



# BRINGING ALASKA'S CORE-CM POTENTIAL INTO PERSPECTIVE

## HB 177: Critical Natural Minerals Plan And Report

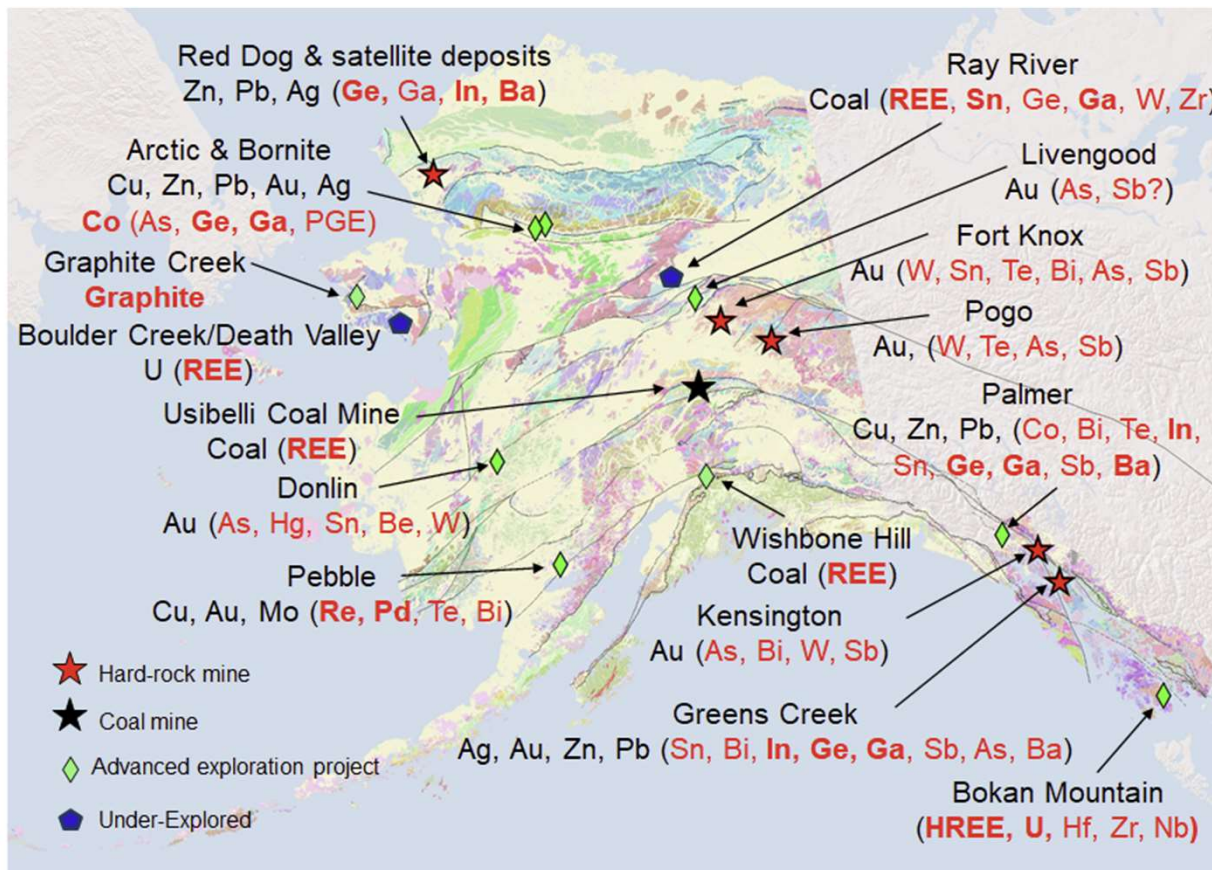
*Brent J Sheets*  
*Director, Petroleum Development Lab*  
*Institute of Northern Engineering*



UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA



# MINERAL RESOURCES



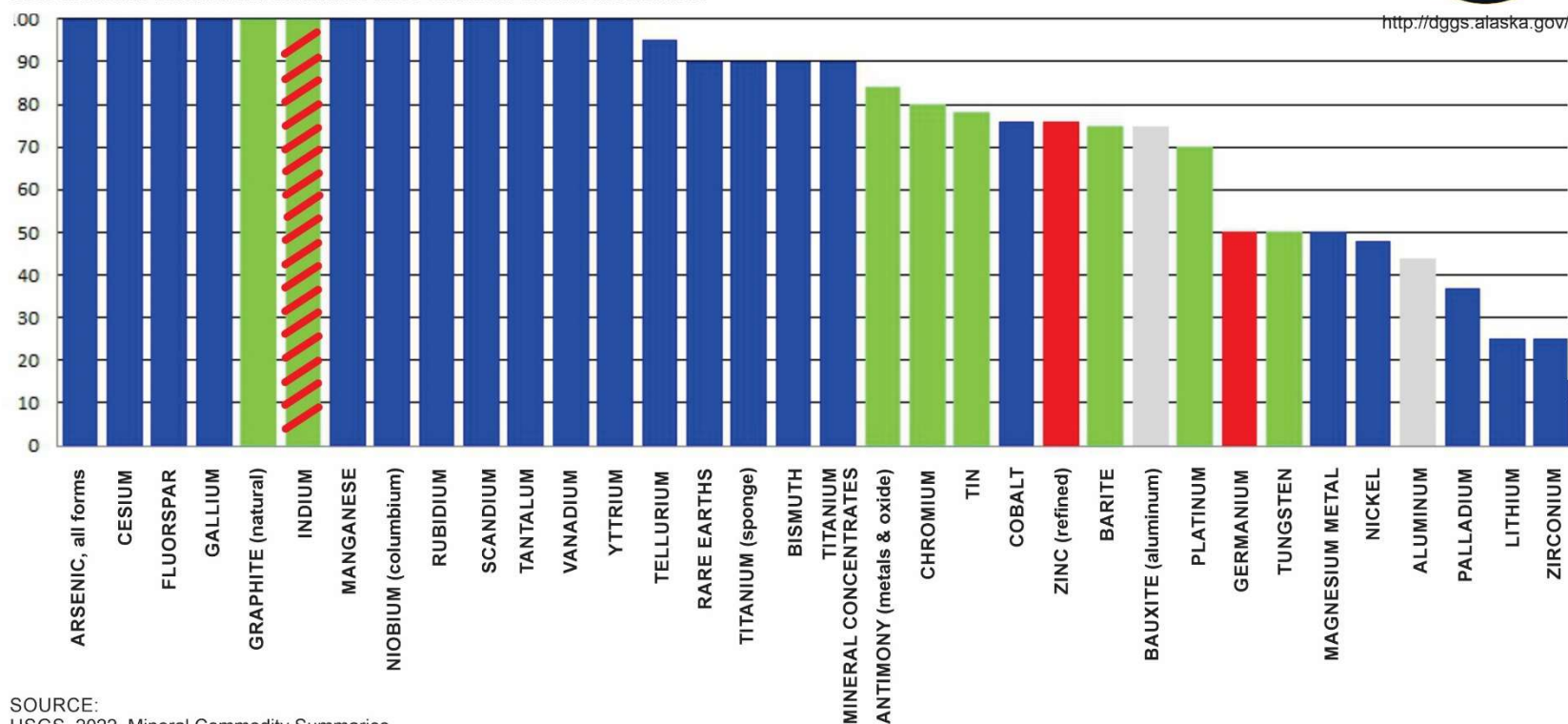
- AK's current mines and advanced mineral exploration projects
- Potential CM in red
- CM in bold font is the most abundant CM, with current data, at the respective property

# BACKGROUND—ALASKA'S CRITICAL MINERAL POTENTIAL

## 2021 U.S. Critical Minerals Import Reliance

NOTE:

Does not include beryllium and hafnium as these commodity data are not available.



SOURCE:

USGS, 2022, Mineral Commodity Summaries

## ALASKA



**Current  
Production**



**Past & Potential  
Production**



**Potential Future  
Production**



**Low to Very Low  
Potential Production**



# APPLICATIONS/PRODUCTS



## MAGNETICS

Computer Hard Drives  
Disk Drive Motors  
Anti-Lock Brakes  
Automotive Parts  
Frictionless Bearings  
Magnetic Refrigeration  
Microwave Power Tubes  
Power Generation  
Microphones & Speakers  
Communication Systems  
MRI

Nd Tb Dy Pr



## METAL ALLOYS

NiMH Batteries  
Fuel Cells  
Steel  
Super Alloys  
Aluminum/Magnesium

Nd Y La Ce Pr



## DEFENSE

Satellite Communications  
Guidance Systems  
Aircraft Structures  
Fly-by-Wire  
Smart Missiles

Nd Eu Tb Dy Y Lu Sm Pr La



## CATALYSTS

Petroleum Refining  
Catalytic Converter  
Fuel Additives  
Chemical Processing  
Air Pollution Controls

Nd La Ce Pr



## CERAMICS

Capacitors  
Sensors  
Colorants  
Scintillators  
Refractories

Nd Y Eu Dy Lu Gd La Ce Pr



## GLASS & POLISHING

Polishing Compounds  
Pigments & Coatings  
UV Resistant Glass  
Photo-Optical Glass  
X-Ray Imaging

Nd Gd Er Ho La Ce Pr



## PHOSPHORS

Display phosphors-  
CRT,LPD,LCD  
Fluorescents  
Medical Imaging  
Lasers  
Fiber Optics

Nd Eu Tb Y Er Gd Ce Pr

Courtesy of DOE



# CARBON ORE, RARE EARTH, & CRITICAL MINERALS

Vision: Bring Alaska's CORE-CM potential into perspective

Mission: Establish a CORE-CM industry in Alaska by working with industry and other stakeholders to ID opportunities & address challenges



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)



# BUDGET BY PHASE

Phase	Period of Performance	Period	DOE Share	Cost Share	Total Budget
Phase 1	2 yrs	Sep 2021 - June 2024	\$2M	\$0.51M	\$2.5M
Phase 2	3 yrs	July 2024 - Feb 2026	\$7.5M	\$1.87M	\$9.37M
Phase 3	5 yrs	Feb 2026 - Feb 2030	\$10M	\$2.5M	\$12.5M
Total	10 yrs		\$19.5M	\$4.88M	\$24.38M

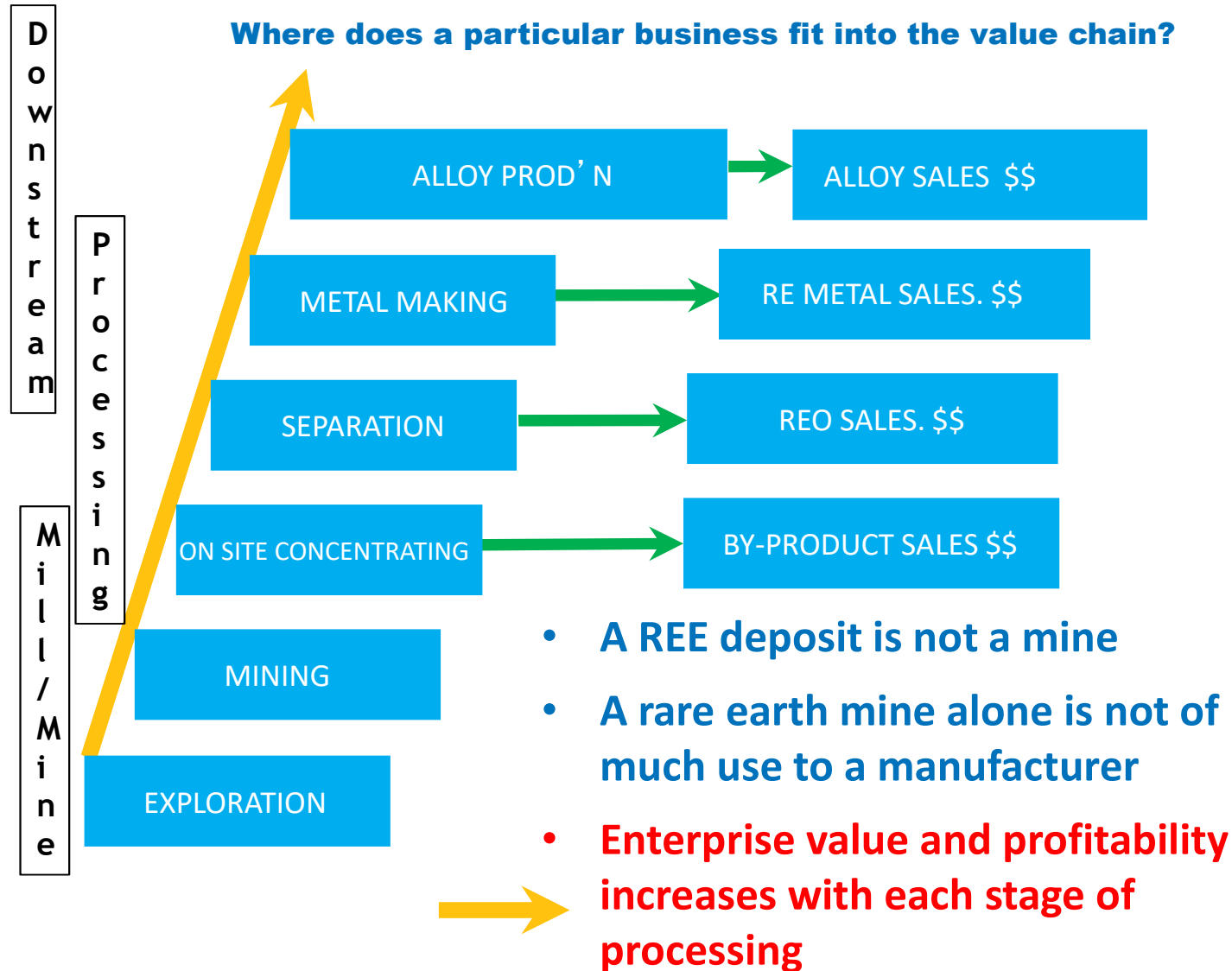




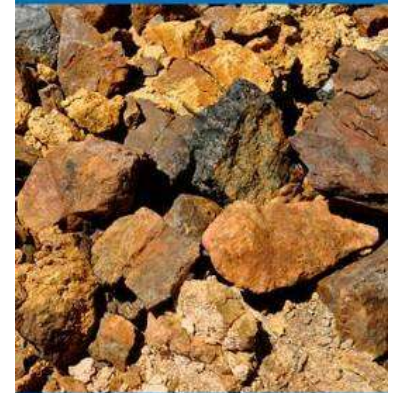
# OVERVIEW

NETL Objective from the FOA		UAF/DGGS Task Equivalent
1. Basinal Assessment of CORE-CM Resources	=	Task 2: Basinal Assessments
2. Basinal Strategies for Reuse of Waste Streams	=	Task 3: Waste Stream Reuse
3. Basinal Strategies for Infrastructure, Industries and Businesses	=	Task 4: Strategies for Infrastructure, Industries and Businesses
4. Technology Assessment, Development and Field Testing	=	Task 5: Technology Assessment, Development and Field Testing
5. Technology Innovation Centers	=	Task 6: AK-TIC
6. Stakeholder Outreach and Education	=	Task 7: Stakeholder Outreach & Education

# REE VALUE CHAIN



Graphic Courtesy of Great Western Minerals Group, Ltd, Jack Lifton  
Technology Metals Research, LLC (after ESP Research)







## ADDITIONAL ASSETS

- UAF INE: Installing an ICP-MS
- UAF GI: Operates a hyperspectral imaging facility in the state
- UAF GI: Advanced instrumentation Laboratory
- UAA is developing bioreactors to separate elements from ores without the use of acids
- UAS and UAF are expanding their respective efforts to provide mine training



# THANK YOU

**Brent J Sheets**

**907-750-0650**

[bjsheets2@alaska.edu](mailto:bjsheets2@alaska.edu)

