



CSE: APXC
OTC.QX: APXCF
FRANKFURT: KL9 WKN: A40CCQ
ISIN: CA03753D1042

Globally Significant Critical Mineral Projects in North America

Contact:

Apex Critical Metals

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Q1 2026

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QUALIFIED PERSON AND TECHNICAL REPORT

The scientific and technical information contained in this Presentation has been reviewed and approved by Nathan Schmidt, who is a "Qualified Person" for the purposes of National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"). Mr. Schmidt has verified the data disclosed herein, including sampling, analytical and test data underlying the technical information contained herein. Certain scientific and technical information with respect to the Company's CAP property (the "CAP Property") contained in this Presentation has been taken from the technical report dated effective December 8, 2022, entitled "Technical Report on the CAP Property Northeast of Prince George, British Columbia, Canada" prepared by Alex Knox, MSc, PGeol., an independent consulting geologist with AWK Geological Consulting Ltd., in accordance with the requirements of NI 43-101, a copy of which is available on Apex's SEDAR+ profile at www.sedarplus.ca.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This Presentation contains certain forward-looking information and forward-looking statements (collectively, "forward-looking statements") within the meaning of applicable securities legislation. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are frequently identified by such words as "may", "will", "plan", "expect", "anticipate", "estimate", "intend", "indicate", "scheduled", "target", "goal", "potential", "subject", "efforts", "option" and similar words, or the negative connotations thereof, referring to future events and results. Forward looking statements in this Presentation include, but are not limited to: statements regarding the business, operations, outlook and financial performance and condition of the Company; plans, objectives and advancement of the CAP Property; exploration drilling plans and other work plans and exploration programs to be conducted; timing, type and amount of capital and operating and exploration expenditures; development and advancement of the CAP Property; treatment under regulatory regimes; ability to realize value from the Company's assets; any other statements regarding the business plans, expectations and objectives of the Company; and any other information contained herein that is not a statement of historical fact. Forward-looking statements are based on management's reasonable estimates, expectations, analyses and opinions at the date the information is provided and is based on a number of assumptions and subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking information. Assumptions upon which such forward-looking information are based include, without limitation, that no significant event will occur outside the ordinary course of business of the Company; legislative and regulatory environment; impact of increasing competition; current technological trends; price of niobium and other rare earth and critical minerals; costs of development and advancement; anticipated results of exploration and development activities; the ability to operate in a safe and effective manner; and the ability to obtain financing on reasonable terms. Readers are cautioned that the foregoing list is not exhaustive. Although Apex believes that the current opinions and expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable based on information available at the time, undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking statements since Apex can provide no assurance that such opinions and expectations will prove to be correct. All forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain and subject to a variety of assumptions, risks and uncertainties, including risks, uncertainties and assumptions related to: the Company's ability to achieve its stated goals; the estimated costs associated with the advancement of the CAP Property; legislative changes that impact the Company's operations; the ongoing ability to work cooperatively with stakeholders, including but not limited to local communities and all levels of government; the interpretation of drill results, the geology, grade and continuity of mineral deposits; the possibility that any future exploration, development or mining results will not be consistent with our expectations; risks that permits will not be obtained as planned or delays in obtaining permits; mining and development risks, including risks related to accidents, equipment breakdowns, labour disputes (including work stoppages, strikes and loss of personnel) or other unanticipated difficulties with or interruptions in exploration and development; risks related to the price of niobium and other rare earth and critical minerals and foreign exchange rate fluctuations; the cyclical nature of the industry in which the Company operates; risks related to failure to obtain adequate financing on a timely basis and on acceptable terms or delays in obtaining governmental approvals; risks related to environmental regulation and liability; political and regulatory risks associated with mining and exploration; risks related to the uncertain global economic environment and the effects upon the global market generally, any of which could continue to negatively affect global financial markets, including the trading price of Apex shares and could negatively affect the Company's ability to raise capital and may also result in additional and unknown risks or liabilities to the Company. Other risks and uncertainties related to prospects, properties and business strategy of the Company are identified in the "Risk Factors" section of Apex Management's Discussion and Analysis filed on March 14, 2024, and in recent securities filings available at www.sedarplus.ca. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Company does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements that are contained herein, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.

This Presentation is not, and under no circumstances is to be construed as, a prospectus, an offering memorandum, an advertisement or a public offering of securities. Under no circumstances should the information contained herein be considered an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities of the Company in any jurisdiction where such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful.

Investment Highlights



CRITICAL MINERAL PROJECT

Developing Rare Earth Elements and Niobium projects listed as critical to Canada, US & EU.



LIMITED SUPPLY

Global Production of REE's is dominated by China, 89%, and Niobium is dominated by Brazil, 91%.



DEMAND INCREASING

Technological innovation & green energy applications are driving demand in REE's and Niobium.



EXCEPTIONAL FUNDAMENTALS

Carbonatite host with simple mineralogy and encouraging exploration results.



PROVEN TEAM

Team with a history of critical mineral discovery & successful M&A.



SOLID STRUCTURE

Well structured & financed with strategic investors.

Management & Board of Directors




Jody Dahrouge, P.GEO, DIRECTOR

Mr. Dahrouge is a professional geologist with over twenty-five years of experience and has a successful background in base metals, industrial minerals, rare earth metals and uranium exploration. Since 1998, Mr. Dahrouge has been the president of Dahrouge Geological Consulting Ltd., a geological services company that provides consulting services to a broad range of public and private exploration and mining companies.

 **President of Dahrouge Geological, the team acquired and discovered the PMET Resources (TSX: PMET) Corvette property.**

Darren L. Smith, M.SC., P.GEO, DIRECTOR

With more than >20 years experience in the industry, Mr. Smith specializes in high-level project management including program design and implementation, technical reporting, land management, community engagement, and technical disclosure. He has provided technical oversight for PEA, PFS, and FS level projects as well as complex metallurgical programs.

 **Contributed recovery processing and metallurgy processing work for MP Materials Mountain Pass mine in California.**

Sean Charland, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR

Mr. Charland has worked for over 15 years in capital markets & resource exploration. His experience is focused on raising capital, mergers & acquisitions, marketing public resources companies and managing diverse teams. Most recently is a director of Alpha Lithium, which was recently acquired for over \$300M. Mr. Charland leads as CEO for both Apex Critical Metals and Zimtu Capital, and serves as a director at Maple Gold Mines and Core Assets Corp.

 **Most recently a director of Alpha Lithium, acquired for over \$300M.**

Joness Lang, INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

Mr. Lang is an experienced executive leader with 15 years of corporate growth strategy and capital markets experience within the natural resource sector. Mr. Lang is the CEO of Canter Resources Corp., a critical metals exploration company focused on lithium and boron in the western USA. He also serves as President for American Pacific Mining Corp, and prior to that the Executive Vice President of Maple Gold Mines Ltd. Mr. Lang brings significant transaction experience to the Apex board, with a track record of leading project acquisitions and securing major mining companies as strategic partners.

C While with American Pacific, the company was nominated for Deal of the Year twice by S&P Global Platts.

Jody Bellefleur, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DIRECTOR

 Ms. Bellefleur is a CPA, CGA with over 15 years of experience with public companies and has served in senior financial roles with a number of issuers, bringing extensive expertise in financial reporting, corporate governance, and regulatory compliance.

View full bios at apexcriticalmetals.com

Corporate Snapshot



Capital Structure (Jan. 2026)

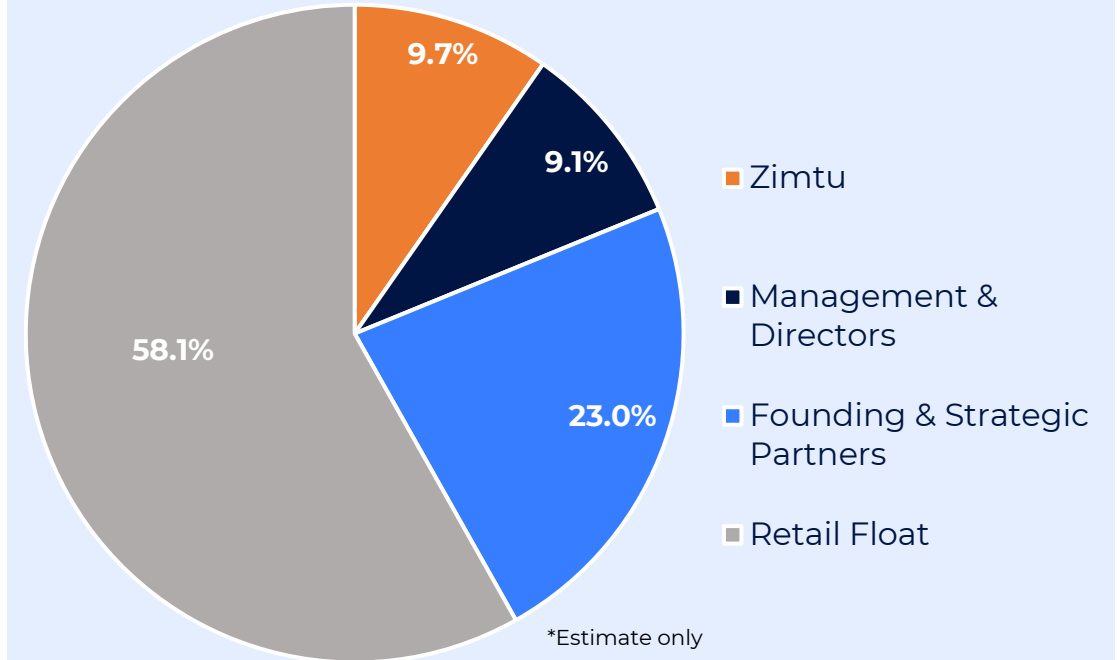
Shares Outstanding: **78,464,375**

Fully Diluted: **108,043,422**

STOCK OPTIONS | POTENTIAL PROCEEDS
10.75 M | **CAD \$8.32M**

WARRANTS | POTENTIAL PROCEEDS
18.83 M | **CAD \$18.4M**

Share Ownership



NIOBIUM

- Niobium is an important metal with extreme hardness.
- Listed as critical to the economy in North America & EU.
- Small amounts added to steel to strengthen it.
- Less steel needed, called dematerialization.

SUPPLY & DEMAND RISK

- Concentrated supply: 90% of production from Brazil.
- Concentrated demand: 80% of Niobium is used in construction & steel production.
- Expected increase in demand due to niobium oxide battery technology.

MINERALOGY MATTERS

- Project is hosted by a Carbonatite, a very rare but ideal host rock.
- Carbonatites have much higher probability of being a successful mine.

Niobium

/naɪ'ɒʊbiəm/ - ni-o-bi-um

(noun) a soft grey ductile metallic element used in alloys; occurs in niobite; formerly called columbium



Niobium Market Size:

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/niobium-market-size-to-grow-usd-1907-8-million-by-2030-at-a-cagr-of-3-6--valuates-reports-302057631.html#:~:text=The%20Global%20Market%20for%20Niobium,the%20forecast%20period%202024%2D2030.>

Steel Market Size:

<https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/steel-market>

Lithium Market Size: [https://straitresearch.com/report/lithiummarket#:~:text=Market%20Overview,period%20\(2023%2D2031\).](https://straitresearch.com/report/lithiummarket#:~:text=Market%20Overview,period%20(2023%2D2031).)

Battery Market Size:

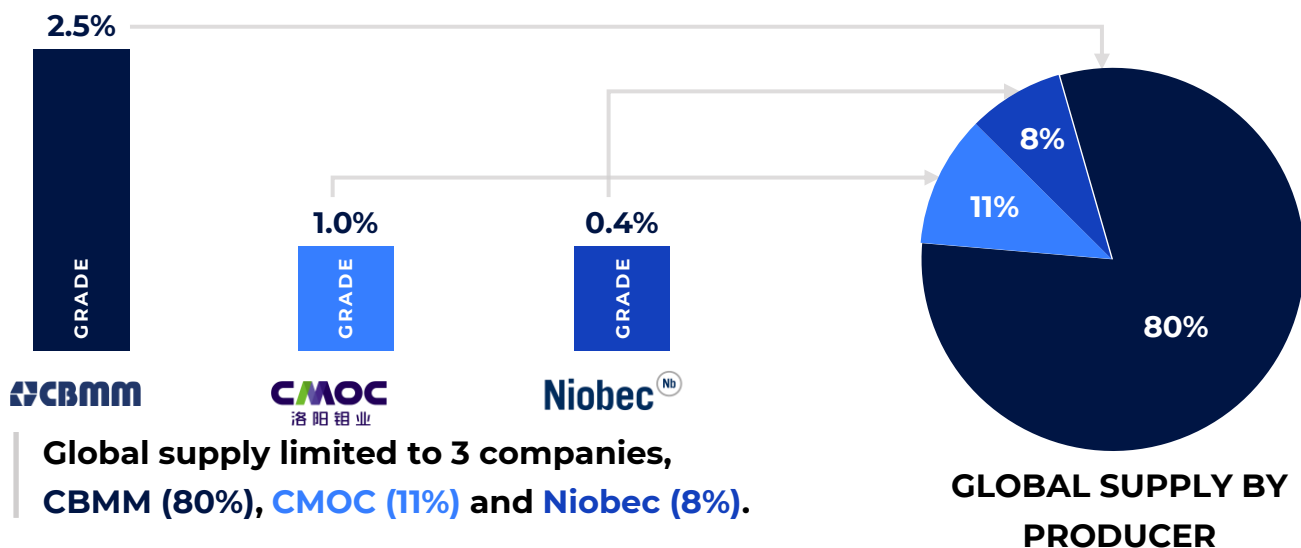
<https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/battery-market#:~:text=The%20Global%20battery%20market%20size%20was%20estimated%20at%20USD%20104.31,USD%20118.20%20billion%20in%202022.>

Niobium Supply

- Apex's portfolio includes exposure to several of the most critical minerals to GDP and national security.
- NioCorp secured \$10M DoD funding for the development of a Mine-to-Master Alloy Scandium Supply Chain. Critical to both the EU & United States due to essential roles & limited supply.
- Nearly 91% of Niobium is produced in Brazil.
- Niobec sold to Magris Resources for \$500 million in 2015.

Global Niobium Supply

Key Producers and Their Grades



Global supply limited to 3 companies, CBMM (80%), CMOC (11%) and Niobec (8%).

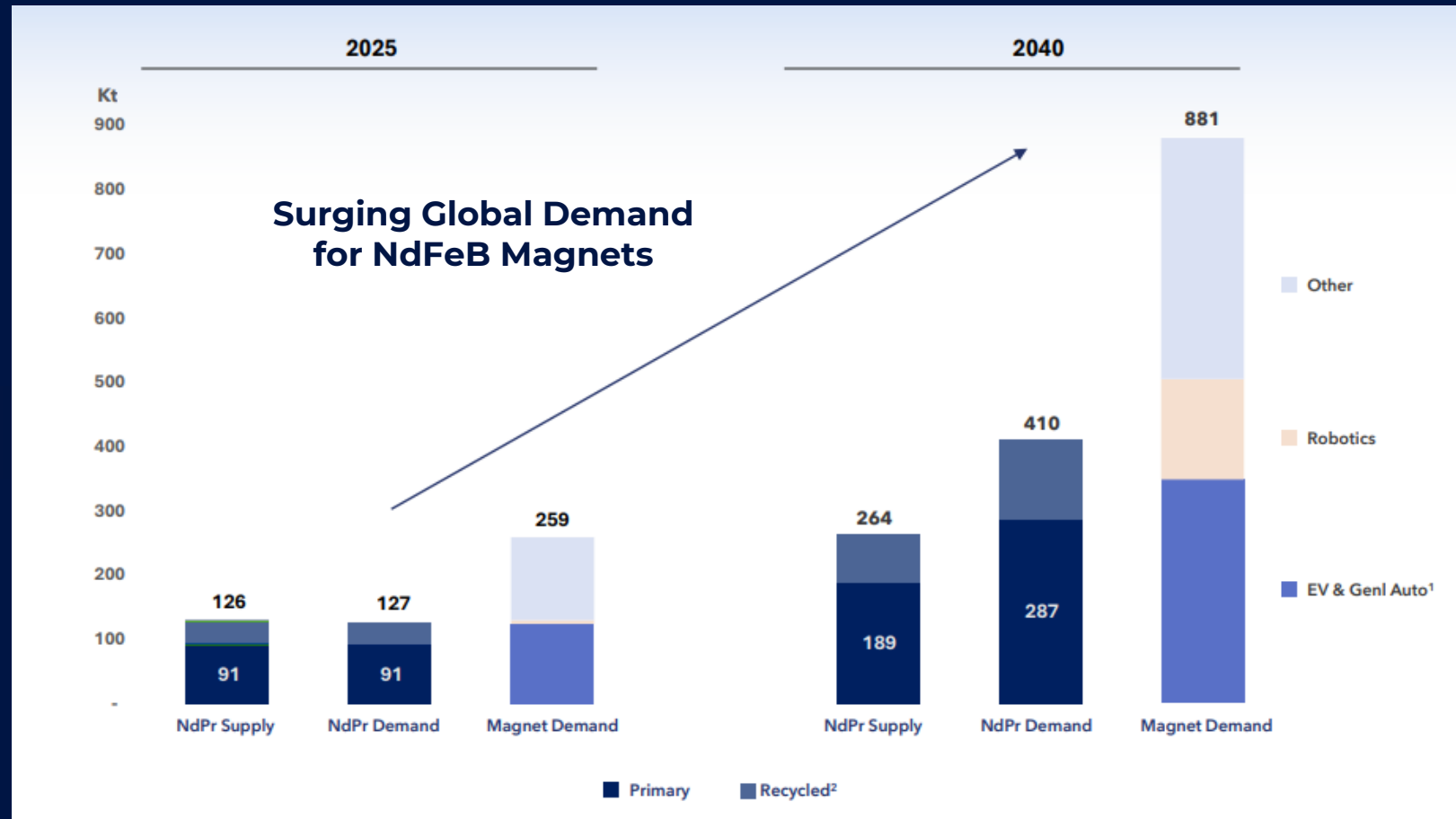


Rare Earth Elements Are Critical To...

- NdFeB Magnets
- Electric Vehicles
- Defense Technology
- Robotics
- Fusion Power
- Industry, Metallurgy and Alloys

REE Market

- ~90% of refined supply from China
- REE Magnet Demand expected to rise ~3.4x by 2040.
- Domestic supply is essential



Source: MP Materials: https://s25.q4cdn.com/570172628/files/doc_presentations/2025/May/16/MP-Materials-Overview-May-2025.pdf

Rare Earth Elements & Niobium Supply Risk



Refined REE Supply

- 98% of supply concentrated in Asia

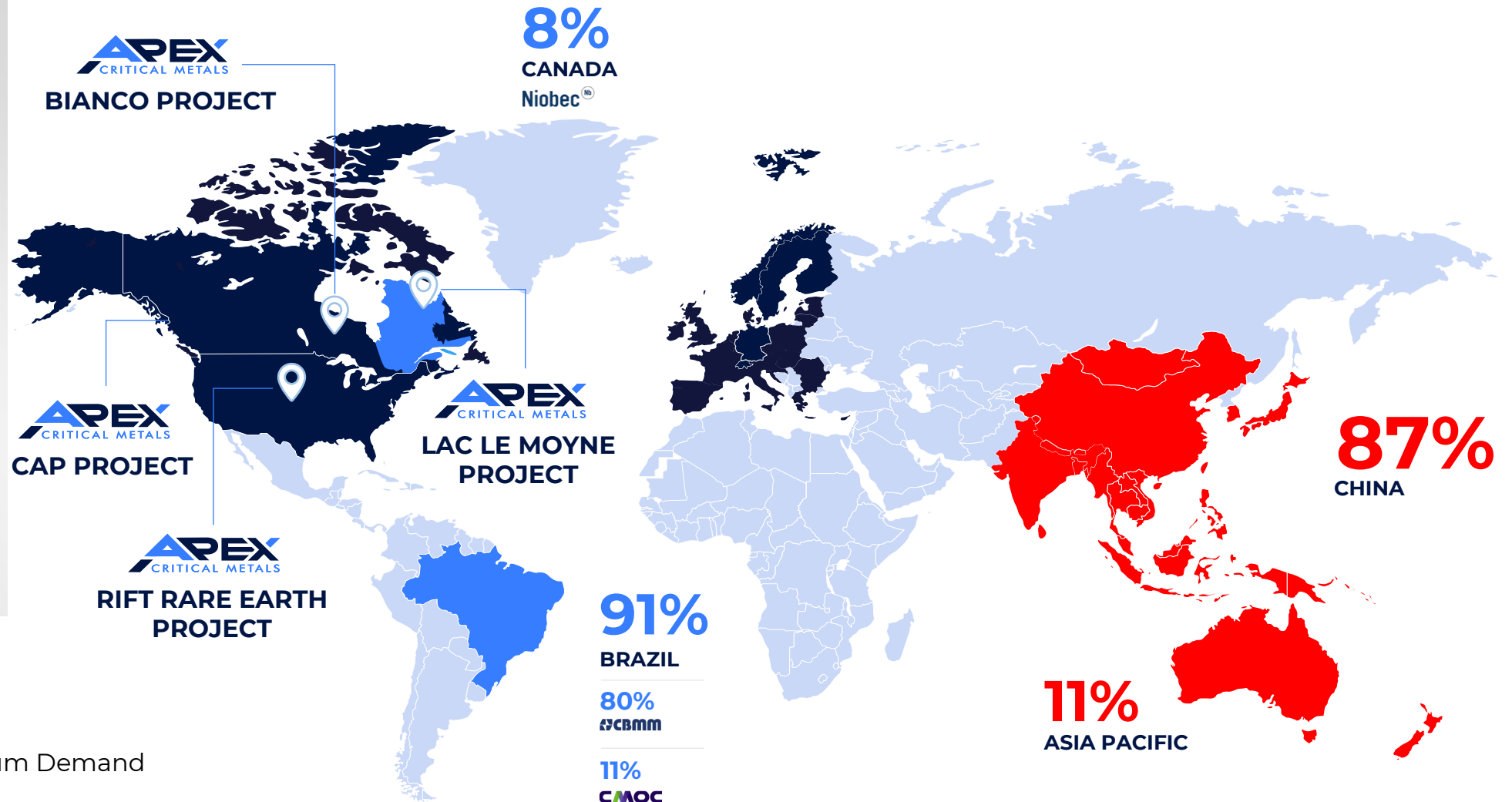
Niobium Supply

- Concentrated in one country (Brazil)
- Supply risk

Demand

- Driven by defense, EVs, and tech
- Critical Minerals initiatives

- Niobium Supply
- Refined REE Supply
- Emerging REE & Niobium Demand



Rift Rare Earth Project

Overview

- Globally significant **rare earth element project** located in southeastern **Nebraska, USA**, within the highly prospective **Elk Creek Carbonatite** near the village of Elk Creek.
- Diameter of 6–8 km, ranks among the **largest carbonatite bodies in the world**.
- **Tier-1 jurisdiction**, offering excellent infrastructure and geopolitical stability.

NioCorp Developments Ltd. (NASDAQ: NB, Market Capitalization of USD\$750M as of Jan 12, 2026)

- Rift Rare Earth project flanks Niocorp's Elk Creek Niobium Deposit on multiple sides
- Elk Creek Niobium Deposit 2022 feasibility study:
 - **31.7 Mt Proven & Probable Reserves @ 0.81% Nb₂O₅***
 - Represents one of the largest undeveloped niobium deposits outside Brazil.

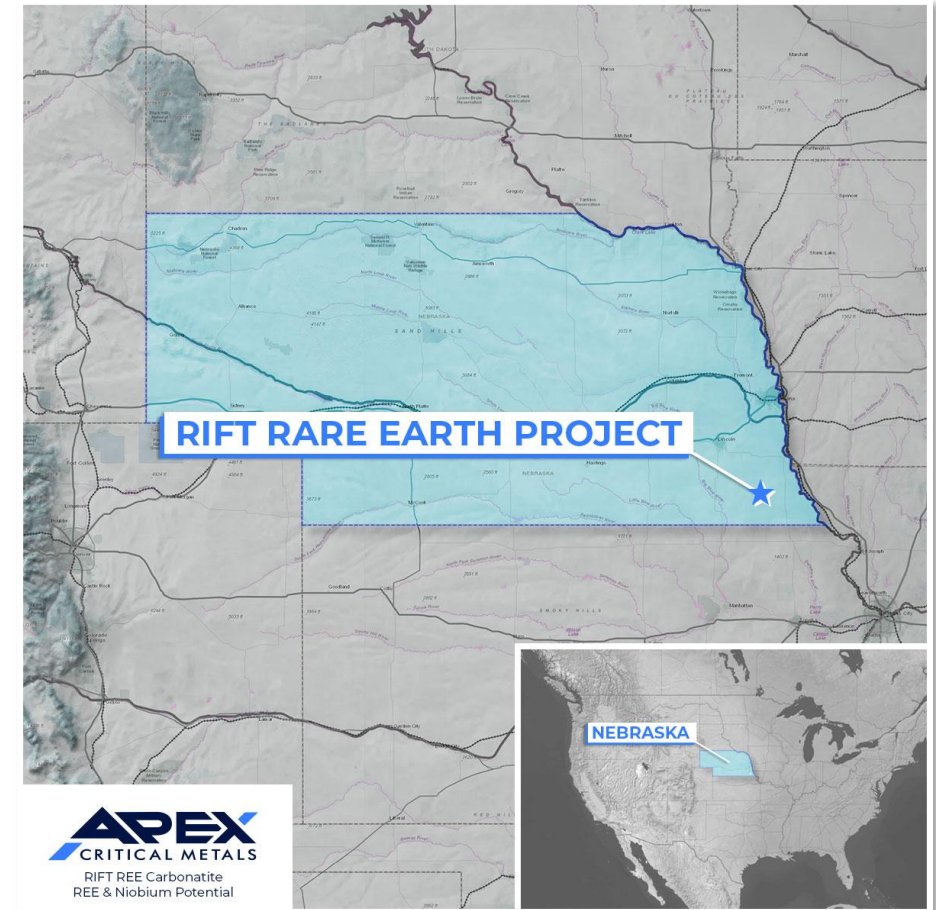
Geology

Geology: Rare carbonatite complex emplaced ~560-570 million years ago.

Host Rocks: Carbonatite intruding Proterozoic gneiss, overlain by ~200 m of sediment.

Mineralogy:

- **Niobium:** Hosted in magnetite beforosite.
- **REEs:** Hosted in barite beforosite (including bastnäsite, parisite, synchysite, monazite).
 - Same mineralogy as other North American operating mines.



* NioCorp Developments Ltd., 2022 Feasibility Study for the Elk Creek Niobium Project. Mineralization at nearby or adjacent properties is not necessarily indicative of mineralization at the Company's Rift Project.

Rift Rare Earth Project

Exploration Potential

- Multiple REE-rich zones are known to flank NioCorp's Elk Creek Critical Minerals Project.
- Historical results believed to underestimate true REE potential as analysis by Molycorp was typically completed on partial drilled intercepts, with analysis for only 3 (Ln, Ce, Nd) of the 15 REE's.
- Step-out drilling (e.g., NEC11-004) validated continuity of mineralization for a **high-grade REE zone that remains wide open.**

Strategic Opportunity

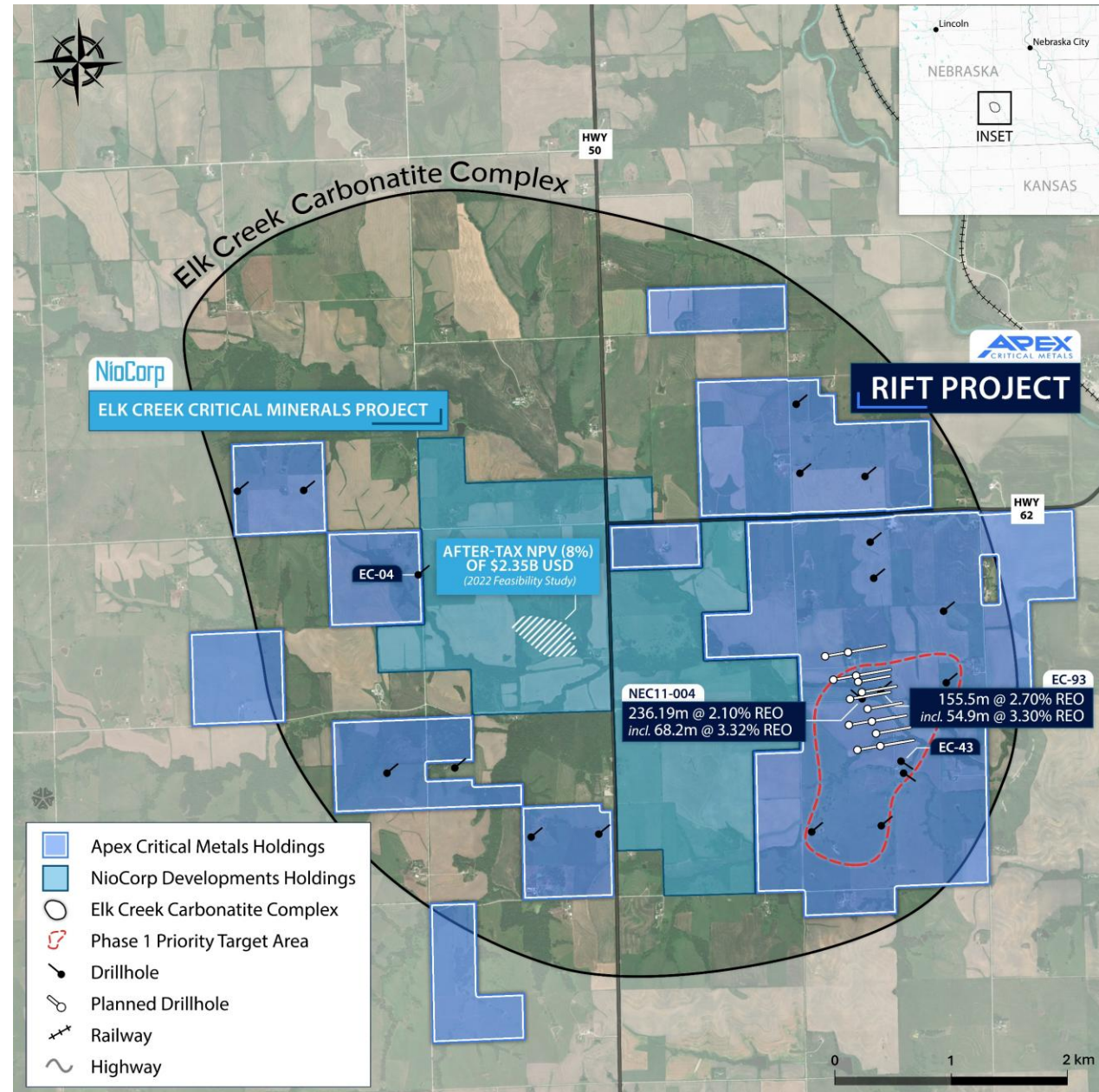
- **Modern tools advantage:** Re-logging and re-analysis of historical Molycorp core with today's methods could substantially **expand and upgrade REE datasets.**
- Located in Nebraska with private land ownership, offering a **streamlined permitting path** relative to many global REE projects.
- Apex is actively compiling historical data and advancing towards inaugural drilling in early Q1/2026 to confirm and expand upon known REE mineralization.



Rift Rare Earth Project

Exploration Plan

- Permitting & 3D modelling of historical data underway
- Phase 1 drilling: \$5-6M program, 8,000 m (10-15 holes)
- Drilling objectives: Confirm and expand on historical REE mineralization including:
 - **155.5 m of 2.70% TREO** (hole EC-93), starting from 149.4 m depth
 - Includes a **54.9 m at 3.30% TREO**.
 - **236.19 m of 2.10% TREO** (NEC11-004).
 - Includes a **68.2 m at 3.32% TREO**.
- Closest drill hole to those highlighted above located approximately 1 km south
- **EC-43: 189.0 to 323.1 m – 134.1 m of 1.22% TREO** (1 km south of EC-93)
 - including **12.2 m of 3.18% TREO** from 243.8 to 256 m & **27.4 m of 1.83% TREO** from 295.7 to 323.1 m
- **EC-04: 185.2 m of 1.18% LREO** (West Anomaly)
 - 217.1 to 402.3 – **185.2 m of 1.18% LREO**, 429.8 to 445.0 m – **15.2 m of 1.14% TREO**



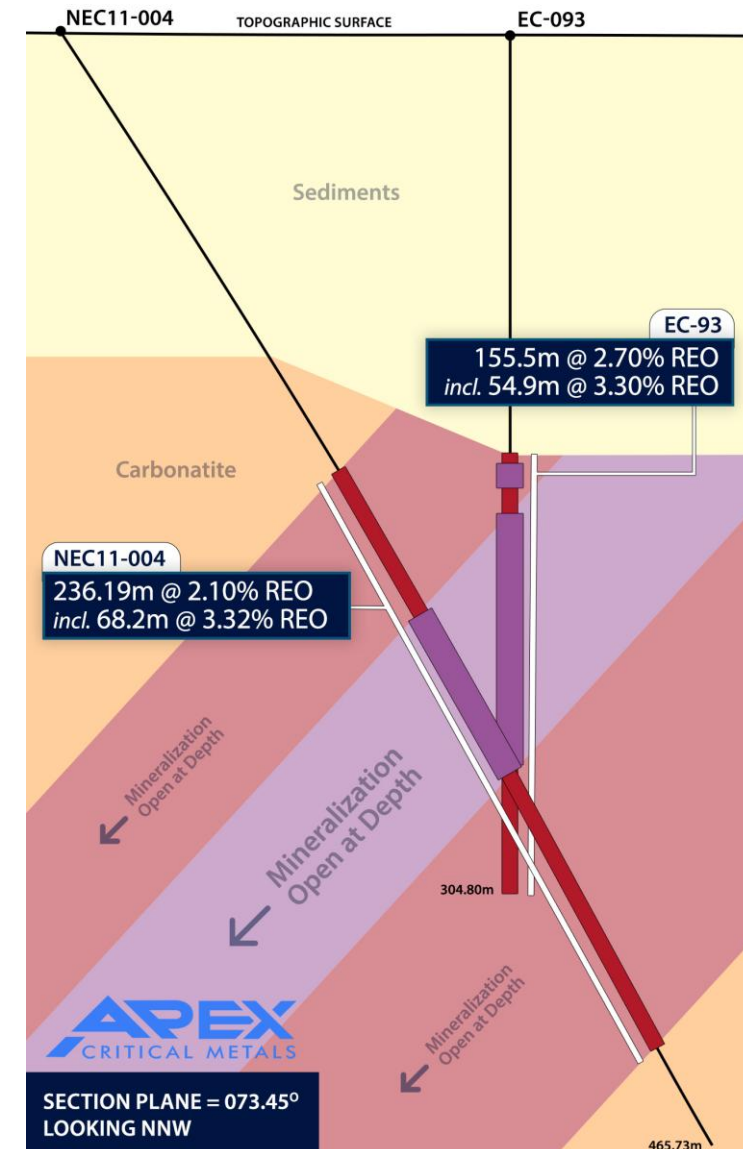
Rift Rare Earth Project

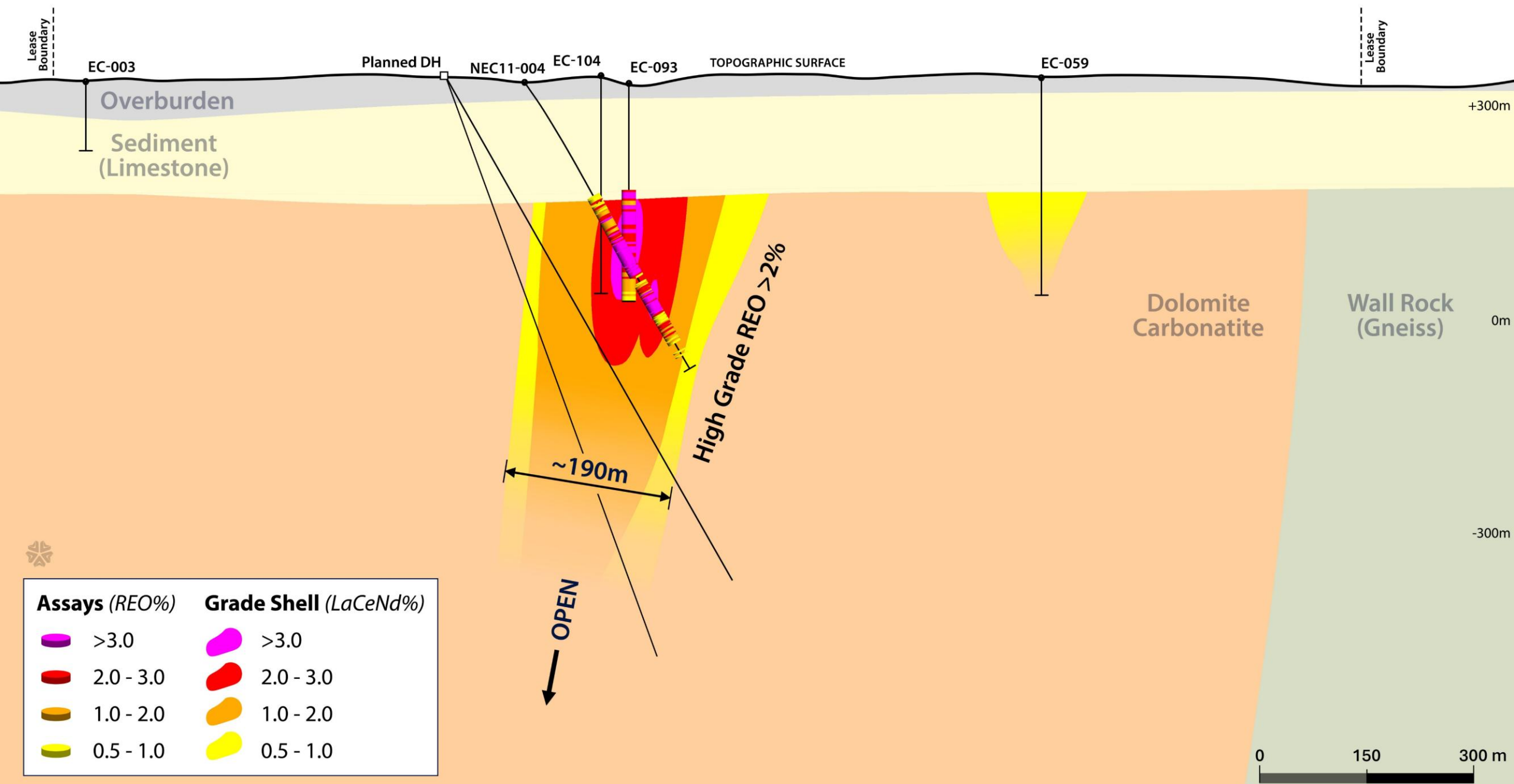
Elk Creek Carbonatite Complex

- Outside of NioCorp's core deposit, much of the complex remains **underexplored for REEs and critical metals**, leaving significant discovery potential.
- REE mineralization identified but underexplored, with **assays limited to light REEs** (La, Ce, Nd)
- Private land ownership facilitates **streamlined permitting path**.

Standout REE Intercepts

- **106 drill holes** completed with **20 within the Rift Rare Earth Project area**
- Significant REE mineralization encountered in multiple holes:
 - **155.5 m of 2.70% REO**, Including **54.9 m at 3.30% REO** (EC-93).
 - **236.2 m of 2.10% REO**, including **68.2 m of 3.32% REO** (NEC11-004).
 - NEC11-004 is 162 m SW (at an angle of 245°) of EC-93
- **High-grade REE zone remains wide open**





Project

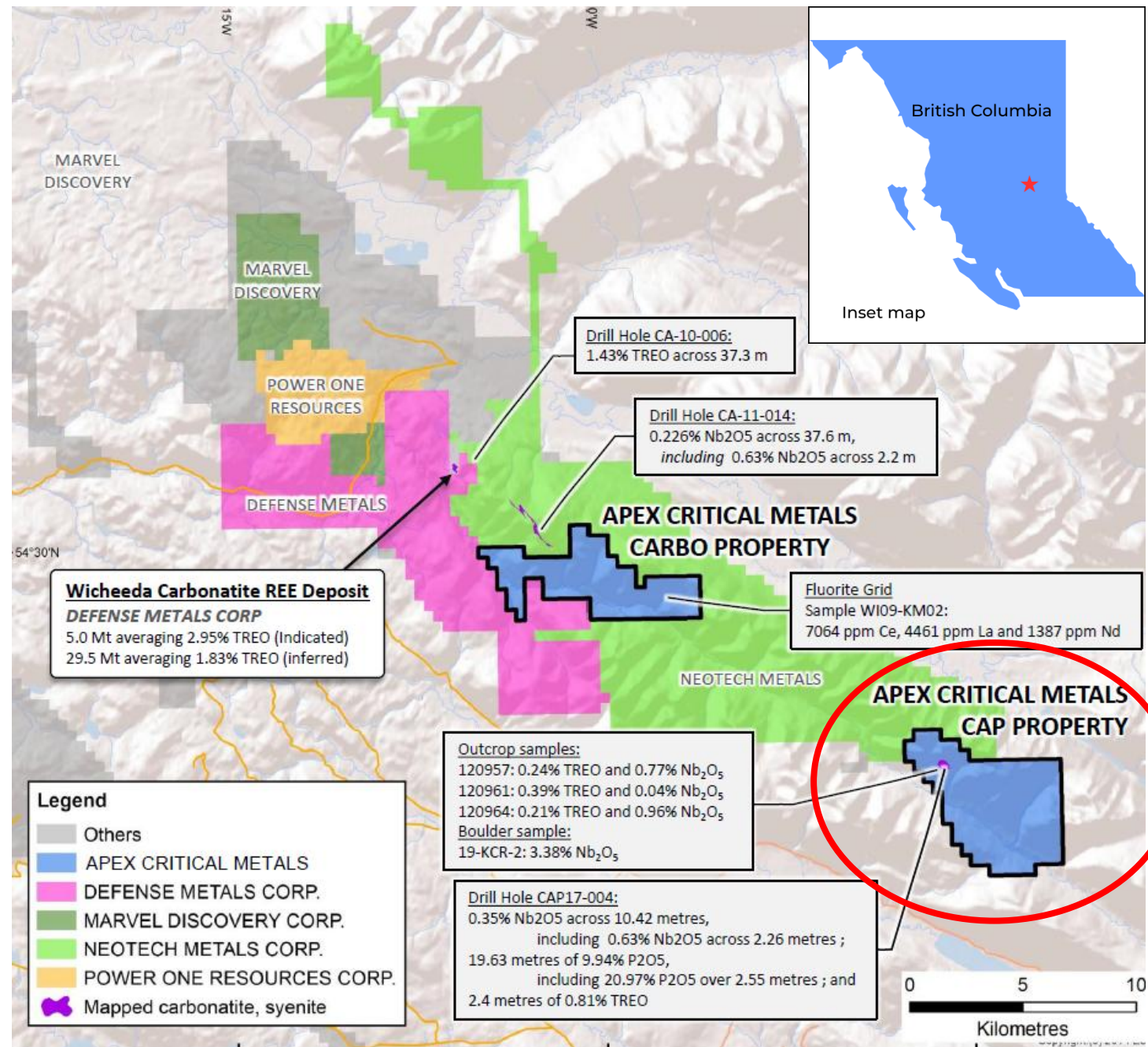
CAP Project

Location

- 85 km Northeast of **Prince George, BC.**
- Accessible year-round, 25km² in size
- Located 250km SE of Taseko Aley Nb Deposit (TSX: TKO - \$1.3B MC)

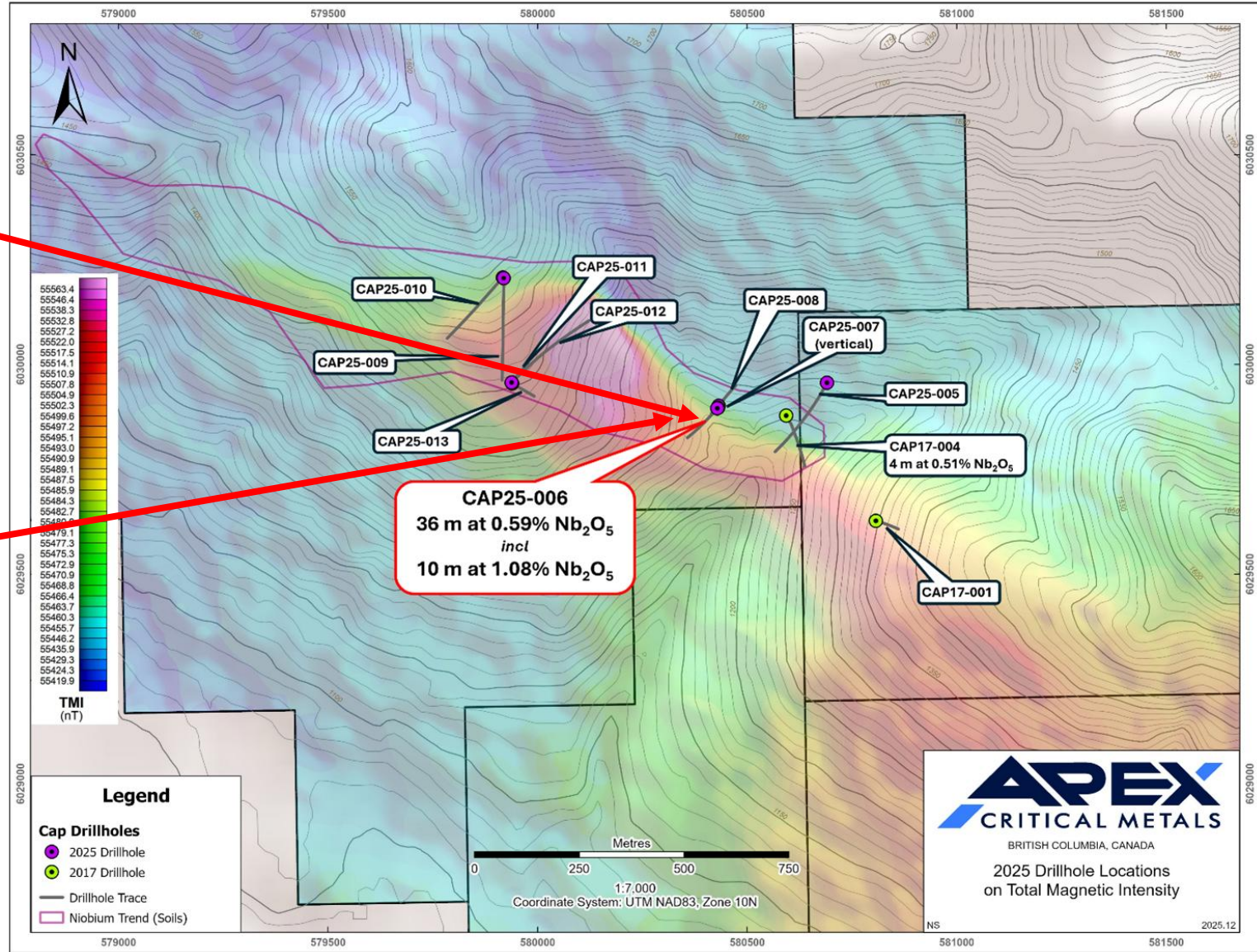
2025 Exploration Program

- 1.8km Niobium trend identified
- 9 holes, 2,323 m drilled in 2025
- Niobium Discovery: CAP25-006 – 36 m at 0.59% Nb₂O₅**, including **10 m of 1.08% Nb₂O₅**, within broader mineralized envelope of 124.5 m of 0.27% Nb₂O₅.
- CAP25-006** remains open in multiple directions and a priority area for follow-up drilling in 2026.
- New geophysical survey results show **massive buried magnetic anomaly yet to be tested at depth.**



Exploration

2025 Emerging Discovery



Map showing approximate location of 2025 drillholes completed to date relative to 2024 surface samples and historical drillholes.

* The technical content has been reviewed and approved by Nathan Schmidt, P. Geo., a Qualified Person under NI 43-101 on standards of disclosure for mineral projects

Milestones

12-month Plan:

Q3 2025

- Niobium Discovery at Cap Project
- Acquired Rift REE Project
- Financing (\$10M)

Q4 2025

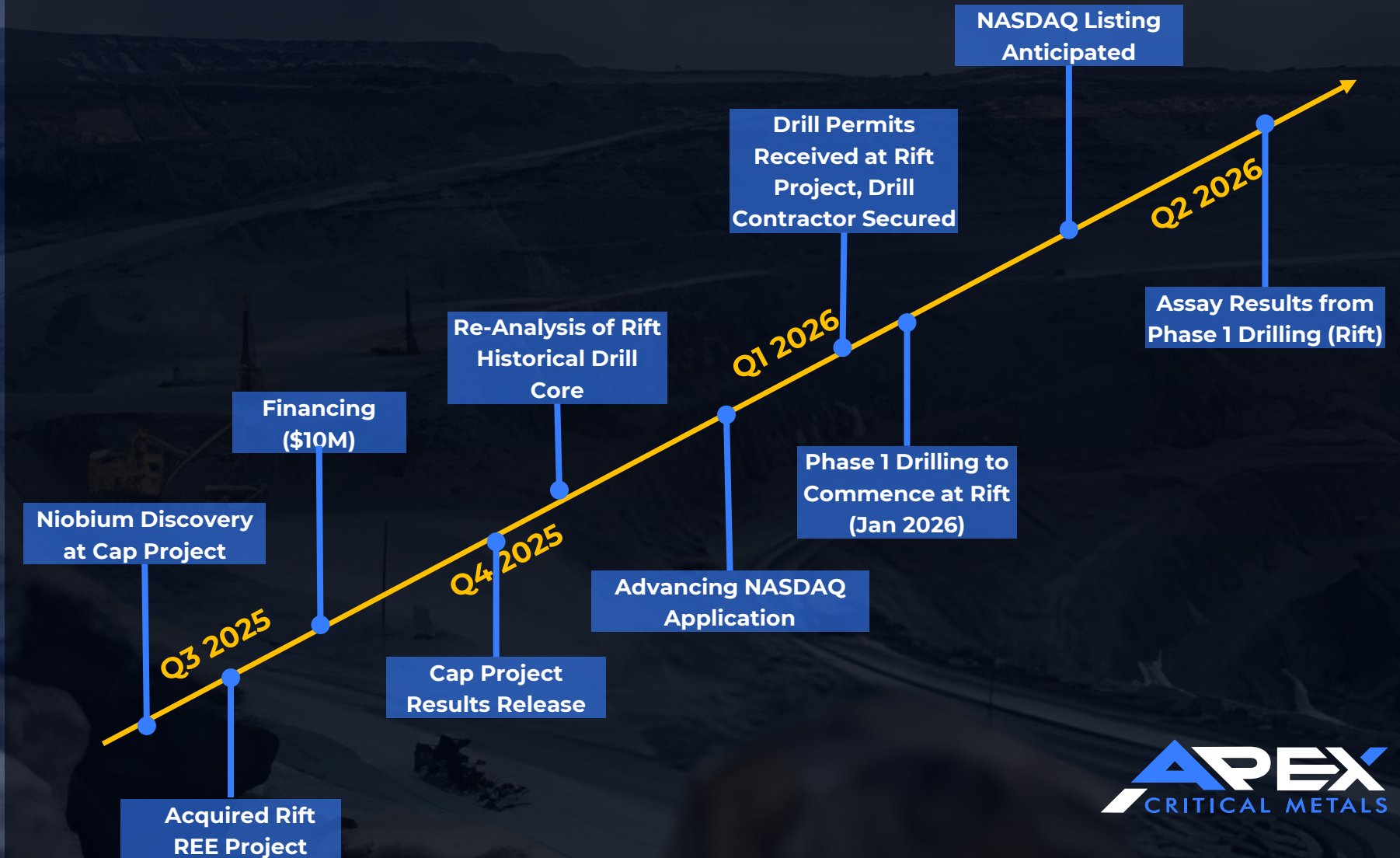
- Cap Project Results Released
- Re-Analysis of Rift Historical Core
- Advancing NASDAQ Application
- Drill Permits Received at Rift Project. Drill Contractor Secured

Q1 2026

- Phase 1 drilling to commence at Rift (Jan 2026)
- NASDAQ Listing Anticipated

Q2 2026

- Assay Results from Phase 1 Drilling (Rift)



Key Takeaways



Rift Project

Globally significant rare element (REE's, Nb) carbonatite complex with excellent historical results and plan to rapidly advance exploration & drilling to define a significant source of domestic REE's



CAP Project

Emerging Niobium Discovery in BC with 2025 drilling returning 36 m at 0.59% Nb₂O₅, including a higher-grade zone of 10 m averaging 1.08% Nb₂O₅



Critical Mineral & Supply Risk

Global Production of REE's is dominated by China, ~90%, and Niobium is dominated by Brazil, 91%.



Leadership

Team with Proven Track Record in Critical Minerals, M&A and Capital Markets



A white helicopter is parked on a grassy field in a mountainous, forested area. A person is standing near the helicopter. The background shows a dense forest of evergreen trees under a cloudy sky. The word "APPENDIX" is overlaid in large, bold, dark blue letters across the center of the image.

APPENDIX

Carbonatites

What are they?

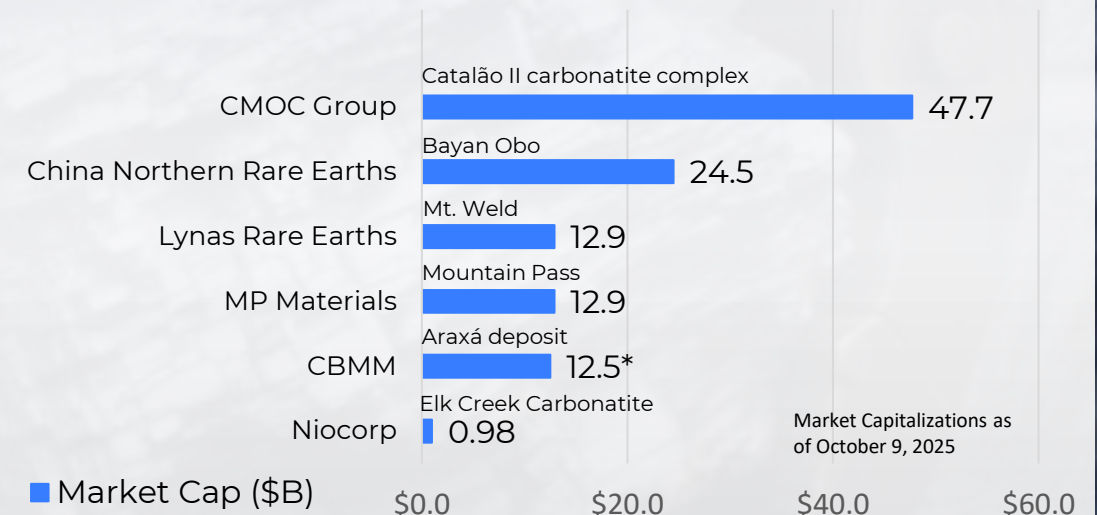
- Type of rock enriched in elements like REE's, Niobium, Tantalum, Phosphorus, Fluorine and occasionally scandium, titanium, copper, nickel, gold, iron, and others.
- Carbonatites are among the rarest rock types known, with only 600-700 complexes identified globally. Notable examples include Araxa, Bayan Obo, Cargill, Mt. Weld, Mountain Pass, Palabora.

Economic Importance

- Essential elements such as Niobium and REE's, crucial for high tech industries, are almost exclusively derived from carbonatites.
- ~10% of all known carbonatites are either in production or had past production. More than 10% have a resource estimate.*

Carbonatite Deposits

Carbonatite Deposits Support Major Market Caps



* Valuation based on 2011 transaction with Baosteel group: <https://www.reuters.com/article/markets/asia/china-baosteel-group-buys-195-bln-stake-in-brazil-cbmm-idUSTRE7811UB>

Carbonatites have a much higher probability of being economically viable mines due to their enrichment in critical minerals and established production record.*

*Chandler, M., Jones, R., & Smith, T. (2025). Exploration potential of carbonatite-hosted mineral systems. *Ore Geology Reviews*, 169, 105673. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oregeorev.2025.105673>

*Simandl, G. J. (2015). Carbonatites and related exploration targets (BCGS Paper 2015-3). British Columbia Geological Survey. https://cmscontent.nrs.gov.bc.ca/geoscience/publicationcatalogue/Paper/BCGS_P2015-03-05_Simandl.pdf

CAP Project Mineralogy

Pyrochlore

- Niobium deposits need coarse grained pyrochlore for better recoveries
- Pyrochlore through an aluminothermic reaction is converted to ferro-niobium (FeNb), which is >90% of the niobium market

Niobium Demand

FERRO-NIOBIUM

>90%

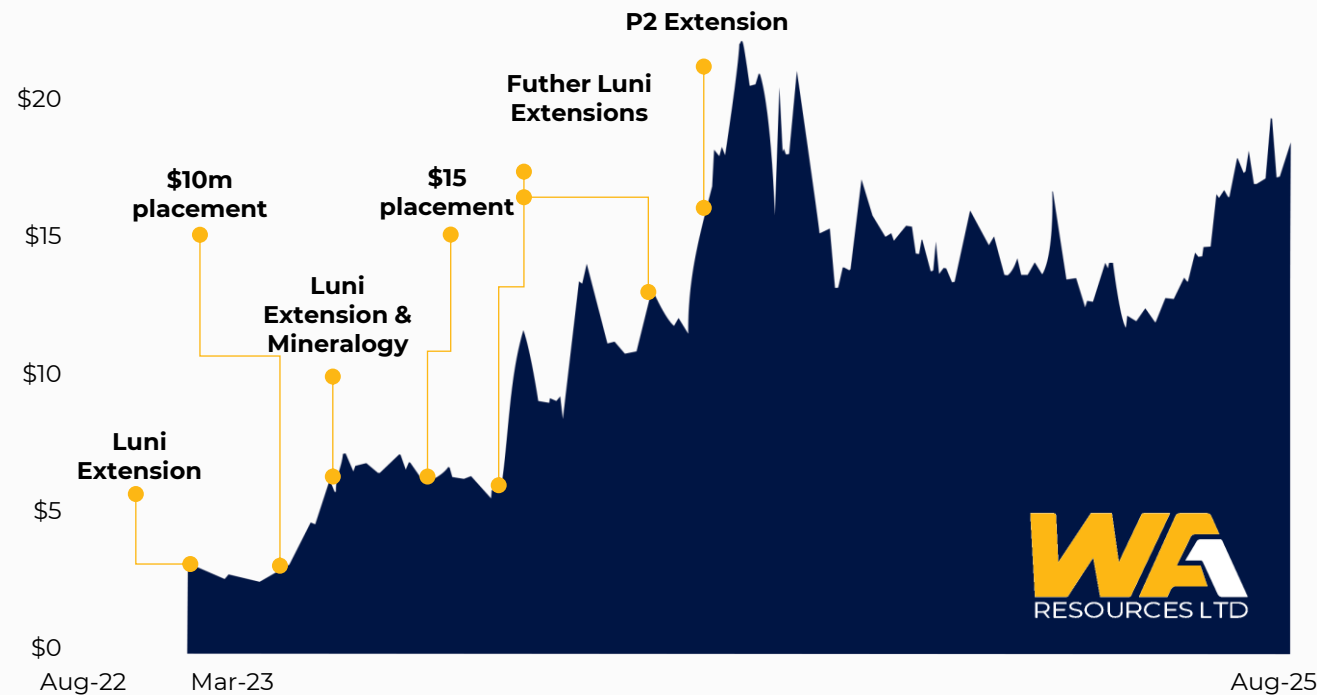
NIOBIUM OXIDE

<10%



Niobium Growth Story Case Study

WA1 Resources (ASX:WA1)



- First drill hole discovers the P2 carbonatite in October 2022.
- Luni carbonatite discovered shortly after.
- \$10M financing to further explore the Luni discovery.
- Luni target extended in Q2 2023.
- \$10M and \$15M financings progressed the extension of the Luni & P2 carbonatites targets.
- Initial Mineral Resource estimate of 200 Mt @ 1.0% Nb₂O₅

ASX: WA1 HISTORICAL SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE AND SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES¹

¹Management cautions that comparisons to other companies or projects (i.e., WA1 Resources) are provided for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the mineralization or economic potential of the Company's projects.

Niobium Demand

Drivers of Demand

ENERGY



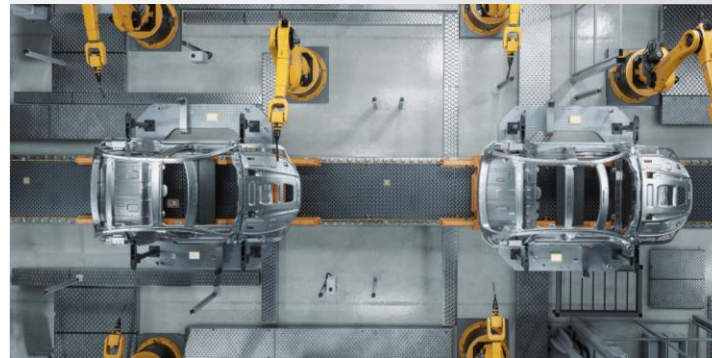
EV Batteries (fast charging, longer charges). Wind Turbines (longer life), Solar Panels (ultra-compact, highly-efficient)

10%
OF DEMAND



EXPECTED GROWTH

MOBILITY



High-strength steel, lighter cars, press-hardened steels are stronger.

10%
OF DEMAND



EXPECTED GROWTH

CONSTRUCTION



Small addition of niobium reduces amount of total structural steel used (20%) in projects – thus, reduced cost

80%
OF DEMAND



EXPECTED GROWTH

Rare Earth Elements Are Critical To...

- NdFeB Magnets
- Electric Vehicles
- Battery Alloys
- Defense Technology
- Fusion Power
- Industry, Metallurgy and Alloys



E-Mobility



Defense Tech



Renewable Energy



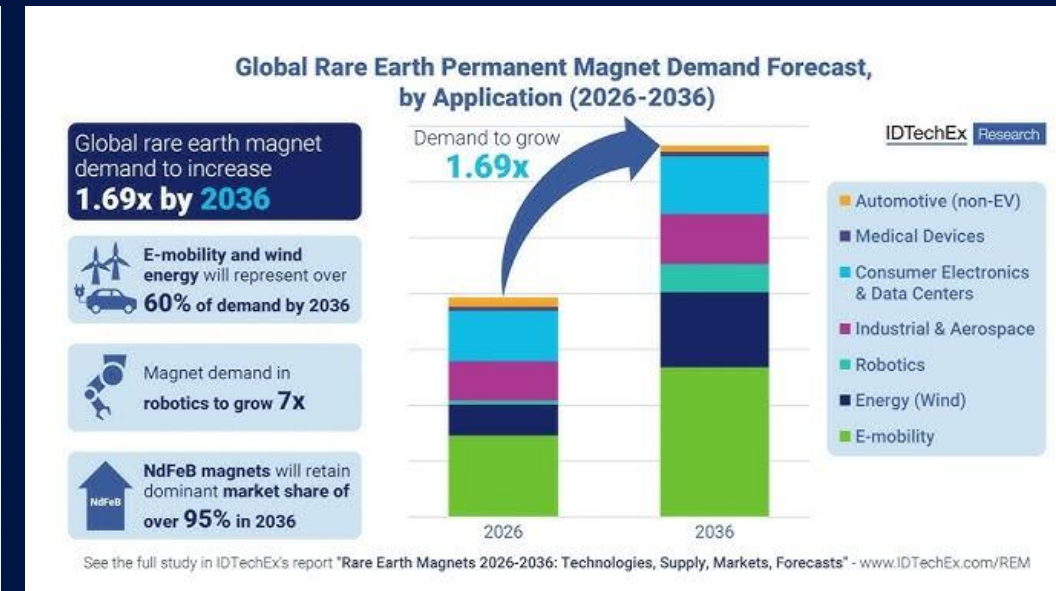
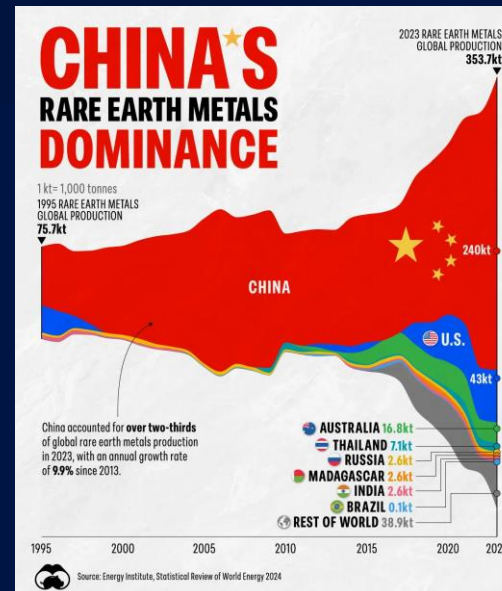
Consumer Tech



Humanoid Robotics

REE Market

- ~90% of refined supply from China
- REE Magnet Demand expected to rise ~3.4x by 2040.
- Domestic supply is essential



Contact Us



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Vancouver BC, Canada



info@apexcriticalmetals.com

**Advancing
high-demand,
critical mineral
projects in
North America.**