

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Is Chile's lithium battery energy storage rate low



Overview

Why is lithium so popular in Chile?

Lithium has characteristics that make it technically superior: it is lighter, safer, and has a higher energy density. Chile is in pole position to supply lithium to the global market. It owns 36 percent of economically recoverable lithium reserves and accounts for about 26 percent of global production.

Is Chile a leader in lithium production & reserves?

Chile has solidified its position as a global leader in lithium production and reserves, with recent studies revealing a 28% increase in total lithium resources to 14.05 million metric tons. This revision, announced by Chile's National Mining Company (ENAMI), underscores the country's strategic importance in the global energy transition.

How much battery storage does Chile have?

Chile has an operational installed capacity of approximately 1GW in batteries, and another 3GW is under construction. Battery storage has been largely financed by bank lending in recent years, but we believe larger projects could increase the scope for bond financing.

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 is the legal status of lithium in Chile?

The legal status of lithium is an exception in Chile's mining concession system. Through Law Decree No. 2,886 of 1979, Chilean legislation reserved lithium for the State, rendering lithium reserves non-concessionable. This regulation is also enshrined in Law No. 18,097 of 1982 and the Mining Code of 1983.

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