

Blanco Minerals Secures Agreement with LG Chem for Argentina Project

July 5, 2019; Vancouver, B.C.: Blanco Minerals Inc. has announced today that they have reached a long-term supply agreement with South Korea's LG Chem Ltd. that will see the world's largest lithium-ion battery manufacturer buy 100% of Blanco Minerals' processed output from its lithium mining operations in Jujuy Province, Argentina. Additionally, Blanco Minerals executives have stated that LG Chem is expected to make a substantial financial investment in Blanco Minerals in the near future which will add to an investor and partnership base that already includes Tesla Inc. (NASDAQ: TSLA) and The Chemical & Mining Company of Chile (NYSE:SQM).

A rapid growing demand for lithium, which is used in batteries for electric cars, has boosted interest in lithium mining developments as prices of the raw fuel have risen substantially over the past 5 years. Blanco Minerals will have the Argentina project operating at full capacity by 2022. The company has determined that the capital expenditure bill for fully developing the project is expected to be \$170m and is to be financed by a combination of debt, project financing and equity.

Speaking today at the company's head office in Vancouver, Blanco Minerals' CEO, Peter Ross remarked, "It speaks volumes that LG Chem, the world's biggest lithium-ion battery manufacturer, will sign offtake deals with lithium developers before production begins, this highlights how lithium has become such an essential component in everyone's daily lives."

Blanco Minerals Inc. signed a similar supply agreement with Tesla Inc. in December 2018. The deal with Tesla confirmed that the battery producer and electric car maker would purchase 100% of the lithium compounds produced at the company's Mexico project. Blanco Minerals are close to securing a large financial investment with Tesla Inc. for the Mexico project development, as is also the case with LG Chem for the project in Argentina.

The news released today confirms that Blanco Minerals Inc. is on course to become one of the world's leading lithium producers. With major industry players such as SQM, Tesla Inc. and now LG Chem supporting the company, it is expected that Blanco Minerals' three large operations are ensured to be producing at full capacity by the targeted dates or earlier.

About the Company:

Blanco Minerals Inc. controls the Salar De Arena Rica Lithium Brine Project, located in the Atacama Region of Northern Chile, in a joint venture partnership with SQM, The company also maintains a large lithium brine project in Jujuy Province in northwest Argentina. Furthermore, Blanco Minerals Inc. is developing the largest lithium project in North America at Zacatecas State, Mexico.

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