

# Donald Rare Earths & Mineral Sands Project

A low-cost, high margin rare earths operation on the cusp of construction

Presented by Tiger Brown



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#### **COMPETENT PERSONS STATEMENT**

The information in this report that relates to the MIN5532 Mineral Resource estimate is based on information and supporting documentation compiled by Mrs Christine Standing, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mrs Standing is a full-time employee of Optiro Pty Ltd (Snowden Optiro) and is independent of Astron Corporation, the owner of the Mineral Resources. Mrs Standing 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'. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not materially modified from the relevant original market announcement.

The information in this document that relates to the estimation of the RL2002 and RL2003 Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by Mr Rod Webster, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Webster is a full-time employee of AMC Consultants Pty Ltd and is independent of DMS, the owner of the Donald Project Mineral Resources. Mr Webster 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'. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not materially modified from the relevant original market announcement.

The information in this document that relates to the estimation of the Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Mr Pier Federici, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr Federici is a full-time employee of AMC Consultants Pty Ltd and is independent of Astron. Mr Federici 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'. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not prematurely modified from the relevant original market announcement.

The information in this document that relates to the metallurgical performance and outcomes of testwork is based on information compiled by Mr Ross McClelland, a Competent Person who is a Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Mr McClelland is the principal metallurgist and director of Metmac Services Pty Ltd. Mr McClelland has been involved with the metallurgical development of the Wimmera-style mineral sands resources for more than 30 years. He has provided metallurgical consultation services to DMS for more than 7 years. He qualifies as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Persons' findings are presented have not been prematurely modified from the relevant original market announcement.

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimates referenced in this document and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.

This announcement is authorised for release by the Managing Director of Astron.



## Astron and its Partners White Mesa-Mill **Donald Project** 164m 109.4m **ATR ASX Code** Market Cap **Net Assets** (22 July 2025) (31 Dec 2024)

## Globally Significant Resource Position

- Donald Project (51%-owned)
- Jackson Project (100% owned)

## **Dual-product Stream Robust economics**

- Rare earths to Energy Fuels
- Ti, Zr, to Astron & Partners

## Near-Term Production

- Major Approvals in-hand
- Advanced Engineering

# Donald Rare Earths & Mineral Sands Project



Globally significant critical mineral project<sup>1</sup>

**1** st

4<sup>th</sup>

Global in-situ zircon resource Ex-China rare earth resource



Scalable opportunity, Robust economics<sup>2</sup>

837m

22%

Pre-Tax NPV<sub>s</sub>

Pre-Tax IRR

Quoted NPV & IRR are Phase 1 only

Strategic and diverse product mix

Dy

Tb

In addition to the elements of Ti, Zr, Hf, Nd & Pr

- 1. Includes Jackson Project's Mineral Resource position
- 2. See ASX Announcement, 23 July 2025, Donald Phase 1 Updated Economics Study



# **Donald Joint Venture**

#### Building a Western Heavy Rare Earths Value Chain

"Donald Project ... is one of the richest deposits of HREEs in the world, which we could bring into production by the end of 2027, thereby providing much-needed U.S.-produced heavy rare earth oxides to other U.S. rare earth producers."

- Mark Chalmers, President & CEO of Energy Fuels<sup>1</sup>



Heavy Rare Earths are critical for strategic applications, where Dy, Tb allows permanent magnets to operate at higher temperatures



A Virginia class submarine uses 4,600kg of Rare Earths, notably Sm<sup>2</sup>

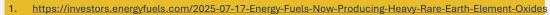
#### By the Numbers

\$183m

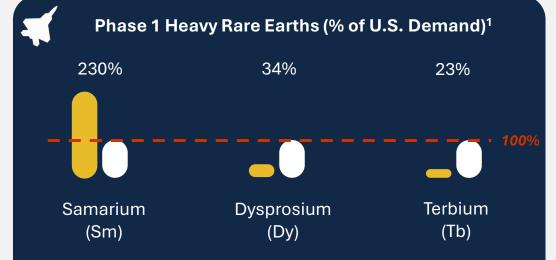
+ US\$17.5m (in UUUU shares) investment in exchange for 49% of Donald Project Astron remains the manager of the JV

100%





https://www.visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-how-rare-earths-power-u-s-defense/



# Energy Fuels Inc.

A leading U.S. Critical Minerals company



White Mesa Mill

The only existing facility in North America with capabilities to process monazite and produce advanced rare earth element products

NYSE-American, TSX-listed critical minerals company (market cap of ~US\$2.0 B)

Providing materials for clean energy, defence, health case and other high-value end use applications

Establishing an auditable, western rare earth supply chain from mine to metals, producing REO since 2021

Acquiring strategic assets, including Toliara Project (Madagascar), Donald JV, Bahia Project (Brazil), MoUs with POSCO and Chemours for RE



Metrics	Unit	Phase 1
Pre-tax NPV <sub>8</sub> (FID)	\$m	837
Pre-tax IRR	%	22.1
Post-tax NPV <sub>8</sub> (FID)	\$m	522
Post-tax IRR	%	17.6
Payback period from start of operations	years	5.0
Execution capital cost	\$m	439
Cumulative free cash flow	\$m	3,436
Life of mine	years	41.8
Ore processing throughput	Mtpa	7.5
Average ore grade	%	4.4
Average strip ratio	Ratio	1.7

# Phase 1 Economics

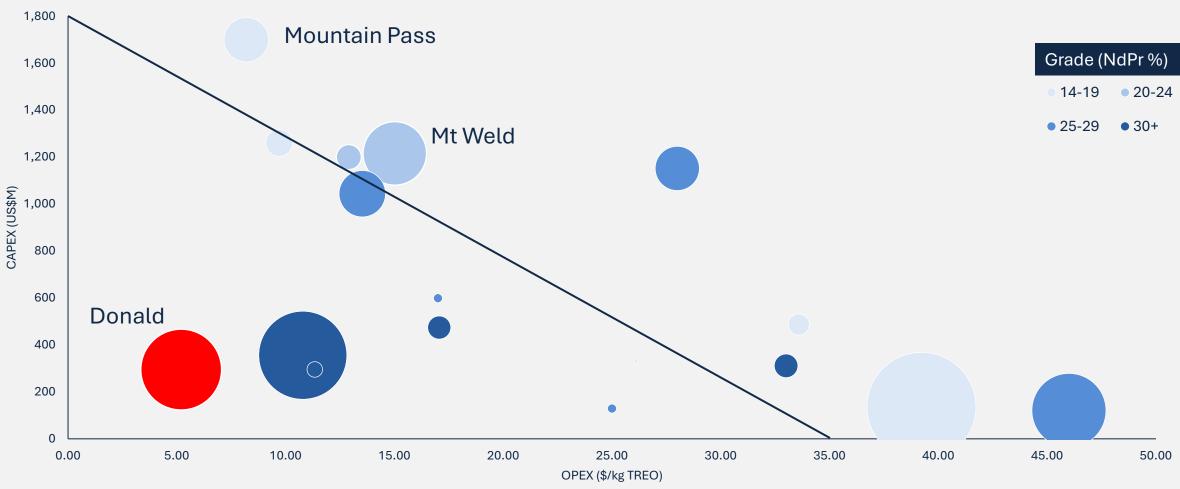


**Planned Operations** 

Q4 2027



## Low CAPEX, Low OPEX, Scalable RE Production



Source: Argus Consulting



# Major Approvals In-Hand

Environmental Effects

Statement

Granted 2008

Mining Licence

Granted 2010

Cultural

Heritage

Management

Plan

Completed in 2014

Work Plan

Approved 2025

#### **Land Access**

The Venture either owns or have executed access agreements that cover the land within Work Plan

















Construction

Targeted Q4 2025

**Operations** 

Targeted Q4 2027

Environment, Protection, Biodiversity & Conservation Approval

Granted 2009

Water Rights

Acquired 2011

Renewed 2024

Licence

9

# Extensive Evaluation and De-risking

#### **Geology & Mining**



- Over 85% of Reserves Proven
- Conventional low-strip mining
- Test-pit rehabilitated

#### **Engineering**



- AACE Level 2 Feasibility Study
- Main contracts, process plant, mining, logistics & earthworks near or ready to execute

#### **Early Works - Underway**



- Water pipeline contract executed
- Project owners' team structure in-place, key personnel recruited

# **Board & Management**



George Lloyd



Tiger Brown
Managing Director



Mark Elliott
Non-Executive Director



Kang Rong
Non-Executive Director





Gerard King
Non-Executive Director

Executive



Sean Chelius
Project Director



Grant Huggins
GM Operations



Jessica Reid GM Sustainability



Joshua Theunissen
General Counsel



Greg Bell
Chief Financial Officer



# Scalable Economics

Opportunity to leverage unique resource position



#### **China Mineral Separation Plant**

- Capture additional value
- Direct access to end users & customers



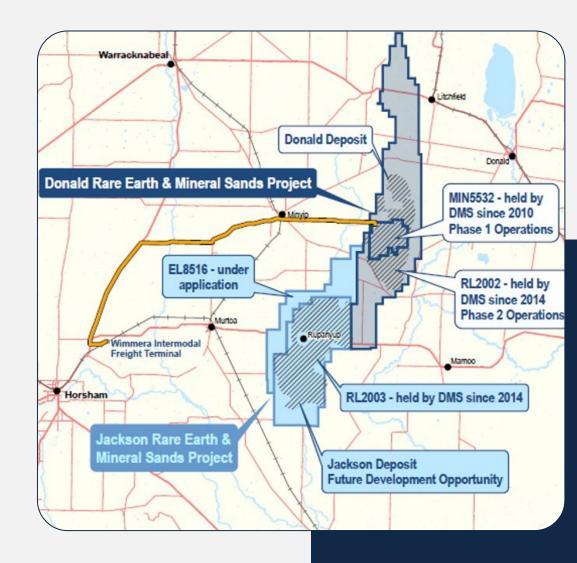
#### **Donald Project - Phase 2 "Doubling"**

- Construction as soon as 2029
- PFS Economics, 1.4B increase to NPV<sub>8</sub>, 58yr mine life



#### **Donald Project - Phase 3**

- 823Mt Resource @ 4.8% HM
- 7.5 mt in-situ Zircon, 412 kt of in-situ TREO
- Additional exploration upside



## **Environment & Social**



Mining the building blocks for the clean energy transition



Progressive rehabilitation of land to its original form



Auditable source of rare earths distinguished from conflict supply



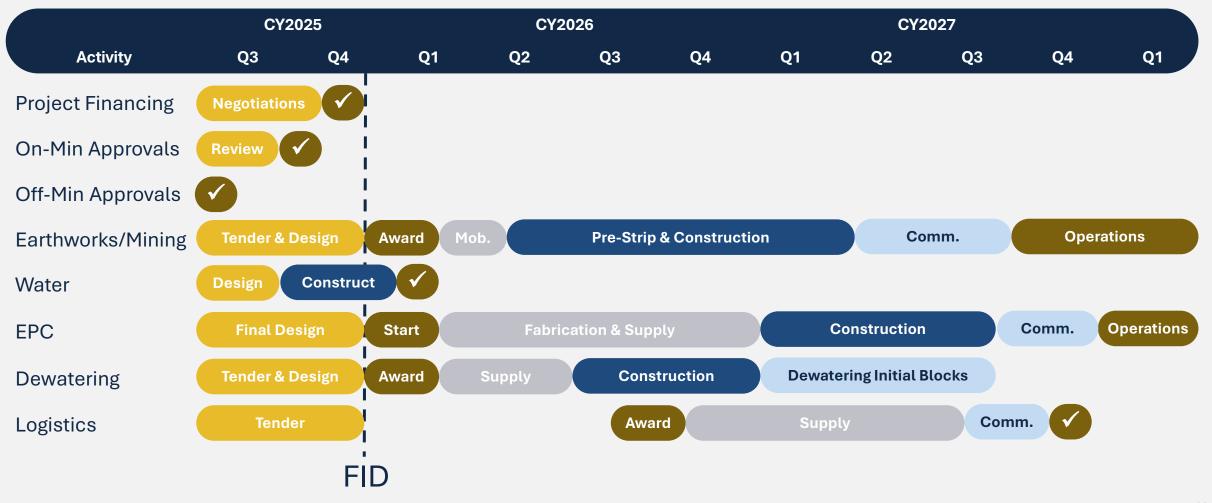
Mining on predominantly cleared land & water recycling

#### Mineral sands mine lifecycle





## Project Schedule



# Next steps



- Update detailed mine-plan based on revised in-fill drilling assays
- · Progress contract negotiations to ready-to-execute
- Update resource reports to comply with NI43-101 & SK-1300 requirements

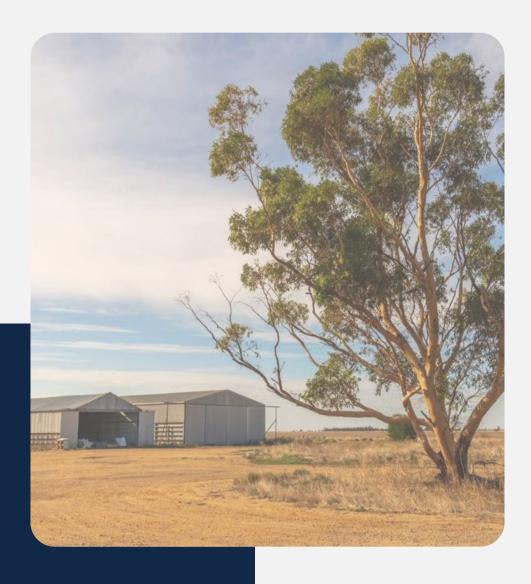


- Continue to engage with prospective lenders soundings demonstrated strong interest from traditional lenders
- Engage with Export Credit Agencies



- Early works commenced, with water pipeline contract executed
- Final investment decision, executing contracts, targeted end of 2025
- Operations & Delivery of product in Q4 2027







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# Get in touch