Special Issue

Ion-Adsorption-Type REE Deposits

Message from the Guest Editors

Rare-earth elements (REEs) are critical raw materials in advanced technological systems and green energy infrastructures. Thus, the high demand for REEs has led to global exploration campaigns targeting potential REE deposits. It has been demonstrated that the weathering process is a crucial factor in the formation of ion-adsorption REE deposits, whereby REEs are leached from granites and adsorbed by phyllosilicate assemblages under acidic weathering conditions. Still, the enrichment mechanism and controlling factors of the weathering processes remain unclear. The Special Issue invites submissions that include original scientific research relating to the ion-adsorption REE deposits. The Special Issue focuses on the following topics: (1) REE enrichment in the parent rocks of ion-adsorption REE deposits; (2) the mechanism of REE accumulation in the weathering crust; (3) the key controlling weathering conditions for ion-adsorption REE mineralization; and (4) effective exploration methods for ion-adsorption REE deposits.

Guest Editors

Dr. Xu Zhao
School of Earth Science, Yunnan University, Kunming 650500, China

Dr. Jingzhao Dou
School of Resources and Civil Engineering, Northeastern University, Shenyang 130024, China

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Minerals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
minerals@mdpi.com

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Leonid Dubrovinsky
Bayerisches Geoinstitut, University Bayreuth, D-95440 Bayreuth, Germany

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