



CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2023

PDAC 2023: UK BREAKFAST RECEPTION

MINES AND MONEY CONNECT LONDON

CIRCULAR PARTNERS WITH SQM

ABERDEEN MINERALS COMMENCES DRILLING AT
ARTHRATH PROJECT





FEBRUARY 2023

Welcome to our February CMA monthly newsletter featuring updates on the critical minerals space. Read on for:

- PDAC 2023: CMA & UK Government Breakfast Reception
- Mines and Money Connect London
- Foreign Affairs Committee to Visit CMIC for Inquiry
- UK seeks Critical Minerals Pacts with Japan & UK
- Met4Tech Releases Key Findings of Circular Economy Report
- GeoLogica Courses on Critical Minerals
- Copper's Fight for Critical Minerals Status Gets a Push
- Recharge Industries Acquires Britishvolt
- EU Urges Banks to Step Up Funding for Critical Minerals
- Circular Partners with Chilean Lithium Producer, SQM
- Aberdeen Minerals Commences Drilling at Arthrath
- Time for Geography Releases New Video for Classrooms
- Satarla Attending PDAC 2023
- CMA Content Creators
- News Round Up
- Events Calendar

From Kirsty, Jeff, Olimpia, & Eileen

This month's newsletter has been put together by Lily Dickson, PhD student at the University of Leeds, and Eileen Maes.

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter by clicking below.

SUBSCRIBE

Would you like to feature in a future edition?
Contact Eileen at eileen@criticalmineral.org



[@CMA_Minerals](https://twitter.com/CMA_Minerals)



www.criticalmineral.org



[Critical Minerals Association](https://www.criticalmineral.org)



PDAC 2023: CMA & UK GOVERNMENT BREAKFAST RECEPTION

The British High Commission in Canada has arranged a networking reception in partnership with the Critical Minerals Association (CMA).

This event will be a unique opportunity to meet the UK's High Commissioner, government officials from the UK and Canada, and UK industry representatives. Hear about the UK's critical minerals and mining sector investment opportunities, as well the importance of UK-Canada bilateral relations and collaborations.

The CMA and UK Government look forward to welcoming you to promote UK expertise in the mining and related sectors and partnership between the UK and Canada.

[REGISTER HERE](#)





MINES AND MONEY CONNECT LONDON

For more than 20 years Mines and Money has connected miners with money and investors with opportunity. They are the world's leading international event series for capital raising and mining investment. The event is a must-attend for participants of the global mining industry.

Key topics that will be covered during the conference include what's next for the energy transition, government policy on critical minerals and implications for the mining industry, and new thinking in ESG and sustainability.

This year we have proudly partnered with Mines and Money Connect London. This event brings together 500+ attendees, including 70+ mining companies, 400+ investors, and industry service providers, for 2 days of networking, high-class content, and business meetings.

Use the discount code CMA10 to get 10% of your ticket pass, and register your place today! We hope to see you there.

GET YOUR TICKET HERE

Proud Partners of
Mines and Money Connect London

 70+ <small>mining companies</small>	 400+ <small>investors</small>	 700+ <small>attendees</small>	 1,200+ <small>meetings</small>
---	---	---	--

mines and money
CONNECT LONDON
25 - 26 April 2023

REGISTER NOW

mines and
money

CONNECT LONDON

25 - 26 April 2023



FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO VISIT THE CMIC FOR INQUIRY

The Critical Minerals Intelligence Centre (CMIC) will be receiving a visit from the Foreign Affairs Committee as part of their inquiry into critical minerals.

Critical minerals are essential to the UK's economy and national security but are vulnerable to supply chain disruption. China dominates the market in both midstream and downstream processing of a number of critical minerals, particularly rare earth elements, which are required for the UK's energy transition.

The CMIC supports the Government's Critical Minerals Strategy by gathering and analysing intelligence on UK industry demand and access to critical minerals. The visit will offer the opportunity for the Committee to learn more about critical minerals and ask questions around the UK's resilience and security.

[MORE INFORMATION HERE](#)





US SEEKS CRITICAL MINERAL PACTS WITH JAPAN & UK

The US Government is exploring narrowly-focused trade pacts on critical minerals the UK, EU, and Japan-- the latest salvo in its push to counter Chinese influence and monopoly in key sectors.

The US is looking to create a “critical minerals buyers club” with allies like the EU and Group of Seven, anonymous US officials have reported. The move would ensure the bloc is not reliant on China for critical minerals as the countries look to build renewable energy pacts.

Rare earth elements and minerals including lithium and cobalt have assumed huge strategic importance because of their role in electric vehicle manufacturing, defence electronics, and other modern and renewable technologies.

[READ ON HERE](#)





MET4TECH RELEASES KEY FINDINGS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY REPORT

"It is crucial that any circular economy approach looks not merely to the end of life of products but also to the sustainable sourcing of minerals from the outset."

The legal research team at UKRI-funded Met4Tech are examining the regulatory procedures and practices surrounding the primary extraction of critical minerals in the UK, and have published their key findings.

The paper was inspired by the "current renaissance in mineral exploration and mining development in Cornwall", and therefore Met4Tech have focused the study on the Cornish region. It dives into the pressing issues of mineral rights and ownership, mineral safeguarding, planning and permitting, and government support for mining, as well as recommendations for all the aforementioned challenges.

[READ FULL REPORT HERE](#)





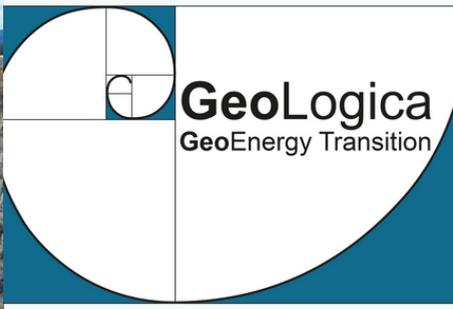
GEOLOGICA COURSES ON CRITICAL MINERALS

Understanding what lies beneath our feet is critical to the business of extracting materials effectively and efficiently. GeoLogica develops and enhances this understanding for geoscientists, reservoir engineers, and others through high-quality training and education online, in the classroom, and in the field. Some of their upcoming virtual courses include:

- [Critical Minerals Exploration: Systems, Plays, Prospects and Risk](#) | 9-12 May | Graham Banks & Steve Fehr
- [Critical Resources – Rare Earth Elements](#) | 3-5 July | Holly Elliott
- [Embedding Environmental, Social and Governance in Mineral Project Evaluation: a Guide for Geoscientists](#) | 26-28 September | Ben Lepley
- [Critical Minerals for the GeoEnergy Transition](#) | 4-6 December | Lucy Crane

CMA has proudly partnered with GeoLogica to offer an exclusive 10% discount on their 2023 virtual courses. The promo code is 2023CMA10% at checkout!

[REGISTER & LEARN MORE HERE](#)





COPPER'S FIGHT FOR CRITICAL MINERAL STATUS GETS A PUSH

The copper industry has found high-ranking political allies to support their campaign to add the mineral to the US Critical Minerals List.

Senator Kyrsten Sinema, an Independent from Arizona, sent a letter with other lawmakers on Thursday urging Interior Secretary Deb Haaland to “revisit and reconsider the designation of copper as a critical mineral.” Other signatories include those whose home states are hubs of copper production and manufacturing: Arizona's Mark Kelly, West Virginia's Joe Manchin, Indiana's Mike Braun, Georgia's Raphael Warnock, and Utah's Mitt Romney.

“This should be a no-brainer,” Senator Sinema said in an interview. “We have major gaps in both our ability to mine and process these minerals to ensure our energy security for the future, and the administration knows how important copper is to our domestic and national security.”

READ ON [HERE](#)





RECHARGE INDUSTRIES ACQUIRES BRITISHVOLT

Recharge Industries have acquired the majority of Britishvolt following its administration last month--including Britishvolt's proposed gigafactory site at Blyth in Northumberland.

David Collard, Chief Executive of the US investment firm Scale Facilitation Partners which owns Recharge Industries, says: "We're thrilled to be progressing with our proposed big for Britishvolt and can't wait to get started making a reality of our plans to build the UK's first gigafactory."

The CMA is delighted to see that lithium-ion battery production in the UK has secured new life, and we look forward to seeing it develop. We are assured in knowing the project has not been abandoned and that many also recognise its gravity for the UK's energy transition.

READ MORE [HERE](#)





EU URGES BANKS TO STEP UP FUNDING FOR CRITICAL MINERALS

European Commissioner Thierry Breton urged European financiers this week to provide more funding to suppliers of minerals needed for the energy transition, as the European Union prepares its Green Deal industrial plan.

The EU is due to unveil its Critical Raw Materials Act on March 8 to secure the bloc's supply of critical raw materials including lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese and graphite needed for electric vehicle production.

Breton highlighted two major issues. The first is over-reliance on countries such as China for materials such as magnesium used in electronics, cars and machinery. The second is the expected "colossal" increase in demand.

EU dependency on metal imports and security of supply has been reinforced by energy-intensive industries looking to shift production out of the bloc due to soaring power costs after Russia invaded Ukraine.

READ ON [HERE](#)





CIRCULOR PARTNERS WITH CHILEAN LITHIUM PRODUCER SQM

Circular has partnered with SQM, the world's second largest lithium producer, to map emissions across lithium supply chains for car manufacturers such as Volvo.

Legislative pressure on electric vehicles (EVs) and EV battery manufacturers to track the environmental and social impacts is mounting. This partnership will allow SQM to track the provenance of their lithium, the material journey of its production, and its carbon emissions. Such data supports EU Battery Regulation requirements in Europe, as well as traceability and proof of origin requirements for Clean Vehicle Tax Credits in North America.

"We have the lowest CO2 and water footprint of any lithium producer in the world, and Circular's technology will now enable us to demonstrate this at every stage of the value chain," SQM Chief Executive Ricardo Ramos said in a statement.

[READ ON HERE](#)



Industry leading partnership
to trace lithium from source
to EV batteries





ABERDEEN MINERALS COMMENCES DRILLING AT ARTHRATH

Aberdeen Minerals Limited has commenced drilling at their Arthrath Project in Aberdeenshire, which will allow new and detailed geological data of its high-grade mineralised zones to be collected and modelled.

Arthrath is the largest-known nickel deposit in the UK and a safeguarded site for mineral development. The project supports the exploration of critical minerals such as nickel, cobalt, palladium, and platinum— all of which are essential to the energy transition, and are on the UK's Critical Minerals List.

Chief Executive Officer of Aberdeen Minerals, Fraser Gardiner, says: “With UK industry and green jobs relying entirely on overseas supply chains for these critical raw materials, our drilling programme represents an important milestone towards developing domestic mineral potential right here in North East Scotland.”

LEARN MORE [HERE](#)



**ABERDEEN
MINERALS**



TIME FOR GEOGRAPHY RELEASES NEW VIDEO FOR CLASSROOMS

Time for Geography-- in partnership with Cardiff University, Imperial College London, & SRK Consulting-- has released their most ambitious video collaboration to date, titled 'Earth materials, mining, and our sustainable future'.

The video was filmed at Tungsten's West Hemerdon Mine site in south Devon and Cornish Lithium's Geothermal Water Test site in Cornwall.

The 16-minute Knowledge Booster documentary will be launched in classrooms in the UK and beyond, promoting diversity in geoscience and engaging younger generations on the role of critical minerals in the net-zero transition.

[WATCH THE FULL VIDEO HERE](#)



 **srk** consulting

TUNGSTEN  **WEST**

 **Cornish Lithium**



SATARLA @PDAC 2023

Satarla are delighted to announce that they will be attending PDAC 2023 in Toronto, the World's Premier Mineral Exploration and Mining Convention!

Come along to their booth (No. 6126N) to sign up to one of their free training sessions on ESG and Risk Management within the mining sector, or to have a discussion about how Satarla can support your organisation in making practical risk-based decisions for sustainable outcomes.

Satarla will also be running their oversubscribed 2-day course 'Environment, social, and governance (ESG) in mining: What, why and how?' on behalf of PDAC, and will be representing the EU Horizon project, VECTOR, at the European Union booth as well as their own.

Click the link below to read Satarla's blog post about hot topics for PDAC 2023 or to book a meeting with Sarah Gordon, Ludivine Wouters or Chris Stockey.

[**CLICK HERE**](#)



2023
THE WORLD'S PREMIER
MINERAL EXPLORATION
& MINING CONVENTION



WE'RE LOOKING FOR CONTENT CREATORS

Are you interested in creating content for social media, particularly on TikTok? Do you need work experience for your CV?

At the Critical Minerals Association we are dedicated to improving public perceptions of critical minerals, which are vital resources for our modern and renewable technologies for a net-zero world.

Over the next few months we are creating content for the launch of our TikTok account, aimed at engaging youth demographics on the importance of critical minerals.

We don't require prior experience, but are looking for those that are curious to learn and try new things, whether it be designing, animating, editing, or analysing media trends.

If this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you! Send your CV and 200 words detailing your interest to eileen@criticalmineral.org





NEWS ROUNDUP

The following January news articles from Argus Media, Mining Weekly, Mining Magazine, and others, provide an overview of critical mineral mining for:

- Cobalt
- Copper
- Graphite
- Lithium
- Nickel
- Manganese
- Rare Earth Elements
- Tin
- Tungsten
- Vanadium

The Critical Minerals Association takes no credit for any articles and makes no endorsement of any of the content.



Cobalt

- Asia
 - Indonesia [08.02.23]
 - The biggest source of cobalt outside Africa is now Indonesia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - Canada: Aston Minerals [21.02.23]
 - Aston Minerals confirms billion tonne resource estimate at Boomerang nickel-cobalt target.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Canada: High-Tech Metals [04.02.23]
 - Junior miner looks to revive Kenora-area cobalt mine.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Africa
 - DRC: ERG [07.02.23]
 - ERG to spend \$1.8 billion doubling African copper, cobalt output.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Copper

- Asia
 - China: Shanghai Metals Exchange [31.01.2023]
 - China scrambles for copper as domestic prices sustain strong premiums following demise of Maicke.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Indonesia: Freeport Indonesia [12.21.23]
 - Copper mining and processing temporarily halted at Grasberg mine due to flooding and landslides.
 - [Read the article here. \[hyperlinked\]](#)
- North America
 - USA: Teck and PolyMet [15.02.23]
 - Teck, PolyMet launch NewRange Copper Nickel JV to advance Minnesota projects.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Peru: Glencore [08.02.23]
 - Glencore reopens Peru copper mine with extra security.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Africa
 - Zambia: Mohani Copper Mines [06.02.23]
 - Zambia's mining minister expects Mopani Copper Mines deal by end-March.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Graphite

- Oceania
 - Australia: Magnic Energy [20.02.2023]
 - Graphite developer Magnis Energy signs offtake deal with Tesla to supply EV battery anode materials.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Africa
 - Madagascar: Tiruputi Graphite [22.02.23]
 - Tirupati begins production at its newly-built Sahamamy project facilities, bringing total graphite capacity to 30,000 tpy.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Madagascar: NextSource Materials [21.02.23]
 - Construction of new processing plant and mining camp at Molo graphite mine now complete.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Finland: Beowulf Mining PLC [21.02.23]
 - Finnish subsidiary Grafintec Oy signs agreement with the municipality of Korsholm for a graphite facility.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Lithium

- North America

- USA: Lithium Americas [31.01.2023]

- General Motors invests in \$650 million to develop Thacker Pass lithium mine in northern Nevada.

- [Read the article here.](#)

- USA: Albemarle Corp. [15.02.23]

- Albemarle's lithium sales jump fivefold despite price hikes.

- [Read the article here.](#)

- Mexico [15.02.23]

- Mexican President to sign over lithium reserves to Energy Ministry on Saturday.

- [Read the article here.](#)

- Africa

- Ghana: Atlantic Lithium [17.02.23]

- Ghana mining fund mulls multi-million investment in Atlantic Lithium.

- [Read the article here.](#)

- Europe

- Germany: Vulcan [13.02.23]

- Vulcan Energy to mine 60% more German lithium than planned.

- [Read the article here.](#)

- UK: Tees Valley [07.02.23]

- Tees Valley lines up lithium deal with Britishvolt's top bidder.

- [Read the article here.](#)

Manganese

- Africa
 - South Africa: Aveng [31.01.23]
 - Aveng's Moolmans signs new five year manganese mining contract with Tshipi é Ntle.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - USA: North Star Manganese Inc [23.02.23]
 - NSC gains mineral rights in Minnesota after signing purchase agreements with private landowners.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Accelerate Resources Ltd [09.02.23]
 - High-grade mineral results from phase two drilling campaign at the Woodie Woodie North Manganese project in Pilbara.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Nickel

- Oceania
 - Country: Eramet SLN [13.02.23]
 - France grants £40m to New Caledonian nickel producer SLN facing financial collapse.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Portugal: Intl Nickel Study Group [21.02.23]
 - Shocking new data from INSG suggests the global nickel market is oversupplied by ≈112k tonnes, compared to a deficit of ≈166k tonnes in 2021.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - Philippines: Global Ferronickel Holdings [31.01.23]
 - Philippine nickel mining group rejects proposed tax on ore exports.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - Canada: Anglo American and Canada Nickel [08.02.23]
 - Anglo American to take up 9.9% of Canada Nickel for \$18 million.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Rare Earth Elements

- North America
 - USA: MP Materials [22.02.23]
 - Only rare earths miner in US to bypass China in supply deal with Sumitomo.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Canada: NioCorp [07.02.23]
 - NioCorp aims for 92% rare earth recoveries at demo plant in Quebec.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - Malaysia: Lynas [13.02.23]
 - Lynas' Malaysia rare earths plant faces part closure as regulator keeps curbs.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Africa
 - Namibia: Namibia Critical Metals and JOGMEC [12.02.23]
 - Namibia Critical Metals advances Lofdal heavy rare earth project with Japan's JOGMEC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tin

- South America & Africa
 - Auxico Resources Canada [21.02.23]
 - Auxico announces initiation of its tin trading operations with joint venture partner Gracor S.A.S. in Colombia, Brazil, and the DRC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - Vietnam & Laos [23.02.23]
 - Ministerial meeting in Hanoi agrees to enhance bilateral cooperation in mining and processing of mineral resources.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tungsten

- Oceania
 - Australia: Group 6 Metals [22.02.23]
 - Maiden production at Dolphin tungsten mine on Tasmania's King Island secures \$4.5 million in additional funding.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Australia: EQ Resources [13.02.23]
 - EQ Resources Unearths Tungsten at Mt Carbine Mine in Queensland.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Australia: Inca Minerals [23.02.23]
 - Recent field exploration at MaCauley Creek projects "outstanding" grades tungsten and tin.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - India: United Wolfram [23.02.23]
 - International metallurgical firm opens new facility in Gujarat, becoming the largest Indian company to supply tungsten intermediates.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Vanadium

- Europe
 - United Kingdom: CRU Group [23.02.23]
 - New data by CRU Group expects vanadium demand to double by 2032.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Technology Metals Australia [14.03.23]
 - Together with their Japanese tech partner LE System, TMA have generated battery-grade vanadium electrolyte.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - Canada: Suncor [16.02.23]
 - Petroleum refinery company Suncor recovers vanadium at commercial scale, receives CA\$7 million in government funding.
 - [Read the article here.](#)



EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH

- **CMA & UK Government Breakfast Reception** at PDAC 2023: The World's Premier Mineral Exploration & Mining Convention | Toronto, CA | 5-8 March
 - [Register here](#)
- CMA UK & Metals Events: **Critical Metals & Minerals Conference** | London, UK | 22-23 March
 - [Register here](#)

APRIL

- Mines and Money: **Connect London** | London, UK | 25-26 April
 - [Register here](#)
- MMTA: **International Minor Metals Conference** | Charlotte, US | 24 - 26 April
 - [Register here](#)

NOVEMBER

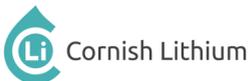
- CMA UK & GSBF | **3rd Annual Critical Minerals Conference** | UK Parliament | 27 Nov 2023

Interested in speaking and / or attending?

Contact our events team for more information at events@criticalmineral.org



OUR MEMBERS



BECOME A MEMBER HERE



www.criticalmineral.org

Twitter: @CMA_Minerals

Linkedin: Critical Minerals Association

Contact: kirsty@criticalmineral.org

Company number 12419306