ASX Announcement



ASX Code: ABR

ACN: 615 606 114

3 October 2017

ABR Initial Drilling Success Confirms the Presence of Boron and Lithium

- Initial two of 14 planned drill holes into the historic colemenite resource substantially completed
- Elevated levels of both boron and lithium detected over a 60m interval with the assistance of the handheld Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) device
- Following stronger than anticipated lithium levels being recorded by the LIBS, metallurgical testwork
 will be fast tracked that is designed to determine the optimum method to extract both lithium and boric acid
- Three drill rigs currently operating on site with a fourth expected on site in early October
- First assay results anticipated in October

American Pacific Borate and Lithium, (**ASX: ABR**) ("APBL", or "the Company) is pleased to provide an update on the recently commenced drilling program on its 100%-owned Fort Cady Borate and Lithium Project ("the Project') in Southern California, USA.

Multiple zones of elevated boron and lithium have been intersected in the first two substantially completed drill holes over a broad 60m interval in the previously delineated colemenite horizon. The presence of both elements in drill holes 17FTCBL008 and 17FTCBL009 have been confirmed with a handheld Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) device

With stronger than anticipated lithium levels being recorded by the LIBS, the Company is fast tracking metallurgical testwork designed to determine the optimum method to extract both lithium and boric acid from the colemanite horizon. The testworks are expected to be completed once the core is assayed with results available during the current Quarter. Preliminary results will assist the Company with planning of a considerably larger test work program focused on optimising the process design leading into pilot-scale test works in Q1 CY18.

The initial two drill holes are part of a broader 14 drill hole program focused on confirming the historic colemanite resource (refer Figure 2). Additional drill holes are being completed to test prospective geological structures in the basin centre for lithium rich brines. All drill holes in the current program are expected to be completed in the current Quarter with assaying conducted progressively.

American Pacific Borate and Lithium Managing Director & CEO Michael Schlumpberger said:

"We are excited with visual identification of mineralisation and the LIBS results from the first two drill holes. We appear to have encountered higher levels of lithium than initially anticipated, which has given us the confidence to fast track metallurgical testwork to establish the optimal method to extract both lithium and boric acid from the project."

COMPANY DIRECTORS

Harold (Roy) Shipes - Non Executive Chairman

Michael X. Schlumpberger - Managing Director & CEO

Anthony Hall - Executive Director

Stephen Hunt -Non Executive Director

John McKinney - Non Executive Director



ISSUED CAPTIAL

169.6 million shares 14.0 million options

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Figure 1: Photo of core from Drill Hole 17FTCBL009 highlighting interbedded colemanite mineralisation.

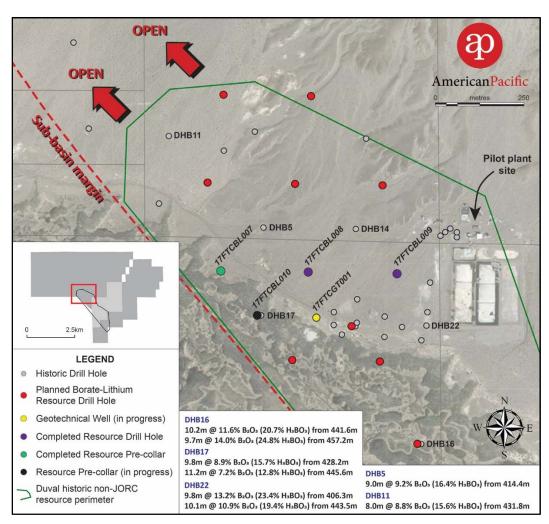


Figure 2: Map showing location of completed drill holes 17FTCBL008 and 17FTCBL009.





Figure 3 Three drill rigs operating at the Fort Cady project with the pilot plant in the background

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Competent Persons Statement

The information in this release that relates to Exploration Results is based on information prepared by Mr Louis Fourie, P.Geo of Terra Modelling Services. Mr Fourie is a licensed Professional Geoscientist registered with APEGS (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan) in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada and a Professional Natural Scientist (Geological Science) with SACNASP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions). APEGS and SACNASP are a Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Code 'Recognized Professional Organization' (RPO). An RPO is an accredited organization to which the Competent Person (CP) under JORC Code Reporting Standards must belong in order to report Exploration Results, Mineral Resources, or Ore Reserves through the ASX. Mr Fourie has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as a CP as defined in the 2012 Edition of the JORC Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves. Mr Fourie consents to the inclusion in the release of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.



About American Pacific Borate and Lithium Limited

American Pacific Borate and Lithium Limited is focused on advancing its 100%-owned Fort Cady Boron and Lithium Project located in Southern California, USA (*Figure 3*). Fort Cady is a highly rare and large colemanite deposit with substantial lithium potential and is the largest known contained borate occurrence in the world not owned by the two major borate producers Rio Tinto and Eti Maden.

The Project has a historical non-JORC mineral estimate of 115Mt at 7.4% B₂O₃ or 13.2% H₃BO₃ (boric acid) equivalent (5% B₂O₃ cut off) including 69Mt at 9% B₂O₃ and 16% H₃BO₃ (7% B₂O₃ cut off). Including this resource drilling, metallurgical test works, well injection tests, permitting activities and substantial pilot-scale test works have been completed.

The Fort Cady Project can quickly be advanced to construction ready status due to the large amount of historical drilling, downhole geophysics, metallurgical test work, pilot plant operations and feasibility studies completed from the 1980's to early 2000's. 33 resource drill holes and 17 injection and production wells were previously completed and used for historical mineral estimates, mining method studies and optimising the process design. Financial metrics were also estimated which provided the former operators encouragement to commence commercial-scale permitting for the Project. The Fort Cady project was fully permitted for construction and operation in 1994. The two key land use permits and Environmental Impact Study remain active and in good standing.

Although pilot plant activities can commence immediately one of the Company's primary goals is to accelerate the development pathway for the Fort Cady Project with the target of being construction ready in CY18. In the interim a simple and low-cost flow-sheet is proposed with a focus on producing boric acid on-site.

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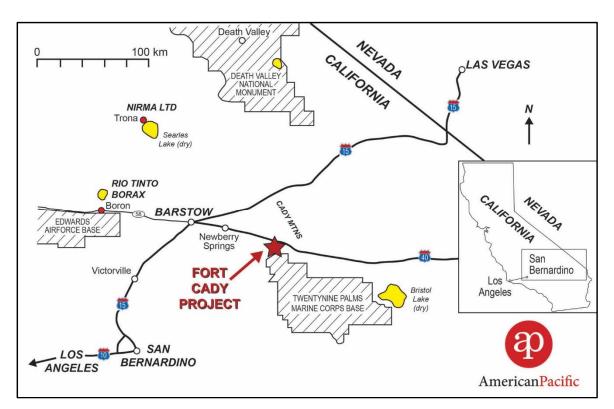


Figure 4: Location of the Fort Cady Borate and Lithium Project, California USA.

The JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data

(Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	 Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling. Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used. Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report. In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information. 	 No historic procedures or flow sheets were sighted that explain the historic drilling and sampling processes completed at the Fort Cady project. Discussions held with Pamela A.K. Wilkinson who was an exploration geologist for Duval at the time of drilling and sampling highlight that drilling through the target zone was completed via HQ diamond drilling techniques and drill core recovery was typically very good (Wilkinson, 2017). Sampling through the logged evaporate sequence was completed based on logged geology and geophysics. Sample intervals vary from 0.1 ft to 15 ft and sample weights varied accordingly. Drilling through the overburden material was completed using a rotary air blast (RAB) drilling technique with samples taken from cuttings every 10 ft.
Drilling techniques	 Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face- sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc). 	 Drilling through the overburden sequence was completed using rotary air blast (RAB) drilling technique. Drilling through the evaporate sequence / target zone was completed using HQ diamond core.
Drill sample recovery	 Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed. Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples. Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material. 	 Drill core recovery has been reported by Duval geologists to be excellent (95%-100%). Drill core recovery was not routinely recorded. Geologists highlighted areas of poor recovery during geological logging by making comment within the geological log at the appropriate drill hole intervals. A review of the limited amount of drill core that is stored at site indicates drill core recovery was good. Refer to Appendix E for pictures of drill core.
Logging	 Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies. Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography. The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged. 	 Geological logging was completed on every drillhole. Geological logs for all drill holes have been observed and are held by APBL. Downhole geophysical logs (Gamma Ray Nuetron logs) were completed on each of the Duval exploration drill holes. Calibration procedures are unknown. Downhole density logs were completed on select drill holes (DHB1, DHB3, DHB7, DHB8)
Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation	 If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken. If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry. For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique. 	 Drill core was transported from site to the Duval office in Tucson, Arizona. Following a review of logging and geophysical data, prospective zones were identified and drill core was marked for sampling. Drill core was halved and then one half was halved again.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	 Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples. Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling. Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled. 	 The procedure used for obtaining a ¼ core sample is currently unknown. A review of limited drill core present on site (DBH16) highlights that the core was cut using a diamond saw. No evidence to date has been observed that duplicate samples were taken. The entire ¼ core sample was crushed and split to obtain a sample for analysis. The crushing process, splitting process, size of crushed particles and amount of sample supplied to laboratory for analysis are unknown.
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	 The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total. For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc. Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (ie lack of bias) and precision have been established. 	 Historic analytical procedures and associated quality control and quality assurance completed by Duval are unknown. Discussions held with Pamela A.K. Wilkinson, who was an exploration geologist for Duval at the time of drilling and sampling, indicate that Duval had internal quality control and quality assurance procedures in place to ensure that assay results were accurate. In excess of 3,000 samples were analysed by Duval at either their Tucson, West Texas (Culberson Mine) or New Mexico (Duval Potash mine) laboratories. Elements analysed for were Al, As, Ba, B₂O₃, CO₃, Ca, Fe, K, Li, Pb, Mo, Mg, Na, Rb, S, Si, Sr, Ti, Zn, Zr. Mineralogy was identified from XRF analysis. XRF results were reportedly checked against logging and assay data (Wilkinson, 2017).
Verification of sampling and assaying	 The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel. The use of twinned holes. Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols. Discuss any adjustment to assay data. 	 Verification of significant intersections by independent or alternative company personnel has not been completed. The majority of drill core has been discarded and verification of results from the remaining drill core is not possible. Data entry, data verification and data storage processes are unknown. Hard copy assay reports, geological logs and geophysical logs have been sourced and are stored with APBL.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Location of data points	 Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation. Specification of the grid system used. Quality and adequacy of topographic control. 	 No procedural documentation sighted regarding historic surveying procedure of drillhole collars. Surveying procedure used and associated accuracy is unknown. Checks by PT GMT Indonesia in 2015 on collar coordinates highlighted differences in excess of 50 ft in easting and northing locations were present for drill holes DBH7, DBH18, DBH20, DBH25, DBH26, DBH31, DBH33 and DBH34. A total of 21 drill holes do not have surveyed collar elevations (DHB18, DHB19, DHB20, DHB21, DHB22, DHB23, DHB24, DHB25, DHB26, DHB27, DHB28, DHB29, DHB30,DHB31, DHB32, DHB33, DHB34, P2, P3, P4 and P5). These drill holes have been currently assigned an elevation from Google Earth. No downhole surveys are present for Duval exploration drill holes (DHB series of drill holes). Downhole surveys for some production / injection drill holes were completed (SMT1, SMT2, SMT6, P5, P6 and P7). A review of this data highlights that significant deviation of the drill holes has not occurred and the end of drill hole position compares favourably (within 10 m) with the drill hole collar location. The exception is drillhole P5 where the end of this planned vertical drill hole is situated approximately 40 m laterally from the drill hole collar position.
Data spacing and distribution	 Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results. Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied. Whether sample compositing has been applied. 	 Drilling is completed on a 800 ft grid spacing. Drill holes were drilled vertically. Drilling on an 800 ft spacing is appropriate to define the approximate extents and thickness of the evaporite sequence. Infill drilling will be required to accurately define the true extents, thickness and grade of mineralisation within the deposit. Mineralised sections of drill core have a similar thickness in adjacent drill holes and significant variability in thickness is not expected on a local scale.
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	 Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type. If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material. 	 Exploration drilling was completed on a 800 ft grid spacing. Drill holes were drilled vertically and intersect the relative flat lying deposit close to perpendicular to the dip of the deposit. The southwest margin of the deposit is quite sharp and is considered fault controlled.
Sample security	The measures taken to ensure sample security.	Sample security measures during transport and sample preparation are unknown.
Audits or reviews	The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.	No details sighted on any previous sampling reviews or audits.

Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary	
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	 Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings. The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area. 	The APBL project area consists of approximately patented lands owned by Fort Cady (California) property with surface rights held by Fort Cady (Crights held by the State of California; 2,380 acres by Fort Cady (California) Corporation; and 1,520 leased by Fort Cady (California) Corporation from and operator of the Hector Mine, an adjoining in addition, 100 acres of unpatented mill claims and designated for water wells. APBL intend to increasing the modern california Edison. The below table lists the land titles which cover surrounding exploration regions:	Corporation; 269 acres of patented California) Corporation and mineral s of unpatented mining claims held acres of unpatented mining claims in Elementis Specialties Inc., owner industrial mineral facility. In the held by the Company which is ase its land tenure by 464 acres via
		Land Title Type	Land Titles
		Parcels 0529-251-01; 0529-251-03	
		Private (Patented) Property with surface rights in Fee Simple Title owned by FCCC; Mineral rights owned by State of California	Parcel 0529-251-04
		Unpatented Placer Mining Claims held under Lease to FCCC (from Elementis)	Company 1 Group; Company 4; Litigation 1 Group; Litigation 2; Litigation 3; Litigation 4 Group; Litigation 5 Group; Litigation 6; Litigation 11; Geyser View 1
		Unpatented Lode Mining Claims held under Lease to FCCC (from Elementis)	HEC 124 - 127; HEC 129; HEC 131; HEC 343; HEC 344; HEC 365; HEC 369; HEC 371; HEC 372; HEC 374 - 376
		Unpatented Placer Mining Claims Recorded and Located by FCCC	HEC #19; HEC #21; HEC# 23; HEC#25; HEC #34 - #41; HEC #43 - #67; HEC #70 - #82; HEC #85 - #93; HEC #182; HEC #184; HEC #288; HEC #290; HEC #292; HEC #294; HEC #296 - #297; HEC #299 - #350

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Exploration done by other parties	Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.	 Commencement of exploration activities in the Hector Basin occurred in the early 1960's, when exploration companies realised that the Hector Basin had a similar geological setting to the Kramer Basin to the northwest that hosted the massive Boron deposit. Discovery of the Fort Cady borate deposit occurred in 1964 when Congdon and Carey Minerals Exploration Company found several zones of colemanite, at depths of 400 m to 500 m below surface. During the late 1970's the Duval Corporation became interested in the project and started land acquisition in 1978 with drilling commencing in February 1979. The first drillhole (DBH1) intersected a 27 m thick sequence of colemanite-rich material at 369 m grading better than 7% B₂O₃. Exploration drilling, sampling, and assaying continued for a further two years through to February 1981 with a total of 33 exploration drill holes (DBH series of holes) totalling in excess of 18,200 m being drilled. Approximately 5,800 m of diamond drill core was obtained. Geological and geophysical logging of each hole was completed. Following a review of logging and geophysical data, prospective zones were ½ core sampled for chemical analysis. In excess of 3,000 samples were analysed at Duval's laboratories in either Tucson, West Texas (Culberson Mine) or in New Mexico (Duval Potash mine). Elements analysed for were Al, As, Ba, B₂O₃, CO₃, Ca, Fe, K, Li, Pb, Mo, Mg, Na, Rb, S, Si, Sr, Ti, Zn, Zr. In February 1981, the first solution mine test hole was drilled and by late 1981 a small scale pilot plant was operational to test in-situ solution mining of the colemanite deposit. Significant processing test work was then completed by Duval with the aim of optimising the in-situ solution mining process and process design. In 1995 the Fort Cady Minerals Corp received all final approvals and permits to operate a 90,000 stpy pilot borate production facility. The pilot plant began operations in 1996, it remained on site, was modified and used for limited commercial pr

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Geology	Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.	 The project area comprises the west central portion of a Pliocene age dry lake basin (Hector Basin) which has been partially dissected by wrench and block faulting related to the San Andreas system. The Hector Basin is believed to have once been part of a much larger evaporite basin or perhaps a chain of basins in what has been termed the Barstow – Bristol Trough. The main borate deposit area lies between 350 m to 450 m below the current surface. The deposit comprises a sequence of mudstone and tuff. The borate mineralisation occurs primarily as colemanite (2CaO 3B₂O₃ 5H₂O) in thinly laminated silt, clay and gypsum beds. In plain view, the concentration of boron-rich evaporites is roughly ellipsoidal with the long axis trending N40-50W. A zone of >5% B₂O₃ mineralisation, ranging in thickness from 20 m to 68 m (70 ft to 225 ft), is approximately 600 m wide and 2,500 m long (Figure 4.3). The boron is believed to have been sourced from thermal waters that flowed from hot springs in the region during times of active volcanism. These hot springs vented into the Hector Basin that contained a large desert lake. Borates were precipitated as the thermal waters entered the lake and cooled or as the lake waters evaporated and became saturated with boron.
Drill hole Information	 A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes: easting and northing of the drill hole collar elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar dip and azimuth of the hole down hole length and interception depth hole length. If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case. 	 Refer to Appendix B in Independent Geologist's Report of the May 2017 Prospectus for drill hole listing. Refer to Appendix D for drill hole location map in Independent Geologist's Report of the May 2017 Prospectus. A total of 21 drill holes do not have surveyed collar elevations (DHB18, DHB19, DHB20, DHB21, DHB22, DHB23, DHB24, DHB25, DHB26, DHB27, DHB28, DHB29, DHB30, DHB31, DHB32, DHB33, DHB34, P2, P3, P4 and P5). These drill holes have been currently assigned an elevation from Google Earth. The error in assigned elevations is estimated to be no greater than 15 m vertically. Survey pickup of all drill hole collars is planned.
Data aggregation methods	 In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated. Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail. The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated. 	 Drill hole data was composited to 10 ft lengths for statistical analysis and used in the PT GMT Indonesia 2015 resource estimate. No density weighting was applied in the compositing process. No cutting of high grade values was completed. Statistical analysis of the dataset highlights the distribution is positively skewed.
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	 These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results. If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported. If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known'). 	 Exploration drilling was completed on a 800 ft grid spacing. Drill holes were drilled vertically and intersect the relative flat lying deposit close to perpendicular to the dip of the deposit. The southwest margin of the deposit is quite sharp and is considered fault controlled.

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Diagrams	 Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views. 	 Refer to Figure 1 for drill hole collar location map. Refer also to Figures 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 within Independent Geologists Report in APBL's May 2017 prospectus.
Balanced reporting	 Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results. 	 Refer to Appendix C within the Independent Geologists Report in APBL's May 2017 prospectus for listing of significant intercepts. Refer to Table 4.1, Figure 4.6 and Figure 4.7 within the Independent Geologists Report in APBL's May 2017 prospectus for examples of drill holes that show grade variability throughout the mineralised evaporite sequence.
Other substantive exploration data	 Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples – size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances. 	 A number of historic studies have been completed by a variety of companies on the Fort Cady project. Duval corporation completed the 33 exploration drill holes and associated metallurgical and solution mining test work. Refer to bibliography for listing of references.
Further work	 The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling). Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive. 	APBL has prepared a two year exploration programme to assess the prospects over its exploration areas, Fort Cady and Hector.