



# CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

## MAY 2023

- Budget includes money for critical minerals but still no strategy
- 'Graphite is the next lithium'
- Indonesia emerges as a cobalt powerhouse amid surge in demand

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Newsletter



May 2023

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

## CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

- Spotlight on our Founding Members: FYI Resources Limited
- CMA Australia updates
  - CMA Australia ESG Webinar
  - World Mining Congress

## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

- Budget includes money for critical minerals but still no strategy
- 'Significant handicap' for critical minerals amid budget neglect
- Labor, union at loggerheads on critical minerals
- Gov't welcomes investment in WA critical minerals processing
- Time to challenge China's dominance in critical minerals race
- New Neometals metrics to drive Barramie development
- Koreans pour doubt on Albanese's domestic manufacturing dream
- Rio Tinto acquires critical minerals in NSW with Allens' advice
- Lithium to overtake fossil fuels as WA's second-most valuable resource, WA budget reveals
- Venture reaches for lithium, copper future in \$4.5m deal
- Startups urge Australia to ditch 'risk-averse' approach to lithium battery investment
- Lithium producers Alkem, Livent to combine in \$10.6 billion deal
- Iron ore drilling reveals nickel sulphides for Macarthur
- Group 6 Metals raises funds to begin operations at Tasmania tungsten mine
- Dubbo digger says foreign buyers want rare earths processed offshore
- Surefire Resources commissions metallurgical testwork on Victory Bore vanadium samples
- Global vanadium battery market 2023 projected to deliver greater revenues during the forecast period 2030
- Queensland's critical minerals strategy supports development of QEM's Julia Creek vanadium project

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NEWS

- Atlas brings muscle to Australia's clean energy future

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Brazil seeks investor-friendly approach to lithium in bid to tap EV boom
- Chilalo: The development-ready, standout graphite project in Tanzania
- Glencore to build Europe's largest battery recycling plant
- Indonesia emerges as a cobalt powerhouse amid surge in demand
- First ever IEA critical minerals and clean energy summit to take place on 28 September
- Southern Hemisphere hits major manganese milestone in Chile
- US to speed up South32 Hermosa manganese-zinc project review

## BIG PICTURE THINKING

- Pro take: Can nickel, cobalt and other battery metals be sourced sustainably?
- 'Graphite is the next lithium'
- The role of critical minerals in clean energy transitions

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023



Critical Minerals  
Association Australia



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www.cmaaustralia.org

# CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

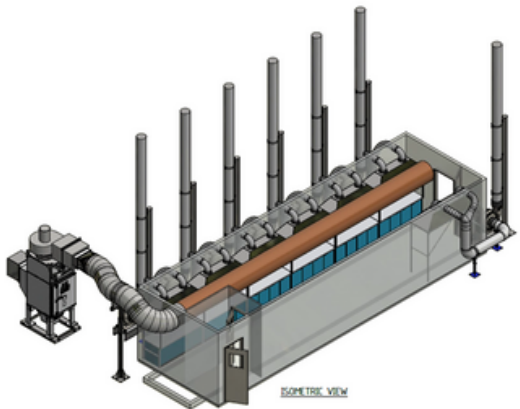
## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS

### FYI Resources Limited

FYI Resources Limited (FYI) is an ASX-listed resources company with a focus on the exploration and development of critical and strategic minerals projects. FYI is positioning itself to be a significant producer of high-quality critical minerals for use in rapidly developing high-tech applications.

FYI's core focus is developing its innovative, high-quality alumina (HPA) project. HPA is a critical material for many high-tech products because of its unique characteristics and chemical properties that address high specification requirements in applications such as light emitting diodes (LED) and artificial sapphire glass products. The long-term driver for HPA is the outlook for the booming electric vehicle and battery storage markets, where HPA has the capacity to increase the power yield, functionality and overall safety of battery cells.

While FYI continues to develop its HPA project, we are excited by our recent announcement to enter the rare earths sector through the staged acquisition of Minhub Operations Pty Ltd (MOPL). MOPL has entered into a non-binding agreement with Arafura Rare Earths Limited to develop the Minhub Project, an innovative and collaborative rare earths and mineral sands processing hub in Darwin, Northern Territory. FYI plans move into the development and construction phases of Minhub and create a project that will deliver a reliable and consistent supply chain for rare earths, from Australian mineral sands producers to end users such as wind turbine and electric vehicle manufacturers.



FYI is excited to be a member of the Critical Minerals Association Australia and looks forward to a fruitful relationship with it and its members to work towards a sustainable world by innovating responsibly, giving back to the community, and reducing environmental impact for future generations.

Find out more about  
**FYI here**



# CMA AUSTRALIA UPDATES



Critical Minerals Association  
Australia

## ESG WEBINAR: HOW DOES AUSTRALIA COMPARE WITH THE GLOBAL NORTH?

11 MAY 2022 @ 4 PM AEST / 2 PM AWST



**Scott Williamson**  
MD, Blackstone Minerals



**Phoebe Whattoff**  
Sustainability Manager,  
Minviro



**Sarah Gordon (PhD)**  
CEO, Satarla



**Rowena Smith**  
MD & CEO, Australian  
Strategic Materials

## Missed our latest webinar?

You can now watch it online.

Transparency, verification of provenance, and best-in-class ESG practices are increasingly important to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and automakers who want to differentiate their end products as responsible, ethical, and climate-friendly.

Australia brands itself as a top-tier environmental, social & governance (ESG) jurisdiction for the responsible mining of critical minerals, but are we quite meeting the Global North's expectations of best practice? Watch below as the experts dive in.

Thank you to our wonderful speakers:

- Sarah Gordon, Satarla
- Phoebe Whattoff, Minviro
- Scott Williamson, Blackstone Minerals Limited
- Rowena Smith, Australian Strategic Materials (ASM)

**WATCH**

THE WEBINAR HERE

## CMA UK presentation at the 26th World Mining Congress

Jeff Townsend, Founder of Critical Minerals Association UK, is presenting Governance issues for the UK's critical minerals supply chain. Details below:

### Symposium on Minerals Policy & Governance for the New Economy

Session 2: Collaborative government and stakeholder policy approaches

Date: Monday, 26th of June 2023

Time: 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM

**SEE FULL PROGRAM  
HERE**



**26th World  
Mining Congress**  
**BRISBANE AUSTRALIA**  
**26-29 JUNE 2023**

# AUSTRALIAN NEWS

## Budget includes money for critical minerals but still no strategy

"When commodity prices are high, Australia wins," Chamber of Minerals of Western Australia CEO Rebecca Tomkinson said.

"The resources sector pays more than 30% of Australia's total company tax income to improve our nation's budget bottom line."

The budget included A\$80.5 million over four years to support the Australian critical minerals sector to build diverse and competitive supply chains, attract international investment and transition to net zero...

**Read More**

Mining News | May 10 2023

Photo source: Reuters | David Gray

## 'Significant handicap' for critical minerals amid budget neglect

Rich Lister Chris Ellison says the Albanese government neglected and handicapped the critical minerals sector in Tuesday's federal budget, while Iluka Resources boss Tom O'Leary says the government's upcoming critical minerals strategy is an opportunity to make Australia more than a quarry.

Mr Ellison is managing director and major shareholder in lithium exporter Mineral Resources Limited, a company that is building processing plants in China to turn the lithium it mines in Australia into battery grade products...

**Read More**

Financial Review (*Subscription Required*) | May 10 2023

## Labor, union at loggerheads on critical minerals

Australian Workers Union boss Daniel Walton is set to blindside Anthony Albanese with an extraordinary attack on the government's 'lazy approach' to critical mineral exports...

**Read More**

The Australian (*Subscription Required*) | May 2023

## Gov't welcomes investment in WA critical minerals processing

Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Madeleine King has welcomed Albemarle Corporation's announcement that it will build two additional processing trains at its lithium hydroxide plant in Kemerton, south of Perth...

**Read More**

Mirage News | May 3 2023





Photo source: Australian Mining

## Time to challenge China's dominance in critical minerals race

Our universities are failing to deliver the qualified metallurgists and mining engineers needed to establish a sector which should do more than just dig up critical minerals...

**Read More**

The Australian (*Subscription Required*) | May 02 2023

## New Neometals metrics to drive Barrambie development

Neometals has added more grunt to its ore reserve as part of an update to its Barrambie titanium project prefeasibility study (PFS) as it builds the case for a lower-capital development of its Barrambie titanium and vanadium project near sandstone in Western Australia's Murchison region...

**Read More**

Business News | May 15 2023

## Koreans pour doubt on Albanese's domestic manufacturing dream

The Albanese government's plan to develop a domestic battery manufacturing industry has alarmed South Korean investors who have warned Australia against trying to engineer a lopsided or "greedy" trade relationship.

South Korea is Australia's third-biggest export destination and the two nations have strengthened defence, diplomatic and trade ties over the past two years amid rising geopolitical tensions in Asia...

**Read More**

Financial Review (*Subscription Required*) | May 15 2023

## Rio Tinto acquires critical minerals in NSW with Allens' advice

Allens has advised Rio Tinto on its acquisition of the Platina Scandium Project, a high-grade scandium resource in NSW, from Platina Resources Limited.

The investment is Rio Tinto's first in scandium in Australia, a critical mineral considered essential to low-carbon transition thanks to its ability to strengthen and improve the mechanical properties of aluminium, which is critical to the aerospace, electric vehicle and other industries. It is also used to improve the performance of solid oxide fuel cells used as a green power source...

**Read More**

Mirage News | May 10 2023



## **Iron ore drilling reveals nickel sulphides for Macarthur**

Macarthur Minerals has identified the potential for a significant komatiite-hosted nickel sulphide mineralised system at its wholly-owned Lake Giles project, 150km north-west of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia's Goldfields region...

***Read More***

The West Australian | May 10 2023

## **Group 6 Metals raises funds to begin operations at Tasmania tungsten mine**

Australian miner Group 6 Metals has unveiled plans to raise A\$30m through a share placement and share purchase plan (SPP) to begin operations at its Dolphin tungsten mine on King Island, Tasmania...

***Read More***

Mining Technology | May 09 2023

## **Dubbo digger says foreign buyers want rare earths processed offshore**

The Australian company running a rare earths metallisation factory in South Korea says it would only make sense to build such a plant in Australia if a magnet making industry were established nearby...

***Read More***

Financial Review (*Subscription Required*) | May 15 2023

## **Surefire Resources commissions metallurgical testwork on Victory Bore vanadium samples**

Junior explorer Surefire Resources (ASX: SRN) has commissioned Perth-based METS Engineering to conduct further metallurgical testwork on samples from its wholly-owned Victory Bore vanadium project in Western Australia...

***Read More***

Smallcaps | May 01 2023

## **Global vanadium battery market 2023 projected to deliver greater revenues during the forecast period 2030**

Latest Report adds by Industry Research Biz On Global "Vanadium Battery Market" 2023-2030 report that offers a total content of the assiduity with brief analysis, data maps, numbers, statistics that help take business opinions, company biographies and further. Vanadium Battery market research is spread across 97+ pages and provides exclusive data, information, vital statistics, trends and competitive landscape details in this niche sector...

***Read More***

Digital Journal | May 14 2023

## **Queensland's critical minerals strategy supports development of QEM's Julia Creek vanadium project**

Queensland's recently announced Queensland New Industry Development Strategy (QNIDS) is expected to deliver tangible benefits for QEM's Julia Creek vanadium and oil shale project...

***Read More***

Stockhead | May 30 2023

## Lithium to overtake fossil fuels as WA's second-most valuable resource, WA budget reveals

Western Australia is a big state by landmass, but a small place in the context of a global population teeming at more than eight billion people.

Fewer than three million souls live west of the Nullarbor, and its economy, while critical to the national picture, is small fry...

[Read More](#)

ABC News | May 12 2023



Photo source: Australian Resources and Investment

## Venture reaches for lithium, copper future in \$4.5m deal

Venture Minerals and SensOre have inked a farm-in agreement to explore the former's Golden Grove North project with artificial intelligence technology to define the operation's potential for lithium and copper...

[Read More](#)

The West Australian | May 12 2023

## Startups urge Australia to ditch 'risk-averse' approach to lithium battery investment

Renewable startups are urging state and federal governments to take greater risks by investing in small-to-medium sized renewable battery companies and prevent Australia missing out on the lithium boom...

[Read More](#)

ABC News | May 14 2023

## Lithium producers Allkem, Livent to combine in \$10.6 billion deal

Lithium companies Allkem Ltd (AKE.AX) and Livent Corp (LTHM.N) said on Wednesday they will combine in an all-stock \$10.6 billion deal to create the world's third-largest producer of the metal used to make electric vehicle batteries.

Combining U.S.-based Livent and Australia-based Allkem creates an industry powerhouse on four continents that executives hope will bring more heft and skills needed to boost supply of the metal to an increasingly hungry automotive sector, including Tesla Inc, General Motors Co and BMW...

[Read More](#)

Reuters | May 11 2023



## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NEWS

### Atlas brings muscle to Australia's clean energy future

An industry-led, wide-scale search through previously mined and discarded rock and earth could help boost Australia's global position as a clean energy powerhouse.

Geoscience Australia, through its Exploring for the Future program, will help enable the search with a newly developed atlas of sites across the nation that may contain previously overlooked critical minerals – including those used to produce electric vehicles and solar panels.

The Atlas is a collaboration with RMIT University, the University of Queensland, and the geological surveys of Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Victoria and South Australia...

***Read More***

The Hon Madeleine King MP Media Releases | May 31 2023

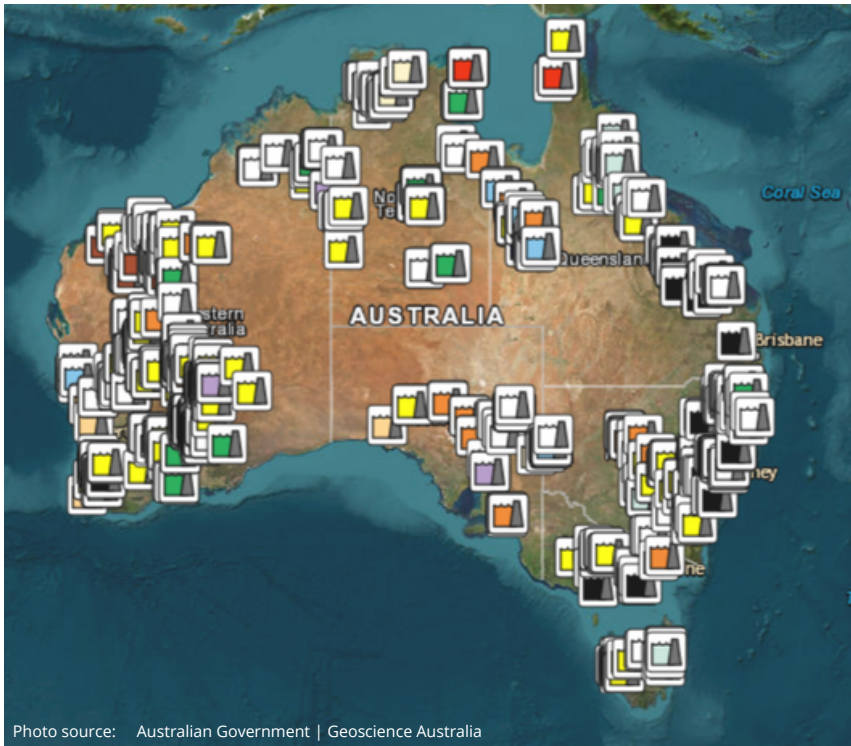


Photo source: Australian Government | Geoscience Australia

# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

## Brazil seeks investor-friendly approach to lithium in bid to tap EV boom

Brazil may have swung to the left politically but that doesn't mean it will be following the lead of other Latin American nations by handing control of lithium assets over to the state....

[Read More](#)

Mining.com | May 11 2023

## Glencore to build Europe's largest battery recycling plant

Mining and commodities giant Glencore (LON: GLEN) has joined forces with Canada's Li-Cycle Holdings (NYSE: LICY) to build a battery recycling plant in Italy, set to become Europe's largest facility of this kind.

The Swiss company, which has a 10% stake in Li-Cycle, wants to convert an old lead refinery it has in Sardinia into a plant that will help it reuse expensive key raw materials such as cobalt, lithium and nickel...

[Read More](#)

Mining.com | May 09 2023

## Chilalo: The development-ready, standout graphite project in Tanzania

With robust economics and upside from potential downstream processing, Evolution Energy Minerals has commenced the implementation phase for the Chilalo Graphite Project in southeast Tanzania.

No two mining projects are alike. However, this is even more true when assessing graphite mines. Flake size has a significant impact on how and where the graphite can be used, but it also has a big influence on the prices received...

[Read More](#)

Innovation News Network | May 12 2023

Photo source: Horizonte Minerals (Mining.com)

## Indonesia emerges as a cobalt powerhouse amid surge in demand

Demand for cobalt is set to more than double by 2030 to 388,000 tonnes as the electric vehicle (EV) sector shifts into overdrive, says a new Benchmark Mineral Intelligence report.

The outlook entails compound yearly cobalt demand growth of 10% over the weak 2022 figures, according to the Benchmark agency's May 10 report commissioned by the Istanbul, Turkey-based Cobalt Institute...

[Read More](#)

Mining.com | May 11 2023

## First ever IEA critical minerals and clean energy summit to take place on 28 September

High-level international meeting will bring together ministers from mineral producing and consuming economies as well as industry, investors and civil society to address supply and sustainability questions

The International Energy Agency will host the first ever international summit on critical minerals and their role in clean energy transitions on 28 September 2023 in Paris, IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol announced today....

***Read More***

The International Energy Agency | May 10 2023

Photo source: The International Energy Agency

## Southern Hemisphere hits major manganese milestone in Chile

Southern Hemisphere Mining has unveiled an independently-assessed JORC-compliant mineral resource upgrade of more than 27 per cent at its Los Pumas battery metal-manganese project in northern Chile.

Independent consultants Global Commodity Solutions has estimated the new resource at 30.26 million tonnes of ore at a grade of 6.24 per cent manganese and 5.74 per cent aluminium...

***Read More***

The West Australian | May 03 2023

## US to speed up South32 Hermosa manganese-zinc project review

Mining company South32's Hermosa manganese and zinc project on Monday became the first US mining project to receive fast-track approval.

The US government added the project to its "Fast-41" legislative process, aimed at speeding up development of clean energy assets and infrastructure...

***Read More***

Mining Technology | May 09 2023

# BIG PICTURE THINKING . . .

## **Pro take: Can nickel, cobalt and other battery metals Be sourced sustainably?**

As companies and countries withdraw their support for seabed mining, the about-face is raising broader questions about how metals used in battery production are sourced and the scale of the associated environmental costs. The sourcing of nickel particularly has been in the spotlight...

***Read More***

The Wall Street Journal | May 11 2023

## **'Graphite is the next lithium'**

One of the key raw materials in the green energy transition is graphite, but while Australia is a key producer of other battery metals such as lithium, nickel and manganese, there are no active Australian graphite mining operations.

Graphite is used as an input for anodes – one of two electrodes that make up a lithium-ion battery, with cathodes – made up of metals such as lithium, nickel and cobalt – the other electrode...

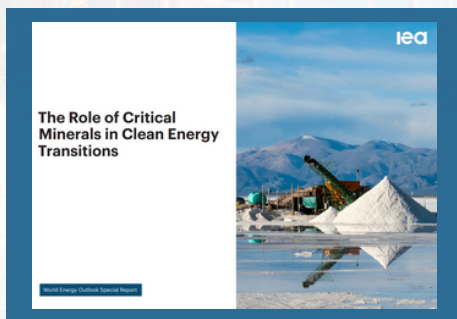
***Read More***

Australian Resources and Investment | May 3 2023

## **The role of critical minerals in clean energy transitions**

Minerals are essential components in many of today's rapidly growing clean energy technologies – from wind turbines and electricity networks to electric vehicles. Demand for these minerals will grow quickly as clean energy transitions gather pace. This new World Energy Outlook Special Report provides the most comprehensive analysis to date of the complex links between these minerals and the prospects for a secure, rapid transformation of the energy sector...

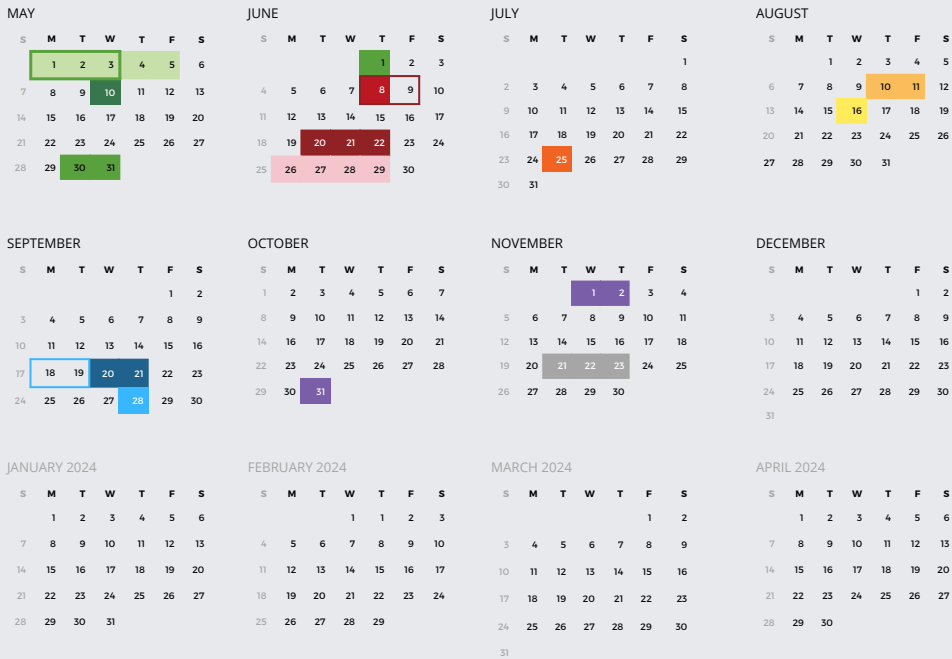
***Read the Full Report:***



The International Energy Agency | May 2023

# Calendar of events 2023

Do you know of an upcoming event that's not listed?  
Email: [namali@criticalmineral.org](mailto:namali@criticalmineral.org)



	DATE(S)	EVENT	HOSTS/PARTNERS	LOCATION
MAY	01 MAY - 03 MAY	<a href="#">Fastmarkets Asian Battery Materials conference 2023</a>	Fastmarkets	Singapore
	01 MAY - 05 MAY	<a href="#">ALTA 2023</a>	-	Perth, AU
	10 MAY	<a href="#">Benchmark World Tour 2023: Financing the Energy Transition</a>	Benchmark Minerals, Standard Bank	Cape Town, SA
	30 MAY - 01 JUN	<a href="#">Australian Critical Minerals Conference 2023</a>	Quest Events	Sydney, AU
JUN	08 JUN	Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum - Next Step for Critical Minerals in the UK	Westminster Forum Projects	Online
	08 JUN - 09 JUN	<a href="#">Battery Gigafactories USA 2023</a>	Benchmark Events	Washington DC, USA
	20 JUN - 22 JUN	<a href="#">Lithium Supply &amp; Battery Raw Materials 2023</a>	Lithium Supply & Battery Raw Materials	Las Vegas, USA
	26 JUN - 29 JUN	<a href="#">World Mining Congress</a>	WMC	Brisbane, AU
JUL	25 JUL	<a href="#">Critical Minerals as Tools of Economic Statecraft</a>	Australian Institute of International Affairs Queensland	Brisbane, AU
AUG	10 AUG - 11 AUG	<a href="#">Critical Materials Forum Perth 2023</a>	Project Blue and Critical Minerals Association Australia	Perth, AU
	16 AUG	<a href="#">Critical Materials Forum Sydney 2023</a>	Project Blue and Critical Minerals Association Australia	Sydney, AU
SEP	18 SEP - 19 SEP	<a href="#">Future of Mining   Perth</a>	Aspermont Media	Perth, AU
	20 SEP - 21 SEP	<a href="#">Critical Minerals &amp; Energy Investment Conference and Exhibition</a>	Spire Events	Perth, AU
	28 SEP	<a href="#">IEA Critical Minerals and Clean Energy Summit</a>		Paris, FR
OCT	31 OCT - 02 NOV	<a href="#">International Mining and Resources Conference (IMARC)</a>	AusiMM, Victoria State Gov, AustMine, Mines and Money	Sydney, AU
NOV	21 NOV - 23 NOV	<a href="#">Critical Minerals Conference 2023</a>	AusiMM	Perth, AU



This Newsletter has been compiled by QUT researchers:

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