

# EQUITY RESEARCH Materials

18th May 2018

## **Kidman Resources Ltd (KDR.ASX)**

Blue chip offtake

#### **Event:**

Offtake announcement.

#### **Investment Highlights:**

- KDR announced its first binding offtake agreement for its Mt Holland Lithium project, with Tesla Inc, the US pure EV carmaker. The agreement is for the supply to Tesla by KDR of less than 25% share of its lithium hydroxide (LiOH) that will be sourced from the downstream refinery to be built in Kwinana. The refinery will be operated by Western Australia Lithium, the JV between KDR and SOM.
- Price locked in. The agreement is for a three-year fixed price take-or-pay, with two three-year options. We understand that the price agreed has been already locked in, and not subject to future movements in any lithium price market benchmarks. The fixed price should protect both KDR and Tesla from significant falls or rises in lithium prices.
- Supply of approximately 5.5ktpa LioH. Assuming the refinery will produce approximately 37 ktpa of LCE, or 44ktpa LiOH (based on 2Mtpa mine rate) and KDR to have 50% interest, we estimate KDR will supply Tesla 5.5ktpa of LiOH, or 25% of its 22ktpa share of refinery output.
- No accompanying funding. While the brand name of Tesla certainly brings in a
  blue chip offtaker that can underpin future debt financing, we were surprised at
  the absence of either accompanying equity or debt funding, unlike that achieved
  by some of KDR's peers. However we expect that the offtake agreement should
  assist KDR in supporting any future debt/equity financing of the Kwinana
  refinery.
- Further offtake agreements in pipeline. KDR also stated that it is in discussions
  with other parties for most of the balance of its refinery offtake, which have
  materially exceeded its share of production. We believe that these discussions
  will not necessarily result in similar agreements to that agreed with Tesla, and
  could potentially include accompanying equity or debt.

#### **Earnings and Valuation:**

- We have made no changes to our earnings forecasts for KDR.
- Our risked NPV<sub>10</sub> valuation has increased to \$2.78/share (prior \$2.72/share) following rolling our DCF forward by six months.

### **Recommendation:**

- We maintain our Buy recommendation and raise our 12-month price target to \$2.78/share (prior \$.272), based on our risked valuation.
- Catalysts include further offtake agreements; DFS on mine; maiden JORC Reserve; Initial Refinery study; Mining approvals; Decision to mine; and Commencement of mine development.

Recommendation				Buy
Previous			Buy	
Risk				High
Price Target				\$2.78
Previous				\$2.72
Share Price (A\$)				\$ 2.33
ASX Code			KDR	
52 week low - high (A\$)			0.405-2.37	
Valuation (A\$/share) -	risked			\$2.78
Methodology				DCF
Capital structure				
Shares on Issue (M)				400
Market Cap (A\$M)				931
Net Cash/(Debt) (A\$M)				5
EV (A\$M)				926
Share rights (M)				2
Fully diluted EV (\$M)				930
12mth Ave Daily Volume ('000)				3,141
Y/e Jun (A\$M)	2017a	2018e	2019e	2020e
Sales	0.8	0.0	0.0	38.4
Adj EBITDA	-6.7	-8.1	-9.8	14.5
Adj NPAT underlying	-7.2	-8.4	-9.3	8.1
Reported NPAT	-31.3	26.5	29.3	8.1
Adj EPS diluted \$	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	0.02
PER x diluted	nm	nm	nm	107.6
EV/EBITDA x	nm	nm	nm	35.4
*Adj = underlying FSB 6	estimate			
Board				





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The analyst does not own KDR securities.
Foster Stockbroking and associated entities (excluding Carnport Pty Ltd) do not own KDR securities.
Cranport Pty Ltd does not own KDR securities.

This report was prepared by Foster Stockbroking