

Green lithium for Europe

Cooperation agreement for the extraction of green lithium signed by LiVERDE and RJR

During a delegation trip to Chile led by the President of the German Bundesrat, Bodo Ramelow, the Chilean company RJR Salar SpA and the German company LiVERDE AG signed a cooperation agreement to extract green lithium. LiVERDE's innovative process makes it possible to produce lithium hydroxide from the brine of the salt lakes Salar de Maricunga and Salar de Pedernales in a sustainable way with a yield of more than 80 percent. In addition, the production method is water neutral, meaning that no process water is required.

At present, neither electromobility nor the storage systems needed for the energy turnaround can be realized without lithium. The white gold of the 21st century is therefore the key raw material for achieving the climate neutrality targeted by Germany and the European Union. To become as independent as possible from authoritarian states, access to corresponding resources is crucial. One step in this direction is the cooperation agreement signed during the delegation trip to Chile undertaken by Bodo Ramelow, President of the Bundesrat and Minister President of Thuringia. The agreement was signed on October 13, 2022, between the Chilean company RJR Salar SpA and the German company LiVERDE AG, which is to be located in Thuringia.

Production of 50,000 tons of lithium hydroxide per year

The company thus secures access to lithium concessions amounting to 14,000 hectares in the region of the salt lakes Salar de Maricunga and Salar de Pedernales, which RJR Salar is contributing to the cooperation. "The agreement foresees the production of around 25,000 tons of lithium hydroxide per year to start with, which will be increased to a total of 50,000 tons per year through the expansion of production capacities," explains Alexa Hergenröther, CEO of LiVERDE. "Our partner RJR Salar is contributing the necessary mining rights and concessions to the cooperation for this." A large proportion of the lithium will be available for export to Germany and Europe. This will be easy to do thanks to the excellent infrastructure already in place in the region.

Sustainable and water neutral production through innovative technology

One of the most important aspects of the cooperation agreement is the fact that the extraction and production of the lithium hydroxide will be both sustainable and cost-efficient. LiVERDE was able to demonstrate its capabilities in this area with an innovative process technology it developed together with K-UTEC Salt Technologies, which enables a lithium yield of over 80 percent with a minimized CO₂ footprint. This is only possible thanks to an energy supply concept developed in cooperation with the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE, which uses photovoltaics to generate electricity and solar thermal energy to generate process heat. The innovative production process does not require any additional water from groundwater wells in the surrounding area; in fact, desalinated water in drinking water quality will be left over at the end of the lithium extraction process. "This production concept minimizes the impact on natural resources compared to other projects," explains Raul de Barrio Olivares, CEO of RJR Salar. The project also complies with all international environmental and social standards, such as the Global Battery Alliance's ten guiding principles for a sustainable battery value chain, and IFC and IRMA standards (Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance). "Consideration of nature and the environment was a decisive criterion for us to cooperate with LiVERDE, as was the arrangement that part of the lithium extracted will remain in Chile and be processed here," comments RJR Salar's CEO. To promote the industrialization of the lithium value chain in the region in the best possible way, an education and training program as well as the transfer of know-how and technology to the local population were also agreed. "In this way, together with our Chilean partner, we can ensure that skilled jobs are created for the people living in the area and that the local population is adequately involved," adds Alexa Hergenröther.

www.liverde.com, rjrlithium.cl

About LiVERDE AG

LiVERDE AG specializes in the development and realization of projects as well as the operation, management and financing of companies concerned with the extraction or production of lithium compounds and by-products in South America and their subsequent marketing. The company and its internal and external partners have decades of experience in mining salts, processing minerals, and developing processes and production technologies.

About RJR SALAR SpA

RJR SALAR SpA is a recently-established Chilean mining company created through the merger of Inversiones R Y R Ltda. and Minera Del Barrio Ltda. Key areas of expertise include the acquisition, exploration and development of lithium, potassium, boron and cobalt mining projects. With knowledge and studies on these minerals, the company is responding to market developments and the potential of lithium for energy production, storage and consumption. RJR SALAR SpA. owns more than 50,000 hectares of exploration concessions in various salt flats in the so-called Lithium Triangle in South America.

- - -

Nicht zur Veröffentlichung!

Editorial contact partner:

SCHULZ. PRESSE. TEXT., Doris Schulz, Landhausstrasse 12,
70825 Korntal, Germany, Phone +49 (0)711 854085, Fax +49 (0)711 815895
ds@presstextschulz.de, www.schulzpresstext.de

LIVERDE AG
Wolfertweg 5
89584 Ehingen, Germany

www.LIVERDE.com
info@liverde.com
Tel: +49 741 175 299 30