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Boliden invests in a new sulphuric acid plant at the Harjavalta smelter

Boliden Harjavalta continues the development of the copper – nickel business and invests in improved environmental performance and operational efficiency.

Boliden Harjavalta operates two acid plants which produce sulphuric acid and liquid sulphur dioxide from smelter off-gases formed in the copper and nickel smelting processes. Boliden has decided to invest in a new and more efficient acid plant, using best available technology. The investment programme that will run 2016-2019 consists of two parts, the first and now decided part amounts to 65 MEUR. The total investment is estimated to 90 MEUR.

- The performance of Boliden Harjavalta has developed positively over several years. This investment improves our technical infrastructure which is fundamental for our long term competitive position. Continuity of the site together with the improved environmental performance is important for our local community too, says Timo Rautalahti, General Manager Boliden Harjavalta.

With the new plant in operation the efficiency and environmental performance of Boliden Harjavalta will improve in several areas. SO_2 emissions will be reduced by 20-25 % and cooling water by 40 %, as heat is recovered, resulting in higher energy efficiency. In addition minor bottle-necks will open especially on the copper line and by this make future expansion projects possible on both the copper and nickel line.

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