



## Press release

For broadcast on 18 June 2021  
CNW Broadcast Code

*ECO2 Magnesia: innovation and development project in the Chaudière-Appalaches region*

### **The Government of Quebec awards \$2 million to the ECO2 Magnesia project for the final demonstration phase of the world's first ecological magnesium oxide**

**Québec City, June 18, 2021** – As part of the 25 initiatives selected by the Government of Quebec following the call for innovation and clean technology projects, ECO2 Magnesia is proud to announce it has received a financial grant. The company is awarded \$2 million for its mine tailings revalorization project that will create the world's first ecological magnesium oxide while reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the same time.

This call for projects was launched to help Québec companies that develop and commercialize innovative clean technologies remain at the forefront of their field and seize business opportunities in national and international markets.

ECO2 Magnesia, the result of an ongoing collaboration between SIGMA Devtech and the *Institut national de la recherche scientifique* (INRS), uses state-of-the-art technology that will enable the production of magnesium<sup>1</sup> oxide in the Chaudière-Appalaches region. The ECO2 project will produce up to 360,000 tonnes of mine tailings per year and generate socio-economic and environmental benefits for all of Québec.

#### **Quotes:**

"We are very pleased that the Government of Quebec is supporting ECO2 Magnesia, a project whose success reflects our Quebec know-how. The vision of ECO2 Magnesia goes beyond the traditional and linear business model of extracting, manufacturing, consuming, throwing away. The entire ECO2 operating chain is based on the concept of offering a "second life": recycle, reuse and recover. By concretely applying the principles of sustainable development and the circular economy at all stages of our development, we have managed to produce the first ecological magnesium oxide in the world. We are proud to set an example for others and continue to educate future generations about our green technology. We are proof that it is possible to create a profitable business while having a positive impact on the environment. »

*Kathleen Verret, ECO2 Magnesia Project Director*

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<sup>1</sup> Magnesium is part of the list of mineral Quebec's criticisms and strategies.



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"It is important to recognize the vision of the Ministry of the Economy and Innovation, which recognizes the importance of keeping Québec at the forefront of clean technologies. The ECO2 technology is in itself revolutionary: through an ecological process that also recycles and reuses its own CO<sub>2</sub>, we will give a second life to abandoned mine tailings by revalorizing them into magnesium oxide. As a professor at the *Institut national de la recherche scientifique*, it is a great source of pride to be able to say that we have developed a decontamination and carbonation technology here in Quebec that will create a very high quality magnesium oxide from a widely available raw material while also limiting our ecological footprint. »

*Louis-César Pasquier, professor at the Institut national de la recherche scientifique and co-adventurer of the ECO2 process*

### About

#### **ECO Magnesia**

The projected site for the construction of the ECO2 Magnesia plant is the former mine Carey site, located in the Chaudière-Appalaches region. The commissioning of the full-scale ECO2 Magnesia plant, scheduled for 2024, would create 100 high-tech jobs, transform more than 360,000 tons of mine tailings and avoid the emission of 160,000 tons/year of CO<sub>2</sub> compared to traditional magnesium oxide production technologies. For more information: <https://www.eco2-magnesia.com/index.html>

#### **Institut national de la recherche scientifique**

[INRS](#) is an academic institution dedicated exclusively to research and graduate training. Since its creation in 1969, it has actively contributed to the economic, social and cultural development of Québec. INRS is a research leader in Quebec and Canada. It is composed of four interdisciplinary research and training centers, located in Quebec City, Montreal, Laval and Varennes, which focus their activities in strategic sectors: Water, Earth and Environment; Energy Materials and Telecommunications; Urban planning, Culture and Society and the Armand-Frappier Health and Biotechnology Centre. Its community includes more than 1,500 student members, postdoctoral fellows, faculty and staff.



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