

## 2024 Highlights

### Los Pelambres' desalination plant

inaugurated in 2024

### Construction of the Los Pelambres' Future Growth Enablers Project

including an expansion of the Company's existing desalination capacity

# 58%

of water extraction was from sea water sources (2023: 60%)

## Water stewardship

GRI 3-3, 303-1, 303-2, 303-3, 303-4, 303-5

**Water is a vital resource for both communities and mining companies. In Chile, evolving environmental conditions have resulted in continental water becoming an increasingly scarce resource.**

Sustainable water management is crucial due to the nature and location of our operations. Three of our four mining operations are in the Atacama Desert, and the fourth, Los Pelambres, is in the drought-affected Choapa Valley.

We have implemented a water efficiency plan with defined goals, including pilot tests and optimising the water balance in our operations. Our Water Management department provides technical advice and planning, with a Water Lead assigned to each mining operation to improve water management and efficiency.

The Water Leads aim to enhance governance and develop internal skills, driving cultural change towards sustainable water management. They deliver monthly water performance reports, strengthening the Group's expertise. We follow the ICMM Water management framework to safeguard water resources for our operations, communities, and the environment.

Each company within Antofagasta Minerals presents water usage performance metrics according to ICMM standards on efficiency, reuse, and recycling. This information is publicly available annually and subject to external audits for accuracy and transparency, as detailed in our 2024 Sustainability Databook, ICMM Water Commitments.

In line with our Water Policy and Water management standard, each company must have a Water efficiency and new technologies implementation plan. This promotes efficient use of water from continental sources, sea water, or other alternatives by analysing water usage indicators and implementing industry best practices. This complements initiatives such as using sea water and thickened tailings technologies.

Our water management is based on three pillars: ore processing, tailings management, and dust suppression.



Los Pelambres' desalination plant

## Water stewardship *continued*

### Year in review

Water extraction in 2024 comprised of sea water (58%), surface water (23%) and groundwater (19%) sources. Of these, 75% were low-quality water and 25% high-quality water, mainly from surface water (rivers and rainfall).

Operational water<sup>1</sup> withdrawals by source, 2020-2024, Mining Division (megalitres)

GRI 303-3

		2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Los Pelambres	<b>Total</b>	<b>59,107<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>38,807</b>	<b>29,350</b>	<b>26,818</b>	<b>27,847</b>
	Sea water	24,536	13,044	0	0	0
	Surface water	23,340	15,188	20,093	15,790	19,481
	Groundwater	11,224	10,568	9,249	11,019	8,358
	Supplied by third parties	7	7	9	9	9
Centinela	<b>Total</b>	<b>29,099</b>	<b>30,520</b>	<b>30,902</b>	<b>29,223</b>	<b>27,178</b>
	Sea water	27,683	28,961	26,762	25,251	23,316
	Groundwater	1,416	1,560	4,140	3,973	3,862
	Supplied by third parties	–	–	–	–	–
Antucoya	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,896</b>	<b>7,081</b>	<b>6,521</b>	<b>6,316</b>	<b>5,923</b>
	Sea water	7,621	6,840	6,299	6,081	5,720
	Groundwater	275	241	221	235	204
Zaldivar	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,548</b>	<b>5,502</b>	<b>5,993</b>	<b>6,653</b>	<b>7,015</b>
	Groundwater	6,548	5,502	5,993	6,653	7,015
Mining Division	<b>Total</b>	<b>102,650<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>81,910</b>	<b>72,766</b>	<b>69,010</b>	<b>67,963</b>
	Sea water	59,840	48,845	33,061	31,332	29,036
	Surface water	23,340	15,188	20,093	15,790	19,481
	Groundwater	19,462	17,871	19,603	21,879	19,438
	Supplied by third parties	7	7	9	9	9
	Sea water as a percentage of total	58%	60%	45%	45%	43%

1. As defined by the ICMM, operational water is the volume of water used in operational tasks. Operational water use is, therefore, the actual volume of water required or used to sustain operational activities.

2. Water withdrawal increased due to quadrupled rainfall in relation to last year, combined with a higher water demand for the ore types processed at Los Pelambres.

 For more information on GRI 303, please see the 2024 Sustainability Databook, ICMM Water Commitments, ICMM Water-MD and ICMM Water – MD Operations sheet.

#### Water consumption in water stressed areas

GRI 303-4, 303-5

	Unit	FY2024	FY2023	FY2022	FY2021	FY2020
Total net freshwater consumption in water-stressed areas (Does not account for precipitation in Los Pelambres)	million cubic metres	30,954	29,690	33,176	35,068	35,145
Data coverage	percentage of: revenue	97.1%	97.1%	97.1%	97.1%	97.1%

### Our water management framework

#### Water Policy

##### Increase water efficiency in our operations

We are committed to progressively reducing water use per tonne of copper produced and seek multiple alternative sources of water supply.

##### Apply robust and transparent water governance

We use consistent industry metrics and widely accepted approaches to report our water management performance.

##### Cooperation for environmentally responsible, sustainable water management

We work with local communities, cooperating in the management of their water needs, contributing to enhanced water security.

#### Water management standard

Defines the minimum requirements that allow Antofagasta Minerals and its mining operations to ensure a safe, economical, efficient and sustainable water supply throughout the entire lifecycle of a site. It covers the exploration, design, operation and closure phases, along with development projects.

#### Water resources procedure

Technical reference document detailing best practices and recommendations.

Provides guidance for compliance with Water Policy commitments and the requirements established in the Water management standard.



## Water stewardship *continued*

Antofagasta Minerals identifies and evaluates environmental components in its areas of influence, including effluent generation and management through its environmental assessment processes. This allows potential impact assessment based on extent, intensity, duration, and reversibility. Environmental impacts for each area are identified, and a monitoring plan is established to ensure compliance with the country's water quality standards<sup>1</sup> for all impacts evaluated as at least moderately significant and for other less- important impacts that require environmental monitoring. The main water consumption during the year was for water retention in tailings, leached spent ore, and evaporation in tailings dams (TSF) and leach pads. In 2024, the primary discharge was rejected water (brine) from the Los Pelambres desalination plant to the sea. Other discharges were from the sea water reverse osmosis (RO) plant at the Centinela Port, which produced wash water for the concentrate.

### Our approach

#### ■ Evolution of the water matrix

Strengthen the strategy to reduce the use of continental water in areas where it is scarce, establishing goals and actions based on the results of climate scenario analyses.

#### ■ Efficiency, recirculation and reuse measures

Enhance efficiency in the use of water and other strategic resources, improving their recirculation, recovery, reuse and protection in the Company's areas of influence.

The implementation of the Water management standard aligns with each company's goals, promoting water efficiency pilots. In 2024, we implemented projects to recover water from tailings at Centinela and Los Pelambres, and to minimise evaporation at Zaldívar and Antucoya.

In 2024, we updated the water management standard and resources procedure, incorporating best practices. We held periodic training sessions for all areas responsible for water resources, covering topics like hydrogeology, isotopy, hydraulic barriers, regulations, and modelling.

At the Group level, we developed a water data platform with a dashboard for updated water balances. This initiative is in its initial stage and will progress with automation improvements, promoting data transparency. We also optimise water balances in all operations using Goldsim software.

### Stakeholder engagement in water management

Aligned with the fifth Pillar of our Climate Change Strategy, Stakeholder Integration, we collaborate to develop impactful water management initiatives and adaptation solutions. We organised the seminar "Water and mining: How we move forward" with the Chair of Water Sustainability of Antofagasta Minerals and the research centres of the Pontificia Universidad Católica, promoting interdisciplinary studies for sustainable water management in mining basins.

In June 2024, unions, authorities and academia met again to address, this time from different perspectives, the important challenge of securing water resources for human consumption. This meeting was organised by a local newspaper (El Día) from the Coquimbo Region, with the sponsorship of CIDERE, Los Pelambres and the Master of business administration programme of the Universidad Católica del Norte.

1. The water quality standards applied in Chile are (i) Supreme Decree 90, which regulates the discharge of liquid waste into marine and continental surface waters, and (ii) Chilean Standard 1333, which establishes water quality requirements for different uses. Some key indicators for evaluating the quality of water discharges include pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and salinity.



Los Pelambres' desalination plant



## Water stewardship *continued*

### Water stewardship progress at company level

In 2024, Los Pelambres inaugurated its newly-constructed desalination plant with a capacity of 400 l/s. With this achievement, we have increased sea water use for the Group, with Centinela and Antucoya already operating with 100% raw sea water. Additionally, we began construction of the Los Pelambres Future Growth Enablers Project, which will double desalination capacity and enable the Company to stop using water from the Choapa River once the plant is fully operational. This marks a milestone as the first mining operation in the central zone to use sea water.

Also, at Los Pelambres, we significantly progressed in pilot plans to increase water efficiency. In May and June, pilot tests were conducted with centrifuge equipment to recover water from the fines generated by hydro cyclones used in the production of sand for the tailings dam wall. The results were positive, with water recovery of over 80%, allowing the initiative to move to a pre-feasibility evaluation stage.

At Centinela, pilot tests with a flocculant are underway to speed up the separation of tailings and water at the tailings dam, improving water recovery. Initial small-scale tests indicate this technology could improve water recovery by up to 20%, and larger-scale tests are planned at the main tailings deposit.

We are progressing in our long-term water solution project at Zaldívar, which includes developing a sea water pumping system (SIAM) or sourcing from authorised third parties, enabling operations beyond June 2028. The SIAM is expected to pump sea water from Caleta del Cobre, located approximately 50 kilometres away, to Zaldívar. In the second half of 2024, we conducted two pilot tests to reduce evaporation in heaps using covers and in ponds using chemical products.

At Antucoya, as part of our Water efficiency plan, we reviewed the water balance and identified improvement opportunities in flow characterisation, installing an evaporimeter in May 2024 to reduce uncertainty in evaporation estimates. In 2024, we also developed an economic feasibility analysis for measures to control evaporation, specifically covering ponds with floating elements.

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