

The Shifting Dynamics of Resource Nationalism as the Demand for Critical Minerals is Set to Soar

written by Jack Lifton | April 18, 2024

As nations like Chile and Indonesia assert greater control over their resources, the global community must navigate this new reality where resource sovereignty becomes a cornerstone of national policy.

Billionaire Gina Rinehart Stakes Another Critical Minerals Claim

written by InvestorNews | April 18, 2024

Gina Rinehart, Australia's wealthiest individual, has recently expanded her investment portfolio through several strategic acquisitions, focusing on the mining sector, specifically in critical minerals. As the Executive Chairman of Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd., Rinehart has driven her company's interest in global mining projects, leveraging opportunities in South America and rare earth elements to diversify away from traditional iron ore.

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written by InvestorNews | April 18, 2024

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Scott Breard, CEO of Stock Marketing Inc., expressed his enthusiasm about the mobile app's potential: "The IR Mobile App is a revolutionary step forward in investor relations, providing immediate access through just a single touch. It greatly enhances how companies and investors connect beyond conventional websites and social media."

Tracy Weslosky, CEO of InvestorNews Inc., highlighted the significance of mobile platforms in today's market: "The ascendancy of mobile devices has transformed how audiences engage with content. Mobile apps are now crucial in marketing to this rapidly growing segment. With nearly half of all web visits now coming from mobile devices, and a significant portion of social media consumption happening on these platforms, our new IR Mobile App is perfectly positioned to meet the demands of this mobile-dominant era."

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About Stock Marketing Inc.:

Stock Marketing Inc. specializes in digital marketing specifically crafted for publicly traded companies. They offer comprehensive services including website development, social media management, executive branding, and investor relations mobile apps.

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Critical Metals' Russell Fryer on the Rising Tide for Copper and Cobalt in Africa

written by InvestorNews | April 18, 2024

In this InvestorNews interview with host Tracy Weslosky, Russell Fryer, CEO and Executive Director of [Critical Metals PLC](#) (LSE: CRTM), shared insights into the [strategic developments](#) at their past-producing Molulu Copper/Cobalt Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Russell outlined plans for essential infrastructure improvements, particularly the rehabilitation of a 28km road crucial for local logistics, which will facilitate the resumption of copper ore sales from Molulu. He also highlighted the positive outlook for the copper market, mentioning, "Copper prices have actually changed a lot... We saw the Bank of America come out and say they expect a 30% rise in the copper price within the next 12 months."

Russell also provided an update on the drill program aimed at enriching the company's mining block model and developing a JORC-compliant report, which are key steps toward escalating the Molulu project towards production. Additionally, Russell discussed the company's strategic move to expand Critical Metals' investor base with an upcoming listing on the US OTCQB market.

The interview also delved into the potential financial backing from the US Government, with Russell discussing the recent receipt of a term sheet for an \$11 million loan, supported by loan guarantees. This financial support highlights the confidence in the viability of Critical Metals' operations in the region to bring critical minerals to the global market.

To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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About Critical Metals PLC

London listed Critical Metals plc is focused on identifying low CAPEX and OPEX brown-field projects with near-term production and cash-flow, concentrating on minerals that have strategic importance to future global economic growth. In line with this, and with an off-take partner already in place, the Company is currently focused on recommencing production at the formerly producing Molulu Copper/Cobalt Project in the Katangan Copperbelt in Democratic Republic of Congo ('DRC').

To learn more about Critical Metals PLC, [click here](#)

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Company's profile on www.sedarplus.ca and to carry out independent investigations in order to determine their interest in investing in the Company.

If you have any questions surrounding the content of this interview, please contact us at +1 416 792 8228 and/or email us direct at info@investornews.com.

Tuan Tran Joins the Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) as the Newest Board Member

written by InvestorNews | April 18, 2024

April 16, 2024 – The [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) is proud to announce the appointment of Tuan Tran as its latest board member, effective immediately. Tuan, a seasoned professional with over two decades of experience in private equity, investment banking, and equity research, brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the CMI Board.

“Tuan’s joining the board is a significant step for the Critical Minerals Institute, enabling us to further our mission of driving progress in the critical minerals industry. His wealth of experience and strategic insight are crucial additions to our efforts, supporting the sector’s growth and its vital role in the transition to a carbon-neutral economy,” stated Tracy Weslosky, Executive Director of the CMI.

As a Partner and Investment Committee Member at [Ara Partners](#), a private equity firm with a focus on industrial decarbonization

and a portfolio of approximately \$5.6 billion, Tuan has been at the forefront of building companies that significantly reduce carbon emissions. Ara Partners invests across several sectors, including industrial & manufacturing, energy efficiency & green fuels, chemicals & materials, and food & agriculture. Tuan's role at Ara involves overseeing all aspects of the firm's investment process, highlighting his comprehensive understanding of the financial landscape and commitment to sustainable growth.

Before joining Ara Partners, Tuan Tran significantly impacted Intervale Capital as a Partner and Investment Committee Member, where he was pivotal in growing the firm's \$1.3 billion portfolio into a leader in the energy technology, industrial and environmental services sectors, driving top-quartile investor returns through his deal execution, firm building, and portfolio management skills. Tuan began his career on Wall Street, where he had significant Mergers & Acquisitions experience across New York, Tokyo, and Hong Kong. A Harvard University graduate, he dedicates time to community service, volunteering with "Little Brothers, Friends of the Elderly" and mentoring via the Harvard Alumni Association, showcasing his commitment to professional excellence and community involvement.

Tuan Tran adds: "I am honored to join the distinguished Board of Directors of the Critical Minerals Institute. CMI has been at the industry forefront advising policy makers and business leaders on the strategic importance of Western supply chains for critical minerals key to the decarbonization of transport, energy, battery storage, and other hard-to-abate sectors. Given its global network and industry insights, the Critical Minerals Institute is uniquely positioned to promote collaboration and successful partnerships essential to advancing the energy transition and a lower-carbon future."

The [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) is a global hub

established to foster collaboration and expertise in the critical minerals market, offering a central point for business resources, networking, and government contracts. With its 'think tank' of leading specialists, CMI provides strategic insights and innovative solutions, alongside exclusive access to resources like a monthly Masterclass and weekly Technology Metals Report (TMR), to advance the industry.

Tuan Tran, Partner and Investment Committee Member at [Ara Partners](#) is slated as the keynote speaker for the upcoming [Critical Minerals Institute Summit III](#), scheduled for August 21-22, 2024, in Toronto, Canada, highlighting the sector's prospects and hurdles.

About Critical Minerals Institute (CMI):

The [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI) is a global entity established to cultivate collaboration and specialized knowledge within the critical minerals market. It acts as a central hub for businesses, capital markets, and professionals seeking vital business-to-business resources, government contracts, and networking opportunities with experts and services in the sector. CMI is dedicated to navigating the challenges and seizing the opportunities in this field through a mix of expert consultation, strategic alliances, and focused services and products. Integral to its offerings is the CMI 'think tank,' a collective of leading minds and specialists that provides in-depth analysis, strategic insights, and innovative solutions to advance the critical minerals industry. The Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) membership package offers access to exclusive resources including a monthly Masterclass and a weekly Technology Metals Report (TMR), along with preferential rates for industry events. **Join the CMI, [click here](#)**

The Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) Summit III

Join us at the prestigious National Club in Toronto for the third iteration of the CMI Summit, a landmark 2-day gathering at the cutting edge of the critical minerals sector. Slated for August 21st and 22nd, 2024, the CMI Summit III, under the theme “Achieving Critical Minerals Mastery in Today’s Markets,” promises to be an essential confluence for industry frontrunners, investors, and experts. **Attend the CMI Summit III,** [click here](#)

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U.S. Department of State Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) Aims to Support Biden Policies on Critical Minerals

written by Melissa (Mel) Sanderson | April 18, 2024

MSP’s emphasis on ESG principles reflects a global commitment to transforming and “greening” economic

activity and fighting climate change, despite political anti-ESG backlash in the U.S.

To support and advance President Biden's policies on critical minerals and secure supply chains the U.S. Department of State has created the [Minerals Security Partnership](#) (MSP). The program, under the aegis of Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment [Jose Fernandez](#), the MSP "aims to accelerate the development of diverse and sustainable critical energy minerals supply chains through working with host governments and industry to facilitate targeted financial and diplomatic support for strategic projects along the supply chain."

MSP partner States include Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Union (represented by the European Commission) and Estonia (the most recent country to join the MSP, officially welcomed into the fold at the March 2024 PDAC meetings). The member States will coordinate their work through the MSP Forum, established March 3 at PDAC in Toronto. The Forum will promote diverse and resilient supply chains, local value-addition, and beneficiation.

The MSP is focused on addressing four major critical minerals challenges:

1. Diversifying and stabilizing global supply chains;
2. Investment in those supply chains;
3. Promoting high environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards in the mining, processing, and recycling sectors; and

4. Increasing recycling of critical materials

The MSP operates on the basis of several Principles under which member States strive to elevate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards across the global minerals sector. The MSP only will support projects that meet high, internationally recognized ESG standards throughout the life of the project.

Companies interested in participating in the MSP program and funding opportunities must:

- Demonstrate responsible stewardship of the natural environment;
- Engage in consultative and participatory processes regarding land access and acquisition;
- Commit to meaningful, ongoing consultation with communities;
- Ensure safe, fair, inclusive, and ethical conditions in the community and the workplace;
- Provide economic benefits for workers and local communities; and
- Ensure transparent, ethical business operations

These principles strongly suggest that adherence to programs such as Prior Informed Consent (PIC) (governing consultations between companies, governments, and indigenous populations), the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), and human rights laws prohibiting child labor and protecting the rights of artisanal miners will be required for companies taking part in the MSP. (Note that not every country is fully implementing PIC or EITI and therefore presumably there could be exceptions on a case-by-case basis while maintaining a focus on fulfilling the intention of those programs.)

A large potential complication for the MSP could be the current absence of an internationally agreed standard on ESG implementation and reporting. The EU is considered to have the most rigorous framework, while currently the US does not have an overarching legal standard (the SEC recently postponed announcing its framework, although it is still expected to do so by the end of 2024 after almost 3 years delay). In the absence of a cohesive standard, it is possible that national law will prevail, meaning that companies will have to be fully compliant with whatever ESG laws are in place where their project will be located. Companies applying for MSP funding/participation may find it useful to follow the standards of organizations such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the IFRS Sustainability Reporting Standards developed by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) or to become members of ESG-related organizations such as the Institute for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA). Likewise, depending on the mineral in question, there are agreed industry standards such as Copper Mark or the International Council on Mining and Metals Principal on ESG. As the MSP grapples with the question of a universal ESG standard they no doubt will be considering the existing principles already developed by institutions and organizations such as those mentioned above.

There currently are 23 projects in the MSP, 16 of which involve mining and mineral extraction, 7 in processing, and 7 in recycling and secondary recovery. These projects involve cobalt, copper, gallium, germanium, graphite, lithium, manganese, nickel and rare earth elements. Six projects are sited in the Americas, 5 in Europe, 13 in Africa and 3 in the Asia-Pacific region.

The State Department and officials in other participating government agencies are actively looking for additional projects meeting the above standards for production of the identified critical minerals. US Embassies overseas can be a useful

resource for companies interested in learning if their projects might qualify for the MSP.

The MSP's emphasis on ESG principles is an important reminder that despite some political anti-ESG backlash in the U.S., the world – and the USG – remains committed to transforming and “greening” global economic activity and fighting to slow climate change, and is increasingly working together to mobilize resources and capabilities to achieve these vitally important goals.

Technology Metals Report (04.12.2024): Gina Rinehart Steps into the Critical Minerals Ring, while Copper Prepares for a Bull Ride

written by Tracy Weslosky | April 18, 2024

Welcome to the latest issue of the Technology Metals Report (TMR), brought to you by the [Critical Minerals Institute](#) (CMI). In this edition, we compile the most impactful stories shared by our CMI Directors over the past week, reflecting the dynamic and evolving nature of the critical minerals and technology metals industry. Among the key stories featured in this report are the surging [success](#) of [Vulcan Energy Resources Ltd.](#) (ASX: VUL), backed by Gina Rinehart, in lithium production, signaling a significant advancement in battery technology. Additionally, we

explore the implications of [copper's](#) climb to a 2024 high, heralded by Citi analysts as the start of the metal's second bull market this century, amidst concerns about sustainability and market dynamics. We also delve into the [ramifications](#) of Chinese car manufacturing in Italy on Stellantis and the [challenges](#) faced by Volkswagen amidst a resurgence in petrol car demand in Europe, among other crucial developments shaping the industry landscape.

This week's TMR Report also highlights the strategic moves of influential figures like Gina Rinehart, whose [investments](#) in the U.S. rare earths sector and Brazil hint at potential industry mergers and reshaping of the global rare earths supply chain. Furthermore, we discuss the imperative for the United States to strengthen its commercial ties with African nations to secure key minerals, aiming to reduce dependency on China. Amidst fluctuating rare earths prices in China and U.S. efforts to bolster domestic mining projects, we explore the intersection of environmental concerns with mining practices, exemplified by Australian billionaire Andrew Forrest's call for [greener nickel](#) production. Lastly, we examine Canada's risk of losing its position as a major mining capital due to government opacity surrounding Chinese investments in the critical minerals sector, highlighting the broader implications of uncertain investment policies on the industry's strategic positioning.

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Gina Rinehart-Backed Lithium Hopeful Surges After Demo Batch: (April 11, 2024, [Source](#)) – [Vulcan Energy Resources Ltd.](#) (ASX: VUL), an Australia-listed lithium developer, experienced a surge of nearly 40% in its stock value after announcing the successful production of a demo batch of lithium chloride using direct-extraction technology (DLE) at its demonstration plant in

Landau, Germany. This marks a significant advancement in lithium production for batteries, showcasing the potential of DLE to streamline the production process. Vulcan, backed by Australia's wealthiest individual Gina Rinehart, has established supply agreements with major European car manufacturers like Stellantis, Renault SA, and Volkswagen AG. The company's achievement was hailed as a validation of Vulcan's efforts and the viability of DLE in the lithium supply chain. Vulcan aims to commence commercial production in 2026, targeting an annual output sufficient to support half a million electric vehicles, while still seeking necessary funding. The project promises reduced carbon emissions by utilizing geothermal energy.

Copper prices climb to 2024 high as Citi calls the start of the metal's second bull market this century: (April 10, 2024, [Source](#)) – Copper prices have surged to their highest levels since June 2022, with May delivery trading at \$4.323 per pound in New York and three-month prices on the London Metal Exchange rising to \$9,477 per metric ton. This increase reflects growing demand for copper, seen as an indicator of economic health and a vital component of the energy transition, including electric vehicles, power grids, and wind turbines. Citi analysts herald the start of copper's second secular bull market of the century, predicting prices could average \$10,000 per metric ton by year's end and potentially rise to \$15,000 in a bullish scenario. However, concerns exist about the sustainability of these price levels, with some analysts warning that high prices could dampen demand through substitution or demand destruction, emphasizing the self-regulating nature of commodity markets.

Chinese car manufacturing in Italy could force tough decisions, says Stellantis CEO: (April 10, 2024, [Source](#)) – Stellantis N.V. (NYSE: STLA) CEO Carlos Tavares warned of tough decisions, including potential plant closures, as Chinese car manufacturing in Italy could introduce new competition, notably from

automakers like Chery Auto. The Italian government's negotiations with Tesla Inc. (NASDAQ: TSLA) and Chinese companies aim to boost Italy's automotive production. Tavares emphasized the pressure on Stellantis, Italy's only major automaker, could lead to efforts to increase productivity to stay competitive, potentially affecting market share and necessitating a reduction in the number of plants. Despite rumors, Tavares confirmed Stellantis's commitment to Italy, highlighting investments such as the extension of Fiat Panda's production until 2030 and the inauguration of a facility for electrified transmissions at Mirafiori. He dismissed speculation about divesting from Italy as "fake news."

Volkswagen electric car sales plunge as Europe returns to petrol: (April 10, 2024, [Source](#)) – Volkswagen's electric vehicle (EV) sales in Europe plummeted by nearly a quarter in the first quarter of the year, amid a resurgence in petrol car demand, driven by high inflation and rising energy costs. This decline contrasts with a modest 3% global dip in all-electric sales and a 4% rise in combustion engine vehicle sales. The shift comes as governments reevaluate EV subsidies and emissions targets, with the UK delaying its ban on new petrol and diesel sales from 2030 to 2035, and the EU considering allowances for synthetic fuels. This backdrop of diminishing government support and increased competition from more affordably priced Chinese EVs, such as those from BYD, has pressured Volkswagen's sales. Despite these challenges, Volkswagen experienced a significant 91% surge in EV sales in China, underscoring the regional disparities in EV adoption trends. Other manufacturers like BMW and Tesla also report varying EV sales performance, highlighting the evolving and competitive landscape of the global electric vehicle market.

China's Tianqi Lithium's \$4bn bet on Chile at risk of backfiring: (April 9, 2024, [Source](#)) – In 2018, Tianqi Lithium, a

major Chinese lithium producer, invested \$4 billion to acquire a significant stake in Chile's SQM, a move aimed at securing a strong position in the global lithium market, essential for electric vehicles. This investment in the heart of the "lithium triangle" (Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile) now faces challenges due to Chile's government seeking greater control over lithium resources, particularly in the Atacama Desert where SQM operates. SQM's agreement with Codelco, a state-owned enterprise, to form a joint venture aligns with Chilean policies for public-private partnerships in strategic sectors, potentially diminishing Tianqi's influence and future prospects in SQM's lithium venture. This development is part of a broader trend where countries are reclaiming control over critical minerals for the green transition, affecting companies like Tianqi, whose profitability and market position are under pressure from changing regulations, market dynamics, and operational challenges, both in Chile and globally.

Rinehart's MP Buy Could Trigger Rare Earths Mining Mega Merger: (April 9, 2024, [Source](#)) – Gina Rinehart, Australia's wealthiest person and iron ore magnate, has made a significant move into the U.S. rare earths sector by acquiring a 5.3% stake in MP Materials Corp. (NYSE: MP), which owns the Mountain Pass mine in California. This purchase has led to a 20% increase in MP's share price within five days. Rinehart's investment extends beyond MP to a 10% stake in [Arafura Rare Earths Limited](#) (ASX: ARU), an Australian rare earth producer, and 5.8% in a Brazilian company. Amidst growing competition with China and threats to "weaponize" its dominance in rare earths essential for modern technologies, Rinehart's actions hint at potential for a major merger, particularly between MP and Australia's Lynas Rare Earths Ltd. (ASX: LYC), aiming to create a significant non-Chinese rare earth supply. This development could signal strategic shifts in global rare earths production, with

potential large-scale industry consolidation on the horizon.

China's EV export boom fuels surge in demand for new car-carrying ships: (April 9, 2024, [Source](#)) – Amidst a burgeoning demand for electric vehicles (EVs), Chinese automakers and shippers are investing heavily in a fleet expansion, ordering a record number of car-carrying ships. This surge places China on a trajectory to possess the world's fourth-largest car-carrying fleet by 2028, ascending from its current eighth position. Major corporations like SAIC Motor, Chery Automobile, and EV titan BYD, along with shippers such as COSCO and China Merchants, are spearheading this initiative, accounting for a quarter of global orders. This influx primarily benefits Chinese shipyards, capturing 82% of the global orders. The expansion into foreign markets, buoyed by a cost-efficient supply chain, has been crucial for Chinese automakers facing domestic challenges like price competition and a slow economy. Notably, China has surpassed Japan as the premier auto exporter, with significant contributions from companies like BYD. However, this export growth has raised concerns in the U.S. and EU about market oversaturation with low-priced goods, though China rebuts, highlighting innovation and downplaying state support's role.

US must boost Africa ties to secure key minerals, report says: (April 9, 2024, [Source](#)) – To secure vital minerals critical for sectors ranging from electric vehicle production to defense, the United States must strengthen its commercial relationships with African nations, a report from the United States Institute of Peace emphasizes. This is to reduce dependency on China, which currently dominates the supply of these critical minerals. The U.S.'s near-total reliance on foreign sources, especially China, for these materials poses significant economic and national security risks. The report highlights the lag of Western mining companies behind Chinese counterparts in tapping into Africa's rich mineral resources. It suggests enhanced U.S. commercial

diplomacy, particularly with leading mineral suppliers like the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. Additionally, it points out the competition from Middle East firms and proposes measures like increasing project financing and reopening the U.S. consulate in Lubumbashi to facilitate U.S. investment. Despite challenges, the report argues for a more vigorous approach to match China's influence in Africa's mining sector.

Rare earths prices in China hit 7-week high on post-holiday restocking: (April 9, 2024, [Source](#)) – Rare earths prices in China, the world's leading producer, reached a seven-week peak on April 8 due to increased post-holiday restocking, before slightly declining the following day. With China dominating 70% of mining and 90% of the refined rare earths market, notable increases were observed in praseodymium oxide and terbium oxide prices, highlighting the country's significant influence on the market. The demand surge, particularly after the QingMing Festival, led to a depletion of in-plant stocks among magnetic materials producers, who then turned to the spot market for replenishment. Additionally, the use of ore cargoes as collateral by some to alleviate financial pressures contributed to the price hike. The start of the rainy season in Myanmar, a major supplier, is expected to reduce ore availability, potentially increasing market volatility as companies rely more on spot market purchases, impacting long-term contract stability. Consequently, shares in China Northern Rare Earth (Group) High-Tech saw a 4.3% increase.

Perpetua Resources gets nod to seek \$1.8 bln US loan for antimony mine: (April 8, 2024, [Source](#)) – [Perpetua Resources Corp.](#) (NASDAQ: PPTA | TSX: PPTA) has received preliminary approval from the U.S. Export-Import Bank (EXIM) for a \$1.8 billion loan to develop an antimony and gold mine in northern Idaho, aligning with efforts to reduce China's dominance in critical minerals. This potential loan marks one of the largest

U.S. investments in the mining sector, reflecting the Biden administration's strategy of using federal funds to support projects that compete with Chinese firms. In addition to this loan, Perpetua will seek extra equity funding. The Stibnite mine aims to become the only U.S. source of antimony, vital for military hardware and electric vehicle batteries, while also harboring substantial gold reserves. This venture is part of a broader U.S. initiative to secure domestic supplies of essential minerals and counter China's market influence.

Mining billionaire Forrest urges China to demand greener nickel: (April 7, 2024, [Source](#)) – Australian mining billionaire Andrew Forrest has publicly called for China to implement and enforce higher environmental standards within its global supply chains, especially focusing on nickel processing in Indonesia, citing severe environmental damage. In a Financial Times interview, Forrest, who is the chair and largest shareholder of Fortescue Ltd. (ASX: FMG), criticized the extraction of Indonesian nickel for its extensive environmental degradation and urged electric vehicle manufacturers to be cautious when sourcing nickel from Indonesia. Forrest highlighted that China's increasing control over Indonesia's nickel production, vital for electric car batteries and steelmaking, comes with significant environmental concerns, including deforestation, mining waste pollution, and high carbon emissions from coal power. Despite shutting down his nickel mines in Western Australia due to price drops influenced by Indonesian nickel, Forrest remains vocal about the need for a "green premium" for sustainably produced nickel and criticizes the lack of differentiation in the market. The call comes amid rising environmental scrutiny and the potential for market-driven adjustments to reflect the environmental cost of production.

Canada risks losing mining capital because of government opacity around Chinese investment in critical minerals sector: (April 5,

2024, [Source](#)) – The opacity of the Canadian government regarding Chinese investment in the critical minerals sector is leading to investor uncertainty and risking Canada's position as a major capital source for mining. Despite Ottawa's late 2022 announcement allowing Chinese investments only under "exceptional circumstances" without defining them, transactions continue, confusing the market. For instance, Shenghe Resources acquired a 10% stake in Vital Metals Ltd. (ASX: VML), owner of Canada's only operating rare earths mine, even purchasing a significant stockpile of rare earths mined in Canada. Critics, including those from the Macdonald-Laurier Institute, find it problematic, especially given China's dominance in the rare earths market. The unclear stance and handling of investments, such as the blocked financing deal for SRG Mining Inc. (TSXV: SRG)., reflect a broader uncertainty and potential discouragement of future critical minerals companies from basing in Canada, fearing the government's unpredictable investment policies. This situation may drive new companies to other countries, impacting Canada's mining capital and strategic positioning in critical minerals.

Investor.News Critical Minerals Videos:

- April 12, 2024 – Defense Metals Dr. Moreno on the Wicheeda Project Poised to Become North America's Next Rare Earth Mine <https://bit.ly/3TXs7kh>

Critical Minerals IN8.Pro Member News

Releases:

- April 10, 2024 – American Rare Earths’ Assay Results Expand Rare Earth Enrichment Within the Cowboy State Mine Area at Halleck Creek, Wyoming <https://bit.ly/3JecW0T>
 - April 10, 2024 – Critical Metals PLC: Issue of Convertible Loan Notes and Corporate Update <https://bit.ly/4aLZ75P>
 - April 10, 2024 – Mount Squires Project Option Agreement to unlock potential further rare earth supply <https://bit.ly/440rco4>
 - April 09, 2024 – Pekuakamiulnuatsh First Nation and First Phosphate Announce Collaboration Agreement <https://bit.ly/4d2nH4C>
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Fineqia’s Bundeep Singh Rangar on the influence of digital currency in shaping the future of finance

written by InvestorNews | April 18, 2024

Fineqia International Inc. (CSE: FNQ | OTC: FNQQF | FSE: FNQA) continues to solidify its position as a leading player in the digital asset and fintech investment landscape with recent notable developments.

Defense Metals Dr. Moreno on the Wicheeda Project Poised to Become North America's Next Rare Earth Mine

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[Defense Metals Corp.](#) (TSXV: DEFN | OTCQB: DFMTF), represented by Dr. Luisa Moreno, President and Director, discusses recent developments and strategic partnerships in an interview with InvestorNews host Tracy Weslosky. The conversation highlights the [appointment](#) of Mr. Guy de Selliers de Moranville to the board, emphasizing his extensive experience in banking, financing, and rare earths. Dr. Moreno underscores the significance of strategic [funding review](#) by HCF International, noting their recognition of the Wicheeda project's potential and Mr. Moranville's alignment with Defense Metals' goals. The interview also touches on recent milestones, including the [shipping](#) of samples to potential partners for rare earths separation. Dr. Moreno emphasizes the project's strategic location in Canada and the support from Discovery Group, outlining Defense Metals' commitment to sustainable development and strong governance.

Dr. Moreno's on Mr. Moranville's unique expertise in rare earths starts: "He brings significant experience in banking and financing, as well as rare Earths... there's not a lot of people out there that actually have experience in the rare earths space." Highlighting the competitive advantage of Defense's project, she adds: "Having reviewed the Wicheeda project and

compared it to many others... I am confident that the Wicheeda REE project possesses the essential qualities needed to emerge as North America's next Rare Earth Mine." To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

About Defense Metals Corp. and its Wicheeda Rare Earth Element Project

Defense Metals Corp. is focused on the development of its 100% owned, 8,301-hectare (~20,534-acre) Wicheeda REE Project that is located on the traditional territory of the McLeod Lake Indian Band in British Columbia, Canada.

The Wicheeda REE Project, approximately 80 kilometres (~50 miles) northeast of the city of Prince George, is readily accessible by a paved highway and all-weather gravel roads and is close to infrastructure, including hydro power transmission lines and gas pipelines. The nearby Canadian National Railway and major highways allow easy access to the port facilities at Prince Rupert, the closest major North American port to Asia.

Defense Metals is a proud member of Discovery Group.

To know more about Defense Metals Corp., [click here](#)

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John Carter on how the Legendary Lone Ranger series sheds light on the Silver Bullet Mines history

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In this InvestorNews interview with host Tracy Weslosky, John Carter, CEO and Director of [Silver Bullet Mines Corp.](#) (TSXV: SBMI | OTCQB: SBMCF), delves into the unique origin story of the company and its innovative approach to mining and silver production. Carter recounted a story linking their McMorris Mine to the legendary Lone Ranger series, shedding light on the mine's history. He explained that the author of the Lone Ranger book "actually came out to the McMorris Mine and bought silver directly from the mine, which they used to make silver bullets for promoting the Lone Ranger series." This historical tidbit not only underscores the mine's storied past but also serves as a testament to its long-standing significance in silver production.

Further into the discussion, Carter highlighted SBMI's unconventional strategy towards mining and financial sustainability. With over 40 years of experience, Carter has witnessed the cyclic challenges of the sector, including the

need for continuous capital raising and its dilutive effects on shareholders. SBMI's strategy circumvents these issues by reactivating past-producing mines and utilizing existing resources to fund further exploration and development, rather than relying solely on external financing. This model is currently being applied in Arizona and Idaho, with the company already "producing silver" in Arizona and planning to use the generated revenues to bolster exploration efforts.

Furthermore, the recent strategic business [alliance](#) with Countryman Investments and the appointment of Dave Richardson to SBMI's Advisory Board signal a significant strengthening of the company's financial and operational capabilities.

To access the complete InvestorNews interview, [click here](#)

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About Silver Bullet Mines Corp.

Silver Bullet Mines Corp. (SBMI) is making headway in the gold and silver production industry. SBMI recently revealed a third potential revenue stream through a partnership to process around 900 pounds of high-grade gold concentrate at its Globe, Arizona facility, benefiting from its advanced gravity circuit. Besides this, SBMI's primary operations focus on silver extraction from the Buckeye Silver Mine and silver/gold production at its Washington Mine in Idaho, to be processed at its fully operational mill. The company recently reported promising high-grade silver findings from the Treasure Room and is working on a financing strategy for its operations. An ambitious goal is to stabilize the Treasure Room for deeper exploration. Another highlight was the successful interception of a mineral-rich zone at the Buckeye Mine, known as "Zone1," believed to contain

higher-grade silver. The company plans to continue mining this vein and refine the material at its Globe mill. Recent developments position SBMI as a leading player in silver mining, suggesting a bright future for the company and its investors.

To learn more about Silver Bullet Mines Corp., [click here](#)

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