

Blanco Minerals Reports Highly Positive Test Results at Argentina Project

January 30, 2019; Vancouver, B.C.: Blanco Minerals Inc. announces that results from recently completed pilot test work at the company's project in Jujuy Province, Argentina have revealed extremely positive results. The testing campaign was successful on all counts and demonstrated substantial recovery of at least 92% of the lithium from the tested brine. The pilot trial also produced battery-grade lithium hydroxide monohydrate.

The testing work performed by Blanco Minerals and its technology providers evaluated a four-stage process:

1. **Pre-Treatment** \Rightarrow removal of divalent ions including alkaline earth elements by membranes (LiP™) and chemical precipitation;
2. **Solvent Extraction (LiSX™)** \Rightarrow preferential extraction and concentration of lithium from the pre-treated brine to make a high purity lithium sulphate solution;
3. **Electrolysis (LiEL™)** \Rightarrow conversion of high-purity lithium sulphate solution into high purity lithium hydroxide solution; and,
4. **Crystallization** \Rightarrow evaporation, crystallization and centrifuge separation of battery-grade lithium hydroxide crystals.

Process for commercial scale lithium production at the Jujuy Province project:

1. Achieved overall lithium recovery of 92% from the tested brine;
2. Successfully removed the major interfering elements from the solvent extraction (SX) feed brine: calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), and strontium (Sr);
3. Achieved near 100% extraction of lithium by LiSX™;
4. Achieved high lithium concentration factors, approximately 44x, during the LiSX™ stage;
5. Crystallized battery-grade lithium hydroxide monohydrate with a high quality distribution of grain size and morphology; and
6. Identified several areas in the process that are ripe for improvement and optimization of costs and efficiencies in a future scaled-up operation.

Blanco Minerals reports that production will begin at the Argentina project location by the 4th quarter of 2019.

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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BLANCO MINERALS INC.

