



# CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION

## APRIL 2021

SECURING TECHNOLOGY-CRITICAL METALS FOR  
BRITAIN - POLICY COMMISSION REPORT  
UK GOVERNMENT AUTOMOTIVE TRANSFORMATION  
FUND BACKS PENSANA'S PLANS  
TIRUPATI GRAPHITE OPENS VATOMINA MINE  
TECHMET CLOSES FUNDING ROUND AT \$120M  
CAMBORNE SCHOOL OF MINES'S TECHNOLOGY  
METALS FOR A GREEN FUTURE COURSE  
RESPONSIBLE RAW MATERIALS - 10-14 MAY 2021



# April 2021

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

Read on for:

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This month's newsletter has been put together by CSM MSc Exploration Geology **Olimpia Pilch.**

Kirsty & Jeff

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*Got a suggestion? Want to feature in next month's newsletter? Contact [kirsty@criticalmineral.org](mailto:kirsty@criticalmineral.org)*

*Want to learn more? Check out our website: <https://www.criticalmineral.org/> & follow us on twitter @CMA\_Minerals*



# CMA Highlights - 'Universities & Critical Mineral Supply Chains'

02

The Critical Minerals Association hosted the 'Universities & Critical Mineral Supply Chains' breakfast chat on Monday 29th March discussing how universities are taking a lead in shaping critical mineral strategies. We were joined by:

- Dr. Sarah Gordon, Imperial College London
- Professor Allan Walton, University of Birmingham
- Dr. Gavin Mudd, RMIT University
- Professor Frances Wall, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter

## HIGHLIGHTS & RECORDING HERE



### UNIVERSITIES & CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAINS

- Dr Sarah Gordon, Honorary Lecturer, Imperial College London
- Professor Frances Wall, Professor of Applied Mineralogy, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter
- Professor Allan Walton, Professor of Critical and Magnetic Materials, University of Birmingham
- Dr Gavin Mudd, Department of Environmental Engineering, RMIT University

MON, 29 MAR @ 9AM GMT





# CMA Interview: Technology Metals for a Green Future - Camborne School of Mines Free Online Course

03

The Critical Minerals Association's 'Perception of Mining Group' Chairs, Lucy Crane, Cornish Lithium, & Ben Lepley, SRK Consulting, interviewed the creators and main contributors of Camborne School of Mines's: 'Technology Metals for a Green Future' Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).

## HIGHLIGHTS & RECORDING HERE



## FREE COURSE AVAILABLE HERE



# UK Government Automotive Transformation Fund Backs Pensana's Plans

Pensana has announced that its proposed rare earth processing facility at the Saltend Chemicals Park has received first phase progression from the UK government's £1-billion Automotive Transformation Fund (ATF).

The ATF seeks to support the national transition to electric vehicles (EVs).

This UK's electrified supply chain opportunity has an estimated value of £24-billion over the next five years.

The ATF is a long-term programme designed to enable the UK to build the world's most comprehensive and compelling EV supply chain, supporting more than 160 000 jobs and creating export opportunities.

The fund is part of Advanced Propulsion Centre UK, which provides funding, support and insight to help the nation's automotive industry transition towards a net zero future.

The project proposal, under ATF's focus on rare earth element processing for magnetic engine drivetrain components, supporting the UK's transition to EVs, is anchored by the \$125-million investment in the project proposed at Saltend within the Zero Carbon Humber cluster in Humber, Yorkshire.

[\*\*READ ON HERE\*\*](#)

**PENSANA** Plc  
LSE : PRE



# Tirupati Graphite: Oversubscribed £10m Placing Completed

05

Tirupati Graphite raise £10m to accelerate with 'graphite at front and centre' of green revolution.

Shishir Poddar, CEO of Tirupati Graphite, said, "We are delighted to have received such strong support in completing this oversubscribed placing, which further strengthens our confidence in our strategy and enables us to fast track our development plans to fulfil the increased demand for our graphite products."

[\*\*READ ON HERE\*\*](#)

## Opening of Vatomina Mine

- Start of excavation of overburden and first ore mined for the upcoming 9,000 tpa Vatomina processing plant that remains on track to start commissioning in Q2 2021.
- Completed building the circa 12km new interconnecting road that runs between Vatomina and Sahamamy, which will save circa 5% in current OPEX towards logistics costs.
- Initiated preparations to commence the accelerated construction of Sahamamy's next plant, which has a planned capacity of 18,000 tpa.

[\*\*READ ON HERE\*\*](#)



**GRAPHITE**



# TechMet Closes its Second Funding Round at \$120M

TechMet has announced the closing of its second-round equity fundraising at \$120m. The close represents a 50% oversubscription on its \$80m target. The final \$60m was raised at a 32% increase over the company's initial Round 2 price, and a 140% increase over its Round 1 price.

Founder, Chairman and CEO, Brian Menell, stated:

"We are fortunate to be at an inflection point in history of both enormous opportunity and enormous challenge. We are at the beginning of an epic supply-demand dislocation for the metals that go into EVs and renewable energy systems, and our industry must completely transform itself in order to supply these strategic materials in the quantities necessary, and with the required high Environmental, Social and Governance standards and low carbon footprint, to ensure the success of a clean energy future."

**READ ON [HERE](#)**

# TECHMET



# CrEAM Report: Securing Technology-Critical Metals for Britain

The Birmingham Centre for Strategic Elements and Critical Materials (BCSECM), the CrEAM network and The Birmingham Energy Institute published a report, 'Securing Technology-Critical Metals for Britain: Ensuring the United Kingdom's Supply of Strategic Elements & Critical Materials for a clean future.'

The report proposes 12 recommendations based on challenges that end-users in crucial British industries have faced, as well as insight from across the supply chain for a number of key technology metals. Emphasising the urgent need for UK to develop policy responses to the critical materials challenge post-Brexit.

**[FULL REPORT HERE](#)**



## SECURING TECHNOLOGY-CRITICAL METALS FOR BRITAIN

ENSURING THE UNITED KINGDOM'S SUPPLY  
OF STRATEGIC ELEMENTS & CRITICAL  
MATERIALS FOR A CLEAN FUTURE



**BIRMINGHAM CENTRE**  
FOR STRATEGIC ELEMENTS  
AND CRITICAL MATERIALS





# Powering Social Development within Cobalt Mining

Sustainability concerns within the cobalt extractive sector are dominated by child labour and artisanal mining. This often dominates the dialogue around social concerns within cobalt mining and is usually detrimental to other essential factors.

Roskill's new Cobalt Sustainability Monitor takes a critical look at the industry's key Environmental, Social and Governance components (ESG), critical raw materials designation and associated responsible sourcing initiatives. Having previously looked at the environmental cost of refined cobalt production discussed in the report; this article considers the industry's social issues.

## Roskill View

Under the Roskill ESG framework, the social aspect of the report deals with the cobalt industry's association with human rights, its impact on indigenous groups within and around cobalt mining centres, child labour, and artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM).

**[READ ON HERE](#)**

**[@Roskill\\_Info](#)**





# Minviro: Life Cycle Assessments

Find out about what our member Minviro has been up to:

- Queensland Pacific Metals reveals industry-low emissions at TECH. Read on for Minviro's involvement.

## **READ ON HERE**

- Northern Graphite Corporation retains Minviro to assist in developing a carbon neutral project at Bissett Creek.

## **READ ON HERE**

Interview with Minviro's Robert Pell, 'Life Cycle Assessment: Optimising raw materials for renewables.'



## **WATCH VIDEO HERE**





# Responsible Raw Materials 2021 Annual Conference

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## 10 - 14th May 2021

This year's conference will be designed around the concept of the 'ESG Toolbox'. Our aim is to create a platform to enable us to build on the knowledge shared and gained last year and provide you with tangible, practical tools to help meet your ESG objectives, embed that good practice, and sustain momentum towards a responsible, sustainable future.

CMA Founders Kirsty and Jeff will be discussing critical minerals as a driver for sustainable development, whilst Lucy Crane and Ben Lepley will be discussing their views as Chairs of the CMA's Perception of Mining group!

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# This is Us:

## Chris O'Brien & James McFarlane

There are many fantastic people, working hard behind the scenes, involved in all aspects of CMA. Each month, we will be bringing new faces into the spotlight!

This month's spotlight goes to Chris O'Brien, SRK Consulting and James McFarlane, Tungsten West.

### Chris O' Brien



Chair of Circular Economy Group, Critical Minerals Association

BSc Marine and Freshwater Biology, MSc Environmental Dynamics and Climatic Change, Chartered Environmentalist

Senior Environment and Social Governance Consultant, SRK Consulting

### James McFarlane



BSc (hons) Environmental Earth Science at Aberystwyth University & MSc Mining Geology, Camborne School of Mines

Technical Director, Tungsten West Ltd.



# Critical Minerals News

The following April news articles from Argus Media, Mining Weekly, Mining.com, Mining Technology, Roskill and others, provide an overview of critical mineral mining for:

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

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

# Critical Minerals

- Europe

- Finland: Aalto University (5.4.21)

- A new study by researchers at Finland's Aalto University states that the carbon footprint of the raw materials obtained by recycling electric car batteries is 38% smaller than that of virgin raw materials.
    - <https://www.mining.com/raw-materials-from-ev-battery-recycling-have-smaller-carbon-footprint-study/>

- North America

- Canada: NioBay Metals (7.4.21)

- A series of hydrometallurgical process testing to produce battery-grade niobium at the James Bay project, south of Moosonee, Ontario, has begun, reports TSX-V-listed NioBay Metals.
    - <https://www.miningweekly.com/article/niobay-initiates-test-works-for-battery-grade-niobium-production-2021-04-07>

- Canada (6.4.21)

- The Attawapiskat, Fort Albany and Neskantaga First Nations in the James Bay lowlands have declared a moratorium on development in the Ring of Fire, stating that their territories and rights could be "seriously and permanently desecrated" by large scale mining.
    - <https://www.miningweekly.com/article/first-nations-puts-moratorium-on-ring-of-fire-mining-2021-04-06>

- USA (21.4.21)

- Ahead of Biden's climate change summit, America is losing vital ground on clean energy.
    - <https://eu.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2021/04/21/climate-change-summit-why-america-falling-behind-clean-energy-column/7298798002/>

# Electric Vehicles

- Global (19.4.21)

- Japanese carmaker Toyota Motor plans to launch 15 new battery-operated electric vehicles (BEVs) in the global market by 2025 as part of its plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.
- <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2206483-toyota-to-launch-15-allev-models-by-2025-correction>

- Asia

- China: BYD (8.4.21)

- China's BYD confirmed that it is going all-in on LFP (lithium-iron-phosphate) batteries, scrapping NCM (nickel, cobalt, manganese) technology from its model line-up entirely.
- <https://www.mining.com/world-no-2-electric-carmaker-goes-entirely-nickel-cobalt-free/>

- Europe

- Germany: (23.4.21)

- Battery electric vehicle registrations increased year on year in the first quarter of 2021, spurred by gains in Germany and Italy, according to the European Automotive Manufacturers Association.
- <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2208504-germany-italy-lead-europes-ev-demand-drive-in-1q?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- UK: Octopus (8.4.21)

- Octopus launches electric car 'salary sacrifice' scheme for firms where employees can pay for a new vehicle out of wages as interest in EV soars.
- <https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/cars/article-9440515/Octopus-launches-new-electric-car-salary-sacrifice-scheme.html>

# Cobalt

- Global (19.4.21)

- CO2 emissions from cobalt production expected to soar — report.
- <https://www.mining.com/co2-emissions-from-cobalt-production-expected-to-soar-report/>

- Africa

- DRC: EGC (9.4.21)

- Entreprise Générale du Cobalt (EGC), an initiative to support artisanal small-scale cobalt mining was recently officially launched in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) towards the end of last month.
- <https://www.whyafrika.co.za/initiative-to-support-artisanal-small-scale-cobalt-mining-launched-in-drc/>

- DRC: CATL & CMOC (16.4.21)

- Chinese battery manufacturer Contemporary Amperex Technology Co., Limited (CATL) and cobalt miner China Molybdenum (CMOC) have inked a deal to co-develop copper-cobalt resources in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
- <https://roskill.com/news/cobalt-catl-partners-with-cmoc-to-co-develop-copper-cobalt-mine-in-the-drc/>

- Europe (9.4.21)

- European cobalt prices have fallen since mid-March amid an anticipated easing of supply bottlenecks and stabilising demand from the battery chemical industry.
- <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2203904-cobalt-prices-fall-on-easing-supply-stable-demand?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

# Copper

- Global (23.4.21)

- Copper And Lithium Compete For The Title Of 'New Oil'.
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/timtreadgold/2021/04/23/copper-and-lithium-compete-for-the-title-of-new-oil/>

- Africa

- Zambia: Bezant Resources (23.4.21)

- Bezant Resources PLC has unveiled another significant copper intercept in its second drill hole at the Minemba prospect within the Kalengwa area in Zambia.
- <https://www.proactiveinvestors.co.uk/companies/news/947471/bezant-resources-unearths-another-significant-copper-mineralisation-at-minemba-947471.html>

- Asia

- India: Adani Enterprises (8.4.21)

- Adani Enterprises released plans to build a 1Mtpa copper refinery complex in Gujarat. Vedanta, which operates a refinery in Silvassa, western India and owns the closed Thoothukudi smelter in Tamil Nadu, is seeking expressions of interest from state governments for a 500ktpy smelter.
- <https://roskill.com/news/copper-1-5mt-of-new-smelter-capacity-proposed-for-india/>

- Europe

- UK: Cornish Metals (25.4.21)

- United Downs tin and copper drilling begins, hoping to ease the strain on the rainforests.
- <https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/united-downs-tin-copper-drilling-5334622>

# Graphite

- Global (15.4.21)

- Canadian natural graphite developer NextSource Materials announced a three-way partnership with its Japanese offtake partner and a leading Chinese processor of spherical graphite (SPG) for the construction and operation of a SPG facility.
- <https://roskill.com/news/graphite-nextsource-materials-japan-china-partnership-for-spherical-graphite-plant/>

- Africa

- Tanzania: Armadale (30.3.21)

- The National Environment Management Council of Tanzania has approved Armadale Capital's environmental- and social-impact assessment for the production of natural flake graphite from the Mahenge Liandu graphite project.
- <https://www.miningweekly.com/article/armadale-gets-enviro-go-ahead-2021-03-30>

- Madagascar: Tirupati Graphite (23.4.21)

- Tirupati Graphite announced the start of mining at its Vatomina graphite mine, the company's second operation in Madagascar. Ore will be stockpiled for use at a new processing plant, due to be commissioned in Q2 with 9ktpy of capacity.
- <https://roskill.com/news/cobalt-sustainability-powering-social-development-within-cobalt-mining/>

# Lithium

- Asia

- Mongolia: Ningbo Shanshan (8.4.21)

- Ningbo Shanshan will expand its lithium-ion battery anode material production base in Baotou city, north China's Inner Mongolia, with investment in a second phase of the plant.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2203215-chinas-shanshan-to-expand-inner-mongolia-anode-plant?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- Europe

- Sweden: Northvolt (7.4.21)

- Sweden's Northvolt has agreed to supply battery systems to Pon Equipment for its construction vehicles.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2202923-northvolt-in-deal-to-electrify-construction-vehicles?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- North America

- Canada: Musk Metals (7.4.21)

- Exploration junior Musk Metals has entered into an agreement to acquire a 100% interest in the Pakeagama lithium claims, Ontario.
    - <https://www.miningweekly.com/article/musk-acquires-lithium-claims-in-ontarios-electric-avenue-2021-04-07>

- Oceania

- Australia: Galaxy Resources (19.4.21)

- Orocobre and Galaxy Resources, have agreed a A\$4bn (\$3.1bn) merger that would create the world's fifth largest lithium chemicals group by market capitalisation.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2206496-australias-orocobre-galaxy-plan-3bn-lithium-merger?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

# Manganese

- Asia

- China: Qingdao Manganese (9.4.21)

- Market participants expect Chinese manganese prices to hold firm following the establishment of Qingdao Manganese Series Investment, a new company that has been set up to support the market and prevent competition from driving prices lower.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2203744-chinas-new-manganese-company-to-support-prices-market?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- China: Wuling Manganese (19.4.21)

- China's Wuling Manganese on 16 April halted its 200 t/d flake output in Guizhou province for equipment maintenance, as part of an output suspension plan initiated by the country's main producers.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2206570-chinas-wuling-halts-guizhou-manganese-plant?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- North America

- USA: American Manganese (9.4.21)

- American Manganese Inc said it has improved its manganese processing flowsheet following the recent research and development on the Wenden Stockpile reclamation and advanced material processing bench-scale project, which was funded by the US Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).
    - <https://www.proactiveinvestors.com/companies/news/946173/american-manganese-improves-the-manganese-processing-flowsheet-for-its-us-defense-logistics-agency-project-946173.html>

# Nickel

- Asia

- Korea: Ningbo Ronbay (23.4.21)

- Chinese battery material manufacturer Ningbo Ronbay has started building a high-nickel content cathode material facility in South Korea.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2208337-chinas-ronbay-adds-south-korean-battery-cathode-plant?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- Africa

- Botswana: Power Metal Resources (12.4.21)

- Power Metal Resources report significant nickel intersections in Botswana.
    - <https://www.whyafrica.co.za/power-metal-resources-report-significant-nickel-intersections-in-botswana/>

- Madagascar: Ambatovy (1.4.21)

- The Ambatovy nickel-cobalt refinery in Madagascar has produced its first nickel briquettes following the plant's re-start. The company said that following a shut-down of approximately a year.
    - <https://roskill.com/news/nickel-ambatovy-produces-first-briquettes-following-re-start/>

- Europe

- Finland: Nornickel (16.4.21)

- Nornickel has released plans to expand battery grade nickel capacity at its Harjarvalta refinery in Finland. The expansions at Harjarvalta will be implemented in two phases, with the first phase increasing nickel refining capacity to 75ktpy in 2023 and to over 100ktpy by early 2026.
    - <https://roskill.com/news/nickel-sulphate-cobalt-nornickel-to-expand-battery-grade-nickel-production-in-finland/>

# Tin

- Europe

- Spain: Elemntos (23.4.21)

- Elementos Ltd is taking big steps to capitalise on strong tin market fundamentals, including high prices, through exploration, development and production of high-grade tin projects in stable jurisdictions.
    - <https://www.proactiveinvestors.co.uk/companies/news/947450/elementos-goes-all-out-to-capitalise-on-strong-tin-market-and-high-prices-947450.html>

- UK: Cornish Metals (31.3.21)

- Local MP George Eustice visited South Crofty to get an update on plans to de-water the mine and resume tin production at the site.
  - <https://businesscornwall.co.uk/news-by-industry/manufacturing-in-cornwall/2021/03/mp-backing-for-tin-mine/>

- Latin America

- Peru: Tinka Resources (14.4.21)

- Tinka Resources Limited has reported assay results from its recently-completed 7,600 metre, 2020-2021 drill program at the Ayawilca project in Peru, which included 12 metres grading 3.1% tin from a depth of 262.0 metres.
    - <https://www.proactiveinvestors.co.uk/companies/news/946602/tinka-a-resources-intersects-high-grade-tin-at-the-ayawilca-project-in-peru-946602.html>

- Bolivia: Eloro Resources (13.4.21)

- Eloro drill program continues to outline potential 'world class' silver-tin deposit in Bolivia.
    - <https://www.mining.com/eloro-drill-program-continues-to-outline-potential-world-class-silver-tin-deposit-in-bolivia/>

# Tungsten

- Asia

- China: Xiamen Tungsten (19.4.21)

- China's state-controlled tungsten producer and primary materials consumer Xiamen Tungsten has raised its bid price for ammonium paratungstate (APT) for the second half of April, in response to lower spot availability caused by environmental inspections and higher spot prices.
    - <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2206551-chinas-xiamen-tungsten-lifts-2h-april-apt-bid-price?backToResults=true&selectedMarket=Metals>

- Europe

- Spain: Rafaella Resources (25.4.21)

- Rafaella Resources speeding things up at Santa Comba tungsten project.
    - <https://www.mining.com/rafaella-resources-speeding-things-up-at-santa-comba-tungsten-project/>

- Oceania

- Australia: Thor Mining (13.4.21)

- Mineral exploration company Thor Mining has increased the tungsten resource at its Molyhil project in the Northern Territory, 220km northeast of Alice Springs.
    - <https://stockhead.com.au/resources/thor-mining-boosts-resource-at-molyhil-high-grade-tungsten-project/>

# Rare Earth Elements

- Global (7.4.21)

- China has long dominated the supply chain for rare earth elements that are vital for many 21st century technologies, from jet engines to electric vehicles and medical scanners. We profile the most prominent rare earth mining and processing projects outside the dominant market.
- <https://www.mining-technology.com/features/mapping-rare-earths-projects-outside-china/>

- Asia

- China: Gansu Rare Earths (21.4.21)

- China Northern Rare Earth's subsidiary, Gansu Rare Earth, held a ceremony, on 15 April, to upgrade its solvent extraction production line to 11ktpy rare earth oxide capacity. The project is capable of fully separating all rare earth elements, though is expected to produce five RE compounds (La, Ce, Pr, Nd, SEG) through one line.
- <https://roskill.com/news/rare-earths-gansu-rare-earth-expands-solvent-extraction-facility/>

- Africa

- Uganda: IonicRe (31.3.21)

- Ionic Rare Earths (IonicRE) has achieved a key milestone in Uganda, with the National Environmental Management Authority (Nema) having approved the terms of reference for the completion of an environmental- and social-impact assessment (Esia) for its 51%-owned Makuutu rare earths project.
- <https://www.miningweekly.com/article/ionicre-records-milestone-for-esia-at-makuutu-2021-03-31>



# WSJ: Battery Metals Are Hot, but These Miners Can't Get Investors

Investors are pouring money into car companies, battery makers and clean-tech startups that are poised to benefit from the global economy's shift to electric power. But many small mining companies that supply the raw materials haven't been invited to the party.

Uncertainty over the metals' quality, the short- and long-term outlook for prices and the ability of North American miners to compete with their Chinese counterparts is making investors wary.

Toronto-based First Cobalt Corp. has a claim to develop a cobalt mine near Salmon, Idaho, just a two-hour drive southeast of Jervois's Gant Mountain mine. The company needs \$16 million to drill into the site, test the mineral and apply for federal mining permits, a process that could take five years, said Trent Mell, the company's chief executive.

The company's market capitalization on the Toronto Stock Exchange is only \$138 million, so raising \$16 million by selling equity would be expensive.

First Cobalt has received roughly \$8 million in loans and grants from the Canadian government and the province of Ontario to expand a cobalt refinery in northern Ontario, but needs another \$52 million to start operations.

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**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**



# Geosciences and the Energy Transition: Resources on a Finite Planet

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The  
Geological  
Society

## ENERGY TRANSITION

### 06 - 07 September 2021

Three webinars are being held in 2021 leading to a Discussion Meeting on the Energy Transition in April 2022. This third event is focused on strategic minerals, hydrocarbons and responsible recovery and the need for future technologies and resource stewardship.

The series of Webinars is aimed at addressing the following questions:

- What are the recent advances and future needs in geoscience areas critical to the Energy Transition?
- How can Geosciences contribute more effectively to the Energy Transition?
- What advances in Geoscience integration into societal needs and public awareness of the Energy Transition are possible?
- How well is the Geosciences community integrated with other sciences and engineering, and how can a more multidisciplinary, systems approach be achieved?

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**



# Top Tips to Get Prepared for an External ESG Review

With environment, social and governance (ESG) being a major priority for mining companies around the world, knowing what will be involved in an external ESG review will ensure your operation is well placed to pass the review with flying colours.

Fiona Cessford, SRK's Corporate Consultant (Environmental, Social & Governance), outlines ten tips:

- Agree on the assessment criteria to be used for the review
- Establish a well-organised, logical and comprehensive data room
- Ensure commitment/obligation registers are established, comprehensive and up to date
- Have up to date site layout/s available
- Give a heads up to your team
- Prioritise ESG appropriately
- Do not limit site visits to the success stories
- Talk the language of risk and materiality with the reviewers
- Stand-up for your beliefs
- Make the most of having a set of independent eyes on your activities

**[READ ON HERE](#)**



# Gasoline, Diesel Cars Continue Losing EU Market Share

Diesel and gasoline-powered cars saw a rapid loss of market share in the EU in the first quarter as consumers increasingly opt for hybrid electric vehicles (EVs) and electrically-chargeable cars.

Figures from industry association the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) show gasoline car sales in the EU fell by 16.9pc on the year to 1.1mn in January-March, driving their share of the passenger car market down to 42.2pc from 52.3pc in the same period of 2020. Among the countries registering strong declines were Germany, Spain, the Netherlands and Italy. France was a notable exception among the bloc's major economies. Similarly, diesel car sales in the EU dropped by 20.1pc on the year to just under 594,000, representing a market share of 23.2pc, compared with 29.9pc in January-March 2020. ACEA noted double-digit declines in most EU countries including Germany, Spain and France.

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# Critical Minerals for the GeoEnergy Transition Course

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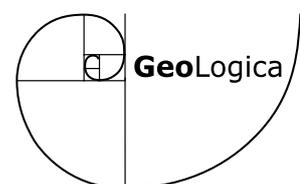
## GeoLogica

26 - 28 May 2021  
24 - 26 Nov 2021

**Online Course: 10.5 hrs; 2pm-5.30pm BST**

Delivered by Lucy Crane, Sustainability and Communications Manager, Cornish Lithium, this course covers all aspects of the crucial role that mineral extraction will play in the energy transition. Building the low carbon technologies required to combat climate change, such as wind turbines, electric vehicles and batteries, will be hugely mineral intensive. The impact of this increased extraction is often overlooked, yet it's vital that these materials are sourced and extracted in the most responsible manner possible.

This course explores where certain critical raw materials are currently produced and the impacts of their global supply chains, as well as examining how new technologies are aiding exploration for and extraction of new deposits. It also discusses challenges faced by responsible sourcing, and the growing importance of ESG within the mining industry.



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Twitter: @CMA\_Minerals

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Contact: [kirsty@criticalmineral.org](mailto:kirsty@criticalmineral.org)

Company number 12419306