

 Early Warning System

EIB-20170804

KELIBER BATTERY GRADE LITHIUM PRODUCTION



Quick Facts

Countries	Finland
Specific Location	Syväjärvi, Rapasaari, Päiväneva, Kokkola; Kaustinen
Financial Institutions	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2024-08-20
Borrower	KELIBER OY
Sectors	Energy, Industry and Trade, Mining
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 300.47 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 300.47 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 804.59 million



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### Project Description

According to the EIB, the project consists of mining and production of battery grade lithium (Li) hydroxide. The project comprises the successive development and mining of several Li-mineral ore mines, a concentrator plant to produce an ore concentrate and an innovative first-of-a-kind hydro-metallurgical processing plant to produce battery grade lithium hydroxide (LiOH) with a nominal capacity of 15 kt/a.

The product is intended as a high-grade lithium hydroxide mainly for the Li-ion battery cell manufacturing industry in Europe.



### People Affected By This Project

Communities around Keliber's lithium project — particularly in municipalities such as **Kaustinen**, **Kokkola**, and **Kruunupyy** in Central Ostrobothnia — face concerns related to **dust emissions**, **noise**, **traffic increases**, and **potential water contamination** from mining, ore processing, tailings disposal, and water discharge as modelled in the project's impact assessments. Public acceptance studies note that while there is not major organized opposition, local residents and environmental groups have expressed environmental concerns (especially over land use and water) and filed appeals against permit conditions.



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**Investment Description**

- European Investment Bank (EIB)



### Private Actors Description

As stated by Bloomberg, Keliber Oy operates as a mining and chemical company. The Company produces battery-grade lithium hydroxide for electrification and energy storage. Keliber serves clients in Finland.

Sibanye Stillwater Limited is a mining and metals processing group. The Company produces platinum, palladium, and rhodium and gold producer, as well as produces other PGMs, such as iridium and ruthenium, along with chrome, copper and nickel as by-products. Sibanye Stillwater serves customers worldwide.

According to the EIB, [Sibanye-Stillwater](#) is a multinational mining and metals processing group with a diverse portfolio of operations, projects and investments across five continents. The Group is also one of the foremost global recyclers of PGM autocatalysts and has interests in leading mine tailings retreatment operations.

Sibanye-Stillwater is one of the world's largest primary producers of platinum, palladium, and rhodium and is a top tier gold producer. It also produces and refines iridium and ruthenium, nickel, chrome, copper and cobalt.



Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
Finnish Minerals Group (Suomen Malmijalostus Oy)	Investor	Mining	invests in	Keliber OY	Client	Mining
Sibanye Stillwater Ltd.	Parent Company	Mining	has unknown relation to	Keliber OY	Client	Mining



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## Contact Information

*No contacts provided at the time of disclosure.*

## ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/registers/request-form/request-form-default.htm>

## ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF EIB

The EIB Complaints Mechanism is designed to facilitate and handle complaints against the EIB by individuals, organizations or corporations affected by EIB activities. When exercising the right to lodge a complaint against the EIB, any member of the public has access to a two-tier procedure, one internal - the Complaints Mechanism Office - and one external - the European Ombudsman. A complaint can be lodged via a written communication addressed to the Secretary General of the EIB, via email to the dedicated email address: [complaints@eib.org](mailto:complaints@eib.org), by completing the online complaint form available at the following address: <http://www.eib.org/complaints/form> via fax or delivered directly to the EIB Complaints Mechanism Division, any EIB local representation office or any EIB staff. For further details, check: [http://www.eib.org/attachments/strategies/complaints\\_mechanism\\_policy\\_en.pdf](http://www.eib.org/attachments/strategies/complaints_mechanism_policy_en.pdf)

When dissatisfied with a complaint to the EIB Complaints Mechanism, citizens can then turn towards the European Ombudsman. A memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the EIB and the European Ombudsman establishes that citizens (even outside of the EU if the Ombudsman finds their complaint justified) can turn towards the Ombudsman on issues related to 'maladministration' by the EIB. Note that before going to the Ombudsman, an attempt must be made to resolve the case by contacting the EIB. In addition, the complaint must be made within two years of the date when the facts on which your complaint is based became known to you. You can write to the Ombudsman in any of the languages of the European Union. Additional details, including filing requirements and complaint forms, are available at: <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/atyourservice/interactiveguide.faces>





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#### Bank Documents

- [Environmental and Social Data Sheet](#)
- [Environmental and Social Impact Assessment \(ESIA\)](#)

#### Media

- [Finland: EU and Sibanye-Stillwater, through its Keliber lithium project, join forces in €150 millio](#)