

Boliden’s Water Management Commitment

Water is a resource that should be distributed in ways that are socially equitable, environmentally sustainable, and economically beneficial. Effective water management requires collaboration and concerted action from all-inclusive stakeholder engagement from relevant parties within a community.

Boliden recognizes:

- Water is a precious, shared resource with high social, cultural, environmental, and economic value. Access to water has been recognized as a right. It is integral to the well-being, livelihood, and the spiritual and cultural practices of many communities. Water is also essential to the function of a healthy ecosystem and the services provided from within the ecosystem.
- ICMM members are committed to respect the rights, interests, special connections to lands and waters, and perspectives of Indigenous Peoples, where mining projects are to be located on lands traditionally owned by or under customary use of Indigenous Peoples. In addition, the UN General Assembly recognized access to safe and clean water and sanitation as a human right in July 2010.
- Water is a vital input for all mining and metals operations – required for the health and wellbeing of employees and at every stage of an operation’s life cycle including closure. The dependency and impact on a shared resource creates material risk for the mining and metals sector that requires effective management.
- Water challenges are increasing around the world. Earth’s freshwater resources are finite and under pressure from industrialization, urbanization, climate change and the needs of a growing global population.

Boliden is committed to:

Applying strong and transparent corporate water governance:

- Collaboration between countries, industry and society are necessary to address these issues surrounding water challenges.
- Allocating clear responsibilities and accountabilities for water – from the board and corporate to all site levels within the individual business units.
- Integrating water considerations in the business planning – including company strategy, life of asset and investment planning.
- Publicly reporting the company water performance, material risks, opportunities and management response using consistent industry metrics and recognized approaches.

Managing water at operational sites effectively:

- Maintaining a water balance* and understanding how it relates to the cumulative impact* of other users.
- Setting contextual water targets or objectives for sites with material water-related risks.
- Proactively managing water quantity and quality to reduce potential socio- environmental impacts and realize opportunities to benefit all stakeholders.
- Ensuring all employees have access to clean drinking water, gender appropriate sanitation facilities and hygiene at their workplace.

Collaborating to achieve responsible and sustainable water use:

- Identifying, evaluating, and responding to catchment-level* water-related risks and opportunities.

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- Engaging with the relevant stakeholders that may influence or be affected by a site’s water use and discharge proactively and in an inclusive manner.
- Supporting water stewardship initiatives that promote more efficient water use, effective catchment management and contribute to improved water security and sanitation.

Boliden will:

- Respect the human rights, interests, cultures, customs and values of employees and communities affected by our activities.
- Implement effective risk-management strategies and systems based on rational science, which account for stakeholder perceptions of risks.
- Pursue the continual improvement in environmental performance issues, such as water stewardship, energy use and climate change.
- Proactively engage key stakeholders on sustainable development challenges and opportunities in an open and transparent manner. Effectively report and independently verify progress and performance.

*A water balance is an approach used to measure the flow of water in and out of an operational facility. This provides the basis for understanding, managing and communicating the site’s water requirements and use. A site water balance is comprised of three main components: water withdrawals, water discharge and water consumption. The formula for calculating a site water balance is: withdrawal volume = discharge volume + consumption volume + any change in the volume of on-site water storage.

* Cumulative impacts are changes to the environment that are caused by an action in combination with other past, present and future actions.

* A catchment is the area of land from which all surface run-off converges through a sequence of streams, rivers, groundwater aquifers and lakes into the sea or another outlet at a single river mouth, estuary or delta. The term catchment is sometimes used interchangeably with drainage basin or watershed.

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