

DESK NOTE - KIDMAN RESOURCES STANDS OUT AMONGST LITHIUM PLAYS

Wentworth Multi Asset Class Portfolios*

Conservative - 10.3% pa

Balanced - <u>13.4% pa</u>

Growth - <u>15.8% pa</u>

High Growth - 17.7% pa

Performance Table

To request further information or a login to view a portfolio and reporting platform, click here

* inception 01 Aug 2012 | to December 31 2016

Lithium demand, and the forecast increase coming our way, has us looking for value across battery related companies. Generally it is hard to find. The boom in demand has been matched by a boom in exploration names listing on the ASX. A lot will fizz out, and there will only be a limited number of long term winners.

Relative value, and value compared to peers, has compelled us to look closer at Kidman Resources (KDR.ASX). It is standing out, trading at a significant discount to peers, in part because a neighboring listed explorer (Marindi Metals MZN.ASX) has claimed that KDR agreed to sell its lithium assets in early 2016 for A\$275,000 in cash and shares. The resulting court case has contributed to the uncertainty being priced in presently.

If the court case proves fruitless, than KDR may resume trading where it left off, when the dispute was announced.

(ASX Presentation - Feb 2017 referred to in this note)

Portfolio Fact Sheet



- KDR have proved up a JORC resource of 128 Million Tonnes at 1.44% Li2O For 4.54 Mill
 Tonnes Carbonate Equivalent (LCE). In terms of contained Lithium Oxide, it sits just below the
 Pilbara Minerals Pilgangoora asset.
- The Mt Holland land package hosts other pegmatites that could see a further 75 100 Mill Tonnes proven up with further work.
- The resource is on a granted mining lease with existing infrastructure including power / haul roads / airstrip / water.
- There is an option in place to process through Poseidon Nickel's Lake Johnston plant to be in early production.

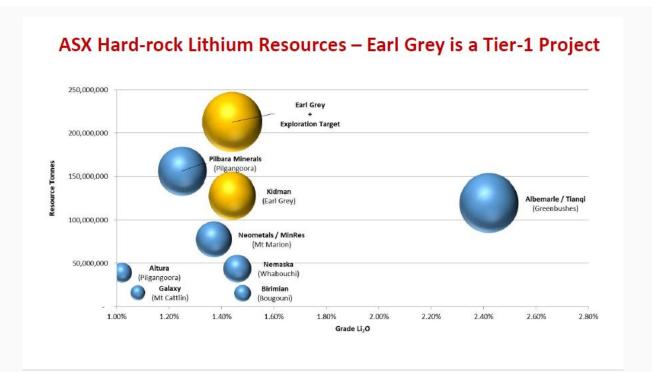
Lithium Market - not everyone will be equal

You can find slides on the large increase in future global demand for Lithium, in the decks of the Lithium companies. And most are aware of future needs of companies like Tesla, which are driving these numbers.

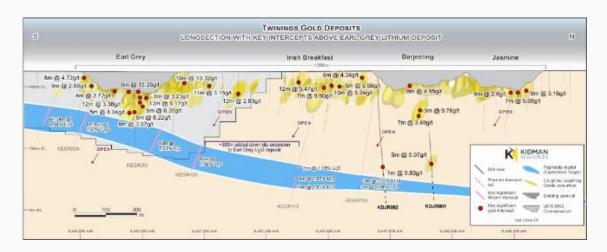
What should also be understood, is that the additional demand will come from a few very large players. And these large players will contract into the largest secure producers. The pricing mechanisms/ agreements will have levels of confidentiality. So, unlike deep bulk markets with spot pricing, using iron ore for example, with multiple suppliers and consumers, the bulk of this additional Lithium demand, will seek out the largest potential producers, with consistent grade/quality. This market is where Kidman will sit.

U How does it stack up - contained Lithium Oxide vs Market Cap

Company	Grade Li2o	Resource Tonnes	Contained Lithium Oxide	Market Cap \$ (approx 28/2/17)
Kidman Resources / Earl Grey	1.44%	128,000,000	1,843,200	\$ 153,000,000
Altura Mining (AJM.ASX) Pilgangoora	1.02%	39,200,000	312,000	\$ 262,000,000
Pilbara Minerals (PLS.ASX) / Pilgangoora	1.25%	156,300,000	1,952,000	\$ 582,000,000
Birimian (BGS.ASX) / Bougouni	1.48%	15,500,000	229,400	\$ 57,500,000
Galaxy Metals (GXY)/ Mt Cattlin	1.08%	16,000,000	172,800	\$ 985,000,000
Neometals (NMT.ASX) / Mineral Resources - Mt Marion	1.37%	77,800,000	1,065,860	\$ 205,000,000
Albemarle (ALB.NYS)/Tianqi Greenbushes	2.42%	119,400,000	2,889,480	\$ 10,300,000,000
Nemaska Lithium (NMX.TSX) Whabouchi	1.46%	43,808,000	639,597	\$ 405,000,000



U The deposit is flat lying and averages 70 metres thick. It also lies beneath gold bearing overburden, that would be processed to get to the Lithium



U Significant Gold added to the project

- KDR offers significant leverage to gold, with the Mt Holland package hosting the historic Bounty Mine (1.5m oz historic production) and the adjacent Blue Vein deposit along with multiple smaller deposits such as Twinings and Van Uden, which total a combined measured, indicated and inferred resource of 928,000 oz.
- KDR also has a suite of copper/ nickel / zinc projects in NSW and the NT.

U Share Register and Cash position

- KDR has a strong register, and has had little trouble raising capital to progress both the Lithium and the Gold project, to date.
- Kidman raised capital in May and August totalling \$26 mill to progress the Mt Holland Project and specifically the Lithium.
- The Dec 2016 Quarterly has them holding \$8.8m in cash (Appendix 5B)

U Deal announced with Western Areas (WSA)

Kidman announced it was acquiring the ground immediately to the East of the Earl Grey Project from Western Areas as the lithium mineralisation extends into this area and the ground provides Kidman a better footprint for locating future plant.

Kidman and Western Areas are also in discussions regarding a JV for Lithium rights on Western Areas remaining Forrestania tenements.

(announcement **HERE**)

U Dispute with Marindi Minerals (MZN.ASX)

Unfortunately, in November 2016 Kidman was notified that Marindi Metals believed they had an agreement (dating back to April 2016), to acquire the Lithium rights to the Mt Holland tenement package for \$275,000 in cash and shares.

The dispute relates to emails, which MZN considers to be a binding contractual agreement.

From MZN - "On Friday, 11 November 2016 Marindi notified Kidman that Marindi considers that it has a binding contractual agreement with Kidman (which is to be formalised into a Heads of Agreement) for the sale of rights to pegmatite (Lithium Rights) to Marindi from the Kidman tenements located in the emerging Forrestannia lithium belt. Marindi has requested that Kidman progress now to formalise the agreement (formed by exchanges of emails between the respective companies in April 2016) into a Heads of Agreement and then proceed to completion of the purchase by Marindi of the Lithium rights."

KDR strongly refute that there was any binding agreement. Make of it what you will, however I have not experienced many deals being enforceable, when discussed on email only. However, I am also not a lawyer.

- MZN announcement <u>HERE</u>
- KDR response <u>HERE</u>

"The Company confirms that it does not have, nor has it ever had, a binding agreement with Marindi to sell the lithium rights at Mt Holland, and will continue to work with its legal counsel on this matter."

'Kidman notes that prior to the last few days, Marindi had not previously alleged any agreement, and in light of developments since April 2016, the Company views Marindi's actions as being opportunistic."

While we await the outcome of the legal proceedings, I find it highly unusual that Marindi Metals made no mention of this "agreement" for 7 months until November 14 2016, as a Public Company. There is no mention in any of Marindi's quarterly reports or even a note to their September 2016 Annual Report of any agreement with Kidman, even to acknowledge one in dispute. One can speculate, but it would appear Marindi in hindsight, are having a crack at extracting a settlement from Kidman, after seeing the value of Kidman increase materially through the course of 2016. If Marindi were serious, you think they would have made this public immediately in April/May/June 2016. Further, it is hard to believe that Kidman would have spent so much cash drilling the lithium through 2016, on an asset they had supposedly entered into a process for disposal.

Any consideration of KDR, needs to take into account these proceedings. **The court hearing is set down for 29 May.**

U Summary

Looking beyond the short term market pre-occupation with the legal proceedings, there is no doubt the Earl Grey deposit is of size and grade to make it one of the worlds better hard rock Lithium deposits, and a project of significant national importance. Optionality exists for the company to fund development of a lithium conversion plant, either via off-take funding or potential joint ventures. The project location appears superior to local peers, and mine life would stretch out to 40+ years.

Of course, there are many risk factors to consider with resource companies, both small and large alike, and this trading note focuses on one that we feel is occupying the markets attention presently.



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