



CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION (UK)

AUGUST 2025

UN SECRETARY GENERAL PUBLISHES ACTION
GUIDANCE ON CRITICAL MINERALS

UK & ZIMBABWE STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP

INNOVATE UK PUBLISHES REE VALUE CHAIN REPORT



AUGUST 2025

Welcome to the CMA (UK) Monthly Newsletter, featuring updates on the critical minerals space. Read on for:

- United Nations Publishes Guidance on Critical Minerals Action
- UK & Zimbabwe Strengthen Relations in Push for Critical Minerals
- Canada & Germany to Strengthen Joint Innovation & Investment
- US Geological Survey Publishes Draft 2025 Critical Minerals List
- Innovate UK Publishes CLIMATES Rare Earth Value Chain Report
- Minister Jones Visits Ionic Technologies on NI Industrial Roadshow
- Future STEM Leaders Kickstart Prestigious Placements at MPI
- TechMet Expands Mercuria Partnership with New Trading Arm
- CMA (UK) & Natural History Museum Careers Event on 23 October
- Join CMA (UK) 5th Annual Conference on 1 December in London
- Inquire about Side Event: Strategic Discussion on Tin & Tungsten
- Partnering with Resourcing Tomorrow for London Mining Week
- CMA (UK) Joins World Wildlife Fund's CLEANaction Initiative
- Transition Finance Council Opens Consultation on Global Guidelines
- News Round Up: Cobalt, Copper, Graphite, Lithium, Nickel, Manganese, Rare Earth Elements, Tin, Tungsten, Vanadium
- Events Calendar 2025

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter by joining our mailing list under 'Contact'

SUBSCRIBE

Editor: Eileen Maes

Contributors: Elliott Trickey, Nareeka Ahir, Niall Beamish, Tiffany Sarfo



UN PUBLISHES CRITICAL MINERALS ACTION GUIDANCE

1

In June 2025, the United Nations' Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals published the 'UN Guidance for Action on Critical Energy Transition Minerals'.

This report is “a practical, living resource” that unpacks each principle in detail; points to global standards, policies, and case studies; showcases real-world programmes and partnerships; and profiles insightful contributions from UN agencies and member states.

The document was prepared under the leadership of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and supported by Professor Daniel Franks, Director of the Global Centre for Mineral Security. It is designed to help governments, industry, and communities align mineral supply for the energy transition with equity and justice – and it will be updated over time as knowledge grows.

READ ON [HERE](#)



UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PANEL ON
**CRITICAL ENERGY
TRANSITION MINERALS**



UK & ZIMBABWE STRENGTHEN DIPLOMATIC TIES

In early June, the UK Minister of State for Africa, Lord Ray Collins of Highbury, met with Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa and other senior leaders.

Lord Collins described his visit as a “mission for economic growth” that would result in “a win-win situation” for both countries. The British Embassy in Harare shared that sentiment, citing a \$1 billion pipeline of prospective deals across key sectors such as agriculture, finance, telecommunications, renewable energy and critical minerals.

The UK’s renewed engagement with Zimbabwe reflects more than just an improvement in relations and signals ‘a strategic interest in critical minerals, particularly lithium’, said Zaynab Hoosen, a senior Africa analyst at Pangea-Risk, a specialist intelligence advisory firm.

READ ON [HERE](#)





CANADA & GERMANY DEEPEN MINERALS COLLABORATION

3

On 26 August, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney met in Berlin for diplomatic talks. The two nations' pledged to expand cooperation on securing supply chains for critical minerals key to energy and defense technologies.

A Joint Declaration of Intent sets out a mutual intent to innovate, invest and collaborate through rules-based trade and help catalyse private capital to fund new projects and build resilient supply chains.

At a joint news conference with Merz, Carney also highlighted major investments expected in port infrastructure such as in Montreal and Churchill, Manitoba, to help expand metals and minerals exports.

READ ON [HERE](#)





US PUBLISHES DRAFT CRITICAL MINERALS LIST 2025

4

On 25 August, the U.S. Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Geological Survey, released the draft 2025 List of Critical Minerals and a report that outlined a new model for assessing how potential supply chain disruptions could affect the U.S. economy.

The draft List is designed to guide federal strategy and permitting decisions to secure the minerals needed to protect the U.S. economy and national security. The List also informs direct investments in mining and resource recovery, as well as tax incentives for U.S. mineral processing.

The 2025 draft list includes 54 mineral commodities. Potash, silicon, copper, silver, rhenium and lead were recommended for inclusion, while arsenic and tellurium were recommended for removal.

[READ ON HERE](#)



2025 DRAFT LIST OF CRITICAL MINERALS

THE LIST OF CRITICAL MINERALS INFORMS:



CRITICAL MINERALS

Ranked by Risk Classification

Samarium

High

Rhodium

Elevated

Lutetium

Moderate

Terbium

Dysprosium

Single Point
of Failure

Gallium

Zirconium

Germanium

Gadolinium

Tungsten

Qualitatively
Assessed

Niobium

Magnesium

Cesium



UKRI PUBLISHES RARE EARTHS LANDSCAPE REPORT

Innovate UK's 'Circular Critical Materials Supply Chains Programme' (CLIMATES) aligns with the UK Critical Minerals Strategy to create a more resilient and sustainable UK economy. It aims to strengthen the supply chain for rare earth elements (REEs) and rare earth permanent magnets (REPMs) whilst positioning the UK as a leader in REE recycling.

In July, Innovate UK published its Rare Earth Value Chain Landscape report which explores current state-of-the-art technology; identifies the organisations developing these technologies and innovations in the UK; a "mapping" of the UK's capabilities in comparison to global capabilities, as well as opportunities for collaboration, development and deployment to build a UK competitive advantage in REE and REPM supply chains.

[READ ON HERE](#)

**CLIMATES
Programme:
Rare Earth
Value Chain**



MINISTER JONES VISITED IONIC TECHNOLOGIES

On 20 August, the Belfast-based rare earth elements refiner Ionic Technologies hosted UK Minister Sarah Jones at its demonstration plant, as she promoted the Government's new Industrial Strategy in Northern Ireland.

The visit comes a month after the government announced a £11 million grant to the CircularREconomy project, an Ionic-led consortium developing a domestic supply chain for rare earth permanent magnets.

As the Minister of State for both the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Department for Business and Trade (DBT), Minister Jones was taken on a tour of Ionic's Belfast Harbour facility to inspect its progress "in developing a rare earth magnetic recycling process to support the UK's electric vehicle transition."

READ ON [HERE](#)





FUTURE STEM LEADERS KICKSTART CAREERS AT MPI

7

The Materials Processing Institute (MPI) has welcomed a new cohort of early-career professionals and students onto its prestigious placement programme, designed to develop the next generation of leaders in materials science, engineering, and industrial innovation.

The 8-strong group, including 2 Millman Scholars from Tees Valley and the Institute's first-ever Carol Patton Engineering Scholar, are gaining hands-on experience by contributing to real-world research projects at MPI's Teesside campus.

Each placement is designed to provide technical skills, project delivery experience and commercial insight, all while supporting research aligned to the UK's net zero ambitions, industrial resilience and long-term economic sustainability.

READ ON [HERE](#)





TECHMET & MERCURIA EXPAND PARTNERSHIP

8

On 27 August, TechMet announced an additional investment from Mercuria Energy Trading bringing their total investment from Mercuria in 2025 to \$68 million. The new capital enhances their position as one of TechMet's largest shareholders and an important strategic partner.

As part of the new investment, TechMet will establish a new trading arm, TechMet | SCM, to focus on specialty metals where the company has unique expertise. Quentin Lamarche will serve as CEO of this arm, with TechMet and Mercuria continuing to partner on strategic initiatives such as bulk metal trading.

Brian Menell, Chairman & CEO of TechMet, said: "Mercuria's backing adds to TechMet's growth as we secure Western-aligned supply of the critical minerals that will drive the 21st century economy."

READ ON [HERE](#)



TECHMET-MERCURIA



CMA (UK) & NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM HISTORY MUSEUM HOST CAREERS EVENT

9

We are pleased to announce the second edition of our Careers for Next Generation Minerals event, co-hosted with Natural History Museum. The event is free to attend for all students, parents, and teachers interested in learning more about trades, apprenticeships, further education, and career opportunities in the critical minerals sector.

From exploration geologists uncovering the UK's critical minerals potential and chemical engineers who discover innovative ways to recycle magnets, to social scientists who map our global supply chains and ESG consultants who monitor and design project sustainability — the opportunities in critical minerals are endless.

Interested in speaking, exhibiting, sponsoring, or organising a class trip? Contact eileen@criticalmineral.org

SIGN UP HERE



Careers for Next Generation Minerals



Thursday, 23 October 2025 | 12:00 - 17:00



The Natural History Museum | London

Calling all students, parents, and teachers to discover the world of critical minerals! Come along and enjoy an interactive exhibition featuring universities & employers, and talks from young professionals working in the industry.



Sponsored by





SAVE THE DATE: CMA (UK) 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

10

Our 5th Annual Conference, Critical Minerals: Transforming the Future, is coming to London on 1 December.

Our conferences welcome hundreds of experts across the globe and value chain from industry, academia, government and professional & support services. Our line-up features C-suite executives, UK and foreign ministers, and international organisations discussing the strategic importance of critical minerals, the challenges we face to secure responsible supply, and the solutions required to address it.

Due to the overwhelming interest and turnout at our 4th Annual Conference, we are re-locating to 1 Wimpole Street, a highly versatile venue offering a blend of traditional and modern spaces. Ours is a must-attend event for anyone interested in the future of critical mineral supply chains.

Interested in attending, speaking, exhibiting, sponsoring, or hosting a side event? Contact eileen@criticalmineral.org

READ ON [HERE](#)





STRATEGIC DISCUSSION ON TIN & TUNGSTEN

The South West of England, particularly Cornwall, hosts some of Europe's highest-grade tin and tungsten deposits. Projects by Cornish Metals and Cornwall Resources Limited (CRL) are reviving the region's mining heritage, positioning the UK as a potential key supplier for international markets.

At the CMA (UK)'s 5th Annual Conference, experts will explore the strategic importance of tin and tungsten. From defence to semiconductors to renewable energy, these critical minerals are essential to the future of UK industry and national resilience. They play a vital role in enabling the manufacturing of modern technologies, making their availability crucial for the UK's industrial competitiveness.

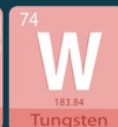
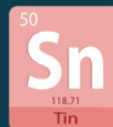
Cornish Metals and Cornwall Resources will be hosting a dedicated side event on this topic. If you are interested in attending, please contact [**elliott@criticalmineral.org**](mailto:elliott@criticalmineral.org)

Book your tickets to the 2025 Annual Conference today to take advantage of our early bird rates!

REGISTER HERE

THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF TIN & TUNGSTEN

Seminar Room 3, 1 Wimpole Street, London
1 December 2025, 10:45 - 12:45 (GMT)





PROUD TO BE PART OF LONDON MINING WEEK 2025

London is set to become the global capital of mining with the launch of London Mining Week - a new initiative by Beacon Events uniting industry leaders, investors, policymakers, and innovators for five days of mining-focused events.

Decision-makers from around the world will converge on the city for a week of high-level meetings, capital markets access, world-leading legal expertise, and global agenda setting.

The CMA (UK) is pleased to be an official part of London Mining Week, with our 5th Annual Conference, **Critical Minerals: Transforming the Future**, and Drinks Reception taking place at 1 Wimpole Street on Monday, 1 December.

Get 10% off your delegate passes to Resourcing Tomorrow by using our exclusive discount code **LMW10**.

READ ON [HERE](#)



**WHERE LONDON BECOMES THE
CENTRE OF THE GLOBAL MINING CONVERSATION**





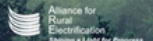
CMA (UK) JOINS CLEANACTION COALITION

The CMA (UK) is proud to join the World Wildlife Fund's CLEANaction coalition. The Coalition Linking Energy And Nature for Action (CLEANaction) unites organisations committed to ensuring that the global energy transition goes hand-in-hand with protecting the planet's biodiversity.

Critical minerals are the foundation of renewable energy. But as we work to secure responsible supply chains, we must also ensure that extraction, processing, manufacturing and associated infrastructure are developed with nature in mind.

At the CMA, we believe the energy transition must be a nature-positive transition. Through CLEANaction, we'll work alongside global partners to champion best practices, knowledge-sharing, and science-based decision-making.

READ ON [HERE](#)





TRANSITION FINANCE COUNCIL OPENS CONSULTATION

14

Transition finance is key to achieving Net Zero, but without common standards, investment can stall. Building on the Transition Finance Market Review, the Transition Finance Council (TFC) has developed market-led Guidelines to support alignment on what constitutes as credible finance.

Their new consultation focuses on entity-level application, helping to assess the credibility of transitioning entities. Your feedback is vital to ensure the Guidelines are clear, practical, globally interoperable, and usable for all market participants.

The consultation closes at 12pm on 19 September 2025. Click on the link below to access the Guidelines and consultation questions, and submit your response.

READ ON [HERE](#)



**THE
GLOBAL
CITY**

Transition Finance Council

theglobalcity.uk

NEWS ROUNDUP

The following news articles from Argus Media, Mining Weekly, Mining Magazine, Financial Times, 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 (UK) takes no credit for any articles and makes no endorsement of any of the content.

In the bottom right corner, there are several light green geometric lines forming a series of overlapping, slanted rectangular shapes, creating a modern, abstract design element.

Cobalt

- Africa
 - Democratic Republic of Congo: Glencore [06.08.25]
 - Glencore warns of significant cobalt surplus due to ongoing export restrictions in the DRC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Scotland: Winshear Gold Corp. [11.08.25]
 - Winshear enters option agreement on Portsoy project, Scotland, with demonstrated nickel-copper-cobalt mineralisation.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - Canada & United States: Electra Battery Materials Corp [08.08.25]
 - Electra announces start of new cobalt feedstock tests at sites in Ontario and Idaho.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Cobalt Blue [05.08.25]
 - Cobalt Blue secures feedstock agreement as the Kwinana refinery moves toward a final investment decision.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Copper

- Africa
 - Ethiopia: Askari Metals Ltd [15.08.25]
 - Askari Metals secures three exploration licenses for its Nejo Gold and Copper project in Ethiopia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Botswana: Sandvik AB [20.08.25]
 - Sandvik partners with mining contractor JCHX to supply underground mining to Khoemacau copper mine.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - USA [30.07.25]
 - 50% US Tariff on copper imports to come into effect on August 1st.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Jamaica: C3 Metals Inc [13.08.25]
 - C3 Metals to commence drilling campaign of 14 targets at its Bellas Gate copper-gold project in Jamaica.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Canada: Teck Resources Ltd [22.08.25]
 - Aldebaran Resources considers \$1.5billion capital expenditure to progress its Altar copper project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Graphite

- Africa
 - Uganda: Blencowe Resources PLC [01.08.25]
 - Blencowe signs non-binding offtake agreement with Perpetuus Advanced Materials to supply graphite concentrate from its Orom-Cross graphite project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - Malawi: Sovereign Metals Ltd [20.08.25]
 - Sovereign Metals announces successful rehabilitation trials at its Kasiya graphite project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Europe
 - Sweden: Talga Group Ltd [13.08.25]
 - Talga Group launches new graphite anode product, Talnode-R, made from gigafactory scrap and battery waste.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- North America
 - USA: NextSource Materials Inc [05.08.25]
 - NextSource Materials to supply Mitsubishi Chemical Corporate with intermediate anode active material after signing binding offtake agreement.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - USA: Volt Resources Ltd [07.08.25]
 - Volt Energy Materials, a US subsidiary of Volt Resources, to join the Defense Industrial Base Consortium.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Lithium

- Asia

- China: CATL [11.08.25]

- CATL suspends production at Yichun mine, seeking to renew its project license 'as soon as possible'.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- China: Tianqi Lithium [21.08.25]

- Chief executive Frank Ha says they are open to renegotiating joint venture partner IGO's stake in the Kwinana lithium refinery in Western Australia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Oceania

- Australia: Liontown Resources [07.08.25]

- Australian government to invest \$33 million in Liontown Resources for transition to underground mining at the Kathleen Valley project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- North America

- United States: [19.08.25]

- Trump administration restricts imports of lithium from China under the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- South America

- Argentina [14.08.25]

- Ganfeng Lithium and Lithium Argentina announce new US\$1.8b PPG joint venture in Salta province.
 - [Read the article here](#)

Manganese

- Africa
 - Botswana: Giyani Metals Corp [19.08.25]
 - Giyani Metals raises C\$3.57 million from private placement financing.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
 - South Africa: Exxaro Resources Ltd [21.08.25]
 - Exxaro Resources considers higher shareholder returns after manganese acquisition.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - Timor-Leste: Estrella Resources Ltd [15.08.25]
 - Estrella Resources to increase exploration efforts through trenching, drilling and a bulk sample plan to advance its Ira Miri manganese project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Black Canyon Ltd [18.08.25]
 - Black Canyon starts third phase drilling program at its Wandanya Project in Western Australia.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Nickel

- Africa

- Botswana: NexMetals [13.08.25]
 - NextMetals increases copper-nickel resource estimates at Selebi North project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Tanzania: Lifezone Metals [12.08.25]
 - Lifezone Metals secures \$60 million bridge loan for Kabanga nickel project.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Asia

- Philippines: Berong Nickel Corporation [12.08.25]
 - Berong signs mineral production sharing agreement for Long Point mine in Palawan.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Europe

- Spain: Denarius Metals Corp. [11.08.25]
 - Denarius outlines plans to restart Aguablanca nickel-copper mine in southwestern Spain by mid-2026.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- North America

- United States: Westwin Elements, Traxys [05.08.25]
 - US nickel refinery, Westwin Elements, secures \$1.4 billion offtake agreement with Traxys.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Rare Earth Elements

- Africa

- Mozambique: Altona Rare Earths PLC [18.08.25]
 - Altona submits proposal to US for funding support at Monte Muambe project in Mozambique.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Asia

- China [15.08.25]
 - China urges foreign companies to not stockpile rare earth elements on export curbs.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Myanmar [13.08.25]
 - China pressures Myanmar armed groups to access rare earth supplies, following US-Myanmar policy discussions.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- North America

- United States: American Rare Earths [15.08.25]
 - American Rare Earths reports first production of rare earth oxide concentrates at Halleck Creek project in Wyoming.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

- Oceania

- Australia [05.08.25]
 - Australia considers setting price floor to support critical mineral projects, including rare earths.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tin

- Africa
 - Projected Growth for African Tin Market [21.08.25]
 - Africa's Unwrought Tin Alloys Market to Reach \$166M by 2035.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Asia
 - Malaysia: MSC Revenue up, Despite disruption [14.08.25]
 - Refined tin producer Malaysia Smelting Corp (MSC) reported second quarter revenue of \$87 million, an increase of 2.5% from Q1.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Tungsten

- North America
 - USA: Guardian Metal Resources [06.08.25]
 - Pilot Mountain drill results confirm high-grade tungsten in Nevada
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- Oceania
 - Australia: Tungsten Mining [30.06.25]
 - Tungsten Mining has begun a Scoping Study for the Mt Mulgine Project in Western Australia, to evaluate a potential start-up oxide gold asset and staged tungsten development.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

Vanadium

- Oceania
 - Australia: Australia Vanadium [05.08.25]
 - AVL is granted development approval for its Tenindewa processing facility from the WAPC.
 - [Read the article here.](#)
- South America
 - Bolivia: Cleantech Vanadium [07.08.25]
 - Cleantech Vanadium has finalised the acquisition of rights to the El Triunfo gold and antimony project from Silver Elephant Mining.
 - [Read the article here.](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2025

- Roar B2B Limited | **Environmental Services & Solutions Expo** | NEC, Birmingham | 17 - 18 September
 - [Register here.](#)
- Westminster Energy, Environment and Transport Forum | **Next steps for UK critical minerals policy, supply and sector development** | London | 24 September
 - [Register here.](#)

OCTOBER 2025

- CMA (UK) & Natural History Museum | **2nd Edition: Careers for Next Generation Minerals** | Natural History Museum, London | 9 October
 - [Register here.](#)

DECEMBER 2025

- CMA (UK) **5th Annual Conference: Transforming the Future** | 1 Wimpole Street, London | 1 December
 - [Register here.](#)

What's Your Story?



Media production and marketing for the critical minerals and sustainability sectors.
Critical-Productions.com



OUR MEMBERS





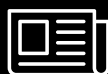
www.criticalmineral.org



Critical Minerals Association (UK)



@CMA_Minerals



Want to feature in our next edition?
Contact our editor Eileen@criticalmineral.org