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Metallium Backs New US–Australia Critical Minerals Agreement

Metallium Limited ("Metallium" or the "Company") (ASX: MTM; OTCQX: MTMCF) welcomes the signing of the United States–Australia Framework for Securing Supply of Critical Minerals and Rare Earths, announced in Washington DC on 20 October 2025 by President Donald J. Trump and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese[1].

The landmark Framework commits both nations to mobilising at least US$1 billion in joint project financing, accelerating permitting, and supporting development of diversified, secure, and sustainable supply chains for critical minerals and rare earth elements. The initiative directly addresses Chinese dominance in the refining and processing of these materials, which are essential for defence, clean energy, semiconductor, and advanced manufacturing applications.

OVERVIEW

Metallium Ltd is an Australian-U.S. company investing in the United States to commercialise **Flash Joule Heating (FJH)** technology developed at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Through its wholly owned U.S. subsidiary, **Flash Metals USA Inc.**, Metallium is developing a scalable processing facility in Texas that converts waste, mine tailings, and concentrates into high-purity critical metals including **rare earths, gallium, indium, antimony and germanium**.

This facility represents one of the only near-term, non-Chinese processing solutions capable of operating at commercial scale within the United States. By combining Australian capital, U.S. technology, and local feedstocks, Metallium is building a domestic refining platform designed to supply key metals vital to clean energy, defence, and semiconductor industries.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

China currently controls approximately 70 percent of global rare earth mining and more than 90 percent of processing capacity (BBC News, 2025)[2]. The newly signed U.S.–Australia Framework marks a major step in rebalancing this dependency through targeted investment, permitting reform, and coordinated industrial policy.

Under the Framework, the two governments will jointly identify priority projects, provide financing and offtake support, and establish new mechanisms to protect domestic markets from non-market practices. Within six months, at least **US$1 billion in combined financing** will be directed to qualifying projects in both countries expected to deliver refined product to allied markets.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE U.S.–AUSTRALIA FRAMEWORK

Of particular relevance to Metallium is **Section I, Point 6** of the Framework, which explicitly recognises *"Scrap"* as a strategic feedstock, committing both nations to invest in minerals recycling technology and to coordinate management of critical-mineral and rare-earth scrap to support supply-chain diversification.

This commitment mirrors Metallium's U.S. program, which employs **Flash Joule Heating** to recover gallium, indium, germanium, and rare earth elements from electronic waste, refinery residues, and other secondary materials. Metallium's approach creates a circular, low-emission, and scalable pathway to critical-metal recovery, directly aligned with the Framework's objectives to strengthen allied-nation supply chains and reduce dependence on China.

DELIVERING U.S. POLICY OUTCOMES

Metallium's investment and operations directly support the Trump Administration's industrial strategy by:

- **Creating skilled U.S. jobs** through construction and operation of the Texas demonstration plant.
- **Re-establishing domestic refining capacity** for defence, semiconductor, and electric-vehicle supply chains.
- **Deploying clean, allied-nation technology** that reduces reliance on Chinese-controlled refining.
- **Contributing to the U.S.–Australia Critical Minerals Supply Security Response Group** as an active private-sector partner delivering circular solutions.

[1] The White House (2025) *Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump closes billion-dollar deals with Australia*. 20 October. Available at: LINK
[2] Hoskins, P. and Bicker, L., 2025, '*China tightens export rules for crucial rare earths*'. *BBC News,* 9 October. Available at: https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ckgzl0nwvd7o

Metallium Managing Director & CEO, Michael Walshe, commented: *"This agreement formalises the very principles Metallium was founded on, allied-nation cooperation, technology-led resource independence, and sustainable processing within the United States.*

"The Framework's recognition of scrap and recycling as strategic feedstocks validates our model of turning e-waste and tailings into secure, low-emission metal supply. Metallium is proud to represent how Australian investment and U.S. technology can deliver critical-metal independence for America and its allies.".

KEY MESSAGE

Metallium is delivering exactly what Washington and Canberra have committed to achieving, a **fast, practical, and scalable path to rare-earth and critical-metal independence from China**. By integrating Australian capital, U.S. innovation, and domestic feedstocks, Metallium is building the first operational, commercial-scale solution capable of producing strategic materials within the United States in months, not years.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Managing Director.

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ABOUT METALLIUM LIMITED

Metallium Ltd (ABN 27 645 885 463), is pioneering a low-carbon, high-efficiency approach to recovering critical and precious metals from mineral concentrates and high-grade waste streams. The company's patented **Flash Joule Heating (FJH)** technology enables the extraction of high-value materials, including **gallium, germanium, antimony, rare earth elements, and gold**, from feedstocks such as refinery scrap, e-waste, and monazite.

Aligned with U.S. strategic supply chain objectives, Metallium has recently secured its first commercial site in Texas via its wholly owned subsidiary, **Flash Metals USA Inc.**, marking a major step toward near-term production and revenue generation.

To learn more, visit:

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