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New Thoughts of Comprehensive Development and Utilization of Salt Lake Resources in Qinghai Province

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Qinghai Province has unique salt lake resources in China characterized by multicomponent,

big storage, multi types and easy exploitation. These salt lake resources are concentrated in Qaidam Basin. Through years' work their development and utilization have been conducted in a way of multiple and intensive exploitation instead of pure salt mining and potassium extraction, as was the case in the past. Now the resources there have become a large potash base and ensured the supply of potash in China. With the potash exploitation, the multiple utilization of other valuable resources such as the by-products sodium, magnesium, lithium, boron and strontium, etc. has been strengthened increasingly. However, in spite of the achievements in the comprehensive exploitation of the resources, we are facing problems such as of extensive development, comparatively low multiple utilization level, and insufficient technology support ability, etc.

According to the request of "balancing mining, multiple utilization and extending the industrial chain", we should

make efforts to extend development of highly processed products of potassium, sodium, magnesium, lithium, boron and strontium, focus on creating industrial chain of salt lake chemical deep processing, and fully upgrade the level of salt lake resources comprehensive exploitation. The work is to be done with the salt lake chemical industry as the core, supported by oil and gas chemical industry, coal comprehensive utilization, metallurgy, and new energy and materials, aiming at forming industrial network and cluster, and building circular economy industrial system. Also we ought to optimize the allocation of resources with the neighboring provinces, and even the whole nation, in order to form a new pattern of salt lake resources comprehensive exploitation, in which Qinghai Province serves as the core, and, in radiating form, it will promote the development of the neighboring regions.

Key words: exploitation, balancing mining, industrial chain, allocation of resources, salt lakes in Qinghai Province

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