

SolarTech Power Solutions

Chilean lithium energy storage power supplier



Overview

In March 2024, Atlas Renewable Energy announced it has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with Chilean mining giant Codelco for the supply of 375 GWh of energy per year, to be generated by a new renewable energy project with an integrated battery energy storage system. Who owns the lithium industry in Chile?

SQM and Albemarle dominate Chile's lithium sector, controlling 82% of current production through Atacama operations. The state-owned ENAMI holds minority stakes in these ventures but is pursuing majority control in new projects through the National Lithium Strategy.

What is a lithium project in Chile?

Three salt flats named Aguilar, La Isla, and Grande make up this project, which seeks to diversify Chile's lithium production beyond its existing Salar de Atacama region. The latest announcement signals a new development phase for lithium in Chile through joint public-private partnerships and cutting-edge technological solutions.

Why is Chile a good country for lithium evaporation?

These rankings reflect Chile's unique geological advantages, particularly the high-grade lithium brines found in the Atacama Desert that enable cost-effective solar evaporation extraction. Chilean lithium plays a pivotal role in global battery manufacturing chains, supplying approximately 30% of the world's lithium carbonate equivalent.

How much lithium does Chile have?

The Atacama Salt Flat remains Chile's lithium cornerstone, containing 63% of national resources (8.85 million tons) across its 3,000 km² basin. Northern Antofagasta's emerging districts now account for 21.7% of total resources, with La Isla (2.13 million tons) and Aguilar (979,000 tons) comprising the majority.

What makes Chile a lithium giant?

The Atacama Region in Chile stands out as a lithium giant because of its extensive salt flats laden with lithium brines. The Salares Altoandinos project strengthens strategic positioning through exploration of underdeveloped resources believed to hold high-grade lithium reserves. Rio Tinto launched its second Chilean project this week.

How important is lithium ion to Chile's economy?

The metal's strategic value has increased exponentially with the electric vehicle (EV) revolution, as lithium-ion batteries require 8-10 kilograms of lithium carbonate per vehicle. Chile's Economic Development Agency estimates that lithium exports contributed \$5.1 billion to the national economy in 2024, representing 9.3% of total mineral exports.

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