



China site for lithium

EMERGING lithium producer Galaxy Minerals has selected a location in China for the company's proposed lithium plant.

In an announcement to the Australian Stock Exchange on Monday, the Perth-based company announced an agreement had been reached with Jiangsu Province Zhangjiagang Free Trade Zone Administrative Committee to secure the site.

The site, about 53,000sqm, is about 500m from wharf berth and has access to utilities.

Galaxy managing director Iffy Tan said the Chemical Industrial Park near Shanghai, where the site is located, contains more than 3379 enterprises, including 40 international companies.

The company plans to ship its spodumene product from Western Australia to the Zhangjiagang port and transport it to the plant by conveyer.

Mr Tan said the site was in an ideal location for Galaxy's proposed lithium carbonate plant near Ravensthorpe. The facility contains all utilities, consumables and processing materials required for lithium carbonate production available internally within the production park.

"The proposed site is next to a 2.4 million-tonne-a-year sulphuric acid plant that can provide concentrated sulphuric acid, caustic

soda and steam from the lithium carbonate process," Mr Tan said.

"The second largest soda ash supplier is also located within the chemical park.

"In addition, cement plants for waste residue disposal and detergent plants for sodium sulphate disposal, both important factors that drive the economics of a lithium plant carbonate plant, are nearby."

Galaxy recently completed its feasibility study investigating the viability of a value-adding downstream strategy to process the mine's spodumene into battery grade lithium carbonate.

In January, Galaxy announced its intention to proceed with the development of the Mt Cattlin project, incorporating a 1 million tpa mine and concentrator to produce spodumene and tantalum concentrate.

The plant is expected to produce 150,000 tonnes of spodumene and tantalum concentrates over a 15-year mine life.

Galaxy is planning to commence the development and construction of the mineral processing plant later this year, with production scheduled for the third quarter of next year.

Lithium concentrate and lithium carbonate raw materials is used in batteries to power hybrid and electric cars, mobile phones and computers.



Above and below: Galaxy Resources has chosen a site in China for the company's proposed plant

