



Progress Report #5

April 8th, 2013

I am pleased to bring you up to date on CREEN activities and related events of importance, since our last report of February 15th. The CREEN Steering Committee held its fifth meeting on April 2nd.

CREEN believes that REE sector priorities, which will help direct and advance the research agenda, need to be set by industry. In this regard, CREEN continues to reach out to other groups to determine how our industrial research network or consortia, ably supported by academia, could best meet its vision and goals. We always welcome your views.

Standing Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources

We previously reported that CREEN steering committee members were invited to make a presentation to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources on February 13th, in line with its study of the rare earths industry in Canada. Steve Wilson (SGS), Luisa Moreno (EuroPacific) and Vlad Papangelakis (University of Toronto) participated.

On February 25th the Committee held its third meeting on rare earths, at which several pledged and then yet-pledge CREEN members -- Pierre Neatby (Avalon Rare Metals), Peter Cashin (Quest Rare Mineral), Bryan Schreiner (Saskatchewan Research Council), Andre Gauthier (Matamec) and Al Shefsky (Pele Mountain) – were invited to share their corporate perspectives.

The transcripts of both of these sessions can be found at <http://www.parl.gc.ca/CommitteeBusiness/CommitteeHome.aspx?Cmte=RNNR>

It is currently understood that the Committee's Report will be completed toward the end of April/early-May.

Meeting with NRCan Deputy Minister, Serge Dupont

Pursuant to Progress Report #4, CREEN has invited the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources Canada, Serge Dupont, to join CREEN pledged-member CEOs and CREEN invited guests for a focused discussion/reception in Ottawa in late April or early May: he has accepted our invitation, the place and time of which is still to be determined. It is noted that Minister Joe Oliver has moved to Finance and NRCan will now be championed by Minister Greg Rickford (formerly the Minister of State for Science and Technology and retaining his responsibility for the Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario).

CREEN Membership

Membership pledges continue to flow in. You are strongly encouraged to join us to help our emerging industry take shape. The collective power of the many is stronger than the few. Pledge forms can be found at <http://www.ree-etr.ca/en/RareEarth/Home/AboutUs.aspx>.

Continued Media and International Attention

CREEN will be presenting a paper, titled *Innovation in Canada's Emerging Rare Earth Sector* at the CIM Convention (May 11th – 14th). CREEN has also been invited to deliver a keynote address and paper, titled *Significant Strides Toward REE Production in Canada*, at the 3rd REE Symposium at COM 14 (Sept 28th – Oct 1st).

Further, CREEN has received an invitation for Canadian companies to contribute interdisciplinary papers to a soon-to-be published book '*Rare Earths Industry: Technological, Economic and Environmental Implications*'. The European-based publisher intends that the book will document and promote research, projects and field work in the rare earths industry, meeting a demand for critical, updated and extensive analyses and information on the theme. The book is being structured along three major sections: Rare Earths Reserves and Mining; Rare Earths Processes and High-Tech Product Development; and Rare Earths Recycling Opportunities and Challenges. The content will focus on technical, scientific, academic, economic, and environmental, industry and market issues.

COM14 REE Symposium

Sept 28th – Oct 1st, 2014 Vancouver

Niels Verbaan, the Chair of this 3rd REE Symposium and Senior Engineer with SGS Canada (at their Lakefield labs), has advised that the symposium has received over 50 abstracts from some 11 countries. The Organizing Committee enjoys the support of SGS, Avalon, Quest, John Goode, Molycorp, Saskatchewan Research Council and the University of Toronto, supported by a number of external peer reviewers.

Technical Workshop

NRCan has offered to co-host the planned CREEN Technical (research priorities) Workshop in Ottawa on June 17: other details to follow shortly.

NRCan is also in the process of broadening and logging the current REE-related work across Canada's academic institutions. Anna Cameron (a Masters student from the University of Ottawa at NRCan) has contacted Engineering and Science Faculties across the country, in anticipation of a relatively lively response. We hope to share survey results in May.

The Economic Benefits of the North American Rare Earths Industry

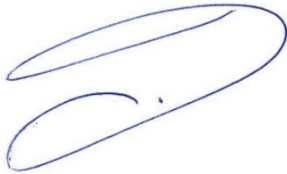
On April 2nd, the Rare Earth Technology Alliance (RETA), a Washington-based organization under the auspices of the American Chemical Council (ACC) released its detailed review of the economic scope and leverage of rare earths, titled *The Economic Benefits of the North American Rare Earths Industry*. This first of its kind economics report on rare earths examines the essential role of rare earths in the economy and in many downstream products.

This 32-page report examines the economic contributions of rare earths to the North American economy, by examining the economic footprint of the rare earth industry in terms of its direct, indirect and induced effects as measured by output, payrolls, jobs and taxes paid. The analysis also quantifies downstream economic activity (in much detail) supported by the use of rare earth products. The Report is available on <http://www.rareearthtechalliance.com/Resources/The-Economic-Benefits-of-the-North-American-Rare-Earths-Industry.pdf>

CREEN Governance and Administrative Framework

In light of the growing interest and activity, the CREEN Steering Committee has established a Management sub-Committee, comprised of Peter Cashin (Quest Rare Minerals), Steve Wilson (SGS Canada), and myself to address and facilitate the network's day-to-day matters.

As always, I hope you find these progress reports helpful. Please feel free to contact CREEN with any suggestions you may have.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian M London', written in a cursive style.

Ian M London P.Eng, MBA

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