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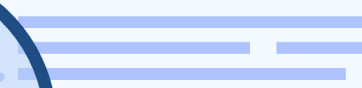
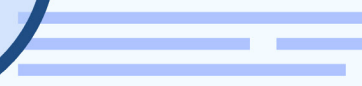
# The **5 Rules** To a Successful Direct Lithium Extraction Adventure

with Andy Robinson,  
President and COO of

 **Standard**  
L I T H I U M



## RULES

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# 1. Resource Grade

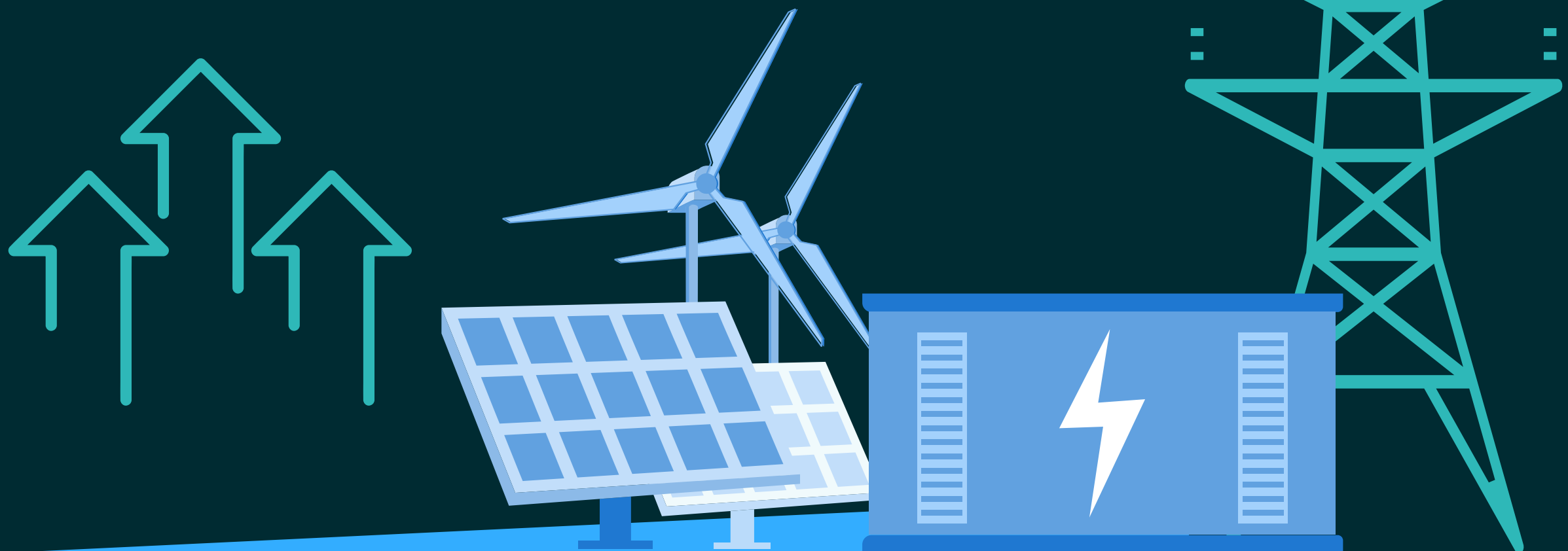
**That one is at the same time straightforward and challenging:**

Whilst we are a water processing business, it still has to have a mining mentality, so the concentration of the thing that you want to get out is a very fundamental lever on the economics of your project.

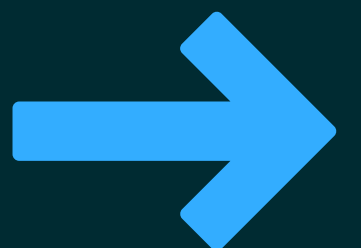


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Indeed, with great technologies available, you could extract lithium from almost any resource - including, for instance, seawater desalination brines.



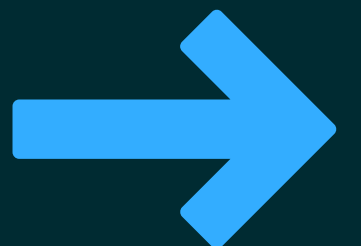
But the economics still have to add up, and they're for sure better at a 10x higher lithium concentration!



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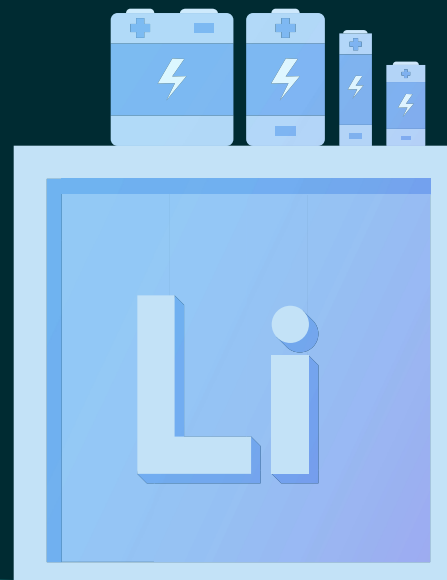
## 2. Size Matters

A very small high-grade resource could be good, but it's not a great story to tell when you're trying to build a very large Lithium producing company. So you need a very large resource.

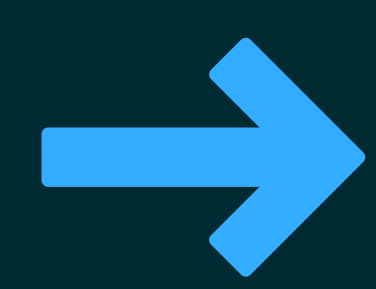


This is where Andy and **Standard Lithium** have been shrewd to target Arkansas and Texas:

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The scale of the Smackover formation is completely unparalleled, more or less anywhere else on the planet. To the best of my knowledge, it truly is a gargantuan resource!



### 3. Nature of the Underground

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Whenever I think about envisaging a fluid-based resource, I would want it to be in a porous media formation rather than a fractured one.



# Why so?

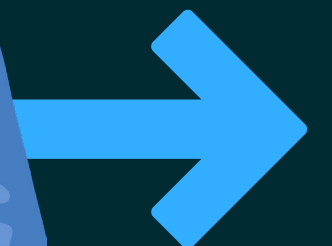
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It's much more predictable. You can understand how it will behave over not just days and years but decades and centuries potentially.



If you recall S9E2, that's what Robert Mintak defined as


**“not chasing discoveries.”**



# 4. Permitting Jurisdiction

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The best resource in gigantic size and an ideal underground may still be frustrating if you're not allowed to dig it out (no, I don't look at you, Bolivia!)



As a project developer, we always have to think about permitting and stakeholder approval. How receptive are the people who live in the area and actually own the resources? How amenable are they going to be to people turning up from Canada, particularly people with funny accents like mine?

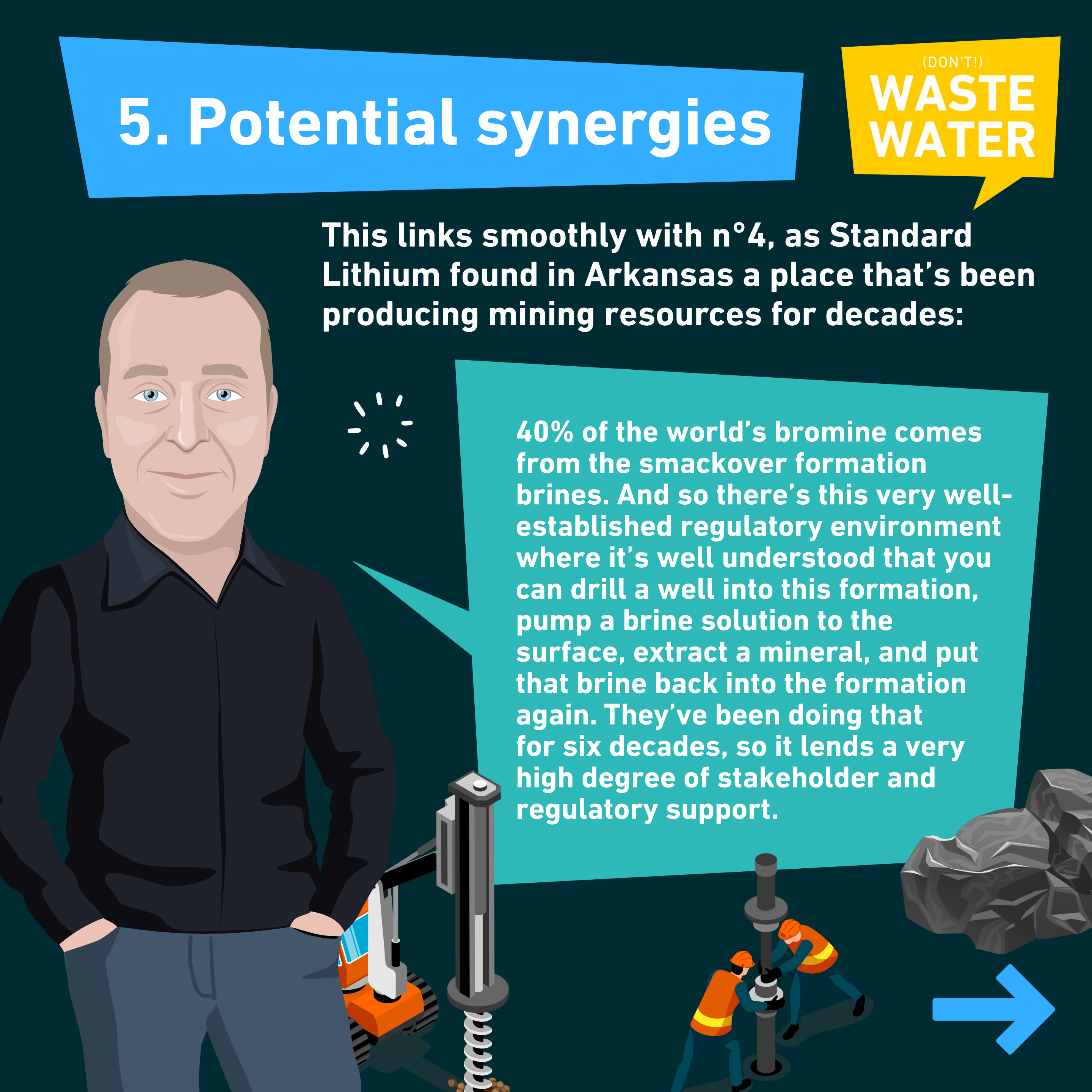




# 5. Potential synergies

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This links smoothly with n°4, as Standard Lithium found in Arkansas a place that's been producing mining resources for decades:



40% of the world's bromine comes from the smackover formation brines. And so there's this very well-established regulatory environment where it's well understood that you can drill a well into this formation, pump a brine solution to the surface, extract a mineral, and put that brine back into the formation again. They've been doing that for six decades, so it lends a very high degree of stakeholder and regulatory support.

**What that also means is that the heavy lifting of pumping the brine around is already in place, and so it's "just" about finding a way to piggyback onto that existing infrastructure and produce White Oil.**

**How? Well, that's what we cover extensively (this, and much more!) in this week's release of the**



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podcast.

**Check it out!**

