Special Issue

Rare Earth Elements: Occurrence, Exploration, Alternate Resources, Extraction Techniques, Chemical Characterization and Recycling

Message from the Guest Editor

Rare earth elements are a group of 17 elements (La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Pm, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, and Lu, plus Sc and Y) with similar physicochemical properties. These metals have become very important in our daily lives because of their extensive utilization in the manufacture of a wide variety of defense, aviation, industrial, and consumer electronics products. The extraction of these metals from various ores and other sources as a group may be relatively easy, but separating them individually is difficult because of their extremely similar physical and chemical properties. In addition, the introduction of different analytical techniques for the elemental, isotopic, and mineralogical characterizations of ores, minerals and other materials is important in all these studies. This proposed Special Issue on “Rare Earth Elements: Occurrence, Exploration, Alternate Resources, Extraction Techniques, Chemical Characterization and Recycling” will present case studies from the globe, and reviews related to the above aspects.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 January 2024)

Minerals

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Impact Factor 2.2
CiteScore 4.4

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About the Journal

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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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 17.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).

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