

## TANTALUM PRICES SURGE TO MULTI-DECADE HIGHS AS STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT CONTINUES

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Recent market reports indicate a significant increase in tantalum prices, with European tantalite prices in March trading at approximately US\$200–210/lb (25% concentrate).<sup>1</sup>
- The price represents a significant year-to-date increase and the highest price level observed in over two decades.
- Currently observed prices are materially higher than the assumptions applied in the Swanson Tantalum Project's 2023 Definitive Feasibility Study<sup>2</sup> (US\$91.87/lb 25% Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, inclusive of cost, insurance, and freight delivered to main port Europe).
- Price is the most sensitive input of the sensitivity analysis (refer Figures 1 & 2) to the extent that every 10% increase in the assumed realised tantalum price results in a ca. A\$6.5m increase in NPV and an ca. 10% increase in the post-tax IRR.
- The Definitive Feasibility of 2023 presented financial metrics on a 100% equity basis of a NPV<sub>8%</sub> of Au\$15.36M (post-tax) and IRR (post-tax) of 25.4%.
- The price strength reflects supply constraints and increasing demand, including:<sup>3,4</sup>
  - Growing demand from AI data centre infrastructure, which utilises tantalum in capacitors, semiconductors and memory components;
  - Use of tantalum in high-performance super-alloys, including those applied in industrial gas turbine blades;
  - Supply disruption following a landslide at the Rubaya columbite–tantalite mine in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a key global source of tantalum; and
  - Increased government focus on securing critical mineral supply chains, including strategic stockpiling initiatives encompassing tantalum.
- As previously announced,<sup>5</sup> a Binding Term Sheet has been executed with Hongkong Xinhai Mining Services Limited, granting Xinhai the exclusive option to enter into a definitive agreement with Arcadia to:
  - Construct and commission a gravimetric plant at ML223, with a capacity of no less than the maximum described in the 2023 DFS and,

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/tantalite-prices-jump-over-two-decade-high-congo-supply-fears-2026-03-16/>

<sup>2</sup> Refer to ASX Announcement, "DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator", 31 May 2023

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/landslide-kills-over-200-people-congos-rubaya-mine-mines-ministry-says-2026-03-04/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ft.com/content/cd5244eb-a8e9-42bc-8939-71ba0fefa057>

<sup>5</sup> Refer to ASX announcement, "Option Granted to Advance Swanson into Production", 2 February 2026



- **Conduct exploration over EPL 5047** for mafic/ultramafic mineralisation and lithium and tantalum-bearing Pegmatites.
- Hongkong Xinhai Mining Services Limited is the Hong Kong entity of Shandong Xinhai Mining Technology & Equipment Inc. of China, a **major global mining services provider** offering integrated solutions, with experience servicing **2,500 mines and completing over 600 EPC+M+O projects across 100 countries and regions.**<sup>6</sup>
- As previously announced, the option has expired but discussions with Xinhai Mining Services remain underway,<sup>7</sup> **with definitive terms currently under negotiation.**

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Arcadia Minerals Ltd (ASX:AM7, FRA:8OH) (Arcadia or the Company) is pleased to advise that discussions with Hongkong Xinhai Mining Services Limited (Xinhai) regarding a potential earn-in of the **Swanson Tantalum Project (Swanson or Project)** remain underway.

#### **UPDATE WITH ONGOING DISCUSSIONS**

As previously announced,<sup>8</sup> Xinhai entered into an agreement with the Company, granting Xinhai the option to enter into a definitive agreement with respect to the Swanson Tantalum Project for the following:

- **To construct and commission a gravimetric plant at ML223**, with a capacity of no less than the maximum described in the DFS<sup>9</sup>, and,
- **To conduct exploration over EPL 5047** for Mafic/Ultramafic mineralisation and Lithium and Tantalum bearing Pegmatites.

As previously outlined,<sup>10</sup> discussions with Xinhai remain underway. Xinhai completed its technical review and indicated that it wishes to advance discussions by presenting draft definitive terms for Arcadia's consideration. **Presently, discussions are ongoing with definitive terms currently under negotiation.**

#### **TANTALUM PRICES SURGE TO MULTI-DECADE HIGHS**

The Company notes that it is aware of the recent strength in tantalum prices, with European tantalite prices in March trading at approximately US\$200–210/lb (25% concentrate) and recent market activity indicating European tantalite prices potentially settling down at approximately US\$181–190/lb,<sup>11</sup> thus representing the highest levels observed in over two decades. Similar strengthening in Tantalum prices for Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 30% concentrate has been encountered in China.

This pricing environment reflects a combination of tightening global supply and increasing demand across advanced technology applications, **including AI data centre infrastructure and high-performance industrial alloys.** Arcadia understands that demand and supply has

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.xinhaimining.com/>

<sup>7</sup> Refer to ASX announcement, "Swanson Tantalum Project Continued Engagement with Xinhai", 23 March 2026

<sup>8</sup> Refer to ASX announcement, "Option Granted to Advance Swanson into Production", 2 February 2026

<sup>9</sup> Refer to ASX Announcement, "DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator", 31 May 2023

<sup>10</sup> Refer to ASX announcement, "Swanson Tantalum Project Continued Engagement with Xinhai", 23 March 2026

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/tantalite-prices-jump-over-two-decade-high-congo-supply-fears-2026-03-16/>

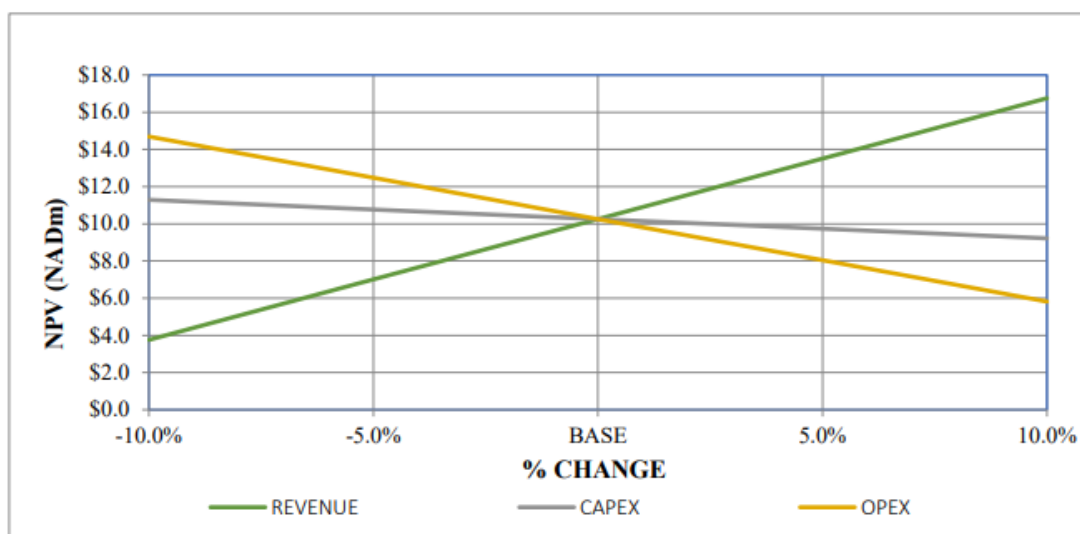
been further impacted by **government stockpiling of tantalum**, as well as **supply disruptions** resulting from a landslide at the Rubaya columbite–tantalite mine in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

### IMPACT OF RECORD TANTALUM PRICES ON SWANSON DEVELOPMENT

The Company notes that the pricing assumptions applied in the Swanson Tantalum Project's 2023 Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS)<sup>12</sup> are materially below currently observed market levels.

In the DFS, a price of US\$91.87/lb for 25% Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> inclusive of cost, insurance, and freight delivered to main port Europe was used. The DFS presented financial metrics on a 100% equity basis as follows: Project Post Tax NPV8% of Au\$15.36M, Life of Mine EBITDA of Au\$48.35M, Average Annual Free Cash Flow of Au\$6.38M, Internal Rate of Return (Post-Tax) of 25.4%, a Capex of Au\$14,786,545 (US\$9,870,850) and a Capex payback of 3.2 Years.

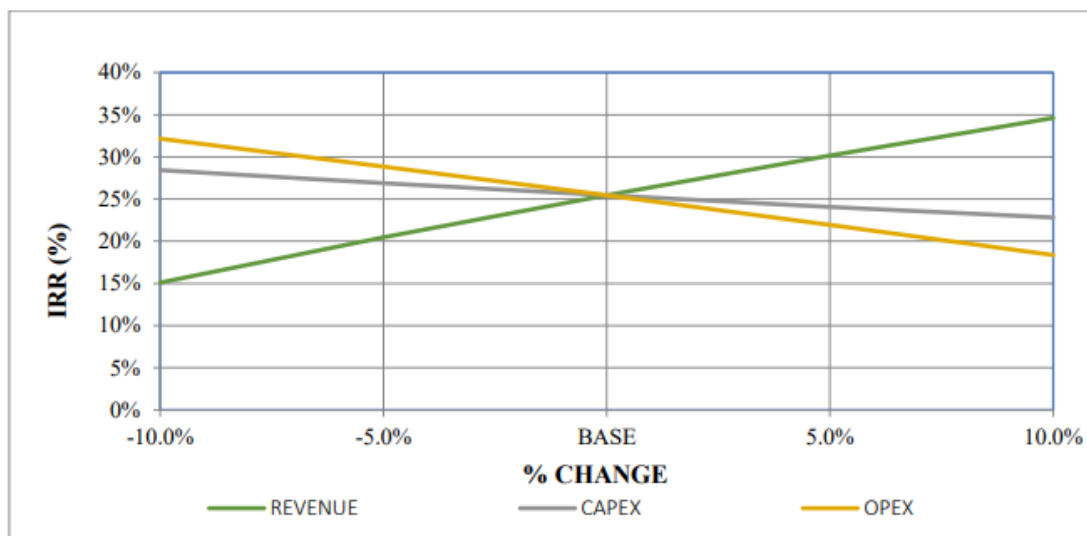
Further, as outlined in the DFS, the tantalum price represents the most sensitive input within the Project's economic model, with changes in price having a significant impact on the financial outcomes of the Project. Figures 1 and 2 on the following page from the 2023 DFS illustrates the sensitivity of an increase in tantalum prices, and its impact on Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR).<sup>13</sup>



**Figure 1:** NPV Sensitivity to Key Economic Parameters. NPV(8%), real, after-tax. Refer to ASX Announcement, "DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator", 31 May 2023

<sup>12</sup> Refer to ASX Announcement, "DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator", 31 May 2023.

<sup>13</sup> Refer to ASX Announcement, "DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator", 31 May 2023. Arcadia confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the previous market announcements and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.



**Figure 2:** IRR Sensitivity to Key Economic Parameters, after-tax. Refer to ASX Announcement, “DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator”, 31 May 2023

As illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 above, **every 10% increase** in the assumed realised tantalum price (original assumed price of \$91.87/lb, 25% concentrate) results in a ~**A\$6.5m** increase in NPV and a ~**10%** increase in the post-tax IRR.

Arcadia considers that the current pricing environment represents a favourable shift relative to the parameters applied in the DFS. The stronger pricing environment further strengthens the case for the construction and commissioning of a gravimetric processing plant at ML223, as well as to the potential for further exploration activities across EPL5047.

Discussions between Arcadia and Xinhai remain ongoing, with both parties progressing engagement in relation to a potential transaction. Arcadia notes that there is no certainty or guarantee that a definitive agreement in relation to the option agreement will be reached.

The Company will continue to update the market as discussions progress.

**This announcement has been authorised for release by the directors of Arcadia Minerals Limited.**

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### **ABOUT ARCADIA MINERALS**

Arcadia Minerals Limited (ASX: AM7) holds a diversified portfolio of resources projects in Namibia, across the critical, precious, and strategic metals sectors. The Company's exploration strategy focuses on high-potential regions and advanced-stage projects, providing a balanced approach to creating value for shareholders. For more details, please visit [www.arcadiaminerals.global](http://www.arcadiaminerals.global)

### **Bitterwasser Lithium Projects (50% effective Interest)**

The Bitterwasser Lithium Projects are highly prospective lithium assets and are comprised of Lithium-in-Clays and Lithium-in-Brine exploration opportunities. The projects have already shown promising lithium concentrations in clay-rich zones and has an established JORC resource (refer to tables below). Covering a vast area, the projects are large, and both are underexplored which may present significant growth prospects.

### **TVC Projects (80% effective interest)**

The TVC Projects focus on the Kum-Kum Intrusive Complex and the Tantalite Valley Complex, both of which shares a geological formation with strong lithium, nickel, copper and platinum group element (PGE) mineralisation. Historical data, combined with recent exploration data, highlights the area's potential for large-scale discoveries of these critical and precious metals.

### **Karibib Copper-Gold Project (68% effective interest)**

The Karibib Copper-Gold Project is located in the Damara Belt, a region known for hosting major copper and gold deposits. Located within a rapidly growing gold district, the project benefits from excellent infrastructure and access to skilled labour. The project has significant potential for a major discovery through the application of modern exploration technology, such as that used by Osino Resources, recently acquired by Yintai Gold for US\$272m in February 2024.

### **Swanson Tantalum Mine (80% effective interest)**

The Swanson Tantalum Mine is focused on tantalum, a critical material in electronics and industrial applications. In addition to the existing JORC resource which confirms the presence of high-grade tantalum, the project also includes multiple follow up pegmatite targets which are prospective for tantalum, lithium and niobium. Significantly, Swanson represents a sustainable and ethical source of tantalum that can be sourced outside of conflict zones, such as Democratic Republic of Congo. A bankable feasibility study has been completed for the Project, which demonstrated robust financial outcomes using relatively conservative inputs.



### COMPETENT PERSONS STATEMENT & PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION

The information in the referenced announcements footnoted below in the table below that relates to Exploration Results has previously been released to the ASX. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information provided in this announcement, and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the historical announcements tabled below continue to apply. The Company also confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings presented in this announcement have not been materially modified from the findings presented in the original market announcements. To the extent this report contains exploration results, estimates of mineral resource or ore reserves and supporting information, the Company confirms that the prior written consent of the relevant competent person has been obtained.

Release Date	ASX Announcements
31 May 2023	DFS Confirms Swanson Project Significant Cash Generator
2 February 2026	Option Granted to Advance Swanson into Production
23 March 2026	Swanson Tantalum Project Continued Engagement with Xinhai

#### Mineral Resources – Swanson

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the Swanson Mineral Resource estimate and all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimate continue to apply and have not materially changed when referring to its updated resource announcement made on 6 May 2022. The Company confirms the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented and have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.

#### Ore Reserve – Swanson

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the Swanson Ore Reserve Statement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Ore Reserve Statement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The information in this announcement has been extracted from the announcement dated 31 May 2023 (*Feasibility Study confirms Swanson Project as significant cash generator*).

## APPENDIX 1 – MINERAL RESOURCE ESTIMATES AND ORE RESERVE

### Swanson Tantalum Project Mineral Resource

At Swanson a revised JORC Mineral Resource of 2.59Mt at an average grade of 486g/t Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 73g/t Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and 0.15% Li<sub>2</sub>O was announced on the 6 May 2022, which was derived from 52 drillholes drilled over 10 pegmatites.

**TABLE 1: SWANSON TANTALUM PROJECT MINERAL RESOURCE (JORC 2021)**

D, E and F Classification	Area	Tonnes (kt)	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Content (Tonnes)	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ppm	Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ppm	Li <sub>2</sub> O %
Indicated	Total D	568	207	365	87	0.27
Indicated	Total EF	577	334	578	65	0.07
<b>Subtotal Indicated</b>		<b>1,145</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0.17</b>
Inferred	Total D	444	162	365	79	0.34
Inferred	Total EF	995	554	557	69	0.00
<b>Subtotal Inferred</b>		<b>1,439</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>0.14</b>

### Swanson Tantalum Project Ore Reserve

Swanson Ore Reserve announced on 31 May 2023.

**TABLE 2: PROVED AND PROBABLE ORE RESERVES FOR THE SWANSON PEGMATITIES**

D & E F Ore Reserve	Area	Mass (kt)	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (ppm)	Li <sub>2</sub> O (%)	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (tonnes)
Proved	Total D	0	0	0	0
	Total EF	0	0	0	0
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Probable	Total D	409	347	0.23%	142
	Total EF	457	550	0.07%	251
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>393</b>

**Note:** Ore Resources are reported at 236 ppm Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> cut-off. Only Lithium from D Pegmatites will be recovered.



## DISCLAIMER

Some of the statements appearing in this announcement may be forward-looking statements. You should be aware that such statements are only predictions and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. Those risks and uncertainties include factors and risks specific to the industries in which Arcadia operates and proposes to operate as well as general economic conditions, prevailing exchange rates and interest rates and conditions in the financial markets, among other things. Actual events or results may differ materially from the events or results expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement. No forward-looking statement is a guarantee or representation as to future performance or any other future matters, which will be influenced by a number of factors and subject to various uncertainties and contingencies, many of which will be outside Arcadia's control.

The Company does not undertake any obligation to update publicly or release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after today's date or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to the fairness, accuracy, completeness or correctness of the information, opinions or conclusions contained in this announcement. To the maximum extent permitted by law, none of Arcadia, its directors, employees, advisors or agents, nor any other person, accepts any liability for any loss arising from the use of the information contained in this announcement. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements in this announcement reflect views held only as at the date of this announcement.

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