How Does ESG Fit into the Critical Minerals Development Industry for Rare Earths Companies

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As I mentioned in a previous article, I am contacting key Australian Stock Exchange-listed Critical Minerals companies to get their views on Environmental, Social, and (corporate) Governance ("ESG"). I am looking to assuage the concerns of some of our stakeholders as to the ESG credentials of those Australia-based organizations that are in a position to supply and value add to the Critical Minerals shortage the world is now facing.

The questions are not designed as a platform for investment decisions, but as an important step toward letting investors know what their values are, what their achievements have been, and where do they see our industry heading.

The reference table will include the company name, the ASX Ticker code, their website reference, their current Market Capitalization, and their response to the ESG questionnaire.

The reference table will include all of the Australia-based companies that qualify as part of the Australian Critical Minerals Strategy referenced below.

2022 Critical Minerals Strategy

The survey questions were:

1. A brief description of your activities
2. How do you define ESG?
3. What should stakeholders be aware of in your approach to ESG?
4. How do you see ESG becoming an important function in the future?
5. Do you have any ESG lessons learned that you may wish to share?

I will update the reference tables regularly and highlight any new responses received. As this is the first time, here is the Rare Earths table. The next issue will be the Lithium table, followed by the Vanadium and Cobalt tables. Each issue will allow access to the tables via links and similarly with the ESG responses from the queried companies.

Rare Earths Company	**Web Site**	**Mkt Cap AUS$ (18 Feb 2023)**	**ESG Response**
Alpha Hpa Limited (ASX: A4N)	www.Alphahpa.com.au	$578.97M	Queried Feb 15
ABX Group Limited (ASX: ABX)	www.abxgroup.com.au	$31.30M	
Alkane Resources Limited (ASX: ALK)	www.alkane.com.au	$365.38M	Queried Feb 15

Alchemy Resources Limited (ASX: ALY)	www.alchemyresources.com.au	$16.02M	
American Rare Earths Limited (ASX: ARR)	www.americanrareearths.com.au	$111.55M	Queried Feb 15
Arafura Rare Earths Limited (ASX: ARU)	www.arultd.com	$1.26B	Queried Feb 15
Austin Metals Limited (ASX: AYT)	www.austinmentals.com.au	$6.35M	
Australian Mines Limited (ASX: AUZ)	www.australianmines.com.au	$28.79M	
Australian United Mining Limited (ASX: AYM)	www.australianunitedmining.com.au	$2.76M	
Australian Strategic Materials Limited (ASX: ASM)	www.asm-au.com	$323.41M	Queried Feb 15

Encounter Resources Limited (ASX: ENR)	www.encounterresorces.com.au	$49.77M	
Enova Mining Limited (ASX: ENV)	www.enovamining.com	$4.69M	
Hastings Technology Metals Limited (ASX: HAS)	www.hastingstechmetals.com	$387.54M	Queried Feb 15
Iluka Resources Limited (ASX: ILU)	www.iluka.com	$4.55B	Queried Feb 15
Ionic Rare Earths Limited (ASX: IXR)	www.ionicre.com.au	$127.74M	Queried Feb 15
Krakatoa Resources Limited (ASX: KTA)	www.ktaresources.com	$13.96M	
Legacy Iron Ore Limited (ASX: LCY)	www.legacyiron.com.au	$72.08M	Queried Feb 15
Lindian Resources Limited (ASX: LIN)	www.lindianresources.com.au	$210.22M	Queried Feb 15

Lanthanein Resources Limited (ASX: LNR)	www.lanthanein.com	$22.43M	
Lynas Rare Earths Limited (ASX: LYC)	www.lynasrareearths.com	$7.50B	Queried Feb 15
Minbos Resources Limited (ASX: MNB)	www.minbos.com	$81.46M	Queried Feb 15
Mount Ridley Mines Limited (ASX: MRD)	www.mtridleymines.com.au	$15.57M	
Northern Minerals Limited (ASX: NTU)	www.northernminerals.com.au	$223.92M	Queried Feb 15
Nova Minerals Limited (ASX: NVA)	www.novaminerals.com.au	$129.18M	Queried Feb 15
Orion Metals Limited (ASX: ORM)	www.orionmetals.com.au	$16.35M	

Peak Rare Earths Limited (ASX: PEK)	www.peakrareearths.com	$124.82M	Queried Feb 15
Platina Resources Limited (ASX: PGM)	www.platinaresources.com.au	$12.46M	
Prospect Resources Limited (ASX: PSC)	www.prospectresources.com.au	$81.02M	
Petratherm Limited (ASX: PTR)	www.petratherm.com.au	$13.77M	
RareX Limited (ASX: REE)	www.rarex.com.au	$34.42M	
Sunshine Gold Limited (ASX: SHN)	www.shngold.com.au	$14.62M	
Stavely Minerals Limited (ASX: SVY)	www.stavely.com.au	$78.37M	
Tempus Resources Ltd. (ASX: TMR)	www.tempusresources.com.au	$13.03M	

Todd River Resources Limited (ASX: TRT)	www.trrltd.com.au	$9.46M	
Venus Metals Corporation Limited (ASX: VMC)	www.venusmetals.com.au	$28.59M	
Vital Metals Limited (ASX: VML)	www.vitalmetals.com.au	$114.97M	Queried Feb 15

Note: At the time of publication, there have been no ESG responses to those Rare Earth companies queried.

As an aside, if I was responsible for responding to the above query, I would also publish that response to the ASX and include it on the company's website for ongoing reference.