4/2/2014 732 444 1083

www.advisoryandcompensatedresearch.com

The state of New Jersey Bureau of Securities declared our new investment advisor "John Tumazos Advisory and Compensated Research, LLC" (CRD #157606) effective June 29, 2011. We organized a separate investment advisor and segregate our post-conference research concerning these companies where we have past advisory relationships. Counsel advised us that regulators may challenge our research as "not independent" after accepting advisory fees. We segregate our company research involving disclosed advisory relationships that may be perceived as ethical conflicts.

These are not "paid research reports." We invested in Texas Rare Earth Resources in early stages in 2010, and advised them afterwards in 2011. We invested in Platinum Group Metals over several years, and did platinum market studies for them recently.

Our Michael Foley moderated the Texas Rare Earth and Platinum Group Metals presentations, and we limited our summary of the TRER webcast remarks. We are not legally an "insider" at Texas Rare Earth Resources 90 days after leaving its board, which we chaired the Board from August 6, 2012 to May 27, 2013.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF MARCH 31, 2014 METALS CONFERENCE PAST ADVISORY CLIENTS PLATINUM GROUP METALS AND TEXAS RARE EARTH RESOURCES

- <u>Platinum Group Metals</u> will produce 275,000 oz of PGMs and gold at its 74%-owned Western Bushveld Project 1 under construction for \$0.5 billion with first output scheduled for 2015. It forecasts \$700 per oz direct cash production costs at an 8:1 rand exchange rate, where recent terms near 10.8:1 may provide lower costs.
- Platinum Group Metals has made additional discoveries at its 49.76%-owned Waterberg and 87%-owned Waterberg Extension over a 30 km strike. It has not yet estimated a resource at the Waterberg Extension, which we estimate at 75 mmt at a 25% higher grade than Waterberg itself. These are thicker than the first mine, but also very shallow.
- We estimate <u>Platinum Group Metals</u> has found 42 mm oz of precious metals on a 100% basis, including our estimate of the Waterberg Extension. It has raised \$355 mm in equity in 2013 and a \$195 mm senior loan.
- We suspended coverage in June 2012 for <u>Texas Rare Earth Resources</u> after the ex-Newmont managers presented a \$2.13 billion cap ex proposal. We stood in July 2012 as a member of a proposed new board. We were non-executive chairman from August 6, 2012 to May 27, 2013, where after 90 days we no longer were an "insider." We filed a 13D in June 2013 describing our change in status as slightly over a 5% shareholder, where we declined to sign a document agreeing with management policy as we resigned and wrote a publicly filed resignation letter opining the company should be sold.
- <u>TRER</u>'s December 20, 2013 Preliminary Economic Assessment estimated initial cap ex at \$293 mm, a 69% pretax IRR, a \$1.47 billion pretax NPV and 1.5 year payback.

- The second PEA reduced the capital requirement to \$293 mm from \$2.13 billion in the prior June 15, 2012 first PEA, while providing a 25% capital cost contingency and a 10% operating cost contingency. It reduced the scale to 20,000 from 80,000 mtpd, while quadrupling the estimated IRR. TRER invented sulphuric heap leaching of yttrofluoride rare earth ores, which its second PEA applies in place of conventional froth flotation.
- The December 20, 2013 PEA (1) did not include lithium, beryllium, uranium or other non-rare earth elements, (2) excluded 82% of the documented resources, (3) excluded exploration beyond the upper volcanic zones of the first of four mountains without considering sedimentary "feeder zones," and (4) used spot prices after 2012-2013 declines.

## Platinum Group Metals Ltd.

Kris Begic, VP Corporate Development

Platinum Group Metals will produce 275,000 oz of PGMs and gold at its 74%-owned Western Bushveld Project 1 under construction for \$0.5 billion with first output scheduled for 2015. It forecasts near \$700 per oz direct cash costs at an 8:1 rand exchange rate, where recent terms near 10.8 rand may provide lower costs.

Platinum Group Metals has made additional discoveries at its 49.76%-owned Waterberg and 87%-owned Waterberg Extension over a 30 km strike. It has not yet estimated a resource at the Waterberg Extension, which we estimate at 75 mmt at a 25% higher grade than Waterberg itself. Platinum Group estimates a larger \$900 mm cap ex for the second mine, which requires more water and electricity transmission infrastructure for 2018 output.

We estimate Platinum Group Metals has found 42 mm oz of precious metals on a 100% basis, including our estimate of the Waterberg Extension. Its minerals are very shallow within several hundred kilometers of surface amenable to mechanization. It will employ 4,000 people after production. We estimate that 7 large historic platinum mines of competitors representing 28% of world output in 2012 range from 1 to 2 km deep where one ranges to 2.9 km deep, where Platinum Group is much more competitive.

It has raised \$355 mm in equity in 2013 and a \$195 mm senior loan. It holds over \$200 mm in cash currently. It hopes that the 74%-owned Western Bushveld Project 1 will help fund the second mine at Waterberg. Further, it may consolidate the Waterberg and Waterberg Extension, where a drop in its 87% Waterberg Extension stake also may raise cash to help fund Waterberg mine construction as a single standalone second project with its own consolidated infrastructure.

The current strike involves 75,000 employees, where the mines offered a 9% and the AMCU asked for a 100% wage hike. On April 1<sup>st</sup> Impala Platinum said it would buy platinum on the open market to meet customer needs. Anglo American has said it may spin off, sell or shut its platinum mines.

Platinum Group needed 11 months for permitting, where PolyMet Mining in Minnesota has been seeking its permits for over 8 years without completion. It will have 40 MW of power contracted for 2016 at full output.

Figure 1 and 2: Platinum Group Metals on Western Limb and Northern Limb of Bushveld (pdf Slide 6 and 12).

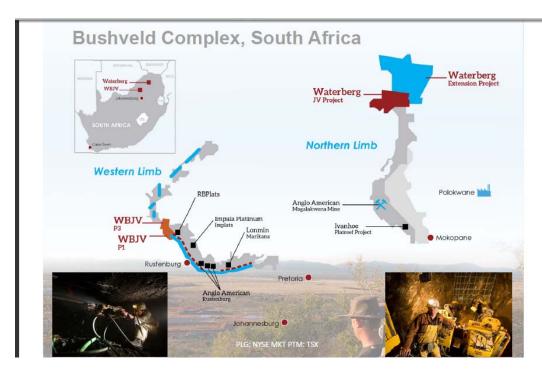




Figure 3 and 4: Round Top Deposit of TRER (Slides 8 and 10 of TRER pdf)



"Unlocking a National Treasure"



## **A National Treasure**

One of four related mountains in plain view in America's own back yard, near El Paso in west Texas

8



"Unlocking a National Treasure"

## **Round Top Mountain**

1,250 feet high by 1 mile in diameter



and it's almost all mineralized heavy rare earth material!

10

### **Texas Rare Earth Resources**

Tony Marchese, Chairman

**TRER**'s December 20, 2013 Preliminary Economic Assessment estimated initial cap ex at \$293 mm, a 69% pretax IRR, a \$1.47 billion pretax NPV and 1.5 year payback.

The second PEA reduced the capital requirement to \$293 mm from \$2.13 billion in the prior June 15, 2012 first PEA, while providing a 25% capital cost contingency and a 10% operating cost contingency. It reduced the scale to 20,000 from 80,000 mtpd, while quadrupling the estimated IRR. TRER invented sulphuric heap leaching of yttrofluoride rare earth ores, which its second PEA applies in place of conventional froth flotation.

The December 20, 2013 PEA (1) did not include lithium, beryllium, uranium or other non-rare earth elements, (2) excluded 82% of the documented resources, (3) excluded exploration beyond the upper volcanic zones of the first of four mountains without considering sedimentary "feeder zones," and (4) used spot prices after 2012-2013 declines.

Dr. Deepak Malholtra, a prominent independent metallurgist, co-authorized the December 20, 2013 PEA completed by Gustavson Associates. Dr. Roshan Bhappu of Mountain States lab in Tuscon, the father of the chairman of Molycorp, is another famous outside metallurgist, did some independent testing in 2011 and 2012 that gave hints heap leaching could be effective. Dr. Nick Pingitore, an outside director of TRER, invented the sulphuric acid heap leach process invented in the PEA. Dr. Malholtra conducted the independent heap leach tests in his lab at Resource Development Inc., including "column tests," to verify the process discovery in 2013. A 5,000 or 10,000 tonne "test heap" could be a next step in process development towards a definitive feasibility study.

TRER may be the world's largest deposit of seven heavy rare earth elements - - Dysprosium DY, Yttrium Y, Ytterbium Yb, Holmium Ho, Erbium Er, Lutetium Lu and Thulium Tm. At 20,000 mtpd it would produce 9,000 t or 9% of the world's lithium carbonate selling for \$5,500 per tonne for lithium carbonate, or a \$50 mm revenue stream. Its uranium resources may rank #14 in the World Nuclear Assn. tables as a nation for uranium and #8 for thorium. Both its low grade beryllium in the volcanic rhyolite of its volcanic mountain and high grade beryllium zones at ground level depth near the contact of the volcanics and sediments each could be the lowest cost beryllium deposits in the world.

TRER's product mix is very different than most REE companies, whose major products are the three "light" REE - - Cerium Ce, Lanthanum La and Neodyminum Nd. TRER's product mix is very different than Molycorp, for example, where the three "light REE" are less than 10% of TRER's volume but over 90% of MCP's volume.

TRER enjoys excellent infrastructure, where an existing 7,000 mptd aggregate quarry has a rail spur up to the Sierra Blanca mountain next to Round Top. The quarry has a roughly \$2 per tonne mining cost. Round Top lies 4 miles north of Interstate 80.

Stripping ratios will be nearly nil, as the entire mountain is mineralized at roughly uniform grades. The coefficient of variation for many of the 15 REE and 5 non-REE minerals are near 0.2, versus 2.0 common to some gold deposits.

Marchese said TRER has capital to last to August 2014, and the investment banking firm will help it raise some capital to go to the "next phase" by potential joint venture, sale of the company and prefers TRER would not raise equity at recent prices. It raised equity at \$2.50 in 2011.

We are unhappy that TRER has not completed the re-analysis described in its press release on September 6, 2012 that it directed its consultants Gustavson Associates on August 23, 2012 to incorporate uranium and a plethora of other non-rare earth minerals excluded from in the June 2012 resource calculation. We believe the overdue re-assay process should (1) incorporate lithium and beryllium, (2) assay for "acid consumer" minerals such as magnetite, columbite, hematite, other iron minerals, total iron, calcium, feldspar, clays or other acid consumers and (3) "acid reactive" elements that might make the sulphuric acid more corrosive of piping, fittings, takes, etc. that may require \$25/lb titanium as opposed to 700 series specialty metals (say 56% nickel), stainless (8%-12% nickel) or \$0.40 per lb mild steel construction materials.

We believe the preparation of the most accurate resource definition are important for Gustavson Associates or other technical consultants to prepare studies or for the Asian financial advisor or the investment banker to perform their duties. We are disappointed that TRER places a higher priority on the CEO salary, legal fees often larger than salaries, Board meetings, web site redesign, public relations or travel.

We provide our metals industry earnings estimates, gold price assumption and related data for the stocks under regular coverage at "John Tumazos Very Indpendendent Research, LLC" as a basis for comparison.

Universe Table	1. METALS	SUNDERLYING	ASSUMPTIONS

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009E	2010	2011	2012	2013E	2014E	2015E	2016E
U.S. Steel Shipments (mm Tons)	105.6	111.3	105.0	109.5	8.5	60.3	83.4	91.9	95.9	95.4	97.1	97.3
Gold Price (\$/oz)	438	604	697	870	972	1,229	1,585	1,662	1,406	1,400	1,500	1,550
Silver Price (\$/oz)	\$7.00	\$11.52	\$13.00	\$14.86	\$14.75	\$20.29	\$35.63	\$31.16	\$23.72	\$21	\$25	\$25
Copper Price (\$/lb)	\$1.65	\$3.08	\$3.20	\$3.11	\$2.34	\$3.44	\$4.00	\$3.63	\$3.34	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$2.50
Nickel Price (\$/lb)	\$6.71	\$10.93	\$16.84	\$9.46	\$6.65	\$9.92	\$10.42	\$7.93	\$6.83	\$7.25	\$8.00	\$8.00
Alum Ingot (\$/lb)	\$0.84	\$1.13	\$1.20	\$1.18	\$0.76	\$0.99	\$1.09	\$0.91	\$0.84	\$0.79	\$0.85	\$1.00
Causana Camanani sananta AICI s	Caman, 11	AL and IT	VID LLC -	-4:4								

Universe Table 2: John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC Metals and Mining Coverage Universe

						Earnings Estimates				P/E Mu	ltiples	<b>Gross Cash Flows</b>		
			Price	Target	Mkt Cap	Shares	2013E	2014E	2015E	2014E	2015E	2014E	2014E	
	Steel	Rating	3/28/14	Price	(\$ mm)	3/28/14	EPS	EPS	EPS	P/E	P/E	CF/Share	P/CF	
X	US Steel	N	27.17	18	3,919	144.2	(\$2.13)	\$1.71	\$1.68	15.9	16.2	\$6.79	4.0	
NUE	Nucor	U	50.06	30	15,951	318.6	1.17	3.01	1.42	16.7	35.4	5.00	10.0	
ATI	Allegheny Technologies	O	37.49	44	4,004	106.8	1.44	(0.20)	1.47	NM	25.6	1.95	19.2	
WOR	Worthington Ind.(May FY)	N	37.65	35	2,651	70.4	2.02	2.19	2.30	17.2	16.4	\$3.04	12.4	
	Gold Mining											1	14 P/CF	
GYSLF	Eco Oro Minerals	O	0.44	5	37	84.2	(0.15)	(0.51)	(0.87)	NM	NM	(0.48)	NM	
ТАНО	Tahoe Resources	O	21.19	29	3,094	146.0	(0.12)	1.26	1.43	16.9	14.8	0.1	232.7	
PVG	Pretium	N	6.07	16	621	102.3	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.04)	NM	NM	\$ (0.05)	NM	
KGILF	Kirkland Lake Gold	O	3.29	12	231	70.2	(0.05)	(0.17)	0.52	NM	6.4	\$ 0.25	13.3	
AEM	Agnico Eagle	O	31.29	43	5,394	172.4	0.69	2.00	2.19	15.6	14.3	\$ 3.75	8.3	
AU	AngloGold	N	17.55	18	7,117	405.5	(5.68)	2.23	3.36	7.9	5.2	\$4.71	3.7	
NEM	Newmont Mining	N	23.92	22	11,888	497.0	(1.33)	1.09	2.48	21.9	9.6	\$3.99	6.0	
GG	Goldcorp	O	25.11	32	20,390	812.0	(3.34)	0.78	1.64	32.1	15.3	\$2.24	11.2	
ABX	Barrick Gold	N	18.30	16.35	18,318	1001.0	(10.14)	0.71	1.53	25.8	11.9	2.62	7.0	
RGLD	Royal Gold	O	63.50	67	3,778	59.5	1.87	2.52	3.38	25.2	18.8	4.50	14.1	
FNV	Franco Nevada	N	46.90	41	6,768	144.3	1.32	1.44	1.46	32.6	32.2	2.32	20.2	
SLW	Silver Wheaton	N	23.15	23	8,319	359.4	1.10	1.31	1.40	17.7	16.5	1.77	13.1	
	Copper/Nickel/Diversified											1	14 P/CF	
PLM	Polymet Mining	N	1.36	1.5	384	282.1	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.06)	NM	NM	(0.03)	NM	
DULMF	Duluth Metals	N	0.59	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GMO	General Moly	U	1.03	2	94	91.2	(0.18)	(0.35)	0.05	NM	20.0	(0.17)	NM	
тс	Thompson Creek	N	2.18	2	374	171.6	(0.63)	0.29	0.39	7.4	5.5	\$ 0.73	3.0	
нвм	HudBay Minerals	U	7.64	4	1,314	172.0	(0.10)	(0.17)	0.01	NM	NM	0.58	13.1	
CCJ	Cameco	N	23.01	24	9,324	405.2	0.58	0.76	0.96	30.2	24.0	1.59	14.5	
FSUMF	Fortescue Metals	O	4.81	7	14,984	3115.2	0.56	1.30	1.13	3.7	4.2	1.63	3.0	
ANFGF	Antofagasta PLC	N	13.20	13	13,013	985.9	0.89	0.76	0.80	17.4	16.5	\$ 1.14	11.6	
тск	Teck Resources Ltd	N	21.60	21	12,491	578.3	1.66	0.69	0.68	31.3	31.7	\$ 3.32	6.5	
FCX	Freeport-McMoRan Cop.	O	32.86	56	32,778	997.5	3.72	4.71	5.23	7.0	6.3	\$6.47	5.1	
GLCNF	GlencoreXstrata	N	5.17	5	57,352	11093	(0.67)	0.25	0.35	20.4	14.9	0.65	8.0	
AAUKY	Anglo American ADR	N	12.52	6	31,491	2515.2	0.65	0.58	0.74	21.6	16.8	2.66	4.7	
RIO	Rio Tinto ADR	N	54.74	53	101,214	1849.0	2.91	1.90	2.55	28.9	21.5	6.59	8.3	
	Vale	O	13.68	18	69,806	5102.8	0.11	2.70	1.95	5.1	7.0	3.77	3.6	
VALE	vale	O												
VALE BHP	BHP Billiton ADR	0	67.43	83	180,038	2670.0	4.07	5.21	3.78	12.9	17.8	12.28	5.5	
			67.43	83	180,038	2670.0	4.07	5.21	3.78	12.9	17.8			
	BHP Billiton ADR		67.43 4.48	83	180,038 3,091	2670.0 690.0	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	12.9 NM	17.8 NM		5.5 1 <b>4 P/CF</b> NM	
ВНР	BHP Billiton ADR  Aluminum	O										(0.01)	14 P/CF	

 $Sources:\ Company\ reports,\ AISI,\ Comex,\ LME\ and\ JTVIR,\ LLC\ estimates.$ 

Universe Table 3: John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC Metals and Mining Universe (cont.)

2014E Tang Est. Tang 20			
Book Book BV/share Price/ 2014 2014 EV Steel Value Value 2014 Tang. BV EV EBITDA EBIT		Div.	Yield
Steel         Value         Value         2014         Tang. BV         EV         EBITDA         EBIT           x         US Steel         4,267         2,192         \$15.20         1.8         \$11,311         \$1,321		\$0.20	0.74%
NUE Nucor 7,944 5,329 \$16.74 3.0 \$19,074 \$2,215		\$ 1.48	2.96%
		\$ 0.72	1.92%
		\$0.72	1.38%
100 VVOITIIII GUIT III (Way 1130 000 023 \$7.00 4.2 \$3,133 \$310	10.0	Ψ0.52	1.5070
Gold Mining 14 TBVPS		Div.	Yld
GYSLF Eco Oro Minerals 37 37 \$0.40 1.1 \$761 (14)	NM S	\$ -	0.00%
тано Tahoe Resources 978 978 6.61 3.2 \$2,929 304	9.6	\$ -	0.00%
PVG Pretium 1,117 1,117 \$ 7.58 0.8 \$ 420 \$ (8)	NM S	\$ -	0.00%
кыто Kirkland Lake Gold 236 236 \$ 3.36 1.0 \$ 354 \$ 20	17.8	\$ -	0.00%
AEM Agnico Eagle 3,738 3,508 21.62 1.4 \$5,968 847	7.0	0.22	0.70%
Au AngloGold 3,826 3,559 \$8.79 2.0 \$9,701 \$2,598	3.7	0.00	0.00%
NEM Newmont Mining 12,473 12,473 25.10 1.0 22,504 2,461	9.1	0.60	2.51%
<b>GG</b> Goldcorp 21,368 19,914 \$23.58 1.1 \$23,415 2,412	9.7	\$0.60	2.39%
ABX Barrick Gold 14,365 8,210 7.01 2.6 \$26,580 \$4,366	6.1	\$ 0.20	1.09%
RGLD Royal Gold 2,019 2,019 34 1.9 \$3,868 345	11.2	\$ 0.80	1.26%
FNV Franco Nevada 3,204 3,204 21.52 2.2 \$6,315 398	15.8	\$ 0.80	1.71%
suw Silver Wheaton 3,737 3,737 10.40 2.2 8,795 632	13.9	\$ 0.40	1.73%
Copper/Nickel/Diversified 14 TBVPS		Div.	Yld
, ,	NM S		0.00%
	N/A	N/A	N/A
•	NM S		0.00%
тс Thompson Creek 1,573 1,573 \$ 9.01 0.2 \$1,004 171	5.9		0.00%
		\$ 0.20	2.62%
ссу Cameco 5,190 4,893 \$ 12.35 1.9 \$10,409 1,147		\$ 0.40	1.74%
FSUMF Fortescue Metals 5,289 5,289 \$ 3.33 1.4 22,001 7,189	3.1	\$ 0.08	1.66%
ANFGF Antofagasta PLC 8,018 7,860 \$ 7.97 1.7 \$13,333 2,194	6.1	\$ 0.44	3.33%
тск Teck Resources Ltd 18,648 16,980 \$ 29.46 0.7 \$18,928 \$ 2,478		\$ 0.90	4.17%
FCX Freeport-McMoRan Coppe 15,740 11,824 \$ 11.36 2.9 \$52,243 11,858		\$ 1.25	3.80%
GLCNF New Glencore-Xstrata 59,325 50,272 \$4.53 1.1 \$104,178 12,767		\$ 0.11	2.09%
ааику Anglo American ADR 40,252 35,681 28.30 0.4 \$48,610 8,632		\$ 0.35	2.80%
RIO RIO TINTO ADR 60,455 51,053 \$27.61 2.0 \$131,138 \$13,937		\$ 1.64	2.99%
vale Vale (CVRD) 70,794 70,794 \$13.87 1.0 92,124 23,234		\$ 1.18	8.60%
BHP BHP Billiton ADR 83,034 77,808 \$13.56 5.0 \$207,211 \$34,210			2 220/
	6.1	\$ 2.24	3.32%
Aluminum 14 TBVPS	6.1	\$ 2.24 Div.	
Aluminum 14 TBVPS  Awc Alumina Ltd 2.985 2.985 \$1.10 4.1 \$3.380 (\$144) -2		Div.	Yld
Awc         Alumina Ltd         2,985         2,985         \$1.10         4.1         \$3,380         (\$144)         -2	6.1 S 23.5 S 51.7 S	<b>Div.</b> \$ -	

#### **DISCLOSURES**

John Tumazos Advisory and Compensated Research, LLC (JTACR) is a separate investment advisor registered with the State of New Jersey Bureau of Securities on June 27, 2011 as CRD # 157,606. <u>Under no circumstances will JTACR be commissioned by a mining or other publicly traded company simply to write a "paid" research report.</u> Its purpose is to include research reports after separate compensation has been received for an advisory service such as a fairness opinion, mergers & acquisitions advice, introductions of investors in a capital raising or other advisory services. Regulators presume that any "compensation" or potential compensation biases research

reports, however small, and outside counsel advises us that we should not write about a company as "John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC" if compensated or seeking compensation.

We have created a separate web site, <u>www.advisoryandcompensatedresearch.com</u> to support JTACR. It is separate from our normal research investment advisor site, <u>www.veryindependentresearch.com</u>.

Paramount Gold and Silver, Galway Resources and Texas Rare Earth Resources have published favorable results from mineral properties, and their shares appreciated significantly after we received compensation. The purpose of JTACR is to remedy a "regulatory blackout," where we cannot publish research as "independent" under JTVIR after accepting compensation. The creation of JTACR remedies such a "regulatory gag," while openly communicating that we were compensated. It is possible that some institutional investors may consider it to be a "feather in the cap" of a small company that it engaged us to advise them in a transaction owing to our experience.

After receiving compensation from Paramount Gold and Silver in June 2010 for a fairness opinion in its acquisition of X-Cal Resources or from Galway Resources, Tara Gold Resources, Appia Energy, Focus Gold, Texas Rare Earth Resources in 2010 or potentially other companies in the future, John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC (JTVIR) refrains from publishing research reports on such companies.

We define "compensation" as any consideration that creates direct pretax income for any of our businesses, research or advisory or any of our employees personally. However, we do permit companies to defray expenses, and large companies' policies vary. Rio Tinto or Teck have invoiced us for charter aircraft. In contrast, we have accepted free air travel to mine sites from Vale within Brazil, Canada or Mozambique, from Agnico-Eagle to Finland, Chihuahua or Nunavut, Stonegate Agricom to Idaho, Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold In Arizona, Fortescue Metals to its mines, HudBay Mineral to Manitoba, Peru or Michigan, Goldcorp in Canada, Mexico and Argentina, Quadra FNX Mining in Nevada, Arizona and Sudbury, Brigus and VG Gold each to Timmons, Augen Gold to Swayze, Paramount Gold and Silver to Chihuahua, Goldcorp to Zacatecas, and many others. We do not define as "compensation" if Barrick Gold, Duluth Metals, Wits Gold or some other company picks up a group client lunch tab or buys us lunch alone. We do not define as "compensation" if a company charters an airplane to facilitate a research visit to a mine location without convenient commercial air service. We routinely invoice companies participating in our investor conferences \$1,000 to \$2,000 each to cover their pro rata expenses of the conference on a "Dutch Treat" basis, where we send each company a full expense accounting of our conferences as well.

The nature of the advisory services we have provided for compensation include (1) fairness opinions to the boards of directors of Paramount Gold and Silver, Tara Gold Resources, Tara Minerals Corp., and Augen Gold, (2) introductions to capital raising for Texas Rare Earth Resources and Appia Energy and (3) advisory on joint venture, strategy or capital raising for Galway Resources Victorio tungsten-molybdenum property.

We have published research since August 2011 under the JTACR investment advisor for Paramount Gold and Silver, Texas Rare Earth Resources, Galway Resources and spinoff companies Galway Gold and Galway Metals. We halted research on TRER after its June 15, 2012 proposal of an 80,000 mtpd \$2.13 billion project and later because we sat on its Board from August 6, 2012 to May 27, 2013.

As of September 30, 2013, Paramount Gold and Silver, Galway Metals, Galway Gold, Tara Gold, Tara Minerals and Appia Energy are eligible for JTACR research reports as having been "advised" and we have been "compensated." In the past we have advised Duluth Metals, Quaterra Resources, the Dorado Ocean Resources former subsidiary of Odyssey Marine Exploration and a private forest products company FXX, LLC without success and without receiving compensation.

We will distribute JTACR reports to JTVIR paid subscribers free, the particular mining companies may distribute JTACR reports from time-to-time and eventually we may sell JTACR to its own subscribers for \$5,000 annually after building up a coverage list.

#### CERTIFICATION OF OUR RESEARCH OPINIONS

I, John Tumazos, certify that the opinions written in all research reports are my own. I believe what we write, and from time to time I may buy or sell the shares we recommend after a 48 hour delay after publishing our reports following the advice we give. Further, I personally proofread and "click the pdf button" on virtually every report we publish except sometimes when I am abroad.

It is my management policy that any employee is welcome and encouraged to disagree with me at any time. We have active and vigorous internal debates concerning appropriate discount rates or long-term terminal growth rates to use in net present value valuations or other analytical issues. My team realizes that customers want to pay for my 30+ years of experience, but I encourage them to disagree, correct or provoke debate concerning any view to improve the quality our work.

#### DEFINITION OF A RESEARCH OPINION

We have target prices, investment ratings, earnings estimates and financial models for about 45 companies upon which we maintain regular research coverage.

The legal or regulatory definition of research, however, is more broad. Regulators consider any written or editorial commentary about a stock or publicly traded company to be "research." However, a "recommendation" or "opinion" is not rendered unless there is a price target and specific buy or sell recommendation.

From time-to-time we visit very large, important global companies outside our research coverage. Our objective may be to be well informed about industry events, predict future

mine output or "supply" in a particular market or to begin to learn about a complex company to begin future full research. We may need to learn and become familiar to provide inputs to our financial models. In May 2008 we published a partial report on Xstrata after visiting two of its mines in South America. In November 2008 we published a partial report summarizing our visits to the London headquarters of Xstrata and Anglo-American outside our coverage as well as Rio Tinto and Antofagasta PLC within our full coverage. In August 2009 we published two research reports on Severstal after visiting its Columbus, MS newest steel plant a second time. These "partial" reports contained no price target, investment rating, earnings estimates or financial models. Instead, they provided detailed descriptions of the important locations we visited or meetings in headquarters.

We provide research about commodities markets in general, "seminar highlights" on up to another 75 or more companies we host annually at our conferences outside our regular full research coverage and "partial reports." We have no price target, written investment opinion, earnings estimates or financial models (production, incomes statement, cash flow or balance sheet simulations) of such companies outside our coverage that speak at our March or November conferences. Any viewpoint we have without complete financial models or careful financial analysis is "winging it."

Our intent is in writing Seminar Highlights is to provide a one page written summary of each seminar participant company's presentation. We provide live open, public, unrestricted webcasts of each such corporate presentation at our conferences as a courtesy to each participating company, and archive each webcast under the "conferences" tab of www.veryindependentresearch.com.

Our clients should not automatically consider our invitation of a company to speak at our future conferences as a "Buy Recommendation" or complete endorsement. We may not have visited the mines or assets of some of these companies. Occasionally we invite a company to speak to learn more about them as a stage in our learning process. Knight Capital Group co-hosted our November 18-19, 2009 industry conference, providing us with "more hands" to administer the event and share costs. Knight Capital Group invited a company to speak as well. We have been approached by other broker-dealers interested in sponsoring or co-hosting our conferences, and our small team may accept help in hosting 275 or so guests at such a program.

#### ORGANIZATION OF JTVIR

John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC (JTVIR) is organized as an investment advisor in the State of New Jersey and regulated by the NJ Bureau of Securities. We publish about 20 research reports each month covering about 35 to 40 stocks in the metals commodities markets, forest products, aluminum, steel, gold, copper and other mining sectors. We travel abroad or domestically typically each month visiting companies. We host two Metals Conferences each year in which companies make presentations, which are archived for roughly one year at <a href="https://www.veryindependentresearch.com">www.veryindependentresearch.com</a> under the "conferences" tab.

Currently we have over 30 paid clients in the U.S., Canada, Switzerland and U.K. Three of our clients have engaged us to write "custom studies" on pre-production mining stocks without any U.S. or global research coverage, including Skye Resources (an 11 bil lb nickel resource in Guatemala), Mercator Minerals (a copper-moly restart in Arizona) and JSW Steel's 70%-owned Minera Santa Fe (48 sq km undrilled magnetic anomaly and associated iron ore properties in 3<sup>rd</sup> Region of Chile).

## BOARD OF TRER AUGUST 6, 2012 TO MAY 27, 2013

On August 6, 2012 we joined the board of Texas Rare Earth Resources, and were elected Non-Executive Chairman. We made an early stage investment in the company after it obtained its core property in the fourth-quarter of 2010, and we and other activist shareholders believed there was room for improvement in its business plan and performance in 2012. We did not expect our participation in TRER to be indefinite, and believed that it will seek a larger mining company to help it complete its projects.

Up until this point we had declined all invitation to join Boards of Directors. We do not want distractions or other activities to weaken JTVIR, LLC. Further, we have a "team psychology" and a large commitment to one another within JTVIR, LLC.

On May 27, 2013 we resigned from the Board of Texas Rare Earth Resources. We were pleased that metallurgical research into sulphuric acid heap leach processes made advances, which determined an alternative process requiring 10% to 20% of the cap ex proposed in the prior June 15, 2012 NI 43-101 study.

We thought it was time to sell the company, and move on. The 2010 identification and possession of the property and the 2013 metallurgical advances added value, and we thought a larger organization would better develop the production plant. We have not sat on any other Boards.

## **JTVIO**

John Tumazos Very Independent Opinions, LLC (JTVIO) is a separate company providing various services "other than" investment research sold to institutions in JTVIR. Counsel advised any other activities be organized separately.

Such other activities have involved < 5% of our time.

In general, we may provide investment banking or advisory services mostly to sub-\$100 mm mining companies that have defined a "deposit," but need more capital after a discovery for infill drilling, bulk metallurgical testing, definitive feasibility study or the capital outlays to build a mine. The "research coverage" of JTVIR largely involves very large companies with completed steel, aluminum, forest products or mine plants with market capitalizations usually between \$1 and \$250 billion. Historic companies often over one century old, such as Alcoa or U.S. Steel or BHP Billiton, will use top ten

commercial or investment banks for advisory services and we make no attempt to be engaged by them owing to their long historic relationships.

We prefer to advise companies without revenues, which large investment banks like Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley or BMO often avoid. Such mining companies without revenues are not as competitively over-banked, and many of the geologists are quite gifted and have extremely promising projects.

We have accepted compensation from Texas Rare Earth Resources and Appia Energy, a private concern, related to introducing investors to them.

In August 2011 we advised the Board of Directors of Augen Gold that a hostile tender offer from Trelawney Mining was "inadequate by \$300 mm." Augen Gold paid us, but retained separately Canaccord Genuity to render the fairness opinion that we did not render.

On October 6, 2010 we were engaged by Dorado Ocean Resources Limited, a privately held company. That assignment has concluded without success or compensation.

On October 9, 2010 we were engaged by Tara Gold Resources to evaluate the fairness of their September 13, 2010 proposed merger to amalgamate with Tara Minerals, which it terminated on March 7, 2011. That assignment took a different form, however, as Tara Gold Resources adapted to new developments. We delivered a "structure opinion" to Tara Gold Resources and Tara Minerals on May 20, 2011 that the cancellation of the announced September 13, 2011 merger was "fair."

On June 24, 2010 we delivered a Fairness Opinion to the board of directors of Paramount Gold and Silver in their acquisition of X-Cal Resources, Ltd concerning the Sleeper gold mine near Winnemucca, NV formerly operated in 1986-1996 by Amax Gold and having past output of 1.66 mm oz gold and 2.3 mm oz silver plus 26,000 oz of placer gold almost one century ago. We covered Amax Gold and its parent companies, Amax Inc. and Cyprus Amax Minerals, as an analyst during its 1986-1996 former period of operation. We have received compensation from Paramount Gold and Silver.

On June 3, 2008 Galway Resources engaged JTVIO to commercialize its Victorio, New Mexico molybdenum-tungsten deposit containing over 200 mm pounds of each mineral in situ, which is JTVIO's first activity (see <a href="www.galwayresources.com">www.galwayresources.com</a> June 3, 2008 press release). We have received compensation from Galway Resources. That assignment concluded, as Galway determined to take its moly-tungsten project in Canada using a new publicly traded listed vehicle.

These past engagements pose no "conflict of interest" with JTVIR research coverage as long as JTVIR does not cover or write on Paramount Gold and Silver, Galway Resources, or other sub-\$250 mm market cap emerging companies. However, subsequently Galway Resources has documented gold occurrences on Galway grounds and begun drilling. After our November 6-12, 2009 trip to the California gold district of Colombia, we

published research reports on Greystar Resources and NOT Galway Resources to avoid conflicted research. We omitted Galway Resources from our "Conference Highlights" report even though it spoke at our November 19, 2009 conference in a similar vein to avoid conflicted research.

Two other small capitalization companies, which we have not named as they have not made disclosures, engaged us to sell assets or negotiate joint ventures. These assignments expired without success or compensation, and we forfeited one year "follow on" periods. We may have occasional discussions with others.

Knight Capital Group asked us to "introduce" capital raising clients to it, principally in the range of \$100 mm to \$1 billion market capitalization emerging mines. Knight paid us nothing, and enjoyed no success. We have terminated that relationship.

JTVIO envisions merger advisory, "second opinion" critiques of investment banking advice, strategic consulting, valuation opinions, fairness opinions, mine technical services such as "Third Party Reviews" of technical studies or other corporate services.

#### **JTACR**

John Tumazos Advisory and Compensated Research, LLC (JTACR) is a separate investment advisor registered with the State of New Jersey Bureau of Securities on June 27, 2011 as CRD # 157,606. <u>Under no circumstances will JTACR be commissioned by a mining or other publicly traded company simply to write a "paid" research report.</u> Its purpose is to include research reports after separate compensation has been received for an advisory service such as a fairness opinion, mergers & acquisitions advice, introductions of investors in a capital raising or other advisory services. Regulators presume that any "compensation" or potential compensation biases research reports, however small, and outside counsel advises us that we should not write about a company as "John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC" if compensated or seeking compensation.

We have created a separate web site, <u>www.advisoryandcompensatedresearch.com</u> to support JTACR. It is separate from our normal research investment advisor site, <u>www.veryindependentresearch.com</u>.

During the second half of 2011 JTACR has published research reports on Texas Rare Earth Resources, Paramount Gold and Silver and Galway Resources. In January 2013 we published research on two spinoffs, Galway Gold and Galway Metals. Thus, it was published only on these five companies, and represents < 10% of our personnel's company research and < 5% of our written research report output.

#### POTENTIAL MONEY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

We manage my own money and one client account. Our trades conform to our published research and follow publication by a minimum of two business days. Client recommendations have first priority.

In November 2011 we accepted our first customer money management account, and we are beginning to set up an account and legal agreement to manage money for him. We are in the process of completing such paperwork.

Money Management for clients could be another line of business. "Mine Development Fund" is a "current" project to establish a small fund to invest in post-discovery, large resource companies (over \$2 billion in situ mineral value already defined) requiring financing to "build the mine" and grow. The target market cap of the companies in which it would invest would be \$0.1 to \$10 billion. Our detailed studies of emerging mines may prove synergistic across several applications. We have also considered creating sector ETFs, but determined there is more value-added in fund management.

Our published over 1,000 research reports to Since July 7, 2007 has concentrated on the metals commodities themselves, steel, aluminum, forest products and larger capitalization mines like Rio Tinto, BHP, Freeport-McMoRan Copper, Barrick Gold, etc. Only 7%-10% of our written research involves the "sub-\$2 billion mine" size range that would be the focus of either JTVIO or Mine Development Fund. Thus, compliance issues or conflicts of interest would occur in a smaller subset of JTVIR coverage as JTVIR coverage involves larger caps, "established processing companies" or commodities. JTVIO or the buy-side Mine Development Fund will focus on much smaller companies

## POTENTIAL MINE SERVICES ACTIVITIES

We do not aspire to have a "consulting" business billed by the hour. However, as a substantial user of mine feasibility study reports or other technical reports prepared at early stages after first discovery, sometimes we are very dissatisfied.

We have not yet launched such a service, but we may from time-to-time provide "Third Party Review," critique or correct what we deem to be shortcomings in such mine scoping study or prefeasibility study reports. We do not seek to "second guess" scientific issues of mine engineering or metallurgy. However, we may differ with the mathematics of reserve determination, capital cost estimates, "simultaneity" of price and cost assumptions, various business planning issues, the opportunity to "phase" or subcontract to reduce initial capital costs or other financial issues. The "custom studies" we have provided to several buy-side JTVIR customers may resemble "Mine Services" future products presented as "Third Party Review" of mine technical studies.

#### JTVIR DISCLOSLURES

"John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC" (JTVIR) is a Delaware Corporation formed July 6, 2007 with registration effective on August 27, 2007 as an investment advisor in the state of New Jersey owing to our place of business in New Jersey.

JTVIR is not a broker-dealer, and conducts no trades. Its primary business is to provide "unbundled" metals, paper and fertilizer industry securities and market research to institutions or corporations in a zero commission, electronic execution, electronic dissemination, unbundled format for a specified annual fee structure.

Our investment rating system for securities recommendations is Overweight, Neutral Weight or Underweight. Overweight or Underweight recommendations are estimated to vary from the relative performance of the S&P 500 by more than 10% annually, and the intended time horizon is up to 24 months. Our securities research is intended for institutional investors that might buy up to 10% of a given company, and as such focuses more towards longer-term dynamics impacting the net present value of future cash flows rather than "day trading" sorts of near-term issues.

Except for BHP Billiton, Norbord, Pan American Silver, FCX, Cliffs Natural Resources, Platinum Group Metals, SilverWillow Energy, VMS Ventures, Advanced Exploration Inc., New Gold, Vale, Anglo American, Allegheny Technologies, Tahoe Resources, Everton Resources, Majescor, Anglo Aluminum, Stonegate Agricom, Detour Gold, Silvercrest Mines, St. Andrews Goldfields, Torex Gold, Premier Gold, Wits Gold, Virginia Mines, Paramount Gold and Silver, Entrée Gold, Claude Resources, Kirkland Lake Gold, Magellan Minerals, Argonaut Resources, Northern Superior, Connacher Oil and Gas, Duluth Metals, URU Metals, Appia Energy, Texas Rare Earth Resources Corp., Galway Gold, Galway Metals, Eco Oro (Greystar Resources), Pilot Gold, South American Silver, Renaissance Gold, and Atna Resources, neither JTVIR, its members or is employees own or have a financial interest in any securities discussed in this report or any reports we have published recently. Our policy is full disclosure.

Our policy permits personal trading in the metals or paper industries. Our policy is that any personal trading must be consistent with our recommendation, made two business days or more AFTER a recommendation or change in recommendation and held for a minimum of 30 days or one month. We believe it is virtuous for a securities analyst to "put his or her money where his mouth is" to invest consistent with the recommendation to clients after such recommendation has been made, and we disagree with some restrictions made upon broker-dealer employees after 2000 era scandals.

Until August 6, 2012 when we joined the board of TRER, we had declined all requests to join corporate boards as our existing business keeps us busy. However, our policy permits up to three directorships and up to five consulting projects, advisory assignments or financial advice to corporations that might supplement, backcheck or substitute for certain services of a large investment banking firm. For example, we would accept an engagement to evaluate investment banking advice on behalf of a manufacturing company concerned whether advice is sincere or intended to maximize fees.

Our policy is full disclosure of any advisory relationship or conflict going back three years, except if our corporate clients have not disclosed the asset (or company itself) is for sale.

Numerous prior investment banking relationships existed prior to three years history to the pre-1997 time frame under the employment of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette or Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. Some of these we can recollect included 14 different gold mine valuations or sales for Barrick Gold, LAC Minerals (later acquired by Barrick), Addington Resources (gold assets in Montana acquired by Canyon Resources), Westworld Industries (Bolivian assets acquired by Battle Mountain Gold later acquired by Newmont Mining), Coeur d'Alene Mines, Crown Resources (acquired by Kinross Gold), Freeport-McMoRan Gold (acquired by Minorco later AngloGold later Queenstake Resources), FMC Gold (later renamed Meridian Gold) and others. Sole managed initial public offerings included Reliance Steel & Aluminum and Huntco. Lead-managed initial public offerings included American Steel & Wire (later acquired by Birmingham Steel) and lead-managed underwritings included Ouanex. Co-managed underwritings included the IPO of Century Aluminum and Grupo Imsa and offerings for AK Steel, Kaiser Aluminum, Agnico-Eagle Mines, Cameco and others. Asset sales or purchase advisories, fairness opinion or trusteeships were done for Thypin Steel (sold to Ryerson Tull), Cyclops Corp. (sold to Armco later sold to AK Steel), Allegheny Corp., Bethlehem Steel, the U.S. Dept. of Justice pursuant to the June 1984 merger of LTV and Republic Steel to sell the Gadsden, AL integrated flat-rolled mill, Cobre Copper, and others. Typically more than five investment banking assignments were evaluated, partly executed or "due diligenced" for any completed transaction. Some examples we can recall for which a prospectus was either drafted or partly drafted indicating much work included stock underwritings not completed for Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel, Steel Dynamics, Atlas Corp., Webco, Sharon Steel, IPSCO, Co-Steel Inc., and others.

## ANALYST UNIVERSE COVERAGE:

John C. Tumazos, CFA as of June 2007: Rio Tinto, Louisiana-Pacific, Nucor Corp., Newmont Mining, U.S. Steel, International Paper, BHP Billiton, MeadWestvaco Corp., Antofagasta PLC, Allegheny Technologies, Alcoa Inc., Inco Limited, Bowater, Temple-Inland, Barrick Gold, Abitibi-Consolidated, Weyerhaeuser Co., Alcan Inc., Smurfit-Stone Container, Plum Creek Timber, Worthington Industries, Goldcorp Inc., AngloGold Ashanti, Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, and FNX Mining..

Dynatec, Alcan and Bowater are companies not continued in the research coverage of JTVIR, LLC that was previously included in the prior June 6, 2007 Prudential Equities Group universe owing to takeovers. Smurfit-Stone Container and AbitibiBowater were dropped from JTVIR research coverage after they entered bankruptcy. Skye Resources and FNX Mining were dropped after full coverage initiation due to takeover. FNX Mining, Brett Resources, Linear Gold, Comaplex Resources, Skye Resources, Fording Coal, Gold Eagle Mines, International Royalty, Selkirk Metals, Franconia Minerals and Fronteer Gold are companies that have spoken, were scheduled or invited to speak at our conferences and later taken over, and UTS Energy successfully defended a takeover offer.

Subsequently, since September 2007 JTVIR, LLC has initiated regular coverage of new companies not previously covered in the former universe at the former Prudential Equities Group. These new companies include CF Industries, Teck, Agnico-Eagle Mines, Mercator Minerals, Skye Resources, General Moly, Inc., Duluth Metals, Polymet Mining, Greystar Resources, Vale,

Xstrata, Anglo American, Packaging Corp. of America, Norbord, Rock Tenn, Quadra FNX Mining, HudBay Minerals, Alumina Ltd., Fortescue Metals, and Century Aluminum.

In accordance with applicable rules and regulations, we note above parenthetically that our stock ratings of "Overweight," "Neutral Weight," and "Underweight" most closely correspond with the more traditional ratings of "Buy," "Hold," and "Sell," respectively; however, please note that their meanings are not the same. (See the definitions above.) We believe that an investor's decision to buy or sell a security should always take into account, among other things, that the investor's particular investment objectives and experience, risk tolerance, and financial circumstances. Rather than being based on an expected deviation from a given benchmark (as buy, hold and sell recommendations often are), our stock ratings are determined on a relative basis (see the foregoing definitions).

There is no intention to "balance" the number of Overweight or Underweight ratings, as instances of broad over- or under-performance among basic industrials may occur. JTVIR makes each investment judgment in a "bottoms up" manner based on the assets of each individual company.

### Price Target - Methods/Risks

The methods used to determine the price target generally are based on future earning estimates, product performance expectations, cash flow methodology, historical and/or relative valuation multiples. The risks associated with achieving the price target generally include customer spending, industry competition and overall market conditions.

Additional risk factors as they pertain to the analyst's specific investment thesis can be found within the report.

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recommendation to buy, sell, or hold the company's stock. Predictions, forecasts, estimates for any and all markets should not be construed as recommendations to buy, sell, or hold any security--including mutual funds, futures contracts, and exchange traded funds, or any similar instruments. The text, images, and other materials contained or displayed on any JTVIR product, service, report, email or website are proprietary to JTVIR, and constitute valuable intellectual property. No material from any part of http://www.vervindependentresearch.com may be downloaded, transmitted, broadcast, transferred, assigned, reproduced or in any other way used or otherwise disseminated in any form to any person or entity, without the explicit written consent of JTVIR. All unauthorized reproduction or other use of material from JTVIR shall be deemed willful infringement(s) of this copyright and other proprietary and intellectual property rights, including but not limited to, rights of privacy. JTVIR expressly reserves all rights in connection with its intellectual property, including without limitation the right to block the transfer of its products and services and/or to track usage thereof, through electronic tracking technology, and all other lawful means, now known or hereafter devised. JTVIR reserves the right, without further notice, to pursue to the fullest extent allowed by the law any and all criminal and civil remedies for the violation of its rights. The recipient should check any email and any attachments for the presence of viruses. JTVIR accepts no liability for any damage caused by any virus transmitted by this company's emails or website.

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