

CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

FEBRUARY 2023

- Albanese: Keep critical minerals in Australia, make our own batteries
- Spotlight on our Founding Members:
- Tesla chooses Magnis for supply of critical minerals

Subscribe to our Newsletter

FFBRUARY 2023

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

- · Spotlight on our founding member: Lava Blue
- · CMA Australia updates
- · Lithium: Supercharging Australia's future
- · Launch of CMA USA

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

- · Godolphin gears up for upgrade to NSW rare earths resource
- · AAC calls for aluminium to be named critical mineral
- Iron ore remains the Pilbara's sturdy trunk, but greener roots are starting to emerge
- · Why Pilbara Minerals is choosing lithium phosphate
- · Pilbara Minerals the latest to take lithium offshore
- · Megado Minerals bolts lithium project on to its critical metals portfolio
- · Tesla chooses Aussie company for critical minerals
- · Big battery powering large-scale energy storage solutions
- Australia is the world's leading lithium producer. Why don't we make electric vehicles?
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- · The ASX companies hoping to win from the EU green plan to cut red tape
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AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NEWS

- · Supporting Australia's battery manufacturing industry to charge ahead
- · Albanese: Keep critical minerals in Australia, make our own batteries

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- · General Motors digs into mining business to lead race for EV metals
- · Tesla considers buying Sigma Lithium to secure EV battery metal supply
- · Southern Hemisphere eyes EV sector with Chilean manganese
- · Ontario building up critical minerals supply chain for EVs
- · US seeks critical mineral pacts with Japan, UK to curb China Industry perspective: U.S. needs industrial policy for critical minerals
- . US and EU looking to create 'critical minerals club' to ensure their own supplies
- · Steep levies on Russian aluminium could threaten US nickel supply
- Vale breaks ground on \$2.5bn nickel project in Indonesia

BIG PICTURE THINKING

- To meet global cobalt demand, companies must reform mining practices in the Congo
- · The biggest source of cobalt outside Africa is now Indonesia
- · Minerals Security Partnership advocates for ESG in critical minerals mining
- Indonesia's uncertain climb up the nickel value chain
- · Indonesia's nickel riches spur local company EV, battery ambition
- · Magnesium a promising candidate for rechargeable batteries
- · Australian startup Recharge wins bid for collapsed UK battery company Britishvolt

DRIVING MARKET DEMAND

- · Can high purity alumina be sustainably produced?
- · Redwood begins production of anode foil, receives conditional commitment for \$2B Department of Energy loan for battery
- Minerals are crucial for electric cars and wind turbines. Some worry whether we have enough.
- · KPMG looks to the mining horizon

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023











Lava Blue and QUT are building a cohort of researchers to support the development of Australia's critical minerals industry

CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS

LAVA BLUE

Lava Blue Ltd is an unlisted public company headquartered in Canberra but with all of its operations in Queensland. Originally Lava Blue was focussed on minerals exploration for critical minerals in Northern Queensland mineral provinces, however expanded its activities to incorporate mid-stream processing of critical minerals in 2018 when it commenced a multi-year multi-million dollar research program with Queensland University of Technology (QUT) developing process routes for high purity alumina.

Lava Blue is a foundation member of the Critical Minerals Association of Australia as the Company believes that the scale and nature of the opportunity for Australia in critical minerals demands new approaches to the industrial investments, standards and regulation required of a high technology metals industry - approaches that may not naturally align with the 20th century mining industry in Australia.

"While we fully appreciate the value that the mining industry already delivers for Australia and the hundreds of thousands of individuals the industry employs here, critical minerals is an opportunity of historic proportions for Australia," said Michael McCann, MD of Lava Blue. "We think a new voice to government and the community, that can represent an industry dedicated to achieving high degrees of value adding on shore for very high specification, high value mineral products, has an important part to play in the 21st century mining industry in this country."

Find out more about LAVA BLUE here



Partnership with QUT is translating fundamental science to commercial outcomes with the construction of a sensor rich mini-plant for producing high purity alumina.



CMA Australia updates

The CMA participated in a number of meetings with the Federal Government in the lead up to the Critical Minerals Strategy Review deadline – including a Critical Minerals Office industry consultation Roundtable, industry meeting with Monash University and private meetings with the Critical Minerals Office and the office of the Hon Madeleine King MP, Minister for Resources.

The CMAA would like to thank its members for contributing to the **Critical Minerals Strategy 2023 Consultation submission**. The 2023 strategy will outline the Australian Government's priorities for the development of the critical minerals sector, including how Australia can create economic opportunities across the nation, including in our regions, and seize the opportunities of the net zero transformation...

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The CMAA also put forward a submission to the <u>National Reconstruction</u> <u>Fund</u> and is preparing a submission to the <u>National Battery Strategy</u> <u>Consultation</u> (for which the deadline has been extended to March 17; we encourage you to make a contribution).

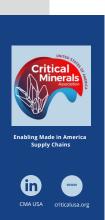


Lithium: Supercharging Australia's future

The Critical Minerals Association Australia details the essential steps Australia needs to take to realise its potential and become a global, lithium-producing superpower capable of dominating its growing international competition...

Read More

The Innovation Platform | Feb 2023



Launch of CMA USA

We are delighted to announce the launch of the Critical Minerals Association USA!

The CMA USA will focus on enabling Made in America supply chains by driving greater integration of responsible, resilient, and secure critical minerals.

Wilfredo A. Reyes, the CEO of CMA USA, commented, "I am optimistic about CMA USA creation and its catalytic role integrating the American critical minerals industry to advance securing America's supply chains and enhancing the sector's awareness, influence and responsible practices...

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Critical Minerals Association Australia | Feb 24 2023

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

AAC calls for aluminium to be named critical mineral

The Australian Aluminium Council has called on the Federal Government to add bauxite, alumina and aluminium to the nation's list of critical minerals.

"Aluminium is, and will continue to be, one of the most widely used commodities in the global clean energy transition," the AAC's incoming president Mike Ferraro

Read More

Australian Mining | Feb 6 2023

Australia is the world's leading lithium producer. Why don't we make electric vehicles?

In the early '90s, as the Australian car-making industry was getting sucked into its death spiral, a tin mine in Western Australia found itself with an abundance of a low-value mineral: lithium.

"We realised we had a hell of a lot of lithium and didn't have much to do with it," recalls Mike King, who was the mining manager at the Greenbushes mine at the time. Thirty years later, Australia no longer makes cars, but lithium is being touted as the reason for the resurrection of the automotive industry....

Read More

ABC News | Feb 9 2023

Tesla chooses Aussie company for critical minerals

Electric vehicle (EV) giant Tesla has been teasing a possible agreement with a critical minerals company since mid-2022 – and it seems that it has finally come to fruition.

Under a new agreement, Australia's Magnis Energy Technologies will supply Tesla with the critical minerals it needs to produce EVs.

Tesla will purchase a minimum of 17,500 tonnes per annum (tpa) from February 2025, with a maximum 35,000tpa for a minimum three-year term...

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Australian Mining | Feb 24 2023

Big battery powering largescale energy storage solutions

Researchers at the QUT-operated National Battery Testing Centre (NBTC) have commissioned the biggest largescale iron flow battery - and the first of its kind - outside of the United States.

QUT is collaborating with Energy Storage Industries - Asia Pacific (ESI) and the Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre (FBICRC) to enable large-scale energy storage solutions to help meet clean energy targets set by state and federal governments...

Read More

QUT News | Feb 14 2023

Why Pilbara Minerals is choosing lithium phosphate

As the likes of Mineral Resources, Albemarle and IGO explore their local lithium hydroxide possibilities, Pilbara Minerals says lithium phosphate may be more viable.

Through the ambition of some of the world's biggest mining companies, Australia is realising its downstream capability, with several onshore lithium hydroxide plants emerging....

Read More

Australian Resources & Investment | Feb 13 2023

Pilbara Minerals the latest to take lithium offshore

The Pilbara Minerals and POSCO joint venture (JV) has secured \$682 million funding for the construction of a lithium hydroxide monohydrate chemical plant in South Korea.

The chemical plant, which is currently under construction in the Gwangyang region, is projected to convert approximately 315,000 tonnes of spodumene, sourced solely from Pilbara Minerals' WA lithium operations, into lithium hydroxide...

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Australian Mining | Feb 28 2023

Photo source: ABC News

Suvo completes Pittong plant upgrade

Suvo Strategic Minerals has completed the Pittong processing plant upgrade and optimisation project.

Suvo concluded a plant upgrade and optimisation review for the hydrous kaolin plant in August 2022, confirming the nameplate processing capacity of the Pittong plant to be close to 60,000 tonnes per annum under certain operating conditions.

The plant has been operated continuously over the past six days, producing a total of 1004 tonnes of hydrous kaolin. This represents a 245 per cent uplift in production compared to average weekly production rates achieved in 2022 calendar year...

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Iron ore remains the Pilbara's sturdy trunk, but greener roots are starting to emerge

Iron ore looks set to continue its surge in 2023 but the rise of green energy is creating massive opportunities for the Pilbara.

Key points:

- Green energy is driving a diversification of projects in the Pilbara
- Lithium, rare earths and green energy are providing huge opportunities
- Iron ore remains a cornerstone of the region

Rare earth minerals, lithium, wind and solar are just some of the emerging commodities setting the pace in one of WA's most productive regions.

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ABC News | Feb 19 202

Australian Mining | Feb 6 2023



Alcoa and FYI Resources call it a day

Alcoa Australia has announced the termination of a joint venture (JV) with WA-based FYI Resources.

The JV was intended to allow Alcoa's entry into the growing high-purity alumina (HPA) market...

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Australian Mining | Feb 24 2023

Godolphin gears up for upgrade to NSW rare earths resource

Godolphin Resources has sent 31 diamond drill core samples from the Narraburra project to Australia's leading authority on mineral and metallurgical testing. The samples form part of Narraburra's updated mineral resource estimate to JORC 2012 standards which is expected in March.

The test work will provide a better understanding of Narraburra's rare earth elements and rare metals composition. The Australia Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, or "ANSTO" are conducting the metallurgical testing.

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Megado Minerals bolts lithium project on to its critical metals portfolio

Lithium will be sought in parallel to rare earths at Megado Minerals (ASX: MEG) with the junior acquiring a 130sq km lithium property in Canada's exploration hotspot of James Bay, Quebec

Pegmatites have been recorded along the belt and the company believes the setting of its area is favourable for potential for potential lithium discoveries

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SMALL CAPS | Feb 17 2023

The ASX companies hoping to win from the EU green plan to cut red tape

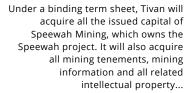
News from the corridors of the European Union's Brussels HQ often seems remote from Australian investors' hip pockets. But there are times when EU decisions do ripple outwards to our part of the pond – and almost never more so, potentially, than last Friday...

Read More

Financial Review | Feb 13 2023

Tivan Resources to acquire Speewah project from King River

Mineral processing technology company Tivan Resources has signed a A\$20m (\$13.7m) deal to acquire the Speewah vanadium/titanium/iron project located 100km south of the port town of Wyndham, Kimberley, Western Australia, from King River Resources.



Read More

Mining Technology | Feb 20 2023

Critical Minerals Group begins testing at flagship vanadium project

Critical Minerals Group has begun metallurgical testwork at its Lindfield vanadium project in Queensland to assess ore from its maiden drill program in order to create the most efficient processing flowsheet.

At the same time the company has engaged a specialist laboratory to investigate the potential for the ore to be used in the production of highpurity aluminium...

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Photo source: Australian Resources & Investment

Iluka seizes "rare" diversification opportunity

Iluka Resources' board has approved the \$480 million Balranald critical minerals development in New South Wales.

The site is a rutile- and zircon-rich deposit that also contains material quantities of rare earth minerals.

The investment decision represents lluka's diversification into rare earths.

"The Balranald development is an important new source of rutile, zircon, synthetic rutile feedstock and rare earth feedstock," Iluka managing director Tom O'Leary said...

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Australian Mining | Feb 23 2023

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Supporting Australia's battery manufacturing industry to charge ahead

Minister for Industry and Science Ed Husic formally launched consultations for the country's first National Battery Strategy at a visit to Energy Renaissance, an Australian lithium-ion battery technology and manufacturing company, at Tomago in the New South Wales Hunter Valley.

Developing the Strategy will be integral to help Australia transition to a decarbonised economy, hit our ambitious emissions targets, foster Australian innovation and support Australian industry...

Read More

www.minister.industry.gov.au | Feb 3 2023

Photo source: Brisbane Times



Albanese: Keep critical minerals in Australia, make our own batteries

Australia should keep more of its critical minerals inside the country despite requests from China to invest in new mines, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has declared in a pledge to spur local industries to make batteries and other renewable technologies.

Linking national security to domestic industry, Albanese said he wanted to put public money into projects that could expand local manufacturing and recover from the loss of the big carmakers over the past decade...

"We need to not just dig it up. I want to make sure we use the lithium and nickel and other products we have to make batteries here," Albanese said.

"That's part of the vision of protecting our national economy going forward. I think we should be making solar panels here. I think we should be making so many more things here in order to protect our national sovereignty."

"Yes, it's about our sovereign capability, it's about our defence," he said of AUKUS and local manufacturing. "But it is also about our industry policy, about our economy, about jobs here."

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Brisbane Times | Feb 22 2023

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

General Motors digs into mining business to lead race for EV metals

General Motors is trying to speed ahead in the race for metals underpinning the industry's shift to electric cars.

The US automaker is competing for a stake in Vale's base metals unit, people familiar with the matter said this month. A deal may give GM access to the Brazilian mining giant's copper and nickel resources that are key to making EV batteries...

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Mining.com | Feb 17 2023

Tesla considers buying Sigma Lithium to secure EV battery metal supply

Electric vehicle powerhouse Tesla (NASDAQ: TSLA) is considering buying Canadian miner Sigma Lithium (TSX-V: SGML), according to news reports circulating over the

Southern Hemisphere eyes EV sector with Chilean manganese

Southern Hemisphere Mining is advancing technical work on its wholly owned Los Pumas manganese deposit in northern Chile with a view toward a battery-grade product to meet the burgeoning global demand for electric vehicles...

Read More

thewest.com.au | Jan 23 2023

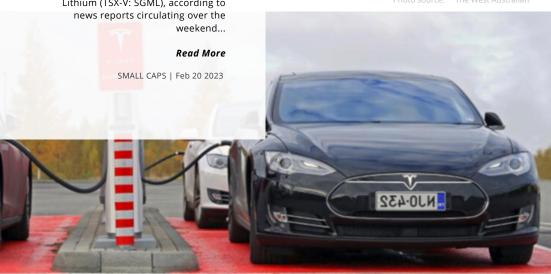
Ontario building up critical minerals supply chain for EVs

The Ontario government has invested \$5.8 million to help junior mining companies explore for critical minerals used in manufacturing batteries for electric vehicles, smartphones, pharmaceuticals and advanced manufacturing technologies...

Read More

News Ontario | Feb 16 2023

Photo source: The West Australian



US seeks critical mineral pacts with Japan, UK to curb China

The US government is exploring narrowly focused trade pacts on critical minerals with Japan and the UK, in addition to talks with the European Union, the latest salvo in its push to counter Chinese influence in key sectors, officials familiar with the matter said...

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Mining.com | Feb 10 2023

US and EU looking to create 'critical minerals club' to ensure their own supplies

The US and Europe could be moving towards another area of cooperation, this time over critical minerals needed for electric vehicles and other technologies, with the creation of a de facto freetrade status for such resources...

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The Register | Feb 8 2023

Industry perspective: U.S. needs industrial policy for critical minerals

The United States needs a secure supply of critical minerals to protect its national security.

Minerals like cobalt, gallium and rare earths are vital elements in superalloys, semiconductors and permanent magnets. These components, in turn, are essential for advanced technologies such as jet engines, quantum computing and military radars.

In short, critical minerals form the foundation of America's digital economy and modern military...

Read More

National Defense | Feb14 2023

Steep levies on Russian aluminium could threaten US nickel supply

Russia is likely to limit exports of key metals such as nickel and palladium if the United States imposes steep taxes on imports of aluminium from Russia, analysts say.

While Russian aluminium accounts for only a small portion US supplies, nickel is vital for the aerospace industry and electric vehicle batteries. Palladium, meanwhile, is a key component for autocatalysts in gasolinefuelled cars...

Read More

Mining.com | Feb 17 2023

Vale breaks ground on \$2.5bn nickel project in Indonesia

PT Vale Indonesia Tbk (PT Vale) has started construction on a \$2.48bn integrated low-carbon nickel mining and processing project in Central Sulawesi, reported Reuters citing an Indonesian senior minister.

This ferronickel smelter is being built in Sambalagi Village, Bungku Pesisir District, Morowali Regency...

Read More

Mining Technology | Feb 13 2023

BIG PICTURE THINKING...

To meet global cobalt demand, companies must reform mining practices in the Congo

On a recent visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Pope Francis condemned the large companies from the West and China that mine the poor country's abundant mineral resources.

Speaking to a mass audience in the capital of Kinshasa, the Pope described "terrible forms of exploitation, unworthy of humanity and of creation." He exhorted that foreign corporations to change their business practices, saying "Stop choking Africa: it is not a mine to be stripped or a terrain to be plundered."

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Minerals Security Partnership advocates for ESG in critical minerals mining

The US-led Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) members and key minerals-rich countries held a vice-Ministerial meeting on February 7, in New York, to discuss priorities, challenges and opportunities in responsible mining, processing and recycling of critical minerals.

MSP partners participating in the meeting included Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Sweden, the UK, the US and the European Union...

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Creamer's Media | Feb 8 2023

The biggest source of cobalt outside Africa is now Indonesia

Indonesia has become the world's secondlargest cobalt producer, bolstering its bid to be a big player in the electric-vehicle supply chain.

Production of the battery material in the Southeast Asian country surged past others including Russia and Australia to grab the No. 2 spot last year, according to US government data...

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Mining.com | Feb 8 2023

Photo source: Mining.com





Photo source: LOWY Institute

success with industrial policy. That may now be changing, with recent interventionist policies targeting the nickel sector suggesting initial success in developing downstream segments of the value chain. So successful have these industrial policies been that the government is planning to target other minerals in a similar fashion, despite the objections of major trading partners...

Read More

LOWY Institute | Feb 20 2023

Indonesia's nickel riches spur local company EV, battery ambition

From coal miners to conglomerates, Indonesia's burgeoning electric vehicle and battery scene is attracting broad local corporate interest buoyed by the country's rich nickel resources and government promises of incentives.

The involvement comes as global EV makers including China's BYD and Tesla of the US have either signed or are "finalising" deals to invest in Indonesia, Luhut Pandjaitan, coordinating minister for maritime affairs and investment, told a briefing of Indonesian regional leaders last

Read More

Magnesium – a promising candidate for rechargeable batteries

A research team at the Tokyo University of Science has achieved some success in its search for new cathode materials for magnesium batteries.

In particular, the researchers are focusing on ways to improve the performance of cathode materials based on the magnesium-vanadium system...

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Mining.com | Feb 16 2022

Australian startup Recharge wins bid for collapsed UK battery company Britishvolt

An emerging Australian company yet to construct a major project will be responsible for delivering on UK hopes to electrify its automotive industry after outbidding rivals to take over collapsed battery maker Britishvolt.

In a whirlwind fortnight, Recharge Industries put together an aggressive package that also revives plans to build a £3.8bn (A\$6.7bn) "gigafactory" in the north of England to supply the next generation of UK-built electric vehicles, free from Chinese materials....

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DRIVING MARKET DEMAND

Photo source: The Washington Times

Can high purity alumina be sustainably produced?

Advanced Energy Minerals details how its unique chlorine leach-crystalline purification process can reduce the carbon footprint of high purity alumina production.

How can high purity alumina be produced sustainably? Advanced Energy Minerals (AEM) considers sustainable production to be of the utmost importance...

Read More

Innovation news network | Feb 6 2023

Redwood begins production of anode foil, receives conditional commitment for \$2B Department of Energy loan for battery materials

Redwood has received conditional commitment for a \$2 billion loan from the DOE's Loan Program Office. Redwood will draw upon this milestone-based financing in tranches that support our phased construction and allows us to unlock funding as we accelerate the construction and expansion of our first battery materials campus...

Read More

Redwood Materials | Feb 10 2023



Minerals are crucial for electric cars and wind turbines. Some worry whether we have enough.

Over 20 years ago, two geologists made a stark prediction in Scientific American: "Probably within 10 years," they wrote, "global production of conventional oil will begin to decline." This argument, which became known as "peak oil," captured public attention for well over a decade, sparking worries that abundant reserves of oil would give way to scarcity, runs on gas stations and sky-high inflation....

Read More

The Washington Times | Feb 2 2023

KPMG looks to the mining horizon

A new report from KPMG examines at the prospects of a net-zero future for the mining industry – and lithium sits in the centre of the equation.

As the world moves ever closer to a decarbonised future, it's becoming clearer than ever that the mining industry will play a vital role in helping to reduce the reliance on fossil fuels...

Read More

Australian Mining | Feb 22 2023

LOCATION

Calendar of events 2023

DATE(S)

EVENT

FEBRUARY					MAF	MARCH							APRIL							М	MAY								
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HOSTS/PARTNERS

FEB	06 FEB - 09 FEB	Unlock the Future of African Mining	Mining Indab	Cape Town, SA (also Live)		
725	20 FEB - 21 FEB	Future of Mining Australia	-	Sydney, AU		
	05 MAR - 08 MAR	PDAC 2023: The World's Premier Mineral Exploration & Mining Convention	PDAC	Toronto, CA		
	07 MAR - 08 MAR	The Australian Energy & Battery Storage Conference	•	Sydney, AU		
MAR	21 MAR - 22 MAR	Paydirt's Battery Minerals Conference 2023	•	Perth, AU		
	22 MAR - 23 MAR	1st Critical Minerals & Metals Conference	CMA, Metals Events Limited, Project Blue	London, UK		
	28 MAR - 29 MAR	Battery Gigafactories Europe 2023	Benchmark Minerals	Budapest, HU		
APR	24 APR - 26 APR	MMTA's International Minor Metals Conference	Minor Metals Trade Association	North Carolina, USA		
	26 APR	Benchmark World Tour 2023: Financing the Energy Transition	Benchmark Minerals, Red Cloud Financial Services	East Toronto, CA		
	01 MAY - 03 MAY	Fastmarkets Asian Battery Materials conference 2023	Fastmarkets	Singapore		
MAY	01 MAY - 05 MAY	ALTA 2023	-	Perth, AU		
	10 MAY	Benchmark World Tour 2023: Financing the Energy Transition	Benchmark Minerals, Standard Bank	Cape Town, SA		
	30 MAY - 1 JUN	Australian Critical Minerals Conference 2023	Quest Events	Sydney, AU		
	OB JUN	Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum - Next Step for Critical Minerals in the UK	Westminster Forum Projects	Online		
		Critical Millerals III trie OK				
JUN	20 JUN - 22 JUN	Lithium Supply & Battery Raw Materials 2023	Lithium Supply & Battery Raw Materials	Las Vegas, USA		
	26 JUN - 29 JUN	World Mining Congress	WMC	Brisbane, AU		
	5, 12, 14 SEP	The New World Metals Investment SeriesConference	•	Perth, AU; Melbourne, AU;		
SEP				Sydney, AU		
	20 SEP - 21 SEP	Critical Minerals & Energy Investment Conference and Exhibition	•	Perth, AU		
ост	17 OCT - 18 OCT	121 Mining Investment Sydney	•	Sydney, AU		
	31 OCT - 02 NOV	International Mining and Resources Conference (IMARC)	AusIMM, Victoria State Gov, AustMine, Mines and Money	Sydney, AU		
NOV	21 NOV - 23 NOV	Critical Minerals Conference 2023	AusiMM	Perth, AU		









Contact: namali@criticalmineral.org

Critical Minerals Association Australia Limited ACN 660 785 124