

A Sample of Additional Reference Materials

June 23, 2011

This is a very small sample of the countless articles and studies that have been published in the last 8 months regarding the importance of strategic minerals to the Green Economy and National Defense; the coming crisis of supply; the vulnerable position the U.S. is in; and political support that is building for responsible mining in the U.S. It offers a starting point for those who want to dig deeper into these topics, as many of the articles point readers to related information.

The materials are listed in reverse chronological order.

“Udall Backs Responsible Development of Critical Minerals and Materials”,
February 22, 2011

http://markudall.senate.gov/?p=press_release&id=933

Udall's Critical Minerals and Materials Act of 2011 is focused on rebuilding the industry on two levels: to help develop a domestic supply chain of critical minerals and materials, which includes rare-earth materials, and to nurture an expert workforce to mine and process the minerals.

“Scientists Call for New Sources of Critical Elements”, New York Times, February 18, 2011

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/19/business/global/19rare.html?_r=2&emc=eta1

WASHINGTON — Technologies for green or renewable-energy devices like batteries, solar cells and advanced electric motors are dependent on critical metals and other elements that are threatened by major shortages, two influential American scientific groups said in a report Friday.

And China's chokehold on the chemical elements known as rare earths is just one example, the groups said.

“Critical Materials Strategy”, U.S. Department of Energy, December 2010

<http://www.energy.gov/news/documents/criticalmaterialsstrategy.pdf>

Each day, researchers, entrepreneurs and many others across the United States are working to develop and deploy the clean energy technologies that will enhance our security, reduce pollution and promote prosperity.

Many new and emerging clean energy technologies, such as the components of wind turbines and electric vehicles, depend on materials with unique properties. The availability of a number of these materials is at risk due to their location, vulnerability to supply disruptions and lack of suitable substitutes.

As part of the Department of Energy's efforts to advance a clean energy economy, we have developed a *Critical Materials Strategy* to examine and address this challenge.

"China's rare-earth power", Washington Post, October 28, 2010

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/28/AR2010102806319.html>

Rare-earth metals are 17 elements vital to high-tech products ranging from the Toyota Prius to the cellphone to the American military's precision-guided munitions. The People's Republic controls 97 percent of the world's supply. And Beijing suddenly has slashed exports, causing near-panic in Japanese industry and exposing the United States' own vulnerability.

The cutoff, as Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday, "served as a wake-up call [about] being so dependent on only one source."