## **2019 AGM PRESENTATION**

ASX: AGY www.argosyminerals.com.au

29 May 2019

only

ARGOSY MINERALS

## DISCLAIMER

5

TT TT

Ŷ

 $\bigcirc$ 

This presentation is for information purposes only. Neither this presentation nor the information contained in it constitutes an offer, invitation, solicitation or recommendation in relation to the purchase or sale of shares in any jurisdiction. This presentation may not be distributed in any jurisdiction except in accordance with the legal requirements applicable in such jurisdiction. Recipients should inform themselves of the restrictions that apply in their own jurisdiction. A failure to do so may result in a violation of securities laws in such jurisdiction. This presentation does not constitute financial product advice and has been prepared without taking into account the recipient's investment objectives, financial circumstances or particular needs and the opinions and recommendations in this presentation are not intended to represent recommendations of particular investments to particular persons. Recipients should seek professional advice when deciding if an investment is appropriate. All securities transactions involve risks, which include (among others) the risk of adverse or unanticipated market, financial or political developments.

Certain statements contained in this presentation, including information as to the future financial or operating performance of Argosy Minerals Limited ("Argosy" or "AGY") and its projects, are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements: are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, whilst considered reasonable by Argosy, are inherently subject to significant technical, business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties and contingencies; involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from estimated or anticipated events or results reflected in such forwardlooking statements; and may include, among other things, statements regarding targets, estimates and

assumptions in respect of metal production and prices, operating costs and results, capital expenditures, ore reserves and mineral resources and anticipated grades and recovery rates, and are or may be based on assumptions and estimates related to future technical. economic, market, political, social and other conditions. Argosy disclaims any intent or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise. The words "believe", "expect", "anticipate", "indicate", "contemplate", "target", "plan", "intends", "continue", "budget", "estimate", "may", "will", "schedule" and other similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements made in this presentation are qualified by the foregoing cautionary statements. Investors are cautioned that forwardlooking statements are not guarantees of future performance and accordingly investors are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements due to the inherent uncertainty therein.

Competent Person's Statement – Rincon Lithium Project: The information contained in this ASX release relating to Exploration Results and Mineral Resource Estimates has been prepared by Mr Duncan Storey. Mr Storey is a Hydrogeologist, a Chartered Geologist and Fellow of the Geological Society of London (an RPO under JORC 2012). Mr Storey 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 in the 2012 edition of the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves.

Duncan Storey is an employee of AQ2 Pty Ltd and an independent consultant to Argosy Minerals Ltd. Mr Storey consents to the inclusion in this announcement

of this information in the form and context in which it appears. The information in this announcement is an accurate representation of the available data from exploration at the Rincon Lithium Project.

The information in this report that relates to technical matters is based on information compiled by Jerko Zuvela who is the Managing Director of AGY. Mr Zuvela is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

Chemical Engineer's Statement: The information that relates to lithium processing and test-works is based on information compiled and/or reviewed by Mr Pablo Alurralde. Mr Alurralde is a chemical engineer with a degree in Chemical Engineering from Salta National University in Argentina. Mr Alurralde has sufficient experience which is relevant to the lithium carbonate and lithium hydroxide processing and testing undertaken to evaluate the data presented.

Certain information in this presentation has been derived from third parties and though AGY has no reason to believe that it is not accurate, reliable or complete, it has not been independently audited or verified by AGY.

To the extent permitted by law, AGY and its officers, employees, related bodies corporate and agents disclaim all liability, direct, indirect or consequential (and whether or not arising out of the negligence, default or lack of care of AGY and/or any of its agents) for any loss or damage suffered by a recipient or other persons arising out of, or in connection with, any use or reliance on this presentation or information.

All amounts in A\$ unless stated otherwise.

## CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

- The PEA is a preliminary technical and economic study of the potential viability of the Rincon Lithium Project required to reach a decision to proceed with more definitive studies (equivalent to a JORC Scoping Study). It is based on preliminary/low-level technical and economic assessments that are not sufficient to support the estimation of Ore Reserves or provide certainty that the conclusions/results of the PEA will be realised. Further exploration and evaluation work and appropriate studies are required before Argosy will be in a position to estimate any Ore Reserves or to provide any assurance of an economic development case.
- The economic analysis results should be treated as preliminary in nature and caution should be exercised in their use as a basis for assessing project feasibility. The PEA was based on material assumptions including assumptions about the availability of funding. While Argosy considers all of the material assumptions to be based on reasonable grounds, there is no certainty that they will prove to be correct or that the range of outcomes indicated by the PEA will be achieved.
- To achieve the range of proposed feasibility studies and potential mine development outcomes indicated in the PEA, additional funding will be required. Investors should note that there is no certainty that Argosy will be able to raise funding when needed. It is also possible that such funding may only be available on terms that may be dilutive to or otherwise affect the value of Argosy's existing

shares. It is also possible that Argosy could pursue other 'value realisation' strategies such as a sale, partial sale or joint venture of the project. If it does, this could materially reduce Argosy's proportionate ownership of the project.

- 100% of material included in the PEA proposed mining schedules for all cases is included within Indicated Mineral Resources.
- Process and engineering works for the PEA were developed to support capital and operating estimates (and following AUSIMM Guidelines for this study level), and given the preliminary and confidential nature of the plant information, the capital cost margin of error is  $\pm 50\%$  on the 'factored cases' estimated figures and operating cost is  $\pm 35\%$ . Key assumptions that the PEA are based on are outlined in the body of this announcement. Argosy has concluded it has a reasonable basis for providing the forward-looking statements in this announcement.

The Mineral Resources information in this report is extracted from the report entitled "Argosy Upgrades Lithium Rincon Lithium Project JORC resource" dated 13 November 2018 available at www.argosyminerals.com.au and <u>www.asx.com</u>. Argosy confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcement and, in the case of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. Argosy confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

Given the uncertainties involved, all figures, costs, estimates quoted are approximate values and within the margin of error range expressed in the relevant sections throughout this announcement. Investors should not make any investment decisions based solely on the results of the PEA.



# Company Overview







#### AGY SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE (AGY:ASX)



<sup>1</sup> As at 22 May 2019

[SONA]

SNAPSHOT

## RINCON LITHIUM PROJECT



D S D

For personal

Rincon Lithium Project located in the world-class "Lithium Triangle" in Salta Province, Argentina



- Argosy currently owns 77.5%, moving to 90% ownership of Puna Mining S.A. upon commercial development milestone
- One of the most advanced lithium developments in South America
  - Industrial scale Pilot plant constructed
  - Produced 99.5% battery grade Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> product
  - LiOH analysis works confirm 56.84% LiOH content

PEA completed November 2018 - IRR of 53%, Pre-tax NPV of US\$399m

JORC Resource 245,120t of LCE (to 100m depth) – 16.5 year mine life<sup>1</sup>

Permitting approval process underway

Fast-track development strategy



## 

- Focussed on becoming the onext lithium carbonate producer in South America
- Successful fast-track lithium development strategy
- Sector-leading lithium processing expertise – Pablo o
   Alurralde +30years industry experience and 15 years for a major international lithium producer

- Established local and federal o government relationships
- Extensive experience in the region with strong or relationships with local services/contractors
- Exceptional PEA results with o an IRR of 53%, Pre-tax NPV of US\$399m and average annual pre-tax cashflows of ~US\$74m over the life of mine

- Executed an initial off-take arrangement with Mitsubishi RtM
- Recent successful raise of A\$9.1m via an oversubscribed entitlement offer
- Experienced Board and management team able to deliver on large scale development



## FAST-TRACK DEVELOPMENT GAINING MOMENTUM

Next phase to commercial scale production confirmed with exceptional PEA Results

### 2016

**Securing Strategic Position** 

- Signed JV Agreement for up to 90% of Rincon Project
- Partnership with lithium expert Pablo Alurralde
- Established experienced Board
- Set up local subsidiary Puna Mining S.A.

### 2017 - 2018

### Locking in Value

- Constructed industrial-scale pilot plant and producing LCE Product
- Constructed 38Ha of lithium brine evaporation ponds
- First LCE product produced May 2018
- First battery quality LCE Product produced August 2018
- Completed 21 well drilling program
- Additional strategic land acquisitions landholding now ~2,794.4Ha
- Upgraded JORC Resource 245,120
  tonnes of contained LCE Product
- Finalised PEA with exceptional results

### 2019 🔿

#### **Revenue Generation**

- Executed initial sales agreement with Mitsubishi RtM
- Secure project funding to enable significant increase in production scale
- Finalise commercial off-take agreement(s)
- Continue to develop strategic partnerships

# Rincon Development



## RINCON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE – INDUSTRIAL SCALE PILOT PLANT

- Sales Agreement executed with Mitsubishi RtM in March 2019 to sell up to 100tpa LCE Product
- Preparatory works now underway for commencement of continuous operations from the Industrial Scale Pilot Plant, including
  - Employment and training of operational staff underway
  - Sourcing and procurement of chemical reagents
- LCE production to commence from mid-2019
- Flexibility in the Sales Agreement to extend the terms of the contract by mutual agreement for additional deliveries
- Operation of the Industrial Scale Pilot Plant will further validate costs structure and chemical process for the commercial scale operation
- Revenue generation whilst progressing development works toward commercial scale operations

Pablo commented "I am delighted we now have the opportunity to prove our chemical process experience in delivering material to Mitsubishi RtM. I look forward to the next steps in the growth of this development and producing LCE Product on a larger scale in the future."

## RINCON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

### **Commercial Scale Development – 10,000tpa**

- PEA completed for the Rincon Project in November 2018
- PEA results confirmed Rincon as a low cost, long life asset, generating attractive returns
- Primary focus to secure funding for the development of ~10,000tpa LCE production operation
- Argosy continues to engage with potential strategic groups and off-takers – for a CAPEX funding solution
- Pursuing traditional project funding in parallel
- Permitting process has begun for ~10,000tpa production operation

### **Fast-Track Development**

- Progressing alternative production strategies in parallel, to expedite revenue generation
- Modular construction approach provides opportunity to pursue fast-track production options
- Analysis underway for a ~2,000tpa modular operation, including discussions with potential product off-take groups
- Submitted regulatory documents and permitting applications for the development of initial ~2,000tpa commercial operation module lithium carbonate processing plant and associated operations
- 38 hectares of lithium brine evaporation ponds constructed, operational and producing concentrated lithium brine
- Key benefits of ~2,000tpa operation further de-risks the Project and expedites Argosy's path to revenue generation

### COMMERCIAL SCALE DEVELOPMENT PEA OUTCOMES

- PEA completed on base case ~10,000tpa operation (with scope for increase to 15,000tpa)
- Base case PEA resulted in a pre-tax NPV (10% discount rate) of US\$399m and an IRR of 53%
- Forecast Capex of US\$141m including 15% contingency of US\$18.4m. Major capex items include process equipment of US\$39.9m, installation US\$20m and evaporation ponds US\$44.2m
  - Capital cost estimated values based on current operational data and actual costs from the industrial scale pilot plant and evaporation ponds construction experience
  - Capital costs are not so large to be prohibitive for potential development
- o 2.1 year payback
- 16.5 year mine life, with ability to extend with deeper drilling (current resource to 100m depth)



## COMMERCIAL SCALE DEVELOPMENT PEA OUTCOMES

- Total Estimated Operating Cost US\$4,645/t in the lower end of industry cost curve. Opportunity exists for price reduction on a per-unit basis for the non-fixed operating cost items with increasing production rates
- Average annual pre-tax free cash flow over life-of-mine
  ~US\$74m, EBITDA margin 61%
- Based on successful industrial scale pilot plant processing works, Argosy has greater transparency on total costs
- Permitting process has begun for ~10,000tpa production operation

Argosy is the only new lithium brine developer to have constructed an industrial scale pilot plant with successful proof of chemical process to produce 99.5% battery grade lithium carbonate and commencing production operations.



## RINCON PROJECT – A STAND OUT LITHIUM ASSET

Dersonal

## Rincon PEA delivers world-class project economics

- Low Capex and low capital intensity
- The modelled NPV is ~3x the anticipated initial capital outlay
- Strong IRR of 53% and a short payback period of 2.1 years
- Expected to fall in the lower quartiles of the global lithium cash cost curve



## RINCON LIES CLOSE TO INFRASTRUCTURE IN SALTA PROVINCE, A PROLIFIC MINING JURISDICTION



The Project lies within Salta Province, ~3,700m ASL, serviced by city of Salta with population of ~600,000

The Puna region is known for its high evaporation rates, given UV is very high, predominant clear skies and minimal rainfall

High quality regional and site infrastructure will facilitate project development, with road, rail, port facilities

Power line adjacent to Project area with transformer approximately 7km to NE

Railway siding located at Pocitos approximately 20km

ARGOSY MINERALS

### RINCON PROJECT: LOCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RINCON LIES CLOSE TO INFRASTRUCTURE IN SALTA PROVINCE, A PROLIFIC MINING JURISDICTION

- The Project ideally located to nearby infrastructure
- Commercial scale (~300ha) evaporation ponds to be constructed ~3km from production wells and proposed process plant
- Project area located adjacent to highway and gas pipeline
- Approximately 20km NE is the industrial town of Olacapato, providing services and accommodation
- New solar field currently under construction by European consortium provides option for power generation source
- An abundance of nearby potential energy sources and transport options



Existing ~38ha operational evaporation ponds

Solar Field under construction

Proposed process plant site (Commercial Scale Development)

Proposed Evaporation ponds (Commercial Scale Development)

Highway & gas pipeline

# **FAST-TRACK DEVELOPMENT** ~2,000TPA Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> PRODUCTION STRATEGY

- Argosy has the opportunity to expedite production 
   Key benefits of a ~2,000tpa plant include:
   to produce ~2,000tpa LCE Product
   Enable Argosy to further validate chamic
  - 38 hectares of evaporation ponds already constructed and operational
  - Chemical process to produce 99.5% battery grade LCE Product proven, tested and operational via industrial scale pilot plant
  - Permitting for ~2,000tpa operation submitted
  - Construction period ~12 months
- Significantly less capital outlay evaporation ponds already funded

- Enable Argosy to further validate chemical process scalability and commence initial commercial production
- Expedited production construction period ~12 months vs extended timeframe for ~10,000tpa LCE operation
- Expedite the timeline to revenue generation vs ~10,000tpa production strategy
- Further de-risks Project with significantly smaller capital outlay
- Reduce funding risk/requirement for expansion to commercial scale operation
- Able to add operational modules for future production capacity increase up to ~10,000tpa operation

# Lithium Market



## LITHIUM MARKET OUTLOOK

### **Lithium Market Price**

- Lithium Hydroxide price weakness continued with what appears to be weak end-user demand from nickel-rich batteries (e.g. NCM 811) and expectation of increasing supply 2H 2019
- Lithium Carbonate price descent has slowed with carbonate prices stabalising
- Supply tightness is emerging in China with carbonate prices positioned for potential gains 2H 2019
- Growing market view pricing gap between hydroxide and carbonate to narrow

### Supply

- Supply tsunami yet to realise technical difficulties persist & illiquid capital markets
- No new LCE producer since ORE market yet to acknowledge new production challenges
- Nemaska production delayed, North American Lithium has halted spodumene production due to low market price
- Looming disconnect for producers to meet demand requirements



	1M	Y-O-Y	YTD
LITHIUM INDEX	-4.0%	-38.5%	-8.0%
CARBONATE INDEX	-2.7%	-41.0%	-6.0%
HYDROXIDE INDEX	-6.6%	-32.6%	-12.0%

### Demand

- Growth in megafactory construction exceeds market expectations total capacity pipeline by 2028 is 1,748.5GWh
- VW introducing 70 electrified models over the coming 10 years
- China continues to lead EV growth recent change in subsidies will support longer term competitive EV market
- Lithium demand growth forecasts remain unabated CAGR 18% to 2025<sup>1</sup>

## LITHIUM MARKET OUTLOOK

Long-term fundamentals remain sound

5

<u>j</u>@[20]

### **Off-take Agreements**

Volkswagen (VW) signed a MOU with Ganfeng Lithium 10-year supply agreement (Apr 2019)

- SK Innovation signed 5-year supply agreement with Tiangi Lithium Kwinana (Apr 2019)
- Core Lithium Ltd's expanded offtake contract with Yahua to 2023 (Apr 2019)
- Kidman Resources MOU with LG Chem for a 10-year supply agreement (Dec 2018)
- Gangfeng Lithium sign 5 year supply agreement with BMW (Oct 2018)

### **Strategic Investments**

- o Gangfeng Lithium buy a 30% stake in Bacanora Minerals Ltd (May 2019)
- Galaxy Resources Limited and Jiangxi Special Electric Motor Co., Ltd group A\$32.5m strategic placement in Alliance Minerals Assets Ltd (May 2019)
- Wesfarmers (A\$776m) takeover offer for Kidman Resources Ltd (May 2019))
- Ganfeng's US\$160m investment in Lithium Americas (April 2019)
- PlusPetrol's C\$111m acquisition of LSC Lithium Ο (March 2019)
- Galaxy Resources Ltd sale of northern tenements in Ο the Sal Da Vida Project in Argentina for US\$280m to POSCO (March 2019)
- Albermarle Corporation's acquisition of a 50% interest 0 in Mineral Resources Limited's Wodgina hard rock lithium project in Western Australia for US\$1.15 billion (Dec 2018)

Motor vehicle manufacturers and energy companies showing a direct interest in downstream lithium sourcing

## LITHIUM MARKET OUTLOOK

Strong Growth in Megafactories

#### Number of announced Megafactories (capacity by 2023) 1,200 1,000 800 GWh 600 400 200 Year 2013 2014 2015 2017 2018 2019 2016 Number of Megafactories 2 6 **1**1 **1**6 32 **1**1

**Total** Capacity **Pipeline by** 2028 1,748.5GWh

**New Megafactories** will require a step change the in volume of lithium required

announced in that year

# A New Lithium Producer

**R9** 

K6

\*

**R8** 

F01

ARGOSY MINERALS

TI

22

## ARGOSY – A NEW LITHIUM PRODUCER

- Exceptional PEA results for the Rincon Project
  - Estimated operating costs at the lower end of the industry operational cost curve
  - Ability to generate exceptional annual cash flows under all lithium price outlook scenarios
  - Long asset life 16.5 year mine life (to 100m resource depth), with ability to extend via deeper drilling
- High level of confidence in chemical process and construction costs
- Development options now open for production of Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or LiOH widening potential off-take pool
- Mitsubishi RtM off-take validates technical process and credibility as a legitimate producer
- Permit applications submitted for ~2,000tpa plant with approvals pending, whilst applications process for ~10,000tpa commercial scale operation have commenced
- Company fully funded for the medium term
- Positioned to continue fast-track development of Rincon

Contact

US

To discuss how Argosy Minerals could benefit you, please contact:

Jerko Zuvela - Managing Director T: +61 8 6188 8181 E: admin@argosyminerals.com.au Level 2, 22 Mount Street Perth WA 6000 Australia



## **Appendix – Argentina: Open for business**

Positive macro-economic developments underpin strong growth outlook



- Investment friendly tax regime, no need to negotiate separate fiscal agreements:
  - Corporate income tax at the rate of 30% from 1 January 2018, reducing to 25% from 1 January 2020
  - 30 year tax stabilisation
  - VAT is set at 21%, with some capital items attracting a lower rate of 10.5%. Reimbursement for imported capital assets & services
  - Depreciation: On all capital expenditure and pre-production costs at an accelerated rate over 3 years
- Mineral rights and regulatory approvals controlled by Provinces
- All approvals/permits granted to date expeditiously by Salta Province government departments
- Positive meetings with President Macri and Salta Province government officials - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSdHmL5oayU</u> (enable English subtitles by settings > subtitles > auto Translate > English)





Meeting with President Macri and Federal Mining Secretary Mrs Carolina Sanchez

## **Appendix – Industrial Scale Pilot Plant**



