

Press release

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Boliden applies for Nautanen to become a strategic project in EU

Boliden has applied to the European Commission to designate the Nautanen deposit as a strategic project under the Critical Raw Materials Act.

The Nautanen copper deposit is located in central Norrbotten, about 15 km northwest of Aitik copper mine. Earlier studies and exploration results indicate that there is a potential for a underground mine as a satellite to Aitik, where existing industrial infrastructure such as mill and tailings facility can be used. Boliden sees the potential to invest in an underground mine including an entrance ramp to enter the mine from distance to minimize environmental footprint.

“The Nautanen project will increase domestic supply of sustainable copper within the EU. Sustainable extracted copper has a critical and strategical value for the green transition in Europe”, says Stefan Romedahl, President Boliden Mines.

The conceptual annual production of extracted raw material in Nautanen is approximately 2-3 Mtonnes per year, with a life of mine plan around 20 years. Feasibility studies of the deposit are still ongoing and will define the final operation. Depending on permits, which are not yet obtained, production is estimated to begin in early 2030's.

The EU Commission is expected to communicate the assessment results of the applications submitted during the second quarter of 2026.

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Metals for generations to come

Boliden's vision is to be the most climate-friendly and respected metal provider in the world. We are Europe's producer of sustainable metals and, guided by our values care, courage and responsibility, we operate within exploration, mines, smelters and recycling. We are around 8,000 employees and have annual revenues of approximately SEK 90 billion. The share is listed in the Large Cap segment of NASDAQ OMX Stockholm.

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