

Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans

European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels

Brussels, 17 January 2023

Dear Executive Vice President,
Dear Mr. Timmermans,

On behalf of the European mining industry, I would like to applaud the on-going work of the Commission on the Critical Raw Materials Act. It comes at the right time when the EU is facing global challenges from competitors as well as partners and needs to find a way to fulfil the promise of a competitive clean and digital transition of the industry without jeopardizing the climate ambition or outsourcing environmental pressure to other parts of the world.

The U.S. Inflation Reduction Act is a clear signal that the strategic dimension of clean technology value chains and raw materials requires enhanced attention of the European Union. Primary raw materials are not only indispensable building blocks of the twin-transition but also the continuous foundation of EU prosperity, which makes the upcoming act a legacy file of this Commission, ensuring a future access to sustainable raw materials, innovation and growth in this strategic sector as well as high quality jobs and training.

To discuss key elements in the Act that would help to ensure access to sustainably and responsibly extracted resources from Europe, we would like to invite you for a discussion with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] LKAB, a Swedish mining company that is in the midst of a globally unique sustainable industrial transformation process and, through extensive exploration work, also has discovered the largest until today known rare earth element deposit in Europe.

We would like to enter an exchange of views on the long-term transformative and strategic impetus for our industry and value chains. In particular, we would like to address the topics of:

- EU capacities to contribute to an open strategic autonomy in raw materials
- Permitting and project launches
- Legal and regulatory incentives and bottlenecks
- A potential visit to a mine site

Aware of your extremely busy schedule, we would be more than grateful if we could discuss these issues in a bilateral meeting any time in February 2023.

Many thanks in advance for your consideration and kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]