AZERBAIJAN BEGINS MINING IN GOLD RESERVES FORMERLY CONTROLLED BY ARMENIA

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Rafig Shahbazov

Azerbaijans state-owned mining company AzerGold has begun drilling and blasting at the Soyudlu (Zod) gold deposit in the Kalbajar District, on the border with Armenia.

The project has a complicated legal and political history. The site was under Armenian control until the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War in 2020, after which it was handed back to Azerbaijan.

According to RFE/RL, the deposit was discovered in 1951 on the border between Azerbaijans Kalbajar District and Armenias Gegharkunik Province. It has been reported that the majority of the deposit 75% of its gold reserves, or 17 of its 25 gold-bearing shafts was located on Azerbaijani territory.

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