

# RioTinto

## Lithium Deep Dive Argentina

8 December 2025



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This presentation is authorised for release to the market by Andy Hodges, Rio Tinto’s Group Company Secretary



# Supporting statements

## Mineral Resources – Olaroz, Cauchari, Rincon, Fenix and Sal de Vida

The Olaroz, Cauchari and Rincon Mineral Resources, and the Fenix and Sal de Vida Mineral Resources referenced on slides 26, 29, 31, 36, 37 and 38 are based on the Mineral Resources reported in accordance with the Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves, 2012 Edition (**JORC Code**) and the ASX Listing Rules, in the case of Rincon, in Rio Tinto's 2024 Annual Report released to the ASX on 20 February 2025 and available at [riotinto.com](https://riotinto.com), and in relation to the other deposits in "Initial reporting of lithium Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves: supporting information and Table 1 checklists" released to the ASX on 4 December 2025 (**Table 1 Release**) and available at [riotinto.com](https://riotinto.com).

Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves at Olaroz, Cauchari and Rincon total 37 Mt Lithium Carbonate Equivalent (LCE), and comprise:

- Olaroz Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves totalling 19.7 Mt LCE, consisting of 8.5 Mt LCE of Measured Mineral Resources, 8.4 Mt LCE of Indicated Mineral Resources and 2.8 Mt LCE of Inferred Mineral Resources.
- Cauchari Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves totalling 6.0 Mt LCE, and consisting of 1.9 Mt LCE of Measured Mineral Resources, 2.6 Mt LCE of Indicated Mineral Resources and 1.5 Mt LCE of Inferred Mineral Resources; and
- Rincon Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves totalling 11.7 Mt LCE, consisting of 1.5 Mt LCE of Measured Mineral Resources, 7.9 Mt LCE of Indicated Mineral Resources and 2.3 Mt LCE of Inferred Mineral Resources.

Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves at Fenix and Sal de Vida total 19 Mt LCE, and comprise:

- Fenix Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves totalling 11.7 Mt LCE, consisting of 2.7 Mt LCE of Measured Mineral Resources, 4.3 Mt LCE of Indicated Mineral Resources and 4.7 Mt LCE of Inferred Mineral Resources; and
- Sal de Vida Mineral Resources inclusive of Ore Reserves totalling 7.2 Mt LCE, consisting of 3.5 Mt LCE of Measured Mineral Resources, 3.0 Mt LCE of Indicated Mineral Resources and 0.7 Mt LCE of Inferred Mineral Resources.

The Competent Persons responsible for the information in the 2024 Annual Report that relates to Rincon Mineral Resources are Megan Zivic and Michael Rosko, each of whom is a Registered Member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME-RM).

The Competent Person responsible for the information in the Table 1 release that relates to Fenix, Olaroz, Sal de Vida and Cauchari Mineral Resources is Sean Kosinski, who is a Certified Professional Geologist and a member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

## Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves – Whabouchi and Galaxy

The Whabouchi and Galaxy Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves referenced on slide 40 are based on the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves as reported in accordance with the JORC Code and the ASX Listing Rules in the Table 1 Release available at [riotinto.com](https://riotinto.com).

Galaxy Mineral Resources exclusive of Ore Reserves total 74.0 Mt at 1.25% Li<sub>2</sub>O consisting of 18.1 Mt at 1.12% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Indicated Mineral Resources and 55.9 Mt at 1.29% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Inferred Mineral Resources. Galaxy Ore Reserves comprise 37.3 Mt at 1.27% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Probable Ore Reserves. The Competent Person responsible for the information in the Table 1 release that relates to Galaxy Mineral Resources is Luke Evans, P.Eng., who is a Member of the l'Ordre des Ingénieurs du Québec. The Competent Persons responsible for the information in the Table 1 release that relates to Galaxy Ore Reserves is Normand Lecuyer, P.Eng., who is a Member of l'Ordre des Ingénieurs du Québec.

Whabouchi Mineral Resources exclusive of Ore Reserves total 26.9 Mt at 1.45% Li<sub>2</sub>O, consisting of 18.7 Mt at 1.51% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Indicated Mineral Resources and 8.3 Mt at 1.31% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Inferred Mineral Resources. Whabouchi Ore Reserves total 26.5 Mt at 1.32% Li<sub>2</sub>O consisting of 10.5 Mt at 1.40% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Proved Ore Reserves and 16.0 Mt at 1.27% Li<sub>2</sub>O of Probable Ore Reserves. The Competent Person responsible for the information in the Table 1 release that relates to Whabouchi Mineral Resources is Christian Beaulieu, who is a Member of the l'Ordre des géologues du Québec. The Competent Persons responsible for the information in the Table 1 release that relates to Whabouchi Ore Reserves is Jeffrey Cassoff who is a Member of l'Ordre des Ingénieurs du Québec.

## Production Targets

The production targets for the operations and projects including Fenix, Olaroz, Sal de Vida, Rincon, Galaxy, Nemaska and Cauchari, support the total portfolio revenue potential set out on slides 46 and 49 comprise 93 ktpa LCE for 2027 (underpinned as to 97% by Proved Ore Reserves and as to 3% by Probable Ore Reserves); 114 ktpa LCE for 2028 (underpinned as to 79% by Proved Ore Reserves and as to 21% by Probable Ore Reserves); 174 ktpa LCE for 2029 (underpinned as to 56% by Proved Ore Reserves and as to 44% by Probable Ore Reserves); 212 ktpa LCE for 2030 (underpinned as to 56% by Proved Ore Reserves and as to 44% by Probable Ore Reserves); an average of 331 ktpa LCE for the years 2031-35 (underpinned as to 54% by Proved Ore Reserves and 46% by Probable Ore Reserves); and an average of 365 ktpa LCE for the years 2036-40 (underpinned as to 14% by Proved Ore Reserves and 86% by Probable Ore Reserves). The estimated Ore Reserves underpinning these production targets are as reported in the 2024 Annual Report and the Table 1 Release, and have been prepared by Competent Persons in accordance with the requirements of the JORC code.

## Lithium Carbonate Equivalent

LCE Ore Reserves are reported at the well head and thus assume 100% recovery at that point. To obtain the equivalent tonnage for LCE, the estimated mass of lithium is multiplied by a factor that is based on the atomic weights of each element in lithium carbonate to obtain the final compound weight. The factor used was 5.323 to obtain LCE mass from lithium mass.

## General

Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves for lithium brines deposits and exclusive of Ore Reserves for hard rock lithium deposits. Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves are reported on a 100% basis.

Rio Tinto confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the 2024 Annual Report or the Table 1 Release, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the 2024 Annual Report and the Table 1 Release continue to apply and have not materially changed, and that the form and context in which each Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified.



# Introduction to our Lithium team and business

**Barbara Fochtman**

Managing Director, Rio Tinto Lithium



# Agenda

## Topic

## Presenter

Safety Share

**Barbara Fochtman** Managing Director, Rio Tinto Lithium

Introduction

Attractive markets

**Sarah Maryssael** Head of Strategy, Rio Tinto Lithium

Our business model

**Barbara Fochtman** Managing Director, Rio Tinto Lithium

Operational Excellence

Disciplined Growth

**Djaber Belabdi** Managing Director, Rio Tinto Projects

Capital Efficiency

Creating Value

**Ulric Adom** CFO, Rio Tinto Aluminium & Lithium

Q&A



**Safety** share

HAVE A  
SAFE DAY

Rio Tinto





# Shaping a high-quality Lithium business to meet strong demand

- +13% demand CAGR to 2035
- Right team
- World-class assets
- Proven DLE technologies
- Solid track record of delivering growth projects now backed by Rio Tinto expertise
- Deep pipeline of options at competitive capital intensity

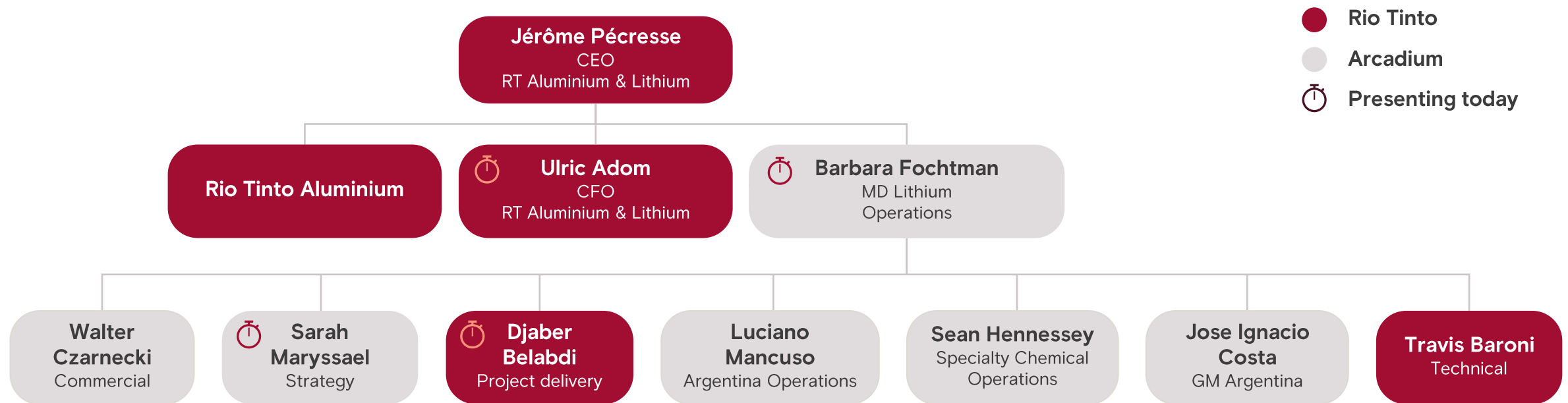
**Focus on delivering in-flight projects to reach ~200ktpa capacity by 2028**

**Commit additional capital when supported by markets and returns**





# Harnessing the combined strengths of Rio Tinto and Arcadium

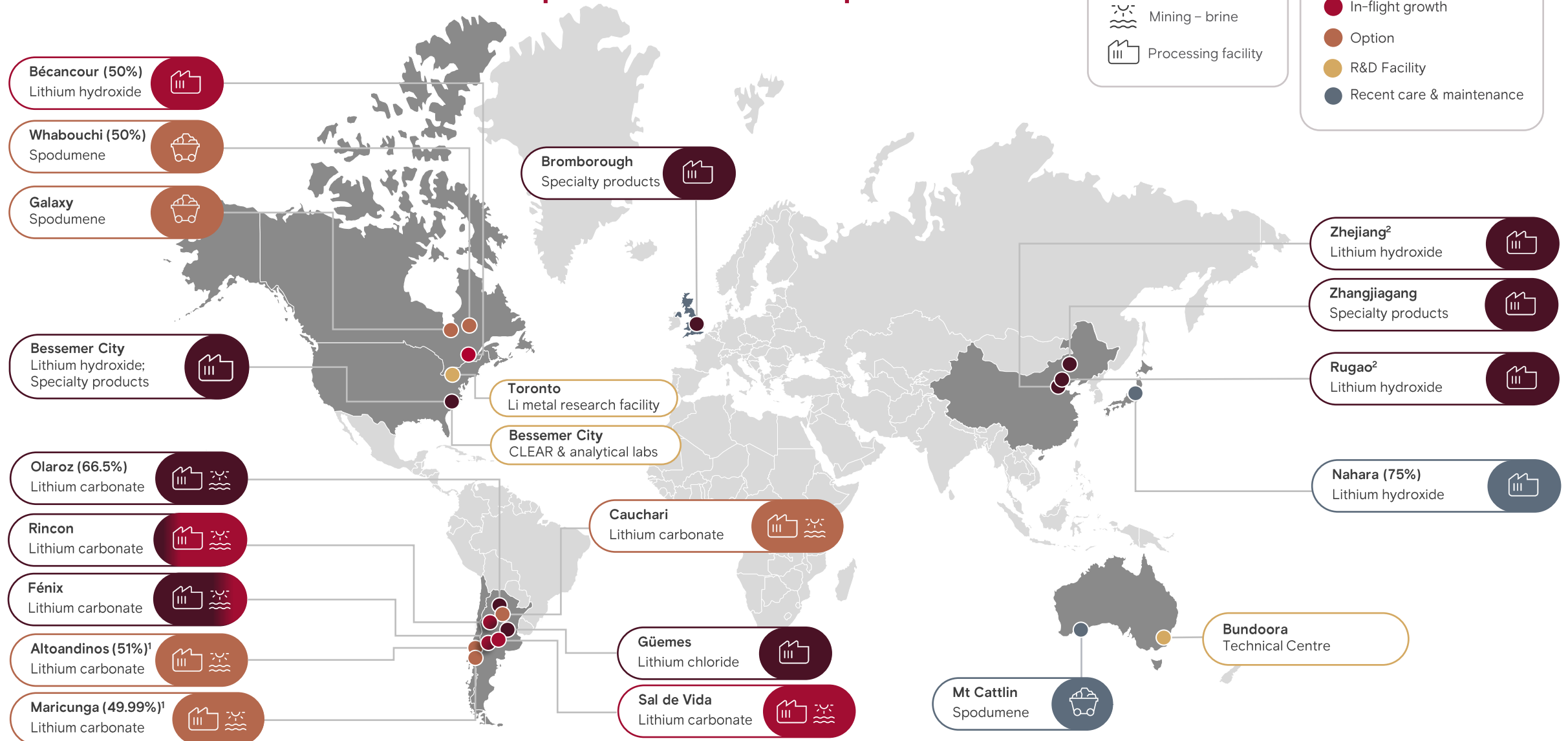


## Complementary capabilities

- **Balance sheet strength** to accelerate disciplined growth
- **Project delivery** capabilities
- **Global network:** including logistics, procurement, government relationships

- Low costs underpinned by **high grades & best-in-class DLE**
- Established, **vertically integrated** producer
- **Premium products** and established customer network

# Global lithium asset footprint with unique reach



Note: Ownership is 100% basis unless otherwise stated. 1. Remains subject to receipt of all applicable regulatory approvals and satisfaction of other customary closing conditions.  
2. Exclusive contract manufacturing partnerships



# Well positioned in all lithium battery chemistries

## Feedstock

### Spodumene

- Hard-rock
- Primary route to hydroxide
- Typically <6%  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$



### Brine

- Salt flat deposits
- Lower unit costs
- Higher grade



Lithium chloride

## Products

Lithium hydroxide



Lithium carbonate



Lithium metal



## Battery type

**Nickel-Cobalt-Manganese (NCM) with >60% Ni content**

- Long-range EVs
- Demand from western customers

**NCM with ≤60% Ni content**

- Medium and long-range EVs, PHEVs, residential BESS
- Global demand

**Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP)**

- BESS & standard range EVs
- Largely Chinese demand

**Next generation & non-rechargeable batteries**

- Global demand

# Attractive markets



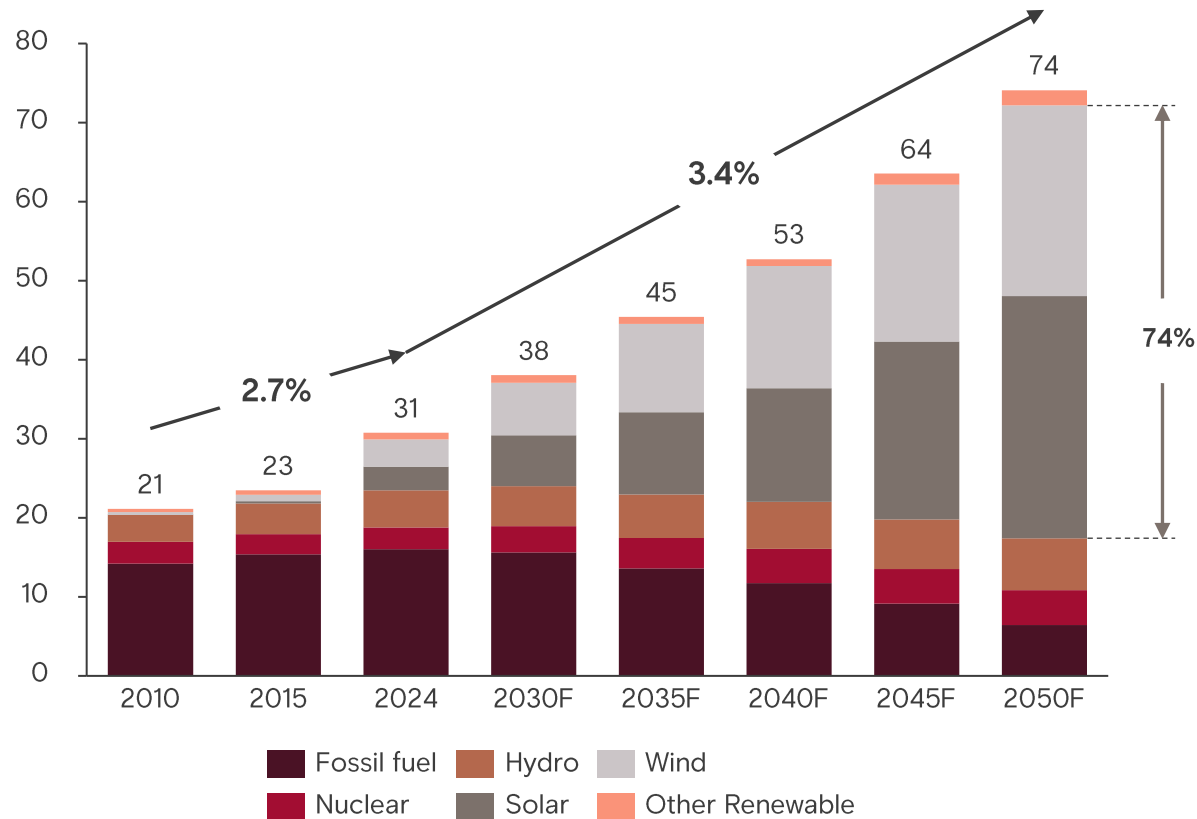
Sarah Maryssael  
Head of Strategy, Rio Tinto Lithium



# Energy transition creates a durable and expanding lithium market

## Global electricity demand will outpace GDP growth (3.4% vs 2.2%)<sup>1</sup>

000, TWh per year



**The age of electrification is accelerating due to environmental, geopolitical and economic factors**

- Climate and decarbonisation goals
- Enhance energy security
- Economic advantages
- Policy and regulation
- Technological advancements

# Lithium's superior performance in mobility and storage applications

Li-ion batteries; mature technology attracts significant, long-term investment from auto manufacturers

## Lightweight

- **Lightest metal** on the periodic table
- **Weigh less**, ideal for portable electronics and mobility

## High voltage

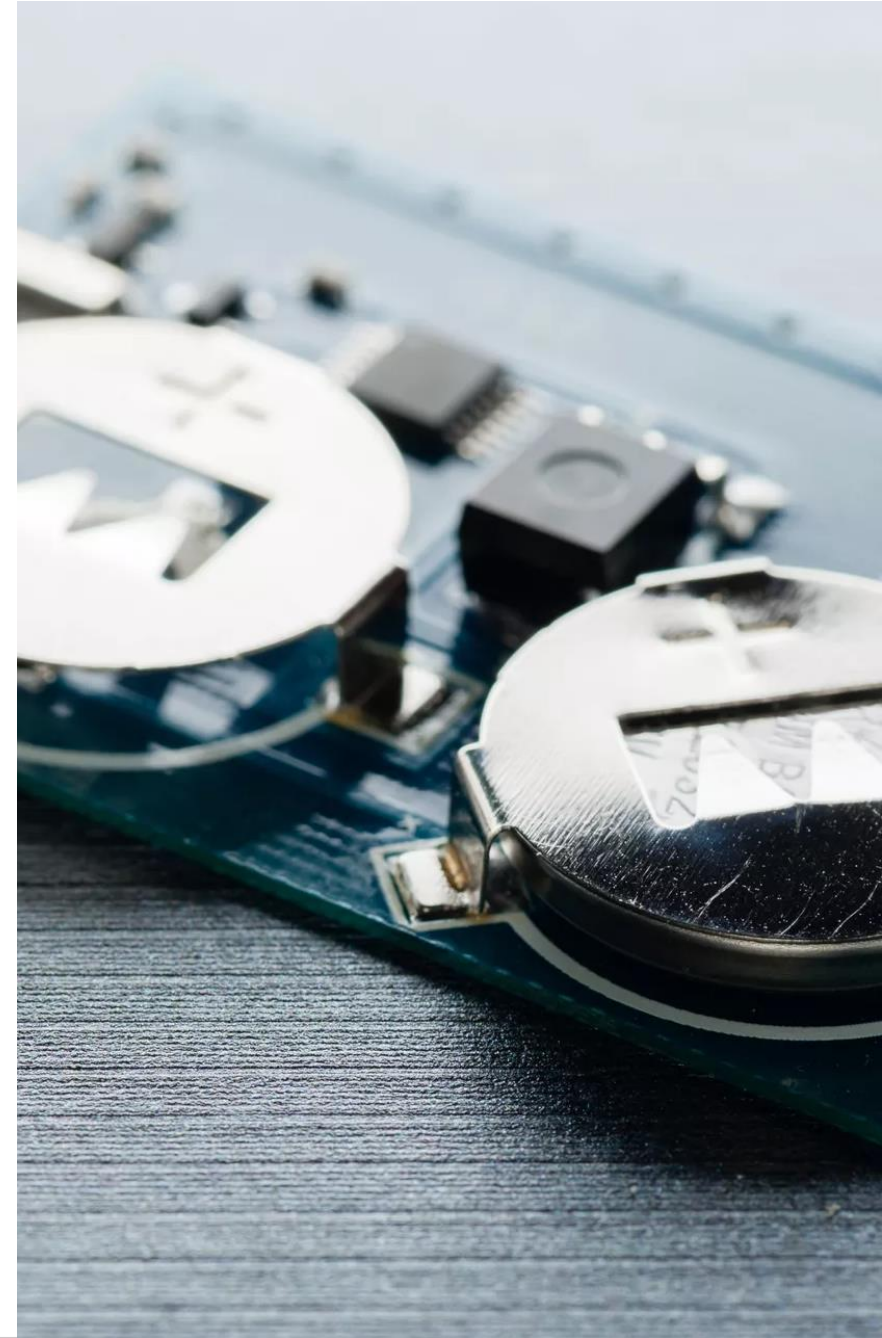
- **Higher voltage per cell**
- **Fewer cells** to get the same power

## High energy density

- Each atom can **store and release a lot of energy** relative to its size
- **Holds more power** in a smaller space

## Quick recharge

- Li ions **move easily back and forth** between the cathode and anode
- **Quickly recharged 1000s of times**

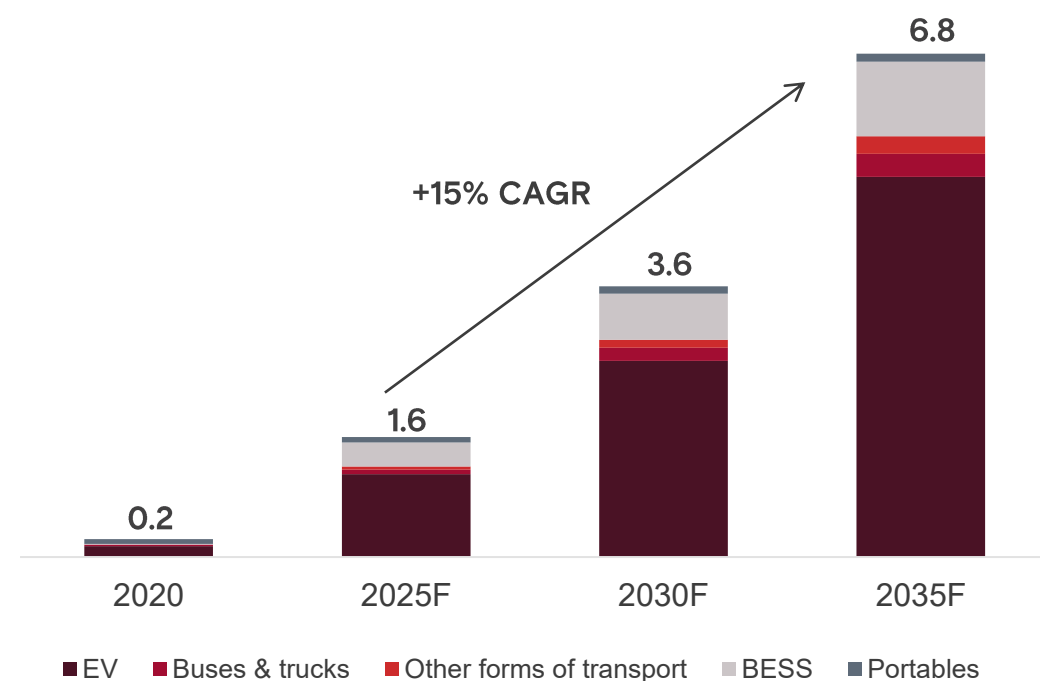




# +13% compound annual Li demand growth driven by EV and BESS

## Battery demand led by passenger and commercial EVs; BESS growth accelerating

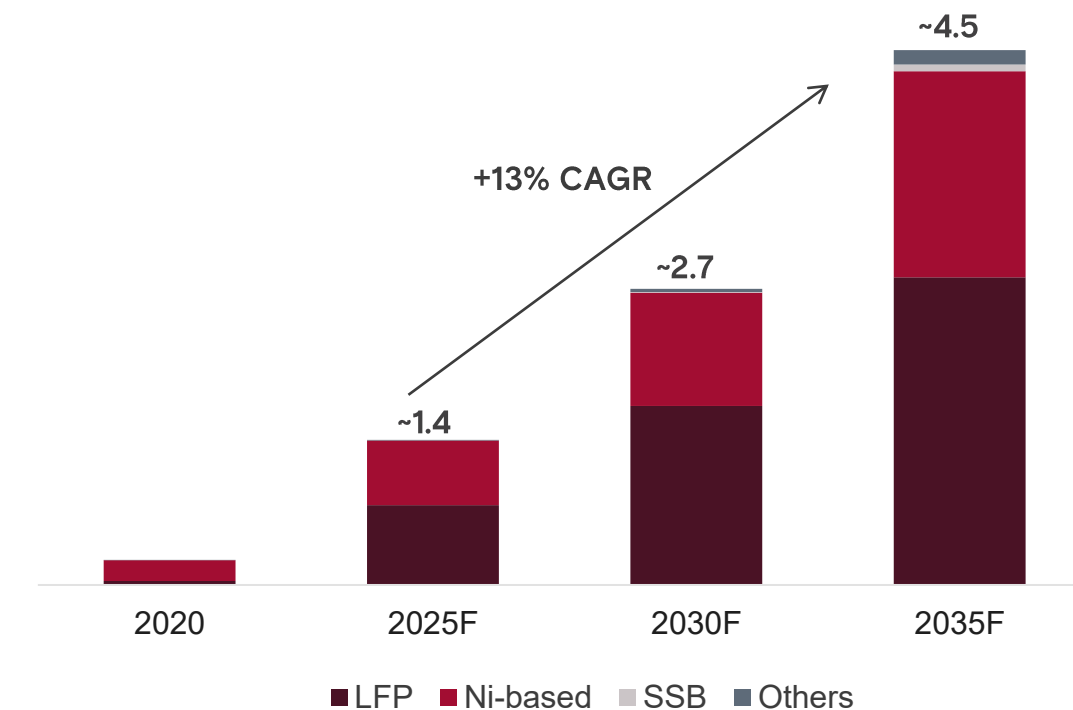
Battery demand by end-use segment (TWh)<sup>1</sup>



## LFP expected to be dominant cathode chemistry; Ni-based for higher performance applications

Lithium demand by cathode chemistry

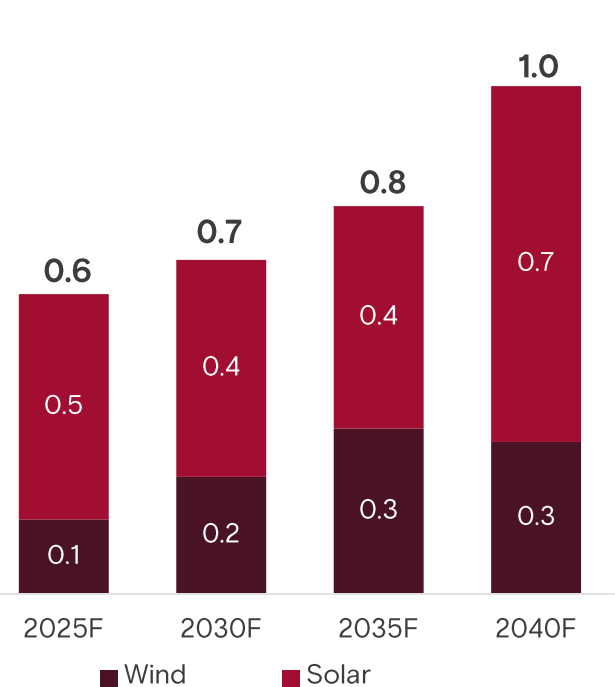
Mt lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE)



# Accelerating BESS demand

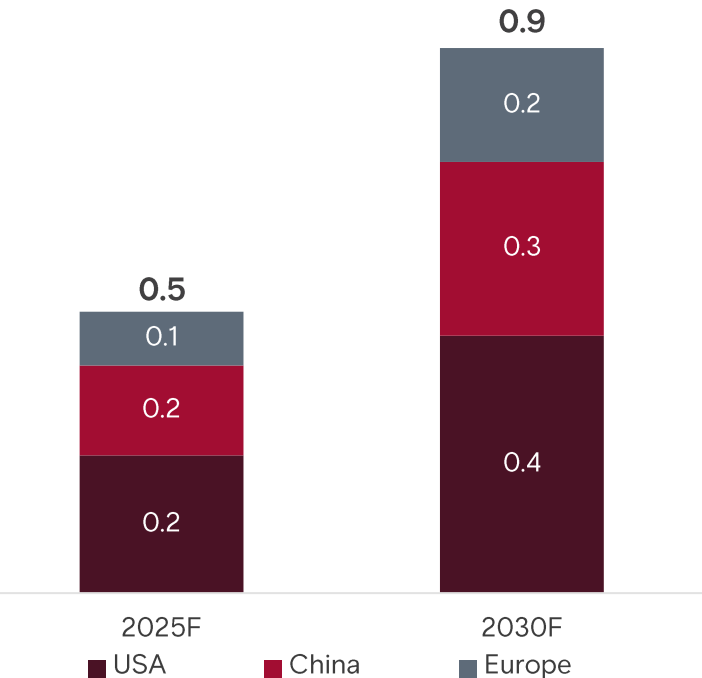
## Renewables growth to rely on BESS to manage grid stability

Solar and wind capacity annual additions TW



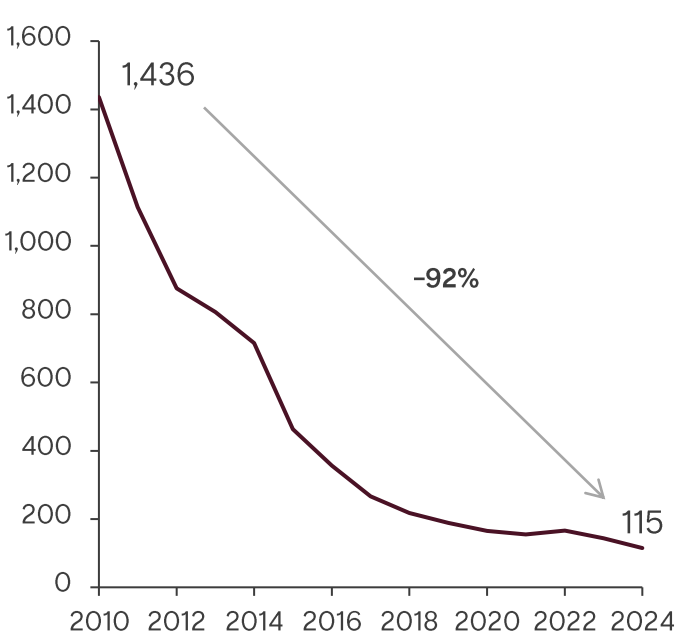
## AI data centres require batteries to guarantee reliability<sup>2</sup>

AI data centre electricity consumption TWh



## Falling battery prices makes BESS more affordable and scalable<sup>3</sup>

Li-ion battery price Real 2024 \$/kWh



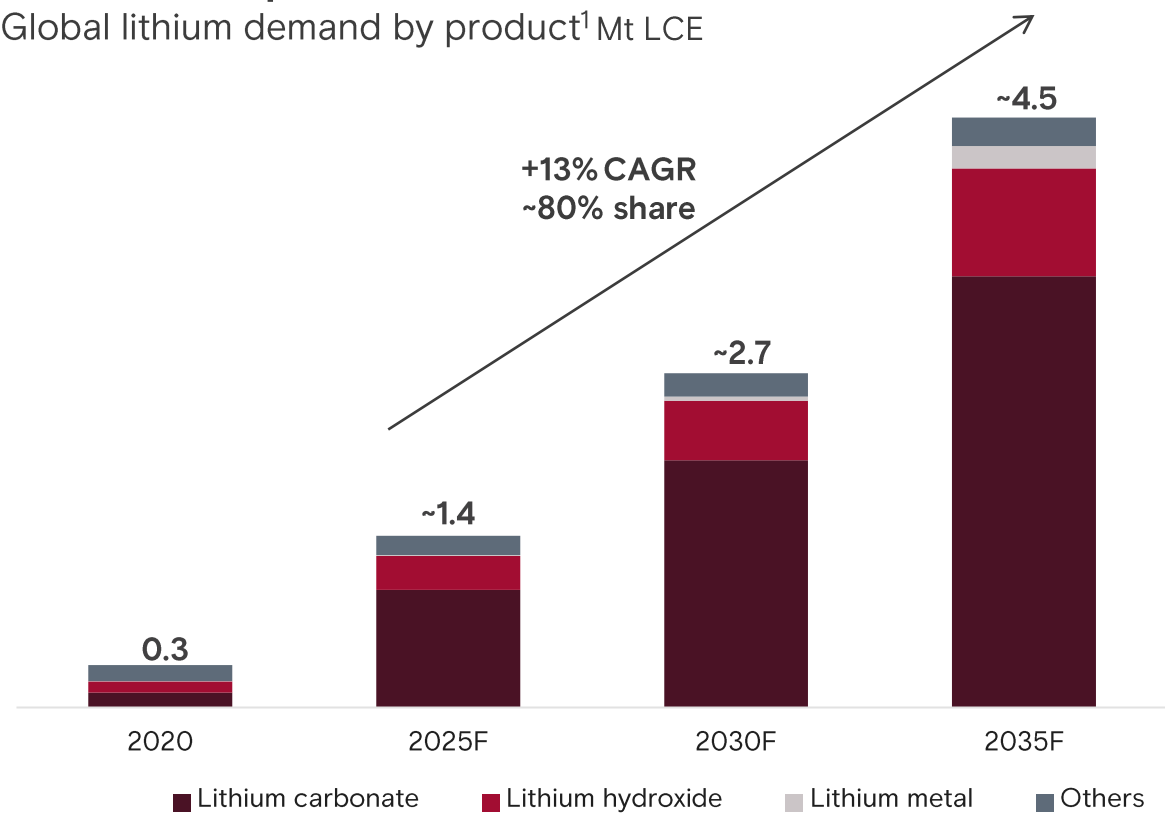
1. Source: Rio Tinto Economics. 2. Energy demand from AI, IEA. 3. BNEF Bloomberg New Energy Finance: Lithium-ion battery price survey,



# Two distinct markets for carbonate and hydroxide

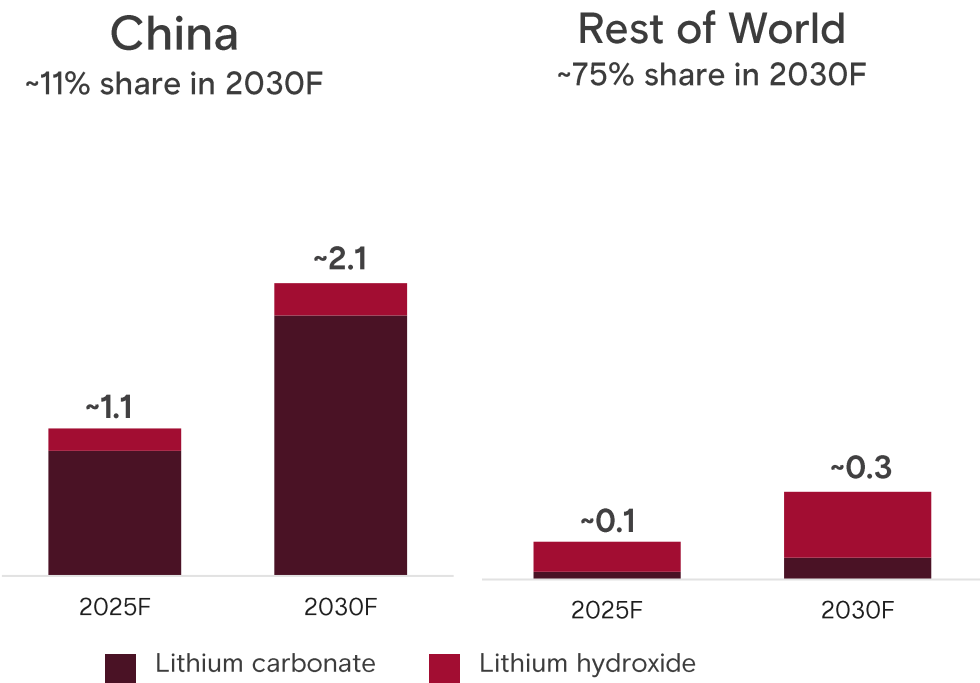
## Carbonate represents the mass market

Global lithium demand by product<sup>1</sup> Mt LCE



## Hydroxide preferred by western customers

Global hydroxide and carbonate demand by geography<sup>2</sup> Mt LCE

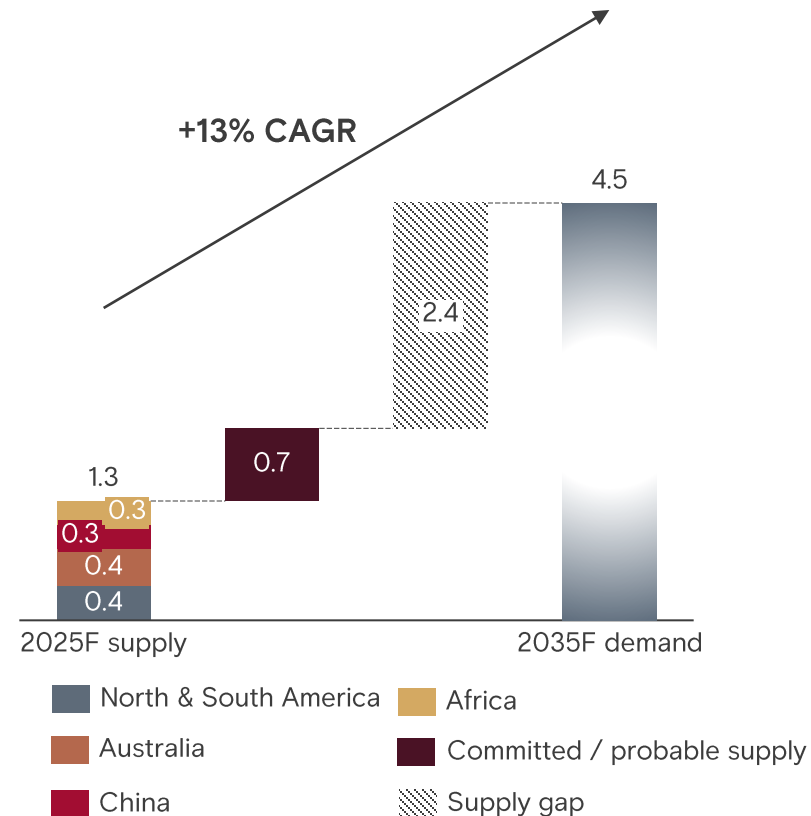


1. Source: Benchmark Minerals Insight 3Q 2025, Rio Tinto Economics. 2. Benchmark Minerals Insight 3Q 2025, Rio Tinto Economics, RT Lithium.

# Lithium demand will require significant greenfield investments

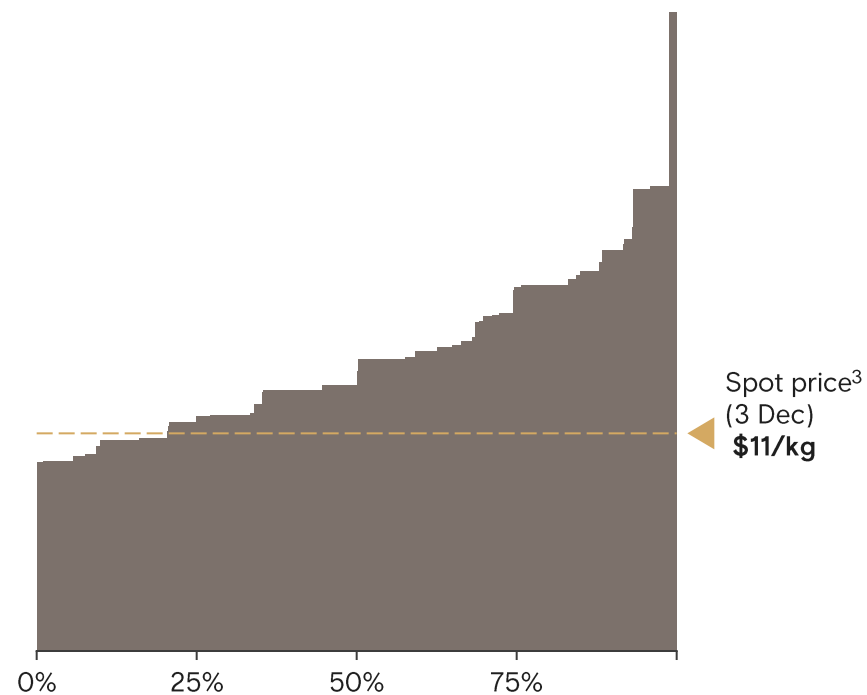
## Significant supply deficit emerging over next decade

Mined lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE)  
Mt<sup>1</sup>, CAGR%



## New projects will need to be incentivised

2030 lithium carbonate incentive curve  
C3 cost plus capital charge (\$/kg LCE)



- Global supply ~60% mineral-based, ~35% brine-based, ~5% recycling
- Significant growth in higher cost Chinese-operated African and domestic supply since 2023
- Chinese battery supply chains will continue to rely on external lithium supply
- Our deep pipeline of growth options are well positioned to supply key markets

1. Assumed 0.2Mt scrap in 2035. 2. Highly probable supply are projects that have completed public market requirements, government approvals, fully funded and expected to place their product in the market in the next 24 months. 3. Represents LCE CIF Asia price. Source: Rio Tinto Economics Conviction Scenario, BMI 3Q 2025



# Highly attractive long-term fundamentals


- **Compelling lithium demand outlook:** +13% CAGR to 2035 underpinned by EV and BESS applications
- **Lithium-ion battery technology is mature, highly scalable:** lightweight, energy-dense and fast recharge
- **Global portfolio well positioned to supply into key markets:**
  - Mass market of lithium carbonate sales in China
  - Specialised market of lithium hydroxide in the West
  - Future potential of lithium metal for next-gen batteries
- **Commercial strategy aligned** with leading auto and battery customers





# Our business model

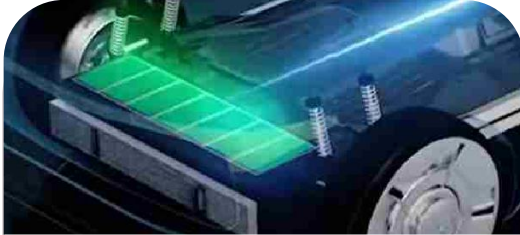
**Barbara Fochtman**  
Managing Director, Rio Tinto Lithium

 Rincon, Argentina



# Diverse product mix into global end markets

## Product mix



**Battery grade  
lithium hydroxide**  
**Battery grade  
lithium carbonate**



**Non-battery lithium  
hydroxide**  
**Technical grade  
lithium carbonate**



**High purity  
lithium metal**



**Butyllithium &  
other specialties**

## Global end markets

- Mobility/ EVs
- Grid-scale energy storage
- AI infrastructure
- Defence

- High performance greases
- Glass
- Ceramics
- Construction
- Other industrials

- Next generation batteries
- Aerospace
- Non-rechargeable batteries
- Defence

- Pharmaceuticals
- Agrochemicals
- Polymers
- Semiconductors

# Long-term supplier of customers along the entire value chain

Advanced active materials



Cell manufacturing



Automotive manufacturing

*Customers include:*

**BTR**



**+ SES**

**Tesla**

**Panasonic  
ENERGY**

**LYTEN**

**Tesla**

*Ford*



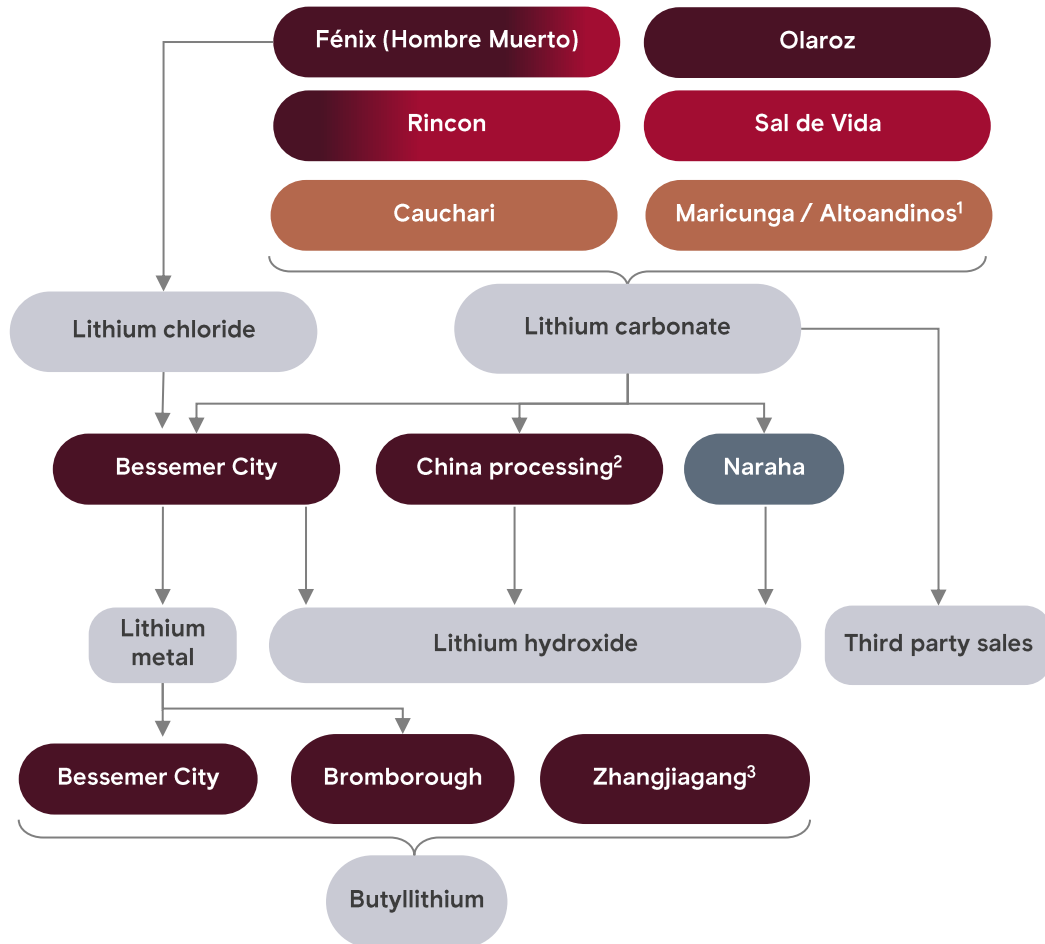
**BMW  
GROUP**



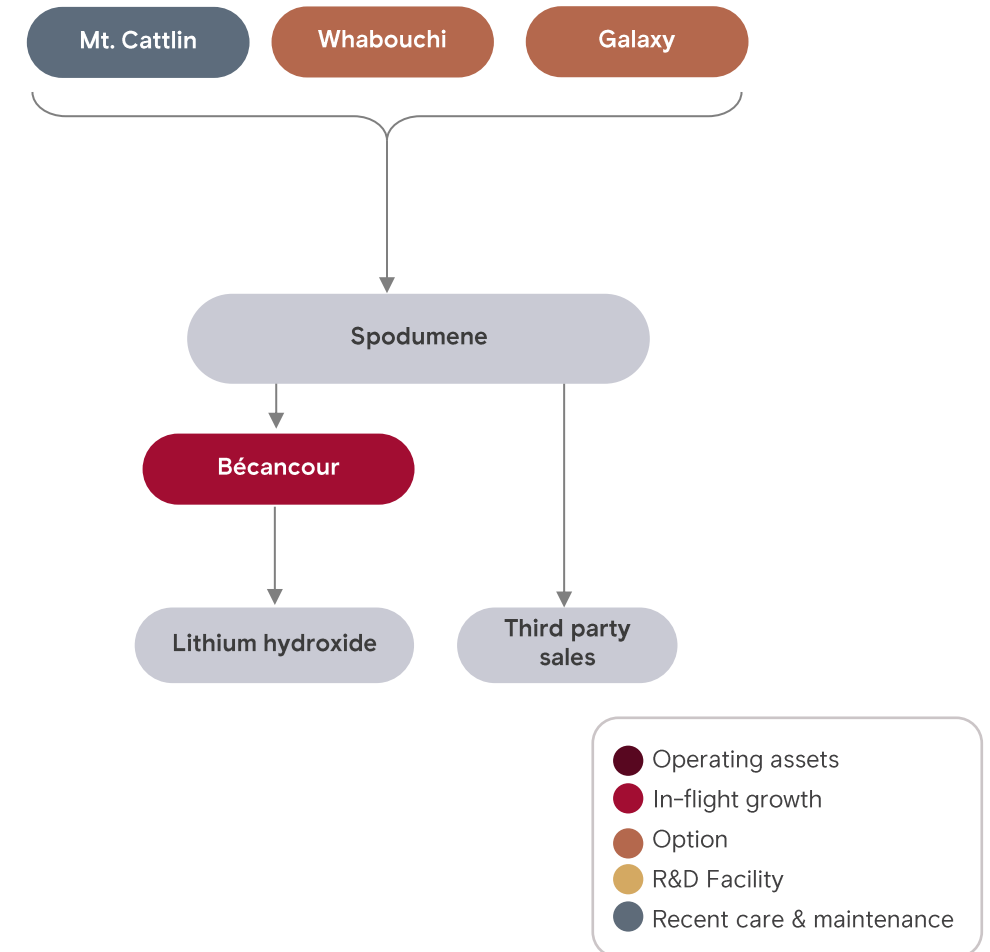
Our premium hydroxide product commands contractual floor prices for more than 40%<sup>2</sup> of volumes

# Integrated value chain – product flexibility and optionality

## Brine → lithium carbonate or lithium hydroxide

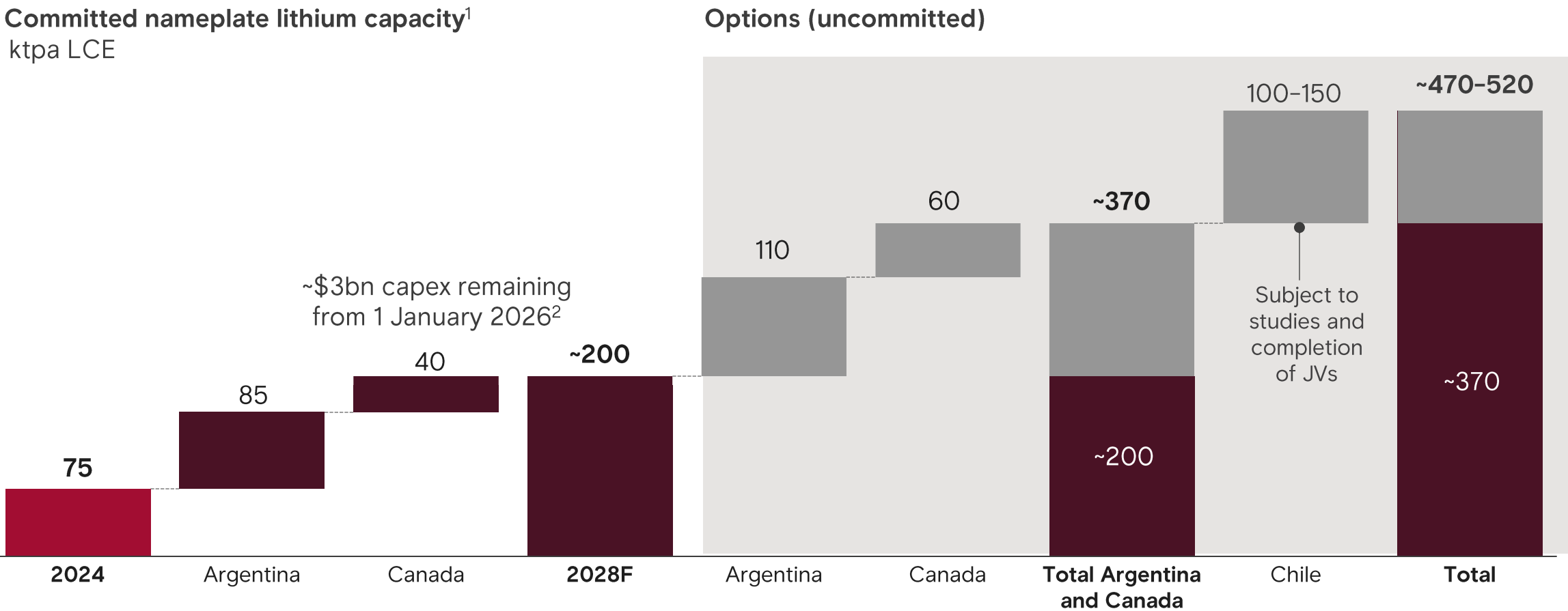


## Spodumene → lithium hydroxide



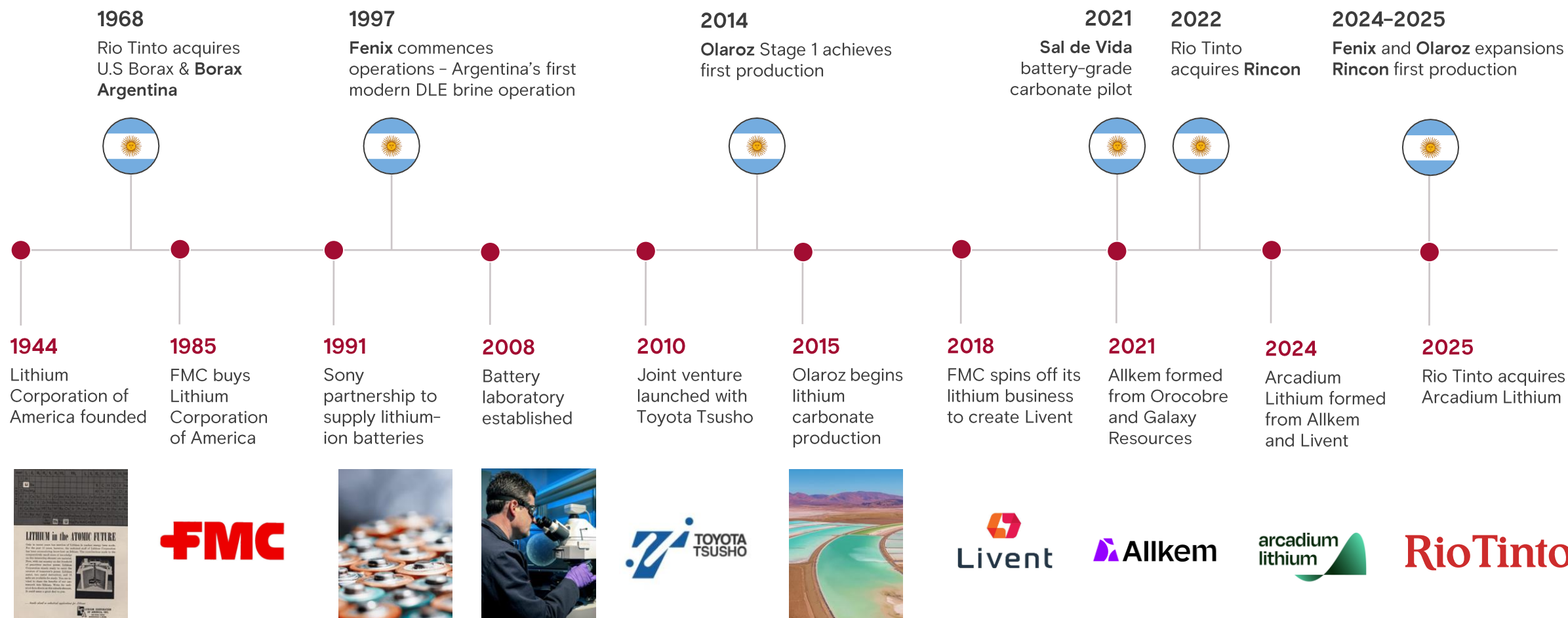


# Successfully delivering in-flight growth; options subject to markets & returns



# Our long history and growing presence in Argentina

Underpinned by in-country expertise and provincial relationships



# Uniquely positioned through strong and collaborative engagement

25+ years continuous presence in Jujuy, Salta and Catamarca provinces

## Federal

- Established national mining code
- Set financial frameworks (RIGI)

## Provincial ownership

- Control and grant mining rights
- Align with national law and have primary environmental authority

## Working effectively with local stakeholders

- Largest mining employer:
  - 2,000+ full-time employees
  - 70% local workforce from host provinces
- \$600m<sup>1</sup> local procurement, supporting 100+ local suppliers
- \$7m<sup>1</sup> invested in community programs, participation agreements & infrastructure
- Alignment with IFC<sup>2</sup> Performance Standards and UN SDGs<sup>3</sup>

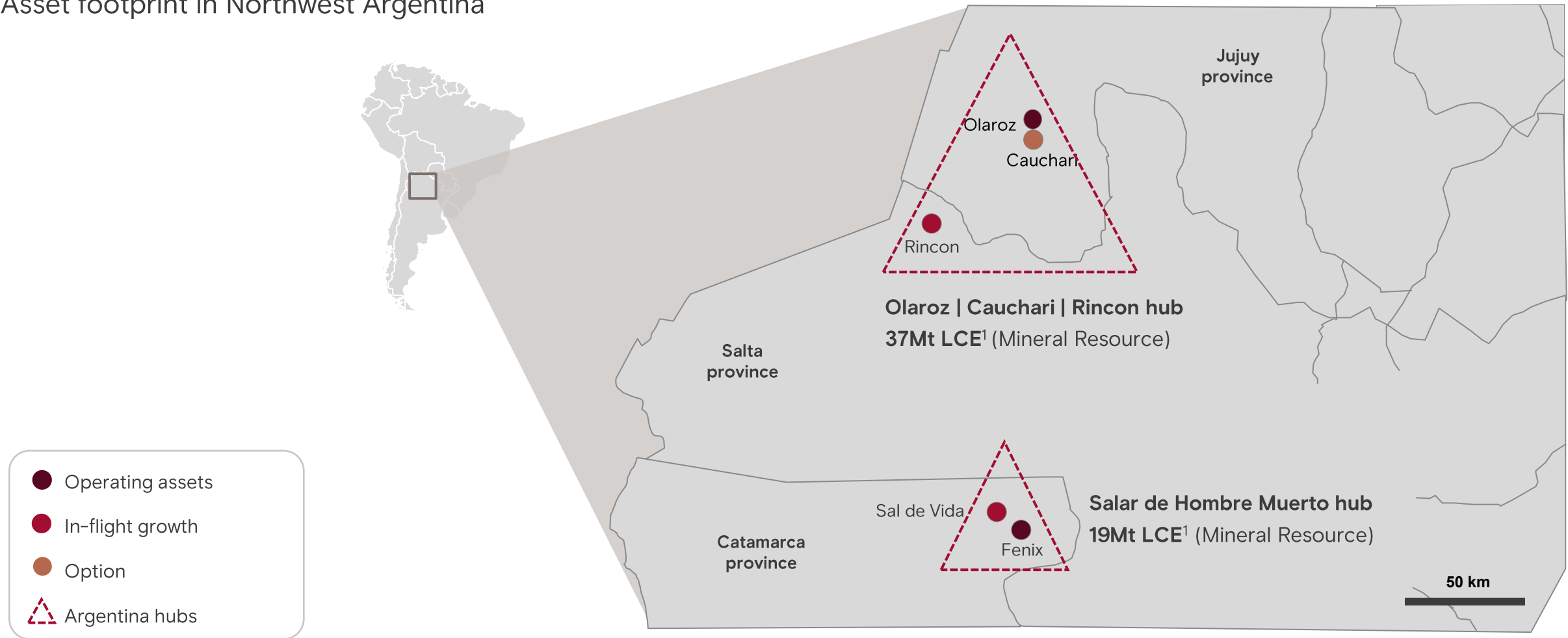




# Argentina is the cornerstone of our lithium strategy

## Unlocking significant synergies from two major hubs to deliver stronger returns

### Asset footprint in Northwest Argentina



<sup>1</sup> Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3.

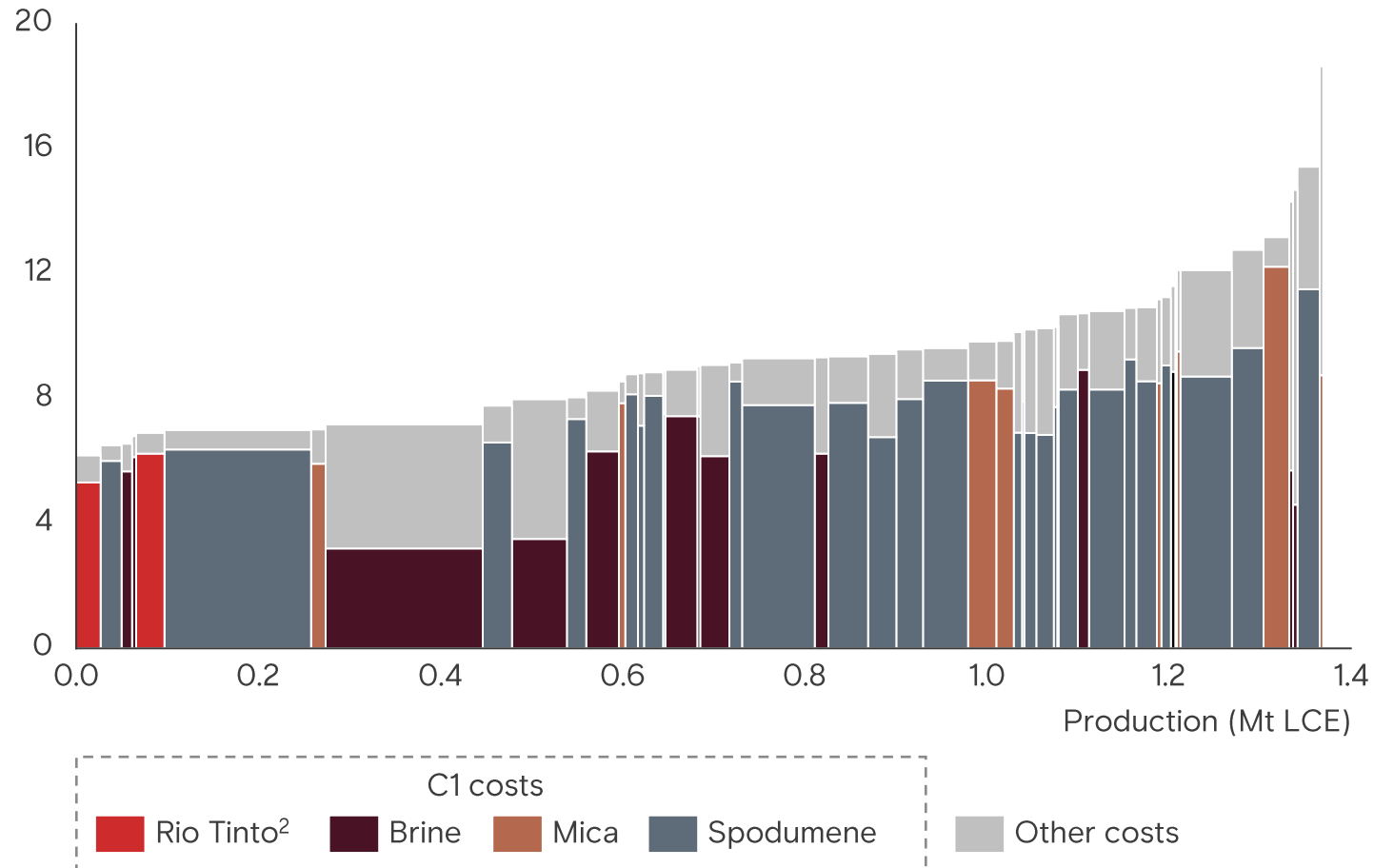
# Operational excellence at our world-class assets

**Barbara Fochtman**  
Managing Director, Rio Tinto Lithium



# Resilient first quartile cost position

## 2025 Global Lithium C3 Cost Curve (\$/kg LCE)<sup>1</sup>



### Our competitive advantages

#### #1 Resource base

- Low-cost South American brine and high-grade Canadian hard rock

#### Operational excellence

- Continuous improvement mindset

#### DLE technology leadership

- Proven track record in developing and deploying new technologies

1. C3 costs include depreciation, amortization, sustaining capex, royalties and interest but exclude capital charge. Sources: BMI, CRU, Rho Motion, Rio Tinto Market Analysis and 2025 cost estimates  
2. Current operational footprint (2025 plan)



## Best-in-class DLE, operating at commercial scale for ~30 years

### First quartile cost driven by resource quality and DLE

- Operating costs<sup>3</sup> of \$5/kg
- High concentration production (>740 mg/L lithium)
- DLE benefits
  - Improves lithium yield (>80%) and enhances product quality
  - Reduces processing times, land use footprint and brine consumption

### Operational excellence

- Existing line 22ktpa LCE<sup>1</sup>
- 1A Expansion (+10ktpa) reached full run rate in 2024
  - Technology to reduce overall cycle time from brine to final carbonate from 2-3 months to 1-2 days

### Rio Tinto 100% ownership

**Location**  
Catamarca province,  
Argentina

**Installed capacity**  
32ktpa LCE<sup>1</sup>

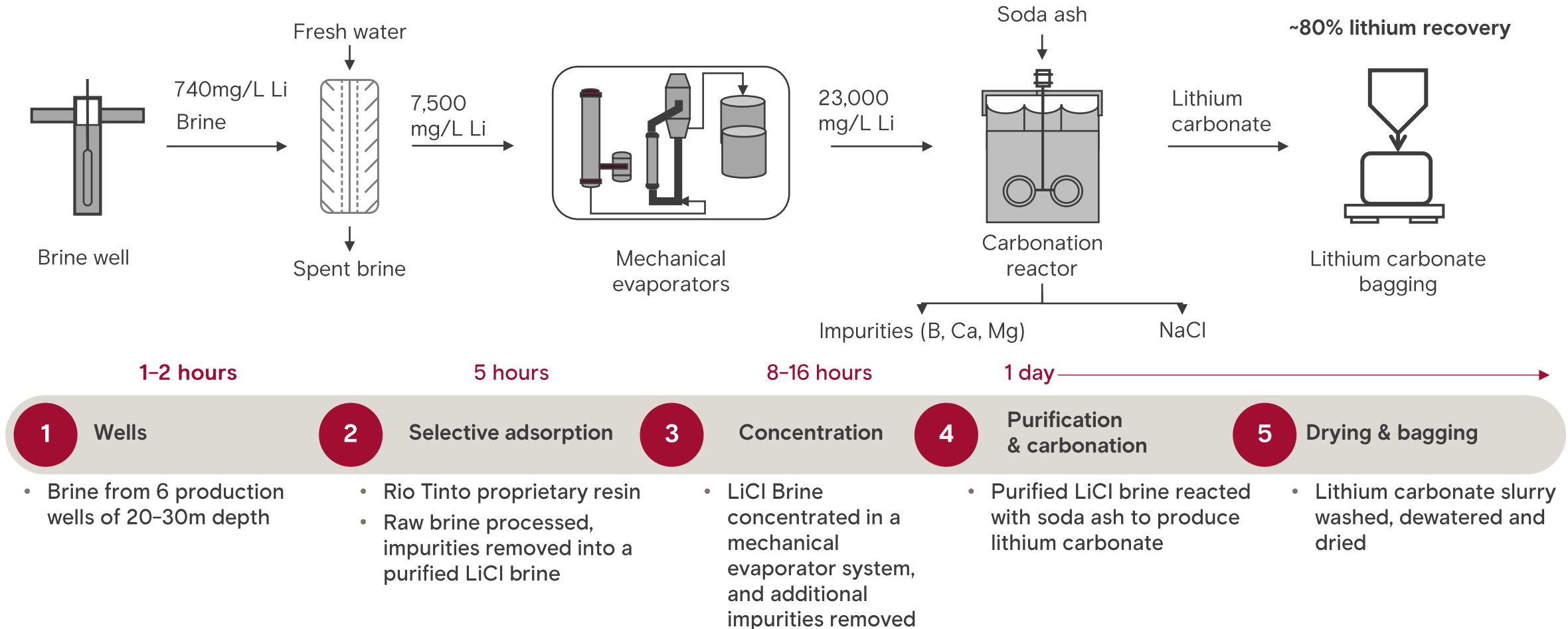
**Mineral Resource Estimate**  
11.7Mt LCE<sup>2</sup>



1. Includes 4kt LCE of assumed lithium chloride production at Güemes. 2. Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges.

# Fénix DLE: improves speed, quality and yield

## Simplified process flowsheet



# Olaroz

Low-cost evaporation pond process operating for over a decade

## First quartile costs underpinned by resource and infrastructure

- Operating costs<sup>1</sup> of \$6/kg
- Utilisation of solar energy
- Proximal to existing road and rail networks

## Operational excellence

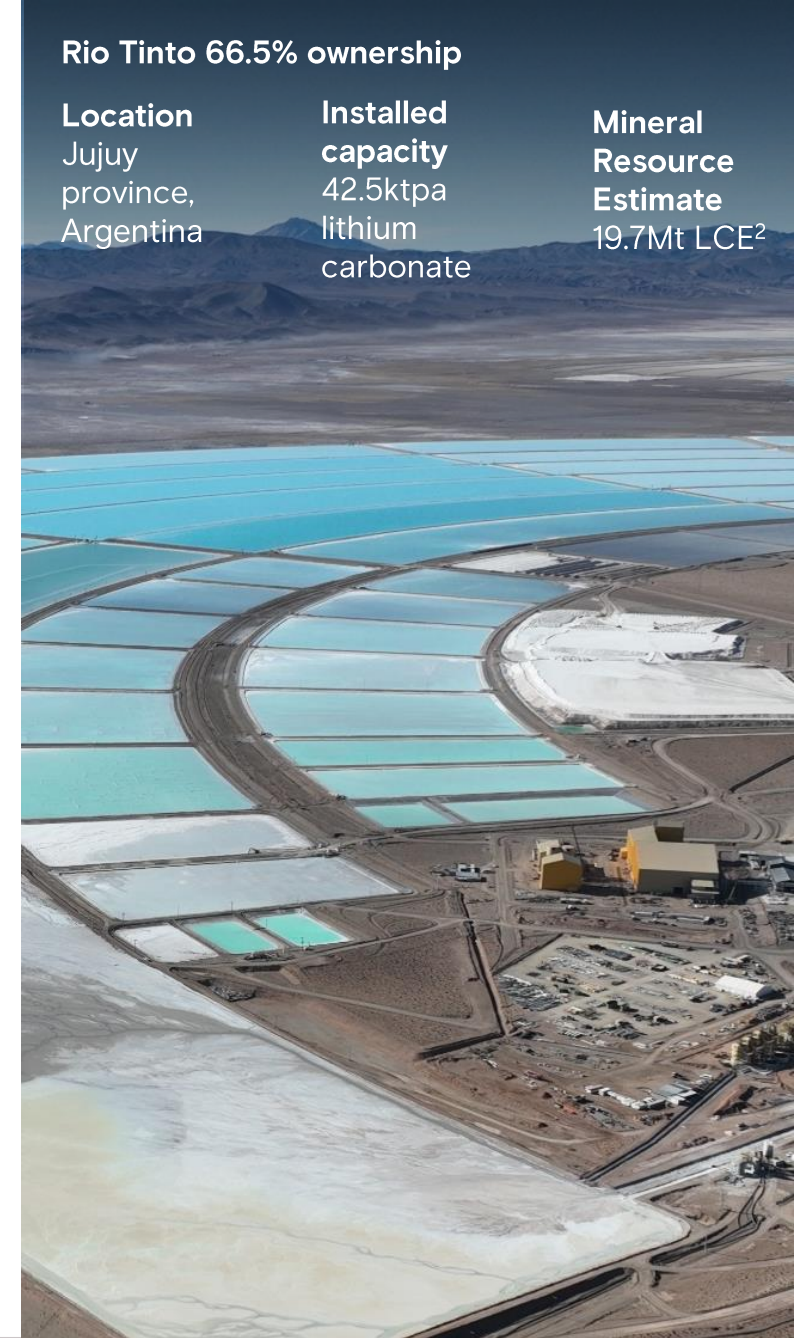
- **Stage 1 (17.5ktpa) at full capacity**
  - Technical and battery grade carbonate output tailored to market dynamics
- **Stage 2 (up to +25ktpa)**
  - Product meets targeted technical grade specifications
  - Ponds being optimised to achieve nameplate

Rio Tinto 66.5% ownership

**Location**  
Jujuy  
province,  
Argentina

**Installed  
capacity**  
42.5ktpa  
lithium  
carbonate

**Mineral  
Resource  
Estimate**  
19.7Mt LCE<sup>2</sup>



1. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges. 2. Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3.



# Our network provides geographical optionality for our customers

Hydroxide: premium pricing achieved from converting carbonate into reliable and high-quality product



## Bessemer City, U.S.

- 100% ownership
- 15ktpa capacity



- **Largest lithium hydroxide producer** in North America with 75 years of operations
- **Processing capabilities beyond hydroxide**, spanning lithium metal, high purity metal, butyllithium and specialty inorganics



## Rugao & Zhejiang, China

- Exclusive contract manufacturing partnerships
- 30ktpa total capacity



- **Doubled capacity in <2years** with **minimal fixed cost structure** to meet customer demand
- **Track-record of achieving high quality specs** for customers within / outside China



## Naraha, Japan

- 75% economic interest<sup>1</sup>
- 10ktpa capacity



- **Demonstrated capability to run at full run rate** fed by Olaroz
- **Strategic importance as an alternative hydroxide source ex-China**
- Currently on care and maintenance

1. Developed in joint venture with Toyota Tsusho (25% economic interest)

# End-to-end leader in technology development

Combining Arcadium and Rio Tinto's expertise and strategic partnerships to accelerate breakthroughs

## Extraction / DLE



- Creating an enhanced and **standardised DLE flowsheet** for future projects

## Lithium metal



- Developing **sustainable, low-cost** production pathway using **carbonate feedstock**

## Product R&D



- Advancing **printable lithium** – a key enabler for commercial production of lithium metal anodes and next generation batteries

Underpinned by strong analytical capabilities



# Disciplined growth in execution

**Djaber Belabdi**  
Managing Director, Rio Tinto Projects

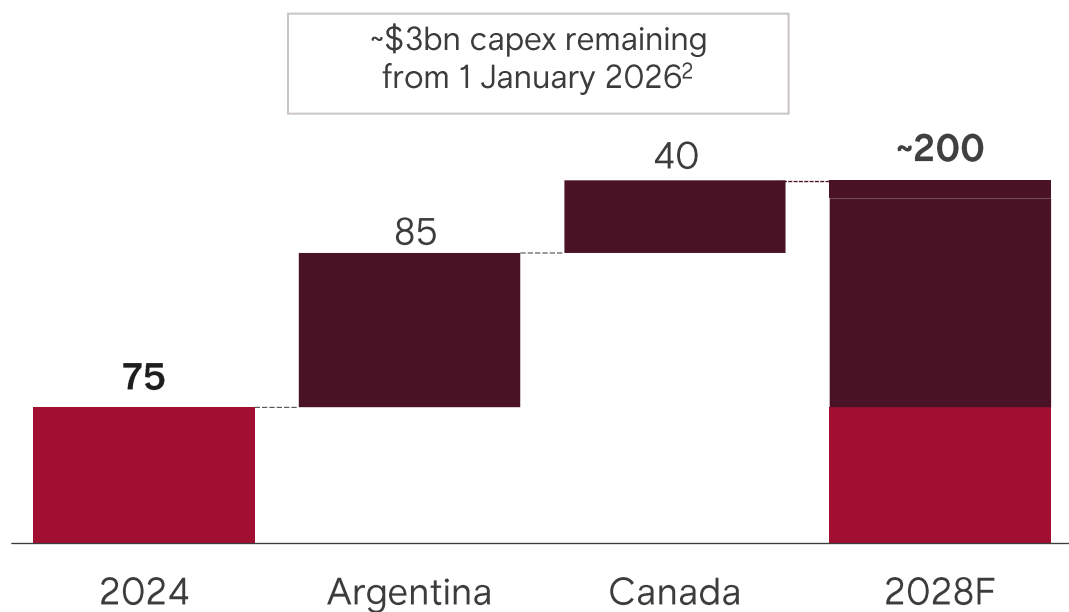
Sal de Vida, Argentina



# Successfully delivering in-flight growth

## Committed nameplate lithium capacity<sup>1</sup>

ktpa LCE



- Increasing capacity by **>2.5x** by 2028
- Capital intensity of **\$65/kg<sup>3</sup>** to reach **~200ktpa**
- C1 opex<sup>4</sup> at **\$5-8/kg** across the brines portfolio
- 37% EBITDA margin for 2028 at consensus pricing

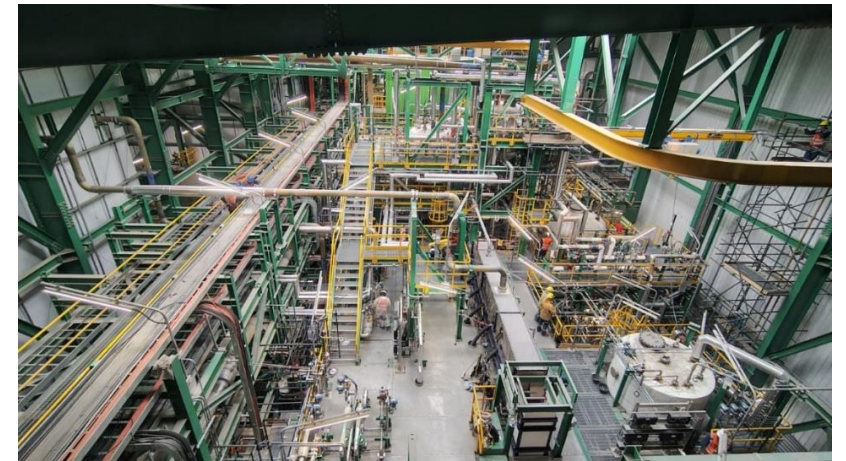
1. Capacity on 100% basis. Production will not correlate directly with installed capacity due to timing of ramp-up. 2. Out of a total ~\$5.0bn (Rio Tinto share) for these committed projects. 3. Capital intensity of \$65/kg comprised of: Arcadium acquisition including acquired net debt; Rincon acquisition and capex; and capex remaining on Sal de Vida, Fenix and Becancour projects from acquisition date. 4. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges.

# Fénix 1B

## Learnings from successful 1A expansion to accelerate ramp-up

Rio Tinto ownership	100%
Production capacity	10ktpa lithium carbonate
Operation	Proprietary DLE technology
Progress	Mechanically complete, commissioning 60%
Planned first production	H2 2026
Total capital	\$633m (\$65m <sup>1</sup> remaining from 1 Jan 2026)
Projected C1 cost <sup>2</sup>	~\$5/kg LCE
Mineral Resource Estimate <sup>3</sup>	11.7Mt LCE
Mine Life	~40 years

Location **Catamarca province, Argentina**



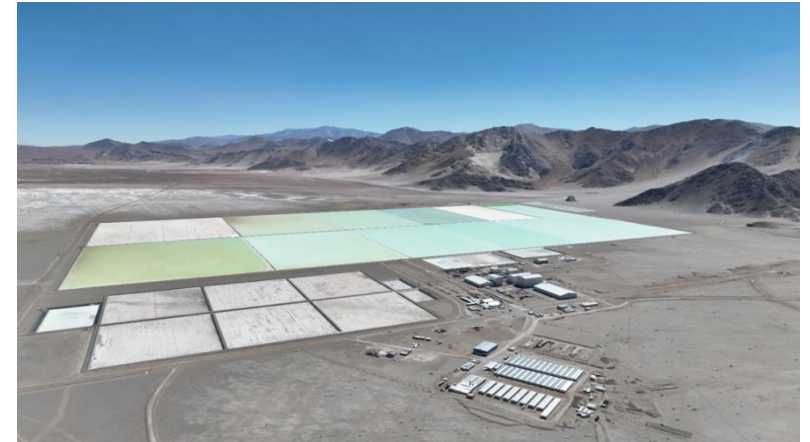
1. Excludes ~\$30m capex for Olacapato Compressor Plant also to be completed in 2026 (total cost \$80m). 2. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges. 3. Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3.

# Sal de Vida

## Superior brine chemistry supports battery grade production

<b>Rio Tinto ownership</b>	100%
<b>Production capacity</b>	15ktpa lithium carbonate
<b>Operation</b>	Pond-based system
<b>Progress</b>	Mechanically complete, commissioning 40%
<b>Planned first production</b>	H2 2026
<b>Total capital</b>	\$660m (\$50m remaining from 1 Jan 2026)
<b>Projected C1 cost<sup>1</sup></b>	~\$6 – 7/kg LCE
<b>Mineral Resource Estimate<sup>2</sup></b>	7.2Mt LCE
<b>Mine Life</b>	~40 years

Location **Catamarca Province, Argentina**



1. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges. 2. Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3.



# Rincon

## Scaling up DLE, utilising modular approach and grid power

Location **Salta province, Argentina**

<b>Rio Tinto ownership</b>	100%
<b>Production capacity</b>	60ktpa <sup>1</sup> lithium carbonate via two identical production trains
<b>Operation</b>	DLE – selective adsorption technology
<b>Progress</b>	Detailed engineering 40% complete Technology packages 60% through manufacturing
<b>Next development milestones</b>	Q1 2026: complete site enabling works Q3 2027: Train 1 mechanical completion
<b>Planned first production</b>	2028 (from Train 1) with 3-year ramp-up
<b>Total capital</b>	\$2.5bn (\$2bn remaining from 1 Jan 2026)
<b>Projected C1 cost<sup>2</sup></b>	<\$5/kg LCE
<b>Mineral Resource Estimate<sup>3</sup></b>	11.7Mt LCE
<b>Mine Life</b>	~40 years



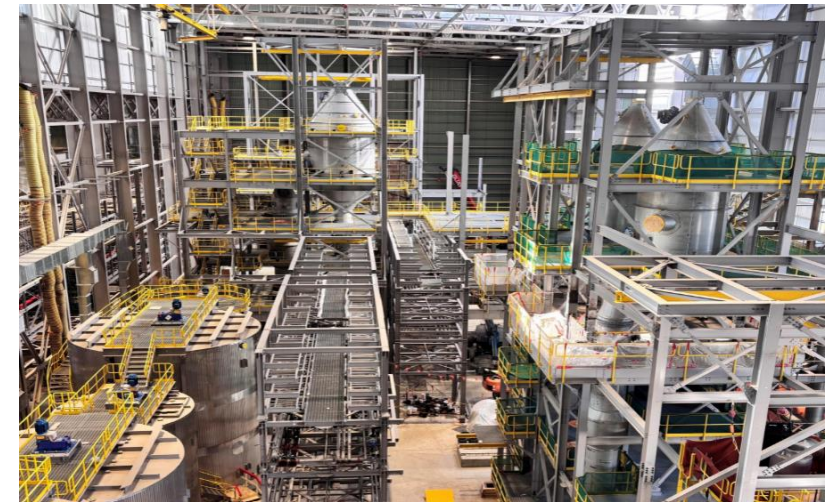
1. Project consists of the 3kt starter plant and 57kt expansion program. The mine is expected to have a 40 year life. The production target of approximately 53 kt of battery grade lithium carbonate per year for a period of 40 years was previously reported in a release to the ASX dated 4 December 2024 titled "Rincon Project Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves: Table 1". Rio Tinto confirms that all material assumptions underpinning that production target continue to apply and have not materially changed. Plans are in place to build for a capacity of 60 kt of battery grade lithium carbonate per year with debottlenecking and improvement programs scheduled to unlock this additional throughput. Capacity of 60ktpa is comprised of 3ktpa starter plant, 50ktpa full scale plant and 7ktpa additional optimisation. 2. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges. 3. Brines Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources categorisation and reporting on slide 3.

# Bécancour hydroxide plant

## Proven hydroxide conversion experience and regional partnerships

Rio Tinto ownership	50%
Production capacity	32ktpa lithium hydroxide
Operation type	Spodumene to hydroxide
Progress	Engineering complete, construction 57% complete
Next development milestones	Q2 2026: Train 1 completion
Planned first production	2028
Total capital	\$0.8bn Rio Tinto share (\$290m remaining from 1 January 2026)
Integrated system C1 cost <sup>1</sup>	\$8-10/kg depending on spodumene feed

Location **Quebec, Canada**



1. C1 costs includes spodumene and hydroxide conversion, defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges.

# Fully integrated Canadian lithium hub

## Assessing best option to develop a single spodumene mine for Bécancour

	Whabouchi Mine	Galaxy Mine
Rio Tinto ownership	50%	100%
Production capacity	235ktpa at 5.5% Li <sub>2</sub> O	310ktpa at 5.6% Li <sub>2</sub> O
Project progress	35% overall	35% overall
Total capital for single mine	Total \$0.7-0.9bn. Remaining capex of ~\$0.5bn (100% basis)	
Next development milestones	Reviewing strategic options to maximise value	
Mineral Resource <sup>1</sup>	26.9Mt @ 1.45% Li <sub>2</sub> O	74.0Mt @ 1.25% Li <sub>2</sub> O
Ore Reserve	26.5Mt @ 1.32% Li <sub>2</sub> O	37.3Mt @ 1.27% Li <sub>2</sub> O
Mine life <sup>1</sup>	24 years open pit	19 years open pit
Design/ process flow	DMS and flotation circuit	Only requires single DMS circuit



1. Hard rock Mineral Resources are reported exclusive of Ore Reserves. Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves are shown on 100% basis. See supporting references for the Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves categorisation and reporting on slide 3.





# Capital efficiency

## Pipeline of growth options

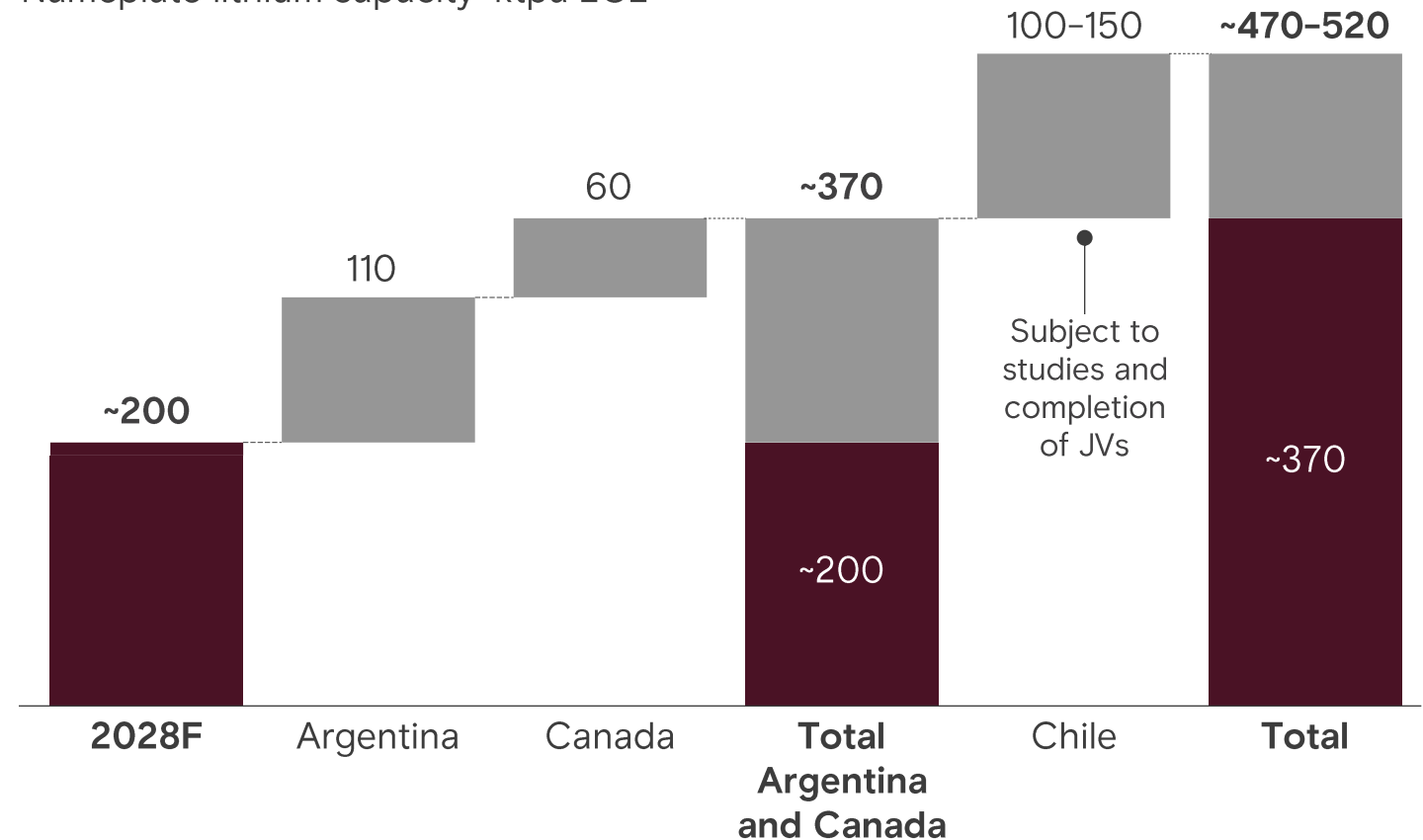
**Djaber Belabdi**  
Managing Director, Rio Tinto Projects

# Commit additional capital when supported by markets and returns

- In Argentina, targeting **capital intensity of \$30/kg within 30 months** from FID to first lithium at \$5/kg C1 opex<sup>2</sup>, >15% IRR
- **World-class portfolio** of competitive growth options in Argentina, Canada & Chile
- **Deep pipeline** of brownfield expansions and greenfield options

## Options (uncommitted)

Nameplate lithium capacity<sup>1</sup> ktpa LCE



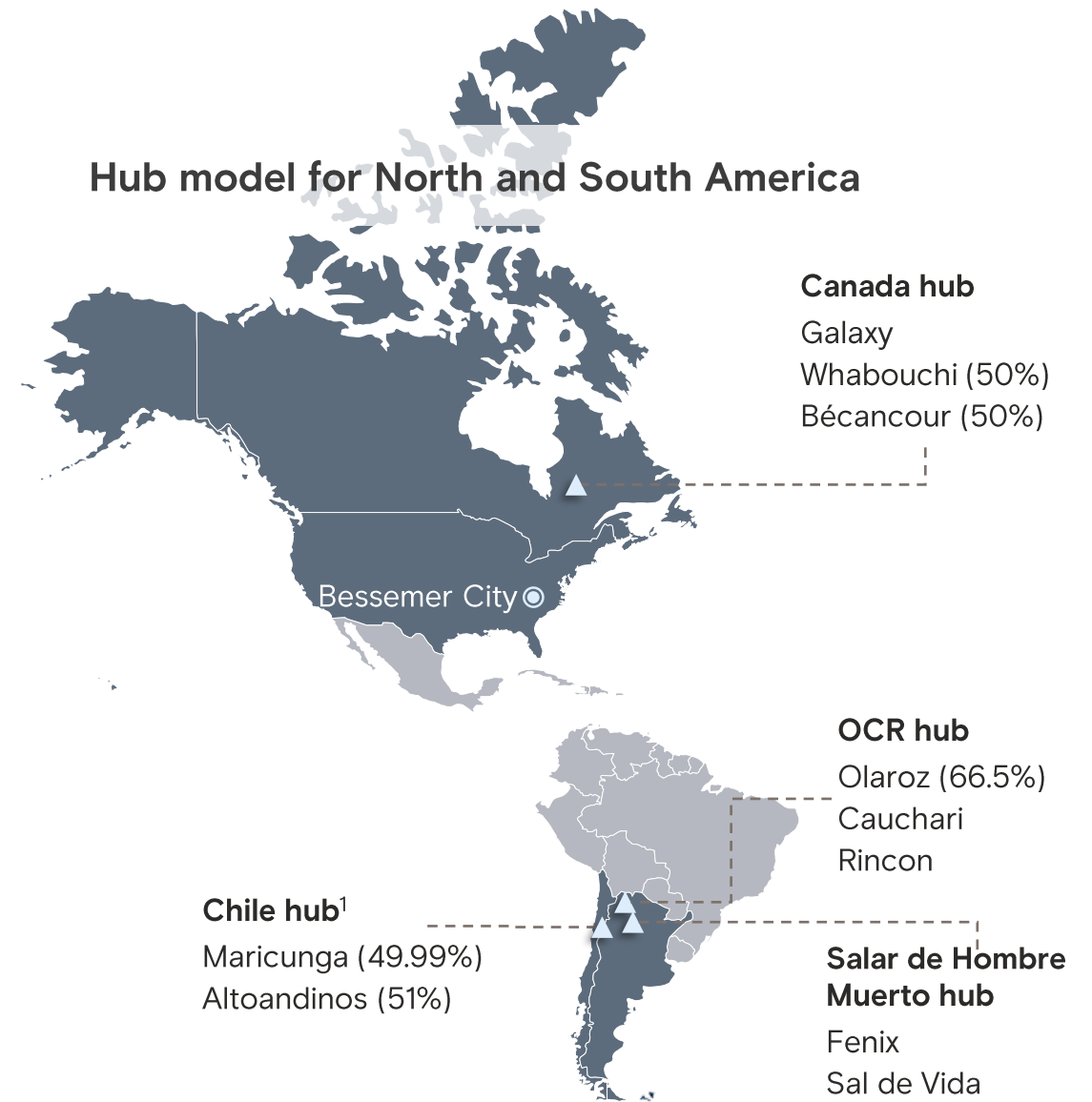
1. Capacity on 100% basis. Production will not correlate directly with installed capacity due to timing of ramp-up. We are committed to one mine in Canada, range on current and committed denotes variation between Galaxy and Whabouchi. 2. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges. Note: Options exclude Jadar and Mt Cattlin (under care and maintenance).

# Disciplined project approach

## Scalable execution and leading technology

- Defining best in class standard DLE technology
- Integrating existing operations and future growth in a multi-asset hub approach
- Developing infrastructure corridors at scale in Argentina leveraging footprint
- Modular execution process ensuring lessons applied to lower cycle time and capital intensity

## Hub model for North and South America



1. Remains subject to receipt of all applicable regulatory approvals and satisfaction of other customary closing conditions.



# Project “30 in 30”

Developing the blueprint in 2026 modularising future options

Targets

- <\$30/kg capital intensity
- <30month development time
- <\$5/kg C1 operating costs

Enablers

## Standardisation – Design One, Build Many

DLE technology, flowsheet, plots & plants design, supply chain, operations & maintenance

## Program based contracting strategies

Supplier led solutions, early EPC engagement

## Apply learnings from proven track-record

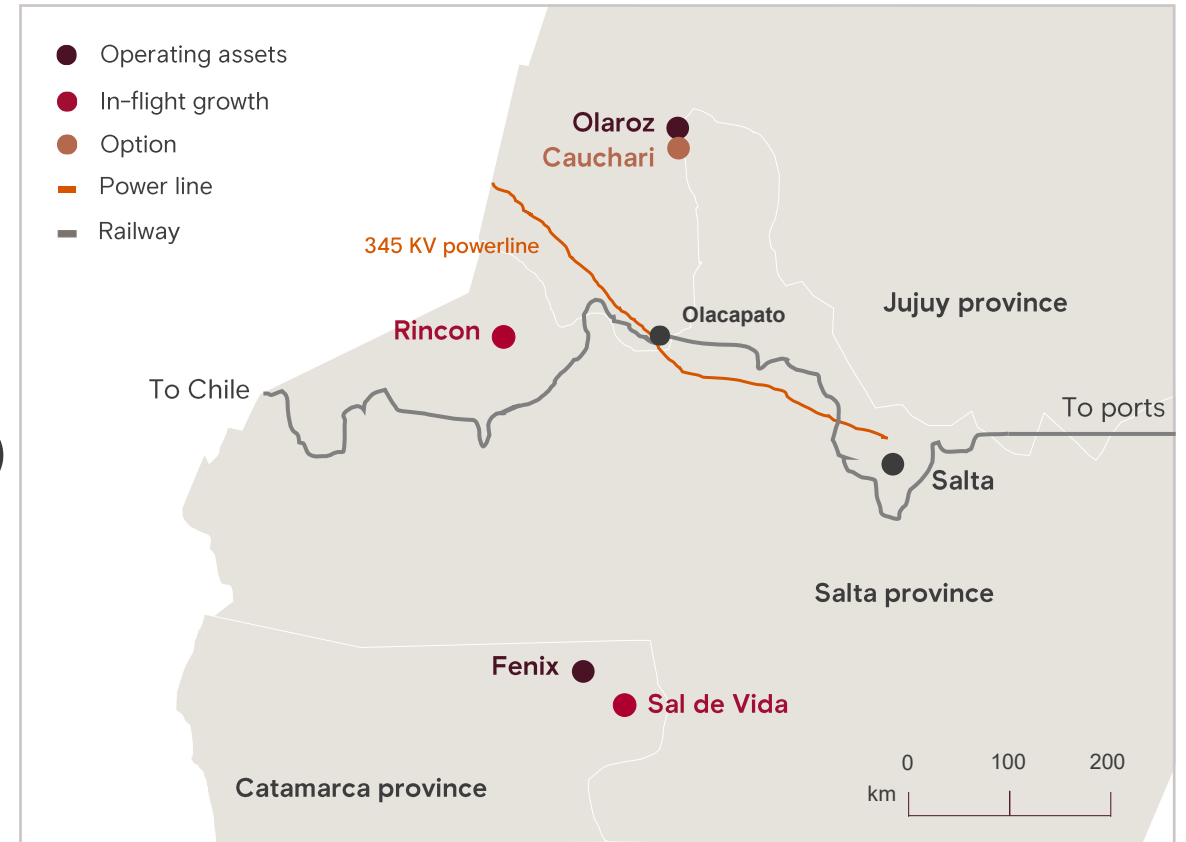
Simandou supply chain and lithium expertise

## Infrastructure corridor and commercial strategy

Integrated, hub solutions for power, water and logistics



## Argentina infrastructure corridor



# Creating value through market cycles

**Ulric Adom**

CFO, Rio Tinto Aluminium & Lithium

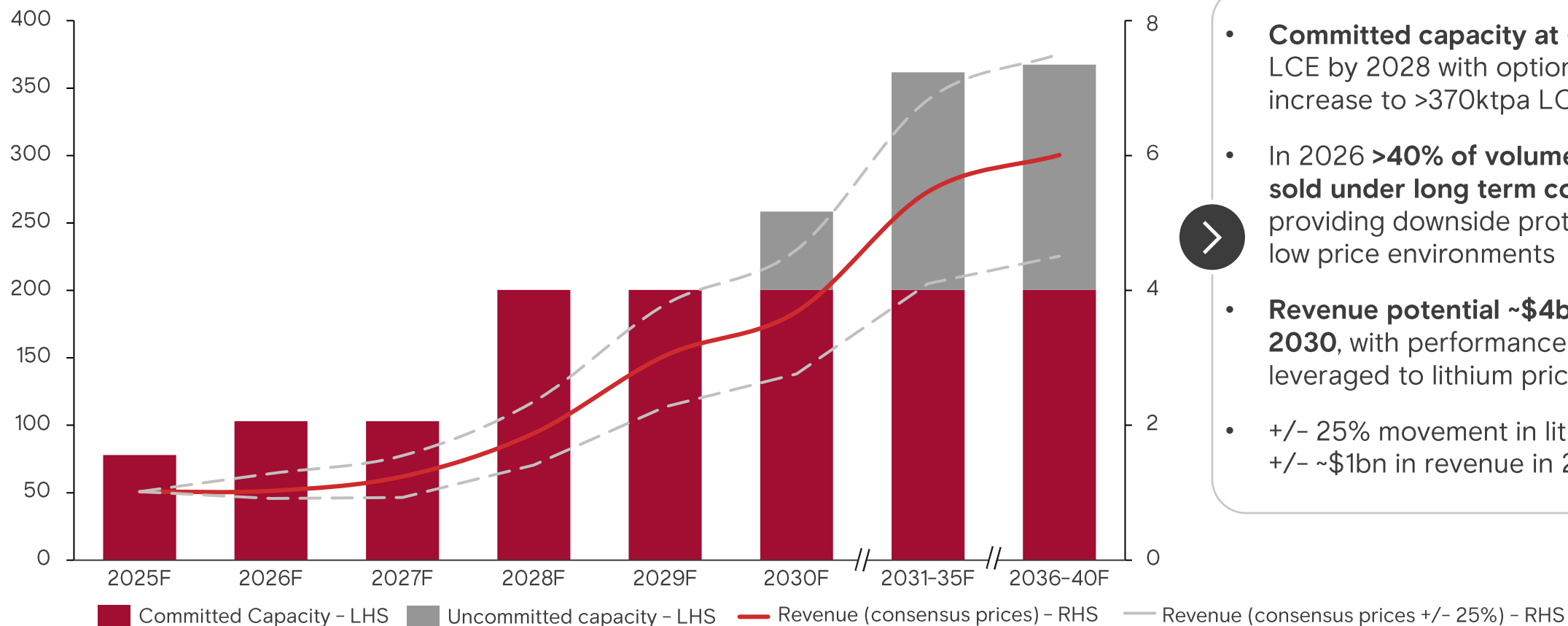
Rincon, Argentina



# Committed projects and long-term contracts deliver resilient revenue

## Nameplate capacity<sup>1</sup> and revenue<sup>2</sup>

ktpa LCE | \$bn (100% basis, real 2025 prices)



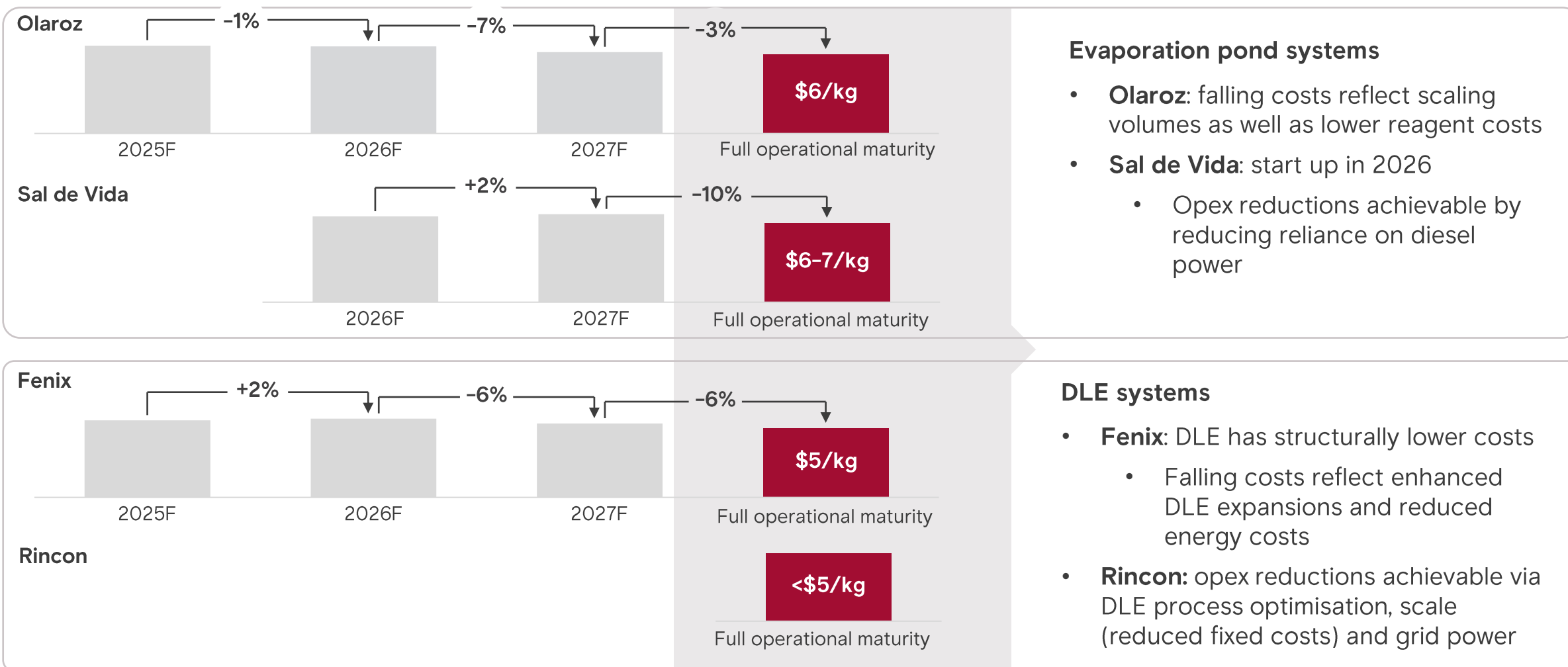
- **Committed capacity at ~200ktpa** LCE by 2028 with options to increase to >370ktpa LCE
- In 2026 >**40% of volumes to be sold under long term contracts**, providing downside protection in low price environments
- **Revenue potential ~\$4bn by 2030**, with performance highly leveraged to lithium prices
- +/- 25% movement in lithium price  
+/- ~\$1bn in revenue in 2030

1. Nameplate capacity shown from date of first production and excludes projects in Chile. 2. Revenue is based on forecast consensus prices (average across multiple brokers and market analysts) and forecast production targets. See slide 3 for breakdown of associated production with reserve and resource decomposition.



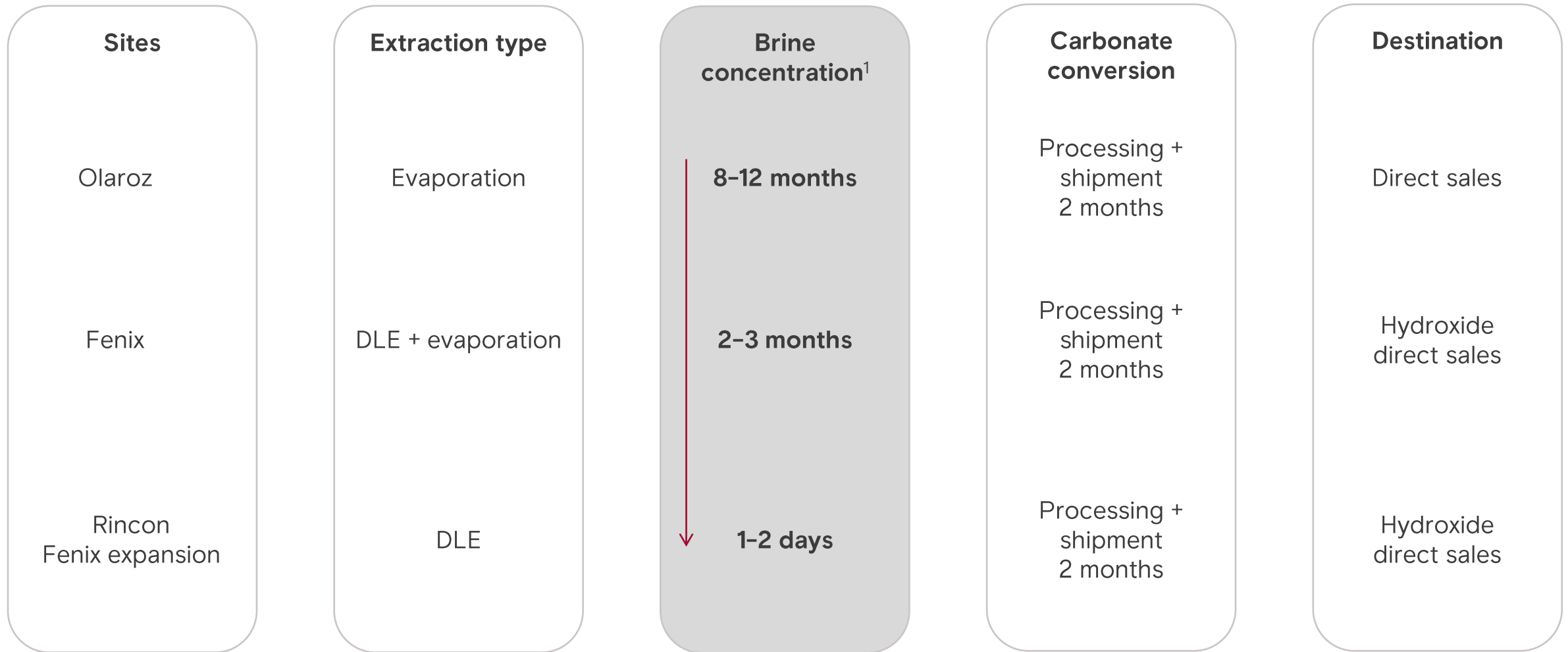
# Operational excellence cements our position at bottom of cost curve

Operating cash (C1) costs<sup>1</sup>, \$/kg, real 2025 prices



1. C1 costs defined as operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges.

# Technology to drive further efficiencies in trade working capital

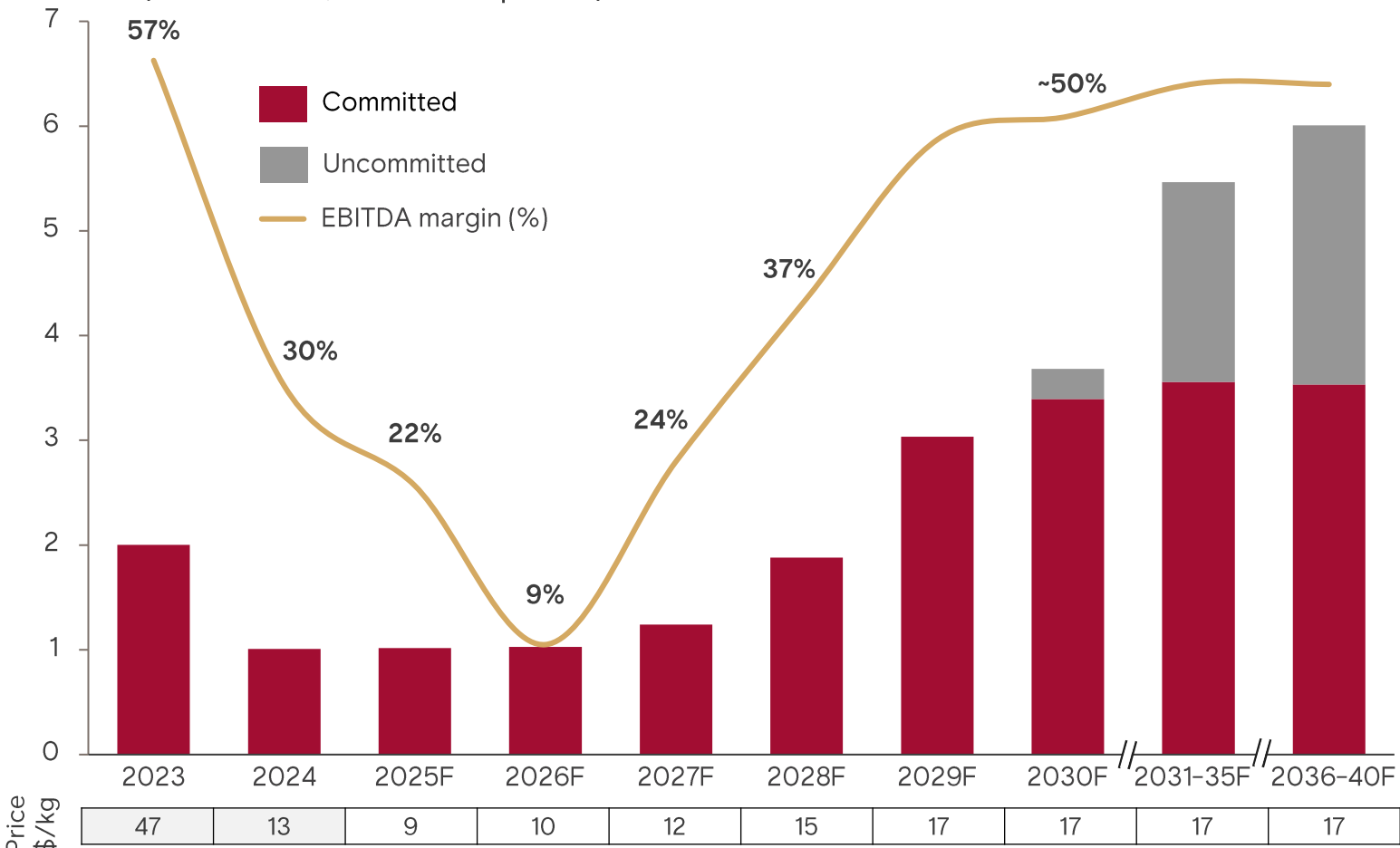


1. Brine concentration in ponds dependent on seasonality and rain.

# EBITDA margins expected to reach 37% by 2028

## Revenue and EBITDA margin<sup>1</sup>

\$ bn | % (100% basis, real 2025 prices)



- **2026 EBITDA dip is transitory:** pre-operating costs ahead of Sal de Vida and Fenix 1B compress margins
- **Margin build is volume-led:** steady capacity additions and better plant availability take margins to 37% by 2028
- **Pricing assumptions:** real consensus prices (averaging ~\$9/kg LCE in 2025 rising to >\$17/kg beyond 2028)

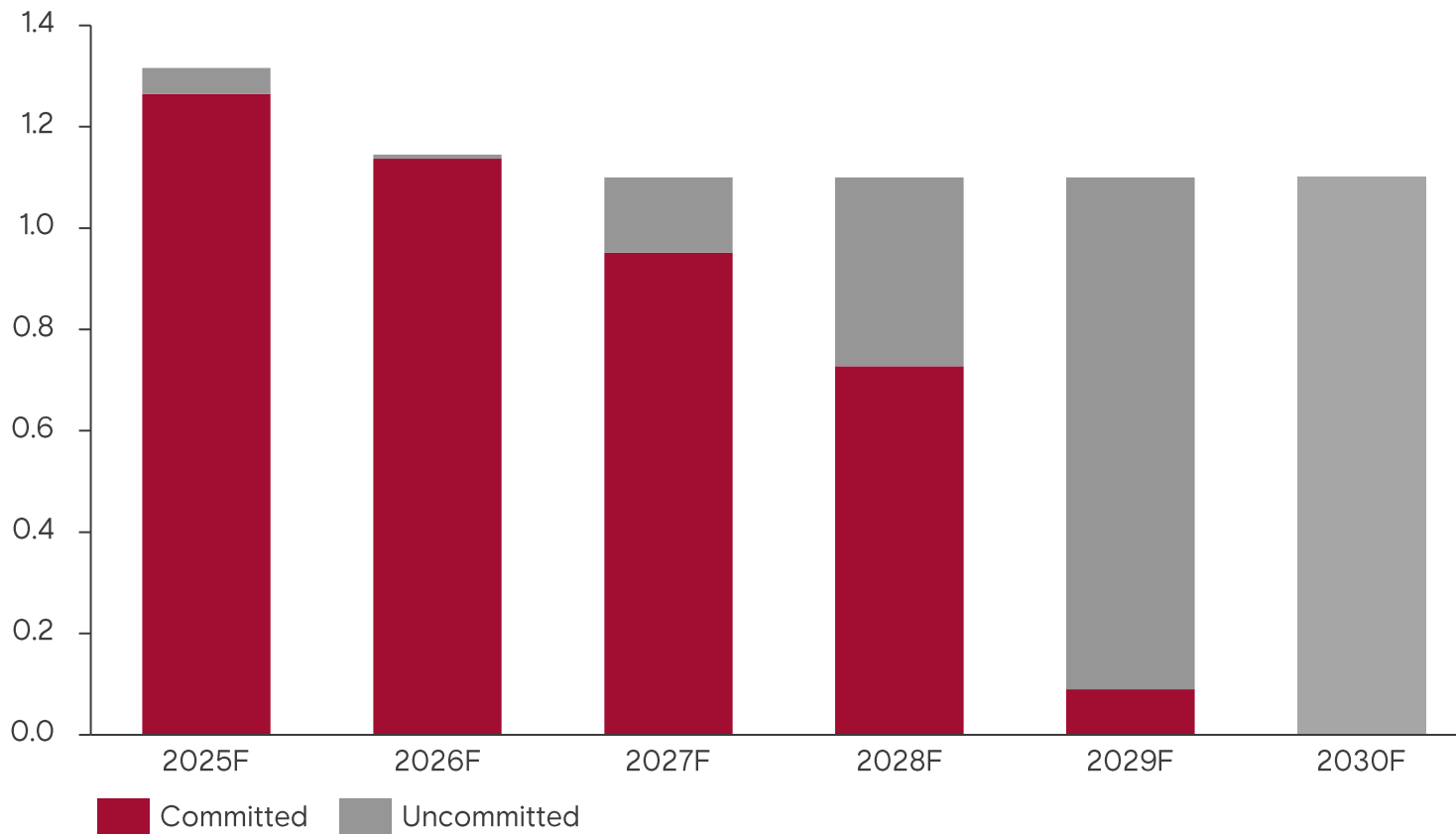
1. Revenue and EBITDA margin is based on forecast LCE consensus prices (average across multiple brokers and market analysts) and forecast production targets. Excludes projects in Chile. See slide 3 for breakdown of associated production with reserve and resource decomposition.



# Strict hurdle rates for any future investment

## Development capital

\$ bn (RT share basis, real 2025 prices)



- **Committed capex reduces** to \$1.0–\$1.1 bn p.a. from 2026 as projects enter production
- **Uncommitted options:** only commit to projects with industry leading capital intensity and lower quartile cost position and **aligned to market dynamics**
- **Disciplined project execution**
- **Positive free cash flow expected beyond 2028** generated from committed projects, delivering over \$1 bn in 2029
- **Sustaining capex** ~2% of total installed capex (~\$80m in 2025F)

# RIGI regime provides stability to underpin long term investment

## Context

- Flagship regime to attract large-scale investments
- 30-year guarantee of regulatory stability in tax, customs, and foreign exchange rules

## Rincon benefits

- Corporate income tax: 35% → 25%
- Dividend withholding tax: 7% → 3.5%
- Export duties: 3.0% → nil
- Accelerated depreciation
- Unlimited tax loss carry forward
- Expediated VAT returns: reduce initial cashflow and decrease financial exposure
- Ability to keep export proceeds abroad
- Banking transaction tax: considered as full fiscal credit for income tax purposes

## Applications

- Rincon confirmed
- Additional applications submitted



Rincon, Argentina

# World-class integrated Lithium business and growth pipeline

- +13% demand CAGR to 2035
- Proven DLE technology
- Deep pipeline of growth options
- Focus on capital intensity
- Commit additional capital when supported by markets and returns

2026 production guidance

**Lithium: 61-64kt LCE**

(Rio Tinto share)



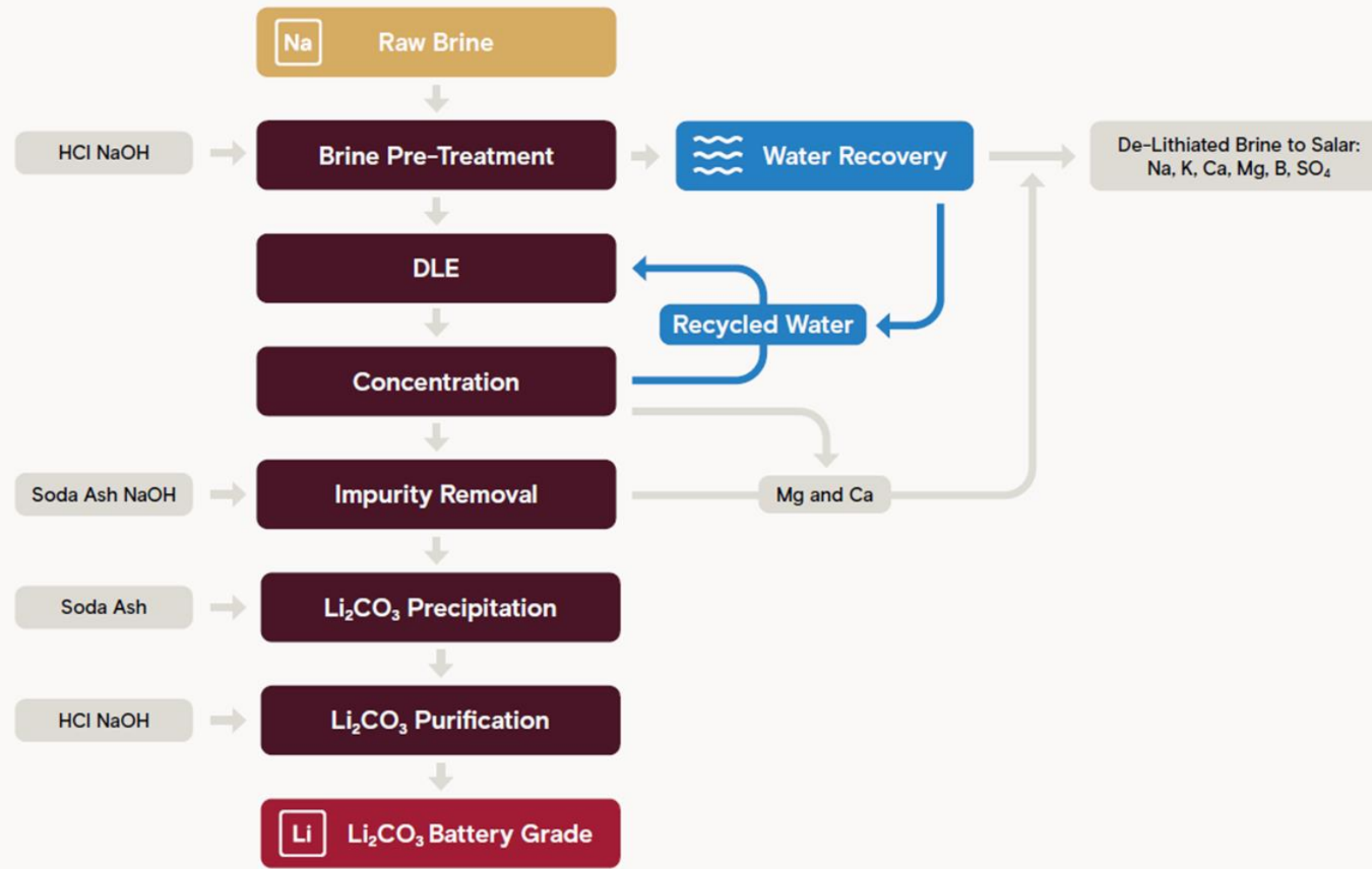
Q&A

Rincon, Argentina



# Appendix

# Rincon flowsheet





# Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence
<b>ASX</b>	Australian Securities Exchange
<b>Au</b>	Gold
<b>B, Ca, Mg</b>	Boron, Calcium, Magnesium
<b>BESS</b>	Battery Energy Storage Systems
<b>BNEF</b>	Bloomberg New Energy Finance
<b>BuLi</b>	Butyllithium
<b>CAGR</b>	Compound Annual Growth Rate
<b>Capex</b>	Capital Expenditure
<b>C1 costs</b>	Operating cash costs excluding royalties, taxes, corporate overheads and capital charges
<b>C3 costs</b>	Includes operating cash costs, sustaining capex, royalties and interest (excludes depreciation and capital charge)
<b>Co-Dev</b>	Co-Development
<b>CRU</b>	Commodity Research Unit
<b>Cu</b>	Copper
<b>DLE</b>	Direct Lithium Extraction
<b>DMS</b>	Dense Media Separation
<b>EBITDA</b>	Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization
<b>EPC</b>	Engineering, Procurement, and Construction
<b>ESIA</b>	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
<b>EV</b>	Electric Vehicle
<b>FID</b>	Final Investment Decision
<b>g/t</b>	grams per tonne
<b>IFC</b>	International Finance Corporation
<b>IEA</b>	International Energy Agency
<b>IFRS</b>	International Financial Reporting Standards
<b>IRR</b>	Internal Rate of Return
<b>JORC code</b>	Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Minerals Resources and Ore Reserves
<b>JV</b>	Joint Venture
<b>kt</b>	kilotonnes
<b>kpta</b>	Thousand tonnes per annum
<b>kozpa</b>	Thousand ounces per annum

Acronym	Definition
<b>LCE</b>	Lithium Carbonate Equivalent
<b>Li</b>	Lithium
<b>Li-ion</b>	Lithium-ion
<b>Li2O</b>	Lithium Oxide
<b>LiCl</b>	Lithium Chloride
<b>LFP</b>	Lithium Iron Phosphate
<b>LIOVIX®</b>	Proprietary technology for scalable production of lithium metal anodes and next-gen batteries
<b>LT</b>	Long Term
<b>MAusIMM</b>	Member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
<b>Mg</b>	Magnesium
<b>Mg/L</b>	Milligrams per liter
<b>Mt</b>	Million tonnes
<b>Mtpa</b>	Million tonnes per annum
<b>MVR</b>	Mechanical Vapor Recompression
<b>NaCl</b>	Sodium Chloride
<b>Ni-based</b>	Nickel-based
<b>NCM</b>	Nickel-Cobalt-Manganese
<b>OEM</b>	Original Equipment Manufacturer
<b>Opex</b>	Operating Expenditure
<b>OTFS20</b>	Oyu Tolgoi Feasibility Study 2020
<b>p.a.</b>	per annum
<b>PHEV</b>	Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle
<b>Q&amp;A</b>	Questions and Answers
<b>Q2, Q3, Q4</b>	Quarter 2, Quarter 3, Quarter 4
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>RIGI</b>	Regimen de Incentivo para Grandes Inversiones (Argentina investment regime)
<b>RT</b>	Rio Tinto
<b>RTL</b>	Rio Tinto Lithium
<b>SA</b>	Selective Adsorption
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SEC</b>	United States Securities and Exchange Commission
<b>SSB</b>	Solid State Battery
<b>TWh</b>	Terawatt hour
<b>UN SDGs</b>	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
<b>VAT</b>	Value Added Tax

RioTinto