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Recommendation Buy (unchanged) Price \$1.26 Valuation \$2.54 (previously \$2.83) Risk Speculative

GICS Sector

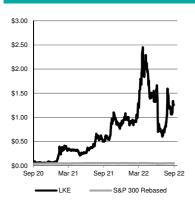
Materials

Expected Return	
Capital growth	102%
Dividend yield	0%
Total expected return	102%
Company Data & Ratios	
Enterprise value	\$1,576m
Market cap	\$1,751m
Issued capital	1,390m
Free float	100%
Avg. daily val. (52wk)	\$25.6m
12 month price range	\$0.48-\$2.65

Price Performance

	(1m)	(3m)	(12m)
Price (A\$)	1.24	1.47	0.54
Absolute (%)	1.6	-14.0	133.3
Rel market (%)	2.6	-12.2	141.0

Absolute Price



SOURCE: IRESS

BELL POTTER SECURITIES LIMITED ABN 25 006 390 772 AFSL 243480 Speculative

See key risks on page 6, and early stage company risk warning on page 9. Speculative securities may not be suitable for Retail clients. 12 September 2022

Lake Resources NL (LKE)

Advancing on multiple fronts

Transitioning into project development

LKE's near-term outlook centres on delivery of the Kachi project definitive feasibility study, demonstrating larger scale success of the ion exchange direct lithium extraction technology which the project will employ, and ultimately coordinating binding lithium offtake and debt financing arrangements. The March 2021 prefeasibility study pointed to 25ktpa lithium carbonate production at a capital cost of US\$544m; the DFS is now assessing a project with 50ktpa production. LKE has sufficient funds to take Kachi to development with cash at 30 June 2022 of \$175m at 30 June 2022. A new Managing Director has been appointed to transition the company into development.

Lithium: Demand outlook retained; supply constrained

We have updated our EV-led lithium demand model with no change to our bullish outlook; LCE demand to grow from around 0.5Mtpa in 2021 to over 1.1Mtpa in 2025 and around 3.0Mtpa in 2030. Supply analysis shows that over the next five years, Australian hard rock projects will at best meet only one third of this demand growth. We expect alternative sources of supply to remain relatively constrained and high-risk. Our long term lithium commodity prices are unchanged: Spodumene concentrate US\$1,300/t; lithium carbonate US\$25,000/t.

Investment view: Speculative Buy, Valuation \$2.54/sh

LKE's Kachi lithium project in Argentina is strategic in terms of scale, applied technology and uncommitted product offtake. Demonstrating the feasibility of ion exchange lithium extraction is key to de-risking the project; success will disrupt traditional lithium brine production. The technology also brings significant ESG benefits including less land disturbance and water consumption. Definitive offtake agreements are yet to be signed; however, MoUs with Ford (US) and Hanwa (Japan) highlight interest. Debt advisors for project development have been appointed with expressions of interest from export credit agency financiers ongoing.

LKE is an asset development company with prospective operations and cash flows. Our Speculative risk rating recognises this higher level of risk and volatility of returns.

Year ending 30 June	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
Sales (A\$m)	-	-	-	158
EBITDA (A\$m)	(7)	(4)	(4)	103
NPAT (reported) (A\$m)	(7)	(0)	(3)	34
NPAT (adjusted) (A\$m)	(7)	(0)	(3)	34
EPS (adjusted) (¢ps)	(0.6)	(0.0)	(0.2)	2.5
EPS growth (%)	na	na	na	na
PER (x)	-210.2x	-27329.8x	-576.5x	49.8x
FCF Yield (%)	-1%	0%	-35%	-25%
EV/EBITDA (x)	-235.0x	-394.1x	-394.1x	15.3x
Dividend (¢ps)	-	-	-	-
Yield (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%
Franking (%)	-	-	-	-
ROE (%)	-10%	0%	-1%	8%

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

Lake Resources summary

Figure 1 - Key asset summary		Figure 2 - Balance sheet summar	у
Project	Kachi	Share price	\$1.26/sh
Location	Catamarca Province, Argentina	Shares on issue	1,390m
Ownership	75% LKE (25% Lilac Solutions)	Options in the money & rights	26m
Stage / first production	DFS due late 2022 / production 2024-25	Diluted market cap	\$1,784m
Resource	4.4Mt LCE @ 211ppm Li	Debt	\$0m
Reserve	tba	Cash	\$175m
Development	Brine (Direct Lithium Extraction)	Net debt	-\$175m
Capex	tba	Options in the money	\$1m
Unit opex	tba	Enterprise value	\$1,608m
Product	Lithium carbonate	Financing facilities available	Discussion with UKEF & EDC
Production	50ktpa		
Offtakers	MoUs - Ford, Hanwa		
SOURCE: COMPANY DATA AND BELL POTTER SECU	BITIES ESTIMATES	SOURCE: COMPANY DATA AND BELL POTTER SECU	BITIES ESTIMATES

SOURCE: COMPANY DATA AND BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

SOURCE: COMPANY DATA AND BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

Look out for...

KACHI PROJECT DEMONSTRATION PLANT TO COME ONLINE

LKE and its direct lithium extraction technology partner Lilac Solutions are currently assembling and commissioning a demonstration plant at the Kachi site. The plant is expected to operate for 3-4 months and provide sufficient product for qualification with end users. We expect further updates from LKE as the demonstration plant is brought online.

KACHI PROJECT DEFINITIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY BY END-2022

LKE expect that final draft reports supporting the Kachi definitive feasibility study (DFS) available in September 2022 and we would expect parameters to agreed and communicated to the market by the end of the calendar year. The DFS is examining a 50ktpa lithium carbonate project, an upgrade on the 25ktpa project outlined in the company's March 2021 prefeasibility study. The PFS estimated start-up capital of US\$544m, cash costs of US\$4,178/t generating annual EBITDA of US\$155m at assumed lithium carbonate prices of US\$11.000/t.

PRODUCT OFFTAKE & PROJECT FINANCING DISCUSSION TO MATURE

LKE has memoranda of understanding with Ford Motor Co. and Hanwa Corporation (Japan) for offtake totalling 50ktpa lithium carbonate. On completion of the DFS, we expect that these agreements will be progressed to binding conditional forms.

The DFS will also support discussion with potential financiers of the Kachi project. LKE has previously reported that UK Export Finance (UKEF) and Export Development Canada (EDC) have indicated debt finance support of approximately 70% for the Kachi project's development. Advisors Citi and JPMorgan have been appointed as joint coordinators for the project's proposed debt finance.

MANAGEMENT BUILD-OUT UNDERWAY

Executive Chairman Stu Crow has led LKE since the departure of the company's Managing Director in June 2022. In early September 2022, LKE announced the appointment of David Dickson to the role of Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director. David has over 30 years of experience in process technology, engineering and construction in the energy sector. We expect further executive appointments over the coming months to support the company's transition to project development and ultimately into production over the next few years.

Valuation summary

	100% basis	%	Equity basis	% Risk	Equity basi
	Unrisked	equity	Unrisked	discount	Riske
Kachi @ 50ktpa LCE	7,313	75%	5,484	30%	3,83
Other projects	150	100%	150		15
Total projects					3,98
Corporate overheads					-3
Enterprise value					3,95
Net debt (diluted)					-17
Equity value (diluted)					4,13
Diluted shares on issue m					1,41
Equity value \$/sh					2.9
Assumed near-term equity raising					
Value \$m	350				
Current share price \$/sh	1.26				
Raise discount %	20%				
Raise price \$/sh	1.01				
New shares m	347				
After assumed near-term equity raise					
Net debt					-52
Equity value					4,48
Diluted shares on issue m					1,76
Equity value \$/sh					2.5

Valuation methodology

- Discounted cash flow model: LKE's Kachi project with assumptions consistent with a scaled up version of the April 2020 prefeasibility study, assuming annual production of 50ktpa lithium carbonate ramping up from 2025.
- Commodity price forecasts: Bell Potter Securities long term lithium commodity price estimate of US\$1,300/t spodumene concentrate, US\$25,000/t lithium carbonate and US\$29,000/t lithium hydroxide.

Capital requirements

At 30 June 2022, LKE had cash of \$175m and no debt. We have conservatively assumed a \$350m equity raising within the next twelve months to advance LKE's Kachi project.

UPDATED CAPITAL ESTIMATES DUE BY THE END OF 2022

The Kachi definitive feasibility study for a 50ktpa lithium carbonate project is due by the end of 2022 and will provide updated capital expenditure estimates. A March 2021 prefeasibility study outlined capital cost of US\$544m for a 25ktpa project; we expect that over \$1b will now be required for the up-scaled project.

EXPORT CREDIT AGENCIES INDICATIVE SUPPORT TO FUND 70%

LKE has expressions of interest from UK Export Finance and Export Development Canada to support around 70% of the total finance required for Kachi. Citi and J.P. Morgan have been appointed as joint coordinators of proposed debt finance.

Value leverage to assumed lithium prices

Note of caution: The following table and chart show leverage to adjustments to lithium prices only. These scenarios do not addressed inflationary impact on capital or operating costs.

Lithium carbonate price CIF	Scenario 1 Low US\$13,000/t	Scenario 2 Bell Potter US\$25,000/t	Scanario 3 "Spot" US\$73,500/t	Valuation \$9.00/sh \$8.00/sh						
Kachi @ 50tkpa LCE	1,331	3,839	13,978	\$7.00/sh					••••	-
Other	119	119	119	\$6.00/sh \$5.00/sh						
EV (risked)	\$1,449m	\$3,958m	\$14,096m	\$4.00/sh						_
Diluted net debt/(cash) - diluted	-526	-526	-526	\$3.00/sh		•				-
Equity value (diluted)	\$1,976m	\$4,484m	\$14,623m	\$2.00/sh						
Diluted shares on issue m	1,763			\$1.00/sh \$0.00/sh						
Equity value (diluted) \$/sh	\$1.12/sh	\$2.54/sh	\$8.29/sh		k/t US\$20k/t U	S\$30k/t US	\$40k/t US	\$50k/t US\$	60k/t US\$	570k/

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

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Lake Resources NL (LKE)

Company description

LKE's Kachi (Argentina) lithium brine project has the potential to produce 50ktpa of high purity lithium carbonate ramping up from 2025 using direct lithium extraction technology. A DFS is due by late-2022. Kachi's direct lithium extraction process is based on ion exchange developed by technology partner Lilac Solutions. Lilac is strategically aligned with LKE through a 25% project earn-in.

An April 2020 Kachi PFS (and a subsequent March 2021 update) outlined a 25.5ktpa lithium carbonate project with a capital cost of US\$544m and unit costs of US\$4,178/t. LKE estimated annual project EBITDA of \$260m at the PFS assumed production rate of 25.5ktpa lithium carbonate and price of US\$15,500/t (CIF Asia).

Investment view: Buy (Speculative), Valuation \$2.54/sh

LKE's Kachi lithium project in Argentina is strategic in terms of scale, applied technology and uncommitted product offtake. Demonstrating the feasibility of ion exchange lithium extraction is key to de-risking the project; success will disrupt traditional lithium brine production. The technology also brings significant ESG benefits including less land disturbance and water consumption. Definitive offtake agreements are yet to be signed; however, MoUs with Ford (US) and Hanwa (Japan) highlight interest. Debt advisors for project development have been appointed with expressions of interest from export credit agency financiers ongoing.

LKE is an asset development company with prospective operations and cash flows. Our Speculative risk rating recognises this higher level of risk and volatility of returns.

Investment risks

Risks include, but are not limited to:

- **Commodity price and exchange rate fluctuations.** The future earnings and valuations of exploration, development and operating resources companies are subject to fluctuations in underlying commodity prices and foreign currency exchange rates.
- Infrastructure access. Commodity producers are reliant upon access to transport and energy infrastructure. Access to infrastructure is often subject to contractual agreements, permits, and capacity allocations. Agreements are typically long-term in nature (+10 years). Infrastructure can be subject to outages as a result of weather events or the actions of third party providers.
- **Operating and capital cost fluctuations.** Markets for exploration, project development and processing inputs can fluctuate widely and cause significant differences between planned and actual operating and capital costs. Key operating costs are linked to energy, reagents and labour markets.
- **Resource growth and project life extensions.** Future earnings forecasts and valuations may rely upon Resource and Reserve growth to extend mine lives.
- **Sovereign risks.** Mining companies' assets are subject to the sovereign risks associated with the countries within which they operate.
- **Regulatory changes risks.** Changes to the regulation of infrastructure and taxation (among other things) can impact the earnings and valuation of mining companies.
- **Environmental risks.** Resources companies are exposed to risks associated with environmental degradation as a result of their exploration and development processes.
- Operating and development risks. Resources companies' assets are subject to risks associated with their operation and development. Risks for each company can be heightened depending on method of operation (e.g. underground versus open pit mining) or whether it is a single operation company. Development assets can be subject to approvals timelines or weather events, causing delays to commissioning and commercial production.
- Occupational health and safety risks. Resources companies are particularly exposed to OH&S risks given the physical nature and human resource intensity of operating assets.
- **Funding and capital management risks.** Funding and capital management risks can include access to debt and equity finance, maintaining covenants on debt finance, managing dividend payments, and managing debt repayments.
- **Merger/acquisition risks.** Risks associated with value transferred during merger and acquisition activity.
- COVID-19 risks: Resources companies' rely on freedom of movement of workforces, functioning transport routes, reliable logistics services including road, rail, aviation and ports in order to maintain operations and get their products to market. They also rely on liquid, functioning markets to sell their products. Measures being put in place to combat the COVID-19 pandemic are posing risks to these conditions.

Lake Resources NL as at 12 September 2022

Recommendation Buy, Speculative Price Valuation

\$2.54

\$1.26

Table 3 - Financial summary

Date Price Valuation	A\$/sh A\$/sh		12/09/22 1.26 2.54			
PROFIT AND LOSS	A¢/31		2.04			
Year ending 30 June	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
Revenue	\$m	-	-	-	-	158
Expenses	\$m	(3)	(7)	(4)	(4)	(55)
EBITDA Depreciation & amortisation	\$m \$m	(3) (0)	(7) (0)	(4)	(4)	103 (26)
EBIT	\$m	(0)	(0)	(4)	(4)	(20)
Net interest expense	\$m	(0)	(0)	4	1	(21)
Profit before tax	\$m	(3)	(7)	0	(3)	56
Tax expense	\$m	-	-	(0)	-	(22)
NPAT (reported)	\$m	(3)	(7)	(0)	(3)	34
NPAT (adjusted)	\$m	(3)	(7)	(0)	(3)	34
CASH FLOW STATEMENT						
Year ending 30 June	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
OPERATING CASH FLOW						
Receipts from customers	\$m	-	-	-	-	158
Payments to suppliers and employees	\$m	(2)	(7)	(4)	(4)	(55)
Tax paid	\$m	-	-	(0)	-	(22)
Net interest	\$m	-	-	4	1	(21)
Other	\$m	-	-	(0)	-	-
Operating cash flow	\$m	(2)	(7)	(0)	(3)	59
INVESTING CASH FLOW						
Capex	\$m	(5)	(6)	-	(578)	(478)
Other	\$m	-	(0)	-	-	-
Investing cash flow	\$m	(5)	(7)	-	(578)	(478)
FINANCING CASH FLOW						
Debt proceeds/(repayments)	\$m	0	-	480	240	-
Dividends paid	\$m		-			
Proceeds share issues (net, incl. options)	\$m	33	52	296		1
Other	\$m	-	-			-
Financing cash flow	\$m	33	52	775	240	1
Change in cash	\$m	26	38	775	(342)	(417)
Free cash flow	\$m	(7)	(14)	(0)	(581)	(418)
BALANCE SHEET						
Year ending 30 June	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
ASSETS						
Cash	\$m	26	64	839	498	81
Receivables	\$m	0	1	1	1	1
Inventories	\$m	-	-	-	-	-
Capital assets	\$m	22	30	30	608	1,060
Other assets	\$m	0	0	0	0	0
Total assets	\$m	48	95	870	1,107	1,142
LIABILITIES						
Creditors	\$m	1	1	1	1	1
Borrowings	\$m	-	-	480	719	719
Provisions	\$m	0	0	0	0	0
Other liabilities	\$m	-	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	\$m	1	1	481	721	721
NET ASSETS	\$m					
Share capital	\$m	66	116	411	411	413
Reserves	\$m	3	2	2	(1)	32
Accumulated losses	\$m	(22)	(24)	(24)	(24)	(24)
Non-controlling interest	\$m	-	-	-	-	-
SHAREHOLDER EQUITY	\$m	47	93	389	386	421
Weighted average shares	m	822	1,120	1,238	1,320	1,327

					Bell Potter	Securities
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FINANCIAL RATIOS						
Year ending 30 June VALUATION	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
EPS (adjusted)	Ac/sh	(0.4)	(0.6)	(0.0)	(0.2)	2.5
EPS growth (Acps)	%	na	na	na	na	na
PER	x	(357.8)	(210.2)	(27,329.8)	(576.5)	49.8
DPS Franking	Ac/sh %	- 0%	- 0%	- 0%	- 0%	0%
Yield	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FCF/share	Ac/sh	(0.9)	(1.3)	(0.0)	(44.0)	(31.5)
FCF yield	%	-1%	-1%	0%	-35%	-25%
EV/EBITDA	x	-608.1x	-235.0x	-394.1x	-394.1x	15.3x
LIQUIDITY & LEVERAGE Net debt / (cash)	\$m	(25.7)	(64.0)	(359.9)	221.5	638.8
Net debt / Equity	%	-55%	-69%	-92%	57%	152%
Net debt / Net debt + Equity	%	-121%	-218%	-1224%	36%	60%
Net debt / EBITDA	x	9.9x	9.5x	90.0x	-55.4x	6.2x
EBITDA /net int expense	x	0.0x	-4224.2x	0.9x	3.6x	4.8x
PROFITABILITY RATIOS		0.04		0.04	0.04	
EBITDA margin	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	65%
EBIT margin	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	49%
Return on assets	%	-9%	-9%	0%	0%	3%
Return on equity	%	-9%	-10%	0%	-1%	8%
ASSUMPTIONS - Prices (nominal)						
Year ending 30 June	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
Spodumene concentrate (6% basis)	US\$/t	478	3,170	5,500	3,000	1,300
Lithium Carbonate (battery grade)	US\$/t	8,641	43,916	65,000	45,000	25,000
Lithium Hydroxide (battery grade)	US\$/t	10,510	44,408	68,000	48,750	29,000
AUD:USD	US\$/A\$	0.75	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.74
LCE sales						
Year ending 30 June	Unit	2021a	2022e	2023e	2024e	2025e
Kachi (100%)	kt LCE	-	-	-	-	6
Kachi (LKE equity share)	kt LCE	-	-	-	-	5
VALUATION						
		100% basis	%	quity basis	% Risk Eq	uity basis
		Unrisked	equity	Unrisked	discount	Risked
Kachi @ 50ktpa LCE		7,313	75%	5,484	30%	3,839
Other projects		150	1	150	-	150
Total projects						3,989
Corporate overheads						(31)
Enterprise value						3,958
Net debt (diluted)						(176)
Equity value (diluted)						4,134
Diluted shares on issue m						1,416
Equity value \$/sh	-					2.92
Assumed near-term equity raising						
Value \$m	350					
Current share price \$/sh	1					
Raise discount %	0					
Raise price \$/sh	1					
New shares m	347					
After assumed near-term equity raise						
After assumed near-term equity raise Net debt						
						(526) 4,484

SOURCE: BELL POTTER SECURITIES ESTIMATES

Recommendation structure

Buy: Expect >15% total return on a 12 month view. For stocks regarded as 'Speculative' a return of >30% is expected.

Hold: Expect total return between -5% and 15% on a 12 month view

Sell: Expect <-5% total return on a 12 month view

Speculative Investments are either start-up enterprises with nil or only prospective operations or recently commenced operations with only forecast cash flows, or companies that have commenced operations or have been in operation for some time but have only forecast cash flows and/or a stressed balance sheet.

Such investments may carry an exceptionally high level of capital risk and volatility of returns.

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