

## Blanco Minerals Teams Up with SQM at Chile Lithium Project

September 6, 2018; Santiago, Chile: Blanco Minerals Inc. is very pleased to announce today that a joint venture partnership has been agreed upon with Sociedad Química y Minera de Chile S.A. (NYSE: SQM). The joint venture will boost the development and production at Blanco Minerals' Salar De Arena Rica lithium brine project in the Atacama Region in northern Chile. SQM are one of the world's top two producers of lithium, which makes their expertise invaluable for making the Salar De Arena Rica project produce at its maximum potential.

The Joint Venture consists of a capital contribution of USD \$78 million by SQM in exchange for a 10% ownership share in the Salar De Arena Rica Project. Blanco Minerals now can immediately begin using SQM's engineering, refining and transportation infrastructure in the region which will allow Salars 1 - 3 to immediately come into production of lithium brine mineral. Blanco Minerals already has contracts in place to sell all mineral produced at the operation to 2 lithium-ion battery manufacturers in China.

Peter Ross, Chief Executive Officer of Blanco Minerals, speaking from SQM's headquarters in Santiago commented, "SQM has decades of development and operating experience in lithium mining and production. It is already a widely known fact that lithium demand and usage is critical for meeting targets in new technological advances in electric vehicles and renewable energy storage. Blanco Minerals could not possibly have a better partner than SQM to help us bring our Salar De Arena Rica project into full production."

Mr. Ross further commented, "Blanco Minerals' board has concluded that the joint venture partnership with SQM will definitely bring long term rewards to our shareholders. Due to the size of the Salar De Arena Rica project, we could never have gone at it alone as building independent transportation infrastructure along with other engineering and refining aspects would have taken many years. The alliance with SQM will start showing instant revenue results and allow us to aggressively pursue similar objectives for our other projects in Argentina and Mexico."

The Atacama Region in Chile holds the world's largest single lithium brine resources and Blanco Minerals' Salar De Arena Rica project is one of the largest deposits in the region. Benefits in place now are infrastructure including a paved international highway with direct access to the project and a deep sea port, fresh water on site, and strong support from local communities and the government of the Atacama region.

### 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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