



Highest grade lithium deposit in North America under development in Yarmouth County



by Carla Allen/The Vanguard

[View all articles from Carla Allen/The Vanguard](#)

Article online since February 23rd 2010, 14:09

By Carla Allen THE VANGUARD NovaNewsNow.com

A Vancouver-based oil and gas exploration and development company is partnering with Nova Scotia's Champlain Mineral Ventures Ltd. to develop one of the highest-grade lithium deposits in North America.

In a letter of intent, Petro Horizon Energy Corp (PHEC) lists minimum work commitments of \$2 million over the next three years with a minimum of \$500,000 in the first year.

The property consists of two exploration licences that include 79 claims covering 3,160 acres on either side of the Holly Road, which runs from Brazil Lake across to Highway 340 in Yarmouth County.

With each year of partnership, PHEC's percentage of interest in the property will grow – from 37.5 per cent after the second year, to 60 per cent after the third, and finally to 75 per cent after the delivery of a Bankable Feasibility Study.

Christopher Anderson, media liaison officer for PHEC, says the find is a fantastic opportunity for those looking at locking down a domestic supply of lithium, which there is a growing demand for in electric hybrid cars.

"What we've got here, is we've already got road access to the property, we've got power to the property and we've got an advanced stage of drilling already done and some pre-testing metallurgy," he said.

Although PHEC has several projects in Texas, this is its first venture in Canada.

"This is a new change for the company, a new direction, it's part of the green energy program that they are working towards," said Anderson, who added that there were several reasons behind their choice to partner with



TSX.V:PHE OTCBB: PRZCF FRANKFURT: PHO
www.PetroHorizonEnergy.ca

Champlain Mineral Ventures Ltd.

"Part of the reason we liked this group is they've got a successful track record at identifying good projects. They've already spent a million dollars on the property and drilled off 30 drill holes and they've done geophysical work and geotechnical work. One of the other attractive things about the project here is that they've already done some pre-testing of the metallurgy at Dalhousie University. The metallurgy is very important when you're dealing with lithium because being able to separate the material from the host rock is always a challenge," said Anderson.

John Wightman, formerly of Digby, is president of Champlain Mineral Ventures Ltd., which is based in Bridgetown. The company has existed since the 1960s and has discovered a number of deposits. Chief geologist Avarad Hudgins's discoveries led to the East Kemptville tin mine, which operated from 1985 to 1992.

We applied for a drilling notification through the Department of Natural Resources. Supplied with all the government regulations with regard to entry onto the property and the exploration work conducted to date.

Wightman says his company has been working on the Brazil Lake venture for "quite awhile" after complying with all of the Natural Resources regulations for entry onto the property and exploration drilling. They are pleased to have "the right partner to move ahead."

The project will start off modestly with six to eight people contracted through a diamond drilling company for more exploration.

He describes the pegmatite find as rich in lithium spodumene but also containing beryllium, tantalum, and mica, among other minerals.

"A pegmatite is like a pig, you sort of have the tail and the ears and the snout, as well as the pork chops," he said.

"Everything has value there. We're even looking for the squeal of the pig although that is sometimes hard to nail down," he said.

Although the ultimate potential of the mine will not be as large as the tin mine, which was the second largest hard rock tin mine in the world, it could be a tenth of the size.

"If it ever got into production there might be something in the order of 30 to 50 jobs," said Wightman.

It will take three to four years before that stage, if feasible, begins in earnest. Part of the company's overall plan is to implement a pilot plant once definition drilling is complete.



TSX.V:PHE OTCBB: PRZCF FRANKFURT: PHO
www.PetroHorizonEnergy.ca

Wightman added that they have had very good reception from previous work in the area and that they have two or three other properties under slow development.

"Everywhere we work, everyone is so positive about job creation and wanting to see economic development happening," he said.

"Under the conditions that mining takes place nowadays, the fears of a lot of people, rooted in the practices of a 50 or 100 years ago, are pretty unfounded. We have to work under very tight environmental restrictions, which is proper as it should be."

More news is expected in the near future on other rare metals associated with the project. Some of these include niobium, tungsten tin, silica chloride and rubidium.

About Lithium

"70 per cent of the world's low-cost lithium is mined from a salt flat in Chile. What could potentially be the largest lithium mine in the world is under development in Bolivia." Bloomberg News

"Overall demand for Lithium is increasing at an annual rate of seven per cent, demand for the mineral is increasing 35 per cent annually for use in batteries. This is driven by automakers moving toward electrifying their vehicles to meet the rigid emissions standards set by governments around the globe." National Post.

"Lithium and its compounds have several industrial applications, including heat-resistant glass and ceramics and high strength-to-weight alloys used in aircraft, in addition to lithium batteries. Lithium also has important links to nuclear physics." Wikipedia

"The battery pack in each Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid will contain about nine kilograms of lithium carbonate. Future vehicles powered by battery alone might require up to 25 kilograms." Toronto Star

For More Information, Contact

John Curle
Investor Relations
Petro Horizon Energy Corp
ir@PetroHorizonEnergy.ca
778.938.8302