

# Mining for Success: Investing in Critical Minerals

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MEKETA CAPITAL

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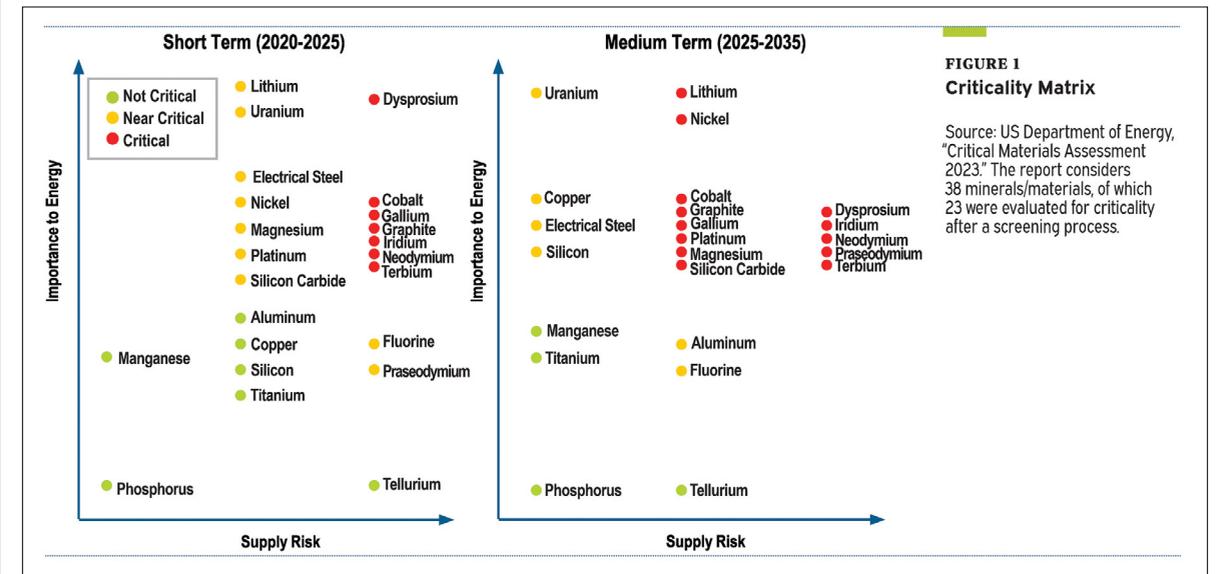
As the world shifts towards greener energy and cutting-edge technologies, critical minerals are becoming more important than ever. These minerals are the building blocks for many industries, from renewable energy to electric vehicles and high-tech gadgets. Knowing why these minerals matter and the impact they have on various technologies may help one to better understand their investment potential.

What exactly are critical minerals? They're essential to our economy and come with supply chain challenges. Think of lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements (REEs)—the things that go into making batteries, electronics, and green energy tech.

The U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") periodically assesses critical materials and minerals and publishes a report

with their findings. In the report, materials/minerals are placed on a criticality matrix (see Figure 1) that depicts where each mineral stands in terms of supply chain disruption risk and importance to energy technologies (including technologies that produce, transmit, store, and conserve energy). The matrix looks at both what has happened recently and what is expected to continue in the short term as well as what is expected to happen in the future (i.e., the "medium term").

With our ever-growing dependence on technology, there is increasing demand for more sophisticated electronics, which has created a tech boom. Electric vehicles (EVs), solar panels, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) hardware all need these minerals. Lithium and cobalt, for example, are crucial for making the batteries that power everything from your



smartphone to electric cars. As these technologies grow, so does the demand for critical minerals.

Naturally, there are risks with respect to investing in critical minerals. Geopolitical issues can disrupt supply chains, especially since many critical minerals are mined in politically unstable regions. Regulatory changes can also impact mining operations and project feasibility. And let's not forget market volatility—the prices of these minerals can be all over the place due to fluctuating supply and demand.

In a nutshell, as the world moves towards a more sustainable and tech-savvy future, critical minerals are set to play a big role. Understanding this market and seizing the investment opportunities it offers may lead to significant growth

for your clients while supporting a greener economy. By keeping an eye on market trends and potential risks, one may be able to stay ahead in this evolving landscape.

For additional information on Meketa Capital, please visit [meketacapital.com](http://meketacapital.com).

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