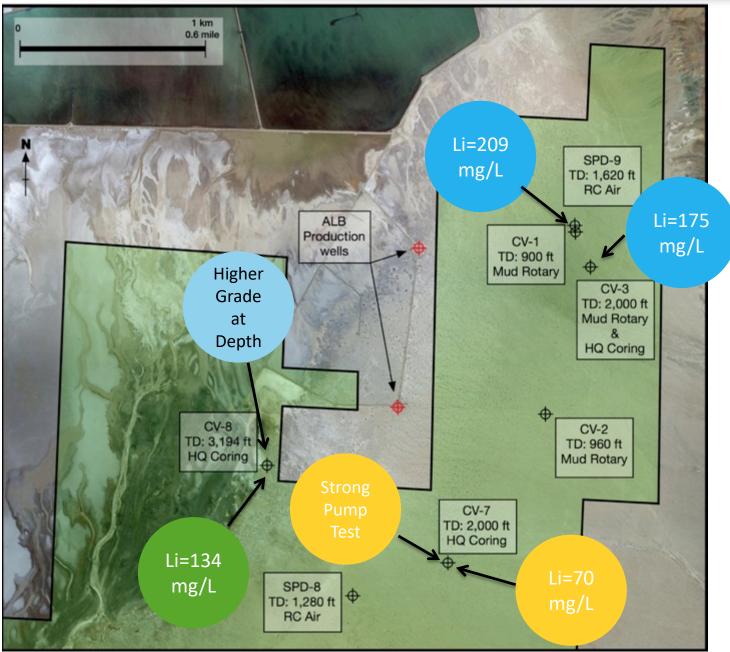
#### **Laboratory Measurement – 73 Samples**

- Relative Brine Release Curve (RBRC), two laboratories
- Laboratory NMR
- Physical core samples
- Average measurement 6%



Core sample inserted in 1-inch brass liner prior to RBRC testing

#### BUT DRILLING AND SAMPLING IS WHERE THE RUBBER HITS THE ROAD

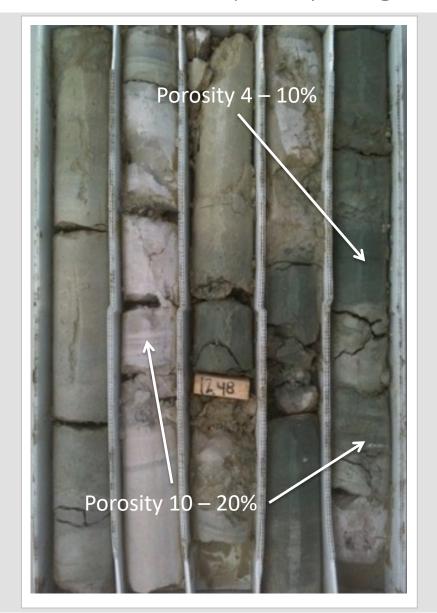




#### CLAYTON VALLEY PROJECT: HOST AQUIFERS



Variable drainable porosity with geology and depth; assigned a conservative 6% to the model

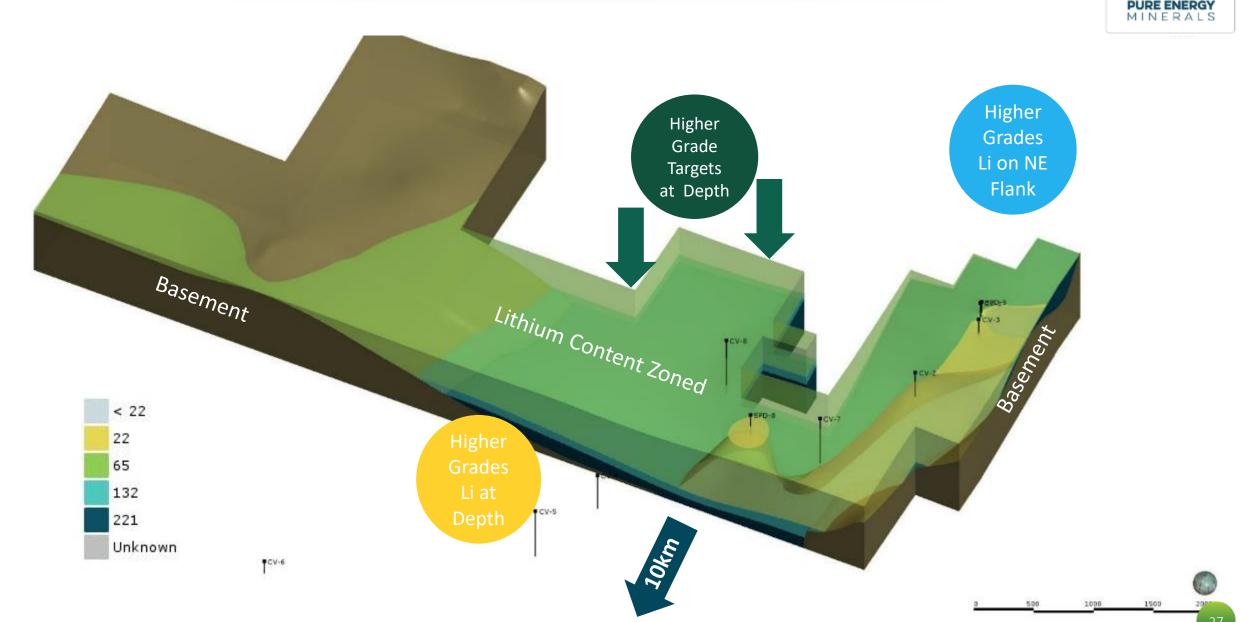






#### 3D PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF CLAYTON VALLEY RESOURCE MODEL

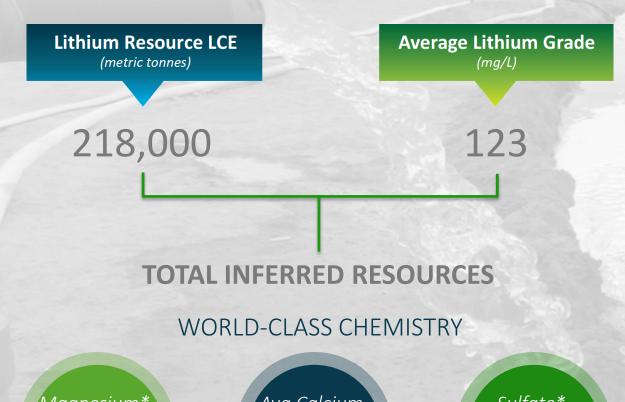




#### **INFERRED MINERAL RESOURCE**



#### RESOURCES & KEY TECHNICAL PARAMETERS



Magnesium\*
to Lithium
Ratio:
2.9

Avg Calcium Content (mg/L)\*: **1,536** 

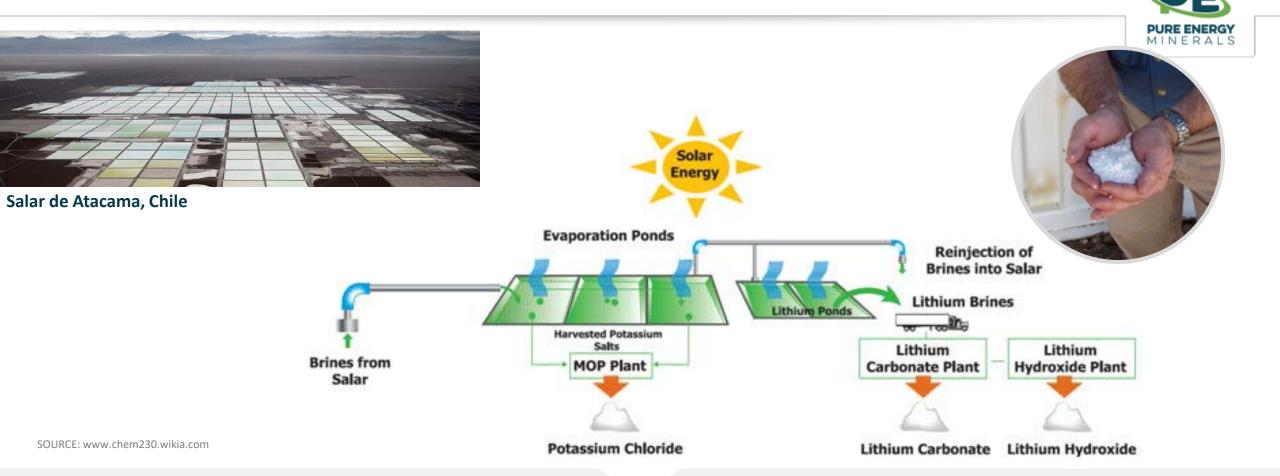
Sulfate\* to Lithium Ratio: 18.2

st Chemistry derived from global average calculations from database, June 2017



NOTE: Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have any demonstrated economic viability. Inferred resources are the least reliable resource category and are subject to the most variability. Please see the Company's full technical report at www.sedar.com or www.pureenergyminerals.com for details on how the resource was derived and for the reporting details in terms of lithium metal (Li) and lithium hydroxide monohydrate (LiOH•H<sub>2</sub>O).

#### 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY STANDARD - CONVENTIONAL EVAPORATION TECHNOLOGY



#### A Generalized Model for Evaporation Pond Processing

Most Lithium Brine Mines in the World Currently using Some Variation of this Process

#### IMPACTS OF OLD TECHNOLOGY...







#### **CLAYTON VALLEY, USA**

Albemarle Evaporation Ponds 25 km², 6,000 acres



SQM, Albemarle Evaporation Ponds 53 km², 13,000 acres

SALAR DEL HOMBRE MUERTO, ARGENTINA

FMC Evaporation and Resin 3.2 km<sup>2</sup>, 800 acres

#### ENVIRONMENT:

Intense water consumption

LONG LEAD TIME:

Up to 2 Years for

Evaporation

Concentration

PURE ENERGY MINERALS



Low Recoveries of 30 to 55%

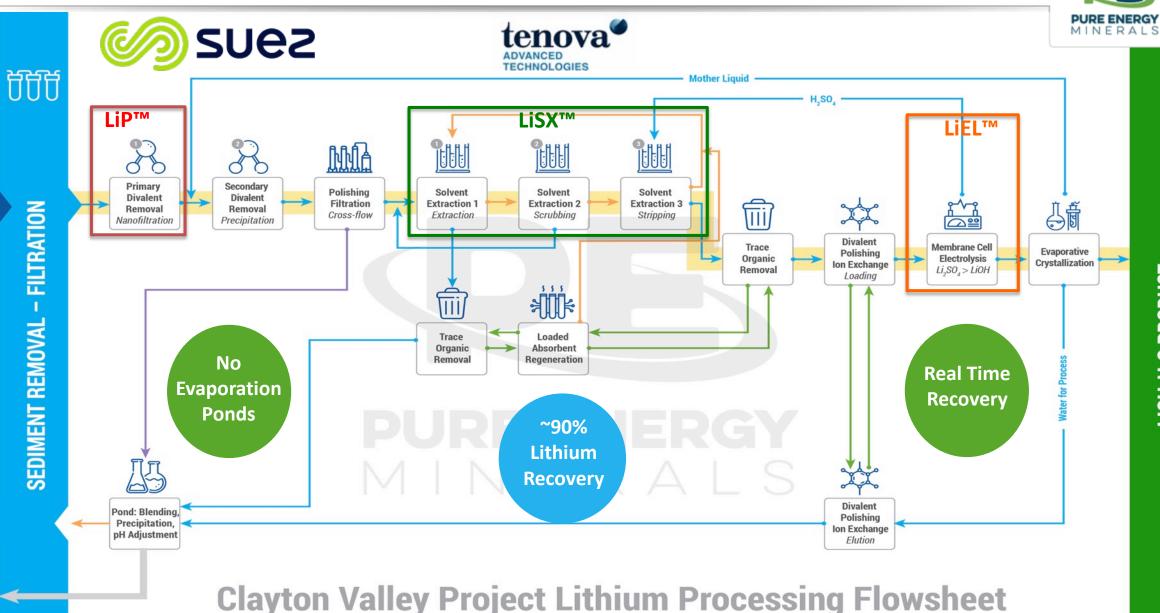




Aqueous Streams (liquid and gas)

**FILTRATION** 

SEDIMENT REMOVAL



Organic Streams

Slurry Streams (can be dilute slurries)

Li flow path

Solid Streams

LIOH•H,O PRODUCT

#### CLAYTON VALLEY PILOT PLANT DESIGN – **NEVADA IS WORLD CLASS LOCATION FOR INITIAL PILOTING**



#### HIGH EFFICIENCY LITHIUM EXTRACTION: BETTER, FASTER, AND GREENER THAN EVAPORATION





**BETTER:** 90% lithium recovery vs. ~50% from conventional process.

Direct production of battery-grade lithium hydroxide.



FASTER: 18-24 hours vs. 12-24 months.

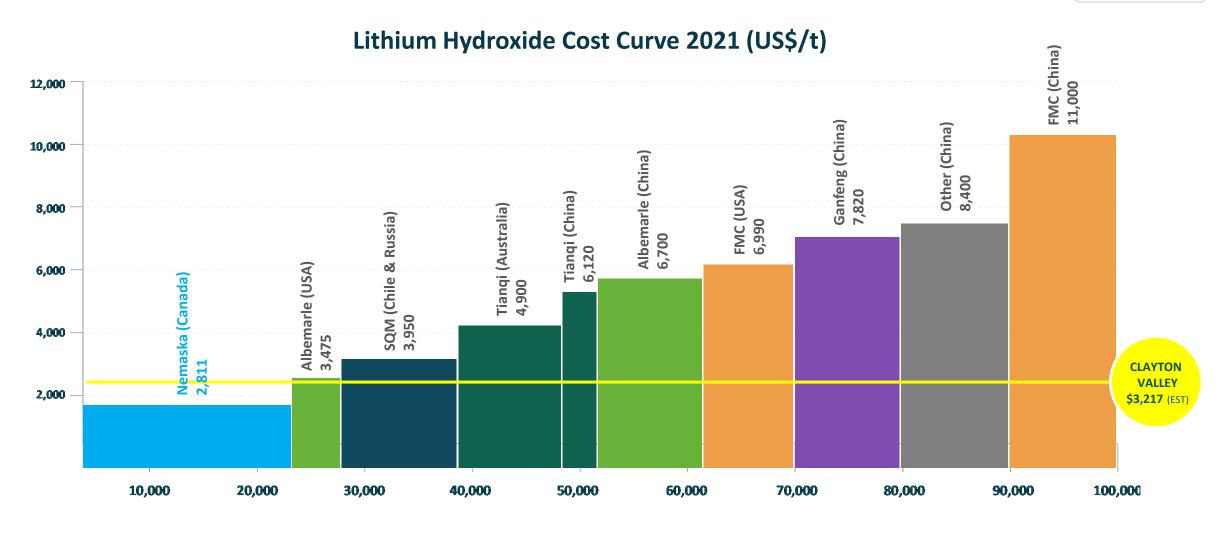
Unaffected by weather.



**GREENER:** No evaporation ponds, minimizes ecological impacts.

90% of brine volume returned to the aquifer





#### **SUMMARY**





## Lithium demand driven by EV market growth



High-purity lithium salts are the product – specialty chemicals



Hard rock and brines are current sources

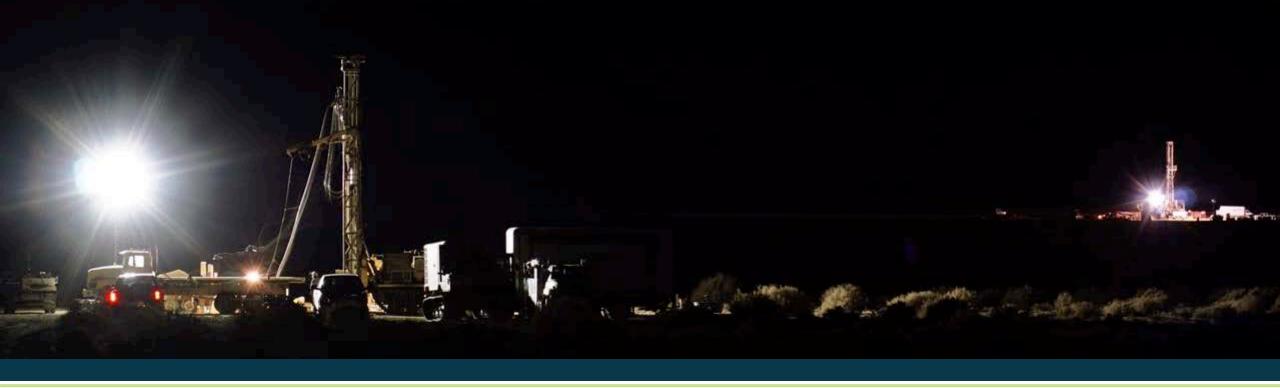


Production racing to catch up with demand



Modern processing methods are coming!





TSXV:PE



OTCQB:PEMIF

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