

# **ASX / TSX ANNOUNCEMENT**

24 May 2018

## **Updated Cauchari resource estimate - 3.0 Mt Lithium Carbonate Equivalent**

Orocobre Limited (ASX: ORE, TSX: ORL) ("Orocobre" or "the Company") is pleased to announce an updated resource estimate for the Company's Cauchari Joint Venture Project in Jujuy, Argentina based on the Phase II drilling results. The update, prepared by FloSolutions S.A.C, has increased the Inferred Resource to a volume of approximately 1,200 million cubic metres of brine at average grades of 450 mg/l lithium and 4,028 mg/l potassium for 3.0 Mt of Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE) and will be the basis for a Scoping Study/Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) scheduled for completion in this quarter.

The exploration program is being managed by JV partner **Advantage Lithium Corp.** ("Advantage Lithium") (TSX Venture: AAL) (OTCQX: AVLIF) who hold 75% of Cauchari. Orocobre owns 29% of Advantage Lithium's issued capital and 25% directly in the joint venture.

## Highlights:

- +6-fold increase of the inferred resource to 3.0 Mt LCE at Cauchari at 450 mg/l Lithium
- The updated resource covers a significantly larger area and extends to greater depths in the NW and SE Sectors
- Significant potential for additional resource expansion at depth
- The brine has excellent chemistry for processing and the Mg/Li ratio averages 2.5, very similar to Orocobre's Olaroz project
- Phase III drilling is underway to upgrade this inferred resource and underlying brine to measured and indicated resources for the definitive feasibility study (DFS) scheduled for completion in Q2 2019

Advantage Lithium intends to submit a full technical report within 45 days of this filing, in accordance with the requirements of National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) to support the conclusions presented here.

Richard Seville, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer commented "We are very pleased with the results from the programme so far which has delivered a six times increase on the prior resource estimate. Three million tonnes LCE provides a solid basis for a Scoping Study/PEA and there is a significant exploration target from which we will build our resource base further. We will be completing the Scoping Study/PEA during this quarter and then will progress to a definitive Feasibility Study for a potential 20,000 tonnes per annum of Lithium Carbonate. I commend our partner and JV manager Advantage Lithium and its dedicated management team for delivering this quality programme in such a short period of time and we look forward to continue working with them on the Scoping Study/PEA."

#### **Updated Cauchari Resource**

Based on the results of the 2017/2018 drilling programme, the resource at Cauchari has been increased. As advised by independent consultants FloSolutions S.A.C. there is now an Inferred Resource of 1,200 million cubic metres of brine at 450 mg/l lithium and 4,028 mg/l potassium. This is equivalent to 3.0 Mt Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE) (based on 5.32 tonnes of lithium carbonate is equivalent to 1 tonne of lithium) and 9.5 Mt of potassium chloride (based on 1 tonne potassium chloride is equivalent to 1.91 tonnes of potassium). The resource estimate includes both the NW and SE Sectors. This is an expansion of six times the previous estimate of 0.47 Mt of Lithium Carbonate Equivalent. The average grade of the entire resource has increased to 450 mg/l Li and 4,028 mg/l K. Locally higher grades were encountered in the NW Sector in areas such as production hole CAU07 (601 mg/l during 48 hr pumping test) and in the Deep Sand unit in CAU11 (515 mg/l during 48 hr pumping test). The results of the estimation are summarized in Table 1 below.

The brine resource is calculated over the NW and SE Sectors of the Cauchari project and covers an area of 92.6 km2. The brine resource in the NW Sector extends from the brine level below the Archibarca fan to a depth of up to 300 m. The brine resources in the SE Sector extend from the phreatic brine level to a constant depth of 300 m and continue locally as a separate resource volume in the Deep Sand unit between approximately 400 m and 480 m depth (as defined by Deep Sand drilling intercepts in holes CAU11, CAU12 and CAU13). None of the boreholes completed to date have intercepted bedrock (basement) and the resource remains open at depth. A significant exploration target has been defined below the current inferred resources as further discussed below (Table 3).

Table 1: Cauchari Project Lithium and Potassium Resource Estimate; May 22, 2018

Inferred Resources (lithium cut-off of 300 mg/l)						
Parameter	NW Sector		SE Sector		Total	
Resource area (km²)	3	35.2	5	7.4	92.6	
Aquifer volume (km³)	(	6.5	1	3.9	2	20.4
Mean specific yield (Sy)	9%		4%		6%	
Brine volume (km³)	0.6		0.6		1.2	
Element	Li	K	Li	K	Li	K
Mean concentration (mg/l)	465	3,920	443	4,078	450	4,028
Mean grade (g/m³)	44	373	20	184	28	244
Total Resource (tonnes)	288,000 2,420,000		280,000	2,560,000	568,000	4,980,000
Lithium Carbonate (tonnes)	1,530,000		1,490,000		3,020,000	
Potash (tonnes)	4,60	00,000	4,900,000		9,500,000	

#### Notes

- 1. JORC definitions were followed for mineral resources.
- 2. The Competent Person for this Mineral Resource estimate is Frits Reidel, CPG.
- 3. A lithium cut-off concentration of 300 mg/L has been applied to the resource estimate.
- 4. Lithium is converted to lithium carbonate (Li2CO3) with a conversion factor of 5.32.
- 5. Potassium is converted to potash with a conversion factor of 1.91
- 4. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Results of the brine chemistry analysis carried out to date indicate that the Cauchari brine is similar in composition to the brine in the adjacent Olaroz Salar from which Orocobre is successfully producing lithium carbonate using conventional lithium processing technology. Table 2 provides a summary of the Cauchari brine characteristics. The lower average lithium concentration of the total inferred resource compared to that of drill holes such as CAU07, CAU11 (and other results released

during the Phase II drilling program) reflects the presence of lower concentration brine near surface in the SE Sector such as around holes CAU12, 13 and 14. The brine characteristics and hydraulic characteristics in the upper SE Sector are distinct from those in the NW Sector and the Deep Sand unit. Pumping tests from the NW Sector and Deep Sand have produced excellent flows with lithium concentration >500 mg/l lithium, as reported by the company on the 7th of February and 6th of March 2018. There is a reasonable prospect that the Cauchari brine from these areas could be successfully processed using similar technology to the Olaroz plant.

**Table 2: Cauchari brine chemistry characteristics** 

Samples Ratio	NW Sector & Deep Sand	Upper SE Sector
Mg/Li	2.7	2.5
SO4/Li	29.4	69.6

## **Resource Estimation Methodology**

The updated lithium resource estimate for the Cauchari Project is based on the results of seven diamond holes and five rotary holes drilled during the Phase II campaign in 2017/8 and results of four diamond drill holes of the Phase I campaign in 2011. Figure 1 shows a location map of the boreholes completed during the 2011 and 2017/8 drilling campaigns. Brine sample collection during the 2017/8 program consisted of bailed and packer samples in the diamond holes, and packer and pumped samples in the rotary holes. A total of 449 brine samples (including 164 QA/QC samples) were analyzed by Norlabs (JuJuy, Argentina) as the primary laboratory and by Alex Steward Assayers (Mendoza, Argentina) and the University of Antofagasta (Chile) as secondary QA/QC laboratories. Additional brine QA/QC analyses were carried out on centrifuged samples collected by Corelabs in Houston, TX.

HQ core was retrieved during the diamond core drilling from which some 172 primary undisturbed samples were prepared for laboratory drainable porosity and other physical parameter determinations by Geo Systems Analaysis (GSA) in Tucson, AZ. Laboratory QA/QC porosity analyses are being undertaken by Corelabs.

The lithium resource was estimated using SGEMs software with ordinary kriging and applying a 300 mg/l lithium concentration cut-off. The resource estimate was prepared in accordance with the guidelines of National Instrument 43-101 and uses best practice methods specific to brine resources, including a reliance on core drilling and sampling methods that yield depth-specific chemistry and drainable porosity measurements. The resource estimation was completed by independent qualified person Mr. Frits Reidel of Santiago based hydrogeology firm FloSolutions with extensive experience in the estimation of lithium brine resources in Argentina.

## **Geological Exploration Target**

The geological exploration target is estimated to range between 1,430,000 and 3,000,000 t LCE, primarily in the SE Sector beneath the current inferred resource area in the Deep Sand unit to a depth of 600 m. Table 3 provides the details of the geological exploration potential. The upper and lower ranges of the geological potential were bounded by two times the standard deviation around the calculated average lithium concentration of the overlying inferred resources. The Deep Sand unit in the SE Sector was intersected below 360 m in CAU11, CAU12 and CAU13. A preliminary 48 hour

pumping test in CAU11 at a pumping rate of 19 l/s indicated that the Deep Sand unit has excellent hydraulic characteristics. The geology of the Cauchari basin suggests there is good potential to convert brine within the exploration target to resources. Similar sand units have been intersected in the neighboring Olaroz project.

**Table 3: Cauchari Project – Geological Potential** 

Geological Potential - Lower range (X-2SD)						
Parameter	NW Sector		SE Sector		Total	
Resource area (km²)	3	5.2	57.4		92.6	
Aquifer volume (km³)	2	2.6	1	2.8	1	5.4
Mean specific yield (Sy)	11%		5%		6%	
Brine volume (km³)	0.3		0.6		0.9	
Element	Li	K	Li	K	Li	K
Mean concentration (mg/l)	281	2,320	281	2,320	281	2,320
Mean grade (g/m³)	31 258		15	122	23	190
Total Resource (tonnes)	80,000	670,000	190,000	1,550,000	270,000	2,220,000
Lithium Carbonate (tonnes)	430,000		1,000,000		1,430,000	
Potash (tonnes)	1,30	0,000	2,900,000		4,200,000	

Geological Potential – Upper range (X+2SD)						
Parameter	NW Sector		SE Sector		Total	
Resource area (km²)	3	35.2	5	57.4		2.6
Aquifer volume (km³)		2.6	1	2.8	1	5.4
Mean specific yield (Sy)	11%		5%		6%	
Brine volume (km³)	0.3		0.6		0.9	
Element	Li	Li K		K	Li	K
Mean concentration (mg/l)	594	5,735	594	5,735	594	5,735
Mean grade (g/m³)	66	638	31	301	49	473
Total Resource (tonnes)	170,000 1,650,000		400,000	3,840,000	570,000	5,490,000
Lithium Carbonate (tonnes)	900,000		2,100,000		3,000,000	
Potash (tonnes)	3,10	00,000	7,300,000		10,400,000	

The potential quantity and grade of the exploration target is conceptual in nature, and there has been insufficient exploration to define a Mineral Resource in the volume where the Exploration Target is outlined. It is uncertain if further exploration drilling will result in the determination of a Mineral Resource in this volume. The exploration target is where, based on the available geological evidence, there is the possibility of defining a mineral resource. Importantly the exploration target is not to be considered a resource or reserve. It must be stressed the exploration target is based on a series of assumptions and future drilling is required to determine the brine grade and formation drainable porosity values to establish whether a resource can be defined.

**Table 4: Cauchari Project - Drillhole Locations** 

Exploration Hole Number	Sector		Depth Installed Well (m)	Assay Interval (m)	Lithium (mg/l avg)	Potassium (mg/l avg)	Drilling Method	•	gentine*	Elevation Mean Sea Level (m) <sup>+</sup>		Dip
								Easting	Northing	,		
CAU07	NW	343.00	329	135-343	601	4,853	Rotary	3421200	7383987	3964	0	-90
CAU08	SE	400.00	400	50-400	517	5,319	Rotary	3423938	7374503	3941	0	-90
CAU09	SE	400.00	400	60-400	662	6,137	Rotary	3423778	7377785	3940	0	-90
CAU10	SE	429.00	340	50-340	682	6,516	Rotary	3425532	7379306	3940	0	-90
CAU11	SE	480.00	478	50-476	515	4,577	Rotary	3421752	7372571	3941	0	-90
CAU12	SE	413.00	207	25-169	305	3,048	Diamond	3421708	7374690	3941	0	-90
CAU13	SE	449.00	252	39-281	435	4,088	Diamond	3422774	7376298	3940	0	-90
CAU14	SE	598.00	455	tbc	tbc	tbc	Diamond	3425670	7377021	3942	0	-90
CAU15	NW	240.50	210	102-234.5	407	3196	Diamond	3419292	7373396	3941	0	-90
CAU16	NW	321.50	255	14-298	436	3608	Diamond	3419925	7379892	3941	0	-90
CAU17	NW	237.50	238	178-203	571	4,488	Diamond	3419965	7387431	3991	0	-90
CAU18	NW	359.00	359	165-320	476	3,775	Diamond	3422571	7386977	3964	0	-90

<sup>\*</sup> Gauss Kruger Zone 3, using the POSGAR Datum. Locations confirmed by surveyor.

## Phase III Drilling and Further Resource Expansion

The Phase III resource definition drilling program is currently underway at the Cauchari project site. The Phase III program will include additional diamond holes in the NW and SE Sectors to upgrade the resource classification by Q2 2019 to support the Project's Definitive Feasibility Study. The Phase III drilling program is designed to provide a combined borehole density sufficient to upgrade the current inferred resources to the Indicated and Measured categories. The Phase III drilling is also aimed at further defining resources in the Deep Sand unit.

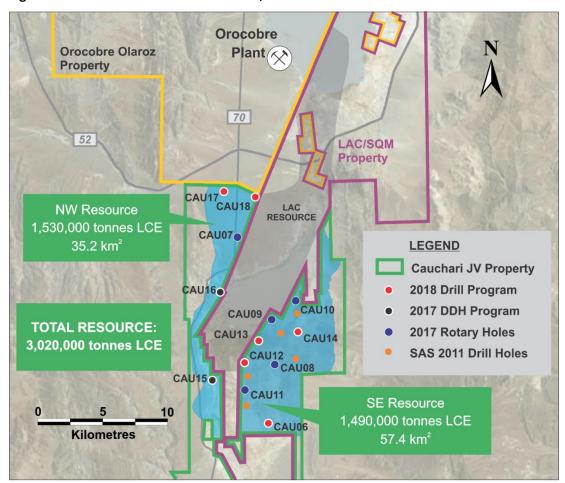


Figure 1: Cauchari 2018 resource outlines, Phase II and historical drill holes

### For more information please contact:

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#### **Qualified Person's/Competent Person's Statement**

The information in this report that relates to exploration reporting at the Cauchari JV project has been prepared by Mr Frits Reidel. Frits Reidel is a Certified Professional Geologist and member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists. Frits Reidel is General Manager and Principal with FloSolutions and is independent of Orocobre. Frits has sufficient relevant experience 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. He is also a "Qualified Person" as defined in NI 43-101. Frits Reidel consents to the inclusion in this announcement of this information in the form and context in which it appears.

#### **About Orocobre Limited**

Orocobre Limited (Orocobre) is a dynamic global lithium carbonate supplier and an established producer of boron.

Orocobre is dual listed on the Australia and Toronto Stock Exchanges (ASX: ORE), (TSE: ORL). Orocobre's operations include its Olaroz Lithium Facility in Northern Argentina, Borax Argentina, an established Argentine boron minerals and refined chemicals producer and a 29% interest in Advantage Lithium.

For further information, please visit www.orocobre.com

# JORC Table 1 – Section 1 Sampling Techniques and Data (Criteria in this section apply to all succeeding sections.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Sampling techniques	<ul> <li>Nature and quality of sampling (eg cut channels, random chips, or specific specialised industry standard measurement tools appropriate to the minerals under investigation, such as down hole gamma sondes, or handheld XRF instruments, etc). These examples should not be taken as limiting the broad meaning of sampling.</li> <li>Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.</li> <li>Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.</li> <li>In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (eg 'reverse circulation drilling was used to obtain 1 m samples from which 3 kg was pulverised to produce a 30 g charge for fire assay'). In other cases more explanation may be required, such as where there is coarse gold that has inherent sampling problems. Unusual commodities or mineralisation types (eg submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Drill core in diamond holes was recovered in 1.5 m length core runs in polycarbonate tubes where these were available to minimize sample disturbance. Where these tubes were not available standard core split triple tubes were used with core samples wrapped in cling-film and duct tape following recovery to prevent moisture loss from the core before storage in core boxes.</li> <li>Drill core was collected to obtain representative samples of the sediments that host brine to evaluate the porosity and permeability of these host sediments.</li> <li>Brine samples were collected at discrete depths during the diamond drilling using a bailer device. The bailer device was also used for purging brine from the holes prior to sampling. Initially in the program double (straddle) packer sampling equipment was used to take samples over 3 m intervals in holes</li> <li>The brine samples were collected in clean plastic bottles and filled to the top to minimize air space within the bottle. Each bottle was marked with the time and relabeled with a sample number before sending the sample to the laboratory.</li> </ul>
Drilling techniques	Drill type (eg core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc) and details (eg core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, facesampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc).	<ul> <li>Diamond drilling with an internal (triple) tube was used during the Phase II program. Core recovery was variable and sometimes poor when associated with extensive unconsolidated sandy material. Recovery of these more friable sediments is more difficult with diamond drilling, as this material can be washed from the core barrel during drilling.</li> <li>Fresh water was used as drilling fluid for lubrication during drilling of diamond holes to minimize the possibility of</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		contamination of natural formation brine with lithium-bearing fluids. Biodegradable additives are used to minimize the development of thick wall cake in the holes that could reduce the inflow of brine to the hole and affect brine quality.  • Rotary drilling was undertaken to install pre-collars for holes drilled in the NW Sector sands and gravels to a depth of 130 m in CAU18 and 140 m in CAU17. This was done to isolate fresh to brackish water in the upper part of the sediments above 100 m from underlying brine and to prevent any contamination/dilution of the brine samples.  • Conventional rotary drill holes were also used to install 5 test production wells in the SE and NW Sectors, which were subject to initial pumping tests.
Drill sample recovery	<ul> <li>Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.</li> <li>Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.</li> <li>Whether a relationship exists between sample recovery and grade and whether sample bias may have occurred due to preferential loss/gain of fine/coarse material.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Diamond drill core was recovered in 1.5m length intervals in triple (polycarbonate or split) tubes. Appropriate additives were used for hole stability and to maximize core recovery. The retrieved core was measured for each run to calculate the percentage core recovery.</li> <li>Brine samples were collected at discrete depths using a bailer (sampling the brine at the base of the hole while the drill rods were slightly raised to allow brine inflow after adequately purging the hole).</li> <li>As the lithium brine (mineralisation) samples are taken from brine inflows into the bottom of the hole (and not from the drill core – which has variable recovery) they are largely independent of the quality (recovery) of the core samples. Fluorescein tracer dye is used as an additive to the drilling fluid to distinguish drilling fluid from natural formation brine during the brine sampling.</li> <li>Rotary holes were completed as test</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		production wells by installing alternating blank and screened stainless steel casing sections and gravel pack (CAU07, 08, 09, 10, 11). Brine samples were collected during 48 hr pumping tests in these test production wells. Additional brine sampling was carried out in the test production wells using a double packer sampling system. The packer sampling took place from the (isolated) screened sections of the wells at low flow rates (< 0.5 l/s). Sampling has been conducted in the upper levels of the holes and deeper sampling is yet to be completed.
Logging	<ul> <li>Whether core and chip samples have been geologically and geotechnically logged to a level of detail to support appropriate Mineral Resource estimation, mining studies and metallurgical studies.</li> <li>Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc) photography.</li> <li>The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Diamond holes are logged by geologists who also supervise taking of undisturbed samples from the core for laboratory porosity analysis.</li> <li>Logging is both qualitative and quantitative in nature. The relative proportions of different lithologies which have a direct bearing on the overall porosity, contained and potentially extractable brine are noted, as are more qualitative characteristics such as the sedimentary facies and their relationships. When cores are split for sampling they are photographed.</li> <li>Core recoveries are measured for the entire core interval recovered.</li> <li>Rotary wells and diamond hole precollars were logged by experienced geologists. However, interpretation of the drill cutting is more qualitative due to the rotary drilling method.</li> </ul>
Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation	<ul> <li>If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.</li> <li>If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotary split, etc and whether sampled wet or dry.</li> <li>For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.</li> <li>Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Core is systematically sub-sampled for the preparation of laboratory samples by cutting the lower 10-15 cm of the core either in the polycarbonate tubes or preserving the sample in cling wrap, tape and plastic tubing for transportation</li> <li>Sub-samples were sent to the GSA laboratory for drainable porosity testing.</li> <li>Core sampling is systematic with samples taken at the base of core runs every 6 m</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	<ul> <li>Measures taken to ensure that the sampling is representative of the in situ material collected, including for instance results for field duplicate/second-half sampling.</li> <li>Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.</li> </ul>	to minimize sampling bias. This is considered to be an appropriate technique to obtain representative samples, although core recovery is noted to be variable.  • Duplicate samples for porosity testing are prepared in the laboratory for analysis by a secondary QA/QC laboratory (Corelabs)
Quality of assay data and laboratory tests	<ul> <li>The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</li> <li>For geophysical tools, spectrometers, handheld XRF instruments, etc, the parameters used in determining the analysis including instrument make and model, reading times, calibrations factors applied and their derivation, etc.</li> <li>Nature of quality control procedures adopted (eg standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision have been established.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Norlab/Alex Stuart laboratory in Jujuy, Argentina is used as the primary laboratory to conduct the assaying of the brine samples collected as part of the drilling program. They also analyzed duplicates and standards, with blind control samples in the analysis chain. The laboratory is a commercially accredited laboratory specialized in the chemical analysis of brines and inorganic salts. QA/QC check samples have been sent to another independent laboratory.</li> <li>The quality control and analytical procedures used at the Norlab laboratory are considered to be of high quality and the laboratory is affiliated with the Alex Stuart international group of laboratories.</li> <li>Duplicate and standard analyses are considered to be of acceptable quality.</li> <li>Limited downhole geophysical tools were provided by the drilling contractor and these are believed to be calibrated periodically to produce consistent results.</li> </ul>
Verification of sampling and assaying	<ul> <li>The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</li> <li>The use of twinned holes.</li> <li>Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</li> <li>Discuss any adjustment to assay data.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Accuracy, the closeness of measurements to the "true" or accepted value, was monitored by the insertion of laboratory certified standards.</li> <li>Duplicate samples in the analysis chain were submitted as part of the laboratory batch and results are considered acceptable.</li> <li>Laboratory data (from spreadsheets) is loaded directly into the project database and was verified periodically by the</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		independent QP.
Location of data points	<ul> <li>Accuracy and quality of surveys used to locate drill holes (collar and down-hole surveys), trenches, mine workings and other locations used in Mineral Resource estimation.</li> <li>Specification of the grid system used.</li> <li>Quality and adequacy of topographic control.</li> </ul>	The holes were located initially with a hand held GPS and were subsequently surveyed by a certified surveyor on completion of the Phase II drilling program. The Project location is in zone 3 of the Gauss Kruger coordinate system with the Argentine POSGAR.
Data spacing and distribution	<ul> <li>Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>Whether the data spacing and distribution is sufficient to establish the degree of geological and grade continuity appropriate for the Mineral Resource and Ore Reserve estimation procedure(s) and classifications applied.</li> <li>Whether sample compositing has been applied.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lithological data was collected throughout the drilling.</li> <li>The nominal 6 m vertical spacing of brine samples is considered sufficient to establish the degree of lithium grade continuity. In intervals with low permeability sediments such as clays, brine samples are not always obtained. Brine samples with fluorcene were rejected as contaminated samples and were not considered for resource estimation purposes.</li> <li>Compositing of samples has not been applied to diamond hole samples prior to analysis.</li> <li>More comprehensive geophysical logging of diamond holes is planned to provide higher quality data on formation porosity characteristics in addition to laboratory porosity analyses.</li> </ul>
Orientation of data in relation to geological structure	<ul> <li>Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.</li> <li>If the relationship between the drilling orientation and the orientation of key mineralised structures is considered to have introduced a sampling bias, this should be assessed and reported if material.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The salar deposits that host lithium- bearing brines consist of sub-horizontal beds and lenses of sand, silt, halite, clay and minor gravel, depending on the location within the salar. The vertical holes are essentially perpendicular to these units intersecting their true thickness.</li> </ul>
Sample security	The measures taken to ensure sample security.	<ul> <li>The samples were moved from the drill site to secure storage at the camp on a daily basis. All brine sample bottles are marked with a unique label.</li> <li>Samples were transported from the camp to the laboratory (primary,</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		duplicate and QA/QC samples) for chemical analysis in sealed rigid plastic bottles with sample numbers clearly identified.  •
Audits or reviews	<ul> <li>The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No audits or reviews have been conducted at this point in time.</li> </ul>

# **Section 2 - Reporting of Exploration Results**

(Criteria listed in the preceding section also apply to this section.)

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Mineral tenement and land tenure status	Type, reference name/number, location and ownership including agreements or material issues with third parties such as joint ventures, partnerships, overriding royalties, native title interests, historical sites, wilderness or national park and environmental settings.  The security of the tenure held at the time of reporting along with any known impediments to obtaining a licence to operate in the area.	<ul> <li>The Cauchari JV properties are located approximately 20 km south of the Olaroz lithium project (operated by Orocobre/Sales de Jujuy) in the province of Jujuy in northern Argentina at an elevation of approximately 3,900 masl.</li> <li>The property comprises 28,000 ha in 22 mineral properties in Jujuy province in Argentina. Exploration activities are currently focused in the northern properties within the larger property package. The properties consist of a combination of exploration properties (Cateos) and exploitation properties (minas).</li> <li>The tenements/properties are believed to be in good standing, with payments made to relevant government departments.</li> </ul>
Exploration done by other parties	Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.	<ul> <li>Exploration was previously carried out in the SE Sector properties by Orocobre subsidiary SAS in 2011. This program consisted of 6 boreholes (5 diamond, 1 rotary), several of which were abandoned well short of the target depth due to problems with the drilling equipment. An initial resource was defined in accordance with the JORC code at the time of exploration (this was announced as an NI43-101 compliant resource in December 2016).</li> <li>Immediately to the north of the Cauchari project, Orocobre Limited has developed</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
		<ul> <li>the Olaroz lithium project which is the first new lithium brine project to go into production within the last 20 years.</li> <li>Significant exploration has been conducted immediately to the east and west of the Cauchari properties by Lithium Americas Corp (LAC) LAC has defined a large resource and related reserve and has completed a DFS.</li> </ul>
Geology	Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.	<ul> <li>The sediments within the salar consist of halite, clay, silt, sand and gravel which have accumulated in the salar from terrestrial sedimentation and evaporation of brines within the salar. These units are interpreted to be essentially flat lying with unconfined aquifer conditions close to surface and semi-confined to confined conditions at depth</li> <li>Brine within the salar is formed by solar concentration with brine hosted within the different sedimentary units</li> <li>Geology was recorded during drilling of all the holes.</li> </ul>
Drill hole Information	A summary of all information material to the understanding of the exploration results including a tabulation of the following information for all Material drill holes:  • easting and northing of the drill hole collar  • elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar  • dip and azimuth of the hole • down hole length and interception depth • hole length. If the exclusion of this information is justified on the basis that the information is not Material and this exclusion does not detract from the understanding of the report, the Competent Person should clearly explain why this is the case.	<ul> <li>Lithological data was collected from the holes as they were drilled and cores were retrieved. Detailed geological logging of cores has also been completed, with cores split to facilitate this.</li> <li>Brine samples were collected and sent for analysis to the Norlab laboratory, together with quality control/quality assurance samples</li> <li>All drill holes are vertical, (dip -90, azimuth 0 degrees). Holes are located at approximately 3940 m above sea level, with elevations in the alluvial fans varying more from this elevation.</li> </ul>
Data • aggregation methods		<ul> <li>Brine samples taken in holes were averaged (arithmetic average) without</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	truncations (eg cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.  • Where aggregate intercepts incorporate short lengths of high grade results and longer lengths of low grade results, the procedure used for such aggregation should be stated and some typical examples of such aggregations should be shown in detail.  • The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.	weighting across the number of samples in each hole in the lithium brine zone and in what are interpreted as different brine zones.
Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths	<ul> <li>These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results.</li> <li>If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.</li> <li>If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (eg 'down hole length, true width not known').</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In the NW Sector brine is interpreted to underlie an upper zone of less concentrated brine which was not sampled, as the upper parts of these holes were cased off. The sediments hosting brine are interpreted to be essentially perpendicular to the vertical drill holes.</li> <li>The lengths reported for mineralisation (brine) intervals are from systematic sampling and definition of the actual extent of the brine.</li> <li>The brine samples are considered to represent true widths of brine.</li> </ul>
Diagrams	<ul> <li>Appropriate maps and sections         <ul> <li>(with scales) and tabulations of</li> <li>intercepts should be included for any</li> <li>significant discovery being reported</li> <li>These should include, but not be</li> <li>limited to a plan view of drill hole</li> <li>collar locations and appropriate</li> <li>sectional views.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A diagram is provided in the text showing the location of the properties and drill holes. A table is provided in this announcement showing the location of the drill holes.</li> </ul>
Balanced reporting	Where comprehensive reporting of all Exploration Results is not practicable, representative reporting of both low and high grades and/or widths should be practiced to avoid misleading reporting of Exploration Results.	<ul> <li>Representative data from drilling and sampling in the Cauchari project has been provided throughout the drilling program, such as lithological descriptions, brine concentrations and information on the thickness of mineralisation. Additional information will be provided as it comes to hand.</li> </ul>
Other substantive	<ul> <li>Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations;</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Refer to the information provided in Technical report on the Cauchari Lithium Project, Jujuy Province, Argentina, dated</li> </ul>

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exploration data	geophysical survey results; geochemical survey results; bulk samples — size and method of treatment; metallurgical test results; bulk density, groundwater, geotechnical and rock characteristics; potential deleterious or contaminating substances.	effective 5th December and amended 22nd December 2016 for previous geophysical and geochemical data from drilling in 2011 by the Orocobre subsidiary SAS.
Further work	<ul> <li>The nature and scale of planned further work (eg tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).</li> <li>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The company is currently undertaking a Phase III drilling program to support the future DFS. Five rotary and six diamond holes were completed as part of the Phase II program during 2017/8.</li> </ul>

**Section 3. Estimation and Reporting of Mineral Resources** 

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
Database integrity	<ul> <li>Measures taken to ensure that data has not been corrupted by, for example, transcription or keying errors, between its initial collection and its use for Mineral Resource estimation purposes.</li> <li>Data validation procedures used.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Laboratory brine chemistry and porosity analyses were received from the service providers (laboratories) in digital format.</li> <li>Significant data verification and QA/QC measures were carried out to validate these results, including spot checks, ion balance calculations, analyses of duplicates, standards, and blanks. The results of the geological core logging was verified and validated by an independent FloSolutions geologist.</li> </ul>
Site visits	<ul> <li>Comment on any site visits         undertaken by the Competent         Person and the outcome of those         visits.</li> <li>If no site visits have been         undertaken indicate why this is the         case.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Personnel from Flosolutions (including the Competent Person) visited the project site multiple times during the Phase II drilling program</li> </ul>
Geological interpretation	<ul> <li>Confidence in (or conversely, the uncertainty of) the geological interpretation of the mineral deposit.</li> <li>Nature of the data used and of any assumptions made.</li> <li>The effect, if any, of alternative interpretations on Mineral Resource estimation.</li> <li>The use of geology in guiding and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>There is a moderate level of confidence in the geological model for the Project. The geology is essentially flat lying, with brine-hosted in lakebed to alluvial sediments that surround the core of halite and clay sediments.</li> <li>Alternative interpretations are restricted to smaller scale variations in sedimentology, principally in the marginal parts of the basin, where</li> </ul>

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	controlling Mineral Resource estimation.  The factors affecting continuity both of grade and geology.	<ul> <li>coarser grained sediments are present.</li> <li>Similar sediments are reported in adjoining properties.</li> <li>Geology has been used to separate the deposit into different layers for the resource estimate. The NW Sector sandy units are more porous, as are the Deep Sand unit. In the centre and east of the salar there is a less porous unit of halite and clay. Basement has not been identified drill holes.</li> <li>Sedimentary processes affect the continuity of geology, whereas the concentration of lithium and other elements in the brine is related to water inflows, evaporation and brine evolution in the salt lake</li> </ul>
Dimensions	The extent and variability of the Mineral Resource expressed as length (along strike or otherwise), plan width, and depth below surface to the upper and lower limits of the Mineral Resource.	<ul> <li>The lateral extent of the resource has been defined by electrical geophysics used to map the boundaries of the brine body, and where relevant by the boundary of the Company's tenements,</li> <li>The top of the resource is defined by the water table elevation. The base of the resource is defined by 300 m for the NW and SE Sectors, based on available sample information. However, a deeper resource body has been defined in lower sand, based on available information. This is surrounded by the exploration target, which continues to a depth of 600 m.</li> </ul>
Estimation and modelling techniques	<ul> <li>The nature and appropriateness of the estimation technique(s) applied and key assumptions, including treatment of extreme grade values, domaining, interpolation parameters, maximum distance of extrapolation from data points. If a computer assisted estimation method was chosen include a description of computer software and parameters used.</li> <li>The availability of check estimates, previous estimates and/or mine production records and whether the Mineral Resource estimate takes appropriate account of such data.</li> <li>The assumptions made regarding recovery of by-products.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The following steps were carried out for the resource estimation:</li> <li>Calculation of the experimental variograms for Li and K on the dataset in x, y and z directions, then adjust the variograms to a variogram model. No outlier restriction was applied, as distributions of the different elements do not show anomalously high values. Concerning the minimum number of samples required to estimate a block to ensure good spatial coherence.</li> <li>The SGEMS software was used for the resource estimation. The resource model domain was defined by 2,038,047 blocks</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	<ul> <li>Estimation of deleterious elements or other non-grade variables of economic significance (e.g. sulphur</li> </ul>	with a block size of : x=100 m, y=100 m, z=1 m.
	for acid mine drainage characterisation).  In the case of block model interpolation, the block size in relation to the average sample spacing and the search employed.  Any assumptions behind modelling of selective mining units.  Any assumptions about correlation between variables.	<ul> <li>Interpolation of the Li and K concentrations for each block in mg/L using ordinary kriging with the calculated variogram models. The presence of brine is not necessary followed by the lithologies. Therefore, there are no hard boundaries inside the geological units for the estimation.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Description of how the geological interpretation was used to control the resource estimates.</li> <li>Discussion of basis for using or not using grade cutting or capping.</li> <li>The process of validation, the checking process used, the comparison of model data to drill hole data, and use of reconciliation data if available.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Validation of the block model was carried out using a series of checks including comparison of univariate statistics for global estimation bias, independent nearest neighbor model, visual inspection against samples on plans and sections, swath plots in the north, south and horizontal directions to detect spatial bias.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Calculation of total resource using the average porosity value for each geological unit, based on the boreholes data. Each geological unit has an assigned drainable porosity value according to the results of the GSA and DBSA laboratory analyses.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Preparation and evaluation of cut-off grade curves.</li> </ul>
Moisture	<ul> <li>Whether the tonnages are estimated on a dry basis or with natural moisture, and the method of determination of the moisture content.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Moisture content is not relevant for the estimate, which is undertaken on a volumetric basis</li> </ul>
Cut-off parameters	The basis of the adopted cut-off grade(s) or quality parameters applied.	<ul> <li>A 300 mg/l Lithium cut-off grade for the outer margins of the brine deposit has been applied, as this is in the range of potential processing cut-offs for the brine mineralisation. The PEA currently underway will improve understanding of this variable.</li> </ul>
Mining factors or assumptions	<ul> <li>Assumptions made regarding possible mining methods, minimum mining dimensions and. internal (or, if applicable, external) mining dilution. It may not always be</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The resource has been quoted in terms of brine volume and grade.</li> <li>No mining or recovery factors have been applied.</li> </ul>

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	possible to make assumptions regarding mining methods and parameters when estimating Mineral Resources. Where no assumptions have been made, this should be reported.	<ul> <li>The conceptual mining method is recovering brine from the salt lake via a series of wells.</li> <li>Detailed hydrologic studies of the lake are being undertaken to further define the extractable resources and extraction rates possible for the Project.</li> </ul>
Metallurgical factors or assumptions	• The basis for assumptions or predictions regarding metallurgical amenability. It may not always be possible to make assumptions regarding metallurgical treatment processes and parameters when reporting Mineral Resources. Where no assumptions have been made, this should be reported.	<ul> <li>Brine is very similar to that in the Olaroz project operated by Orocobre, which is currently producing lithium carbonate.</li> <li>Brine processing evaluation takes into account the brine chemistry at Cauchari and the similarities with Olaroz.</li> <li>Processing would utilize a conventional processing route, utilised at existing operations elsewhere in the world.</li> </ul>
Environmental factors or assumptions	• Assumptions made regarding possible waste and process residue disposal options. It is always necessary as part of the process of determining reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction to consider the potential environmental impacts of the mining and processing operation. While at this stage the determination of potential environmental impacts, particularly for a greenfields project, may not always be well advanced, the status of early consideration of these potential environmental impacts should be reported. Where these aspects have not been considered this should be reported with an explanation of the environmental assumptions made.	<ul> <li>Impacts of lithium production at the Cauchari JV would include; surface disturbance from the creation of extraction/processing facilities and associated infrastructure, accumulation of various low height salt tailings impoundments and extraction from saline and fresh water aquifers regionally.</li> </ul>
Bulk density	Whether assumed or determined. If assumed, the basis for the assumptions. If determined, the method used, whether wet or dry, the frequency of the measurements, the nature, size and representativeness of the samples.	<ul> <li>Density measurements were taken as part of the drill core assessment process described in section 1. This included wet core density, brine density and dry solids density.</li> <li>However, no bulk density was applied to the estimates because resources are defined by volume, rather than by tonnage.</li> </ul>
Classification	The basis for the classification of the Mineral Resources into varying	The classifications considered to take appropriate account of all relevant

Criteria	JORC Code explanation	Commentary
	confidence categories.  Whether appropriate account has been taken of all relevant factors (i.e., relative confidence in tonnage/grade estimations, confidence in continuity of geology and metal values, quality, quantity and distribution of the data).  Whether the result appropriately reflects the Competent Person's view of the deposit.	factors, including the relative confidence in the volume and grade estimates, confidence in the continuity of geology and brine concentrations values, and the quality, quantity and distribution of the data.  • The classification appropriately reflects the Competent Person's current view of the deposit.
Audits or reviews	<ul> <li>The results of any audits or reviews of Mineral Resource estimates.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>This Mineral Resource were estimated by independent resource consultants FloSolutions</li> </ul>
relative accuracy/ confidence	where appropriate a statement of the relative accuracy and confidence level in the Mineral Resource estimate using an approach or procedure deemed appropriate by the Competent Person. For example, the application of statistical or geostatistical procedures to quantify the relative accuracy of the resource within stated confidence limits, or, if such an approach is not deemed appropriate, a qualitative discussion of the factors that could affect the relative accuracy and confidence of the estimate.  The statement should specify whether it relates to global or local estimates, and, if local, state the relevant tonnages, which should be relevant to technical and economic evaluation. Documentation should include assumptions made and the procedures used.  These statements of relative accuracy and confidence of the estimate should be compared with production data, where available.	<ul> <li>The relative accuracy of the Mineral Resource is reflected in the reporting of the Mineral Resource as per the guidelines of the 2012 JORC Code.</li> <li>The statement relates to global estimates of volume, tonnages and grades.</li> <li>No production data is available for this resource.</li> </ul>