

Water management

1. BACKGROUND

Water management is an area involving many critical operational aspects such as water scarcity, pollution and flooding. It is important to have a good understanding of the current and future water use within the organization. Water risk assessments shall be undertaken regularly to evaluate potential impact on business, operations, revenue or expenditure. Each unit shall have a water management plan.

2. TARGETS AND COMMITMENTS

Boliden commitment with water management is stated in the policy POLY-44731. Water conservation is an important part of the company policy. Reduction of water use has a high priority, however, without compromising on safety and environmental responsibility. Each Business Unit (BU) and /or Operation should implement a water management plan in line with ICMMs Water Stewardship Framework.

The implementation of that policy within Boliden Mines should follow the INST-103341-Boliden Mines Instruction for Water Stewardship.

3. RESPONSIBILITY

Each General Manager/Operational Manager is responsible to ensure;

- To implement a water management plan in accordance with ICMMs requirements
 - Formalize water related accountabilities and responsibilities throughout the business, appointment of a water management group, and a water manager if needed.
 - integration of water considerations in business planning – including company strategy, life of asset and investment planning.
 - engage stakeholders in an open and transparent manner to understand their priorities, share plans and collaborate on solutions

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4. WATER MANAGEMENT PLANS

Each site shall have a water management plan. The sites shall assess their water system, every other year. The assessment shall include the following:

- Establish a conceptual model (schematic diagram) of the important/critical water sources, transfers, storages, and discharges. Assess actual and future demand for the process, cooling water, water discharges, water storage and/or recirculation, storm water etc. Describe water withdrawal and other effects on surface water, ground water, municipal water etc.
- Identify critical steering/control systems for water, and storage relationships for all ponds/tanks (elevation vs volume relationships). For large and/or complex water systems, modelling tools may be used.

Each site shall manage water at operations effectively

- Maintain a water balance and understand how it relates to the cumulative impact of other users.
- Set context-relevant water targets or objectives for sites with material water-related risks.
- Proactively manage water quantity and quality to reduce potential socioenvironmental impacts and realize opportunities.
- Ensure all employees have access to clean drinking water, gender appropriate sanitation facilities and hygiene at their workplace.

Each site shall collaborate to achieve responsible and sustainable water use

- Identify, evaluate, and respond to catchment-level of water-related risks and opportunities.
- Identify and engage proactively and inclusively with stakeholders that may influence or be affected by a site’s water use and discharge.
- Actively engage on external water governance issues, with governments, local authorities and other stakeholders, to support predictable, consistent and effective regulation that underpins integrated water resource management.
- Support water stewardship initiatives that promote better water use, effective catchment management and contribute to improved water security and sanitation.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT / RISK EVALUATION

Identify, manage and regularly review water-related risks across the business. Water risk evaluation shall be performed every other year, and include the following inter-related categories: Process risks – as a result of too little, too much or polluted water.

- Environmental risks – discharge limitations in volume and/or content.
- Regulatory demands

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- Reputational risks – public and media awareness of water and how the company is handling this resource.

All of these risks can cause disruption of operations or supply and, in worst cases, termination of business operations.

6. RECORDS

- The sites' water management plan shall be stored in Boliden Management system (BMS) as well as local instructions.
- Ensure the collection, compilation and storage of data in a structured way.
- Records of the data should be stored in a controlled way defined in the BU local management system.

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