

# AMERICAN SALARS CONFIRMS DRILL PERMITS IN PLACE FOR PRODUCTION DIAMETER WELL DRILL PROGRAM TO EXPAND AND UPGRADE NI 43-101 457,000 TONNE INFERRED LITHIUM CARBONATE RESOURCE AT CANDELA II LITHIUM BRINE PROJECT

MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - VANCOUVER, BC - AMERICAN SALARS LITHIUM INC. ("AMERICAN SALARS" OR THE "COMPANY") (USLI: CSE) (Z3P: FRANKFURT) announces that it has in place the necessary drill permits for a resource expansion and production diameter drill program at American Salars Candela II Lithium Brine Project located in the Incahuasi Salar, Salta Province, Argentina.

The 400 Meter drill holes will test the additional depth from 200-400 meter zone that appeared highly prospective for lithium in the MT Survey data collected in 2023. The diameter of the production well is 20cm - 30cm in diameter and will provide the company's first production ready well at the project.



Figure 1. Project Map

The Candela II Lithium Brine Project contains a National Instrument 43-101 mineral resource estimate ("MRE") completed by WSP Australia Pty. Ltd. (see Spey Resources Corp. news dated September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023). This NI 43-101 resource report estimates the project to contain lithium metal of 86,000 tonnes which equates to **457,500 tonnes of in-situ lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE)\*** (see press release dated March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024).

According to SunSirs Commodity Data Group (<a href="https://www.sunsirs.com/uk/frodetail-1162.html">https://www.sunsirs.com/uk/frodetail-1162.html</a>), Lithium Carbonate (Li2CO3) spot prices increased to CNY 118,350 Yuan or CAD \$22,777.65 per tonne up ~20% in 2024.



Figure 2. QP Phillip Thomas during at the Incahuasi Salar, Salta Province, Argentina

Ekosolve Ltd., a leading Direct Lithium Extraction ("DLE") lithium processor has conducted extraction efficiency tests on 200 litres of brine from the Candela II project at its University of Melbourne pilot plant and achieved a 93.2% lithium extraction rate. Professor Kathryn Mumford commented that this extraction efficiency can be further improved. Dr Carlos Sorentino Chief Technical Officer of Ekosolve Ltd. commented that the 173ppm lithium assayed from hole 5 on Candela II was ideal for the process and the solvents used are regenerated after collecting more than 99% on each pass with these brines.

American Salars's Director Rodney Campbell states: "This will be our first major step towards production at the Candela II Lithium Brine project. The project is a 3,000 hectare (30 sqkm) established resource ideally situated for direct lithium extraction (DLE). The Candela II concession is contiguous to and close in proximity to multiple major lithium companies including: Ganfeng, Allkem (now Arcadian Plc) on the Incahuasi Salar. We anticipate upcoming drilling and pumping tests on the Candela II project to expand and further define a NI43-101 compliant indicated and measured mineral resource estimate."

### **Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE)**

The MRE for the Candela II lithium project is reported in accordance with NI 43-101 and has been estimated in conformity with generally accepted Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum estimation of mineral resource and mineral reserves best practices guidelines. The effective date of the MRE is September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Average specific yield values, per domain, were applied to the total metal tonnages to obtain the yield from the available brine. The LCE is calculated from the ratio of lithium carbonate (Li2CO3) to Li (5.32:1). The calculations assume no process losses.

The Ekosolve extraction pilot tests were completed and reported on the March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Table 1 Project Mineral Resource Estimate

Category			Specific Yield (%)	Brine Volume (m3)	Li Grade (mg/L) <sup>1</sup>	Li Metal <sup>2</sup> (kt)	Li Yield (kt)	LCE <sup>3</sup> (kt)	Mg Grade (mg/L) <sup>1</sup>	Metal	Mg Yield (kt)
Inferred	Halite	262,887,500	8	21,031,000	125.7	33	3	14	6,166.6	1,621	130
		409,162,500	12	49,099,500	130.5	53	6	34	6,249.1	2,557	307
Total Inferred		672,050,000		70,130,500	128.6	86	9	48	6,217.1	4,178	437

#### Notes

- (1) Grade values are the average estimated value for the domain in the Vulcan™ Block Model.
- (2) Total in-situ contained lithium metal.
- (3) Extractable LCE.
- (4) No recovery, dilution or other similar mining parameters have been applied. Although the Mineral Resources presented in the table above are believed to have a reasonable expectation of being extracted economically, they are not Mineral Reserves. Estimation of Mineral Reserves requires the application of modifying factors and a minimum of a PFS. The modifying factors include, but are not restricted to, mining, processing, metallurgical, infrastructure, economic, marketing, legal, environmental, social, and governmental factors.
- (5) The Qualified Persons are not aware of any environmental permitting, legal, title, taxation, socio-economic, marketing, political or other relevant factors that could materially affect the MRE.

The mineral resources presented herein are not mineral reserves, and do not reflect demonstrated economic viability. The reported inferred mineral resources are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. There is no certainty that all or any part of the mineral resource will be converted into a mineral reserve. All figures are rounded to reflect the relative accuracy of the estimates, and totals may not add correctly.

### **Qualified Person**

Phillip Thomas, BSc Geol, MBusM, FAusIMM, MAIG, MAIMVA, (CMV), a Qualified Person as defined under NI 43-101 regulations, has reviewed the technical information that forms the basis for portions of this news release, and has approved the disclosure herein.

#### **About American Salars Lithium Inc.**

American Salars Lithium Inc. is an exploration company focused on exploring and developing high-value battery metals projects to meet the demands of the advancing electric vehicle market. It's flagship project is the Candela II Salar Project in Argentina which features a NI 43-101 inferred resource.

All Stakeholders are encouraged to follow the Company on its social media profiles on <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors,

## "Michael Dake"

Michael Dake, CEO

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