

# CRITICAL MINERALS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

## JULY 2024

- Demand doubled for critical minerals
- Critical minerals industry will thrive despite Nickel shutdown
- Europe needs way to price critical minerals independently of China, group says

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Newsletter



July 2024

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

## CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

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- Queensland: Rich in resources, ready for tomorrow
- Project Blue: Critical Minerals Forum
- Critical Minerals Association Australia – Sundowner
- Benchmark Conference

## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

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- South32 eyes post-coal future
- Critical minerals funding kicks off
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- Andrew Forrest's Fortescue slashing 700 jobs amid green technology commitment
- Tivan positioned to deliver fluorite critical minerals project
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- Arafura locks in millions for Nolans
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## BIG PICTURE THINKING

- Building the market for sustainable metals
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- Europe needs way to price critical minerals independently of China, group says
- The carnage in the EV industry is only just getting started
- What is the outlook for magnesium metal demand and supply to 2050?
- In search of the elusive green nickel premium
- Where will future aerospace-grade titanium supply come from?

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

To open articles in a new tab:



CTRL+Click on link



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Critical Minerals Association Australia



@CMA\_AUS



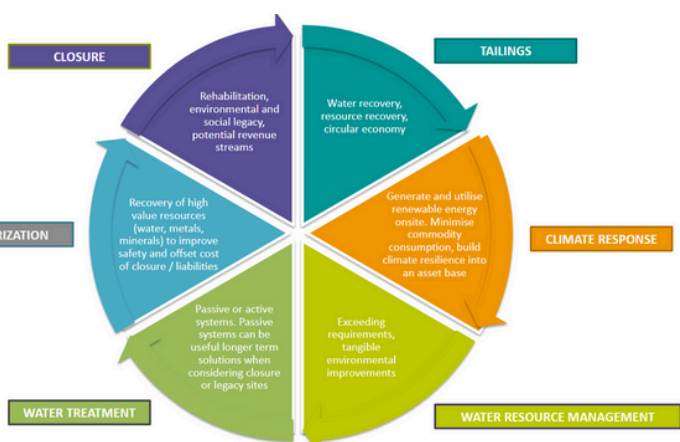
www.cmaaustralia.org

# CMA AUSTRALIA NEWS

## NEW MEMBER UPDATE

### Isle Utilities Pty Ltd

Isle's core purpose is to accelerate the adoption of emerging technology and solutions by connecting end users with tech companies, startups and R&D partners. Our focus is on sustainability and we serve the Mining, Industrial and Water industries. Isle's expertise has been valuable to the mining industry in areas such as mine closure, tailings management, water resource stewardship and resource recovery. We produce innovation roadmaps, identify technology and solutions at all levels of Technology Readiness Levels (TRL), undertake due diligence, provide market intelligence, and work with investors. For end users we leverage our network within the technology world and our expertise to de-risk innovation strategies and source novel solutions to industry challenges through techno-economic assessments, due diligence business cases, pilots and implementation strategies. For the tech companies and solution providers we accelerate commercialisation and upscaling to enable solutions to address the real-world problems they are designed for. For investors we provide due diligence to inform and de-risk investment. Our team comprise engineers, scientists and business professionals throughout Australia, UK, Europe, US and South Africa.





**The Queensland Government shared the following with us for this newsletter:**

## **Queensland: Rich in resources, ready for tomorrow**

The Queensland Government recently delivered the [Queensland Critical Minerals Prospectus](#), to position the state as a key global supplier for critical minerals.

Through engagements with major global investment firms and international governments, it's clear there is strong interest in investing into Queensland's critical minerals industry. To leverage these opportunities, the prospectus showcases Queensland's burgeoning critical minerals industry with the capability to create an end-to-end supply chain that not only produces the minerals but also manufactures the technologies needed for a decarbonised economy.

This is the next step to expand the resources sector – by facilitating connections between the local investment need and the global interest to invest.

The Queensland Critical Minerals Prospectus provides insight into:

- investment ready projects at various stages
- mineral endowments in Queensland, and
- Government support to fast-track the critical minerals industry.

The prospectus was developed in partnership with government and industry and is a key action from the \$315 million Queensland Critical Minerals Strategy.

It's supported by the [Critical Minerals Investor hub](#) which features an interactive map showcasing Queensland's vast mineral deposits, current projects and supporting infrastructure along with the ability to connect with proponents.

## Project Blue Critical Minerals Forum 2024

[Click to REGISTER](#)



# PROJECT BLUE

## CRITICAL MATERIALS FORUM 2024

Hilton, PERTH

13<sup>th</sup> August

14:00 - 17:00

[www.projectblue.com](http://www.projectblue.com)



Macro and geopolitical outlook



EV and ESS trends



Li-ion and other batteries



Battery raw materials

## Critical Minerals Association Australia – Sundowner

The CMAA would like to invite members and friends to a networking event in Brisbane on Monday 26 August from 6:30 – 8:30pm.

*Click to RSVP and secure your place, as numbers are limited.*

## Critical Minerals Association Australia – Sundowner



Monday, 26 August

6:30pm – 8:30pm

The Charming Squire, Brisbane

Sponsored by



[Click to RSVP](#)

## Benchmark Giga APAC Event

The Critical Minerals Association Australia is pleased to be an official supporter of Benchmark's **Giga APAC** event, where the region's government, industry and finance will meet to understand the latest trends in the global lithium ion battery economy (11-12 September at the Ritz Carlton Perth). CMAA's Managing Director, Namali Mackay will be speaking at the event.



**Namali Mackay**  
Managing Director  
Critical Minerals  
Association Australia

## Speaker Announcement

**GIGA+ APAC**  
2024

[Learn More](#)

11-12 September 2024 | Perth, Australia

**We are pleased to offer a special discount for our readers. Please contact [admin@cmaaustralia.org](mailto:admin@cmaaustralia.org) for more information.**

# AUSTRALIAN NEWS

## Demand doubled for critical minerals

The demand for mineral crucial to the energy transition doubled in the past five years to a value of \$US320 billion and Australia has an opportunity to build its own refining industry, according to a new CSIRO report.

CSIRO attributes this rise in demand to the “exponential growth” in the popularity of electric vehicles (EVs) and the continued deployment of solar and wind energy...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 24 Jul 2024

## South32 eyes post-coal future

All conditions have been satisfied in South32’s sale of Illawarra Metallurgical Coal, meaning M Resources and Golden Energy and Resources will soon become the official owners of the operation.

With the sale, South32 said it aims to streamline its operations, bolster its balance sheet, and reduce capital intensity, thereby freeing up capital for reinvestment into priority areas and portfolio optimisation...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 29 Jul 2024

## Critical minerals funding kicks off

The Australian Government is delivering millions in grant funding to critical minerals projects in Queensland and South Australia.

Queensland Pacific Metals (QPM) will receive \$8 million to bolster domestic nickel and cobalt production, while South Australian-based Renascor Resources will receive \$5 million for its pilot purified spherical graphite project...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 12 Jul 2024

## Nature Positive laws: Mining heavyweights urge PM to intervene on controversial environmental plan

A coalition of corporate heavyweights privately appealed to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to intervene to re-write Labor’s Nature Positive Plan amid fears it would devastate the economy, secret correspondence reveals.

Hancock Prospecting chief executive Garry Korte and Rio Tinto iron ore boss Simon Trott were among seven signatories to a letter to Mr Albanese detailing “serious concerns” with the planned shakeup of environmental laws and the closed-door consultation process used to design it...

[Read More](#)

The Nightly | 17 Jul 2024

## Andrew Forrest's Fortescue slashing 700 jobs amid green technology commitment

Andrew Forrest's Fortescue mining company has announced it is slashing 700 jobs while affirming its “resolute” commitment to its green technology vision.

In a statement to the Australian Stock Exchange, Fortescue (FMG) said the restructure would ensure the Perth-based mining company remains “lean, impactful and agile”..

[Read More](#)

ABC News | 17 Jul 2024

## Tivan positioned to deliver fluorite critical minerals project

A pre-feasibility study (PFS) of Tivan Ltd's Speewah fluorite project in the Kimberley region of Western Australia has positioned the company to deliver another critical minerals project reducing the dominance of China in global supply chains...

[Read More](#)

Au Manufacturing | 30 Jul 2024

## Critical minerals industry will thrive despite Nickel shutdown

WHILE thousands of West Australians will be affected by the suspension of operations at BHP's Nickel West operation, Mines and Petroleum Minister David Michael believes the State's critical minerals industry will thrive in the longer term...

[Read More](#)

Daily Cargo News | 15 Jul 2024

## Arafura locks in millions for Nolans

Arafura Rare Earths has announced debt financing of up to \$US150 million (\$224.5 million) has been conditionally approved by the Export-Import Bank of Korea (KEXIM)...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 02 Jul 2024

## Rare earths enter the spotlight

Australian Mining sat down with some of the biggest players in Australia's rare earths sector to discuss where the industry is heading. Rare earths aren't such a rare phenomenon anymore. With industry majors and minors alike keenly invested in the future of Australian rare earths, there's never been a better time to lift the lid on what's going on in the sector...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 02 Jul 2024

## Critical minerals: the quiet achievers gallium and germanium

Australia exports around one billion tonnes of iron ore each year and 300 tonnes of gold. Yet, beyond these well-known commodities lies a suite of lesser-known minerals, which are critical for the world's advancement.

Critical minerals are designated critical for their essential role in modern technologies. They are identified as critical based on a number of factors including supply chain security, economic benefits and strategic importance...

[Read More](#)

CSIRO | 20 Jun 2024

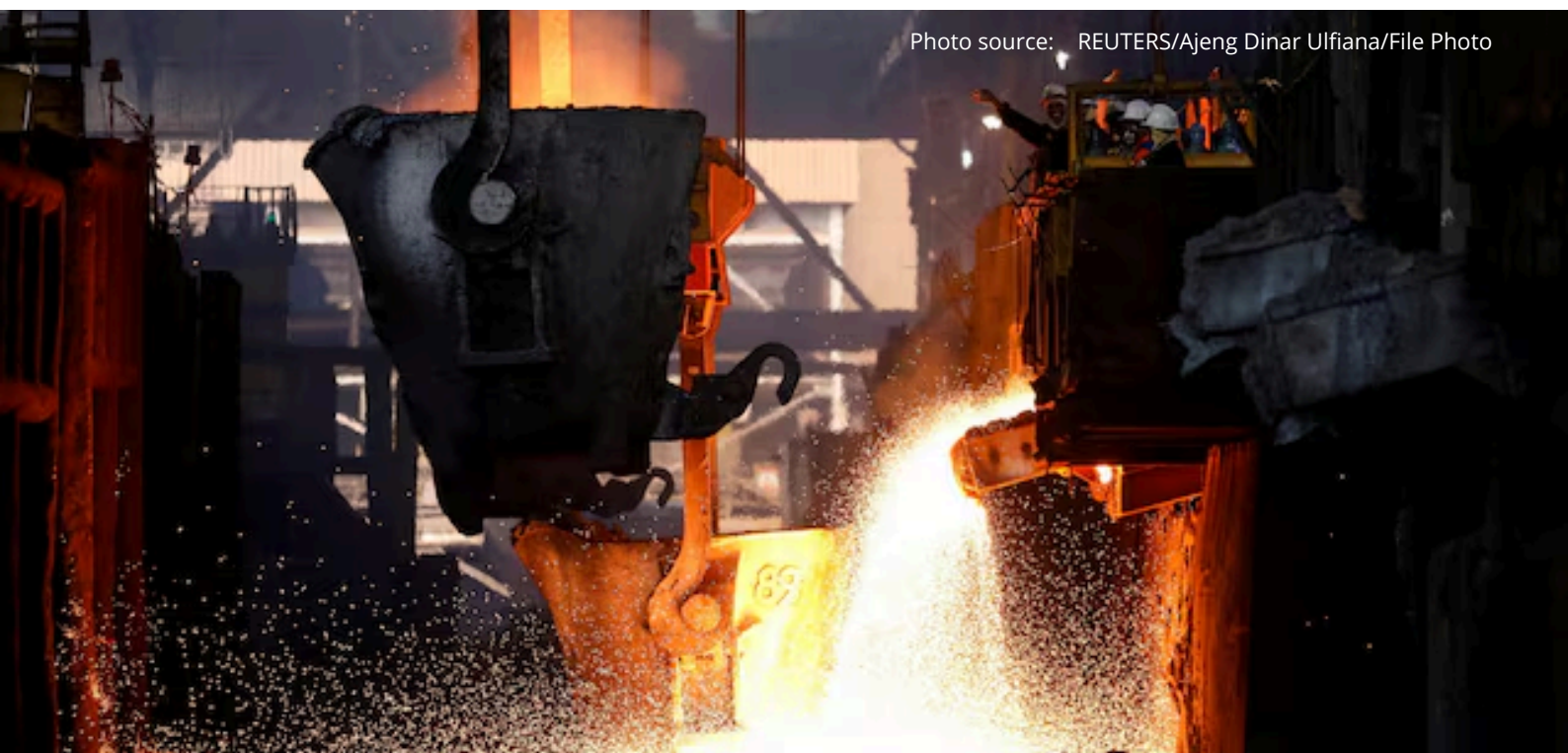


Photo source: REUTERS/Ajeng Dinar Ulfiana/File Photo

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NEWS

### Aussie billions open to the world

Chinese-owned Tianqi Lithium is high on the list of foreign companies set to access billions under the Australian Government's new Critical Minerals Production Tax Incentive.

The incentive is worth almost \$32 billion, with \$13.7 billion set aside over the next decade to continue to fund the initiative.

Tax credits from the incentive are to be made available to overseas downstream processing companies that pay tax in Australia...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 01 Jul 2024

### Australian Government fronts millions for critical minerals

A new grant financed through the Australian Critical Minerals Research and Development Hub (R&D Hub) is set to inject millions into critical minerals research.

Under the funding, a new CSIRO research program will aim to supercharge critical minerals technology and strengthen international collaboration on critical minerals science...

[Read More](#)

Australian Mining | 18 Jul 2024

### R&D investment and global collaboration key to critical minerals opportunity

Prioritising research, development and demonstration (RD&D) investment and international collaboration are essential to helping Australia become a leader in the global energy transition, according to a new report by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency.

Released today, the report is the first comprehensive assessment of innovation in critical minerals refining required to build a sovereign mid-stream processing industry in Australia...

[Read More](#)

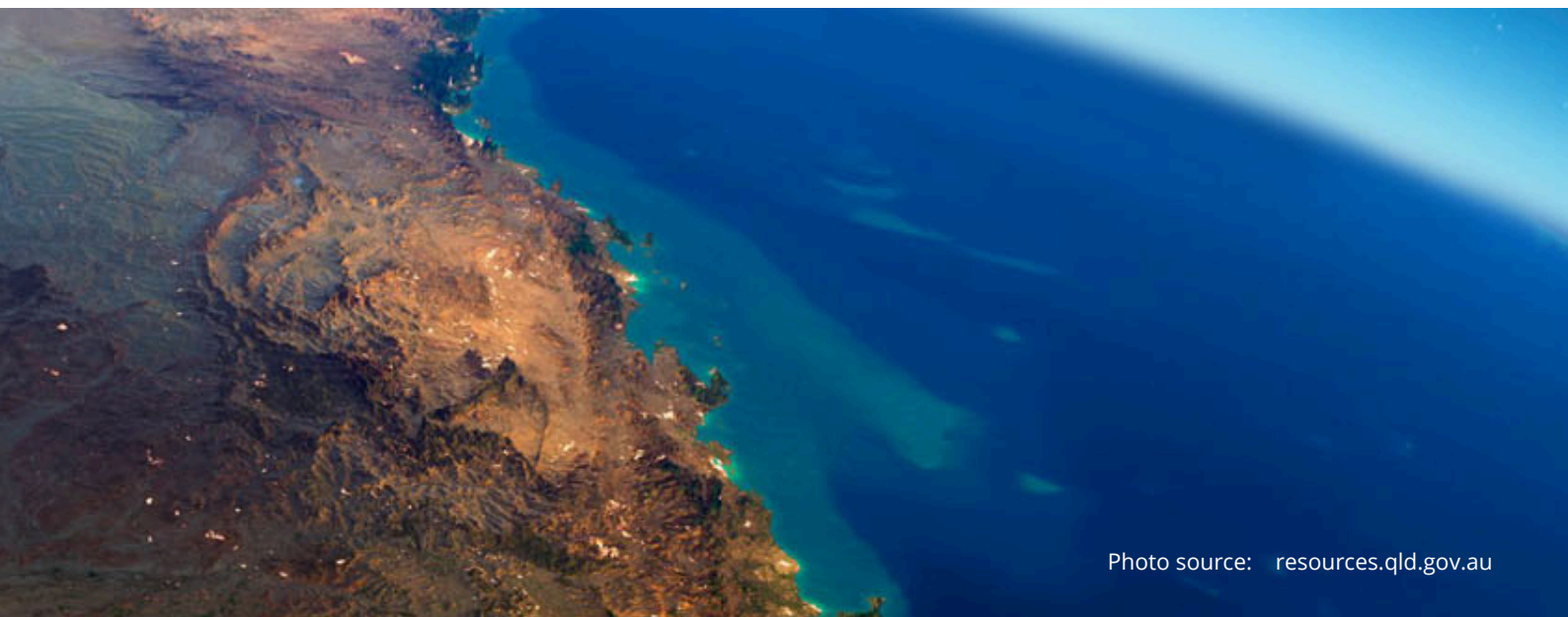
CSIRO | 24 Jul 2024

### From minerals to materials: an assessment of Australia's critical minerals mid-stream processing capabilities

Critical minerals present significant economic and geopolitical opportunity due to its large resource endowments and demand from the renewable energy sector...

[Read More](#)

CSIRO | 01 Jul 2024





# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

## Mining Industry Association of Southern Africa joins Critical Minerals Africa

Public and private sector entities across Southern Africa's mining sector are intensifying cooperation to enhance the critical mineral value chain for economic growth. In July 2024, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Botswana signed an agreement to upgrade an existing railway line linking the three countries and to build a new line and a deep-water port in Mozambique. The transnational railway line will be crucial in transporting critical minerals including Botswana's copper, manganese, cobalt, and nickel, Zimbabwe's platinum, and Mozambique's graphite - to international markets...

[Read More](#)

African Mining Market | 29 Jul 2024

## How India's Budget 2024 Sets a Global Standard for its Critical Minerals

In a groundbreaking move, India's Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has given utmost significance to critical minerals in the Union Budget for 2024-25. The Critical Minerals Mission aims to bolster India globally by ramping up domestic production of critical minerals for electric vehicles (EVs) and renewable energy technologies...

[Read More](#)

Carbon Credits | 26 Jul 2024

## Chile Wins US Tax-Credit Treatment for Battery Component Made From Lithium

Chile reached an agreement with the US to allow a key battery component to count toward tax credits under the US Inflation Reduction Act, boosting the appeal of investing in the South American nation...

[Read More](#)

Bloomberg (Subscription Required) | 11 Jul 2024

## The US expands semiconductor investment into Latin America

On 17 July, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), announced a new programme at the Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity ("Americas Partnership") ministerial plenary meeting in Washington. This initiative seeks to expand semiconductor manufacturing capabilities in countries from the 12 Americas Partnership, beginning with Mexico, Costa Rica, and Panama, with support from the International Technology Security and Innovation (ITSI) Fund. The ITSI Fund, appropriated under the CHIPS Act, allocates US\$500M to the Department of State (US\$100M annually over five years beginning in 2023) to support new programmes and initiatives with US allies...

[Read More](#)

Project Blue | 26 Jul 2024




Photo source: Mining.com

## Cash-hungry Canadian miners test grey area of anti-China M&A rules

Nearly two years after Canada moved to restrict foreign investment in the country's mining sector, minerals explorers and developers are testing the limits of those rules.

The Canadian government cracked down on mining deals involving foreign state-owned entities in 2022 in a move widely seen as targeting China's influence in the global critical minerals supply chain, but which threatens to deprive smaller miners and developers of a key source of financing. However, restrictions have stopped short of prescribing specific levels of foreign investment that will be allowed...

[Read More](#)

Mining.com | 25 Jul 2024

## European magnesium project makes progress towards permitting

In June 2024, Magnesium for Europe (MFE) completed its industrial-scale production tests using a 40Mt dolomite sample from its Kupres mine in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The results confirmed the suitability of the dolomite resource using MFE's aluminothermic reduction process technology to produce magnesium metal and alloys, along with other products. The company also initiated its environmental and social impact assessment reports (ESIA), aiming to get approval from the Ministry of Environment by September 2024...

[Read More](#)

Project Blue | 23 Jul 2024

## China announces new controls on rare earth resources and traceability

The Chinese State Council announced that it will implement new controls on the extraction, use and trade of rare earth products focussed on improving the traceability of products from 1 October 2024. The new controls essentially place all rare earth production under the control of the Chinese state, inhibiting the private exploitation of Chinese resources and further cracking down on the illegal production or trade of rare earth products. Penalties for infringements relating to the rare earth supply chain traceability or illegal production have also been clarified under the new regulation for both enterprises and individuals...

[Read More](#)

Project Blue | 02 Jul 2024

# BIG PICTURE THINKING

## Building the market for sustainable metals

The first generation of metals produced with little or no carbon emissions is headed to market. And in 10 to 15 years, green metals are likely to be the norm...

***Read More***

Mining.com | 28 Jul 2024

## Europe needs way to price critical minerals independently of China, group says

Europe needs a system to set prices for critical minerals needed for the energy transition that is not dependent on China, which dominates much of the global sector, the head of an EU-funded group said. Oversupply and weak prices of materials such as lithium, cobalt and rare earths are dampening cash flows of Western start-ups, making it difficult to compete with China, companies have said...

***Read More***

Mining.com | 15 Jul 2024

## The race for critical minerals in Africa: A blessing or another resource curse?

There is currently an exponential growth in the global demand for critical minerals, particularly lithium, to meet clean energy and decarbonisation objectives. However, sustainable supply of these minerals is at risk due to declining ore grades, available extraction and processing technologies, socio-environmental concerns, and geopolitical challenges. Africa hosts substantial critical minerals resources, and the continent is currently being positioned as a major global player in the critical minerals supply chain...

***Read More***

Science Direct (Subscription Required) | Jun 2024



## The carnage in the EV industry is only just getting started

Profits at the German auto giant Mercedes plunged last Friday as sales of its slick new range of electric vehicles went into freefall.

Porsche abandoned its sales targets for battery-powered cars amid waning demand from customers. Ford is losing nearly \$US50,000 (\$A76,000) on every EV it sells, while Tesla's profits dropped 45 per cent. Meanwhile, battery manufacturers such as Germany's Varta are getting wiped out...

[Read More](#)

Australian Financial Review  
(Subscription Required) | 29 Jul 2024

## In search of the elusive green nickel premium

BHP Group's (BHP.AX), opens new tab ambition to create a green nickel hub in Western Australia is on hold after the world's largest listed miner announced the entire division will go on care and maintenance later this year.

The company has invested \$3 billion since 2020 to turn Nickel West into a major supplier of nickel sulphate for use in electric vehicle (EV) batteries...

[Read More](#)

Reuters | 24 Jul 2024



## Where will future Ti sponge supply come from?

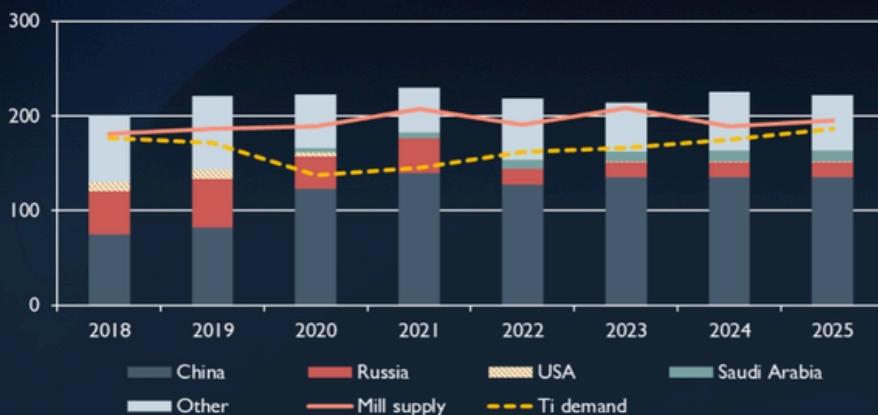


Photo source: Project Blue

## Where will future aerospace-grade titanium supply come from?

In recent years, global titanium metal supply has been in decline. The COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted commercial aircraft travel and disrupted supply chains, while the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war has created geopolitical pressures to find alternative titanium sources...

[Read More](#)

Project Blue | 04 Jul 2024

## What is the outlook for magnesium metal demand and supply to 2050?



[Watch the video here](#)

Project Blue | 24 Jul 2024

# Calendar of events 2024

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

JULY 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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AUGUST 2024

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SEPTEMBER 2024

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OCTOBER 2024

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NOVEMBER 2024

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DECEMBER 2024

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

	DATE(S)	EVENT	HOSTS/PARTNERS	LOCATION
JUL	17 JUL - 19 JUL	<a href="#">Noosa Mining Investor Conference</a>	Noosa Mining	Noosa, AU
AUG	5 AUG - 7 AUG	<a href="#">Diggers and Dealers</a>	Diggers and Dealers Mining Forum	Kalgoorlie, AU
	13 AUG	<a href="#">Critical Minerals Forum - Perth 2024</a>	Project Blue	Perth, AU
	26 AUG - 28 AUG	<a href="#">AusIMM's Critical Minerals Conference 2024</a>	AusIMM	Brisbane, AU
SEP	11 SEP - 12 SEP	<a href="#">BENCHMARK - CIGA+ APAC 2024</a>	Benchmark	Perth, AU
OCT	7 OCT - 8 OCT	<a href="#">Battery &amp; Supply Chains 2024</a>	IQ Hub	Perth, AU
	29 OCT - 31 OCT	<a href="#">IMARC</a>	International Mining and Resources Conference	Sydney, AU
DEC	3 DEC - 5 DEC	<a href="#">Resourcing Tomorrow 2024</a>	Mines and Money	London, UK



This Newsletter has been compiled by QUT researchers:

**Sara Couperthwaite** | Professor  
**Elaiza Luker** | Research Associate  
**Nicholas Spadotto** | Research Associate



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[www.cmaaaustralia.org](http://www.cmaaaustralia.org)

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

Critical Minerals Association Australia Limited  
ACN 660 785 124