



*LEADING THE CHARGE
IN AUSTRALIAN RARE
EARTH CLAYS*

20 DECEMBER 2023

ASX: WC1

MAJOR PROJECTS

*Salazar, WA - Rare Earth Elements
Nevada, USA - Lithium
Hermit Hill, NT - Lithium
Bulla Park, NSW - Copper*

DIRECTORS & MANAGEMENT

Rob Klug *Non Exec Chairman*
Matt Szwedzicki *Managing Director*
David Pascoe *Head of Technical &
Exploration*
Mark Bolton *Non Exec Director*
Ron Roberts *Non Exec Director*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

Ordinary Shares	120.8m
Options (unlisted)	32.2m
Perf Rights	5.5m
Market Cap (undiluted)	\$8.3m
Share Price (19/12/23)	\$0.069

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SALAZAR REE PROJECT UPDATE

Highlights

- **Significant test work results expected early in 2024**
- **Development strategy to be underpinned by this test work**
- **Exploration Target update currently underway**

West Cobar Metals Limited (ASX:WC1) ("West Cobar", "the Company") is pleased to provide an update on activities at its Salazar rare earth element (REE) and co-product project in Western Australia.

Salazar Rare Earth Element and Co Products Project

West Cobar has made significant progress towards defining its development plans for the Salazar REE and co-product project, which consists of the Newmont and O'Connor deposits.

The Newmont deposit contains a large and advanced indicated and inferred REE Mineral Resources (which stands at 83Mt at 1117ppm total rare earth oxide [TREO¹])² as well as a TiO₂ Inferred Mineral Resource (29Mt at 5.0% TiO₂)³ and an alumina Inferred Mineral Resource (4Mt at 29.6% Al₂O₃)³.

The saprolite clay host rock at the Newmont deposit overlies amphibolite and is a unique deposit due to a number of factors:

- The Newmont REE, TiO₂ and Al₂O₃ resources are comparatively high grade
- Potential for high value co-products including, TiO₂, Al₂O₃ (4N), Scandium and Gallium
- Successful beneficiation tests have shown excellent upgrade potential
- High content of valuable heavy rare earths Dysprosium and Terbium
- Low content of radioactive minerals Uranium and Thorium, thereby improving processing options
- Shallow, thick saprolite (clay) hosted mineralisation amenable to low cost mining

The O'Connor deposit overlies granitic bedrock and has different geological characteristics to the Newmont deposit - but benefits from a large resource (107Mt at 1216ppm TREO)² with substantial undrilled upside.

Recent magnetic separation and flotation trials have been exceptionally successful at O'Connor with an upgrade of 34x being achieved to a 5.08% TREO concentrate with a very encouraging TREO yield⁴.

Current Test Work and Flowsheet Development

Extensive mineralogical and metallurgical test work is currently underway on Newmont and O'Connor deposits. Results expected early in the new year include:

- Mineralogy of high grade Ti concentrate from Newmont characterisation testwork
- Characterisation of non-magnetic REE stream of Newmont testwork
- Finalisation of ANSTO Phase 1 Newmont leaching testwork under various acid strengths and conditions
- Mineralogical characterisation of O'Connor flotation samples

The above results are expected to drive the development of the conceptual flowsheet in the first half of 2024 for the ultimate development of the Salazar project. Further information on the development strategy will be provided upon the receipt of the above test results.

Exploration Target

An updated Exploration Target for REEs, including TiO₂, is currently being developed based on results from the drill programs of 2022/23 and the acquisition of tenements adjoining the Newmont deposit.

West Cobar Managing Director, Matt Szwedzicki, commented: *"The Salazar project is a unique proposition in a world firmly focused on the energy transition. Our high value basket of products include rare earth elements, titanium dioxide, alumina, scandium and gallium. The challenge we are eagerly pursuing is in identifying the optimal commercialisation pathway.*

Significant test results are expected in January and we believe they will provide a pathway to development inclusive of a Ti co-product which may greatly enhance the project economics.

We look forward to an eventful and exciting 2024."

References

- 1) TREO = $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{CeO}_2 + \text{Pr}_6\text{O}_{11} + \text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Tb}_4\text{O}_7 + \text{Dy}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Er}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Tm}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Yb}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$
- 2) WC1 announcement to ASX, 9 August 2023, 'Salazar Clay-REE Resource Quadruples'.
- 3) WC1 announcement to ASX, 27 September 2023, 'Significant Co-Product Resources add Value to Newmont REE'.
- 4) WC1 announcement to ASX, 6 December 2023, 'Outstanding Salazar RE Beneficiation Results – 5.08% TREO'.

-ENDS-

This ASX announcement has been approved by the Board of West Cobar Metals Limited.

Further information:

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Certain information in this document refers to the intentions of West Cobar, but these are not intended to be forecasts, forward looking statements or statements about the future matters for the purposes of the Corporations Act or any other applicable law. The occurrence of the events in the future are subject to risk, uncertainties and other actions that may cause West Cobar's actual results, performance or achievements to differ from those referred to in this document. Accordingly, West Cobar and its affiliates and their directors, officers, employees and agents do not give any assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of these events referred to in the document will actually occur as contemplated.

Statements contained in this document, including but not limited to those regarding the possible or assumed future costs, performance, dividends, returns, revenue, exchange rates, potential growth of

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Competent Person Statement and JORC Information

The Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (the 'JORC Code') sets out minimum standards, recommendations and guidelines for Public Reporting in Australasia of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves.

The information contained in this announcement that relates to the exploration and geological information at West Cobar's projects fairly reflects information compiled by Mr David Pascoe, who is Head of Technical and Exploration of West Cobar Metals Limited and a Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Pascoe has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Pascoe consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The scientific and technical information in this report that relates to process metallurgy and metallurgical factors and assumptions is based on information reviewed by Aaron Debono of NeoMet Engineering who is a Fellow of the AusIMM. Mr Debono has sufficient experience that is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a Competent Person as defined by the JORC Code 2012. Mr Debono has given his consent to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The Company confirms that with respect to the Salazar Project, that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the Ore Resources provided by the Competent Person in the announcements to the ASX of 9 August 2023 and 27 September 2023 and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Ore Resources, continue to apply and have not materially changed.