# Re-Energising Australia with Critical Battery Metals Production

Noosa Mining Conference Dr Stephen Grocott



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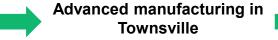
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### **TECH** Project

Imported ore from New Caledonia



Product sold to leading battery manufacturer customers QPM nickel and cobalt destined for EVs







posco







### **Global Leader in Sustainability**

QPM believes that the TECH Project boasts unrivalled ESG credentials amongst developing nickel projects

#### **Negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

- Use of waste gas results in TECH Project reducing Australia's GHG emissions by 238,000 t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq per annum
- Equivalent of ~52,000 typical passenger vehicles
- ISO-compliant calculation independent verification

#### **Minimal Waste**

- No tailings dam
- No process liquids discharge
- All valuable metals extracted from ore
- Progressing commercial applications for residue to make TECH Project "zero waste"



#### **Positive working environment**

- Developed nation labour laws from ore supply through to final product
- Building and fostering a high-performance culture with motivated employees working to a common goal
- Inclusive workforce
- Building diversity



#### **Embracing Townsville & regional communities**

- Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Bindal People – CHMA executed to deliver training opportunities and jobs
- Local community sponsorships
- Establishing a presence in the community QPM office opened
- Local University (James Cook University) projects



### Zero Solids Waste

Commercialisation of the DNi Process<sup>™</sup> will be a game changer for how nickel laterite is processed



**Key Products Nickel Sulfate** and Cobalt Sulfate



~16,000t contained Ni

~1,800t contained Co



1.6Mtpa Ore (wet)

~1.6% Ni / 0.18% Co



~650,000t iron sinter pellets

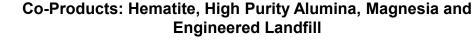


~240,000 t Engineered Landfill



~4,000t HPA



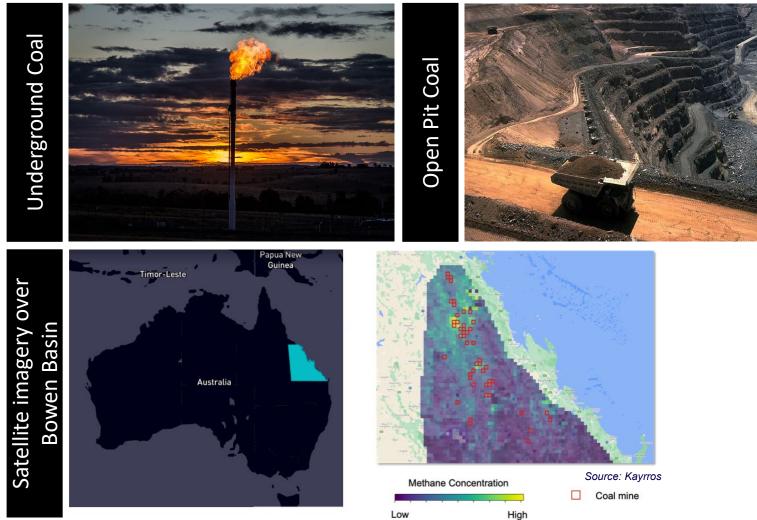






## Helping to Solve Australia's Methane Emissions

### QPM's annual carbon emissions has been calculated at NEGATIVE 238,000t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq per annum



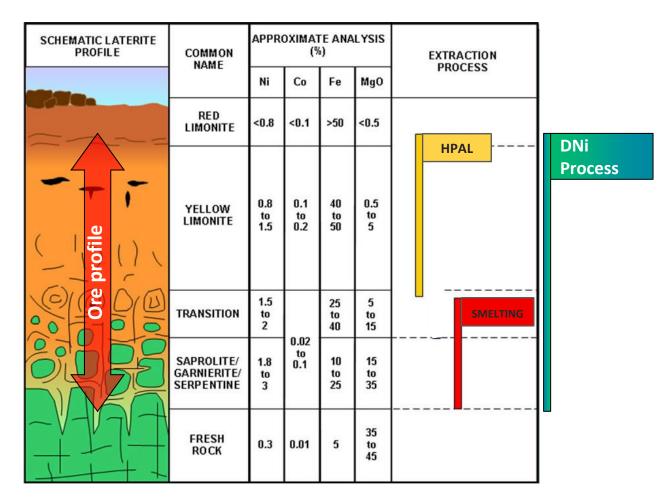
#### Methane emissions from metallurgical coal mining

- Underground: For safety reasons, the majority of gas (methane) is pre-drained and then flared ahead of mining resulting in a direct CO<sub>2</sub> emission. Some gas (up to 30%) is vented
- Open pit: Fugitive emissions of gas (methane) occur as mining proceeds. Methane has a global warming potential factor ~28 times worse than CO<sub>2</sub> under IPCC standards
- Satellite imagery highlights the issue over the Bowen Basin

QPM will prevent emissions by harvesting waste gas from operating coal mines. We will use it at the TECH Project to produce battery chemicals which enable electrification of the automobile industry – a Win-Win!

# Ore Supply

### Binding ore supply agreements secured from established New Caledonian mining companies



- DNi Process<sup>TM</sup> can process the entire nickel laterite ore profile
- Majority of world's nickel ore trade is for Saprolite ore, which is processed in Nickel Pig Iron plants
- QPM has targeted Limonite ore feed in abundance and limited competition with other buyers
- Binding contracts signed with target grade of 1.6% Ni and 0.18% Co:

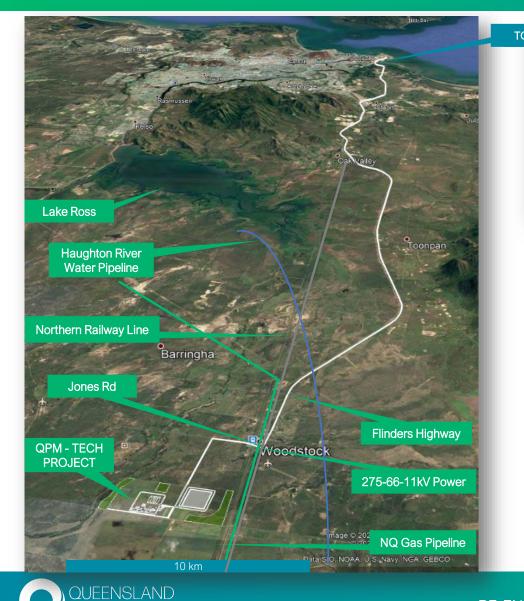




0.6Mtpa



### **Project Location**



CIFIC METALS



Ideal site (290 Ha) allocated to QPM in the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct

- Water pipeline 12 km away
- Gas pipeline (35 PJ/y capacity we need 10 12 PJ/y)
- Electric transmission lines (275kV, 66kV and 11kV)
- Fibre optic communications
- Existing Ross River (140 MW) and future Edify (400MW) solar arrays
- Road train access to Townsville Port (Flinders Highway)
- Rail line
- Environment gently undulating grazing land, sparsely wooded
- Zoned heavy industrial
- Cultural Heritage Management Agreement signed
- Skilled workforce and attractive lifestyle location

### **Conceptual Project Layout**



Ore Prep Area

**ACIFIC METALS** 

### World Class Partners

#### Combined US\$15m equity investment (June 2021)

- \$0.1364 per share (16.8% premium to 1-month VWAP)
- LGES US\$10.5m
- POSCO US\$4.5m

#### Binding offtake agreement signed

- 7 year term + 3 year first right of refusal after term expires
- 7,000tpa nickel / 700tpa cobalt LGES
- 3,000tpa nickel / 300tpa cobalt POSCO
- Pricing linked to commodity prices at time of sale

#### Extensive due diligence undertaken

 Technical due diligence undertaken by RPM Global focusing on process, scalability, ore supply and approvals pathway

Refer to ASX Announcement 8 June 2021

# **Use Contemporation LG Energy Solution**

"This is the most meaningful investment in our supply chain for LG Energy Solution since the company spun out from LG Chem. We believe the TECH Project will deliver sustainable nickel and cobalt production that is in line with LGES' operating philosophy. And our proactive investments in the supply chain such as this will ultimately play a role in further satisfying our customers."

# posco

"We are delighted to co-invest with LG Energy Solution in Queensland Pacific Metals. We look forward to building our relationship with QPM and assess other business opportunities that may arise between QPM and POSCO."



### The DNi Process<sup>TM</sup>

- Nitric acid leach under atmospheric conditions
- Majority valuable metals dissolved in solution, recovered and refined to saleable products
- ~99% nitric acid recycled
- Zero solids waste + no tailings dam required
- Extensively piloted and tested
- License arrangement with Altilium Group



QPM Pilot Plant located at ALS Global Hydrometallurgy Centre of Excellence, Perth, WA



(L-R): Crushed ore, Ni-Co MHP, Hematite, Inert Residue for Landfill



**RE-ENERGISING NICKEL PRODUCTION** 

### Pathway to Production



Targeting DFS completion late Q3 / early Q4 + Final Investment Decision 2023

Approvals				
	Queen	ISTAID GOVERNMENT C EXTRAORDINARY PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY	ðazette 155H 01559370	
	Vol. 388]	Monday 27 September 2021	[No. 25	
		State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 DECLARATION OF A PRESCRIBED PROJECT		
		Listeven Miles, appointed a riste-holdbor Regist. Listeven Miles, appointed a riste-holdbor Registrer, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, a hereby declare the Tomswill Energy Chemicals Hub Project to be a prescribed project pursuant to section 766 of the State Development and Public Moris Organisation Act 1971.		
		This declaration takes effect from the date of its publication in the gazette, pursuant to section 76E(3) of the <i>State</i> <i>Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971</i> .		
	Project	of State Significan	ce - Qlo	d

Targeting receipt of approvals in the near term

DUEENSLAND

**CIFIC METALS** 

#### **Potential Debt Financiers**





export finance australia

Conditional commitment letters received from Government backed lenders + EOIs from other financiers

#### **Remaining offtake**



Advanced discussions with potential offtakers for remaining Ni and Co production



### **Corporate Overview**

Capital Structure	
Market Cap	\$203m
Share Price	13.0c
Cash (31 Mar)	\$40.7m
Тор 20	36%

Major Shareholders		
LG Energy Solutions	99.2m	6.4%
BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd (DRP)	59.0m	3.8%
Citicorp Nominees	43.1m	2.8%
POSCO GEM 1 <sup>ST</sup> FUND	42.5m	2.7%
BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd (IB AU)	41.6m	2.7%

Board and Key Management	
John Abbott	Non Exec Chair
Stephen Grocott	Managing Director
John Downie	Exec Director
Jim Simpson	Non Exec Director
Sharna Glover	Non Exec Director
Eddie King	Non Exec Director



All information as of 14 July 2022



# **QPM TECH Project**

