

# RESOURCES VULCAN ENERGY Zero Carbon Lithium™

**Corporate Presentation Oct-Nov 2019** 

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#### Competent Person Statement

The information in this report that relates to the Exploration Targets are based on, and fairly reflects, information compiled by Mr. Roy Eccles P. Geol. and Mr. Steven Nicholls MAIG, who are both full time employees of APEX Geoscience Ltd. and deemed to be both a 'Competent Person'. Both Mr. Eccles and Mr. Nicholls have sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralization and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the Australian Code for the Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources, and Ore Reserves (JORC Code). Mr. Eccles has reported to the scientific community, and as a geological consultant on exploration and resource related lithium-brine work, since 2010, specializing in confined, subsurface lithium-brine deposits in the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin, and the southern United States. Mr. Eccles and Mr. Nicholls consent to the disclosure of information in this report in the form and context in which it appears. The Exploration Target's potential quantity and grade is conceptual in nature, there has been insufficient exploration to estimate a Mineral Resource, and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of a Mineral Resource.

Summary



#### **Unique** <u>Zero-Carbon Lithium™</u> Production

World-first unique process to satisfy OEMs' stated desire for zero carbon Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) raw materials supply chain

#### Potentially the Largest Lithium Project in EU & one of the Largest in the World

Recent JORC Exploration Target<sup>1</sup> 10.73 – 36.20 Million Tonnes Contained Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE)

### **Secure Domestic Lithium Supply for EU**

Auto industry and governments determined to reduce key threat of security of supply and reliance on China

### **Only Lithium Brine Project in EU**

Ultra-low impact, recent precedent for permitting wells in region with widespread social acceptance

### **Rapid Advancement Under Way**

Scoping Study nearing completion with Hatch as project engineering lead

<sup>1</sup>Refer KRX Announcement 20/08/2019. The Company is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the announcement. All material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Exploration Target in the relevant announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. Vulcan Board & Management



- Previously Executive Director of successful ASX-listed Exore Resources Ltd (ASX:ERX). Management experience in resources sector on four continents; bilingual; EU & Australian dual nationality
- Discovered & defined 2 new JORC lithium resources, on two continents, in under a year, including Lynas Find, now part of Pilbara Minerals' Pilgangoora Project in production (ASX:PLS). PhD & BSc (Hons) in mineral exploration, completing MBA in renewables

#### Gavin Rezos, Chair

- Executive Chair/CEO positions of two companies that grew from start-ups to the ASX 300. Extensive international investment banking experience; investment banking Director of HSBC with senior multi-regional roles in investment banking, legal and compliance functions
- Currently Chair of Resource and Energy Group and principal of Viaticus Capital. Previously Non-Executive Director of Iluka Resources, Alexium International Group and Rowing Australia

#### **Dr Horst Kreuter, In-Country Principal**

- CEO of Geothermal Group Germany GmbH and GeoThermal Engineering GmbH (GeoT)
- Successful geothermal project development & permitting in Germany and worldwide. Widespread political, investor and industry network in Germany and Europe. Based in Karlsruhe, local to the project area in the Upper Rhine Valley

#### Patrick Burke, Non-Executive Director

- Extensive legal and corporate advisory experience and over the last 10 years has acted as a director for a large number of ASX, NASDAQ and AIM listed companies.
- Legal expertise in corporate, commercial and securities law in particular capital raisings and mergers and acquisitions

#### **Bill Oliver, Non-Executive Director**

- Geologist with extensive executive experience in the resources sector
- Currently Managing Director of Vanadium Resources, non-executive director of Minbos Resources and Celsius Resources













#### Alex Grant, Jade Cove Partners – Lithium Technology Advisor

- Co-founded Lilac Solutions, one of the world's leading direct lithium extraction technology companies
- Independent advisor for multiple lithium projects around the world that seek to implement advanced technologies for production of battery quality lithium chemical products from unconventional resources

#### **GeoThermal Engineering GmbH – Geothermal**

- Independent planning and consultancy company for geothermal energy projects worldwide
- Local to Vulcan's project area, located in Karlsruhe

#### **APEX Geoscience Ltd. – Mineral Resource Modelling**

- Over 20 years of diverse geological consulting experience, including modelling of lithium-rich geothermal brines
- 3D geological modelling, resource estimation and National Instrument 43-101, JORC and SAMREC compliant Technical Reporting

#### Hatch Ltd. – Consultant, Scoping Study Geothermal & Lithium Process Engineering

- Global industry leading lithium and geothermal power expertise from over 9,000 staff in 70+ offices
- Unique experience with integrated lithium & geothermal projects



# GeoThermal

APEX Geoscience Ltd.

# ΗΔΤϹΗ



## **Capital Structure**





\*Vendor Performance Milestone payments to be made on: Class A: completion of Scoping Study (4.4M Shares) within 12 months Class B: completion of Pre-Feasibility Study (4.4M Shares) within 24 months

Class C: securing an offtake or downstream JV partner (4.4M Shares) within 36 months

\*\* 3,750,000 Performance Rights to Viaticus Capital comprising Class D, E and F rights (1.25m each), which vest on the same conditions as above. 2,600,000 Performance Rights comprising 800,000 Class A, 800,000 Class B and 1,000,000 Class C which vest at KRX share price of \$0.40, \$0.75 and \$1.10 respectively.

Refer ASX Announcement 10 July 2019 for further details

## Why Vulcan? Zero Carbon Supply Chains Required



- BEV raw material supply chains have a carbon footprint problem
- OEMs actively trying to reduce the carbon footprint of their battery supply chains to bolster the credibility of their BEV offerings and obtain premium pricing for lowest carbon footprint in production.
- Volkswagen placing great importance on having a CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral production supply chain for its new EV line-up, with sustainability metric for suppliers on par with price<sup>1</sup>
- European Commission have flagged that "CO<sub>2</sub> Passports" will be issued to BEVs detailing full CO<sub>2</sub> footprint
- High cost to offset CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of current lithium supply chain



Impossible to CO<sub>2</sub> neutral BEVs through conventional lithium production. Risk to the BEV revolution.

## Why Vulcan? Lithium Supply Chain Problematic



- Hard-rock Li: processing bottleneck through China
- South American brine operations thousands of kilometers away from Europe - high CO<sub>2</sub> intensity shipping product & processing reagents
- South American evaporation process high CAPEX, up to 18 months to produce product, vulnerable to weather events, challenging to provide reliability of product



- EU pushing for integrated local lithium-ion battery supply chain. Unprecedented push from battery/cathode makers and OEMs to ramp up lithium-ion production
- 150kt LCE demand in EU for battery production, by 2023, 290kt by 2028<sup>1</sup>

Supply Deficit Looming. High CO<sub>2</sub> Products. The market is ripe for disruption.









## Solution: **Zero-Carbon Lithium™**: Vulcan Project, Germany



- Very large, Li-rich geothermal brine field in Upper Rhine Valley of Germany, in the heart of the EU's battery "giga-factories"
- Production wells to be drilled into high flow rate, lithium-rich brine reservoir units, including Buntsandstein (2,500m depth)
- Unique Vulcan flowsheet, combines:
  - geothermal energy production, with;
  - world-class, de-risked Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE) process to produce LiOH from the brine
  - Zero carbon electricity generated and used to produce premium, Zero Carbon Lithium<sup>™</sup> with no gas input
- Spent brine re-injected into reservoir no evaporation losses



## Zero-Carbon Lithium™: Unique Flowsheet



- DLE from geothermal brines thoroughly de-risked
- Processing time hours instead of months, not dependent on weather
- Ready for deployment to produce consistent, battery quality LiOH•H2O products
- Unique flowsheet developed by Vulcan, making use of binary cycle geothermal electricity & heat to create Zero Carbon Lithium<sup>™</sup> product
- Electricity grid credit from excess energy produced: highly attractive Feed-in-Tariff (FiT) of €0.25/kWh



## Zero-Carbon Lithium<sup>™</sup>: Premium, Peerless & Disruptive



- Current European lithium supply options have very high carbon intensity during production<sup>1</sup>
- Significant carbon footprint also through global transport from far-away operations
- CO<sub>2</sub> from current production of European BEV offerings will negate positive environmental impacts of electrification
- Current technologies in use are outdated and not fit for purpose in 21<sup>st</sup> Century economies targeting low or zero carbon
- Vulcan's unique flowsheet seeks to solve this problem for the EU automotive industry
- No need to purchase carbon offsets
- Vulcan's Zero Carbon Lithium<sup>™</sup> will be premium, peerless & disruptive branded product in the European market.

### Solving Lithium's Carbon Problem

Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per Tonne of Lithium Hydroxide Produced



Production & Refining

Transport



### Vulcan Project, Germany: Location, Location, Location

- Very well-understood brine field; large amounts of existing seismic & drilling data to shortcut development
- Dominant license landholding in lithium-rich brine field
- Geothermal brine production socially & environmentally accepted in region – vineyards next to existing operations
- Very short distance to EU markets; only project in the world that can claim Zero Carbon Lithium<sup>™</sup> production & transport
- Strategic, secure domestic supply for EU OEMs at a time of global trade insecurity





<sup>1</sup>refer ASX Announcement 10 July 2019

## **Exceptionally Large** Lithium Brine





Chart compares resources from companies at different stages of development as detailed in Appendix 1, with Vulcan Lithium Project which is an Exploration Target expressed as a range of values as per KRX ASX announcement 20/08/2019. The Company is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the announcement. All material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Exploration Target in the relevant announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Exploration Target's potential quantity and grade is conceptual in nature, there has been insufficient exploration to estimate a Mineral Resource, and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of a Mineral Resource. Market capitalisations converted to A\$m as at 14 October 2019.

## Uniquely High Lithium Grades & Flow Rate



Li mg/l

#### Upper Rhine Valley (URV) geothermal brine field exhibits Li values one to two orders of magnitude greater than typical geothermal brines<sup>1</sup>: up to 210 mg/l Li, commonly >150 mg/l Li

- Typical geothermal brine fields have Li values in the order of 1-10 mg/l Li<sup>1</sup>
- Areas with heated brines are common, but the fluids are rarely both lithium rich & high flow rate
- Only other known geothermal field with similar lithium grades & flow rate is Salton Sea, California<sup>1</sup>
- Same order of magnitude of Li grade as South American Li salar brines, but with processing advantage of readily available heat & power

### Salton Sea, California URV Field, Germany (Vulcan) E3 Metals, Alberta Wairakei, NZ Hatchbaru, Japan Onikoube, Japan Songwe Valley, Tanzania 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180

#### <sup>1</sup>refer Appendix 2 for sources of information, also ASX Announcement 10 July 2019

## Direct Lithium Extraction: Widespread Adoption Under Way



# Livent



# CONTROLLED THERMAL RESOURCES



- DLE used at Livent's Hombre Muerto operation in Argentina for 25 years producing consistent product
- Livent, one of the world's largest lithium producers, recently invested US\$5.5m in E3 Metals, which is using DLE to produce LiOH•H2O from a petrobrine with grades of just 77.4 mg/L (less than half Upper Rhine Valley grades)
- Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR), (Salton Sea, USA), advancing to battery-grade lithium production using DLE in a location with similar Li grades to Vulcan's brine field
- Simbol (Salton Sea, USA), was reportedly valued at US\$2.5B and rejected takeover offer of US\$325m from Tesla<sup>1</sup> based on using DLE on geothermal brines
- Berkshire Hathaway Energy, with \$91B in assets (Salton Sea), also seeking to produce battery-grade lithium<sup>1</sup> from geothermal brines using DLE

## **Planned Project Timeline**





Key Associations & Memberships











# EUROPEAN EBA250

The industrial workstream of the European Battery Alliance



Company	Code	Project	Stage	Resource Category	Brine M <sup>3</sup>	Resource Grade (mg/l Li)	Contained LCE Tonnes	Information Source
Orocobre	ASX:ORE	Salar de Olaroz	Production	Measured & Indicated	1.8 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	690	6.4	Company Presentation 5 May 2014
Lithium Americas	NYSE:LAC	Cauchari-Olaroz, Chile (50% ownership. Thacker Pass not Included)	DFS Complete, Construction Underway	Measured, Indicated & Inferred	7.8 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	592	24.6	Resource Statement 7 May 2019
Millennial Lithium	CVE:ML	Pastos Grandes, Argentina	FS Complete	Measured, Indicated & Inferred	2.2 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	428	4.9	Resource Statement 31 May 2019



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# Thank you

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