



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

s 33(a)(i)

s 33(a)(i)

add or remove minerals from the

List.

- The List is reviewed every three years (or sooner at the request of the Minister).
- s 47C for the critical minerals Strategic Reserve, announced in the election campaign, s 33(a)(i)

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s 33(a)(i)

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Critical Minerals Strategic Reserve

- The Government has committed to establishing a Critical Minerals Strategic Reserve.
- The Strategic Reserve will build on government investment through:
 - National Offtake Agreements – through voluntary contractual arrangements the Government will acquire agreed volumes of critical minerals from commercial projects, or establish an option to purchase at a given price; and
 - Selective stockpiling – the Government will establish Australian stockpiles of certain key critical minerals produced under offtake agreements as required.
- The Reserve will focus on a subset of critical minerals that are most important for national security and the strategic purposes of Australia and our likeminded partners.
- A Taskforce is being established to progress the initiative.

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

Background analysis

- s 33(a)(i)

s 33(a)(i)

The Critical Minerals List **s 33(a)(i)** It is expected a review will be conducted in 2026, consistent with the commitment to review the Critical Minerals List and Strategic Minerals List at least every three years.

Overview of methodology

The Critical Minerals List is the outcome **s 33(a)(i)**, considering minerals' strategic importance to critical technologies, **s 33(a)(i)** vulnerability, and alignment with international partner priorities.

In December 2023, the Australian Government updated the Critical Minerals List and created a Strategic Materials List using a comprehensive methodology developed by the Critical Minerals Office. The methodology aligns with the Critical Minerals Strategy 2023-2030 and focusses on:

1. The priority technologies outlined in the Critical Minerals Strategy
2. Australia's geological potential for resources
3. The needs of our strategic international partners
4. The vulnerability of our supply chains

To develop this methodology, the Critical Minerals Office relied on technical and market analysis, sourced data and insights from Geoscience Australia, and consulted extensively with industry, peak bodies, federal government agencies including CSIRO, ANTSO, and Austrade, and state and territory government representatives.

The List was updated in February 2024 with the addition of nickel. **s 33(a)(i)** for the December 2023 update, nickel was included as part of the Strategic Materials List (which also included aluminium, copper, phosphorus, tin, zinc), but has since been designated a critical mineral by the Minister for Resources.

Criterion 1: Use in priority technologies

The priority technologies listed in the Critical Minerals Strategy 2023-2030 include:

- batteries and battery components
- rare earth permanent magnets
- catalysts for hydrogen production
- semiconductors for micro-chips and solar photovoltaics
- defence technologies
- high-performance alloys and metals.

s 33(a)(i)

If a mineral is used in any of the priority technologies, this criterion is met.

s 47C

s 47C

s 47C

Criterion 3: Critical to our international partners s 33(a)(i)

s 33(a)(i) was determined by firstly assessing our current critical minerals list against the critical minerals lists of our international partners:

s 33(a)(iii)

s 47C

s 47C

PROTECTED CABINET

**SENATOR THE HON DON FARRELL THE HON MADELEINE KING MP**

Minister for Trade and Tourism

Minister for Resources

Special Minister of State

Minister for Northern Australia

MS25-000573

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

At the 2025 G7 Leaders' Summit, it is likely you will be asked to agree to join Canada's proposed *G7 Critical Minerals Action Plan* (the CMAP; s 33(b)). The CMAP seeks to increase cooperation amongst signatories on critical minerals issues, particularly standards, capital and innovation.

s 33(a)(iii)

We do not expect to have a final draft statement until we are invited. We therefore seek your agreement for Australia to join the CMAP based on the current s 33(b) , and if its subsequent finalisation aligns with our proposed mandate at Attachment B.

The current s 33(b) ' of the CMAP aims to address the most pressing critical minerals issues through s 33(b) :

s 33(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(b)

s 33(a)(iii)

. The CMAP is expected to continue for 2 years, s 33(a)(iii)

The s 33(b) of work align with our domestic policy of diversifying critical minerals supply

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chains. This work leverages our global leadership on critical minerals issues, including through the International Energy Agency's Critical Minerals Working Party.

s 33(b) & s 47C . It advances efforts to level the playing field through standards and increase the global competitiveness of our sector. s 33(a)(iii) & s 34(3)

s 33(a)(iii) , and could be managed through existing activities and programs.

s 33(a)(iii)

s 47C
s 33(a)(iii)

s 33(a)(iii)

s 47C

Our position ensures Australia will remain engaged in subsequent implementation efforts, including a potential roadmap for s 33(b). We will seek your agreement prior to any further commitments informed by an assessment of its alignment with Australia's interests.

Yours sincerely

DON FARRELL
/ / 2025

MADELEINE KING
/ / 2025

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Enc – s 33(a)(iii) & s 47C

Attachment B: Australia's Proposed Mandate

CC: Treasurer, the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP
The Hon Richard Marles MP, Minister for Defence
Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Finance
Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs
The Hon Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Climate Change and Energy
Senator the Hon Tim Ayres MP, Minister for Industry and Innovation, Minister for Science