

BOLIVIA

Contract for research center signed with Russia

Under a contract concluded with Russia on September 19, Bolivia is set to have the highest-altitude nuclear research center ever built. The site, which is 4,000 meters above sea level in the city of El Alto, was surveyed under a preliminary contract signed with Rosatom, Russia's state atomic energy corporation, in August 2016, and was found suitable for the project.

The contract to construct a nuclear research and technology center was signed by Hortensia Jiménez Rivera, chief executive officer of the Bolivian Atomic Energy Agency, and Vyacheslav Galushkov, CEO of Russia's State Institute of Engineering Design, part of the Rosatom group. The center will have a 200-kW Russian-designed research reactor with a multipurpose gamma irradiation unit, a cyclotron complex for radiopharmaceutical purposes, several research laboratories, and an engineering department. The center will apply radiation technologies in agriculture, medicine, industry, and other areas.

In addition to constructing the center, Rosatom will provide an integrated



Photo: Rosatom

A contract to construct a nuclear research center in Bolivia was signed by Hortensia Jiménez Rivera, CEO of the Bolivian Atomic Energy Agency, and Vyacheslav Galushkov, CEO of Russia's State Institute of Engineering Design, on the sidelines of the 61st IAEA General Conference, held in Vienna in September, in the presence of Bolivia's deputy energy minister, Luis Alberto Echazú (standing at left), and Rosatom CEO Alexey Likhachev.

package of support that includes training for research and engineering staff, infrastructure development, and maintenance services for the entire 50-year design life of the center. Rosatom will also support Bolivia in scientific research.

"The project will make Bolivia a local leader in nuclear research," said Alexey Likhachev, CEO of Rosatom. "On-site

work will begin very soon in cooperation with our Bolivian colleagues."

According to Rosatom, this contract also strengthens its own position in the nonenergy nuclear market, which the company said has recently been exhibiting fast-paced growth. Rosatom has built over 120 research reactors, both in and outside Russia.





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