Battery anode and graphene additives company Talga Resources Ltd ("Talga" or “the Company”) (ASX:TLG) is pleased to advise of positive developments at its 100% owned Vittangi graphite project in northern Sweden ("Vittangi").

A recent decision by the Swedish Geological Survey (“SGU”) completed the demarcation of Vittangi as a mineral deposit of national interest\(^1\). This designation adds support to consider the exploitation of Vittangi as a mineral deposit when government authorities review development plans and any potential competing land uses.

Under the Swedish Environmental Code, deposits of valuable substances or materials can be defined as being of national interest, meaning municipalities and central government agencies may not authorise activities that might prevent or significantly hinder exploitation of the mineral deposit. The national interest area covers the entirety of Talga’s currently defined Vittangi graphite resources (see Table 1 below), and undrilled extensional deposits, as detailed in Figure 1.

The SGU noted the Vittangi graphite deposit's significance to the country's supply capacity and its special material properties and concluded the deposit constitutes a unique natural asset of valuable substances or materials.

Further, they consider locally produced graphite could help strengthen the competitiveness of the Swedish battery manufacturing industry and that, as the known highest grade graphite deposit in the world, Vittangi could “meet a great need not only within Sweden but internationally”.

The decision\(^2\) takes note of the European Commission’s listing of graphite as a critical raw material and their warning that a lack of access to such critical commodities could slow the development of fossil-free energy sources.

Commenting on SGU's decision, Talga Managing Director Mark Thompson said: "We welcome SGU's decision as a positive and timely development following Talga’s recent lodgement of the Vittangi Graphite Project mining permit applications, towards becoming Europe’s first vertically integrated producer of Li-ion battery active anode material."

SGU Decision Background

In preparing the demarcation SGU obtained extensive information on the Vittangi Graphite Project including details relating to its geology and material properties. The demarcation defines the boundaries of the original declaration of Nunasvaara as a deposit of national interest which contained only a centre co-ordinate. Results from Talga’s extensive exploration work were made available during the investigation and SGU carried out their own detailed electromagnetic survey to assist in the demarcation, which covers approximately 20km strike of graphite mineralisation.

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\(^1\) www.sgu.se/om-sgu/nyheter/2020/juni/detaljavgransning-av-grafitfyndigheten-nunasvaara/

Figure 1. Demarcation of national interest on Talga’s Vittangi Graphite Project. Note mine layout subject to change and based on Company’s PFS (ASX:TLG 23 May 2019).
Competent Persons Statement

The Nunasvaara Mineral Resource estimate was first reported in the Company’s announcement dated 27 April 2017 titled ‘Talga Substantially Increases Flagship Graphite Resource Size, Grade and Status’. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the previous market announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Resource estimate in the previous market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.

The Niska Mineral Resource estimate was first reported in the Company’s announcement dated 15 October 2019 titled ‘Talga boosts Swedish graphite project with maiden Niska resource’. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the previous market announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Resource estimate in the previous market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.

About Talga

Talga Resources Ltd (ASX:TLG) is building a European source of battery anode and graphene additives, to offer graphitic products critical to its customers’ innovation and the shift towards a more sustainable world. Vertical integration, including ownership of several high-grade Swedish graphite projects, provides security of supply and creates long-lasting value for stakeholders. Joint development programs are underway with a range of international corporations.

Company website: www.talgagroup.com