

## Nevada Lithium for Nevada's next generation lithium-sulphur Batteries

**Tuesday, 29 March 2022** – ioneer Ltd (“ioneer” or the “Company”) (ASX: INR), an emerging lithium–boron supplier, today announced the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ioneer USA Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of ioneer, and NexTech Batteries (NexTech), the global leader in proprietary lithium-sulphur battery technology based in Nevada.

Under the terms of the MOU, the two companies have expressed mutual interest in the acquisition of lithium carbonate and/or lithium hydroxide supply from ioneer’s Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron Project for NexTech’s production facility in Carson City, which will be used to manufacture next generation solid-state batteries poised to revolutionise the automotive industry, renewable energy and grid storage applications, portable electronics, drones/eVTOL aircraft and more. ioneer aims to produce upwards of 22,000 tonnes of lithium materials per year in nearby Esmeralda County. The two parties intend to discuss the potential for long-term supply to NexTech once production has commenced.

ioneer Managing Director, Bernard Rowe, said:

*“The US and Nevada have prioritized the need for a domestic battery supply chain, and with little current supply, development of Rhyolite Ridge will be crucial to meeting this important goal. As ioneer focuses on producing the materials needed for sustainable and clean technologies, it’s important for companies like NexTech to develop and produce those technologies domestically, and sustainably. This collaboration is supportive of Nevada’s clean energy strategy and is yet another example of how the state of Nevada can lead the way to a more sustainable future, while creating jobs across the supply chain from mining to high-tech manufacturing, across rural and urban communities alike.”*

Bill Burger, NexTech Batteries CEO, said:

*“NexTech is pleased to work with a supplier that is aligned with our mission of making batteries more affordable, more sustainable and safer through patented lithium-sulphur science that’s poised to disrupt multiple industries. The fact that the Rhyolite Ridge Project is located a short distance from our facility will also allow us to lower our supply chain carbon footprint, reduce dependence on foreign suppliers, and create jobs right here in Nevada. We’re proud to have ioneer with us on our journey as we look to usher in a new era in energy.”*

The introduction between the two companies was facilitated by Northern Nevada Development Authority (NNDA), the state-designated Regional Development authority for the Sierra Region of Nevada which includes Carson City.

This ASX release has been authorised by ioneer Managing Director, Bernard Rowe.

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## Contacts:

**Bernard Rowe**

**ioneer Ltd**

Managing Director

T: +61 419 447 280

[browe@ioneer.com](mailto:browe@ioneer.com)

**Alex Cowie**

**NWR Communications**

Investor & Media Relations  
(Australia)

T: +61 412 952 610

[alexco@nwrcommunications.com.au](mailto:alexco@nwrcommunications.com.au)

**Matt Dempsey**

**FTI Consulting**

Investor & Media Relations  
(USA)

T: +1 202 316 9609

[matt.dempsey@fticonsulting.com](mailto:matt.dempsey@fticonsulting.com)

## ABOUT IONEER

ioneer Ltd is the 100% owner of the Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron Project located in Nevada, USA, the only known lithium-boron deposit in North America and one of only two known such deposits in the world. The Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS)<sup>1</sup> completed in 2020 confirmed Rhyolite Ridge as a world-class lithium and boron project that is expected to become a globally significant, long-life, low-cost source of lithium and boron vital to a sustainable future. In September 2021<sup>2</sup>, ioneer entered a 50/50 joint venture agreement with Sibanye Stillwater Ltd to advance the Rhyolite Ridge project. ioneer will be the operator of the Project, which is expected to come onstream in 2024. More information on Ioneer's Rhyolite Ridge Lithium Boron Project can be found at [therhyoliteridgeproject.com](http://therhyoliteridgeproject.com) and [ioneer.com](http://ioneer.com).

## ABOUT NEXTECH BATTERIES

NexTech batteries is a technology company based in Carson City, Nevada that is pursuing the development of next-generation lithium batteries with unparalleled safety, energy density, low cost, ethical supply chain, and environmental stewardship for global vehicle electrification, consumer electronics, renewable energy storage, and more. NexTech batteries was founded in early 2016 and was the result of the exclusive license to the rights and patents to the lithium sulphur battery technology developed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. More information about NexTech Batteries can be found at [nexttechbatteries.com](http://nexttechbatteries.com).

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<sup>1</sup> Refer ASX release titled 'ioneer Delivers Definitive Feasibility Study that Confirms Rhyolite Ridge as a World-Class Lithium and Boron Project' announced 30 April 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Refer ASX release titles 'Sibanye-Stillwater to invest US\$490M in Rhyolite Ridge' announced on 16 September 2021