INTRODUCTION

Electric vehicles (EVs) have emerged as a commonly accepted "more sustainable" alternative to internal combustion engine vehicles. However, the environmental impacts of lithium extraction for lithiumion batteries may compromise the sustainability merits of EVs. With the EV market expanding more rapidly than ever, it is imperative to compare the sustainability of resource gathering practices for the fuels powering both vehicle types to determine whether one is truly more "sustainable" than the other. Our project intends to present literature review-style research that would help facilitate that discussion.

Authors: Sydney Moore and Alyssa Wiemels Faculty Advisor: Dr. Julie Wolin

GASOLINE

Drilling

- All types of exploration, drilling, and extraction activities are harmful to many aspects of the environments they occur in
- Impacts of oil-

Figure 1. Data from breakthrough study of lithium mining expansion in Salar de Atacama, Chile (Liu et al., 2021)