

Mining/Metals Stock Defense Metals (TSX-V: \$DEFN.V) (OTCQB: \$DFMTF) starts construction of Hydrometallurgical Pilot Plan

Defense Metals Corp (TSXV:DEFN; OTCQB:DFMTF) announce construction of hydrometallurgical pilot plant starts and commissioning scheduled for second half of March

The logo for Defense Metals Corp, featuring the words "DEFENSE METALS" in a large, bold, serif font, with "CORP" in a smaller, spaced-out, sans-serif font below it. The logo is set against a light blue background with a horizontal line above the text.

VANCOUVER, BC , CANADA, February

21, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Mining/Metals/ Green Energy Stock news from Investorideas.com Newswire- Defense Metals Corp. ("Defense Metals" or the "Company") (TSX-V:DEFN / OTCQB:DFMTF/ 35D: FSE) is pleased to announce that construction of the hydrometallurgical pilot plant has started and commissioning is scheduled to start in the second half of March.

Read this news, featuring DEFN in full at

<https://www.investorideas.com/news/2023/mining/02215DEFN-Hydrometallurgical-Pilot-Plant.asp>

Craig Taylor, CEO of Defense Metals, stated:

"We are excited to enter this important milestone of building and running the hydrometallurgical pilot plant, which is scheduled to be commissioned in late March. Pilot operations will be done in two segments and should be completed by the end of April. A successful pilot plant program will be essential for the completion of the engineering design and economics of the planned pre-feasibility study."

Following the successful completion of laboratory flotation and acid bake tests from December 2021 to date, Defense Metals is now ready to build a hydrometallurgical pilot plant. It is important to note that the Independent Preliminary Economic Assessment¹ was based on a different hydrometallurgy flowsheet, the gangue-leach – caustic-crack process (see the Company's March 31, 2022 news release). However, after numerous laboratory tests the Company decided to pursue piloting of the less complex acid bake process, which has, in initial test-work, yielded better recovery rates, is an industry standard, and has the potential for improved economics.

The objective of the pilot plant is to demonstrate at a larger scale, and with continuous

operation, the processing of Wicheeda flotation concentrate to produce rare earths using the acid bake flowsheet, to help confirm the quality of the project, and to gather data required for the pre-feasibility study.

The pilot plant will be configured to produce a high-purity rare earth precipitate suitable as feed for a separation plant. Samples produced from the pilot plant will also be shared with potential end-users for product development and qualification.

Methodology

The plant is being built at SGS Lakefield, Ontario and will run in two segments for approximately two weeks. The feed for the plant will total approximately 600 kg of mineral concentrate that was generated from a flotation pilot plant operated on a bulk sample from the Wicheeda deposit.

Qualified Person

The scientific and technical information contained in this news release, as it relates to the Wicheeda Rare-Earth Project, has been reviewed and approved by John Goode, P. Eng., a metallurgical consultant to the Company, and who is a Qualified Person as defined by National Instrument 43-101 and who has provided the technical information relating to metallurgy in this news release. Kristopher J. Raffle, P.Geo. (BC), a director of the Company, is the Qualified Person as defined in National Instrument 43-101 for the information relating to resources in this news release.

About the Wicheeda REE Property

Defense Metals 100% owned, 4,262-hectare (~10,532-acre) Wicheeda REE property is located approximately 80 km northeast of the city of Prince George, British Columbia; population 77,000. The Wicheeda REE Project is readily accessible by all-weather gravel roads and is near infrastructure, including hydro power transmission lines and gas pipelines. The nearby Canadian National Railway and major highways allow easy access to the port facilities at Prince Rupert, the closest major North American port to Asia.

The 2021 Wicheeda REE Project Preliminary Economic Assessment technical report ("PEA") outlined a robust after-tax net present value (NPV@8%) of \$517 million and an 18% IRR . This PEA contemplated an open pit mining operation with a 1.75:1 (waste:mill feed) strip ratio providing a 1.8 Mtpa ("million tonnes per year") mill throughput producing an average of 25,423 tonnes REO annually over a 16 year mine life. A Phase 1 initial pit strip ratio of 0.63:1 (waste:mill feed) would yield rapid access to higher grade surface mineralization in year 1 and payback of \$440 million initial capital within 5 years.

About Defense Metals Corp.

Defense Metals Corp. is a mineral exploration and development company focused on the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral deposits containing metals and elements commonly used in the electric power markets, defense industry, national security sector and in the production of green energy technologies, such as, rare earths magnets used in wind turbines

and in permanent magnet motors for electric vehicles. Defense Metals owns 100% of the Wicheeda Rare Earth Element Deposit located near Prince George, British Columbia, Canada. Defense Metals Corp. trades in Canada under the symbol "DEFN" on the TSX Venture Exchange, in the United States, under "DFMTF" on the OTCQB and in Germany on the Frankfurt Exchange under "35D".

For further information, please contact:
Todd Hanas, Bluesky Corporate Communications Ltd.
Vice President, Investor Relations
Tel: (778) 994 8072
Email: todd@blueskycorp.ca

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this news release.

Cautionary Statement Regarding "Forward-Looking" Information
Read in full at <https://www.investorideas.com/news/2023/mining/02215DEFN-Hydrometallurgical-Pilot-Plant.asp>

Disclaimer/Disclosure: Disclosure: this DEFN news is a paid news release on investorideas.com
More disclaimer info: <https://www.investorideas.com/About/Disclaimer.asp>
Please read Investorideas.com privacy policy:
https://www.investorideas.com/About/Private_Policy.asp

About Investorideas.com
<https://www.investorideas.com/About/>

1) Independent Preliminary Economic Assessment for the Wicheeda Rare Earth Element Project, British Columbia, Canada, dated January 6, 2022, with an effective date of November 7, 2021, and prepared by SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. is filed under Defense Metals Corp.'s Issuer Profile on SEDAR (www.sedar.com).

Dawn Van Zant
Investorideas.com
+1 800-665-0411
[email us here](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/618262896>
EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire,

Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2023 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.