Lithium Americas NEWSLETTER

Accelerating Toward a New Era of Sustainable Value

We are advancing Thacker Pass to production to create a North American lithium battery supply chain for electric vehicles (EVs).



lithiumamericas.com

January 2024

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>>> REFLECTIONS FROM THE CEO



Dear Neighbors,

As we look forward to a bright New Year, I find myself reflecting on the progress made in 2023 and how to build upon our current foundation. One consistent observation is that Lithium Americas (LAC) is not embarking on building Thacker Pass by ourselves. We are fortunate to have exceptional partners and stakeholders who provide us with support and feedback. Thank you for your interest and contributions to helping us move forward with a project critical to securing North America's future. I am humbled and inspired by the dedication of our community and business friends to advance Thacker Pass.

Thacker Pass continues to advance and is already bringing positive economic benefits to Humboldt County and Nevada. The project is currently in the major earthworks construction phase to complete preliminary infrastructure work and prepare for the commencement of major construction to begin in the coming year. In the meantime, we are advancing detailed engineering, putting in place temporary housing with 2,000 units for our skilled construction workforce, continuing community infrastructure projects, and rounding out our team and partners to build this project right. There are several exciting milestones we accomplished in Q4 of 2023 that I'm particularly proud to share:

- Our construction crews have logged more than 120,000 work-hours without a lost time incident. This is not an easy task. Achieving this milestone is a testament to the dedication of every employee to working safely.
- The Lithium Technical Development Center in Reno was recently awarded the <u>ISO</u> <u>9001:2015 Quality Management Systems</u> <u>certification</u>, which is a globally recognized standard, demonstrating that we are serious about the delivery of quality products and services.
- Our temporary housing complex in Winnemucca called the Workforce Hub is under construction with units arriving daily.
- We have secured a lease for the Transloading Terminal (TLT) land west of Winnemucca.
- We have moved into new administrative offices in Winnemucca to accommodate our growing team.

Full details on all of this, and more, follow in this edition of the newsletter.

Lithium Americas remains committed to providing transparent updates on the progress we're making at Thacker Pass, but it shouldn't be a one-way dialogue. Please let us know your thoughts and input. Feel free to contact us at: <u>info@lithiumamericas.com</u>.

Happy New Year,

Jon Evans, President & CEO, Lithium Americas

>>> PROJECT UPDATE OVERVIEW

WINNEMUCCA WORKFORCE HUB CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY

As part of our commitment to providing housing for our future workforce and to avoid placing strain on the local Humboldt County infrastructure with the influx of personnel to be hired for Thacker Pass construction, our temporary Workforce Hub in East Winnemucca is progressing on track.

The first housing units arrived in October 2023, and the final units are expected to arrive by February 2024.



The Workforce Hub is on schedule for assembly and occupancy next fall, for initially 350 to 400 skilled workers. Occupancy will ramp up to 1,000 workers once construction of the processing plants start to go vertical. At peak construction for Thacker Pass Phase 1, we anticipate a workforce of roughly 2,000 craft workers living at the Workforce Hub.

LEASE SECURED FOR TRANSLOADING TERMINAL

In November 2023, Lithium Americas secured a lease with the City of Winnemucca for the land on which the Transloading Terminal (TLT) will be constructed, west of Winnemucca. The TLT is where the necessary raw materials for producing lithium carbonate will be transferred from railcars to trucks and then driven to Thacker Pass.

STATE ROUTE 293 IMPROVEMENTS ARE COMPLETE

Improvements to State Route 293 have been completed. Acceleration and deceleration lanes were added at the four entrances into Thacker Pass. The new lanes conform to Nevada Department of Transportation specification and are essential upgrades to ensure local traffic isn't hindered by vehicles entering and exiting the site. The highway upgrades also include new signs to help guide visitors to the site.

>>> PROJECT UPDATE OVERVIEW

NEW WINNEMUCCA OFFICE OPENS

Having outgrown our offices on Melarkey Street in Winnemucca, Lithium Americas has moved into a new building on First Street. This office has space for 15 people and can be expanded to accommodate 25 to 30 people. The facility includes a large training room, two conference rooms and amenities to support a busy, professional workforce.

New office address:

20 West First Street Winnemucca, NV 89445

LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS STUDENTS COLLABORATE WITH LAC

The new Winnemucca Office features custom designed nameplates produced by Lowry High School robotics students, under the direction of Mr. Scott Santos.

"Collaborating with the Winnemucca Office staff on the nameplate project engaged students in both design and application of a product, while fulfilling a need for the new office complex," said Sheldon Hurst, LAC Plant Manager.

"Mr. Santos and his students offered staff several prototypes to consider. The final product was run on several machines, including 3-D printers and laser engravers, and was a great success for both the students and the Winnemucca Office staff, as the beneficiaries of the project. This outof-the-box thinking, combining education and the local industry will continue the success of Winnemucca in today's high-tech environment."





TOPSOIL STORAGE

Sawtooth Mining is the mining contractor for Thacker Pass. Sawtooth is onsite now and is working hard to prepare the processing plant area for construction. They've cleared the area of all topsoil and moved it to stockpiles. One of the topsoil stockpiles has already been contoured to blend in with the surrounding area, and the stockpile has been seeded with native grasses. We look forward to seeing the new plant growth this spring. Not only will it make the stockpile match the natural surroundings, but the native grasses will also ensure the valuable soil stays in place for the life of the operation, making it available for reclamation to bring the area back to pre-mining land uses.

Sawtooth is now working on leveling the processing plant area, preparing the site for the foundations to be poured next year.



QUINN PIPELINE

Installation of the Quinn Pipeline is essential for construction at Thacker Pass to proceed, as it delivers water from our permitted production well in the Quinn River Basin to the site. Over the past several months, we've worked safely and efficiently to construct this pipeline, which is now operational and delivering water to the construction ponds to be used for dust control. Along with burying the permanent pipeline below surface, we're also reclaiming the six-mile path where the work occurred. Next year the area will return to its natural habitat and aesthetic. Reclamation is a priority for Lithium Americas and we planned for reclamation and closure before we started construction.

>>> MILESTONES

LAC TECH CENTER ACHIEVES ISO-9001 CERTIFICATION

The LAC Technical Development Center in Reno consists of laboratories and a pilot plant that model the processing plants that will be built at Thacker Pass. The Technical Center's Quality Management System (QMS) was recently awarded the <u>ISO</u> <u>9001:2015 certification</u>, which is a globally recognized standard for quality management. Implementation of ISO 9001:2015 shows LAC's commitment to quality in the development of lithium products.

The ISO 9001:2015 certification was issued by <u>American Systems</u> <u>Registrar (ASR)</u>, a provider of third-party system registration and accredited by the <u>ANSI National Accreditation Board</u>.



The process to become ISO 9001:2015 certified took place over seven months and involved the creation of policies, processes and training procedures, a document management system, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and review processes. A pre-audit was conducted in July 2023, with the final audit taking place in November 2023. The certification is valid for three years and requires annual surveillance audits and a recertification audit in three years.

The ISO 9001:2015 is the first of many certifications LAC will pursue during construction and operations to ensure we operate at globally recognized standards.

>>> WELCOME TO TEAM LITHIUM AMERICAS

LITHIUM AMERICAS WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES WHO JOINED IN Q4 2023:

- Brooke Dikmen, Office Manager (Vancouver)
- Brad Earhart, Maintenance Manager (Winnemucca)
- Valerie Espen, Office Administrator (Winnemucca)
 - Tereza Fonda, Corporate Counsel & Corporate Secretary
 (Vancouver)
 - Tim Whatley, Safety Manger (Winnemucca)

>>> KUDOS



BRAD EARHART APPOINTED TO ADVISORY BOARD AT GREAT BASIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Congratulations to Brad Earhart, LAC Maintenance Manager, who was recently appointed as Chairman of the Industrial Maintenance Advisory Board at Great Basin Community College (GBC), for 2024.

LAC RECEIVES AMERICAN EXPLORATION & MINING ASSOCIATION (AEMA) AWARD

In December, LAC was presented with the 2023 Platinum Award for Corporate Excellence by the American Exploration & Mining Association.

The award was presented during the <u>AEMA's 129th Annual Meeting: Mining Meets the Moment</u>, in Sparks, NV.

Tim Crowley, Vice President for Government and External Affairs served as a keynote speaker where he presented, "Thacker Pass: Getting It Done Through Key Partnerships".





PRESENTATIONS BY LAC GEOLOGISTS



In October 2023, Lead Geologist, Rachel Hampton, Ph.D., presented a summary of Thacker Pass and the origins of sedimentary lithium deposits at the <u>Geological Society of America</u> (GSA) conference in Pittsburgh, and in December 2023 she presented on lithium deposits near the McDermitt Caldera at the <u>GSN Winnemucca Chapter meeting</u>.

Catherine Cagnon and Chris Emproto, LAC's Greenfield Exploration Summer 2023 Interns, also presented at the GSA conference to support their Ph.D. studies.

>>> COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



FRESH FRUIT FOR FORT MCDERMITT PAIUTE AND SHOSHONE ELDERS

Since December 2019, Lithium Americas has been providing Elders of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe with fresh fruit to enjoy over the holidays. The Fort McDermitt Reservation is located more than 70 miles from the nearest full-service grocery store and fresh fruit is hard to get. In December, approximately 60 Elders received food bundles in time for the Christmas holiday!

SUPPORTING WINNEMUCCA FOOD BANK'S CHRISTMAS DINNER BOXES FOR THE 5TH YEAR

Each holiday season since 2008, the Winnemucca Food Bank has provided food to those in need to ensure they have the essentials to prepare a nutritious holiday meal. Since 2019, Lithium Americas has supported the Winnemucca Food Bank, specifically providing support for the Annual Christmas Dinner Boxes. Bechtel, LAC's Engineering, Procurement, Contracts and Construction Manager for Thacker Pass, joined us this year in contributing food donations. The Food Bank serves over 205 households each year.



Food donations can be dropped off at the Food Bank located at 150 S. Bridge Street in Winnemucca. Visit the <u>Winnemucca Food</u> <u>Bank website</u> to learn about more ways to help.





HUMBOLDT COUNTY CHRISTMAS COPS

The Christmas Cops Toy Drive is a seven-year Humboldt County tradition. The event is hosted by Sheriff Cardenas and his law enforcement officers who partner with the Frontier Community Action Agency for the Annual Project Santa charitable program. Lithium Americas was once again proud to participate as a toy donor. This year approximately 200 children from newborns to 17-year-olds received gifts for Christmas.

>>> COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

2023 AISES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In October 2023, Maria Anderson, Community Relations Director, and Vanessa Robinson, Sr. Human Resources Business Partner, attended the <u>American Indian Science</u> <u>Engineering Society</u> (AISES) National Conference in Spokane, WA to meet with Indigenous students interested in or pursuing an education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).



AISES delivers critical programs for the Indigenous STEM community that connects students, educators and professionals to an extensive network of opportunities. The conference was attended by nearly 3,500 participants. Students who stopped by our booth learned about internship and career opportunities at Thacker Pass.



MCDERMITT JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECEIVES NEW FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT

Last fall, Lithium Americas donated football pads to the McDermitt Junior High School League, consisting of nine 5th and 6th grade players. In the past, the McDermitt league was given used equipment from the Winnemucca league and McDermitt High School. This year, all nine players received new pads to finish out the 2023 season and won their last football game wearing their new pads!

The League is raising funds for helmets for the 2024 season. If you are interested in supporting the McDermitt Junior High Football League, contact Coach Ryan Smart at 775-621-8557.

THE DICTIONARY PROJECT

Each fall, Lithium Americas partners with the Winnemucca Literary Club to provide a dictionary to each 3rd grade student attending an elementary school within the Humboldt County School District. The Literary Club began sponsoring the funding of the dictionaries in 1996. In 2020, the Club was in need of funding and LAC began the partnership, becoming the sole sponsor of the dictionaries. This school year, 241 third graders throughout Humboldt County received an age-appropriate dictionary of their own.



>>> COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL PARENT NIGHT AND COLLEGE AND CAREER FAIR 2023

In November 2023, we enjoyed participating in the Lowry High School (LHS) Parent Night and College & Career Fair in Winnemucca. It was a pleasure to meet students and parents, and share how Thacker Pass is enabling a North American lithium battery supply chain for electric vehicles. Nearly 550 LHS students and their parents learned about various careers in mining, as well as college and university degree programs during the two-day event.

>>> TECH CENTER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT UPDATES



Our Lithium Technical Development Center in Reno is where future plant operators and analysts will be trained before they begin careers at Thacker Pass. Tech Center chemical engineers are optimizing the process for high-purity lithium carbonate, as well as doing experiments to market some of the process's by-products.

Over the past several months, Tech Center staff successfully performed testing on a pilot scale decanter centrifuge for clay slurry dewatering. Decanter centrifuges recover water from clay slurry, which can be recycled back to the process and decrease overall water consumption. Furthermore, water recovery during the centrifuge stage will save energy further along in the processing. The data collected will be used for final design of the processing equipment to be used at Thacker Pass.

Additionally, Tech Center staff confirmed multiple types of flocculant are effective for promoting solid-liquid separation. Flocculant is used to promote settling of clay solids in slurry, assisting in water recovery and increasing overall energy efficiency.





>>> TECH CENTER R&D UPDATES



A pilot test was also conducted on a lithium carbonate dryer and cooler units, confirming performance and generating data to be used for industrial equipment selection. The dryer is used at the end of the process to ensure the lithium carbonate has a low moisture percentage, which is a battery grade requirement. The cooling step lowers the temperature of the final product as it exits the dryer prior to packaging.

Tech Center Tour Groups in Q4 2023:

- Nevada Mining Association (NVMA)
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Department of the Interior
- University of Nevada, Reno College of Science Dean Louisa Hope-Weeks; and College of Engineering Associate Dean of Research & Prof. of Chemical Engineering Brandon Weeks



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>>> SAFETY SPOTLIGHT



Safety, environmental stewardship and productivity are the highest priority for Lithium Americas, as well as the foundation for a practical approach to all successful projects.

THACKER PASS CONSTRUCTION

120,000 work-hours achieved with no lost time incidents

In 2023, the Thacker Pass Project surpassed 120,000 work-hours with no lost time incidents.

A lost time incident refers to an injury resulting in a disability or an employee missing work due to the injury. This accomplishment is not easy and is a testament to the dedication of every single employee to working safely. Our number one goal is to ensure all work in the office and at the worksite is performed safely, including driving to and from those locations.

Teams at the Thacker Pass site in northern Humboldt County and the Workforce Hub site in Winnemucca marked the milestone with lunch on November 30. Present at the celebration were Bentley LeBaron, LAC Construction Manager; Bill Swanson, Senior Project Director for Bechtel; and Ricardo Ramirez, Site Manager for Bechtel.









>>> SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

LAC and Bechtel's 'Work Safe Home Safe' Program

Workplace safety is a core value for Lithium Americas and Bechtel. As part of a program called 'Work Safe Home Safe,' the companies promote safety awareness and practices for the dozens of local and regional workers including contractors from northern Nevada and members of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, who report to the work site every day.

Work Safe Home Safe is based on industry standards published by OSHA, MSHA and the international certification process for ISO standard 45001:2018 Workplace Safety. The main lessons include workplace safety being the responsibility of everyone on site, and practicing a consistent method to analyze hazards and prevent workplace injuries.

All workers analyze potential hazards at the beginning of every workday, when new tasks begin and when conditions change, such as weather, footing or switching to new tools or materials. This practice helps ensure our workforce returns home safely every day.



SAFESTART TRAINING

In 2023, Lithium Americas began implementing the <u>SafeStart</u> program to increase our safety culture and commitment to remaining incident-free.

SafeStart is a behavior-based program that focuses on an individual's state of mind and the mishaps that could occur because of distractions or lack of focus, and is applicable in the workplace and at home.

The implementation of SafeStart into the company's health and safety management system included all employees completing four training units, the creation of a SafeStart Steering Committee and the integration of the SafeStart language and concepts into our everyday lives.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING TRAINING

In November 2023, Lithium Americas' team members participated in Smith System Defensive Driving training, hosted by David Martinez. All 25 participants received certificates of completion. Based on popular demand, the training will be offered again in 2024.

>>> LITHIUM AMERICAS IN THE NEWS

Mining the West December issue, featuring NEVADAToday story: Using lithium mining waste to store carbon - Researcher partners with Lithium Americas to find sustainable carbon solutions December 2023

Reno Gazette Journal OpEd by Caleb Cage: Proposed federal policies threaten Nevada's <u>lithium loop</u>

November 26, 2023

Great Basin Sun: Lithium's workforce hub will house nearly 2,000 during construction phase November 14, 2023

Morning Brew: The Most Valuable Plot Of Land In America November 15, 2023

International Business Times: The US Could Be The Next Lithium Superpower November 1, 2023

Reno Gazette Journal: OPINION: Will electric trucks get Nevadans charged up? October 10, 2023

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>>> FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This newsletter contains "forward-looking information" and "forward-looking statements" (which we refer to collectively as forward-looking information, or "FLI") regarding Lithium Americas Corp. and its business operations carried out by its wholly-owned subsidiary Lithium Nevada Corp. (collectively, the "Company") under the provisions of applicable securities legislation. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are FLI, including but not limited to, statements regarding: the timing for development and construction of the Thacker Pass Project; successful development of the project; anticipated designs and processes, and quality of technology utilized; the outcome of litigation concerning the project; potential benefits of the project and their expected realization; hiring needs for the project during each of its phases; realization of opportunities to partner with third parties on various initiatives; and expectations regarding the role of the Thacker Pass project in contributing to vehicle electrification and the creation of a U.S. domestic battery supply chain.

FLI is based upon a number of factors and assumptions that, if untrue, could cause actual results, performances or achievements of the Company to be materially different from future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by such information. Such information reflects the Company's current views with respect to future events and is necessarily based upon a number of assumptions that, while considered reasonable by the Company today, are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingences. These assumptions include, among others: results of the Company's engineering and design permitting program at the Thacker Pass Project; capital costs, operating costs, and sustaining capital requirements; timing, results and completion of a Thacker Pass feasibility study; ability to achieve capital cost efficiencies; the effect of current or any additional regulations on the Company's operations; forecasted demand for lithium products, including pricing thereof; the Company's ability to fund, advance and develop the Thacker Pass project into production, including results therefrom and timing thereof; the impacts of COVID-19 on availability of personnel, supplies and equipment, inflationary conditions, timing of regulatory approvals and permits, and on contractual counterparties; the accuracy of mineral resources, including whether such mineral resources can ever be converted into reserves; reliability of technical data, and accuracy of budgets; that pending patents will be approved; ability to achieve commercial production; general economic conditions; the outcome of any litigation involving the project; the Company's position in a competitive environment; and a stable and supportive legislative, regulatory and community environment.

FLI also involves known and unknown risks that may cause actual results to differ materially. These risks include, among others, inherent risks in the development of capital intensive mineral projects (including any partnership arrangements); project estimation risks, such as variations in mineral resources and mineral reserves; recovery rates; changes in project parameters and funding thereof; risks associated with successfully securing adequate financing; global demand for lithium; risks related to growth of lithium markets and pricing for lithium-based products; ability to secure sufficient machinery, equipment and personnel and at acceptable pricing; changes in legislation, governmental or community policy, including changes in taxation requirements; permitting risk, including receipt of new permits and maintenance of existing permits; title and access risk; cost overruns; unpredictable weather and maintenance of natural resources; unanticipated delays; intellectual property risks; risks associated with technological advances; climate change risks; cybersecurity risks; currency and interest rate fluctuations; operational risks; health and safety risks; and general market and industry conditions. Additional risks, assumptions and other factors are set out in the Company's latest annual information form and management discussion analysis, copies of which are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Although the Company has attempted to identify important risks and assumptions, given the inherent uncertainties in FLI generally, there may be other factors that cause results to differ materially. Forward-looking information is made as of the date hereof and the Company does not intend, and expressly disclaims any obligation to update or revise the forward-looking information contained herein, except as required by law. Accordingly, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking information.

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