



# SPAIN'S **NEXT** HIGH-GRADE ZINC MINE

**Powering The Energy Transition**

INVESTOR PRESENTATION

AUGUST 2025

**ASX:VAR**

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ASX:VAR

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Where reference is made to previous releases of exploration results and mineral resource estimates in this announcement, the Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in those announcements and all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the exploration results and mineral resource estimates included in those announcements continue to apply and have not materially changed.

This ASX announcement has been approved by the Board and authorised for issue by Mr Stewart Dickson, Managing Director and CEO, Variscan Mines Limited

# Purpose, Strategy & Delivery

**Purpose** Our mission is clear: to develop our high-grade zinc assets to transition to a producing mining company

**Strategy** Our Explorer-Producer Strategy is designed to deliver: early cashflow from production at the San Jose and Udias Mines, achieve attractive financial returns and sustainably fund ramp-up production growth, exploit exploration upside and the overall development of our project portfolio.

## Focus Points



### Zinc Focused

Structural opportunity to supply local markets as demand driven by energy transition tailwinds



### Proven Assets

San Jose & Udias Mines have proven track record of high-grade zinc production



### Ready for Mine Re-Start

Near term production opportunity for cashflow to sustainably fund ramp-up growth and exploration upside

## Delivery

1

Near Term Production

2

District Scale Exploration

3

Selective & Accretive M&A



# Investment Summary

	<b>Advancing a Tier-1 Zinc Asset Towards Production</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the highest-grade zinc MREs on ASX: 3.4Mt @ 7.6% Zn, 0.9% Pb <sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>• Brownfield project with sunk capital enables low-cost restart</li> <li>• San Jose mine previously operated for 20 years; zinc price now 2x higher</li> <li>• Mining Licence granted, 100% owned, no NSR</li> </ul>
	<b>Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Located in Spain's prolific Zinc mining jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Proximity to Glencore's world-class zinc smelter (Largest globally)</li> <li>• Infrastructure in place &amp; close to European markets</li> <li>• Excellent social licence</li> </ul>
	<b>Advanced former mine with new underexplored extensions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drilling upside at Udias, now interlinked with San Jose</li> <li>• Expanded footprint to 111km<sup>2</sup> with new high-grade zones</li> <li>• Brownfield advantage offers ultra-low capex restart &amp; low risk</li> </ul>
	<b>Low-Risk Earn-In Zinc Opportunity<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low risk, earn-in to highly prospective Zinc assets in Ireland from Mining Development Fund (subject to shareholder approval)</li> <li>• Leveraging carbonate-hosted Zinc deposit know-how &amp; European footprint</li> <li>• Historical exploration success and further upside potential</li> </ul>
	<b>Strategic Support and Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported by local government</li> <li>• Square Resources (20% shareholder via ZincCo) holds marketing rights → potential offtake post- Re-Start (Scoping) Study</li> <li>• Anibal Group provides site access and logistics support as a shareholder-partner</li> </ul>
	<b>Compelling Valuation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High profile and supportive register (top 20 own ~75%)</li> <li>• Very inexpensive EV / Resource</li> <li>• Undervalued de-risked zinc development opportunity</li> </ul>



Sources:

(1) ASX announcement 9 December 2024, Slide 18

(2) ASX announcement 5 August 2025

# Corporate Snapshot



**Anthony Wehby**  
Chairman



**Stewart Dickson**  
Managing Director & CEO



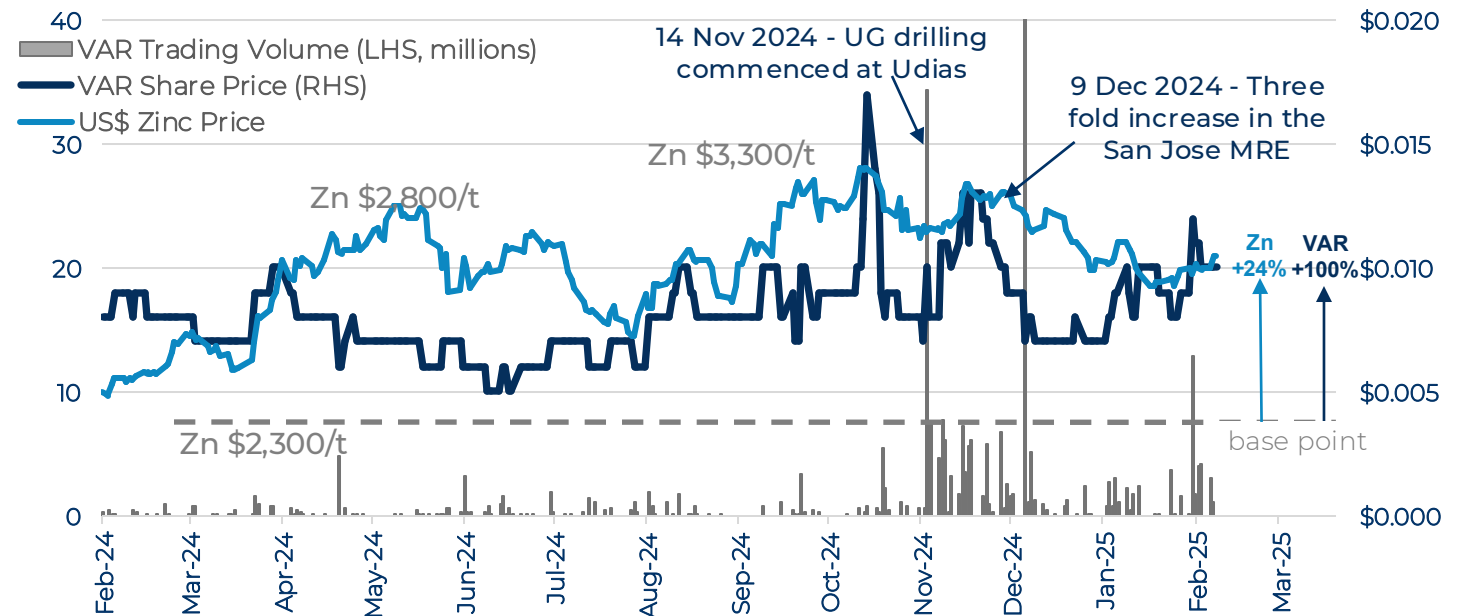
**Dr. Frank Bierlein**  
Non-Exec Director



**Nicholas Farr-Jones**  
Non-Exec Director

- ✓ Proven track record
- ✓ Project development
- ✓ Financing
- ✓ Operational experience
- ✓ Successful financial exits

Capital Structure	
ASX Code	VAR
Share Price	\$0.007
Shares on issue	782.8m
Options (\$0.010, 30-Nov-26)	42.6m
Options (0.015, 30-Nov-26)	152.7m
Market Cap. (undiluted)	\$5.5m
Cash (30-Jun-25)	\$0.3m
Enterprise Value	\$5.2m



# Zinc

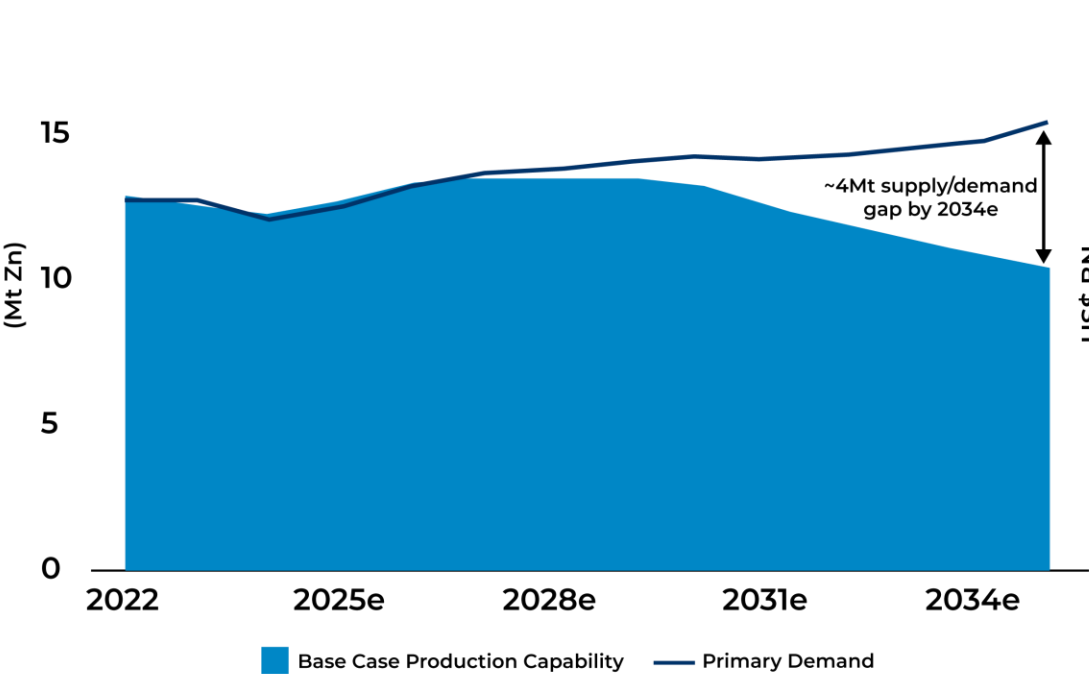
## Future-facing metal critical for energy transition & infrastructure



**Primary demand expected to exceed production by ~4Mt to 2034, presenting an opportunity similar to copper<sup>(1)</sup>**

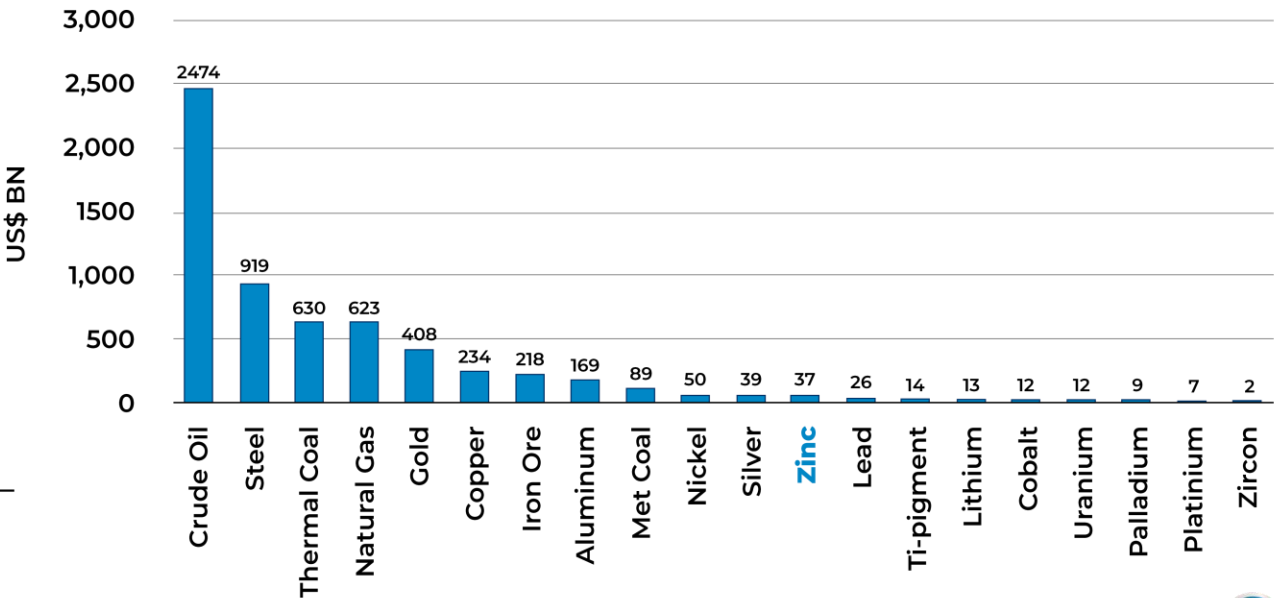
- ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> most consumed metal globally
- ✓ \$39Bn industry
- ✓ 80% of zinc ore worldwide is mined underground
- ✓ Strong market fundamentals with positive pricing environment

20 Mine production capability versus primary demand<sup>(2)</sup>



### Zinc industry larger than Lithium + Cobalt + Uranium combined

Value of commodity markets 2025e<sup>(3)</sup>



Sources:

(1) South 32 Business and Strategy Update Presentation. 14 May 2025

(2) South 32. Primary demand represents requirement for zinc in concentrates and represents smelter production adjusted for smelter production losses, zinc from secondary plants and zinc in residues and secondaries.

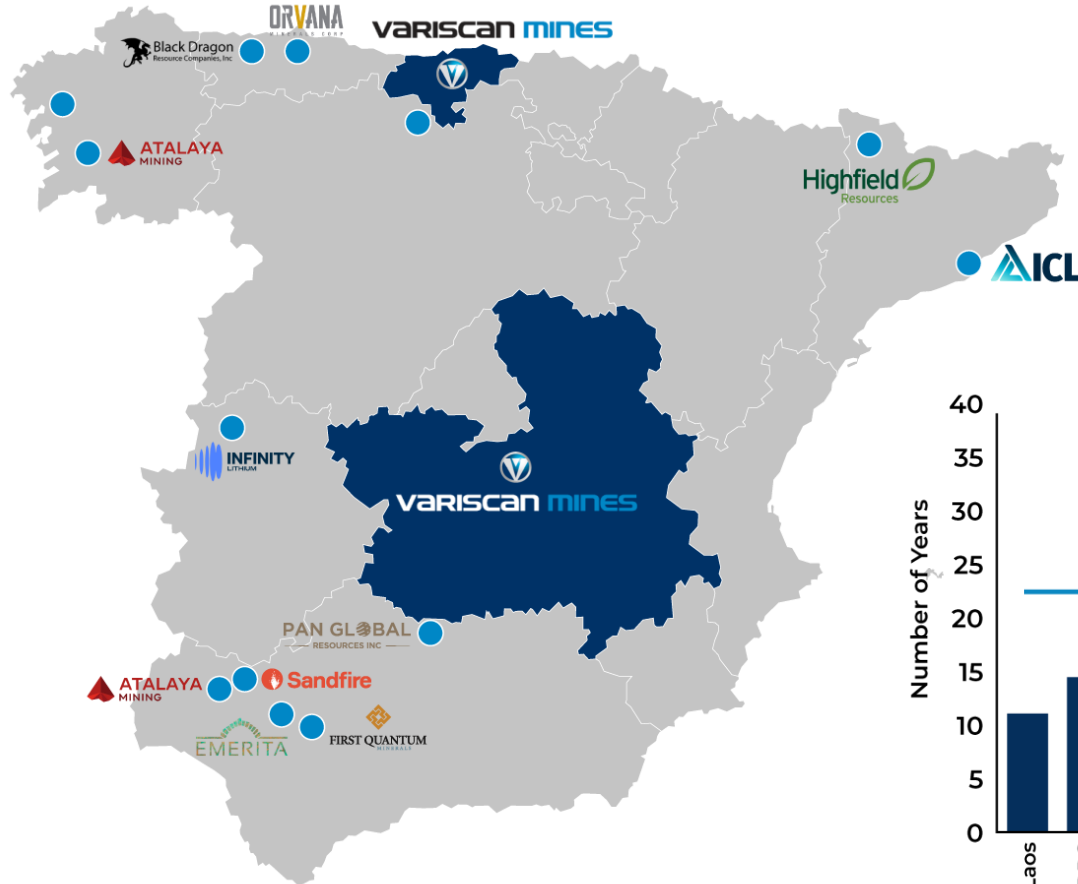
(3) Panmure Liberum Equity Research 17 June 2025

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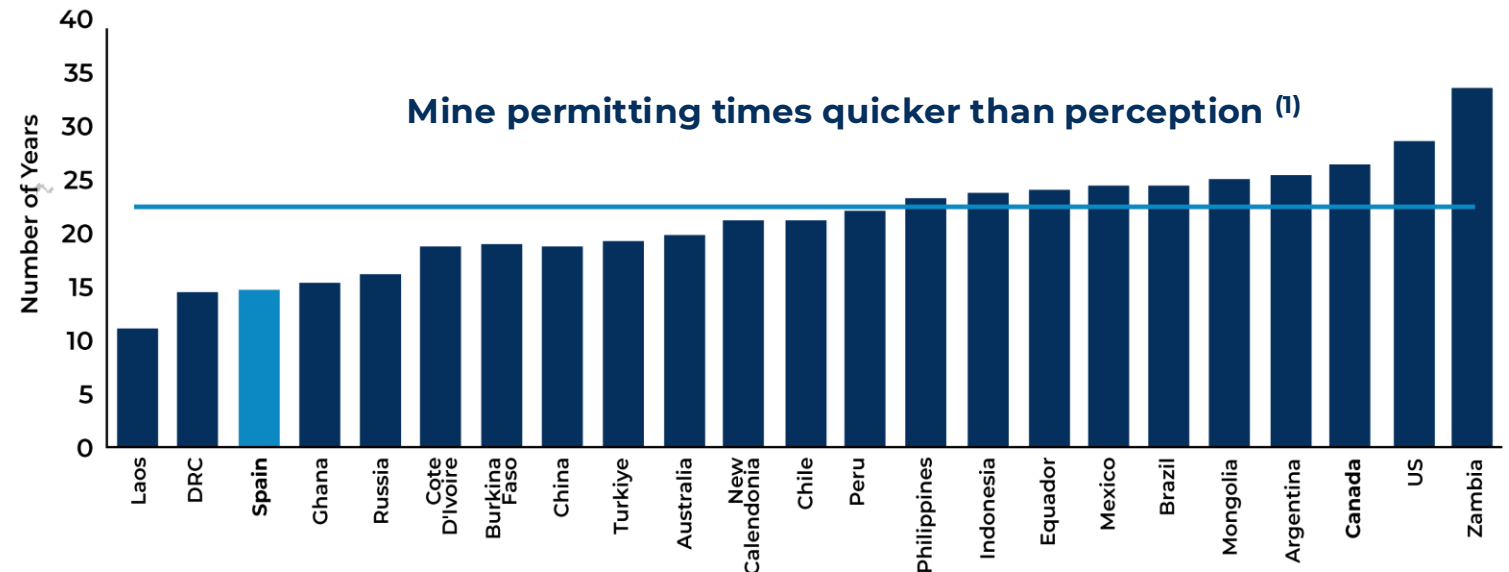


# Proven Assets: Right Location

## Spain: one of Europe's most active mining jurisdictions



- ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> largest EU economy
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> largest copper producer in Europe<sup>(2)</sup>
- ✓ Only producer of strontium in Europe<sup>(2)</sup>
- ✓ International mining companies established with multi-decade track record of operating in Spain



Sources:

(1) S&P Global [https://cdn.ihsmarkit.com/www/pdf/0724/SPGlobal\\_NMA\\_DevelopmentTimesUSinPerspective\\_June\\_2024.pdf](https://cdn.ihsmarkit.com/www/pdf/0724/SPGlobal_NMA_DevelopmentTimesUSinPerspective_June_2024.pdf)

(2) The 2023 Spanish Mining Statistics report, published by the [Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge](#)

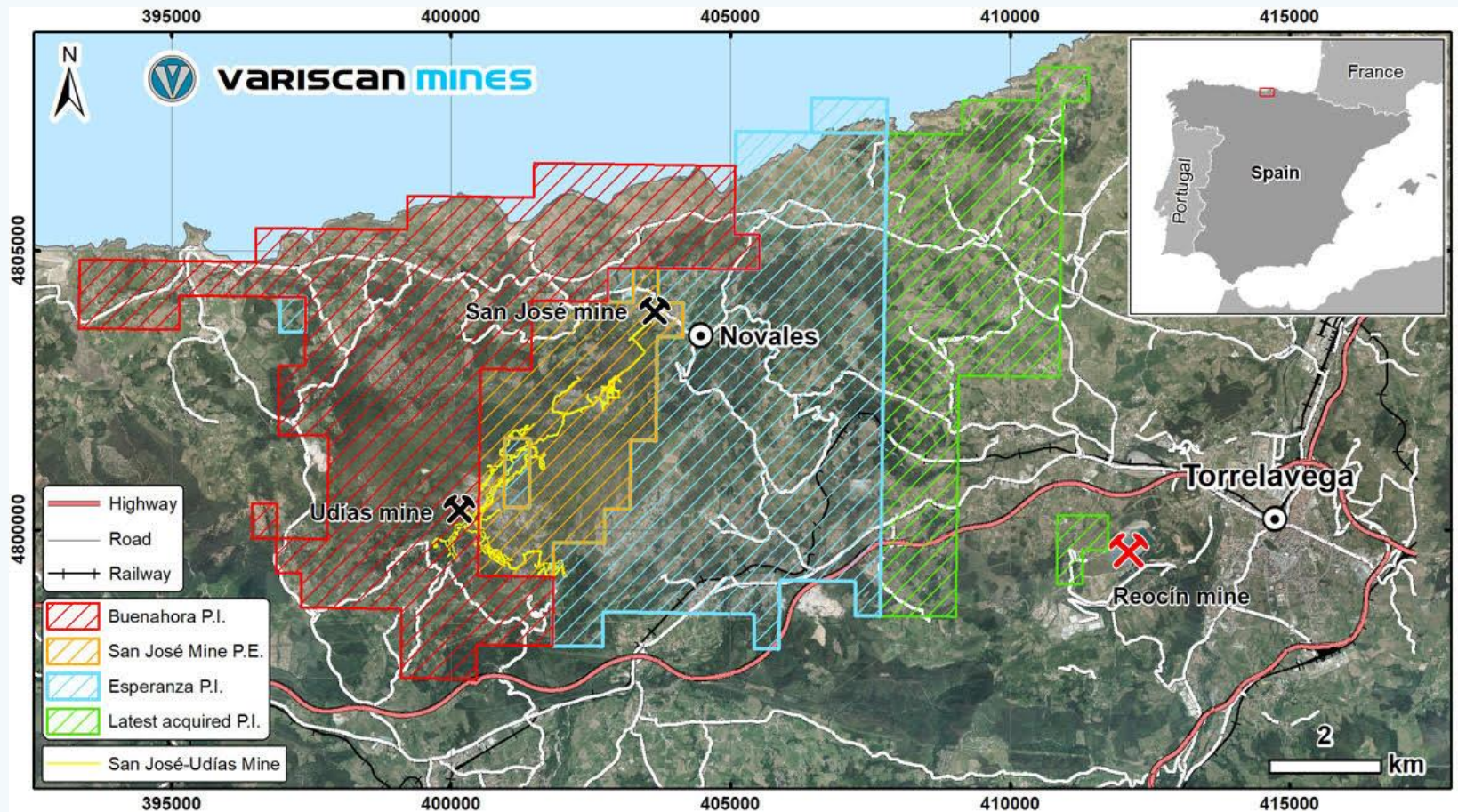
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# Proven Assets: Past Production + Exploration

## One of Europe's highest-grade, development stage zinc deposits



- **Premier Zinc-Lead District:** Basque-Cantabrian basin is well-understood & hosts world-class former Reocín Mine, produced approximately 62 Mt of ore grading 8.7% Zn and 1.0% Pb<sup>(1)</sup>.
- **Near-Term Producer:** San Jose & Udiás Mines targeting restart in 2027/8
- **Growing, High Grade Mineral Resource:** 3x uplift to 3.4Mt @ 7.6% Zn, 0.9% Pb in Dec 2024 <sup>(2)</sup>
- **Upsize Mineral Resource Potential:** Only 4.5km of 12km Novales Trend included in MRE. Trend remains open on strike and laterally
- **Expanded Licence Area:** 2x increase in land holding since project entry to 111km<sup>2</sup> in proven Zinc mining jurisdiction<sup>(3)</sup>

Sources:

(1) Velasco, F., Herrero, J.M., Yusta, I., Alonso, J.A., Seebold, I. and Leach, D., (2003) 'Geology and Geochemistry of the Reocin Zinc-Lead Deposit, Basque-Cantabrian Basin, Northern Spain' Econ. Geol. v.98, pp. 1371-1396.

(2) Refer ASX Announcement 9 December 2024

(3) Refer ASX Announcement 14 April 2025



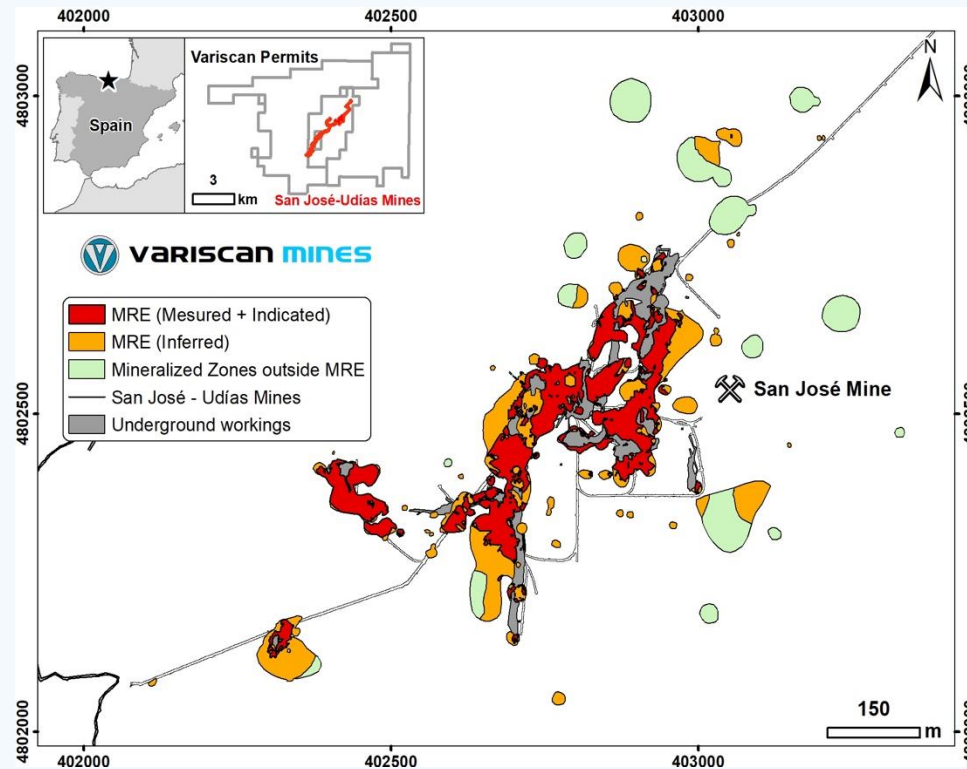


# Proven Assets: High-Grade Zinc Project

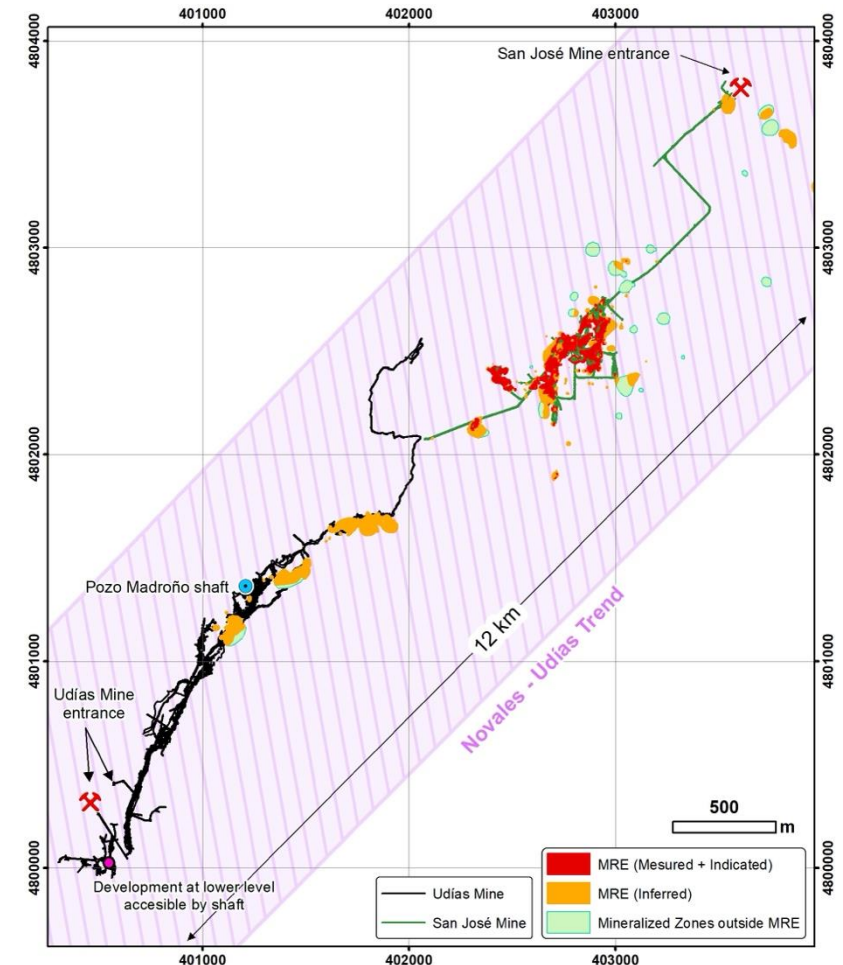
## Past Production → Realistic Re-Start

### San Jose 'starter' operation a catalyst for larger operation

- Drilling upside with mineralisation at San Jose and Udias open in all directions
- Initial, high-grade resource: 1.7Mt @ 8.6% Zn, 1.4% Pb <sup>(1)</sup>
- Identified zones of mineralisation outside of current MRE, with confirmatory drilling to be undertaken, could upsize MRE



### Linking San Jose Mine & Udias Mine

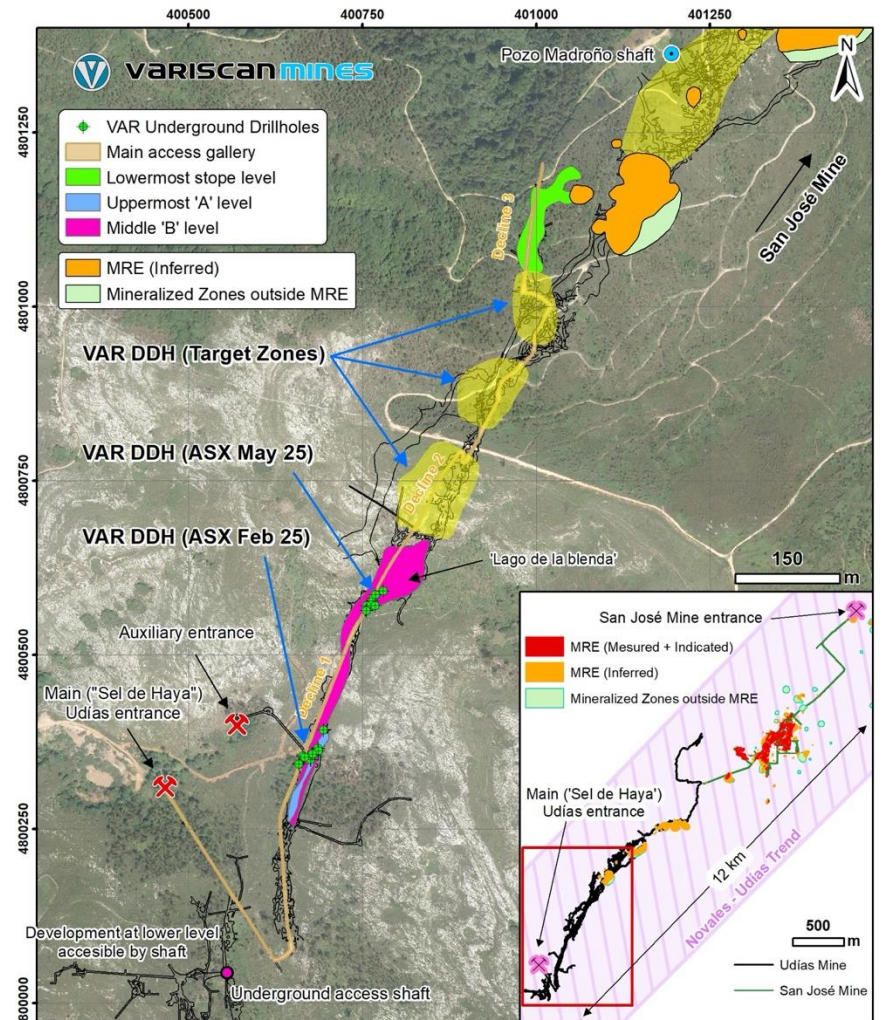
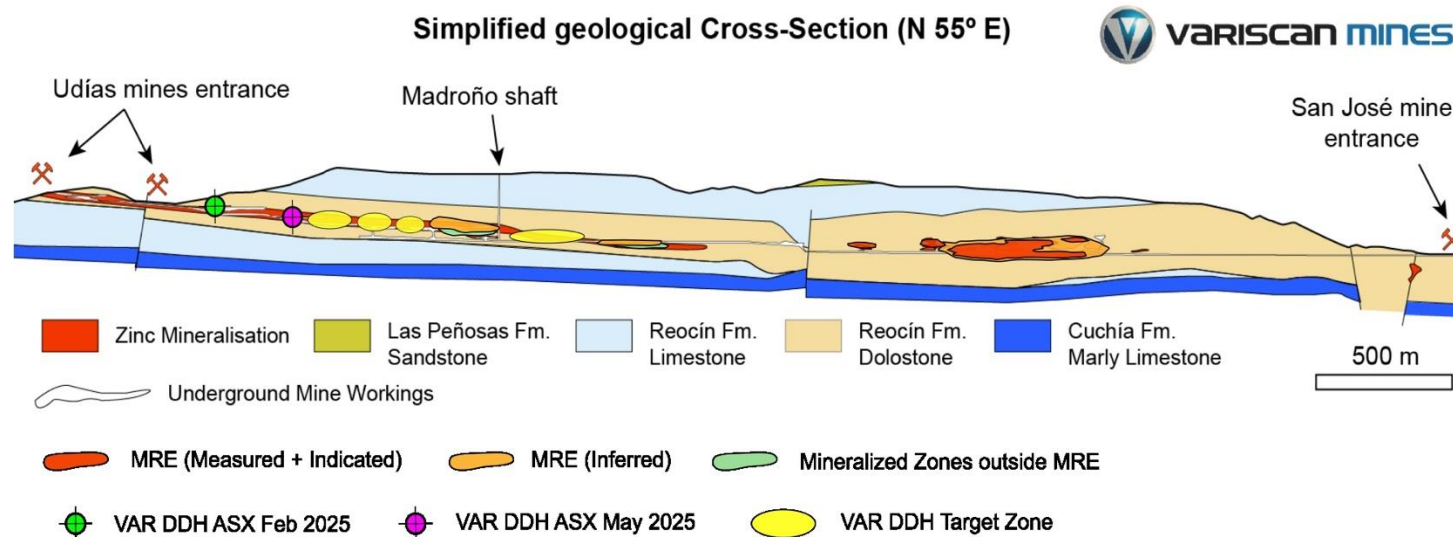


# Udias Mine

## Untapped upside at interlinked deposit

- San Jose Mine links to much larger historical Udias zinc mine complex that closed in 1930s
- Interlinked underground mining operation with much of the tenement covered by San Jose mining licence
- > 3.5 km of linear length, within permit area but outside of existing Mineral Resource Estimate

Current & planned drilling at Udiás mine outside of existing MRE



Sources:

(1) Refer ASX announcements 19 December 2024, 2 June 2025

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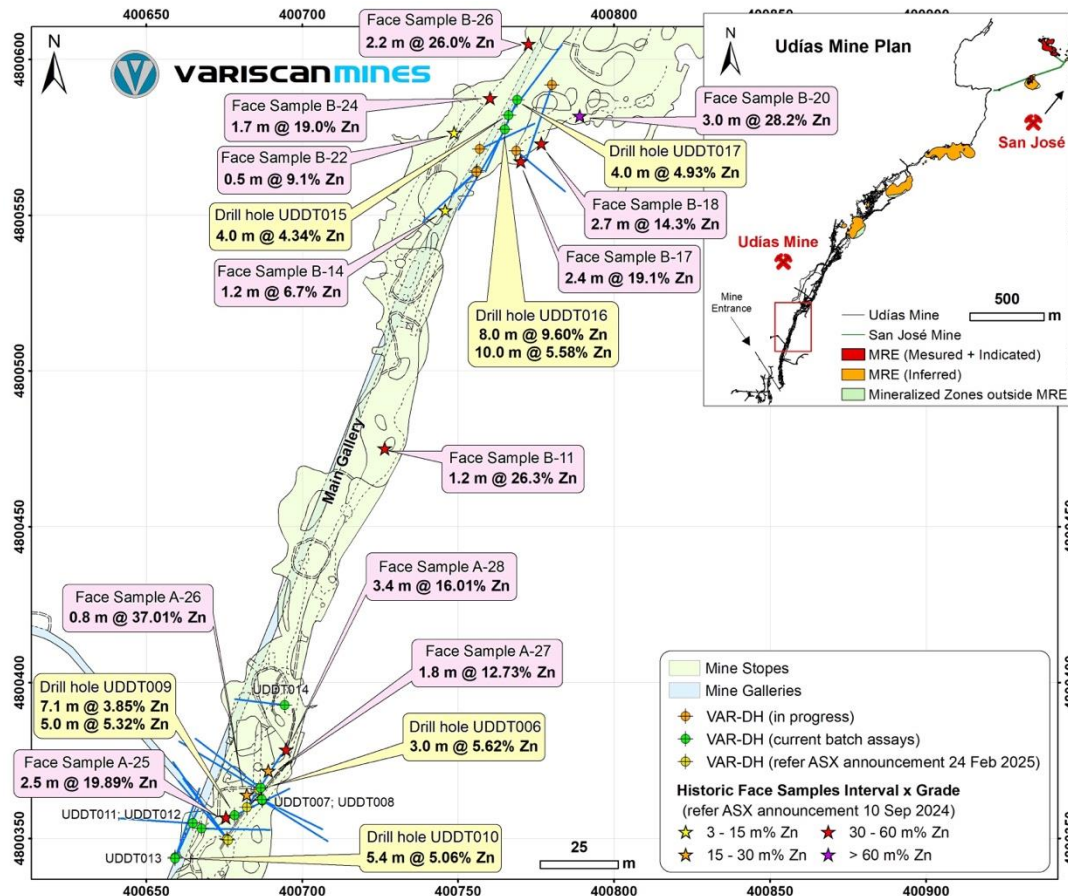


# Udias Mine

## Excellent maiden drilling results to link up deposits



### Good correlation of drilling results with high-grade, face sampling



### Drilling to continue along mine development drill-testing new zones to link up with existing Mineral Resource Estimate and beyond San Jose Mine

- Live campaign of underground drilling – flexible, efficient & cost effective using own portable rig
- Udias Mine complex is significantly larger than San Jose with +2km strike of mineralisation and high-grade historic data
- Mineralisation style at Udias mirrors San Jose, consisting of stacked zinc sulphide ore lenses with ~100m vertical extent
- All areas being drilled are outside of the existing Mineral Resource Estimate model and are expected to expand MRE
- Update to MRE scheduled for Q4 25/Q1 26
- 60% of the 12km Novales-Udias Trend has potential to add to the MRE

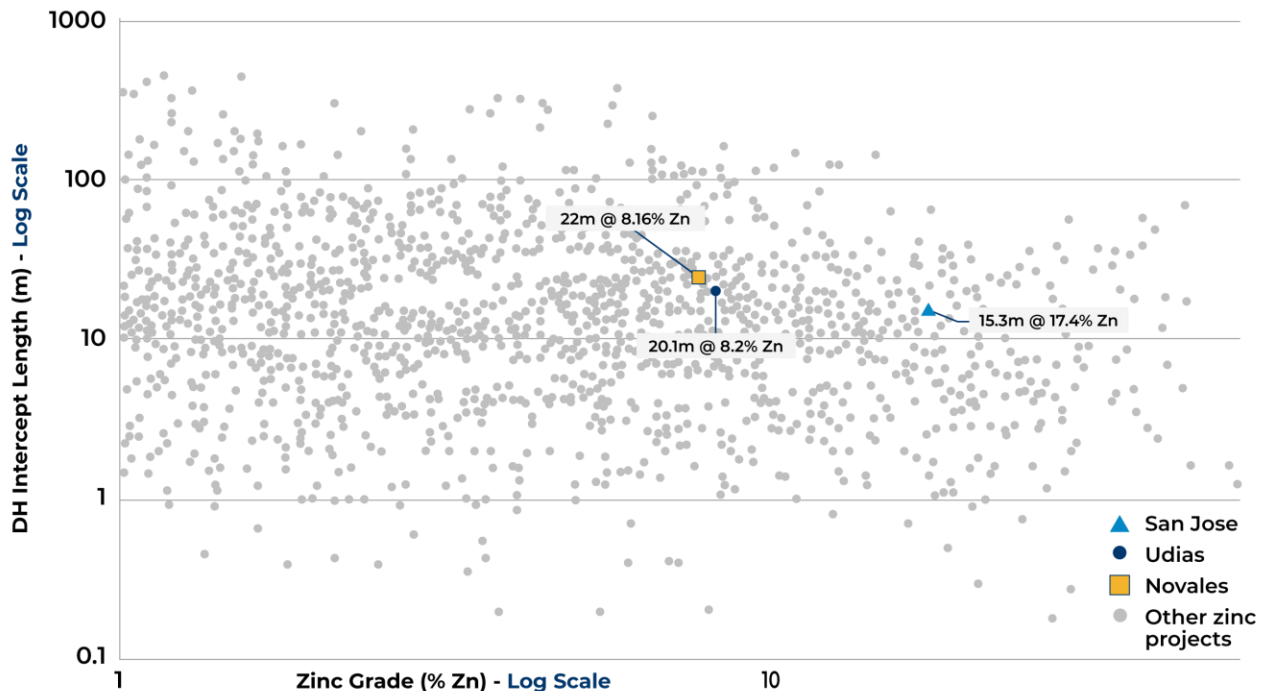


# Drilling-led Exploration

## Highly successful drilling indicates scope to grow...



**Drilling success evidences quality of deposits across the Novales-Udias project on global basis**



**Recent results include 5 of the best-ever 20 drill holes VAR has ever drilled**

**Underground access facilitates very efficient drilling of short, cost-effective drillholes.**



**VAR owned portable rig allows a flexibility & no ancillary costs associated with contracted drilling (mobilization , downtime etc.)**

Sources:

- (1) Refer ASX announcement 24 February 2025 & 4 March 2025
- (2) Opaxe global database of +3,000 best zinc intercepts since 2014

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# San Jose Mine Re-Start Study

## Scoping Level with delivery scheduled for H2 2025



### Study Objectives



Re-position Variscan as cash-flow generating zinc producer by 2027/8



Deliver a realistic plan for early cash-flow from small scale production



Cashflow to sustainably fund ramp-up production growth and exploit exploration upside

### Study Philosophy



Capex Lite approach to production > realistic financing capability



Leverage existing infrastructure and in-situ mine development



Investigate opportunities for increased mining and processing efficiency

Geology	COMPLETED
Mineral Resource Estimate	COMPLETED
Mine Design	COMPLETED
Geotechnical Testwork	COMPLETED
Met Pre Concentration Tests	COMPLETED
Met Floatation Testwork	COMPLETED
Mine Scheduling	COMING SOON
Process Flowsheet & Plant Design	COMING SOON
Capital & Operating Cost Estimates	COMING SOON
Economic Modelling	COMING SOON





# San Jose Mine Re-Start Study

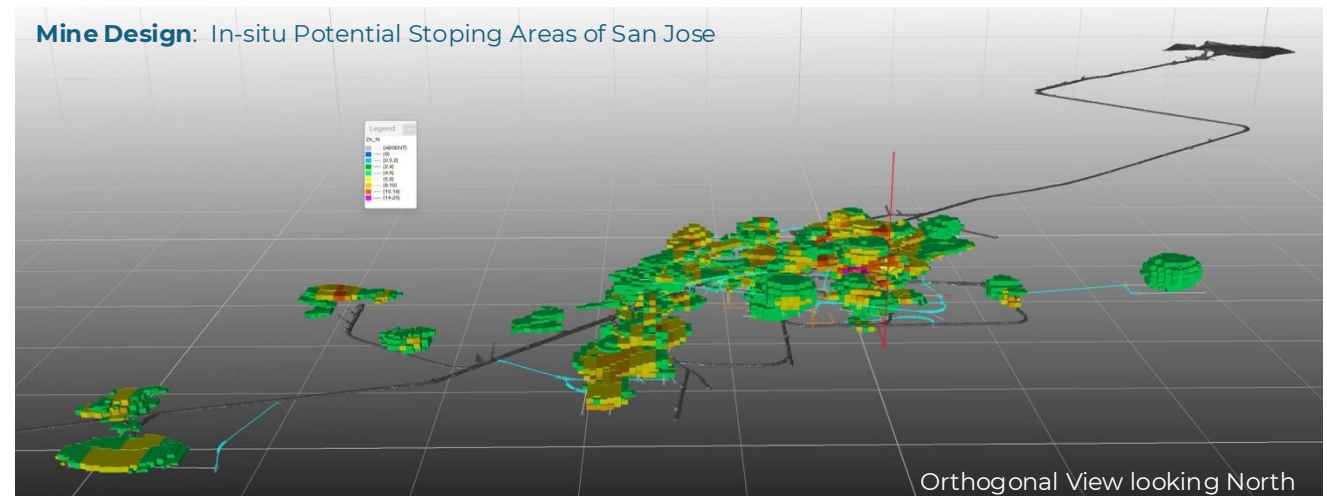
## Moving towards FID and commencing production by 2027/8



Government of Cantabria, Department of Mines Visit to Udias Mines Drilling Campaign in Q2 2025

- Mine Re-Start Study is well advanced and will provide basis to move to FID
- Near term production opportunity, targeting production by 2027-28
- Objective to establish, profitable mining 'starter' operation with modular processing plant on site
- Provide platform to sustainably finance exploration and add/replace tonnes to scale up production and maintain Life of Mine
- Limited underground refurbishment required, making use of mine development & locomotive tracks
- Lower environmental impact (incl. no visual impact) from utilising existing mine → high levels of social acceptance

**Mine Design:** In-situ Potential Stopping Areas of San Jose



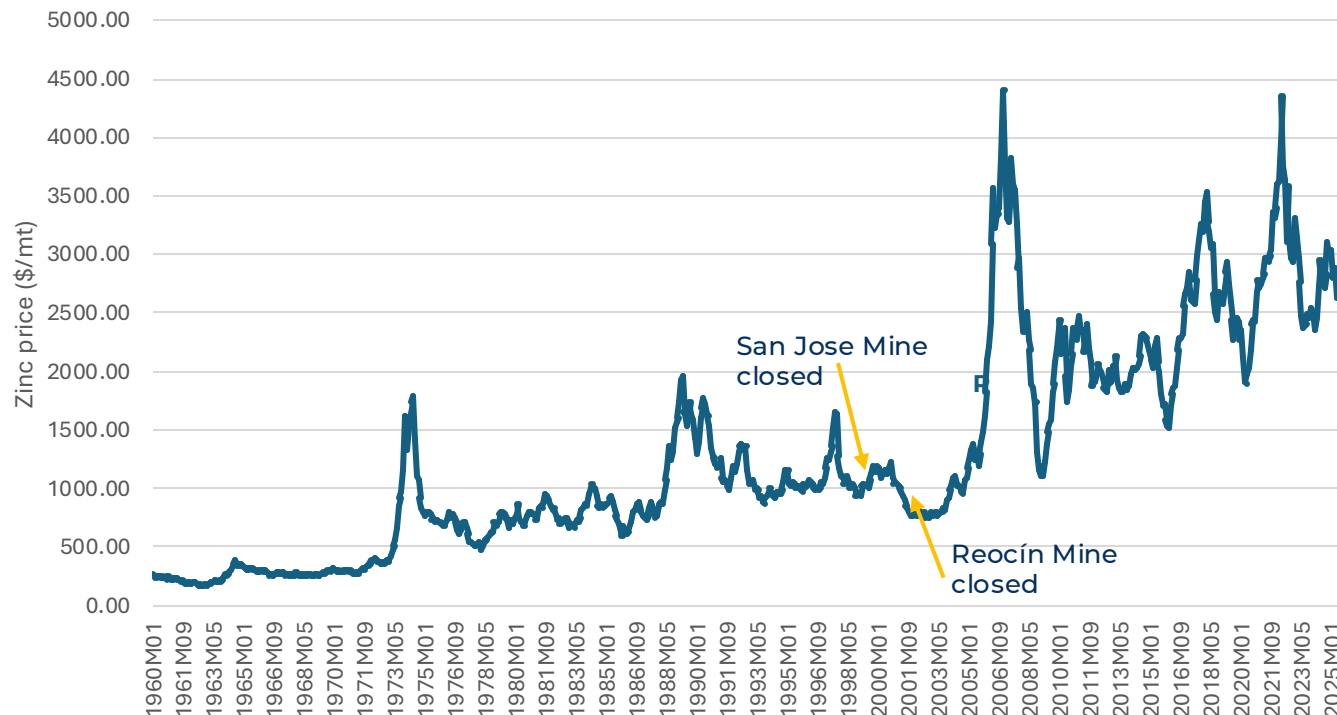


# San Jose Mine Re-Start Study

## Compelling Rationale for Near Term production



**Former high-grade Zinc producing mine ran profitably for +20yrs at much lower prices**



**Zinc demand expected to benefit from energy transition & low stock-piles**

- Ceased production in late 1990s due to prevailing metal prices
- Zinc price is 2x higher since mine shut down in 1997 (US\$1.3k/t vs. US\$2.6k/t)
- Modernisation expected to boost economics further
- Historical processing did not utilise pre-concentration → potential increase feed grade and reduce capex
- Greater efficiency of modern mining techniques and ore sorting



# San Jose Mine Re-Start Study

## Ultra Low Capex Expected



Leveraging existing infrastructure with site lease agreed



### Brownfield advantages to decrease capital requirement & execution risk

- Valid mining licence enables mining to commence
- Existing mine-site & regional infrastructure results in:
  - ✓ lower anticipated capex
  - ✓ reduce timeframe to start operations
- Utilising existing infrastructure in excellent condition
- Underground mine development extends over a linear length of c. 2.5km (San Jose only)
- Replacement value of historical drilling +A\$22m<sup>(1)</sup>

Sources:

(1) Management estimates based on current, actual drilling rates and costs incurred by the Company multiplied by number of metres

(2) Refer ASX announcement 29 January 2024

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# Near-term Producer Enablers

## Strategically located with world-class infrastructure



- World's largest Zinc smelter<sup>(1)</sup> within trucking distance (San Juan de Nieva Zinc smelter owned by Glencore)
- Met test underway to confirm concentrate specification & suitability
- Onsite sealed road access already connected to regional network
- Access to local ports for alternative smelters in Europe



'Europe is one of the most important continents for refined zinc production'<sup>(2)</sup> led by major firms including:

GLENCORE **Trafigura** **BOLIDEN**

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Sources:

(1) <https://www.glencoretechnology.com/en/technologies/albion-process/installations/san-juan-de-nieva>

(2) International Lead and Zinc Study Group "The World Zinc Factbook 2024"



# JORC Mineral Resource Estimate

## Novales-Udias Project



Deposit	Mineral Resource Classification	Tonnage (t)	Grade			Contained Metal		
			Zinc (%)	Lead (%)	Zinc + Lead (%)	Zinc (t)	Lead (t)	Zinc + Lead (t)
San Jose	Measured	480,254	9.18	1.80	10.98	44,064	8,654	52,718
	Indicated	641,881	8.69	1.50	10.19	55,782	9,607	65,389
	<i>Measured &amp; Indicated</i>	<i>1,122,135</i>	<i>8.90</i>	<i>1.63</i>	<i>10.53</i>	<i>99,845</i>	<i>18,262</i>	<i>118,107</i>
	Inferred	615,304	8.15	1.03	9.18	50,121	6,356	56,477
	<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>1,737,439</i>	<i>8.63</i>	<i>1.42</i>	<i>10.05</i>	<i>149,966</i>	<i>24,618</i>	<i>174,584</i>
San Jose (NE)	Inferred	931,608	5.72	0.20	5.92	53,306	1,860	55,165
Udías* (NE)	Inferred	709,533	7.60	0.47	8.07	53,915	3,316	57,232
Total	Measured	480,254	9.18	1.80	10.98	44,064	8,654	52,718
	Indicated	641,881	8.69	1.50	10.19	55,782	9,607	65,389
	<i>Measured &amp; Indicated</i>	<i>1,122,135</i>	<i>8.90</i>	<i>1.63</i>	<i>10.53</i>	<i>99,845</i>	<i>18,262</i>	<i>118,107</i>
	Inferred	2,256,445	6.97	0.51	7.48	157,342	11,532	168,874
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,378,580</b>	<b>7.61</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>8.49</b>	<b>257,187</b>	<b>29,794</b>	<b>286,981</b>

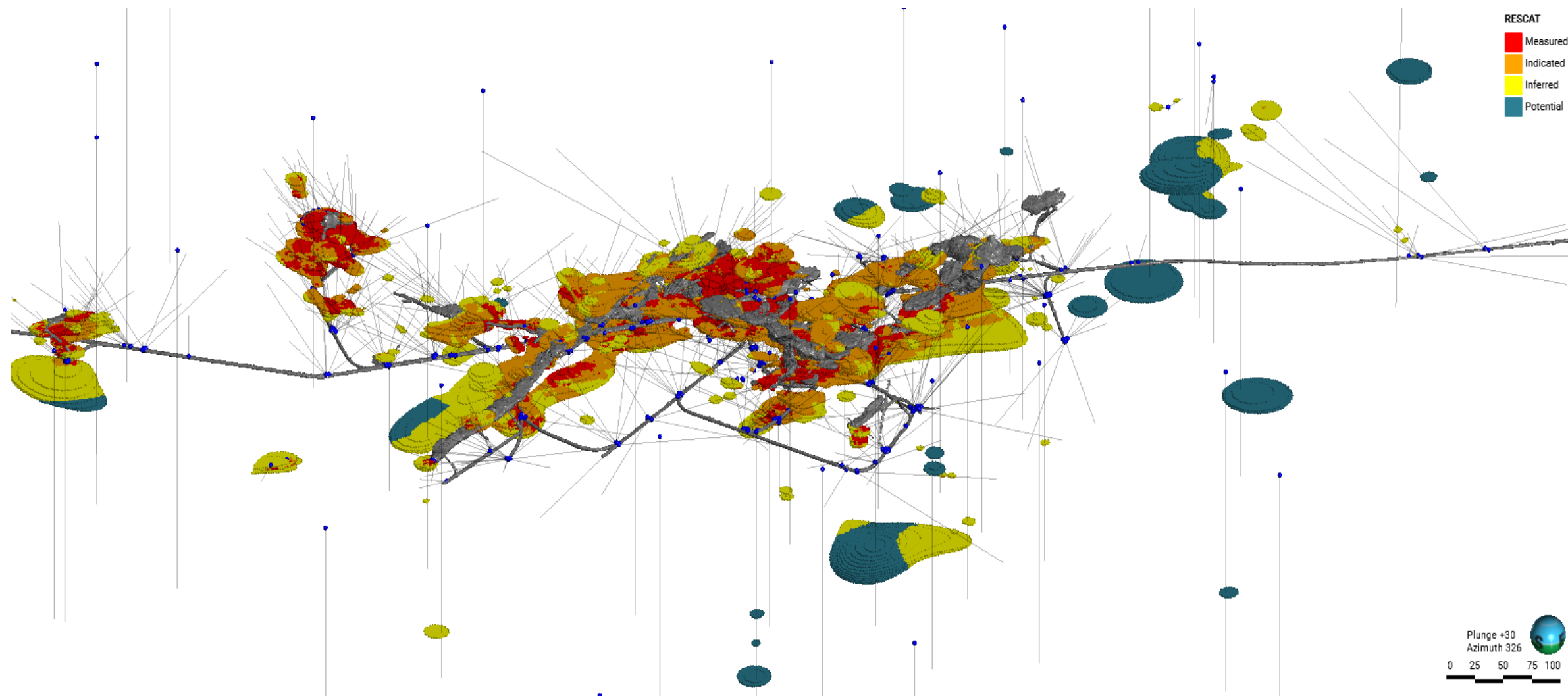
- ✓ Defined Measured Resources over the Novales-Udias Project for the 1st time
- ✓ Measured & Indicated Resources represent 67% of the Mineral Resource Estimate for San Jose Mine
- ✓ Grades in the Measured category are higher (9.18% Zn) than any other category / deposit



# San Jose Mine



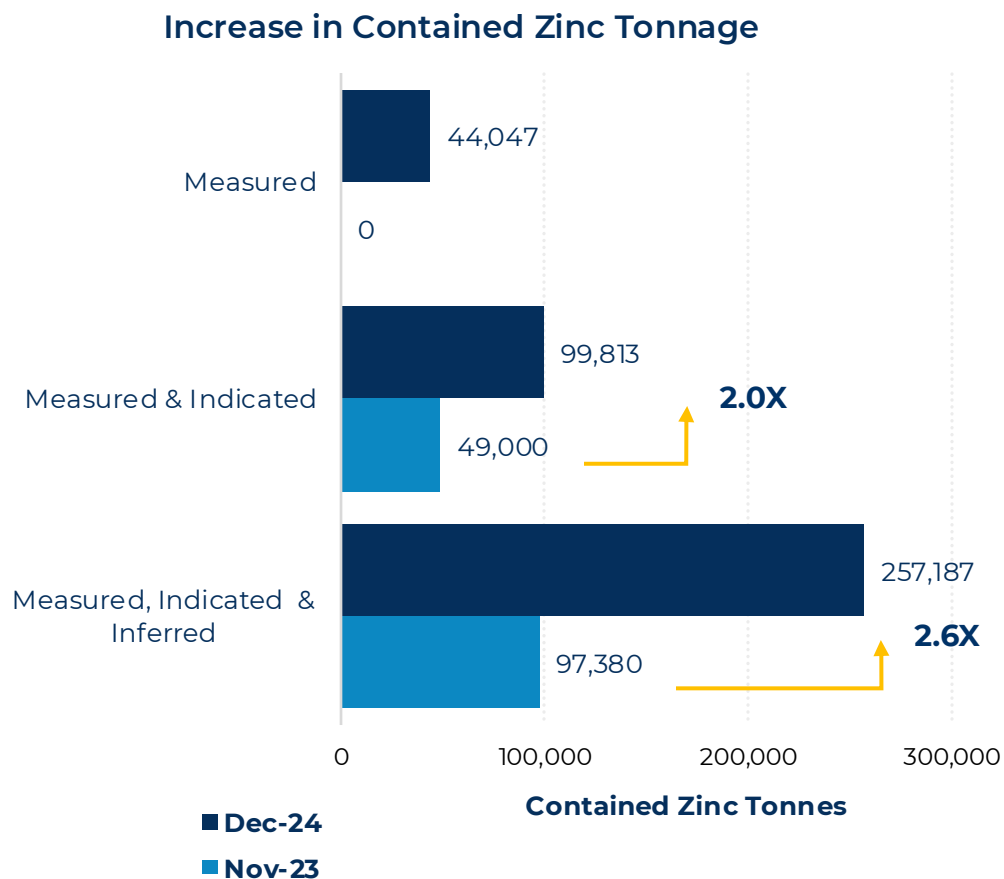
## Measured & Indicated Resources > Basis For Mine Re-start Study



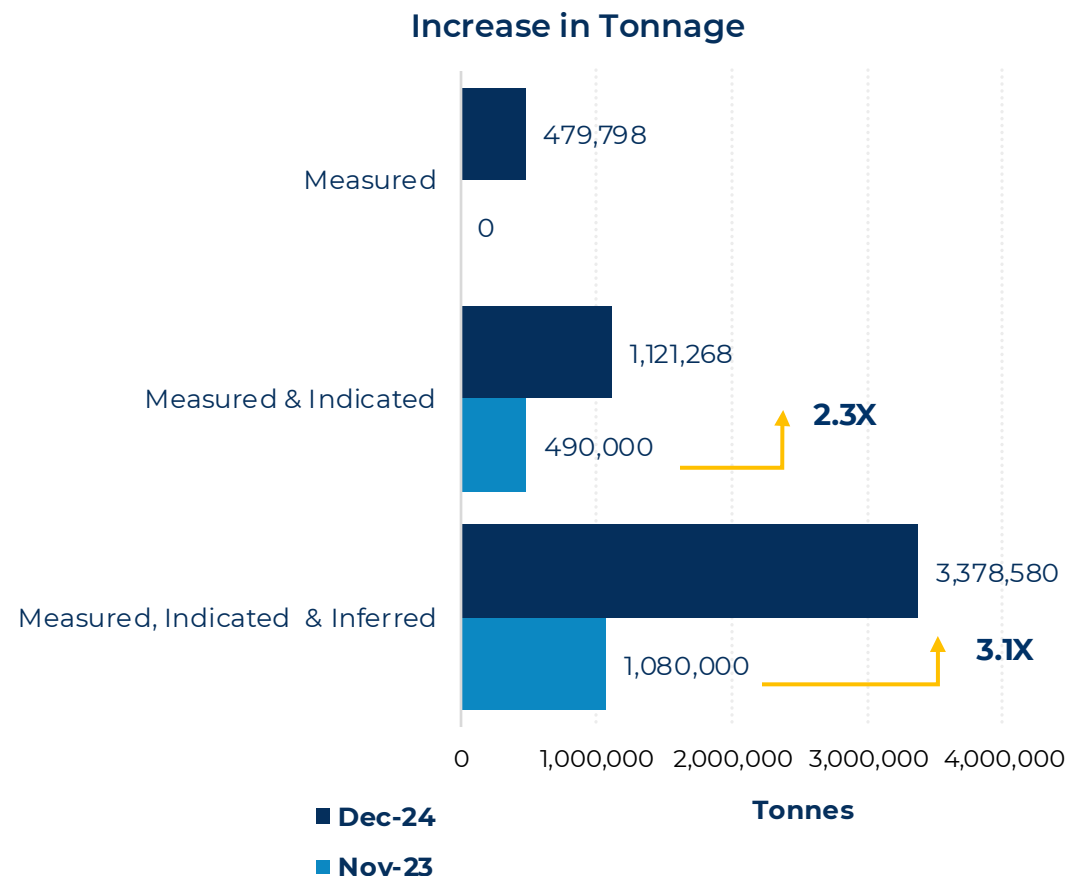
Sources:  
(1) Refer ASX announcement 9 December 2024

# Mineral Resource Estimate YoY Comparison; Significant Growth

## 2.6x growth in total contained zinc



## 3.1x growth in total tonnage



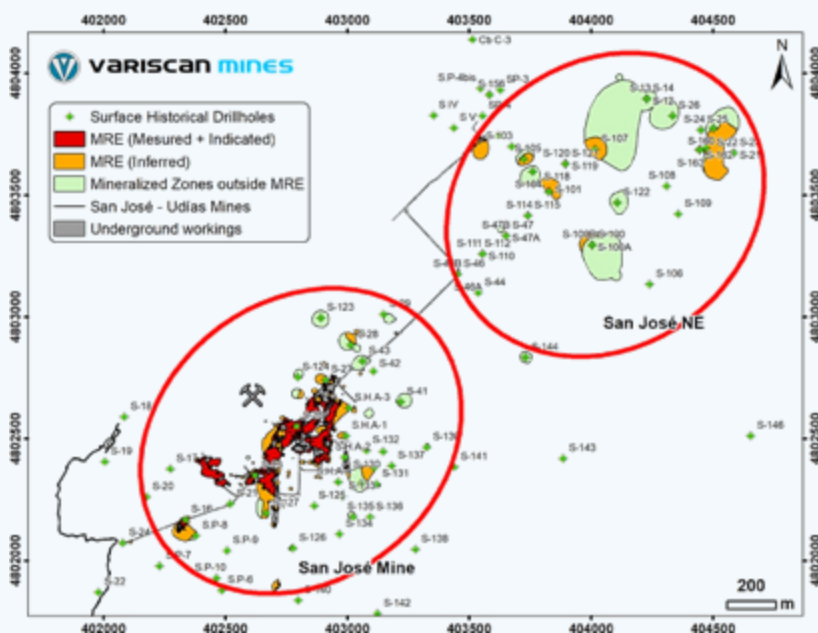


# Exploration Upside

Future Priority Drilling designed & permitted → Expected Resource Uplift

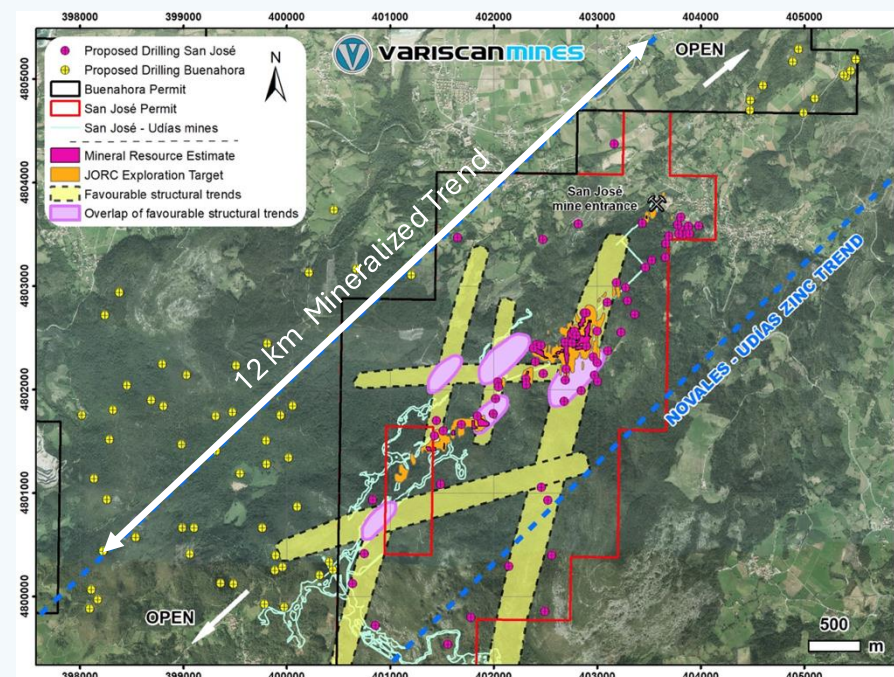
## San Jose Infill

- High-priority zones expected to add tonnage
- Significant historical drilling supports targets
- Targets located more than 50m from sample data in the MRE ore domains
- Permits granted for surface drilling campaign to commence



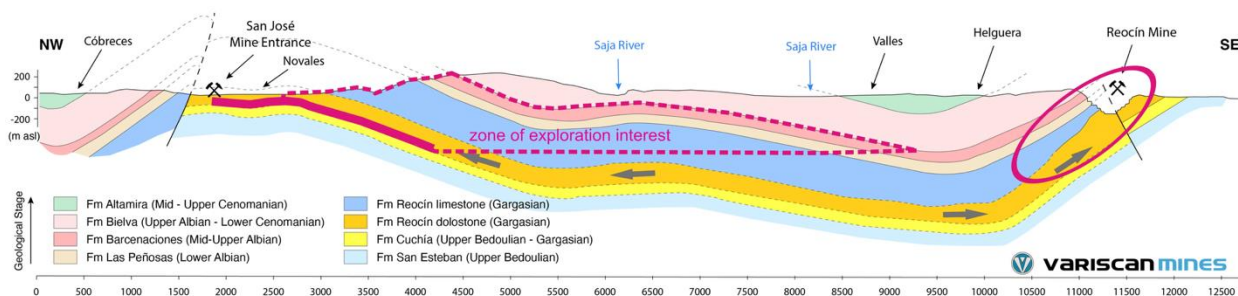
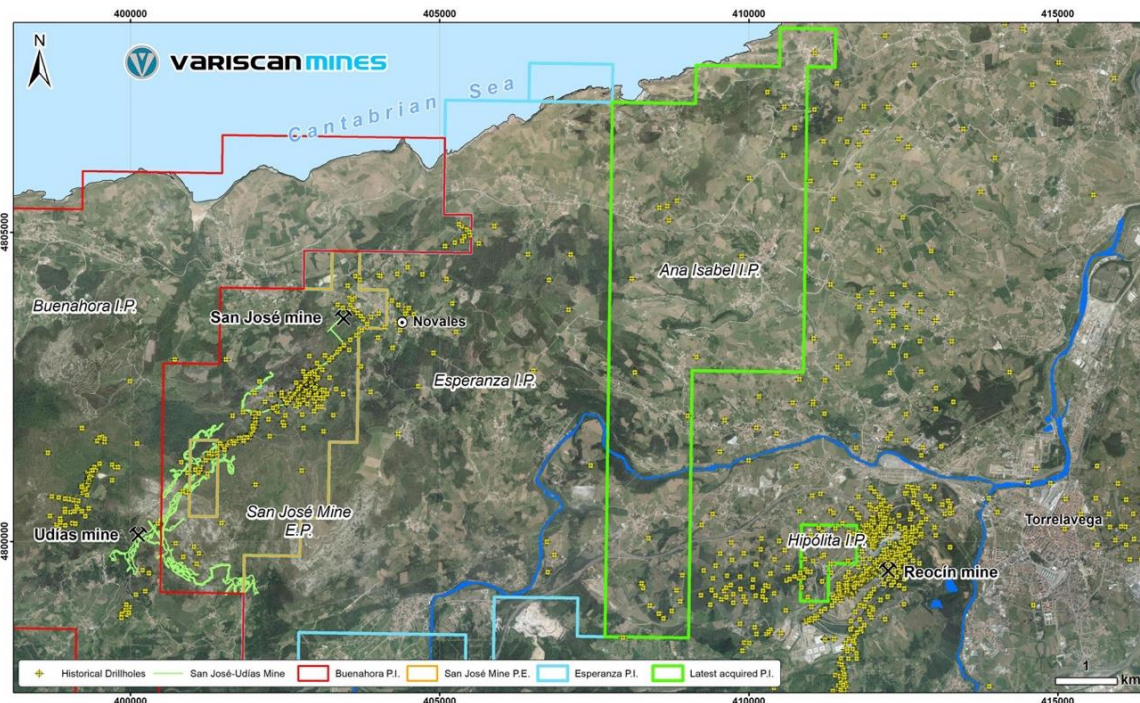
## Step Out on Trend

- Permits granted for surface drilling within Buenahora Licence area
- Targeting host Reocin Formation and in vicinity of historical workings
- Strong structural controls assist with target vectoring



# Exploration Upside

Significantly expanded tenements → Zinc District Scale Opportunity



## Large, prospective land package proximal to world class Reocín Mine

- Significantly expanded land holding recently to 111km<sup>2</sup> in proven zinc mining jurisdiction<sup>(1)</sup>
- Adjacent to tenements with high grade MRE with significant exploration upside
- Reocín Mine produced approximately 62 Mt of ore grading 8.7% Zn and 1.0% Pb.
- The Reocín deposit is one of the largest known strata-bound, carbonate-hosted, zinc-lead deposits in Europe.
- In 2003, at mine closure, average production grades were 8.5% Zn and 0.9% Pb with Reserves of 2.5Mt remaining<sup>(2)</sup>
- Significant historical drilling activity over the licences → MRE upside / de-risked exploration

Sources:

(1) Refer ASX announcement 14 April 2025

(2) Velasco, F., Herrero, J.M., Yusta, I., Alonso, J.A., Seebold, I. and Leach, D., (2003) 'Geology and Geochemistry of the Reocín Zinc-Lead Deposit, Basque-Cantabrian Basin, Northern Spain' Econ. Geol. v.98, pp. 1371-1396.





# Near-term Producer Enablers

## Full Government Support and Excellent Social Licence



Variscan MD & CEO meeting with President of the Government of Cantabria, Ms María José Sainz de Buruaga and Regional Minister for Industry, Employment, Innovation and Trade, Mr. Eduardo Arasti Barca.

- Government of Cantabria fully support the Company's plans to recommence mining.
- A **dedicated working group** has been established by the Minister to streamline coordination across departments
- Existing approvals, community support and minimal environmental impact from brownfield operation de-risk execution
- Regulatory reforms are underway to fast track milestones with government committed to mining as a regional economic driver

**“ The Government of Cantabria will do "everything possible" to re-start zinc mining ”**



# Near-term Producer Enablers

## Strong Backing with Equity Alignment and Offtake Potential



### Strategic Shareholders



- Strategic shareholder support with significant mining sector expertise
- Long-term holders with credibility and funding capability
- Top 20 account for 75% of VAR ownership
- Directors hold 8% of VAR ownership

### Sales & Marketing



- Square Trading appointed exclusive marketing manager for worldwide sale of zinc concentrates <sup>(1)</sup>.
- Considerable global marketing and trading experience
- Mandated to secure third party financing to construct & operate the mines
- Equity alignment as significant shareholder via Zinc GroupCo ( 23% of VAR ownership)

### Property & Logistics



- Lease agreement over San Jose Mine Site and facilities (31,199m<sup>2</sup>) <sup>(2)</sup>
- Site already permitted for mineral exploration, development & mining activities
- Local partner providing civil engineering and logistics
- Interests aligned with 0.9% VAR shareholding

Sources:

(1) Refer ASX announcement 13 August 2024

(2) Refer ASX announcement 29 January 2024

(3) Shareholding data as at 02 July 2025

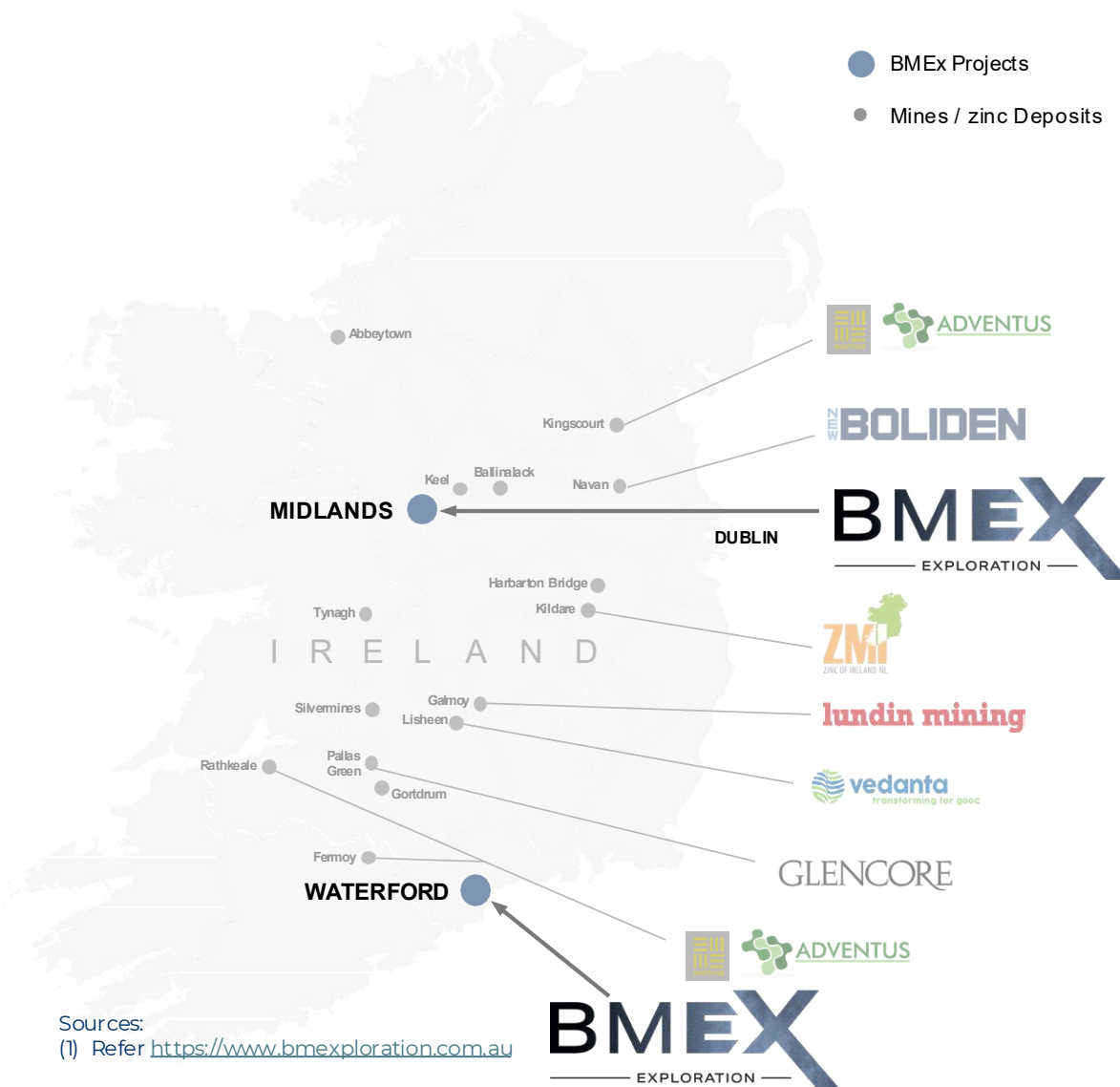
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# Proposed Acquisition: BMex Exploration

## Low risk Earn-In to prospective Zinc opportunities

- BMEx Projects
- Mines / zinc Deposits



### Midlands Project

Title ID	Date Granted	Expiry Date	Holder Name	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	County	Exploration permitted for
PL 1802	02.10.2017	01.10.2029	BMEx Pty Ltd	26	Longford	Barytes, base metals, gold, silver
PL1803	02.10.2017	01.10.2029	BMEx Pty Ltd	32	Longford	Barytes, base metals, gold, silver

- Located in the Irish Midland Zinc Belt, County of Longford, consists of two licences over 58 sq km<sup>2</sup> in aggregate.
- The licences are valid to October 2029.

### Waterford Project

PL	Date Granted	Expiry date	Holder Name	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	County	Exploration permitted for
1555	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	26	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver
1556	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	27	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver
1966	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	29	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver
1967	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	26	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver
3713	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	28	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver
3715	7.11.2016	06.11.2028	Adventus Exploration Limited, Adventus Zinc Ireland Limited, Foresight Exploration Limited	28	Waterford	Barytes, base metals, silver

- Located in the County of Waterford and comprises six prospecting licences of 163km<sup>2</sup> in aggregate.
- Licences are valid to November 2028.

# Proposed Acquisition: BMex Exploration

## Transaction Rationale & Conditions Precedent



### Transaction Rationale

- ✓ Deepen our zinc focus which is complementary to existing asset base
- ✓ Expand our business, leveraging our competency of exploring and developing carbonate-hosted lead-zinc deposits in Europe
- ✓ Leverage the technical expertise and corporate development capabilities of Mine Discovery Fund with Variscan being granted the first right of refusal on zinc projects generated by MDF
- ✓ Create a stronger asset portfolio to attract capital for exploration and development
- ✓ Conduct additional exploration activity in Ireland to supplement the development workplan for the zinc assets in Spain
- ✓ Provide some diversification of location yet retain a European geographical focus; Ireland is a proven world class zinc jurisdiction with low sovereign risk.

### Conditions Precedent

- 1 Variscan shareholders approving the Proposed Transaction pursuant to Listing Rule 10.1
- 2 Completion of legal and technical due diligence by VAR to its sole and absolute satisfaction
- 3 Variscan raising sufficient funds in order to satisfy the Stage 1 Earn-In expenditure
- 4 ZincCo subscribing for \$250,000 worth of New Shares at the Placement price (such subscription being subject to shareholder approval of the Placement and the Earn-In)
- 5 Execution of all definitive documentation required to complete the Earn-In.

### Year 1

- Earn-in → 30% Interest
- A\$0.8m

### Year 2

- Earn-in → 45% Interest
- A\$1.0m

### Year 3

- Earn-in → 60% Interest
- A\$1.5m

### Future

- Conditional 1<sup>st</sup> right to acquire to 80% and then 100%
- Terms to be agreed

ASX:VAR

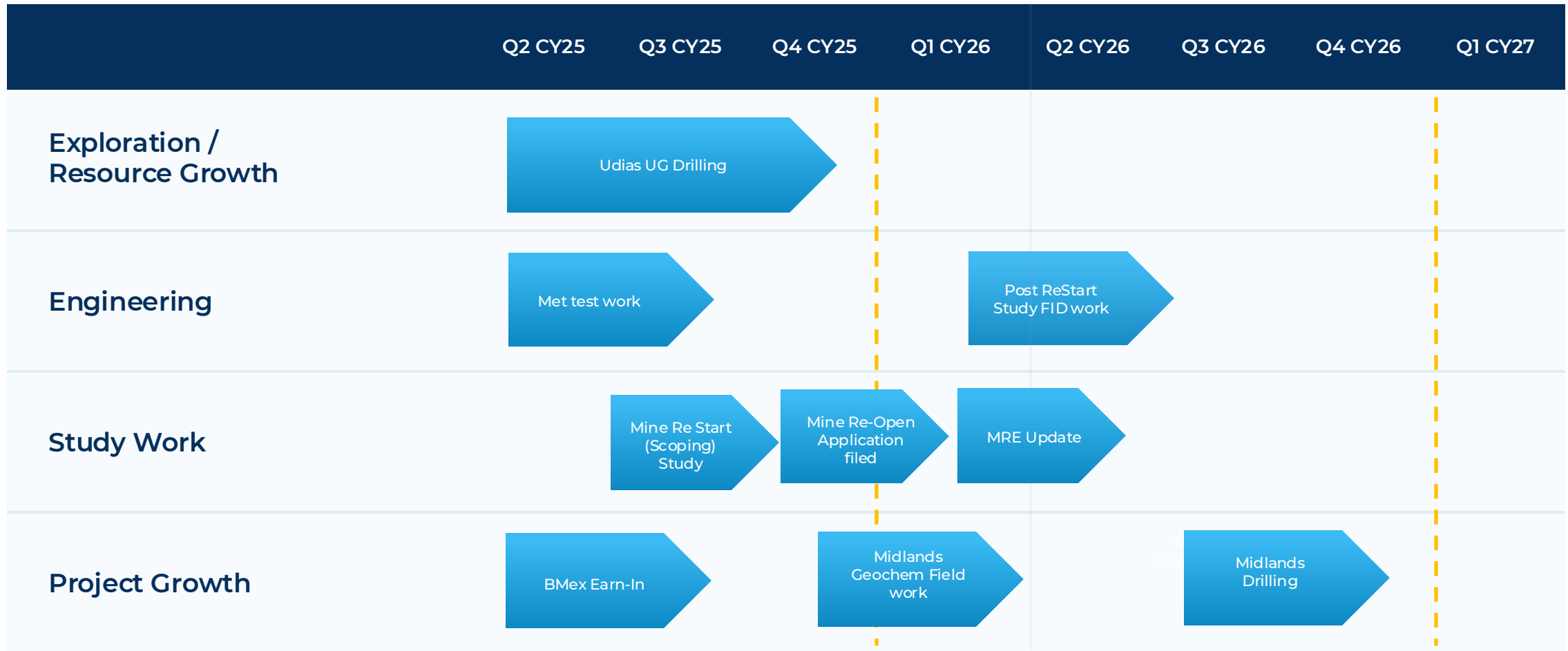




# Newsflow & Catalysts



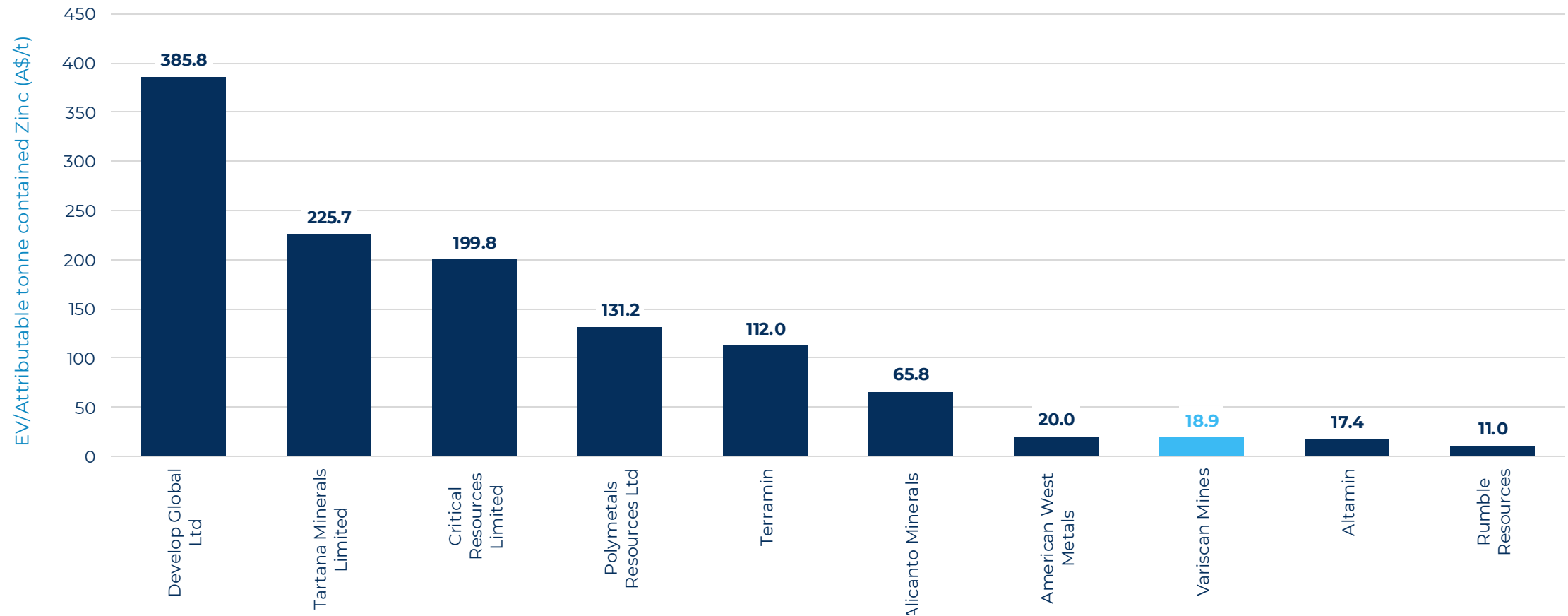
## Advancing to Near-Term Production & Growth through Exploration



# Value Opportunity

## EV / Resource comparable analysis indicates value upside

Enterprise Value Per Attributable tonne Contained Zinc (M, I & I): VAR vs. ASX Zinc Pre-Production Companies

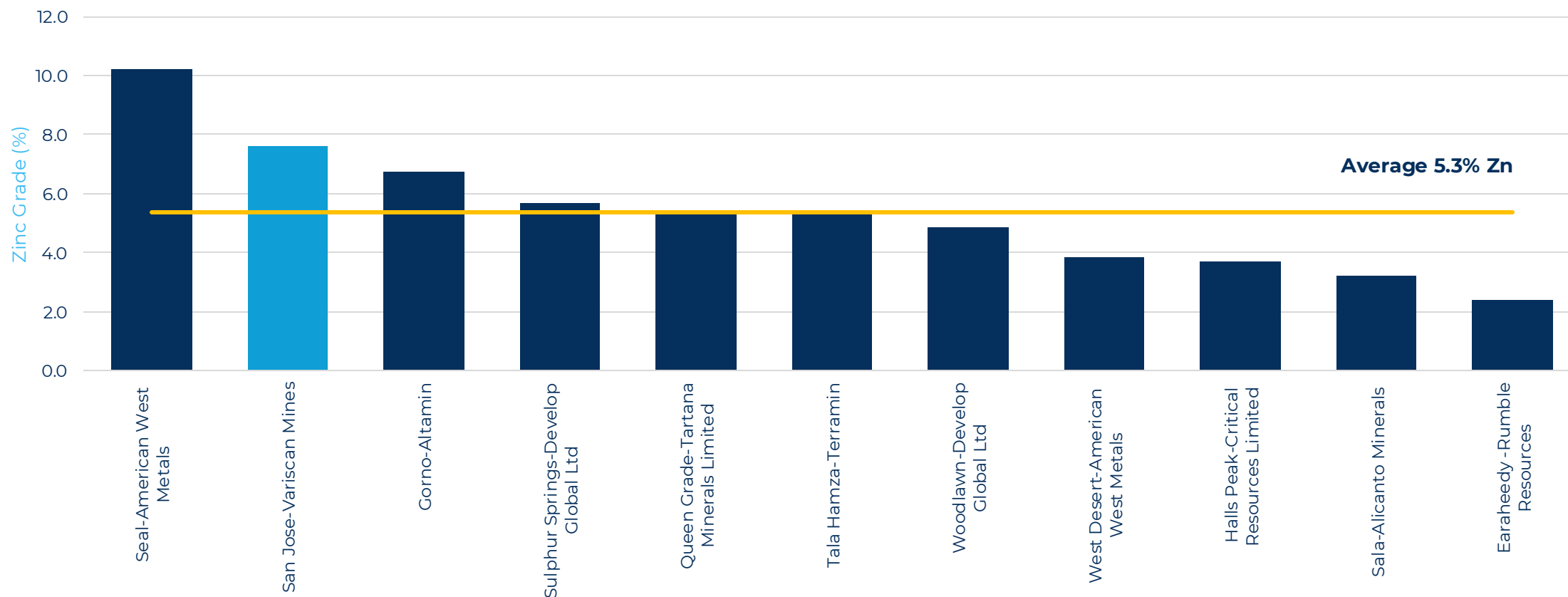


Source: Yahoo Finance; Company reports; refer Appendix 2 source data

# Mineral Resource Estimate

## One of the Highest-grade Zn Projects on ASX

Grade Curve of Pre-Production ASX Zinc Deposits (Measured, Indicated & Inferred Resources)

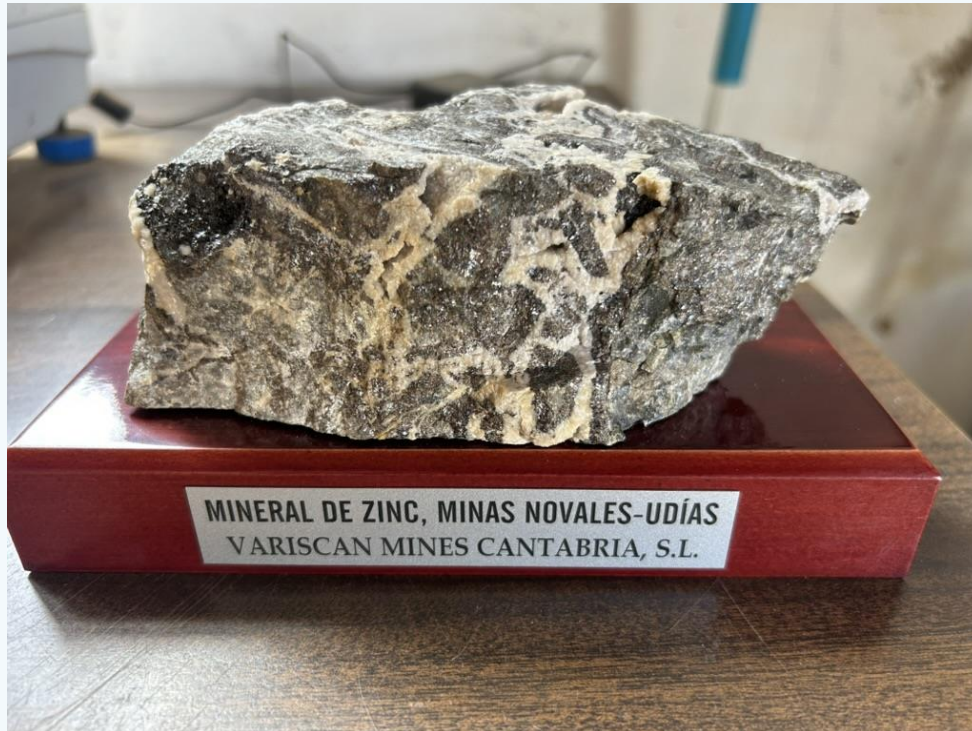


Source: Company reports; refer Appendix 1 for source data



# Outlook

## Unlocking the value opportunity



### Selected milestone achievements since last raise

Delivering capital efficient results<sup>(1)</sup>



Growth in Mineral  
Resource Estimate



Growth in exploration  
licence areas to 111km<sup>2</sup>



Best-ever drill result  
15.3m @ 17.4% Zn, 4.4% Pb

### Future catalysts

- ✓ Geotechnical test work results for the Mine Re-Start (Scoping) Study
- ✓ Metallurgical test work results for the Mine Re-Start (Scoping) Study
- ✓ Further assay results from underground drilling at the Udias Mine
- ✓ Delivery of Mine Re-Start (Scoping) Study
- ✓ Offtake potential via Square Resources (strategic shareholder)

Sources/Notes:

(1) Refer ASX announcements ASX Announcement 9 December 2024, 14 April 2025, 4 March 2025

ASX:VAR





A dark, atmospheric photograph of a mine tunnel. The walls are made of rough, layered rock. In the center, a small train car is visible on tracks that recede into the distance. The lighting is dim, creating a sense of depth and mystery.

# APPENDICES



# Appendix 1 – Data sources for grades of ASX listed zinc projects

Resource Category												
Company	Market	Deposit	Exploration Stage	Measured		Indicated		Inferred		Total		Source
				Tonnes	Grade (Zn%)	Tonnes	Grade (Zn%)	Tonnes	Grade (Zn%)	Tonnes	Grade (Zn%)	
American West Metals	ASX	Seal	Resource	-	-	-	-	1,006,000	10.2	1,006,000	10.2	<a href="#">↗</a>
Variscan Mines	ASX	San Jose	Resource	480,254	9.2	641,881	8.7	2,256,445	7.0	3,378,580	7.6	<a href="#">↗</a>
Altamin	ASX	Gorno	SS	-	-	5,660,000	6.6	2,130,000	7.2	7,790,000	6.8	<a href="#">↗</a>
Develop Global Ltd	ASX	Sulphur Springs	DFS	-	-	12,398,000	5.6	1,401,000	6.4	13,799,000	5.7	<a href="#">↗</a>
Tartana Minerals Limited	ASX	Queen Grade	Resource	-	-	-	-	734,000	5.3	734,000	5.3	<a href="#">↗</a>
Terramin	ASX	Tala Hamza	DFS	-	-	44,200,000	5.5	8,900,000	4.0	53,100,000	5.3	<a href="#">↗</a>
Develop Global Ltd	ASX	Woodlawn	MP	1,293,000	5.2	68,330,000	4.7	3,135,000	8.5	72,758,000	4.9	<a href="#">↗</a>
Coolabah Metals	ASX	Pinnacles	CAM	168,000	4.2	847,000	4.7	4,956,000	4.7	5,971,000	4.7	<a href="#">↗</a>
American West Metals	ASX	West Desert	Resource	-	-	27,349,163	3.8	6,318,875	4.0	33,668,038	3.8	<a href="#">↗</a>
Critical Resources Limited	ASX	Hall's Peak	Resource	-	-	-	-	840,000	3.7	840,000	3.7	<a href="#">↗</a>
Alicanto Minerals	ASX	Sala	Resource	-	-	-	-	9,700,000	3.2	9,700,000	3.2	<a href="#">↗</a>
Rumble Resources	ASX	Earaheedy	Resource	-	-	-	-	94,000,000	2.4	94,000,000	2.4	<a href="#">↗</a>

## Abbreviations

- MRS – Mining Restart Study
- Resource – MRE published
- SS – Scoping Study
- DFS – Definitive Feasibility Study
- MP – Mine Plan published
- CAM – Care and Maintenance



# Appendix 2 – Data sources Enterprise Value Per Attributable tonne Contained Zinc: VAR vs ASX Listed Peers



Company	Market	Market Cap (AUD)	Net Cash/ (Debt) (AUD)	EV (AUD)	Project Ownership	Deposit	Exploration Stage	Tonnes (t)	Grade	Contained Metal	EV per attributable tonne Zn (AUD/t)	Source
									Zn (%)	Zn (t)		
Develop Global Ltd	ASX	1,609.0	-61.2	1,670.2	100%	Sulphur Springs	DFS	13,799,000	5.7	783,952	385.8	<a href="#">↗</a>
					100%	Woodlawn	MP	72,758,000	4.9	3,545,221		<a href="#">↗</a>
Tartana Minerals Limited	ASX	6.6	-2.1	8.8	100%	Queen Grade	Resource	734,000	5.3	38,900	225.7	<a href="#">↗</a>
Critical Resources Limited	ASX	8.3	2.1	6.2	100%	Halls Peak	Resource	840,000	3.7	31,080	199.8	<a href="#">↗</a>
Polymetals	ASX	191.8	21.3	170.5	100%	Endeavor	MRS	16,300,000	8.0	1,299,100	131.2	<a href="#">↗</a>
Terramin	ASX	114.3	-38.8	153.1	49%	Tala Hamza	DFS	53,100,000	5.3	2,790,000	112.0	<a href="#">↗</a>
Alicanto Minerals	ASX	23.7	3.3	20.5	100%	Sala	Resource	9,700,000	3.2	311,300	65.8	<a href="#">↗</a>
American West Metals	ASX	32.5	5.1	27.4	100%	West Desert	Resource	33,668,038	3.8	1,290,904	20.0	<a href="#">↗</a>
					80%	Seal	Resource	1,006,000	10.2	103,000		<a href="#">↗</a>
Variscan Mines	ASX	5.5	0.6	4.9	100%	San Jose	Resource	3,378,580	7.6	257,141	18.9	<a href="#">↗</a>
Altamin	ASX	10.9	1.7	9.2	100%	Gorno	SS	7,790,000	6.8	528,000	17.4	<a href="#">↗</a>
Rumble Resources	ASX	22.8	4.1	18.7	75%	Earaheedy	Resource	94,000,000	2.4	2,256,000	11.0	<a href="#">↗</a>



# Appendix 3 – Why Zinc



## Essential for a Low-Carbon Economy

Zinc plays a crucial role in green energy technologies like solar panels and wind turbines, as well as in battery technology for electric vehicles.

## Corrosion Protection

Zinc is used in the galvanising process to protect steel from rust, a vital process for infrastructure, transportation, and many other industries.

## Versatile Applications

Zinc is used in various applications, including alloys (like brass and bronze), die-casting, sunscreens, and even in human health supplements.

## Increasing Demand

Demand for zinc is expected to rise significantly as the world transitions to a low-carbon economy and as more countries embrace renewable energy.

## Supply Concerns

There are concerns about potential future mine supply and potential supply chain disruption.


## Future-Facing Applications Driving Demand

- **Galvanized Steel for Construction:** Zinc is crucial for galvanizing steel, used in construction and infrastructure, accounting for ~60% of global demand (Reuters, 2024-10-10).
- **Renewable Energy Growth:** Increasing use in solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicle batteries due to the global shift to sustainable energy (Market Research Future, 2023).
- **Emerging Tech:** Zinc-ion batteries are projected to grow from 1% market share in 2021 to 20% by 2030, supporting energy storage solutions (The Assay, 2022-08-20).


## Supply Challenges: Diminishing Stockpiles & Smelter Closures


- **Tightening Stockpiles:** LME zinc stocks dropped to 154,125 MT by late 2024, the lowest since November 2023, after significant withdrawals (Investing News Network, 2025-01-14).
- **Smelter Closures:** High energy costs and raw material shortages have led to closures, e.g., Glencore's Portovesme smelter in Italy (2021) and Nyrstar's Auby smelter in France (2021-2022) (The Assay, 2022-08-20).
- **Production Cuts:** Chinese smelters, representing 70% of national capacity, reduced output in 2024 due to a 1 million MT shortfall in zinc concentrates (Fastmarkets, 2024-08-22).
- **Mine Supply Decline:** Global mine production fell 3.4% in H1 2024, exacerbating raw material shortages (Reuters, 2024-09-02).

  
Zinc designated as a strategic metal by US government

  
Zinc designated as a strategic metal by Canadian government

  
Zinc designated on Strategic Materials List by Australian government

  
Zinc designated as a Critical Metal by International Energy Association

  
Zinc designated as a Critical Mineral by UK Government



# Appendix 4 – Why Spain

## Strategic Location

- **Gateway to Europe, Africa, and Latin America:** Spain's geographic position offers unparalleled access to key markets, with proximity to the Mediterranean and Atlantic trade routes.
- **Time Zone Advantage:** Spain's time zone (CET) aligns closely with major European economies, facilitating seamless business operations.

## Economic Strength

- **4th Largest Economy in the EU:** Spain boasts a robust GDP, with diverse industries including tourism, automotive, renewable energy, and agriculture.
- **Innovation Hub:** Growing tech ecosystem, with cities like Barcelona and Madrid hosting global startups and R&D centers.

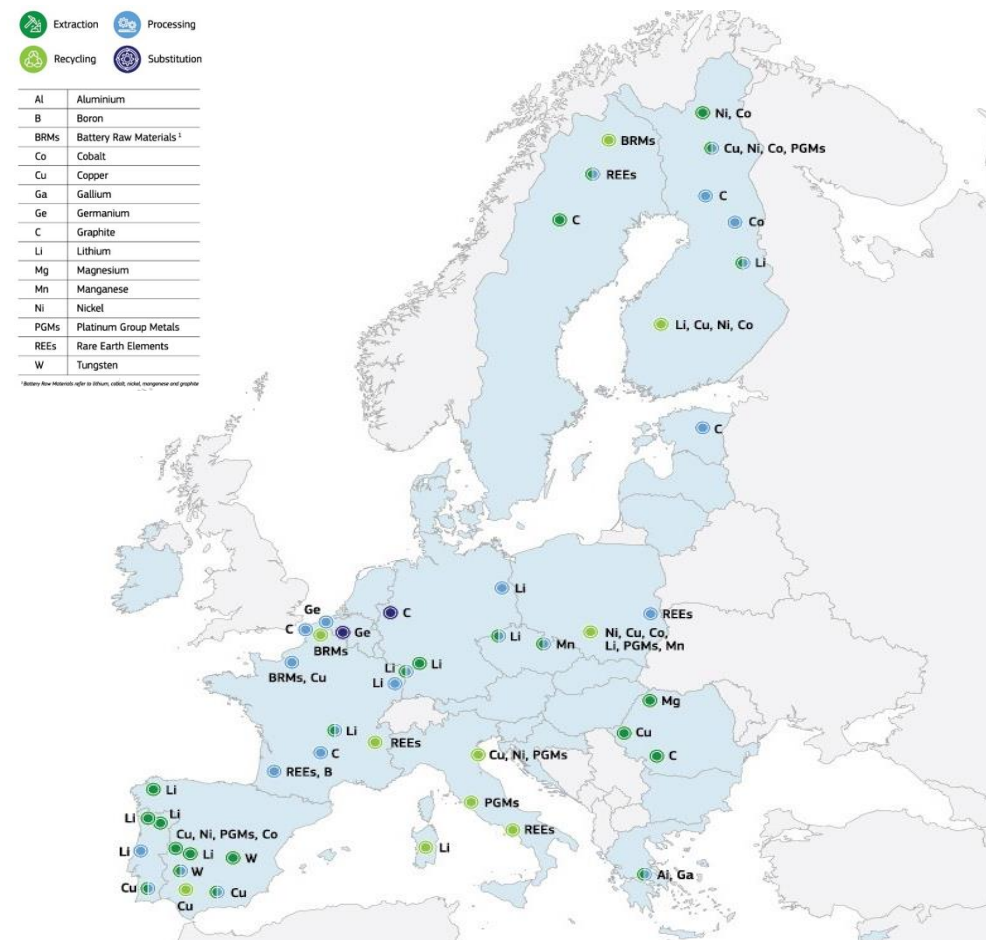
## Business-Friendly Environment

- **Skilled Workforce:** Highly educated population with a strong emphasis on engineering, tech, and hospitality sectors.
- **Attractive Incentives:** Government offers tax breaks and grants for foreign investors, particularly in renewable energy and tech.

## World-Class Infrastructure

- **Transportation Networks:** Extensive high-speed rail (AVE), major ports (e.g., Valencia, Barcelona), and international airports connect Spain globally.
- **Renewable Energy Leader:** Spain is a pioneer in solar and wind energy, offering sustainable, cost-effective energy

## Spain hosts most Strategic Projects under Critical Raw Materials Act of any single EU country







# SPAIN'S NEXT HIGH-GRADE ZINC MINE

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