

Processing hub planned for Pilbara lithium boom

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Plans are being developed to create a processing hub to facilitate Western Australia's growing portfolio of lithium projects.

Lithium Australia (LIT) has developed a long-term strategy for the establishment of a lithium processing hub in Port Hedland.

The company has entered into a joint venture partnership with Venus Metals Corporation to undertake the study.

Port Hedland has been nominated as it is close to infrastructure and a number of lithium mining projects, including LIT's Pilgangoora project.

LIT recently announced funding initiatives with Federal Government Business Innovation Grant and Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) - important parts of the strategy to commercialise LIT's Sileach process.

LIT's managing director, Adrian Griffin has been contacted for further information.

The company claims its Sileach process has the flexibility to process any lithium bearing silicates.

LIT will also present at IDC Technologies' Lithium Battery Conference in Sydney, Australia on 24-25 May, 2016.

Other lithium projects in Western Australia include Altura Mining's Pilgangoora project (separate to the LIT development), the Mt Marion project and Greenbushes, the largest lithium mine in the world where further exploration is being undertaken.

Lithium demand is expected to dramatically exceed supply to cater to the explosion in demand for battery storage systems for electric cars and energy grids.