

RFI Questions

The official language of the RFI is Spanish; nevertheless, as a courtesy, we send the questions on the form in English. In the case of differences between the Spanish and the English versions, the Spanish version will prevail.

1.1. Present situation:

The stage consists of mapping institutions that offer lithium extraction technologies:

1. Description of the legal entity, whether national or foreign or a consortium of entities, submitting the proposal for the brine testing pilot in Chile, detailing its components and auxiliary systems. Provide legal name and tax identification number (RUT) if applicable. In the case of forming a consortium, please provide information about its members.
2. Identification of the counterpart, including the name, position, and corresponding email address.
3. summary of the trajectory of the proposing entity/entities, indicating the countries in which they operate and providing an insight into their potential expansion, if applicable. Include years of experience and the proponent's vision.

1.2. Laboratory Information:

The lithium extraction process will be understood as all stages, from brine reception to obtaining technical-grade or battery-grade lithium. A process may involve one or more technologies. To analyze the level of development, please provide the following information:

1. General description of the technological process used for lithium extraction, including the process stages and a flow diagram showing input and output flows for each stage. Additionally, mention how the system adapts to brine variability.
2. Description of potential pre-treatment and post-treatment stages, including potential temperature increases, pH modifications, use of chemical solutions, and/or filter utilization.
3. Information, if available, about a sampling protocol, storage, and transportation.
4. Information about pilot testing laboratories, including location, equipment, and characteristics. If there are partnerships with other laboratories, such as for brine characterization, mention it in this section.
5. Presentation of the team of professionals in charge, specifying functions and roles.

6. Information about the pilot testing process, including requirements, work time, time to obtain results, and the type of experiment conducted. Consider that ENAMI will have approximately one cubic meter (thousand liters) of brine for pilot testing.
7. The Technology Readiness Level (TRL) achieved according to the criteria mentioned in ANNEX 4.
8. Information about the existence of patents, including their duration, if applicable.
9. Information about laboratory accreditations. If none, mention the quality and transparency standards they adhere to. If using an external laboratory, include it in this point.
10. Description of current performance indicators and the level of achievement.
11. Information on which indicators will be provided upon completion of pilot testing. For example, once pilot testing is completed, there will be CAPEX, OPEX, required raw materials, energy consumption, water consumption, and recovery rate.
12. Indication of the lithium carbonate grade achieved with the process. Processes expected to reach technical or battery grade.
13. Estimation if the technological process allows the extraction of other minerals that may be present in the brine, justifying the response.
14. Information on interest and/or progress in brine reinjection. If deemed appropriate, mention if there is a plan to assess the environmental impact of reinjection.
15. Mention how the scalability of the technological process works and if it presents comparative advantages.
16. Estimation if the technological process requires specific environmental conditions for proper operation. Consider variables such as temperature change, rain, and snow.
17. Mention a differentiating element for why an institution should test the brine with the offered technological process.
18. Inclusion of other relevant complementary information that the proponent considers pertinent to incorporate.

ANNEX 1: RFI Proposal Form

The following online survey must provide all the information mentioned in section 3: <https://forms.office.com/r/AbGY3QycaS?origin=lprLink>. If you wish to send the attached documents, please mail them to rfilitio@enami.cl. Annex 2 letter should also be sent as an attachment.

QR code:

