#### TRIPLE GOLD SUMMER CONFERENCE XVI

Tuesday July 16, 2013 New York City

# **Unlocking a National Treasure**

### Mr. Anthony Marchese

Chairman, Board of Directors



OTCQX: TRER

# Legal Disclaimers

#### **Cautionary Note to Investors**

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") limits disclosure for U.S. reporting purposes to mineral deposits that a company can economically and legally extract or produce. This presentation uses certain terms that comply with reporting standards in Canada and certain estimates are made in accordance with Canadian National Instrument NI 43-101 ("NI 43-101") and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum ("CIM") - CIM Definition Standards on Mineral Resource's and Mineral Reserves, adopted by the CIM Council, as amended (the "CIM Standards"). NI 43-101 is a rule developed by the Canadian Securities Administrators that establishes standards for all public disclosures an issuer makes of scientific and technical information concerning mineral projects. This presentation uses the terms "resource," "measured and indicated mineral resource," and "inferred mineral resource." We advise U.S. investors that while these terms are defined in accordance with NI 43-101 such terms are not recognized under the SEC's Industry Guide 7 and are normally not permitted to be used in reports and registration statements filed with the SEC. Mineral resources in these categories have a great amount of uncertainty as to their economic and legal feasibility. "Inferred resources" have a great amount of uncertainty as to their existence and, under Canadian regulations, cannot form the basis of a pre-feasibility or feasibility study, except in limited circumstances. The SEC normally only permits issuers to report mineralization that does not constitute SEC Industry Guide 7 compliant "reserves" as in-place tonnage and grade without reference to unit measures. Under SEC Industry Guide 7 standards, a "final" or "bankable" feasibility study is required to report reserves, the three-year historical average price is used in any reserve or cash flow analysis to designate reserves and all necessary permits and government approvals must be filed with the appropriate governmental authority. Our Round Top project currently does not contain any known proven or probable ore reserves under SEC Guide 7 reporting standards. The results of the PEA disclosed in this presentation are preliminary in nature and include inferred mineral resources that are considered speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves and there is no certainty that the results of the PEA will be realized. U.S. investors are urged to consider closely the disclosure in our latest reports and registration statements filed with the SEC. You can review and obtain copies of these filings at http://www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml. U.S. Investors are cautioned not to assume that any defined resource will ever be converted into SEC Guide 7 compliant reserves.

This press release contains statements regarding a historical beryllium resource, potential mineralization of uranium, niobium and thorium and the potential grade of mineralization at Little Blanca, Sierra Blanca and Little Round Top that have not been reviewed by an independent third-party consultant. Such statements are not compliant with NI 43-101 and do not represent SEC Industry Guide 7 compliant reserve estimates or economic recoveries. The estimates of management as presented in this presentation is preliminary in nature and may not occur as anticipated or estimated, if at all. While management believes these statements have a reasonable technical basis, they are based on estimates of management which may not occur as anticipated. The estimated beryllium resource is based on a historical internal feasibility study by Cypress Sierra Blanca, Inc. and does not represent a Guide 7 compliant reserve. Actual beryllium mineralization may not be economically recoverable. Estimates of uranium occurring in this presentation are based on an analysis of limited, historical drill holes at the Round Top project and may not be indicative of mineralization throughout the project area. Estimates of thorium and niobium are based on management's assessment of limited, historical drill hole data and may not be indicative of mineralization throughout the project area. Such mineralization estimates may not occur in the amounts estimated and does not represent a Guide 7 compliant reserve. Estimated grade of mineralization at Little Blanca, Sierra Blanca and Little Round Top are based on limited drill hole data and may not be indicative of mineralization and grade across such properties. Investors are cautioned not to assume that these mineralization estimates will ever be realized as anticipated or sufficiently documented in a definitive feasibility study. U.S. Investors are cautioned not to assume that any mineralization estimate will ever be converted into SEC Guide 7 compliant reserves.

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#### Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The estimated resources at the Round Top project, potential recoverability of resources, the possible 20,000 mtpd mine, the potential beryllium, uranium, and thorium mineralization at the property, possible whole rock recoveries, anticipated climate, labor and regulation at the Round Top project, anticipated processing choices, potential heap leach recovery, potential market and values for REEs, including ytterbium, erbium, holmium, thulium, lutetium and thorium, process economic objectives, including costs for: mining, removal of waste elements, concentration of REEs, separation of REEs, estimates of values per ton and potential selling prices, management objectives and the likely business friendly environment in Texas are forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, among others, uncertainty of mineralized material and mineral resource estimates, risks relating to completing metallurgical testing at the Round Top project, risks related to project development determinations, risks related to fluctuations in the price of rare earth minerals, the inherently hazardous nature of mining-related activities, potential effects on the Company's operations of environmental regulations, risks due to legal proceedings, risks related to uncertainty of being able to raise capital on favorable terms or at all, as well as those factors discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's latest annual report on Form 10-K as filed on November 15, 2012 and other documents filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. Except as required by law, the Company assumes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.



# Select Financial Highlights

Fiscal Year End August 31st

Symbol OTCQX: TRER

Stock Price (7-11-13) \$ 0.27

3-month Trading Range \$ 0.14 - \$ 0.80

Shares Outstanding (4-20-13) 37 million

Market Cap \$ 10.0 million

Average Daily Volume 65,000

Cash (5-31-13) \$ 3.2 million

Insider Ownership 36%

Institutional Ownership 17%

Float 47%



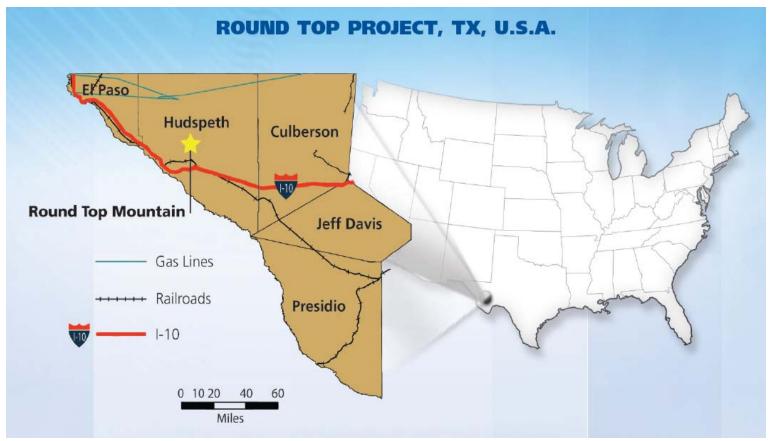


# **A National Treasure**

in plain view in America's own back yard, out in west Texas









# Our heavy rare earth deposit: Round Top Mountain

### 1,250 feet high by 1 mile in diameter





### What makes Round Top a National Treasure?

The 6 E's:

extent, exposure, enrichment, extractable, eveness, elements

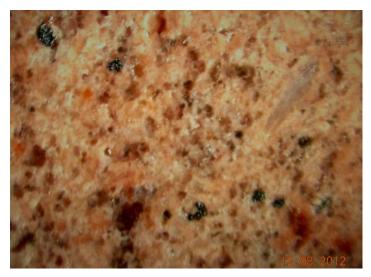
- Extreme *extent* of the deposit
- Excellent exposure and location
- Extraordinary enrichment in high-value heavy rare earths
- Unique extractable mineralogy
- Remarkable eveness of mineralization grade
- Additional high-value scarce elements



# Extreme *extent* of deposit

#### 2012 - TRER 43-101 Preliminary Economic Assessment\*





Measured Mineral Resource Indicated Mineral Resource Inferred Mineral Resource 81,552,000 kg REOs 147,948,000 kg REOs 430,598,000 kg REOs



# Do the simple math....

Measured + Indicated + Inferred total 660,098,000 kg REOs\*

With an estimated 72% of it heavies (scarce, high value REEs)

Possible 475,000,000 kg heavies

In tons, possible 475,000 tons heavies



#### Is a possible 475,000 tons of heavies a lot?

The world's HREE supplier, China, produces perhaps 25,000 tons of heavies a year...

... but exports only a small portion of that.

Clearly Round Top is a potential world-class asset!



# Excellent exposure and location

- Deposit is mostly above ground, allowing simple "open pit" mining
- No "cover" or overburden needs to be removed
- Close (3 miles) to US Interstate Highway 10
- Close by Southern Pacific, Missouri Pacific Railroads
- Texas General Land Office property surrounds site – a supportive neighbor/landlord
- Low population density
- Electricity nearby





# Extraordinary *enrichment* in scarce, high-value heavy rare earths

- Over 70% of REEs in situ are heavies (HREEs)\*
- Similar grade (concentration) to south China HREE deposits that account for virtually all current HREE production
- HREE enrichment greater than almost all other prospects; only a handful above 25% in situ
- Distribution of HREEs and all REEs in the rhyolite estimated to be very homogeneous – no surprises



# Why are heavy rare earths so prized?

#### The Heavies:

- Gadolinium
- Terbium
- Dysprosium
- Holmium
- Erbium
- Thulium
- Ytterbium
- Lutetium
- Yttrium\*

Heavy rare earth elements are far scarcer in nature than their light cousins

Scarcity and demand combine to create high market prices for specific heavies, e.g., terbium & dysprosium

Heavies, as do lights, have inherent properties indispensible in many current technologies

These are the molecular building blocks for exciting emerging technologies

The future also is in heavies – short supply has meant less attention paid to their potential applications

TRER's Round Top deposit could meet anticipated US demand for heavies for decades to come

<sup>\*</sup> a related element with similar properties, usually included in this group. Europium sometimes also classified with heavies



### Volatile REE Prices, but Heavies often worth 10x to 100x Lights

#### What are their prices?

The first point to note about Rare Earths prices is that there is significant variance in the relative market value for selected Rare Earths oxides. Secondly, the price of Rare Earths depends on the purity level, which is largely set by the specifications for each application.

The table below shows the average prices for a 'standard 99% purity of individual elements.

Prices are quoted in US\$/kg on an FOB China and domestic China (the price inside China) basis. The domestic price is related to the FOB price and can be calculated by taking FOB price less VAT, less export taxes (which range for 15% to 25%), the export quota cost; there may be some timing differences between the movements of internal and external China prices.

Note that higher purity oxides and other value added properties will attract higher prices than those shown.

					R	tare Earths I	Prices (US\$)	kg)					
	Rare Earths Oxide	FOB China Average Price					China Domestic Average Price						
		2009	2010	2011	2012	Q4/12	Q1/13	2009	2010	2011	2012	Q4/12	Q1/13
	Lanthanum Oxide	4.88	22.40	104.10	25.20	13.92	11.00	3.06	4.23	16.26	11.46	8.18	7.15
	Cerium Oxide	3.88	21.60	102.00	24.70	15.31	11.85	2.13	3.55	19.58	11.76	8.18	7.20
	Neodymium Oxide	19.12	49.50	234.40	123.20	87.46	79.15	11.66	29.28	132.06	74.72	60.60	52.64
	Praseodymium Oxide	18.03	48.00	197.30	121.00	88.46	85.00	11.38	27.60	104.60	70.51	60.79	58.14
	Samarium Oxide	3.40	14.40	103.40	64.30	34.85	25.00	2.05	2.47	11.85	10.44	8.19	7.71
Heavy	Dysprosium Oxide	115.67	231.60	1449.80	1035.60	716.15	630.00	80.24	166.48	994.33	620.73	452.71	345.35
Middle	Europium Oxide	492.92	559.80	2842.90	2484.80	1853.08	1600.00	351.75	410.42	2025.00	1178.34	937.74	838.37
Heavy	Terbium Oxide	361.67	557.80	2334.20	2030.80	1446.15	1300.00	253.60	388.80	1596.82	949.04	709.92	617.81

Middle Heavy

Source : Metal Pages



# Heavy & Critical Rare Earth "Menu"

- Round Top dishing out potentially 20,000 tons/day -

	<u>ppm</u>	kg / 20,000 metric tons				
	(parts per million)	in rhyolite	at 67% recovery*			
Gadolinium	10.6	212	141 kg per day			
Terbium (critical)*	3.6	72	<b>48</b> kg per day			
Dysprosium (critical)	32.1	642	428 kg per day			
Holmium	8.1	162	108 kg per day			
Erbium	32.8	656	438 kg per day			
Thulium	7.1	142	95 kg per day			
Ytterbium	56.6	1132	<b>755</b> kg per day			
Lutetium	8.9	178	119 kg per day			
Yttrium (critical)	224.4	4480	<b>2988</b> kg per day			
Europium (critical middl	e) 0.2	4	3 kg per day			
Neodymium (critical lig	jht) 28.9	58	39 kg per day			

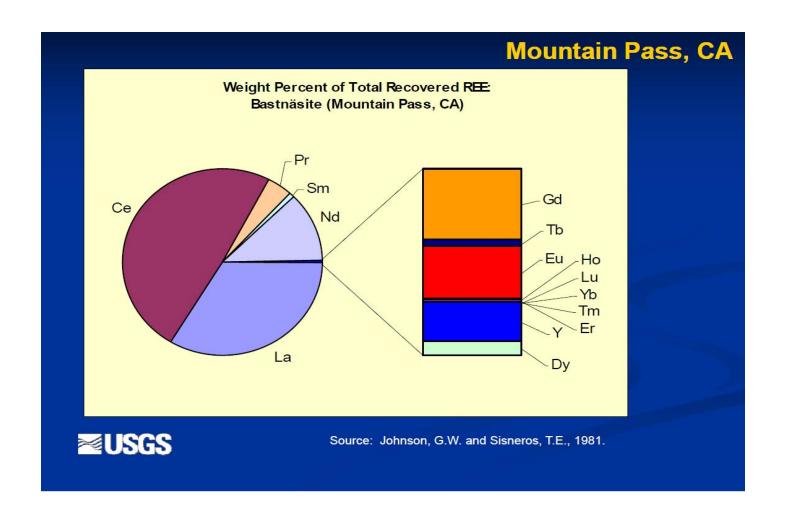
Unlisted light REEs may yield additional revenue Menu for potential 20,000 tons per day of rock processed 1 kg = 2.2 lbs

1 metric ton = 1,000 kg = 2,200 lbsSee Cautionary Note to Investors

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated amounts assuming 67% recovery rock to shipped product ppm data: TRER 2012 PEA \*\*Critical per US Dept Energy 2011 Critical Materials Report



# America's only REE mine Molycorp's Mountain Pass Deposit but almost no heavy rare earths





### Molycorp, Inc – Stock Price

Fell sharply as REE prices dropped – Light REEs most affected

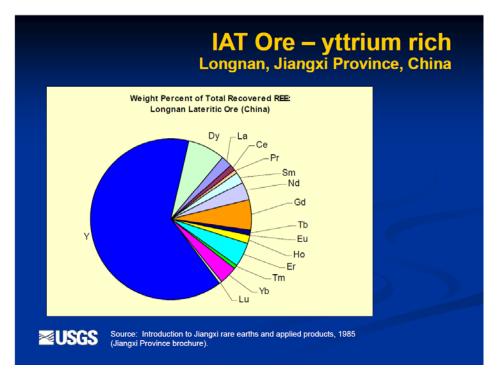
Basic Chart				Get Basic Chart(s)	for:
Molycorp, Inc Common Stock	\$0.0 (NYSE)				
Range: 1d 5d 1m 3m 6m 1	1y 2y 5y Type: E	Bar   Line   Candle	Scale: Linear   Log	Size: M   L	
Compare: MCP vs	□ S&P 5	500 🗖 Nasdaq 🗖 Dow	Compare		
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© Yahoo! Sep 11	Jan 12	May 12	Sep 12	Jan 13	10 May 13



#### **South China Heavy Rare Earth Deposits**

90% Heavies - 0.20 – 0.05 % Total Rare Earths in Ore – Rare Earths "Stuck" on Clay

#### World's only significant source of heavy rare earths



# vs. Round Top Mountain

72% Heavies - 0.05 % Total Rare Earths in Ore - Rare Earths in Yttrofluorite in Rhyolite



## Unique *extractable* mineralogy

- Yttrofluorite The mineral fluorite, with yttrium and heavy rare earths substituting for some calcium atoms
- (Ca<sub>1-x</sub>Y,HREE<sub>x</sub>)F<sub>2+x</sub>
   an uncommon mineral
- Potential low-cost extraction
   Dilute sulfuric acid
   dissolves yttrofluorite
   at room temperature
- Bulk rock is 90-95% quartz & feldspars that don't dissolve



 Unique – We found no other deposit in which yttrofluorite is the major rare earth ore mineral



# **Our Key Economic Driver**

# that the marketplace doesn't yet grasp

Here it is in capital letters:

#### **YTTROFLUORITE**

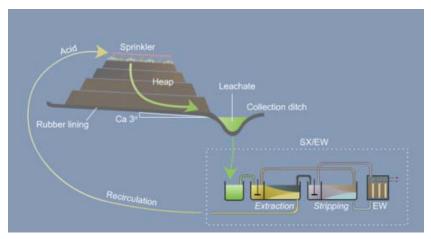
- Round Top is heavy rare earths in yttrofluorite
- Dilute sulfuric acid dissolves yttrofluorite at room temperature
- Sulfuric acid is an inexpensive (\$ 100-200 a ton) & universally available industrial commodity; anticipate low consumption



Bulk rock 90-95% insoluble quartz & feldspar



# Extraction Options Heap Leach and Froth Flotation

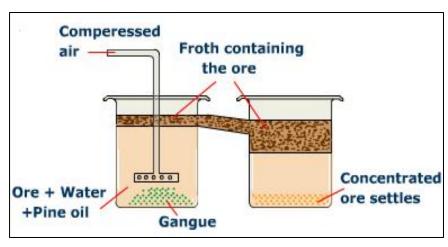




Crush rock, put in pile
Irrigate with sulfuric acid
(days to weeks)
Collect acid with dissolved minerals

Next step:

Separate REEs from valueless dissolved elements in the solution



Generic Froth Flotation

Crush & grind rock very fine
Put in vat with water & special chemicals
Generate air bubbles at bottom
Yttrofluorite clings to bubbles, rises
Collect surface mineral scum
Dissolve concentrate in sulfuric acid

Next step:

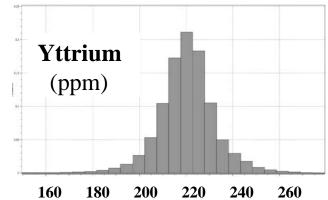
Separate REEs from valueless dissolved elements in the solution



# Remarkable eveness of ore grade

 Top pay mineral yttrofluorite estimated to be distributed evenly in deposit

- Yttrofluorite extremely fine-grained, much smaller than diameter of hair
- Rock properties homogeneous (physical, mechanical, chemical)



Why is an even ore grade important?

Even ore grade means *no surprises* 

Economics easy to predict. Try that with a vein deposit!

Ore grade & mine feedstock constant over life of mine

Mining process optimized just once REE separation chemistry can be optimized



## Additional scarce high-value *elements*

### Beryllium and Lithium

Beryllium

High-tech super-light metal used in aerospace,

defense, alloys, & electronics

Lithium

Component of lithium-ion batteries, essential

for cell phones, laptops, & electric cars



US is self-sufficient in beryllium, but we can be low-cost US imports virtually all of its lithium



These byproducts could increase our revenue stream by as much as 10%



# Separate World-Class Beryllium Deposit at Base of Round Top Mountain

- Chemical reaction between hot rhyolite and underlying limestone concentrated Beryllium in contact zone
- High grade mineralization 300,000 tons at 2% BeO \*
- 5,500 tons BeO; 230 tpy world production, 85% US
- Materion, world Be leader, thought to mine 1% BeO ore at Spor Mountain.
- 1988 Cyprus mine plan
- 867' long, 10'x10' decline with vent fan & services in place (still usable)





### Near-Term TRER "To Do" List

- Decide on heap leach or froth flotation based on economic calculations
- Determine best method to separate REEs from sulfuric acid solutions
- Determine how far to purify individual REEs
- Establish the status of uranium and thorium profit or penalty
- Initiate mine permitting process



# REE Recovery from Acid Solution

After removal of REEs from rock by dissolution in sulfuric acid, they must be both separated from other elements and extracted from the acid, and then separated from each other (purified)

- Traditional technique is solvent extraction as used in China and at Molycorp
- Ion-exchange resin column approaches are possible
- IntelliMet developed a solid phase extraction that UCORE proposes for its Bokan project in Alaska

TRER is actively engaged in testing and technical discussions with appropriate parties



### Radioactive Elements

Round Top rhyolite, like most REE deposits, contains

some uranium and thorium

Uranium could be separated
 & sold – more potential profit

 Thorium might be stockpiled for future advanced reactors





U and Th can be penalty elements if solid or liquid waste streams are hazardous



# Where we are today

- TRER understands the unique nature of its Round Top deposit
- The REEs dissolve expeditiously
- No technical barriers to a very profitable operation are evident
- TRER is entering the economic refinement stage of the Round Top Project
- Engaged investment banking firm to help us evaluate wide range of strategic alternatives to assist in moving project forward



# Economic Goal Robust Operations-Business Plan

Create operations model to capture maximum profit from our rare earth element basket

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Goal 1 – $ 7 - 10 / t mining, heap leach or flotation, dissolution
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Goal 2 - \$ 2 - 3 / t remove valueless elements from solution

Goal 3 - \$ 2 - 3/t concentrate REEs

Goal 4 – \$ 5 - 10 / t separate individual REEs

\$ 16 - 26 / t total operating costs, mine to REO products

Goal 5 – \$ ?/t separate Lithium, Beryllium, and Uranium from solution to capture potential extra income stream

Goal 6 – develop **CAPEX \$ 150–300 million** 



# Marketplace Challenges Demand Robust Business Plan

Volatile REE prices due to Chinese monopoly

Build in very large operations margins

Potential competition from new HREE projects

Be the low-cost producer

Get early to market – modest infrastructure

Simple operation (heap leach?)

Scarcity of funding capital

Minimize CAPEX

Future opportunities

Scalable operation to increase production



# So Why Has TRER Been Flying Under the Radar?

 Market pundits considered our 0.05% grade too low, but

They can go tell it to the Chinese, who supply all the world's HREEs from ore grades similar to ours

 Technical experts can evaluate deposits of bastnaesite, monazite, loparite, etc., but

They've never studied or even seen an yttrofluorite deposit – to our knowledge, we're the only one on the planet



# So Why Has TRER Been Flying Under the Radar?

 Analysts are really great at rating plans for REE mines underground,

Did you notice our mountain?

in far off, dismal places,

Welcome to west Texas, y'all.

with hard-to-treat pay minerals,

Got to love how our yttrofluorite dissolves!

full of low-value light rare earths.

We're no lightweights, 72% heavies

TRER heavy rare earths are fixin' to fly high... 32



## ...Keeping America Free







Joint Strike Fighter
"each aircraft contains 920 lbs. of rare earths"

House Armed Services Committee