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Congo Kinshasa lithium battery factory



Overview

KINSHASA, Jan 7 (AGCNewsNet) – China’s Zijin Mining Group plans to begin lithium production in the Democratic Republic of Congo in early 2026, targeting one of the world’s largest deposits of the battery metal. Will Zijin start producing lithium in the Democratic Republic of Congo?

(Image courtesy of AVZ Minerals.) China’s Zijin Mining Group Co. aims to start producing lithium in the Democratic Republic of Congo early next year from one of the world’s largest deposits of the battery metal. Zijin is accelerating activity at a site in southeast Congo that’s still claimed by AVZ Minerals Ltd.

Is there a lithium-tin project in the DRC?

The Manono lithium-tin project in the DRC. (Image courtesy of AVZ Minerals.) China’s Zijin Mining Group Co. aims to start producing lithium in the Democratic Republic of Congo early next year from one of the world’s largest deposits of the battery metal.

Why are Chinese companies investing in Africa's lithium resources?

Chinese companies including Zijin are investing heavily in Africa’s lithium resources from Mali to Zimbabwe, even after prices slumped almost 90% from a peak in 2022. They are seeking to lock down feedstock for refineries at home in anticipation of soaring future consumption of the metal.

Does Zijin own a copper mine in Congo?

Zijin also has interests in two copper mines in Congo, including a 39.6% stake in the giant Kamo-a-Kakula complex, which is a partnership with Ivanhoe Mines Ltd. Congo’s mines ministry didn’t respond to questions sent by Bloomberg, while Cominiere – which owns 39% of Zijin’s Manono project – declined to comment.

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