

## TWO LITHIUM ZONES CONFIRMED IN LATEST DRILL-HOLE AT RED MOUNTAIN PROJECT, USA

Result supports Exploration Target, successfully intersecting lithium under cover



### Key Highlights

- Diamond drill-hole RMDD005 intersected two zones of lithium mineralisation under alluvial gravel, returning:
  - 9.1m @ 1,350ppm Li from 57.9m, within a broader low-grade zone of 80.8m @ 860ppm Li from 12.2m;
  - 8.3m @ 1,210ppm Li from 240.8m to end-of-hole, within a broader zone of 15.9m @ 955ppm Li from 233.2m to end-of-hole
- RMDD005 is the first drill-hole at Red Mountain to successfully intersect 'blind' mineralisation.
- Hole ended in lithium mineralisation, with the mineralised zone remaining open down-dip to the east and along strike.
- Assays pending from four other recently completed drill-holes.

Astute Metals NL (ASX: ASE) ("ASE", "Astute" or "the Company") is pleased to report assay results from the second hole of its April 2025 diamond drilling campaign at the 100%-owned Red Mountain Lithium Project in Nevada, USA.

Drill-hole RMDD005 returned two intersections of lithium mineralisation:

- **80.8m @ 860ppm Li / 0.46% Lithium Carbonate Equivalent<sup>1</sup> (LCE) from 12.2m, including an internal high-grade zone of 9.1m @ 1,349ppm Li / 0.72% LCE from 57.9m;**
- **15.9m @ 955ppm Li / 0.51% LCE from 233.2m to end-of-hole, including an internal high-grade zone of 8.3m @ 1,209ppm Li / 0.64% LCE from 240.8m to end-of-hole.**

Drill-hole RMDD005 is the first hole at Red Mountain to test for mineralisation interpreted as part of the recently announced Exploration Target (ASX release 12 February 2025) under significant alluvial cover (Figures 2 and 3). The hole was designed to test the lower extent of mineralisation in the eastern zone of Target Area A, before passing through a zone of unmineralised rocks, and then testing a second, western zone of interpreted mineralisation (see Figure 2). The hole successfully intersected both interpreted zones of mineralisation, separated by a weakly mineralised sequence of mostly conglomerate and breccias.

This result reinforces the Company's understanding of lithium mineralisation at Red Mountain, providing further confidence in the geological model as work programs continue to progress. The more moderate grades intersected in RMDD005, which was located centrally within the project area, also lend support to the Company's emerging interpretation that the northern part of the Red Mountain Project is likely to host a high-grade zone of lithium mineralisation.

Assays are pending for a further four holes drilled as part of the April diamond drilling campaign, which are expected to be received by the end of the financial year.

**Astute Chairman, Tony Leibowitz, said:**

*"The results from this latest hole at Red Mountain are very encouraging, intersecting lithium mineralisation under cover exactly where the technical team expected it to be. This provides increased confidence in the geological model that underpins the Red Mountain Exploration Target as we rapidly advance towards the planned delivery of a maiden JORC Mineral Resource Estimate later this year."*

*"Our exploration at Red Mountain to date indicates significant scale potential, with lithium mineralisation confirmed over a strike length of almost 6 kilometres. This latest drilling is continuing to firm-up these results and reduce risk, successfully intersecting lithium between holes to delineate an increasingly robust and coherent body of mineralisation."*

**Background**

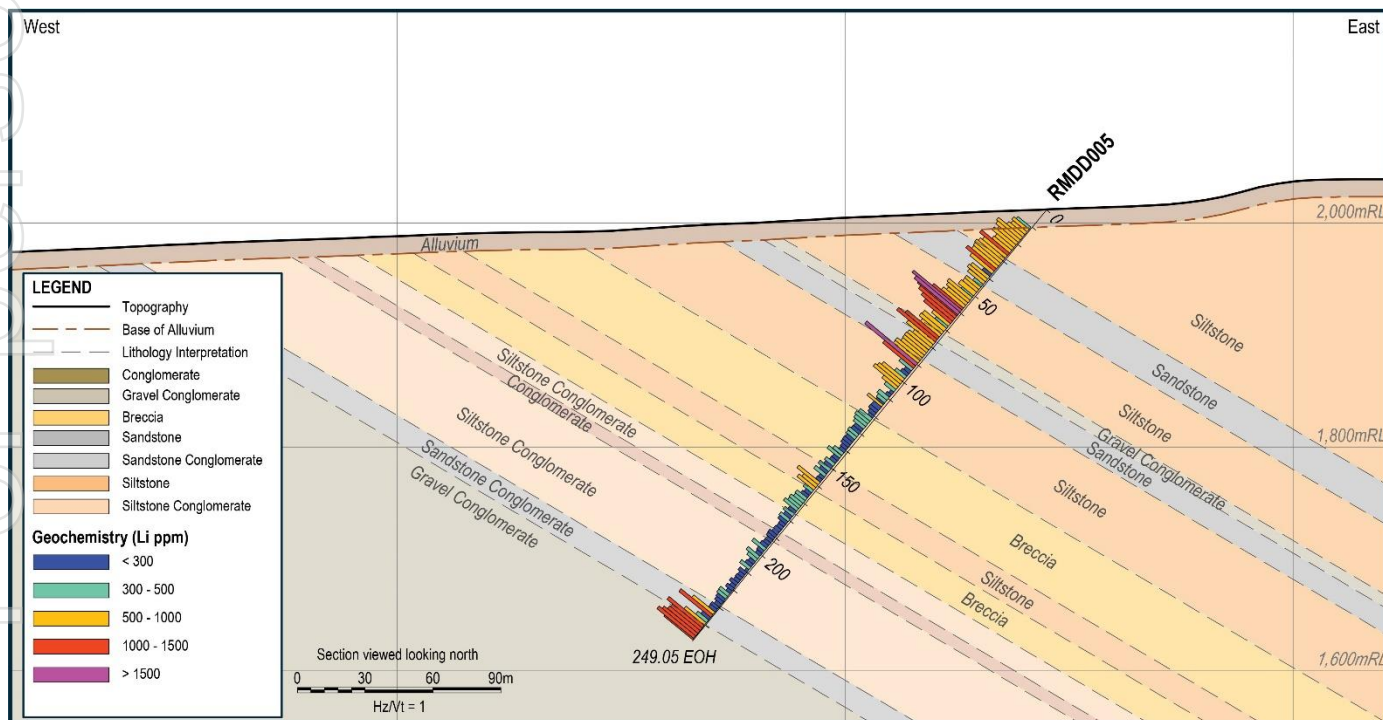
Located in central-eastern Nevada (Figure 4) adjacent to the Grand Army of the Republic Highway (Route 6), which links the regional mining towns of Ely and Tonopah, the Red Mountain Project was staked by Astute in August 2023.

The Project area has broad mapped tertiary lacustrine (lake) sedimentary rocks known locally as the Horse Camp Formation<sup>2</sup>. Elsewhere in the state of Nevada, equivalent rocks host large lithium deposits (see Figure 4) such as Lithium Americas' (NYSE: LAC) 62.1Mt LCE Thacker Pass Project<sup>3</sup>, American Battery Technology Corporation's (OTCMKTS: ABML) 15.8Mt LCE Tonopah Flats deposit<sup>4</sup> and American Lithium's (TSX.V: LI) 9.79Mt LCE TLC Lithium Project<sup>5</sup>.

Astute has completed substantial surface sampling campaigns at Red Mountain, which indicate widespread lithium anomalism in soils and confirmed lithium mineralisation in bedrock with some exceptional grades of up to 4,150ppm Li<sup>2,8</sup> (Figures 2 and 3).

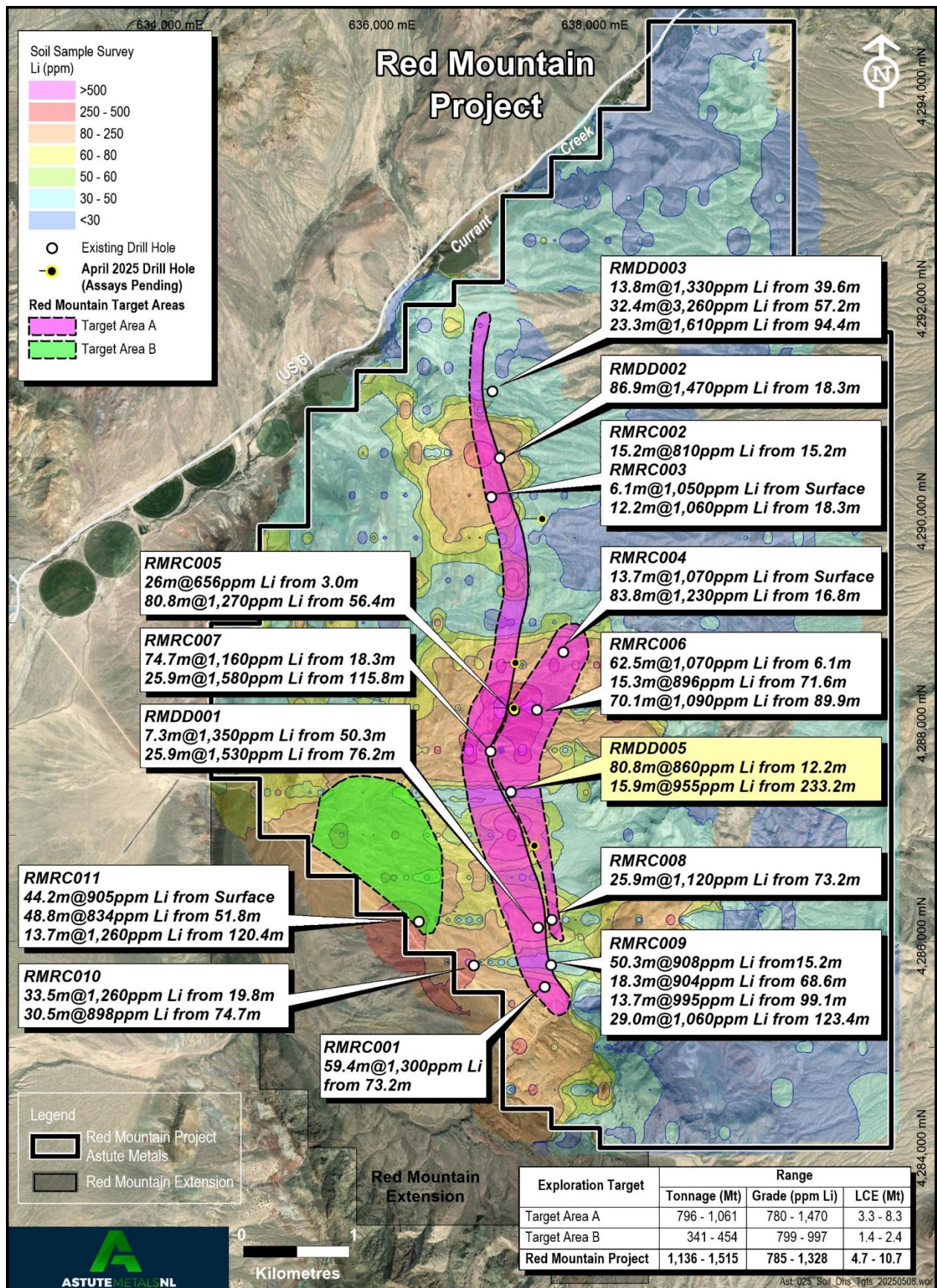
A total of 13 RC and diamond drill holes have been drilled at the project for a combined 1,944m, prior to this current drilling program. These campaigns were highly successful, intersecting strong lithium mineralisation in every hole<sup>9</sup>.

Scoping leachability testwork on mineralised material from Red Mountain indicates high leachability of lithium of up to 98%, varying with temperature, acid strength and leaching duration, and proof of concept beneficiation test-work has indicated the potential to upgrade the Red Mountain mineralisation<sup>10,11</sup>.



**Figure 1.** RMDD005 interpretative cross-section, lithium geochemistry and (25-35m off-section) rock chip samples

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### Cautionary Statement

The potential quantity and grade of the Exploration Targets presented in Figure 2 is conceptual in nature. There has been insufficient exploration to date to estimate a Mineral Resource and it is uncertain if further exploration will result in the estimation of a Mineral Resource. The Exploration Targets have been prepared and reported in accordance with the 2012 edition of JORC Code.

The Exploration Targets have been defined through interpretation of exploration results conducted by the Company including soil sample and rock chip geochemistry, geological mapping, structural measurements and reverse circulation and diamond drilling. Refer to the original ASX Release dated 12 February 2025.

## Results

Hole RMDD005 successfully intersected two zones of lithium mineralised rocks, with the upper zone comprising clay-bearing siltstones and sandstones, and the lower zone comprising sandstone and gravel conglomerates. The two mineralised zones are separated by a zone of weakly mineralised (<500ppm Li) breccia and siltstone conglomerate (Figure 1).

The intersections are as follows:

- 80.8m @ 860ppm Li / 0.46% LCE from 12.2m to 93.0m, including an internal high-grade zone grading 9.1m @ 1,349ppm Li / 0.72% LCE from 57.9m to 67.0m;
- 15.9m @ 955ppm Li / 0.51% LCE from 233.2m to end-of-hole (249.1m), including an internal high-grade zone grading 8.3m @ 1,209ppm Li / 0.64% LCE from 240.8m to end-of-hole (249.1m)

## Interpretation

The two intersections of lithium mineralisation in RMDD005 are consistent with intersecting the eastern and western zones of Target Area A (Figure 2). This is considered a firm validation of the Company's interpretation of mineralisation, given that it was intersected in an area of alluvial gravel cover, with no proximal outcropping rocks, and no rock chip samples or drillholes within approximately 500m of the collar of RMDD005 (Figure 3).

An emerging observation is the presence of higher-grade and, perhaps, broader intersections of lithium mineralisation in the northern part of the Red Mountain Project. The relatively lower-grade nature of mineralisation in RMDD005, which is located more centrally within the project, lends support to this observation. The central part of the project had previously been sparsely drilled, with a gap of 1.69km between hole RMRC007 and RMRC008 (Figures 2 and 3). This gap has been strategically infilled with RMDD005 and RMDD008, the latter of which assay results are awaited.

The confirmation of mineralisation per Astute's interpretation increases confidence in the Red Mountain model, and the likelihood that mineralisation is continuous along the zones of interpreted mineralisation.

| Hole ID | Easting (NAD83) | Northing (NAD83) | RL   | Dip (°) | Azimuth (°) | Depth (m) |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| RMDD005 | 637290          | 4287427          | 1714 | -50     | 269         | 249.1     |

Table 1. Drill-hole collar details

## Next Steps

The Company is completing core processing and awaiting assay results for the remaining four holes of the April drilling campaign. The outcomes of this work will be integrated with surface sampling data to assist in refining the Company's drilling plans for the second half of 2025.

## About Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE)

Unlike spodumene concentrate, which is a feedstock, Lithium Carbonate is a downstream product that may be used directly in battery production or converted to other battery products such as lithium hydroxide.

The Benchmark Mineral Intelligence Lithium Carbonate China Index priced lithium carbonate product at US\$9,186/t<sup>6</sup> as of 8 May 2025.

Lithium carbonate is the product of many of the most advanced lithium clay projects around the world, including Lithium Americas' (NYSE: LAC) 62.1Mt LCE Thacker Pass Project<sup>3</sup>, which is currently under construction. Accordingly, exploration results for Red Mountain have been reported as both the standard parts-per-million (ppm) and as % Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE)<sup>1</sup>.

A full table of assay results is provided in Appendix 2.

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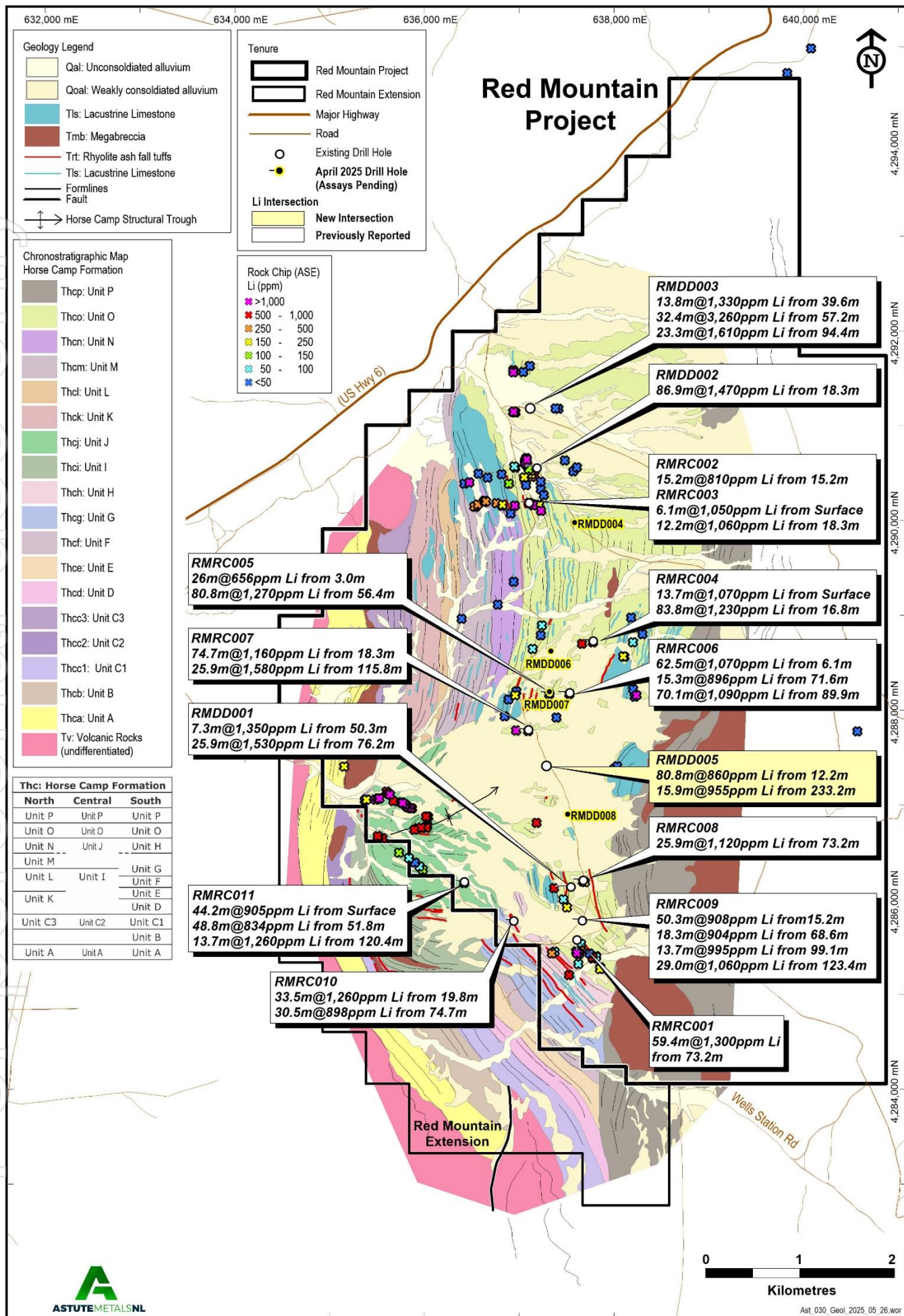
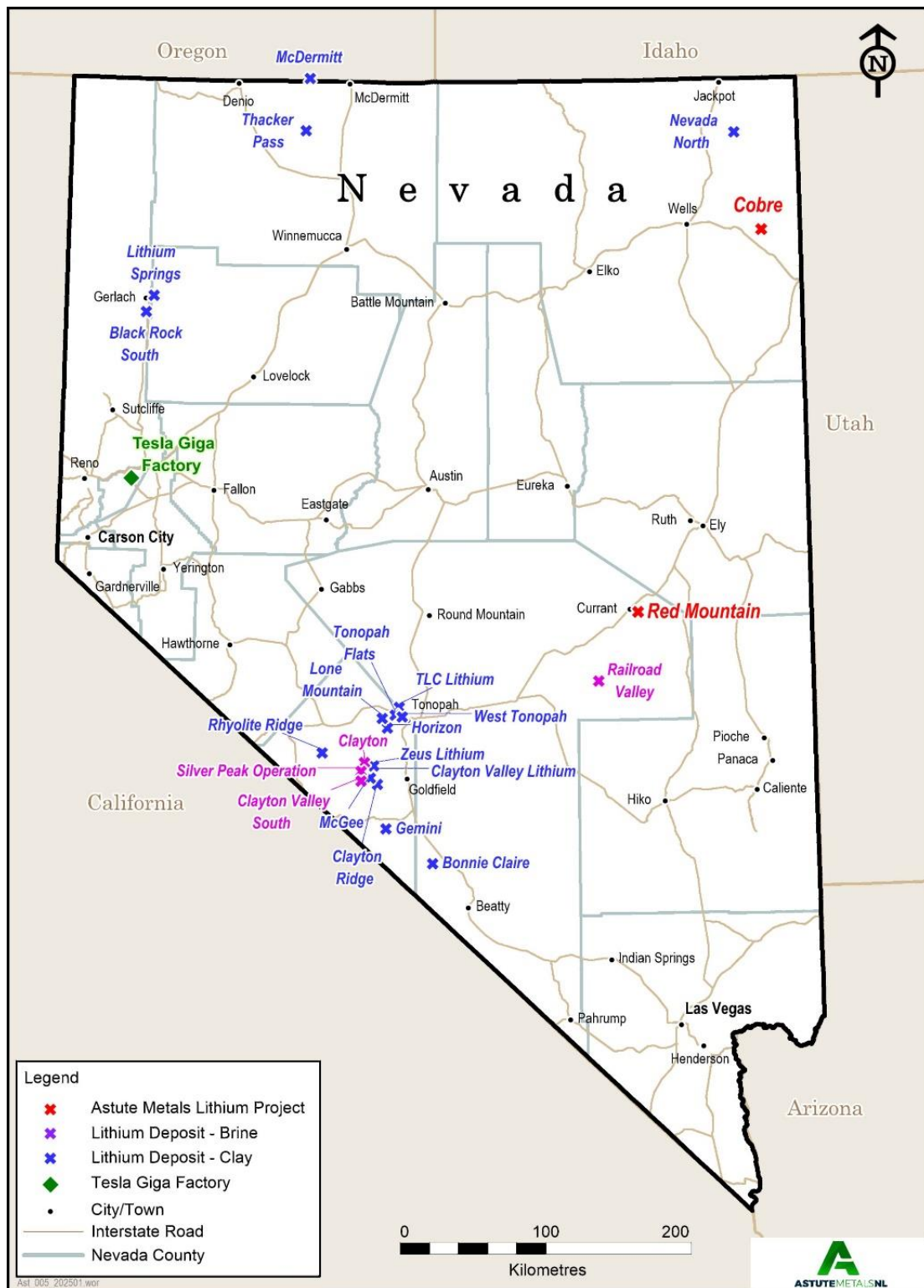


Figure 3. Drill-hole locations and intersections, over interpreted geology and rock chip sample geochemistry.



**Figure 4.** Location of Astute Lithium Projects, and Nevada lithium deposits.

- 1 Lithium Carbonate Equivalent wt%(LCE) has been calculated from Lithium parts-per-million (ppm) by the formula  $LCE = Li \text{ (ppm)} \times 5.323 / 10,000$
- 2 ASX: ASE 27 November 2023 'Outstanding Rock-Chip Assays at Red Mountain Project'
- 3 NYSE: LAC 31 December 2024 Updated NI 43-101 Technical Report for the Thacker Pass Project
- 4 OTCMKTS: ABML 26 February 2023 'Technical Report Summary for The Tonopah Flats Lithium Project, Esmeralda.'
- 5 TSX.V: LI 17 March 2023 'Tonopah Lithium Claims project NI 43-101 technical report – Preliminary Economic Assessment'
- 6 Source: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence – Lithium Carbonate China Index 12/06/2024
- 7 ASX: ASE 16 December 2024 'Major new zones of Lithium Mineralisation at Red Mountain Project'
- 8 ASX: ASE 8 July 2024 'High-grade rock chip assays extend prospective lithium horizon at Red Mountain Project, USA'
- 9 ASX: ASE 20 January 2025 'Extension of lithium discovery at Red Mountain Project'
- 10 ASX: ASE 9 December 2024 'Positive initial metallurgical results from Red Mountain'
- 11 ASX: ASE 22 April 2025 'Beneficiation testwork successfully upgrades mineralisation at Red Mountain Lithium Project'

## Authorisation

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Astute.



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## Competent Persons

The information in this report that relates to Sampling Techniques and Data (Section 1) is based on information compiled by Mr. Matthew Healy, a Competent Person who is a Member of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM Member number 303597). Mr. Healy is a full-time employee of Astute Metals NL and is eligible to participate in a Loan Funded Share incentive plan of the Company. Mr. Healy 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'. Mr. Healy consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

The information in this report that relates to Reporting of Exploration Results (Section 2) is based on information compiled by Mr. Richard Newport, principal partner of Richard Newport & Associates – Consultant Geoscientists. Mr. Newport is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person under the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr. Newport consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

## Exploration Targets

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Targets is based on information compiled by Mr. Richard Newport, principal partner of Richard Newport & Associates – Consultant Geoscientists. Mr. Newport is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person under the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr. Newport consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.

The initial exploration target included this release was originally announced on 12 February 2025 and has been wholly based on previously announced exploration results for the Red Mountain Project. The ASX releases for these results, including the relevant JORC Table 1 disclosures, are listed as follows:

- ASX: ASE 20 November 2023 'Large lithium soil anomalies discovered at Red Mountain'
- ASX: ASE 27 November 2023 'Outstanding Rock-Chip Assays at Red Mountain Project'
- ASX: ASE 18 June 2024 'Significant Lithium discovery at Red Mountain Project'
- ASX: ASE 8 July 2024 'High-grade rock chip assays extend prospective lithium horizon at Red Mountain Project, USA'
- ASX: ASE 22 July 2024 'Further high-grade intersections at Red Mountain'
- ASX: ASE 7 August 2024 'Receipt of final assays for the Red Mountain Project'

- ASX: ASE 9 December 2024 'Positive initial metallurgical results from Red Mountain'
- ASX: ASE 16 December 2024 'Major new zones of Lithium Mineralisation at Red Mountain Project'
- ASX: ASE 20 January 2025 'Extension of Lithium Discovery at Red Mountain Project'
- ASX: ASE 4 February 2025 'Geological mapping and further rock chips enhance Red Mountain Lithium Project, USA'

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## Section 1 – Sampling Techniques and Data

| Criteria              | JORC Code explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Commentary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sampling techniques   | <p>Nature and quality of sampling (e.g. 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.</p> <p>Include reference to measures taken to ensure sample representivity and the appropriate calibration of any measurement tools or systems used.</p> <p>Aspects of the determination of mineralisation that are Material to the Public Report.</p> <p>In cases where 'industry standard' work has been done this would be relatively simple (e.g. '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 (e.g. submarine nodules) may warrant disclosure of detailed information.</p> | <p>HQ diamond drilling was undertaken for drill sample collection. Samples were collected on a nominal 5-foot basis or sampled to geological boundaries based on lithological logging. Samples were photographed, half-cored, and despatched to an external lab by an external contractor.</p> <p>Claystone hosted lithium deposits are thought to form as a result of the weathering of lithium-bearing volcanic glass within tertiary-aged tuffaceous lacustrine sediments of the mapped Ts3 unit. Inputs of lithium from geothermal sources have also been proposed.</p> |
| Drilling techniques   | <p>Drill type (e.g. core, reverse circulation, open-hole hammer, rotary air blast, auger, Bangka, sonic, etc.) and details (e.g. core diameter, triple or standard tube, depth of diamond tails, face-sampling bit or other type, whether core is oriented and if so, by what method, etc.).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>HQ drilling methods employed. Core was not oriented for this drill hole.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Drill sample recovery | <p>Method of recording and assessing core and chip sample recoveries and results assessed.</p> <p>Measures taken to maximise sample recovery and ensure representative nature of the samples.</p> <p>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.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Sample recovery established by recovery logging and dry sample weights undertaken by independent laboratory prior to sample preparation and analysis</p> <p>Poor drill core recovery at surface and one section of core loss at end of hole.</p> <p>Instances of poor recovery are not expected to materially impact interpretation of results</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Logging               | <p>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.</p> <p>Whether logging is qualitative or quantitative in nature. Core (or costean, channel, etc.) photography.</p> <p>The total length and percentage of the relevant intersections logged.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Drill core for the entire hole was logged for lithology by company geologists</p> <p>Logging is qualitative</p> <p>Photography of drill core undertaken by contractors in Elko, NV, prior to delivery to external laboratory</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

# APPENDIX 1 - JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

| Criteria                                       | JORC Code explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Commentary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sub-sampling techniques and sample preparation | <p>If core, whether cut or sawn and whether quarter, half or all core taken.</p> <p>If non-core, whether riffled, tube sampled, rotarysplit, etc. and whether sampled wet or dry.</p> <p>For all sample types, the nature, quality and appropriateness of the sample preparation technique.</p> <p>Quality control procedures adopted for all sub-sampling stages to maximise representivity of samples.</p> <p>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.</p>                                                                                                                          | <p>Core half cored at a third part contractor facility in Elko, NV, and submitted to ALS Laboratories in Elko for preparation and analysis.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Quality of assay data and laboratory tests     | <p>Whether sample sizes are appropriate to the grain size of the material being sampled.</p> <p>The nature, quality and appropriateness of the assaying and laboratory procedures used and whether the technique is considered partial or total.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Nature of quality control procedures adopted (e.g. standards, blanks, duplicates, external laboratory checks) and whether acceptable levels of accuracy (i.e. lack of bias) and precision have been established.</p> | <p>Samples analysed by method ME-MS61 which is an ICP-MS method employing a 4-acid digest.</p> <p>A comparison of aqua-regia and 4-acid digests was undertaken for Red Mountain mineralisation, with no material difference in lithium results identified.</p> <p>Assay quality was monitored using pulp blanks, as well as certified reference materials (CRMs) at a range of lithium grades. Pulp blank results indicated no material contamination of samples from sample preparation or during the analytical process. CRM results were within 3 standard deviations of certified values. No material systematic bias nor other accuracy related issues were identified.</p> |
| Verification of sampling and assaying          | <p>The verification of significant intersections by either independent or alternative company personnel.</p> <p>The use of twinned holes.</p> <p>Documentation of primary data, data entry procedures, data verification, data storage (physical and electronic) protocols.</p> <p>Discuss any adjustment to assay data.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Sample intervals to be assigned a unique sample identification number prior to sample despatch</p> <p>Lithium-mineralised claystone Certified Reference Materials (standards), pulp blanks and coarse blanks to be inserted into the sample stream at regular intervals to monitor lab accuracy and potential contamination during sample prep and analysis</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Location of data points                        | <p>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.</p> <p>Specification of the grid system used.</p> <p>Quality and adequacy of topographic control.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Drill collar locations determined using handheld GPS with location reported in NAD83 UTM Zone 11. Expected hole location accuracy of +/- 10m</p> <p>Downhole survey data yet to be validated. For the purposes of drill sections, drill holes have been plotted at the setup azimuth of 270° (Grid). This is not expected to make a material difference to interpretation of results.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

# APPENDIX 1 - JORC Code, 2012 Edition – Table 1

| Criteria                                                | JORC Code explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Commentary                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Data spacing and distribution                           | <p>Data spacing for reporting of Exploration Results.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Whether sample compositing has been applied.</p>                                   | <p>Drill spacing is appropriate for early exploration purposes</p> <p>5-foot sample interval, or to geological boundaries where appropriate, widely adopted as standard practice in drilling in the USA.</p> |
| Orientation of data in relation to geological structure | <p>Whether the orientation of sampling achieves unbiased sampling of possible structures and the extent to which this is known, considering the deposit type.</p> <p>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.</p> | <p>Claystone beds are regionally shallow-dipping at ~20°–45° to the east and varying locally across the Project with some evidence of faulting and potential folding</p>                                     |
| Sample security                                         | The measures taken to ensure sample security.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Samples stored at secure yard and shed located in township of Currant until delivered by staff or contractors to the core processing contractors at Elko, and then to ALS lab at Elko, NV</p>             |
| Audits or reviews                                       | The results of any audits or reviews of sampling techniques and data.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                               |

## Section 2 – Reporting of Exploration Results

| Criteria                                | JORC Code explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Commentary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mineral tenement and land tenure status | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>Red Mountain Claims held in 100% Astute subsidiary Needles Holdings Inc.</p> <p>Claims located on Federal (BLM) Land</p> <p>Drilling conducted on claims certified by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Exploration done by other parties       | Acknowledgment and appraisal of exploration by other parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>No known previous lithium exploration conducted at Red Mountain</p> <p>Exploration conducted elsewhere in Nevada by other explorers referenced in announcement body text</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Geology                                 | Deposit type, geological setting and style of mineralisation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>The principal target deposit style is claystone hosted lithium mineralisation. Claystone hosted lithium deposits are thought to form as a result of the weathering of lithium-bearing volcanic glass within tertiary-aged tuffaceous lacustrine sediments of the mapped Ts3 unit.</p> <p>Lacustrine environments formed as a result of extensional tectonic regime that produced 'basin and range' topography observed across the state of Nevada. Inputs of lithium from geothermal sources have also been proposed.</p>                                                                                                                   |
| Drill hole information                  | <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ easting and northing of the drill hole collar</li> <li>◦ elevation or RL (Reduced Level – elevation above sea level in metres) of the drill hole collar</li> <li>◦ dip and azimuth of the hole</li> <li>◦ down hole length and interception depth</li> <li>◦ hole length.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> | Drillhole locations, orientations and drilled depths are tabulated in body report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Data aggregation methods                | <p>In reporting Exploration Results, weighting averaging techniques, maximum and/or minimum grade truncations (e.g. cutting of high grades) and cut-off grades are usually Material and should be stated.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The assumptions used for any reporting of metal equivalent values should be clearly stated.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>Intersections, where quoted are weighted by length. Lengths originally recorded in feet are quoted to the nearest 10cm.</p> <p>Rounding is conducted to 3 significant figures</p> <p>A 500ppm Li cut-off was used to quote headline intersections, with allowance for 10ft of internal dilution by lower grade material.</p> <p>Low grade mineralisation (300-500ppm Li) is present outside of the quoted intersections</p> <p>Intersections are quoted in both lithium ppm and as wt% Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE). LCE is calculated as <math>LCE = Li \text{ (ppm)} \times 5.323 / 10,000</math>, as per industry conventions.</p> |

## Section 2 Reporting of Exploration Results

| Criteria                                                         | JORC Code explanation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Commentary                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Relationship between mineralisation widths and intercept lengths | <p>These relationships are particularly important in the reporting of Exploration Results.</p> <p>If the geometry of the mineralisation with respect to the drill hole angle is known, its nature should be reported.</p> <p>If it is not known and only the down hole lengths are reported, there should be a clear statement to this effect (e.g. 'down hole length, true width notknown').</p> | Insufficient information available due to early exploration status, although interpretation to date is that intersections in this hole approximate true width. |
| Diagrams                                                         | <p>Appropriate maps and sections (with scales) and tabulations of intercepts should be included for any significant discovery being reported. These should include, but not be limited to a plan view of drill hole collar locations and appropriate sectional views.</p>                                                                                                                         | Included in ASX announcement                                                                                                                                   |
| Balanced reporting                                               | <p>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.</p>                                                                                                                                                                  | This release describes all relevant information                                                                                                                |
| Other substantive exploration data                               | <p>Other exploration data, if meaningful and material, should be reported including (but not limited to): geological observations; 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.</p>      | This release describes all relevant information                                                                                                                |
| Further work                                                     | <p>The nature and scale of planned further work (e.g. tests for lateral extensions or depth extensions or large-scale step-out drilling).</p> <p>Diagrams clearly highlighting the areas of possible extensions, including the main geological interpretations and future drilling areas, provided this information is not commercially sensitive.</p>                                            | Drill results demonstrate further work at the Red Mountain project is warranted.                                                                               |

## APPENDIX 2 – Red Mountain Drilling Sample Assay Table

| Hole ID | From (ft) | To (ft) | Li (ppm) | LCE (%) |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| RMDD005 | 36        | 40      | 480      | 0.26    |
| RMDD005 | 40        | 45      | 565      | 0.30    |
| RMDD005 | 45        | 50      | 515      | 0.27    |
| RMDD005 | 50        | 55      | 586      | 0.31    |
| RMDD005 | 55        | 60      | 887      | 0.47    |
| RMDD005 | 60        | 65      | 840      | 0.45    |
| RMDD005 | 65        | 70      | 721      | 0.38    |
| RMDD005 | 70        | 75      | 814      | 0.43    |
| RMDD005 | 75        | 80      | 625      | 0.33    |
| RMDD005 | 80        | 85      | 653      | 0.35    |
| RMDD005 | 85        | 90      | 1035     | 0.55    |
| RMDD005 | 90        | 95      | 849      | 0.45    |
| RMDD005 | 95        | 100     | 911      | 0.48    |
| RMDD005 | 100       | 105     | 971      | 0.52    |
| RMDD005 | 105       | 110     | 942      | 0.50    |
| RMDD005 | 110       | 115     | 912      | 0.49    |
| RMDD005 | 115       | 120     | 1055     | 0.56    |
| RMDD005 | 120       | 125     | 824      | 0.44    |
| RMDD005 | 125       | 130     | 294      | 0.16    |
| RMDD005 | 130       | 135     | 637      | 0.34    |
| RMDD005 | 135       | 140     | 680      | 0.36    |
| RMDD005 | 140       | 145     | 590      | 0.31    |
| RMDD005 | 145       | 150     | 313      | 0.17    |
| RMDD005 | 150       | 155     | 532      | 0.28    |
| RMDD005 | 155       | 160     | 527      | 0.28    |
| RMDD005 | 160       | 167     | 569      | 0.30    |
| RMDD005 | 167       | 170     | 422      | 0.22    |
| RMDD005 | 170       | 175     | 860      | 0.46    |
| RMDD005 | 175       | 180     | 811      | 0.43    |
| RMDD005 | 180       | 185     | 720      | 0.38    |
| RMDD005 | 185       | 190     | 831      | 0.44    |
| RMDD005 | 190       | 194     | 1105     | 0.59    |
| RMDD005 | 194       | 198     | 1790     | 0.95    |
| RMDD005 | 198       | 203     | 1635     | 0.87    |
| RMDD005 | 203       | 205     | 1480     | 0.79    |
| RMDD005 | 205       | 210     | 1355     | 0.72    |
| RMDD005 | 210       | 215     | 1185     | 0.63    |
| RMDD005 | 215       | 220     | 1010     | 0.54    |
| RMDD005 | 220       | 225     | 625      | 0.33    |
| RMDD005 | 225       | 229     | 445      | 0.24    |
| RMDD005 | 229       | 235     | 815      | 0.43    |
| RMDD005 | 235       | 240     | 838      | 0.45    |
| RMDD005 | 240       | 245     | 711      | 0.38    |
| RMDD005 | 245       | 250     | 1210     | 0.64    |
| RMDD005 | 250       | 255     | 1440     | 0.77    |

| Hole ID | From (ft) | To (ft) | Li (ppm) | LCE (%) |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| RMDD005 | 255       | 260     | 995      | 0.53    |
| RMDD005 | 260       | 265     | 682      | 0.36    |
| RMDD005 | 265       | 270     | 797      | 0.42    |
| RMDD005 | 270       | 275     | 817      | 0.43    |
| RMDD005 | 275       | 280     | 810      | 0.43    |
| RMDD005 | 280       | 285     | 794      | 0.42    |
| RMDD005 | 285       | 290     | 922      | 0.49    |
| RMDD005 | 290       | 295     | 910      | 0.48    |
| RMDD005 | 295       | 300     | 1895     | 1.01    |
| RMDD005 | 300       | 305     | 1145     | 0.61    |
| RMDD005 | 305       | 310     | 465      | 0.25    |
| RMDD005 | 310       | 315     | 199.5    | 0.11    |
| RMDD005 | 315       | 320     | 245      | 0.13    |
| RMDD005 | 320       | 325     | 377      | 0.20    |
| RMDD005 | 325       | 330     | 776      | 0.41    |
| RMDD005 | 330       | 335     | 856      | 0.46    |
| RMDD005 | 335       | 340     | 931      | 0.50    |
| RMDD005 | 340       | 345     | 526      | 0.28    |
| RMDD005 | 345       | 350     | 362      | 0.19    |
| RMDD005 | 350       | 355     | 111      | 0.06    |
| RMDD005 | 355       | 360     | 159      | 0.08    |
| RMDD005 | 360       | 366     | 368      | 0.20    |
| RMDD005 | 366       | 371     | 310      | 0.17    |
| RMDD005 | 371       | 374     | 270      | 0.14    |
| RMDD005 | 374       | 378     | 542      | 0.29    |
| RMDD005 | 378       | 385     | 280      | 0.15    |
| RMDD005 | 385       | 390     | 292      | 0.16    |
| RMDD005 | 390       | 395     | 232      | 0.12    |
| RMDD005 | 395       | 399     | 175      | 0.09    |
| RMDD005 | 399       | 405     | 438      | 0.23    |
| RMDD005 | 405       | 410     | 482      | 0.26    |
| RMDD005 | 410       | 415     | 437      | 0.23    |
| RMDD005 | 415       | 420     | 381      | 0.20    |
| RMDD005 | 420       | 425     | 284      | 0.15    |
| RMDD005 | 425       | 430     | 297      | 0.16    |
| RMDD005 | 430       | 435     | 353      | 0.19    |
| RMDD005 | 435       | 440     | 322      | 0.17    |
| RMDD005 | 440       | 445     | 274      | 0.15    |
| RMDD005 | 445       | 450     | 296      | 0.16    |
| RMDD005 | 450       | 455     | 279      | 0.15    |
| RMDD005 | 455       | 460     | 217      | 0.12    |
| RMDD005 | 460       | 465     | 188.5    | 0.10    |
| RMDD005 | 465       | 470     | 336      | 0.18    |
| RMDD005 | 470       | 475     | 460      | 0.24    |
| RMDD005 | 475       | 480     | 205      | 0.11    |

[illegible]