

# Eye on Critical Minerals

## Newsletter

JANUARY 2024

Welcome to Mayer Brown's Critical Minerals Newsletter which focuses on some of the key legal issues and developments that have been affecting the sector over recent months.

### NEWS

#### Joint Ventures in US Mining: Considerations for Critical Mineral Mining Ventures

The continuing growth in the electric vehicle ("EV") industry and the role of energy storage in the clean energy transition have increased the importance and urgency around securing and developing the United States' supplies of rare earth and critical minerals that play vital roles in the production of batteries, semiconductors and clean energy technologies. Read more [here](#).

#### Overview of laws applicable to United Kingdom mining activity

Unlike other jurisdictions, such as the US and Angola, the UK does not have a single mining / mineral code or legislative framework. Instead, different laws and regulations apply according to the mineral type and the nature of the activities being undertaken. Read more [here](#).

#### Biden Administration Provides More Flexible Options for Meeting Foreign Entity of Concern (FEOC) Criteria for Clean Vehicle Tax Credit

On 1 December 2023, the US Department of Energy issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (88 FR 84082), and the Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (REG-118492-23) and Revenue Procedure 2023-38. Read more [here](#).

#### Kenya Mining

As the race to secure critical minerals for the energy transition tightens, Kenya is intent on capitalising its mineral resources to create socioeconomic benefits, including infrastructure investments, employment generation, and fiscal revenue. Over the last few months, the country has made great effort to create a conducive environment for domestic and foreign investors and position itself as a suitable strategic partner in the global minerals supply chain. Read more [here](#).

#### A sustainable automotive sector in the United Kingdom – FAQs on the new UK Battery Strategy

On 26 November 2023, the UK Government Department for Business and Trade published the UK Battery Strategy, which the UK Government hopes will enable the UK to become "a world leader in sustainable battery design and manufacture, underpinned by a thriving battery innovation ecosystem". Amongst other things, a safe, circular and sustainable battery value chain for all batteries is important for the development of the growing market of electric vehicles. Read more [here](#).

## EVENTS

### Webinar: US and EU Support for Critical Minerals

In November 2023, Meaghan Connors and Nikolay Mizulin hosted a webinar that looks at the extent of the dependence on critical minerals in energy transitions. To view the recording of this webinar please click [here](#).

### Indaba and 121 Mining Investment Cape Town 2024

Members of our mining and critical minerals team will be attending both the Indaba 2024 (5-8 February 2024) and 121 Mining Investment Cape Town (5&6 February 2024) conferences. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

## PRESS RELEASES

### Mayer Brown advises on landmark US\$67 million investment for Cornish Lithium plc

Mayer Brown has advised Cornish Lithium on a £53.6 million (US\$67 million) initial investment made by a group of leading institutional investors led by the UK Infrastructure Bank alongside The Energy & Minerals Group (EMG) and TechMet. Following the closing of this round of initial investment, Cornish Lithium has announced that it will also make available a further retail share offering through Crowdcube (Retail Offer). Read more [here](#).

### Mayer Brown's Mining Team recognised in Chambers UK 2024

Mayer Brown's Mining Team recognised in Chambers UK 2024 for the 11th consecutive year. The team were ranked in Band 1, Ian Coles was also ranked in Band One and Rachel Speight was ranked in Band 2. Read more [here](#).

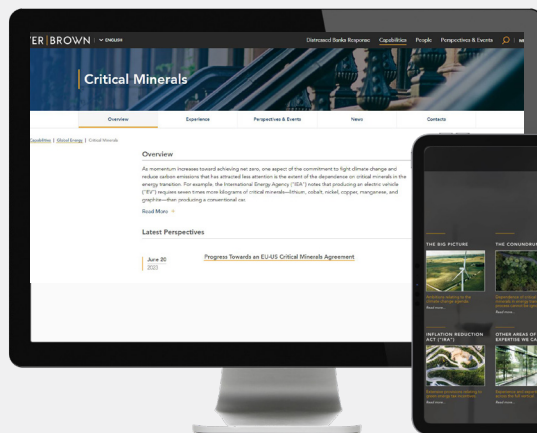
### Mayer Brown's Mining Team recognised in UK Legal 500 2024

Mayer Brown's Mining Team recognised in UK Legal 500 2024 in Band 2. Ian Coles was recognised within the Hall of Fame and Rachel Speight was ranked as a leading individual. Read more [here](#).

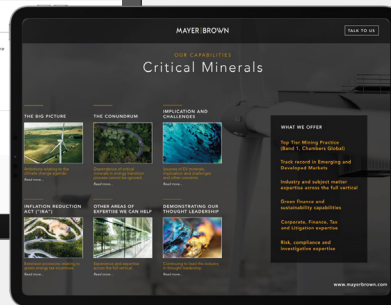
### Mayer Brown's Mining Team recognised in Who's Who: Mining 2024

Seven lawyers of Mayer Brown's Mining Team have been recognised in Who's Who: Mining 2024. Ian Coles has been listed as a Global Elite Thought Leader; Rachel Speight, Robert Hamill, Jonathan Hosie, Richard Nelson and Kevin L. Shaw have been recommended Globally for Mining and Alban Dorin has been recommended in France for Mining.

## RESOURCES



[Mayer Brown Critical Minerals webpage](#)



[Mayer Brown Critical Minerals digital brochure](#)

## KEY CRITICAL MINERALS TEAM



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## GET IN TOUCH

For more information on Critical Minerals, or any of the topics in this newsletter, please contact one of our key contacts above or visit our website: [Critical Minerals](#) | [Capabilities](#) | [Mayer Brown](#)

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