



# The 11<sup>th</sup> Meggen Raw Material Days

## Side Event

### First Industry Round Table Discussion

### Backing the Critical Raw Materials Act and reinforcing the EU strategic autonomy

9.<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 17:00 h

HOTEL RAMEIL

Winterberger Str. 49, 57368 Lennestadt-Saalhausen

Sponsored by:





*Sachtleben Bergbau  
Verwaltungs-GmbH*

**TRACTO**

9. September 2025 · 17:00 pm – 19:00 pm

### First Industry Roundtable:

#### Backing the Critical Raw Materials Act and reinforcing the EU strategic autonomy

The Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA), published in 2024, addresses the EU's challenges in advancing energy transition and achieving climate-neutrality by 2050. It establishes a target of 10% domestic extraction of critical raw materials by 2030, expedites permitting for mining projects, enhances supply disruption monitoring, and upholds rigorous social and environmental standards.

However, CRMA implementation faces institutional, techno-economic, and social-environmental barriers. Public acceptance emerges as particularly crucial, affecting operations, policy implementation, and financing. Opposition to mineral and industrial projects often stems from a perceived disconnect between EU-level priorities and local interests, amplified by Euroscepticism, institutional distrust, and inequality concerns. Traditional approaches based solely on technical assessments and expert consensus have proven inadequate.

The current situation demands a two-pronged strategy to: (i) derisk mineral value chains; and (ii) support Member States in fostering public acceptance. This roundtable examines approaches addressing both challenges, demonstrating how technological innovations can derisk mining operations by making mineral extraction virtually "invisible", while novel social contracts and business models, such as combination of CRM extraction with energy production, can build public support for extractive projects—creating an optimal balance between securing critical raw materials for the energy transition and safeguarding Europe's natural capital.

#### Programme:

- **Presentation of excerpts from the documentary “Europe’s lithium paradox”**, produced by Peter Tom Jones, showcasing the opportunities and challenges of mining, refining, and recycling lithium in Europe, in line with the targets set forth in the CRMA.
- **Panel discussion**, focused on technologies that make mining “invisible” and combine raw material extraction with energy production with **Policymakers, Representatives from Industry, Representatives from Banks/investors**

#### Run of Session:

- 17:00 – 17:15 Welcome and introduction.
- 17:15 – 17:30 Introduction to Panel / Remarks from participants.
- 17:30 – 17:45 Excerpts from the documentary “Europe’s lithium paradox”.
- 17:45 – 18:15 Panel Discussion among all participants
- 18:15 – 19:00 Q&A from audience.
- 19:00 Thank you note and closure.

The workshop is followed by a dinner and sponsored by:



If you are interested in joining this event, registration is mandatory via: [buettgenbach@geoberuf.de](mailto:buettgenbach@geoberuf.de)