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Critical Metal Minerals in Coal

Guest Editors:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (30 November 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Critical metals (minerals) have unique material properties and irreplaceable major applications in new energy, information technology, aerospace and other cutting-edge industries, and have become an international frontier research direction. However, with the continuous reduction in traditional endogenetic metallic deposits and the increasing difficulty of discovery, the critical metals from coal in the exogenic geological process will become a new and important source. In the early stage of discovery, scholars in various countries found some critical minerals in coal, such as germanium, gallium, uranium, niobium, zirconium, rare earth elements, etc. Furthermore, different from the traditional solid metal minerals, the critical metals in coal can be enriched in coal ash for a second time. The issue takes lithium, gallium, germanium, niobium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, uranium, rare earth and other critical metals in coal as research objects; discusses their distribution laws, occurrence modes and metallogenic theories; and studies the exploration, mining and separation technologies of critical metal minerals in coal.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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