West High Yield Moves Record Ridge Closer to North American Magnesium Supply

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North America’s search for secure critical mineral supply is increasingly separating advanced projects from those that remain primarily conceptual. For West High Yield (W.H.Y.) Resources Ltd. (TSXV: WHY | FSE: W0H), the distinction rests on a series of milestones at its Record Ridge Industrial Mineral Mine Project near Rossland, British Columbia: a mining permit, a transportation access permit and a definitive agreement for the sale of magnesium-rich ore.

In a recent InvestorNews interview, Director Barry Baim told host Tracy Hughes that the company is preparing to move Record Ridge from development toward construction and initial mining. West High Yield was established in 2003, and the project’s current position reflects more than two decades of exploration, engineering, permitting and community engagement. What now appears to be momentum, Baim emphasized, was built through years of patient project advancement.

Record Ridge contains a measured and indicated resource of 43.0 million tonnes grading an average of 24.61% magnesium, equivalent to approximately 10.6 million tonnes of contained magnesium, according to the company’s NI 43-101 preliminary economic assessment. The mineralized material also contains silica, with nickel and iron offering additional potential value. That combination gives West High Yield a multi-product opportunity, although the company’s near-term commercial plan begins with the sale of magnesium-bearing ore rather than the immediate construction of a full-scale processing complex.

The regulatory position changed materially in October 2025, when British Columbia issued the Mines Act permit authorizing construction and operation of the mine. In June 2026, the company received a separate provincial access permit covering the highway intersection and related transportation infrastructure needed to reach the site. West High Yield continues to work on detailed engineering, post-permit compliance and the remaining authorizations required before construction and operations can begin.

The commercial anchor is the company's definitive forward sales agreement with U.S.-based Galaxy Trade and Technology, LLC. Announced in March 2026, the agreement establishes an initial two-year term, with an option to extend the relationship to nine years, and sets a price of US$500 per metric tonne of ore during the initial term. Deliveries are expected to range from approximately 6,600 to 7,700 tonnes per week during operating months once production begins, creating potential annual revenue of more than US$30 million.

The agreement also calls for an initial US$5 million deposit to help fund the first ore deliveries. For Baim, the importance of the arrangement goes beyond the headline revenue. A committed buyer provides third-party commercial validation and gives the company a clearer route from permitted project to cash-generating operation. "It shows that we have de-risked this project substantially," he said, adding that West High Yield is approaching the point at which Record Ridge can move into commercialization.

The initial mine plan is deliberately straightforward. Ore would be drilled, blasted, crushed and hauled to a third-party processor, with no chemical processing or refining at the Record Ridge site during this first phase. The company says this design eliminates the need for an on-site tailings facility, process

water circuit or smelting operation, reducing the initial infrastructure burden while allowing it to pursue early revenue.

Longer term, West High Yield intends to add value through domestic processing and a potential magnesium refining facility in Canada. Baim said the company expects to seek a future permit amendment that would support a higher production rate, with management targeting the possibility of more than $100 million in annual mining revenue in a later expansion phase. That objective remains forward-looking and will depend on additional permits, financing, construction, customer performance and the company’s ability to increase production safely and economically.

Record Ridge also benefits from its location. The project is approximately five kilometres from the United States border and sits near established highways, electrical power, natural gas and rail access. Baim argued that this existing regional infrastructure, together with a local workforce familiar with mining, could allow West High Yield to reach initial operations with a considerably smaller capital requirement than a remote greenfield development. He said the immediate sequence is to finish the outstanding authorizations and compliance work, then begin site disturbance and access construction, with management targeting the fall for the start of that activity.

The strategic backdrop is equally important. China accounted for approximately 89% of global magnesium metal production in 2023, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, underscoring the concentration of a material used in aluminum alloys, vehicle lightweighting, machinery, aerospace and defense applications. Baim also pointed to emerging research into magnesium-based battery chemistries, although that market remains far less mature than magnesium’s established metallurgical uses.

West High Yield’s next challenge is no longer simply to demonstrate the size of the resource or the strategic importance of magnesium. It must complete its remaining regulatory and compliance work, secure the capital required for site development, begin construction and prove that the Galaxy agreement can be converted into consistent deliveries and cash flow. If the company succeeds, Record Ridge could become an important source of magnesium-bearing feedstock at a time when North American manufacturers and governments are looking urgently for alternatives to concentrated offshore supply.

That is the central point. West High Yield is not a new entrant attempting to attach itself to the current critical minerals cycle; it is a long-standing developer whose project has reached a materially different stage. The mining permit, access approval and forward sales agreement have created a credible path toward production, but the value of the project will ultimately depend on execution. The coming months will show whether Record Ridge can turn more than two decades of persistence into one of North America’s more consequential new magnesium supply stories.

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