

Mt Cattlin performs above and beyond

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THE SECOND shipment of spodumene from Galaxy Resources' Mt Cattlin project will arrive a month early, thanks to recent solid production.

Mt Cattlin, near Ravensthorpe in WA, is currently producing at about 75 per cent of its annual design rate, with 12,778 tonnes produced in April and May 2011. Plant utilisation has improved dramatically at the project, with Galaxy reporting above-budget utilisation rates. The concentrator has been averaging an online utilisation of 84 per cent, compared with a design rate of 85 per cent. The crushing plant also performed well in the past two months, operating mostly at above design rates.

Spodumene, consisting of lithium aluminium inosilicate, is a source of lithium. It is expected that, as with the initial shipment, the product will be loaded at the Bunbury Port, as Galaxy is still finalising long-term export arrangements with the Port of Esperance.

As well as revising the shipping timetable, Galaxy has also increased



Spodumene stockpiles at Galaxy Resources' Mt Cattlin project

the volume of the second shipment, from 12,000 tonnes to 17,000t.

It will be transported to the Port of Zhangjiagang in China.

Galaxy managing director Iggy Tan said of the increased production at Mt

Cattlin: "We have reached a stage where the Mt Cattlin operation is established, stable and consistent. The whole operation is performing solidly, thanks to the persistent hard work of our Mt Cattlin team".