



## Progress Report #3

January 20, 2013

I am pleased to report on the highlights of the Steering Committee's third meeting, which was convened on January 10<sup>th</sup> in a conference call.

- The incorporation documents to formally establish CREEN as a Not-for-Profit Corporation have been prepared and will be filed shortly. We have also essentially reached an arrangement with the CIM for it to host and provide administrative support for CREEN. CIM already hosts the CREEN [www.ree-etr.ca](http://www.ree-etr.ca) web site. With CREEN becoming more established, we have several solid recommendations to improve the site, including a domain name change to [www.creen.ca](http://www.creen.ca) that will be implemented over time.
- CREEN will adopt a staged approach to recruit members. In Stage 1 CREEN will secure pledges from prospective members until formal administrative systems are in place (targeted for the end of March). Prospective members will be approached by direct e-mail invitations complemented by calls from Steering Committee Members. Formal membership subscriptions will be signed up during Stage 2.
- A technical workshop is being planned to further identify and prioritize R&D projects: February 26<sup>th</sup>, at NRCan's Canmet offices in Ottawa. Since the meeting room has a capacity for about 35, preference will be given to those prospective members who have formally pledged to join CREEN: "first come first served."
- CREEN has prepared terms of reference for a 2 month project entitled: *Survey and Analysis of Rare Earth Research Activity and Needs in Canada*. This survey would facilitate the organization and direction of CREEN and be very useful to CREEN members, be they supply chain players or service providers. The survey will attempt to cover supply chain companies, their activity and needs; REE R&D activities and skills; processing knowhow; high level overview of REE industry in other countries, plus of knowledge gap identification and other needs.
- An invitation has been received for CREEN to speak at the Innovations Session at the CIM Annual Conference scheduled for Vancouver, May 11-14. CREEN has also received positive media coverage and information requests, including Jason Fekete's article that appeared across Canada via Postmedia. (<http://o.canada.com/news/canada-looking-to-break-into-critical-rare-earth-elements-mining/>)
- CREEN has also been approached by the UK Embassy's science, innovation, and energy policy unit that seeks research collaboration between Canada and the UK, with a particular interest in CREEN or CREEN member participation in the UK Natural Environment Research Council's (NERC) Security of Supply of Mineral Resources research grant programme. The £7 million will be awarded to 3-4 finalists from the 14 projects that have already secured seed funding. These projects are currently searching for industry collaborators to guide and advise their research. Project details can be viewed at the following link: [http://gotw.nerc.ac.uk/list\\_them.asp?them=Mineral+Resources&cookieConsent=A](http://gotw.nerc.ac.uk/list_them.asp?them=Mineral+Resources&cookieConsent=A)

Please feel free to e-mail any suggestions to [contact@ree-etr.ca](mailto:contact@ree-etr.ca)

Ian M London, Chair