



# Coordinator to help when establishing large plants for green transition of automotive industry

Vehicle manufacturers are currently investing heavily in battery development and production. These plants will create many new jobs but require infrastructure, housing, energy supply, etc. A coordinator will be appointed to help when establishing large plants for the green transition of the automotive industry

Swedish vehicle manufacturers are investing heavily in establishing plants, primarily for battery development and production. Examples of such large plants are the Volvo Car Group's and Northvolt AB's joint gigafactory and battery research and development centre in Gothenburg, Scania AB's battery facility in Södertälje and the Volvo Group's battery factory in Mariestad.

“These investments create thousands of new jobs and are vital to Sweden as a vehicle-manufacturing country. Establishing large plants require a lot from society. The Government will therefore appoint a coordinator tasked with coordinating various initiatives needed to help bring about new plants in the vehicle industry, primarily in battery production,” says Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson.

The investments, which are expected to be of historical magnitude over a limited period, involve complex challenges in matters such as infrastructure, innovation, energy supply, permits, skills supply and access to housing in the relevant municipalities and regions. The coordinator will help create good conditions for realising vehicle manufacturers' key investments when establishing new plants. The coordinator will identify challenges and obstacles, inform relevant actors of these and facilitate cooperation between actors.

The establishment of the vehicle industry's large plants and extensive investments were deciding factors in today's decision. The vehicle industry welcomes the appointment of a coordinator:

“Scania’s goal is to lead the electrification of heavy vehicles, and the billions we have invested in the battery assembly plant in Södertälje – which will be completed next year – is an important part of this. The entire industry faces a massive transition and Swedish battery cell production is crucial. But this requires coordination and close cooperation between policy and the business sector. The Government’s initiative of appointing a national coordinator is therefore incredibly welcome,” says CEO of Scania and TRATON Christian Levin.

“Appointing a national coordinator is both wise and welcome. The Volvo Group wants to accelerate the transition to sustainable transport and infrastructure systems, and battery cell production is an important part of this. Having a coordinator for this growing industry will be helpful in the establishment processes now going on in many places in Sweden,” says CEO and President of the Volvo Group Martin Lundstedt.

The coordinator will be appointed shortly and will continually provide the Government Offices (Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation) with information on how the remit is progressing. The coordinator will submit a final report by 31 December 2024.

Published 16 August 2022



# Sweden bans extraction of coal, oil and natural gas and tightens rules on extraction from alum shale

A ban on extracting coal, oil and natural gas in Sweden will enter into force in Sweden on 1 July this year. It will be an important step in the process of transitioning to a fossil-free society. This was announced by Minister for climate and the environment Annika Strandhäll on World Environment Day, on June 5th.

The Government is giving priority to creating jobs by accelerating the climate transition. Measures against the extraction of substances that are harmful to health and the environment are therefore needed.

“We are tightening environmental legislation by banning the extraction of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas. Breaking the entire chain of fossil dependence, from extraction to use, is crucial for Sweden to continue to be a leader in the climate transition,” says Minister for Climate and the Environment Annika Strandhäll.

“The green and digital transitions will create more jobs and require more metals and minerals. Nevertheless, we must never stray from the environmental legislation. Sweden will also lead the way and ban the extraction of coal, oil and natural gas, and tighten the rules for extraction from alum shale to play our part in the climate transition,” says Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson.

The bill proposes amendments to the Swedish Environmental Code and the Minerals Act. The amendments include a ban on the extraction of coal, lignite, crude oil, shale oil and natural gas in the same way that has been done with uranium, as well as tighter rules for extraction from alum shale. The legislative amendments will enter into force on 1 July 2022.

Published 08 June 2022



# Authorisation to convert the Swedish government's state hybrid and loan facilities in SAS

SAS has announced that the company would like to convert debt corresponding to approximately SEK 20 billion into equity in the company. Against that background, the Swedish government has proposed in an additional amending budget that will be adopted today that the Riksdag authorises the Swedish government to convert the Swedish government's existing state hybrid and the Swedish government's outstanding loan facilities to shares in SAS. The measures require approval by the Riksdag and the European Commission.

SAS, like the aviation industry in general, has been seriously affected by the protracted pandemic. The reduced travel due to the extensive spread of the covid-19 disease in combination with increased competition has led to a significantly deteriorated financial situation for SAS. As a result, the company has launched a plan for refinancing and restructuring. In order to act responsibly in the Swedish government's role as a shareholder, the Swedish government proposes that the Riksdag authorises the Swedish government to convert, in whole or in part, the Swedish government's outstanding claims consisting of the Swedish government's part of the existing state hybrid in SAS AB (publ) of SEK 2.5 billion (plus accrued interest), and the Swedish government's outstanding loan facilities to the consortium Scandinavian Airlines System Denmark – Norway – Sweden of SEK 1.5 billion to new shares in SAS.

The measures proposed by the Swedish government require approval by the European Commission. The proposition requires approval by the Riksdag.

The government intends to revert with further details.

Published 07 June 2022



# Sweden and UK strengthen cooperation in life sciences

Today, Minister for Education Anna Ekström is meeting the UK's Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, George Freeman, and Minister for Technology, Innovation and Life Sciences, Lord Kamall. In connection with their meeting in London, they will sign a memorandum of understanding in the area of life sciences. The memorandum builds on a long tradition of Swedish-UK cooperation and is intended to promote joint progress on policy development, technical standards, industry engagement, research, development and implementation of new technologies and treatments.

Two years ago, the Government launched a national life sciences strategy. The goal of deeper cooperation with the UK is mentioned in the strategy.

“Research in the field of health and medicine is one of Sweden's strengths. The UK is a world leader in that area, and has long been an important partner for Sweden. The memorandum we are signing today secures long-term cooperation, which I know many Swedish researchers and companies want to see,” says Minister for Education Anna Ekström.

The aim of the memorandum of understanding is to support the development of a common dynamic, effective and attractive life sciences ecosystem that encourages development and innovation for modern and equitable care in both countries and also globally.

“The UK and Sweden are leaders in innovation and research. Clinical research has been vital in our fight against Covid and is essential in saving thousands of lives. The UK's innovation is testament to our ability to rapidly

create vaccines and identify life-saving treatments like dexamethasone. This MOU will enable us to collaboratively build on our joint strengths in innovation and we look forward to working with our colleagues in Sweden on progressing our joint work in this area,” says Minister for Innovation, Lord Kamall.

This cooperation will proceed from both countries’ current strengths and common priorities, which include early diagnosis, clinical trials, antimicrobial resistance and pandemic preparedness.

“The life sciences sector is one of the most important in both Sweden and the UK, and there’s a long tradition of cooperation. The Government has invested in life sciences for the long term in the last two electoral periods, and this has produced results. Deeper cooperation with the UK is of huge strategic importance if we are to further develop the Swedish life sciences sector,” says Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson.

“Both Sweden and the UK are home to world-leading life science sectors from Anglo-Swedish AstraZeneca to hundreds of small high growth companies so I am thrilled that our countries have been able to sign this MOU to work together on cutting edge research, business and policy that will benefit health outcomes both at home and across the globe,” says Science Minister George Freeman.

Published 27 May 2022





# Government grants exploitation concession for Kallak K no 1

The Government has decided to grant Swedish registered company Jokkmokk Iron Mines AB an exploitation concession for Kallak K no 1. The Government has set extensive and unique conditions that the company must comply with in order to prevent disruptions to reindeer husbandry. Compliance with these conditions is a prerequisite for the exploitation concession and for any future permits.

The applicant company Jokkmokk Iron Mines AB submitted an application to the Mining Inspectorate of Sweden on 25 April 2013 for an exploitation concession for Kallak K no 1 in Jokkmokk Municipality. The subsequent administrative matter was received by the Government Offices, which has been processing it since 2017. The Geological Survey of Sweden has been aware of the deposit since the mid-1900s, and it is classified as Sweden's largest known intact quartz-banded iron ore deposit and contains high quality iron ore. There are at present only a few known iron ore deposits left in Sweden that can be classed as economically viable.

An exploitation concession decision mainly determines who has the right to extract the minerals located in the area. The Government has also determined the issue of national interest in the area, which was remitted to the Government by the Chief Mining Inspector.

A concession decision must be accompanied by any conditions that are necessary to protect public interests. The conditions set in this matter are extensive and unique, and must be strictly complied with by the company. They are intended to counteract as far as possible any negative impact on reindeer husbandry.

The company's application covers areas for mining and areas for

installations necessary for operating a mine. The Government considers that the application meets the legal requirements and that it has therefore not been necessary for the company to further supplement or expand its application.

The Government considers that the points made concerning national interests regarding both reindeer husbandry and precious minerals were correct. Reindeer husbandry is an important part of the Sami cultural heritage and is an economic activity. The State has an overall responsibility for ensuring that reindeer husbandry can continue to be part of a thriving Sami culture. This is why the Government is also setting unique and extensive conditions:

1. As regards precautions, protective measures and compensatory measures, the company must use the land in accordance with what is specified in the application, including annexes and supplements, as well as the other commitments made by the company in this matter, in addition to that which is specified in the decision.
2. Construction work resulting from use of the concession must be done during periods when it has the least possible negative impact on ongoing reindeer husbandry in the surrounding areas.
3. The concession area must use as little land as possible. As far as possible, impact on reindeer migration routes must be avoided. When using the concession, the company must otherwise ensure the least possible negative impact when migration routes and grazing areas adjacent to the concession are in use.
4. When using the concession, the additional costs to the Jåhkågasska Tjiellde reindeer herding community resulting from impacts on their ability to use reindeer migration routes and grazing areas must be reimbursed. Compensation will be determined and any disputes concerning compensation examined based on the provisions of the Minerals Act.
5. If, despite the measures to enable reindeer migration, the Jåhkågasska Tjiellde reindeer herding community needs to use a lorry to transport their reindeer past the concession area, the company must pay for such transport.
6. The company must set up protective fences, dykes or other installations to minimise the risk of accidents involving reindeer in the concession area. The installations must be designed to allow safe crossings for reindeer through or past the concession area.
7. Each year, the company must prepare a report of the consequences that use of the concession has for reindeer husbandry and present this to the

Chief Mining Inspector, the Sami Parliament and the Norrbotten County Administrative Board.

8. The company must regularly consult with the Jåhkågasska Tjiellde, Sirges and Tuorpon reindeer herding communities in order to assess the need for measures and resources to ensure compliance with conditions 1–7, and to otherwise prevent disruptions to reindeer husbandry. Such consultations must be conducted with a view of reaching agreement with the Sami reindeer herding communities and must be documented. The company must present an annual report of the consultations conducted to the Sami Parliament, the Norrbotten County Administrative Board and the Chief Mining Inspector. Following the consultations, the Chief Mining Inspector must determine whether there is any need to change the conditions under Chapter 6, Section 4 of the Minerals Act.
9. When using the concession, the company must engage in dialogue with the Swedish National Heritage Board and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that necessary account is taken of Lapponia's status as a World Heritage Site.
10. When operations have been completed, the company must ensure that the concession area is restored so that the land can again be used for reindeer husbandry. A post-treatment plan must be drawn up in consultation with the relevant reindeer herding communities at an early stage of the mining operations and updated regularly.
11. The company must deposit a financial guarantee of SEK 1 000 000 with the Chief Mining Inspector. The guarantee must be deposited no later than when notifying commencement of mining operations under Section 57 of the Minerals Ordinance (1992:285).
12. Should the applicant intend to use the concession to apply for a permit under the Swedish Environmental Code for mining activities in the concession area, this application must include an in-depth impact assessment carried out in accordance with the principles of the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and that has previously been sent to the World Heritage Centre of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Now that the exploitation concession has been granted, the company must apply for an environmental permit from the Land and Environment Court. Following that, examinations under the Planning and Building Act, land allocation under the Minerals Act, and other permits, for example under the Roads Act, must still be sought before a mine can be opened.



# Government proposes a ban on extraction of coal, oil and natural gas and stricter rules on extraction of alum shale

In the proposal referred to the Council on Legislation for consideration, the Government proposes amendments to the Swedish Environmental Code and the Mineral Act that entail a ban on the extraction of coal, lignite, crude oil, shale oil and natural gas similar to the ban on uranium extraction. The Government also presents proposals aimed at tightening regulatory framework for the extraction of alum shale.

Creating the green jobs of the future by driving the climate transition is among the Government's priority issues. Implementation of the climate policy framework involves taking measures against the extraction of substances that have negative health and environmental impacts. Against this background, the Government now proposes amendments to the Environmental Code and the Minerals Act.

“The green and digital transitions will create more jobs and require more metals and minerals. Nevertheless, Sweden must never stray from the environmental legislation. We will also lead the way and ban the extraction of coal, oil and gas, and tighten the regulatory framework for extraction of alum shale to play our part in the climate transition,” says Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson.

Amendments to the Environmental Code mean that permits will no longer be granted for mining or extraction operations for the extraction of coal, lignite, crude oil, shale oil or natural gas. The ban also applies to the extraction or recycling of these substances from residual products from mining activities.

Exemptions will be made for indirect extraction and geological storage of less than 100 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide for research purposes.

A suitability requirement will also be introduced for those who apply for exploitation concessions for the extraction of concession minerals in alum shale, along with a new notification requirement in cases where exploitation may cause significant damage to agriculture or forestry.

Coal, oil and gaseous hydrocarbons will be removed from the list of concession minerals covered by the Minerals Act. The Minerals Act will also be amended to no longer allow a concession holder to benefit from coal, lignite, crude oil, shale oil or natural gas extracted in connection with extraction of concession minerals.

It is proposed that the legislative amendments enter into force on 1 July 2022.

Published 03 March 2022



Government Offices of Sweden

# Swedish Office of Science and Innovation in London to enhance Swedish-British collaboration

Sweden's seventh international Office of Science and Innovation was established at the Embassy of Sweden in London on 1 January 2022. The Office will develop and strengthen collaboration between the UK and Sweden on issues linked to the Government's life sciences strategy, its export and investment strategy, the Research and Innovation Bill, and the Government's strategic partnership programmes.

“The London Office is an important and strategic initiative for a country like Sweden where export and innovation issues are of vital importance. Establishing the Office is an effective way to meet the objectives of Sweden's life sciences strategy and is completely in line with efforts to help the Government's partnership programmes achieve an international impact,” says Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson.

To maintain Sweden's strong international position as an innovation and knowledge leader, it is important to develop collaborations with world-leading innovation and research countries. Sweden has already established Offices of Science and Innovation at its embassies in Brasilia, New Delhi, Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo and Washington DC.

“The new Office of Science and Innovation in the UK will help increase the international visibility of Swedish higher education institutions. This is important to maintain a high level of quality in research and strengthen Sweden as a research nation,” says Minister for Education Anna Ekström.

The UK is a priority country for Sweden and an important partner in areas

such as innovation and research, as well as a close ally on many trade policy issues.

“We are in the midst of a climate-driven green industrial transition, and the UK is a strategically important partner in these efforts. The establishment of the London Office allows us to strengthen our relations and pursue more ambitious climate efforts,” says Minister for Climate and the Environment Annika Strandhäll.

Published 05 January 2022



Government Offices of Sweden

# Change of government, 30 November 2021

Today in the Riksdag, Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson announced the ministers who will serve in the Government. The change of government takes place at a Council of State at the Royal Palace presided over by His Majesty the King. The Council of State begins at 13.00.

**Sweden's new Government consists of the Prime Minister and 22 ministers.**

## **Prime Minister's Office**

Magdalena Andersson, Prime Minister

Hans Dahlgren, Minister for EU Affairs

## **Ministry of Employment**

Eva Nordmark, Minister for Employment and Gender Equality

Johan Danielsson, Minister for Housing and Deputy Minister for Employment

## **Ministry of Finance**

Mikael Damberg, Minister for Finance

Max Elger, Minister for Financial Markets

Ida Karkiainen, Minister for Public Administration

## **Ministry of Defence**

Peter Hultqvist, Minister for Defence



**Ministry of Infrastructure**

Tomas Eneroth, Minister for Infrastructure

Khashayar Farmanbar, Minister for Energy and Digital Development

**Ministry of Justice**

Morgan Johansson, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs

Anders Ygeman, Minister for Integration and Migration

**Ministry of Culture**

Jeanette Gustafsdotter, Minister for Culture

**Ministry of the Environment**

Annika Strandhäll, Minister for Climate and the Environment

**Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation**

Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation

Anna-Caren Säterberg, Minister for Rural Affairs

**Ministry of Health and Social Affairs**

Lena Hallengren, Minister for Health and Social Affairs

Ardalan Shekarabi, Minister for Social Security

**Ministry of Education and Research**

Anna Ekström, Minister for Education

Lina Axelsson Kihlblom, Minister for Schools

**Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Anna Hallberg, Minister for Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs

Matilda Ernkrans, Minister for International Development Cooperation

---

**Press contacts:**

Linda Romanus, Press Secretary to Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson

Tel: +46 73 543 61 59

Johan Ekström, Press Secretary to Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson

Tel: +46 73 086 32 01

---

Tove Kullenberg, Press Secretary to Minister for EU Affairs Hans Dahlgren

Tel: +46 73 842 50 59

---

Nadja Yusuf, Press Secretary to Minister for Employment and Gender  
Equality Eva Nordmark

Tel: +46 73 085 00 49

---

Fredrik Persson, Press Secretary to Minister for Housing and Deputy  
Minister for Employment Johan Danielsson

Tel: +46 73 072 81 36

---

Mirjam Kontio, Press Secretary to Minister for Finance Mikael Damberg

Tel: +46 73 074 05 57

---

Simon Sätherberg, Press Secretary to Minister for Financial Markets Max  
Elger

Tel: +46 73 086 23 07

---

Mikael Lindström, Press Secretary to Minister for Public Administration Ida  
Karkiainen

Tel: +46 73 078 52 60

---

Toni Eriksson, Press Secretary to Minister for Defence Peter Hultqvist

Tel: +46 73 072 83 16

---

Jennie Zetterström, Press Secretary to Minister for Infrastructure Tomas Eneroth

Tel: +46 73 053 92 70

---

Sofia Brändström, Press Secretary to Minister for Energy and Digital Development Khashayar Farmanbar

Tel: +46 73 065 16 12

---

Sofie Rudh, Press Secretary to Minister for Justice and Home Affairs Morgan Johansson

Tel: +46 72 545 74 21

---

Per Strängberg, Press Secretary to Minister for Integration and Migration Anders Ygeman

Tel: +46 73 093 90 56

---

Tora Heckscher, Press Secretary to Minister for Culture Jeanette Gustafsdotter

Tel: +46 73 093 50 83

---

Håkan Gestrin, Press Secretary to Minister for Climate and the Environment Annika Strandhäll

Tel: +46 73 038 20 42

---

Kajsa Loord, Press Secretary to Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson

Tel: +46 73 075 97 31

---

Max Ney, Press Secretary to Minister for Rural Affairs Anna-Caren Säterberg

Tel: +46 73 094 25 40

---

Elin Aarflot, Press Secretary to Minister for Health and Social Affairs Lena Hallengren

Tel: +46 73 274 23 53

---

Hanna Kretz, Press Secretary to Minister for Social Security Ardalan Shekarabi

Tel: +46 73 064 96 04

---

Anja Lindberg Sundberg, Press Secretary to Minister for Education Anna Ekström

Tel: +46 76 116 77 45

---

Maria Soläng, Press Secretary to Minister for Schools Lina Axelsson Kihlblom

Tel: +46 72 206 19 47

---

Andreas Enbuske, Press Secretary to Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde

Tel: +46 76 130 58 86

---

Vidar Jakobinson Lindgren, Acting Press Secretary to Minister for Foreign Trade and Nordic Affairs Anna Hallberg

Tel: +46 73 840 33 12

---

Darina Agha, Press Secretary to Minister for International Development  
Cooperation Matilda Ernkrans

Tel: +46 73 592 85 48

---

Published 30 November 2021