# BRISBANE MINING

Presentation | March 2024 | ASX: AHK

Rare Earths in a Giant Sand Pit



# ARKMINES

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**ARK** MINES LTD.

> **A CAPEX LITE RARE EARTH PROJECT START-UP WITH** LOW OPERATIONAL COSTS, NEAR-TERM DEVELOPMENT AND **POTENTIALLY THE LOWEST ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

### SANDY MITCHELL

THE ONLY INLAND SURFACE **EXPRESSED PLACER DEPOSITS** TO HOST RARE EARTHS ON THE ASX

**PHOSPHATE** 

**SAFE JURISDICTION, EASE OF PERMITTING** 

UNDERPINNED BY A TEAM WITH MINE DEVELOPMENT, **COMMODITIES TRADING, AND EXPLORATION SKILLS** 

#### HOSTS ALL THE RARE EARTHS, HEAVY MINERALS, AND

### THE PROJECT HAS ACCESS TO QUALITY NEARBY **INFRASTRUCTURE, FAVOURABLE REGULATORY REGIME,**

### A First Rate Location



300km west of Cairns and 100km North of Chillagoe

Sits on only one station – 750,000 acres in size





### A MAJOR NEW RARE EARTH MINERAL PROVINCE FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND

- drilled.
- and Zirconium's and Titanium's and Niobium
- $\succ$ in every metre sampled, consistent with previous results
- ppm<sup>1</sup>
- cost bulk mineable resource.<sup>1</sup>.
- grade of 7170 ppm<sup>1</sup>.
- > Low-cost, fast start up, straightforward beneficiation by gravity processing
- Landholder Access Agreements in place
- Phase 1 drilling Resourcing underway

<sup>1</sup>. Refer to AHK ASX Announcement 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024

> 147km<sup>2</sup> EPM 2801 with enormous growth potential given < 3% of the radiometric anomaly has been

> The sand hosts grains of mostly monazite (light rare earths) but also Xenotime (heavy rare earths)

Results continue to confirm significant Rare Earth Element (REE) and Heavy Mineral (HM) intercepts

> Assays returned on phase 1 drilling have an average grade per-metre for Total Rare Earth Oxide (TREO) + Yttrium (Y) + Scandium (Sc) of 511 parts-per-million (ppm), with a maximum grade of 3525

> At a cut-off grade of 200 ppm (only material of 200ppm TREO or greater is selected), results in TREO+Y+Sc now upgrade from 510.5 ppm to 535.5 ppm, with rejection of only 6.4% of results. This suggests that the majority of mineralisation in the Stage 1 area may be viable and result in a low-

> The average Zirconium oxide grade for every metre assayed is now 445 ppm with a maximum

# Placer REE deposits have major advantages

### PLACER DEPOSITS HAVE DISTINCT GRADE ADVANTAGES AS NATURE HAS ALREADY DONE THE CRUSHING & GRINDING

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	Ionic Clays		! !	PLACER (SANDY WITCHELL)	
CAPEX	Reasonable	Capex Heavy, Overburden/strip development costs, Mining costs high		Capex lite and utilizing low-cost skid-mounted gravity plant to deliver a concentrate Mining cost and operating cost – negligible	
<b>T</b> Scale	Typically, smaller tonnage	Typically require significant scale for economic viability		Potential to be massive tonnage	
Exploration	Resources can be defined inexpensively and rapidly given shallow drilling using aircore, auger, push-tube core	Similar to other hard rock base metals requiring substantial drilling, geochemistry, geophysics etc	1	Resources can be defined inexpensively and rapidly given shallow drilling using aircore, auger, push-tube core	
Mining	Stripping and progressive rehabilitation. Many have overburden and some strip ratio	Drill and blast with significant mining fleet. Higher strip ratios or expensive underground mining and development	i	Stripping and progressive rehabilitation. No Overburden Zero strip ratio. Mined with a wheeled loader only Ability to produce a commercially viable concentrate based on much lower head grades	
<u>پَّة</u> Permitting	Due to water processing and chemicals Environmental challenges will need to be met	Significant environmental impact		Simple in situ gravity processing with the sand put back where it was moved from	
<b>V</b> Processing	Simple metallurgy; clay is washed with a desorption agent to recover REEs	Strong acids and salts with high temperature +/- pressure. Radioactive tailings		Simple metallurgy; Gravity and magnetic in-situ processing, no water, continuous rehabilitation Nature has already done our crushing and grinding Mineral sands bi-product	

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### PHASE 1 GRAVITY BENEFICIATION DELIVERS EXCELLENT CONCENTRATE + RECOVERIES

#### CONCENTRATE ASSAYS RETURNED 52% TREO AND ESTIMATED RECOVERIES OF ~72% WITH >83% POTENTIALLY ACHIEVABLE



- > First pass un-optimised beneficiation test work of the Sandy Mitchell Rare Earth sands has produced a high-grade rare earth concentrate
- 50% waste rejection by screening +2mm sand
- > The beneficiation test work has shown the greatest upgrade is by simple gravity separation, confirming the material is amenable to straightforward beneficiation by gravity processing
- The final concentrate assays returned 51.9% TREO, and contained mostly La, Ce, Pr and Nd, plus Heavy Rare Earths Dy and Tb, which collectively represents a very high value saleable product<sup>2</sup>.
- $\succ$  Direct cerium oxide (CeO<sub>2</sub>) recovery from gravity feed to REM concentrate is estimated to be 71.7%, with indications that >83% may be achievable<sup>2</sup>.
- Similar upgrade trends are observed for zirconium dioxide (ZrO<sub>2</sub>)

<sup>2</sup>. Refer to AHK ASX Announcement 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### This product (Heavy Minerals Concentrate ) is very sought after feed for across global markets



# **Monazite Product offtake with Currumbin Minerals**

- > Signed a MOU with Currumbin Minerals, which sets out a framework for the supply and delivery of Heavy Mineral Sands (HMS) from Sandy Mitchell for processing at CM's licenced treatment plant
- > Several groups who are in the market high-quality for Monazite а concentrate, in Australia, Korea and the USA now assessing Sandy Mitchell



#### **Currumbin Minerals' new state-of-the-art processing & separation plant**

### **ARK** MINES LTD. -

# SCALE

- The size of the thorium anomaly correlating with REE enriched alluvial sands within the Project tenement is 10,067 ha. Or 110km<sup>2</sup>
- Sands with Heavy Minerals and Rare Earths are eroded from Sandstones to the North . These sandstones were paleao beach settings where the rare earths and Heavy's were sorted through wave actions. They are also mixed with sands weathered from the metamorphic basement rocks.
- The tenement is 147km<sup>2</sup> and a further 138 km 2 has been pegged to the North.
- The anomalous rare earth historical augur drilling shows and anomalous area of 35km 2. (refer to the figure below) >







#### Sandy Mitchell Project



### **CONTINUOUS REHABILITATION AT SANDY MITCHELL**



#### LOW IMPACT MINING

- > No Drill and Blast
- > No overburden
- $\succ$  No clay to deal with
- > Only 10m deep
- > At 10m you can selectively mine
- > No tails dam
- > No waste piles

#### LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- > No Chemicals
- > No Salts No Acids
- Simple digging
- In situ processing with gravity only



> No impact on farm country – subsidence > The landform will be the same after mining as before Rehabbed to the Landholder liking by only seeding the ground down

## Favorable market dynamics and macro outlook

# Forecast NdFeB Magnet Consumption by Segment



'Other' includes MRI, elevator motor, robotics and industrial applications. Source: Wood Mackenzie





# **Multiple near-term value drivers**



