

L-Max[®] Delivers High Recoveries and Battery Grade Lithium Carbonate

- High specification battery grade lithium carbonate grading 99.88% produced from a second pre-feasibility study test using Lepidico's L-Max[®] technology
- L-Max[®] achieves over 98% lithium extraction from flotation concentrate, with estimated lithium recovery to final lithium carbonate product of 93%
- Further test work will be undertaken over the next four weeks

Lepidico Ltd (ASX:LPD) ("Lepidico" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that it has produced the highest specification battery grade lithium carbonate product yet, grading 99.88%, using its L-Max[®] technology. This result was from part of the ongoing Pre-Feasibility Study (PFS) test work programme. Samples from two separate lepidolite deposits have now been tested for the Phase 1 commercial L-Max[®] plant PFS and a sample from one further deposit is in the process of being tested with results pending.

Hydrometallurgical batch tests have been completed on the second PFS sample, sourced from a known pegmatite for which there is an existing Mineral Resource estimate. The mineralisation sample contained approximately 30% lithium mica and graded 2.2% Li₂O. From this a flotation concentrate was produced grading 4.6% Li₂O. Lithium recovery to concentrate was 96%.

The sample was then subjected to leaching under standard L-Max[®] conditions, with extractions for lithium, caesium and rubidium of approximately 98% for each element.

The leach liquor from the test was subjected to the usual L-Max[®] downstream process flowsheet in a series of batch tests. Lithium losses in the post leach L-Max[®] process were estimated at 5%, with total recovery from concentrate being 93%.

Battery grade lithium carbonate grading 99.88% was produced from these tests.

Caesium, rubidium and tantalum in residue represent an excellent opportunity to extract further valuable by-products, as has been undertaken on previous samples tested.

A 38% sodium silicate solution was produced with a SiO₂/Na₂O ratio of 1.60. This is consistent with the grade of high density, saleable sodium silicate solution and thereby represents a further valuable potential by-product of L-Max[®].

Lepidico's Managing Director, Joe Walsh said, "L-Max[®] continues to deliver excellent results from the ongoing test work program, both in terms of recoveries and product specification.

Definitive Feasibility Study continuous mini-plant trials have now been brought forward and will commence next week, a reflection of the confidence provided by recent test work results.

"Commercial negotiations to potentially secure offtake sourced from deposits that are the subject of the PFS test work are ongoing.

“The Phase 1 commercial plant PFS remains on schedule for completion this quarter and DFS work remains on a fast track, to be concluded around 2017-year end.”

Further Information

For further information, please contact

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About Lepidico Ltd

Lepidico Ltd is an ASX-listed Company focused on exploration, development and production of lithium. Its current exploration assets include options over the Lemare and the Royal projects, both in Quebec, Canada; ownership of the Euriowie project near Broken Hill in New South Wales; joint venture agreements with ASX-listed Crusader Resources (ASX:CAS) in Brazil and Latin Resources (ASX:LRS) in Peru and Argentina to jointly evaluate lithium opportunities. Lepidico also owns the technology to a metallurgical process that has successfully produced lithium carbonate from non-conventional sources, specifically lithium-rich mica minerals including lepidolite and zinnwaldite. The L-Max® Process has the potential to disrupt the lithium market by providing additional lithium supply from alternative sources. On 27 September 2016 the Company announced the commencement of a pre-feasibility study for a Phase 1 L-Max® plant targeting production for 2019.