

Defense Metals Dr. Moreno on the Wicheeda Project Poised to Become North America's Next Rare Earth Mine

written by InvestorNews | April 12, 2024

[Defense Metals Corp.](#) (TSXV: DEFN | OTCQB: DFMTF), represented by Dr. Luisa Moreno, President and Director, discusses recent developments and strategic partnerships in an interview with InvestorNews host Tracy Weslosky. The conversation highlights the [appointment](#) of Mr. Guy de Selliers de Moranville to the board, emphasizing his extensive experience in banking, financing, and rare earths. Dr. Moreno underscores the significance of strategic [funding review](#) by HCF International, noting their recognition of the Wicheeda project's potential and Mr. Moranville's alignment with Defense Metals' goals. The interview also touches on recent milestones, including the [shipping](#) of samples to potential partners for rare earths separation. Dr. Moreno emphasizes the project's strategic location in Canada and the support from Discovery Group, outlining Defense Metals' commitment to sustainable development and strong governance.

Dr. Moreno's on Mr. Moranville's unique expertise in rare earths starts: "He brings significant experience in banking and financing, as well as rare Earths... there's not a lot of people out there that actually have experience in the rare earths space." Highlighting the competitive advantage of Defense's project, she adds: "Having reviewed the Wicheeda project and compared it to many others... I am confident that the Wicheeda REE project possesses the essential qualities needed to emerge as

North America's next Rare Earth Mine." To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

About Defense Metals Corp. and its Wicheeda Rare Earth Element Project

Defense Metals Corp. is focused on the development of its 100% owned, 8,301-hectare (~20,534-acre) Wicheeda REE Project that is located on the traditional territory of the McLeod Lake Indian Band in British Columbia, Canada.

The Wicheeda REE Project, approximately 80 kilometres (~50 miles) northeast of the city of Prince George, is readily accessible by a paved highway and all-weather gravel roads and is close to infrastructure, including hydro power transmission lines and gas pipelines. The nearby Canadian National Railway and major highways allow easy access to the port facilities at Prince Rupert, the closest major North American port to Asia.

Defense Metals is a proud member of Discovery Group.

To know more about Defense Metals Corp., [click here](#)

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Rowena Smith Highlights ASM's Operational Success at Korean Metals Plant in Rare Earth Metals Production

written by InvestorNews | April 12, 2024

In a conversation with InvestorNews host Tracy Weslosky, Rowena Smith, the Managing Director of [Australian Strategic Materials Ltd.](#) (ASX: ASM), highlighted the company's innovative edge in the rare earth sector. Smith detailed ASM's end-to-end approach from mining to metal production, underscoring its capability to control the entire supply chain outside China—a key differentiator in the market. She also pointed to the operational success of the Korean Metals Plant (KMP), which is already producing essential rare earth metals and alloys. Smith mentioned plans to expand KMP's production to include heavy rare earths, reinforcing ASM's competitive advantage and commitment to technological advancement.

Smith also delved into the technological innovations at the KMP, showcasing ASM's forefront position in metallurgical advancements. The KMP's current production of neodymium-praseodymium (NdPr) and the development of neodymium iron boron (NdFeB) alloys are pivotal for high-performance magnets used in renewable energy and electric vehicles. This technological edge not only demonstrates ASM's capacity to meet critical global

demands but also reinforces its role as a leader in reducing dependency on the conventional rare earth supply chains. Smith's narrative underscores ASM's commitment to sustainability and innovation, highlighting its readiness to meet the increasing demands for rare earth elements critical to modern technology and green energy solutions.

To access the complete InvestorNews interview, [click here](#)

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About Australian Strategic Materials Ltd.

Australian Strategic Materials (ASX: ASM) is a vertically integrated 'mine to metals' producer of critical metals for new growth industries, high technologies and sustainable energy solutions. ASM operates a metals plant in Ochang, South Korea which is currently producing critical metals and alloys to customer specifications. The initial production focus is on neodymium praseodymium (NdPr) and neodymium iron boron (NdFeB). Currently, ASM sources the rare earth oxides for the production of the critical metals at its Korean Metals Plant (KMP) from a third party located in Vietnam. The company's Dubbo Project, is a long-term resource of rare earth elements, zirconium, niobium and hafnium, located in New South Wales, Australia. ASM intends to develop the Dubbo Project to produce metal oxides which will be used for refining into critical metals at ASM's KMP and subsequent plants that may be established in other jurisdictions.

To learn more about Australian Strategic Materials Limited, [click here](#)

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Rowena Smith sits down with Jack Lifton on ASM's 'Mines to Metal' Advantage in Supplying Rare Earths

written by InvestorNews | April 12, 2024

During an interview at PDAC 2024 in Toronto, Jack Lifton of InvestorNews sat down with Rowena Smith, the Managing Director of [Australian Strategic Materials Ltd.](https://www.asm.com.au) (ASX: ASM), to delve into the company's position and strategic initiatives within the rare earths and permanent magnet supply chain. Smith elucidated ASM's comprehensive strategy, spanning from "mine to metal," highlighting their advanced development project in Dubbo, New

South Wales, and their operational metals plant in South Korea. The company has successfully commenced production of neodymium praseodymium (NdPr) metal and neodymium iron boron (NdFeB) strip alloy, which are essential components for sintered magnets used across various technological applications. Smith proudly noted ASM's pioneering role as the first Australian entity and one of the few globally to achieve such depth in the supply chain outside of China, emphasizing the critical nature of their work in diversifying the global supply chain and reducing dependence on single-source suppliers.

Smith also detailed the Dubbo Project's progress, underlining its pivotal role in ASM's mine-to-metals business model for supplying rare earths and critical minerals. Funding and securing off-take agreements are current priorities, with the project's engineering, exploration, and permitting stages already completed. Smith's participation in a U.S. trade delegation and discussions with U.S. government departments reflect a strong international interest in funding the project. These interactions highlight the alignment between Australian and U.S. interests in establishing a sustainable and transparent critical minerals supply chain. ASM's engagement with various U.S. government agencies and the passage of legislation recognizing Australia as a 'domestic source' for U.S. Department of Defense procurement showcases the international efforts to bolster critical mineral supply chains outside of China. The company's ongoing discussions for offtake agreements and advancements in metallization capability at the Korean Metals Plant further underscore ASM's commitment to securing a robust position within the global supply chain of rare earth metals and alloys.

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Pat Ryan on Ucore's Engineering Advantage in the Production of Heavy Rare Earths for Permanent Magnets

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At PDAC Toronto 2024, [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) Co-Chairman Jack Lifton interviewed Pat Ryan, the Chairman and CEO of [Ucore Rare Metals Inc.](#) (TSXV: UCU | OTCQX: UURAF), discussing Ucore's advancements in the rare earths' permanent magnet supply chain. Ryan highlighted the company's focus on mid-market separation technologies, particularly their RapidSX technology, which significantly improves throughput rates for extracting rare earths essential for high-temperature applications like electric vehicles. With a commercial demo plant in Kingston, Ucore is engineering a full-scale system capable of producing heavy rare earths, including dysprosium, at purities above 99%. Ryan emphasized the strategic importance of heavy rare earths, noting, "The one critical thing we're really focused on is that heavy rare earth element...the permanent magnets really only work because the heavy rare earth allows it to operate at very high temperature."

Ucore's approach to securing feedstock for these valuable minerals is noteworthy, as Ryan mentioned sourcing from the Asian market outside of China. This strategic sourcing is part of Ucore's broader vision to disrupt China's control over the North American rare earth supply chain. With plans to operationalize a full-scale plant in Louisiana by 2025, Ucore is poised to become a significant player in the rare earths market. The company's engagement in joint ventures rather than traditional buy-sell agreements reflects a collaborative strategy aimed at strengthening the western rare earths supply chain. This initiative is further supported by Ucore's recent announcement of successfully separating a range of heavy rare earth elements using its RapidSX technology, marking a critical step towards establishing a domestic rare earth processing capability.

Ucore's commitment to innovation and strategic partnerships underscores its potential to influence the North American rare earths market significantly. By focusing on the production of heavy rare earths and employing advanced separation technologies, Ucore aims to reduce dependence on foreign rare earths and contribute to the resilience of critical supply chains. With a seasoned executive like Ryan, who has extensive experience in manufacturing and supply chain management, Ucore is well-positioned to navigate the complexities of rare earth processing and meet the growing demand for these essential components in various high-tech applications.

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About Ucore Rare Metals Inc.

Ucore is focused on rare- and critical-metal resources, extraction, beneficiation, and separation technologies with the potential for production, growth, and scalability. Ucore's vision and plan is to become a leading advanced technology company, providing best-in-class metal separation products and services to the mining and mineral extraction industry.

Through strategic partnerships, this plan includes disrupting the People's Republic of China's control of the North American REE supply chain through the near-term establishment of a heavy and light rare-earth processing facility in the US State of Louisiana, subsequent Strategic Metal Complexes in Canada and Alaska and the longer-term development of Ucore's 100% controlled Bokan-Dotson Ridge Rare Heavy REE Project on Prince of Wales Island in Southeast Alaska, USA.

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NeoTerrex Minerals' Mathieu Stephens on Unlocking Quebec's Rare Earths Potential

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In a compelling conversation with Tracy Weslosky at PDAC 2024, Mathieu Stephens, the President, CEO, and Director of [NeoTerrex Minerals Inc.](#) (TSXV: NTX), shared insights into the company's strategic pivot towards rare earths exploration, a move prompted by both serendipity and strategic analysis. NeoTerrex stumbled upon significant rare earth elements like neodymium (Nd) and dysprosium (Dy) in an old prospector report from Quebec, leading to the staking of what would become a key project for the company. Stephens, with a rich background in gold and base metals, articulated his fascination with rare earths, particularly due to their applications in green energy technologies and the strategic importance of developing domestic production capabilities in Canada. His anecdote, "I've never been as excited about any minerals as much as neodymium and the other rare earths," underscores the company's commitment to this new direction.

Amidst this strategic shift, NeoTerrex is advancing its rare earths projects located in Quebec, focusing on the Mount Discovery property, which the company wholly owns. The announcement of a maiden drill program is a significant milestone, reflecting both the project's potential and the logistical challenges faced due to unexpected warm weather affecting the start date. The planned 2,000-metre drill campaign

aims to explore the King showing, where promising surface values hint at substantial depth extensions. Stephens's mention of the company being "fully cashed up" highlights a strong financial position, allowing for a focused exploration strategy without the immediate need for external financing. This approach is bolstered by the presence of experienced capital market players on the team, promising a careful yet ambitious exploration and possibly strategic partnerships in the future.

The recent [news release](#) detailing the upcoming drill program on the Mount Discovery property reinforces the company's proactive stance in exploring rare earths potential. The program's aim to delineate areas of promising mineralization and its strategic approach to ascertain both lateral and depth extensions of mineralized zones showcase NeoTerrex's methodical exploration philosophy. With a diverse geological landscape and robust infrastructure supporting the project, NeoTerrex stands at the forefront of unlocking Quebec's rare earths potential, contributing to the strategic diversification of Canada's mineral production capabilities.

To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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About NeoTerrex Minerals Inc.

The Company is currently advancing its prospective rare earths projects located in the province of Quebec, with most of its activities focused on its Mount Discovery property. The Company owns a 100-percent undivided interest in certain mineral claims located in southwestern Quebec constituting the Mount Discovery property. The Property was acquired due to its rare earth element potential.

To know more about NeoTerrex Minerals Inc., [click here](#)

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Neo Performance's Rahim Suleman on being 'the most vertically integrated rare earth magnetics company in the world.'

written by InvestorNews | April 12, 2024

During an engaging interview at PDAC 2024 with [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) Co-Chairman Jack Lifton, Rahim Suleman, President, CEO, and Director of [Neo Performance Materials Inc.](#) (TSX: NEO), shed light on the company's strategic endeavors and its unique positioning in the rare earth materials sector. Suleman emphasized Neo's role as a pivotal player in the rare

earth magnetism market, underlining the critical importance of these materials in driving the energy transition and their explosive demand growth. He highlighted Neo's existing vertical integration in the rare earth magnet sector and its innovative dual supply chain strategy that provides a robust solution to the market's over-reliance on China, which dominates the extraction, processing, and magnet production of rare earth materials. "We are the most vertically integrated rare earth magnetism company in the world," Suleman remarked, illustrating Neo's commitment to mitigating concentration risks and fostering resilience in the supply chain.

Suleman further detailed Neo's significant investments in expanding its operational footprint, particularly mentioning the development of a sintered magnet facility in Estonia, which is poised to serve both the North American and European markets starting in 2025. This ambitious project, heralded as a landmark move to diversify the global rare earth magnet production landscape, underscores Neo's proactive approach to addressing the critical shortage of rare earth permanent magnet manufacturing capacity outside China. With plans to extend its manufacturing capabilities to North America and ongoing support from the European Union, Neo is strategically positioning itself to meet the burgeoning demand for rare earth magnets essential for electric vehicles and other green technologies. "We're in the process of investing in phase one... but we would immediately follow it with phase two and then immediately follow that and probably even concurrent to that do a large phase in North America as well," Suleman shared, highlighting Neo's comprehensive strategy to fulfill European and American EV Motor OEMs' demand for domestic sourcing of rare earth magnets.

To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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About Neo Performance Materials Inc.

Neo manufactures the building blocks of many modern technologies that enhance efficiency and sustainability. Neo's advanced industrial materials – magnetic powders and magnets, specialty chemicals, metals, and alloys – are critical to the performance of many everyday products and emerging technologies. Neo's products help to deliver the technologies of tomorrow to consumers today. The business of Neo is organized along three segments: Magnequench, Chemicals & Oxides and Rare Metals. Neo is headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Canada; with corporate offices in Greenwood Village, Colorado, United States; Singapore; and Beijing, China. Neo has a global platform that includes ten manufacturing facilities located in Canada, China, Estonia, Germany, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as one dedicated research and development centre in Singapore.

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Tom Drivas Explores the Initial Rare Earth Mineral Resource Estimate from Appia's PCH Ionic Adsorption Clay Project in Brazil

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In this interview with Tracy Weslosky during PDAC 2024, Tom Drivas, CEO and Director of [Appia Rare Earths & Uranium Corp.](#) (CSE: API | OTCQX: APAAF) discussed the results from the maiden [Mineral Resource Estimate](#) for Appia's PCH Ionic Adsorption Clay Project in Brazil. Announcing a significant 52.8 million tonnes of resource, Tom highlighted the presence of extremely high-grades of rare earths within this resource, showcasing some of the highest TREO (total rare earth oxide) grades globally.

Tom emphasized the project's potential, stating, "We have only explored 1% of the total area... We have 40,000 hectares." Tom also highlighted the project's richness in magnet rare earths like neodymium and praseodymium, essential for producing permanent magnets in high demand. The addition of industry experts like Constantine Karayannopoulos, Jack Lifton and Don Hains, P. Geo to Appia's Advisory Board underscores the

project's significance and potential.

Besides the project in Brazil, Appia is also advancing uranium exploration properties around the Athabasca Basin in Saskatchewan and has a significant uranium resource in Ontario at Elliot Lake. Notably, the company is also advancing its Alces Lake project in Saskatchewan, renowned for its high-grade critical rare earths in monazite.

To access the full interview, [click here](#)

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About Appia Rare Earths & Uranium Corp.

Appia is a publicly traded Canadian company in the rare earth element and uranium sectors. The Company is currently focusing on delineating high-grade critical rare earth elements and gallium on the Alces Lake property, as well as exploring for high-grade uranium in the prolific Athabasca Basin on its Otherside, Loranger, North Wollaston, and Eastside properties. The Company holds the surface rights to exploration for 94,982.39 hectares (234,706.59 acres) in Saskatchewan. The Company also has a 100% interest in 13,008 hectares (32,143 acres), with rare earth elements and uranium deposits over five mineralized zones in the Elliot Lake Camp, Ontario. Lastly, the Company holds the right to acquire up to a 70% interest in the PCH Project (See June 9th, 2023 Press Release – Click [HERE](#)) which is 40,963.18 ha. in size and located within the Goiás State of Brazil. (See January 11th, 2024 Press Release – [Click HERE](#))

To learn more about Appia Rare Earths & Uranium Corp., [click](#)

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Mark Chalmers on Energy Fuels as a Profitable Uranium Producer in the U.S.

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In this interview with Tracy Weslosky during PDAC 2024, Mark Chalmers, President, CEO, and Director of [Energy Fuels Inc.](https://www.energyfuels.com) (NYSE American: UUUU | TSX: EFR), shared insights into the company's record [annual net income](#) and its strategic advancements in both uranium production and rare earths processing. He emphasized the dual investment opportunity that Energy Fuels offers in uranium and rare earths, a combination

rarely found in the sector.

With the uranium market “on fire right now”, Mark highlighted Energy Fuels’ unique position in the market as a debt-free and profitable uranium producer. Having recently commenced uranium production at three of its uranium mines, Mark proudly noted Energy Fuels’ readiness for immediate production without the need for substantial capital investments.

Mark also shed light on Energy Fuels’ ventures into rare earths, particularly the processing of monazite that concurrently allows for uranium recovery. Mark pointed out recent strategic moves, including the acquisition of the Bahia Project in Brazil and a memorandum of understanding with [Astron Corporation Limited](#) (ASX: ATR) to jointly develop the Donald Rare Earth and Mineral Sands Project, located in Victoria, Australia. Mark also highlighted the commissioning of phase one of a separation plant at the White Mesa Mill in Utah to process up to 1000 tons of neodymium-praseodymium (NdPr).

To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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About Energy Fuels Inc.

Energy Fuels is a leading US-based critical minerals company. The Company, as the leading producer of uranium in the United States, mines uranium and produces natural uranium concentrates that are sold to major nuclear utilities for the production of carbon-free nuclear energy. Energy Fuels recently began production of advanced rare earth element (“REE”) materials, including mixed REE carbonate, and plans to produce commercial quantities of separated REE oxides in the future. Energy Fuels

also produces vanadium from certain of its projects, as market conditions warrant, and is evaluating the recovery of radionuclides needed for emerging cancer treatments. Its corporate offices are in Lakewood, Colorado, near Denver, and substantially all its assets and employees are in the United States. Energy Fuels holds two of America's key uranium production centers: the White Mesa Mill in Utah and the Nichols Ranch in-situ recovery ("ISR") Project in Wyoming. The White Mesa Mill is the only conventional uranium mill operating in the US today, has a licensed capacity of over 8 million pounds of U_3O_8 per year, and has the ability to produce vanadium when market conditions warrant, as well as REE products, from various uranium-bearing ores. The Nichols Ranch ISR Project is on standby and has a licensed capacity of 2 million pounds of U_3O_8 per year. The Company recently acquired the Bahia Project in Brazil, which is believed to have significant quantities of titanium (ilmenite and rutile), zirconium (zircon) and REE (monazite) minerals. In addition to the above production facilities, Energy Fuels also has one of the largest NI 43-101 compliant uranium resource portfolios in the US and several uranium and uranium/vanadium mining projects on standby and in various stages of permitting and development.

To learn more about Energy Fuels Inc., [click here](#)

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Industry Leaders Lifton and Karayannopoulos China's Influence on Rare Earth Prices and Markets Today

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In a thought-provoking InvestorNews interview hosted by the [Critical Minerals Institute](#) founder [Tracy Weslosky](#), [Jack Lifton](#) and [Constantine Karayannopoulos](#), two renowned figures in the rare earths market, share their insights on the sector's current trends and future prospects. Constantine Karayannopoulos, reflecting on the state of the market, observes, "There is never a dull moment in the rare earths industry," highlighting the ongoing slide in prices for critical rare earth elements like neodymium and praseodymium. He expresses a cautious outlook, noting, "I'm a little pessimistic about the near term... it's a cyclical industry."

[Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) Co-Chair Jack Lifton adds: "The low prices may be here for a while because the principal producer in the world is China, and China's having a very bad time economically right now." He emphasizes the opportunities presented by the current market conditions for strategic

investments, advising, “This is the ideal time for real mining and real processing companies to get into the game.”

Karayannopoulos also touches on the disconnection between market interest and actual market trends, suggesting, “There’s always a disconnect between reality versus expectation.” He elaborates on the nuanced dynamics within China, mentioning, “The Chinese consumer has not stopped buying, China grew at 5% last year.. However, the main consumer of rare earths today, the magnet industry that feeds the electric vehicle production in China, it’s not growing as fast as people thought it was going to grow.”

Lifton further discusses the broader implications of supply and demand, cautioning, “As long as the supply is in excess, the prices are not going to go up.” He also highlights the strategic importance of investments in raw material sources and processing capabilities, particularly in light of China’s dominance in the market.

Through their conversation, Lifton and Karayannopoulos provide a nuanced analysis of the rare earths market, blending perspectives on economic trends, geopolitical strategies, and investment opportunities. To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

Attention set on rare earths

in Canada and Brazil, Appia hits 2024 running

written by InvestorNews | April 12, 2024

[Appia Rare Earths & Uranium Corp.](#) (CSE: API | OTCQX: APAAF) (“Appia”) has several projects located across Canada and Brazil with rare earths and uranium potential, as well as some other valuable metals. The current focus for Appia is on advancing their two key rare earths projects Alces Lake Project in Canada and the PCH Ionic Clay Project in Brazil.

Today we give an update on Appia’s latest activity at these two projects.

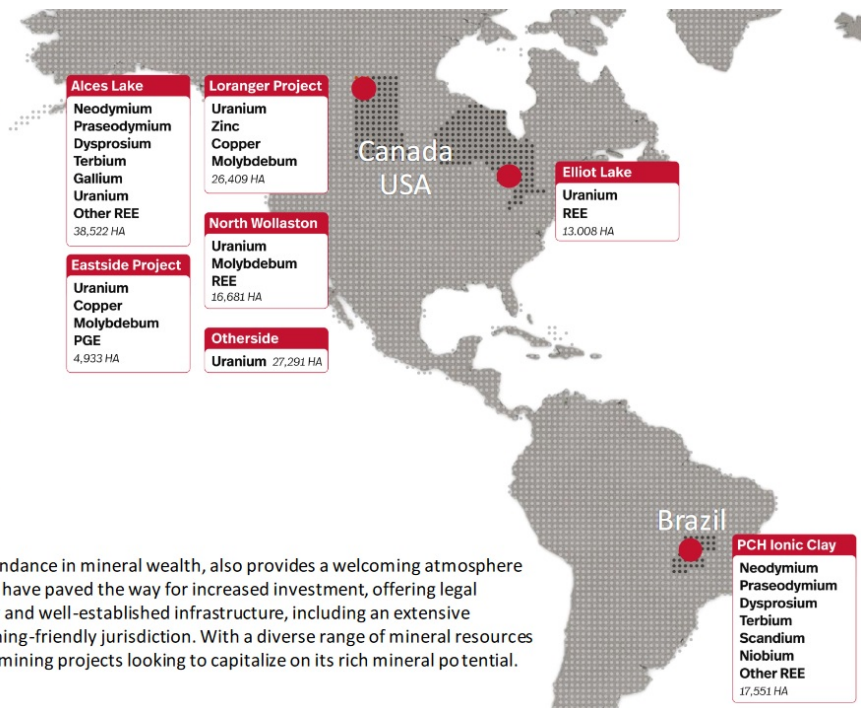
Appia’s projects are located in Canada and Brazil with a focus on rare earths and uranium

Our Projects

Appia is strategically positioned with mining projects in two of the world’s most mining-friendly jurisdictions, Canada and Brazil. These locations offer an array of compelling reasons for our choice.

Canada, renowned for its political stability and robust legal framework, stands as a beacon of security for mining investments. With a rich endowment of mineral resources and a well-established mining industry, Canada provides a secure environment where investor interests are safeguarded. The nation’s geological diversity opens up vast opportunities for resource exploration, and its experienced mining workforce ensures efficient project execution. Additionally, Canada’s developed infrastructure and skilled labour force create an environment where mining operations can thrive with ease. **The Company holds a large uranium ground position in Elliot Lake and four highly prospective uranium exploration projects in the prolific Athabasca Basin area: Loranger, North Wollaston, Eastside and Otherside.**

In the southern hemisphere, Brazil, while boasting similar abundance in mineral wealth, also provides a welcoming atmosphere for mining endeavors. The country’s regulatory improvements have paved the way for increased investment, offering legal certainty for mining operations. Brazil’s geological accessibility and well-established infrastructure, including an extensive transportation network, further underscore its appeal as a mining-friendly jurisdiction. With a diverse range of mineral resources and a skilled workforce, Brazil represents an ideal location for mining projects looking to capitalize on its rich mineral potential.



Source: [Appia company presentation](#)

Alces Lake Project in Canada (100% owned)

The Alces Lake Project is located in Northern Saskatchewan and is known for having exceptionally high rare earths grades and gallium in favorable monazite ore. Appia [state](#): “Alces Lake Project in Saskatchewan’s Athabasca Basin is the highest-grade critical rare earths prospect in North America and one of the highest-grade rare earths prospects in the world.”

Appia is now starting to release their latest results from the 2023 drill campaign from the Magnet Ridge Zone at Alces Lake.

Appia [announced](#) on January 15, 2024: “Assays of **up to 1.57 wt.% (15,700 ppm) Total Rare Earth Oxides (TREO)** were returned, with thickness and grades increasing to the south-southeast...**Mineralization intervals occur from near surface to < 85 metres depth.**”

Appia also [announced](#) in January 2024 that they have signed a new Cooperation Agreement with the Ya’thi Néné Lands and Resources Office.

Near term catalysts from Alces Lake include further assay results from the 40 diamond drill hole summer 2023 exploration program.

The PCH Project in Brazil (option to acquire [up to 70% interest](#))

The PCH Project is potentially a very significant ionic clay rare earths project located in Goias, Brazil. Ionic clay projects are favored as the extraction process for rare earths is a relatively simple and less expensive process, already

widely practiced in China. Furthermore, Appia's PCH Project has all the key rare earths needed for the powerful magnets used in electric motors in most EVs. Most other projects don't have this complete spectrum as discussed by leading rare earths expert Jack Lifton [here](#).

Drill results [announced](#) in October 2023 from the PCH Project have been very encouraging, including Hole RC-063 that reported 24 metres of mineralization from surface **with a total weighted average of 27,188 ppm or 2.72% of Total Rare Earth Oxides (TREO)**. The hole remains open at depth and has extended the known area of Target IV.

Appia Geology Manager, Carlos Bastos, [stated](#): *"The assay results from PCH-RC-063 are highly promising, revealing sustained mineralization of essential elements including **Terbium (Tb), Dysprosium (Dy), Neodymium (Nd), and Praseodymium (Pr)**. Notably, several elements surpassed the upper detection limit of the assay method being used, and updated results will be reported once received."*

Note: Bold emphasis by the author.

On January 16, 2024, Appia announced [reanalysis](#) of Hole RC-063 resulting in even higher grades of a **Total Weighted Average of 38,655 ppm or 3.87% TREO**.

From the first 10 holes drilled at the PCH Project the total weighted average grade is 7,578 ppm or [0.76% Total Rare Earth Oxide](#).

The January 11, 2024 Appia [announcement](#) highlights the excitement that the Appia team has towards the PCH Project. They announced an extension of their existing mining claims at the Project from 17,551.07 hectares to an expansive 40,963.18 hectares across a total of 22 claim blocks. The substantial 133%

increase in the current land package includes 12 new claims independently staked by the Company and incurred minimal costs.

The PCH Project is situated in a jurisdiction supportive of mining activities with many major mining corporations actively exploring and mining located just ~30 km from the city of Iporá. Access is good using well-developed regional roads with [optimal infrastructure](#) including water and power to the Project. Appia [says](#) that “the Project has the support of both local and state governments”.

Appia is targeting a Maiden Resource for the PCH Project Target IV in [Q1, 2024](#).

Typical differences between ionic clay and hard rock rare earth projects

	IONIC CLAY	HARD ROCK
Location	Mainly China, Brazil, Africa	China, USA, Australia Canada
Type of REE	Contain both Heavy and Light REE	Mainly Light REE
CAPEX and OPEX	Low CAPEX & OPEX	Same as other hard rock mining deposits – higher costs for drilling and blasting
Exploration and Mining	Quick, inexpensive, simple, shallow drilling in weathered granites; mainly found in top 10-30 metres. Easy mining without drilling or blasting. Environmentally friendly and therefore easier to permit.	More expensive exploration: Deeper, diamond core drilling, blasting, open-pit or underground mining; tailings
Processing	Simple leaching and very little radioactivity	High temperature cracking; tailings; often containing higher radioactivity

Source: [Appia company presentation](#)

Closing remarks

Appia is making steady progress on multiple projects with the key focus currently on the Alces Lake Project in Canada and the PCH Project in Brazil. Both Projects have strong potential with good grades and amenable ore, but will take time to develop. Appia also has their various uranium projects, but that's for

next time.

Appia trades on a market cap of [C\\$27 million](#). 2024 could potentially be a very big year for Appia. Stay tuned.