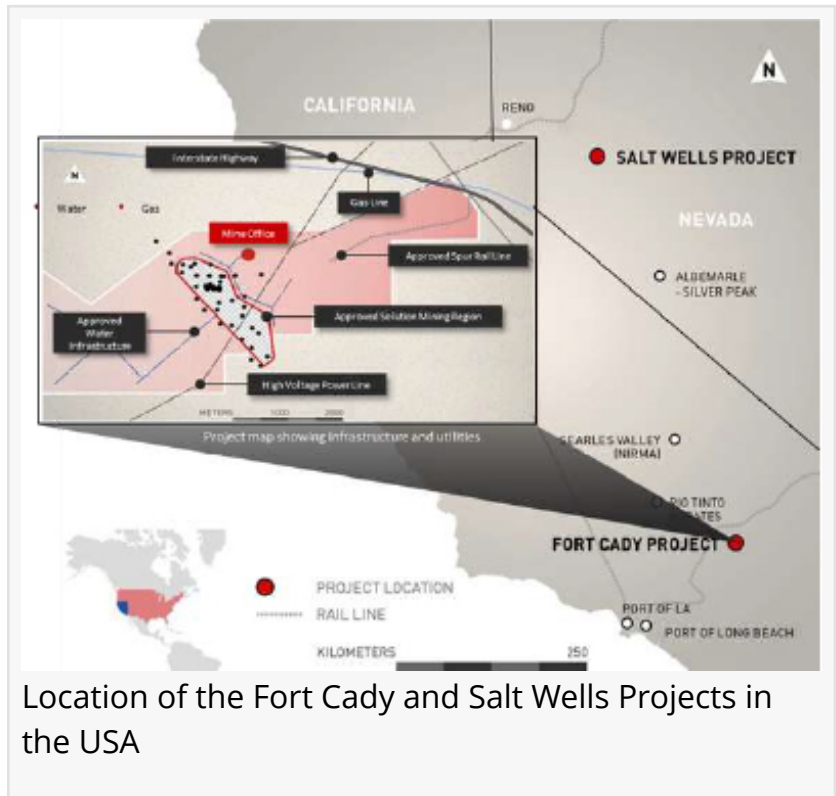


U.S. Government Designates ABR Boron Fort Cady Facility as Critical Infrastructure

ASX Announcement released Monday 7th February, 2022 - American Pacific Borates (ABR) Fort Cady boron facility is designated by USA as critical infrastructure.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, February 8, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- HIGHLIGHTS

- [ABR's](#) Fort Cady Integrated [Boron](#) Facility designated as Critical Infrastructure by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
- Critical status confirms Fort Cady is in the interest of national security with letters of support from members of the U.S. Congress and California State Legislature
- Designation validates Fort Cady's role in providing a new, critical, domestic source of boron amidst a challenged global supply chain



American Pacific Borates Limited (ASX:ABR) (ABR or the Company) is pleased to announce that its wholly owned Fort Cady Integrated Boron Facility (Fort Cady) has been designated as Critical Infrastructure by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) with letters of support from members of the U.S. Congress and California State Legislature.

CISA, as a U.S. federal agency and operational component under the Department of Homeland Security, is tasked with understanding, managing, and reducing risk to the nation's cyber and physical infrastructure. In this function, CISA, in cooperation with other government and industry partners, is responsible for protecting and strengthening the nation's Critical Infrastructure against current and future threats in the interest of national security, including supply chains of strategic and critical materials and their respective projects.

Fort Cady's designation by CISA as U.S. Critical Infrastructure represents a key milestone for ABR

since the U.S. government recognizes Fort Cady's significance and supports its objective to provide a new, critical, and domestic source of boron amidst a challenged global supply chain.

In petition for ABR's Critical Infrastructure designation to CISA, U.S. House of Representatives (CA-08) and U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources member, Jay Obernolte, wrote: "Currently, the U.S. accounts for only 20 percent of the global Borate supply, despite the advanced and emerging uses of Boron that are critical to U.S. national and economic security.

Traditional uses of Boron extend to more than 300 commercial and household products, while advanced uses in military vehicles and body armor, permanent magnets, semi-conductors, wind turbines, nuclear reactors, and pharmaceuticals have compelled greater interest and demand among our global competitors. These newer applications, coupled with the predominant foreign ownership and control of the Boron supply chain, demonstrate the national significance and urgency in resolving this vulnerability."

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has been at the forefront of identifying supply chain risks and exposures, prompting wider considerations of critical infrastructure and essential workers. In this regard, we respectfully ask that CISA, consistent with its authorities and issued guidance, consider reaffirming the alignment of the Fort Cady project facility as a component of U.S. critical infrastructure."

Commenting on ABR's Critical Infrastructure designation, ABR CEO, Henri Tausch, said: "We are pleased to have the support of the U.S. government in developing our Fort Cady Integrated Boron Facility.

CISA's Critical Infrastructure designation validates the scarcity of new reliable sources of boron and its criticality in high end use applications.

The world is at an inflection point to secure supply chains of critical future facing and decarbonization materials and we look forward to pursuing our objective of becoming a leader in one of these key materials – boron."

- ENDS -

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Forward Looking Statements

This announcement contains 'forward-looking information' that is based on the Company's expectations, estimates and projections as of the date on which the statements were made. This forward-looking information includes, among other things, statements with respect to the Company's business strategy, plans, development, objectives, performance, outlook, growth, cash flow, projections, targets and expectations, mineral reserves and resources, results of exploration and related expenses. Generally, this forward-looking information can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as 'outlook', 'anticipate', 'project', 'target', 'potential', 'likely', 'believe', 'estimate', 'expect', 'intend', 'may', 'would', 'could', 'should', 'scheduled', 'will', 'plan', 'forecast', 'evolve' and similar expressions. Persons reading this announcement are cautioned that such statements are only predictions, and that the Company's actual future results or performance may be materially different. Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the Company's actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking information.

About American Pacific Borates Limited (to be renamed [5E Advanced Materials](#) Inc.)
American Pacific Borates Limited is an ASX listed company focused on advancing its 100% owned Fort Cady Integrated Boron Facility located in Southern California, USA.

The Company is seeking to become a fully integrated producer of Boron specialty products and advanced materials. As a result of major trends including global decarbonization, clean energy transition, proliferation of electric transportation and growing concerns over food security, we believe that there are significant opportunities for the Company to become a key domestic supplier enabling high-performance, high-tech and high-margin applications in the United States that address these trends and reduce our economy's reliance on foreign suppliers. It is targeting Boron applications in the field of clean energy transition, electric transportation and food security amongst other high performance, high-tech and high-margin applications.

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