

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2024

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to
Commission File Number: 001-39345

QUANTUMSCAPE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)
1730 Technology Drive
San Jose, CA
(Address of principal executive offices)

85-0796578
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

95110
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (408) 452-2000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol (s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	QS	The New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

The number of shares of the registrant's Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share outstanding was 457,805,591, and the number of shares of the registrant's Class B Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share outstanding was 54,665,633, as of October 18, 2024.

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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to “QuantumScape,” “we,” “us,” “our,” or the “Company” in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (this “Report”) refer to the current QuantumScape Corporation and its subsidiaries.

The Company makes forward-looking statements in this Report and in documents incorporated herein by reference. All statements, other than statements of present or historical fact included in or incorporated by reference in this Report, regarding the Company’s future financial performance, as well as the Company’s strategy, future operations, financial position, estimated revenues and losses, projected costs, prospects, plans and objectives of management are forward-looking statements. When used in this Report, the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intends,” “may,” “might,” “plan,” “possible,” “potential,” “predict,” “project,” “prospective,” “should,” “will,” “would,” the negative of such terms, and other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain such identifying words. These forward-looking statements are based on management’s current expectations, assumptions, hopes, beliefs, intentions and strategies regarding future events and are based on currently available information as to the outcome and timing of future events. The Company cautions you that these forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including those described in Part II, Item 1A, “Risk Factors” in this Report, most of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond the control of the Company and incident to its business. It is not possible for our management to predict all risks, nor can we assess the impact of all factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements we may make.

In addition, forward-looking statements in this Report and in any document incorporated herein by reference should not be relied upon as representing the Company’s views as of any subsequent date, and the Company does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date they were made, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable laws.

As a result of a number of known and unknown risks and uncertainties, the Company’s actual results or performance may be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Some factors that could cause actual results to differ include those discussed in Part II, Item 1A, “Risk Factors” in this Report and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”).

PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements.

QuantumScape Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)
(In Thousands, Except per Share Amounts)

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 174,705	\$ 142,524
Marketable securities	666,309	928,284
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	12,700	12,709
Total current assets	853,714	1,083,517
Property and equipment, net	317,509	313,164
Right-of-use assets - finance lease	22,985	25,140
Right-of-use assets - operating lease	52,689	55,863
Other assets	25,080	24,294
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,271,977</u>	<u>\$ 1,501,978</u>
Liabilities, redeemable non-controlling interest and stockholders' equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,635	\$ 12,959
Accrued liabilities	19,674	10,180
Accrued compensation and benefits	22,848	26,043
Operating lease liability, short-term	5,387	5,006
Finance lease liability, short-term	3,149	2,907
Total current liabilities	60,693	57,095
Operating lease liability, long-term	54,374	57,622
Finance lease liability, long-term	32,710	35,098
Other liabilities	13,575	11,986
Total liabilities	161,352	161,801
Commitments and contingencies (see Note 7)		
Redeemable non-controlling interest	—	1,770
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock- \$0.0001 par value; 100,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023	—	—
Common stock - \$0.0001 par value; 1,250,000 shares authorized (1,000,000 Class A and 250,000 Class B); 457,544 Class A and 54,666 Class B shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2024; 433,157 Class A and 59,874 Class B shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2023	51	49
Additional paid-in-capital	4,353,487	4,221,892
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	939	(2,877)
Accumulated deficit	(3,243,852)	(2,880,657)
Total stockholders' equity	1,110,625	1,338,407
Total liabilities, redeemable non-controlling interest and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 1,271,977</u>	<u>\$ 1,501,978</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

QuantumScape Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Unaudited)
(In Thousands, Except per Share Amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Operating expenses:				
Research and development	\$ 96,994	\$ 88,154	\$ 278,587	\$ 251,548
General and administrative	33,164	32,716	117,929	102,842
Total operating expenses	<u>130,158</u>	<u>120,870</u>	<u>396,516</u>	<u>354,390</u>
Loss from operations	(130,158)	(120,870)	(396,516)	(354,390)
Other income (loss):				
Interest expense	(550)	(593)	(1,684)	(1,795)
Interest income	11,347	10,479	35,428	24,075
Other income (loss)	(338)	382	(508)	370
Total other income	<u>10,459</u>	<u>10,268</u>	<u>33,236</u>	<u>22,650</u>
Net loss	(119,699)	(110,602)	(363,280)	(331,740)
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interest, net of tax of \$0	(127)	15	(85)	45
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	<u>\$ (119,572)</u>	<u>\$ (110,617)</u>	<u>\$ (363,195)</u>	<u>\$ (331,785)</u>
Net loss	\$ (119,699)	\$ (110,602)	\$ (363,280)	\$ (331,740)
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	1,458	3,392	3,816	11,550
Total comprehensive loss	(118,241)	(107,210)	(359,464)	(320,190)
Less: Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interest	(127)	15	(85)	45
Comprehensive loss attributable to common stockholders	<u>\$ (118,114)</u>	<u>\$ (107,225)</u>	<u>\$ (359,379)</u>	<u>\$ (320,235)</u>
Basic and Diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.72)	\$ (0.73)
Basic and Diluted weighted-average common shares outstanding	508,957	471,752	502,136	452,503

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

QuantumScape Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest and Stockholders' Equity (Unaudited)
(In Thousands)

	Redeemable Non- Controlling Interest	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
		Shares	Amount				
Three Months Ended September 30, 2024							
Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$ 1,812	503,640	\$ 50	\$ 4,305,018	\$ (3,124,280)	\$ (519)	\$ 1,180,269
Exercise of stock options	—	4,271	—	7,398	—	—	7,398
Shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	—	4,299	1	2,768	—	—	2,769
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	38,303	—	—	38,303
Net loss	(127)	—	—	—	(119,572)	—	(119,572)
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	—	—	—	—	—	1,458	1,458
Dissolution of joint venture	(1,685)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balance as of September 30, 2024	\$ —	512,210	\$ 51	\$ 4,353,487	\$ (3,243,852)	\$ 939	\$ 1,110,625
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024							
Balance as of December 31, 2023	\$ 1,770	493,031	\$ 49	\$ 4,221,892	\$ (2,880,657)	\$ (2,877)	\$ 1,338,407
Exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	—	7,208	—	13,968	—	—	13,968
Shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	—	11,971	2	23,083	—	—	23,085
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	94,544	—	—	94,544
Net loss	(85)	—	—	—	(363,195)	—	(363,195)
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	—	—	—	—	—	3,816	3,816
Dissolution of joint venture	(1,685)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Balance as of September 30, 2024	\$ —	512,210	\$ 51	\$ 4,353,487	\$ (3,243,852)	\$ 939	\$ 1,110,625
Three Months Ended September 30, 2023							
Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ 1,734	447,386	\$ 45	\$ 3,855,602	\$ (2,656,680)	\$ (9,715)	\$ 1,189,252
Exercise of stock options	—	1,300	—	2,297	—	—	2,297
Shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	—	3,259	—	—	—	—	—
Issuance of Class A Common Stock, net of issuance costs of \$11.8 million	—	37,500	4	288,150	—	—	288,154
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	38,791	—	—	38,791
Net income (loss)	15	—	—	—	(110,617)	—	(110,617)
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	—	—	—	—	—	3,392	3,392
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 1,749	489,445	\$ 49	\$ 4,184,840	\$ (2,767,297)	\$ (6,323)	\$ 1,411,269
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023							
Balance as of December 31, 2022	\$ 1,704	437,959	\$ 44	\$ 3,771,181	\$ (2,435,512)	\$ (17,873)	\$ 1,317,840
Exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	—	6,720	1	9,929	—	—	9,930
Shares issued upon vesting of restricted stock units	—	7,266	—	—	—	—	—
Issuance of Class A Common Stock, net of issuance costs of \$11.8 million	—	37,500	4	288,150	—	—	288,154
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	115,580	—	—	115,580
Net income (loss)	45	—	—	—	(331,785)	—	(331,785)
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	—	—	—	—	—	11,550	11,550
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 1,749	489,445	\$ 49	\$ 4,184,840	\$ (2,767,297)	\$ (6,323)	\$ 1,411,269

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

QuantumScape Corporation
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)
(In Thousands)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023
Operating activities		
Net loss	\$ (363,280)	\$ (331,740)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	39,795	31,177
Amortization of right-of-use assets and non-cash lease expense	5,980	5,825
Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts on marketable securities	(23,124)	(10,855)
Stock-based compensation expense	110,471	128,373
Write-off of property and equipment	1,533	6,342
Other	186	474
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses and other current assets and other assets	(777)	(3,985)
Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and accrued compensation and benefits	15,984	(5,544)
Operating lease liability	(3,717)	(2,270)
Other liabilities	1,051	(348)
Net cash used in operating activities	(215,898)	(182,551)
Investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(50,969)	(70,708)
Proceeds from maturities of marketable securities	1,146,587	702,128
Proceeds from sales of marketable securities	1,245	1,477
Purchases of marketable securities	(858,921)	(731,461)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	237,942	(98,564)
Financing activities		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	13,968	9,930
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net of issuance costs paid	—	288,431
Principal payment for finance lease	(2,146)	(1,290)
Dissolution of joint venture	(1,685)	—
Net cash provided by financing activities	10,137	297,071
Net increase (decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	32,181	15,956
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of period	160,572	252,916
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of period	\$ 192,753	\$ 268,872
Supplemental disclosure:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 1,684	\$ 1,195
Purchases of property and equipment, not yet paid	\$ 4,702	\$ 7,289
Common stock issuance costs, accrued but not paid	\$ —	\$ 277

The following table presents the Company's cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash by category in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited) (amounts in thousands):

	As of September 30,	
	2024	2023
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 174,705	\$ 250,824
Other assets	18,048	18,048
Total cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$ 192,753	\$ 268,872

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

QuantumScape Corporation
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)
September 30, 2024

Note 1. Nature of Business

Organization

The original QuantumScape Corporation, now named QuantumScape Battery, Inc. (“Legacy QuantumScape”), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company (as defined below), was founded in 2010 with the mission to revolutionize energy storage to enable a sustainable future. In 2020, QuantumScape became a publicly traded company (NYSE: QS) through a business combination with a special purpose acquisition company named Kensington Capital Acquisition Corp. (“Kensington”) which changed its name to QuantumScape Corporation upon closing in November 2020 (the “Business Combination”). As a result of the Business Combination, QuantumScape Battery Inc. survived and became a wholly owned subsidiary of QuantumScape Corporation (the “Company”).

The Company is focused on the development and commercialization of its solid-state lithium-metal batteries. Planned principal operations have not yet commenced. As of September 30, 2024, the Company had not derived revenue from its principal business activities.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Company’s unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) as determined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) and pursuant to the regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Certain prior period balances have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation in the consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes.

The Company’s policy is to consolidate all entities that it controls by ownership of a majority of the outstanding voting stock. In addition, the Company consolidates entities that meet the definition of a variable interest entity (“VIE”) for which the Company is the related party most closely associated with and is the primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary is the party who has the power to direct the activities of a VIE that most significantly impact the entity’s economic performance and who has an obligation to absorb losses of the entity or a right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant to the entity. For consolidated entities that are less than wholly owned, the third party’s holding of an equity interest is presented as redeemable non-controlling interests in the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and Condensed Consolidated Statements of Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest and Stockholders’ Equity. The portion of net earnings (loss) attributable to the redeemable non-controlling interests is presented as net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests in the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Since 2012, the Company has had a relationship with the Volkswagen Group, including its affiliates Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (“VWGoA”) and Volkswagen Group of America Investments, LLC (“VGA”), collectively referred to as “Volkswagen.”

Legacy QuantumScape was a single-legal entity prior to becoming a partner with Volkswagen in QSV Operations LLC (“QSV”). As noted in the section titled “*Joint Venture and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest*” below, Legacy QuantumScape determined QSV was a VIE for which it was required to consolidate the operations upon its formation in 2018 and the Company continued to consolidate the operations of QSV in its financial statements following the closing of the Business Combination until QSV was dissolved in September 2024 (See Note 10 Joint Venture and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest). The dissolution and deconsolidation of QSV had an immaterial impact on the Company’s unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. Following the dissolution of QSV, the Company no longer has any interest in any VIEs.

All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of commitments and contingencies at the date of the financial statements as well as reported amounts of expenses during the reporting periods. Estimates made by the Company include, but are not limited to, those related to the valuation of common stock prior to the Business Combination and valuation of awards under the Extraordinary Performance Award Program (the “EPA Program”), among others. The Company bases these estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that it believes are reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

The accompanying interim Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2024, the interim Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss), the interim Condensed Consolidated Statements of Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest and Stockholders’ Equity for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, and the interim Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, are unaudited. The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as the audited annual consolidated financial statements and, in management’s opinion, include adjustments consisting of only normal recurring adjustments necessary for the fair statement of the Company’s financial position as of September 30, 2024 and its results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, and cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023. The financial data and the other financial information disclosed in the notes to these condensed consolidated financial statements related to the three-month and nine-month periods are also unaudited. The results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year or any other period.

These unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in the Company’s audited annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023, included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023, filed on February 27, 2024 (the “Annual Report”).

Joint Venture and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest

QSV was incorporated as a limited liability company in 2018. VWGoA, VGA and Legacy QuantumScape executed a Joint Venture Agreement (the “JVA”), effective September 2018, with the goal of jointly establishing a manufacturing facility to produce the pilot line of the Company’s product through QSV. In connection with this agreement, the parties also entered into two operating agreements: (i) the Limited Liability Company Agreement of QSV to govern the respective rights and obligations as members of QSV and (ii) the Common IP License Agreement for the Company to license certain intellectual property pertaining to automotive battery cells as defined in the JVA to VWGoA, VGA and QSV.

Volkswagen is a related party stockholder (approximately 24.7% and 24.0% voting interest holder of the Company as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively). Upon the effectiveness of the JVA, each party contributed \$1.7 million in cash to capitalize QSV in exchange for 50% equity interests.

The joint venture was considered a VIE with a related party and therefore the related party whose business was more closely related to the planned operations of the joint venture was required to consolidate the operations.

The Company determined its operations were most closely aligned with the operations of the joint venture and therefore consolidated the results of QSV’s operations in its Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss), and Condensed Consolidated Statements of Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest and Stockholders’ Equity. QSV had minimal operations through its dissolution in September 2024.

On July 5, 2024, the Company, QS, VWGoA, VGA, and QSV (the “JV Entity”), entered into a Joint Venture Termination and Release Agreement (the “JV Termination Agreement”) to, among other things, terminate the JVA, dissolve the JV Entity, and remove earmark restrictions on \$134.0 million of funds previously reserved by the Company for future contribution to the JV Entity that automatically terminated pursuant to the terms of the JVA. QSV was subsequently dissolved in September, 2024. As part of the dissolution of QSV, \$1.8 million of redeemable non-controlling interest was distributed in cash to VGA.

Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, approximately \$124.8 million and \$115.8 million of our total cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities, are held in U.S. money market funds, and \$617.9 million and \$723.9 million are invested in U.S. government and agency securities, respectively. The Company seeks to mitigate its credit risk with respect to cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities by making deposits with what we believe to be large, reputable financial institutions and investing in high credit rated shorter-term instruments.

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash

Management considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Restricted cash is maintained under an agreement that legally restricts the use of such funds and is reported within other assets as the date of availability or disbursement for all restricted cash is more than one year from September 30, 2024.

Restricted cash is comprised of \$18.0 million as of both September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, all of which is pledged as a form of security for the Company’s lease agreements for its headquarters and QS-0 facility. The restricted cash is maintained in certificates of deposits as of September 30, 2024.

Marketable Securities

The Company's investment policy is consistent with the definition of available-for-sale securities. The Company does not buy and hold securities principally for the purpose of selling them in the near future. The Company's policy is focused on the preservation of capital, liquidity, and return. From time to time, the Company may sell certain securities, but the objectives are generally not to generate profits on short-term differences in price.

These securities are carried at estimated fair value with unrealized gains and losses included in other comprehensive gain/loss in stockholders' equity until realized. Gains and losses on marketable security transactions are reported on the specific-identification method. Dividend and interest income are recognized when earned.

Fair Value Measurement

The Company applies fair value accounting for all financial assets and liabilities measured on a recurring and nonrecurring basis. Fair value is defined as an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or a liability. The accounting guidance established a fair value hierarchy based on three levels of inputs, of which the first two are considered observable and the last unobservable, used to determine the fair value of its financial instruments. A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

- Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity has the ability to access.
- Level 2 – Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets and liabilities.
- Level 3 – Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets and liabilities.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at historical cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the related asset. Improvements that increase functionality of the fixed asset are capitalized and depreciated over the asset's remaining useful life. Deposits for purchases of property and equipment are included in construction-in-progress. Construction-in-progress is not depreciated until the asset is placed in service. Fully depreciated assets are retained in property and equipment, net, until removed from service.

The estimated useful lives of assets are generally as follows:

Computer equipment, hardware, and software	3 - 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 - 10 years
Machinery and equipment	3 - 10 years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of the lease term (including estimated renewals) or the estimated useful lives of the improvements

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company evaluates the carrying value of long-lived assets when indicators of impairment exist. The carrying value of a long-lived asset is considered impaired when the estimated separately identifiable, undiscounted cash flows from such an asset are less than the carrying value of the asset. In that event, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the long-lived asset. There were no material impairment charges in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company incurred impairment charges of \$6.3 million related to the decommissioning of certain assets.

Leases

The Company classifies arrangements meeting the definition of a lease as operating or financing leases, and leases are recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as both a right-of-use (“ROU”) asset and lease liability, calculated by discounting fixed lease payments over the lease term at the rate implicit in the lease or the Company’s incremental borrowing rate which is the rate incurred to borrow on a collateralized basis over a similar term. Lease liabilities are increased by interest and reduced by payments each period, and the ROU asset is reduced over the lease term. For operating leases, interest on the lease liability and the non-cash lease expense result in straight-line rent expense over the lease term. For finance leases, interest on the lease liability and the amortization of the ROU asset results in front-loaded expense over the lease term. Variable lease expenses, including common maintenance fees, insurance and property tax, are recorded when incurred.

In calculating the right-of-use asset and lease liability, the Company elects to combine lease and non-lease components for all classes of assets, and elects to exclude short-term leases having terms of twelve months or less.

Segments

Operating segments are defined as components of an entity for which separate financial information is available and that is regularly reviewed by the Chief Operating Decision Maker (the “CODM”) in deciding how to allocate resources to an individual segment and in assessing performance. The Company’s CODM is its Chief Executive Officer. The Company has determined that it operates in one operating segment and one reportable segment, as the CODM reviews financial information presented on a consolidated basis for purposes of making operating decisions, allocating resources, and evaluating financial performance.

Research and Development Cost

Costs related to research and development are expensed as incurred.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses represent costs incurred by the Company in managing the business, including salary, benefits, incentive compensation, marketing, insurance, professional fees and other operating costs associated with the Company’s non-research and development activities.

Stock-Based Compensation

The Company measures and recognizes compensation expense for all stock-based awards made to employees, directors, and non-employees, including stock options, restricted stock units and restricted shares, based on estimated fair values recognized over the requisite service period. The Company accounts for forfeitures when they occur.

The fair values of options granted with only service conditions are estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. This valuation model for stock-based compensation expense requires the Company to make assumptions and judgments about the variables used in the calculation, including the expected term (weighted-average period of time that the options granted are expected to be outstanding), the volatility of the Company’s common stock, and an assumed risk-free interest rate. The Company recognizes compensation expense for all options with only service conditions on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the awards, which is generally the option vesting term of four years.

The fair values of options granted with performance (e.g., business milestone) and market conditions (e.g., stock price target) are estimated at the grant date using a Monte Carlo simulation model. The model determined the grant date fair value of each vesting tranche and the future date when the market condition for such tranche is expected to be achieved. The Monte Carlo valuation requires the Company to make assumptions and judgments about the variables used in the calculation including the expected term, volatility of the Company’s common stock, an assumed risk-free interest rate, and cost of equity.

For performance-based options with a vesting schedule based on the attainment of both performance and market conditions, along with service conditions, each quarter the Company assesses whether it is probable that it will achieve each performance condition that has not previously been achieved or deemed probable of achievement and if so, the future time when the Company expects to achieve that business milestone, or its “expected business milestone achievement time.” When the Company first determines that a business milestone has become probable of being achieved, the Company allocates the entire expense for the related tranche over the number of quarters between the grant date and the then-applicable “expected vesting date,” which represents the requisite service period. The requisite service period at any given time is generally the period between the grant date and the later of (i) the expected time when the performance condition will be achieved (if the related performance condition has not yet been achieved) and (ii) the expected time when the market condition will be achieved (if the related market condition has not yet been achieved). The Company immediately recognizes a cumulative catch-up expense for all accumulated expense for the quarters from the grant date through the quarter in which the performance condition was first deemed probable of being achieved. Each quarter thereafter, the Company recognizes the then-remaining expense for the tranche through the end of the requisite service period except that upon vesting of a tranche, all remaining expense for that tranche is immediately recognized.

The fair values of restricted stock units granted with service conditions only are based on the closing price of the Company's Class A Common Stock on the date of grant. The Company recognizes compensation expense for restricted stock units with only service conditions on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the awards, which is generally the award vesting term of four years.

The fair values of restricted stock units granted with service and performance conditions are based on the closing price of the Company's Class A Common Stock on the grant date. The vesting schedule of such awards is based entirely on the attainment of both service and performance conditions. Each quarter the Company assesses whether it is probable that it will achieve each performance condition and if so, the future time when the Company expects to achieve that performance condition, the "expected vesting date". When the Company first determines that a performance condition has become probable of being achieved, the Company allocates the entire expense for the related tranche over the number of quarters between the grant date and expected vesting date, which represents the requisite service period. The requisite service period at any given time is generally the period between the grant date and the expected time when the performance condition will be achieved with the service condition also being met.

The Company's 2020 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP") is compensatory in accordance with ASC 718-50-25. The Company measures and recognizes compensation expense for shares to be issued under the ESPP based on estimated grant date fair value recognized on a straight-line basis over the offering period.

The ESPP provides eligible employees with the opportunity to purchase shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock at a discount through payroll deductions. There were approximately 587,000 shares purchased under the ESPP during the nine months ended September 30, 2024. As of September 30, 2024, 9.9 million shares of Class A Common Stock were reserved for future issuance under the ESPP.

The Company established the 2024 corporate bonus plan (the "2024 Bonus Plan") to be settled in part in the form of restricted stock units to eligible employees upon the achievement of certain service and performance conditions. The awards under the 2024 Bonus Plan are classified as a liability prior to the settlement of vested restricted stock units, upon which the liability is reclassified into equity. The 2024 Bonus Plan awards are measured at the grant date fair value, i.e., the closing price of the Company's Class A Common Stock on the grant date. The Company recognizes compensation expense for the 2024 Bonus Plan to be settled in restricted stock units on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of approximately a year.

Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes under an asset and liability approach. Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes and operating loss carryforwards, measured by applying currently enacted tax laws. Valuation allowances are provided when necessary to reduce net deferred tax assets to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized.

The Company recognizes tax liabilities based upon its estimate of whether, and the extent to which, additional taxes will be due when such estimates are more likely than not to be sustained. An uncertain income tax position will not be recognized if it has less than a 50% likelihood of being sustained.

The Company has no provision for income taxes for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023. The Company has no current tax expense from losses and no deferred expense from the valuation allowance. The Company's effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate primarily due to a valuation allowance against its net deferred tax assets as it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

Note 3. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-01, Leases (Topic 842): Common Control Agreements, which clarifies the accounting for leasehold improvements associated with common control leases. The ASU is effective for all entities in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. The Company adopted the guidance in 2024. The adoption of such guidance had no impact on the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements as of September 30, 2024.

In August 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-05, Business Combinations - Joint Venture Formations (Subtopic 805-60): Recognition and Initial Measurement, which addresses the accounting for contributions made to a joint venture, upon formation, in a joint venture's separate financial statements. The ASU is effective prospectively for all joint venture formations with a formation date on or after January 1, 2025. Additionally, a joint venture that was formed before January 1, 2025 may elect to apply the amendments retrospectively. Early adoption is permitted, either prospectively or retrospectively. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In November 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-07, Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures, which improves reportable segment disclosure requirements, primarily through enhanced disclosures about significant segment expenses. The ASU is effective for all entities in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023 and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. Early adoption is permitted and public entities should apply the amendments retrospectively to all prior periods presented in the financial statements. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU 2023-09, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures, which enhances the transparency and decision usefulness of income tax disclosures. The ASU is effective for all public business entities for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2024. Early adoption is permitted for annual financial statements that have not yet been issued or made available for issuance. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In March 2024, the FASB issued ASU 2024-01, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Scope Application of Profits Interest and Similar Awards, which provides illustrative guidance to help entities determine whether profits interest and similar awards should be accounted for as share-based payment arrangements within the scope of FASB Accounting Standards Codification (FASB ASC) 718, Compensation-Stock Compensation. The ASU is effective for all public business entities for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2024, and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption is permitted for both interim and annual financial statements that have not yet been issued or made available for issuance. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Note 4. Fair Value Measurement

The Company's financial assets subject to fair value measurements on a recurring basis and the level of inputs used for such measurements were as follows (amounts in thousands):

	Fair Value Measured as of September 30, 2024		Total
	Level 1	Level 2	
Assets included in:			
Money market funds ⁽¹⁾	\$ 124,761	\$ —	\$ 124,761
Commercial paper ⁽²⁾	—	61,970	61,970
U.S. government and agency securities ⁽²⁾	—	617,901	617,901
Corporate notes and bonds ⁽²⁾	—	27,195	27,195
Total fair value	<u>\$ 124,761</u>	<u>\$ 707,066</u>	<u>\$ 831,827</u>

	Fair Value Measured as of December 31, 2023		Total
	Level 1	Level 2	
Assets included in:			
Money market funds ⁽¹⁾	\$ 115,848	\$ —	\$ 115,848
Commercial paper ⁽²⁾	—	80,913	80,913
U.S. government and agency securities ⁽²⁾	—	723,888	723,888
Corporate notes and bonds ⁽²⁾	—	147,923	147,923
Total fair value	<u>\$ 115,848</u>	<u>\$ 952,724</u>	<u>\$ 1,068,572</u>

(1) Money market funds are included in cash and cash equivalents on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(2) Marketable securities consist of commercial paper, U.S. government and agency securities, corporate notes and bonds. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, marketable securities with original maturities of three months or less of \$40.8 million and \$24.4 million, respectively, are included in cash and cash equivalents on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Level 1 assets: Money market funds are classified as Level 1 within the fair value hierarchy, as fair value is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.

Level 2 assets: Investments in commercial paper, U.S. government and agency securities, and corporate notes and bonds are classified as Level 2 as they were valued based upon quoted market prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant inputs are observable in the market or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets.

The Company had no financial liabilities subject to fair value measurements on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023.

There have been no changes to the valuation methods utilized during the nine months ended September 30, 2024. As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their respective fair values due to their short-term nature.

Marketable Securities

The following table summarizes, by major security type, the Company's assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and are categorized using the fair value hierarchy. Amortized cost net of unrealized gain (loss) is equal to fair value as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023. The fair value as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are as follows (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2024			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gain	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
Level 1 securities				
Money market funds	\$ 124,761	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 124,761
Level 2 securities				
Commercial paper	61,970	—	—	61,970
U.S. government and agency securities	617,011	899	(9)	617,901
Corporate notes and bonds	27,146	61	(12)	27,195
Total	\$ 830,888	\$ 960	\$ (21)	\$ 831,827

	December 31, 2023			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gain	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
Level 1 securities				
Money market funds	\$ 115,848	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 115,848
Level 2 securities				
Commercial paper	80,913	—	—	80,913
U.S. government and agency securities	725,301	334	(1,747)	723,888
Corporate notes and bonds	149,387	40	(1,504)	147,923
Total	\$ 1,071,449	\$ 374	\$ (3,251)	\$ 1,068,572

Realized gains and losses and interest income from the investment are included in interest income.

The Company regularly reviews its available-for-sale marketable securities in an unrealized loss position and evaluates the current expected credit loss by considering factors such as historical experience, market data, issuer-specific factors, and current economic conditions. The following tables display additional information regarding gross unrealized losses and fair value by major security type for the 6 and 51 marketable securities in unrealized loss positions as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2024					
	Less than 12 Consecutive Months		12 Consecutive Months or Longer		Total	
	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
U.S. government and agency securities	\$ (1)	\$ 15,937	\$ (8)	\$ 4,991	\$ (9)	\$ 20,928
Corporate notes and bonds	(4)	7,741	(8)	1,054	(12)	8,795
Total	\$ (5)	\$ 23,678	\$ (16)	\$ 6,045	\$ (21)	\$ 29,723

	December 31, 2023					
	Less than 12 Consecutive Months		12 Consecutive Months or Longer		Total	
	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
U.S. government and agency securities	\$ (10)	\$ 31,741	\$ (1,737)	\$ 87,257	\$ (1,747)	\$ 118,998
Corporate notes and bonds	(5)	13,338	(1,499)	125,524	(1,504)	138,862
Total	\$ (15)	\$ 45,079	\$ (3,236)	\$ 212,781	\$ (3,251)	\$ 257,860

The unrealized losses were attributable to changes in interest rates that impacted the value of the investments, and not increased credit risk. There were no sales of available-for-sale marketable securities during the three months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Company received proceeds of \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million, including interest, from the sale of available-for-sale marketable securities, respectively. The Company realized immaterial gains as a result of such sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023. The Company does not intend to sell the investments that are in an unrealized loss position, nor is it more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the investments before the recovery of the amortized cost basis, which may be its maturity. Accordingly, the Company did not record an allowance for credit losses associated with these investments.

The estimated amortized cost and fair value of available-for-sale securities by contractual maturity as of September 30, 2024 are as follows (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2024	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Due within one year	\$ 828,891	\$ 829,830
Due after one year and through five years	1,997	1,997
Total	\$ 830,888	\$ 831,827

Note 5. Balance Sheet Components:

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 consisted of the following (amounts in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31
	2024	2023
Computer equipment, hardware, and software	\$ 7,701	\$ 7,191
Furniture and fixtures	106,818	77,813
Leasehold improvements	101,146	99,524
Machinery and equipment	168,471	146,730
Construction-in-progress	79,357	89,664
Property and equipment, gross	463,493	420,922
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(145,984)	(107,758)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 317,509	\$ 313,164

Depreciation and amortization expense related to property and equipment was \$14.8 million and \$11.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense related to property and equipment was \$39.3 million and \$30.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively.

Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 consisted of the following (amounts in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31,
	2024	2023
Litigation-related accrual	\$ 11,850	\$ 4,000
Accrued property and equipment	1,900	3,203
Accrued facilities expense	1,124	730
Other	4,800	2,247
Accrued liabilities	\$ 19,674	\$ 10,180

Other Liabilities

Other liabilities as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023 consisted of the following (amounts in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31,
	2024	2023
Long-term advance payments	\$ 2,515	\$ 2,515
Asset retirement obligation	11,060	9,471
Other liabilities	\$ 13,575	\$ 11,986

Note 6. Leases

The Company leases its headquarters, QS-0 facility and certain equipment, with current lease terms running through 2032. The Company did not include renewal options in the calculation of the lease liability and right-of use asset at the lease inception unless the exercise of such options was reasonably certain. Fixed rent generally escalates each year, and the Company is responsible for a portion of the landlords' operating expenses such as property tax, insurance and common area maintenance.

The Company's leases include various operating leases expiring at various dates through September 2032 and a finance lease expiring September 2032 for QS-0. Many leases include one or more options to renew. The Company does not assume renewals in our determination of the lease term unless the renewals are deemed to be reasonably certain.

The Company's leases do not have any contingent rent payments and do not contain residual value guarantees.

The components of lease related expense are as follows (amounts in thousands):

Lease costs	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Finance lease costs:				
Amortization of right-of-use assets	\$ 718	\$ 718	\$ 2,155	\$ 2,155
Interest on lease liabilities	550	593	1,684	1,795
Operating lease costs	2,253	2,253	6,745	6,795
Variable lease costs	800	695	2,456	3,065
Total lease expense	\$ 4,321	\$ 4,259	\$ 13,040	\$ 13,810

The components of supplemental cash and non-cash information related to leases are as follows (amounts in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023
Operating outgoing cash flows - finance lease	\$ 1,684	\$ 1,195
Financing outgoing cash flows - finance lease	2,146	1,290
Operating outgoing cash flows - operating lease	6,605	5,224
Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities	777	—

The table below displays additional information for leases as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Finance lease		
Weighted-average remaining lease term - finance lease (in years)	8.0	8.8
Weighted-average discount rate - finance lease	6.06 %	6.06 %
Operating lease		
Weighted-average remaining lease term - operating lease (in years)	7.9	8.6
Weighted-average discount rate - operating lease	6.34 %	6.36 %

As of September 30, 2024, future minimum payments during the next five years and thereafter are as follows (amounts in thousands):

Fiscal Year	Operating Leases	Finance Lease
2024 (remaining three months)	\$ 2,229	\$ 1,301
2025	9,074	5,272
2026	9,333	5,417
2027	9,565	5,566
2028	9,569	5,719
2029	9,686	5,876
Thereafter	27,279	16,469
Total	76,735	45,620
Less present value discount	(16,974)	(9,761)
Lease liabilities	\$ 59,761	\$ 35,859

As the Company's lease agreements do not provide an implicit rate, the Company used an estimated incremental borrowing rate that will be incurred to borrow on a collateralized basis over a similar term at the lease commencement date or modification date in determining the present value of lease payments.

Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company establishes assets and liabilities for the present value of estimated future costs to return certain of our leased facilities to their original condition upon the termination or expiration of a lease. The recognition of an asset retirement obligation requires the Company to make assumptions and judgments including the actions required to satisfy the liability, inflation rates and the credit-adjusted risk-free rate. The initially recognized asset retirement cost is amortized using the same method and useful life as the long-lived asset to which it relates. Accretion expense is recognized over time as the discounted liability is accreted to its expected settlement value.

Note 7. Commitments and Contingencies

From time to time, and in the ordinary course of business, the Company is subject to certain claims, charges and litigation concerning matters arising in connection with the conduct of the Company's business activities.

Securities Class Action Litigation

Beginning in January 2021, class action lawsuits were filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California by purported purchasers of Company securities (together, the "Securities Class Action Litigation"). The lead plaintiff filed a consolidated complaint on June 21, 2021, which alleges a purported class that includes all persons who purchased or acquired our securities between November 27, 2020 and April 14, 2021. The consolidated complaint names the Company, its Chief Executive Officer, its Chief Financial Officer, and its Chief Technology Officer as defendants. The consolidated complaint alleges that the defendants purportedly made false and/or misleading statements and failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company's business, operations, and prospects, including information regarding the Company's battery technology. On January 14, 2022, defendants' motion to dismiss the consolidated complaint was substantially denied. On December 19, 2022, the court granted plaintiffs' motion to certify the class. In April 2024, the parties reached an agreement in principle to settle these consolidated actions. We recorded for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 a net charge of \$24.5 million for the potential settlement of these actions. This net charge represents the gross settlement amount of \$47.5 million and \$0.4 million of related legal fees, offset by \$23.4 million for amounts recovered under our applicable insurance policies. The court granted preliminary approval of the settlement on July 18, 2024, and a final approval hearing will be held on November 13, 2024. In August 2024, the \$47.5 million of settlement funds which includes \$23.4 million from applicable insurance policies were paid into escrow. The payment will be held in escrow until the court grants the final approval of the settlement. As of September 30, 2024, there is no outstanding liability related to this matter.

Shareholder Derivative Litigation

Two shareholder derivative suits were filed in February 2021 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California against 11 officers and directors of the Company and have been consolidated into one action, with the first-filed complaint being designated the operative one. The Company is the nominal defendant. The complaint alleges that the individual defendants breached various duties to the Company and contains additional similar allegations based on the same general allegations in the class action described immediately above. VGA is also named as a defendant in the derivative litigation. The action is currently stayed.

Since June 2022, four shareholder derivative suits have been filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware against current and former directors and officers of the Company. The Company is the nominal defendant. The complaints allege that the individual defendants breached various duties to the Company. VGA is also named as a defendant in three of those actions. In September 2022, the four actions were consolidated. A consolidated amended complaint was filed on July 30, 2024.

A shareholder derivative action was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware on February 22, 2024, against current and former directors and officers of the Company. The Company is the nominal defendant. The complaint alleges that the individual defendants breached various duties to the Company and includes a claim for contribution related to the class action. The complaint also alleges that plaintiff previously sent a litigation demand to the Board and alleges that the demand has effectively been rejected.

Two additional shareholder derivative actions were filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware, on May 30, 2024 and October 14, 2024, against current and former directors and officers of the Company. The Company is the nominal defendant. The complaints allege that the individual defendants breached various duties to the Company. The complaints also allege that the plaintiffs previously sent a litigation demand to the Board and allege that the demands had effectively been rejected. The action filed in May 2024 is presently stayed.

Delaware Class Action

A shareholder derivative suit was filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware on August 16, 2022, against former and current directors and officers of the Company and of Kensington. Defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. Plaintiff filed an amended complaint on March 3, 2023, this time seeking relief on behalf of a putative class of holders of Kensington Class A Common Stock who held such stock prior to the November 23, 2020 redemption deadline and were allegedly entitled to redeem their shares but did not. The amended class action complaint alleges that the defendants breached various duties to Kensington stockholders or aided and abetted such breaches. Defendants moved to dismiss the amended complaint on May 8, 2023, and a hearing was held on February 21, 2024. The Kensington Defendants' motion to dismiss was denied. The Legacy QuantumScape Defendants' motion to dismiss was denied as to two defendants and granted as to the others. In October 2024, the parties reached an agreement in principle to settle the action. The settlement is subject to final documentation, notice to class members, and approval by the court.

Private Attorneys General Actions

The Company is a defendant in two Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA") wage-and-hour actions filed in Santa Clara County Superior Court by former employees, along with a related class action in arbitration. The complaints allege violations of California's Labor Code. The actions are presently stayed. The Company denies the allegations.

For many legal matters, particularly those in early stages, the Company cannot reasonably estimate the possible loss (or range of loss), if any. The Company records an accrual for legal matters at the time or times it determines that a loss is both probable and reasonably estimable. As of September 30, 2024, the amount accrued for each matter was individually not material, and the aggregate amount accrued was approximately \$12.0 million. The amounts accrued as of December 31, 2023 for legal matters were not material. Regarding matters for which no accrual has been made (including the potential for losses in excess of amounts accrued), the Company currently believes, based on its own investigations, that any losses (or ranges of losses) that are reasonably possible and estimable will not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. However, the ultimate outcome of legal proceedings involves judgments, estimates, and inherent uncertainties and cannot be predicted with certainty. Should the ultimate outcome of any legal matter be unfavorable, the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows could be materially and adversely affected. The Company may also incur substantial legal fees, which are expensed as incurred, in defending against legal claims.

Other commitments

The Company's minimum purchase commitments consist of non-cancellable agreements to purchase goods and services, primarily for materials, and licenses and hosting services, entered into in the ordinary course of business.

As of September 30, 2024, future minimum purchase commitments in aggregate during the next five years and thereafter are as follows (amounts in thousands):

Fiscal Year	<u>Minimum Purchase Commitments</u>
2024 (remaining three months)	\$ 955
2025	4,309
2026	2,142
2027	1,418
Thereafter	—
Total	<u>\$ 8,824</u>

Note 8. Stockholders' Equity

As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, 1,350,000,000 shares, \$0.0001 par value per share are authorized, of which, 1,000,000,000 shares are designated as Class A Common Stock, 250,000,000 shares are designated as Class B Common Stock, and 100,000,000 shares are designated as Preferred Stock.

Common Stock

Holders of common stock are entitled to dividends when, as, and if, declared by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board"), subject to the rights of the holders of all classes of stock outstanding having priority rights to dividends. As of September 30, 2024, the Company had not declared any dividends. The holder of each share of Class A Common Stock is entitled to one vote, and the holder of each share of Class B Common Stock is entitled to ten votes.

In March 2021, the Company completed an underwritten public offering of shares of its Class A Common Stock and issued 11,960,000 shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$462.9 million, net of issuance costs of \$15.5 million (the "March 2021 Public Offering").

On February 28, 2023, the Company entered into separate Distribution Agreements with J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Cowen and Company, LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC, as sales agents, pursuant to which the Company is able to, from time to time, issue and sell common stock with an aggregate offering price of up to \$400 million (the "At-the-Market Offering", or the "ATM offering") under the prospectus supplement to the Form S-3 filed on February 28, 2023 (File No. 333-266419). No shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock were sold pursuant to the ATM offering during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024.

In August 2023, the Company completed an underwritten public offering of 37.5 million shares of its Class A Common Stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$288.2 million, net of issuance costs of \$11.8 million (the "August 2023 Public Offering").

Equity Incentive Plans

Prior to the Business Combination, the Company maintained its 2010 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2010 Plan"), under which the Company granted options and restricted stock units to purchase or directly issue shares of common stock to employees, directors, and non-employees.

Upon the closing of the Business Combination, awards under the 2010 Plan were converted at an exchange ratio of 4.02175014920, and assumed into the 2020 Equity Incentive Award Plan (the "2020 Plan", and together with the 2010 Plan, the "Plans"). The 2020 Plan permits the granting of awards in the form of incentive stock options, nonqualified stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted shares, restricted stock units and performance awards to employees, directors, and non-employees.

As of September 30, 2024, 109,465,480 shares of Class A Common Stock are authorized for issuance pursuant to awards under the 2020 Plan, plus any shares of Class A Common Stock subject to stock options, restricted stock units or other awards that were assumed in the Business Combination and terminate as a result of being unexercised or are forfeited or repurchased by the Company, with the maximum number of shares to be added to the 2020 Plan equal to 69,846,580 shares of Class A Common Stock.

Stock Options

Stock option activity under the Plans, including the EPA Program discussed below, is as follows:

	Number of Shares Outstanding (in thousands)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Intrinsic value (in thousands)
Balance as of December 31, 2023 ⁽¹⁾	42,141	\$ 9.60	5.48	
Cancelled and forfeited ⁽²⁾	(9,031)	23.04	—	
Exercised	(6,621)	1.67	—	
Balance as of September 30, 2024	26,489	\$ 7.01	4.36	\$ 73,203
Vested and expected to vest as of September 30, 2024 ⁽³⁾	22,836	\$ 4.44	3.90	\$ 73,203
Vested and exercisable as of September 30, 2024	20,048	\$ 2.16	3.47	\$ 72,966

(1) This includes 15.1 million options granted and outstanding as of December 31, 2023 pursuant to the EPA Program.

(2) This includes 9.0 million options forfeited under the EPA Program.

(3) This includes 2.4 million options granted pursuant to the EPA Program that are currently expected to vest. None of the options granted pursuant to the EPA Program were vested and exercisable as of September 30, 2024.

There were no options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 or September 30, 2023. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercised during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$31.3 million and \$46.3 million, respectively.

Excluding options granted pursuant to the EPA Program, as of September 30, 2024, the Company had stock-based compensation of \$0.9 million related to unvested stock options not yet recognized that are expected to be recognized over an estimated weighted average period of 0.9 years.

EPA Program

In December 2021, the Company granted stock options for the purchase of an aggregate of approximately 14.7 million shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock to the Company's Chief Executive Officer at the time and other members of the Company's management team pursuant to the EPA Program that was approved by the Company's stockholders in December 2021. In December 2022, the remaining 2.1 million stock options under the EPA Program were granted to members of the Company's management team under the same terms as those in the initial grant in 2021, representing the final grant pursuant to the EPA Program approved in December 2021. The EPA Program consists of five equal tranches (each a "Tranche") that vest if the Company meets certain business milestones (performance conditions) and stock price targets (market conditions).

Business Milestones

The compensation committee of the Board selected the following 11 business milestones for the EPA Program, of which one new business milestone must be achieved for each Tranche.

- Delivery of an A-sample battery cell that meets specifications agreed upon with an automaker
- The validation by an auto maker of a completed B-sample battery cell (a B-sample battery cell is a functional, complete battery cell prototype produced from QS-0)
- Delivery of at least 1-gigawatt hour (GWh) of battery cells to a single customer
- Delivery of at least 3-gigawatt hour (GWh) of battery cells to each of three or more customers, with at least one of such customers being an auto maker
- \$5 billion in GAAP revenue over a period of trailing four quarters
- \$10 billion in GAAP revenue over a period of trailing four quarters
- Total cumulative battery cell production of 500 GWh
- Total cumulative battery cell production of 1,000 GWh
- Adjusted EBITDA margin of at least 25% over four consecutive quarters
- 10% of worldwide market share in automotive battery cells (excluding China)
- 20% of worldwide market share in automotive battery cells (excluding China)

Once a business milestone has been achieved, that business milestone will be considered achieved, even if later the Company does not maintain performance at that level.

Stock Price Targets

The stock price targets of the five Tranches of the EPA Program are \$60, \$120, \$180, \$240 and \$300.

To meet the stock price targets, the stock price must be sustained and not merely momentarily achieved. Except in the case of a change in control, the Company's stock price for the purposes of assessing the stock price target will be the 120-day trailing average closing price (based on trading days), but a stock price target will not be achieved unless the trailing average closing price of the last 30 trading days of such 120-trading day period also meets or exceeds the applicable stock price target. For a stock price target for any given Tranche to be achieved, the last day of the 120-day measurement period must occur on or after the date that the requisite number of business milestones have been achieved for such Tranche.

Vesting Tranches

Each of the five Tranches vests only if the Company first achieves a new business milestone from the 11 identified business milestones, and then achieves the next applicable stock price target within 10 years of the initial grants. Additionally, in order to vest in any Tranche, the participant generally must continue to provide service through the date of vesting in the same position, or a similar or higher role, as when the EPA Program awards are granted.

Tranche	Business Milestone Requirement	Stock Price Target
1	Achievement of 1 business milestone	\$60
2	Achievement of 2 business milestones (inclusive of the business milestone applicable to Tranche 1)	\$120
3	Achievement of 3 business milestones (inclusive of the business milestone applicable to Tranche 2)	\$180
4	Achievement of 4 business milestones (inclusive of the business milestone applicable to Tranche 3)	\$240
5	Achievement of 5 business milestones (inclusive of the business milestone applicable to Tranche 4)	\$300

Change in Control

In the event of a change in control of the Company, a portion of the EPA Program awards may also be eligible to vest; in such event, the business milestone requirement will not be applicable and the Company's stock price for the purposes of the stock price targets will be the price per share paid in such change in control. In the event that the Company's stock price by this measure falls between two stock price targets, linear interpolation between the two applicable stock price targets will be used to determine an additional portion of the EPA Program awards that will vest. Any portion of an EPA Program award that is not vested upon and after giving effect to a change in control will terminate.

The Company accounts for the compensation expense associated with each Tranche when it determines that achievement of a related business milestone is considered probable. As of September 30, 2024, the business milestone for one Tranche had been achieved; however, because the related stock price target has not yet been achieved, no shares have vested to date. As of September 30, 2024, one other Tranche was considered probable.

In February 2024, the 8.4 million stock options granted to Mr. Jagdeep Singh under the Company's EPA Program forfeited in accordance with the contractual terms upon the termination of his employment. For the three months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$0.9 million related to the EPA Program. For the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recorded a credit in stock-based compensation expense of \$13.9 million, primarily due to the reversal of the previously recognized expense of \$17.1 million for the options where the requisite service period had not been completed at the time of forfeiture including options which Mr. Jagdeep Singh forfeited. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$5.3 million and \$23.7 million, respectively, related to the EPA Program. As of September 30, 2024, the Company had approximately \$9.2 million of total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense for the business milestones currently achieved or considered probable of achievement, which will be recognized over an estimated weighted-average period of 2.3 years. As of September 30, 2024, the Company had approximately \$57.7 million of total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense for the business milestones currently considered not probable of achievement.

Restricted Stock Units Activities

In 2023, the Company granted 4.4 million shares of restricted stock units with service and performance conditions (“PSU”) to members of the Company’s management team and certain other employees under the Company’s 2020 Plan. The performance conditions for these PSUs are related to the Company’s product development milestones through May 2026. These PSUs will expire in May 2026 if performance conditions are not met. During the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company granted 4.2 million shares of PSUs to members of the Company’s management team and certain other employees. The performance conditions for these PSUs are related to the Company’s product development milestones through May 2027. These PSUs will expire in May 2027 if performance conditions are not met. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$9.0 million and \$24.2 million, respectively, related to these PSUs, for the product development milestones currently achieved or considered probable of achievement. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$4.0 million and \$11.4 million, respectively, related to these PSUs, for the product development milestones considered probable of achievement.

The Company’s 2023 Bonus Plan was settled in the form of restricted stock units to employees upon the achievement of certain service and performance conditions. These performance conditions are related to the Company’s product development, operational, and business milestones for 2023. The stock-based compensation expense related to the 2023 Bonus Plan were recorded as liabilities under Accrued compensation and benefits prior to the payout. Subsequent to 2023, a total of approximately 3.2 million restricted stock units were granted and vested under the 2023 Bonus Plan for the final payout, resulting in \$20.3 million in additional paid-in capital. No expense related to the 2023 Bonus Plan was recorded for the three months ended September 30, 2024. For the nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$2.6 million related to the 2023 Bonus Plan. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$4.5 million and \$15.7 million, respectively, related to the 2023 Bonus Plan.

A portion of the Company’s 2024 Bonus Plan will be settled in the form of restricted stock units to eligible employees upon the achievement of certain service and performance conditions. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$5.1 million and \$13.3 million, respectively, related to the 2024 Bonus Plan for the performance conditions currently considered probable of achievement. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, approximately 0.4 million restricted stock units were granted and vested under the 2024 Bonus Plan for the interim payout, resulting in \$2.7 million in additional paid-in capital. The remaining stock-based compensation expense of \$10.6 million related to the 2024 Bonus Plan are recorded as liabilities under Accrued compensation and benefits in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2024, and will be reclassified to additional paid-in capital upon issuance of the restricted stock units.

Restricted stock units with service conditions only (“RSU”) and PSU activities under the Plans are as follows:

	RSUs Outstanding		PSUs Outstanding	
	Number of Units (in thousands)	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Number of Units (in thousands)	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Balance as of December 31, 2023	23,003	\$ 9.99	4,319	\$ 7.65
Granted	16,005	6.03	7,789	6.42
Vested	(7,320)	10.47	(4,651)	6.70
Forfeited	(2,094)	8.51	(108)	7.87
Balance as of September 30, 2024	29,594	\$ 7.84	7,349	\$ 6.94

The fair value of RSUs which vested during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and September 30, 2023 was \$46.0 million and \$53.3 million, respectively. The fair value of PSUs which vested during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 was \$29.2 million in total, consisting of the final payout under the 2023 Bonus Plan, the interim payout under the 2024 Bonus Plan, and the PSUs granted to management team and certain other employees. The fair value of PSUs which vested during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was \$2.9 million, which was the interim payout under the 2023 Bonus Plan.

As of September 30, 2024, unrecognized compensation costs related to unvested RSUs and PSUs were \$212.8 million and \$19.0 million, respectively, and are expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.6 years and 1.4 years, respectively.

Stock-Based Compensation Expense

Total stock-based compensation expense recognized in the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss for all awards is as follows (amounts in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Research and development	\$ 25,947	\$ 23,977	\$ 74,765	\$ 71,390
General and administrative	17,412	16,414	35,706	56,983
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$ 43,359	\$ 40,391	\$ 110,471	\$ 128,373

Note 9. Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic net loss per share is computed by dividing the net loss by the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share adjusts basic earnings per share for the potentially dilutive impact of stock options and warrants. As the Company has reported a loss for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, potentially dilutive securities including stock options and warrants, are antidilutive and accordingly, basic net loss per share equals diluted net loss per share.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted loss per Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock (amounts in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Numerator:				
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (119,572)	\$ (110,617)	\$ (363,195)	\$ (331,785)
Denominator:				
Weighted average Class A and Class B Common Stock outstanding - Basic and Diluted	508,957	471,752	502,136	452,503
Net loss per share attributable to Class A and Class B Common stockholders - Basic and Diluted	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.72)	\$ (0.73)

Basic and diluted earnings per share was the same for each period presented as the inclusion of all potential Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock outstanding would have been anti-dilutive.

The following table presents the potential common stock outstanding that was excluded from the computation of diluted net loss per share of common stock as of the periods presented because including them would have been antidilutive (amounts in thousands):

	As of September 30,	
	2024	2023
Options	26,489	42,863
RSUs	29,594	23,786
PSUs	10,686	7,059
Total	66,769	73,708

Note 10. Joint Venture and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest

As described in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, in September 2018, Legacy QuantumScape entered into a JVA, which was amended in 2020, with VWGoA and VGA and formed QSV. The Company determined that the entity was a VIE with a related party, and the Company's operations were more closely associated with QSV. On July 5, 2024, the Company, QS, VWGoA, VGA, and the JV Entity, entered into the JV Termination Agreement to, among other things, terminate the JVA and dissolve the JV Entity. QSV was subsequently dissolved in September 2024. The financial position and results of operations of QSV had been included in the Company's consolidated financial statements from the date of the initial investment up until the dissolution date. Cash and cash equivalents for QSV were approximately \$3.7 million and \$3.5 million, prior to dissolution and as of December 31, 2023, respectively. As part of the dissolution, the Company distributed approximately \$1.8 million in cash to VGA.

The following table sets forth the change in redeemable non-controlling interest for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023 (amounts in thousands):

	Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest
Balance as of December 31, 2023	\$ 1,770
Net loss attributable to redeemable non-controlling interest in QSV	(85)
Dissolution of joint venture	(1,685)
Balance as of September 30, 2024	\$ —

	Redeemable Non-Controlling Interest
Balance as of December 31, 2022	\$ 1,704
Net income attributable to redeemable non-controlling interest in QSV	45
Balance as of September 30, 2023	\$ 1,749

Pursuant to the JV Termination Agreement, the earmark restrictions on \$134.0 million of funds previously reserved by the Company for future contribution to the JV Entity were removed.

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes appearing elsewhere in this Report. This discussion may contain forward-looking statements based upon current expectations that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those set forth in the section titled “*Risk Factors*” as set forth in this Report. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this “*Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*” to “the Company”, “we”, “us” and “our” refer to the business and operations of QuantumScape Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Overview

We are developing next-generation battery technology for electric vehicles (“EVs”) and other applications. We believe that our technology will enable a new category of battery that meets the requirements for broader market adoption. The lithium-metal solid-state battery technology that we are developing is being designed to offer greater energy density, faster charging, and greater safety when compared to today’s conventional lithium-ion batteries.

We are a development-stage company with no revenue to date, have incurred a net loss from operations of approximately \$130.2 million and \$396.5 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, and an accumulated deficit of approximately \$3.2 billion from our inception through September 30, 2024. We expect to incur significant expenses and continuing losses for the foreseeable future.

Key Trends, Opportunities and Uncertainties

We are a pre-revenue company. We believe that our performance and future success depend on several factors that present significant opportunities for us but also pose significant risks and challenges, including those discussed below and in the section titled “*Risk Factors*” appearing elsewhere in this Report.

Product Development

We have demonstrated capabilities of our solid-state electrolyte-separator and battery technology in single-layer and multilayer cell cycling data, and in 2022, shipped our first 24-layer A0 prototype battery cells to multiple automotive original equipment manufacturers (“OEMs”) for testing. Following that shipment, we continued focusing our research and development on subsequent generations of prototype samples incorporating advances in cell functionality, process and reliability, as well as bringing online the manufacturing capability of our pre-pilot production facility (“QS-0”) in San Jose, California. In 2023, we announced our first targeted commercial product, the QSE-5, a cell with a capacity of approximately 5 amp-hours.

Our research and development currently includes programs for the following areas:

- *Continued improvement of our prototype cells’ energy density.* We believe our battery technology may provide significant improvements in energy density compared to today’s conventional lithium-ion batteries. We have been working to address this opportunity in several ways, including increasing the cathode capacity loading and packaging efficiency of our multilayer cells. To increase cathode capacity loading, we need to address several technical challenges, including coating cathode electrodes with higher mass loading while maintaining quality, calendaring the cathodes to the necessary thickness, optimizing cathode microstructure, and ensuring good catholyte interface with active material while still meeting our targeted charge and discharge power. To enhance packaging efficiency, we have been working to improve the ratio of active materials of the battery to its inactive materials by, among other things, tightening tolerances between the individual cell components, reducing the thickness of elements of the cell stack, and minimizing or eliminating inactive materials or spaces inside the cell package — all without adversely impacting overall performance of the cells.
- *Continued improvement of the cathode.* Our cathodes use a conventional cathode active material such as nickel-manganese-cobalt (NMC) mixed with a catholyte. We plan to benefit from industry cathode chemistry improvements and/or cost reduction, which in the future may include use of other cathode active materials, including cobalt-free compositions, including lithium-iron-phosphate (LFP), as well as cathode processing advances such as dry electrode processing. Over the years, we have developed catholytes made of differing mixtures of organic liquid electrolyte in an effort to optimize performance across multiple metrics such as voltage, temperature, power, and safety, among others. We have tested solid, gel and liquid catholytes in our cells. The solid catholyte is part of our ongoing research and development investigation into inorganic catholytes. Our solid-state cathode platform is being designed to enable high rates of charge and discharge for even thicker cathode electrodes, which, when combined with a lithium-metal anode, may further increase cell energy densities.

- *Continued improvement in quality, consistency and reliability.* We are working to improve the quality and uniformity of our cells, including our solid-state electrolyte-separators, to further improve, among other things, the cycling behavior, power, operating conditions, and reliability of our cells. For some of our first-generation processes, we use methods of continuous processing found at scale in both the battery and ceramic industries and are working on continuous improvement of these processes, including better quality, consistency, and higher throughput through automation and process control (including specification tightening and adding or improving inspection points along the manufacturing process flow), quality of material inputs, and particle reduction across our process. We are also developing subsequent methods not typically used in ceramics that offer significant potential cost savings. Regarding consistency, we believe tightening the variability of electrolyte-separator quality will result in better yield. We plan to implement process improvements and controls necessary to manufacture higher quality, more consistent materials; we believe these activities will ultimately lead to higher reliability.
- *Continued improvement in throughput.* Increasing the volume of solid-state electrolyte-separator production results in the increased quantities required for prototypes with higher layer counts and delivery of more test cells to prospective customers. We continue to invest and deploy resources to automate our manufacturing process, including purchasing larger-scale manufacturing equipment, that we expect will substantially improve our manufacturing processes and, as a result, increase throughput required for product qualification and to achieve the cost, performance and volume levels required for commercial shipments.
- *Cell layer count and dimensions.* We have demonstrated capabilities of our solid-state electrolyte-separator and battery technology in single-layer and multilayer solid-state cells in commercially relevant areas (ranging from approximately 60x75mm to 70x85mm). In order to advance the maturity of our prototype cells and produce commercially viable solid-state battery cells, we must produce battery cells that achieve target cell capacities set by our customers and we may have to vary cell layer count and dimensions; while we target our first commercial product, the QSE-5, to have approximately 5 amp-hours of capacity, the exact number of layers and dimensions will vary and depend upon customer specifications, cell design considerations, and other factors. We will need to overcome production challenges to produce sufficient volumes of our solid-state electrolyte-separators and prototype battery cells to complete development of our first commercial product and for customer evaluation and product qualification purposes, as well as subsequent cell designs that may require different layer counts and dimensions.

Our team of scientists, engineers, technicians, and other staff is highly motivated and committed to solving these challenges ahead. However, any delays in the completion of these tasks will require additional cash use and delay market entry.

Process Development

Our architecture depends on our proprietary solid-state ceramic electrolyte-separator. Though our electrolyte-separator's design is unique, our first-generation process relies on established or similar high-volume production processes already deployed in other industries. We are developing subsequent, proprietary higher-volume separator manufacturing processes that seek to further reduce cost, increase throughput, and improve quality.

The solid-state electrolyte-separator is being designed to enable our 'anode-free' architecture. As manufactured, our solid-state battery cell has no anode; the lithium-metal anode is formed during the first charge of the cell. The lithium that forms the anode comes from the cathode material we purchase. Eliminating the anode bill of materials and associated manufacturing costs found in conventional lithium-ion cells could result in a meaningful cost of goods sold (COGS) advantage once sufficient scale and process maturity are achieved. In addition, our solid-state battery cell is being designed to reduce the time and capital-intensity of the formation and aging process step as compared to conventional lithium-ion manufacturing.

We are focused on the throughput and capability of QS-0, our pre-pilot production facility in San Jose, California. As part of the continued expansion of our throughput we are automating our manufacturing process and purchasing larger-scale battery-cell manufacturing equipment. We will need to substantially improve our battery cell manufacturing processes to increase throughput required for higher numbers of battery cells and to achieve the cost, performance and volume levels required for commercial shipments.

QS-0 is intended to serve four purposes. First, QS-0 is intended to provide a sufficient quantity of solid-state electrolyte-separator and cells for internal development and customer sampling. Second, QS-0 is intended to provide the basis for continued manufacturing process development and to help inform equipment selection and specifications for future manufacturing activities by us or our partners. Third, we target the initial production of QSE-5 cells at QS-0. Fourth, QS-0 is intended to support collaboration and future technology transfer activities as part of the collaboration and licensing arrangements with PowerCo SE ("PowerCo") as well as potential future commercial arrangements. Delays in the successful buildout of QS-0 may impact both our development and future scale-up timelines.

We will need to achieve significant cost savings in battery design and manufacturing, in addition to the cost savings associated with the elimination of an anode from our solid-state battery cells as manufactured, while controlling costs associated with the manufacture of our solid-state electrolyte-separator, including achieving substantial improvements in quality, consistency, reliability, throughput and safety required to hit commercial targets. Further, we will need to capture industry cost savings in the materials, components, equipment, and processes that we share, notably in the cathode, cell design, and factory.

Commercialization and Market Focus

Delivery of an A0 sample represents the beginning of the automotive qualification process, which generally includes several major delivery milestones of A, B and C samples. Each major sampling stage may consist of several generations of increasingly mature prototypes. The timelines for each stage involve uncertainty and will be influenced by a number of factors, including product and process development risks; the specification, ordering, and qualification of production equipment; other supply chain dynamics; and OEM validation timeframes.

We have demonstrated capabilities of our solid-state electrolyte-separator and battery technology in single-layer and multilayer solid-state cells in commercially relevant areas (ranging from approximately 60x75mm to 70x85mm). We will work to continue improving quality, consistency, reliability, throughput, and safety and optimize all components of the cell. We will continue to work to further develop and validate the volume manufacturing processes to enable higher volume manufacturing and minimize manufacturing costs. Finally, we intend for the building out of QS-0 to serve as the basis for continued manufacturing process development for the subsequent scale up of the manufacturing capabilities of our battery cells.

On July 5, 2024, we entered into a Collaboration Agreement with PowerCo (the “Collaboration Agreement”) with the goal of industrializing the solid-state lithium-metal battery technology we intend to use in our first planned product—the QSE-5 (the “QSE-5 Technology”). PowerCo was formed by Volkswagen in 2022 as a company intended to consolidate Volkswagen’s activities in the development and production of battery cells. In connection with the Collaboration Agreement and subject to the completion of certain milestones, we and PowerCo intend to enter into a license agreement (the “IP License Agreement”) under which we will grant PowerCo a non-exclusive, limited, royalty-bearing license to use the QSE-5 Technology for the purpose of manufacturing and selling batteries primarily for automotive applications, and PowerCo will pre-pay an initial royalty fee of \$130 million, against which any future royalties due will be credited. The initial royalty is subject to a time-based diminishing clawback if the IP License Agreement is terminated early by PowerCo under certain conditions. The Collaboration Agreement supersedes the JVA, which was terminated concurrently. As compared to a joint venture arrangement of similar output volumes, we expect the licensing arrangement to result in less revenue, as well as lower costs and capital requirements.

While Volkswagen is the first automotive OEM that we signed an agreement with the goal of commercializing vehicles using our battery technology, we intend to continue working closely with other OEMs to make our solid-state battery cells widely available over time. In addition to Volkswagen, we have signed customer sampling agreements with a number of other OEMs, ranging from leading manufacturers by global revenue to premium performance and luxury carmakers, to collaborate with us in the testing and validation of our solid-state battery cells with the goal of providing such cells to the OEM for inclusion into pre-production prototype vehicles and ultimately into serial production vehicles. We are currently focused on automotive EV applications, which have among the most stringent sets of requirements for batteries. Meanwhile, our solid-state battery technology has applicability in other large and growing markets including stationary storage and consumer electronics such as smartphones and wearables and we intend to explore opportunities in those areas as appropriate.

We believe that our technology enables a variety of business models. In addition to the collaboration with PowerCo, which contemplates a licensing arrangement, we may operate solely-owned manufacturing facilities, license technology to other manufacturers, or enter into joint venture arrangements, among other approaches. We intend to continue to invest in research and development to improve battery cell performance, improve manufacturing processes, and reduce cost.

Access to Capital

Based on our current business plan, we believe that our cash resources will last into 2028. In July 2022, we filed a shelf registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC (File No. 333-266419) (the “Form S-3”), which the SEC declared effective in August 2022, for the offer and sale of Class A Common Stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities, warrants, subscription rights, purchase contracts and units in one or more offerings and in any combination for an aggregate offering price of up to \$1 billion. In February 2023, we filed a prospectus supplement to the Form S-3 for the issuance and sale of our Class A Common Stock from time to time for an aggregate offering price of up to \$400 million (the “ATM offering”). No shares of our Class A Common Stock were sold pursuant to the ATM offering during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024. In August 2023, we completed an underwritten public offering of 37.5 million shares of our Class A Common Stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$288.2 million, net of issuance costs of \$11.8 million (the “August 2023 Public Offering”).

Changes to our technology development, operating costs and scale-up, including our ability to meet the milestones to enable the entry into the IP License Agreement and related receipt of the initial royalty fee from PowerCo, could materially impact us and the availability of our capital resources. We may also need additional cash resources due to changed business conditions or other developments, including unanticipated delays in negotiations with automotive OEMs and tier-one automotive suppliers or other suppliers, supply chain challenges, competitive pressures, inflation, and regulatory developments, among others. To the extent that our current resources are insufficient to satisfy our cash requirements, we may need to seek additional equity or debt financing. If such financing is not available, or if the financing terms are onerous given the high-interest rate environment or less desirable than we expect, we may be forced to decrease our level of investment in product development or scale back our operations, which could have an adverse impact on our business and financial prospects.

Regulatory Landscape

We operate in an industry that is subject to many established environmental regulations, which have generally become more stringent over time, particularly in hazardous waste generation and disposal and pollution control. Regulations in our target markets include economic incentives to purchasers of EVs, tax credits for EV manufacturers, and economic penalties that may apply to a car manufacturer based on its fleet-wide emissions which may indirectly benefit us to the extent that the regulations expand the market size of EVs. While we also expect environmental regulations to provide a tailwind to our growth, it is possible for certain regulations to result in margin pressures. Trade restrictions and tariffs, while historically minimal between the European Union and the United States where most of our production and sales are initially expected, are subject to unknown and unpredictable changes that could impact our ability to meet projected sales or margins. In addition, there are government regulations pertaining to battery safety, transportation of batteries, use of batteries in cars, and factory safety. We will ultimately have to comply with these regulations to sell our batteries into the market. The license and sale of our batteries abroad is likely to be subject to export controls in the future.

Basis of Presentation

We currently conduct our business through one operating segment. As a pre-revenue company with no commercial operations, our activities to date have been limited and were conducted primarily in the United States. Our historical results are reported under U.S. GAAP and in U.S. dollars. Upon commencement of commercial operations, we expect to expand our global operations substantially, including in the United States and the European Union, and as a result we expect our future results to be sensitive to foreign currency transaction and translation risks and other financial risks that are not reflected in our historical financial statements. As a result, we expect that the financial results we report for periods after we begin commercial operations will not be comparable to the financial results included in this Report.

Components of Results of Operations

We are a research and development stage company and we have not generated any revenues to date. Our historical results may not be indicative of our future results for reasons that may be difficult to anticipate. Accordingly, the drivers of our future financial results, as well as the components of such results, may not be comparable to our historical or projected results of operations.

Operating Expenses

Research and Development Expense

To date, our research and development expenses have consisted primarily of personnel-related expenses for scientists, experienced engineers and technicians as well as costs associated with the expansion and ramp up of our engineering and facilities supporting QS-0 in San Jose, including the material and supplies to support the product development and process engineering efforts. As we ramp up our engineering operations to complete the development of our solid-state, lithium-metal batteries and required process engineering to meet automotive cost targets, we anticipate that research and development expenses will increase significantly for the foreseeable future as we continue to invest in additional plant and equipment for product development (e.g., multilayer cell stacking, packaging engineering), building prototypes, and testing of battery cells as our team works to meet the full set of automotive product requirements. We also recognize significant non-cash stock-based compensation to employees directly involved in research and development activities. For stock-based compensation awards with performance and market conditions, such as the awards granted under our Extraordinary Performance Award Program (the “EPA Program”) in December 2022 and 2021, and for stock-based compensation awards with performance conditions, such as the restricted stock units with performance conditions (“PSUs”) granted in 2023 and 2024, the non-cash expense recognized is based on a probability assessment of the performance conditions, and as such, research and development expenses may fluctuate in the future as the performance conditions are re-assessed at each reporting period. Further, should the stated market conditions of the EPA Program grants be achieved prior to the expected achievement period, we may accelerate the stock-based compensation expense recognized, which could result in significant fluctuations in research and development expense recognized in the future. For more information on the EPA Program grants and PSUs, see Note 8, Stockholders’ Equity, to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements elsewhere in this Report.

As we ramp up toward commercial manufacturing operations, we will begin to incur expenses that are directly associated with manufacturing, including allocation of indirect costs from research and development.

General and Administrative Expense

General and administrative expenses consist mainly of personnel-related expenses for our executive, sales and marketing, insurance and other administrative functions as well as outside professional services, including legal, accounting and other advisory services. We have expanded our personnel headcount and we are continuing to expand our supporting systems, in anticipation of planning for and supporting the ramp up of commercial manufacturing operations and due to the ongoing requirements of being a public company. Accordingly, we expect our general and administrative expenses to increase in the near term and for the foreseeable future. Upon commencement of commercial operations, we also expect general and administrative expenses to include customer and sales support and advertising costs. We also recognize significant non-cash stock-based compensation to executives and certain employees. The non-cash expenses recognized for EPA Program grants and PSUs are based on a probability assessment of the performance conditions, and as such, general and administrative expenses may fluctuate in the future as the performance conditions are re-assessed at each reporting period. Further, should the stated market conditions of the EPA Program awards be achieved prior to the expected achievement period, we may accelerate the stock-based compensation expense recognized, which could result in significant fluctuations in general and administrative expense recognized in the future.

As we ramp up toward commercial manufacturing operations, we will begin to incur expenses that are directly associated with manufacturing, including allocation of indirect costs from general and administrative activities.

Other Income (Expense)

Interest Expense

Interest expense consists primarily of interest expense associated with our finance lease for one of our facilities.

Interest Income

Interest income consists primarily of interest income from marketable securities.

Other Income (Expense)

Our other income (expense) consists of miscellaneous income and expenses.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Our income tax provision consists of an estimate for U.S. federal and state income taxes based on enacted rates, as adjusted for allowable credits, deductions, uncertain tax positions, changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities, and changes in tax law. We maintain a valuation allowance against the full value of our U.S. federal and state net deferred tax assets because we believe the recoverability of the tax assets is not more likely than not.

Results of Operations

Comparison of the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2024 to the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023

The following table sets forth our historical operating results for the periods indicated (amounts in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		\$ Change	% Change	Nine Months Ended September 30,		\$ Change	% Change
	2024	2023			2024	2023		
Operating expenses:								
Research and development	\$ 96,994	\$ 88,154	\$ 8,840	10%	\$ 278,587	\$ 251,548	\$ 27,039	11%
General and administrative	33,164	32,716	448	1%	117,929	102,842	15,087	15%
Total operating expenses	130,158	120,870	9,288	8%	396,516	354,390	42,126	12%
Loss from operations	(130,158)	(120,870)	(9,288)	8%	(396,516)	(354,390)	(42,126)	12%
Other income (loss):								
Interest expense	(550)	(593)	43	(7)%	(1,684)	(1,795)	111	(6)%
Interest income	11,347	10,479	868	8%	35,428	24,075	11,353	47%
Other income (expense)	(338)	382	(720)	(188)%	(508)	370	(878)	(237)%
Total other income (loss):	10,459	10,268	191	2%	33,236	22,650	10,586	47%
Net loss	(119,699)	(110,602)	(9,097)	8%	(363,280)	(331,740)	(31,540)	10%
Less: Net income attributable to non-controlling interest	(127)	15	(142)	(947)%	(85)	45	(130)	(289)%
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	(119,572)	(110,617)	(8,955)	8%	(363,195)	(331,785)	(31,410)	9%

Research and Development

The increase in research and development expense in the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the three months ended September 30, 2023 primarily resulted from an increase of \$4.7 million in personnel cost to support our battery technology development, an increase of \$3.4 million related to depreciation and amortization, an increase of \$2.9 million in material supplies and equipment, a non-cash stock-based compensation expense increase of \$2.0 million primarily due to the net effect of new restricted stock units granted offset by full amortization of awards subsequent to September 30, 2023, and an increase of \$1.5 million in facility related expenses primarily offset by a decrease of \$6.1 million in write-off of property and equipment.

The increase in research and development expense in the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2023 primarily resulted from an increase of \$12.3 million in personnel cost to support our battery technology development, an increase of \$9.1 million related to depreciation and amortization, an increase of \$5.2 million in material supplies and equipment, and a non-cash stock-based compensation expense increase of \$3.4 million primarily due to the net effect of new restricted stock units granted offset by full amortization of awards subsequent to September 30, 2023 primarily offset by a decrease of \$4.8 million in write-off of property and equipment.

General and Administrative

The change in general and administrative expense in the three months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the three months ended September 30, 2023 is not material individually or in aggregate.

The increase in general and administrative expenses in the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2023 primarily resulted from the net \$24.5 million litigation settlement for the Securities Class Action Litigation described in Note 7, Commitments and Contingencies, to the condensed consolidated financial statements elsewhere in this Report, and an increase of \$10.6 million in charges related to other legal matters, professional fees, outside services and office administration, offset by a decrease in non-cash stock-based compensation expense of \$21.3 million primarily due to the net effect of forfeiture of EPA awards offset by new restricted stock units granted subsequent to September 30, 2023.

Other Income (Expense)

Interest Income

The increase in interest income during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was mainly due to the increase in the weighted average interest rate and investment during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2023.

Other Income (Expense)

Other income (expense) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 consisted of foreign currency exchange loss and other miscellaneous income. Other income (expense) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 consisted of foreign currency exchange gain and other miscellaneous income.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, our principal sources of liquidity were our cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities in the amount of approximately \$841.0 million and \$1.1 billion, respectively. Our cash equivalents are invested in U.S. money market funds, U.S. Treasury bonds and commercial paper. Our marketable securities are invested in U.S. Treasury notes and bonds, commercial paper, and corporate notes and bonds.

We have yet to generate any revenue from our business operations. To date, we have funded our capital expenditure and working capital requirements through equity as further discussed below. Our ability to successfully develop our products, commence commercial operations and expand our business will depend on many factors, including our working capital needs, the availability of equity or debt financing and, over time, our ability to generate cash flows from operations.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, we completed the August 2023 Public Offering of 37.5 million shares of our Class A Common Stock and received net proceeds of \$288.2 million.

We believe that our cash on hand will be sufficient to meet our working capital and capital expenditure requirements for a period of at least twelve months from the date of this Report. Based on our current business plan, we believe that our cash resources will last into 2028, in part due to our transition from the JVA arrangement to the licensing arrangement with PowerCo, which, if entered into, is expected to have significantly lower costs and capital requirements. However, any changes to our technology development, operating costs and scale-up, including our ability to meet the milestones to enable the entry into the IP License Agreement and related receipt of the initial royalty fee from PowerCo, could materially impact us and the availability of our capital resources. We may need additional cash resources due to changed business conditions or other developments, including unanticipated delays in negotiations with automotive OEMs and tier-one automotive suppliers or other suppliers, supply chain challenges, competitive pressures, inflation, and regulatory developments, among others. To the extent that our current resources are insufficient to satisfy our cash requirements, we may need to seek additional equity or debt financing. If such financing is not available, or if the financing terms are onerous given the high-interest rate environment or less desirable than we expect, we may be forced to decrease our level of investment in product development or scale back our operations, which could have an adverse impact on our business and financial prospects.

In July 2022, we filed the Form S-3, which the SEC declared effective in August 2022, for the offer and sale of Class A Common Stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities, warrants, subscription rights, purchase contracts and units in one or more offerings and in any combination for an aggregate offering price of up to \$1 billion, or \$700 million subsequent to our August 2023 Public Offering. Such securities may be offered pursuant to the base prospectus contained in the shelf registration statement and a prospectus supplement that would be prepared and filed at the time of any offering.

In February 2023, we filed a prospectus supplement to the Form S-3 for the issuance and sale of our Class A Common Stock from time to time for an aggregate offering price of up to \$400 million through J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Cowen and Company, LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC, as the sales agents. We entered into Distribution Agreements with each of these sales agents in February 2023, in connection with the ATM offering. We have up to three years from the date of the Distribution Agreements to sell the shares, however we are not obligated to sell any such shares. Any proceeds from the sale of shares will be used for working capital and other general corporate purposes and would further extend our forecasted cash runway. No shares of our Class A Common Stock were sold pursuant to the ATM offering during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024.

Cash Flows and Material Cash Requirements

The following table provides a summary of our cash flow data for the periods indicated (amounts in thousands):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (215,898)	\$ (182,551)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	237,942	(98,564)
Net cash provided by financing activities	10,137	297,071

Operating Activities

Our cash flows used in operating activities to date have been primarily driven by the growth in our underlying business to support the research and development of next-generation battery technology. To support our research and development activities and our plan to expand our QS-0 capability, we are expecting cash payments of approximately \$9.0 million during the next twelve months and approximately \$67.7 million thereafter for the operating lease commitments as of September 30, 2024. From time to time, we also enter into non-cancellable service and purchase commitments. We are expecting cash used in operating activities to include payments of approximately \$4.3 million in the next twelve months and approximately \$4.5 million thereafter through 2027 for our non-cancellable commitments as of September 30, 2024.

Cash used in operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 was primarily driven by a net loss of \$363.3 million, offset by non-cash expense of \$110.5 million related to stock-based compensation, non-cash expense of \$39.8 million related to depreciation and amortization, non-cash lease expense and amortization of right-of-use assets of \$6.0 million. Cash used in the operating activities was further driven by an increase of \$3.7 million in operating lease expense, and \$23.1 million in amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts on marketable securities, and offset by an increase of \$16.0 million in accounts payable, accrued liabilities and accrued compensation and benefits.

Cash used in operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was primarily driven by a net loss of \$331.7 million, offset by non-cash expense of \$128.4 million related to stock-based compensation, non-cash expense of \$31.2 million related to depreciation and amortization, non-cash expense of \$6.3 million related to the impairment of fixed assets, and non-cash lease expense and amortization of right-of-use assets of \$5.8 million. These were adjusted by a decrease of \$10.9 million in amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts on marketable securities, and a decrease of \$5.5 million in accounts payable, accrued liabilities and accrued compensation and benefits.

Investing Activities

Our cash flows from investing activities to date have been comprised of purchases of property and equipment and purchases, maturities and sales of our marketable securities. We expect the level of capital investment to increase substantially in the near future as we acquire the property and equipment for and build out our QS-0 facility.

Cash provided by investing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 primarily consists of proceeds from the maturity and sale of marketable securities of \$1.1 billion and \$1.2 million, respectively. These were offset by \$858.9 million used for the purchase of marketable securities and \$51.0 million used for the purchase of various property and equipment, primarily to support our research and development activities.

Cash used in investing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 primarily consists of \$731.5 million used for the purchase of marketable securities and \$70.7 million used for the purchase of various property and equipment, primarily to support our research and development activities. These were offset by the proceeds from the maturity and sale of marketable securities of \$702.1 million and \$1.5 million, respectively.

Financing Activities

Our cash flows from financing activities primarily consist of proceeds from the issuance of common stock and exercise of stock options. Finance lease commitment for QS-0 will result in net cash payments of \$5.2 million in the next twelve months and payments of \$40.4 million thereafter.

Cash provided by financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2024 is primarily due to \$14.0 million received from the exercise of stock options and our employee stock purchase plan.

Cash provided by financing activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 is primarily due to \$288.4 million in net proceeds received from the August 2023 Public Offering, \$9.9 million received from the exercise of stock options and our employee stock purchase plan.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In the preparation of these condensed consolidated financial statements, we are required to use judgment in making estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements, as well as the reported expenses incurred during the reporting periods.

We consider an accounting judgment, estimate or assumption to be critical when (1) the estimate or assumption is complex in nature or requires a high degree of judgment and (2) the use of different judgments, estimates and assumptions could have a material impact on the condensed consolidated financial statements. Our significant accounting policies are described in Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, to our audited consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 3, Recent Accounting Pronouncements, to the condensed consolidated financial statements elsewhere in this Report for more information about recent accounting pronouncements, the timing of their adoption, and, to the extent it has made one, of their potential impact on our financial condition and its results of operations and cash flows.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

There have been no material changes to the Company's market risk during the three months ended September 30, 2024. For a discussion of the Company's exposure to market risk, refer to the Company's market risk disclosures set forth in Part II, Item 7A, "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" of our Annual Report.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls and Procedures**

In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Exchange Act")), management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this Report. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of September 30, 2024, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the three months ended September 30, 2024 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

Information regarding legal proceedings is available in [Note 7, Commitments and Contingencies](#), to the condensed consolidated financial statements elsewhere in this Report.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

The following summary risk factors and other information included in this Report should be carefully considered. The summary risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem less significant may also affect our business operations or financial results. If any of the following risks actually materializes, our stock price, business, operating results and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. For more information, see below for more detailed descriptions of each risk factor.

- We face significant challenges in our attempt to develop a solid-state battery cell and produce it at high volumes.
- We may not be able to establish supply relationships for necessary materials, components or equipment or may be required to pay more than anticipated for components or equipment.
- We may be unable to adequately control the costs associated with our operations and raw materials.
- We rely on complex machinery for our operations, and production involves a significant degree of risk and uncertainty.
- If our batteries fail to perform as expected, our ability to develop, market and sell our batteries could be harmed.
- We may not succeed in attracting and retaining customers during the development stage or for high volume commercial production, and our future growth and success depend on our ability to attract and retain customers.
- We may be negatively impacted by any early obsolescence of our manufacturing equipment.
- Our relationship with Volkswagen is subject to various risks which could adversely affect our business and future prospects. There are no assurances that we will be able to meet the time, cost, performance and volume requirements, or achieve the milestones for the commercialization of solid-state batteries under our collaboration with PowerCo or enter into the IP License Agreement.
- If the milestones under the Collaboration Agreement are met and the IP License Agreement is entered into, we will become reliant on PowerCo to scale up and commercialize our technology.
- Certain agreements and relationships currently restrict or in the future may restrict our business operations.
- We may not be able to accurately estimate the future supply and demand for our batteries, which could result in a variety of inefficiencies in our business and hinder our ability to generate revenue. Our future growth and success are dependent upon consumers' willingness to adopt EVs.
- Concentration of ownership among a few stockholders and our executive officers, directors and their affiliates may prevent other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions.
- If we are unable to protect or assert our intellectual property, our business and competitive position would be harmed. We may need to defend ourselves against intellectual property infringement claims or other litigation. Our patent applications may not result in issued patents or our patent rights may be contested.
- The battery market continues to evolve, is highly competitive, and we may not be successful in competing in this industry or establishing and maintaining confidence in our long-term business prospects among current and future partners and customers.
- We believe that our technology enables a variety of business models, including but not limited to sole manufacturing, joint ventures, and licensing, each of which may involve certain risks and tradeoffs.
- We are an early-stage company with a history of financial losses and expect to incur significant continuing losses from operations for the foreseeable future.
- Our expectations and targets regarding the times when we will achieve various technical, pre-production and production objectives depend in large part upon assumptions and analyses developed by us.
- Our website, systems, and data we maintain may be subject to intentional disruption, other security incidents, or alleged violations of laws, regulations, or other obligations relating to data handling that could result in liability and adverse impact.
- Global climate change, an increase in related legal and regulatory requirements and an increased related emphasis on environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters by various stakeholders could negatively affect our business.

- From time to time, we are involved in litigation, regulatory actions or government investigations and inquiries, which could have an adverse impact on our profitability and consolidated financial position.
- We may become subject to product liability claims, which could harm our financial condition and liquidity.
- Our ability to manage our business and monitor results is highly dependent upon IT systems. Problems with the design, integration, implementation or operation of these systems could have a material adverse effect on our business.
- We are subject to anti-corruption, anti-bribery, anti-money laundering, financial and economic sanctions and similar laws, and non-compliance with such laws can subject us to administrative, civil and criminal fines and penalties and, collateral consequences.
- Recent and potential tariffs imposed by the U.S. government or a global trade war could increase costs and inhibit future sales of our products, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.
- Inflation and increased interest rates may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.
- Our management has limited experience in operating a public company.
- We may be negatively impacted by epidemics, pandemics, and other outbreaks.
- We are subject to substantial regulation and unfavorable changes to, or failure by us to comply with, these regulations could substantially harm our business and operating results. We are subject to environmental and safety risks and requirements relating to environmental and safety regulations and environmental remediation matters which could adversely affect our business, results of operation and reputation.
- Our Class A Common Stock has been and may in the future continue to be subject to extreme volatility. Sales of substantial amounts of our Class A Common Stock in the public markets by us or our stockholders could result in additional dilution of the percentage ownership of our stockholders and could reduce the price of our Class A Common Stock.
- We may not be able to raise additional capital on attractive terms, if at all.
- Short sellers may engage in manipulative activity that could drive down the market price of our Class A Common Stock.
- We are required to use judgments in making estimates and assumptions in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements, and our results of operations may fluctuate significantly as a result of changes to our estimates and assumptions.
- The dual class structure of our Common Stock has the effect of concentrating voting control. Our dual class structure may depress the trading price of the Class A Common Stock.
- Anti-takeover provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws and Delaware law could make an acquisition of us more difficult and limit attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our management.
- Our Bylaws could limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a chosen judicial forum for disputes.
- We do not expect to declare any dividends in the foreseeable future.
- If we are unable to attract and retain key employees and qualified personnel, our ability to compete could be harmed.
- Our facilities or operations could be adversely affected as a result of natural disasters and other catastrophic events.
- Any economic, financial or banking crisis, or perceived threat of such a crisis, including a significant decrease in consumer confidence, may materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our results of operations and financial condition could be materially affected by the enactment of legislation implementing changes in the U.S. or foreign taxation of business activities or the adoption of other tax reform policies.
- Our ability to use our deferred tax assets to offset future taxable income is subject to certain limitations, which may have a material impact on our business, financial condition or results of operations.
- Our insurance coverage may not be adequate to protect us from all business risks.
- We have incurred and will continue to incur significant expenses and administrative burdens as a public company, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.
- If we experience material weaknesses in the future or otherwise fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls in the future, our business could be adversely affected. Our disclosure controls and procedures may not prevent or detect all errors or acts of fraud.
- If securities or industry analysts do not publish or cease publishing research or reports about us, our business, or the market in which we operate, the price and trading volume of our securities could decline.

The following risk factors apply to our business and operations. These risk factors are not exhaustive, and investors are encouraged to perform their own investigation with respect to our business, financial condition, and prospects. We may face additional risks and uncertainties that are not presently known to us, or that we currently deem immaterial, which may also impair our business. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes to the financial statements included elsewhere in this Report.

Risks Related to Our Technology Development and Scale-Up

We face significant challenges in our attempt to develop a solid-state battery cell and produce it at high volumes with acceptable performance, quality, consistency, reliability, throughput, safety, and costs. We may encounter delays and cost overruns related to planning, permitting, construction, equipment installation, utilities infrastructure installation and operations start-up of our manufacturing facilities. Delays or failures in accomplishing these and other development objectives may delay or prevent successful commercialization of our products.

Developing lithium-metal solid-state batteries that meet the requirements for wide adoption by automotive OEMs is a difficult undertaking and, as far as we are aware, has never been done before. We are still in the development stage and face significant challenges in completing the development of our multilayer battery cells and in producing battery cells in commercial volumes. Some of the development challenges that could prevent the introduction of our solid-state battery cell include difficulties with increasing the quality, consistency, reliability and production throughput of our solid-state electrolyte-separators and cells, increasing the size and layer count of our multilayer cells, increasing manufacturing scale to produce the volume of cells needed for our technology development and customer applications, installing, bringing up and optimizing higher volume manufacturing equipment, packaging design and engineering to ensure adequate cycle life, pressure management, cost reduction, completion of the rigorous and challenging specifications required by our automotive partners, including but not limited to, calendar life, mechanical, safety, and abuse testing and development of the final manufacturing processes.

Our solid-state electrolyte-separator is in the development stage. These solid-state electrolyte-separators have never been used before for battery applications (or to our knowledge, for any other applications) and there are significant quality, consistency, reliability and throughput, cost and manufacturing process challenges to be solved in order for the solid-state electrolyte-separators to be produced and used commercially. We are likely to encounter engineering challenges as we increase the lateral dimensions, reduce the thickness and increase the production volume of our solid-state electrolyte-separators. If we are not able to overcome these barriers in developing and producing solid-state electrolyte-separators at commercial volumes, our business could fail.

To achieve target energy density, we need to assemble multiple cell layers, enclose them within a single battery package, improve the cathode capacity loading, and address related technical challenges. Depending upon our customer's requirements, our battery cell may require dozens of layers within each battery package. We have tested single-layer and multilayer cells in commercially relevant areas that measure approximately 60x75mm to 70x85mm, and shipped our first 24-layer A0 prototype battery cells in 2022. While we target our first commercial product, the QSE-5, to have a capacity of approximately 5 amp-hours, the exact capacity, number of layers and dimensions will vary and depend upon specific customer preference, cell design considerations, and other factors. We will need to overcome production challenges to produce sufficient volumes of our solid-state electrolyte-separators and prototype battery cells to complete development of our first commercial product and for customer evaluation and product qualification purposes, as well as subsequent cell designs that may require increased layer counts. We will need to produce these cells at improved yields without compromising performance, and while solving related packaging and reliability challenges in a way that is scalable and low-cost. There are significant engineering and mechanical challenges that we must overcome to advance the development of our battery cells. In addition, we have been acquiring and will continue to acquire certain equipment that we currently do not possess and to develop the manufacturing process necessary to make these multilayer battery cells at high volumes. If we are not able to overcome these developmental hurdles in building our multilayer cells, our business is likely to fail.

We are evaluating multiple cathode material compositions for inclusion in our solid-state battery cells and have not yet finalized the cathode composition or formulation, or the design of related cell assembly components. We also have not validated that the current cell design meets all automotive requirements. We have not yet validated a manufacturing process or acquired the equipment necessary to produce high volumes of our cathode electrode or related cell assembly components that meet all commercial requirements. If we are not able to overcome these developmental and manufacturing hurdles our business likely will fail.

Even if we complete development and achieve volume production of our solid-state battery, if the cost, performance characteristics or other specifications of the battery fall short of our targets or our customer requirements, our sales, product pricing and margins would likely be adversely affected.

In addition, we must advance our manufacturing processes to include more automation, such as automated film handling and stacking, and to use higher volume equipment and processes, such as moving to larger continuous flow equipment. We must also continue process development and innovation efforts toward substantially shortening cycle time, improving process control, and reducing consumables (including energy usage), toward the target end goal of increasing the quality, consistency, reliability and throughput of our solid-state electrolyte-separators and battery cells. We may encounter delays or unexpected challenges in the delivery, installation and operation of the new equipment. Examples include global supply chain issues that impact our equipment suppliers, supplier non-performance and equipment damage in transit. These challenges may be exacerbated in situations where we source certain of our materials and equipment exclusively from one or a few suppliers. Further, we must build QS-0 to provide a sufficient quantity of solid-state electrolyte-separators and cells for internal development, customer sampling, and initial production of QSE-5 cells, and finally, we need to build out QS-0 to serve as the basis for continued manufacturing process development for the subsequent scale up of our manufacturing capabilities, including to support collaboration and future technology transfer activities as part of the collaboration and licensing arrangements with PowerCo as well as potential future commercial arrangements. We could encounter significant delays and cost overruns related to planning, permitting, construction, equipment installation and qualification, utilities infrastructure installation, and operations start-up of our manufacturing facilities, including those containing our QS-0 facility. For example, we have experienced short-term power outages at our San Jose facilities that have been resolved but similar disruptions may occur in the future; delays associated with material shortage and backups at key shipping ports could impact the capacity at which we can run the facility; and certain of our construction contractors have previously reported delays due to labor strikes of their employees that have been resolved for now but may reoccur in the future. We must substantially improve our manufacturing processes to increase yield and throughput to achieve the cost, performance and volume levels required for commercial shipments.

In addition, our multilayer battery cells must simultaneously satisfy all of the commercial and safety requirements of our customers. Our solid-state battery cell uses a ceramic electrolyte-separator which we believe is safer than conventional polymer separators. From time to time, we run a suite of safety tests on our prototype cells. Although certain of our prototype cells have passed these automotive safety tests, some of these cells have been tested to the point of failure when subject to additional modified test conditions. Moreover, these safety test results for our prototype cells are not necessarily representative of those of subsequent generations of our cells since safety is a function of a cell's materials composition, which changes from one generation of cells to the another. Additional safety tests need to be performed as our materials and processes evolve and we also need to test a much larger sampling of cells to ensure statistical significance.

Any delay in the development or manufacturing scale-up of our solid-state battery cells would negatively impact our business as it will delay time to revenue and negatively impact our customer relationships. Additionally, we may encounter delays in obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals or launching our solid-state battery on the market, including delays in entering into agreements for the supply of component parts and manufacturing equipment and supplies. Delays in the launching of our product would materially damage our business, prospects, financial condition, operating results and brand.

We may not be able to establish supply relationships for necessary materials, components or equipment or may be required to pay more than anticipated for components or equipment, which could delay the introduction of our product and negatively impact our business.

We rely on third-party suppliers for components and equipment necessary to develop and manufacture our solid-state batteries, including key supplies, such as our cathode material and manufacturing equipment for both our solid-state electrolyte-separator and solid-state battery cells. We are collaborating with key suppliers but have not yet entered into agreements for the supply of production quantities for many of these materials. To the extent that we are unable to enter into commercial agreements with these suppliers on beneficial terms, or these suppliers experience difficulties or delays ramping up their supply of materials to meet our requirements, the introduction of our battery will be delayed. For example, we have previously experienced minor disruptions to the supply of process gas due to the shortage of truck drivers related to the COVID-19 pandemic and due to an incident at our main supplier's facilities, and have also experienced and could continue to experience disruption to the supply of petroleum-derived products as a result of certain weather and geopolitical events and conflicts and any related political or economic responses and counter-responses or otherwise by various global actors. The war in Ukraine and resulting sanctions against Russia by certain countries has also led to, and a further escalation of the armed conflict in the Middle East could also lead to, an increase in the price of petroleum and petroleum-derived products, which has in certain instances increased and may in the future further increase the cost of manufacturing, input material pricing and logistics costs.

We expect to incur significant costs related to procuring materials required to manufacture and assemble our batteries. We expect to use various materials in our batteries that will require us to negotiate purchase agreements and delivery lead-times on advantageous terms. We may not be able to control fluctuation in the prices for these materials or negotiate agreements with suppliers on terms that are beneficial to us. Our business depends on the continued supply of certain proprietary materials for our products. We are exposed to multiple risks relating to the availability and pricing of such materials and components, including reliance upon our vendors to construct and produce equipment to increase volumes, which may lead to delays or the requirement that we make additional upfront payments. Substantial increases in the prices for our raw materials or components, which may be expected, particularly if inflation rates continue at the high levels seen in 2022 and 2023, would increase our operating costs and negatively impact our prospects. For example, our shipping costs have increased as suppliers have applied fuel surcharges. Costs for certain key raw materials and components have also increased due to fluctuations in global commodity prices. Our suppliers' increasing labor costs have also contributed to rising prices. Given that we have yet to generate any revenue from our business operations, we are also limited in our ability to pass on the cost of any such increases to our customers.

In addition, the cost of mass-producing battery cells depends in part upon the prices and availability of raw materials such as lithium, nickel, cobalt and/or other metals. The prices for these materials fluctuate and their available supply may be unstable, depending on market conditions and global demand for these materials. For example, demand for lithium has increased dramatically in recent years, and is expected to continue to increase, due to the ongoing rapid increase in demand for lithium batteries in portable electronics and the growing EV and energy storage markets. Furthermore, significant sources of supply of certain raw and intermediate materials are available in countries that may be subject to political, economic and social instability or where there is an ongoing risk of tariffs or other prohibitions being imposed by the United States or the European Union on the import of such materials from such countries. There can be no assurance that suppliers of these materials may be able to meet our volume and other specific needs at reasonable prices, particularly as we ramp up our commercial operations.

Any disruption in the supply of components, equipment or materials could temporarily disrupt research and development activities or production of our batteries until an alternative supplier is able to supply the required material. Changes in business conditions, unforeseen circumstances, political, economic and social instability, governmental changes, disruptions caused by power outages, climate change and natural disasters, and other factors beyond our control or which we do not presently anticipate, could also affect our suppliers' ability to deliver components or equipment to us on a timely basis. Any of the foregoing could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

Currency fluctuations, trade barriers, tariffs or shortages and other general economic or political conditions may limit our ability to obtain key components or equipment for our solid-state batteries or significantly increase freight charges, raw material costs and other expenses associated with our business, which could further materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

We may be subject to a number of geopolitical risks, including U.S. and foreign government trade restrictions or sanctions and any political or economic responses or counter-responses to such restrictions or sanctions. As geopolitical conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine and in the Middle East, continue or possibly escalate, this may lead to further disruption, instability and volatility in global markets and industries that could negatively impact our operations and our supply chain. The U.S. government and other governments have already imposed severe sanctions and export controls against Russia and Russian interests and may yet impose additional sanctions and controls. The impact of these measures, as well as potential responses to them by Russia, is currently unknown and they could adversely affect the global economy, our business, supply chain, partners or customers. In addition, U.S. restrictions on trade with China and periodic lockdowns due to outbreaks of coronavirus cases in China impacted our ability to source certain production equipment, adversely affected supply chains, and may impact our ability to access materials in a timely manner in the event such supply chain disruptions continue or reoccur for whatever reason. Should there be further disruption, instability and volatility in global markets and industries resulting from the dynamics of geopolitical relations between the U.S. and China, our business could be materially and adversely affected, including due to volatility of prices and lead times of equipment and materials sourced from or with a supply chain passing through China.

We may be unable to adequately control the costs associated with our operations and the components necessary to build our solid-state battery cells, and, if we are unable to control these costs and achieve cost advantages in our production of our solid-state battery cells at scale, our business will be adversely affected.

We require significant capital to develop and grow our business and expect to incur significant expenses, including those relating to research and development, raw material procurement, leases, sales and distribution as we build our brand and market our batteries, and general and administrative costs as we scale our operations, including our costs of our activities under the Collaboration Agreement. For example, there has been volatility in prices and availability of raw material such as cobalt, nickel, and lithium and such material may face industry-wide shortages. Our ability to become profitable in the future will not only depend on our ability to successfully market our solid-state batteries and services, but also to control our costs and achieve our target cost projections, including our projected cost advantage when compared to the costs of building traditional lithium-ion batteries at scale or the costs of building solid-state batteries by other market players. If we or our partners, as applicable, are unable to cost efficiently design, manufacture, market, sell and distribute our solid-state batteries and services, including under the Collaboration Agreement, our margins, profitability and prospects would be materially and adversely affected. We have not yet produced any solid-state battery cells at commercial capacity or in volume and our forecasted cost advantage for the production of these cells at scale, compared to conventional lithium-ion cells, will require us to achieve rates of throughput, use of electricity and consumables, yield, and levels of automation that we have not yet achieved. If we are unable to achieve these targeted rates, our business will be adversely impacted.

In particular, while we have estimated that eliminating the anode host material and the associated manufacturing costs will provide savings in production at scale compared to the costs of building traditional lithium-ion batteries at leading manufacturers, that estimate is subject to numerous assumptions and uncertainties. To achieve those savings, we will need to achieve significant cost savings in battery design and manufacturing, in addition to the cost savings associated with the elimination of an anode from our solid-state battery cells, while controlling costs associated with the manufacturing of our solid-state electrolyte-separator, including achieving substantial improvements in throughput and yield required to hit commercial targets. Further, we will need to capture industry-wide cost savings in the materials, components, equipment, and processes that we share with traditional lithium-ion battery manufacturing, notably in the cathode, cell design, and factory. We cannot be certain that we will achieve these cost savings or that future efficiency improvements in lithium-ion battery manufacturing will not reduce or eliminate these estimated cost savings.

We rely on complex machinery for our operations, and production involves a significant degree of risk and uncertainty in terms of operational performance and costs.

We rely heavily on complex machinery for our operations and the production of our solid-state battery cells, and this equipment has not yet been qualified to operate at large-scale manufacturing. The work required to integrate this equipment into the production of our solid-state battery cells is time intensive and requires us to work closely with the equipment provider to ensure that it works properly for our unique battery technology. This integration work will involve a significant degree of uncertainty and risk and may result in a delay in the scaling up of production or result in additional cost to our battery cells.

To achieve our commercialization goals, we will require large-scale machinery. Such machinery is likely to suffer unexpected malfunctions from time to time and may require repairs and spare parts to resume operations, which may not be available when needed, particularly if global supply chain disruptions continue or are not fully resolved. Unexpected malfunctions of our production equipment may significantly affect the intended operational efficiency. In addition, because this equipment has not been used to build our solid-state battery cells before, the operational performance and costs associated with this equipment can be difficult to predict and may be influenced by factors outside of our control, such as, but not limited to, failures by suppliers to deliver necessary components of our products in a timely manner and at prices and volumes acceptable to us, environmental hazards and remediation, difficulty or delays in obtaining governmental permits, damages or defects in systems, industrial accidents, fires, seismic activity and other natural disasters.

Operational problems with our manufacturing equipment could result in the personal injury to or death of workers, the loss of production equipment, damage to manufacturing facilities, monetary losses, delays and unanticipated fluctuations in production. The potential risks of operational problems at the Company's facilities also apply to individuals not employed and equipment not owned by the Company, such as third-party contractors, and our business partners' personnel and equipment. In addition, operational problems may result in environmental damage, administrative fines, increased insurance costs and potential legal liabilities. These operational problems could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows, financial condition or prospects.

If our batteries fail to perform as expected, our ability to develop, market, and sell our batteries could be harmed.

Once commercial production of our solid-state battery cells commences, our batteries may contain defects in design and manufacture that may cause them to not perform as expected or that may require repairs, recalls, and design changes. Our batteries are inherently complex and incorporate technology and components that have not been used for other applications and that may contain defects and errors, particularly when first introduced. We have a limited frame of reference from which to evaluate the long-term performance of our solid-state batteries. There can be no assurance that we will be able to detect and fix any defects in our solid-state batteries prior to the sale to potential consumers. If our batteries fail to perform as expected, we could lose design wins and customers may delay deliveries, terminate further orders or initiate product recalls, each of which could adversely affect our sales and brand and could adversely affect our business, prospects and results of operations.

We may not succeed in attracting and retaining customers during the development stage or for high volume commercial production, and our future growth and success depend on our ability to attract and retain customers.

We may not succeed in attracting and retaining customers during the development stage or for high volume commercial production. For example, we may be unsuccessful at attracting additional customers, in which case we may have excess capacity in our production facilities. In addition, if we are unable to attract new customers in need of high-volume commercial production of our products, whether due to inadequate product-market fit or for other reasons, our business may suffer. Conversely, we may not be able to retain existing customers in case of delays or capacity limitations in the development or manufacturing scale-up of our solid-state battery cells, which would negatively impact our business.

Many of our potential customers tend to be large enterprises that often undertake a significant evaluation process and are frequently subject to budget constraints, multiple approvals and unanticipated administrative, processing and other delays, that result in a lengthy sales cycle. Therefore, our future success will depend on our ability to effectively sell our products to such large customers. Sales to these end-customers involve risks that may not be present (or that are present to a lesser extent) with sales to smaller customers. These risks include, but are not limited to, (i) increased purchasing power and leverage held by large customers in negotiating contractual arrangements with us, including a greater ability to push back on attempts to pass on increased operating and procurement costs and require provisions that can lead to a delay in revenue recognition, (ii) longer sales and implementation cycles and the associated risk that substantial time and resources may be spent on a potential end-customer that elects not to purchase our solutions, and (iii) greater product functionality and scalability requirements, including a broader range of services. There are also only a limited number of OEMs in the automotive sector. All of these factors can add further risk to business conducted with these potential customers.

While we have signed customer sampling agreements with a number of OEMs, we are still in the process of development and manufacturing scale-up of our solid-state battery cells and there is no assurance or guarantee that any of our customers or potential customers will be able to successfully complete their testing and validation processes and, therefore, enter into definitive volume production agreements with us, or conversely, that we can sufficiently scale up the manufacturing of our solid-state battery cells in the time frames required by such customers and potential customers.

We may be negatively impacted by any early obsolescence of our manufacturing equipment.

We depreciate the cost of our equipment over their expected useful lives. However, our cell design or manufacturing processes may change periodically, and we may decide to update our design or manufacturing processes more quickly than expected. Moreover, improvements in engineering and manufacturing expertise and efficiency may result in our ability to manufacture our cells using less of our currently installed equipment. Alternatively, as we develop our production processes, we may discontinue the use of already installed equipment in favor of different or additional equipment. The useful life of any equipment that would be retired early as a result would be shortened, causing the depreciation on such equipment to be accelerated, and our results of operations may be harmed. For example, during the year ended December 31, 2023, we wrote off approximately \$21.5 million of property and equipment for assets with no remaining future benefit.

Customer Risks and Risks Related to Our Relationship with Volkswagen

Our relationship with Volkswagen is subject to various risks which could adversely affect our business and future prospects. There are no assurances that we will be able to achieve the milestones for the commercialization of solid-state batteries under our collaboration with PowerCo or that we will enter into the IP License Agreement.

On July 5, 2024, QS entered into the Collaboration Agreement with PowerCo with the goal of industrializing the solid-state lithium metal battery technology we intend to use in our first planned product —the QSE-5 Technology. Under the Collaboration Agreement, the parties will collaborate to enable PowerCo to manufacture battery cells incorporating the QSE-5 Technology, including by establishing a joint scale-up team to facilitate the transfer of QSE-5 Technology into a cell size determined by PowerCo and carrying out the activities set forth in statements of work (the “Project”). In connection with the Project and subject to the completion of certain milestones, the parties intend to enter into the IP License Agreement under which QS will grant PowerCo a non-exclusive, limited, royalty-bearing license to use the QSE-5 Technology for the purpose of manufacturing and selling batteries primarily for automotive applications, initially at one or more PowerCo facilities that together have an annual capacity of up to 40 GWh, expandable by an additional 40 GWh of annual capacity or such other capacity as may be agreed to by the parties.

There is no assurance that we will be able to complete the development of the solid-state battery cells or achieve the technical milestones in the time frame required by the Collaboration Agreement or to satisfy PowerCo's business needs, or that the joint scale-up team will cooperate successfully or complete in a timely and cost-effective manner the responsibilities assigned to them under the Collaboration Agreement. If we do not complete this development in a timely matter, PowerCo may terminate the Collaboration Agreement. If we are not able to reach certain milestones under the Collaboration Agreement, PowerCo has no obligation to enter into the IP License Agreement and we will not receive the initial royalty fee otherwise due to us thereunder and will not realize any of the benefits otherwise expected from such agreement. These factors could result in a material adverse effect on our business and financial results. The amounts of royalties to be paid under the IP License Agreement, if entered into, will depend on the performance of our solid-state battery and the demand for the vehicles that Volkswagen develops to utilize the solid-state battery cells that will be produced under the IP License Agreement. If we cannot complete the development of our solid-state battery cells, if PowerCo does not select our solid-state battery cell for commercialization or if there is a delay in the introduction of the Volkswagen vehicles that intend to use our solid-state battery cells, our business will be harmed.

The strong relationship that we have developed with Volkswagen and PowerCo and rights under the Collaboration Agreement and if entered into, the IP License Agreement, may deter other automotive OEMs from working closely with us. While the IP License Agreement, if entered into, would be non-exclusive, allowing us to license our intellectual property to other third parties, we may still need to incur significant additional expenditures for design, development, and testing to meet the needs of these third parties. If we are not able to expand our other customer relationships, or if we become too dependent on Volkswagen for our revenue, our business could be harmed. Volkswagen may have economic, business or legal interests or goals that are inconsistent with our goals. Any significant disagreements with Volkswagen may impede our ability to maximize the benefits of our relationship and slow the commercialization of our solid-state battery. Our relationship with Volkswagen may require us, among other things, to pay certain costs or to make certain capital investments or to seek Volkswagen's consent to take certain actions. In addition, if PowerCo is unable or unwilling to meet its economic or other obligations under the Collaboration Agreement and IP License Agreement, if entered into, we may be required to terminate such agreements and thereby may not realize any of the benefits otherwise expected from such agreements. These factors could result in a material adverse effect on our business and financial results. While we have entered into a Collaboration Agreement with PowerCo and also expect to enter into the IP License Agreement with PowerCo, we cannot predict the extent to which PowerCo's activities may pose a competitive risk to, or otherwise be in conflict with, our business.

If the milestones under the Collaboration Agreement are met and the IP License Agreement is entered into, we will become reliant on PowerCo to scale up and commercialize our technology, preserve the value of our license, and will be subject to PowerCo's business risks.

Entering into the IP License Agreement will make us reliant on PowerCo to scale up and commercialize our technology, as well as preserve the value of our license. It will also result in less direct control over decisions relating to the manufacturing of our technology and require us to rely more significantly on the alignment of incentives between PowerCo and us than under the prior JVA arrangement. PowerCo, in turn, is wholly owned by and therefore reliant on Volkswagen and its financial and operational resources. PowerCo faces their own risks such as technology development and scale-up, obtaining capital, executing business plans, managing labor relations, maintaining supplier and customer relationships, and other general macroeconomic and business risks. Changes in or poor execution of business plans by PowerCo or Volkswagen, including any decision by Volkswagen to reduce or terminate the business of PowerCo, or to reduce investments in EV production by implementing cost-cutting plans in Germany or otherwise, could adversely harm our business. Additionally, verifying royalty amounts owed to us under the IP License Agreement may be difficult. While the agreement will require PowerCo to provide reasonable documentation supporting royalties and grant us the right to audit their books and records, these audits can be expensive and time-consuming, potentially adversely affecting our financial condition and operating results.

Certain agreements and relationships currently restrict or in the future may restrict our business operations, commercialization opportunities, and revenue generation.

Our existing and future commercial agreements may limit or delay our ability to collaborate with other customers and commercialize our intellectual property, including certain intellectual property jointly developed under such agreements. Additionally, certain agreements may require us to prioritize certain customers' commercialization efforts and provide them with advantageous business terms, restricting our ability to negotiate competitive terms with others and potentially reducing our potential revenue from royalty payments. These obligations could deter other potential partners and limit or delay our opportunities to generate revenue through licensing our technology, impacting our overall business flexibility and financial outcomes.

We may not be able to accurately estimate the future supply and demand for our batteries, which could result in a variety of inefficiencies in our business and hinder our ability to generate revenue. If we fail to accurately predict and forecast our manufacturing requirements, we could incur additional costs or experience delays.

It is difficult to predict our future revenues and appropriately budget for our expenses, and we may have limited insight into trends that may emerge and affect our business. We anticipate being required to provide forecasts of our demand to our current and future suppliers prior to the scheduled delivery of products to potential customers. Currently, there is no historical basis for making judgments on the demand for our batteries or our ability to develop, manufacture, and deliver batteries, or our profitability in the future. If we overestimate our requirements, our suppliers may have excess inventory, which indirectly would increase our costs. If we underestimate our requirements, our suppliers may have inadequate inventory, which could interrupt manufacturing of our products and result in delays in shipments and revenues. In addition, lead times for materials and components that our suppliers order may vary significantly and depend on factors such as the specific supplier, contract terms and demand for each component at a given time. If we fail to order sufficient quantities of product components in a timely manner, the delivery of batteries to our potential customers could be delayed, which would harm our business, financial condition and operating results.

Our future growth and success are dependent upon consumers' willingness to adopt EVs.

Our growth and future demand for our products is highly dependent upon the adoption by consumers of alternative fuel vehicles in general and EVs in particular. In recent years, many countries, companies and consumers have accelerated targets with respect to decreasing dependency on fossil fuels, which in turn is expected to increase demand for EVs; however, the market for new EVs continues to evolve rapidly and is also characterized by rapidly changing technologies, competitive pricing and other competitive factors, evolving government regulation and industry standards, and changing consumer demands and behaviors. If the market for EVs in general does not develop as expected, or develops more slowly than expected, our business, prospects, financial condition and operating results could be harmed.

Concentration of ownership among a few stockholders and our executive officers, directors and their affiliates may prevent other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions.

As of September 30, 2024, our executive officers, directors and their affiliates as a group and each of our stockholders who own 5% or more of our outstanding Class A Common Stock or our Class B Common Stock (together, the "Common Stock"), in the aggregate, beneficially own approximately 29.3% of our Class A Common Stock and 93.6% of our Class B Common Stock outstanding, representing approximately 63.9% of the vote. As a result, these stockholders, including Volkswagen, will be able to exercise a significant level of control over all matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors, any amendment of our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and approval of significant corporate transactions. In addition, Volkswagen holds the right to designate two directors to our Board. Currently, Dr. Günther Mendl, Head of the Center of Excellence Battery at Volkswagen AG, and Sebastian Schebera, Head of Strategic Partnerships at Volkswagen AG, are members of our Board. This control could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control or changes in our management and will make the approval of certain transactions difficult or impossible without the support of these stockholders and of their votes.

Our Intellectual Property Risks

We rely heavily on our intellectual property portfolio. If we are unable to protect or assert our intellectual property, our business and competitive position would be harmed.

We may not be able to prevent unauthorized use of our intellectual property, which could harm our business and competitive position. We rely upon a combination of the intellectual property protections afforded by patents, trademarks and trade secrets in the United States and other jurisdictions, as well as license agreements and other contractual protections, to establish, maintain and enforce rights in our proprietary technologies. In addition, we seek to protect our intellectual property through non-disclosure and invention assignment agreements with our employees and consultants, and through non-disclosure agreements with business partners and other third parties. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, insiders and third parties, including our business partners, may attempt to copy or otherwise obtain, use or practice our intellectual property without our consent, and we may have been, and may continue to be, subject to intentional or inadvertent systems disruptions and physical or virtual security incidents, including theft or unauthorized use of our confidential information, trade secrets and proprietary technology, including with respect to our batteries and cells. Monitoring unauthorized use or loss of our intellectual property is difficult and costly, and the steps we have taken or will take to prevent misappropriation may not be sufficient. Any enforcement efforts we undertake, including litigation, could be time-consuming and expensive and could divert management's attention, which could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. In addition, existing intellectual property laws and contractual remedies may afford less protection than needed to safeguard our intellectual property portfolio or our competitive position.

Patent, trademark and trade secret laws vary significantly throughout the world. A number of foreign countries do not protect intellectual property to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. Government actions may also undermine our intellectual property. For example, a decree was adopted by the Russian government in March 2022, allowing Russian companies and individuals to exploit inventions owned by patentees from the United States without consent or compensation. Therefore, our intellectual property may not be as strong or as easily enforced outside of the United States and efforts to protect against the unauthorized use of our intellectual property, technology and other proprietary rights may be more expensive and difficult outside of the United States. Failure to adequately protect our intellectual property could result in our competitors using our intellectual property to offer products, potentially resulting in the loss of some of our competitive advantage and a decrease in our revenue which would adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and operating results.

Under the Collaboration Agreement, we agreed to jointly own with PowerCo certain types of intellectual property, which joint ownership may reduce our ability to protect or assert some of our intellectual property rights. More specifically, we agreed to jointly own certain intellectual property that is jointly developed under the Collaboration Agreement and that such jointly owned intellectual property may be exploited by either party without the other's consent, subject to certain conditions. Because PowerCo may exploit such intellectual property without our consent, we may not be able to block them or their licensees from using or exploiting derivatives or improvements to such intellectual property. Additionally, Volkswagen and PowerCo have and will continue to have access to some of our intellectual property, and potential incidents of employee misconduct, inadequate security measures, cyberattacks, or intentional or accidental exposure at Volkswagen or PowerCo may cause our intellectual property to be misappropriated, exploited, or infringed.

Under the IP License Agreement, if entered into, we intend to grant PowerCo a perpetual license to some of our intellectual property. This license may limit our ability to prohibit third parties, including PowerCo and its sublicensees, from exploiting our licensed intellectual property in perpetuity.

We may need to defend ourselves against intellectual property infringement claims, which may be time-consuming and could cause us to incur substantial costs.

Companies, organizations or individuals, including our current and future competitors, may hold or obtain patents, trademarks or other proprietary rights that would prevent, limit or interfere with our ability to make, use, develop or sell our products, which could make it more difficult and costly for us to operate our business. From time to time, we may receive requests from third parties inquiring whether we are infringing their intellectual property and/or seek court declarations that they do not infringe upon our intellectual property. Companies holding patents or other intellectual property relating to our business, including intellectual property for batteries, ceramics, electric motors, electronic power management systems, or manufacturing processes may bring suits alleging infringement of such rights or otherwise asserting their rights and seeking licenses. In addition, if we are determined to have infringed a third party's intellectual property, we may be required to do one or more of the following:

- cease selling, incorporating or using products, methods or other assets that incorporate or otherwise infringe or misappropriate the challenged intellectual property;
- pay substantial damages;
- obtain a license from the holder of the infringed intellectual property, which license may not be available on reasonable terms or at all; or
- redesign our affected products and methods.

In the event of a successful claim of infringement against us and our failure or inability to obtain a license to the infringed technology on reasonable terms, our business, prospects, operating results and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. In addition, any litigation or claims, whether or not well-founded, could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources and management's attention.

We also license patents and other intellectual property and technology from third parties, and we may face claims that our use of this intellectual property or technology infringes the rights of others. In such cases, we may seek indemnification from our licensors under our license contracts with them. However, our rights to indemnification may be unavailable or insufficient to cover our costs and losses, depending on our use of the technology, whether we choose to retain control over conduct of the litigation, and other factors.

Our patent applications may not result in issued patents or our patent rights may be contested, circumvented, invalidated or limited in scope, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our ability to prevent others from interfering with our commercialization of our products.

Our patent applications may not result in issued patents, which may have a material adverse effect on our ability to prevent others from commercially exploiting products similar to ours. The status of patents involves complex legal and factual questions and the breadth of claims allowed is uncertain. As a result, we cannot be certain that the patent applications that we file will result in patents being issued, or that our patents and any patents that may be issued to us will afford protection against competitors with similar technology. Numerous patents and pending patent applications owned by others exist in the fields in which we have developed and are developing our technology and operating our business. Any of our existing or pending patents may be challenged by others on the basis that they are invalid or unenforceable. Furthermore, patent applications filed in foreign countries are subject to laws, rules and procedures that differ from those of the United States, and thus we cannot be certain that foreign patent applications related to issued U.S. patents will be issued.

Even if our patent applications succeed and we are issued patents in accordance with them, these patents may still be contested, circumvented, invalidated or limited in scope in the future. The rights granted under any issued patents may not provide us with meaningful protection or competitive advantages, and some foreign countries provide significantly less effective patent enforcement than in the United States. In addition, the claims under any patents that issue from our patent applications may not be broad enough to prevent others from developing technologies that are similar or that achieve results similar to ours. The intellectual property of others could also bar us from licensing and exploiting any patents that issue from our pending applications. In addition, patents issued to us may be infringed or designed around by others and others may obtain patents that we need to license or design around, either of which would increase costs and may adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and operating results.

Our Business Risks

The battery market continues to evolve, is highly competitive, and we may not be successful in competing in this industry or establishing and maintaining confidence in our long-term business prospects among current and future partners and customers.

The battery market in which we compete continues to evolve and is highly competitive. To date, we have focused our efforts on our lithium-metal solid-state battery technology, which is being designed to outperform conventional lithium-ion battery technology. However, lithium-ion battery technology has been widely adopted and our current competitors have, and future competitors may have, greater resources than we do and may also be able to devote greater resources to the development of their current and future technologies. These competitors also may have greater access to customers and may be able to establish cooperative or strategic relationships amongst themselves or with third parties that may further enhance their resources and competitive positioning. In addition, lithium-ion battery manufacturers may continue to reduce cost and expand supply of conventional batteries and therefore reduce the prospects for our business or negatively impact the ability for us to sell our products at a market-competitive price and yet at sufficient margins. The lithium-ion battery industry may also experience periods of excess manufacturing capacity; this imbalance between demand and supply capacity may create further downward pressure on prices.

Many automotive OEMs, a number of battery technology companies, and consortiums subsidized by countries, for example China, are researching and investing in solid-state battery efforts and, in some cases, in battery development and production. There are a number of companies seeking to develop alternative approaches to solid-state battery technology, including lithium-metal batteries. We expect competition in battery technology and EVs to intensify due to increased demand for these vehicles and a regulatory push for EVs, continuing globalization, and consolidation in the worldwide automotive industry. For example, PowerCo is intended to consolidate Volkswagen's activities along the value chain for batteries – from processing raw materials to developing a unified Volkswagen battery to managing the European gigafactories – and, in 2024, the China All-Solid-State Battery Collaborative Innovation Platform (CASIP), which brings together government, academia and industry to develop and manufacture solid-state batteries that can compete globally, was announced. Developments in alternative technologies or improvements in battery technologies made by competitors may materially adversely affect the sales, pricing and gross margins of our batteries. If a competing technology is developed that has superior operational or price performance, our business will be harmed. Similarly, if we fail to accurately predict and ensure that our battery technology can address customers' changing needs or emerging technological trends, or if our customers fail to achieve the benefits expected from our solid-state batteries, our business will be harmed.

We must continue to commit significant resources to develop our battery technology to establish a competitive position, and these commitments will be made without knowing whether such investments will result in products potential customers will accept. There is no assurance we will successfully identify new customer requirements, develop and bring our batteries to market on a timely basis, or that products and technologies developed by others will not render our batteries obsolete or noncompetitive, any of which would adversely affect our business and operating results.

Customers will be less likely to purchase our batteries if they are not convinced that our business will succeed in the long term. Similarly, suppliers and other third parties will be less likely to invest time and resources in developing business relationships with us if they are not convinced that our business will succeed in the long term. Accordingly, to build, scale up and maintain our business, we must maintain confidence among current and future partners, customers, suppliers, analysts, ratings agencies and other parties in our long-term financial viability and business prospects. Maintaining such confidence may be particularly complicated by certain factors including those that are largely outside of our control, such as our limited operating history, market unfamiliarity with our products, any delays in scaling manufacturing, delivery and service operations to meet demand, competition and uncertainty regarding the future of EVs and our eventual production and sales performance compared with market expectations.

We are an early-stage company with a history of financial losses and expect to incur significant expenses and continuing losses from operations for the foreseeable future.

We incurred a loss from operations of approximately \$130.2 million and \$396.5 million, a net loss of approximately \$119.7 million and \$363.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, and an accumulated deficit of approximately \$3.2 billion from our inception in 2010 through September 30, 2024. We believe that we will continue to incur operating losses each quarter until at least the time we begin significant production of our lithium-metal solid-state batteries, and such production is not expected to occur in the near future.

We expect the rate at which we will incur losses to be significantly higher in future periods as we, among other things, continue to incur significant expenses in connection with the design, development and manufacturing of our batteries; expand our research and development activities; invest in manufacturing capabilities; build up inventories of components for our batteries; increase our sales and marketing activities; develop our distribution infrastructure; and increase our general and administrative functions to support our growing operations. We may find that these efforts are more expensive than we currently anticipate or that these efforts may not result in revenues, which would further increase our losses.

We believe that our technology enables a variety of business models, including but not limited to sole manufacturing, joint ventures, and licensing, each of which may involve certain risks and tradeoffs.

We believe that our technology enables a variety of business models. In addition to the collaboration with PowerCo, which contemplates a licensing arrangement, we may license technology to other manufacturers, operate our own manufacturing facilities, or enter into joint venture arrangements, among other approaches.

Operating solely-owned manufacturing facilities would allow us full control over production and quality, helping us protect proprietary processes and maintain consistency. However, this approach would require significant capital investment in infrastructure, equipment, and workforce, leading to increased operational expenses and financial exposure. Managing manufacturing operations also exposes us to risks such as supply chain disruptions, production delays, cost overruns, equipment failures, and scaling challenges, which may hinder our ability to meet demand or maintain competitive pricing. Without third-party manufacturers to rely on, any inefficiency or failure in our facilities could have a materially adverse effect on our business, profitability, and reputation.

In a joint venture arrangement, we would collaborate with third parties to commercialize and manufacture our battery technology, sharing both risks and resources. This could provide access to additional capital, markets, and expertise, but also introduces risks related to control and management. Disagreements with partners over operational decisions, strategy, or investments could disrupt our business plans, while our reliance on their performance could pose additional risks. If a joint venture partner fails to fulfill their obligations or experiences financial or operational issues, it could lead to inefficiencies, delays, or disruptions that harm our business and reputation.

Under a licensing model, for example if we enter into the IP License Agreement with PowerCo, we would leverage our battery technology by licensing it to third parties for commercialization and manufacturing. This approach would reduce capital requirements by limiting investments in infrastructure and operations and could enable faster market penetration. However, licensing could lead to lower revenue, reduced control over production, and distribution challenges. Licensing agreements may also pose risks of third-party noncompliance, inconsistent execution, quality issues, or competitive disadvantages. Additionally, relying on third-party licensees could result in missed market opportunities or reputational damage, ultimately impacting our profitability and growth.

Aside from the business models described above, we may pursue other types of arrangements that bring their own risks and tradeoffs.

Our expectations and targets regarding the times when we will achieve various technical, pre-production and production objectives depend in large part upon assumptions and analyses developed by us. If these assumptions or analyses prove to be incorrect, we may not achieve these milestones when expected or at all.

Our expectations and targets regarding the times when we will achieve various technical, pre-production and production objectives reflect our current expectations and estimates. Whether we will achieve these objectives when we expect depends on a number of factors, many of which are outside our control, including, but not limited to:

- success and timing of development activity;
- unanticipated technical or manufacturing challenges or delays;
- technological developments relating to lithium-ion, lithium-metal solid-state or other batteries that could adversely affect the commercial potential of our technologies;
- whether we can obtain sufficient capital to continue our research and development activities, build our manufacturing facilities and sustain and grow our business;
- adverse developments in our collaboration with Volkswagen, including termination of the Collaboration Agreement or IP License Agreement, if entered into, delays in reaching the milestones set forth in the Collaboration Agreement or failing to meet the milestones prerequisite to our entering into the IP License Agreement;
- our ability to manage our growth;
- whether we can manage relationships with key suppliers;
- our ability to retain existing key management, integrate recent hires and attract, retain and motivate qualified personnel; and
- the overall strength and stability of domestic and international economies.

Unfavorable changes in any of these or other factors, most of which are beyond our control, could materially and adversely affect our ability to achieve our objectives when planned and our business, results of operations and financial results.

Our website, systems, and data we maintain may be subject to intentional disruption, other security incidents, or alleged violations of laws, regulations, or other obligations relating to data handling that could result in liability and adversely impact our reputation and future sales.

The research, development, and manufacturing of our batteries, supporting information systems (including internal systems such as research and development systems or external systems such as our website or third-parties' systems), and data that we maintain, including our intellectual property, may be subject to intentional or inadvertent disruption, security incidents, or violations of laws, regulations, or other obligations relating to data handling. Any such matters, or the perceptions that any of them have occurred, that could result in private claims, demands and litigation, regulatory investigations and other proceedings, and fines and other liabilities and adversely impact our reputation and future sales. We expect to face significant challenges with respect to information security and maintaining the security and integrity of our systems and other systems used in our business, as well as with respect to the data stored on or processed by these systems. Advances in technology, an increased level of sophistication, and an increased level of expertise of hackers, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other factors can result in a compromise or breach of, or other security incident with respect to, the systems used in our business or of security measures used in our business to protect confidential information, personal information, and other data. Additionally, remote working further increases the security threats that we and our third-party service providers, suppliers, and customers face.

The availability and effectiveness of our batteries, and our ability to conduct our business and operations, depend on the continued operation of information technology and communications systems, some of which we have yet to develop or otherwise obtain the ability to use. Systems used in our business by us and our third-party service providers, suppliers, and customers, including data centers and other information technology systems, may be vulnerable to damage or interruption. Such systems could also be subject to break-ins, corporate sabotage or state-sponsored espionage, and intentional acts of vandalism, infection by ransomware, viruses, or other malware, as well as disruptions and security incidents as a result of non-technical issues, including intentional or inadvertent acts or omissions by employees, service providers, suppliers, customers or others, to among other things, properly implement our software and related security patches and updates. We use service providers to help provide certain services, and any such service providers face similar security and system disruption risks as us. Some of the systems used in our business are not and will not be fully redundant, and our disaster recovery planning cannot account for all eventualities. Any data security incidents or other disruptions to any data centers or other systems used in our business by us and our third-party service providers, suppliers, and customers could result in lengthy interruptions in our service and may adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and operating results.

Significant capital and other resources may be required in efforts to protect against information security breaches, security incidents, and system disruptions, or to alleviate problems caused by actual or suspected information security breaches and other data security incidents and system disruptions. The resources required may increase over time as the methods used by hackers and others engaged in online criminal activities and otherwise seeking to obtain unauthorized access to systems or data, and to disrupt systems, are increasingly sophisticated and constantly evolving. In addition, the risk of cyberattacks may be heightened due to the war in Ukraine. Such cyberattacks could disrupt the economy more generally and could also impact our operations either directly or indirectly.

Security breaches and/or incidents can also remain undetected for an extended period, including situations in which hackers mine data over time or optimize the timing and potency of their cyberattacks or disruptions. Any failure or perceived failure by us or our service providers to prevent information security breaches or other security incidents or system disruptions, or to comply with privacy policies or any actual or asserted legal obligations relating to privacy or information security, or any compromise of security that results in or is perceived or reported to result in unauthorized access to, or loss, theft, alteration, release, transfer, unavailability, or other processing of, our information, or any personal information or other customer data or confidential information, that we or our service providers maintain or otherwise process, could cause our potential customers to lose trust in us, result in loss or theft of proprietary or sensitive data and intellectual property, could harm our reputation and competitive position and could expose us to legal claims, demands, and litigation, regulatory investigations and proceedings, and fines, penalties, and other liability. Any such actual or perceived security breach, security incident or disruption could also divert the efforts of our technical and management personnel and could require us to incur significant costs and operational consequences in connection with investigating, remediating, eliminating and putting in place additional equipment and devices designed to prevent actual or perceived security breaches and other incidents and system disruptions.

Additionally, our handling of data relating to individuals is subject to a variety of laws and regulations relating to privacy, data protection, and data security, and may become subject to additional obligations, including contractual obligations, relating to our maintenance and other processing of this data. Laws, regulations, and other actual and potential obligations relating to privacy, data protection, and data security are evolving rapidly, and we expect to potentially be subject to new laws and regulations, or new interpretations of laws and regulations, in the future in various jurisdictions. These laws, regulations, and other obligations, and changes in their interpretation, could require us to modify our operations and practices, restrict our activities, and increase our costs, and it is possible that these laws, regulations, and other obligations may be inconsistent with one another or be interpreted or asserted to be inconsistent with our business or practices. Any failure or perceived failure to comply with any applicable laws, regulations, or other obligations relating to privacy, data protection, or data security could also result in regulatory investigations and proceedings, and misuse of or failure to secure data relating to individuals could also result in claims and proceedings against us by governmental entities or others, penalties and other liability, and damage to our reputation and credibility, and could have a negative impact on potential future revenues and profits.

Global climate change, an increase in related legal and regulatory requirements and an increased related emphasis on ESG matters by various stakeholders could negatively affect our business.

Increased public awareness and concern over climate change may result in new or increased legal and regulatory requirements to reduce or mitigate the effects of climate change on the environment. Increased costs of energy or compliance with emissions standards due to increased legal or regulatory requirements may cause disruptions in or increased costs associated with our development and manufacturing operations. Any failure to achieve our goals with respect to reducing our impact on the environment or a perception (whether or not valid) of our failure to act responsibly with respect to the environment or to effectively respond to new, or changes in, legal or regulatory requirements concerning climate change or other sustainability concerns could adversely affect our business and reputation.

From time to time, we are involved in litigation, regulatory actions or government investigations and inquiries, which could have an adverse impact on our profitability and consolidated financial position.

We are involved in a variety of litigation, other claims, suits, regulatory actions or government investigations and inquiries and commercial or contractual disputes that, from time to time, are significant. See Note 7, Commitments and Contingencies, to the condensed consolidated financial statements elsewhere in this Report for a description of certain litigation matters that we are involved in.

In addition, from time to time, we may also be involved in legal proceedings and investigations arising in the normal course of business including, without limitation, commercial or contractual disputes, including warranty claims and other disputes with potential customers and suppliers; intellectual property matters; personal injury claims; environmental issues; tax matters; and employment matters including actions under California's Private Attorney General Act.

It is difficult to predict the outcome or ultimate financial exposure, if any, represented by these matters, and there can be no assurance that any such exposure will not be material. Such claims may also negatively affect our reputation.

We may become subject to product liability claims, which could harm our financial condition and liquidity if we are not able to successfully defend or insure against such claims.

We may become subject to product liability claims, even those without merit, which could harm our business, prospects, operating results, and financial condition. We face inherent risk of exposure to claims in the event our batteries do not perform as expected, fail to meet relevant safety standards or requirements, or malfunction resulting in personal injury or death. Our risks in this area are particularly pronounced given our batteries have not yet been commercially tested or mass produced. A successful product liability claim against us could require us to pay a substantial monetary award. Moreover, a product liability claim could generate substantial negative publicity about our batteries and business and inhibit or prevent commercialization of other future battery candidates, which would have a material adverse effect on our brand, business, prospects and operating results. Any insurance coverage might not be sufficient to cover all potential product liability claims. Any lawsuit seeking significant monetary damages either in excess of our coverage, or outside of our coverage, may have a material adverse effect on our reputation, business and financial condition. We may not be able to secure additional product liability insurance coverage on commercially acceptable terms or at reasonable costs when needed, particularly if we do face liability for our products and are forced to make a claim under our policy.

Our ability to manage our business and monitor results is highly dependent upon IT systems. Problems with the design, integration, implementation or operation of these systems could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We are highly dependent upon a variety of IT systems to operate our business. To continue to support our growth, enhancements to our current systems and implementation of new IT systems will involve substantial expenditures, as well as design, development and implementation activities. We must also routinely update our IT infrastructure and our various IT systems throughout the organization, or we may not continue to meet our current and future business needs. Modification, upgrade or replacement of such systems may be costly and if we are unable to successfully implement any new IT system, remediate, update or integrate our existing systems at times when necessary, our business and operations could be negatively impacted. Furthermore, IT systems are vulnerable to risks and damages from a variety of sources, including telecommunications or network failures, malicious human acts and natural disasters. Moreover, despite network security and back-up measures, some of our and our vendors' servers are potentially vulnerable to physical or electronic break-ins, computer viruses and similar disruptive problems. In addition, if any issues concerning the IT systems result in, or contribute to, a delay in our timely reporting of our results of operations for any period or our not filing one or more periodic reports with the SEC on time, the price of our Class A Common Stock could decline substantially, and we could face costly lawsuits, including securities class actions, and also could impair our ability to raise necessary capital to run our operations and progress our product development efforts. Further, as we are dependent upon our ability to gather and promptly transmit accurate information to key decision makers, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected if our information systems do not allow us to transmit accurate information, even for a short period of time. Failure to properly or adequately address these issues could negatively impact our ability to perform necessary business operations, which could adversely affect our reputation, competitive position, business, results of operations and financial condition.

We implemented a new enterprise resource planning (“ERP”) system in 2022. The ERP is designed to accurately maintain the Company’s books and records and provide important information to the Company’s management team for use in the operation of the business. The Company’s ERP has required the investment of significant human and financial resources, and we will continue to make investments in improving and adding new functionality to the system. If the ERP system or any other implemented system does not operate as intended, it could adversely affect our financial reporting systems and our ability to produce financial reports and process transactions.

We are subject to anti-corruption, anti-bribery, anti-money laundering, financial and economic sanctions and similar laws, and non-compliance with such laws can subject us to administrative, civil and criminal fines and penalties, collateral consequences, remedial measures and legal expenses, all of which could adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and reputation.

We are subject to anti-corruption, anti-bribery, anti-money laundering, financial and economic sanctions and similar laws and regulations in various jurisdictions in which we conduct or in the future may conduct activities, including the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (“FCPA”), the U.S. domestic bribery statute contained in 18 U.S.C. § 201, the U.K. Bribery Act 2010, the U.S. Bank Secrecy Act, as amended, and other similar laws and regulations. The FCPA and the U.K. Bribery Act 2010 prohibit us and our officers, directors, employees and business partners acting on our behalf, including agents, from corruptly offering, promising, authorizing or providing anything of value to a “foreign official” for the purposes of influencing official decisions or obtaining or retaining business or otherwise obtaining favorable treatment. The U.K. Bribery Act also prohibits non-governmental “commercial” bribery and soliciting or accepting bribes. The U.S. Bank Secrecy Act, particularly 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956, 1957, generally prohibits persons from engaging in transactions where the proceeds at issue derive from, or are intended to facilitate or conceal, illegal activity, or where a party to the transaction is “willfully blind” to the illegal sources of the proceeds.

We may leverage third parties to conduct our business. We, our directors, officers, employees, representatives, consultants, agents, and business partners may have direct or indirect interactions with officials and employees of government agencies or state-owned or affiliated entities and we may be held liable for the corrupt or other illegal activities of these directors, officers, employees, representatives, consultants, agents, and business partners even if we do not explicitly authorize such activities. The FCPA also requires companies to make and keep books, records and accounts that accurately reflect transactions and dispositions of assets and to maintain a system of adequate internal controls and compliance procedures designed to prevent such violations. While we have policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with these laws and regulations, we cannot guarantee that none of our directors, officers, employees, representatives, consultants, agents, and business partners will not engage in improper conduct for which we may be held responsible.

Any allegations of or violations of anti-corruption, anti-bribery, anti-money laundering, or financial and economic sanctions laws could subject us to whistleblower complaints, adverse media coverage, investigations, and severe administrative, civil and criminal sanctions, collateral consequences, remedial measures and legal expenses, all of which could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and reputation. Responding to any investigation or action will likely result in a materially significant diversion of management’s attention and resources and significant defense costs and other professional fees. In addition, changes in economic sanctions laws in the future could adversely impact our business and investments in our Class A Common Stock.

Recent and potential tariffs imposed by the U.S. government or a global trade war could increase costs and inhibit future sales of our products, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The U.S. government has and continues to make significant changes in U.S. trade policy and has taken certain actions that could negatively impact U.S. trade, including imposing tariffs on certain imported goods and prohibiting certain imports into the United States. In retaliation, countries like China have implemented, and continue to evaluate imposing additional tariffs on a wide range of American products. There is also a concern that the imposition of additional tariffs by the United States could result in the adoption of tariffs by other countries as well, leading to a global trade war. More specifically, the U.S. government has from time to time imposed significant tariffs on and prohibited imports of certain product categories imported from China. Such tariffs and prohibitions, if expanded to other categories, could have a significant impact on our business, particularly the importation of parts of our batteries and certain production equipment that is manufactured in, or with inputs from, China. If we attempt to renegotiate prices with suppliers or diversify our supply chain in response to tariffs, such efforts may not yield immediate results or may be ineffective. We might also consider increasing prices to our customers once we commence sales of our products; however, this could reduce the competitiveness of our products and adversely affect net sales. If we fail to manage these dynamics successfully, gross margins and profitability could be adversely affected. As of the date of this report, tariffs have not had a material impact on our business, but increased tariffs or trade restrictions implemented by the United States or other countries in connection with a global trade war could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. We cannot predict what actions may ultimately be taken with respect to tariffs or trade relations between the United States and China or other countries, what products may be subject to such actions, or what actions may be taken by the other countries in retaliation. Any further deterioration in the relations between the United States and China could exacerbate these actions and other governmental intervention.

The U.S. or foreign governments may take additional administrative, legislative, or regulatory action that could materially interfere with our ability to sell products in certain countries. Sustained uncertainty about, or worsening of, current global economic conditions and further escalation of trade tensions between the United States and its trading partners, especially China, could result in a global economic slowdown and long-term changes to global trade, including retaliatory trade restrictions which may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Any alterations to our business strategy or operations made in order to adapt to or comply with any such changes would be time-consuming and expensive, and certain of our competitors may be better suited to withstand or react to these changes.

Inflation and increased interest rates may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Our operations could be adversely impacted by inflation, primarily from higher material, labor, and construction costs. To date, we do not believe that inflation has had a material impact on our results of operations, capital resources or liquidity; however, we have experienced increases in prices of raw materials, components and labor costs. Our future mitigation strategies may include considering alternative vendors, vertically integrating certain aspects of our supply chain and redesigning our product or production process. It is difficult to determine what impact inflationary pressures will have on our long-term growth strategies, as there is uncertainty regarding how long higher levels of inflation may persist, and to what level we will be successful in passing these increased costs to our customers upon commercialization of our product. If we are not able to fully offset higher costs through price increases or other corrective measures, this may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our management has limited experience in operating a public company.

Some of our executive officers have limited experience in the management of a publicly traded company. As a public company, we are subject to significant regulatory oversight and reporting obligations under federal securities laws, and certain executives' limited experience in dealing with the increasingly complex laws pertaining to public companies could be a significant disadvantage in that it is likely that an increasing amount of their time may be devoted to these activities which will result in less time being devoted to the management and growth of our Company. We may not have adequate personnel with the appropriate level of knowledge, experience, and training in the accounting policies, practices or internal controls over financial reporting required of public companies in the United States.

We may be negatively impacted by epidemics, pandemics, and other outbreaks.

We face various risks related to epidemics, pandemics, and other outbreaks. For example, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in changes in consumer and business behavior, a severe market downturn, and restrictions on business and individual activities, as well as in significant volatility in the global economy and reduced economic activity. The spread of COVID-19 also impacted our potential customers and our suppliers by disrupting the manufacturing, delivery and overall supply chain of battery, EV and equipment manufacturers and suppliers and led to a global decrease in battery and EV sales in markets around the world. In response to the pandemic, government authorities implemented numerous measures to try to contain the virus, such as travel bans and restrictions, quarantines, stay-at-home or shelter-in-place orders, and business shutdowns, which affected our operations and the operations of our suppliers, vendors and business partners.

In the event of a further epidemic, pandemic or other outbreak, we may face similar adverse effects as experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, we may be required to take a variety of measures as may be required by government authorities or that we determine are in the best interests of our employees, suppliers, vendors and business partners, and any such measures may adversely affect our future manufacturing plans, supply chain sales and marketing activities, business and results of operations.

The extent to which any such epidemic, pandemic or other outbreak would impact our business, prospects and results of operations will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted, including the duration and spread of any such epidemic, pandemic or other outbreak, the actions to contain the outbreak or treat its impact, including the development, distribution and administration of effective vaccines, a waning immunity among persons already vaccinated, an increase in fatigue or skepticism with respect to initial or booster vaccinations, the severity of breakthrough cases and variants, including potentially vaccine-resistant variants, and how quickly and to what extent normal economic and operating activities can resume. Even after any such epidemic, pandemic or other outbreak has subsided, we may continue to experience an adverse impact to our business as a result of the global economic impact, including any recession that has occurred or may occur in the future, or due to changes in consumer behavior, for example an increase in remote work leading to a decrease in demand for automobiles.

Our Regulatory Risks

We are subject to substantial regulation and unfavorable changes to, or failure by us to comply with, these regulations could substantially harm our business and operating results.

Our batteries, and the sale of EVs and motor vehicles in general, are subject to substantial regulation under international, federal, state and local laws, including export control laws. We expect to incur significant costs in complying with these regulations. Regulations related to the battery and EV industry and alternative energy are currently evolving and we face risks associated with changes to these regulations as well as potentially also to heightened regulatory scrutiny. For example, laws and regulations may be passed that make manufacturers financially responsible for the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of certain products, including batteries for EVs. The costs of complying with such requirements, as they now exist or as may be introduced in the future, and the associated administrative burden could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations, particularly if we are unable to pass on such costs to our customers.

As a result of the Company's status as a special purpose acquisition company before the Business Combination, we are also subject to regulations and legal circumstances that differ from other publicly traded companies that did not complete a business combination.

Internationally, there may be laws and regulations in jurisdictions we have not yet entered or laws we are unaware of in jurisdictions we have entered that may restrict our sales or other business practices. The laws in this area can be complex, difficult to interpret and may change over time. Continued regulatory limitations and other obstacles that may interfere with our ability to commercialize our products could have a negative and material impact on our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations.

To the extent regulations change, we may not comply with applicable international, federal, state or local regulations, which would have an adverse effect on our business. Compliance with changing regulations could be burdensome, time consuming, and expensive. To the extent compliance with new regulations is cost prohibitive, our business, prospects, financial condition and operating results would be adversely affected.

We are subject to environmental and safety risks and requirements relating to environmental and safety regulations and environmental remediation matters which could adversely affect our business, results of operation and reputation.

Battery technology development and manufacturing involves certain inherent environmental and safety risks. Some of our employees handle hazardous materials, including chemicals, such as lithium and sulfide containing materials, that pose specific challenges. We have engineering and administrative controls in place for handling these materials along with any hazardous substances and the employees who handle such materials are required to follow certain safety procedures, including the use of personal protective equipment such as respirators where needed, chemical goggles, and other protective clothing. In addition to exposure, materials with lithium and sulfides have the propensity to start fires. While we believe we have taken precautionary measures which include engineering controls, personal protective equipment, procedures and training to prevent human exposures and fires, including annual safety training for our employees, we cannot ensure that human or environmental exposure to hazardous materials used in our development activities and prototype products will not occur. Any such exposure could result in future third-party claims against us, damage to our reputation, and heightened regulatory scrutiny, remedial and corrective action obligations or the incurrence of capital expenditures, any of which could limit or impair our ability to attract customers. The occurrence of future events such as these could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We utilize new manufacturing equipment, techniques and processes, including specialized automated manufacturing equipment within our electrolyte-separator, cathode, and cell assembly process areas. These equipment and processes pose hazards typical to manufacturing such as but not limited to hazardous materials, moving parts, and high voltage and/or high current electrical systems typical of large manufacturing equipment and related safety incidents. Although we conduct equipment and process reviews before use, we may not be able to prevent the occurrence of safety incidents that damage machinery or our products, slow or stop production, or harm employees. Consequences to such safety incidents may include litigation, regulation, fines, increased insurance premiums, personal injury to or death of our employees, mandates to temporarily halt production, workers' compensation claims, damage to our facilities, or other actions that impact our company brand, finances, or ability to operate.

In addition to risks listed above, we are subject to numerous federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations governing, among other things, solid and hazardous waste storage, treatment and disposal, and remediation of releases of hazardous materials. There are significant capital, operating and other costs associated with compliance with these environmental laws and regulations. Environmental laws and regulations, including used battery recycling, recovery and reuse, are cost intensive activities that we support. Federal, state and local authorities also regulate a variety of matters, including, but not limited to, health, safety and permitting in addition to the environmental matters discussed above. New legislation and regulations may require us to make material changes to our operations, resulting in significant increases to the cost of production.

Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock and Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws Provisions

Our Class A Common Stock has been and may in the future continue to be subject to extreme volatility.

The trading price of our Class A Common Stock has been and may in the future continue to be subject to extreme volatility. For example, from November 27, 2020, the date our Class A Common Stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”), through September 30, 2024, our Class A Common Stock has experienced an intra-day trading high of \$132.73 per share and an intra-day trading low of \$4.67 per share. At certain times during such period, the daily fluctuations in the trading price of our Class A Common Stock were substantially greater than 10%. We cannot predict the magnitude of future fluctuations in the trading price of our Class A Common Stock. The trading price of our Class A Common Stock may be affected by a number of factors, including events described in the risk factors set forth in this Report and in our other reports filed with the SEC from time to time, as well as our operating results, financial condition and other events or factors. Any of the factors listed below could have a material adverse effect on your investment in our securities. Factors affecting the trading price of our securities may include:

- announcements by us or our competitors regarding technical developments and levels of performance achieved by our or their battery technologies;
- announcements by us regarding the timing of our production objectives, including regarding our QS-0 facility and our QSE-5 product;
- announcements by us or Volkswagen regarding developments in our relationship with Volkswagen, or changes in Volkswagen’s investment in us;
- our ability to bring our products and technologies to market on a timely basis, or at all;
- our operating results or development efforts failing to meet the expectation of securities analysts or investors in a particular period;
- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our quarterly financial results or the quarterly financial results of companies perceived to be similar to it;
- changes in the market’s expectations about our operating results or the EV industry;
- success of competitors actual or perceived development efforts;
- changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts concerning the Company or the battery industry in general;
- operating and share price performance of other companies that investors deem comparable to the Company;
- disputes or other developments related to proprietary rights, including patents, litigation matters and our ability to obtain and assert intellectual property protection for our technologies;
- changes in laws and regulations affecting our business;
- our ability to meet compliance requirements;
- commencement of, resolution of, or involvement in, litigation involving the Company;
- changes in our capital structure, such as future issuances of securities or the incurrence of additional debt;
- the volume of shares of Class A Common Stock available for public sale;
- the level of demand for our stock, including the amount of short interest in our Class A Common Stock;
- any major change in our Board or management;
- sales of substantial amounts of the shares of Class A Common Stock by our directors, executive officers or significant stockholders, including Volkswagen, or the perception that such sales could occur;
- changes in the estimates and assumptions that we make in the preparation of our financial statements may result in the fluctuation of our results of operations; and
- general economic and political conditions such as recessions, interest rates, fuel prices, international currency fluctuations, acts of terrorism, hostilities or the perception that hostilities may be imminent, and military conflict and acts of war.

Broad market and industry factors may materially harm the market price of our securities irrespective of our operating performance. The stock market has experienced price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of the particular companies affected. The trading prices and valuations of securities may not be predictable. A loss of investor confidence in the market or the securities of other companies which investors perceive to be similar to the Company could depress the market price of our securities regardless of our business, prospects, financial conditions or results of operations. A decline in the market price of our securities also could adversely affect our ability to issue additional securities and our ability to obtain additional financing in the future.

Following certain periods of volatility in the market price of our securities, we may become the subject of securities litigation. We have experienced and may in the future experience additional litigation following periods of volatility. This type of litigation may result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources.

Sales of substantial amounts of our Class A Common Stock in the public markets by us or our stockholders could result in additional dilution of the percentage ownership of our stockholders and could reduce the price that our Class A Common Stock might otherwise attain.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our Class A Common Stock in the public market could result in additional dilution of the percentage ownership of our stockholders, and even the perception that such sales could occur could adversely affect the market price of our Class A Common Stock, which may make it more difficult for you to sell your Class A Common Stock at a time and price that you deem appropriate.

As of September 30, 2024, we have approximately 457.5 million shares of Class A Common Stock and 54.7 million shares of Class B Common Stock outstanding. For example, in August 2023, we completed an underwritten public offering of 37.5 million shares of our Class A Common Stock, all of which are freely tradable without restrictions or further registration under the Securities Act, except for any shares sold to or purchased by any of our "affiliates" as defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

As previously disclosed in the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 3, 2020, in connection with the Business Combination Agreement, 19 senior level employees and advisors of the Company, including the Company's executive officers at that time, entered into lock-up agreements, pursuant to which they agreed to certain restrictions on the transfer of Company's securities, subject to certain exceptions, for up to four years after the closing of the Business Combination in November 2020 or the earlier release if the Company completes a liquidation, merger, or other similar transaction, or if VGA (i) terminates for any reason the joint venture agreement, (ii) issues certain critical or negative statement regarding the Company and its technology, or (iii) transfers Company's securities in excess of certain amounts set forth in the lock-up agreements. Upon the expiration of such lock-up agreements, such holders will be permitted to sell such securities into the open market. In connection with the signing of the JV Termination Agreement on July 5, 2024, the restrictions on the transfer of Company's securities under such lock-up agreements automatically terminated pursuant to its terms.

We have filed registration statements with the SEC to register shares for certain stockholders to sell their shares. We have also filed registration statements with the SEC to register shares reserved for future issuance under our equity compensation plans. Subject to there being effective registration statements covering the sales of such shares, the satisfaction of applicable exercise periods and expiration of any applicable lock-up agreements, the shares issued upon exercise of outstanding stock options and settlement of outstanding restricted stock units will be available for immediate resale in the open market.

We completed underwritten public offerings in March 2021 and in August 2023, and in order to raise additional capital, we may in the future offer additional shares of our Class A Common Stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for our Class A Common Stock. For example, we may use the At-the-Market offering or conduct other capital raises in the future, any of which may be dilutive to existing stockholders. We cannot assure you that we will be able to sell shares or other securities in any other offering at a price per share that is equal to or greater than the price per share paid by you for your existing shares, and investors purchasing shares or other securities in future offerings could have rights superior to existing stockholders. A significant portion of our total outstanding shares are eligible to be sold into the market, which could cause the market price of our Class A Common Stock to drop significantly, even if our business is doing well.

Our business model options include developing solid-state batteries for manufacturing, which is capital-intensive, and we may not be able to raise additional capital on attractive terms, if at all. If we cannot raise additional capital when needed, our operations and prospects could be materially and adversely affected.

The development, design, manufacture and license or sale of batteries is a capital-intensive business, which to date we have financed through joint venture arrangements, other third-party financings and issuance of additional equity. As a result of the nature of our business, we can be expected to continue to sustain substantial operating expenses without generating sufficient revenues to cover expenditures. Over time, we expect that we will need to raise additional funds, including through entry into new collaboration, license or joint venture arrangements, through the issuance of equity, equity-related or debt securities or through obtaining credit from financial institutions to fund, together with our principal sources of liquidity, ongoing costs such as research and development relating to our batteries, the construction of our QS-0, any significant unplanned or accelerated expenses, and new strategic investments. We cannot be certain that additional capital will be available on attractive terms, if at all, when needed, which could be dilutive to stockholders, and our financial condition, results of operations, business and prospects could be materially and adversely affected.

The failure by our management to use the proceeds effectively from our completed public offerings or any future offerings of equity or debt instruments, whether from the ATM offering or other sources of liquidity, such as the royalty fee under the IP License Agreement, if entered into, could harm our business, and we may invest such proceeds in a manner that does not produce income or that loses value, which may negatively impact the market price of our Class A Common Stock.

Short sellers may engage in manipulative activity that could drive down the market price of our Class A Common Stock.

Short selling is the practice of selling securities that the seller does not own but rather has borrowed or intends to borrow from a third party with the intention of later buying lower priced identical securities to return to the lender. Accordingly, it is in the interest of a short seller of our Class A Common Stock for the price to decline. Some short sellers publish, or arrange for the publication of, opinions about or characterizations of our business which may create negative market momentum, even if they contain false and misleading statements about our Company. Issuers, like us, whose securities have historically had limited trading history or volumes and/or have been susceptible to relatively high volatility levels can be particularly vulnerable to such short seller attacks. No assurances can be made that similar declines in the market price of our Class A Common Stock will not occur in the future, in connection with the activities of short sellers. If we are subject to unfavorable allegations promoted by short sellers, we may have to expend a significant amount of resources to investigate such allegations and defend ourselves.

We are required to use judgments in making estimates and assumptions in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements, and our results of operations may fluctuate significantly as a result of changes to our estimates and assumptions.

Certain of our accounting policies require the application of subjective or complex judgments, often requiring us to make estimates about the effects of matters that are inherently uncertain and may change in subsequent periods, or for which the use of different estimates that could have reasonably been used in the current period would have had a material impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

All stock-based awards are required to be recognized based on their estimated grant date fair values. The amount recognized could vary depending on a number of assumptions or changes that may occur. We have granted stock-based awards to our Chief Executive Officer and other members of our management team pursuant to the EPA Program. EPA Program awards have a vesting schedule based on the attainment of both performance (e.g., business milestones) and market conditions (e.g., stock price target).

For awards containing service, performance and market conditions, where all conditions must be satisfied prior to vesting, such as the EPA Program awards, compensation expense is recognized over the requisite service period, which is based on management's estimate of the probability and timing of the performance condition being satisfied, assessed at each reporting period. These estimates require management's judgments and changes in the probability-based assumptions can materially affect the timing of recognition of stock-based compensation expense and consequently, the related amount recognized in our statements of operations and comprehensive income.

The dual class structure of our Common Stock has the effect of concentrating voting control with the current holders of Class B Common Stock. This will limit or preclude the ability of other stockholders to influence corporate matters, including the outcome of important transactions, including a change in control.

Shares of Class B Common Stock have 10 votes per share, while shares of Class A Common Stock have one vote per share. As of September 30, 2024, the holders of the Class B Common Stock (excluding the voting power of any shares of Class A Common Stock beneficially owned by such holders) control approximately 53.7% of the voting power of our capital stock and therefore collectively control matters submitted to our stockholders for approval, including the election of directors, amendments of our organizational documents and any merger, consolidation, sale of all or substantially all of our assets or other major corporate transactions. Even though these holders are not party to any agreement that requires them to vote together, they may have interests that differ from yours and may vote in a way with which you disagree, and which may be adverse to your interests. This concentrated control may have the effect of delaying, preventing or deterring a change in control of us, could deprive our stockholders of an opportunity to receive a premium for their capital stock as part of a sale of us, and might ultimately affect the market price of shares of our Class A Common Stock.

Our dual class structure may depress the trading price of the Class A Common Stock.

We cannot predict whether our dual class structure will result in a lower or more volatile market price of the Class A Common Stock or in adverse publicity or other adverse consequences. For example, certain index providers have had in the past and may again in the future have restrictions on including companies with multiple-class share structures in certain of their indexes. In addition, several stockholder advisory firms oppose the use of multiple class structures. As a result, the dual class structure of our Common Stock may cause stockholder advisory firms to publish negative commentary about our corporate governance practices or otherwise seek to cause us to change our capital structure. Any such exclusion from indices or any actions or publications by stockholder advisory firms critical of our corporate governance practices or capital structure could adversely affect the value and trading market of the Class A Common Stock.

Anti-takeover provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws and Delaware law could make an acquisition of us more difficult, limit attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our management and limit the market price of our Class A Common Stock.

Our Certificate of Incorporation, our amended and restated Bylaws (the “Bylaws”) and Delaware law contain provisions which could have the effect of rendering more difficult, delaying or preventing an acquisition deemed undesirable by our Board. These provisions include:

- authorizing “blank check” preferred stock, which could be issued by our Board without stockholder approval and may contain voting, liquidation, dividend and other rights superior to the Common Stock;
- limiting the liability of, and providing indemnification and exculpation rights to, our directors and officers;
- prohibiting cumulative voting in the election of directors;
- providing that vacancies on our Board may be filled only by majority of directors then in office of our Board, even though less than a quorum;
- prohibiting the ability of our stockholders to call special meetings;
- establishing advance notice procedures for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting, including proposed nominations of persons for election to our Board;
- requiring that, once there are no longer any outstanding shares of the Class B Common Stock, any action to be taken by our stockholders be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting and not by written consent;
- specifying that special meetings of our stockholders can be called only by a majority of our Board, the chair of our Board, or our Chief Executive Officer;
- requiring the approval of holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting securities to amend the Bylaws and certain provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation once there are no longer any outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock; and
- reflecting two classes of Common Stock.

These provisions may frustrate or prevent any attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for stockholders to replace members of our Board, which is responsible for appointing the members of our management. In addition, because we are incorporated in Delaware, we are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (“DGCL”), which generally prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any of a broad range of business combinations with any “interested” stockholder for a period of three years following the date on which the stockholder became an “interested” stockholder.

Our Bylaws provide, subject to limited exceptions, that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware and the federal district courts of the United States will be the sole and exclusive forum for certain stockholder litigation matters, which could limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a chosen judicial forum for disputes with us or our directors, officers, employees or stockholders.

Our Bylaws provide that, unless otherwise consented to by us in writing, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (or, if the Court of Chancery does not have jurisdiction, another State court in Delaware or the federal district court for the District of Delaware) shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, be the sole and exclusive forum for the following types of actions or proceedings: (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on behalf of the Company; (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed by, or otherwise wrongdoing by, any of our directors, officers, or other employees to us or our stockholders; (iii) any action arising pursuant to any provision of the DGCL or the Certificate of Incorporation or the Bylaws; (iv) any action to interpret, apply, enforce or determine the validity of the Certificate of Incorporation or the Bylaws; or (v) any other action asserting a claim that is governed by the internal affairs doctrine, in all cases subject to the court having jurisdiction over indispensable parties named as defendants. The Bylaws further provide that, unless otherwise consented to by the Company in writing, the federal district courts of the United States will be the sole and exclusive forum for the resolution of any complaint asserting a cause of action arising under the Securities Act against any person in connection with any offering of the Company's securities, including any auditor, underwriter, expert, control person or other defendant. These provisions would not apply to suits brought to enforce a duty or liability created by the Exchange Act.

Any person or entity purchasing, holding or otherwise acquiring any interest in our securities shall be deemed to have notice of and consented to these provisions. These choice of forum provisions may limit a stockholder's ability to bring a claim in a judicial forum of its choosing for disputes with the Company or any of our directors, officers, other employees or stockholders, which may discourage lawsuits with respect to such claims. There is uncertainty as to whether a court would enforce such provisions, and the enforceability of similar choice of forum provisions in other companies' charter documents has been challenged in legal proceedings. It is possible that a court could find these types of provisions to be inapplicable or unenforceable, and if a court were to find the choice of forum provisions contained in the Bylaws to be inapplicable or unenforceable in an action, we may incur additional costs associated with resolving such action in other jurisdictions, which could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

We do not expect to declare any dividends in the foreseeable future.

We do not anticipate declaring any cash dividends to holders of our Common Stock in the foreseeable future. Consequently, investors may need to rely on sales of their shares after price appreciation, which may never occur, as the only way to realize any future gains on their investment.

General Risk Factors

If we are unable to attract and retain key employees and qualified personnel, our ability to compete could be harmed.

Our success depends on our ability to attract and retain our executive officers, key employees and other qualified personnel, and our operations may be severely disrupted if we lose their services. As we build our brand and become more well known, there is increased risk that competitors or other companies will seek to hire our personnel. None of our employees are bound by a non-competition agreement. The failure to attract, integrate, train, motivate and retain these personnel could seriously harm our business and prospects.

In addition, we are highly dependent on the services of our senior technical and management personnel, including our executive officers and co-founders, who would be difficult to replace. If any senior management, key technical personnel or co-founder were to depart, this could negatively impact our prospects, triggering further departures and limiting the Company's ability to operate and grow our business. Mr. Jagdeep Singh transitioned from his role as Chief Executive Officer effective February 15, 2024, continuing in his capacity as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Singh served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board since he co-founded the Company in 2010.

Our facilities or operations could be damaged or adversely affected as a result of natural disasters and other catastrophic events.

Our facilities or operations could be adversely affected by events outside of our control, such as natural disasters, wars, epidemics, pandemics, and other calamities. We cannot assure you that any backup systems will be adequate to protect us from the effects of fire, floods, typhoons, earthquakes, power loss, telecommunications failures, break-ins, war, riots, terrorist attacks or similar events. Any of the foregoing events may give rise to interruptions, breakdowns, system failures, technology platform failures or internet failures, which could cause the loss or corruption of data or malfunctions of software or hardware as well as adversely affect our ability to provide services.

Any economic, financial or banking crisis, or perceived threat of such a crisis, including a significant decrease in consumer confidence, may materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

In recent years, the United States and global economies suffered dramatic downturns as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, a deterioration in the credit markets and related financial crisis as well as a variety of other factors including, among other things, extreme volatility in security prices, severely diminished liquidity and credit availability, ratings downgrades of certain investments and declining valuations of others, and volatility in the capital and credit markets and uncertainty with respect to the health of the U.S. banking system. The United States and certain foreign governments have taken unprecedented actions in an attempt to address and rectify these extreme market and economic conditions by providing liquidity and stability to the financial markets. If in the current or in future crises governments refuse to take such actions or if the actions taken by these governments are not successful, and/or if the uncertainty in the macroeconomic environment, including elevated inflation concerns, rising interest rates, tighter credit, currency fluctuations, or concerns or speculation about similar banking disruption events or risks, continues, the resulting adverse economic conditions could lead to market-wide liquidity problems and other disruptions, which may negatively impact the demand for our solid-state battery cells and may negatively impact our liquidity and ability to raise capital, if needed, on a timely basis and on acceptable terms or at all.

Our results of operations and financial condition could be materially affected by the enactment of legislation implementing changes in the U.S. or foreign taxation of business activities or the adoption of other tax reform policies.

As we expand the scale of our business activities, any changes in the U.S. or foreign taxation of such activities may increase our worldwide effective tax rate and harm our business, results of operations, and financial condition. For example, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has proposed implementing changes to existing tax laws, including a proposed 15% global minimum tax. Numerous countries have enacted tax legislation to adopt this global minimum tax beginning in 2024. Further, beginning in 2022, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 eliminated the option to deduct research and development expenditures currently and requires taxpayers to capitalize and amortize them over five or fifteen years. This requirement may impact our effective tax rate and our cash tax liability in future years.

In addition, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (the “IRA”) includes numerous incentives and tax credits aimed at reducing the effects of climate change, such as the extension and expansion of EV charging infrastructure tax credits under Section 30C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the “Code”), the expansion of tax credits for EVs under Section 30D of the Code, the expansion of advanced manufacturing tax credits under Section 48C of the Code, and enactment of advanced manufacturing production credits for eligible component production in the United States under Section 48X of the Code. Such tax credits may potentially benefit incumbents more than new entrants, and consequently have adverse competitive effects for new entrants. However, the full impact of the IRA cannot be known, and many of the IRA’s provisions are not self-executing and require further guidance from the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) and Treasury Department (the “Treasury”), which we expect to be issued in the coming months and years. In March 2023, Treasury and the IRS proposed regulations under Section 30D of the Code that contain guidance on the “critical minerals” requirement and the “battery components” requirement for tax credit eligibility under such section. Those requirements generally call for a specified percentage of the value of the applicable critical minerals, in an EV battery, including lithium, to be extracted or processed in the United States or a country with which the United States has a free trade agreement in effect, or, alternatively, to be recycled in North America, and for a specified percentage of the value of the components contained in such EV battery be manufactured or assembled in North America. Further, on December 4, 2023, Treasury and the IRS, in conjunction with the Department of Energy, released proposed regulations that provide guidance on the prohibition on an EV battery’s critical minerals and battery components being sourced from a “foreign entity of concern”, such as Russia or China. All of these proposed regulations, if finalized, may have a significant impact on non-U.S. manufacturing and assembly of EV batteries and miners of critical minerals for such batteries.

These incentives may expire on a particular date, end when the allocated funding is exhausted, or be reduced or terminated as a matter of regulatory or legislative policy. Any other reduction in rebates, tax credits or other financial incentives could materially reduce the demand for EVs, which could adversely impact the battery demand for EVs, or materially reduce the amount of incentives available for the manufacture of our products and have an adverse impact on our business. The impact of future changes to U.S. and foreign tax law on our business is uncertain and could be adverse, and we will continue to monitor and assess the impact of any such changes.

Our ability to use our deferred tax assets to offset future taxable income is subject to certain limitations, which may have a material impact on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

In general, under Section 382 of the Code, a corporation that undergoes an “ownership change” is subject to limitations on its ability to use its pre-change net operating loss carryforwards (“NOLs”) to offset future taxable income. An “ownership change,” is generally defined as a greater than 50 percentage point change (by value) in a corporation’s equity ownership by certain stockholders over a three-year period. Similar provisions of state tax law may also apply to limit our use of accumulated state tax attributes. As a result, even if we earn net taxable income in the future, our ability to use our pre-change NOLs and other tax attributes to offset such future taxable income or tax liability may be subject to limitations, which could potentially result in increased future income tax liability to us. We have determined that we have experienced ownership changes in the past. However, we do not believe that these ownership changes will result in limitation on the use of our NOL or other tax attributes. Future changes in our stock ownership, which may be outside of our control, may trigger additional ownership changes, which may further limit our ability to use our NOLs and other tax attributes.

There is also a risk that changes in law or regulatory changes, including suspensions on the use of net operating losses or tax credits, possibly with retroactive effect, may result in our existing net operating losses or tax credits expiring or otherwise being unavailable to offset future income tax liabilities.

Due to such limitations and changes in law, certain of our deferred tax assets may expire unutilized or underutilized, which could prevent us from offsetting future taxable income. We continue to assess the realizability of our deferred tax assets in the future. Future adjustments in our valuation allowance may be required, which may have a material impact on our quarterly and annual operating results.

Our insurance coverage may not be adequate to protect us from all business risks.

We may be subject, in the ordinary course of business, to losses resulting from products liability, cyber-attacks, accidents, acts of God, and other claims against us, for which we may have no insurance coverage. As a general matter, the policies that we do have may include significant deductibles or self-insured retentions, and we cannot be certain that our insurance coverage will be sufficient to cover all future losses or claims against us. A loss that is uninsured or which exceeds policy limits may require us to pay substantial amounts, which could adversely affect our financial condition and operating results.

We have incurred and will continue to incur significant expenses and administrative burdens as a public company, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our Class A Common Stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol “QS”. As a public company, we incur significant legal, accounting, administrative and other costs and expenses associated with corporate governance requirements and listing standards that are applicable to public companies. If we were to fail to meet such requirements and standards and if the NYSE were to consequently delist our Class A Common Stock from trading on its exchange and we are not able to list such securities on another national securities exchange, we expect such securities could be quoted on an over-the-counter market. If this were to occur, we and our stockholders could face significant material adverse consequences including:

- a limited availability of market quotations for our securities;
- reduced liquidity for our securities;
- a limited amount of news and analyst coverage; and
- a decreased ability to issue additional securities or obtain additional financing in the future.

In addition, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the “Sarbanes-Oxley Act”), including the requirements of Section 404, as well as rules and regulations subsequently implemented by the SEC, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 and any rules and regulations promulgated and to be promulgated thereunder, the PCAOB and the securities exchanges, impose additional reporting and other obligations on public companies. Meeting the standards and controls required of a public company in the United States requires significant ongoing costs. It is possible that we will be required to further expand our employee base and hire additional employees to support our operations, particularly as such standards and controls continue to change over time, which will increase our operating costs in future periods.

Compliance with evolving public company requirements may continue to increase costs and make certain activities more time-consuming. For example, we have created new Board committees and adopted new internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures. In addition, expenses associated with SEC reporting requirements already have been and will continue to be incurred. Furthermore, if any issues in complying with those requirements are identified, such as a material weakness in our internal controls that requires a restatement of previously issued consolidated financial statements, we could incur additional costs rectifying those or new issues, and the existence of these issues could adversely affect our reputation or investor perceptions of it. It has also become more expensive to obtain director and officer liability insurance. Risks associated with our status as a public company may make it more difficult to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our Board or as executive officers. The reporting and other obligations imposed by these rules and regulations have resulted in and may continue to result in significant accounting, administrative, financial compliance and legal costs. These costs have required and may continue to require us to divert a significant amount of money that could otherwise be used to expand the business and achieve strategic objectives. Advocacy efforts by stockholders and third parties have prompted and in the future may also prompt additional changes in governance and reporting requirements, which could further increase costs.

If we experience material weaknesses in the future or otherwise fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls in the future, our business could be adversely affected, and we may not be able to accurately report our financial condition or results of operations which may adversely affect investor confidence in us and, as a result, the value of our Class A Common Stock.

As a public company, we are required, under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, to furnish annual reports by management on, among other things, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. This assessment needs to include disclosure of any material weaknesses identified by our management in our internal control over financial reporting. A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of a company's annual and interim financial statements will not be detected or prevented on a timely basis. If we identify one or more material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, we will be unable to assert that our internal controls are effective. The effectiveness of our controls and procedures may be limited by a variety of factors, including:

- faulty human judgment and simple errors, omissions or mistakes;
- fraudulent action of an individual or collusion of two or more people;
- inappropriate management override of procedures; and
- the possibility that any enhancements to controls and procedures may still not be adequate to assure timely and accurate financial control.

Pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC, we are required to furnish in this Report a report by our management regarding the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. The report includes, among other things, an assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of the end of our fiscal year, including a statement as to whether or not our internal control over financial reporting is effective. This assessment must include disclosure of any material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting identified by management. As of September 30, 2021, we remediated the material weakness that was identified in connection with the restatement of previously issued consolidated financial statements as of and for the period ended December 31, 2020. While we believe our internal control over financial reporting is currently effective, the effectiveness of our internal controls in future periods is subject to the risk that our controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions. Establishing, testing and maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting requires significant resources and time commitments on the part of our management and our finance staff, may require additional staffing and infrastructure investments and would increase our costs of doing business.

In addition, under the federal securities laws, our auditors are required to express an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls. If we are unable to confirm that our internal control over financial reporting is effective, or if our independent registered public accounting firm is unable to express an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls, we could lose investor confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports, which could cause the price of our Class A Common Stock to decline.

Our disclosure controls and procedures may not prevent or detect all errors or acts of fraud.

We are subject to the periodic reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. We designed our disclosure controls and procedures to provide reasonable assurance that information we must disclose in reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated, communicated to management, recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC. We believe that any disclosure controls and procedures, no matter how well-conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met.

These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people or by an unauthorized override of the controls. Accordingly, because of the inherent limitations in our control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish or cease publishing research or reports about us, our business, or the market in which we operate, or if they change their recommendations regarding our securities adversely, the price and trading volume of our securities could decline.

The trading market for our securities will be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts may publish about us, our business, market or competitors. If any of the analysts who cover us change their recommendation regarding our shares of Class A Common Stock adversely, or provide more favorable relative recommendations about our competitors, the price of our shares of Class A Common Stock would likely decline. If any analyst who covers us were to cease our coverage of us or fails to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our share price or trading volume to decline.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

None.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information.

Securities Trading Plans of Directors and Executive Officers

On September 12, 2024, Mohit Singh, our Chief Development Officer, adopted a Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement providing for the sale from time to time of an aggregate of up to 2.2 million shares of our Class A Common Stock. The trading arrangement is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense in Rule 10b5-1(c). The duration of the trading arrangement is until December 15, 2025, or earlier if all transactions under the trading arrangement are completed.

No other officers or directors, as defined in Rule 16a-1(f), adopted and/or terminated a “Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement” or a “non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement,” as defined in Regulation S-K Item 408, during the last fiscal quarter.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description	Incorporated by Reference			
		Form	File No.	Exhibit	Filing Date
2.1	Business Combination Agreement, dated as of September 2, 2020, by and among Kensington Capital Acquisition Corp., Kensington Capital Merger Sub Corp. and Legacy QuantumScape.	S-4/A	333-248930	2.1	November 12, 2020
2.2	Amendment No. 1 to Business Combination Agreement, dated as of September 21, 2020, by and among Kensington Capital Acquisition Corp., Kensington Capital Merger Sub Corp. and Legacy QuantumScape.	S-4/A	333-248930	2.2	November 12, 2020
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, as amended.	10-Q	001-39345	3.1	July 26, 2024
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company.	8-K	001-39345	3.1	October 25, 2022
10.1#	Collaboration Agreement, dated as of July 5, 2024, by and between QuantumScape Battery, Inc. and PowerCo SE.	8-K	001-39345	10.1	July 11, 2024
10.2	Amended and Restated Letter Agreement, dated as of July 5, 2024, by and among QuantumScape Battery, Inc., the Company and Volkswagen Group of America Investments, LLC.	8-K	001-39345	10.2	July 11, 2024
10.3	Termination Agreement, dated as of July 5, 2024, by and among Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., Volkswagen Group of America Investments, LLC, the Company, QuantumScape Battery, Inc. and QSV Operations LLC.	8-K	001-39345	10.3	July 11, 2024
31.1*	Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.				
31.2*	Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.				
32.1†	Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.				
32.2†	Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.				
101.INS	Inline XBRL Instance Document – the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.				
101.SCH	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document				
101.CAL	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document				
101.DEF	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document				
101.LAB	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document				
101.PRE	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document				
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)				

* Filed herewith.

† These exhibits are furnished with this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and are not deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are not incorporated by reference in any filing of QuantumScape Corporation under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filings.

Portions of this exhibit have been omitted in accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

QuantumScape Corporation

Date: October 25, 2024

By: _____
/s/ Siva Sivaram
Siva Sivaram
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: October 25, 2024

By: _____
/s/ Kevin Hettrich
Kevin Hettrich
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Siva Sivaram, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of QuantumScape Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: October 25, 2024

By: _____ /s/ Siva Sivaram

Siva Sivaram
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Kevin Hettrich, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of QuantumScape Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: October 25, 2024

By: _____

/s/ Kevin Hettrich

Kevin Hettrich
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of QuantumScape Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2024 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Siva Sivaram, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and result of operations of the Company.

Date: October 25, 2024

By:

/s/ Siva Sivaram

Siva Sivaram

President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of QuantumScape Corporation (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2024 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Kevin Hettrich, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and result of operations of the Company.

Date: October 25, 2024

By: _____ /s/ Kevin Hettrich
Kevin Hettrich
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)
