



Overview

The Saskatchewan Critical Minerals Innovation Incentive (SCMII) offers transferable royalty credits for qualified innovation commercialization projects at a rate of 25 per cent of eligible project costs. The program targets a broad range of innovations across 11 emerging critical minerals including aluminum, cobalt, copper, gallium, helium, lithium, magnesium, natural graphite, nickel, rare earth elements, and zinc.

Eligible activities are those that:

- Improve qualifying material recovery;
- Manage adverse environmental impacts;
- Increase value-added processing capacity; or
- Commercialize production of byproducts or waste products for qualifying material.

The SCMII program is open to both pilot projects and commercial scaling projects – giving applicants the ability to test their innovations in a pilot setting then deploy them at larger commercial scales. In addition, projects executed on multiple sites or projects that include multiple phases may be considered eligible to the program under a single project application.

The Ministry of Energy and Resources may recognize the re-deployment of an existing innovation as an eligible project as long as it is demonstrated that:

- It is considered necessary to overcome substantial technical challenges or proof of concept challenges; or
- It is conducted under different operating conditions that pose significantly new technical challenges.

Eligibility

1. **Must** be an eligible innovation:
 - a. A minimum “SCMII Technology Readiness Level” rating of 7 is required.
 - b. **Pilot** – The innovation is new to Saskatchewan’s industry for that qualifying material and does not have an equivalent in the Saskatchewan market.
 - c. **Commercial Scaling** – The innovation is being demonstrated on a significantly different commercial scale or under significantly different conditions that add a degree of novelty or new technical challenges.
2. **Must** be associated with an eligible activity.
3. **Must** include at least CAD\$1 million in eligible costs.
4. **Must not** be operational prior to the application.

Program Highlights

- The credits are fully transferable which gives non-producers/non-royalty payers an opportunity to benefit from the program. SCMII encourages multi-company projects as eligible costs can be incurred by a firm other than the principal applicant.
- SCMII has a project-specific awarded credit cap of CAD\$5 million (i.e. a maximum of up to CAD\$20 million in recognized eligible costs per project).
- SCMII can be used alongside other incentive and grant programs available in Saskatchewan.
- Costs incurred from April 1, 2024, onward, may be recognized as eligible. (January 1, 2018 in the case of helium and lithium projects.)

For more information, contact:

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