

July 13, 2017

According to the latest news the Chilean Mining Ministry is working at full speed for Chile to take advantage of the lithium boom,

The route which the current Chilean authorities are trying to implement is the Special Contract of Operation of Lithium (CEOL), i.e. the State of Chile it empowers third parties to explore, exploit and benefit a certain quota of tons of metallic lithium in any area of the national territory.

However the Government of Chile will have to be very careful since those CEOL's **<u>should not</u>** <u>affect current mining concessionaires</u> who already have mining properties (of exploration or exploitation) in salt flats that have interesting concentrations of lithium.

It is not enough to allocate quotas. Those who are assigned with quotas also should have mining property over those areas of interest; otherwise conflicts will arise with respect to the existing mining property in said places.

The world annual lithium market is currently over 35,000 tons and more than a third of the aforementioned is produced in Chile; however soon the world lithium production will be insufficient with the growth of demand that will mainly be produced by electric vehicles.

This is just beginning and Chile must quickly catch up, yet respecting the rights of all mining property owners involved.

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