

Central Alberta Corridor Initiative Solutions

Centralized Lithium Refinery

Summary Solution Brief

The Challenge

Western Canada lacks a centralized, commercial-scale lithium refinery capable of acting as a reliable offtaker for the region's growing number of lithium brine projects. Today's ecosystem is fragmented. Many proponents are advancing Direct Lithium Extraction or early-stage concentrates, but without a viable, bankable pathway to battery-grade refining at scale.

Stand-alone refineries for individual projects are not realistic. Refining is capital-intensive, technically complex, and highly sensitive to scale and learning curves. As a result, promising projects face weaker economics, longer timelines, and higher risk, often relying on distant or offshore processing. Without domestic refining capacity, the Central Alberta Corridor risks remaining a supplier of intermediates rather than participating in higher-value midstream and downstream segments.

These challenges are amplified by current global market conditions. Lithium refining worldwide is operating in a period of oversupply and extreme price volatility, making near term investment difficult despite strong long term fundamentals. At the same time, refining facilities require long lead times. Failing to advance planning, partnerships, and site readiness during the current down cycle risks missing the next upswing and reinforcing offshore dominance when demand tightens again.

Centralized refining matters because it unlocks economies of scale, improves environmental performance, enables feedstock flexibility, and creates a durable anchor for downstream investment. Advocacy and coordination are required to move from fragmented potential to coordinated execution.

The Initiative

The Centralized Lithium Refinery initiative supports the development of a feedstock-flexible, commercial-scale lithium refining facility anchored in the Central Alberta Corridor and serving Alberta and Saskatchewan. Its purpose is to create a shared midstream asset that provides a credible, bankable pathway from lithium brine production to battery-grade lithium chemicals within Western Canada.

Rather than duplicating refining capacity project by project, the initiative advances a single, large-scale, centralized facility designed to aggregate supply, concentrate technical expertise, and leverage shared infrastructure. This approach improves economics, reduces execution risk, and strengthens the viability of upstream lithium projects across the region.

The refinery follows a clear hub and spoke model:

Spokes: Independent Direct Lithium Extraction operators and lithium concentrate producers focus on extraction and early-stage processing, generating standardized intermediates such as lithium chloride or lower-purity lithium carbonate.

Hub: A centralized refinery converts these intermediates into battery-grade lithium chemicals, such as lithium hydroxide or lithium carbonate, using shared utilities, advanced processing systems, and specialized operating expertise.

The facility is designed to be feedstock-flexible and modular. A phased build-out enables earlier cash flow, incremental capacity expansion, and continuous learning. Operating at a smaller scale initially allows technical expertise and operational confidence to develop before expanding capacity, reducing execution risk and de-risking long-term scale-up.

As a midstream anchor, the refinery improves project economics across the ecosystem and creates the conditions needed to attract downstream investment, including future pCAM, CAM, and battery cell manufacturing. Advancing the project during the current price downturn is a deliberate strategy that positions the Corridor to move decisively when markets recover, rather than reacting too late.

Beyond lithium, the initiative is intended to function as a flagship anchor project. In alignment with the coalition's champion building and momentum efforts, a centralized refinery provides a tangible focal point that builds awareness, credibility, and excitement around the Central Alberta Corridor and the broader coalition.

Opening Moves

Identify Interested Lithium Proponents: The first step is to reality-check the concept by testing whether sufficient industry interest exists to support a shared refinery. This is a coalition-building exercise focused on moving from informal interest to visible alignment. Key actions include identifying potential suppliers, understanding their timelines and feedstock profiles, building critical mass, and engaging Indigenous partners and financial organizations early. The outcome is a clearly defined group prepared to advance the concept together and commission a study.

Build the Business Case: With industry alignment in place, the next move is to develop a credible, evidence-based business case. This includes commissioning a scoping or pre-feasibility study to assess technical, economic, and environmental viability; evaluating

feedstock availability and consistency; testing processing designs and byproduct opportunities; and assessing siting and infrastructure options within the Corridor. This step translates shared interest into a defensible investment narrative that can support government engagement, attract a qualified operator, and advance toward financing.

Set the Foundation: The third move focuses on aligning the enabling environment with industrial reality. This includes policy and incentive alignment for large-scale chemical processing, tenure and cost-structure reforms that reduce the early-stage burden on lithium projects, permitting certainty for industrial sites, and coordinated approaches between Alberta and Saskatchewan. The objective is to reduce structural barriers and create a predictable pathway from planning to execution.

Role of the FMA

The FMA acts as ecosystem orchestrator and catalyst, not owner or operator. From the outset, the refinery initiative would be led by a dedicated project partner, the effort would fall under the FMA banner to convene proponents, explore the aggregation of supply, commission early studies, and de-risk the concept to the point where a qualified operator and financing can step in. Throughout, the FMA ensures the initiative remains aligned with coalition priorities, is informed by broader Corridor work, and contributes to ecosystem development, external engagement, and momentum building.

What Success Looks Like

Success is the emergence of a commercially viable, globally competitive lithium refining hub in the Central Alberta Corridor that strengthens the entire Western Canadian lithium ecosystem.

In practical terms:

- Capital flows more readily into lithium projects as downstream uncertainty is reduced;
- Producers benefit from lower per-unit costs, shared infrastructure, and reduced execution risk;
- The Corridor attracts downstream investment and international partnerships;
- Environmental performance improves through scale, energy integration, and circular systems; and,
- Alberta captures higher-value midstream activity and builds long-term industrial capacity.

The refinery also serves as a highly visible anchor project that builds confidence, attracts senior attention, and generates sustained awareness, buy-in, and excitement around the Corridor and the coalition as a platform capable of joint action.

Together, these outcomes signal a shift from fragmented potential to coordinated execution, with centralized lithium refining acting as a cornerstone of a durable and globally relevant critical materials ecosystem.

Detailed Solution Brief

Barrier That Needs Addressing:

Western Canada lacks a centralized, commercial scale lithium refining facility capable of acting as a reliable offtaker for the region's growing number of lithium brine projects. Today, the ecosystem is fragmented, with multiple proponents advancing upstream extraction or Direct Lithium Extraction pathways, but without a clear, shared route to battery grade refining at scale within the region. The economics of many lithium brine projects across the Central Alberta Corridor remain constrained because, in the absence of offtake agreements and a credible domestic pathway to market, proponents are unable to demonstrate bankable demand, secure financing, or advance projects beyond early development.

Developing a stand alone refinery for each project is neither realistic nor economic. Lithium refining is capital intensive, technically complex, and subject to significant scale and learning curve effects. Individual projects often lack the throughput, balance sheet strength, or risk tolerance required to independently justify downstream refining, resulting in weaker economics, longer timelines, and increased exposure to execution risk. As a result, many promising projects face pressure to export intermediates or rely on offshore refining capacity, undermining value capture, supply chain resilience, and strategic positioning.

These challenges are compounded by current global market conditions. Lithium refining projects worldwide are operating in an environment of significant oversupply and extreme price volatility, driven by rapid capacity additions, state supported production, and shifting demand expectations. Depressed prices and uncertain near term margins make it difficult to secure investment for new refining capacity, even where long term fundamentals remain strong. Without coordination, this price environment risks delaying investment decisions until the next cycle, further entrenching offshore dominance in midstream refining.

At the same time, waiting for price recovery before advancing project development carries its own risks. Refining facilities require long lead times for design, permitting, financing, and construction. Failing to advance planning, partnerships, and site readiness during the current down cycle risks missing the next upswing, leaving regional producers once again without domestic refining capacity when demand tightens.

Together, these barriers prevent the region from capturing downstream value, de-risk projects at the ecosystem level, and position Western Canada to participate meaningfully in resilient, allied lithium supply chains over the long term.

Why This Is Important:

Lithium refineries are the gatekeepers between raw resources and battery-grade materials used in electric vehicles, grid storage, and advanced electronics. Lithium refining is also where much of the economic value, technical learning, and geopolitical leverage is created. Without domestic refining capacity, Western Canada risks remaining a lithium concentrate exporter while value creation, industrial capability, and supply chain control accrue elsewhere. For the Central Alberta Corridor, the absence of a centralized refinery limits the region's ability to translate resource potential into durable industrial and economic strength.

A credible, domestic offtake pathway materially improves the bankability of lithium brine projects by reducing market uncertainty, improving financing terms, and enabling coordinated development across multiple producers. Without this anchor, otherwise viable projects remain stranded or delayed, constraining investment, employment, and ecosystem momentum across the Corridor.

Centralized refining unlocks economies of scale, spreading fixed capital and operating costs across higher throughput volumes and significantly lowering per-unit costs. This is essential to competing with jurisdictions that benefit from vertically integrated systems and extensive public support. Beyond economic competitiveness, centralized facilities create operational advantages through feedstock flexibility and circular integration.

Environmental performance also improves with scale. Larger, centralized facilities can justify investments in energy recovery, thermal integration, co-generation, carbon management, and circular water systems, reducing lifecycle emissions and mitigating effluent and waste streams more effectively than multiple small facilities.

Critically, centralized refineries can be engineered for feedstock flexibility, processing lithium chloride, lower-purity lithium carbonate, and potentially recycled materials such as black mass. This flexibility increases resilience, enables circularity, and future-proofs the

regional lithium ecosystem. In addition, establishing a centralized lithium brine refinery would help lay the technical, infrastructure, and commercial foundation needed to advance a future lithium hard rock spodumene refinery in the region, creating spillover benefits in permitting, workforce development, utilities, logistics, and market credibility that strengthen the case for multiple refining pathways in the Central Alberta Corridor.

Finally, a centralized refinery creates ecosystem level benefits that extend beyond lithium alone. It anchors infrastructure investment, supports workforce development, attracts complementary technologies, and provides a focal point around which research, innovation, and circular opportunities can coalesce. If advanced deliberately and visibly, a centralized lithium refinery can also serve as a flagship initiative that generates awareness, buy-in, and excitement around the Central Alberta Corridor itself, helping rally the coalition, attract champions, and signal that the region is ready to move from potential to execution.

The Initiative:

The Centralized Lithium Refinery initiative supports the development, construction, and operation of a feedstock flexible, centralized lithium refining facility serving Alberta and Saskatchewan, anchored within the Central Alberta Corridor. The objective is to create a shared, commercial scale midstream asset that provides a credible, bankable pathway from upstream lithium brine production to battery grade lithium chemicals within Western Canada.

Rather than advancing multiple stand alone refining facilities tied to individual projects, this initiative proposes a single, large scale, centralized refinery designed to handle significant volumes of varied feedstock from across the Prairies. By aggregating supply, concentrating technical expertise, and leveraging shared infrastructure, the facility improves economics, reduces execution risk, and strengthens the overall viability of upstream lithium projects across the region.

The refinery is intentionally designed to be feedstock flexible, technology adaptable, and expandable over time, allowing it to respond to changing market conditions, evolving technologies, and new sources of supply. This approach avoids locking the region into a single pathway while preserving the benefits of scale and coordination.

The initiative is structured around a hub and spoke model that clarifies roles across the value chain and enables specialization at each stage.

Spokes: Independent Direct Lithium Extraction operators and lithium concentrate producers focus on upstream extraction and early stage processing. These projects generate standardized intermediates, such as lithium chloride solutions or lower purity lithium carbonate, without needing to independently solve for full downstream refining.

Hub: A centralized refinery converts these intermediates into battery grade lithium chemicals, such as lithium hydroxide or lithium carbonate. By operating at scale, the hub leverages shared utilities, infrastructure, processing systems, and operating expertise that individual projects cannot economically replicate.

This model allows upstream proponents to advance projects more quickly, improves bankability through a clear offtake pathway, and reduces duplication of capital intensive refining infrastructure.

The refinery would be developed using a modular design that enables phased build out over time. This approach allows:

- Earlier cash flow generation through initial capacity;
- Incremental expansion as feedstock volumes grow;
- Reduced upfront capital exposure; and,
- Adaptation to market conditions and technology evolution.

Most importantly, a staged build out allows operators to develop technical expertise and operational confidence at a smaller scale before expanding capacity, reducing execution risk and de-risking long term scale-up.

As a midstream anchor, the refinery improves economics across the ecosystem and creates the conditions needed to attract downstream investment, including potential future development of pCAM, CAM, and battery cell manufacturing in the region.

Advancing the centralized refinery during the current period of depressed lithium prices and market volatility is a deliberate strategic choice. Refining facilities have long lead times for design, permitting, financing, and construction. Progress made during the down cycle positions the Corridor to move decisively when prices recover and demand tightens, rather than reacting too late and reinforcing offshore refining dominance.

Beyond its direct economic role, the centralized lithium refinery is intended to function as a flagship anchor project for the Central Alberta Corridor. In alignment with the Build Champions and Hype opening move, a well articulated and collectively supported refinery project creates a focal point for political leadership, capital markets, and international partners. It provides something tangible for the coalition to stand behind, generating awareness, buy in, and momentum that extends beyond lithium alone.

Success Looks Like:

Success is defined by the emergence of a commercially viable, globally competitive lithium refining hub in the Central Alberta Corridor that strengthens the entire Western Canadian lithium ecosystem.

A centralized, feedstock-flexible refinery improves project economics across the region by lowering per-unit processing costs, reducing technical and execution risk for individual lithium proponents, and providing a clear, bankable pathway from extraction to battery-grade products. As a result, capital flows more readily into lithium brine projects, accelerating development timelines and increasing the number of viable projects that reach construction and operation.

Over time, the refinery becomes a midstream anchor that attracts downstream investment, industrial expertise, and international partnerships, positioning the Corridor as a credible participant in global battery supply chains rather than a supplier of raw or semi-processed materials.

In practical terms, success means:

- Increased investment and project velocity: More private and public capital flows into lithium projects across Alberta and Saskatchewan, supported by improved economics and reduced downstream uncertainty.
- Stronger regional competitiveness: Lithium producers benefit from economies of scale, shared infrastructure, and centralized impurity management, narrowing the cost gap with leading global producers.
- A larger, more resilient lithium ecosystem: lithium brine proponents choose the Prairies as their development base, supported by a clear refining pathway and an integrated industrial environment.

- Environmental and operational performance gains: Centralized processing enables advanced energy integration, circular water systems, and byproduct management that reduce lifecycle emissions and environmental impacts.
- Economic diversification and value retention: Alberta captures higher-value midstream activity, reducing reliance on oil and gas revenues while creating skilled jobs and long-term industrial capacity.
- Global leadership in lithium brine processing: The region develops world-class expertise in lithium refining and brine-based processing technologies that can be exported to other lithium-rich jurisdictions.
- Lower barriers for lithium brine producers: Smaller and mid-sized proponents avoid the cost and complexity of individual refining facilities, allowing them to focus on extraction and early-stage processing while the refinery manages impurity removal and final conversion at scale.

Success includes the centralized lithium refinery serving as a highly visible anchor project that builds confidence, attracts senior attention, and generates sustained awareness, buy-in, and excitement around the Central Alberta Corridor and the coalition as a credible platform for large-scale delivery.

Together, these outcomes signal that the Central Alberta Corridor has moved from fragmented potential to coordinated execution, with lithium refining acting as a cornerstone of a durable, globally relevant critical-materials ecosystem.

The Role of the FMA:

The FMA acts as ecosystem orchestrator and project catalyst, not owner or operator. Its role is to:

- Convene fragmented lithium proponents around a shared refining solution
- Aggregate demand and demonstrate critical mass to governments, investors, and operators
- Commission pre-feasibility and scoping studies that rigorously assess technical, economic, and environmental viability
- De-risk the project concept to the point where it can attract a credible refinery operator and financing
- Advocate for policy, tenure, and incentive frameworks aligned with large-scale chemical processing investments

Under this model, the centralized lithium refinery would be led from the outset by a dedicated project partner, with the FMA playing a recruiting, enabling, and coordinating role to ensure the initiative remains aligned with coalition priorities, is informed by broader corridor work, and in-turn informs ecosystem development, external engagement, and momentum building across the Central Alberta Corridor.

Who Needs To Be Involved:

Delivering a centralized, feedstock flexible lithium refinery requires coordinated participation across the full value chain. No single actor can advance this initiative alone. Success depends on aligning upstream producers, midstream operators, governments, Indigenous partners, and capital around a shared commercial and regional objective.

At the core are lithium brine producers who would collectively supply the refinery and benefit from scale, cost reduction, and risk sharing. Their early participation is essential to establishing feedstock certainty and demonstrating critical mass.

Key participants include:

- Lithium brine and DLE proponents in Alberta and Saskatchewan: Project developers producing lithium chloride or lithium carbonate intermediates who would supply the refinery and anchor long term throughput.
- Experienced lithium processing and chemical plant operators: Companies with a track record in building and operating large scale chemical or metallurgical facilities who can design, construct, and run the refinery.
- Indigenous communities and organizations: Rights holders and regional partners engaged early as equity participants, suppliers, workforce partners, and long term beneficiaries through revenue sharing and procurement models.
- Provincial and federal governments: Partners responsible for policy alignment, incentive frameworks, permitting pathways, and infrastructure investment that enable project viability.
- Utilities and infrastructure providers: Electricity, natural gas, water, rail, and logistics providers critical to siting, operating, and scaling the facility.
- Financial institutions and strategic investors: Private equity, pension funds, export credit agencies, and strategic investors seeking long term exposure to battery materials and critical minerals.

- International buyers and downstream manufacturers: Battery material producers, automakers, and energy storage companies that can provide long term offtake commitments and reinforce bankability.

Together, these participants form the minimum coalition required to move from concept to execution. Their alignment signals that the Central Alberta Corridor is capable of delivering large scale, integrated lithium infrastructure with global relevance.

Opening Moves:

1. Identify, Recruit, and Enable Interested Lithium Proponents:

The first opening move is to determine whether a centralized, hub and spoke lithium refinery is genuinely feasible by testing whether there is sufficient industry interest to support it. This step is about reality checking the concept early, before technical studies or policy engagement, by establishing whether enough lithium proponents are willing to align behind a shared refining solution.

Western Canada's lithium sector is fragmented, with many proponents advancing independently despite facing similar technical, cost, and market challenges. This opening move focuses on identifying and recruiting those who would actually support a centralized refinery, why they would support it, and whether that support is strong enough to justify moving forward collectively.

At its core, this is a coalition formation exercise. Success is not defined by securing binding commitments at this stage, but by demonstrating that enough credible proponents are willing to stand behind the concept, participate in joint planning, and explore a shared route to market rather than duplicating refining capacity project by project.

Key elements of this opening move include:

- Testing feasibility through active recruitment and alignment: Engage lithium brine, DLE, hard rock, and recycling proponents in Alberta and Saskatchewan to assess whether a centralized hub and spoke refinery is attractive, realistic, and worth pursuing. The goal is to determine whether there is broad enough support to proceed, not to secure binding commitments at this stage.

- Identifying and recruiting interested proponents: Develop a clear and current inventory of lithium proponents that would benefit from and potentially participate in a centralized refinery model. This includes understanding their development stage, anticipated timelines, and openness to supplying a shared facility rather than building standalone refining capacity.
- Building critical mass: Bring interested proponents together to form a visible base of industry backing. This critical mass is essential to move beyond discussion and toward action, including the ability to jointly commission a study, develop a proposal, and engage governments and investors with a unified voice.
- Engaging Indigenous communities and financial organizations early: Begin early engagement with Indigenous communities and organizations as rights holders and long term partners. Early collaboration builds trust, surfaces Indigenous and regional priorities, and strengthens the social legitimacy of the initiative. Financial organizations should also be engaged early to ensure the concept aligns with investment expectations and emerging funding pathways.
- Creating alignment around next steps: Use this coalition to confirm whether there is enough shared interest to proceed to the next opening move. Specifically, this step should conclude with agreement that the group is prepared to commission a scoping or pre feasibility study, co develop a proposal, and collectively engage governments and other stakeholders.

Successfully completing this opening move results in a clearly defined lithium refining coalition, early Indigenous and financial engagement, and a demonstrated level of industry alignment. This provides the confidence and mandate needed to move into technical, commercial, and site level analysis with credibility, rather than advancing the concept in isolation or on speculation alone.

2. Building the Business Case:

With a core group of interested lithium proponents aligned, the second opening move is to convert shared interest into a credible, evidence based business case. This step is about moving from concept to substance by demonstrating that a centralized, feedstock flexible lithium refinery can compete economically, attract capital, and deliver strategic value to the region.

Rather than waiting for a single proponent to advance a project organically, this opening move applies a proactive and deliberate approach. It intentionally identifies, shapes, and advances a strategically important midstream asset toward investment readiness. This approach is particularly well suited to Western Canada's lithium brine sector, where capital intensity, technical complexity, and fragmented infrastructure create barriers to standalone development.

The business case must clearly articulate why a centralized refinery matters, who it benefits, and how it can be financed and executed.

Key components of building the business case include:

- Defining the value proposition: Clearly articulate the short and long term benefits of a centralized refinery, including improved project economics for producers, reduced technical and execution risk, accelerated development timelines, and access to higher value battery grade markets. Frame these benefits in ways that resonate with public funding priorities, private equity, strategic investors, and downstream buyers.
- Commissioning a scoping or pre feasibility study: Use the critical mass established in Opening Move 1 to jointly commission a scoping or pre feasibility study. This study should rigorously evaluate the technical, economic, and environmental viability of a centralized processing facility and provide the analytical foundation for government engagement and investor discussions.
- Assessing feedstock supply and consistency: The first priority of the study is feedstock analysis. This includes evaluating the availability, quality, timing, and consistency of lithium brine concentrates, DLE intermediates, hard rock material, and potential recycled feedstocks from domestic and allied sources.
- Evaluating location and infrastructure suitability: Assess candidate locations within the Central Alberta Corridor, such as Alberta's Industrial Heartland or Joffre. Evaluation criteria include access to high capacity power, process water, transportation corridors, skilled labour, and opportunities for co-location with downstream manufacturers or pre-processing facilities. Sites must also support phased expansion and align with environmental and permitting requirements.
- Testing processing design and byproduct opportunities: Evaluate high level processing pathways, impurity management strategies, and byproduct

recovery potential. Modeling should assess power requirements and opportunities to integrate clean or low carbon energy sources to improve emissions performance and operating costs.

- Evaluating commercial and ownership structures: Assess viable business models for the refinery, including tolling arrangements, offtake based models, or hybrid structures that balance risk between producers and the refinery operator. Begin defining indicative lithium brine concentrate specifications needed to enable standardization and interoperability across suppliers.
- Developing a compelling investment narrative: Translate technical findings into a clear and compelling story that connects regional economic development, supply chain resilience, emissions performance, and global competitiveness. This narrative supports engagement with governments, financiers, and strategic partners and positions the refinery as a priority enabling asset rather than a standalone industrial project.

Successfully completing this opening move results in a defensible, decision ready business case. It provides the evidence, clarity, and confidence needed to engage governments, advance policy discussions, attract a qualified operator, and move the initiative toward financing and execution.

3. Set The Foundation:

With industry alignment established and a credible business case in hand, the third opening move is to set the policy, regulatory, and market foundations needed to enable execution. This step focuses on ensuring that the broader enabling environment supports lithium refining as a strategic industrial activity.

The objective is to remove structural barriers, align incentives with industrial reality, and create the conditions under which a centralized lithium refinery can be permitted, financed, and built at speed.

Key elements of setting the foundation include:

- Aligning policy frameworks with industrial reality: Lithium refining is fundamentally a large scale chemical processing activity. Policy frameworks should recognize this and treat lithium refining similarly to petrochemical

and other strategic industrial facilities. This includes ensuring access to industrial incentives, infrastructure support, and workforce development programs that reflect the capital intensity and long term economic contribution of the sector.

- Evaluating the applicability of existing incentive programs: Assess whether programs such as Alberta's Petrochemicals Incentive Program can be adapted or extended to include lithium refining. This analysis should consider how investment tax credits, capital cost support, and performance based incentives could improve project economics and competitiveness.
- Modernizing mineral tenure and cost structures: Current land rental and tenure regimes create a financial burden for lithium proponents during early development stages. Options should be explored to reduce or eliminate land rental fees on undeveloped projects and move toward backend loaded cost recovery models. Aligning lithium tenure more closely with Alberta's oil sands regime would reduce early stage risk while preserving long term public value.
- Prioritizing land access and permitting certainty: Identify and advance land and zoning approaches that support industrial scale lithium refining. This includes evaluating pre zoned or industrially designated sites, streamlined permitting pathways, and mechanisms that reduce approval timelines while maintaining environmental and regulatory integrity.
- Coordinating interprovincial competitiveness: Work with both Alberta and Saskatchewan to ensure policy alignment and avoid jurisdictional friction. Coordinated approaches to incentives, tenure, and infrastructure investment can make Western Canada more attractive relative to competing global jurisdictions.
- Advocacy and coalition based engagement: The Alliance can play a central role in convening industry, Indigenous partners, and regional stakeholders to propose targeted policy adjustments and advocate for reforms that support lithium refining and broader critical materials development.

Successfully completing this opening move results in a supportive and predictable foundation for investment. Policy, land, and incentive regimes are aligned with the needs of large scale lithium refining, reducing uncertainty and enabling the project to move from planning to execution with greater speed and confidence.