

# Nickel & Cobalt in the Battery Market



**BRAZILIAN  
NICKEL**

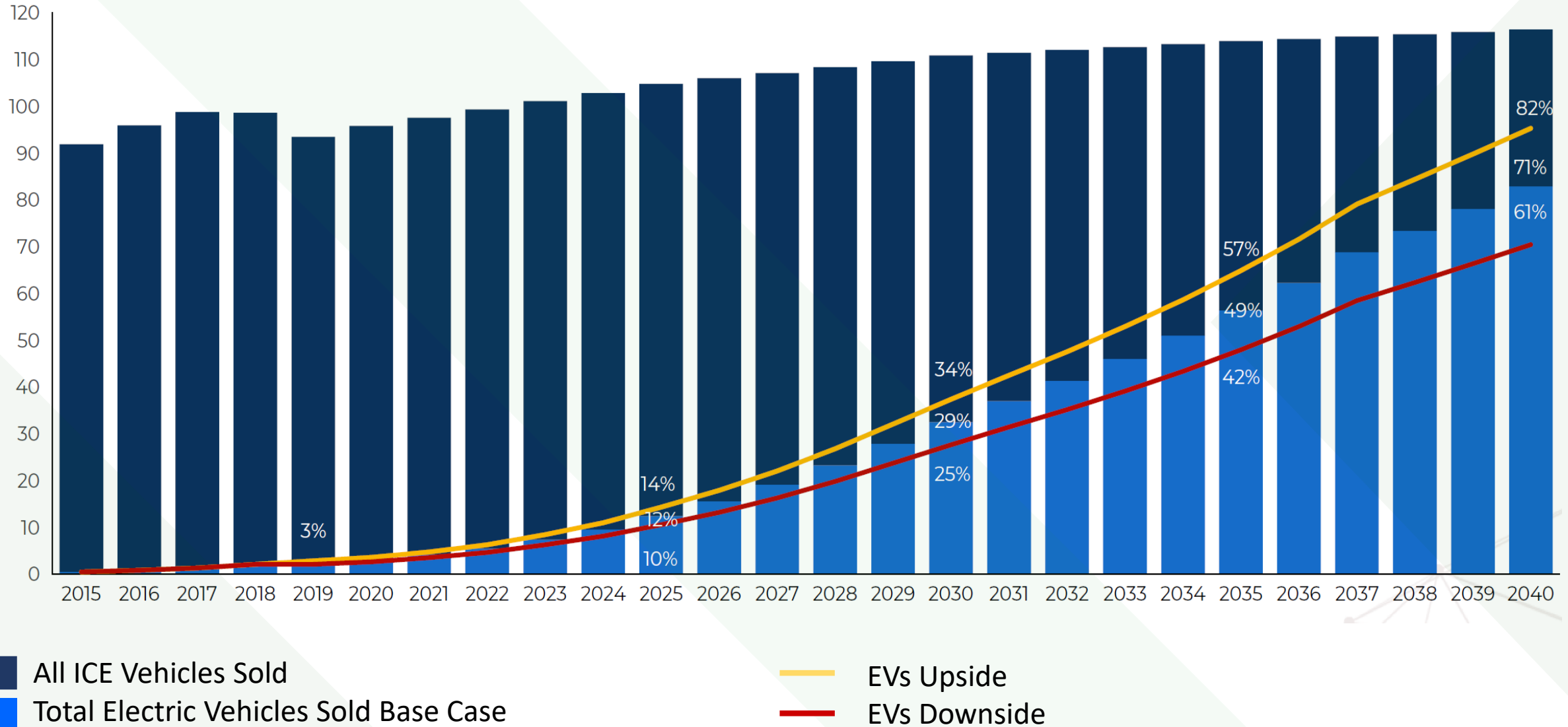
**Mining for and with  
the Electric Vehicle**

**IOM3, 297 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON NW1 3AD  
29-30 January 2020**

# The Backdrop: Global EV Sales as a Total Share of Vehicle Sales



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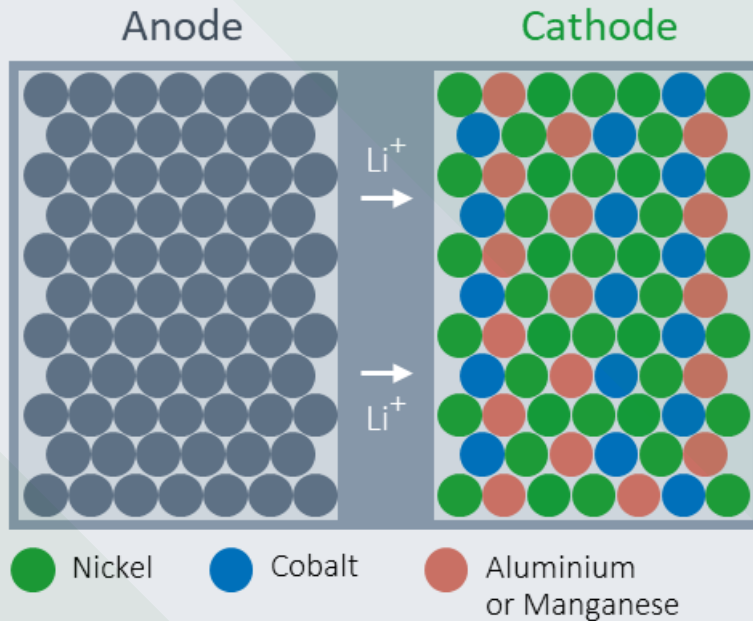
# Battery Nickel (& Cobalt)



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## Inside an Electric Vehicle Lithium-Ion Battery (LiB)



LiB are characterised by their type of cathode material

**N C A**

Nickel Cobalt  
Aluminium e.g. Tesla  
>80% Ni

**N M C**

Nickel Manganese Cobalt  
e.g. Nissan where Ni:Mn:Co  
ratios have moved from  
1:1:1 to 5:3:2 & 6:2:2 &  
moving towards 8:1:1



Our lithium ion batteries should be called Nickel-Graphite...

Elon Musk



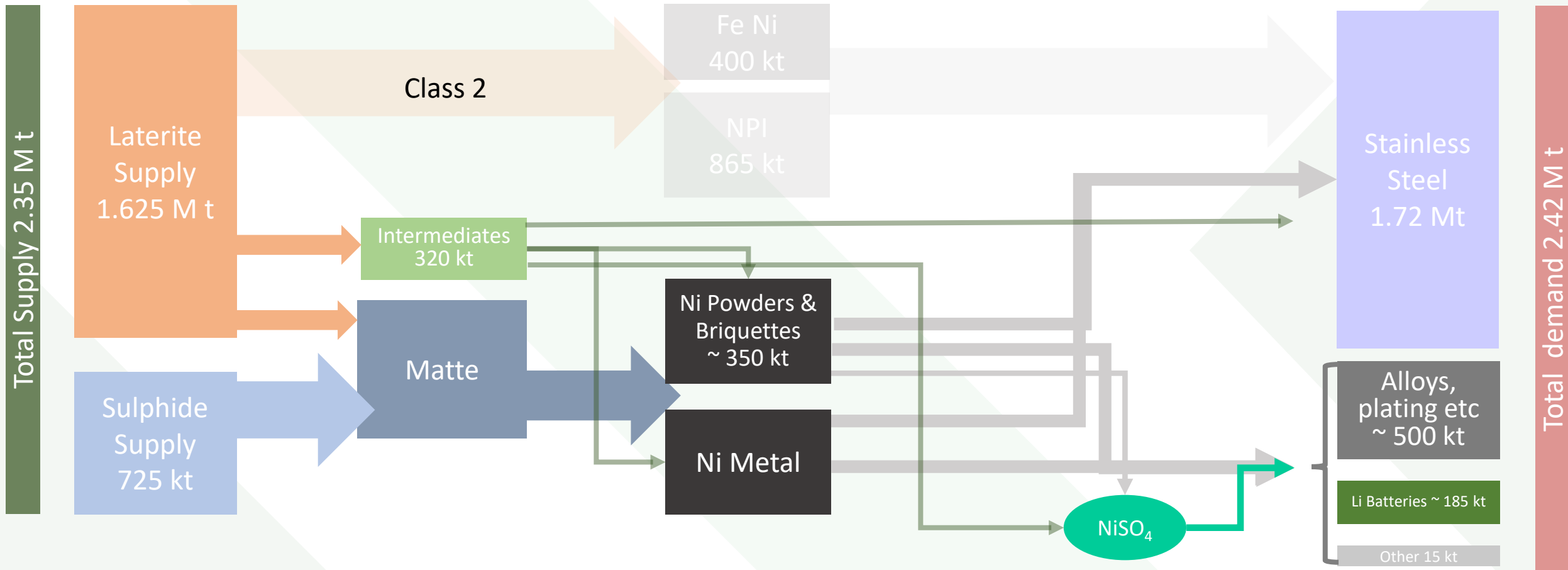
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# Nickel Market Supply Chain - 2019



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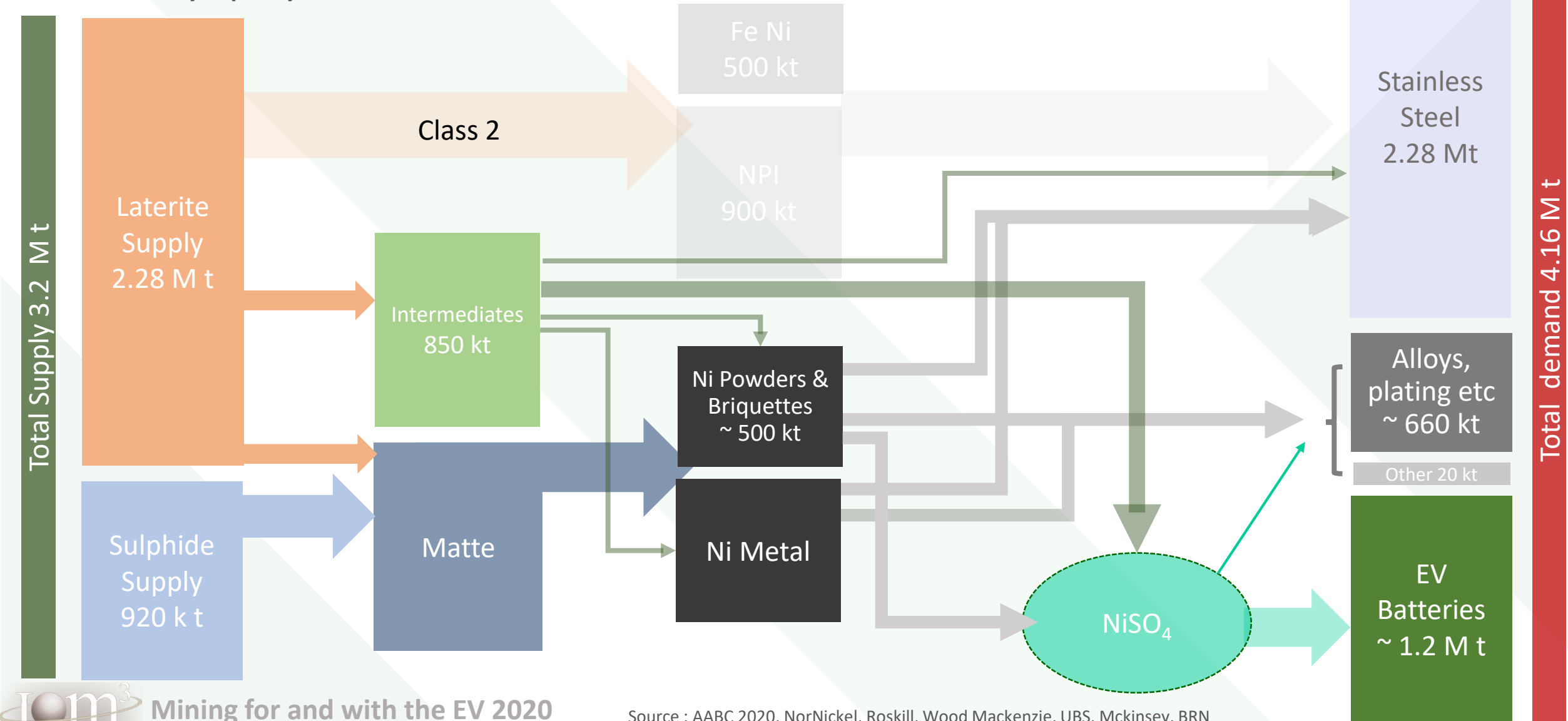
# Forecast Nickel Market Supply Chain 2030



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## Probable Projects into Production

Ni Metal Refinery capacity = 3.45 Mt

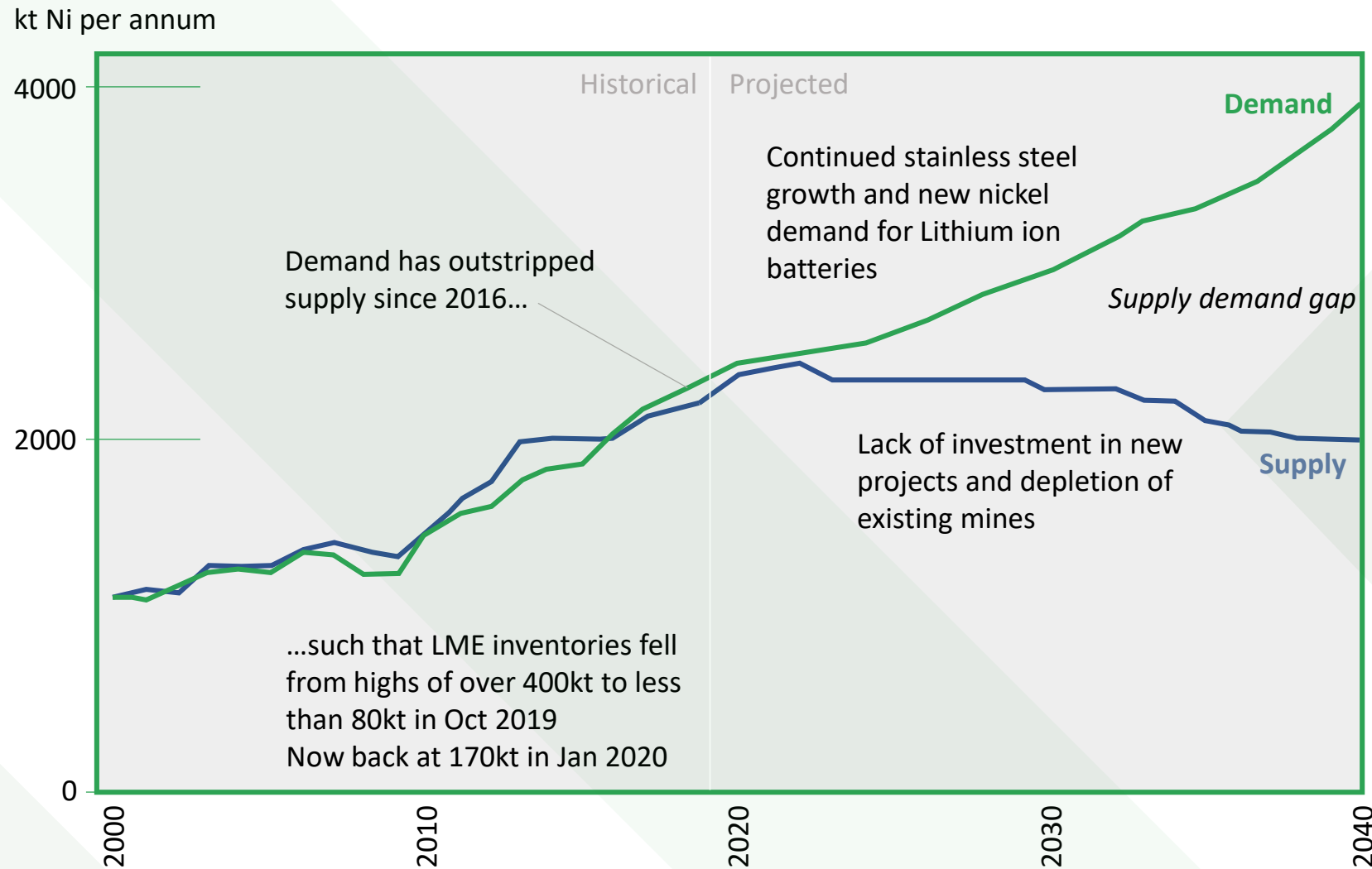


# Supply Demand – a more conservative view



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Source: Bloomberg, Wood Mackenzie, BRN



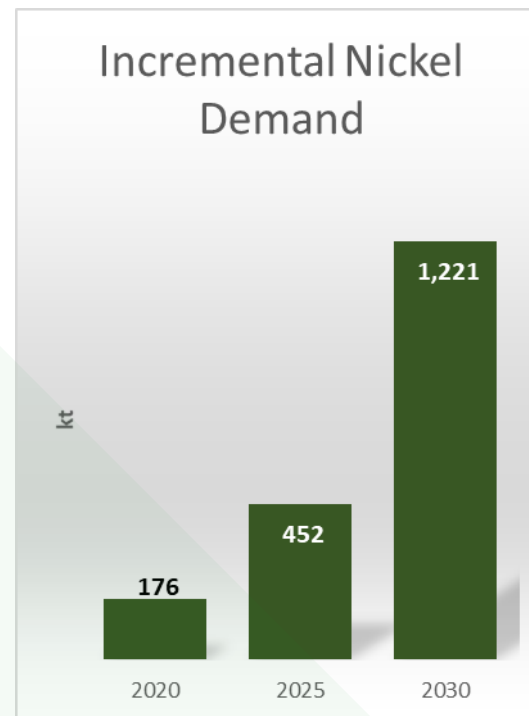
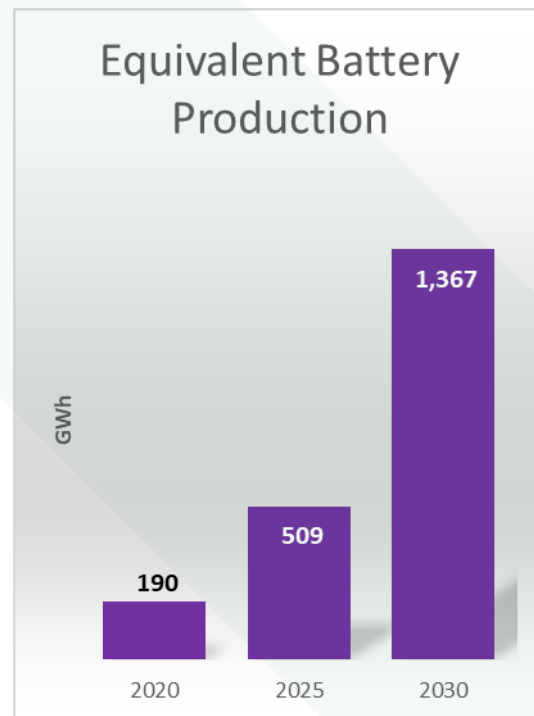
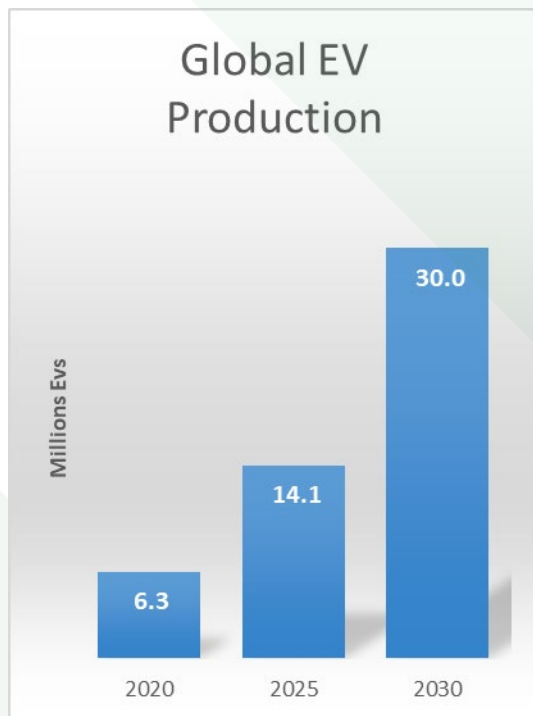
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# EV & Incremental Nickel Demand Forecasts



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2025 = 40% of 2019 Class 1 supply  
2030 = >100% of 2019 Class 1 supply



> 48 x 25 k tpa projects  
(BRN's Piauí Project)



Note: Evs are passenger vehicles only & includes PHEV & BEV; PHEV battery pack 12kWh, BEV in 2020 40kWh, 2025 56kWh and 2030 65kWh. NMC 622 in 2025 and 811 in 2030.

# Why Heap Leaching of Nickel Laterites ?



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- Lowest capital cost of the hydromet processes
- First quartile operating costs
- Faster to full capacity
- Simple flexible process, but needs know-how
- Increased resource utilization
- Lower energy intensity
- Lower CO<sub>2</sub> ?
- All residues are dry – no tailings dam
- Therefore Lower Risk



# Costs and Incentive Nickel Price



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Project Type	Typical Capacity	Capital Intensity	Nickel Price req'd for 30% IRR (pre tax)	Operating Cost
	kt pa	US \$/t annual Ni	US \$/t	US \$/t
Small Sulphides (Aus)	5 to 8	11,000-18,000	> 13,900	5,000-9,500
Large low grade S (Can)	20 to 50	28,600-57,300	>22,000	3,000-8,500
NPI China	10 to 60	5,100-13,250	>13,000	8,000-14,000
NPI Indonesia	10 to 60	6,600-15,450	>12,000	7,000- 12,000
FeNi	20 to 60	33,000-80,000	> 15,000	4,850-9,000
Chinese HPAL Indonesia	30 to 50	13,250-30,000	> 15,000	8,000-9,000
HPAL	15 to 60	75,000-150,000+	> 19,000	5,500-25,000
Heap Leach	10 to 40	17,500-35,000	> 11,000	4,850-8,800
PNP	25	17,590	11,000	6,130

Total Probable Projects Capex = US \$ 30 Billion

Total Upside Projects Capex = US \$ 42 Billion

SPOT Jan 27th 2020 = US \$ 12,630/t



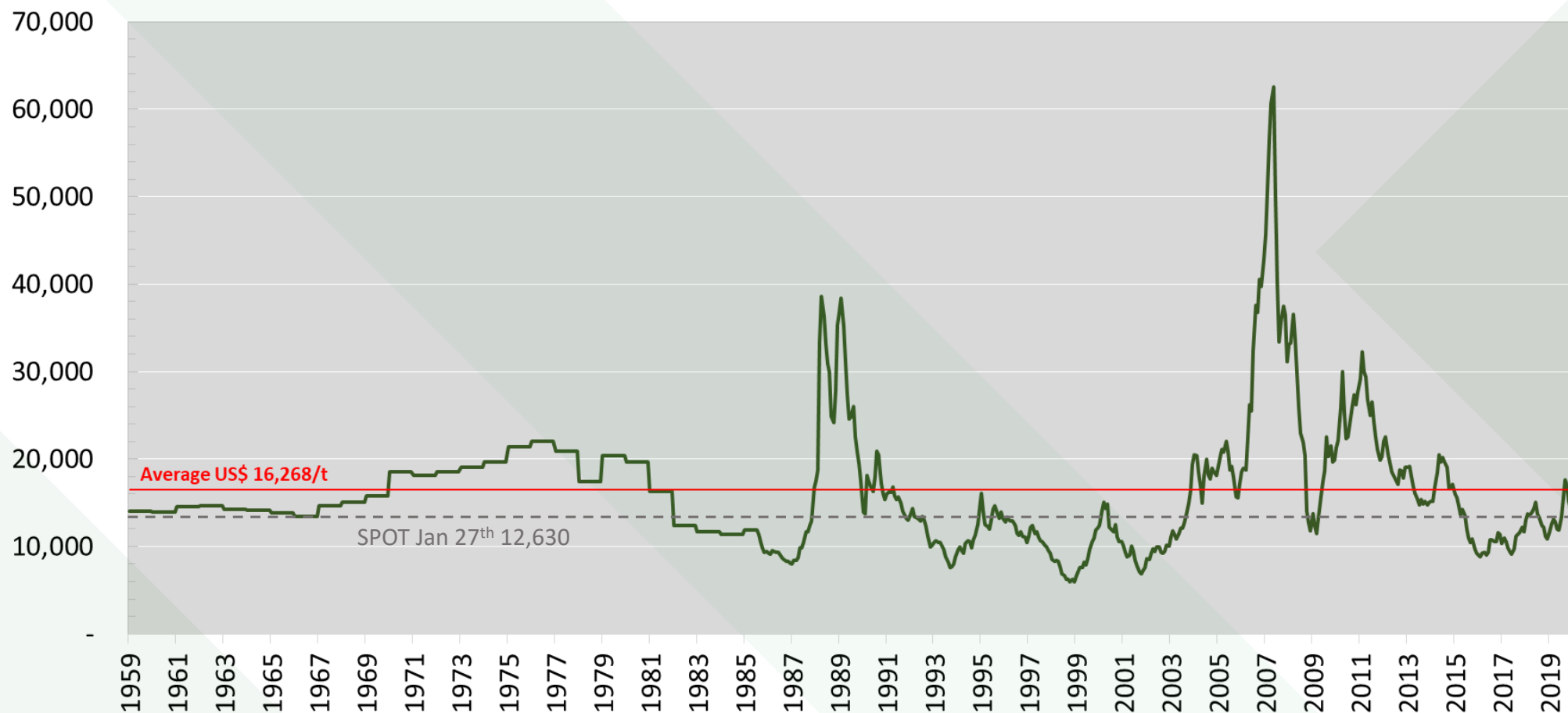
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### Nickel Price 1959 to Present Real Terms US\$ / t LME Cash Buyer

Annual Averages 1959 to 1984

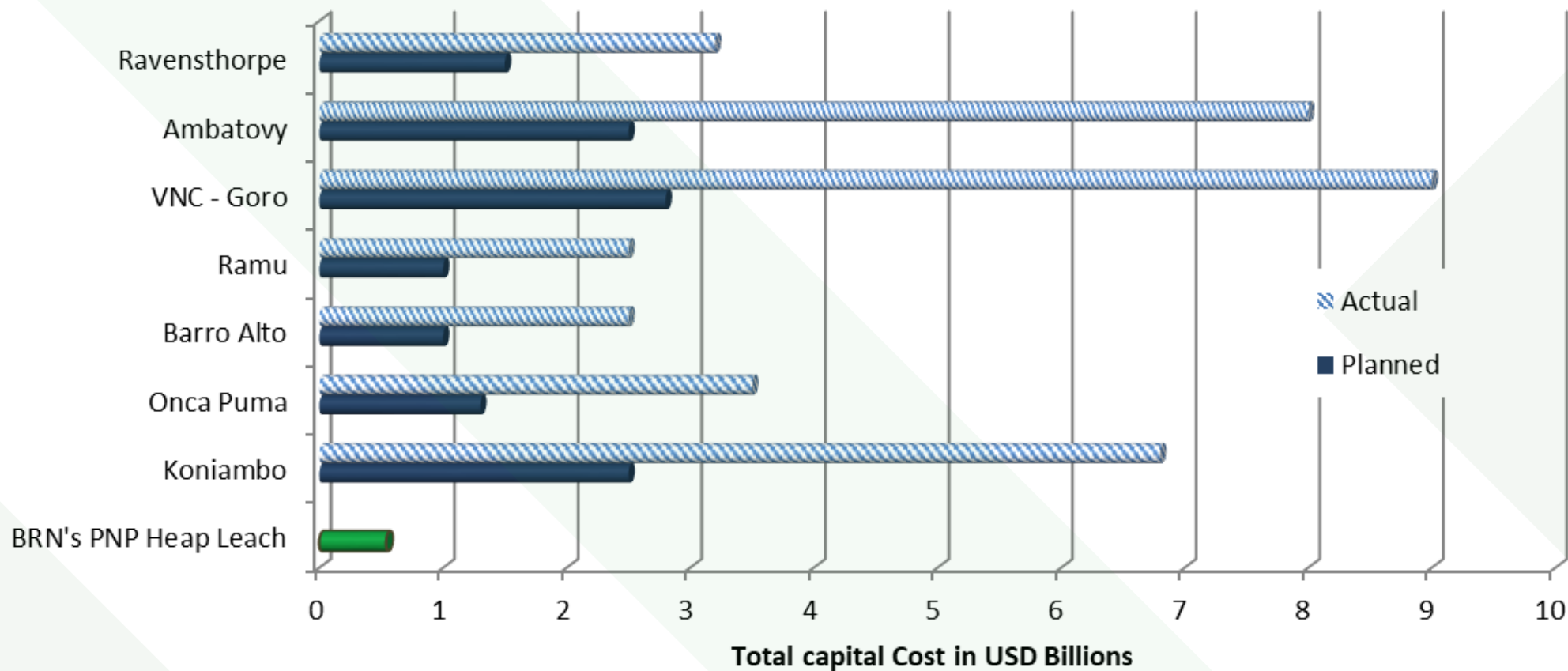
Monthly Averages July 1985 onwards



# HPAL Cost Overruns



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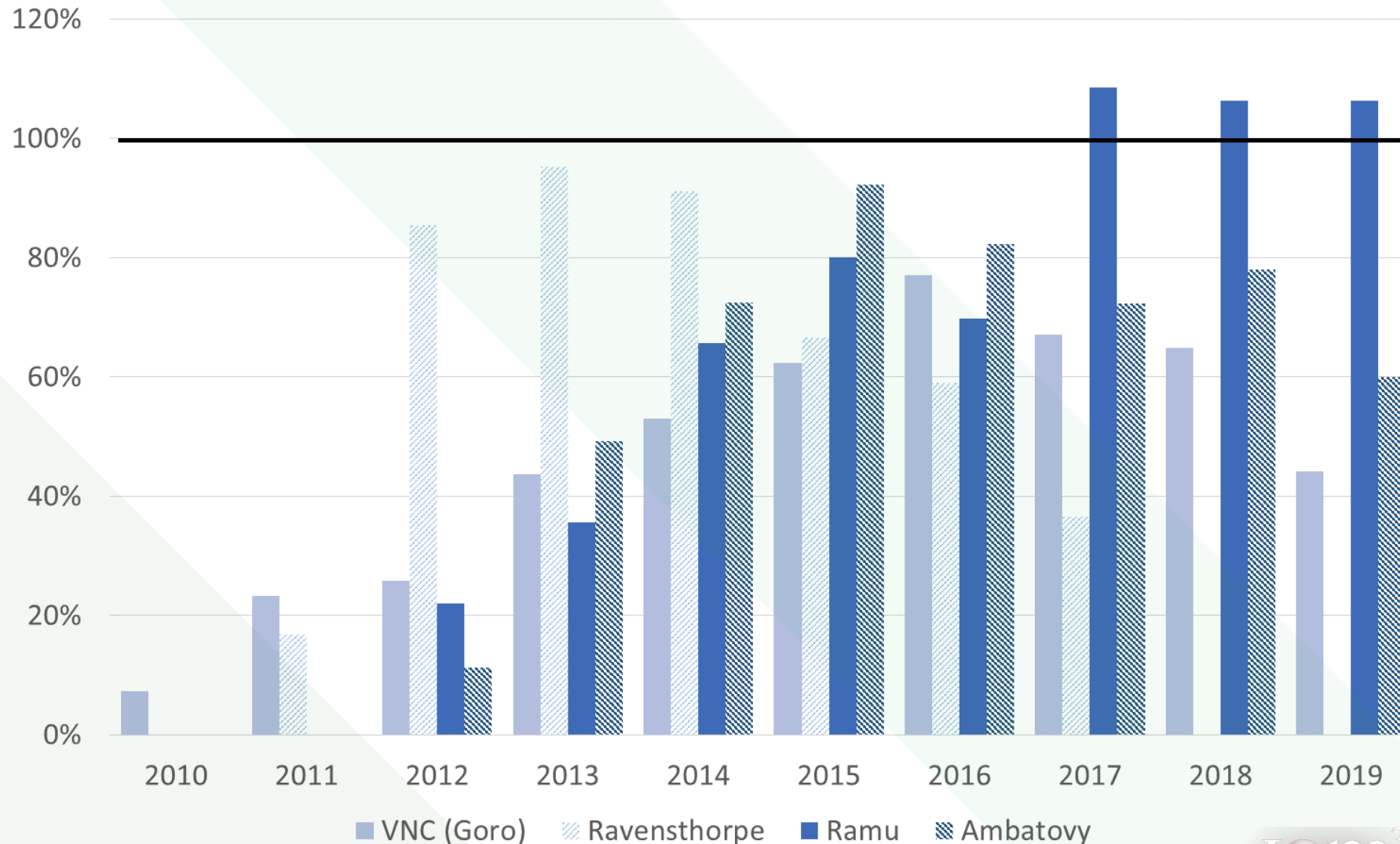
# HPAL Ramp-ups



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Ramp Up - % of Nameplate Capacity



## Heap Leach:

- 1<sup>st</sup> NHP 3 months after 1<sup>st</sup> leach irrigation turned on
- Fully Ramped up 9 months later

0 → 100% 12 months







# Increased Resource Utilisation

## % of mined (above cut-off grade ore) processed

◆ FeNi or HPAL: 45% to 60%

◆ HL + FeNi/HPAL: 80% to 85%

(Heap leach integration of existing projects)

◆ HL 100%





# BRN's Heap Leach Timeline

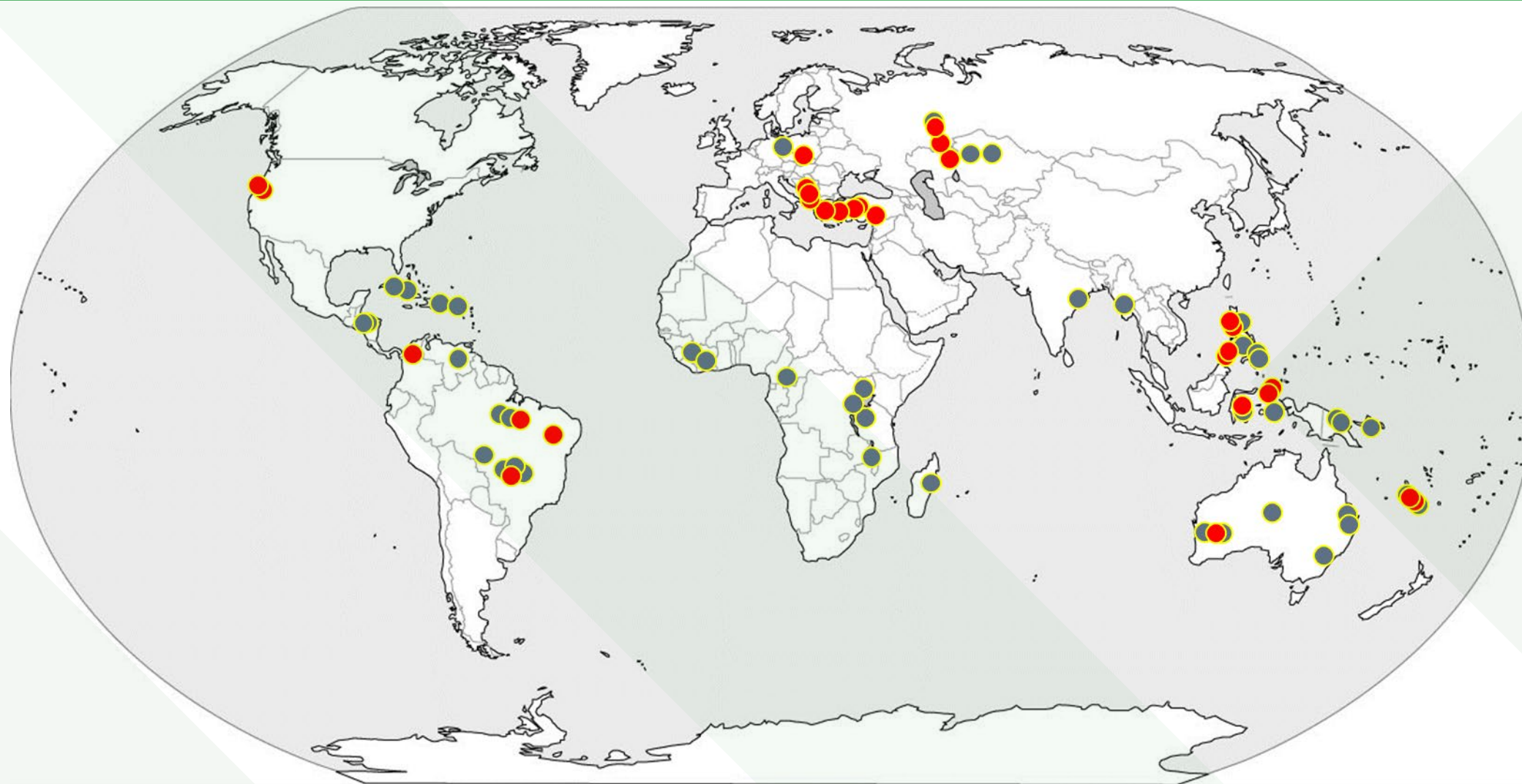
NTUA Greece	● 1992-1999	Lab scale < 10kg 1 large column
BRN team Albania	● 1999-2003	Lab scale < 10kg
BRN team Turkey	● 2003-2010	Heaps > 15,000 tonnes
BRN team Colombia	● 2006-2009	Heaps > 20,000 tonnes
BRN team Philippines	● 2009-2011	Heaps > 5,000 tonnes
Brazilian Nickel Brazil	● 2014-present	Heaps > 8,000 tonnes







# BRN's Heap Leach Know-how



● Nickel laterite deposit

● Nickel laterite deposit visited and studied by the BRN team

# BRN's Piauí Nickel Project



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## Energy & CO<sub>2</sub> Important!

- ◆ On site sulphuric acid plant produces all of the power necessary and is **carbon** free.
- ◆ Simple heap leach technology is less energy intensive than many nickel production routes.
- ◆ ∴ excess carbon free energy is sold to the Brazilian national grid.

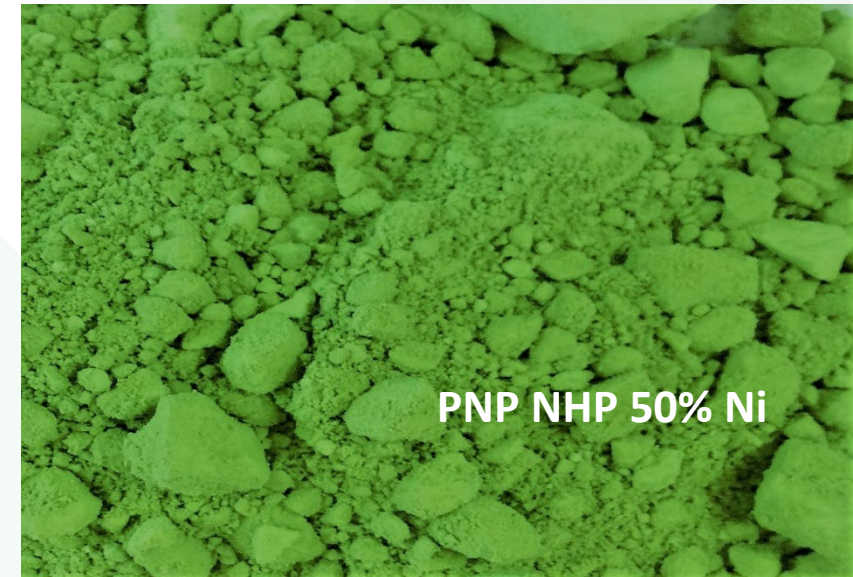
HPAL of equal size would require an additional 15-20KW power, HL sells 12-15KW back to grid.

- ◆ CO<sub>2</sub> capture in the impurity removal circuit (uses limestone as a precipitant) possible in the future
- ◆ Nickel Hydroxide intermediates as final product ~50 % Ni (dry basis)

Better for transportation.

### Carbon neutrality is possible with

- CO<sub>2</sub> capture
- Vehicle fleet 100% electrified
- all backup power as renewable/ESS



PNP NHP 50% Ni



# PNP Project



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## Operations

25,000tpa  
Ni

900tpa  
Co

## Maximum Exposure<sup>3</sup>

US\$465million  
around one-third of that  
of competing technologies

## C1 Operating costs<sup>4</sup>

US\$ 2.78/lb  
in the lowest quartile  
of cost curve

## After-tax cash generation<sup>5</sup>

US\$198million  
Expected annually

## NPV<sub>10</sub>

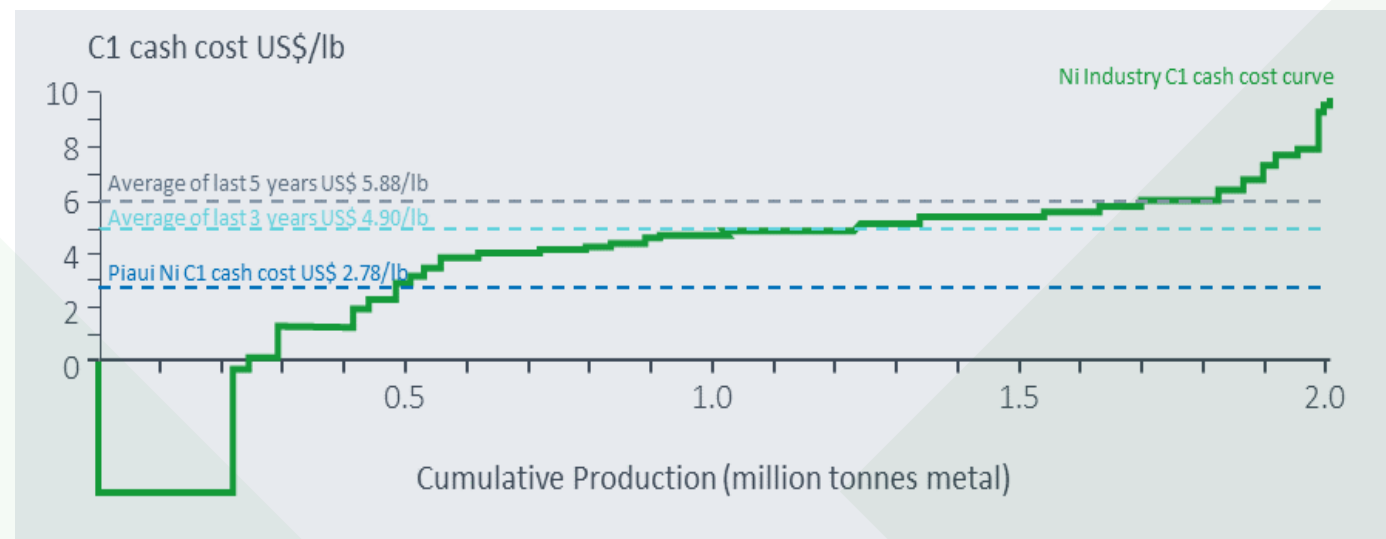
US\$ 1,140  
(US\$ 893 million after tax)

## IRR

53%  
(46% after tax)

## Pricing (US\$)<sup>6</sup>

Ni 7.00/lb  
Co 18.00/lb



Sensitivity Analysis	Ni Price (US\$/lb)	Co Price (US\$/lb)	NPV <sub>10</sub> <sup>1</sup> (US\$M)	IRR <sup>1</sup> (%)
Base Case	7.0	18.0	1,140	53
Low	4.5	12.0	247	21
CE LT <sup>2</sup>	8.25	26.09	1,599	71
High	10.0	30.0	2,264	92

<sup>1</sup> Pre-Tax

<sup>2</sup> Consensus Economics Long-Term

<sup>3</sup> Total Project incl. working capital allowance

<sup>4</sup> After accounting for refining charges and by product credits

<sup>5</sup> Average of first 10 years

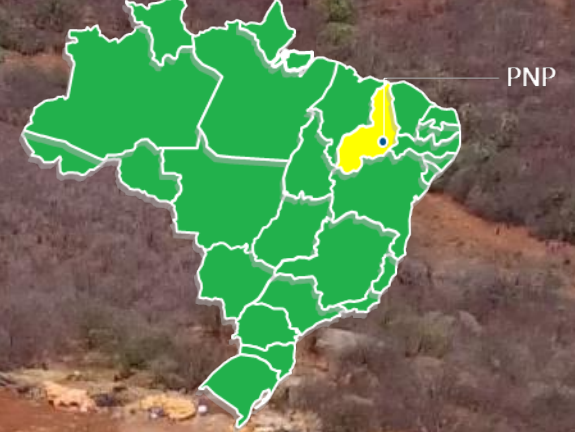
<sup>6</sup> Analysts' long-term consensus

Ni price = US\$ 7.89/lb

Co price = US\$ 21.35/lb



# Brazilian Nickel and the Piauí Nickel Project



Advanced, low cost, nickel and cobalt project in Brazil

Robust economics at conservative pricing

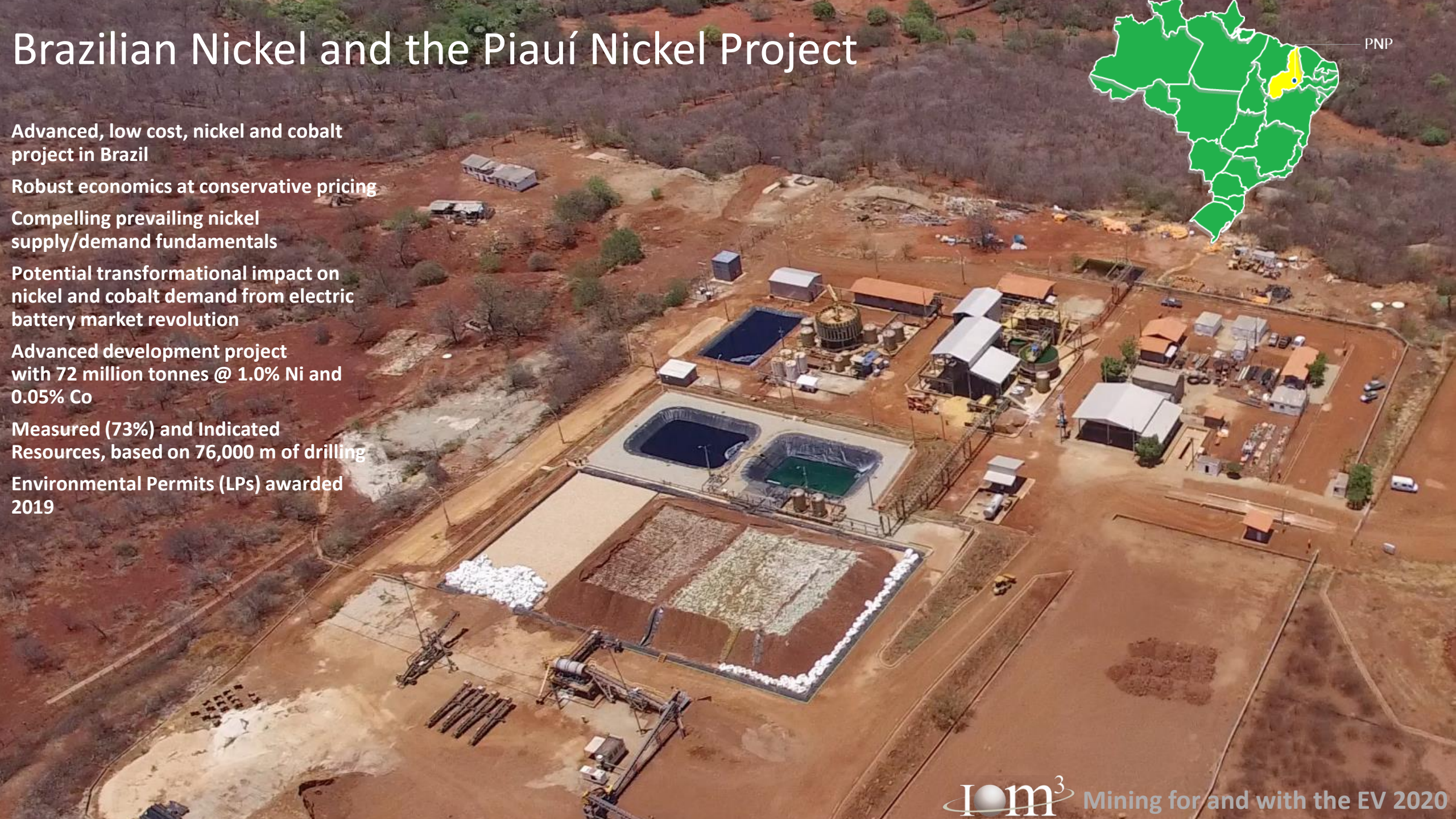
Compelling prevailing nickel supply/demand fundamentals

Potential transformational impact on nickel and cobalt demand from electric battery market revolution

Advanced development project with 72 million tonnes @ 1.0% Ni and 0.05% Co

Measured (73%) and Indicated Resources, based on 76,000 m of drilling

Environmental Permits (LPs) awarded 2019



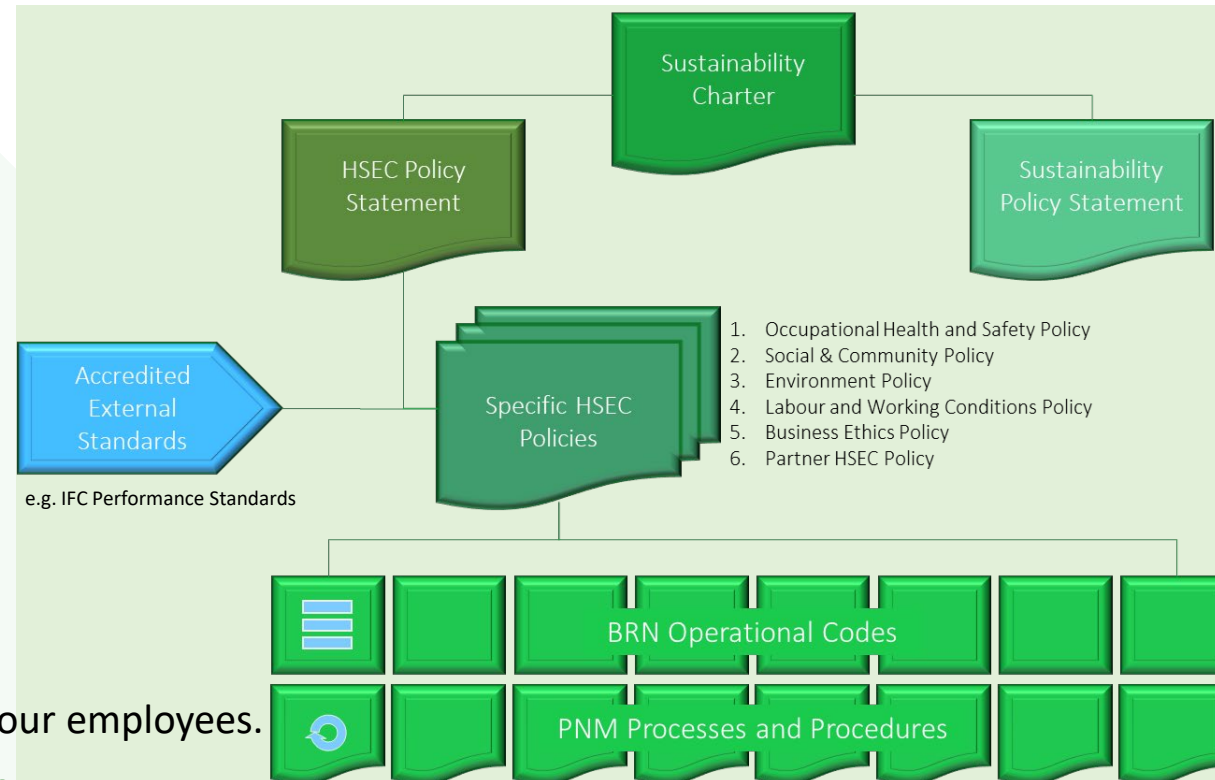


## BRN's Sustainability Charter

... provide long-term benefits through continuous improvements in health, safety and environmental performance ... sharing the benefits of our activities with the communities within which we operate.

We will achieve this by:

- Targeting **Zero Harm** to our employees.
- Leaving a **positive legacy** in the community
- **Conserving** and where possible enhancing the natural environment.
- **Respecting** and protecting the rights of employees and host communities.
- Doing Business **Responsibly** and **Transparently**
- Ensuring adequate return for shareholders.



# Key Take-Aways



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- ◆ Nickel demand for Li-ion batteries by 2030 could be >1.2 Mt pa (>100% of 2019 Class 1 Nickel)
- ◆ Supply currently cannot meet that demand unless
  - ◆ More funding becomes available
  - ◆ Significant increase in Ni prices to attract investors and enable projects with higher operating costs
- ◆ BRN's Heap Leach Technology can help supply the new nickel and cobalt demand
  - ◆ At lower cost to the miner **and the customer**
  - ◆ With **a lower overall carbon footprint**, and aiming for carbon neutrality
  - ◆ In a sustainable, socially and environmentally acceptable way.

*Please remember that mining projects often **take at least** 10 years to production, more from early exploration*





# BRAZILIAN NICKEL



Nickel and Cobalt

Made Easy