



CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

JULY 2025

- When will the lithium price rise again? Rio Tinto boss has an idea
- China snaps up mines around the world in rush to secure resources
- Why China dominates clean energy, despite U.S. inventing the technology

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Newsletter



July 2025

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Critical Minerals Association Australia monthly newsletter & updates on the critical minerals space.

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- CMA Australia networking reception, Perth: 4 September
- CMA Australia at Space Industry Association Forum

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

- PLS chief, Dale Henderson, urges PM to prioritise spend on lithium infrastructure, not \$1.2b stockpile
- Advancing critical minerals research to lead global energy transition
- Billion-dollar Kathleen Valley lithium mine officially opens in WA amid low prices
- ASM makes first heavy rare earth sale
- WA lithium refinery on death row after full impairment
- Employment trends in Critical Minerals and Strategic Materials
- Lynas bolstered by rare earths deal and record production
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- China's grip on critical minerals revives supply fears at Quad meeting
- EU prepares to stockpile critical minerals in case of war: FT
- US moves decisively to avoid dependence on China's rare earths
- Impacts of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on the Mining Sector
- The Critical Minerals Report (7.25.2025): White House Increase Spending for 'Mineral Independence' while Bezos and Gates Score Lithium in the DRC
- Tax Incentive bill introduced for critical minerals production-USA
- US prioritises recovery of critical minerals from mine waste
- Department of Defence Awards \$6.2 Million to Sustain Critical Production of Tungsten
- China puts new restrictions on EV battery technology
- Zambia's first critical minerals guide supports the country's potential in global clean energy transition
- Better late than never....

BIG PICTURE THINKING

- Antimony surge catches market off guard
- How Trump wants the US to cash in on mineral-rich DR Congo's peace deal
- Bypassing China's critical minerals export ban: US buyers re-routing shipments via Mexico, Thailand
- Shaping the Quad critical minerals initiative: Secure supply chains vital for the clean energy transition
- China snaps up mines around the world in rush to secure resources
- Why China dominates clean energy, despite U.S. inventing the technology
- The U.S. Critical Minerals Dilemma: What to Know

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025

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Critical Minerals Association Australia



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CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

CMA Australia at IMARC, Sydney

For the fourth year in the row, CMA Australia is proud to partner with **IMARC 2025**. We are pleased to extend a special offer to you - use code NDW77J for an exclusive 15% discount on Delegate Passes, or use code JBDDG7 to register for a FREE Expo Pass. Secure your place [here](#).



CMA Australia networking reception, Perth: 4 September

CMA Australia is delighted to be hosting a networking reception with **SRK** in Perth on Thursday 4 September. If you are a critical minerals industry professional and would like to join us for an engaging evening of conversation, discussion and networking - please get in touch [here](#).



CMA Australia at Space Industry Association Forum

Thank you to **Dr Mark Bowman** of **GHD** for representing CMA Australia at the Space Industry Association of Australia Policy and Strategy Forum in Canberra on 29 July. With opening remarks from the Hon Dr Andrew Charlton MP, Cabinet Secretary, Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy, the forum highlighted the rapid growth in the Space Industry with opportunities for advanced manufacturing and R&D with a skilled workforce and business opportunities.

Read more....



AUSTRALIAN NEWS

PLS chief Dale Henderson urges PM to prioritise spend on lithium infrastructure, not \$1.2b stockpile

Read More *(subscription required)*

The West Australian | 30 July 2025

Advancing critical minerals research to lead global energy transition

Researchers at UWA have stepped up to meet the global energy transition challenge, with the launch of an innovative new research centre, the ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre in Critical Resources for the Future (ITTC).

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The University of Western Australia | 11 July 2025

Photo source: ABC News



Billion-dollar Kathleen Valley lithium mine officially opens in WA amid low prices

The Kathleen Valley mine, 700km north-east of Perth, was officially opened by federal Resources Minister Madeleine King and WA Mines Minister David Michael on Thursday. Employing about 450 workers, the mine supplies lithium to two of the world's biggest electric car manufacturers, Elon Musk's Tesla and Ford Motor Company, and South Korean battery giant LG.

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ABC News | 10 July 2025

ASM makes first heavy rare earth sale

Australian Strategic Materials (ASM) has entered the commercial heavy rare earth market, making its first sale of heavy rare earth metals from its Korean metals plant.

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Australian Mining | 15 July 2025



AUSTRALIAN NEWS...

WA lithium refinery on death row after full impairment

Lithium producer IGO has fully impaired its stake in the Kwinana lithium hydroxide refinery, with managing director Ivan Vella saying there is little hope the asset will ever thrive.

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Financial Review | 30 July 2025

Employment trends in Critical Minerals and Strategic Materials

This month, the Research Bulletin covers:

- Australia's global competitiveness in critical minerals and strategic materials
- Employment trends in critical minerals and strategic materials
- Projected employment in critical minerals and strategic materials projects

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AUSMASA Mining Research Bulletin | July 2025

Photo source: Australian Mining



Lynas bolstered by rare earths deal and record production

Lynas Rare Earths and JS Link will work together to advance a sustainable rare earth permanent magnet supply chain in Malaysia.

Under the terms of a new non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU), both parties will develop a 3000-tonne capacity manufacturing facility for neodymium iron boron (NdFeB) production.

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Australian Mining | 24 July 2025

When will the lithium price rise again? Rio Tinto boss has an idea

"What matters for us is what is the lithium price five years from now. All the fundamentals are telling us that our bet into lithium is exactly rightly timed and will develop into an amazing business in years to come," he said. Look at the fundamentals, the demand is there, the energy transition is happening. But not next quarter, we are talking three or five years down the road."

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Switzer Daily | 31 July 2025



Photo source: Shutterstock

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

China's grip on critical minerals revives supply fears at Quad meeting

Foreign Minister Penny Wong says Australia will work with the United States and other Quad partners to secure critical minerals, even as the Trump administration appears to snub Canberra's supply offer as part of tariff negotiations, in favour of dealing with China.

[Read More](#)

Financial Review | 2 July 2025

EU prepares to stockpile critical minerals in case of war: FT

Foreign Minister Penny Wong says Australia will work with the United States and other Quad partners to secure critical minerals, even as the Trump administration appears to snub Canberra's supply offer as part of tariff negotiations, in favour of dealing with China.

[Read More](#)

Mining.com | 6 July 2025

US moves decisively to avoid dependence on China's rare earths

The Pentagon's package of support for rare earths company MP Minerals, announced on 10 July, should free the US military and eventually much of US industry from dependence on Chinese supply chains for rare earth magnets.

[Read More](#)

The Strategist | 22 July 2025

Impacts of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on the Mining Sector

On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed H.R.1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), into law. The sweeping legislation enacts major changes across tax and fiscal policy, social safety-net and healthcare programs, and immigration and border enforcement.

[Read More](#)

CSIS | 9 July 2025

The Critical Minerals Report (7.25.2025): White House Increase Spending for "Mineral Independence" while Bezos and Gates Score Lithium in the DRC

The Trump administration sharpened its focus on critical minerals this week, rolling out measures to extract metals from mine waste and adding a mining expert to its national security ranks.

[Read More](#)

Investor News | 25 July 2025

Tax incentive bill introduced for critical minerals production-USA

(KLZA)-- Representatives Adrian Smith (R-NE), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), and Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA) announced the introduction of the bipartisan Critical Minerals Investment Tax Modernization Act. The legislation would expand tax relief to support production of certain critical minerals important to national and economic security.

[Read More](#)

MSN News | 29 July 2025

INTERNATIONAL NEWS...

US prioritizes recovery of critical minerals from mine waste

The U.S. Interior Department on Thursday took steps to increase recovery of critical minerals, used in everything from electric vehicles to high-tech weapons, from mine waste, coal refuse, tailings and abandoned uranium mines.

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Reuters | 25 July 2025

Department of Defence Awards \$6.2 Million to Sustain Critical Production of Tungsten

The Department of Defense announced today a \$6.2 million award to Golden Metal Resources via Title III of the Defense Production Act (DPA). Golden Metal Resources is the wholly owned operating subsidiary of publicly-traded Guardian Metal Resources PLC.

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Defense.com | 22 July 2025

China puts new restrictions on EV battery technology

China has placed new export restrictions on technologies critical for producing EV batteries. The move is probably to consolidate its dominance in the sector.

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NZ Autocar Magazine | 20 July 2025

Apple takes REE bite with US\$500M MP deal

Apple has announced a US\$500 million partnership with MP Materials, which operates the Mountaintop Pass mine in California.

Read More (subscription required)

Mining Magazine | 15 July 2025

Zambia's first critical minerals guide supports the country's potential in global clean energy transition

A new guide to Zambia's critical minerals highlighting the country's current and potential critical mineral resources, including cobalt and lithium, was launched this week in Lusaka. 'Critical minerals potential of Zambia', now available to read online.

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British Geological Survey | 18 July 2025



BIG PICTURE THINKING

How Trump wants the US to cash in on mineral-rich DR Congo's peace deal

The Trump administration is spearheading an ambitious, but controversial, peace initiative aimed at ending the long-running conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo that has also drawn in neighbouring Rwanda.

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Reuters | 28 July 2025



Photo source: BBC News

Bypassing China's critical minerals export ban: US buyers re-routing shipments via Mexico, Thailand..

A sharp rise in US-bound shipments of antimony from Thailand and Mexico has reportedly emerged since China imposed export curbs last year, highlighting how global supply chains are being re-routed to work around geopolitical restrictions.

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MSN | 18 July 2025

Antimony surge catches market off guard

The squeeze in antimony continued in the second quarter of 2025, but the extent of the anticipated demand and ever-widening supply-demand gap are still not very well understood by the investment market...

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Mining | 4 July 2025

Why China dominates clean energy, despite U.S. inventing the technology

Read More (subscription required)

Washington Post | 27 June 2025

China snaps up mines around the world in rush to secure resources

Chinese mining acquisitions overseas have hit their highest level in more than a decade as companies race to secure the raw materials that underpin the global economy in the face of mounting geopolitical tension.

Read More (subscription required)

Financial Review | 6 July 2025

BIG PICTURE THINKING...



Photo source: Shutterstock

Shaping the Quad critical minerals initiative: Secure supply chains vital for the clean energy transition

Quad countries should build regional refining and processing capacity through shared financing platforms, offtake agreements, and public-private partnerships to overcome structural reliance and vulnerabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.

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leefa.org | 28 July 2025

The U.S. Critical Minerals Dilemma: What to Know

Critical minerals play an essential role in security and technological competitiveness, but the United States relies heavily on imports from China and other foreign sources. The Trump administration is trying to change that.

In 2022, the U.S. government identified fifty minerals considered critical to the U.S. economy and national security. These minerals, such as cobalt and lithium, play essential roles in a variety of industries, including energy, defense, health care, and transportation. Yet despite their strategic importance, the United States remains heavily dependent on foreign imports for the majority of them

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Cfr.org | 30 July 2025



Photo source: Shutterstock

Calendar of events 2025

Do you know of an upcoming event that's not listed?
Email: admin@cmaustralia.org

JULY 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	S	M	T	W	T	F
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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AUGUST 2025

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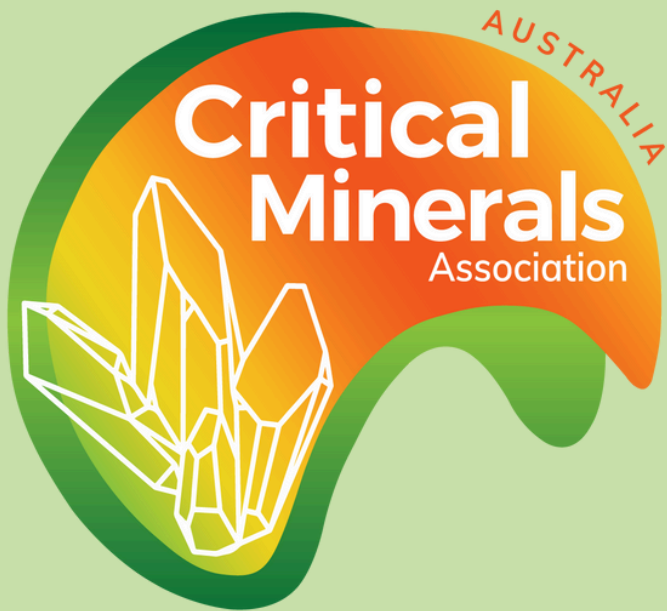
SEPTEMBER 2025

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OCTOBER 2025

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27	28	29	30	31		

	DATE(S)	EVENT	HOSTS/PARTNERS	LOCATION
JUL	1-2 JUL	<u>Future of Mining</u>	Aspermont	Perth, Australia
	16 JUL	<u>Transitioning Australia-Japan Energy Partnership</u>	Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee	Melbourne, Australia
	23-25 JUL	<u>Noosa Mining Investor Conference</u>	AMETS	Noosa, Australia
	30 JUL	<u>Mine Waste & Tailings Conference 2025</u>	AusIMM	Brisbane, Australia
AUG	4-6 AUG	<u>Diggers & Dealers Mining Forum</u>	Diggers and Dealers	Kalgoorlie, Australia
SEP	2-4 SEP	<u>AusIMM Critical Minerals Conference 202</u>	AusIMM	Perth, Australia
OCT	21-23 OCT	<u>IMARC 2025</u>	IMARC	Sydney, Australia
DEC	2-4 DEC	<u>Resourcing Tomorrow</u>	Mines and Money	London, UK



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