

Setback for U.S. Rare Earth Industry: China Tightens Export Laws on Key Technologies, Impeding American Efforts to Gain Independence Despite Financial Incentives

written by Jack Lifton | December 21, 2023

Bad news for those who think that the shortage of rare earth processing in America can be resolved by the injection of “free” money (A/K/A subsidies [also known as taxpayer’s money]) into the “free” market as, drum roll, please, “tax credits,” grants, and loans. The Chinese have decided not to give up their decades-long, learned by trial and error as much as by science and engineering, dominance in rare earth processing. China has announced a (further) tightening of its strict laws against the export of rare earth themed industrial technology. In particular, this means that technologies for producing rare earth metals, alloys and MAGNETS may not be shared with ANY foreign (to China) entity as a matter of national security!