

# Biden's team puts up over \$3 billion to boost US battery output

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US president Joe Biden. (Image by Gage Skidmore, [Flickr](#))

The Biden administration will spend more than \$3 billion to support the domestic manufacturing of advanced batteries used in electric vehicles and energy storage, officials said Monday.

About \$3.16 billion in grants will be made available to produce key battery metals such as lithium, cobalt and nickel, said Dave Howell, principal deputy director in the Energy Department's Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains.

## SIGN UP FOR THE BATTERY METALS DIGEST

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Encouraging the domestic production of battery minerals has been a priority for the Biden administration as it seeks to electrify half of all new U.S. cars by 2030. But surging commodity prices and supply chain snarls remain a challenge. Earlier this Spring the White House [invoked](#) the Defense Production Act to spur output of lithium, nickel, graphite, cobalt and manganese.

"Positioning the United States front and center in meeting the growing demand for advanced batteries is how we boost our competitiveness and electrify our transportation system," Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm said in a statement.

The grants will fund new, retrofitted or expanded processing facilities, as well as manufacturing demonstrations and battery recycling, the Energy Department said. A separate \$60 million program for battery recycling is also being made available, the agency said.

The money comes from the \$550 billion infrastructure bill signed into law last year, which earmarked \$7 billion for batteries and the creation of a U.S. supply chain to produce them.

“This will help to underwrite that private investment we need in the United States to build a reliable industrial capacity and, for the first time, have a domestic end-to-end supply chain in electric vehicles and electric vehicle battery production,” National Economic Council Director Brian Deese told reporters on a call Monday.

*(By Ari Natter and Jenny Leonard)*

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Staff Writer | May 3, 2022 | 5:05 am