

## **An Introduction to Verde Bioresins**

**NXU and Verde Bioresins Announce Proposed Merger** 

INVESTOR PRESENTATION | NOVEMBER 2024

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#### Important Additional Information About the Proposed Transaction and Where to Find It

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#### Participants in the Solicitation

Verde, Nxu and their respective directors, executive officers and other members of management may be considered participants in the solicitation of proxies in connection with the proposed transaction. Information about Nxu's directors and executive officers, consisting of Mark Hanchett, Annie Pratt, Britt Ide, Jessica Billingsley and Sarah Wyant, including a description of their direct or indirect interest, by security holdings or otherwise, can be found under the captions, "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management," "Executive Compensation," and "Director Compensation" contained in the definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A for Nxu's 2024 annual meeting of stockholders, filed with the SEC on May 2, 2024 (the "2024 Nxu Proxy Statement"). To the extent that Nxu's directors and executive officers and their respective affiliates have acquired or disposed of security holdings since the applicable "as of" date disclosed in the 2024 Nxu Proxy Statement, such transactions have been or will be reflected on Statements of Change in Beneficial Ownership on Form 4 filed with the SEC. Additional information regarding the persons who may be deemed participants in the solicitation of proxies, including the information about the directors and executive officers of Verde, is or will be included in the Proxy Statement/Prospectus and other relevant materials relating to the proposed transaction when it is filed with the SEC. Investors should read the Registration Statement, Proxy Statement/Prospectus and the other relevant materials when they become available before making any voting or investment decision with respect to the proposed transaction.

These documents can be obtained free of charge from the sources indicated above.











## Verde's Mission

Verde is pioneering sustainable solutions focused on biodegradable and recyclable resins.

Our mission is to revolutionize the circular economy by offering high-quality, environmentally friendly and economic alternatives to potentially reduce dependence on traditional plastics.



Health & Wellness



Shoe Manufacturers



Bottles and bottle caps



Beauty Products



Consumer Goods



Durable Goods Packaging



Toy Manufacturers



## **History and Background**

#### Verde is at an Inflection Point in its Growth Verde is founded, Verde purchases additional Established headquarters in Begin buildout of its R&D & Hired Joe Paolucci as Chief commenced compounding Santa Monica, CA. manufacturing facility in Executive Officer. seed pounds and equipment bio-based resins at a third-Fullerton, California intended to enable it to scale capacity Completed its preliminary Verde completes pilot party facility. to scale production of at the Fullerton, California R&D process for Film manufacturing at the PolyEarthylene capable of facility to up to 50M lbs per applications Fullerton, California facility producing up to 50M lbs per with expected capacity of up year. to 50M lbs per year. 2020 2021 2022 2024 Completes its preliminary Verde passes ASTM D5338 for Receives FDA-Title 21 food Verde secures letters of intent **R&D** process for injection contact compliance opinion. industrial compostability (90% with Braskem for strategic molding applications. or more biodegradation in an partnership to produce Green industrial composting Polypropylene for 375M lbs of environment in less than 6 Verde's PolyEarthylene. months)



## **Today's Presenters**

**Years Of Experience** 

**Select Prior Experience** 

#### Joseph Paolucci



Chief Executive Officer

40 years

- Prior experience with Petrochemical Business Development leadership
- Commodity & resin engineering expertise

Braskem





President & Chief Operating Officer

20+ years

- Prior experience with multinational, VC/PE
- Extensive M&A, JV, licensing, leasing, capital raising transactions





About

### **Investment Highlights**

- Verde Bioresins entered into a Merger Agreement with NXU, Inc. (Nasdaq: NXU) on October 23, 2024. A registration statement on Form S-4 relating to the proposed merger and containing a preliminary proxy statement/prospectus has been filed with the SEC. It is expected that the combined company will have approximately 386M shares outstanding on a pro forma basis.
- Large addressable market with unmet needs the estimated  $$600^2$ billion global plastics market is under regulatory pressure to develop more eco-friendly solutions, while market penetration of bioplastics is estimated to be <math>^{\sim}2.0\%^1$ .
- Strong customer interest Verde's solution has the potential to address approximately 50%² of the plastics sector with a wide range of applications (i.e., potential total addressable market of up to \$300 billion), supported by a distribution partnership with world leading plastic distributor Vinmar International and Vinmar Polymers America and a potential sales pipeline of over 200 million lbs through 2026.
- First mover advantage with breakthrough technology –

  Verde has developed PolyEarthylene™, a proprietary

  bioresin that Verde believes to have the potential to achieve a full set of environmental² and industry requirements capable of significant market adoption.

- O5 Potential to secure feedstock supplies strategic supplier relationship with Braskem is expected to secure sufficient feedstock to enable Verde to achieve its expansion plan.
- O6 Strong unit economics and ROIC Business model expected to allow strong margins with low operating costs and capital expenditures.
- Verde's skilled management team Skilled management team with extensive industry experience and proven track record aided by distribution partnership with Vinmar.





## **Regulatory Drivers**

#### Positive regulatory environment for more sustainable plastic solutions in North America, Europe and APAC







- EU-wide ban on food-service single-use plastic July 2021 (e.g. cutlery, straws, plates)
- By 2030, all plastic packing produced and sold in Europe should be reusable or recyclable



 25-year plan to eliminate plastic waste, including the banning of plastic straws, microbeads and implementation of plastic free aisles



- Prohibited single-use nonbiodegradable bags ahead of EU legislation
- Set quotas for renewable material content: 40% in 2018, 50% in 2020 and 60% in 2021



- Banned use of single-use bags
- Set quotas for renewable material content: 40% in 2018, 50% in 2020 and 60% in 2025





- Ban on all non-degradable bags and utensils by 2025
- Bag and single use-straw bans already in place for major population centers



Banned all single-use plastic in the country July 2022.



- Banned use of plastic bags at major retail stores
- Ban on single use plastic bags in national parks in 2021



- Banned single use plastics and polythene bags in hotels and restaurants in 2020
- Previously consumed over 87k tons of single-use plastic a year



### Plastic Pollution is a Global Problem

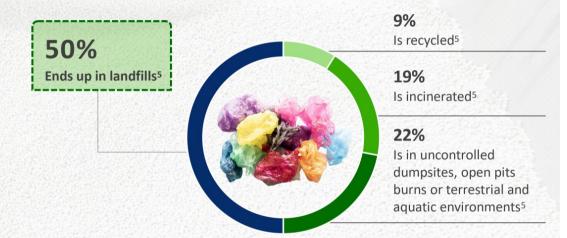
#### THE IMPACT OF PLASTIC WASTE ON OUR PLANET

- Inefficient recycling systems and non-decomposable plastic continually spell new problems for our planet and our health
- The production of plastic products has grown exponentially since the material was invented
- Today only a small fraction of the world's plastic is recycled even once
- As a result, a significant portion of our recyclable materials go straight to the landfill or the incinerator

#### WHERE DO PLASTICS GO?

### **400M Tons**

Of plastic litters around earth's crust and oceans<sup>3</sup>





## **Addressable Market: Untapped and Underserved**

Growing coalition of countries, cities, institutions and businesses are pledging to **eliminate plastic pollution** entirely.<sup>1</sup>

Governments, shareholders and customers are increasingly demanding that Fortune 500 companies **pursue eco-friendly alternatives**.

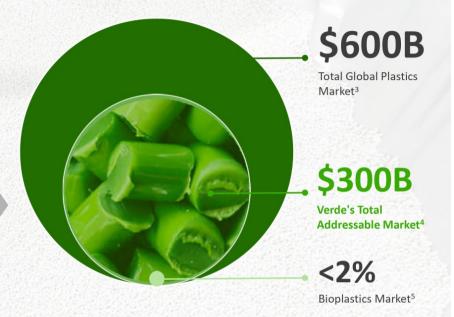
Multinational companies are under pressure and pursuing renewable, biodegradable or recyclable packaging to meet ESG objectives. Many are targeting 100% green packaging solutions by as early as 2025.<sup>2</sup>











However, bioplastics are only ~2.0% of the global plastics market<sup>5</sup> because of the significant limitations in performance and cost.





### **Verde At-a-Glance**

#### **Overview**



#### A Resin Alternative to Conventional Plastics

Verde develops and manufactures PolyEarthylene, a proprietary, bio-based, recyclable and biodegradable polymer.



#### **Low-Cost Solution in Biobased Biodegradable Polymers**

PolyEarthylene with an average of \$1.67/lb vs. most competitors at \$2.00 to \$4.00 per pound.



#### **Multiple Manufacturing Process Applications**

Verde believes this innovative material represents the best sustainable bioresin for injection molding, film extrusion, blow molding and thermoform applications.



#### **Highly Scalable and Economically Feasible**



Verde has R&D and manufacturing operations in Fullerton, CA with manufacturing capacity expected to be ~50M lbs in January 2025.



#### Strategic Partnership with Braskem and Vinmar

Through these partnerships, Verde expects to expand its feedstock supply chain and distribution with its product offerings.

#### **Setting a New Standard**

|                          | Recyclable/<br>Biodegradable | Low Cost | Scalable | Drop-In<br>Ready | Broad<br>Applications |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|------------------|-----------------------|
| PolyEarthylene           | •                            | •        | •        | •                | •                     |
| Incumbent<br>Bioplastics | •                            |          | •        | •                | •                     |

#### **Key Highlights**

**~\$42M** 2025E Revenue

**~\$3M** 2025E EBITDA **~25M**2025E PolyEarthylene
Resin Sales in lbs.

#### 50M

1Q 2025E Manufacturing Capacity lbs. per year \$50M CapEx Required <6 Months</p>
To Breakeven







**CONSUMER GOODS** 

## **PolyEarthylene™: Competitive Advantages**

#### PolyEarthylene vs. Petroleum-Based Plastics



PolyEarthylene<sup>™</sup> is a sustainable solution that has the potential to allow for true landfill degradation and/or curbside recyclability.

PolyEarthylene<sup>™</sup> offers a balance of strength and mechanical properties that are consistent with its petroleum-based counterparts with the added benefit of a circular end-of-life.

#### PolyEarthylene vs. Renewable Plastics



PolyEarthylene  $^{\mathtt{m}}$  is a lower-cost and higher-performance solution relative to other bioplastics on the market today.

Most bioplastic materials lack the mechanical properties needed for durable goods production. PHA and PLA can require stabilizers and other modifiers that impact degradation, cycle times and recyclability. Verde's PolyEarthylene behaves like traditional polyethylene and polypropylene with its enginerring specs.



## PolyEarthylene<sup>™</sup> Life Cycle

Verde Adds a Key Step Into the Creation of a Circular Economy, as PolyEarthylene is Recyclable in the Existing Recycling Stream

#### STEP 1: Sustainable Feedstock

Sustainable and renewable feedstock, such as corn and sugar crops, is used to produce Poly**Earthy**lene

#### STEP 2: Bio-based Polyethylene and Polypropylene

Feedstock is manufactured into polyethylene, polypropylene and EVA<sup>1</sup> variants, which are used as an input for Verde's production

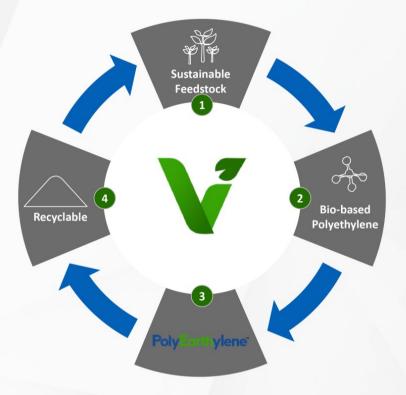
#### STEP 3: PolyEarthylene

Poly**Earth**ylene is transformed from sustainable feedstock through proprietary formulations and methods of raw material mixing, blending and compounding

Poly**Earth**ylene also has the versatility to be formulated as a biodegradable biopolymer blend, enabling it to serve as an alternative to petroleum-based plastics with the added value of sustainability

#### **STEP 4: Recyclable**

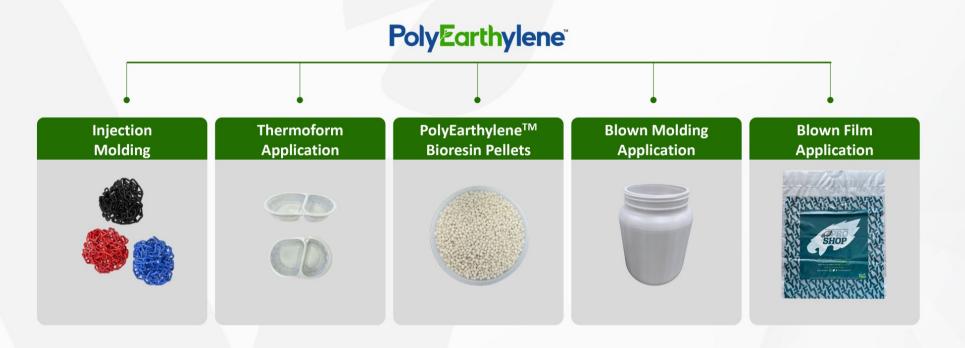
PolyEarthylene resins are recyclable and can be designed to be biodegradable and compostable (based on customer requirements), which Verde believes provides a true end-of-life solution for plastic-alternative bioproducts





## **Compatible with Existing Plastic Manufacturing Processes**

PolyEarthylene™: A Potential Replacement for Most Petroleum-Based Polyolefins



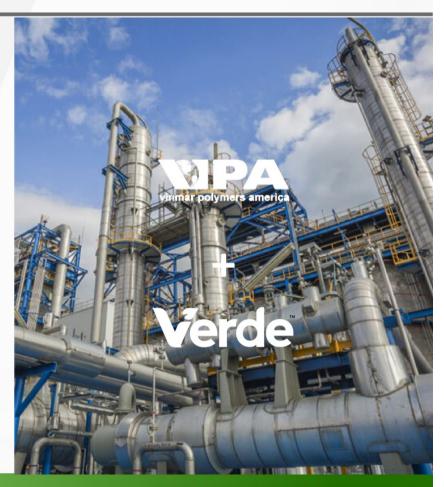


## **Strategic Sales and Distribution Partner**

Verde has established a distribution partnership with Vinmar Polymers America, which Verde believes will expand the reach of Verde's PolyEarthylene product line, offering its innovation solution to an even wider range of customers

#### **Expansive Market Opportunity**

- Vinmar America, a division of Vinmar International a leading global distributor of plastics – supports the development and service of PolyEarthylene<sup>TM</sup>
- Vinmar operates in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia, with a significant customer base in the packaging, automotive, construction, and consumer goods industries
- Partnering with Vinmar will enable Verde to access a diverse range of potential customers from various industries, while also providing endusers with a true alternative to existing plastic products





### **Leadership Team**

#### **Strong Industry Experience and Deep Technical Capability**



Brian Gordon Chairman/President/ COO

- 20+ years C-level experience: multinational, VC/PE
- IBM, Merck & Co. roots
- Extensive M&A,
   JV, licensing,
   leasing, capital
   raising transactions



Joseph Paolucci CEO

- 40 years of Petrochemical Business Development leadership
- Commodity & resin engineering expertise
- JV Management:
   Phillips
   Petroleum,
   Ineos, Groupo Idessa



Gary Metzger Chief Sustainability Officer

- 40+ years in polymer industry
- Executive roles at Amco International, Inc. (Ravago) & President/CEO of Amco Plastics Materials, Inc.
- Led recycled and biobased polymer application R&D



Christopher Rankin, Ph.D. Head of R&D

- 15+ years of experience in materials science, engineering, and polymers
- Specialized in photochemistry of ferroelectric polymer and polyvinylidene fluoride
- Holds several patents related to waterrepellant and abrasionresistant coatings



**Yvonne Soulliere**Director of
Engineering

- Oversees R&D and project engineering
- Expertise in fullcycle product engineering
- Led model engineering, tooling development and quality control for mass manufacturing



**Terry Retin** Senior Director, Sales

- 15+ years leading global partnerships strategy
- Shapes customer engagement, retention strategies
- Market and business intelligence lead





## **Verde Financial Projections**





## Pro Forma Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2024

|   | Nxu, Inc.        | Verde Bioresins | Pro Forma |
|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| (in \$ thousands)   | (Historical)     | (Historical)    | Combined  |
| Current assets:   |                  |                 |           |
| Cash  | \$4,599          | \$556           | \$5,155   |
| Accounts receivable   | _                | 10              | 10        |
| Inventory   | _                | 192             | 192       |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets   | 987              | 68              | 1,055     |
| Notes receivable from related party   | 250              |                 | 250       |
| Total Current Assets  | \$5,836          | \$826           | \$6,662   |
| Property and equipment, net   | 2,078            | 2,473           | 4,551     |
| Assets held for sale  | 1,013            | _               | 1,013     |
| Right-of-use assets, net  | 1,439            | 1,255           | 2,694     |
| Investment in Lynx  | 3,000            | _               | 3,000     |
| Intangible assets, net  | 42               | _               | _         |
| Other assets  | 704              | 471             | 1,175     |
| Goodwill  | <u> </u>         | _               | 499       |
| Total Assets  | \$14,112         | \$5,025         | \$19,594  |
| Current liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Variable share settled restricted stock units | \$1,747<br>2,080 | \$2,782<br>—    | \$8,007   |
| Convertible notes, net of debt discount of \$0  |                  | 9,500           | _         |
| Current portion of operating lease liability  | 1,874            | 349             | 2,223     |
| Total Current Liabilities   | 5,701            | 12,631          | 10,230    |
| Lease liability, net of current portion   | 710              | 988             | 1,698     |
| Convertible debt and warrant liability, at fair value   | 16               |                 | 6         |
| Convertible notes, net of debt discount of \$1,973  | _                | 527             | /         |
| Other long-term liabilities   | 33               | _               | 33        |
| Total Liabilities   | \$6,460          | \$14,146        | \$11,967  |
| Stockholders' equity (deficit):   |                  |                 |           |
| Common Stock  | 1                | 32              | 39        |
| Additional paid-in capital  | 280,370          | 22,657          | 44,375    |
| Accumulated deficit   | (272,719)        | (31,811)        | (36,787   |
| Total stockholders' (deficit) equity  | \$7,652          | \$(9,121)       | \$7,627   |
| Total liabilities, convertible preferred stock and stockholders' equity (deficit)                           | \$14,112         | \$5,025         | \$19,594  |



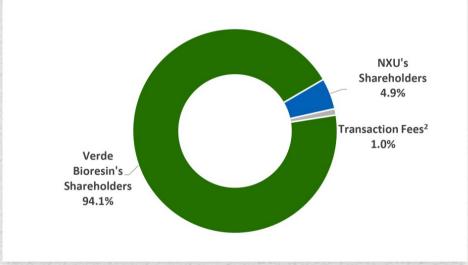


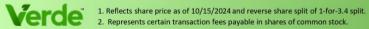
## **Transaction Overview**

| Sources and Uses (\$ in millions, except per share values) Sources |       |  |
|--|-------|--|
| Existing Cash on Acquirer's Balance Sheet                          | \$1   |  |
| Existing Cash on Target's Balance Sheet                            | 1     |  |
| Deemed Value of Stock Issued to Acquire Target                     | 307   |  |
| Total Sources  | \$309 |  |
| Uses   |       |  |
| Stock to Target Shareholders                                       | \$307 |  |
| Cash to Balance Sheet at Closing                                   | -     |  |
| Estimated Fees and Expenses  | 2     |  |
| Total Uses   | \$309 |  |

| Pro Forma Valuation<br>(\$ in millions, except per share values) |       |
|--|-------|
| Pro Forma Shares Outstanding                                     | 386.5 |
| (*) Share Price <sup>1</sup>                                     | 0.84  |
| Equity Value   | \$326 |
| (+) Existing Debt as of 06/30/2024                               | -     |
| (-) Existing Cash as of 06/30/2024                               | -     |
| (-) Cash Proceeds from Transaction                               | -     |
| Enterprise Value   | \$326 |

| Ownership Breakdown at Close  | Shares<br>(in millions) | % Ownership |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Verde Bioresin's Shareholders | 336.7                   | 94.1%       |
| NXU's Shareholders            | 18.9                    | 4.9%        |
| Transaction Fees <sup>2</sup> | 3.8                     | 1.0%        |
| PF Shares Outstanding         | 386.5                   | 100%        |





### **Conclusions**

- 1 Highly attractive proprietary biopolymer technology capable of making various polymers landfill biodegradable and recyclable
  - \$600 billion plastics market with the ability to replace up to \$300 billion in the medium term through focus on PolyEarthylene replacements of traditional polyethylene and polypropylene replacements
    - 3 Significant tailwinds from increased regulation on use of petrochemical plastics
      - 4 Highly scalable production capabilities designed to fulfill high-volume production demands
    - 5 Opportunity to serve growing blue-chip customer base by dropping in PolyEarthylene resins into their current plastic manufacturing equipment
  - 6 Secure source of bio-based feedstocks from strategic partnership with Braskem
- Skilled management team with extensive industry experience and proven track record aided by strategic partnership with world leading plastic distributor Vinmar International and Vinmar Polymers America





#### Risk Factors Related to Verde

Verde's business is subject to numerous risks, including but not limited to the following:

- Verde is an early-stage company with a history of losses, very limited revenues from product sales to date, and its ability to generate meaningful revenues going forward or to become profitable is uncertain.
- Verde will not realize meaningful new capital through the proposed merger and, accordingly, will need to secure additional capital to execute on its business plan, which additional capital may not be available on favorable terms, or at all.
- Verde is currently reliant on a single facility with limited capacity for all of its operations, and Verde's ability to execute on its business, growth and financial plans is dependent on adding additional manufacturing capacity.
- Construction of Verde's contemplated manufacturing facilities may not be completed in the expected timeframe or in a cost-effective manner. Any delays in the construction of Verde's manufacturing facilities could severely impact its business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Verde's ability to pursue its contemplated new manufacturing facility, which is integral to Verde's ability to execute on its business plan and achieve its growth and financial objectives, will be dependent on the availability of financing necessary to lease and build out the contemplated new facility. The required financing may not be available on favorable terms or at all, in which case Verde may not be able to pursue the new manufacturing facility, and it may be unable to execute on its business plan or achieve its growth and financial objectives.
- Verde expects to rely on a limited number of customers for a significant portion of its near-term revenue.
- Verde produces bioresins from raw materials, including renewable resources, such as biobased polyolefins and other plant based biofillers, whose pricing and availability may be impacted by factors out of its control. Increases or fluctuations in the costs of Verde's raw materials may affect its cost structure.



- The failure of Verde's raw material suppliers to perform their obligations under supply agreements, or Verde's inability to replace or renew these agreements when they expire, could increase Verde's cost for these materials, interrupt production or otherwise adversely affect its results of operations.
- Maintenance, expansion and refurbishment of Verde's facilities, the construction of new facilities and the development and implementation of new manufacturing processes involve significant risks.
- Verde's business and the prices of the combined company's common stock could suffer from negative publicity and other adverse consequences associated with recent civil and criminal charges brought against
  Terren Peizer, Verde's former Executive Chairman and founder and Chairman of Acuitas Group Holdings, LLC, and its successor, Humanitario Capital LLC, Verde's largest stockholder, by the SEC and the United
  States Department of Justice.
- Verde may not be able to protect adequately its intellectual property assets, which could adversely affect its competitive position and reduce the value of its products, and litigation to protect its intellectual property could be costly.

#### Key Risks Related to the Proposed Merger and Nxu

Nxu is subject to numerous risks, including but not limited to:

Risks related to the Proposed Merger:

- The proposed merger consideration at the closing may have a greater or lesser value than at the time the merger agreement was signed since the exchange ratio will not change or otherwise be adjusted based on the market price of Nxu Class A common stock.
- If the conditions to the proposed merger are not satisfied or waived, the proposed merger may not occur, which could harm the Nxu Class A common stock price and future business and operations of Nxu and may result in the Nxu board of directors deciding to pursue a dissolution and liquidation of Nxu.
- Some Nxu and Verde directors and executive officers have interests in the proposed merger that are different from yours and that may influence them to support or approve the proposed merger without regard to your interests.
- Nxu stockholders and Verde stockholders may not realize a benefit from the proposed merger commensurate with the ownership dilution they will experience in connection with the proposed merger.
- During the pendency of the proposed merger, each of Nxu and Verde may be limited in its ability to enter into a business combination with another party on more favorable terms because of restrictions in the merger agreement, which could adversely affect their respective business prospects.
- Certain provisions of the merger agreement may discourage third parties from submitting competing proposals, including proposals that may be superior to the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.



- Because the lack of a public market for Verde's common stock makes it difficult to evaluate the fair market value of Verde's capital stock, the value of the Nxu common stock to be issued to Verde stockholders may be more or less than the fair market value of Nxu's common stock.
- Lawsuits may be filed against Nxu, the members of the Nxu board of directors, Verde and/or the members of the Verde board of directors arising out of the proposed merger, which may delay or prevent the proposed merger.

#### Risks Related to Nxu

- Nxu has incurred significant losses since its inception, and Nxu expects to continue to incur losses for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, its financial condition raises substantial doubt regarding its ability to continue as a going concern.
- Nxu generated revenue for the first time in 2023, but there is no assurance that it will be able to continue to generate revenue from the operations of the NxuOne™ Charging Network.
- Nxu needs to raise additional capital to meet its future business requirements and such capital raising may be costly or difficult to obtain and could dilute current stockholders' ownership interest.
- If the market price of the Nxu Class A common stock continues to remain under \$1.00 per share, the only cure may be to enact a reverse split of the stock, such as the one proposed under the reverse stock split proposal included in the Proxy Statement/Prospectus. Failure to maintain compliance with Nasdaq's Continued Listing Rules could be costly and have material adverse effects.

#### Risks Related to the Combined Company

The combined company is subject to numerous risks, including but not limited to the following:

- Upon completion of the proposed merger, the combined company will have limited cash or other liquid assets, and will need to complete one or more financings to execute on its business plan.
- Upon or following completion of the proposed merger, failure by the combined company to comply with the initial listing standards or continued listing standards of Nasdaq will prevent its stock from being
  listed on Nasdaq or may result in delisting from Nasdaq.
- The market price of the combined company's common stock is expected to be volatile, and the market price of the combined company's common stock may drop following the proposed merger.
- Following the proposed merger, the combined company may be unable to integrate successfully the businesses of Nxu and Verde and realize the anticipated benefits of the proposed merger.
- Following the closing of the proposed merger, the combined company will continue to be an "emerging growth company" and a "smaller reporting company," and the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to emerging growth companies and smaller reporting companies may make the combined company's common stock less attractive to investors.



- Provisions that will be in the combined company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws and provisions under Delaware law could make an acquisition of the combined company, which may be beneficial to its stockholders, more difficult and may prevent attempts by its stockholders to replace or remove its management.
- After completion of the proposed merger, assuming that Nxu's aggregate enterprise value is approximately \$16.2 million, Verde's stockholders are expected to own approximately 95% of the combined company's stock, and these stockholders and the combined company's executive officers, directors and principal stockholders may have the ability to control or significantly influence matters submitted to the combined company's stockholders for approval. Nxu's assumed aggregate enterprise value will be reduced by the excess of certain lease payments remaining unpaid at the closing of the proposed merger over Nxu's cash balance at the closing of the proposed merger, and any such reduction will decrease the ownership percentage interest of pre-merger Nxu stockholders in the combined company.
- The combined company may in the future become a "controlled company" within the meaning of the applicable Nasdaq rules and, as a result, the combined company may qualify for exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements. If the combined company relies on these exemptions, the stockholders of the combined company will not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to such requirements.
- The combined company will be disqualified from certain private placement safe harbor exemptions otherwise available under the federal securities laws, which may adversely affect the combined company's ability to offer and sell its securities and raise capital in an efficient manner.





## **Highly Scalable Business Strategy**



Initial development was performed at large-scale compounders



- Established Verde facility in Fullerton,
   California to scale compounding volumes leveraging expertise from experienced equipment manufacturers and our highly experienced team
- Management developed compounding equipment in conjunction with equipment manufacturers and compounders to enhance efficiency
- Production commenced 4Q2021





- PolyEarthylene: Verde Strategic
   Partnership with Braskem Expansion
   manufactures bio-based raw materials
   (base material of PolyEarthylene)
- Approx. 750 million pounds of PolyEarthylene expected to be compounded onsite per year scaling in 1Q2027



- PolyEarthylene: Verde Strategic
   Partnership with Braskem manufactures
   bio-based raw material (base material of PolyEarthylene) feedstock
- PolyEarthylene expected to be compounded onsite into 375 million pounds of PolyEarthylene per year at scale commencing in 2Q2026

Leverage existing infrastructure and relationships with engineers, construction firms, equipment manufacturers and petrochemical companies to scale PolyEarthylene by January 2025



### **Engineering Advantages**

#### **Biobased polyolefin**

Produced from plant-based feedstocks industrially grown to not impact food supply.

#### Thermally stable

PolyEarthylene™ is designed to be thermally stable and durable, enabling it to not experience any significant change until disposal in an active landfill environment.

#### **Durable**

PolyEarthylene™ maintains a balance of strength and mechanical properties on par with petroleum-based counterparts.

#### Customizable

The biobased content can differ depending on customer needs and the specific grade of PolyEarthylene™.

#### **Tested**

Verde utilizes third party labs according the ASTM and regulatory standards.

### Landfill biodegradable

Designed to decompose due to the naturally occurring microorganisms present in landfill environments.

# Reduces microplastic pollution

Unlike oxo-degradable plastics, which can leave behind microplastic particles, PolyEarthylene™ offers an environmentally friendly approach by minimizing such microplastic during degradation.

#### **Durable**

PolyEarthylene™ maintains a balance of strength and mechanical properties on par with petroleum-based counterparts.

#### Customizable

The biobased content can differ depending on customer needs and the specific grade of PolyEarthylene™.

#### **Tested**

Verde utilizes third party labs according the ASTM and regulatory standards.



## More Economically Feasible and Highly Scalable Relative to PHA

| Competitive<br>Features   | PolyEarthylene  | PHA  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Scalability               | <ul> <li>Bio-polyethylene conversion process that is efficient and easily replicated at scale</li> <li>Downstream tolling in existing processes already available in the plastics industry</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>High cost of carbon source (canola oil) metabolized by the microorganism</li> <li>Limited production capacity and scalability of PHA due to conversion constraints by microorganism</li> <li>Expensive downstream processes in PHA extraction and purification</li> </ul> |
| Cost Efficiency           | <ul> <li>Competitive ASP: \$1.50-\$2.00 per pound with a goal of reaching \$1.50 per<br/>pound by 2026</li> </ul>   | ASP: \$3.00 per pound to \$3.50 per pound, with a goal of reaching \$2.35 per pound by 2025 and \$2.25 per pound by 2030   |
| Versatility In Processing | <ul> <li>Wider processing window (330° F - 425° F) allowing for wider range of end-use applications</li> <li>Ease of use in drop-in method with existing manufacturing equipment</li> </ul>           | <ul> <li>Narrow processing window (300°F - 350°F) limits end-use applications</li> <li>Not designed for drop-in method - modifications to PHA formula or processing equipment will be required (if achievable)</li> </ul>  |
| Temperature Tolerance     | Product life cycles unaffected by heat, light, freezing temperatures and UV impact  | <ul> <li>Microbial activity that degrades material along with exposure to varying heat<br/>and light for extended periods may cause the product to break down during its<br/>life cycle</li> </ul>   |
| Durability                | <ul> <li>Crystalline biopolymer is superior in strength making PolyEarthylene not only<br/>suitable for single-use applications, but also durable goods</li> </ul>                                    | <ul> <li>Semi-crystalline biopolymer best suited for single-use applications such as<br/>straws, cutlery, basic films (still in R&amp;D)</li> </ul>  |

- The latest development of PHA is perceived as a burgeoning technology for the bioplastics industry, however, its production and performance limitations create major challenges for manufacturers and brands in search of drop-in bio-based solutions
- There are three major points of contention for companies looking to transition towards renewable biomaterials: price, performance and efficiency
- PolyEarthylene is the only scalable and durable biomaterial solution designed for the drop-in method to fulfill market demand at a cost-competitive rate



### More Durable and More Heat Resistant than PLA

| Competitive<br>Features   | PolyEarthylene  | РНА   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Recyclability             | <ul> <li>PolyEarthylene holds the same chemical structure as conventional<br/>Polyethylene, making it possible for it to be recycled with other polyethylene<br/>products</li> </ul>        | PLA products often end up getting mixed in with traditionally recyclable<br>plastics, however, because it is chemically different from traditional plastics<br>this can cause problems in the recycling stream if improperly sorted |
| End of Life               | <ul> <li>Biodegradable within landfill environment (upon request)</li> <li>*Biodegradable within Industrial Composting environment (upon request)</li> </ul>                                | Biodegradable within Industrial Composting environment  |
| Versatility In Processing | <ul> <li>Wider processing window (330° F - 425° F) allowing for wider range of end-use applications</li> <li>Ease of use in drop-in method with existing manufacturing equipment</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Narrow processing window (330°F - 390°F) limits end-use applications</li> <li>Not designed for drop-in method – Pre-drying required, which could add to operating costs</li> </ul>   |
| Temperature Stable        | <ul> <li>PolyEarthylene Products are stable under heat, light, freezing temperatures,</li> <li>UV and impact</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Exposure to varying temperatures may cause material to lose physical<br/>properties and/or break down during its life cycle</li> </ul>   |
| Durability                | <ul> <li>Crystalline biopolymer is superior in strength making PolyEarthylene not only<br/>suitable for single-use applications, but also durable goods</li> </ul>                          | <ul> <li>Semi-crystalline biopolymer best suited for single-use applications such as<br/>straws, cutlery, basic films and 3D printer filament</li> </ul>  |

Polylactic acid (PLA) is both an amorphous and semi-crystallin biopolymer that sell more than 4 billion pounds per year, is UV-sensitive, brittle and has comparatively lower processing window as well as melting temperature to Poly**Earth**ylene



## Competitive Advantage Over PBAT, a Fossil-Based Compostable

| Competitive<br>Features | PolyEarthylene   | PHA  |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| End of Life             | <ul> <li>*Biodegradable within landfill environment</li> <li>*Biodegradable within Industrial Composting environment</li> <li>Recyclable</li> </ul>  | <ul><li>Industrial Compostable</li><li>Home Compostable</li></ul>              |
| Beginning of Life       | Bio-based and Renewable: Derived from sustainable plant-based feedstock  | ■ Fossil-based   |
| Strength                | <ul> <li>Very high degree of varied specifications to meet specific applications – high<br/>stiffness and impact strength</li> </ul>   | Polymers with high PBAT content is limited to flex applications – such as film |
| Recyclability           | Products made from all grades of PolyEarthylene can be recycled with counterpart fossil-based polyethylene products (Recycling #1,2,4,5,7)   | ■ Not recyclable   |
| Applications            | <ul> <li>Standalone material that supports production of most single-use and durable applications.</li> <li>Can also be modified to mimic performance properties of other polymers (Bio-ABS, Bio-EVA, Bio-PP, etc.)</li> </ul> | Limited to flex applications as a standalone material                          |

- PBAT is a petroleum-based compostable polymer with mechanical properties mainly highlight flexibility its performance properties are most comparable to those of low-density PE (LLDPE), which fulfills a limited range of applications
- Can be modified and blended with bio-based renewable polymers to increase stiffness, however it as a standalone material is best fit for the production of single-use goods
- PolyEarthylene (PEL) is a bio-based, renewable and sustainable material with the added features of landfill biodegradability and composability (pending completion of ASTM D6400 certification)
  - Extremely durable and versatile supporting a wide variety of applications that we believe can fulfill market demand within both durable and single-use goods categories



## Landfill Biodegradation PolyEarthylene's Stages of Use to End-of-Life











01

Standard Use

PolvEarthvlene<sup>TM</sup>

to customer.

manufactured and sold

polyolefin properties, no

following conversion into

product and regular use.

will not degrade during

normal use or on the

shelf.

PEL is shelf-stable and

change in performance

Resin retains standard

#### Disposal

- User disposes product.
- If product is not recycled, then natural microbial attachment at surface begins in landfill, industrial composting facility or by the side of the road.
- Bacteria creates hydrophilic surface using protein attachment.

#### **Bacteria Formation**

- Bacteria coat and colonize surface in continuous film.
- Bacteria implement peroxidase and other enzymes to break polyolefin bonds at surface.

#### **Bacteria Proliferation**

- Through chain scission and oxidation polyolefin chains are shortened.
- Material softens and becomes waxy but does not disintegrate.
- Molecular weight is reduced.

#### 05

#### **End of Life**

- Plastic hydrocarbons are transformed to CO<sup>2</sup>, water, methane and biomass.
- Inorganic component becomes part of the soil.
- No microplastics generated during process due to a complete breakdown of PEL.



## Glossary

| Term    | Definition  |
|---------|---|
| РНА     | <ul> <li>Polyhydroxyalkanoates or PHA, is a polyester produced in nature through the fermentation of vegetable oils and/or sugar; PHA is extracted for<br/>the production of bioplastics</li> </ul>                 |
| PLA     | <ul> <li>Polylactic Acid or PLA, is a polyester with a specific base formula that is produced with renewable resources; lactic acid is extracted for the<br/>production of bioplastics</li> </ul>                   |
| PBAT    | Polybutylene Adipate Terephthalate or PBAT, is a semi-aromatic, biodegradable thermoplastic copolyester that can be easily molded and thermoformed  |
| PP      | Polypropylene or PP, is a synthetic resin that is a polymer of propylene, used especially for ropes, fabrics and molded objects   |
| ECOVIO® | ■ ECOVIO® is a high-quality and versatile bioplastic from BASF  |
| PE      | <ul> <li>Polyethylene or PE, is a tough, light, flexible synthetic resin made by polymerizing ethylene, chiefly used for plastic bags, food containers and<br/>other packaging</li> </ul>                           |
| GreenPE | <ul> <li>Green Polyethylene or GreenPE, is a plastic produced from sugarcane, representing a renewable alternative to polyethylene and is largely used<br/>for rigid and flexible packaging applications</li> </ul> |

